

Skip Hillgruber

Freelance Art Direction + Graphic Design

skip@skipdesignfl.com



23 people have recommended Skip

"Skip is one of the most talented and dedicated art Directors that I've had the pleasure to work with. He would be a great addition to any art department or freelance position!"

— **Max Blevins**, *V.P, Creative Director, Schifino Lee Advertising*, managed Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"I worked with Skip for two years on various projects at Schifino Lee Advertising. He consistently produced top-quality work and was always a pleasure to work with!"

— **Sasha Fruitticher**, *Account Executive, Schifino Lee Advertising*, worked directly with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip is a talented and creative art director. I had the pleasure of working with him at Schifino Lee Advertising and I was always amazed at his ability to take a client's idea from concept to execution. He is an excellent listener and exceptional designer. Skip would be an asset to any team."

— **Jennifer Baker**, *Director of Business Development, Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding*, worked directly with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Working with Skip is a joy due to his clear vision on the projects which he translates clearly. This helps me do my job as a hair/makeup stylist efficiently and meet his expectations.... and ultimately please the client!"

— **Anne Boeckh**, *Makeup & Hair, Anne Boeckh Styling*, was with another company when working with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"I have had the pleasure of working with Skip on everything from global brand campaigns and product launches to motivational sales campaigns. His eye for design and brand consistency is unparalleled."

— **Paola Schifino**, *Owner and Founder, Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding*, managed Skip indirectly at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"As a freelance photographer it is important that I can feel safe to collaborate with other creatives on the same project in order to produce the best product for our client. Skip has always been a

friendly comrade that provides me with the space to be myself and provide the necessary direction when appropriate. He's smart, professional and a great asset to whom ever he works with."

— **Steve Widoff**, *Owner, Steven P. Widoff, Inc.*, worked directly with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip is an example of one of those unique gems. Skip is professional and skilled in his field of expertise, incredibly creative resulting in wonderful concepts. Skip is also a joy to interact with, his humor and honesty is refreshing for anyone who has the pleasure in interacting with him."

— **Jack Miller**, *Co-President, RedCase, LLC*, was a consultant or contractor to Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip Hillgruber is an awesome art director and an excellent person. We worked together for 8+ years and our team could always count on Skip to be talented, thoughtful and professional. He produced many award-winning campaigns -- and is a pleasure to work with."

— **Ben Lee**, *Owner, Schifino Lee*, managed Skip indirectly at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip was great to work with - he was enthusiastic about his work and dedicated to getting the job done. His detail-oriented work style was always appreciated. His talent and work ethic would be a great asset to any company."

— **Wendy VanderWeele**, *Account Manager, Schifino Lee Advertising*, worked with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip's accomplishment's and contributions were significant to the growth and profitability of our firm. His commitment and talent allowed our work to be sought after by clients not only in Tampa Bay but nationally and internationally. Our largest and most profitable client AT&T were loyal to a large extent because of the incredible, strategic marketing that Skip created year after year. He is experienced and confident when handling clients, peers and projects. He consistently reinforced the core values in personal performance, attitudes and ethics and lead by example."

— **Michelle Wise**, *Senior Director - Account Management, Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding*, worked directly with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip is a dedicated, detail-oriented designer with a great work ethic. I highly recommend him for an art director/graphic design position."

— **Jennifer Spier-Ruyle**, *Creative Director, Schifino Lee Advertising*, managed Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"To whom it may concern: I am writing to recommend Skip Hillgruber as a highly qualified, senior-level art director and graphic designer. During my time working with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding, he consistently produced layouts, designs, branding materials and

cohesive campaigns that met or exceeded client expectations. Some of his noteworthy strengths include his: - Reliable, dedicated work ethic - he always arrived to work early, worked efficiently and consistently met his deadlines - Sharp eye and attention to detail - his layouts and designs are very clean and professional - Passion for what he does - Skip takes pride in his work, puts real thought and effort into every task, and keeps his skills current by attending seminars/conventions and researching the industry's latest developments - Personable attitude - he continually keeps the team's goals in mind and collaborates well with his colleagues Skip would be an excellent asset for any company seeking a highly professional, highly experienced art director/graphic designer. Please feel free to email me for more details on his exceptional skills and dedicated work ethic. Best regards, Ben Grant"

— **Ben Grant**, *Junior Copywriter, Schifino Lee Advertising*, worked indirectly for Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip is the constant professional. Clients were impressed by the fresh ideas he would bring to the table as well as his attention to detail. He always collaborated with the other agency departments and was actively engaged in the development of innovative concepts."

— **Nordin Benhalima**, *Media Director, Schifino Lee Advertising*, worked with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"I had the wonderful pleasure of working with Skip Hillgruber at Schifino Lee Advertising. A true professional in every aspect, Skip is a team player who is extremely talented, creative, motivated and strategic-minded. He has a great set of work ethics and is an asset to any company. I highly recommend Skip for his integrity and intelligence."

— **Katherine Han**, *Public Relations Manager, Schifino Lee Advertising*, worked with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"I had the great pleasure of working with Skip Hillgruber at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding. Skip has in abundance what few art directors working now have at all—discipline. He displays it as an employee and a designer. He puts in the hours and the brain power. I never saw work come out of his Mac that was ordinary or “good enough.” His logo designs are brilliant. I highly recommend skip for a senior or ACD role not just because he has the chops, but because he will be an anchor in the department. He is a mentor and inspires everyone around him to up their game. When times are tough (and they always are) Skip is the guy you want to have."

— **Eric Leventhal**, *Senior Copywriter, Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding*, worked directly with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip is an amazing Art Director, very versatile, creative and easy to work with. He brings awesome ideas to the table and executes them beautifully, with impeccable attention to detail."

— **Gabriela Brigido**, *Senior Copywriter, Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding*, worked directly with Skip at Schifino Lee Advertising + Branding

"Skip is a talented designer whose work is creative, thoughtfully designed and on target. An added bonus -- Skip is funny and an all around nice guy -- a definite asset to any creative team."

— **Lisa Schillinger**, *graphic designer, The Tampa Tribune*, worked with Skip at The Tampa Tribune

"In addition to being a premier designer with an innate ability to create award-winning designs, Skip is incredibly customer focused. A mentor and leader to his peers while at The Tampa Tribune, Skip was an innovative collaborator who consistently exceeded expectations."

— **Kathleen Kilgore**, *Ad-Building and Creative Manager, The Tampa Tribune*, worked directly with Skip at The Tampa Tribune

"Skip was always excellent to work with personable and helpful, his creative and ad concepts were well received and appreciated by our advertising customers.."

— **Vince DiSalvo**, *Advertising Division Manager, The Tampa Tribune*, worked with Skip at The Tampa Tribune

"I worked with Skip at the Tribune when he was a graphic designer here. He created amazing designs for his internal and external customers. Skip was very professional, turned in quality work, and had a great attitude."

— **Gail Schomers**, *Special Sections Manager, The Tampa Tribune*, worked with Skip at The Tampa Tribune

"Skip is a superior Graphic Designer whom I had the great pleasure to work with at The Tampa Tribune. Skip is innovative and great team motivator who is not afraid to think out of the box. Skip would be a great asset to any corporation or business lucky enough to hire him."

— **Barbara Black**, *Senior Graphic Designer, The Tampa Tribune*, worked directly with Skip at The Tampa Tribune

"I had the pleasure of working with Skip at The Tampa Tribune. He created and designed outstanding sales materials for many collaborative projects. He listened to ideas and then brought to fruition exactly what I had in mind. He is a true professional!"

— **Cindy Davis**, *Special projects manager/advertising, The Tampa Tribune*, worked with Skip at The Tampa Tribune

"During my tenure as an outside sales rep at the Tribune, I worked with many artists. Some were just building their portfolios while others were more experienced. Skip was one of the more experienced and creative artists who quickly became my go-to guy. He was always professional, hard-working and communicated well with the sales staff. This was crucial to nailing an ad campaign with second hand information since the artists rarely met with the advertisers. Especially

considering the client volume and daily deadlines. I often saw him helping and teaching the other artists as well. I knew he would go on to bigger and better things as ad agencies would scoop up the best artists from the paper. Considering he later moved on to Schifino Lee Advertising, I see that's exactly what happened."

— **Lisa Libertore**, *Retail Advertising Account Executive, The Tampa Tribune*, worked directly with Skip at The Tampa Tribune

[Contact Skip on LinkedIn](#)