

SHAY THOMAS

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PHOTOGRAPHER • DESIGNER • CREATIVE PRODUCER

Visual storyteller specializing in photography, live event documentation, and design. Experienced in portrait photography, production environments, and collaborative creative work.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Photographer

Shaynanigans LLC, "hey shay!" | June 2024 – Present

- Photograph clients, events, and creative projects
- Edit and retouch images using Lightroom and Photoshop
- Collaborate with clients on visual direction
- Photograph live events for Rock Lititz
- Work from the 2025 NAWCC National Convention was archived in the Library of Congress

Associate Producer

Photo Jam | May 2025 – September 2025

- Contributed to writing, design, and photo editing for creative content
- Collaborated on visual storytelling and social media content
- Helped organize and facilitate weekly PhotoJam meetings

The Guy That Didn't Like Musicals | 101 Rock Lititz Blvd

ALT/PCAD | date March 27, 28, 29 2025

- Assisted the Director of Photography during live production
- Captured behind-the-scenes and production photography
- Supported stage production and technical crew

Core Portrait Photographer

JCPenney Portraits | June 2024 – October 2024

- Directed portrait sessions and ensured quality through studio lighting setup
- Guided clients through posing for the best results
- Edited images and managed sales of photo packages

CRL Video Production Intern

Pennsylvania College of Art & Design | Jan 2024 – May 2024

- Assisted in video shoots, production planning, and editing
- Gained hands-on experience with lighting, audio, and camera equipment

Creative Assistant (Multiple Roles)

Hagerstown Community College | Feb 2022 – Aug 2023

- Supported media labs and assisted instructors

- Helped catalog costume collections in the theater department
- Assisted with library displays, archiving, and front desk operations

PUBLICATIONS & ARCHIVAL WORK

Library of Congress Archive (2025)

Photography from the NAWCC National Convention selected for archival preservation.

NAWCC Bulletin Journal – Sept./Oct. 2025 | Vol. 67, No. 477

Photography featured on pages 502-519 and throughout the issue.

Hedge Apple Magazine – Hagerstown Community College (2023)

Photograph Mother Knows Best published in the edition All Is Fair in Love and War (p.117).

PROJECTS

Guyanese Family Cookbook (Ongoing Project)

Collaborating with my Granma Veda, to document traditional Guyanese recipes through photography and design.

Senior Thesis – The Troublemaker Photobooth

Designing a custom photo booth as a functional business model with original branding and a future custom app.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Design Software: Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro

Photography Skills: Portrait Photography, Event Photography, Studio Lighting, Retouching

Production Skills: Video Production, Creative Direction, Visual Storytelling

Other Skills: Archiving, Curation, Display Design, Visual Merchandising

Certifications: CPR & AED Certified

EDUCATION

Pennsylvania College of Art & Design – Lancaster, PA

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) – Graphic Design | Expected May 2026

Minors: Photography & Videography, Art History, Packaging

Associate of Arts – Live X Program | Expected May 2027

Hagerstown Community College – Hagerstown, MD

Associate of Arts – Visual Arts | May 2023