

Michael Paone was born on June 25, 2000. As a young child, Michael expressed a passion for drawing and telling stories, as well as making other people in his life laugh. His love of animation began at the age of 5, after watching many of the classic *Tom and Jerry* shorts on TV. By the age of 10, he knew that he wanted to pursue a career in animation. Over time, Michael began developing his own set of characters and created comic strips with them during his time in middle school. In 2014, his parents signed him up for Saturday drawing courses at the Joe Kubert Art School. In his four years there, he learned many new drawing skills and befriended many other kids with common interests that motivated him to keep moving forward. Michael hopes to one day work on a professional animation production, either in television or on the internet, and to eventually have enough experience to create an animated show that will entertain audiences young and old. Wherever the future takes him, Michael will continue to do his passion; making people laugh and smile with his ideas and artwork.