Student is Finalist in International Competition

Out of thousands of entries, Cogswell Digital Audio Technology senior, Daniel Codella, was selected as one of three finalists in the Electronic category in Session 1 of the 2008 John Lennon Songwriting Contest.

His entry, *Something to Exist For* — a harmonic and haunting exploration of how a relationship can change from love to indifference and the inherent anguish the process creates — is the title track of the newest album from his band, Polare.

Daniel and a childhood friend formed the band when he was 16. Since then they signed with a small Las Vegas label and released an album on iTunes called Lovestage. Polare draws crowds whenever it plays throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

“I was going for something dramatic, epic and tragic,” said Daniel. “I wanted the song to feel almost like a movie soundtrack. Hopefully listeners will be able to relate to it in some way and attach their own story to it. My goal is to compose music for film.”

The John Lennon Songwriting Contest is an international contest that began in 1997 and is open to amateur and professional songwriters. Entries are judged on originality, melody, composition and lyrics. The Executive Committee of Judges included D12, Bob Weir, Robin Gibb of the Bee Gees, The Black Eyed Peas, The Bacon Brothers, The Veronicas and John Legend.

Cogswell Mourns the Loss of Zachary Todd Cox

On Thursday, October 16, 2008, Cogswell alumnus, Zachary Todd Cox, passed away suddenly in Santa Cruz, California at the age of 32. Zach’s ready smile and enthusiasm for life will be missed by all who knew him.

Zach graduated from Homestead High School in Sunnyvale, CA in 1996. After graduation, he served a mission for the Latter-day Saints Church in Nagoya, Japan. Upon returning to the Bay Area in 1998 he enrolled in Cogswell Polytechnical College where he pursued his love of art until 2001. In his application essay he wrote, “I want to make a living doing what I love, putting animations and images on the screen that will inspire and amaze!”

Zach met his wife, Asia Bird Cox, while snowboarding in Utah in 2001. They married on March 17, 2004 in Bountiful, Utah. Zach’s motto was, “Live life to the fullest; it’s all about the ride. If not now, when?” and he lived his life in just this way. Zach loved to surf, skateboard, wakeboard, rock climb, play hockey and rock out on guitar hero. He was an amazing and talented artist, previously employed at Santa Cruz Games as the Art Director and most recently as a Senior Concept Artist at Activision/Underground Development, Foster City, CA.

Zach leaves behind his loving wife, parents Gary and Sheila Cox, sisters Tiffany Castillo Rick, Haley Earnshaw Jack and many other family and friends whom he loved more than anything.

Please visit Cogswell’s website at http://www.cogswell.edu/news/151.html to view the tributes offered by Cogswell alumni, faculty and staff. If you would like to add your own tribute to the list, please email Bonnie Phelps at bphelps@cogswell.edu.
Founders’ Day 2009 at Cogswell

Cogswell has so many great accomplishments to highlight this year that we have decided to host Founders’ Day 2009 at Cogswell rather than in San Francisco.

DATE: March 21, 2009
TIME: 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
PLACE: 1175 Bordeaux Dr, Sunnyvale, CA 94089

Visiting the campus will give you the chance to see the incredible work our students are doing including:

Project X – a professional quality, animated short film that we think is destined to win awards at a number of prestigious festivals.

Game Collaboration Class and Game Club Projects – stop by and play games created by our Game Development students.

Come and check out our new engineering lab and learn more about the work our students are doing for Boeing under the leadership of Dr. Hadi Aggoune.

Don’t miss our totally redesigned audio studios!

Make plans now to join us for this annual event!

Alumnus Supports Teacher Excellence Award

John W.G. Chin and his wife, Ginnie, continue their generous support of the Excellence in Teaching Award which they established in 2007. Each year at Cogswell’s Commencement ceremony a current faculty member is honored.

This award is to acknowledge the dedication and influence of faculty members and inspires other professors to continue to innovate in their teaching methods. The Chins also use the award to recognize a faculty member from the years in which John attended Cogswell. We are pleased to help them honor Mr. Walter Hughes who taught at Cogswell from 1947 through 1957.

Cogswell President Visits China and Japan

President Chet Haskell spent 10 days in China and Japan in October. Given the growth and international scope of the game and animation industries, his goal was to begin building relationships with companies and schools in the region. Cogswell Trustees Jun Aida, Gareh Chang, David Nieh, Michael Novak and Catherine Xu provided Dr. Haskell with support and introductions to a number of key players in the digital media arena in Shanghai, Beijing, Tokyo and Osaka.

One request repeated throughout his trip was the need for talented artists to join their firms. Companies are particularly interested in individuals with education and training received in the United States. Many Asian countries are actively recruiting at trade shows and universities in the U.S. Cogswell alumna, Chelsey Shuder (2007), interviewed with OLM Digital Inc of Japan at SIGGRAPH and was recently hired.

If you are interested in learning more about possible job opportunities in China and Japan, please email Bonnie Phelps.

Gifts to Cogswell

During these challenging economic times, your gifts are more important than ever. For more than 121 years, Cogswell has counted on its alumni to provide scholarship opportunities and funding for special initiatives. If your circumstances permit, we ask you to consider making a donation to Cogswell’s Annual Fund. You can visit www.cogswell.edu/alumniGiving or mail a check to “Development Office” at Cogswell.

Join Our E-Mail List

Sign up now for Cogswell’s monthly eNewsletter. Just visit www.cogswellalumni.com

Cogswell Polytechnical College
Ahmed Ahad (1998) owns AACreation Photography and specializes in South Asian weddings. Jamal Alyousif (1986) is the Owner and Creative Director of Artobrand in Bahrain, a company that focuses on brand and identity creation. Joseph Analla (1963) is a semi-retired electrical design consultant. He has been involved in various AE Design projects for hospitals, offices, commercial, and various other types of electrical system projects. He would like to hear from former classmates. Cogswell's Alumni Office will be happy to put you in touch with him. Reynaldo Andaya (2006) was recently promoted to Assistant Designer at Electronic Arts. Michael Batallon (1993) works at Flextronics, Inc. as the Corporate Director and Environmental Leader. His job encompasses product environmental compliance and pollution control efforts, energy conservation and climate change (involving renewable energy and carbon offsets). Eric Bermender (1997) moved back to the Bay Area when he joined ImageMovers Digital as Sr. Systems Engineer and is working on projects to prepare IT gear for the company's move to a new facility. T. Mallie Braithwaite, PMP (2000) recently joined PALM as an Engineering Program Manager. Carter Buck (1981) is a Senior Applications Engineer at PLX Technology, Inc in Sunnyvale. Thomas Chavez (1991) has moved to GuideWire Software, where he is a Sr Technical Recruiter. Carl Ching (1968) returned from military duty in Washington D.C. in August. John Chong (1982) is the Manager of Network Performance and Operations at WebEx Communications. Dorian Collier (2007) is a Senior Software Developer and Consultant at Deese. Adam Colman (2001) works for Entertainment as the Coordinator of Rights & Clearances. Angela Davis (2003) is a Web Developer/Designer at Workday. Paul Dessert (2004) just signed on as the Webmaster/New Media Manager at Soboba Casino. He is also the Owner at The Color Seven Marketing Group, and the Director at Infinite Dream Productions. Steve Downey (1984) works for Varian Medical Systems, a leading manufacturer of radiation therapy equipment, as a Manufacturing Engineer. He supports the production aspects relating to the beam shaping devices on the machines. Chris Driggell (1999) works for Sony Corporation of America as a Staff Engineer. He also owns Driggell Photography. Matt Ellison (2000) is working with Hardware Services at Sega Entertainment USA, Inc. Jacob Fieth (2007) is a QA Game Tester at Zipper Interactive. Chris Flores (2005) is working at Namco Bandi Games America Inc. as a QA Tester. Patrick Gillette (2006) left Santa Cruz Games and is now an animator at Lootive Games. Kevin Greggans (1985) is a Senior Account Executive at Verar Systems. Bryce Gunkel (2004) just joined EA Mobile as a full-time artist. Mark Hatfield (2005) has a new title at EA and is now a Technology Project Coordinator. Stephen Haynes (1995) is the COO/Systems Analyst/Project Manager of Tech Officers, LLC. John Hessler (2005) is a Freelance 3D Artist, Modeler, Animator, Texture Artist at Hessler Enterprises, Pieare Headley (2003) works at Novo Nordisk Delivery Technologies as a Software Quality Engineer. Gregory Hilton (2006) started grad school at Carnegie Mellon West where he plans to earn his masters in Software Engineering. Gurbinder Kalkat (1999) is a Technical Support Engineer at Minerva Networks. Antoinette Kirk (1993) works at Citrix Systems as a Senior Technical Writer. Rodney Kochman (1999) is Senior Equipment Maintenance Technician at Intel Corporation where he provides support for semiconductor equipment in maintenance activities and for equipment repairs and tool upgrades. Ivy Lam (2004) is a Freelance 3D Motion Graphic Artist, working with advertisement and television promo. She is also a 3D Animation/VFX grad student at Academy of Art University. Jordan Lefever (2003) is a Freelance Artist at JSL Productions where he designs everything from Album covers to storyboards. Leonardo Libiran (1997) works at HomeGain as Senior Graphic Designer. Stephanie Lostimolo (2002) is a Graphic Designer at Fairiesworlds LLC where she designs logos, posters, ads and other collateral. Joseph Madi (2000) is the Senior Solution Architect at HP Software. Tom Martinez Jr. (2005) is an Art Director at Red Rover Games in Los Angeles. He worked on Starship Troopers 3: Marauder as a Digital Effects Artist. Jeff Massoglia (1985) is the Senior Director for the Western Area Sales at Xilinx. Carlo Mastrogiacomo (1992) works for SST as a Staff Software Engineer developing firmware for flash memory controllers. James McClure (1997) left Sony Online Entertainment to head off to Colorado where he is a Senior Environment Artist at Idol Minds. Chris McGee (1998) is a Senior Artist at Pandemic Studios and is currently working on Subnautica, a next-gen game coming out in early 2020. Steve Merkel (2000) has a new title at Microsoft and is now an Operations Engineer. Amy Mihara (2008) is a 3D Modeler/Concept Artist at Mainland Gaming. She is also with Anatolia Tax & Accounting, working as Website Designer. Marc Miller (1999) is currently working on the Monsters VS Aliens film at DreamWorks. Daniel Monge (1986) is a Power & Thermal CE Manager at Cisco Systems. Daniel Monighetti (1999) is the IT Operations Manager at Pride Industries. Enrique Munoz (1996) works in the Los Angeles area at LL Digital as a Digital Artist/Lighting TD. Toby Newell (1999) is a Freelance Composer at Eden FX. Hae Nguyen (2003) is working at Serious Business as the Art Director and is "making awesome social networking games." Drayson Nowlan (1995) is President/Principal Manager at Monkey Tools LLC, a software development company that provides professional level audio production utilities with sales worldwide. Salvatore Ocampo (1998) is an Expedition Guide at AllTournaut. The company's goal is to be distinguished internationally as both the best alternative for adventure expeditions in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, and an example of sustainable recreational tourism. Russell Papy (2000) is the Design Director on God of War 3 at Sony Computer Entertainment. Melvin Patterson (1984) joined the law firm of Stephen Danz & Associates where he represents workers in discrimination, harassment, wage and hour, and other issues. Joe Peterson (1999) works at Red5 Studios as Lead Concept Artist. Jim Phillips (1990), with more than 20 years experience in design engineering and project management, founded Plan by Design earlier this year. Michael Quan (1994) works at Hitachi Data Systems as Technical Channel Manager. He empowers channel partners by providing appropriate HDS storage solutions through hardware, software, and services via product and solution training, product updates and assistance in end user meetings. Matt Ruduzz (2005) is currently a Character Artist at Morofilo Productions, where he takes part in full creation of next-gen characters for video games. Kevin Richardson (2003) in addition to his consulting business, Kevin just joined the Vacom Nickelodeon Kids and Family Games Group as a Senior Producer. Darrell Robinson (2001) left High Moon Studios and is now a Lead Animator at Sony Computer Entertainment America. Todd Robinson (2001) moved from the Academy of Art University to The Art Institute of California-San Francisco where he is the Academic Director. Scott Russell (2002) is working on Need for Speed: Underground at EA Black Box in Vancouver. George Saliba (2003) is a Technical Sales Agent at the Datalocking Company. He company distributes a private network to enable users to interact with their mobile email in a secure environment. Danny Salinas (1986) works at Nortel Networks as a Director in the Environmental and Accessibility Program. Jeff Samorano (2003) works at Entropic Studio as a designer, developer, photographer, and all around problem solver. Cipriano Saragro (2002) is a Cad/Graphics Designer at AT LAST Sportswear. Randall Shaffer (1999) left THQ for Cat Daddy Games (Take Two Interactive) where he is a Senior Environment Artist and has the chance to "work on fun, secret stuff." Chelsey Shuder (2007) arrived at SIGGRAPH armed with demo reels, resumes and a notebook so she could make appropriate follow-up. She interviewed with OLM Digital Inc. of Japan and was just hired as a CG Animator. Chelsey will be working on full-length feature films for Japan. "I can't wait to get started over there! I've always wanted to live in Japan so I'm very grateful for this opportunity (plus I get to be an animator in Japan)." She starts work on January 1, 2009. Troy Shumaker (1998) is working
working at Behr Process Corporation, Infiniti Wireless, and Coyote Point Systems as a Consultant. He also works at Ecom Enterprises, Inc. in Sunnyvale as a CTO. **Chris Sutherland (2005)** just landed a job at Rhythm & Hues where he is a bgPrep TD and doing more in the compositing side of visual effects. **Josh Talley (2001)** is a Content Specialist at Cobalt Group. He is also a Commercial Diver at Seattle Dive Company. **Victoria Teng (1996)** is the Principle Engineer at TreasureLink Inc., where she creates and invents new technical business for the company. You can also buy her design and define products at Fry’s or Best Buy. **Dave Vander Pol (2001)** is a Staff Animator at Duck Studios in Los Angeles, where he does national broadcast commercial work. **Armando Vasquez (1986)** is working at U4EA as Director Information Technology. **Matthew Verdolivo (2002)** is presently a photographer/illustrator at Affiliate in Rancho Cordova. **Daniel Weimann (2001)** lives in the Portland area and works for Thug Interactive as an Aesthetic Engineer/Senior Visual Designer. **Carl West (2004)** works for NVIDIA as the HWQA manager. **Joe West (1997)** is now an attorney in Portland. After leaving Cogswell he went to NYU Film School where he worked on the streaming media sector for a large Manhattan-based content provider and with a team that commercialized the “bullet-time” special effect for the live television market in Asia. He graduated from George Washington University law school in May of this year. **Jason White (2001)** is a Web/Graphic Designer and IT Support at Teachers’ School Supply where he creates sales and fax flyers, brochures, updates and maintains the company’s website and produces excel spreadsheet reports. **Randy Wilburn (1995)** is a Senior Blackbox Engineer at Netflix. **Bryan Williams (1987)** is a partner at Referral Santa Cruz. He is also the CEO at Avid International LLC and the VP of Business and Development at Diversity Broadband. **Bill Winterberg (2001)** is the Operations Manager at CMC Advisers, LLC. **Kaymann Woo (1987)** is now working as a Software Engineer at NVIDIA. **James Yamaoka (1999)** has moved over to Crystal Dynamics as a 3D Artist.

**In Memory**

Irma Mae Weule (1918), who may well have been the oldest survivor of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, died August 8, 2008 at the age of 109.

The caption in the 1918 yearbook lists the following activities in which Mrs. Weule participated: Representative Associated Girls 1915, Assistant Student Body Treasurer 1917, Representative Student Body 1918, Cookie Sale Committee 1918, Red Cross Manager 1918, Associated Girls’ Social Chairman 1918 and Associated Girls’ Play 1917 and 1918.

At the time of the earthquake, she was living with her parents in a portion of the Bayview district called Butchertown, an area so far out that the family kept a cow in the backyard. Her father, Louis Nonnenmann, ran a wholesale meatpacking business. The family home was large enough to have a social hall in the basement, and Mrs. Weule remembered that her father took in whole families of earthquake refugees.

She worked in the USO during World War I and married Harold Weule in 1923. He was a member of an old San Francisco family that manufactured and sold nautical instruments near the waterfront. The family was so well known that a World War II Liberty Ship was named after family member Louis Weule.