



**REPORT: SCAD ALUMNI  
EMPLOYMENT STUDY  
2024**

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**“Just like the Web days, AI is open, inviting anybody to come in and take part. It’s the best time if you care about creativity. This is a time for visionaries.”<sup>1</sup>**

~ Fred Gilbert, VP, Head of User Experience, Google Workspace at Google

In today’s rapidly evolving global marketplace, adaptability and innovation are paramount. Industry leaders seek professionals who can swiftly deliver creative, impactful solutions to complex challenges. The ability to generate insightful, strategic, and transformative outcomes is crucial in our interconnected world and forms the cornerstone of every academic program at SCAD.

Guided by faculty who blend extensive industry experience with academic excellence, SCAD graduates emerge as agile, forward-thinking leaders. Our curriculum embraces emerging technologies, including AI, as powerful tools that expand the creative possibilities for artists and designers. SCAD sees AI as an opportunity for human creatives to push the boundaries of design innovation and problem-solving.

Armed with cutting-edge, career-focused education, our alumni are primed to revolutionize diverse business sectors across the globe. SCAD graduates stand out for their ability to navigate uncertainty, leverage new technologies, and create unprecedented value in an ever-changing professional environment. By combining their unique creative vision with technical expertise, our graduates are positioned to lead the next wave of innovation, opening new avenues for artistic expression and design solutions.

## Notable SCAD Alumni Employment From 2023:

**Ivy Zingone** (B.F.A., illustration, 2023), Designer, Sam Edelman, New York, NY

**John-David Minjares** (M.A., design management, 2023), Product Designer, Apple Inc., Cupertino, CA

**Krista Jarrell** (M.F.A., themed entertainment design, 2023), Associate Narrative/Interactive Designer, Universal Creative, Orlando, FL

**Eve Katz** (B.F.A., writing, 2023) Conversation Designer, Walt Disney Imagineering, Orlando, FL

**Kaden Lewis** (B.F.A., visual effects, 2023), Composer, Floyd County Productions, Atlanta, GA

**Emma Herseeth** (B.F.A., user experience (UX) design, 2023), Data and Technology Solution Analyst, Deloitte, McLean, VA

**Kaiyi Yuan** (B.F.A., interior design, 2023), Associate Interior Designer, Gulfstream Aerospace, Pooler, GA

**Fiona Duffy** (B.F.A., fibers, 2023), Textile Designer, Kohl’s, Paoli, PA

**Calvin Dix** (B.F.A., animation, 2023), Image Finaling Artist, DreamWorks Animation, Glendale, CA

## Notable SCAD Alumni Employment From Recent Years:

**Whitney Taylor**, (M.F.A., interactive design and game development, 2011), Head of UX, YouTube Community & Connections, YouTube, San Francisco, CA

**Sekani Solomon**, (B.F.A., motion media design, 2014), Principal Designer, Cash App, New York, NY

**Dr. Tara Michelle Henderson**, (B.F.A., advertising, 2007, M.F.A. Luxury and Fashion Management, 2012), founder and principle strategist, FTGM Collective, Carmel, IN

**Richard Sullivan**, (B.F.A., illustration, 2014) Illustrator, MLB Licensed Artist, Louisville, KY

**Jahlen Grant-King** (B.F.A., graphic design, 2021), Graphic Designer, Gensler, Washington, MD

## Notable SCAD Alumni Accomplishments From Recent Years:

**Daniel Thrasher** (B.F.A., performing arts, 2015) appeared in the new comedy series *Dinner with the Parents* alongside Oscar-nominated legend Carol Kane. The show’s uproarious yet humane chronicles of a family’s weekly meal premiered on Amazon Prime on April 18, 2024.

**Gabriel Velasco** (M.Arch., B.F.A., architecture, 2022) was named Emerging Architect of the Year by the LIV Hospitality Design Awards for Relinquetur, his ecologically-conscious design for a research center on Hunting Island, SC.

**Matt Yocum** (B.F.A., sound design, 2015) was honored with an Emmy Award for Best Sound Design for *The Last of Us*.

**Natalie Schaaake** (B.F.A., industrial design, 2022) earned a coveted Fast Company Innovation by Design Award in the student category for her design for a customizable chair, Hug, designed to relieve stress.

**Lavar Munroe** (B.F.A., illustration, 2007) received a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship, one of 171 awardees from almost 2,500 applicants. Munroe’s Fellowship in Fine Arts is underwritten by Oscar winner Robert De Niro. Among the fine arts fellows, The Art Insider praised Munroe as “the standout winner.”

At the 2023 Oscars, the brilliant work of SCAD alumni was celebrated — 146 SCAD Bees contributed their talents to 18 nominated productions! Graduates from 17 disciplines are represented in this distinguished group.

In 2022-23, SCAD won 1,690 awards across all departments and all university locations, including 489 first-place wins.

<sup>1</sup> Savannah College of Art and Design. (2024). *SCAD AI Insights 2024 [PDF]*. [https://www.scad.edu/sites/default/files/SCAD\\_AI\\_Insights\\_2024.pdf](https://www.scad.edu/sites/default/files/SCAD_AI_Insights_2024.pdf)

# KEY FINDINGS

**Ninety-nine percent** of combined undergraduate and graduate alumni reported being employed, pursuing further education, or both within 12 months of graduation.

**Ninety-nine percent** of master's degree graduates and **98%** of bachelor's degree graduates reported being employed, pursuing further education, or both.

Of the total number of employed respondents, **91%** are working in the industry for which they studied or in a related field.

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## STUDY OVERVIEW

To better understand the career paths of recent graduates, SCAD's office of institutional assessment conducted a study of Spring 2023 alumni using a multistep process. As the key finding of the study, 99% of reporting graduates were employed, pursuing further education, or both within 12 months of commencement.

This information is gathered annually by SCAD to ascertain the employment and continuing education information of its graduates with the goal of monitoring alumni career development as well as assisting and advising in the pursuit of employment or further education.

## METHODOLOGY

SCAD's alumni follow-up study is a multistep process beginning at graduation and extending for 12 months. In alignment with the National Association of Colleges and Employers' (NACE) best practices and federal program integrity regulations, SCAD includes permanent, full-time, part-time, freelance, self-employed, and further education as part of its alumni employment rate.

- **May 2023:** Administration of a commencement survey immediately prior to graduation regarding secured employment and continuing education.

- **June 2023–May 2024:** Monitoring of a variety of internal

and external data sources including: the university's internal data management system, which allows the university to identify who is returning to SCAD to pursue an additional degree or is currently employed at SCAD; the National Student Clearinghouse, an independent organization that tracks national enrollment data and indicates which graduates are pursuing further education at other institutions; LinkedIn and other online sources such as ArtStation, where SCAD alumni share profile and employment information; academic department ambassadors who stay connected with students post-graduation; and SCAD's career and alumni success database, which tracks student- and alumni-reported employment data.

- **March–April 2024:** Administration of a follow-up online survey regarding secured employment and continued education. For this past year, this online survey began in early March 2024 and ran for approximately six weeks.

## KNOWLEDGE RATE

Using best practices from NACE, SCAD captured information from 71% of the Spring 2023 graduates—a total of 1,426 undergraduate and graduate alumni—from Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia and SCADnow. SCAD's 71% response rate exceeds the results of NACE's First-Destination Survey, which aims for a 65% knowledge rate.

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For more information, contact [employmentstats@scad.edu](mailto:employmentstats@scad.edu).