

Thomas graduated from North Carolina Central University in spring 1996 with a degree in Visual Communications. Since then, he has built a successful career in Marketing and Communications, currently serving as the Marketing Specialist at NAI Piedmont Triad (Global Commercial Brokerage, Development, and Investments). In this role, he focuses on implementing marketing strategies, developing marketing materials, conducting market research, and project management.

Previously, Thomas was a Publications & Marketing Specialist at Duke University, where he supported Duke Stores and the Collaborative Learning and Communications team (under the Office of the Provost) across various media projects. He also coordinated and produced projects for The Body Shop (under L'Oreal) in both the US and Mexican markets, working with major vendors like Amazon, Ultra, and Target. As the Marketing and Design Manager for The Herald-Sun Newspaper, he managed a team of designers and oversaw graphic, digital, and web design for 11 daily publications. In this role, he forged partnerships with local universities (NCCU, Duke, and UNC Chapel Hill), contributing to significant donations for NCCU Athletics. Thomas also created multiple partnerships with other businesses and non-profit organizations in Durham, Raleigh, and Chapel Hill. Including Durham Bulls, Durham Arts Council, DPAC, Jimmy V. Foundation, Ronald McDonald House, United Way, and The Special Olympics.

Outside of his professional endeavors, Thomas has participated on the boards of several charitable organizations, including The Food Bank of Central & Eastern, NC, United Way, Durham Martin Luther King Committee, and The Carolina Theatre of Durham. He has also provided internships for high school and college students over the past two decades.

Thomas credits NCCU for equipping him with essential skills, leading to his recognition as a national and international award-winning graphic artist. As a result, he is the owner of Mass Appeal Graphics & Design, serving prominent businesses in the Raleigh-Durham area and neighboring states. His current and past clientele include NCCU, Shaw University, The Body Shop, Durham Public Schools, and Orange County Schools. Thomas also serves as the CEO of inquireaboutme, a tech startup, focused on providing organizations with tools to authenticate references for potential employees and colleges and universities.

Thomas' family shares his connection to NCCU. His wife, Darneise, earned her undergraduate and masters' degrees from NCCU, while his son, Nigel, earned his undergraduate degree in Visual Communications from NCCU, and a Master's degree from NCSU. Thomas and his son were also initiated into the Alpha Kappa chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Grateful for the friendships and networks built during his time at NCCU, Thomas remains actively connected to the university.