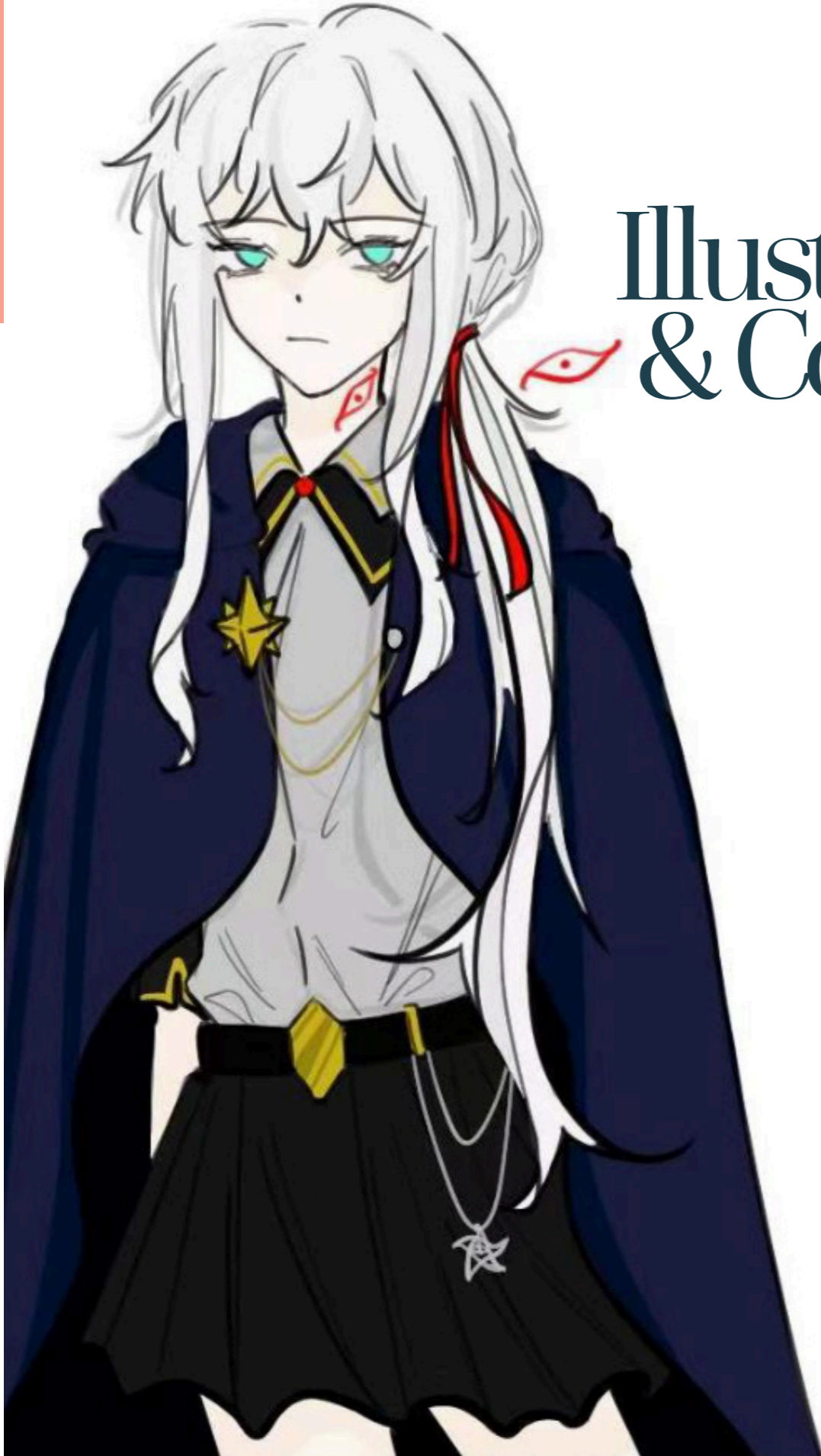# Illustration & Comics

For students who want to apply their drawing talents to the art of comic book storytelling. Learn about the many Influences comics, and their characters, have had on society. You will gain an understanding of effective visual storytelling techniques as well as best practices for the comic creation process. Using traditional materials such as pencil and ink, you will create a visual narrative accompanied by a written script.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

TUITION
Students will take part in at least 25 hours of practical lectures and skills workshops. They will design, create and present a comic to their class.

ACTIVITIES
We offer a variety of onsite evening activities including sports, discos and team games. Our activities provide opportunities for students to have fun and make international friends.

EXCURSIONS
Excursions allow students to really get to know the USA. We use destinations such as Downtown Boston as a classroom, where students will find historic and cultural information through guided walking tours and visits to museums and other places of interest.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS
Our educational visits provide the perfect complement to lectures and workshops and give a real world perspective to our courses. They include tours of the Harvard Museum of Natural History and comic shops in Harvard Square.

CERTIFICATE
Awarded for the successful completion of the course.

LEARN FROM PROFESSIONALS

Our Illustration & Comics course is taught by Kent Archer. Kent has taught art courses at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Sacred Heart High School in Kingston Massachusetts and numerous local art centers. He has worked in the field of comic books since 2005 when he co-launched the popular webcomic – Dr McNinja. His work has been published by Archie Comics, IDW Publishing, Dark Horse Comics, and Topps Trading Cards

BROADEN YOUR SKILLS IN THE INDUSTRY

Kent Archer has studied under some of comics' biggest and most successful artists, and his work has been published by mainstream comic companies. You will learn the process behind making comics as well as learn the secrets to being successful in the comic book business. This course will help you prepare for portfolio reviews with editors as well as emphasize the importance of meeting deadlines once you're given your first comic book gig!

DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS IN:

In this introductory course, students will develop skills across all phases of the comic book creation process. From writing to coloring, students will explore and experiment with the tools, formats, and mediums used by professionals.

SCRIPTWRITING

In the business of comics, it is often the case where one person writes the story and another draws the comic. Students will learn how to put their vision into words and write a detailed, professionally formatted script.

DEVELOPING CHARACTERS

What makes a character relatable and believable? Why do we care about characters and how do they affect our emotions? We will discuss these ideas and learn how to write multidimensional characters.

COMIC VOCABULARY

What is a panel? What are closure and juxtaposition? We will discuss the terminology in the universal language of comics.

DIGITAL COLORING

Capture the eye of the reader with brilliant colors using Adobe Photoshop. We will learn the importance of a limited color palette and how to effectively create mood and contrast.

PAGE LAYOUT AND COMPOSITION

Comics are a visual medium first and foremost. A visually enticing comic page can help effectively tell the story. The job of the artist is to create illustrations that capture the reader, tell the story and, simply put, look cool!

PERSPECTIVE

The ability to draw characters and environments in perspective is essential in creating the illusion of depth. This illusion helps create a believable three dimensional world on the comic page.

THE BUSINESS OF COMICS/ SELF-PUBLISHING & WEB COMICS

So, now you want to make comics for a living. We will discuss how to break into the mainstream business and work for the largest publishers as well as self-publishing your work in print or on the web.

Maximum class size
10 students

Accommodation
Single en-suite room
Meals are included (breakfast, lunch and dinner)

Excursions are also included

Requirements
Age: 14 – 18*

Minimum English standard:
Equivalent to IELTS 5.0+/ Intermediate

Start Dates available:
Sunday 14th July 2024 (two weeks)

Price:
$2,275 (per week)

Program Outcomes

1. You will develop an understanding of the techniques used for storytelling in comic books.

2. You will develop your understanding through experimentation with a variety of drawing, inking and coloring techniques.

3. You will have the opportunity to discuss your work and share your ideas with your tutor who is an industry professional.

*18 year old students only accepted as part of a group where all students are returning to secondary education in September 2024. 18 year olds must follow all school rules as minors. Separate rules apply regarding lessons and activities, please enquire.

Week 1	MORNING 08:45-12:00		AFTERNOON 13:00-16:00		EVENING 19:30-22:00
Sunday	Arrival, induction and campus tour				Movie Night
Monday	Discussions on what makes good storytelling and scriptwriting	BREAKFAST	Writing your story and script	LUNCH	Welcome Party: Team Building/ Name Games
Tuesday	How to develop characters / Continue writing your script		Boston Harbor cruise & Tour		Halloween Party
Wednesday	Figure Drawing		Drawing at Harvard Museum of Natural History and comic shops in Harvard Square		Jeopardy Quiz Night
Thursday	Continue drawing your comic		Guest Speaker/Company Visit	DINNER	Karaoke Night
Friday	Continue drawing your comic		Learning perspective for panel backgrounds		Neon Disco Party
Saturday	Included Full Day Excursion: Canobie Lake Park				Gym Night/ Board Games/ Arts & Crafts

Week 2	MORNING 08:45-12:00		AFTERNOON 13:00-16:00		EVENING 19:30-22:00
Sunday	Onsite Activities e.g. Team Building Games				Movie Night
Monday	History and influence of comics	BREAKFAST	Museum of Science	LUNCH	Welcome Party: Team Building/ Name Games
Tuesday	Introduction to the art of inking		Animated/Comic Movie trip		Mardi Gras Party
Wednesday	The business of comics / Self-publishing your comics / Studio time		Figure drawing		Minute To Win It Competition
Thursday	Studio time to draw or ink your comic		Introduction to Digital Coloring	DINNER	International Night
Friday	Present finished comics to rest of class		Included Half-day Excursion: Historical Tour of Plymouth - reference for character design and story telling		Hawaiian Disco Party
Saturday	Included Full-day Excursion: Newport, Rhode Island				Gym Night/ Board Games/ Arts & Crafts

Sample timetables are illustrative only. We reserve the right to make changes without notice.