

DONDIS, GODINE, & WARNER—Travel Awards

Submission Date	
Student ID	
Full Name	Eileen McIntire
E-mail	
Address	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Daytime Phone	
Major	Illustration
Undergraduate Status	Senior
Synopsis	<p>In short, I am asking for the Dondis or Godine travel grant in order to travel to Los Angeles to gather essential reference material for illustrating a graphic novel. This opportunity has the potential to change my status of aspiring illustrator to published graphic novelist, laying a crucial foundation for my career.</p>

Complete Proposal

My objective in applying for the Dondis and Godine travel grants is to travel to Los Angeles for three weeks to research and gather essential references for the creation of a graphic novel. The project, entitled The Precipice of Angels, will be a fiction graphic novel, approximately 90 pages in length, told and rendered with a noir tone using markers as its medium. The project is based on a short story of the same name written in 1995, by former member of the Firesign Theater, Phil Austin.

The story follows the journey of an unnamed member of a strange secret society of roof climbers, the Boulevardistes. A boulevardiste does not pursue traditional summits like a mountain climber, but instead endeavors secret “horizontal” urban climbs. The narrator, for example, embarks on an ambitious solo climb spanning 6 miles of Wilshire Boulevard. As we journey across the rooftops with the narrator he muses over the twilight in his life, the decline of his life’s passion, and the solitude that passion has created in his personal life.

Throughout the text, the narrator makes continuous reference to his surroundings, beginning at his home in New York City, and more continue to Los Angeles. The success of the project hinges on vivid and accurate depictions of his route down Wilshire Boulevard. It will require taking a bus to New York City and flying to Los Angeles from there. In each of these locations I will seek out the specific locations indicated in the narrative and create plain air drawings and sketches of cityscapes, while taking supplemental reference photographs. Not only is the visual information vital to the project, but also the cultural information. Phil Austin’s story, captures the pulse of a changing Los Angeles, where the city is as alive and vivid as the protagonist. Only through cultural immersion and spending time drawing and speaking with locals on Wilshire Boulevard can I capture such a character.

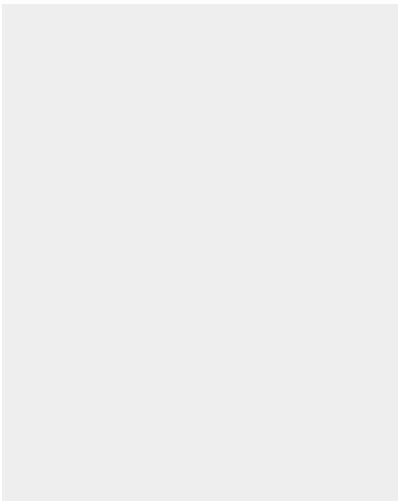
The author of The Precipice of Angels, Phil Austin, is deceased and to secure the proper permissions I have been in contact with representatives of Oona Ausin, Phil’s widow and inheritor of his estate. The initial response I have received has been extremely positive. My contact believes my portfolio of work is well suited to the tone of the story, and the distribution of profit had been discussed and decided at 50/50%. I have consulted with Greg Kannan, local entertainment lawyer, about drafting a licensing agreement for Mrs. Austin and myself. Mr. Kannan has quoted this service as ranging between 500 and \$1000. Such and agreement is a vital component in my protection as an artist and for potential publication.

Once the licensing agreement is signed, and the trip to Los Angeles has taken place, the content must be completed. There is a general industry standard for graphic novel submission, requiring the story be completely sketched, and the first 20 pages completed. Once this criteria is met, I will submit the story to the following publishers: Nobrow Press, Drawn and Quarterly, Fantagraphics Books, Top Shelf Productions, Archaia, and Dark Horse. To complete this project I am requesting funding for legal services, equipment, travel, housing, transportation, and modeling expenses.

The opportunity to complete this project will have an invaluable impact on my future as an artist. It will allow me to create a graphic novel to submit to publishers, with content I find deeply meaningful. This story in particular is be ideal for breaking into the graphic novel market, as the author is known and credible, with a built in fanbase, making it more appealing to publishers. Once published, the opportunity for future publication increases dramatically, therefore, this project has the potential to transform my career as a graphic novel illustrator.

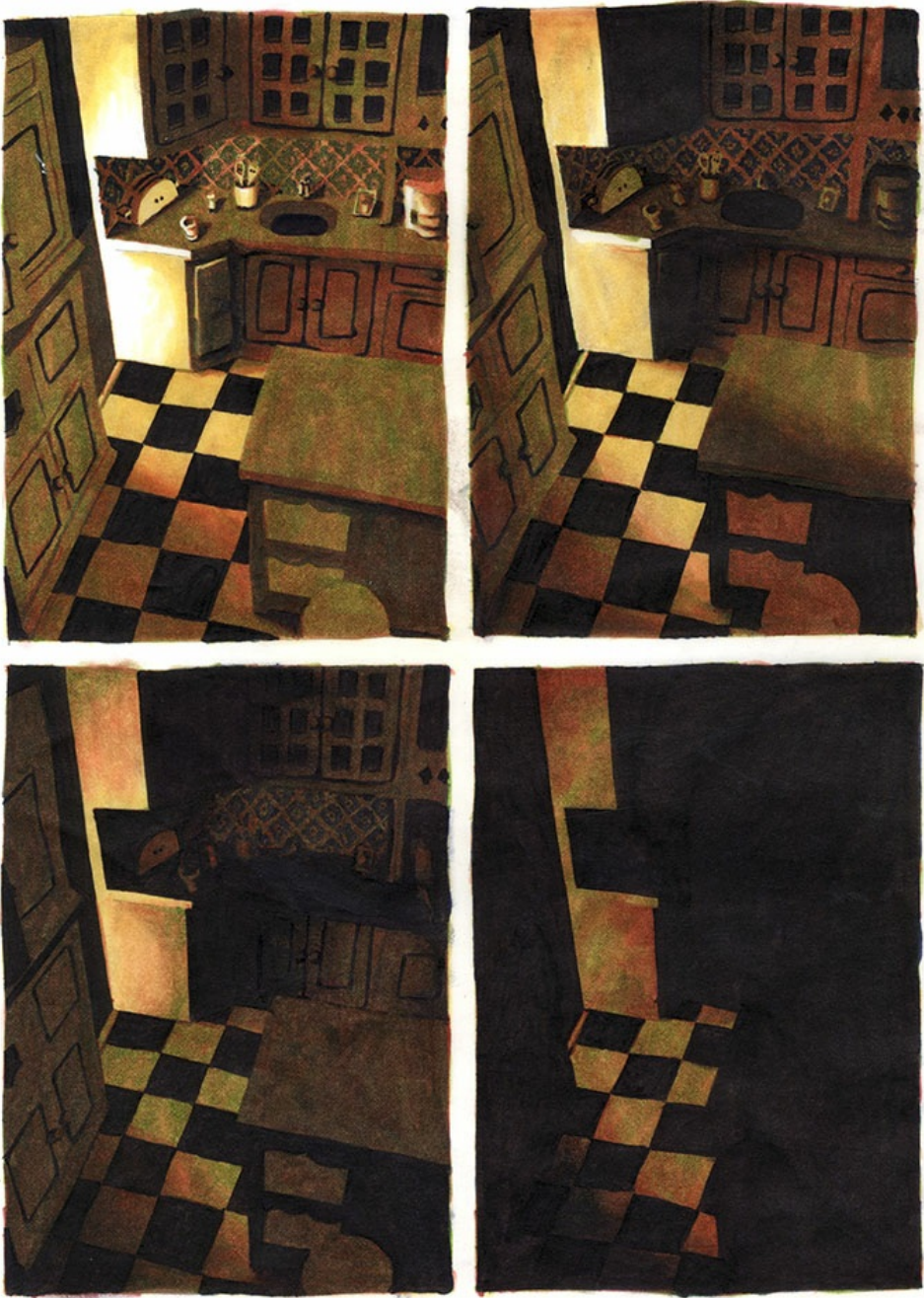
Total Expense

5,000



	Explanation	Amount
Lodging	havthorne inn (20 days)	900
Food		500
Equipment	camera (cannon rebel)	500
Supplies	markers	200
Transportation	bus to nyc/flights to and from LA/avis car rental	1300
Other	legal services	800
Other	modeling expenses	800
Other		
Other		
Other		

Artwork 1



[DILY 15.jpg](#)

Title	Graphic Novel Page
Dimensions	9x12

Date	03/16
Medium	markers

Artwork 2



DILY 6.jpg

Title	Graphic Novel page
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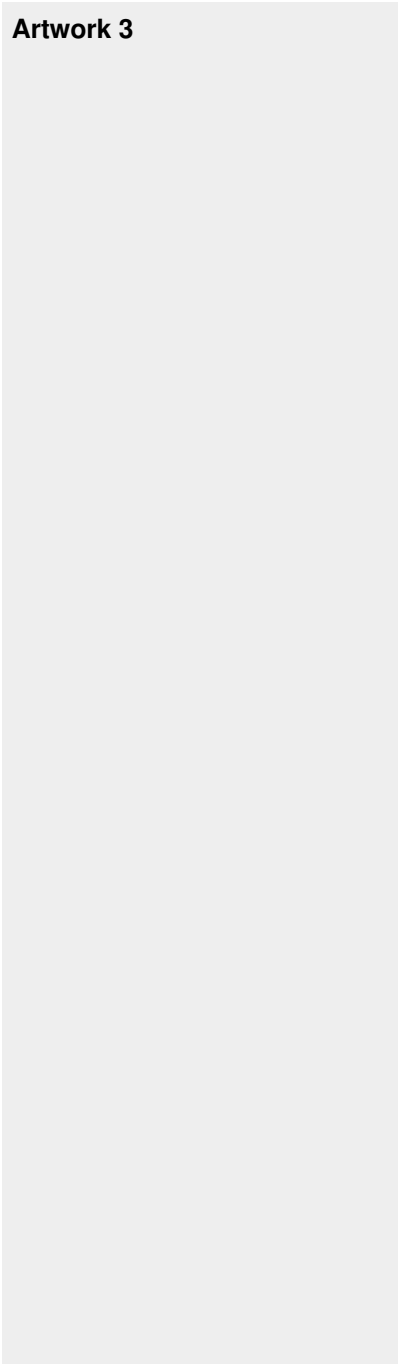
Dimensions

9z12

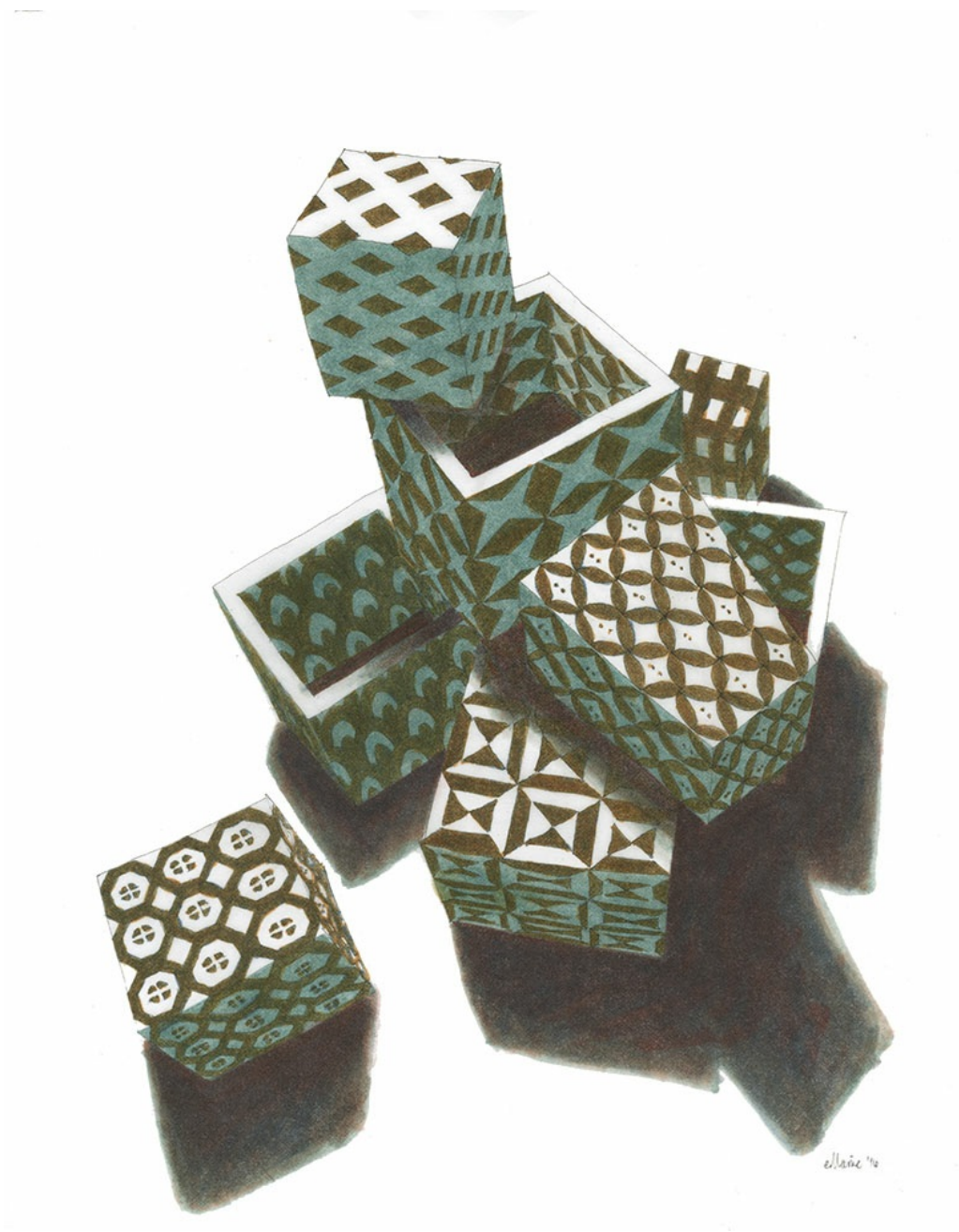
Date	03/16
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Meduim	markers
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Artwork 3



Title	Schema
Dimensions	9x12
Date	02/16
Medium	markers



[SCHEMA.jpg](#)

Artwork 4



[DIAL PAINTERS.jpg](#)

Title	The Dial Painters
Dimensions	20x9
Date	10/15
Medium	markers

Artwork 5



[Margaret Looney of Ottawa.jpg](#)

Title	Margaret Looney
Dimensions	16x16
Date	11/15