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# Rika Nakayama

## Stop-Motion Animator/Fabricator

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### EDUCATION

#### California Institute of the Arts, CA — MFA, Experimental Animation

September 2021 - Present, Santa Clarita

#### Rhode Island School of Design, RI — BFA, Illustration and Film/Animation/Video

September 2016 - May 2021, Providence

Double major in Illustration and Film/Animation/Video. Graduated with an honor degree (GPA 3.92).

### EXPERIENCE

#### California Institute of the Arts, CA

##### Stop-Motion Armature Building — January 2023 – Present

- Brazing and building 10 ball and socket armatures for Stephen Chiodo's stop motion class at CalArts.

##### Butler Monitor — September 2022 – Present

- Managing the stop-motion animation facility (Butler building) at CalArts.

##### Teaching Assistant — January – December 2022

- 2022 Spring: Stop Motion Basics, taught by Jordan Wong.
- 2022 Fall: Lighting and Camera for Experimental Animation, taught by Kangmin Kim.

#### Bix Pix Entertainment, CA

##### Sets & Fabrication Trainee — September – November 2022

- Assisted the sets and props fabrication for an Apple TV+ show "Shape Island."

#### California Institute of the Arts, CA

##### CAPSA Animation Instructor / Teaching Assistant — May – July 2022

- CAPSA: Creative Summer Labs is a 4-week summer course for middle school and high school students in LA, held by CalArts' Community Arts Partnership (CAP) program at Susan Miller Dorsey High School.
- Helped design, organize, and teach animation lessons. Worked as a lead instructor for cut-out animation and pixilation animation classes.

##### Equipment Technical Assistant — September 2021 – May 2022

- Worked at the CalArts School of Film/Video equipment cage.

#### White Snake Projects, MA

##### Fabricator / Student Collaborator — February – May 2020

- As a part of a course at Rhode Island School of Design, I worked with Erminio Pinque (Big Nazo Lab director) and Mary Jane Begin (Illustrator, RISD faculty) in collaboration with White Snake Projects to create two mask costumes for a live-action opera performance "Monkey: A Kung Fu Parable."

## **TYO Dwarf Animation Studio, Tokyo**

**Animator / Fabricator Intern** — July – August 2019

- Worked as a fabricator, a set dresser, and an animation assistant for the stop-motion opening sequence of a Netflix anime series “BEASTARS.” [The OP video](#) received the Best Anime Opening Sequence Award on Crunchyroll in 2021.
- Fabricated sets and props, dressed sets, animated background props, and assisted a character animator using Dragonframe software.

## **SKILLS**

Stop Motion Animation & Fabrication (Puppets, Sets, Props) / Woodshop / Silicone Molding & Casting / Laser cutting / Brazing & Building Armature / Traditional & Digital Animation & Illustration / VR (illustration, animation, live-action)

Software: Dragonframe / Adobe Premiere Pro / Adobe After Effects / Adobe Photoshop / Clip Studio Paint

Languages:

English / Japanese / Mandarin

## **AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, SCREENINGS**

### **2023:**

The 28th Campus Genius Contest (Japan) – Entertainment category GOLD winner

Palm Spring Animation Festival – Official Selection

SHORT to the Point – Official Selection

### **2022:**

Los Angeles Animation Festival – Best of the Fest & Best Student Director & Best Student Experimental Animation Awards. Mentioned in [Animation Magazine](#).

The 24th DigiCon6 Asia – Japan Silver Award & Asia “That’s Entertainment!” Award

Anim8 Student Film Festival – Graduate Award of Excellence

The 40th Flickers’ Rhode Island International Film Festival – Official Selection

Stop Motion MX Film Festival – Official Selection

Little Wing Film Festival – Official Selection

### **2021:**

A VR project “Cave Maze” featured in *Materiality, Space and Embodiment* Symposium (Norwegian Artistic Research Program)

### **2020:**

Society of Illustrators NYC Annual Student Competition – 5th Place in Animation (The Rockstar Games Award)

### **2019:**

Society of Illustrators NYC Annual Student Competition – 1th Place in Animation (The Rockstar Games Award)

Rhode Island School of Design – Film/Animation/Video Department Award of Excellence (top 3 students in junior year)

Vegas Movie Awards – Monthly Best Animation Winner

Five Continents International Film Festival – Best Animation Short Winner

Oniros Film Awards – Monthly Best Animation Winner

Queen Palm International Film Festival – Best Animation Bronze Award