





# Rachel Laird

Medical Illustration Graduate Student

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 Augusta, GA

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## Experience

### Illustrator — Student Medical Illustration Service, Augusta University's MIGP

August 2022 - May 2024

- Worked with clients to create effective media for each project
- Created work to communicate topics to a patient audience that may lack advanced reading comprehension or have English as a second language

### Digital Sculptor — Richard B. Russell Library, University of Georgia

August 2022 - May 2024

- Collaborated as a team member to create a temporary exhibition for one of the university's special collections libraries, and a permanent exhibit for the Georgia Museum of Natural History
- Sculpted, printed, and painted 3D models of insects relevant to the project

### Muralist — Realty One Group, Savannah

Since August 2018

- Managing project timelines and client's vision to design murals and develop an engaging workspace
- Utilizing digital and traditional techniques to produce murals

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## Education

### Master of Science in Medical Illustration (MSMI)

Augusta University — August 2022 - May 2024

- Received training in anatomical and medical storytelling with attention to detail, as well as experience in operating room observation
- Became proficient in timely production and overlapping projects

### Bachelor of Fine Arts in Scientific Illustration (BFA)

University of Georgia — August 2018 - May 2022

- Studied artwork as a visual tool for communication in service of education, specifically in the fields of biological and medical illustration

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## Skills

- Adept in Adobe programs including Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, etc., in addition to 3D programs such as Maxon Cinema4D and ZBrush.
- Highly skilled in drawing and rendering
- Experienced in collaborative work and jointly completing tasks.
- Knowledgeable in medical terminology/concepts and conveying that information in an illustrative format or as data visualization.
- Committed to accuracy, attention to detail and timely production.
- Proficient in both 2D and 3D animating.

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## Strengths

- **Personable** - One of my great joys is knowing people, forging relationships and sharing ideas.
- **Adaptive** - In problem solving I tend to be very resilient. When it appears like there isn't a way forward, I am confident in my ability to find it or make it myself.
- **Driven** - I care very much about what I do, so I am very detail-oriented and pour myself into all aspects of a project
- **Inquisitive** - I consider myself a life-long learner. I am always eager to find new techniques, the latest programs and cutting edge developments in the medical realm.

## Awards and Honors

### First Place — Augusta University's Innovate Competition

March 2024

- A pitch competition exhibiting novel ideas and products, judged by a panel of professionals

### Student Research Project Grant Recipient

November 2023

- Awarded by a committee on behalf of the Augusta University Provost Office for the amount of \$1000 to fund my master's project

### Student Scientific and Medical Illustration Juried Exhibition

March 2021 and March 2022

- **William J. Stenstrom Award of Excellence** (March 2024), a scholarship award given to the highest scoring graduate illustration on display
- **Logan Award of Excellence** (March 2022), awarded to the highest scoring undergraduate piece exhibited
- **Joshua Laerm Award of Excellence** (March 2021), awarded to an undergraduate piece chosen for exhibiting outstanding creativity

### Gold Medalist — Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

March 2018

- Historic national art and writing competition for middle and high school students
- Work is judged upon its "originality, skill and emergence of personal vision"

### Ray Ellis Scholarship/Visual Arts Student of the Year

May 2018

- A scholarship given to a student with a meritorious pursuit of the visual arts by selection of the visual arts faculty of the Savannah Arts Academy

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## Published Works

### "Fentanyl Testing Strips" (2024)

- Instructional flyer created for doctorate research and AU Health, distributed to the public in University Health centers

### "Reproductive Events" (2023)

- Patient education pamphlet used by the AU Health Reproductive Medicine and Infertility Associates

### "Great Egret Feathers" (2022)

- A project with the Phinizy Swamp Educational Center to create a poster for elementary aged students

### "Solenopsis invicta" (2021)

- 3D insect model created for the Russell Library's exhibit, "At War with Nature"

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## Volunteer Experience

### Wyldlife Leader

January 2019 - May 2022

- Mentored middle school students in Athens, GA during my time as a student at UGA
- Organized several weekly events including after school hangouts, before school breakfasts and one-on-one time for 6th-8th graders
- Lead a cabin of students at several weekend winter camps and week long summer retreats

### Shelter From the Rain Volunteer

Since June 2022

- Shelter From the Rain is a non-profit based in Savannah, GA that provides support and aid to single mothers and children in the community that are in need
- Watched and engaged children in activities while their mothers were attending special programs