Laura Ekl, CMI
Medical Illustration & Animation

EDUCATION

2019 – 2021   **Master of Arts in Medical and Biological Illustration**
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD
Thesis: *Mapping the Tumor Vasculome: A novel interactive 3D visualization of computationally derived tumor hemodynamics*

2012-2015   **Bachelor of Arts in Biological and Pre-Medical Illustration**
Iowa State University, Ames, IA
Minors: Biology, Mathematics
Graduated *cum laude*

WORK EXPERIENCE

2024-Current   **Animation & Rigging Generalist - OssoVR**
Remote
- Created rigs and animations of hard surface and anatomical subject matter for use in real-time rendering
- Collaborated with Medical Illustrators to define goals of movements and animations; reviewed storyboards

2023-2024   **Medical Illustrator - OssoVR**
2021-2023   **Associate Medical Illustrator - OssoVR**
Remote
- Worked with external medical device project teams to translate novel surgical technologies into accurate and effective VR training modules for medical practitioners and sales representatives
- Storyboarded simulation design from surgical technique guides to produce comprehensive production plan
- Lead development and implementation of novel VR functionalities in the Unity platform
- Met with clients biweekly to gather feedback, and communicated feedback to interdisciplinary production team to maintain project scope and deadlines

2016-2019   **Lead Designer, Content & Curriculum Team - BodyViz**
Clive, IA; Chicago, IL
- Established & managed Content and Curriculum team.
- Designed, authored, and implemented series of anatomy eLearning modules with integration into proprietary DICOM visualization software
- Collaborated with medical education, physician, and medical-legal clients to produce custom content

EXHIBITIONS & PRESENTATIONS

2025   From Sketch to Simulation: Applying the Principles of Medical Illustration and User Experience to Build Engaging VR Experiences

2025   Special Guest at Toronto General Hospital-National Taiwan University Joint Forum: Innovations in Medical Visualization

2021   Multiple pieces exhibited at JHU AATM Graduate Show

AWARDS AND HONORS

2024, 2025   **Value Award Winner,** OssoVR

2021   **Vesalian Scholar,** Vesalius Trust

2020   **Ranice W. Crosby Scholarship**, JHU

2019-2020   **Frank H. Netter Scholarship**, JHU

William P. Didusch Scholarship, JHU

School of Medicine Tuition Grant, JHU

SOFTWARE

- Autodesk Maya
- Adobe: After Effects, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro, Photoshop
- Blender
- Figma; Miro
- Maxon Cinema4D
- OsiriX; Horos; Slicer
- Pixologic Zbrush
- SketchUp
- Unity

INVOLVEMENT

2024 - Present   **Mentor**, SciViz Program, Iowa State University

Mentor, Association of Medical Illustrators

2024   **Salon Judge**, Association of Medical Illustrators

CONTACT

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