

# LAURA BENITEZ

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## EDUCATION

- May 2019 **MFA, ENTERTAINMENT MULTIMEDIA & TECHNOLOGY STUDIES**  
Florida Atlantic University | Boca Raton, FL
- Nov 2018 **CERTIFICATE IN CHARACTER ANIMATION**  
Animation Mentor | Emeryville, CA
- May 2013 **BFA, EMERGING MEDIA & MINOR, STUDIO DRAWING**  
University of Central Florida | Orlando, FL
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## EXPERIENCE

- 08/2019 -- Present **VISITING INSTRUCTOR**  
Florida Atlantic University | Davie, FL & Fort Lauderdale, FL
- Teaching courses related to Video Production, Digital Video Editing, Digital Audio Recording & Editing, Fundamentals of Computer Animation, and Fundamentals of Multimedia.
  - Teaching the graduate level course - Creating Interactive Cultures and a Direct Independent Study.
  - Teaching the 2 semesters of online courses and hybrid courses during the era of COVID-19.
  - Instructing in a Special Topics course related to stop-motion Animation.
- 11/02/2019 **STAGE MANAGER & CURATOR**  
Florida Day of the Dead Festival | Fort. Lauderdale, FL
- Managed Stage 8: "La Cultura Stage" of the 10th Annual Florida Day of the Dead
  - Festival. Events taking place on this stage were tied to the Mesoamerican, prehispanic
  - culture involved with the original form of the Day of the Dead Holiday.
  - Screening films on La Cultura Stage exhibited the inaugural "Cine de los Muertos"; the film festival pertaining to the the themes of El Dia de Los Muertos.
  - One of the founding members of "Cine de los Muertos".

08/2016 – 05/2019

**GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT**

Florida Atlantic University | Davie, FL

- Assisting in 2 Broadcast Journalism courses for the 2016/17-2018/19 school year.
- Teaching Fundamentals of Multimedia FALL of 2017
- Teaching Fundamentals of Computer Animation SPRING of 2017 & FALL of 2018.
- Participating as a TA for high school students taking Programming for Android for the MODS Aptitude course.

04/ 2018

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ VOLUNTEER**

10th Annual Flamingo Film Festival | Fort Lauderdale, FL

- Created and designed posters, cards, and other pieces of advertisement for the film festival.
- Aided in film projection during the festival.

07/29/2017 – 08/03/2017

**SIGGRAPH STUDENT VOLUNTEER**

Los Angeles Convention Center | Los Angeles, CA

- Assisting the 2017 SIGGRAPH Conference in various booths of the VR VILLAGE
- Helping guests and facilitating where needed during screenings in the VR theater

04/2017

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ VOLUNTEER**

9th Annual Flamingo Film Festival | Fort Lauderdale, FL

- Volunteering as a greeter, and projectionist on the day of the festival.
- Promoting on social media platforms the 4th Annual Flamingo Film Festival.
- Graphic Designer for the Annual Flamingo Film Festival

08/2014 – 06/2016

**ELEMENTARY ART LIAISON (VOLUNTEERED POSITION)**

Broward Art Educators Association | Broward County

- Creating connections and promoting workshops, and events for elementary art educators of Broward County

10/2013 – 06/2016

**ELEMENTARY ART TEACHER**

Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines | Pembroke Pines, FL

- Educating students under the NGSS curriculum for ART

04/2012 – 08/2012

**GRAPHIC DESIGN INTERN**

Telemundo Digital Station Unit | Miramar, FL

- Creating graphics and online ads for clientele and gaining hands-on experience in the Hispanic market.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**



### **Transcience | Super 8 Film | 2019**

1: 1 Super 8 Cinema Soirée | Exhibited



### **The Seven Ages of Susanna | AR Narrative Experience | 2019**

That Damn Puppet Slam | Exhibited

### **Quad | Experimental Film | 2018**



Flamingo Film Festival

Winner for Best Experimental | Nominated for Best Editing | Nominated for Best Overall  
Leading Edge Student Exhibition | Exhibited



### **Erosion | Super 8 Film | 2018**

1: 1 Super 8 Cinema Soirée | Exhibited



### **Pulprty | 2D Animation | 2018**

Flamingo Film Festival | Nominated for Best Animation



### **BAEA Teacher Art Show | 2016**

Best in Show



### **BAEA Teacher Art Show | 2015**

3rd Place



### **Under One Roof: A UCF Student Exhibition | 2013**

University of Central Florida SVAD | Exhibited

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## **SKILLS**

Maya | 3D Animation | Stop-Motion Animation | Drawing & Painting | Film  
Production & Editing | Adobe Creative Suite | Organizational Skills |  
Communication Skills | Spanish

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## **COURSES TAUGHT**

MMC 6707	Creating Interactive Cultures
DIG 3235C	Digital Audio Recording & Editing
DIG 3207	Digital Video Editing
DIG 3305C	Fundamentals of 3D Animation
DIG 3110	Fundamentals of Multimedia
DIG 4026	History & Theory of Computer Arts & Animation
DIG 4930	Special Topics: Stop-Motion Animation
RTV 3531	Video Production

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## **UNIVERSITY-RELATED COMMITMENTS**

Fall 2021      Spring 2022 | Search Committee | Florida Atlantic University  
Gimelstob Endowed Director of Jewish Studies and Associate Professor

Spring 2021    Volunteer Jury & Selection | Florida Atlantic University  
Flamingo Film Festival

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