

Alex Liao

Designer | aleliao099@gmail.com | 647-979-0488 | Toronto, Canada

Student designer with education in both 3D designing and UX/UI problem solving accompanied by diverse experiences in working across multiple disciplines and organizations. With a focus on user accessibility and adaptability, my specialization lies in creating visually interactive and engaging prototypes that are designed for inclusive audiences through detailed usability testing. Skilled at working in collaborative settings with experience in government organizations, corporate teams, and individual businesses, my technical strengths lie in my proficiency in multidisciplinary design softwares and tools ranging from 3D modeling and animation to creating low and high-fidelity prototypes. Adept at navigating and managing ambiguous challenges to find solutions for user needs through customizable UI elements and components with an open minded approach to design concept and visual principles. Motivated by connecting with people across the world, my goal is to design an inclusive and exciting future for everyone.

Portfolios <https://www.alexliao.designingtech.com/>

Skills and Programs

UX/UI	Figma Sketch Adobe XD InVision Studio	Coding	Grasshopper Python Processing
Adobe Cloud	Photoshop InDesign Illustrator Premiere Pro	Render & Animation	V-Ray Unreal Engine Blender
Microsoft Office	Word Excel PowerPoint Publisher	Languages	English Mandarin Cantonese
3D Modeling	Rhino Blender AutoCAD Revit ArcGIS		French (Read & Write)

Experience

Public Affairs Intern, Toronto American Consulate, U.S. Department of State

August 2023 — May 2024

Toronto, Canada

- Assisted in the strategic planning and execution of consulate-related public events, including alumni networking sessions, panel discussions, and high-level political receptions, while seeking ways to create opportunities to strengthen diplomatic ties between U.S. and Canada.
- Aided in managing the consulate's social media platforms producing video content and designing visual design toolkits using Figma and Adobe Cloud for events such as December Holidays and Black History Month enhancing public visibility and strengthening community engagement.
- Conducted extensive research on current affairs and political developments around Toronto, creating an updated database of community information presented bi-weekly to gain an understanding of needs and accessibility concerns that required support from the Consulate.
- Drafted biographies, meeting scenarios, speeches, and public statements for consulate staff and the Consulate General, ensuring effective communication with the public and maintaining support for key community groups.

University of Toronto 1st Annual 24 hour UX/UI Designathon - First Place Award

March 25 2024 — March 26 2024

Toronto, Canada

- Collaborated with three other students in a 24 hour Designathon with a prompt of designing an app that fosters collaboration. Working closely by leveraging our skills in ideation, user research, task flows, problem solving, and presenting skills, was awarded first place with our design.
- Designed and prototyped an app aimed at fostering inclusive collaboration during meetings by implementing anonymous participation to address a common fear of being judged or singled out during meetings while providing accessibility and customizable features for all users.
- Conducted user research with other participants to identify pain points in traditional meeting environments and developed core features to enhance experience such as anonymous feedback submissions, comment threads, and self analysis pages that encourage self growth.
- Used Figma and Illustrator to create high-fidelity wireframes and interactive prototypes that demonstrated the app's functionality, user flow, and easy to navigate design which were praised by judges for the team's ability to tackle real-time challenges during the competition to produce interactive and functional prototypes under tight deadlines.

Commissioned 3D Renderer, Titanium Development Homes

August 2022 — May 2024

Toronto, Canada

- Collaborate with architects to convert CAD floor plans into 3D models using Rhino 7 and Revit ensuring accurate representation of design intentions and enhancing clarity through virtual simulations. Took initiative to consistently redraft works to ensure pixel perfect designs that met user demands.
- Draft and edit floor plans to ensure accuracy and adherence to safety standards while gathering environmental data for modeling reference.
- Develop high-quality digital renderings from 3D models and floor plans using V-Ray simulations. These digital models are shared with clients for official reference and post-design evaluations. Conducted constant user research to understand client needs and demand creating desired designs.
- Convert 3D virtual models into laser print files for 3D printing, fabricating physical models aiding in project visualization.

Media Design Executive, Richmond Hill Constituency Youth Council

August 2021 — May 2024

Richmond Hill, Canada

- Led the development and publication of various designs in Figma and Illustrator to create visual communication content and outreach efforts to enhance community engagement in Richmond Hill and meeting with the community constituency to promote new impactful design concepts.
- Co-led student team in researching policy change proposals addressing issues such as affordability, climate, and health within the Federal laws of Canada. Held bi-weekly meetings with involved youth across Richmond Hill to gather research, and proposed efforts to MP Majid Jowhari to create a framework of the ideas advocated by youth in the community regarding Federal policy changes necessary within the community.

Customer Operation and Supply Chain Intern, Nestle

May — Aug 2022 & 2023

Brampton, Canada

- Utilized strong interpersonal skills to resolve client demands, developing clear client centric communication strategies to manage customer facing content and data on a daily basis while consistently driving sales and reinforcing company targets through engaging customer experiences.
- Well-versed in usage of SAP software of inventory and data tracking alongside utilization of Microsoft Office for communication purposes. Employed Adobe software for designing company visual content promoting products and task flows for cross-functional teams.
- Member of the Supply Chain Communication and Engagement Team tasked with designing workplace interactive infographics promoting organizational development, recognition, and best practice sharing to address multifaceted problems encouraging growth and collaboration.

Daniels Faculty student IT Assistant work study, University of Toronto

August 2022 — May 2023

Toronto, Canada

- Provided technical and IT support for the Daniels Faculty of Architecture assisting students and staff with software and hardware issues related to plotters, printers, and other studio equipment while conducting user research to optimize operation within the facility based on user needs.
- Employed Adobe skills to troubleshoot Adobe Illustrator and CAD/Rhino file interface compatibility issues, streamlining digital workflow while ensuring effective communication and engagement between all members of the faculty and keeping equipment functional.

Youth Ambassador & Youth Ambassador Adult Mentor, U.S. Department of State

June 2018 — July 2024

Plattsburgh/Chicago/Washington D.C., United States

- Recognized by Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State for community involvement and selected for cultural exchange program of 2018 summer to live and learn in the US while fostering connections with American host families.
- Initiated and organized community service projects after the exchange aspect providing students of my high school students with community service opportunities by organizing music events with senior home locations enriching their daily schedule through music.
- Re-invited as adult mentor for 2023 summer, assisted in the ensuring safety of students throughout exchange duration, provided direction and advice to Youth Ambassadors on the importance of community involvement and role of leadership.
- Providing ongoing support with World Learning staff in Washington DC to assist Youth Ambassadors successfully implement their community service project, mentoring and connecting individuals with contacts relevant to their community goals.

Volunteer & Extra - Curricular Activities

Daniels Faculty Student Mentorship Program	Senior Student Mentor	September 2022 — June 2023
Mackenzie Hospital Strides for Stroke Foundation	Committee School Representative	September 2017 — June 2019
Richview Manor Senior Home	Voluntary Pianist	September 2016 — June 2019
Cardinal Carter High School Math Club	Club President	September 2016 — May 2020
Cardinal Carter High School Swim Team	Team Member	September 2016 — June 2020

Education

Masters of Information, UX/UI Concentration, University of Toronto	September 2024 — Present
Bachelors of Arts with Honors, Architectural Study Technology Specialist, University of Toronto	September 2020 — June 2024
Minor of Mathematics, University of Toronto	September 2020 — June 2024
ARCT Diploma Piano, Royal Conservatory Of Music	October 2019