

# MICHELLE ACUÑA

3D Animator

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- New York, US based
- Lead / Senior 3D Animator
- BFA Animation @ SCAD Savannah, 2010
- Previs | Layout | Character Animation | Comp | Edit
- Autodesk Maya | Adobe Suite | Cinema 4D
- Associate Animation Director @ Nick Jr.
- Head of Animation @ 321Launch (previs)

## Notable Projects:

- Emmy nominated short "Block Party: Quest for the Golden Cube"
- Promax Gold award winners "Blues Clues & You Launch Campaign" and "Nick Jr's Proud to be Us" DRI campaigns
- Lead/Directed multiple Nick Jr. new show launch campaigns including Blues Clues & You!, Dora (2024), The Adventures of Paddington Bear, Santiago of the Seas, Butterbean's Cafe, Top Wing and Abby Hatcher

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### NICKELODEON / NICK JR.

#### Associate Animation Director

Oct 2022 – Dec 2024

Collaborated across all departments to lead animation teams in creating exceptional on-air motion graphics + character animations

- Constructed timelines, budgets and built standard practice for job tracking within slack (pre + post canvas) to use alongside frame.io and syncsketch. Using slack to manage projects streamlined our animation pipeline -- creating transparency and efficient workflows that enabled animators to collaborate and feel secure in their tasks
- Animation Direction on "Dora" (2024) Launch Campaign, including "Family Song" music video featuring custom animation and graphics in 3 different languages, 3 different sizes, and across all platforms, our 2D to 3D "Social Reveal" that generated 206k likes +10.3k comments on Instagram, and "Swiper Stunt", in which we were tasked and overdelivered in the ideation and animation of custom Swiper graphics that could be used over any footage
- Expedited turnaround of multiple 3D character animation pieces of Spongebob and Patrick for NFL Superbowl + KCA promos - approved within 2-5 days

#### Lead Animator/CG Supervisor

Oct 2019 – Oct 2022

Working with & leading teams to create graphics, short form animations, and seasonal campaigns for all of our Nick Jr. properties

- Entrusted with layout + animation on numerous new series launch graphics packages and short form content
- Animation/CG Supervision on multiple promos for "Blues Clues & You!", "Santiago of the Seas," and DRI "Proud To Be Us" and the AAPIHM + JAHM Campaigns which included 7 IDs, 2 short form pieces, and 2 music videos
- Tested new programs (wrike, airtable) to aide in project tracking/management + constructed standard use

#### Lead Animator

Aug 2017 – Oct 2019

Layout & animation of Nick Jr. characters for on-air promos, show launch packages, short form, and seasonal campaigns

- Half of the 2-person animation team for Emmy nominated short "Block Party: Quest for the Golden Cube"
- Created the animatic, layout, & animation of Blue & Magenta on "Blues Clues & You!" Extended Theme Song
- Initiated the formation of our 3D animation library - promoting more cohesion within character movements, accelerated layout + blocking with controller sets + poses, and enabled us to see existing animation more quickly
- Produced a project tracker that became common use for organization, productivity and teamwork

### 321LAUNCH

#### Head of Animation

Nov 2015 – Nov 2016

- Scheduled/budgeted/hired/trained animators + worked with managers/execs to ensure departmental success

#### Lead Previs Artist

Sep 2011 – Nov 2015

- Mentored + delegated tasks to animators + worked with directors/producers to properly staff projects

### FREELANCE ANIMATOR

July 2010 – July 2014 | Dec 2016 – Apr 2018

Senior 3D Animator @ Transistor Studios, Artjail, Firstborn, + Sparrow Studio | Snapple, EOS, Supercell, Bank of America

Layout & Previs Artist @ Toybox NZ | Youtube Original "Sherwood" Series

Previs Artist @ 321Launch, Edit 1, Napoleon Group | Mocap cleanup, keyframe animation in Autodesk Maya + Motionbuilder

3D Intern @ Shilo TV | Used various skills (modeling, animation, matte painting and compositing) for previs + on-air pieces

Thank you! :)