

Amanda Putnam is an aspiring Young Adult/Middle Grade, Children's Book Illustrator who loves everything to do with Narnia, Lord of the Rings, Dungeons and Dragons, and Horses. Her work uses color in a way that reflects on how light shows us what to see. Heavy saturation, value (lights and darks), texture, and compositional uniqueness drives her work and her vision as she represents her ideas on paper. These key aspects she has gained from her educational journey as she earned her MFA in Children's Book Illustration from the Academy of Art in San Francisco in 2016. She wants her audience to look at her work and find themselves looking closer, trying to see what is 'back there,' or what may be in the grasses, or how uniquely placed a figure is that, in turn, keeps them entangled in the image. Instead of predictably staging a composition, she wants you to look farther, and around, and beyond the image that is in front of you. She hopes you stay awhile in the little worlds and stories you see in front of you.

Her current projects consist of fantasy D&D related character development and illustrations as well as developing a children's book that the amazing Jane Yolen encouraged her to write (and when Jane tells you to do something, you better listen to her!). Along with her MFA, she is an Alumni of Westfield State (Class of 2013). She has won the Emerging Artist Award presented by the R. Michelson Gallery at the New England Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators conference of 2018. Seeking publishers and agents to work with, she has no doubt that her work will be seen by many more in the coming year. You can follow her illustration journey at:

Instagram: [aputnam_illustration](#)

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Westfield State Alumni class of 2013