

RIYA MURUGESAN

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CAREER OBJECTIVE

Aspiring interdisciplinary designer focused on translating complex technical and scientific ideas into clear and accessible visual experiences. Experienced in 3D, illustration, and UI/UX design through both professional and creative projects.

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC August 2024 - May 2028

- Computer Science (BS) & Biology (BS) | *GPA*: 3.956

EXPERIENCE

The Meantime Coffee Co. | *3D Modeler* | Chapel Hill, NC January 2026 - Present

- Model coffeeshop mascot figurines in Blender and resolve geometry issues to ensure successful 3D printing.

Cardiovascular Modeling and Simulation Laboratory | *Research Assistant* | Chapel Hill, NC April 2025 - Present

- Design and implement a computational pipeline to automate the creation of patient-specific 3D models of coronary artery calcium lesions from cardiac CT scans.
- Develop an understanding of deep learning and image classification models using Keras API, and mesh generation using Blender.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

UNC iGEM | *Social Media and Marketing Subteam Member* | Chapel Hill, NC February 2025 - Present

- Collaborated with subteam members to produce and edit a professional 15-minute video showcasing the team's synthetic biology project, integrating Canva animations and graphics in After Effects.
- Illustrated the team's official mascot in Procreate, used for the team's website and branding.

App Team Carolina | *UI/UX Bootcamp Member* | Chapel Hill, NC September 2025 - December 2025

- Created interactive iOS designs in Figma for 5+ weekly projects, applying core UI/UX principles such as typography and composition to enhance usability and visual appeal.
- Conducted user interviews and leveraged insights to redesign the FaceTime app and add a whiteboard feature.

PROJECTS

Brickapedia | *Front-End Developer* | Chapel Hill, NC February 2025

- Led front-end design for a website that outputs Lego builds when given a user's pieces (PearlHacks 2025 Project).
- Employed design elements such as a minifigure hand cursor, hand-drawn pixel Earth logo, and minifigure avatars.

Dandelion Competition Model | *Developer* | Durham, NC November 2023

- Developed a NetLogo simulation to model dandelion life cycle and spread over 1, 3, 6, and 12 months.
- Compared the ecological impact of dandelions, sunflowers, and roses in a controlled simulation.

Clear Blue | *Creator* | Durham, NC March 2023

- Authored and digitally illustrated a sustainability-themed children's book with interactive elements to promote environmental awareness.
- Awarded 1st place at the Technology Student Association State Conference and 6th place at Nationals.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Programming languages: Python, Java, C, HTML, CSS

Design tools: Blender, Figma, Procreate, After Effects, Canva