



DEXTER ELLIS

Visual Science Communications Specialist

Dexter Ellis, Visual Science Communications Specialist, brings his background in science and the arts to communicate complex concepts that support the research team. His years of experience in photography, videography, visual design, website management, and communications helps translate research into visual communication for the science to reach a broader audience.

COMPANY ROLE

Visual Science
Communications
Specialist

PROJECT ROLE / FOCUS AREAS

Visual design
Photography
Videography
Audio and podcast
editing

EDUCATION

MS Biology, University
of Saint Joseph,
expected July 2023

BA Theatre*, Louisiana
State University, 2016

*60 + hours in
undergraduate science
courses

Dexter graduated with a B.A. in Theatre from LSU and is pursuing a M.S. in Biology from the University of Saint Joseph with an expected graduation in July 2023. His thesis examines the microbiome of recycled oyster shells before they are used in the creation of living reefs that protect coastlines. Prior to joining the Institute, Ellis was the Director of Education & Community Programs at Chicago Children's Theatre where he created and implemented culturally responsible curriculum across Chicago's public and private school system. Following his love for microbes, he also oversaw the opening of Howard Street Brewing in Chicago.

His professional experience includes photography, videography, visual design, and website management.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022-Present: Visual Science Communications Specialist, The Water Institute

2022: Policy and Research Volunteer, The Water Collaborative

2022: Water Quality Lab & Microbiome Lab Volunteer, Shedd Aquarium

2018-2021: Director of Education & Community Programs, Chicago Children's Theatre

2016-2018: Education Associate & Residency Manager, Chicago Children's Theatre

SELECTED PROJECTS

Louisiana 2023 Coastal Master Plan. *Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (2023). Graphic Designer.* As part of the Coastal Master Plan, High Tide Flooding graphics were created to illustrate potential localized flooding within coastal communities over a 50-year span. These graphics are being used in community outreach and planning.

Louisiana Climate Action Plan 2022 Annual Report. *Climate Initiatives Task Force, Office of the Governor (2022-2023). Graphic Designer.* Following the Louisiana Climate Action Plan, the first annual report was published to capture the work being done across the state to reduce greenhouse gas footprint while improving health outcomes, conserve natural resources and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Measuring What Matters Summit. *United States Army Corps of Engineers Engineering with Nature Program (2022). Graphic Designer.* The summit brought together a collection of leaders, scientists, and academics to consider how to best quantify the broader set of economic, environmental, and social benefits and costs that integrated water projects can have.