



# SMITHA HAMSALA

[smithahamsala.com](http://smithahamsala.com) | [shamsala19@gmail.com](mailto:shamsala19@gmail.com)

[linkedin.com/in/smithahamsala](https://www.linkedin.com/in/smithahamsala) | Plainsboro, NJ / Sarasota, FL (Open to Relocation)

## 3D ANIMATION EXPERIENCE

**Character Animator / CG Generalist Student**, *Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL* Aug 2022 – Present

Co-Directed and co-produced the animated short film *ShowStopper*, overseeing the animation pipeline from initial blocking to final polish, creating consistent and nuanced performances across multiple characters.

- Developed high-quality keyframe animations for a 70+ shot film, focusing on emotional expression and subtle performances to create appealing movement for narrative sequences with musical lip-sync.
- Integrated principles of motion, weight, and timing using live-action reference to create believable bipedal movement for both human and animal-like characters.
- Supervised and executed layout by interpreting storyboards into 3D space, building proxy models, and managing cinematic blocking to final camerawork.
- Directed and produced multiple 3D and 2D shorts, managing the full pipeline from character, asset, and environment modeling, texturing, rigging, animating, lighting in Maya, and compositing in Nuke.
- Actively participated in dailies and team reviews, synthesizing technical feedback from faculty and peers into actionable refinements to meet strict project deadlines.

## LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

**President**, *Ringling WIA Collective, Sarasota, FL* Aug 2024 – Present

- Collaborated and led an executive team of 6 to organize 5 industry-specific events per semester, implementing strategies to foster professional development and community for animation students.
- Developed strategic initiatives that connect members with mentorship, feedback, and networking opportunities, strengthening engagement and industry readiness.
- Represented the Ringling collective in meetings with the national WIA organization, communicating updates, aligning goals, and advocating for member needs.

**Event Manager**, *Ringling College Student Activities, Sarasota, FL* May 2023 – Present

- Produced 12+ large scale campus events by managing schedules and budgets, client communication, documentation, and cross-functional coordination from concept to breakdown.
- Directed large event teams of 5 to 20 by delegating tasks, resolving conflicts, and maintaining clear communication across collaborations with multiple teams in a fluid and fast-moving environment.
- Problem solved and executed student engagement initiatives while leading weekly meetings to strengthen campus community involvement.

**Orientation Coordinator**, *Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL* Mar 2024 – Sept 2025

- Led recruitment and 2-week training sessions within a team of four, maintained recruitment data spreadsheet, coordinated with departments, tracked attendance, and standardized onboarding processes.
- Managed schedule and execution logistics for 30+ institution-wide programming, oversaw and coordinated updates across a 25-person team, ensuring information was distributed clearly and quickly.
- Designed presentations for full day training sessions, promotional recruitment posters and campaigns.
- Coordinated meetings and social activities, adapted plans and agendas for unforeseen circumstances.

## SKILLS

**Languages:** English (Native), Telugu (Fluent), French (Intermediate), Russian (Beginner).

**Proficient:** Autodesk Maya, Nuke, Substance Painter, SyncSketch, ZBrush, Adobe CS, Microsoft Office, Google Suite.

**Interests:** Storytelling, Photography, Hockey, Escape Rooms, Oreo Milkshakes, Adventure Comedies, Puzzles.

## EDUCATION

**Ringling College of Art and Design**, Sarasota, FL

May 2026

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Major: Computer Animation | Minor: Business of Art and Design - GPA: 3.70