

Elaine Nancy Czech



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Dual US and Maltese Citizenship



Personal Statement

Resolution-seeking designer with the attitude of a scrappy small dog who won't back down until an ethical, economical, human-centered solution is found. Desires to redesign and develop new services that create happy stakeholders.



Education

2017-2019 Masters/Media Design (Human-Computer Interactions)

4.22 GPA KEIO UNIVERSITY, Yokohama, Japan
Selected for Stanford University Exchange Program
Part-time Work: Project Room Studio Assistant

2008-2013 Bachelors/Art and Design

3.73 GPA UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
Dean's List, Magna Cum Laude, Elected twice to serve on Student Board at Martha Cook Resident's Hall before hired as Assistant Resident Director
Part-time Work: University Union Graphic Design Intern, Asian Art Curator's Research Assistant



Experience



Yokohama, Japan

Keio University/Embodied Media Project

Student/Research Assistant (2017 - currently)

- *Co-founded and operated the Positive Aging subproject:* Facilitated monthly meetings; Forged and maintained a partnership with Mediva, Inc.; Mentored first-year students teaching interviewing skills and researching techniques
- *Adapted design thinking methods:* Conducted fieldwork (bi-weekly), spearheaded need-finding interviews in the US and Japan; Led two-part design workshop with Mediva, Inc.; Implemented usage of persona analysis, storyboard creation, prototyping & user testing techniques to boost the social impact of projects developed in the Positive Aging subproject
- *Authored/Presented:* CHI 2019, Student Design Competition; World Haptics 2019, Technical Paper/Design Showcase, CHI 2020, Case Study on Dementia Care and Communication
- *Volunteered:* Skylabo Workshop (STEM workshop for Japanese girls); SIGGRAPH Asia 2018; Hands On Tokyo (activity sessions in nursing homes in Japan)

Oosawa Zeial

Graphic Design Intern (2017)

Shibuya, Japan

- *Visual design (Cooking School Pamphlet Redesign Pitch):* Evaluated the motives for attending cooking school; Reenvisioned design to reflect concept that cooking is gifting creativity
- *Supported client relations:* Assisted in pitching company services to over 100 potential clients at an Education Fair

Piolax

Translator (2016)

Ann Arbor, MI

- *Translated (Japanese - English):* Prioritized assignments minimizing production lag due to poor communication
- *Interpretation:* Clarified documents/tasks ensuring smooth daily life for expat coworkers and visitors

Kyoto Seika University/International Noh Institute (INI)

Researcher (2013 - 2015)

Kyoto, Japan

- *Visual design:* Curated flyers for INI events to improve foreign visitor presence and accessibility to Noh theater
- *Wood-carving and mask research:* Hand-carved two masks with traditional techniques; Exhibited a mask publicly
- *Performance research:* Trained and performed publicly seven times (as one of only three non-Japanese performers); Educated foreign visitors by promoting and assisting at INI run workshops



Awards

Winner of CHI 2019 Student Design Competition, MEXT Scholarship, Hayao Nakayama Foundation Grant, ITO Foundation Research Scholarship



Skills

DESIGN: Creative Suite, Visual, Service, Ideating, Storyboarding, Prototyping

KNOW-HOW: Research, User Testing, Critical Assessment, Ethnography, Interviewing

TECH: Sketch, Haptics, Basic HTML/CSS/Arduino

COMMUNICATION: Presentation, Mediation, Interpersonal Relationships, Japanese (intermediate -N2)