

# AYON WICKRAMASINGHE

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## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

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Geology student transitioning into paleontology with 12 weeks of university-affiliated Quaternary/Pleistocene field and laboratory experience at Lubbock Lake Landmark, Museum of Texas Tech University. Hands-on experience in fossil and archaeological excavation, provenience and stratigraphic documentation, GNSS and total-station surveying, matrix processing, specimen cataloging, plaster-jacket preparation, and PVAC stabilization. Brings a background in film and emerging media, professional documentation, public communication, and science communication.

## RESEARCH & FIELD EXPERIENCE

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**Volunteer Field Researcher** | Lubbock Lake Landmark, Museum of Texas Tech University |  
Lubbock, TX | May–August 2026

- Completed a 12-week university field research program across three localities involving Quaternary/Pleistocene paleontology, archaeological survey and excavation, surface survey, and laboratory processing.
- Excavated and processed Quaternary vertebrate and microfaunal material, including mammoth, bison, horse, camel, peccary, turtle, teeth, bone, shells, charcoal, and other small remains; also documented lithics and hearth features during archaeological survey.
- Maintained detailed provenience and context records for excavation units and specimens, including field numbers, coordinates, elevations, stratigraphic observations, sediment descriptions, labels, treatment records, unit notes, and daily catalog/database updates.
- Set up and operated Trimble GNSS and total-station equipment; independently established surveying equipment and used level, prism, stadia rod, and related tools to document specimen and unit positions.
- Processed sediment through matrix washing, drying, sorting, identification, and cataloging; learned to distinguish bone, rock, clay, lithics, hearth material, charcoal, shells, and other microfaunal remains.
- Constructed and documented plaster-and-burlap fossil jackets using established layering techniques; progressed to independently completing jackets later in the season and recorded coordinates, context, and preparation information.
- Stabilized fossil material using PVAC at varying concentrations and maintained treatment records; assisted with laboratory excavation of a large mammoth jacket containing a tooth and tusk, documenting material by sublevel.
- Worked directly with lead archaeologists and graduate researchers; trained newer volunteers in surveying equipment, paperwork, and field etiquette, assisted with visitor interpretation, and was trusted with independent field and camp responsibilities.

## SELECTED FIELD & LABORATORY COMPETENCIES

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Paleontology & Archaeology: fossil excavation; Quaternary/Pleistocene vertebrates and microfauna; archaeological survey; lithics; hearths/hearthstones; charcoal; specimen context and provenience; stratigraphic documentation; surface survey.

Survey & Documentation: Trimble GNSS; total station; radio; level; prism; stadia rod; coordinate and elevation measurement; field numbering; specimen labeling; unit records; catalog/database entry; progress and specimen photography.

Preparation & Laboratory: plaster-and-burlap jacketing; jacket excavation; sublevel excavation; matrix washing and sorting; specimen stabilization with PVAC; careful handling of fossil material; use of trowels, brushes, bamboo skewers, water sprayers, measuring tools, burlap and matrix bags.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Freelance Post-Production Coordinator / Videographer** | Self-employed | Los Angeles, CA | May 2021–Present

- Manage digital archives, file structures, labeling, version tracking, and retrieval of production assets while coordinating multiple long-term projects and deadlines.
- Produce and edit video content generating more than 3 million monthly views across multiple platforms; apply careful visual documentation and post-production quality control.

**Senior Game Tester** | Good Gamer Group | Culver City, CA | March 2021–Present

- Produce detailed written reports identifying defects and inconsistencies, communicate findings clearly to development teams, and support structured quality-control workflows.

**Tour Guide** | Warner Bros. | Burbank, CA | May–December 2023

- Presented information to diverse audiences, adapted explanations to visitors, and maintained positive public-facing interactions in a fast-paced environment.

**Call Representative Supervisor** | Pepperdine University | Malibu, CA | January 2022–April 2023

- Supervised a team, maintained workflow standards and records, and organized fundraising events generating more than \$1.7 million in donations.

**Custom PC Builder** | Self-employed | Los Angeles, CA | December 2023–Present

- Assemble and configure computer hardware, troubleshoot systems, and provide technical guidance requiring careful component handling and attention to detail.

## SCIENCE COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

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- Documented the 2026 Lubbock Lake Landmark field season through photography and video and offered footage and photographs to program staff for institutional use.
- Explained field methods, procedures, and program activities to visitors at the Lubbock Lake Landmark during the second field session.
- Developing an educational paleontology media project drawing on professional film, editing, and visual storytelling experience.

## EDUCATION

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**Geology Coursework** | Los Angeles Pierce College | Woodland Hills, CA | 2026–Present

- Current coursework: GEOL 001 Physical Geology; GEOL 006 Physical Geology Laboratory. Continuing coursework toward transfer and a Geology B.S., with planned completion in 2028.

**B.A., Emerging Media Production** | California State University, Northridge | Northridge, CA | May 2025

- Graduated Cum Laude; Dean's List all semesters.

## DEVELOPING RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Vertebrate paleontology; paleoecology; paleobiology and evolutionary transitions; taphonomy and fossil preservation; Quaternary paleoecology; mammalian evolution; science communication.

## TECHNICAL & PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

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Field & Laboratory: fossil excavation; specimen documentation; provenience/context; stratigraphy; GNSS surveying; total-station operation; matrix washing and sorting; plaster jacketing; fossil stabilization; cataloging; field notes; specimen labeling.

Communication & Media: videography; photography; video editing; Adobe Premiere Pro; DaVinci Resolve; public engagement; educational storytelling; digital archiving.