

## EDUCATION

- 2017 - 2019 **MScBMC Biomedical Communications**  
University of Toronto | Toronto, Canada
- 2013 - 2017 **BSc Life Sciences with Distinction (Honours)**  
Queen's University | Kingston, Canada  
Minor in World Language Studies

## SELECT EXPERIENCE

- 05/2018 – Present **Scientific Visualization Specialist**  
Azuravesta Design | Toronto, ON
- Specialize in creating a variety of educational visual media including illustration, graphic design, and animation to communicate complex scientific topics
  - Work with researchers to develop graphical abstracts and images for publication
  - Provide creative direction and concept development for scientific communication projects
- 09/2019 – 05/2020 **Creative Innovation Associate**  
INVIVO Communications Inc. | Toronto, ON
- Used strategic planning and creative innovation to develop novel communication media (animation, VR/AR apps, interactive media) for the healthcare and pharmaceutical industries
  - Developed creative concepts for pitch proposals that helped secure new clients and projects
  - Oversaw internal R&D initiatives and new business ventures
- 05/2017 – 09/2018 **Instructional Designer / Medical Illustrator**  
Queen's University (Department of Biomedical & Molecular Sciences) | Kingston, ON
- Created scientific illustrations to accompany course content for the Bachelor of Health Science program and established the visual style for lecture consistency across different courses
- 05/2016 – 04/2017 **Graphic Design Manager**  
Studio Q, Queen's University | Kingston, ON
- Designed a wide variety of graphic design material for various clients, clubs, and services
  - Led tutorials, managed, and taught graphic design to staff and volunteers
- 09/2015 – 04/2017 **Co-Founder / Design Executive**  
NeuGeneration Conference on Neuroscience, Queen's University | Kingston, ON
- Helped establish and organize the two-day conference for its first 2 years
  - Created the brand identity, designed all promotional material, and assisted with web design
- 09/2015 – 04/2017 **Executive Layout Designer**  
MUSE Magazine, Queen's University | Kingston, ON
- Designed page layouts and created illustrations to accompany articles
  - Organized various promotional events and helped distribute the magazine

## RESEARCH

- 05/2018 – 07/2019 **Master's Research Project**  
University of Toronto & SickKids Hospital | Toronto, ON  
**Project:** Visualizing a novel route of medulloblastoma metastasis: *an educational 3D animation*  
Faculty Advisors: Prof. Nick Woolridge, Prof. Marc Dryer | University of Toronto  
Content Advisors: Dr. Michael Taylor, Dr. Craig Daniels | The Hospital for Sick Children
- 05/2015 – 08/2015 **Laboratory Assistant**  
Artron Laboratories Inc. | Burnaby, BC  
**Project:** Screening monoclonal antibodies against antigen DAO  
Supervisor: Dr. Danni Huang  
Funded through NSERC

## CERTIFICATES

- 2019 **UI Design**  
BrainStation
- 2019 **Top Talent**  
Adobe Inc.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- 3D & Animation**  
Autodesk Maya  
Cinema 4D  
Zbrush  
AfterEffects  
UCSF Chimera  
Horos/OsiriX
- Illustration & Graphic Design**  
Illustrator  
Photoshop  
InDesign
- Traditional Media**  
Acrylic Paint  
Pen & Ink  
Carbon Dust  
Graphite
- Coding**  
HTML/CSS  
JavaScript  
ActionScript

## ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- 2019 **Adobe Design Achievement Award**  
Adobe Inc.  
Artwork: Planetary Satellites  
Selected as "Top Talent" out of over 10,000 applicants across the globe to represent notable emerging creative professionals
- 2019 **Award of Merit**  
Association of Medical Illustrators  
Artwork: The Cancer Paradox
- 2019 **Academic Poster Award**  
Vesalius Trust Poster Symposium
- 2018 **Stephen Gilbert Award for Biomedical Visualization**  
University of Toronto  
Awarded to one student in the MScBMC program based on artistic excellence
- 2018 **Research Grant**  
SickKids Hospital
- 2018 **Ontario Graduate Scholarship**  
University of Toronto  
\$15,000 awarded based on academic achievement and research potential
- 2017 **Wallace Near Prize in German**  
Queen's University  
Awarded to the student with the highest grades in 2 courses of 3rd year German
- 2015-2017 **Dean's Honour List**  
Queen's University
- 2015 **Undergraduate Research Award**  
Natural Science and Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

## PUBLISHED ILLUSTRATIONS

### Scientific Publications

Kulandaimanuvel, M. A., Kumar, S., Kim, L. J. Y., ... **Rastan, A.** ... et al. (2020). Metabolic Regulation of the Epigenome Drives Lethal Infantile Ependymoma. *Cell*.

**Rastan, A.**, Woolridge, N., Dryer, M., Daniels, C., & Taylor, M. (2019). Illuminating Medulloblastoma. *Journal of Biocommunication*, 43(2).

Juraschka, K., and Taylor, M. (2019). Medulloblastoma in the age of molecular subgroups: a review. *Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics*. JNSPG 75th Anniversary Invited Review Article. (**Rastan, A.**: figures 1-5)

Donovan, L., Delaidelli, A., Bielamowicz, K., ... **Rastan, A.** ... et al. (2019). Locoregional delivery of CAR T-cells to the cerebrospinal fluid as effective therapy for metastatic medulloblastoma and ependymoma. *Nature*.

Vladoiu, M., El-Hamamy, I., Donovan, L. et al. (2019). Childhood cerebellar tumors mirror conserved fetal transcriptional programs. *Nature*. (**Rastan, A.**: graphical abstract and figures 1-5)

Emadi, M. (2015). Radiative and pionic decays of heavy-light mesons using HISQ quarks (Doctoral dissertation, Science: Department of Physics). (**Rastan, A.**: figure 1.1)

### Magazines

(2019, February). IMS Magazine, Winter 2019: Addictions, p. 22. (**Rastan, A.**: editorial feature)

(2017, April). MUSE Magazine, issue 14, p. 15-16, 37-38, 53. (**Rastan, A.**: layout design)

(2016, December). MUSE Magazine, issue 13, p. 5-6, 21, 32. (**Rastan, A.**: layout design)

(2016, April). MUSE Magazine, issue 12, p. 9-10, 45-46, 53, 61. (**Rastan, A.**: layout design)

(2015, December). MUSE Magazine, issue 11, p. 5-6, 11-12, 13-14, 61. (**Rastan, A.**: layout design)

### Print

**Rastan, A.** (2019). MScBMC Viewbook 2019, volume 2, p. 26-33.

**Rastan, A.** (2014). Belle. Undergraduate Review, volume 26, p. 42.

**Rastan, A.** (2014). Astro. Undergraduate Review, volume 26, p. 59.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

January 2020

### Guest Lecturer

**Title:** *Effective Poster Design and Presentation*

LMP Seminar Series | University of Toronto

2020 - Present

### External Outreach Coordinator

Biomedical Communications Alumni Association | University of Toronto

2019-2020

### Student Member

Association of Medical Illustrators

January 2019

### Guest Lecturer

**Title:** *Introduction to Science Visualization using Adobe Illustrator*

LMP Seminar Series | University of Toronto

2017-2019

### Student Representative

Biomedical Communications Alumni Association | University of Toronto

## LANGUAGES

Native Proficiency

**English**

Limited Working Proficiency

**German**

**French**

Elementary Proficiency

**Spanish**

**Italian**

## HOBBIES

