

Hi there! I'm **ELAINE DO** and I was Mustang Media Group's Advertising Design Manager for the 2021–2022 academic year. Here's a little bit about me!

Up until my senior year of high school, I never fully understood what graphic design was, so it was something that I never even considered pursuing. But out of a lucky twist of fate, I got into the "Intro to Graphic Design" class that was offered at my high school. And within the first few weeks, I immediately fell in love with designing and decided that this was something that I wanted to do for pretty much the rest of my life. Thus, how I became a graphic design major.

Now onto why I love design (other than it being my passion). Design can be pretty much anything like a poster is a design and so is a chair. And one of the main reasons why I love design is the subjectiveness of it. There is something for everyone and everyone's design is unique to them. Speaking from a student's perspective, I have been able to see my classmates' styles (as well as my own) change and develop throughout our four years of college and it was one of my favorite things I have been able to witness. Needless to say, everyone's style changes along with them. Thus, a designer's personal style says a lot about them. Another aspect of design that made me fall in love with it is its ability to impact its audience. A "good" design can accentuate and add value to the message it is trying to achieve. However, a "bad" design can take away from the message and deter viewers. And we see this all the time with different campaigns, rebrands, posters, and so much more. Designs can be both practical and stunning. Lastly, a major reason why I love design is that there is always going to be a way to improve a design. Designs are never going to be perfect, there's always going to be a way to better it either now or in the future. Trends and styles are ever-changing and something that I make now that I find absolutely amazing maybe turn out to suck in the future and that's the beauty of it.

As a designer, one of the most unique and essential skills I have developed is being able to draw inspiration from quite literally anything. It can be something as simple as "I like the color of this door" to something as complex as "I am going to turn the sounds of the waves into shapes." Inspiration comes from more than the examples that I find online. It doesn't just stop at things we can see, it can come from sounds, smells, touch, and even taste. My creative process starts with understanding my audience and the project. Having clear goals as to what I am trying to achieve in my message/purpose and what I am trying to achieve visually is an excellent starting point. From there, I create a moodboard and start my ideation process. This ranges from different fonts, color palettes, concepts, and sketches. There is no limitation to this process, it's really just a big brain dump! Once that's all done, I narrow down my top three to five ideas and digitize them. Because the reality is that not all ideas are going to come out as I imagined them to be once I digitize them. Once those ideas have been digitized, I narrow them down to my top two to three concepts and further develop them until I find the one. Along every step of the way, I am always asking people (designers and non-designers) for their feedback and critiques. I believe that the feedback and the critiquing process is so essential and crucial to the creative process as it allows for more POVs to be seen and heard. Sometimes as designers, we are stuck seeing what we want to see, so getting a fresh pair of eyes is incredibly important. This is just a rough outline of my process, as it does sometimes range from project to project since every project is a bit different.

A designer's role in a media organization is crucial and essential. The works that designers put out are what people see, thus their works play a major role in how a media organization is represented. Although we are not quite the face of the organization, we do have a hand in creating the "face" of the organization. Having to be able to take so many entities and qualities of an organization and translate that into a visual identity is much easier said than done. For Mustang Media Group in particular, the designers are the backbone of the organization designing effective ads for clients, creating captivating special sections and campaigns to create a presence





on campus, and so much more. For clients specifically, the works of our designers at Mustang Media Group help bridge the connection between businesses and the student body. In addition to creating ads, our design team is always ideating ways to innovate our products, whether that be our special sections or our campaigns. Trying to captivate an audience that is constantly stimulated like college students is no easy feat. Our designs must resonate with the audience as well as catch their eye in an instant. And most importantly, although there is a constant need for design work to be done, designs are not always easy to churn out. Sometimes design works can be quick, but that is not always the case and things are always changing due to different circumstances and external factors. Needless to say, designers contribute so much to a media organization and play a huge role in its success.

Although working at Mustang Media Group as a designer since my freshman year in college has truly been an amazing and valuable experience, my career goals go beyond that. As a designer working towards a career in brand identity and visual design, I would love to work for a design firm or agency. Working for a design firm/ agency would allow me to work in collaboration with a variety of different brands and companies. This not only keeps the design work new and exciting, but this would constantly keep me challenged as a designer as every brand and every project is going to be different. Moreover, beyond the never-ending design-related learning experiences, being able to be connected to all these different brands will expand my circle of connections. Beyond that, I want to be in a place where I have the capacity and the support to constantly learn new skills, try new styles, and be a better designer.



To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write to you today to nominate Elaine Do from Mustang Media Group at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for the award of Best Graphic Designer from Associated Collegiate Press.

In the materials that are a part of this entry you will have the chance to look through Elaine's portfolio and see her immense and diverse skill set. You will see first hand some of the amazing design work that Elaine did for many of the special sections that were offered by Mustang Media Group this past year. She re-vamped our "Go SLO" product from a mail home edition for new students only into a combination new student/visitor to SLO County product that increased revenues by over 49% in the process. You can also see her skills first hand in "Treat Yourself" which was the centerpiece of a week-long campaign from Mustang Media Group to help students at Cal Poly improve their collective mental health after a grueling first quarter return to in-person learning. The section is bright, fun and uplifting while still maintaining a serious enough feel to address a very serious topic.

You will also see Elaine's exceptional work in building multimedia campaigns for the clients of Mustang Media Group. A great example is her work with SESLOC a local credit union. For this campaign Elaine has worked in sync with both the client and the account executive to present a campaign to students that makes banking of all things seem both necessary and fun. It is a great glimpse into Elaine's overall abilities where her designs as a whole convey joy, style and a masterful skillset.

Elaine's skills as a designer have also frankly made the efforts of our sales team successful as well. She designed a media kit that helped communicate to all of our advertisers the value of once again advertising with MMG when many of them had not advertised in over 18 months. The media kit brilliantly demonstrated the audiences associated with our various products especially on the digital side as well as the benefits of investing in multiproduct campaigns. It was a true asset for our sales team and it along with her work on special sections as well as individual client design work were all major factors in MMG literally doubling its total sales revenues from the previous academic year.

Elaine has also established herself as a great leader this past year. She has managed a team of 4 graphic designers through a wide range of challenges including re-acclimating to in-person learning and then having to go remote again for spells as renewed COVID-19 outbreaks hit our campus hard for the first three weeks of the Winter quarter. With the afore-mentioned doubling of revenue comes an onslaught of extra design work for her team and Elaine has balanced her teams schedules and mental health tremendously. In addition she has passed along her own design standards and teachings and her team has delivered brilliant work this entire academic year.

As a designer, leader and a communicator Elaine in my opinion represents absolutely the finest that student media is capable of. Her great work has helped both restore and stabilize our organization financially and set the bar very high for all graphic designers who step through our doors in the years to come. I hope that you will see fit to reward her great work with this prestigious award.

Sincerely,

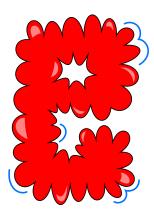
Jon Schlitt

General Manager, Mustang Media Group Cal Poly San Luis Obispo jschlitt@calpoly.edu | (785) 766-6283









ELAINE DO

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AWARDS

College Media Business and Advertising Managers 2022

- * Designer of the Year, First Place
- * Best Self-Promo Print Ad Campaign, **First Place**
- * Best Multimedia Ad Campaign (Out-of-House), **First Place**
- * Self-Promo Website, Second Place

The ACP Best of Show 2021

- * Advertising Rate Card, First Place
- * Advertising Special Section, First Place

Marketing Career Conference 2021: Creative Showcase Competition

* Marketing Collateral, First Place

California College Media Association 2021

* Best Print Advertising, First Place

College Media Business and Advertising Managers 2020

- * Best Self-Promotion Multimedia Ad Campaign, **Second Place**
- * Best Self-Promotion Print Ad Campaign, **Second Place**

EDUCATION

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

2022 B.F.A. Art and Design, Graphic Design Concentration Graphic Communication Minor Expected Graduation, June 2022

EXPERIENCE

Mustang Media Group | Advertising Design Manager

June 2021 – Present | San Luis Obispo, California

Rebranded Mustang Media Group to convey a bold, welcoming visual and verbal identity with supporting deliverables such as a rate kit, website, and sales materials. Leading and directing a team of designers to successfully and effectively design advertisements, campaigns, special sections, and a variety of marketing materials for MMG and clients for print and digital platforms.

Cal Poly University Development | Design and Media Specialist

October 2020 - Present | San Luis Obispo, California

Strategize and assist with the design and production of marketing materials in various print and digital formats and utilize web-based interfaces to update website. Created on-boarding guides and list of resources for future designers to reference and utilize for different Adobe programs.

BlueFever | Graphic Design Intern

March 2021 – August 2021 | Los Angeles, California

Collaborated with other designers to rebrand the company to better fit their audience and mission. Designed and created content to support the audiences' self-love, mental health, and wellness journeys.

Cal Poly Dean of Students | Graphic Designer

January 2020 – June 2020 | San Luis Obispo, California

Designed various marketing materials (posters, digital banners, etc) for a multitude of departments and events at Cal Poly.

Mustang Media Group | Graphic Designer

May 2019 – June 2021 | San Luis Obispo, California

Collaborated with a team of designers to create and develop advertisements and campaigns across various platforms for businesses. Designed and published a variety marketing materials.

TECHNICAL + DESIGN SKILLS

Adobe Illustrator: Proficient in creating vector-based illustrations and graphics

Adobe InDesign: Ability to utilize grids and other tools to effectively design layouts

Adobe Photoshop: Knowledgeable in photo retouching, recoloring, and manipulating photos

Adobe XD: Capable of designing and developing functional prototypes

Adobe After Effects: Capable of creating basic motion graphics and animations

Procreate: Ability to create raster-based designs, illustrations, and gifs/animations

Figma: Design functional prototypes

Design Skills: advertising design, brand identity design, editorial design and layout, illustration design, typography, handlettering, UI/UX design

BEST GRAPHIC DESIGNER



MEDIA KIT 2021—2022

of my biggest challenges was the uncertainty of and slowly transition to in-person activities. environment, it was important that digital ads everything was visible and legible both digitalgoing to be printed or completely digital, thus I visual and verbal identity. From the start, one giving MMG a bold, welcoming, and personable veyed within the design of the media kit while to ensure the displays of the ads were accurate worked in collaboration with all entities of MMG selves as we started to emerge from the lockdown present MMG in a professional and welcoming ence and clients, it was crucial that my media kit knowing that MMG would have a new set of audiwere apparent and emphasized. Furthermore, continuation of a shift towards a more digital news.net and kcpr.org) via hyperlinks. With the to access other MMG platforms (ie. mustangphysically. With that in mind, I ensured that whether or not this year's MMG media kit was important that that special narrative was confor clients to easily visualize what we provide. ly and physically and made it easy for viewers responsive, and functional both digitally and made it a goal to make the rate card adaptable ight, especially for businesses to promote themnspired by the sense of collaboration and unity within the Mustang Media Group organization and the Cal Poly nommunity, it was

View Media Kit here



MUSTANGMEDIAGROUP

starting to slowly emerge from the lockdown. their businesses to our current and incoming our accomplishments, introduces the faces audience during a time when businesses were welcoming environment for clients to promote behind MMG, shows what we offer, and so navigate website that tells our story, shares com is our easily accessible and easy to for everyone to access. MustangMediaGroup. predominantly online environment, Mustang MMG be presented in a professional and much more. This website continues to help Media Group's information must be online into MustangMediaGroup.com. In this recognition, I translated that identity Mustang Media Group and evoke brand visual and verbal identity for welcoming, and personable o further establish that bold,

Visit MustangMediaGroup.com here









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SALES HYER REDESIGN 2021-2022

able to successfully promote their businesses and professional organization for clients to be and personable visual and verbal identity. with our vast audience. emerging from lockdown, it was crucial that more in-person activities and businesses advertisements. With the slow transition to the sizing and proportions of the prospective concise manner. The visualization not only visualization of what the ad display will and sizing, important dates, as well as a information about the edition, the pricing The sales flyers feature background MMG continued to be shown as a welcoming accordingly, but it helps clients understand helps sales representatives sell their ads look like in the edition in a clear and continued to have that bold, welcoming, o create consistency and brand the template for our sales flyers recognition, it was important that



HOUSE AD CAMPAIGN 7071-7077

LISTENING/CONNECTING, REPORTING, STORYTELLING

organization a loud and powerful voice. This campaign features four of the design features a part of Mustang Media Group to give the and inclusion. Every photo is taken by a Mustang Media Group and illustration to create a powerful and impactful message. Each on Mustangnews.net. I conceptualized and designed the overall look print ads, one rack card, three social media posts, and one digital ad personal to Mustang Media Group as each and every single element Media Group designers. Every single aspect of this campaign is top it all off, each asset of this campaign was designed by Mustang article headlines written by Mustang News and KCPR editors, and to photographer; furthermore, it is paired with featured ground-breaking photo used in this campaign is carefully and intentionally selected to to give this campaign an authentic feel to emphasize Mustang the way whether that be through KCPR-91.3 FM radio or Mustang News that as Mustang Media Group, we are here for students every step of to listen, connect, report, and tell stories. This campaign aims to show source for Cal Poly students, our mission as Mustang Media Group is each of its entities, Mustang News and KCPR-91.3 FM. As the #1 media highlight Cal Poly life and community, all while focusing on diversity loud, vibrant, and adventurous in color, typography, photo, layout, Media Group's impact, mission, and presence. This campaign is Working with our editor-in-chief and marketing manager, we wanted interconnected student-run organization while still highlighting ustang Media Group's "Listening/Connecting, Reporting, Storytelling" campaign was our in-house multimedia campaign promoting Mustang Media Group as one



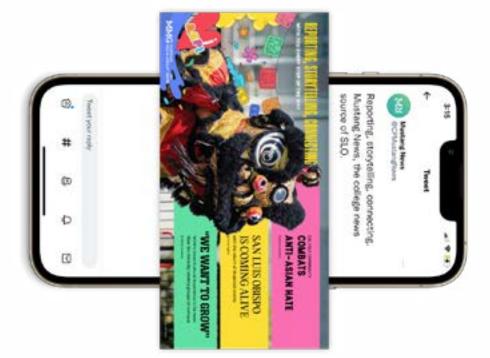




and feel of the campaign and selected each of the photos used.











USLU ZUZI

one other designer on my team to put this edition together. this edition, I was the main and lead designer and I worked alongside of 187,000+ impressions within the past six months. This edition styles, and eye-catching photos. To challenge and innovate our usual the year prior and total sales were the highest they have ever been edition, I designed digital ads on Mustang News which gained a total around the other way it will be all about the other section. Never have printed edition one way, it will be about one section and when flipped printed style and layout, I wanted to create a "flip" edition, meaning ence for the readers, the edition features bold colors, adventurous on record. Wanting to create a welcoming and memorable experi-This special section realized a 49% gain in revenue compared to tive advertisers, but it also provided a better return on investment. become a partial visitor's guide as well. This not only attracted inac-Obispo; however, to add more value to Go SLO, we changed Go SLO to was meant to introduce students to Cal Poly and to a bit of San Luis edition as for many of its receivers, it is their first taste of life in San that gets sent to all incoming first-year students, thus it is a major was one of our most popular and picked up edition so far this year. For proved to be extremely successful both in design and in concept, as it tal platform where nothing is upside down. To further promote this then another version of the whole edition has to be done for a digibeing that one section of the edition has to be printed upside down, for parents) and two different covers in one edition. When reading the this edition features two different sections (one for students and one Luis Obispo and all its wonders. Originally, Go SLO was an edition that Go SLO a major goal of mine. This is MMG's only mail-home edition I done this, so this idea presented some challenges, the biggest one special section and the second printed special section ith Go SLO being Mustang Media Group's only summer since the pandemic, I made revamping and elevating











a total of \$2850, which is the highest create a sales flyer that clearly conveyed alongside the KCPR team, we needed to nearly a decade. number of revenue MMG has seen in Mustang Media Group entities. With unique and distinguishable from other story and mission within the sales are unique and specific to KCPR-91.3 all the information and products that Media Group, is THE go-to radio station revenue from July-December 2021 was the aid of this sales flyer, KCPR's total flyer because that is what makes KCPR products, it was essential to tell KCPR's inviting illustrations. In addition to the vibrant colors, fun and edgy style, and is seen in the KCPR sales flyer with the with a bit of edginess, so that is what is very much fun, inviting, and vibrant FM and KCPR.org. KCPR's look and feel KCPR currently offers since its products the Cal Poly community. Collaborating for art, culture, music, and news for 91.3 FM the radio entity of Mustang

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CAMPAIGN 2021

gained 10% more followers on Instagram. digital ads. From this campaign, KCPR gained edition, posters, social media posts, and campaign consisted of the Mustang News and lasting impression for years to come and all its entities, thus, it was important of the school year and Mustang News' and 18% more followers and Mustang News for both our new and old audience. This what we did to leave a positive, memorable to highlight and emphsize who we were and first interaction with Mustang Media Group campaign promoting the first news edition Luis Obispo. For many students, this was their with prizes from local businesses around San KCPR's Instagram accounts via a sweepstake was Mustang Media Group's first in-person o start off the first in-person school energetic presence, Back to SLO year with a strong, distinctive, and



TREAT YOURSELF 2021

events and the edition, as well as posters and events. The biggest challenge for this edition and are continued in the campaign promoting the edition include the printed edition, social promotions for the community as many students turned up to the events. side, the events proved to be successful for the Cal Poly and although it was not the most successful on the sales energetic illustrative style seen throughout the edition section were week-long on-campus events ranging cohesive, which has not been done in past Mustang edition special and innovative design-wise is that each the events or be inspired to feel good. What makes this good after looking through this edition or attending by the term "feel-good" as I wanted the viewers to feel Cal Poly community, this edition's concept was inspired be the ultimate guide to self-love and self-care for the pandemic as well as the return from lockdowns has been Assets for the whole Treat Yourself edition and campaign its campaign was the niche audience on the sales side, free concerts. The vibrant colors, bold typography, and from therapy dogs, free yoga passes, free coffee, and Media Group special sections. Paired with this special page is unique and different, yet as a whole, it is still to take of one's mental and physical health. Aiming to highlighting mental health care and how important it is MMG to take initiative and create a special section tough and stressful for so many people and this inspired been eye-opening and difficult to say nonetheless. The reat Yourself is Mustang Media Group's firstand physical health. The past two years have ever edition to put a spotlight on mental









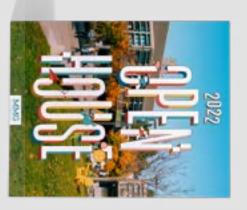






OPEN HOUSE 2022

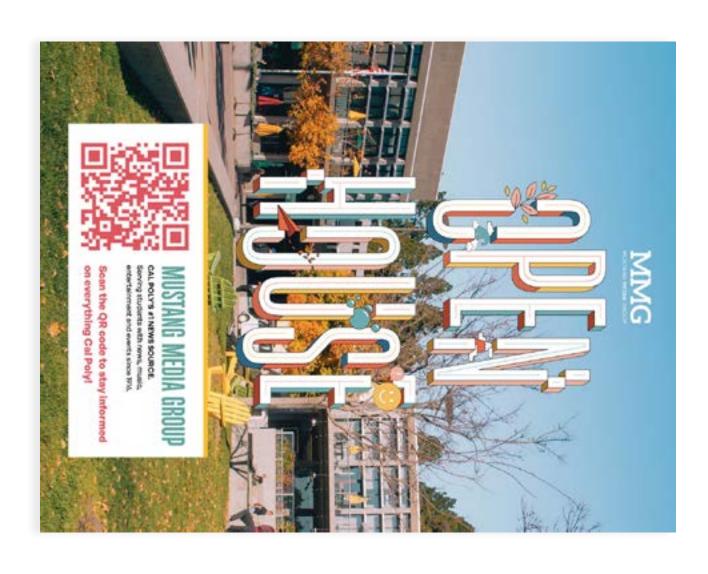
emphasize that this is all part of one large and exciting Open one of the most successful special sections this academic a sense of curiosity with their size and shape. With Open at a glance, the bold fonts and bright colors create a sense of at Cal Poly to really show these prospective students what of mine to have this edition be visually captivating and easy House promotion campaign. accompanied this special section and its dedicated weekend designed a variety of social media posts and a poster that Group and all its entities to a new wave of audience, I also year with a total of \$25,655 in sales (in comparision to in San Luis Obispo this weekend), this special section was interest and engagement, and the spunky quote boxes spark dazzling photos are here to captivate the eyes of the readers their life could look like here at Cal Poly. Design-wise, the were paired with photos that depicted the student lifestyle quite familiar with Cal Poly and San Luis Obispo. This edition to comprehend as most of these prospective students are not single prospective student at Open House, it was a major goal Knowing that this printed edition was to be handed to every families visit Cal Poly to see what San Luis Obispo has to offer. the weekend in which prospective Cal Poly students and their These additional deliverables match Open House visually to further promote this special section and Mustang Media \$22,500 from the last Open House special section). To in San Luis Obispo, (typically more than \$2 million is spent House being one of the most financially booming weekends features a handful of student-geared editorial content which is Cal Poly's most eventful weekend of the entire year. This is since the pandemic, it was essential that this ith this year's Open House being the first one edition be big in all ways possible. Open House



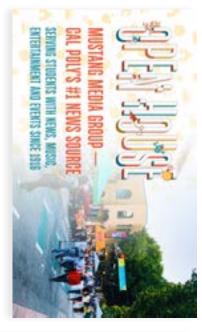


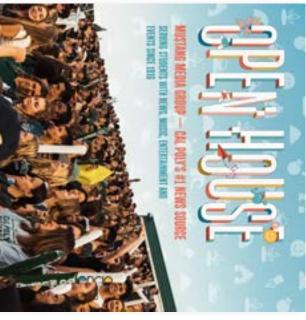






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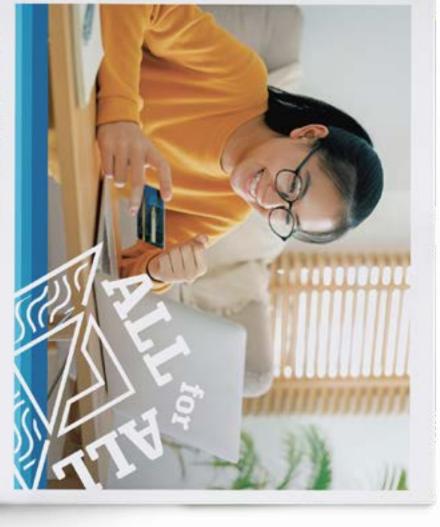
opportunity to elevate their ads to better advertisement. For this multimedia campaign SESLOC to emphasize that message within the SESLOC is here to do. Being the only credit allowing students to easily grasp what and clear with the average Cal Poly student, SESLOC to have a photoshoot to take students doing everyday things conveying suit the Cal Poly student body, while still Obispo area, I was given the one-of-a-kind (receiving 72,000+ impressions) and four union on campus, it was also crucial to in charge to ensure that the copy felt inline photos of Cal Poly students to be featured Media Group also worked in tandem with needs through financial means. Mustang be there for students with their everyday the message that SESLOC's purpose is to mind, I wanted to focus on featuring more the average Cal Poly student perspective in maintaining SESLOC's brand guidelines. With in their advertisements as well. In addition, l designed a digital ad for mustangnews.net collaborated with the sales representative designer at SESLOC, a Federal |eaming up with the lead graphic Credit Union local to the San Luis

varying print advertisements for SESLOC









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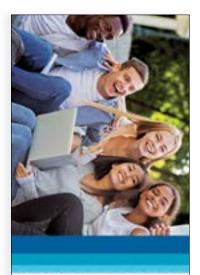




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