Sarah Schanze

www.sarahschanze.com | sarah@sarahschanze.com | 703-232-2931

Illustrator & Designer

Award-winning visual designer adept in creating visual concepts that communicate ideas that inspire, inform, or captivate consumers. Experienced in the development of overall layout and production design for online or printed materials for education, picture books, and graphic novels.

Professional Experience

k12 Inc., Herndon, VA
Visual Designer, 2008–2017, 2018–Present

◊ Led IMA/Grade 6 Math and High School Fine Arts course, creating 100+ assets.

◊ Primary designer for Pre-K online course "Embark12" which won a Parents' Choice award.

◊ Created black and white and color illustrations for print media, including *Classics for Young Readers* and *Kindergarten Treasury*.

◊ Illustrated *Stowaway*, a thirty page graphic novel for print and online publication. Designed the characters and props and setting.

◊ Built hundreds of Flash-based assets for dozens of courses such as educational slideshows and review activities incorporating media, illustration, and animation.

◊ Constructed media-rich and responsive web assets that complied with accessibility standards.

◊ Collaborated with instructional designers, print designers, and project managers to complete courses and assets efficiently.

◊ Trained new designers in current visual standards and component development.

◊ Participated in workshops to improve current assets and find mobile-friendly solutions for the future.

Thistil Mistil Kistil, webcomic, 2009–Present

◊ Sole creator of long-running webcomic incorporating outside research, character design, writing, layout and pacing, and story development.

◊ Maintained steady update schedule and kept personal deadlines.

◊ Designed comic for online publication including website design, and print publication including InDesign layout and typesetting.

◊ Launched a successful Kickstarter where 196 backers raised over $7,000 to print the Volume One graphic novel collecting the first five online chapters.

Technical Skills

- ◊ Photoshop
- ◊ Illustrator
- ◊ InDesign
- ◊ Animate
- ◊ Brackets
- ◊ Procreate
- ◊ Microsoft Suite
- ◊ HTML, CSS

Extracurricular Activities

- ◊ Tabled at commercial cons: Emerald City Comic Con, AwesomeCon, Small Press Expo
- ◊ Tabled at volunteer cons: Cas Con, Chantilly Comic Con
- ◊ Designed convention display table including banner and table setting
- ◊ Created further merchandise such as stickers, prints, posters, and buttons

Education

The Art Institute of Washington, Arlington, VA

- ◊ Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in Media Arts and Animation
- ◊ Graduated Magna Cum Laude, December 2007
- ◊ Awards: Merit Scholarship, Dean's List, Washingtonian Award

First Flight Workshop, Oatley Academy

- ◊ Participated in a month-long online workshop provided by the Oatley Academy in July 2017
- ◊ Developed character, environment, and prop design skills with a focus on implementing such skills in an animation studio environment
- ◊ Joined online coaching sessions and Facebook group to provide and receive feedback

Storyboarding for Feature Animation, Rad How to School

- ◊ Participated in a seven-week-long online workshop taught by Rad Sechrist in Summer 2018
- ◊ Learned staging terms and techniques, camera angles, and perspective
- ◊ Also learned about plot progression, acting, pitching, and character design and anatomy
- ◊ Watched online lectures and recieved and incorporated personalized feedback
- ◊ Created storyboards in Photoshop from prompts as well as original story ideas