



WILDWOOD

MEMORANDUM

To: Economic Development Committee Members

From: Julian M.D. Jacquin, Economic Development Manager

Date: January 28, 2020

Re: Business Discussion: Studio Montage

Bert VanderMark, Owner of Studio Montage (2612 East Ave. inside The Miller Haus), will attend the January 28 meeting of the Economic Development Committee.

The attached set of information was provided to this Committee at its meeting on November 26 regarding interest from Mr. VanderMark to develop a new community and cultural center in Wildwood. At that time, his vision was to customize artistic/educational programs to offer to the community, including art & writing lessons for those recovering from loss and/or traumatic events and faith-based workshops in visual communication.

After meeting with Mr. VanderMark at his office in November, I recommended that he come speak to this Committee regarding his goals and any requested City involvement in such.

I will be available for any comments or questions at the January 28, 2020 Meeting of the Economic Development Committee.

JMDJs



Gijsbertus (Bert) VanderMark

2556 Viola Gill Lane

Wildwood, Missouri 63040-1164 **314-496-4522 (m)**

bert@studiomontage.com

Degrees Earned

Washington State University

Master of Fine Arts`

Pullman, Washington

1978

Design / Graphic Communication,
Printmaking and Drawing

Number of Hours: 64

Royal Academy of Fine Art

Bachelor of Arts

The Hague, The Netherlands

1976

Fine Arts – Art History

Number of Hours: 135

Work Experience

President / Owner

Creative Director

Studio Montage, St. Louis , Missouri

1993 – present

Composed by assembling, overlaying, and overlapping many different talented designers. Founded in 1991 as a sole proprietorship by me, Studio Montage is based on the idea that the most innovative design and electronic production can only be guaranteed by combining the broadest range of creative individuals. Our goal is to continue bringing together unique talent, electronic skills and personal interests. We support and complement our services through outside suppliers in specialties such as printing, photography, illustration, and editorial services.

Our clients have always been the most important element in this montage. Frequent feedback and active participation from clients enable us to understand the market-place and empowers us to produce the most effective designs, successfully reaching far beyond just satisfying their initial communication needs. Through strong visual appeal, use of color and high-impact statements, linked with accurate project management and unique treatments in both photography and typography. Studio Montage continues to succeed by transforming stagnant products into selling items, and raising programs to the top of their market. Our clients continue to rely on my team to transform their publishing efforts and fulfill their project needs by stretching the creative envelope. We do graphic design aesthetic visual branding projects for McGraw Hill Education, Cengage Learning, William H. Sadlier, Inc., Triumph Learning, Pearson Education, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, HMH Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing, MacMillan Publishing and many others.

Arts in Ministry

Mercy Multiplied, St. Louis, Missouri

Shepherd / Bible Teacher

2009 - 2018

Mercy Ministries' free of charge, voluntary, faith based residential program serves young women from all socio-economic backgrounds, ages 13-28, who face a combination of life-controlling issues such as eating disorders, self-harm, drug and alcohol addictions, depression and unplanned pregnancy. Mercy also serves young women who have been physically and sexually abused, including victims of sex trafficking. Using proven methods, a holistic approach and professional counselors in a structured residential environment, Mercy has helped thousands of young women be restored to wholeness. Mercy's goal is to help these young women find freedom from their issues in Christ and empower them to serve in their communities as productive citizens. Mercy provides opportunities for young women to experience God's unconditional love, forgiveness, and life-transforming power. Mercy is committed to being an effective and well respected global organization dedicated to transforming lives of generations searching for truth and wholeness.

In Arts in Ministry - I combine the teaching from the Bible with a time of prayer, worship and invitation to paint canvasses. Participants are encouraged to focus on a particular truth from God's Word as it applies to their lives. They are asked to perhaps visually capture a moment where they received specific insight and revelation from the Lord and paint this experience as a witness for others. The purpose of Art in Ministry is not to focus on the art itself but to help participants to understand the purpose of God-given creativity and "see" more clearly the truths of God's Word in their lives, and to paint those experiences as an act of visual praise and worship.

Arts Instructor

Bible Study and Ministry

Visual Parables St. Louis , Missouri

2005 – present

God is very interested in redeeming the use of aesthetics to be brought back to the Church for the purpose of providing the Church focus - a visual reminder of victory - genuine dedication during worship - Biblical Truths expressed as visual reminders. I teach God's Word and then invite participants to paint in response to what we just studied. It has been very interesting to see how "non painters/ non artists" enjoy and respond extremely well to documenting the Truth proclaimed with visual "reminders" and paintings.

Visual Parables redeems and develops unique ways to reach people of all ages through our God given creative talents and share Biblical expressions telling the story of His Grace, Love and Mercy celebrating our victory in Him. Participants are encouraged to exchange and share Art & Faith expressions in drawings, paintings, poetry, photography, dance/movement and to proclaim Christ through culturally relevant worship and excellence. To identify, disciple, and encourage creatively gifted Christians of all ages for church, missions and market place ministry. To build bridges of connection and meet artistic Christians from other churches (and operate as One in Christ). To provide practical help and prayer support for the purpose of strengthening Worship /Arts Ministry at our local churches Love to give practical professional help with a strong commitment to Biblical focus and accuracy.

Board Member

Christian Education

Crosspoint Christian School Villa Ridge, Missouri

2009 - 2018

Mission and Core Values

To equip people for Christ Centered life through biblically focused education. The vision of Crosspoint Christian School is that it be an organization that partners with parents to equip young people for a Christ-centered life. All of our children went to school there. The school seeks to do this as an independent, interdenominational, parent-run organization. The curriculum is biblically focused. The program is designed to train young people to seek Godly wisdom and truth as the

guide for daily living. Interwoven into all aspects of the school - academics, play, instructions, discipline, activities and governance - is the belief that God's truth must be above all, and in all. Crosspoint also operates under the assumption that the administration, faculty, staff, parents and students all play an essential role in the work of the school. Each group has both authority and responsibility in their role - Administrators are to guide and facilitate the education process - Faculty and staff are to communicate the Truth with their words and actions - Parents are to lead both their children and the school by a Christ-centered standard - Students are to demonstrate the best use of their God-given gifts and abilities

Committee Member
Christian Education

Westminster Christian Academy –
Visual Arts Strategic Plan, St. Louis, Missouri
2007

This committee completed a five year plan for the arts area with their mission being "Defining and Pursuing Excellence in the Fine Arts" Westminster Christian Academy is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory school serving grades 7-12. WCA believes that God is the creator and sustainer of all things and the Jesus Christ is the only redeemer of our fallen world. As a covenantal school, they are committed in partnership with home and church to a quality education based on these truths. The curriculum provides an academically diverse student body with knowledge in the traditional liberal arts and the skills and wisdom needed to apply that knowledge. Teachers are committed to designing and employing creative teaching strategies to meet this goal, and to encourage the development and application of Christian character in the students. at WCA, the highest quality academics are dynamically integrated with biblical truth, resulting in a world-class education that yields graduates prepared to make a profound difference in the world for Christ

Faculty Member
Graphic Design / Illustration

Webster University St. Louis, Missouri
1989 – 1997

As full time Faculty I established a Graphic Design program for Art Majors. Taught all levels of Graphic Design along with course in visual communication and business ethics / studio management. Portfolio reviews of transferring students from local Community Colleges and student evaluations for scholarships and admissions. Explored "abroad" experiences for Art and Design students at the Webster University campus in Leiden, The Netherlands. The Department of Art, Design and Art History offers a wide variety of courses that seek to prepare students to successfully encounter the contemporary art world. The program encourages students to understand and synthesize traditions, and to confront challenging ideas and emerging technologies. The student-centered learning environment in the department emphasizes personal expression, alternative approaches, and experimentation. The department stresses fundamental concepts that unify all art and yet allow infinite variation. The faculty share the belief that intensive work, study, and involvement in art prepares the student for professional art training or personal career goals.

Faculty Member
Graphic Design / Illustration

Washington University St. Louis, Missouri
1981 – 1986

I served as full time Faculty in the Design Center - teaching all levels of Graphic Design and

Communication as well as courses in Production and Illustration techniques. Provided Creative oversight for a student run on campus Design Studio (Create) - students were doing work for the St. Louis Symphony, the Zoo, local charities, County Calendars and many other projects. This College of Art is an ideal environment for intellectual, creative and personal growth. This school has offered all the experiences and resources of an art school and all the academic and extracurricular opportunities of an independent research university with a national reputation and diverse student body. The College of Art was founded in 1879 as the first professional, university-affiliated art school in the United States, and is the only art school to have fathered a major metropolitan art museum. The new school established in 2005 unites Art with Architecture as well as the University Museum under the leadership of a new Academic Dean.

Faculty Member **Missouri State University** Springfield, Missouri
Graphic Design / Illustration 1979 – 1981

I served as full time Faculty - teaching all levels of Graphic Design as well as design production, graphic design for multimedia, career counseling, senior portfolio reviews. The Department of Art and Design is the largest and one of the most varied publicly funded departments of art and design in Missouri. MSU A+D is dedicated to providing a quality curricular and extra-curricular experience to prepare individuals for careers in art, design, art education, art history, as well as to develop culturally aware, imaginative leaders by educating the next generation of creative thinkers. Graduates have found meaningful careers in many areas, such as advertising, publishing, education, as graphic designers, professional studio artists, studio and freelance photographers, computer animators, digital artists.

Faculty Member **Cornish College of the Arts** Seattle, Washington
Graphic Design / Portfolio 1979 – 1981

I served as full time Faculty - teaching various levels of Graphic Design and as well as professional design portfolio development for students. The mission of Cornish College of the Arts is to provide students aspiring to becoming practicing artists with an educational program of highest possible quality, in an environment that nurtures creativity and intellectual curiosity, while preparing them to contribute to society as artists, citizens and innovators

Author **Global Forum on Arts**
“Lasting Impressions” 2015

The Global Forum on Arts and Christian Faith is an online, open-access publication of the International Council for Ethnodoxologists. Global Forum authors share current research and personal narratives about Christianity and the arts worldwide. The journal also features reviews of new books and recordings. The Global Forum was launched in 2013, and all content is freely available from the website: artsandchristianfaith.org.

Co-leader **Creative Arts Fellowship**, St. Louis, Missouri
Arts in Ministry 2010-2012

Provide direction and shepherding - training and encouragement to artistic Christians from all kinds of local churches -- We meet once a week in a local church - and pray and provide feedback and encouragement - Our mission has been centered on the following values "to

exchange and share" Art & Faith expressions in drawings, paintings, poetry, music, photography, film, and short stories. "To proclaim Christ" through culturally relevant worship and excellence in arts ministry. "To identify, disciple, and encourage" creatively gifted Christians of all ages for church, missions and market place ministry. "To provide practical help" and prayer support for the purpose of strengthening Worship/Arts Ministry at our local churches.

Church Plant Team
Arts in Ministry

Harvest Bible Chapel, St. Louis West, Missouri
2006-2010

Harvest Bible Chapel St. Louis West – Participant in the core group of church planters. We attended the Straight Up conference at Harvest Bible Chapel in Chicago in 2006 and met the founding pastor, James MacDonald, who felt prompted by the Spirit to identify my best friend and partner in arts missionary work Michael Sust as the long prayed for leader for a St. Louis church plant. Pastor James then personally arranged for meetings and planning between Harvest Fellowship leaders and the core group affirming the Lord's direction for this new church in St. Louis. After initially gathering in homes, we began meeting on Saturday evenings at the River Chase recreational facility in Fenton, Missouri.

The church exists to glorify God through the fulfillment of the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment. (Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 22:37-39)

Harvest Bible Chapel St. Louis is a Bible-believing community of followers of Jesus Christ. We belong to a family of like-minded churches called Harvest Bible Fellowship, bound together by a common vision to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ across the world through raising leaders and planting churches. Each Harvest Bible Chapel is independent, nondenominational, and governed by its own local elders.

We depend on the Lord's promise to build His church (Matthew 16:18), forsaking man-centered, entertaining techniques and embracing a Christ-centered, Biblical approach. In our worship services and in our ministries throughout the week, you will see our commitment to passionate, Christ-centered worship, confident prayer, verse-by-verse expository preaching, and discipleship in small groups.

Artist / Instructor

elsahArt, Elsah, Illinois
2001-2004

Founder and Director of this fun studio concept for children of all ages - Located in Elsah, Illinois I started this "one classroom" studio for children - On Saturdays families would drive to have their children attend 1 hour classes in painting, drawing, clay techniques, collages. Every year we would celebrate the arts with a Village Wide Arts Festival involving the local church, businesses open to the public. Managed Summer camp programs with the community colleges in the Alton area - called "College for Kids - Summer Art Camps" (Lewis and Clark Community College) - in 2004 we reached over 400 children as enrolled and had a small "staff" of summer camp teachers Classes were held on Community College Campus - (mostly closed during the summer)

Speaker
Worship Heart & Arts Conf.

Missouri Baptist University St. Louis, Missouri
2013-2015

The Worship Heart & Art Seminar is about biblical principles informing worship practice. The Bible is a treasured resource for Christian worship that determines our belief and guides what we do. In contrast to worship that reflects culture, worship that pleases God reflects the Glory of God through faithfulness to His Word. The Worship Heart and Art Seminar focuses on exploring biblical truths about worship and how those truths can be communicated through artistic

expression. God has been working all over the Globe in many hearts and minds to bring together people to more thoughtful, biblical worship. The Worship Arts at Missouri Baptist University exists to train musicians and visual artists for service in the local church and to prepare them for potential graduate study in worship arts or a related field. WAP seeks to prepare ministers for worship leadership who are pastorally minded-scholars, excellent musicians, visual communicators and able to teach. Participants receive training on music, theology, and the arts that enables them to lead a worship arts ministry that is biblically based, Christ-centered, and ministry focused so that they can serve effectively in any church and mission setting to the glory of God.

Speaker

Visual Parables – Arts Ministry

ION International Orality Network

2010-2013

God's Word for the Whole World. ION is seeking to radically influence the way oral preference learners are evangelized and discipled in every people group. Wycliffe International indicates that 4558 languages are without any of the Bible. What is the hope of reaching the four billion persons who are oral learners? What is the hope for getting God's word to the speakers of the four thousand languages still without His word? In making disciples one straightforward way to communicate to oral learners in a way they will understand is for them to hear the stories of the Bible in an oral, sequential pattern that they can absorb and remember. This "storying" approach to ministry involved selecting and crafting stories that convey the essential biblical messages, in a way that is sensitive to the worldview of the receptor society. The stories are faithful to the biblical text, and at the same time told in natural and compelling manner in the heart language. Lausanne's orality issue group challenges churches and other Christian organizations to ride the next wave of Kingdom advancement by developing and implementing methods for effective oral strategies. Partners, networks, seminaries, mission agencies, conference and workshop leaders, as well as other Christian influencers are called to recognize the issues of orality in the world around them - in addition to Chronological Bible Storying Visual Parables has been ministering and educating a technique of combining storytelling with visuals - promoting visual expression after the storytelling will encourage recording and re-telling of Bible stories for evangelization, discipling and leader training (additional research and development of audio visual resources). The power of His Word, combined with the Holy Spirit and visual communication tools will do amazing things! Storytelling can go where the printed Bible sometimes cannot go. "To show and tell" and change the life of others for eternity in His name.

Memberships

Book Industry Guild of New York

The Book Industry Guild of New York is a member-operated professional organization composed of professionals from every aspect in the book publishing and book manufacturing industries. It sponsors educational seminars and trips, holds monthly informational programs, and helps raise money for the Literacy Assistance Center. The Bookbinder's Guild of New York is a book publishing, manufacturing and sales trade organization composed of professionals throughout the industry. The Guild holds monthly educational and networking meetings on current topics in book publishing, manufacturing and sales. We sponsor charitable events to promote literacy in New York City and beyond, and hold educational trips and seminars for people new to the industry. The Bookbinders' Guild also organizes an annual Book Show, where we celebrate and award the best in book design and manufacturing.

Chicago Book Clinic

Chicago Book Clinic's main goal is to bring attention to the importance of the written word. Writing can not only inspire, educate, but also liberate people. We hope to encourage writing, and by extension literacy, for all generations now and in the future. CBC's resources can be used for research when writing about specific topics; education, culture, travel, news etc. As well as information on degrees, careers where the written word is highlighted.

Awards

First Place cover, Middle/High School "Instruction Coach Mathematics Grade 7"
Publisher; Triumph Learning (Featured) New York Book show
Second Place Cover "Instruction Coach Mathematics Grade 8"
Publisher: Triumph Learning (Featured) New York Book Show October 2015
Merit Award Cover Elementary "Instruction Coach English Language Arts Grade 3"
Publisher: Triumph Learning (Featured) New York Book Show
First Place, Elementary Cover Series "Support Coach Reading Comprehension"
Publisher: Triumph Learning (Featured) New York Book Show
Second Place, Elementary Cover Series "Florida- Support Coach Mathematics"
Publisher; Triumph Learning (Featured) New York Book Show
Education Covers, "Common Core Math and ELA - National and State Spec Grades K-12" Publisher;
William H. Sadlier, Inc. Book Binders Guild of New York
Special Covers Series, FIRST PLACE "Peak Performance Math and ELA - National and State Spec; Grades
3-8" Publisher; Triumph Learning Book Binders Guild of New York
School and Library, "Where Animals Live"
Publisher: Weekly Reader Book Binders Guild of New York
School Publishing / Elementary Literature "Reading Street"
Publisher; Pearson Education Book Binders Guild of New York
ECPA Christian Book Award - GOLD - Category Special Trade / Gift "Step Into The Bible" Graham
Foundation - Publisher; Zondervan, ECPA - Evangelical Christian Publishers Association
Distinguished Book Series Awards - Leveled Readers - "Where Animals Live"
Publisher; Weekly Reader The Association of Educational Publishers
Children's Young Reader, Crystal Book Award of Excellence "Where Animals Live" Publisher; Weekly
Reader Chicago Book Clinic - Book and Media Show
School Publishing PreK/Primary, Crystal Book Award of Excellence - "Focus on Reading/Math" Publisher:
Weekly Reader Chicago Book Clinic - Book and Media Show
School Publishing / Elementary, Crystal Book Award of Excellence "Science' Grade 2 –
Publisher; Scott Foresman Chicago Book Clinic - Book and Media Show
School Publishing Elementary K-12 FIRST PLACE "Social Studies"
Publisher; HARCOURT Publishing Book Binders Guild of New York
School Publishing Elementary K-12 SECOND PLACE "Reading Street Grade 4 Cover" Publisher; Scott
Foresman / Pearson Education Book Binders Guild of New York
School Publishing Elementary K-12 BEST IN CATEGORY "Reading Street"
Publisher; Scott Foresman / Pearson Education Book Binders Guild of New York

Abide Wildwood

Community & Cultural Center

“Something is Happening!”

Abide located in the heart of Wildwood; Missouri is preparing to open their doors in January 2020 in the Miller Haus building behind the main Post Office.

Co-Founders are Wildwood Residents, Bert VanderMark with a MFA formal degree from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in The Hague, the Netherlands, and Samantha Ballowe, program organizer and multi workshop Instructor and grant writer.

Abide's creation was driven by a desire to serve and be part of 'the solution' in Wildwood for a community cultural learning center. Abide's interior design is a contemporary creative setting offering a wide variety of custom workshops; community roundtables; artistic educational programs; senior adult classes, shuttle and cultural community and St. Louis events for all ages.

Under their Non-Profit umbrella the following is just a sample of some of their programs:

Brave New Lights

Telling your story

This is a custom workshop to include Art and Writing sessions for anyone dealing with trauma related issues, accidents, isolation or personal loss. Others included may consist of Police, Fire Fighters, Veterans and spouses of those helping loved ones affected during and after deployment.

This type of step-by-step workshop will consist of two instructor(s) collaboration. Students will participate in an art sketching first half session, followed by a second half session of a short essay writing time leading to interpretation and expression of each of the art created.

Visual Parables

A celebration - Seeing is believing!

This faith based workshop combines the sharing of powerful Christian parables in an artistic session promoting the understanding and importance of visual communication, equipping the participants to understand and embrace the language of visual communication in the context of their Life/Faith management. The focus will be on restoring a more solid, spiritual vision (not world media data) with encouragement to them to cultivate a more positive, solid victorious perspective to contribute to their community, families, and their next generation.

For more information contact: Bert VanderMark bert@studiomontage.com 314-496-4522

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