Richard Ballin

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Portfolio of work: https://richardballin.artstation.com https://www.ballindesigns.com

Professional Summary: 3D Artist

U.S. veteran and 3D artist with roots in information technology and customer service at a supervisory level with a BS in I.T. and a BA in Game Art and Development. Effectively resolve challenges using personal knowledge, listening, and research skills. Possess strong written and verbal English communication skills. Quickly adapts to new technology in team and self-directed settings.

Skills and Certifications

- Auto Desk Maya
- Auto Desk Mudbox
- Adobe Substance Painter
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Illustrator
- Adobe AfterEffects
- Epic Unreal Engine 4+
- Microsoft Office Suite
- HTML 5/JavaScript

Certificate of Completion: Adobe InDesign short course
Certificate of Completion: Adobe Dreamweaver short course
Certificate of Completion: Adobe Photoshop short course

Education

Bachelor of Arts in Game Art and Development   Graduation: April 2024
Southern New Hampshire University – Manchester, NH

- Project composition is based on observation and imagination using various media tools.
- Creative writing of backstories, storyboarding, dialogue, and settings for various game design briefs.
- Choosing elements and principles of design and color theory that best suit the project.
- Create low and high poly assets to align as closely as possible with the source material.
- Sculpting, texturing, and painting assets while considering the working pipeline.
- Using the pipeline to create level and environment design.
- Utilizing the 12 principles of animation, skinning, and character rigging to create animation studies.
- Working through the phases of the pipeline from the conceptual phase, texturing, sculpting, and modeling phases for character and creature creation in both a photorealistic and stylistic format.
- Navigating professional workflow and processes of commercial game production focusing on character design, environment design, and animation. Flourishing under strict deadlines while simulating industry expectations.
- Collaborate with and assist other associates who have questions or need further understanding of projects through Discord forums, direct messages, and voice or video calls.

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
South University – Cleveland, OH

Certificate of Web Design and Interactive Media
The Art Institute of Pittsburgh – Pittsburgh, PA

Projects

Business Card/Flyer Design: 2D Design and layout business card/flyer for the local owner of "Sumie Nara (Yoga Instructor/Massage Therapist)" Dumaguete, Philippines.

Business Card/Flyer/Burger Wraps: 2D Design and layout of business cards, flyers (print and web), and burger wraps for a local pop-up restaurant in Dumaguete, Philippines. "SaMDwich"
Banner: 2D Design and layout of the K9 Coaches banner for their "Veteran's Best Friend" advertisement in Cleveland, Ohio.
VFW Post 12130 Webmaster (Cebu, Philippines): Maintain website using existing CMS and JavaScript with applets. Redesigned multiple banners and logos. Designed multiple real-world banners for various live-action events.
BallinDesigns.com Website: Design, layout, and webmaster for https://www.ballindesign.com hand-coded using HTML/5, JavaScript

Professional Experience

Student   August 2021 – Present
Southern New Hampshire University – Manchester, NH

- 3D Hard surface asset of Bass Guitar. Worked from Concept to Final Render.
- 3D Hard surface asset of Hardback Book used for level design.
- 3D Hard surface asset of Coffee Cup was created to understand complex curves in modeling.
- 3D Hard surface asset of the Human Eyeball was created to understand multi-part models, anatomy, and various surface shaders.
- 3D Organic surface asset of Fantasy Creature was created for sculpting, understanding surface shaders, and texturing.

Desktop Analyst   Apr 2016 – Nov 2016
Modis Inc. (Lubrizol) – Cleveland, OH

- Collaborated with fellow associates and customers to find lasting solutions to new and reoccurring issues.
- Created and maintained technical documentation (workflow, troubleshooting guides, walk-throughs) for use by members of all departments, including customers.
- Initialized and designed graphical info charts for associates and end-users to follow for common issues easily.
- Assisted in the script design for the automated phone system response queues. (VoIP and PBX)

DSS Analyst   Nov 2015 – Apr 2016
CDI CORPORATION (Case Western Reserve University) – Cleveland, OH

- Primary responsibilities involved coordinating and maintaining the workflow of issues within the care and repair centers.
- Other accountabilities were to oversee all repairs done by student workers on Mac and PC computers.
- Maintain and create logs, how-to documents, work safety, and info charts for fellow techs, students, and faculty.

IT Desktop Analyst   Oct 2009 – Nov 2015
South University – Savannah, GA & Cleveland, OH

- Brought South University's Cleveland campus online in collaboration with the greenhouse team in various facets of design, new hire training, layout, and hardware setup.
- Attended end-user help requests through incident tracking tickets, telephone, and email.
- I provided preventive maintenance, such as checking peripherals, printers, desktops, and laptops, for 2000+ local and remote staff, faculty, and students with various issues on personal computers.

Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Activities:

- Coordinating multiple talents using various systems, tools, and testing methodologies.
- Goal-oriented toward customer satisfaction in the quickest and most cost-effective manner possible.
- Playing and hosting role-playing games while using various rulesets or designing my own when needed,
- Personally passionate about creating beautiful, thought-provoking art in various mediums.
- Reading from various genres, including Sci-fi, High Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, History, comics, and manga.
- I have a fondness for the musical arts and self-learning guitar and bass.