

JUNE LS WHITEHORSE

junewhitehorse@gmail.com | junelittlesoldier.art | Oakland, CA

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am a multi-disciplinary artist with over 15 years of experience. As a proud member of the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin, I contribute a deeply rooted knowledge of Indigenous art and culture. This expertise is drawn from a lifelong immersion in the arts, shaped by the legacy of my father, Harry Whitehorse, who was an internationally renowned woodcarver and artist. I remain actively dedicated to this legacy through my ongoing involvement in the Harry Whitehorse International Wood Sculpture Festival. My technical background includes graphic design, printmaking, traditional bookbinding, and Indigenous beadwork. My latest project is a large-scale wood sculpture commission for the City of Madison, focused on Indigenous history in the area. I pair hands-on cultural and artistic expertise with meticulous attention to detail, digital database skills, and community organizing experience to support cultural heritage and archival research.

CORE EXPERIENCE

Indigenous Visual Culture: Bringing specialized, hands-on practice in Indigenous beadwork, Black Ash basketry, and woodland appliqué, combined with wood carving and regional Effigy mounds research.

Visual Design and Community Engagement: Executing comprehensive graphic design and print production to create multi-lingual signage and accessible public communications, directly supporting grassroots community organizing.

DESIGN & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Public Artist | Teejop Community History Project

2025 – Present | Madison, WI

- **Indigenous Public Art Commission:** Awarded funding by the Madison Community Foundation to design and fabricate a site-specific wood sculpture installation from an Indigenous lens for the Teejop Community History Project.
- **Visual Storytelling:** Selected to conceptualize and craft a tactile Effigy Mound map out of a reclaimed White Oak tree log, employing rigorous hand and power tool operations, including custom relief carving and precise assembly to map Indigenous geography.
- **Culturally Relevant Fabrication:** Researched, designed, and constructed wooden Effigy Mound group representations, balancing spatial orientation with artistic rendering, while promoting respect for sacred earthworks to the public.
- **Comprehensive Project Management:** Directed the artwork's lifecycle, encompassing community history research, technical fabrication, and final site installation under strict municipal timelines.

Lead Designer & Principal Artist | Freelance

2012 – Present | Oakland, CA

- **Public Transit Ad Campaign (Ecology Center, 2026):** Produced multilingual public transit and social media campaign advertisements for the Market Match program, adapting numerous digital and physical assets for Spanish-language translation under rigid production deadlines.
- **Multilingual Communication Tools (Ecology Center, 2022):** Designed accessible, public-facing communication materials, including multilingual placemats and large-scale vinyl banners, collaborating closely with the Ecology Center to condense complex program information into clear visual tools for diverse communities.
- **Grassroots Organizing Campaigns (Tenant and Neighborhood Councils, 2018):** As a founding member of a regional tenant union, designed highly successful posters and visual campaigns, translating housing rights and advocacy information into clear, accessible communications designed to actively support community-led organizing efforts.
- **Publications and Book Arts:** Documented and designed physical and digital publications, emphasizing cultural arts, community history, and physical print production. Key published projects include:
 - *A Generous Grift: Museums, Finance Capital, and the Clash of Cultural Workers and Collector-Trustees* (The Lab, 2022) – Design, print production, and site design.
 - *Terrain: Art & Crisis in Downtown Oakland* (Pro Arts & Commons, 2021) – Design and Risograph print production.
 - *Counterpulse Fall Programming Brochure* (2022) – Design and Risograph print production.
 - *Posters of the Wisconsin Union Solidarity Protests* (2021) – Photographs, design, and Risograph print production.

Traditional Bookbinding Apprentice | Key Binding

2022 - Present | San Francisco, CA

- **Technical Execution:** Study and execute traditional bookbinding and repair techniques for leather and cloth-bound books, carefully performing precision cutting, sewing, and gluing processes, to develop the fine motor skills and knowledge needed to safely handle repairs and new productions.
- **Equipment Maintenance:** Maintain shop equipment and tools, ensuring a safe, clean, and organized environment for processing physical materials.

Stage Technician | IATSE Local 134 and 251, Various Production Companies

2024 - Present | Oakland, CA

- **Stage Carpentry:** Build custom physical environments, displays, and staging under tight deadlines for large-scale events (including NVIDIA GTC) and performance companies such as Smuin Ballet, West Edge Opera, and ODC Theater.
- **Stage Management:** Coordinate and manage backstage for community dance productions, maintaining a strict schedule and organization during fast-paced transitions.

Senior Photo Retoucher | Dolls Kill

2016 - 2020 | San Francisco, CA

- **Digital Production:** Maintained status as the top-performing digital retoucher within a fast paced e-commerce production schedule, directly managing high-volume asset deployment.
- **Throughput Optimization:** Iterated, retouched, and shipped an average of 400 high-quality on-model and product shots per workday, consistently meeting rigid global production timelines and quality benchmarks.

Document Runner | Wisconsin Tech Search

2014 | Madison, WI

- **Document Retrieval:** Worked independently across various campus libraries to accurately retrieve, photocopy, and transport requested journals, books, and delicate archived materials in a timely manner.
- **Archival Handling:** Navigated complex cataloging systems and gained hands-on experience operating library preservation equipment, such as microfilm and microfiche readers, to accurately locate and extract historical and technical records.

CULTURAL HERITAGE & ARTS PRACTICE

Tribal Affiliation: Enrolled Member of the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin.

Community Advocacy: Active contributor to regional arts development, tenant rights advocacy, and equity campaigns.

Selected Showcases: *If Every Poster Was A Stone* (EastSide Arts Alliance, 2025); *For The Unsettled World To Come* (Printed Matter, 2023); *Un Violador En Tu Camino* (Commune Magazine, 2020)