

ALDA

UPDATE

Express!

Fall 2008 Edition

Celebrating
20²⁰⁰⁸
years
of
Service!

Adult
Learning Development
Association

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Learning Animation

In fifth grade we were given a project that involved simple "gif" animation. I animated a butterfly net moving along a clothesline and scooping up laundry. The results were very entertaining and I had fun in the process. I practised drawing using cartoons I like as inspiration. I didn't get into it seriously until high school as the computer technology was out of my reach. I like the fact that you can exaggerate everything and get away with it; either to move a story, prove a point or to express yourself. I had to be very meticulous in a short amount of time and the professors were hard to please. It was also invigorating because I got to take my artwork to a whole



illustration, graphic design, live film shooting, photography, video editing and even sound design. Even though I can use the skills in just about anything, the biggest reason I am not pursuing animation as a career (other than independent free-lance jobs) is because I may not always be fond of the material



new level and met some animators/filmmakers who worked on shows and movies I saw as a little girl. One of my learning challenges was getting the technical side right without sacrificing the "organic" side (e.g. making characters look too stiff). Computers also add a whole new dimension of problems as well as control. They crash regularly, backups don't always work, files get corrupted and we had to learn ways of getting around that. The great thing about learning animation is that you can do lots of things with the skills you learn. I've done



There is even a page in Richard Williams' "The Animators Survival Kit" that talks about this. I find doing animation on a freelance basis to be quite enjoyable, and intend to continue to doing my art independently. When I first came to ALDA I wasn't the most approachable person around. I wanted my confidence and optimism back, but I also wanted to find out if my employment standards were



I might be asked to animate. Many animators don't like to think of their art as a business.



Helping people with unique learning needs develop greater independence!

reasonable. ALDA has shown me how to make myself more presentable. Dress for Success was especially helpful. They provided me with something to wear on my day to day excursions. I have also received individual donations of clothes for which I am most grateful. I've even noticed better service from cab companies because of this. Another thing I



appreciated were the workshops on human rights and safety issues. No matter



what walk of life anyone is from, they deserve comfort and safety. ALDA has got me onto the right track. I feel more confident and optimistic. I have a better understanding of my barriers and know how to overcome them. One thing that has surprised a number of people is that I do in fact attend church. I regularly attend and volunteer when I can, usually in the coat check or in the daycare. Occasionally I make sandwiches for the Sandwich Project. I like to give back to the community I live in and decided to mentor at ALDA because sometimes my issues seem mundane to me compared to the difficulties that others are facing. I saw how useful this program is to those facing adversities and I want to use what I've learned to encourage future participants and let people know that even those with minimal learning difficulties and a bit of uncertainty need help now and then. My experience at ALDA was most enlightening. I learned so much about my own personality and was put at ease pretty quickly. Even the occasional reality check helped me make a positive change with help from the counsellors at ALDA.

Hannah

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at: <http://www.alda-bc.org>

BINGO!



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Gaming revenue is vital to ALDA so we can continue to provide a wide range of services for adults who have learning disabilities, but we can't do it without your help!

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Know your limit, play within it.



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can always use your input.
If you are an adult with life
experience then you qualify!**



Share what you know!

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Either one-on-one or in groups.

They gain valuable insight into how to handle the small things in life that can be so hard to master when you have a learning disability.

The impact can be very subtle...

yet tremendous!

Call 604-683-5554

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