

2017-2018 Freestyle Academy Student of the Year

Anna Larson



Some of Anna's Freestyle Projects

- [Junior Year Freestyle Projects](#)
- [Senior Year Freestyle Projects](#)
- [Phenakistoscope Wheel](#)
- [FlipBook](#)
- [Animated Reflection](#)
- [Cool Photo](#)
- [Multiple Font Study](#)
- [Puppet & Animated Mood Scene](#)

Over the course of her 2-year Freestyle career, Anna Larson has brought incredible passion, insight, and open-mindedness to our English class. She shows a high level of respect for her peers and teachers consistently through her ability to embrace new challenges with a “can-do” attitude, work calmly to solve problems, and cooperate with those around her. Always patient with people and eager to lend a helping hand, Anna is a model member of our creative community. She also leads by example through her outstanding contributions to class discussions and her excellent written work. Never afraid to shy away from intellectually or emotionally challenging material, she writes with a refreshing sense of purpose and passion; as a result, she has produced a body of quality work representing a range of genres and forms, from poetry and fiction to essays and research papers. She is truly a model English student and a Freestyler to be celebrated!

~Jason Greco, Freestyle Academy English Teacher

In her senior year, Anna brought her enthusiastic previous knowledge from her Digital Media class to the new Animation class where she was able to mix her previous coding knowledge with animation principles, concept design, and film language. She is an outstanding animator and a model for the animation class, always keeping a good balance between story, aesthetics and time management. Her participation in class reviews and pitch sessions is always thoughtful, with respectful and direct constructive feedback. She is open minded to new suggestions but with strong critical thinking to decide what feedback to use to her benefit. She is always thirsty for new knowledge in class and on her own. Attributes that put her on top of her class.

Anna is a very detail oriented animator and designer with a good sense of the big picture of a project, a quality that allows her to work starting from rough storyboards, building up to finished projects with strong narratives and great concept design. She knows how not to be caught in tiny details, but still manages her time to produce detail clean films.

She is a kind and respectful artist with a strong commitment to social justice. You could see that in all her work and her peer interactions; always ready to help a classmate. I look forward to seeing her accomplishments after Freestyle!!

~Adriana Copete, Freestyle Academy Animation Teacher

Beginning in her junior year in Design, Anna showed us all what an incredibly talented illustrator and designer she is. Her whimsical, fantastic, and magical drawings are always unique and invite the viewer to explore every enchanting detail with glee. She's very meticulous in her illustrations and designs as well, with an attention to detail resulting in stellar projects. We always look forward to Anna's projects knowing that she'll have pushed the envelope to the next level.

She's an enthusiastic learner and always thirsty to add to her knowledge base both from in class lessons and learning on her own. Anna is so generous with that knowledge when her fellow students are struggling to learn new techniques or just need encouragement, with positive praise and help.

She's a kind-hearted, gentle soul with a strong sense of social justice, and a willingness to stand up and be counted. She willingly befriends those who might need her generosity of spirit.

Anna is highly intelligent and the world will be a better place as she goes forth to leave her mark on it. We've enjoyed her sojourn at Freestyle for the last few years and I look forward to hearing of her many successes and accomplishments in what will no doubt be an amazingly rewarding future!

~Leslie Parkinson, Freestyle Academy Design Teacher

When Anna switched out of my class to Animation this year, I was not disappointed. I applaud any student who follows her passion just like Anna did when switching. Her passion in animation is obvious if you've seen her work. Bravo!

Look out world! Here comes Anna! She's coming to change the world for the better and I for one can't wait to see her do it.

~Leo Florendo, Freestyle Academy Program Coordinator and Digital Media Teacher

Anna has a kind and supportive nature that she carries with her throughout Freestyle. I have been impressed with her over the past two years as she has become a good friend to all in our community. She is an excellent example of kindness and friendship.

~Matt Taylor, Freestyle Academy Film Teacher

Anna Larson was a camp counselor with me last year. Her unceasing optimism and way of finding fun in the most mundane tasks was awe inspiring. She wrote funny songs about cleaning toilets and would constantly sing different songs. She was the camp counselor we all wanted to be. Anna is a local fashion icon, renowned for her crocs. Anna lives nowhere near me, yet she's willing to drive me home if I need a ride, and will blast awesome music the entire way. Anna is kind and creative, and all around amazing.

~Brooke Bettinger, Freestyle Academy Student

When I first came to Freestyle, I was in a bad place. I had drifted away from all of my previous friends, and felt alone and isolated from everyone else. However, Anna reached out to me, and became the first friend I made at Freestyle. Throughout the last two years, Anna has been nothing but kind and supportive of everyone's work, without neglecting her own impressive projects. She always manages to amaze me with whatever she's made - as I'm typing this, she's working on 3D modeling and is creating an amazing-looking skin for a cute little four-legged animal. I want to pet it. What she's managed to accomplish at Freestyle is nothing short of incredible, and a role model to us all. I am certain she will go on to do incredible things and continue to amaze us all in the coming years.

~Emily Cook, Freestyle Academy Student

Everything Anna does, whether at Freestyle or anywhere else, is spectacular. She goes above and beyond each time, putting all of her talents to use. She has all these talents because she has the best work ethic. Anna works hard to improve what she already does. Freestyle wouldn't be the same without her. Anna makes it a place where everyone has a friend willing to listen and collaborate with.

~Mikele Baugh, Freestyle Academy Student