

Lorena Da Cruz

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film | May 2025

Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL

- GPA: 3.76/4.0
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FILM EXPERIENCE

Sarasota, FL

***Beyond Brains* - Writer & Director** | Thesis Speculative Ad, 2025

- Developed original concept and script to blend commercial and personal storytelling style
- Directed on-set performance and timing to balance horror elements with comedic pacing
- Collaborated closely with cinematographer, production designer, and editor to execute a cohesive visual narrative

***The One in Red* - Producer** | Thesis Narrative Short, 2025

- Secured locations, permits, lunch, and handled all production paperwork
- Collaborated with director to translate creative vision into feasible production plans
- Supervised on-set operations, ensuring smooth daily workflows and safety protocols in a difficult location

***The Bruhven at Jesus High* - Producer** | Thesis Narrative Proof of Concept, 2025

- Managed pre-production planning including script breakdowns, call sheets, and shooting schedules
- Coordinated with seven cast members and over 25 crew to maintain efficient set operations and time management across multiple shoot days

***Huzzab!* - Co-Editor** | Thesis Narrative Short, 2025

- Edited select scenes, contributing to the overall narrative structure and tonal consistency
- Provided input during rough cut screenings and implemented feedback from director
- Collaborated with lead editor to shape comedic timing

***Tin Can Sailors* - 1st Assistant Director** | Thesis Narrative Short, 2025

- Led on-set communication between director, department heads, and crew to maintain efficiency and safety
- Maintained a calm, professional environment under pressure while balancing creative and production needs
- Anticipated logistical challenges and adapted the schedule to accommodate last-minute changes

***Gum Surfboards* - Cinematographer** | Documentary Interview, 2024

- Shot a sit-down interview with a local surfboard shaper, capturing both subject and workshop environment
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WORK EXPERIENCE

Resident Assistant | Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL, 2022 - 2025

- Fostered a safe, inclusive, and supportive living environment for 60+ students annually
- Mediated roommate conflicts and provided peer support on academic, personal, and mental health concerns
- Designed posters advertising floor events including game nights, workshops, and socials

Pre-college Resident Assistant | Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL, June 2023 - July 2023

- Provided mentorship and supervision for pre-college students living on campus during summer program
- Acted as a primary point of contact for student concerns, offering guidance on academic and personal challenges
- Collaborated with program staff to plan social and educational events tailored for younger students

Hostess | Texas Roadhouse, Miramar, FL, November 2020 - May 2021

- Greeted and seated guests promptly, ensuring a positive and welcoming first impression
 - Managed waitlists and reservations efficiently during high-traffic periods to optimize seating flow
 - Maintained cleanliness and organization of the host station and entrance area
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NOTABLE AWARDS

- **Winner: Best Screenplay - *Beyond Brains*** | Ringling College of Art and Design: Film Awards, 2025
 - **President's List** | Ringling College of Art and Design, 2021-2025
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SKILLS

- **Programs:** DaVinci Resolve, Adobe Premiere, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe After Effects, Avid, Squarespace
- **Other:** Producing, 1st Assistant Direction, Video editing, Scriptwriting