

GALE SMITH



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Animation & Film Production

Storyboard Artist, *Birdfy Commercial* live action / Feb 2024 – March 2024
Freelanced with Gravity Labs Productions to board a heartwarming, sentimental commercial advertising Netvue Birdfy smart bird feeders. Used strong understanding of cinematography, narrative staging, and visual efficiency to maximize impact of 2-minute ad. Communicated with client to determine objectives and clarify notes.

Lead Story Artist, *Whiskered Away* 2D thesis / Aug 2022 – May 2023
Used understanding of film's emotional trajectory to produce compelling, character-driven story sequences. Honed in on moments to enhance humor, emotion, and impact by pitching boards. Edited animatic. Designed characters, layouts, props, and animation style guide.

Director, Producer, & Story Artist, *Guardians* 2D short / Jan 2021 – May 2021
Ensured quality and efficiency by establishing organizational systems, determining priorities, managing deadlines, and communicating effectively with crew, thereby finishing early. Fostered a constructive environment through open workshops.

Storyboard Artist & Revisionist, *She Wolf* 2D short / Dec 2022 – March 2023
Collaborated with director to produce boards that reflected the film's style and vision. Determined objectives and implemented feedback. Displayed strong sense of storytelling, staging, composition, and acting.

Storyboard Revisionist, *Mount Moriah* 2D short / Aug 2022 – Dec 2022
Worked closely with director to discuss goals and produce boards that honored vision while enhancing cinematography and narrative staging.

Experience

Freelance Collected Editions Artist, DC Comics remote / Oct 2023 – present
Exercised sound artistic judgement and advanced Photoshop skills to correct and reconstruct comic pages on a tight turnaround schedule, as directed by client.

Freelance Illustrator & Designer San Diego, CA / Jan 2020 – present
Collaborated with clients to determine goals, designed and executed materials that satisfied client needs, and successfully met deadlines. Clients included Birding Buddies Patch Program, Senta Neurosurgery, Rady Children's Hospital - San Diego, and Scripps Ranch High School.

Digital Production Artist, DC Comics Burbank, CA / Sept 2023 – Oct 2023
Reconstructed comic art from archived scans to print and digital publication quality. Made detailed corrections to color, lines, and typography on a high volume of pages while preserving distinct qualities of the original era of publication.

Manufacturing Intern, DC Comics Burbank, CA / June 2022 – Aug 2022
Assisted with necessary production tasks for over 100 titles while shadowing the digital and print manufacturing pipeline. Performed revisions, managed deadlines and shifting priorities, and communicated progress with staff at all levels.

Skills

Animation: Clip Studio Paint, Maya, Mudbox, Toon Boom Harmony, Storyboard Pro, Wacom Cintiq hardware
Adobe: Acrobat, After Effects, Animate, Bridge, Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere
Google: Calendar, Docs, Drive, Forms, Gmail, Sheets, Slides
Languages: American Sign Language, English (native)
Microsoft: Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Teams, Word
Miscellaneous: color theory, gestural drawing, proofreading, sculpture, sewing
Social Media: Discord, Instagram, Later, LinkedIn, Linktree, X (Twitter), Zoom

Recognition

Best Animation Short Winner 2024
LA Independent Film Festival Awards
Finalist 2024
Student Los Angeles Film Awards
Award Winner 2024
Life, the Universe and Everything
Andreas Deja Award Honorable Mention
Creative Talent Network Expo 2023
Best Young Audience Film 2023
Flanimation Film Fest
Best Animation Award 2023
Paradise Film Festival
Best Short Film October 2023
Under 5 Minute Film Festival
June 2023 Winner
Lift-Off 1st-Time Filmmaker Sessions
Best College Film Award Finalist 2022
McMinnville Short Film Festival

Education

Loyola Marymount University
B.A. in Animation, Minor in Graphic Design
Summa Cum Laude
GPA: 4.00, Dean's List 2019 – 2023
Animation Program Scholar Award 2023
Class of 2023 Valedictorian Finalist