

Ejun Mary Hong

Contact

Portfolio / LinkedIn
ejunhong@alumni.upenn.edu
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Citizenships: Canadian, Korean

Education

University of Pennsylvania
Aug 2021 - May 2025
B.A. Majors in Fine Arts, Cinema and Media Studies, Minor in Design

Press

CTV Edmonton [Live-TV-Interview](#)
CBC Edmonton [Live-Radio-Interview](#)
Penn Today ["President's Engagement Prize winner announced"](#)
Penn Today ["Empowering high school youth through immersive art mentorship"](#)
Penn Today ["Animating for Impact"](#)
Omnia ["Using Animation Spread Hope"](#)
34th Street ["Animation, Self-Discovery"](#)

Awards and Screenings

2025 President's Engagement Prize Winner
\$150,000 award for film 501c(3) org launch

ASIFA-Hollywood's Animation Educators Forum 2024 Scholarship
\$4,000 scholarship for animation production

Women in Animation 2022-23 Scholarship
Scholarship from LAIKA & ToonBoom

Winner of the Best Screenplay Honor Thesis, College Alumni Society 250th Commemoration Award, Keller Award
Top graduating awards from Penn

The Sachs Program 2024 Grant Awards, Shah Family Prize for Innovative Projects
\$9,000 grant for the Participatory Action Art Mentorship Program

14 Film Festival Awards & Four Noms.
1st Place
Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (Oscar and BAFTA Qualifying)
Best in Festival; 1st Place; Outstanding Design; Stand-Out International
Walt Disney Family Museum
Teen Animation Festival International (TAFI)

40 Official Selections (Including three Oscar and BAFTA Qualifying festivals)

Film Production

***Footprints in the Sand* (2025)**

A mixed-media stop-motion animation documentary that invites four lymphoma cancer patients from South Korea to share their stories.

***Echoing, it doesn't stop* (2023)** 3 Award & 3 Noms. & 8 Official Selections

A stop-motion puppet and sand animation about the war in Ukraine

***38th Parallel* (2021)** 2 Awards & 7 Official Selection

A 2D hand-drawn animated film that shows the division of Korea

***Mother* (2019)** 6 Awards & 21 Official Selections (3 Oscar® & BAFTA Quali.)

A 2D computer-animated film about my grandfather's life from losing his mother at a young age to building his own family and later reuniting with his mother

***A Broken Star* (2019)** 2 Awards & 4 Official Selections (1 Oscar® Quali.)

2D animation about my personal story of overcoming an eye disorder

Work Experience

LensBright Initiative *Co-Founder; Director of Programming*
Philadelphia, PA, May 2025 - Present

- Co-founder and the Director of Programming of the [President's Engagement Prize](#) (\$150,000) award-winning arts nonprofit that connects under-resourced Philadelphia high school students and lens-based creative industries

Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE) *Social & Digital Design Intern*
Culver City, LA, Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

- Executed social and digital asset creation, such as animation, designs, storyboards, and video graphics for *Jeopardy!* and *Wheel of Fortune*

All Ages Productions *FX Intern; Graphic Designer*
Philadelphia, PA, June 2023 - Jan 2024

- Created animated scenes and assets for FX projects and documentaries

Walt Disney Family Museum (WDFM) *Studio & Educator Intern*
San Francisco, CA, May 2023 - Jul 2023

- Taught K-12 students the techniques, principles, and history of animation in Digital Animation, Anthropomorphism, Effects, and World Building classes

Volunteer and Research Experience

Participatory Action Art Mentorship Program *Founder; President*
Philadelphia, PA, Aug 2023 - May 2025

- Founded a weekly after-school program in which university students teach under-resourced high school students animation, architecture, photography
- Taught animation (storyboarding, 2D, Stop-Motion, 3D) to 30+ students
- Secured \$9,000 in funds; Collaborated with educational institutions and 18 art mentors; Organized 75 mentorships, five exhibitions and art sales, and four meetings with industry professionals

Penn Medicine Listening Lab *Research Assistant*
Philadelphia, PA, Aug 2024 - Present

- Conduct research and edit story recordings, and create presentations and guides for a medical storytelling initiative that shares the stories of patients, caregivers, and providers, emphasizing listening as a vital form of care

The Penn Animation as Research Lab (PARLab) *Teacher and Research Assistant*
Philadelphia, PA, Nov 2023 - Jan 2025

- Developed and taught 6-week stop-motion animation workshops for high school teachers to help them integrate animation into their curriculum