

NIA ALEXANDER CAMPBELL

ARTIST, WRITER, DESIGNER

PORTFOLIO

VISUAL ART AND DESIGN

niaalexanderart.com

BLACK GIRLS ABROAD

blkgirlsabroad.com

SKILL SET

VISUAL ART AND DESIGN

Adobe Photoshop
Adobe InDesign
Adobe Premiere
Adobe Audition
Rhino 3D
Digital illustration
Casting and mold making
Traditional painting
Traditional drawing
Traditional collage

LANGUAGES

English (fluent)
Spanish (basic)

CONTACT

EMAIL

niaalexanderart@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

@niaalexanderart



WORK EXPERIENCE

FOUNDER AND DESIGNER

Planet Storystar (LLC pending) | 2023-present

- Planet Storystar is a small business specializing in the creation of paper doll books, card games, and board games, as well as ornaments and jewelry made from handmade recycled paper. As the founder and lead designer, I oversee collection design, material creation, budget management, and online presence.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR

VCUarts Qatar | 2021-2023

- Developed lessons and online resources for students age 14-24
- Introduced painting, drawing, and mixed media techniques
- Taught the basics of developing a portfolio and critiquing art

JUROR, 2022 IMPART ARTIST GRANT

Qatar America Institute for Culture | 2022

- Proposed three awardees and two runner ups from a list of thirteen IMPART Artists Grant finalists. The theme for the 2022 IMPART Artist Grants was "Sustainability & the Arts."

RADICAL WORKSHOPS SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER

Tasmeem Doha 2022: Radical Futures | 2022

- Reviewed workshop proposals for the Tasmeem design conference
- Collaborated with team members to choose diverse workshops that aligned with the conference themes and accessibility requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic

EDUCATION

PHD IN MEDIA & DESIGN INNOVATION (ONGOING)

Toronto Metropolitan University | Expected Graduation: 2028

- Exploring the intersections of Horror/Joy and Blackness/Womanhood through non-traditional methodologies, including interactive activities such as board games, film screenings, music analysis, and doll-making to gather insights and reflections from participants.

EDUCATION CONT.

MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN DESIGN

VCUarts Qatar | 2021

- Class Marshal
- Emphasis on interdisciplinary toy design and the decolonization of academic writing

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN PAINTING & PRINTMAKING

Virginia Commonwealth University | 2018

- Magna Cum Laude
- Minor in Art History (emphasis in Black Art and Cinema history)

PUBLICATIONS

THREADTALES: THE LAYERED STORIES A BLACK INDIAN FAMILY TREE

Self-published | 2022

- An interdisciplinary research project exploring my African American and American Indian ancestry. The project integrates history, genealogy, folktales, and lived experiences, represented as 102 images that manifest as story cubes, a tapestry, and nine narrative videos.
- [Link](#)

DEVELOPING RADICAL JOY AS A CREATIVE ACTIVIST

Make+Shift: Creative Resilience for Daily Life | 2021 (release date TBD)

- Authored an essay that explores the concept of cultivating radical joy as a form of creative activism. The essay includes a personal story illustrating the shift from a focus solely on community trauma to embracing joy as a means of sustaining creative activism.
- Served as a peer reviewer for international author submissions that included case studies, project ideas, exercises, essays, and visual narratives.

RECLAMANCIPATION: A STORY OF BRILLIANCE, RESILIENCE, AND TRANSILIENCE

VCU Scholars Compass | 2021

- Explored the multifaceted experiences of African American women ages 23-71 through a playful 'call and response' interview methodology. The research manifested as a customizable board game with an emphasis on storytelling; in order to win the game, stories must be shared and received.
- [Link](#)

SELECTED ARTIST TALKS

ZOOM TALK WITH WITH NIA ALEXANDER CAMPBELL AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT QAIC FATIMA AL-DOSARI

IA&A at Hillyer | 2023

- [Link](#)

PANELIST FOR THE 2022 IMPART SUMMIT

Qatar America Institute for Culture, Washington, DC | 2022

SELECTED ARTIST TALKS CONT.

RECLAMANCIPATION: A STORY OF BRILLIANCE, RESILIENCE, AND TRANSILIENCE

Gallery, VCUarts Qatar, Doha, Qatar | 2021

GUEST ARTIST: NIA ALEXANDER CAMPBELL

New Kent High School, Richmond, Virginia, USA | 2020

NIA ALEXANDER: A CELEBRATION OF BLACKNESS (IREP CULTURAL SHOWCASE)

College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, USA | 2017

GRANTS AND AWARDS

IMPART ARTISTS GRANT

Qatar America Institute for Culture | 2022

Used grant funds for the interdisciplinary research project *Threadtales*, exploring my Black and American Indian heritage.

VCUARTS QATAR ALUMNI GRANT

VCUarts Qatar | 2022

Used grant funds to create the first two volumes of *Joyous*, a series of paper doll books celebrating the Black imagination and diversity within the community. This project is ongoing.

GRADUATE RESEARCH GRANT

VCUarts Qatar | 2020-2021

Used grant funds to develop *Reclamancipation*, a board game exploring the experiences of African American women.

ACADEMIC MERIT AWARD

Virginia Commonwealth University | 2015 - 2018

Received financial support that directly funded my undergraduate studies at Virginia Commonwealth University.

UNCF CORPORATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM AWARD

The Walt Disney Company | 2017

Funded my undergraduate studies at Virginia Commonwealth University

THERESA POLLOCK SCHOLARSHIP FOR ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT

Virginia Commonwealth University | 2017

Funded my undergraduate studies at Virginia Commonwealth University

GOLD KEY PORTFOLIO

Regional Scholastics Inc. Art and Writing Awards | 2015

AMERICAN VISIONS AWARD

National Scholastics Inc. | 2014

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

THIS SAND IS MADE OF STARS/THIS SEA IS MADE OF PEARLS - HORIZON HISTORIOGRAPHIES

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Performance Space, Doha Qatar | 2023

Juried group exhibition

ART OF FREEDOM II

Black History Museum & Cultural Center of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia | 2023

Juried group exhibition

ZWARA: FOCUS ON FOREVER VALENTINO

M7, Doha, Qatar | 2023

Group exhibition for selected participants of the Zwara Programme

NEWLY SELECTED ARTISTS MARCH 2023

IA&A at Hillyer | 2023

Group exhibition

CELEBRATING BLACK ARTISTS

Arts on Main, Gloucester, Virginia | 2023

Group exhibition

2022 IMPART SUMMIT

Qatar America Institute for Culture | 2022

Group exhibition

GOOD VIBES ONLY

Saffron Hall, VCUarts Qatar, Doha, Qatar | 2020

Group exhibition

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN ALLEGORY

Anderson Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, United States | 2018

Solo exhibition

RECLAIMING OUR TIME: ROOTS OF ME

Depot Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, United States | 2017

Group exhibition

BLACK MENTAL HEALTH ART EXHIBITION

Depot Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, United States | 2017

Group exhibition

SPEAKEASY

Valet Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, United States | 2016

Juried group exhibition

ISN'T SHE LOVELY

Spotlight Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, United States | 2015

Juried group exhibition

RESIDENCIES AND SELECTED ART/DESIGN EXCHANGES

VIRGINIA CENTER FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS (VCCA) FELLOW

Mt. San Angelo, Amherst, Virginia | April 2024

Awarded the 50th Anniversary Fellowship for Artists of Color and participated in a 12-day residency
Conducted decolonized academic writing for PhD research, blending prose with academic discourse to enhance accessibility and authentically represent the language of Black women
Created illustrations for a forthcoming paper doll book celebrating Black joy and imagination.

ARTIST CULTURAL DELEGATION

Qatar America Institute for Culture, Doha, Qatar | 2022

Represented the United States alongside seven other artists
Explored the arts and culture of Qatar

METALWORKING WORKSHOP WITH THE CENTRE DE FORMATION ET DE QUALIFICATION DANS LES MÉTIERS DE L'ARTISANAT DE MARRAKECH

Marrakech, Morocco | 2019

Learned about Moroccan metalworking traditions
Designed and helped create a brass lamp with professional metalworkers

PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP WITH SOMA NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION

Mexico City, Mexico | 2019

Learned about traditional Mexican printmaking, art, and design
Toured studios of contemporary Mexican artists

VCUARTS DEPARTMENTAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Doha, Qatar | 2018

Continued earning my undergraduate degree as an exchange student at VCUarts Qatar
Participated in the Senior Thesis exhibition and artist talk

ART AND DESIGN FIELD STUDY

Morocco | 2017

Learned about historical and contemporary art, design, and culture in five Moroccan cities
Observed masters of traditional Moroccan craft