

Nevada, Iowa

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# **Summary**

I'm Dylan, an illustrator and secular activist. I create fantasy art, and other illustrations, for those of us deconstructing/reconstructing ourselves so that with my voice and truth I can empower you to speak yours. I believe we can reshape ourselves through advocacy, truth, and challenging ideas like good and evil.

### Education

### **Bachelors of Science**

Sept 2006 - May 2012

Dakota State University
Digital Arts and Design

# **Memberships & Affiliations**

### South Dakota Arts Council AISC Resident Artist

January 2016 - Present

South Dakota Arts Council

I offer residencies and workshops based on comics, illustration and roleplaying in the state of South Dakota.

# Nebraska Arts Council AiS/C Teaching Artist

August 2018 - Present

Nebraska Arts Council

I offer residencies and workshops based on comics, illustration and roleplaying in the state of Nebraska.

### **Throughline Arts Teaching Artist**

March 2022 - Present

Throughline Arts

I offer residencies and workshops based on comics, illustration and roleplaying in the state of lowa.

### **Design Committee Member**

April 2022 - Present

Main Street Nevada

# **Bodies of Work**

### **Fables of Our Deconstruction**

January 2022 - Present

Podcast Host

Fables is a podcast in which I explore deconstructing faith and social systems.

# Faithless, Fearless

January 2022 - Present

Illustration Series

Faithless, Fearless is an illustration series drawn from model reference with the intent to destroy the boundaries between good, evil, and societal concepts of beauty.

# **Together With Goblins**

March 2020 - January 2021

Coloring Book

*Together With Goblins* began as a daily, free, coloring page series to keep us all connected during the COVID-19 pandemic's first year. It was created in partnership with my sponsors, Game Chest and Adventure Academy Daycare.

Sideburn State 2018 - 2019

Podcast Co-host

*Sideburn State* is a podcast co-hosted with Cathryn Carney in which we watched the 90's television show, the Adventures of Pete & Pete to see how it held up 30+ years later.

# This is my Private Life

July 2017 - intermittent

Webcomic

This is my Private Life was intended as a journal comic about all things my life including residencies, love, and Dungeons & Dragons.

Champions

January 2016 - on hiatus

Comic Series

*Champions* is my flagship independent comic series about doing the right thing. It features superheroes in my home town, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Tide That Returns June 2015 - 2017

Webcomic

*Tide That Returns* was a webcomic that told the challenges of life through the experiences of an ex-pirate sail master, Strom, and his cat, Vafflor.

### Little Alice: The Forces of Evil

2011 - 2014

Webcomic

Little Alice was a webcomic that followed the story of a cyborg as she chose to no longer be a weapon.

### **Client Work**

#### **Educational Work**

Nevada StoryWalk | Client: Nevada Public Library | March 2022

In partnership with the public library, I assisted in their StoryWalk by creating stickers awarded to StoryWalk participants.

Water Savers | Client: Upper Iowa University's Environmental Issues Instruction | Fall 2019 | developed art and game board for a game that helps students create connections between environmental actions and water conservation.

**Eii Workshop Covers** | Client: Environmental Issues Instruction | 2019 & 2021 | created covers for Eii's teacher professional development workshops.

Adventurous Trails: A Boyden-Hull Anthology | Client: Boyden-Hull Elementary School | 2018 | Offered industry standards and guidance on turning students' stories into an independently published comic.

#### **Noteworthy Clients**

Van Meter Visitor Shirt | Client: Van Meter Visitor Festival | July 2022

I illustrated the 2022 Van Meter Visitor Festival shirt for the festival committee.

Camelot Theater Poster & Website | Client: Camelot Theater | April 2022

I created an exciting *Back to the Future* parody poster for the Camelot Theater, in Nevada, Iowa. Simultaneously, I worked with a Design Committee colleague to help the theater build their website.

Concealment Society Community Manager | Client: Doug Levandowski May 2021 - June 2021 I aided in running the Discord-based roleplaying game written by Doug Levandowski. I assisted in setting up the Discord server and offered community management and support, operating as a moderator over the course of the game. Concealment Society was successfully Kickstarted.

AFAB Logo | Client: Artistic Fabrication | 2020 - 2021

I illustrated the logo and designed the website for AFAB Metal in Sioux Falls.

### Residencies

# Messy Hands Art Camp | July 2022

The Vermillion Area Arts Council welcomed me in to lead a long form comics summer camp in which teens worked on developing protagonists, antagonists, stories, themes, and four page comics with covers.

### Brownville Community Residency | July 2022

The city of Brownville, Nebraska hosted an all-ages summer workshop where we explored storytelling, character creation, and writing unique comic strips and pages.

#### Schuyler Public Library Workshop | June 2022

Schuyler's library invited me in for an afternoon workshop in which youth explored creating their own comics and working with industry standards.

### Rosholt School District | October 2021

Rosholt, SD, invited me in to run my first ever class-sized mega game. In the game, students joined kingdoms (groups) to portray unique characters in an interactive roleplaying game. They kept journals and created character art to accompany the game.

#### Sacred Heart Middle School | October 2021

In Yankton, SD, I visited the Catholic middle school where we deployed roleplaying in order to create characters and comics.

#### Schuyler School District Summer Camp | June 2021

I returned to Schuyler, Nebraska, to work with middle schoolers during a two week summer camp. We explored roleplaying games, character art, constructing our own comics, and creating murals.

### Rapid City Job Corps | January 2020

Rapid City's Job Corps brought me in to work with students working toward their GEDs and vocational training. We roleplayed and created comics in order to explore the career of a comic artist.

#### Schuyler School District | May 2019

In Schuyler, Nebraska, I worked with kindergarten through 8th grade on projects such as roleplaying, storytelling, and introduced a new process of ink making with the middle schoolers. Students concluded with their own comics and a family exhibition during which students painted with their families using the inks they created.

# Anne Sullivan | January 2019

Once again in Sioux Falls, I brought back roleplaying with the 5th graders who created tons of their own creative comics. I also worked with select 4th graders over lunch.

### Eugene Field Elementary | October 2018

During this residency, I launched a roleplaying storytelling section, that went over swimmingly. Students in 5th grade got into character, designed them, and created comics about the characters they roleplayed.

# Robert Bennis Elementary | April 2018

During a week residency, I worked with fifth graders who created their own mini-comics from script through color.

### Lakeview School | March 2018

At Lakeview, we worked in small groups with every student in the school. We explored break-out games, storytelling, and creating our own comics.

### Rosebud Elementary | March 2018

At the Rosebud School, I met with students from kindergarten - 5th grade to create their own scripts, characters, and mini-comics.

### **Wessington Springs Elementary** | *November 2017*

Throughout a week, the fifth graders and I discussed good storytelling and early American explorers. Students wrote about assigned explorers, created character designs for them, and wrote fictionalized mini-comics about their explorer.

### Anne Sullivan | November 2017

Anne Sullivan invited me back to tackle mini-book creation in seven days. Fifth graders took on story, strips, and mini-books, while I met with third graders for luncheon meetings. During these meetings, the third graders worked on stories, strips, and jam comics.

### Madison Middle School | October 2017

Over the course of a week, I worked with the Middle School art teacher to lead students through the art of comics. We explored storytelling, character creation, and each student made their own own mini-books.

#### Action Arts and Science | 2017/2018 School Year

Working with 12 to 14 year olds at the Washington Pavilion, we are creating a tryptic of three banners to present to the Heisler Chemical Dependency Center. The group is challenged to create slingshots, marble roller coasters, catapults, and other contraptions to create their mini-mural.

#### Washington Pavilion Comics and Mural Art Camps | June 2017

In two weeks I taught kids about comics, comic art, and storytelling. Twelve students created their own minicomics. In one week a small group of students and I created a mini-mural on stretch canvas. Students chose a tryptic of colors that represented Sioux Falls, and proceeded to create images of downtown. The piece was given to the Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce.

### Castlewood High School | March 2016

I was welcomed to Castlewood, SD, to work with 7th-12th graders on becoming better storytellers and create characters from a more objective perspective. Students each created their own characters and biographies.

#### St Joseph's Indian School | December 2016

I, and two native artists, came into the Chamberlain, SD, school to work with resident native children on cultural pieces that represented their own lives as well as the phrase Mni Wiconi (water is life). 7th-8th graders collaborated on creating an anthology comic of their own stories, as well as a mural on stretched canvas.

#### Sisseton School District | November 2016

I worked with the elementary school and k-5th grade to create nearly 400 single panel comics for school-wide display.

#### Anne Sullivan | November 2016

I came into the Sioux Falls elementary school and worked with 4th-5th graders on storytelling, single panel, and comic strips to create a book for the school's library.

#### Messy Hands Art Camp | July 2016

I camped for two weeks at the Vermilion Area Arts Council and worked with K-8th grade on storytelling, single panel, strips, and homemade comic books for a children's gallery.

#### **Gregory School District** | *July 2016*

I worked with the school on a summer art elective with K-7th grade. We covered storytelling, single panel, and comic strips to create a book for the school's library.

#### Youth Storytelling Class | The Bakery in Sioux Falls | July 2016

The Art of Storytelling | Sioux Falls Community Education | 2014 - 2015

Basics of Comics | Sioux Falls Community Education | 2014 - 2015

Featured Artist at Dragonfly Artist Gallery | Art Gallery | April 19, 2018

Champions Issue 3 Inked Reception at Coffea | Art Gallery | February 9, 2018

Madison Area Arts Council Champions Pre-Release Exhibition | Presenting Artist | September 14th, 2017

Champions Inked & Unedited | Art Gallery | February 2016 - March 2016

Art & Wine Walk Featured Artist | Live Art | 2015-2021

# **Publications**

#### Comics

Wilbur Comics | Role: Writer | Empire Press | May 2019

DinoBoy & Rex | Roles: Writer, Project Manager | Comix Central | August 2018

#### **Texts**

Jacobson, Dylan J. "Polaris." Skullmore Vol. 2 29 Aug. 2015: n. pag. Web.

Jacobson, Dylan J. "Fishing." Issuu. 605 Magazine, 1 May 2014. Web. 1 May 2014. Page 20-21

#### **Bibliography**

Weinstein, Dorene. "Arts: Aspiring Cartoonist Loves Storytelling." Argus Leader. Argus Leader, 18 Sept. 2014. Web. 18 Sept. 2014.

Frenzel, Anthony. "Dubuque Catches His Eye: S.D. Artist Enters New Phase of Career with Key City." TelegraphHerald.com, 16 Dec. 2016.

#### **Events**

Featured Artist | Van Meter Visitor Festival | September 2022

Guest Speaker | DSU College of Arts | March 2019

Teaching Artist/Presenting Artist | ESU2 Omaha | January 2019

Champions 3 Launch Signings | Game Chest & Last Stop CD Shop | June 16, 2018

Champions Signing | Hot Comics & Collectibles | October 21, 2017

Champions Release | Last Stop CD Shop | September 16th, 2017

Seattle Drink Stop Art Party | Schooner Brewing | May 31, 2017

Seattle Drink Stop Art Party | Elysian Brewing | May 30, 2017

Artist Panel & Artist Booth | SiouxperCon | 2016-2017

Live Artist | Sioux Falls Jaycee's 4th of July | 2016, 2017, 2019

Guest Speaker | South East Technical Institute | November 7th, 2014

Guest Speaker | Washington High School Anime/Manga Club | October 10th, 2013

# **Employment History**

#### Illustrator/Comic Artist/Content Creator

Jan 2014 - Present

Self Employed

I work primarily with ink and digital color. When illustrating, I have a focus on figure art and fantasy representation. My work is typically done online, via Twitch, with a live audience. I work on both personal and commissioned work. Clients include podcasts, local organizations, individuals, and comics developers.

I have self-published a Midwest-based comic series, Champions, and a coloring book, Together With Goblins.

### **Action Arts and Science Instructor**

August 2017 - May 2018

Washington Pavilion

I worked with at risk teens through the Heisler Chemical Dependency Center in Sioux Falls. We created science projects such as trebuchets and roller coasters in order to paint an abstract mural.

### **Substitute Teacher**

Oct 2015 - May 2016

Sioux Falls School District

I substitute teach for art, english, computer, and many other classes throughout the 35 schools in our district. This also includes working closely with elementary students in the after school program, Kid's Inc.

# **Project Manager**

Jul 2014 - Oct 2015

Net Pistol

Create and edit graphics for web and print, manage Crytico.com, team management, build and edit Wordpress sites.

