



# Johanna Rae Wyss

## ART & FOOD PROFESSIONAL

Johanna Rae Wyss is locally invested, internationally minded artist and food professional. Raised in rural Illinois, she is based in the Chicagoland area and wanders wildly. Not one to be complacent, her disciplines range wildly from sculptor, painter, airbrush specialist, set builder, makeup artist, performance artist, teacher, musician, costumer, cake decorator, food scientist, writer, and more.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### WARDROBE MANAGER, MAKEUP & SCENIC ARTIST

**Zombie Army Productions – Chicago, IL**

**September 2012 – Present**

- I work as part of a creative team that designs and produces internationally recognized haunted attractions, live events, video production, character creation, and more
- I oversee the costuming of a cast of 150+ , leading a team of five while tailoring designs to honor diverse body types and gender identities
- I collaborate with a team to build durable, cinema-grade sets and props
- I maintain high standards of sanitation while applying airbrush, hand applied, and prosthetic make-up in a fast-paced, high volume setting.

#### OWNER/CAKE ARTIST

**Battycakes Studio - Lockport, IL**

**July 2016- Present**

- I design and sell bespoke cakes on a custom order basis from my cottage bakery with an emphasis on superior sculpted and artistic elements
- I coordinate charity sales/community engagement
- I plan and execute all aspects of advertisement, website operations, ordering, finances, and licensing

#### FOOD STYLIST/CAKE DECORATING INSTRUCTOR

**Wilton Brands & The Wilton International School-Woodridge, IL**

**June 2015- January 2023**

- My daily duties included decorating and styling bakery items for product photography, working alongside props and scenic design
- As an educator I developed airbrushing and sculpting courses for the Wilton School's curriculum and taught large international groups

#### LEAD PERFORMER & TRAINER

**Smart Amusements, Sydney, Australia**

**March 2017-April 2018**

- I trained and managed a team of international performers to ensure a quality entertainment experience at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Extra care was given to redesigning makeup and wardrobe concepts.
- Job highlights included helping young people from different ethnic and linguistic backgrounds adapt to a fast paced work environment away from home.

### EDUCATION

#### BFA STUDIO ARTS

**School of the Art Institute –**

**Chicago, IL 2023 – 2027**

Projected Graduation Spring '27

#### AAS CULINARY ARTS +

#### AAS HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

**Joliet Junior College – Joliet, IL**

**2011-2016**

#### CERTIFICATE, CULTURE & CUISINE

**Yonsei University Seoul, Korea**

**2025**

#### CERTIFICATE, L'ART DU GÂTEAU

**The French Pastry School –**

**Chicago, IL 2014**

Graduated w/ honors, graduation speaker

### LANGUAGES

- English: native
- Spanish: beginner level

### SKILLS

- Airbrushing and handpainting
- Food styling
- Clay, foam, cake, chocolate, sculpting
- Sewing, textile manipulation
- Character and movement based performance
- Team leadership
- SFX Makeup Application
- Entry-level carpentry/shop skills

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Notable Achievements

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## Art Exhibitions

100 Year Road Trip Rt. 66 Public Art Project, Illinois 2026  
The Salem Gallery Featured Artist, Salem MA 2025  
Arise Art Gallery Featured Artist, Busan South Korea, Summer 2025  
Site Galleries Featured Artist, New Work Juried Exhibition, Chicago 2025  
Featured Textile Exhibitionist, SHE Art Show Joliet IL 2024  
Featured Publication, Artbash 2024  
Textile Art Feature, As Above So Below Gallery Show 2023

## Academic Grants and Awards

Point Foundation Research Grant Winner, "Summertime Spirits & Spirituality" Hokkaido Japan 2024  
Odyssey Travel Research Grant Winner, "Summertime Spirits & Spirituality" Hokkaido Japan 2024  
Palumbo Family Scholar, 2023-Present  
Business Women's Clubs Illinois Scholar, 2023-Present  
Point Foundation Disney Scholar, 2023-Present  
Chicago Scholar, School of the Art Institute Chicago 2023-2027  
Presidential Award Winner, School of the Art Institute Chicago 2023-2027  
For the Love of Chocolate Foundation Award 2013  
Illinois Restaurant Association Scholarship Award 2013

## Culinary Art Awards

Cake Masters Magazine. Featured Cake 2022  
Killer Clowns From Outer Space Movie Cast Reunion Cake Presenter 2021  
Cake Masters Magazine Featured Cake 2021  
Capital Confectioners That Takes the Cake 2nd Place Masters Level Sculpted Cake 2020  
Capital Confectioners That Takes the Cake 1st Place Advanced Level Sculpted Cake 2019  
SOFLO Cake Competition Grand Prize Sculpted Cake 2019  
Svengoolie 40th Anniversary Cake Presenter 2019  
Capital Confectioners That Takes the Cake 1st Place Advanced Level Sculpted Cake (DQ) 2018  
Capital Confectioners That Takes the Cake 3rd Place Advanced Special Techniques 2018  
Alice Cooper/Chicago Film Board Cake Presenter 2017  
Nightmare on Elm Street Cast Reunion Cake Presenter 2017  
Pastry Live Professional Cake Sculpting, 2nd place 2016  
Pastry Live Professional Cake Sculpting, 1st Place 2015  
French Pastry School Graduation Speaker, Honors 2014  
Pastry Chicago Competition Grand Prize 2013  
FCCLA State Competition Cake Decorating 1st Place 2011