

EXECUTIVE BIOGRAPHY



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Josh Thomas PARTNER, TOPICS EDUCATION

Josh currently leads the company's efforts in the fields of Environmental/Sustainability and Health Education. With an expertise in the physical and mental benefits of youth learning in and from nature, he consults with clients to design measurable programs that engage audiences and offer innovative ways to assess learning.

Relevant Clients/Projects

- Participant Productions: *An Inconvenient Truth in the Classroom* (HS science curriculum)
- Outdoor Foundation: Volunteer Mentor Online Toolkit (getting kids active and outdoors)
- Mountain Khakis: *Plug into Nature* (cause marketing campaign strategic planning on topic of outdoor physical activity for children and families)
- NBC Universal: Sci Fi Channel's *Visions for Tomorrow* (cause marketing campaign strategic planning on topic of energy)
- Share Our Strength: *The Power of Eating Right* (teen nutrition)
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association: *Healthy Competition* (Performance Enhancing Drugs)
- National Audubon Society: *Audubon Adventures* (elementary environmental education)
- US EPA, Non-Point Water Pollution branch (water pollution education)
- Save The Children (projects on literacy, physical activity, nutrition, and crisis preparedness)
- Lance Armstrong Foundation (bilingual cancer and bicycle safety program)
- The V Foundation (cancer)
- PAX: *Speak Up* (teen violence prevention)
- World T.E.A.M. Sports: Face of America (character education, diversity, physical fitness)

Memberships & Achievements:

- POST Carolinas, Board of Directors, 2008-2010
- Charlotte: Clean & Green, Founding member, Executive Committee, 2007-09
- Sierra Club (Central Piedmont, NC) Chair 2009, Executive Committee 2007-08
- North Carolina Children & Nature Coalition, Steering Committee, 2009
- The North Carolina Business Committee for Education, Raleigh, NC, 2006-2009
- American Leadership Forum, Charlotte Region Chapter, Class VIII, 2007-08
- Forum for Sustainable Business Development, Board of Advisors, 2007-08
- WSOC-TV's Going Green Carolinas Expert Advisory Panel, 2007-08
- Charlotte Chamber Environmental Concerns Committee, 2008
- Charlotte Chamber CC Cameron Business in Education Award Chair, 2007-08



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Memberships & Achievements (continued):

- Charlotte Chamber 2006 Entrepreneur of the Year, Charlotte, NC
- Charlotte Chamber Education Committee, 2006-08
- The Climate Project Training Program, 2007
- North Carolina Citizen Schools Council of Champions, 2006-2008
- Foundation for the Carolinas, Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs Enriching and Developing (SEED) Charlotte Impact Fund, Youth Education Team, Charlotte, NC, 2004-05
- United Way of Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, Emerging Leaders Initiative Committee, 2002-03; Prepare Children to Succeed Goal Area Council, 2002-04
- Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, Greensboro, NC, Future Fund Grant Allocation Committee, 2002-03; Future Fund Executive Committee, 2003-04

Writing & Speaking

- Multiple speaking engagements at local events and on local NPR station about outdoor education and benefits of youth connecting with and learning from nature, 2008-2009
- *EnvironmentalDad.com*, weblog, available at <http://environmentaldad.com>
- *Charlottelocalfood.com* weblog, available at <http://www.charlottelocalfood.com>
- White Paper: *Connecting with K-12: How Companies and Organizations Can Best Reach and Benefit the Education Market*, 2004 and Research Brief: *Is Multimedia a Good Education Investment?*, 2004
- *CTPAA and Topics Education Survey: Uncovering the Role of Technology in Public Affairs*, 2004
- CTAM Collaborative Marketing Seminar: "Uncovering the Role of Technology in Public Affairs, a CTPAA and Topics Education Survey," 2004

Previous Professional Experience

- Topics Education, Sr. Project Manager, 2001-2003
- Topics Magazine, Editor/Managing Editor, 1996-2001
- University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Teaching Assistant, 1994-1996

Education & Professional Development:

- Davidson College, Davidson, NC, Bachelor of Arts in History, 1994
- University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Completed coursework for Masters degree in History, 1996

Family & Interests:

Josh is married and has two sons and a daughter. When he's not playing with (chasing down!) one of his small children, Josh is an avid gardener, cook, and oenophile who enjoys using local, organic ingredients to create interesting and beautiful meals for friends and family.

