

Bio

RON HUSBAND



Retired Walt Disney Animator/Illustrator
UNLV Hall of Fame Inductee

Ron Husband, a 38-year veteran of The Walt Disney Company retired as a character artist from the Walt Disney Consumer Products Division. Ron joined Walt Disney Feature Animation in 1975 as an animation trainee and worked for 30 years in that department. He holds the distinction of being the first African American animator & the first African American supervising animator for Walt Disney Studios.

Ron received his Bachelor of Art degree in 1973 from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Spring 2019 Ron will be teaching Art Center, Pasadena, CA. He has taught animation, character design and figure drawing at Laguna College of Art and Design in Laguna Beach, CA. He has conducted workshops and lectured at Xavier Univ. New Orleans, LA; Gnomon School of Visual Arts, Hollywood, CA; Mt. San Antonio, College, Walnut, CA; Cal Arts in Valencia, California; Sam Houston State Univ. Huntsville TX; Atlanta, Georgia; Ontario, Canada; Edinboro Univ., Edinboro, PA; Art Institute of California-Inland Empire, San Bernardino, CA and as far away as Mexico City, Mexico, Sydney, Australia and Tokyo, Japan.

His animation screen credits include The Hunchback of Notre Dame, The Firebird Suite segment of Fantasia 2000, and Dr. Sweet in the full-length feature, Atlantis; The Small One, The Fox and the Hound, The Black Cauldron, The Great Mouse Detective, Oliver & Company, The Little Mermaid, The Rescuers Down Under, Beauty and the Beast, Aladdin, The Lion King, Pocahontas, the re-release of Beauty and the Beast in IMAX format and Treasure Planet. Other screen credits include Loneytoons-Back in Action (Warner Bros.) The Heffalump Movie from Disney, Warner Bros. Fat Albert, The Movie and animation of the cool cat in "Opposites Attract," a Paula Abdul music video and has illustrated numerous children's books and magazines.

From 1991 to 1996, he was a featured speaker at the Black Film Makers Hall of Fame in Oakland, California.

Ron was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center at its 17th Annual African American Film Marketplace and S.E. Manley Short Film Showcase on December 10, 2010. In December 2014 Ron was the commencement speaker at the Art Institute of California-Inland Empire and Monrovia High School, Monrovia, CA (June 2017). He also designed a Neighborhood Treasure Land Mark Post cast in bronze for the city of Monrovia, CA. In April 2019 Ron was inducted into the College of Fine Arts Hall of Fame at the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

He authored a book 'Quick Sketching with Ron Husband' published in 2013 by Focal Press, Burlington, MA. In the summer of 2016, the book went international being made available in Japanese and Chinese translations for those markets in Asia. Ron illustrated a book entitled 'Steamboat School' (author Deborah Hopkinson) that was named to several 'best of' lists. The book has won numerous awards, received the 2017 Jane Addams Children's Book Award and the artwork was selected by Jury for the Original Art 2016, an Exhibition of Illustrators, New York, NY.

Ron is married to LaVonne, his high school sweetheart of 47 years and has three grown children and three grandchildren.