**Nathan dean**

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***Professional Profile***

Currently in-house exhibit artist at Houston Zoo working alongside animals and keepers, establishing quality in style and brand. 20+ years of experience in animal exhibit spaces. Well versed in the daily pressures of coming up with innovations and new materials as well as being adaptable in order to solve problems and meet deadlines. Brings invaluable experience in rehabilitating old spaces as well as developing new ones, including but not limited to zoos, museum exhibits, depictions of nature, aquariums and private & residential works. Offers unmatched strengths in creative design, scenic painting, model building, casting and mold-making, exhibt construction, fiberglass & concrete materials and follow-through on critical company projects and goals.

**Areas of Expertise**

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| Illistration  Design and Concept Development  Sculptor  Casting and Mold-Making  Fiberglass & Concrete Materials  Perspective Drawing | Specialist Researcher  Ornamental Plaster  Scenic Painting  Model Building  Creative & Functional Design  Natural Perching Arrangements | Color Discretion  Aquariums and Water Features  Pattern Making and Sewing  Props and Reproductions  Operator: Forklifts, Small Excavators, Lifts and Booms |

**Professional Experience**

**Exhibits Technician -Houston *Zoo, Houston, TX*** May 2018-present

*Houston Zoo -working on the future of the zoo , Houston,Tx.*

* Scenic painting - Mural paint and repair, Trump Loeil, decorative ﬁnishes, color discretion and color matching, HVLP spray systems, UV paints, faux bois, works in oils, two part urethane and epoxy paints, acrylics, cartooning, perspective drawing, airbrush and fresco.
* Concrete - Forming, slab and ﬂatwork and themed pathways, ponds, waterfalls, stream beads, playgrounds, patch and repair, casting, specialty design mixes, green sealers, integrated colors and acid stains.
* Fiberglass - Lamination, forming, chop gun, patch and repair, casting, gel coats and waterprooﬁng.
* Model Building - Perspective or scale larger work from or photo shoot.
* Casting and Mold making - Props and reproductions, latest knowledge of materials and techniques.
* Material knowhow - Epoxies, urethanes, polyesters, silicones, spray foam, concrete, plaster, prep of all painted surfaces, green alternative sealers.
* Operator - Boom and scissor lifts, forklift, Teletruk, Bobcat, small excavators.
* Creation - Natural percing arrangements based on animal experience matching the best materials for positve hubandry
* Sewing - Machine stitching, decorative lacing, leather and hide work.
* Construction - ability to read blue prints and models build to scale, use and knowledge of heavy construction tools.

**Accomplishments**

* Designed concrete specialty mixes.
* Led the development of new vine technology style and rigging for large primates.
* Adaption of green alternative building practices.
* Latest use and knowledge of safe materials for animal habitats.
* Assists with animal necropsy.
* Volunteer ﬁsh and wildlife - amphibian research.
* Participated in art donations to rhinos and snow leopard trust.
* Chosen and recognized for Star Bright Scholarship.
* Volunteer rigging for chimp sanctuary.
* Designed and led the development of new perching patterns for positive animal enrichment.
* Curated show to beneﬁt Azak at Art Not Terminal gallery.
* Yearly art donatins for Snow Leopard Trust and Rhino fundrasing.

**Certificates , Training & related edication**

**LEED Green**

**OSHA Training** *Woodland Park Zoo* May 2016

**Fall Arrest Training** *Guardian* October 2017

**Carousel Restoration** *Bete Largent* April 2017

**Intensive Painting** *Alex Gray* August 2017

**Airbrush Academy** *Dru Blair Airbrush Academy* July 2016

**Painting in the Renaissance Tradition** *Lawrence School of Art* September 2007

**Fresco and Mural Repair** *Illia Fresco School* June 2002

**Prop-making and Scenic Painting** *Daniel Miller Studios* 1982- 1988

**design and build Exhibts at wpz**

**Leed exhibits 2004-2018**

* **Willa Wong station - Rock, earth textures, artifival trees, mural August 2004-2018**
* **Kia Exhibit - Rock and perching arrangements**
* **Meerkats - Mural, Rock texture and Childrens play area**
* **Orangutan - Large artificial trees and vines, all rigging**
* **Gilamonster and river toad - Mud, rock textures, mural**
* **Axolotl - Fiberglass tank, earth textures, mural**
* **Cobra - Rock and earth textures, mural**
* **Stellar Sea Eagle - Large artifical trees and nest**
* **Kookaburra and Lapwing - Mudbank, rock, mural**
* **Fruit bat - Artificial trees, mural**
* **Sloth and Tamadua - Artificial trees, mural**
* **Egyptian tortoise - Rock and earth textures and mural**
* **Gorilla - Vines and artificial trees**
* **Patas Monkey - Rock and mudbank textures**
* **Tree kangaroo - Artificial trees**
* **Zoomasium - Childrens play area**
* **Flamingo - Childrens play area**
* **Turtle exhibit - Tree, rock and mud bank textures**
* **Anaconda - Mudbank textures**
* **Occelot- Artificial trees and holding**
* **Waxy Monkey Frog - Small tank fiberglass and mural**
* **Servicing - Daily maintance needs of all exhibit spaces at WPZ**

**computer skills**

**Design and Concepts, Computer illistration, exhibit layout and graphics.**

**Professional Memberships & Affiliations**

**Aquarium&Zoo Facilities Association**

Member

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Amazon spheres** - Design and fabrication of artifical trees August-December 2017

**Jolly Miller** - Many exhibt works

**Cemrock** - Gorilla, bonobo exhibits 1997-2004

**Manmade wonders** - Scenic exhibit works 1995

**Portland Zoo** - Flooded rainforest, stellar cove exhibits 2011

**Nashville zoo** - Bamboo trails, clouded leopard exhibit 2013

**Cincinnati zoo** - Polar bear exhibit 2000

**Columbus zoo** - Ape house 1997- 2000

**Bronx zoo** - Congo exhibit, artificial tree and vine conctruction April 2000

**National Aquarium Baltimore** - Flooded rainforest Febuary 2002

**Other private and residential works**