

ESABELLA STRICKLAND

Vancouver, BC | (604) 836-8034 | info@esabellakarena.com
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Junior 2D Animator | Filmmaker | Author

Creative and driven visual storyteller with a strong background in animation, filmmaking, and writing. Multi-award-winning director, producer, screenwriter, actress, and published author. Adept at bringing ideas to life through both traditional and digital media, with a proven ability to manage projects from concept to completion, seeking an entry-level position in 2D animation to combine technical skills with a passion for narrative and character design.

EDUCATION

Vancouver Film School – Vancouver, BC

Diploma with Honours, Classical Animation (Aug 2024 – Aug 2025)

Certificate, Character Design (Jul 2023 – Aug 2023)

VanArts – Vancouver, BC

Certificate, 2D Animation (Jul 2019)

Kenneth Gordon Maplewood School (KGMS) – North Vancouver, BC

High School Diploma with Honours (Apr 2018 – Jun 2023)

Cinelab – Vancouver, BC

Certificate, 2-Week Filmmaking Intensive (Aug 2022)

Certificate, 3-Week Filmmaking Intensive (Jul 2021)

Young Movie Makers – Vancouver, BC

Certificate, 2-Week Filmmaking Intensive (Jul 2019)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AGB Honour Films – Vancouver, BC

Director | Producer | Screenwriter | Actress | Author (Jul 2018 – Present)

- Directed, produced, and wrote award-winning short films and projects screened at over **300+ film festivals**, winning **80+ awards** globally.
- Spearheaded development of **two feature films in pre-production**, securing **\$35M in funding**. Through Film Volt Canada

Bird on a Wire Creations – Vancouver, BC
Sales & Promotions Associate (Apr 2019 – Sept 2022)

- Engaged customers and promoted local artists and crafters, enhancing community awareness and sales.
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VOLUNTEER & OTHER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer / Influencer – Spark CG Society – Vancouver, BC (Oct – Nov 2024)

- Promoted the Spark Animation Film Festival via social media, boosting event visibility.

Sailing & International Studies – Class Afloat – Nova Scotia (Sept 2023 – Jun 2024)

- Sailed **13,900 nautical miles** to over **20 ports** on four continents; earned **OS Sailing Certificate**.
- Participated in voluntary service projects, developing leadership and cross-cultural communication skills.

Youth Ambassador – VarietyBC – Vancouver, BC (Feb 2019 – Feb 2023)

- Co-hosted the **Variety Show of Hearts Telethon**, conducted interviews, and promoted the event across social media channels.
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ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- **TedEd Speaker** – Living with ADHD: Riding the Teenage Storm, New York (2024)
 - **Panel Speaker** – Neurodivergent Filmmakers, SDCC, San Diego (2024)
 - **Filmmaker to Watch** – Bay of Blood Film Festival, Toronto (2024)
 - **Best Young Artist** – Out of the Can International Film Festival, London, UK (2022)
 - **Best Youth Artist** – Toronto International Film Festival (2022)
 - **Published Author** – *Then and There Here and Were*, GenZ Publishing (2021)
 - **Best Youth Artist** – Montreal Independent Film Festival (2021)
 - **Adobe Insider/Speaker** – Adobe Summit, Las Vegas, (2019)
 - **Red Heart Award** – VarietyBC (2018)
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MEMBERSHIPS

- Women in Animation – Vancouver
- GEMS Vancouver (Gender Equality in Media Societ