



VCU Brandcenter Friday Forum

Aug. 24 / 11am - 12:30pm / VCU Student Commons Theater / 907 Floyd Avenue

Mike Hughes

President and Creative Director / The Martin Agency



Adweek has called Mike one of the nine best creative directors in America. Ad Age, on the other hand, has listed The Martin Agency as one of the three best creative agencies in the world. "Which proves," Mike says, "that the rest of the agency is a lot better than I am." Adweek, incidentally, gave a one-word explanation for Mike's inclusion on their creative directors list: "integrity."

A member of the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame, he's one of The Wall Street Journal's Creative Leaders and the chairman of the board for Virginia Commonwealth University's Brandcenter, a board that's included Jay Chiat, Dan Wieden and Mike's mentor, Harry Jacobs.

Here's what Mike says about his work: "I want us to be known for two things: outstanding strategic ideas and brilliant creative executions. One of the reasons this is such an exciting time to be in this business is that those ideas and executions aren't limited to traditional media ads: we're better than ever at building brands and sales on all kinds of platforms."

A former director of the American Association of Advertising Agencies and chairman of its creative committee, Mike also has also served as a director for the One Club for Art and Copy, the American judge for the Cannes Advertising Festival and a leader in the Advertising Council's post-9/11 Freedom and Homeland Security campaigns.

The VCU Brandcenter building is named Mike Hughes Hall in honor of Mike's dedicated leadership and overwhelming support since the school's inception in 1995.