

# Skills for Success

**Media Art & Design** alum, Alex Marek, is doing great things. As an animator, Alex has had the opportunity to work with Duke University Men's Basketball, American Greetings and Sesame Street Workshop – to name just a few. He has also animated for the popular YouTube animation series, Pencilmation.

Working with 2Tall Animation, Alex animated and built assets for hype videos for Duke Basketball. As a freelance designer for American Greetings, he has worked on a variety of projects, the most significant being a birthday e-card he animated.

Alex's biggest opportunity this year may have been with Sesame Workshop. He was hired for a short-term project this spring following an internship he had with the organization during the summer of 2019. Alex helped animate an 8-episode series of COVID-19 awareness public service announcements for Sesame Workshop to help children understand changes in their life and the feelings associated with them due to the pandemic.

When asked how the Media Art & Design program contributed to his success, Alex said

**“[T]his class was 100% crucial in putting me in the path I'm currently on. I personally wouldn't have been as prepared for the world of professional digital art if not for what I experienced here. Getting to know the tools early helped me get a head-start in college, and being able to create my own animated short made me discover that animation was the career path for me. Working on the animated short I did in this class was the only time I ever wanted to stay after school to work on a project, which is very telling.”**

Alex Marek - Class of 2015

