

MARIEKE MICHELLE DAVIS

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SUMMARY

Award-winning artist and author intent upon completing an MFA in Art Practice or Illustration to pursue a career as an artist, writer, illustrator, graphic novelist, comic strip creator, and teacher specializing in the interdisciplinary audio production of visual art for the blind and visually impaired.

EDUCATION

**BFA Drawing, Minors in English Literature, Women’s & Gender Studies,
Certificate in Creative Writing** **Spring 2017**
Arizona State University – *Summa Cum Laude* – 4.00 Cum. GPA

EMPLOYMENT

Feature Cartoonist, Comic Strip, “Life is Blurry,” for *LivAbility Magazine*,
published quarterly online and in print (ability360.org/livability) **Fall 2019-Present**
ARDG Grant Recipient – Creating *Ember Black* – Ch. 2 in dual formats **Jan. 2019-Mar. 2019**
Art Entrepreneur, including creator of web comic, “Life is Blurry” (@*lifeisblurry*) **2017-Present**

HONORS & AWARDS

GRANT AWARDEE – Arizona Commission on the Arts 2018 Research and
Development Grant - \$5,000 Grant to Create Chapter 2 of Graphic Series,
Ember Black in Print and Audio - Project Completed: March 31, 2019 **Dec. 2017**
VSA EMERGING YOUNG ARTIST AWARD—One of 15 Artists Chosen
Nationally, Sponsored by the John F. Kennedy Center **August 2017**
AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD, Herberger Institute IDEA Showcase **April 2016**
FIRST PRIZE, Phoenix Sister Cities International Art Competition **Fall 2014**
FIRST PLACE, *ChoiceMagazineListening.com* National Poster Contest,
Providing Alternate Reading Formats for the Visually Impaired **Spring 2014**

EXHIBITIONS, & PRESENTATIONS

ACLU of Arizona Traveling Exhibit, “In This Together: An Art Exhibition on
the Disability Rights Movement” – Tempe History Museum. I participated **Oct.-Dec. 2019**
as an art exhibitor and a panelist during the Oct. 25th opening reception,
presenting the topic of disability discrimination in education.
<https://action.aclu.org/webform/az-inthistgether-tempe> ; and, for the panel:
<https://youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=tghJcMrmxSE&feature=youtu.be>
Phoenix Fan Fusion Presentation and Panel, “Creating *Ember Black* – Chapter 2
in Print & Audio” – Audio and PowerPoint Presentation, followed by Q&A
panel discussion with five of our voice actors **May 26, 2019**

- Phoenix Comic Fest Panel, “The Philosophy of *Rick & Morty*” and Presentation,
 “So Funny, It Hurts: Introducing the Autobiographical Comic Strip,
Life is Blurry, and Other Comics Created By and About the Disabled” **May 25-26, 2018**
- VSA Emerging Young Artists Program, Curated Exhibition at the Rayburn House
 Office Bldg. (Washington, DC) and at VW Headquarters (Hearndon, VA).
 Entry: Excerpts from autobiographical comic strip, “Life is Blurry.”
 Inauguration of year-long national tour **Oct. 24-27, 2017**
- Phoenix Comicon Presentation & Panel, “Creating *Ember Black: Prologue/Ch.1*” **May 2017**
- BFA Senior Art Exhibition, “Tell-Tale Art: An Exhibition of Narrative Art,”
 Featuring My Graphic Series, *Ember Black*, in Print and Audio **Fall 2016**
- Phoenix Sister Cities International Competition for Artists with Disabilities (ICAD)
 First Place for “An Extended Hand,” On Permanent Exhibition at Warehouse 1005,
 Phoenix, AZ (Theme: “Breaking Barriers ... Opening Doors”) **Fall 2014**
- Exhibitor, Arizona Opera Company Showcase **2013-14**

PUBLICATIONS

- *Ember Black – Chapter Two: Searching for Emily* – Continuation of
 Graphic Series, In Print and Audio **March 2019**
- *Ember Black – Prologue/Chapter One: Ignite!* In Print and Audio **Aug. 2016**
- One-Act Play, “Disappearing Act,” in *Canyon Voices* **Spring 2016**
- Publication of Five Original Drawings in ASU anthology, *Marooned* **Fall 2015**
- Short Story, “The Onlookers” in *Marooned* **Fall 2014**

Authored and Copyrighted Short Stories: “The Shift,” “Cracked,” “The Onlookers,”
 “The Toll,” “True Colors,” and Eight Poems **2012-16**

ARTICLES, INTERVIEWS, & FEATURES

- “A Different P.O.V. (Point of View), by Marieke Davis,” *LivAbility Magazine*, ed.19, Winter 2020. <https://ability360.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020-01-LivAbility-Magazine-Edition-19.pdf>
- “‘Life is Blurry’ Comic Strip #25 – Comic Strip by Marieke Davis,” *LivAbility Magazine*, ed. 18, Fall 2019. <https://ability360.org/livability/art-livability/life-is-blurry-comic-strip-number-25/>
- “Marieke Davis and ‘Ember Black’: Creating an Artistic Vision Accessible by All,” by Kira Assad. *Accents of the Department of English at Arizona State University*, Vol. 22, June 13, 2019. <https://english.asu.edu/node/2798>
- “Marieke Davis/Blind Beauty Issue 43,” *Bold Blind Beauty*, June 28, 2018, <https://boldblindbeauty.com/2018/06/28/marieke-davis-blind-beauty-issue-43/>
- Interview with Monica Garcia, KPNX Channel 12, May 24, 2018, <https://www.12news.com/mobile/video/news/entertainment-news/comic-fest-blind-artist/75-8139070>
- “The Passion of Narrative Art,” *DIVERSEability Magazine*, Spring/Summer 2018, www.diverseabilitymagazine.com
- Interview with Attie Murphy, “Coloring Outside the Lines,” *State Press Magazine*, Vol 17,

Issue 5, March 1, 2017, www.statepress.com/article/2017/03/spmagazine-coloring-outside-the-lines-blind-cartoonist-thrives-at-asu

- Interview with Chris McCrory, “ASU Student Shows Off Superpower: Creating Comic Books,” *State Press*, Nov. 10, 2016; www.statepress.com/article/2016/11/spcampus-ember-black-comic
- Interview with Dr. Lorraine Festa for her show, “Lifestyles with Lorraine” on *AZ State Talking News*, recorded for the blind, June 6, 2016
- Interview with Jimmy Jenkins, KJZZ (91.5 FM) “The Show,” May 16, 2016
<https://theshow.kjzz.org/content/306880/ember-black-graphic-novel-drawn-artists-unique-perspective>
- Interview with Marshall Terrill, “Reimagining the Comic Book Genre,” *ASU Now*, May 2, 2016
<https://asunow.asu.edu/20160502-creativity-reimagining-comic-book-genre>
- Interview with Eric Mungenast, “Partially Blind Gilbert Resident Earns Accolades for Talents in Visual Arts,” *East Valley Tribune*, June 18, 2014;
www.eastvalleytribune.com/local/gilbert/articles_09faabb2-f356-11e3-990e-001a4bcf887a.html
- “Adversity Doesn’t Prepare Teen for Gun Tragedy,” Guest Op-Ed & Political Cartoon, *The Gilbert Republic*, June 2, 2012

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi – Induction	Spring 2016
Dean’s List, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, ASU	2012-17
The J. Russell & Bonita Nelson Art Scholarship for Outstanding Senior	2015-16
Golden Key International Honour Society	2015
ASU School of Art Talented Artist Scholarship	2012-13, 2014-15
ASU Alumni Association/Medallion Scholarship	2012-16
ASU New American University (NAMU) Dean’s Award	2012-16
John W. Lutrell/Children’s Cancer Network Scholarship	2012-16
Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation Scholarship	2013-14, 2014-15

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Motivational Presentation to 15 High School Seniors at The Schools for the Deaf & Blind – Tucson, AZ: “My Journey as a Visually Impaired Visual Artist”	Oct. 17, 2018
Presented Session on Creating Comics for “Badge Bonanza” – An Event for Local Girl Scouts to Earn Badges – Glendale Community College	Sept. 2018
Planned Parenthood Safety Escort	2017 - present
ASU Medallion Scholarship Service Projects, Including Pat’s Run, ASU Cares, and Guinness World Book Record to End Hunger, and Feed My Starving Children	2012-16
Children’s Cancer Network Volunteer, Assisting with Events such as Cancer Awareness Fair, Holiday Party, & Spring Fashion Show	2013-16
Foundation for Blind Children, Helping Children Create Audio Comics	Sept./Oct. 2015