BIOMEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR & DESIGNER

abeeshan selvabaskaran.

ah-BEE-shin sel-va-BAH-ska-ren
he/him

🏠 abeeshans.github.io
📞 (647) 669-8345
✉ abeeshan.selvabaskaran@mail.utoronto.ca

EDUCATION.

Master of Science (MSc.) in Biomedical Communications
Institute of Medical Sciences, University of Toronto
2020 - Present (Expected Graduation: July 2022)

Honors Bachelor of Science (BSc.)
Physiology Specialist, Immunology Minor, University of Toronto | cGPA: 3.96
2016 - 2020

SKILLS.

Technical

Scientific research, literature review, proposal writing, information design, graphic design, 2D animation, 3D animation, 3D modelling, digital sculpting, UX/UI design

Software

Adobe CC: Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, After Effects; Procreate, Pixologic Zbrush, Blender 3D, Autodesk Maya, Substance Painter, Davinci Resolve, Chimera, Slicer 3D, Figma, Tableau, Python, HTML/CSS/JS

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

IMS Magazine Designer, 2021 - Present
Institute of Medical Sciences, University of Toronto

- Designed infographics, cover pages, and editorial illustrations for quarterly issues of the Institute of Medical Science (IMS) student-led magazine

University College Dragonboat, 2016 - 2020
University of Toronto | Co-Captain, Student Executive, Paddler

- Lead a team of 30+ students to compete within local and national competitions
- Managed an executive team of nine to organize finances and social events
- Responsible for leading workouts for an attendance of 40-100 students and helped promote healthy and proactive lifestyles

Taekwondo Instructor, 2012 - 2016
World Master Taekwondo Academy

- Lead classes of up to 25 students in basic to advanced martial arts techniques
- Oversaw the bi-annual preparation and testing of black belt preparation students

St. Michael's Hospital Volunteer, 2017 - 2019
St. Michael's Hospital

- Assisted and guided patients in the E.R. waiting room and helped nurses when necessary
- Visited patients' rooms to offer any support if needed

EXPERIENCE.

Animator & Interactive Designer, 2021 - Present
Hospital for SickKids & University of Toronto

- Created a surgical animation and interactive web-based learning tool for medical professionals & surgical trainees in Congenital Heart Disease (CHD)
- Responsible for user research, 2D/3D asset creation, and writing content for the animation and interactive components

Freelance Biomedical Communicator, 2017 - Present

- *Student Mental Health Research, InLIGHT*: Developed and designed brand identity for University of Toronto's global research intiative on student mental Health (2021)
- *Toronto Notes*: Created an obstetrics illustration on the surgical dissection layers for C-section (2021)
- *Proteostasis Researchers in Canada, Eh (PRINCE)*: Developed a logo and brand identity for the first national conference dedicated to proteomics research (2018)

3D Organic Artist, 2021 - 2022
University of Toronto, Department of Anatomy

- Assisted in the development of a digital anatomy museum based on Grant's museum at the University of Toronto
- Created digital 3D models of 35+ prosections based on laser scans
- Developed a protocol for processing laser scans, sculpting missing tissues, and optimizing/prepping models for WebGL

Teaching Assistant, 3D Visualization, 2022
University of Toronto, HSC404: Adv. Visual Media for Anthropological Data

- Lead in-person tutorials on concepts in visual representation of physical evidence in archaeology using illustrations, photography, and 3D rendering softwares
- Evaluated student work and provided assistance

Teaching Assistant, Science Illustration, 2021
University of Toronto, HSC200: Imaging Technologies for Science Comm.

- Lead online tutorials on basic to intermediate techniques in vector graphics tools for science illustration with Affinity Designer
- Evaluated student work and provided assistance

Lead UI & Web Designer, 2020 - 2021
University of Toronto Mississauga, Department of Biology

- Evaluated previous research faculty page for the University of Toronto's Department of Biology website and explored alternative approaches to visualize research within the department
- Developed a prototype to easily share information about faculty to students/researchers which was approved for development

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AWARDS.

Tableau Iron Viz: Student Edition Champion
Tableau, International Competition
2021

Dora Burke Playfair Leadership Award
University of Toronto, University College
2019

Charles Hollenberg Student Summership
Banting and Best Diabetes Center (BBDC)
2019

Bernice Hines Physiology Student Achievement Award
Division of Teaching and Learning, University of Toronto
2019

Summer Undergraduate ROP Scholarship
Department of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto
2018

Molecular Genetics-Biochemistry Poster Session 1st Place
University of Toronto, Department of Molecular Genetics & Biochemistry
2018

President's Entrance Scholarship
University of Toronto
2016

PRESENTATIONS.

Selvabaskaran, A. (2022, March). Introduction to the Zbrush 3D Workflow. Guest Lecture, Iowa State University.

Selvabaskaran, A. (2021, June). Blender 101: An Introductory Crash Course!. Professional Development Workshop, Toronto, Ontario.

Selvabaskaran, A., Segal, D., & Taipale M. (2018, July). 14-3-3 Epsilon & Nuclear Protein in Testes M2A Fusion (YWHAE-NUTM2A): Uncharacterized Oncoprotein May Play a Role in Nuclear Trafficking. Poster Session, Toronto, Ontario.

HOBBIES & INTERESTS.

Dragonboat, Taekwondo, Calisthenics, Biking, Piano

EXPERIENCE. (CONTINUED)

Teaching Instructor, MED YSP, 2020
University of Toronto, Medical Youth Summer Program (MEDYSP)
- Taught high school students University-level concepts including topics in Physiology, Molecular Biology, Pharmacology and Toxicology, and Microbiology
- Developed lesson plans and learning modules
- Worked with professors and student instructors to pioneer first online learning enviornment for this program

Research Assistant, Nostro Lab, 2019 - 2020
University of Toronto, McEwen Stem Cell Institute UHN
- Completed thesis project using CRISPRa techniques to optimize in-vitro pancreatic β-cell differenciation
- Obtained Banting and Best Diabetes Center (BBDC) scholarship to continue research during the summer

Research Assistant, Taipale Lab, 2018 - 2019
University of Toronto, Terrence Donnelly Centre
- Conducted proteomics techniques to characterize the interactome of a fusion oncoprotein linked to Endometrial Stromal Sarcoma (ESS)
- Obtained Molecular Genetics Research Opportunity Program scholarship to conduct research during the summer

Research Assistant, Valiante Lab, 2017 - 2018
University of Toronto, Krembil Research Institute
- Investigated the characterization of seizure onset events from electroencephelographs of optogenetically-induced ictal events
- Developed visual aids and published figures based on seizure data collected from mice

PUBLICATIONS.

(Under Review) **Segal, D., Maier, S. K., Qian, W., Mastromarco, G., Nabeel-Shah, S., Lee, H., Lacoste, J., Larsen, B., Lin, Z.-Y., Selvabaskaran, A., Liu, K., Smibert, C., Zhang, Z., Greenblatt, J., Lee, H., Peng, J., Gingras, A.-C., & Taipale, M.** (2022). A central chaperone-like role for 14-3-3 proteins in human cells. Molecular Cell.

Marshall, K., Siegner, M., Lisk, K., Selvabaskaran, A., & Laprade, J. (2022). Continuing the legacy of Grant's Museum: Anatomy Education in the Digital Era. The FASEB Journal, 36(S1). https://doi.org/10.1096/fasebj.2022.36.s1.r3643

Chang, M., Dufour, S., Carlen, P. L., & Valiante, T. A. (2019). Generation and on-demand initiation of acute ictal activity in rodent and human tissue. Journal of Visualized Experiments, (143). https://doi.org/10.3791/57952
Acknowledgement, Figure Creations