

SAMANTHA BLUM

CHARACTER DESIGN • PROPS & FX • VISUAL DEVELOPMENT

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HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD HIRE ME Joyful, positive attitude, deeply creative, self-motivated, takes direction well, and thrives on developing the weird, forgotten and under-estimated.

KEY SKILLS

Software Tools: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, After Effects, Premiere, Animate, ZBrush, Maya, Office, Toon Boom Harmony, Storyboard Pro, Airtable, Office, GSuite, Substance Painter, Blockbench

Art & Design: Visual development, color design, characters, props and FX design, illustration, concept art

EXPERIENCE

2D Prop Designer Mindshow/ Client- Mattel (Feb-June 2025)

- Provide concept and visual development for assets on multiple projects. Design and create 2D props for 3D modelers, tailored specifically for use in 3D environments.
- Understanding the client's brand and developing concepts by taking feedback.
- Collaborate daily with the art director and production coordinator to share progress, feedback, and edits. Communicate directly with 3D modelers to make adjustments and deliver completed assets on time.

Art Teacher Art Haven (2024-Present)

- Provide guidance and support to children and adults in creative settings. Design and teach crafts and projects tailored for various age groups, integrating digital art & techniques into lessons in a fun, educational way.

Visual Development Intern Pipsqueak Animation (2024)

- Designed props and backgrounds for educational kids YouTube series. Created 2D designs based on references and art director's descriptions, keeping in line with the show's style guide.
- Communicated with the art director to resolve design issues promptly, maintaining organized Photoshop files for easy integration into the animation pipeline.

Illustrator/Graphic Designer FSA Magazine (2023-2024)

Visual Development Artist Studio X, San Francisco/Virtual (2023)

Visual Development Artist Dot Dot Dot Short Film (2022)

Brand Identity Intern Vigor Fix (2020)

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Development Academy of Art University, San Francisco/Online

- Won Scholarships: Spring Forward, John Kimball Jr. Memorial Trust, Honorable Mention Women In Animation
- 3X Participant, Runner-Up, Character Design Award Spring Show Exhibition
- Worked as Peer Mentor/Graphic Design Work Study, Club President for Women in Animation
- WIA Mentorship Circle; mentored by Brianna Contes of Atomic Cartoons