

MONSERRAT CARDENAS

ENGLISH SPANISH

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OBJECTIVE

I am a designer focused on the kids industry, seeking to teach and inspire with a background in animation, illustration, painting, digital art, user experience and child development. I use accessibility principles to design toys and experiences that open doors to kids with impairments and help shape the childhoods of our future generations, for they are all that we have for the future.

EDUCATION

HONOURS BACHELOR'S IN INTERACTION DESIGN

Sheridan College | Oakville, Ontario | Apr 2027

GPA 3.77

Curriculum: Website Design, Graphic Design and Visual Language, Visualizing Information: Digital Animation, Dynamic Data Model: Coding, Video and Sound Editing and Advanced Conceptual Process for Interaction Design. Minor in Physical Computing: 3D Printing, Laser Cutting, Circuits, and Gamification.

Tools: Figma, Adobe Creative Cloud, TinkerCAD, Makey Makey, Unity, microcontrollers, AR/VR systems, sensors, wearables, 3D printers, digital fabrication, ProTools, Flash and artificial Intelligence.

FUNDAMENTALS OF INNOVATION AND CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING. UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Sheridan College | Oakville, Ontario | Apr 2027

GPA 3.75 Curriculum: Principles of Creative Problem Solving, Creative Leadership and Problem Solving, Group Dynamics and Creative Problem Solving Facilitation, and Applications of Creativity and Innovation.

ACCESSIBILITY: HOW TO DESIGN FOR ALL

Interaction Design Foundation | Online | Jul 2026

Five-week diploma from Interaction Design Foundation, UI Design. Learning empathy, customer-centricity,

ART FUNDAMENTALS ONTARIO COLLEGE CERTIFICATE

Sheridan College | Oakville, Ontario | Apr 2023

GPA 3.76 Curriculum: Life Drawing, Introduction to 2D Design, 3D Design, Illustration, Printmaking, Mixed media, Introduction to Colour Theory, Drawing Systems, Painting and Sculpture. Awarded **Best 2D Work in Program**.

CALARTS ANIMATION INTENSIVE DIPLOMA

California Institute of the Arts | California, United States | Jul 2021

Learned visual communication, drawing, animation, creative judgement and narrative.

EXPERIENCE

VOLUNTEERED WITH GREENPEACE TO DESIGN EVENTS FOR THE TORONTO AREA.

Greenpeace | Toronto | Dec 2025 - Present

Conceptualized dynamic *posters and print banners*. Implemented innovative ideas for successful events. Gained experience in designing call-to-action elements to increase user engagement.

CREATIVE PRODUCTION TEAM LEAD, TOY & EXPERIENCE DESIGN

Canyon Entertainment Group | Ontario, Canada | May 2026 - Aug 2026

Currently working at Canyon Entertainment Group as a Co-op, leading the creative production of interactive festival experiences for kids and teens, following the campaign against child internet exploitation. This role combines interaction design, toys, storytelling, illustration and experience design for children and teens.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER AND UI

Happy Mind Mariana | Montreal | May 2025 - Jan 2026

Designed brand, created functional website in Canva and layout improvements, included Shopify, and worked on the social media.

COLLABORATED AS A VOLUNTEER WITH THE OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FESTIVAL.

Ottawa International Animation Festival. | Sep 2022 - Sep 2025

Experience teaching kids animation techniques. Guided small groups during structured activities. Supervised and safely escorted participants between locations within the city. In charge of the youth clinic for 3 years.

PRIVATE ART INSTRUCTOR

Self-Employed | Mexico City | Summer 2018 - Fall 2019

Provided private art classes to children in my neighbourhood, teaching students from beginner level in their homes. Planned simple, age-appropriate lessons based on academic art principles and traditional drawing techniques. Developed experience in teaching children, communicating creative knowledge, and building their skills in art.

CERTIFICATIONS & LICENSES

PRINCIPLES OF HEALTHY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

HIGH FIVE | Jul 2026 - Present

Live training is booked for July 28th to improve the curriculum.

ALIGN TEAMS, SAVE TIME REDUCE STRESS

Interaction Design Foundation | Nov 2025

Acquired Performance tracking, Collaborative project management, Timeline management and Organizational skills.

HOW TO REMOVE BIAS FROM YOUR PRODUCTS

Interaction Design Foundation | Nov 2025

Mastered Empathy, Research tools, brainstorming and Deep listening skills.

ETHICAL CONDUCT FOR RESEARCH (TCPS 2)

Panel On Research Ethics | Jan 2024

Research Ethics

COLOUR PSYCHOLOGY FOR NARRATIVE

Domestika | Dec 2016

Visual Communication, brand storytelling and graphic design.

SKILLS

Hard skills:

HTML, CSS, High Fidelity Prototype, VR, AR, Cinema4d, Touch designer, Procreate, Fine Arts, Animation, Adobe Systems
Adobe Creative Cloud, Flash, TinkerCAD, WIX, ProTools

Soft skills:

Creativity, Leadership, Problem Solving, Verbal Communication, Group Dynamics, Timeline Management, Attention to Detail,
Self-Motivated, Fast-paced worker, Self-taught, Team Management, Planning