

The Next Ram

Brand loyalty has nothing on athletic fandom. For those willing to paint a logo on their chest or follow a team to the ends of the earth, changing the signature of that team is nothing short of an existential crisis. Navigating the thin line between improvement and blasphemy can be a delicate dance. But For Winston-Salem State University, the reward was worth the risk.

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Old Spirit Mark













All About the Details

Our job was to make a trusted mark more fierce and representative of the fighting spirit and deep pride held by the greater Winston-Salem State University community – one that competed just as hard with competitive branding as their teams did on the field, court, pitch or diamond. Dynamic illustration added physical and emotional depth to the Ram's head logo, while embracing a new boldness in both color and style that whipped this identity into fighting shape.







And the Crowd Goes Wild

There are countless documented cases where teams change branding and the figurative sky falls for their collective fan base. Thanks to extensive research, a lot of listening, many hours and a willingness to innovate without sacrificing the soul of an identity – we're happy to say the new Ram logo was well-received. Merchandise sales promptly increased, a fan base was energized and a new client relationship was born.



Summit

School

Inspiring Learning

They Grow Up So Fast

Time flies when you're having fun - and with the right priorities, a client relationship can progress from a single project to a bona fide account in what seems like the blink of an eye. What started with an anniversary banner has graduated to a 13-year and counting relationship with The Summit School, and a body of work that captures both talented new students and potential-filled imaginations alike.





Scholarship at Its Best



A Fertile Learning Environment



A Sturdy Confidence



Intellectual independence



State of the Art Facilities



Who Engage the Whole Child







Six Degrees of Distinction

Embedded within an integrated suite of both printed collateral and digital branding is Summit's commitment to enriching the entirety of each student—mind, body, wellbeing and spirit. Together, we have worked hard to establish uniqueness in a primary/secondary educational category that can often blend into overlapping benefits and homogenous offerings. By establishing and consistently communicating six core promises that serve as the foundation of their educational model, Summit School has been able to carve out and own a dynamic corner of their region.



Uniquely Alaskan

Alaska 529 needed to separate from a crowded college savings category. The key to success was building a new brand by doubling down on who they've always been. Standing out can be as risky as blending in. Research told us consumers often seek safety in the numbers more than brand. Shiny and slick raises suspicion, yet safe is too easy to ignore. But for Alaska 529, their competitive advantage was really their homefield advantage—the values and culture of the 49th state would not only strike a chord of trust and pride for those within their borders, its authenticity would resonate throughout the lower 48.

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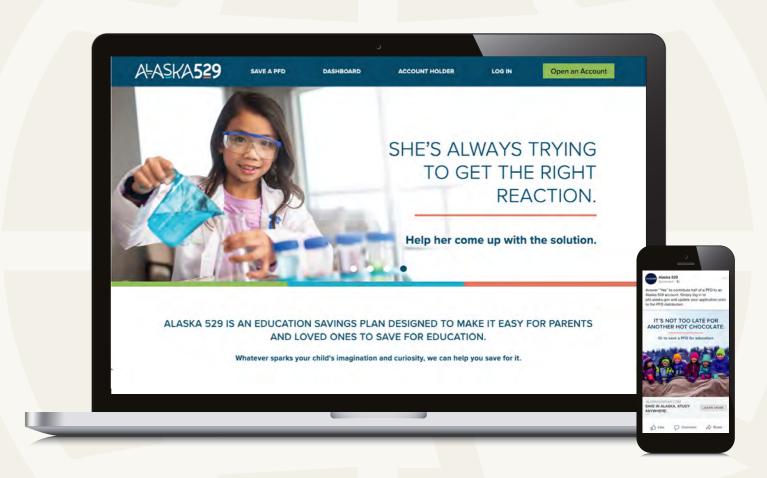




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People Over Numbers

So we did our research. We listened to Alaskans as they identified their values and we found an abundance of common ground. While finance is a numbers game, our approach would be centered around the people—those who were investing their hard earned resources into the hopes, dreams and potential of the ones they care about most.



A Trusted Partner

Our voice and imagery would be as real as the people we sought to reach. To truly make a brand feel like home we'd rebuild from scratch, by shooting in Alaska and incorporating the insider knowledge and product offerings that resonate with Alaskans. Alaska 529 would be as much a neighbor as a company, and a trusted voice in a category that can be intimidating to many.

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Solving the Riddle of College Savings

For many, matters of finance can not only be confusing, they can be downright intimidating. A desire to secure the educational future of one's child should never be punished with an arsenal of jargon, disclaimers and industry white noise. To enroll more customers and build long-term relationships for T. Rowe Price's college savings plans, we would need to create a new identity and messaging that was as clear and straightforward as it was empowering and aspirational.

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A Brand of the People

After a thorough review of the category, consumer feedback and a deeper understanding of the product and process, we took a few steps back for perspective and insight. Contrary to category norms in the world of finance, quick, easily digestible information wasn't just possible, it was preferred by customers. A new look, brand position and messaging were born. Lengthy was replaced with efficient; policy was replaced with personality. And the element that would ground communications most was a nod to the root desire to save in the first place: the future security and endless potential of those we love most.



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T. Rowe Price





Simple is Smart

Integrated digital campaigns strategically shortened the runway between recognizing need and program enrollment. Options, plan flexibility and dynamic products would be communicated efficiently and always in combination with a visual nod to the emotional reason why we save for college. Enrollment increased, greater awareness and market share were achieved and a multi-season campaign continues to build equity in the idea of approachable finance to this day.

