

Alumni and Friends News



Cogswell

Polytechnical College

August 2010 Issue

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UPCOMING EVENTS

10 Years of Game

Lilly Vogelesang (2009) Lectures in India



Digital Arts and Animation graduate Lilly Vogelesang, now a technical consultant for [Toon Boom Animation](#) Inc, presented a lecture and demonstration on using the company's Storyboard software to streamline and simplify the storytelling process to a crowd of student filmmakers at [SRM Sivaji Ganesan Film Institute](#) in Chennai, India.

"It saves a lot of time and money for the producers," said Vogelesang. "The trick is to get into the practice of storyboarding and rehearse each scene."

Over the years, Toon Boom has garnered multiple awards for its entire family of products. From Academy of Television Arts & Sciences to Animation Magazine, Macworld and Parents' Choice, many highly-respected organizations and magazines have recognized Toon Boom's products for their excellence and contribution to the animation industry.

The event was covered by [The Hindu newspaper](#).

Club

Stay tuned for more info!

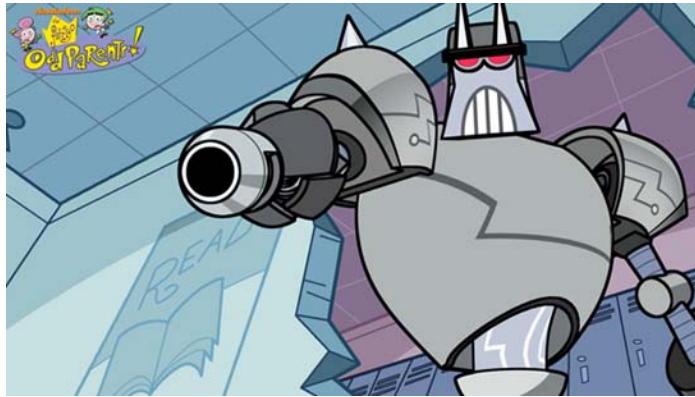
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Ernest Chan (1999) Interviewed in LightWave Newsletter



Nick Digital is in the spotlight this month as Ernest Chan, CG Supervisor in the Post Production Department, talks about how his talented team of artists uses [NewTek's LightWave 3D](#) in their production pipeline to create their outstanding work for Nickelodeon Studios in Burbank.

You might have heard of some of the characters they have worked on? SpongeBob SquarePants, The Fairly OddParents, Invader Zim, Jimmy Neutron, Avatar: The Last Airbender.

You can read the entire piece [here](#). Thanks, Ernest for mentioning Cogswell during the interview!

SunTactics Creates Solar-Powered USB Charger



Dean Sala (1993 & 2009) and his partner, Gary Heathcoat, are pleased to announce that the first product generated through the solar company they started about two years ago is now available for purchase.

The [SunTactics](#) PC5 is a powerful solar charger for iPod, iPhone, Droid, Blackberry, or anything that can charge from a USB port including DSI handheld games devices, GPS units and all sorts of USB batteries used for power backup. It is about the size of a CD case when folded.

"What makes this product different is that it is a miniature version of the high-powered solar panels you would put on your roof," said Sala. "Using high efficiency silicon solar cells, these panels produce up to 5.4 volts of power at 1.2 amps. That's over 6 watts of solar power! See if any other small solar charger can match that!"

The SunTactics PC5 can charge a dead iPhone in 3 hours using only the sun. There is no internal battery to wear out and create toxic waste. It's sturdy, reliable and built to last for many years. And - it's made in USA!

In Memory of Marion Van Noorden Class of 1929



Marion Van Noorden, long time San Mateo resident, passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Sunday July 25, 2010. Marion touched many lives in her 99 years of life with her gentle spirit and positive outlook on life. She was born and raised in San Francisco, CA. After she graduated from Cogswell High School, she worked for Otis Elevator until she married in 1934. In 1944 she and Al moved to San Mateo with their two daughters where they

bought their first home and owned and operated Thomas Alec Dry Cleaners in downtown San Mateo for 40 years. Marion still resided in the same family home until her passing and continued to enjoy traveling, music, dancing, cooking, and gardening; but most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.

During her years at Cogswell, Marion played basketball, served as Associated Girls Students President, was the office assistant for the Dean of Girls and a charming hostess for the football luncheon and 3A Tea. We will all miss her wonderful stories about Cogswell's early days and her wonderful sense of humor.



Marion (left) with Bonnie Phelps (right) at the 2010 Founder's Day at Cogswell.

SIGGRAPH 2010 Recap



Our expanded booth at Siggraph. We added the seating area and second monitor in the foreground.

We had another amazing experience at the annual [SIGGRAPH](#) conference in Los Angeles. With our expanded booth space, Cogswell was able to hold tech demos to show some behind-the-scenes on [Project X's](#) short animated film, *The Offering*.

Several times on Tuesday and Wednesday, Michael Huber (Cogswell animation faculty member and director of the film) and Dave Perry (Cogswell animation faculty member and animation director of the film), shared the process of creating this award-winning, high-quality short. Topics included the pipeline, rendering, concept design, animation and much more. Cogswell alumni and technical director Josh Cogswell also gave presentations on the complications of rigging a 6-armed goddess.

The demos were extremely popular and audiences were wowed by the level of work that our students are capable of producing. Cogswell also introduced its new bachelor and master degree programs in Entrepreneurship and Innovation and generated lots of interest.

Thank you to all of the alumni who stopped by to say hi. I'm sorry I missed a few of you but I was out visiting potential employers on the exhibit floor and job fair area. My goal is to make sure that companies know what terrific employees Cogswell graduates make. I hope you enjoyed the chance to meet a few of Cogswell's current students who volunteered to work the booth and share their enthusiasm with convention visitors. Their passion for what they do at Cogswell definitely shines through.

Here's to another successful SIGGRAPH in 2011 and the

chance to show off the next film coming out of Project X in January!



Michael Huber explains the behind-the-scenes of The Offering

The Offering Film Festival Updates

Cogswell College is pleased to announce the following:



The Offering received the Best Animation Award at the upcoming [Route 66 Film Festival](#). The Festival takes place from September 17 to 19, 2010 at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in Springfield, Illinois. Check out the award posting on the [Route 66 Facebook](#) page.



The Offering has been selected for screening at the 3rd Annual [Strasbourg International Film Festival](#) (SiFF). The festival takes place from August 20 to 27, 2010 in beautiful Strasbourg France. The festival also includes a roaming element called, "Nomadic Tendencies," where films from the festival will travel to St. Petersburg, Florida. The St. Petersburg screenings take place from September 3 to 12. The Offering will screen in one or both of these locations.



The Offering has been selected for screening at the 21st Annual [New Orleans Film Festival](#). The festival takes place from October 14 to 21, 2010.

Job Opening

Graphic Software Engineer

Designing and implementing graphics driver (D3D or DirectX or OpenGL) to support new and latest graphics technologies, hardware and operating systems in addition to supporting existing platforms and technologies.

- Writing high level design documents, developing code, participating in code reviews, troubleshooting, performance optimization, developing tools to facilitate the development and productization of new features of the graphics drivers.
- Good communication skills and ability to work well with multi site development teams.
- Strong team player, self motivated and good attitude

Minimum Requirements:

3+ years of software development experience in C/C++ directly related to development of 3D Graphics.

You must possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or preferably a Master degree in Computer Science/Engineering, Electrical Engineering or related field

Preferred Qualifications include:

- Proficient with C++ and object oriented design
- Good understanding of 3D graphics architecture,
- Strong interest & background in 3D graphics.

Contact:

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ricardamartin-espinoza@sourceright.com

Locations: Folsom, CA or Santa Clara, CA or Hillsboro, OR

Alumni Notes

Scott Church (2006) returned to his roots at [Connect For Education](#), a startup in the DC area he was at before he came to Cogswell. He will be running Sales, Marketing and Product Development. Though he will miss California and the music industry, he is happy to be a partner again in a small company. **Pat Gillette (2006)** joined **Will Christiansen (2006)** as an Animator at Griptonite Games in the Seattle area. **Bryce Gunkel (2004)** left EA Mobile and is now an Artist at Playdom. **Justin Harvey (2006)** and **Elizabeth Marzili (2006)** were married in June in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in the Redwoods near Santa Cruz.

Congratulations! **Danny Johnson (2006)** is a Designer at [Gaijin Games](#) in Santa Cruz where he is working on BIT.TRIP games. Gaijin is an independent video game development

studio founded by industry veteran Alex Neuse in 2007 (formerly with Santa Cruz Games). Gaijin Games operates in an agile development environment and creates unique gaming experiences for digital distribution. **Chelisa Loftus (2008)** was accepted into the MBA program at Pepperdine University and will start classes this fall. **Amy Mihara (2008)** is now a Render I/O Coordinator at Rhythm & Hues in Santa Monica. **Brian Nestor (2000)** is just wrapping up work on *Star Wars: The Force Unleashed II* at LucasArts. **Christian Van Meurs (2008)** has two big events taking place in his life - he just started at [Punch Entertainment](#) as a Junior Artist and is getting married in August. Congratulations! Punch is an award-winning developer of social games, iPhone/iPad games and browser-based games. Punch develops games for leading game publishers and entertainment brands. Punch also develops original games with its partners. **Michelle Washington (2007)** is a Test Associate at Microsoft. **Jeremy Welch (2008)** is a Contract Game Designer at Electronic Arts/Maxis in Emeryville.

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