My name is Karla Holland. I'm a Freelance Illustrator and Graphic Designer with a growing brand online. I have a BA in Communications and earning a BFA in graphic design. I am an AIGA member, and a member of National Association of Professional Women. In addition to growing a clientele with my portfolio, I have several graphic novels posted for sale online. My long term goal is plan on build an online networking database for alternative comic artists and prospective artist in North Carolina. I made the decision to build my own Illustration and design business because although I respect Van Gogh, and Monet, I'd rather live like Walt Disney and Stan Lee. I knew I could use my talent for more than just gallery shows and exhibits.

I provide other small business owners with visual layouts for their promotional and branding material. Many of my clients have included shop owners, tax accountants, and business consultants. I, like many other creators, provide a service that cannot be reproduced by all people. My business could accentuate the businesses of others.

The days of the "starving artist" have ended. Like any professional, artists prefer to live comfortably on the fruits of their labor, and our work is labor indeed. I've rejected many prospects who either refused to pay me or verbally abused me via correspondence. I've come across copies of my work hot-linked online, leading to aggressive actions to get them removed. Social media has proven to have legal domain over all images posted, leaving my unprotected works unsafe and forcing me to leave most of them offline or in barely viewable resolutions.

To find a client who values our work is as rare as a gem, and gems are protected.

I will not be able to make a living and leave a financial foundation for my children if I do not have protection for my work. What artists and designers do for a living is no different than what musicians, actors or filmmakers or craftspeople do for a living. If they have a right to protect the value of their work, so do we.

Karla Holland
Illustrator and Designer
about.me/KarlaHolland