

# Sasha Ishikawa

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sashaishikawa@gmail.com | (714)-785-4500 | sashaishikawa.com/design

## Education

### California State University, Fullerton

BFA in Entertainment Arts and Animation

Jan 2018 - May 2020

### Irvine Valley College

AA in Fine Arts

AA in Liberal Studies

Aug 2014 - Aug 2017

## Work Experience

### Art Instructor | Ichen Art Academy

Aug 2023 - Present

- ❖ Work with other art teachers to brainstorm new project ideas for students that are engaging, inclusive, and appropriately challenging for their skill level.
- ❖ Turn project ideas into step-by-step lesson plans tailored to different age groups.
- ❖ Instruct around nine classes per week, each with approximately eight students.
- ❖ Assess the progress of over 70 students throughout the school term, providing frequent feedback to parents, students, and teachers.

### Freelance Artist

Jun 2016 - Present

- ❖ Design and create visual content for clients, including: illustrations, animations, product designs, book covers, and logos.
- ❖ Communicate with clients to understand their objectives, and iterate on designs.
- ❖ Completed projects for over 100 customers including product designs for Matsumoto Shave Ice and a 30-second animated trailer for a novel.

### Disney Lead Sketch Artist | Disney California Adventure

Jan 2022 - Jun 2022

- ❖ Helped launch a new leadership position to increase communication between program directors, management, artists, and retail.
- ❖ Improved cohesion between multiple branches of Disney art galleries by mediating conflicts, ensuring adherence to policy, and making sure all needs were resolved by communicating with upper-management and team members.
- ❖ Designed new sketch templates, and verified that all templates were aligned with Disney policy.
- ❖ Bridged the gap between retail workers and artists to ensure the sketches being produced matched the current theme of Disney Park and guest's preferences, leading to increased sales.
- ❖ Assisted in recruiting new artists by explaining the position, providing portfolio feedback, and collaborating with another lead artist to make final hiring decisions.

### Disney Sketch Artist | Disney California Adventure

Jan 2018 - Jun 2022

- ❖ Sketched Disney characters using Prismacolor pencils for guests to purchase.
- ❖ Designed new character poses that were added to the company sales portfolio, increasing the character options for guests to purchase.
- ❖ Built rapport with guests by explaining traditional animation concepts and conversing while drawing.
- ❖ Provided translation for Japanese customers.

### Animation Director | Ducks Nest Project

Apr 2021 - Oct 2021

- ❖ Directed a team of three artists to animate a 40-second commercial for a preschool website.
- ❖ Defined a project timeline, delegated tasks, and led bi-weekly meetings to ensure goals were being met.

### Lead Animator | Hitman's Brother Project

Jun 2020 - Oct 2020

- ❖ Worked on character design, rough animations, in-betweens, and cleanups for a 3-minute short film.
- ❖ Completed responsibilities ahead of schedule and used the extra time to help with color and sound.

## Related Skills

- ❖ **Software:** Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, Adobe Illustrator, Procreate, Shotgun, Rough Animator, ToonBoom Harmony

## Other Skills

- ❖ **Office Management Software:** Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Gmail
- ❖ **Language:** Fluent in Japanese