

NICHOLAS SASANO

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Designer and storyteller specializing in scenic design and immersive experiences, with a deep passion for themed entertainment and narrative-driven spaces. Known for a thoughtful, hands-on approach that blends creative vision with technical services like painting, fabrication, scenic art, and interpreting drawings. Highly detail-oriented, attentive, and always driven to create environments that engage the senses and tell meaningful stories.

EXPERIENCE

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS

Santa Clarita, CA

Scenic Designer (Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors)

Feb 2025 - April 2025

- Led process of assembling, fabricating, painting and striking all elements of the final scenic design
- Provided design concepts and renderings
- Ensured design met show director's standards and State of California fire code ratings
- Created drafts including floorplan and elevations

Assistant Scenic Designer (Love's Labour's Lost)

Dec 2024 - March 2025

- Assisted in applying final scenic paint treatments to floor and scrims
- Helped lead designer establish design in scenic and technical departments
- Created pieces for scaled scenic model by hand and digitally, including moving elements

Lead Production Designer, Main Stage Scenic Designer (Halloween 2024: Twisted Treasures)

May - Nov 2024

- Designed and applied multiple scenic paint treatments to Main Stage space
- Produced SketchUp 3D models and Procreate concept art
- Communicated with technical departments and organized work calls
- Collaborated with all scenic designers to ensure thematic and technical consistency between each space
- Adhered all elements to meet State of California fire code ratings

Assistant Scenic Designer (An Experiment With an Air Pump)

Dec 2023 - March 2024

- Assisted in applying final scenic art treatments to set and props
- Assisted lead designer with the production's every day tasks
- Created elements for scaled scenic model by hand and digitally

THE SCENIC ROUTE

Pacoima, CA

Seasonal Scenic Carpenter

July - August 2025

- Read and interpreted scenic drawings to build and assemble set pieces.
- Assisted in construction, transport, install and strike of scenic elements using carpentry and fabrication tools.
- Maintained shop and prep materials for finishing, including sanding, painting, and detailing.

SIX FLAGS MAGIC MOUNTAIN

Santa Clarita, CA

Entertainment Technician (Fright Fest & Holiday in the Park)

Sep - Nov 2023

- Collaboratively assembled & repaired aspects of both seasonal park events, including paint touch-ups
- Ensured daily entertainment offerings were properly prepared each day
- Readied and inspected Fright Fest mazes to ensure they were safe & ready for show mode

EDUCATION

• California Institute of the Arts, School of Theater
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Experience Design & Production Program

Santa Clarita, CA
2022 - Present

• Orange County School of the Arts,
Film & Television Conservatory

Santa Ana CA
2018 - 2022

SKILLS

Softwares: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Procreate, AutoCAD, Adobe Premiere Pro, Lightroom, SketchUp, Fusion 360, Adobe Creative Suite, TwinMotion, Microsoft Office, Google Suite

Technical: Storyboarding, Scenic Drafting, Color Elevations, Prop & Set Fabrication, Graphic Design, Set Decorating & Dressing, Project Management, Concept Development, Watercolor Painting, Drawing & Sketching, Photography & Documentation, Scenic Painting, Model Building, **Teamwork, Communication, and Collaboration!**