

# Kelen Thalinger

Illustrator

Cincinnati, OH. Able to relocate  
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ILLUSTRATION | NARRATIVE ART | DESIGN | CONCEPT ART

## QUALIFICATION SUMMARY

An enthusiastic and adaptable illustrator with a solid understanding of visual clarity and storytelling. Independently motivated and responsive to feedback. Strong work ethic with a variety of interests that inform how he treats his work environment and clients, allowing him to generate interesting solutions and valuable discussions. Generally friendly and easy-going.

## KEY SKILLS

- |                    |                          |              |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| ✓ 2D Illustration  | ✓ Narrative illustration | ✓ Photoshop  |
| ✓ Design           | ✓ Communication          | ✓ InDesign   |
| ✓ Customer service | ✓ Storyboarding          | ✓ Work ethic |

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Freelance Illustrator

January 2023 - Present

Self-employed

Jacksonville, FL

*Commissioned illustrative work for an array of clients. Ranging from small scale digital logo design to large traditional paintings, I focus on meeting my customer's needs while also making something pretty and unique.*

- 2D Illustration
- Traditional mediums (oil, acrylic, graphite, watercolor, pen & ink, charcoal, etc.)
- Digital mediums (Procreate on iPad Pro, Photoshop, and InDesign)
- Customer service and communication
- Concept work made to be as efficient as possible, adaptable, and focused on client desires

### Glass Studio Technician and Teacher

May 2018 - November 2022

Braze Studios

Cincinnati, OH

*Duties split generally between larger scale glass design production and teaching hands-on classes in kiln-formed glasswork for all ages. Because I had a less specialized skill set, I also was responsible for regular maintenance and customer service.*

- Kiln-formed glasswork, including use of commercial kilns
- Instructed children and adults
- Coordination of projects and mailed glass kits during COVID quarantine
- Repair and organizational skills for workplace maintenance (including water-jet maintenance)
- Communication with resident artists in the adjacent studios for maintenance and events

### **Comic Production Assistant**

September 2020 - December 2020

Daniel Warren Johnson (artist employed by Marvel at the time)

Cincinnati, OH (remote)

*Edited scanned-in inked artwork in Photoshop and formatted them to be sent to the colorist and publisher. Was given constant feedback on my own work as well through regular meetings and critiques.*

- Touch-up and color correction in Photoshop
- Competence in visual composition and clarity
- Narrative artwork/Clear visual storytelling
- Communication and adaptable collaboration

### **Co-op at Manifest Gallery and Drawing Center**

January 2020 - April 2020

Manifest Gallery

Cincinnati, OH

*Helped collaborate on gallery show layouts, hang and display artworks of various sizes and mediums, and interacted with artists and guests. At the Drawing Center, I helped to light and create life drawing displays with models as well as general maintenance and participation in the life drawing sessions.*

- Gallery design and installation
- Artist outreach and customer service
- Organization of digital files and incoming applications
- Life drawing and studio maintenance

## **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Plumbing Apprentice**

January 2023 - March 2024

Moon Carrot Plumbing

Jacksonville, FL

- Service work for a wide array of water fixtures, both residential and commercial
- Complete water line and drain repipes from demolition to final install in CPVC, PVC, and uponor
- Comprehensive customer service and bidding

### **Landscaping & Lawn-care**

Seasonal, 2017 - 2023

Self-employed

Cincinnati, OH

- Garden maintenance including planting, potting, mulching, etc.
- Mowing and edging grass lawns
- Customer service and pricing negotiation

## **EDUCATION**

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### **Bachelors of Fine Arts, Creative Writing Certificate**

Graduated 2022

University of Cincinnati School for Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning  
Cincinnati, OH