Yanzhi (Emma) Zhao

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Creative BFA student and emerging studio artist specializing in contemporary art practice with a focus on gallery curation, business administration, digital storytelling, and contemporary exhibition culture.

Education

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 2025 – Present
Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA), School of Art

Elgin Park Secondary School, Surrey, British Columbia Graduated June 2025

Relevant Experience

Curation, Art Inventory & Artist Relations Intern, Monte Clark Gallery, Vancouver, BC Summer 2026

- Assisted with curation and installation, supporting the planning, layout, and presentation of exhibitions.
- Maintained the gallery's Artlogic inventory, tracking artwork records and locations across exhibitions and storage.
- Photographed and documented artworks and exhibitions for archival records, sales materials, and online platforms.
- Served as a point of contact for artists and clients, coordinating correspondence, artwork inquiries, and logistics.

Graphic Design & Social Media Intern, Vancouver Visual Arts Foundation, Vancouver, BC Summer 2026

- Analyzed engagement, reach, and follower data across two social platforms, turning insights into content strategy.
- Grew combined audience by 1,000+ followers by optimizing posting cadence, content formats, and visual direction.
- Designed branded graphics, event promotions, and social assets, maintaining a cohesive visual identity.
- Coordinated weekly community events and supported artist curation, from scheduling and logistics to artist selection.

Marketing Assistant, Carnegie Mellon University Store September 2025 – Present

- Produce short-form video content and social media campaigns, generating 100k+ engagements across platforms.
- Collaborate with the Head Marketing Director on creative direction for campaign materials and branding.

Art Ambassador, School of Art, Carnegie Mellon University February 2026 – Present

- Lead tours and Q&A sessions for prospective students and families on the Fine Arts program and studio culture.
- Assist with the planning, curation, and communications of local Scholastic Arts and Writing exhibitions.
- Collaborate with faculty to organize open studios, exhibition openings, and department-wide recruitment events.

Founder & President, Art2Heart Foundation Vancouver and Art2Aid Foundation 2021 – 2025

- Led non-profits serving youth, seniors, and underserved communities, running 100+ free workshops and raising $4,000+.
- Recruited and managed 180+ art ambassadors and volunteers.
- Directed social media strategy, growing combined audience of 2,000 followers.
- Partnered with community partners like Covenant House, local senior homes and non-profits to scale programming.

Selected Achievements

$600 Wilfred Readio Award for First Year Students	2026
Frank-Ratchye Further Fund Microgrant Recipient	2026
Frank-Ratchye Further Fund Microgrant Recipient	2025
Scholastic Art and Writing Awards – Gold Key and Gold Award	2024
Art Master Vancouver 1st Place Award, by Art Vancouver Art Fair	2023

Skills

Accounting Fundamentals, Content Creation (Reels, Short-Form Video, Digital Campaigns), Social Media Analytics, Graphic Design, Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, InDesign, Lightroom, Premiere Pro), Artlogic (Inventory Management), Maya, ZBrush, Blender, Exhibition Installation & Curation, Client Communication, Photography & Documentation.