



Associate Creative Director – Interactive

Think you're ready for a challenge? Think ARS.

We're looking for a highly creative, exceptionally talented individual to help lead our ever-growing interactive team. As Associate Creative Director, you'll provide creative direction and manage a team in the ongoing development of some of the nation's biggest retailer websites. You'll need to bring a deep understanding of and passion for user-centered design, and a rich background in the development of online experiences and websites. You should be experienced in managing a creative staff, directing and critiquing the work of team members, as well as presenting creative concepts and rationale to high-level corporate clients. Your personality should bleed with confidence, charisma, and commitment—all while ready to take constructive (and sometimes not-so-constructive) criticism.

Responsibilities:

- Conceptualize, develop and lead a “best in class” creative product for the web
- Create on-brand, on-strategy and compelling content, always maintaining consistent creative quality
- Provide passionate leadership of creative teams and tracks of work, including:
- Translate marketing objectives into creative strategies, present and sell to teams and clients.
- Lead, direct and mentor the creative team and our partner agencies and vendors.
- Collaborate with account directors to understand business objectives and client expectations
- Clearly communicate ideas and rationale to a creative team as well as clients
- Inspire, motivate, and empower the creative team to develop world-class creative content.
- Attract, recruit and retain creative talent to grow the team.
- Track and implement emerging trends in interactive technologies, content delivery, design styles and marketing communication tactics.
- Bring a fun, creative energy to work every day.

Must Haves:

- **An extensive portfolio and URL links to samples of work**
- Have a passion for design and marketing with 8-10 years of art/creative direction experience with a proven track record of success preferred. Agency experience is a big plus.
- Hold (at minimum) a Bachelor's degree in a design-related discipline Interaction, Information or Interface design; Design Planning; Graphic Design; Communications or Marketing.
- Be able to think creatively as well as strategically
- Exhibit a strong portfolio that demonstrates a broad range of design experiences, including Interactive design, photographic art direction, logo and icon development, and consumer literature
- Proven conceptual skills, a critical eye for detail and the ability to translate complex concepts into clear visual representations.
- Ability to see design constraints as a challenge for creativity.
- Experience developing and building major online shopping sites and consumer brands and dynamic websites (Ecommerce/ Content Management systems or Web applications)
- Thorough understanding of Information architecture and user-centered design methods and techniques with experience building wireframes and prototypes.
- Knowledge of direct marketing, online advertising, interactive technologies and web experiences.
- A deep understanding of related web functions: design, interactive development, copywriting, media, content strategy, Flash animations.
- Ability to gracefully handle multiple projects in a fast-paced environment.
- Passionate attitude, enthusiasm and a willingness to foster and grow great ideas.
- Identify and manage conflict well, and facilitate resolution among all parties.
- Willing to take risks and manage them intelligently.
- Excellent analytical and process-oriented skills.

ARS (www.ThinkARS.com) is a thriving suburban Chicago agency with a team that excels in creativity, strategic thinking and work ethic. We seek candidates who are passionate about the business and want to support our continued growth.

Our atmosphere is dynamic, fun and respectful - in a location that's convenient to I-90 (near the intersection of Barrington Road and Higgins Road). We offer medical, dental, vision, prescription drug and life insurance options, commensurate salary and business-casual dress. A 401k program with company match is offered after one year of employment. Relocation assistance will be provided to the right candidate.

Please send your cover letter, resume, links to your work, and salary requirements . Resumes without links or attachments to work will NOT be considered. **INCLUDE JOB TITLE IN SUBJECT LINE.** Candidates whose profiles most closely match our requirements will be contacted. No phone calls please.