

# thia griffin-elliott, M.S.

<http://komizutama.com>

- **General creative, short film producer, installation artist, photographer & award-winning performance artist with over 100,000 combined views.**
- **Self-taught programmer, interaction designer, maker & alumni of the Recurse Center (formerly known as The Hacker School)**
- **6 years of graduate-level research experience; strong quantitative analysis, verbal communication and writing skills.**

## Awards

### **Grand Prize Winner: Project 34 Hackathon**

**5/3/2015**

- Recruited and led team that won a hackathon hosted by the Dalí museum and Vectorform aimed at enhancing the Dalí experience. Designed an interactive museum experience using Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) beacons and a mobile app to enhance patron experience while providing data and feedback to the museum administration. App is currently in development by Vectorform (Detroit).

### **Winner, Best Microsoft Hack: NBC-Universal Hackathon**

**3/29/2015**

- Recruited and led a team of 7 in a hackathon to create an interactive game designed to eliminate ride queues. The system incorporated a mobile app, Microsoft Azure services and assorted hardware, including: a Philips Hue system, Raspberry Pi and a novel variable-BLE Beacon hub made from an Intel Edison.

### **Male Hooper of the Year: Hooping.org**

**2014**

- Annual Award for the most influential male performer (prior to beginning gender transition) in the hoop dance community.

### **Peter R. Betzer Fellow: USF-Tampa**

**9/2008**

- Awarded to highest ranked incoming graduate student at USF-College of Marine Science

## professional experience

### **Freelance Artist & Handy-Person**

**7/2018-Present**

- Created custom artistic installations, designs, and fabrication in Albuquerque, NM Las Angeles, CA, Black Rock City, NV, Myrtle Beach, SC, & Roanoke, Virginia.

### **Content Developer: Moey, Inc**

**1/2018-7/2018**

- Permanent exhibit content development for four New York State Parks
- Conceptual design of a gamified youth-oriented education platform to be used by a US Government Agency
- Script development and lead writer for the first experience of a novel virtual world platform created for a major global telecommunication corporation.

### **Chief Technical Officer: Masbia Soup Kitchen Network**

**1/2017 - 10/2018**

- Designed, created mock-ups, recruited volunteer, and performed beta testing for an open source web app to simplify client choice ordering and package fulfillment for Food Pantries.
- Lead the transition to using the Plentiful App for client management.
- Advised the Director on organizational strategy, operations and personnel decisions and provided emergency site management. Oversaw 3-4 staff members and up to 30 volunteers for weekly pantry disbursement, trainings and operations.
- Licensed NYC food Handler (expires 2022)

### **Squad Leader: Park Slope Food Coop**

**5/2017 - 7/2018**

- Oversaw between 10-20 Coop members, verified attendance, administered penalties, and allocated tasks for monthly work shifts.

### **Circus Performance Artist: Freelance**

**5/2009-9/2016**

- Performance at private events, major festivals, and network television to audiences of up to four-thousand.
- Delivered workshops teaching personal style of hoop dance across the United States.

**User Interface Engineer: Flocabulary****3/2016 - 7/2016**

- Designed user experiences and built product interfaces for new components to support Flocabulary's transition to a full-featured educational web app
- Created company-wide CSS/LESS editorial style guide using a blend of then current best practices: OOCSS, BEM & SMACSS.

**Programmer: Recurse Center (Formerly known as The Hacker School)****9/2015 - 12/2015**

- Studied and completed artistic programming projects ranging from scientific instrument integration and data analysis with Python to web design and embedded hardware development.
- Started a weekly check-in meeting for participants and alumni to discuss social, emotional and intellectual challenges. During the Fall-2 batch, 69% of program participants utilized the non-technical check-ins. The check-ins continue to present and are credited for strongly enhancing both participant's productivity and their sense of community at the Recurse Center.

**Field Researcher: Calvin Giordano & Associates****2/2015-7/2015**

- Performed water quality assessments and stood watch to assure code compliance for dredge operations.

**Engineering Technician: Loggerhead Instruments****6/2014-12/2014**

- Built marine acoustic recorders. Performed firmware programming and completed quality control testing.

**Masters Research: USF, College of Marine Science (CMS)****8/2012-12/2014**

- Designed and conducted a water-sampling project analyzing dissolved trace metals and carbon system parameters in the surface waters of a 400 square-mile estuary. Results streamlined regional fisheries research by improving domain knowledge.
- Used Microsoft: Excel & Word; ESRI: ArcMap; Ocean Dataview; Matlab; Origins Pro; Sigmaplot; Adobe: Photoshop, Illustrator & InDesign to produce an 80-page thesis.

**2nd Assistant Photographer: Plota Productions****12/2013-7/2014**

- Coordinated set-up, lighting, and set dressing for photographs used in print and web marketing for Belk Department Stores.

**Founder & President: Mud Power, Inc. (Acq. 2013)****4/2011-12/2013**

- Founded cleantech start-up that was acquired by STEM genesis, LLC.
- Secured \$110k of funding in a Department of Energy funded X-prize type competition.

**Producer and Director of Multimedia Content for Brands: Freelance****12/2011-12/2014**

- Produced, directed, filmed and edited marketing materials for Betabrand (San Francisco), Lululemon (Asheville), MeUndies(LA), Loggerhead Instruments (Sarasota), and Meggings Man(Chicago). Used Photoshop, Illustrator, After Effects, Premiere Pro, Micro Four Thirds and Canon DSLR cameras.

**Instructional Staff: Duke Talent Identification Program****6/2011**

- Developed course material, taught and mentored gifted high school students in a month-long residential program.

**Research Assistant & Lab Manager: CMS & Center for Ocean Technology****6/2007-12/2011**

- Used spectrophotometry, mass spectroscopy and voltammetry to perform exploratory research. Field experience includes: shipboard, icebreaker, small craft, remote operated vehicle, and dive operations extending from the Equatorial Tropics to the Arctic Ocean.
- Managed operations of a research team, was responsible for procurement, service and technical development relations. Handled logistics for global scale deployments, scheduling of instrument deployments, and coordination with other research groups.
- Created sampling and lab analysis protocols with developmental instrumentation now licensed to SRI, International for production. Designed and executed development tests.

## publications

**Distribution of Dissolved Trace Metals and Carbon System Parameters in the Surface Waters of the Hillsborough River and Tampa Bay-ProQuest****2014**

- A Master's thesis representing a first look at the general spatial distribution of trace metals and the inorganic carbon system in the surface waters of Tampa Bay.

**Storm-induced upwelling of high pCO<sub>2</sub> waters onto the continental shelf of the western Arctic Ocean and implications for carbonate mineral saturation states-Geophysical Research Letters****2012**

- A large scale research project describing the state of the inorganic carbon system in the Western Arctic Ocean.

# technical skills

Creative	Fabrication	Programming & Research	Languages
<p>Creative project management, Graphic Design, Creative Writing, Technical Writing, Photography, Videography, Photo and Video editing, Color grading, Sculpture, Drawing, Mechanical Drafting, Conceptual Design, Human-Centered Design</p> <p><b>Tools:</b> Asana, Trello, Fusion 360, Adobe Creative Suite, Sketch, Sketch Up, Wordpress, Procreate, Pencil, Pastel</p>	<p>Woodworking, Fabrication, Arc Welding, Paint, Fiberglass, Metal &amp; Wax Casting, Leatherwork, SMT &amp; TH Soldering</p> <p><b>Tools:</b> Table Saw, Radial Arm Saw, Drill Press, Cold Saw, Horizontal Band Saw, Router, Planer, Jointer, Band Saw, Pneumatic Tools, and most hand tools (including Chisels and Block Planes), Arc welder, Angle Grinder, Soldering iron, Hot Air Rework, Solder Mask, Pick and Pull, Skileld with Rope (splicing, knots, and fancywork)</p>	<p>Experimental Design, Research equipment design &amp; development, UV-Vis Spectroscopy, Mass Spectroscopy, Web Development, Circuit Design, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Marine Deck Ops, Research Diving, Field Research, Arborist Tree Climbing</p> <p><b>Tools:</b> Inorganic Chemistry, Sampling Rosette, Optode, CTD, Otter Trawl, Bongo Trawl, Turbidity, SEAS-II, SEAS-III, SEAS-PI &amp; MICA robotic sampling systems, QGIS, React, Firebase, Sigmaplot, Origins Pro, ArcMap, ArcView 3.7, Ocean Dataview, Amazon AWS</p>	<p><b>Computer:</b> JS/JSX, HTML, CSS/LESS/SASS, Arduino, Python, Elixir, Unix, Matlab</p> <p><b>Foreign:</b> Limited working knowledge of Japanese &amp; French, Beginning Spanish</p>

# education

<b>University of South Florida (Tampa, FL) M.S.</b> Marine Science (Marine Chemistry)	<b>2014</b>
<b>Eckerd College (St Pete, FL) B.A.</b> Marine Science (Biology)	<b>2008</b>
<b>Global College: LIU-Brooklyn (Japan, India) B.A.</b> Art & Asian Studies	<b>2006</b>