



# THE QUARTERLY



Dova Alumni:  
ETHAN  
CANTRELL

Dova Alumni:  
TUCKER  
MARTIN

Quick Facts:  
Golden  
Ratio

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# Dova Alumni: ETHAN CANTRELL



Anyone interested in interning or volunteering at Atlanta Contemporary can visit [atlantacontemporary.org/get-involved](http://atlantacontemporary.org/get-involved).

## 1) Tell us a little about yourself!

My name is Ethan Cantrell, and I am the Events Manager at Atlanta Contemporary. I am in charge of all venue rentals as well as our video content. So, if you are in the market for an art filled wedding venue, I am your guy. However, when you work for a nonprofit you tend to wear a menagerie of hats as to accommodate for the needs of the community you serve. This allows me to learn many skills that I may not have had the opportunity to explore otherwise, such as video work. I am passionate about working with artists and assisting them in building their careers. Art has always been an important component of my life, but it was tough to find where I personally fit into that ecosystem.

## 2) Is there anything personal that you are currently working on?

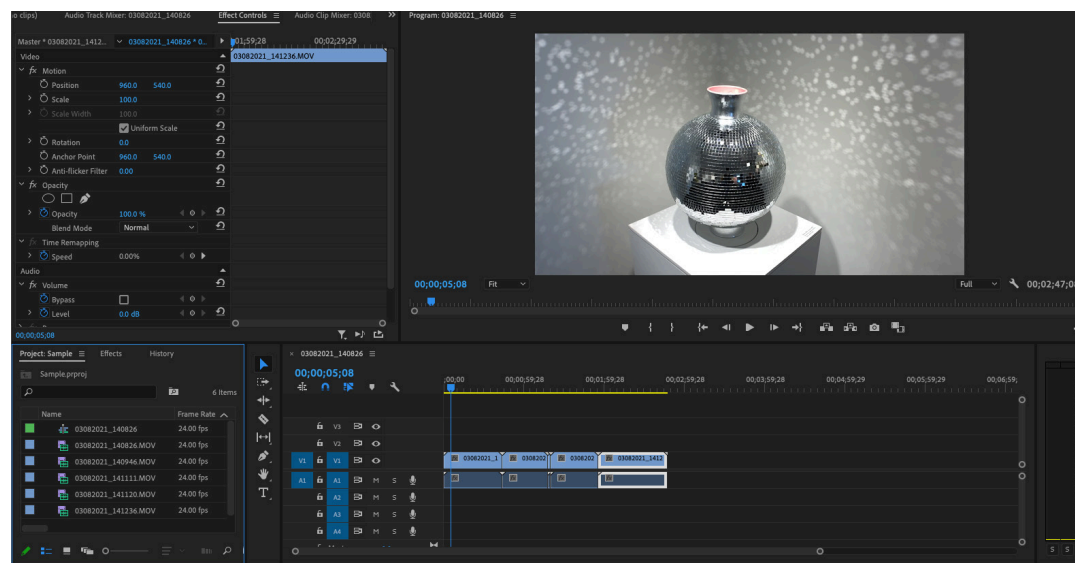
Although painting was my concentration in undergrad, I have since shifted my focus to creating archival videos on behalf of other artists. I am currently putting together a video for Wes Harvey's current exhibition on view at the University of North Georgia— Gainesville campus.

## 3) How did you react to the opportunities that were available to you?

I was very fortunate to get hired as an admissions representative at an art college the week before graduating. My plan at the time was to move up the professional ladder, marry my long term partner, and maybe even get a white picket fence while I was at it. However, things change, and I found myself single and working at a job that wasn't a good fit for me. Thankfully I was able to work a part time job and intern in the arts while I developed my next steps. That internship later became a job in a field that is close to my heart.

## 4) Do you have any advice for those who are looking for work in a similar field?

The best advice I have for anyone looking to build a career in the arts is to INTERN. Internships are a great opportunity for you to learn the internal workings of the professional art world and networking. There are many individuals who are striving to have careers in the arts, and it is your job to stand out and be memorable. Interning allows you to meet and work with those who have the careers that you want. Remember, internships are what you make of them and you get out what you put in.



# Dova Alumni: TUCKER MARTIN



## 1) What are you passionate about?

A little about me, I grew up in a family of artists (between my twin and parents, there's 2 BFAs, 2 BAs, and 1 MFA), and it's thanks to this environment that I have always had a mind for composition and the more technical aspects of what go into making the entertainment we consume in the 21st century. As that materializes in me as an artist, I'm passionate about one day being a part of a team that produces media that has as strong an impact on society as the media I consumed had on me as I grew up and decided what I wanted to do with my life. I would love to influence someone to pursue a STEM career based on a product I was able to help bring to life, or alternatively I would be proud to inspire future artists to further expand the mediums that are sure to come along in the years to come.

## 2) What was your plan after graduation?

My plan after graduation was to continue grinding out my day job, knowing it was solely a means of keeping me financially solvent while seeking the employment I had just spent years qualifying myself for, so in every practical sense nothing much changed. While obtaining my degree I looked at each project as a practice run for what post-graduation might look like. And after finally crossing the stage, I took the skills and discipline I developed along the way and used them to make what I wanted to and what I thought employers would like to see. I spent a fair amount of time looking at trends and figuring out what was currently popular in industry-related circles and worked on relatable projects so that I could ride those waves to hopefully get applicable eyes on my work. I was lucky enough to already enjoy most of these subjects, so a lack of inspiration was never an issue.

## 3) Is there anything personal that you are currently working on?

I have a couple personal projects that are in the works -- mostly hangovers from the aforementioned trendy subjects that I had built smaller projects around -- but for the most part I have placed a halt on everything for the better part of the past year simply because I'm throwing my creativity and drive into my professional work. The subject matter is very different than the personal.

## 4) Do you have any advice for those who are looking for work in a similar field?

*Compare yourself to industry veterans -- not your peers. Yes, of course you want to see what competition you're up against, but in my experience comparing yourself to people who have never landed an industry-job is either a waste of time, or only good for a simple ego boost. Compare yourself to the people who have already succeeded. It will be humbling but realizing that these are the people who actually get the jobs (and that your work has to beat them or at least match them) will show you where the bar is set professionally versus academically.*

*Make submitting applications and/or solidifying your portfolio your day-job -- full time if possible, but part-time at minimum. Spend at least 3-4 hours a day either digging through job listings/applying or focusing on building a really strong portfolio piece to help market yourself. This was a situation I approached with a "Quality AND Quantity" mindset. Sure-up the quality of your portfolio (only include your very best work -- delete that "My First \_\_\_" piece because it will only work against you), and if you haven't lost count of how many places you've applied, then you probably don't have the quantity of applications to statistically have a chance in such a competitive market.*

*Put yourself out there and apply for EVERYTHING -- even if you don't think you're qualified. If the position is for Senior Art Director for an industry-leading development studio, yeah maybe ignore that one... But if it's a position with a requirement of "5 years 3D modeling experience" then you can possibly fudge it by including your time working personally and the time spent working towards your degree. Additionally, think outside the box to find possible positions. You are not going to land your dream job on Day One, and just getting your foot in the door is always the hardest part. Find something that you can be happy with in the interim that can also be used as a stepping-stone for that dream job, then go from there.*

*Be persistent -- it is going to take a long time and require a lot of luck. Keep a running list of everything you've applied for and when you applied so that you can follow up with them on the status of your application. The unfortunate reality is that you are not likely to hear back on the majority of your applications, so doing your part and following up can demonstrate the drive and seriousness that a potential employer is looking for. Keep a list of the contact info and any dates/times that those hiring suggest you reach out to them for an update.*

Check out Tucker's work at [artstation.com/tuckermartin](http://artstation.com/tuckermartin)

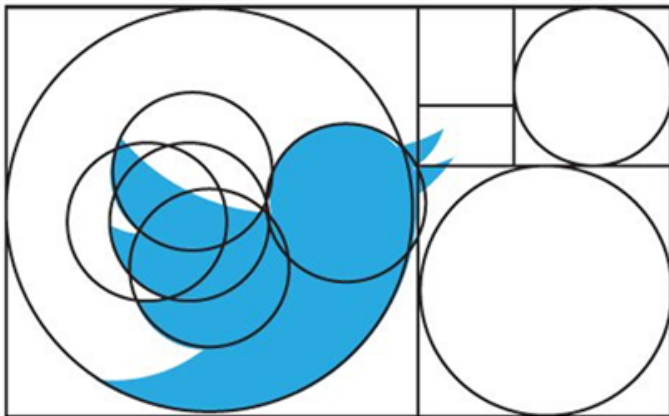


# Quick Facts: THE GOLDEN RATIO

Incorporating Golden ratio format in your designs makes it 99–100% more beautiful.

It is surprising to know that nature is full of Golden ratio. From a flower to tree, every beautiful image follows a golden ratio format which makes nature beautiful.

Using the golden ratio in your design can make your design attractive to your eyes.



## GALLERY DATES

### DAHLONEGA:

Leftovers: Photographs by  
Amber Eckersly  
Feb 22 – March 19

### GAINESVILLE:

Wesley Harvey – Stupid love  
Feb 18 – march 12

### Spring student art sale

April 12 – 23

### Meet The Staff

Reagan Barfield

Sarah Berliner

Morgan Crump

Alexa Hernandez

Anna Marshall

Minette Maldonado

Carson Negley



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