





# ALEXA J. ALPERN

## STORY ARTIST

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### CONTACT

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### EDUCATION

#### BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Computer & Traditional Animation  
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania  
2012 – 2016

- Dean's List
  - Honor's Program
  - Independent & Contract Courses
  - Ambassador of Animation & Science
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### EXPERTISE

- Visual Development
- Storyboard Art
- Character Design
- Directing
- Project Workflow
- 3D Modeling
- Traditional (2D) Animation
- Computer (3D) Animation
- Scientific Visualizations
- Business Management
- Illustration
- Design
- Editing

### OBJECTIVE

Seeking a position in the capacity of graphics and media. Bringing the following versatile experience, skills and attributes to your team. Ideally, this position will utilize my business and educational background. Always ready to create a new tale from concept to final deliverable.

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### EXPERIENCE

#### Directing Animator, Digital Content Designer & Video Editing

CosmoQuest – (NASA Program) / Youngstown, OH / Sept. 2016 – Sept. 2017

Working with NASA's, CosmoQuest team, to lead the development of full-dome planetarium content along with HD flat-screen video for broad distribution, which will be distributed across the globe. This also included visualizations for "Science On A Sphere" exhibits.

- Collaborates with planetarium staff and members from the CosmoQuest team across the country including astronomers from the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.
- Develops digital media content and programming for the planetarium. This also includes creating and editing time-lapse video, 2D & 3D animations, visual effects, 360° photography and the entire visual production process.
- Utilizing Wacom's 21 Inch Cintiq, 3D Mouse, Full Dome Warping Adobe Plugins, the Autodesk Suite, the Adobe Creative Suite and more.

#### Directing Animator, Digital Content Designer & Scientific Visualizations

Youngstown State University & Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Youngstown, OH / Jan. 2017 – Sept. 2017

Working to develop a pair of full dome children's K-14 scientific, educational multimedia planetarium shows, "A Journey to the Edge of the Pinwheel - An Innovative Digital Planetarium Show." Also developing corresponding flat screen presentations. Collaborating between Youngstown State University's Ward Beecher Planetarium, the Center for STEM Research, as well as the Education and Public Outreach department at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. These two productions will facilitate the spread of new NASA content to audiences both nationally and internationally.

- Character Design, Storyboarding, Test Animation (Flat and Full Dome Testing), Texture Art, 3D Modeling (of Space Ships, Sleeping Pods and Control Panels) and more.

## PROFESSIONAL SOFTWARE

- Microsoft Office Suite
- Autodesk Maya
  - Mental Ray
- Blender
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Flash / Animate
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe After Effects
  - Navegar Fulldome Plugin
  - Red Giant Trapcode Particular
  - Mettle Skybox 360° Plugin

## TECHNOLOGY ABILITIES

- MAC OS & PC
- WACOM CINTIQ & Tablet
- Video Film Camera
- Photography Camera
- 3D Mouse

## PERSONAL SKILLS

- Adaptability
- Motivation
- Organizational
- Creativity
- Productive
- Multitasking

## INTERESTS

- Design
- Freelance Writing
- Freelance Art & Animation
- Arts & Entertainment
- Traveling

## EXPERIENCE continued

- Working within two genres of one tale. Creating a version that catered towards a younger audience, while additionally producing a version that catered to an open audience of an older aged group.

### Fall Advantage Disney College Program & Internship

The Walt Disney Company / Orlando, FL / June 2016 – Aug. 2016

Performed excellent customer service: Daily interaction with high volume guests in a theme park setting. Job description included, photo editing and printing, answering intricate inquiries, known to go the “extra mile” for guests of all ages. Dedicated, efficient and task-oriented. Worked in a large team and company setting.

- Awarded First Place in “Best Team Project,” at Disney’s Ultimate EnginEaring Exploration After Dark Seminar. Selected by application to participate.
- Disney’s Creativity and Innovation Semester Class Participation, included group and creative projects.

### Animation Director & Producer

Edinboro University Planetarium / Edinboro, PA / Aug. 2015 – June 2016

Diligently working in collaboration with the Geo-sciences department and Planetarium Director to reproduce "The World At Night," a children’s planetarium show. Featuring nocturnal life and constellations.

- Taking an original slide based planetarium show, recreating it into an animated / storybook feature presentation.
- Character Design, Storyboarding, Animatic, Animation, Environment Design, Editing, Compositing, Texture Art and more.
- Great Lakes Planetarium Association Conference Appearance and Presentations on “The World At Night.”

## AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

### First Place – Best Team Project

Walt Disney Company  
July, 2016

### George H. Nicholas Memorial

Excellence in Animation Scholarship  
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania  
May, 2016

### Edinboro University Art Department Honors Animation Ambassador

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania  
January, 2016

### United States Figure Skating

Association Awards, Honors, Medals  
United States Figure Skating  
Association  
May, 2003 - Present

## CONFERENCE APPEARANCES

- 2016 Edinboro University Gaming Expo
- 2016 Great Lakes Planetarium Association Annual Conference
- 2016 CTN Animation Expo
- 2017 Great Lakes Planetarium Association Regional Conference
- 2017 CTN Animation Expo

REFERENCES  
FURNISHED  
UPON  
REQUEST