

Justin Hughes

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Digital media and communications professional with a global, human-centered creative foundation shaped by culinary arts, Mandarin and French language study, international travel, music, and high-touch client service. Combines digital marketing skills with an unusually strong ability to read people, interpret cultural context, and create content that feels authentic, emotionally intelligent, and audience aware.

EDUCATION

University of Colorado Colorado Springs — Bachelor of Innovation in Digital Media Communications | Graduated December 2025

Institut Paul Bocuse / Institut Lyfe, Lyon, France — Bachelor of Culinary Arts Management | February 2019 - January 2021

EXPERIENCE

CDASS *Attendant* — Colorado Springs, CO **July 2023–Present**

- Designed personalized fine-dining experiences for clients with disabilities, translating dietary restrictions, accessibility needs, and personal preferences into dignified meals that expanded clients' sense of inclusion and possibility.
- Built trust with clients and caregivers by listening closely to physical, emotional, and environmental needs, then turning those insights into practical hospitality solutions that improved comfort and quality of life.
- Planned multi-course meals and private events from concept to service, strengthening the ability to shape mood, message, and memory through food, presentation, timing, and environment.
- Used hospitality as communication, learning how thoughtful details make people feel recognized, respected, and connected - a skill directly transferable to brand storytelling and audience engagement.

Peak Pet and Home Care Owner — Colorado Springs, CO **November 2020–Present**

- Grew a neighborhood service into a trusted operation serving 10+ clients, building scheduling, communication, and coordination systems that created reliability and peace of mind.
- Earned long-term client trust by managing homes, pets, access, routines, and unexpected issues with discretion, consistency, and clear communication.
- Led sensitive care situations involving animals with medical needs and clients with specific household expectations, developing a sharper understanding of how people communicate trust, anxiety, loyalty, and care.
- Strengthened marketing credibility by learning firsthand that effective service, like effective branding, depends on consistency, empathy, responsiveness, and the ability to make people feel understood.

Alinea Restaurant Chef de Partie — Chicago, IL **November 2019–February 2020**

- Executed precise culinary production at a three-Michelin-star restaurant, contributing to immersive dining experiences where food, design, timing, and narrative shaped lasting guest memories.
- Helped deliver one of the world's most refined hospitality experiences by aligning technical precision with emotional impact, reinforcing an understanding of how details influence perception.
- Trained incoming kitchen staff on station execution and quality standards, improving consistency and helping preserve the restaurant's creative and operational discipline.
- Supported R&D for new menu concepts, applying cultural curiosity, sensory awareness, and disciplined experimentation to guest experience design.

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

BI History Project — University of Colorado Colorado Springs

- Conducted original interviews with Bachelor of Innovation founders and translated fragmented firsthand accounts into the program's first authoritative historical narrative, preserving institutional memory and strengthening program identity. **CareerFootprint Project** — University of Colorado Colorado Springs
- Guided a client's undefined concept into a functional prototype, converting ambiguity into clear product direction with visual, technical, and narrative coherence.
- Coordinated AI integration, design, and prototyping work into a unified user experience, helping the final product feel intentional, usable, and marketable.

INTERNATIONAL & CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Nanjing University — Nanjing, China

- Achieved HSK 4 Mandarin proficiency through formal study and immersion, building practical experience communicating across linguistic and cultural boundaries.
- Built relationships across China, Taiwan, and Japan, developing firsthand understanding of how language, food, etiquette, travel, and shared cultural experiences shape human connection.

Institut Paul Bocuse / Institut Lyfe — Lyon, France

- Served as an international student ambassador, helping students, faculty, and corporate partners feel welcomed, understood, and connected across cultural differences.

SKILLS

Digital Media & Design: Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom, InDesign, Premiere, After Effects | **Audio & Music Production:** FL Studio, Pro Tools, Audacity | **Productivity:** Microsoft Office Suite, Google Workspace | **Languages:** Mandarin Chinese HSK 4; French A2 | **Core Strengths:** Cross-cultural communication, brand storytelling, client empathy, creative direction, audience awareness, project coordination, narrative development