

DEVINA DHAWAN

West Town
Chicago, IL

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Devina Dhawan is an Engineer and Artist living in Chicago. She has spent over 11 years working as a security engineer, and simultaneously, taught herself art. Devina has picked up skills from many teachers in the calligraphy and art world through workshops - otherwise she is self-taught. Devina is extremely hard working. While thriving in Security Engineering, she participated in many exhibitions and started her own non-profit.

Education

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
B.S. Computer Science (minor in Mathematics)
Fall 2010 - Spring 2014

Vocation

Founder, [Devi-Labs](#)

Chicago, IL (Remote) — July 2020 - Present

Devi-Labs is a non-profit whose mission is to provide accessible and low-cost programming classes to local communities. We strive to educate women and gnc (gender non-conforming) folks about computer science. We have taught 62 women & gnc how to code with 5 programming classes, three of our students have started a career in tech as a direct impact of our work.

Residencies

The Digs Chicago - March 2022:October 2024

Devina enjoyed her first artist residency at The Digs Chicago in West Town. Here she worked on deepening her artistic practice in her own private studio, painting & calligraphing ceramics. She learned from her fellow residents as well as taught them a thing or two about South Asian art.

Gallery Exhibition & Notes

South Asia Institute - The Written Image - Juried, November 2024:March 2025

Paani Da Raang (ceramic teapot)
[Full Description in this document](#)

Exploration 2024 - Juried, August 2024

3 pieces selected
Maa Ganga, Love is My Education, Pani Da Raang
[Full Description in this document](#)

Pilsen Arts & Community House (A Tribe Called Chicago) - July 2024

Chasing my Dreams (painting)

Bergin Law Firm (Home) - March 2024

25 piece exhibition
[Full description in this document.](#)

Povos (Burrows) - Juried, 2023

Spellbound Love , Food is Love, The one subject I always ached - Love (2023)
[Full description in this document.](#)

Raw Edge Shop (Exhibit of Recent Collection), 2023

Royal Grocery (Blnk), 2023

Flourishing Coretta Scott King (Flourishing Feminists Collection)
Script: Flourishing Fligrie Medium: Vermillion ink on handmade indian paper

Chicago Calligraphy Collective, 2022

Splendid Women - Passage from Kamasutra
Spellbound Love - Poem by Rabindranath Tagore
Scripts: Devi-Rain (Devina's traditional Devanagari adaptation) & Flowtur (Devina's Fraktur adaptation) Medium: Gouache and watercolor on handmade papers

Dopest Art Show, 2022

Flourishing Breonna Taylor (Flourishing Feminists Collection)
Flourishing Coretta Scott King (Flourishing Feminists Collection)
Script: Flourishing Fligrie Medium: Vermillion ink on handmade indian paper

Royal Grocery (Blink), 2022

15th Century Buddha - Ceramic

Medium: Brooklyn Red Clay Bowl, inside: glazed, outside: underglaze painting on slip

Pilsen Arts & Community House (Pintura Obscura), 2019

Teenagers are just scared - Song by My Chemical Romance

Script: Fraktur Medium: gouache on black paper

Pilsen Arts & Community House (Pintura Obscura), 2018

Pendulum - Story by Edgar Allen Poe

Script: Fraktur Medium: Sumi Ink on plastic paper, and white gouache, on black paper

Etsy, 2016

How I See Women - Poem by Rupi Kaur

Script: Italian Hand Medium: Ink, watercolor, gouache, pastel on water color paper. Gilded with 24k gold.

Uncle Sam, 2015

Zen Circle

Script: Devanagiri Medium: Gouache on Handmade paper