

# Chad Thornton

301 S. Winebiddle St., Apt. W1, Pittsburgh, PA 15224  
(412) 726-4232 chad@brightlycoloredfood.com

PORTFOLIO [www.brightlycoloredfood.com/portfolio](http://www.brightlycoloredfood.com/portfolio)

EDUCATION **Carnegie Mellon University** *Pittsburgh, PA Fall 2002 - Spring 2004*

MDes Interaction Design Candidate, School of Design

- Coursework in interaction/interface design, user research, design research, design theory, physical prototyping, and information design
- Thesis paper: *Connectedness in One-to-Many Communication Systems*. In progress. Jodi Forlizzi, advisor.
- Thesis Project: *Social Awareness, Presentation, and Connection: Instant Messaging as a Presence Platform*. In progress. John Zimmerman and Shelley Evenson, advisors.

**San Francisco State University** *San Francisco, CA Fall 2000 - Summer 2001*

Courses in Instructional Design, Interaction Design, and Information Design

**Pomona College** *Claremont, CA Fall 1995 - Spring 1999*

Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Relevant coursework in education, anthropology, psychology, and music

WORK **Intern, Collaborative User Experience Group**

**IBM Research** *Cambridge, MA Summer 2003*

- Conducted user research and produced design concepts relating to contact management and social networks

**Usability Specialist**

**Intuit** *Mountain View, CA October 2000 - June 2002*

- Planned, executed, and analyzed over 20 usability tests
- Designed interfaces in QuickBooks, Quicken, assorted websites and web applications
- Employed a variety of user-centered design techniques, including ethnographic inquiry, iterative prototyping, personas, cognitive walkthroughs, and heuristic evaluation
- Pioneered several user research techniques in our group, including a Flash-based card sorting tool, remote usability testing via telephone, and use of interest-based usability tasks

**Instructional Designer, Interaction Designer, Usability Specialist**

**Achieva.com College Preparatory Services** *San Mateo, CA July 1999 - October 2000*

- Designed curriculum, interactivity, and instructional guidelines for an online Study Skills course
- Co-managed a team of writers for Study Skills content and assessment
- Conducted usability testing for Study Skills and College Preparation courses

TOOLS **Visual** Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Fireworks, OmniGraffle

**Sound** Cubase, Peak, Deck, Reason, Reaktor, Live, MAX/MSP

**Motion/Interactive** Flash, AfterEffects, Final Cut Pro, DVD Studio Pro

**Internet** Dreamweaver, BBEdit, coding in HTML and CSS

**Physical Prototyping** Various saws, sanders, router, lathe, jointer, drill press, vacuum forming

PUBLICATIONS Thornton, C., Moraveji, N., Barry, P., and Shiue, K. Apeer: A Peripheral Interface to Improve Social Awareness in Brief, Topical Discussions. *CHI 04 Extended Abstracts*, Vienna, Austria, 2004.

Thornton, C., Hirsch, T., Gemperle, F., and Kolb, A. Audiocentric Interface Design: A Building Blocks Approach. *Proc. International Conference on Auditory Display*, Boston, MA, USA, 2003.

Thornton, C. "Got Usability? Talking with Jakob Nielsen". BoxesandArrows.com, March 2002.