

KAREN NGUYEN

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Caregiver

IHSS | SAN JOSE, CA | December 2022 – Present

Provide care to elderly grandparents, per cultural expectations

Serve as a 24/7 go-to; address all components related to activities of daily living, including household chores

Freelance Photographer

ITS KAREN PRODUCTIONS | BAY AREA | January 2022 – Present

Built a photography business from the ground up, specializing in documenting life's significant moments through creative, tailored photo shoots and expert editing; manage client relations and promotions, leverage CRM platforms (e.g., Thumbtack, Pixieset, Unscripted App), and use social media

High-Quality Deliverables: Processing and editing an average of 100+ images per project

Innovative Conceptualization: Planned and executed photo shoots, meticulously designing client mood boards and scouting locations

Effective Tech Use: Enhanced workflows via CRM platforms (e.g., Pixieset)—efficient communication, invoicing, and image sharing

Hired to Capture 2 Guinness World Records: (a) serial years attending a high school reunion, and (b) yearbook signatures in 24 hours

Americorps Member

OUR CITY FOREST | SAN JOSE, CA | March 2025 – September 2025

A service term that serves and offers environmental stewardship within the Santa Clara County community

Collaborated with an 8-person team: Conducted site visits for trees, answered emails, and led volunteers

Nursery support: Irrigation for trees in pots, maintained organization of trees and supplies of the site with the team

Outreach team: Curated graphic designs/flyers with a team of 2

OTHER FILM & EDITING EXPERIENCE

Video Editor

SAN FRANCISCO BAY BIRD OBSERVATORY | BAY AREA | February 2025 – Present

Collaborate with the Marketing Team manager to deliver the monthly Birdy Hour podcast videos

Edit nearly 1-hour-long videos, uploaded onto YouTube, and shared in the email newsletters for archives

Bulletin Officer, Photo Editor

KEY CLUB INTERNATIONAL | BAY AREA | February 2015 – June 2019

Orchestrated production and administrative elements for student engagement in meaningful local and global needs; led volunteer projects

Prioritized tasks and ensured timely delivery of 9 newsletters through on-point leadership of an 8-person team

Curated graphic designs, all of which were given feedback by the executive team

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Science: Environmental Studies

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY | SAN JOSE, CA | graduated 2022

Certificate of Achievement: 9-week program

STORY XPERIENTIAL PROGRAM WITH PIXAR ANIMATION STUDIOS | ONLINE | 2022

AWARDS

Leadership Award: Class Historian

INDEPENDENCE HIGH SCHOOL | 2017

Selected by Student Council President for documenting and preserving spirit of graduating class

First Place: Maternal Neonatal Tetanus International Video Contest

KEY CLUB INTERNATIONAL | BAY AREA | 2015

Recognized for creativity, clarity, and impact—created engaging educational MNT causes-risks-solutions videos, raised awareness about a preventable disease found in underdeveloped regions, and inspired Eliminate Project's global vaccination advocacy and fundraising