

Adam Victor Klassen

20+

years experience

Animation Technical Director

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6+

major productions

2x

award-winning films

Profile

Animation Technical Director with 20+ years of professional 2D animation experience, specialising in rigging, pipeline development, scene setup, and technical direction across network series and feature films. Proven track record at Nickelodeon, Netflix, Cartoon Saloon, Guru Studio, and Jam Filled Entertainment — including two award-winning productions. Known for bridging the gap between creative vision and technical execution.

Experience

Animation Director · Technical Director

2014 – 2015

Guru Studio · Nickelodeon · Shimmer and Shine

- Managed scene setup, asset integration, and technical pipeline.
- Promoted mid-production to Animation Director; reviewed boards, assigned scenes, and delivered every episode client-ready on a demanding network schedule.

TD · Render Wrangler · Asset Supervisor

2016 – 2017

Guru Studio & Cartoon Saloon · The Breadwinner

- Managed render pipeline, asset delivery, and technical problem-solving across full production of this Academy Award-nominated feature film.
- Coordinated across Guru Studio and Cartoon Saloon teams to maintain visual quality while keeping a demanding production schedule on track.

■ Annie Award — Best Animated Feature Film (2018)

■ Academy Award Nomination — Best Animated Feature (2018)

Layout & BG Paint Supervisor · Scene Setup Supervisor · Animator

Apr – Jul 2016

Guru Studio · Nickelodeon · Pig Goat Banana Cricket

- Led layout, background paint, and scene setup departments; supervised asset vetting and pipeline integration; personally animated character transformation sequences.

Asset Supervisor

2019 – 2021

Guru Studio · Pik Wik Pack

- Oversaw rigging, scene planning, and production design departments across a multi-season run.
- Managed quality control for all pipeline assets and cross-department workflows from design through to animation-ready delivery.

Animator

2020

Netflix · Canticos

- Animated episodes of this bilingual preschool Netflix series.

■ Kidscreen Award — Best Digital Preschool Series (2020)

Lead Rigger

2022 – 2023

Jam Filled Studio · Praise Petty

- Designed and built rigs for characters, props, and vehicles; worked closely with the animation team to ensure every asset was performance-ready.

Animator

2012

9 Story Entertainment · PBS Kids · Wild Kratts

- Animated on the beloved PBS Kids series at 9 Story Entertainment.

Render Supervisor · QA Artist · Animation Revision Artist

2013 – 2014

DHX / Guru Studio · Ever After High

- Provided render passes for composite, handled QA, and revised animation to client specifications in Toon Boom Harmony.

Core Skills

Awards

Software

Toon Boom Harmony, Adobe Creative Suite

Rigging

Character, prop & vehicle rigging; rig design

Pipeline

Scene setup, pipeline development, render wrangling

Direction

Animation direction, layout supervision

Supervision

Asset supervision, BG paint supervision, QA

Animation

2D character animation, scene planning

Annie Award

Best Animated Feature Film

The Breadwinner · 2018

Academy Award

Nomination — Best Animated Feature

The Breadwinner · 2018

Kidscreen Award

Best Digital Preschool Series

Canticos · 2020