

# AVANI KAVYA

her/she

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A **versatile artist, published author, and engaging storyteller** who brings a unique voice across cultures and languages. Whether through the written word, deeply personal portraiture, or heartfelt musical compositions, I focus on chiseling and polishing meaningful narratives, to design culturally and linguistically woven stories that bridge audiences across borders and foster understanding through the power of storytelling.

## EXPERIENCE

### Director

Sep 2018 — PRESENT

Avani Kavya | Global (Online)

#### — Writing & Publishing

- Authoring meaningful poetry, short stories, novels, scripts, and essays.
  - *Pie Crumbs & Chocolate* was written for a 21-day challenge. Nominated for Emily Dickenson Award by publisher.
- Proofreading and editing all my own drafts in the writing and publishing process to thorough standards.
- Designing and editing my own book covers to publisher printing specifications, using Procreate.
- Screenwriting and video scripting for web series ideas and content, developing character arcs.

#### — Portraiture & Designing

- Painting personal portraits in digital watercolor (Procreate), specializing in hair texture and layering of skin undertones
- Designing witty and cultural art and slogans for t-shirts, hats, and other merchandise for print-on-demand platforms.
- Successfully pitched catchy, memorable brand names, slogans, and logo designs to 8+ entrepreneurial clients, not-for-profit organizations, event committees, and teaching institutes.

#### — Songwriting and Music

- Composed multi-part harmonies across languages and performed as contralto in show performances and choirs.
- Produced 5 original singles and 1 album for release on streaming platforms, with more lined up for release.
- Composed 14 film scores, soundtracks, ambiences, and commercial jingles for clients and student production films.
- Led an online music composing and film scoring enthusiast group of 20 collaborators and artists.

#### — Photography, Acting, and Video/TV

- Self-portrait photography, including concept planning, styling, lighting, modelling, color grading, and editing.
- Acting for theatre and self-produced music videos, with role scripting, planning, costume, lines, and self-directing.
- Video scripting, staging, shooting, editing, and subtitling for channel, social media, portfolio, or promotional.

### Project Assistant and IT Help

Sep 2018 — May 2019

Art Spark Texas | Austin, Texas, USA

- Tested and managed use and distribution of audio description equipment at live events, promoting accessibility and inclusivity between the arts and the community. Visited venues/stadiums early to pre-clear equipment with security.
- Repaired, upgraded, and set up entire device fleet for network and internet access use in classes and workshops, comprising of 10-20 donated and repurposed old laptops, netbooks, tablets, and other handheld screens.
- Assisted director and team through rebranding of organization, domain changes, and new mail marketing platform.

- Produced new scalable template in Excel for demographics data and redesigned a simpler voluntary intake form for collection of this data (as mandated for grant purposes for non-profit organizations). Trained director/grant writer in use and maintenance of this file and its associated form.
- Contributed blog posts for newsletter, including introductions and cultural perspectives in the Texas arts scene.
- Hand-painted shop signs and inspirational banners encouraging creativity and expression for art workshop attendees.
- Assisted with holiday market show with art exhibits for sale from local artists with disabilities.
  - Staged and photographed nearly 300+ individual items of jewelry and paintings for online product listings.
  - Produced original instrumental music track for marketing, fusing Christmas carols with Carnatic orchestration.
- Assisted with audio equipment and stage set-up for live music series, collaborating with Austin Public Libraries.

### IT Consultant

Jul 2009 — May 2017

Self-employed | Greater Washington DC Area, USA

- Successfully ensured smooth relocation of entire IT infrastructure for 2 client organizations, with minimal downtime. Carefully strategized, mapped, tracked, monitored, rewired, and configured IT assets for both clients for seamless continuity of systems, networks, and computerized security access systems for 100+ authorized members.
- Installed and administered networks, security patches, users, thin-clients, radios and communications equipment, operating systems, software suites, data security, official domains, email systems, servers, content management systems and blogs, and personnel records for client organizations of 10-150 members.
- Consulting and outreach to senior communities wanting explanations and lessons on social media, smart devices, wifi, tablets, cloud banking, payments, and other Gen-Y concepts and trends.
- Consulting for senior community looking to troubleshoot or upgrade their PC or electronics systems while preserving data. Often retrained and guided clients on changes to interfaces and workflow, empowering them towards independent and safe functioning in daily online errands or tasks. Successfully recovered data from corrupted hard drives, and followed up with ongoing backup and restore services.
- Entrepreneurial tasks such as managing customer relations, tracking, scheduling, invoicing, payments, etc.

### EDUCATION

University of Maryland Global Campus, USA.

Completed 85 credits towards a **BS in Psychology**.

### Honours

2023	University of Maryland Global Campus	Dean's List for Spring
2018	University of Texas at Austin	College of Liberal Arts Honors Society of Collegiate Leadership & Achievement Gamma Beta Phi National Honors Society (Top 10% of UT class) Golden Key International Honors Society Invite (Top 10% of class)
2016	University of Maryland Global Campus	Alpha Sigma Lambda (Honors)
2015		Dean's List for Spring National Society of Collegiate Scholars
2014		Dean's List for Spring
2010	Howard Community College	Dean's List for Fall Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Alpha Alpha Sigma Chapter

### LANGUAGES

- Native fluency in English and Telugu. Moderate proficiency in Hindi (self-taught).
- Learning French and Dutch (self-study).