

USC Roski

School of Art and Design

March 15, 2020

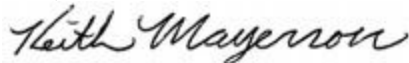
Dear Nick Jennings

I am pleased to be writing this letter of recommendation on the behalf of Rosalind Piedrasanta, who has been my student for comics and advanced drawing classes at the Roski School of Art & Design, at the University of Southern California. Before teaching here, I was the head comics teacher and “Cartooning Coordinator” at the School of Visual Arts in NYC, where I was the teacher for Hillary Florido (one of the head storyboard artists for Steven Universe), Tom Herpich (from Adventure time), and Chan Ha Kim was my USC comics student last fall, who was hired from her internship at Cartoon Network to work on a new program for you all. I have taught many super talented creators like these in my over 30 years of teaching, and Rosalind is one of the brightest, hard-working, and talented.

In a school that is not set up in the same way as SVA for comics and illustration, Rosalind has been able to still continue her passion, and it has been a delight to work with her. Her comic for my class exceeded many of my students at SVA, and was the top of her class here at USC. Well drawing and conceived, the doppelganger theme that she wrote and drew for her comic was subtly profound, and extremely well composed. Her characters have an Archie-meets-Love-and-Rockets vibe, extremely well drawn iconic, yet subjectively “realistic” people that have correct anatomy and proportions, who are able to move through well researched and drawn “realistic” worlds with aplomb. Bringing up great form from great content, her writing and storytelling is exceptional, and she is able to plot her story with the expertise of a professional cartoonist, choosing her camera views and panel-to-panel compositions that keep the excitement and focus of any well-drawn thriller masterpiece. For her work in Advanced Drawing, she created digital set pieces that were able to use all she has learned from her fine art classes. She rendered magnificent narrative images that were as full of feeling as they were about the narrative symbolic of tent poles of her storytelling, culled from larger allegories and world building from her personal creator cosmologies. Truly, Rosalind is at the top level, if not exceeding any student I have had the honor of teaching in all my history.

Rosalind is very personable, professional, hard working and diligent as a student, artist and creator. She takes criticism very easily, and is able to incorporate suggestions and ideas, and make them her own in her artwork to make it even more perfect. She is sincere, and has gravitas that was able to ground the classes she was in with me—although soft-spoken, her comments to other class members was thoughtful and insightful, generous and compassionate, and very helpful. She is a wonderful asset to our community, and know she has a fantastic future ahead of her! I have very happy to give her my highest recommendation without hesitation. Please let me know if you have any questions, and know that Rosalind will be amazing at Cartoon Network, hoping she might have the chance there to prove herself!

Sincerely,



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