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EDUCATION

THE SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS

BFA ANIMATION
2020-2024

SKILLS

2D Animation, Character Design,
Illustration, Storyboarding,
Compositing, Screenwriting,
Directing Voice Over,
Sound Design, Editing

SOFTWARE

Photoshop, Illustrator,
Premiere Pro, After Effects, Adobe
Audition, ToonBoom Harmony,
Storyboard Pro, Procreate, Microsoft
Office Suite, Google Suite

CLUBS/ VOLUNTEER

Women In Animation (WIA SVA)

Vice President (May 2023- May 2024)

Help organize club events, portfolio
reviews, studio tours, and guest
talks for student club member

Miss Red Rock 2023 (The Miss America Opportunity)

Delegate (Mar 2023 - Sep 2023)

Promoted Community Service Initiative
"Representation Matters" by speaking to
various audiences on and off stage about
diversity and representation in media, and
also created various graphics and
advocacy posts through social media.

Nikki Behjat

ANIMATOR, FILMMAKER, ILLUSTRATOR

EXPERIENCE

○ DreamWorks LAUNCH Fellow- Story Mentorship

February 2025- April 2025

- Selected as one of 16 fellows for DreamWorks Animation's LAUNCH Fellowship Program.
- Participated in an immersive, studio-led professional development program focused on animation production, creative decision making, storytelling, and industry insights.
- Engaged in one-on-one mentorship, workshops, and networking with DreamWorks leaders to gain hands-on knowledge of the studio.
- Collaborated with peers and professionals to develop skills in story, preparing for entry into the animation industry.

○ MENAARTS NEWSLETTER- Freelance Illustrator

June 2022- February 2024

- Creating logos and other illustrations while communicating with the founder for a youth-led, monthly e-newsletter committed to amplifying the voices of MENA artists.
- Also conducted written interviews with guest artists Nazeem Tarsha and Christina Costello for the Monthly Artist Spotlight.

PROJECTS/ AWARDS

○ "Zarina"

Director, Writer, Animator, Story Artist, Character Designer, Sound Designer, Composer

- Best Animated Film- Flint Youth Film Festival (2025)
- Silver Winner- The Collision Awards (2025)
- Nominated Best Animated Film- Nevada Women's Film Festival (2025)
- Official Selection- Astoria Youth Film Festival (2025)
- Official Selection- ASIFA-East Animation Festival (2025)
- Official Selection- New York Lift-Off Film Festival (2025)
- Finalist- New York Animation Film Awards (2024)
- Draft Selection- The Rookies (2024)
- Official Selection- Film Scoring Networking Film Festival (2024)
- Official Selection- Los Angeles Lift-Off Film Festival (2024)
- Heroes of Color Award- Heroes of Color LLC (2024)
- SVA Alumni Society Scholarship Recipient (2024)
- SVA BFA Animation Fall Thesis Finishing Grant Recipient (2023)

○ "The Concert"

Director, Writer, Animator, Story Artist, Character Designer, Background Artist,
Sound Designer, Composer

- Official Selection- Children's Film Festival Seattle (2024)
- Semi-Finalist- New York Animation Film Awards (2023)
- Nominated Best Animated Film- Nevada Women's Film Festival (2023)
- Official Selection- Los Angeles Lift-Off Film Festival (2023)
- Official Selection- Flint Youth Film Festival (2023)
- Official Selection- ASIFA-East Animated Film Festival (2023)
- Official Selection- Monthly Indie Shorts (2022)
- Honorable Mention- LA AFest (2022)

○ "First Dances! What Could Possibly Go Wrong?"

Director, Co-Writer, Animator, Character Designer, Composer

- Nominated Rising Female Star and Best Animated Film- HS Film Fest (2021)
- Awarded Best Student Narrative- BIKFF (2020)
- Nominated Best Animated Film and Young Female Filmmaker of the Year-HERIFF (2020)