

# melissa cagan

Designer + storyteller with a passion for education and experience design that encourages empathy and awareness.

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## Education

Carnegie Mellon University 2021-2020  
Master of Arts in Design  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Served as teaching and research assistant.

Northwestern University 2018-2014  
B.S. in Social Policy and Education  
Evanston, IL  
Major: Learning Sciences | Minor: Theater

## Tools

|               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Photoshop     | Adobe XD               |
| Lightroom     | Microsoft Office Suite |
| Illustrator   | Figma                  |
| After Effects | CMS (Cascade, Drupal)  |

## Skills

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| UX/UI Design     | Graphic Design               |
| Wireframing      | Information Architecture     |
| Writing          | Basic Animation Principles   |
| Content Strategy | Photography (Digital + Film) |

## Volunteering

Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh  
Cat Care Volunteer

## Selected Experience

- Manufacturing Futures Institute 2024  
Administrative Coordinator  
Coordinates conferencing spaces and organizes meetings with partner organizations. Creates informative marketing materials for display throughout building.
- Carnegie Mellon University 2023  
Content Strategist  
Developed and implemented designs, layouts, and content for university-wide websites as a member of the website strategy team in University Marketing & Communications.
- Walt Disney World 2022-2021  
Attraction Operator  
Ran high volume attractions while providing world class customer service and meeting high safety expectations.
- School Vaccine Hub 2021  
Content Creator/Visual Designer  
Created a visual language for the School Vaccine Hub, a collection of resources about vaccine education for schools.
- Carnegie Museum of Natural History 2019-2018  
Museum and Outreach Educator  
Taught programs about environmental science and the natural world to audiences of all ages, in schools, community centers, festivals, and the museum.  
  
Educational Content Creator  
Researched and composed an educational blog designed to connect 8-13 year olds with nature through online and in-person learning. Photographed images for museum use while supporting the education team in designing a program structure.