

## **Kierran Matos Bio**

Kierran Matos was born in Dallas, Texas, and at the age of 1 they moved with their family to Madison, New Jersey. Though initially a STEM-oriented student, Kierran's interest in art started when they reached middle school as a result of the emphasis on the arts programs at Madison Junior High School.

At Madison High School, they focused more on their artistic studies, though they had a bit of a late start. They were part of the art club all 4 years there, becoming a co-president in their senior year, but they didn't take an actual art class until late junior year. Then, they were able to skip some prerequisite classes in order to take a full-year honors art course all senior year. They were inducted into their school's chapters of the National Honors Society and the National Art Honors Society. From senior year of high school to the present, they've been working part-time at a garden and floral shop.

They initially started out working primarily digitally and with oil pastel, and then in college they found a love for acrylic painting. They've always been interested in illustrating animals and are making them a deeper focus. Currently they are pursuing their AFA in Visual Arts at County College of Morris. They are planning to eventually continue their education and pursue a BFA in Illustration at Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

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