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Red Stick International Animation Festival Releases Schedule for Fall Retrospective

The Red Stick International Animation Festival recently announced its Fall Retrospective lineup, scheduled for November 10th in downtown Baton Rouge's Shaw Center for the Arts' Manship Theatre.

Events are scheduled beginning at 1:30 PM with an Expo and EA Gamefest. The LSU Center for Computation & Technology will showcase cutting-edge technology and research in scientific visualization, mobile applications, music interaction and computation. In addition, they will have on display projects from their AVATAR program (Arts, Visualization, Advanced Technologies, and Research at LSU) and information on LSU's new digital media minor program. EA's North American Testing Center will be onsite with their latest and greatest video games, just in time for the holiday season.

From 3:30 PM - 7:00 PM, industry leaders from local companies in video game development, visual effects and animation will present informative lectures targeted to pre-professionals and students. These include:

Raymond McIntyre, Jr., Visual Effects Society award winning and Emmy nominated visual effects supervisor, and vice-president of Pixel Magic. Pixel Magic, located in Lafayette, Louisiana and Hollywood, California, provides digital visual effects for motion pictures and television. Its capabilities include a full range of visual effects services in 2-D and 3-D, including digital compositing, set extensions, wire and rig removals, digital opticals and crowd duplication. McIntyre's Fall Retrospective talk will describe what it takes to get a job in the visual effects industry, how to prepare a demo reel properly, and how to get engaged with the local visual effects industry.

Michael Gourlay, senior software engineer at Electronic Arts/software architect for the Football Sports Business Unit, and lead engineer on the famous Madden NFL game. EA, a leading global interactive entertainment software company, develops, publishes, and distributes interactive software worldwide for video game systems, personal computers, wireless devices, and the Internet. Gourlay will lecture on the overall gaming industry, how to get a job in the industry, what education including particular curriculum you need to have completed, and necessary resume building experience.

Patrick Lamont, talent acquisition specialist at Electronic Arts' North American Testing Center, or EA NATC, on LSU's south campus. EA NATC, a one-of-a-kind setup in the United States, hires LSU students as game testers to search for and report bugs they find in games currently in development. Lamont will discuss the EA NATC and what it means to be a tester.

Patrick Mulhearn, director of studio operations at Raleigh Studios Baton Rouge at the Celtic Media Centre, and president of the Louisiana Industry for Film and Entertainment trade association. Raleigh Studios Baton Rouge is the first and largest design-built studio facility operating in the South, and has played host to numerous productions including True Blood, Battle: Los Angeles, Battleship, and Twilight Saga Breaking Dawn. Mulhearn will address the local film industry, film production for the Celtic Media Centre, and how to get involved locally in the filming industry.

Stephen Loy, executive director of the Louisiana Technology Park, one of the South's premier business incubators, will provide an overview on how high-tech start-up companies can utilize the Park's resources to bring their products and services to market faster and more effectively.

Jeff Pellegrin, director of the Louisiana Digital Gaming Initiative, or LDGI, providing economic development, consulting and advisory services for Louisiana's digital media, and video game industry space. The LDGI will discuss what it is and how students can become members.

Evening activities begin at 7:30 PM with a retrospective screening of the very best films from the past six years of the Red Stick International Animation Festival. The festival will also announce its first inductee into the Louisiana Animation Hall of Excellence, William Joyce. Mr. Joyce is an Emmy-winning author, artist, and animator whose work is familiar to any parent or child. He has successfully transformed many of his books into award winning television and film projects, including "Role Polie Olie", "Meet the Robinsons" and most recently, "The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore." His production company, Moonbot Studios, has now expanded into mobile and interactive games. Their interactive eBook version of Morris Lessmore has received critical acclaim, and was #1 at Apple's App Store.

The Louisiana Animation Hall of Excellence was established by the Red Stick Festival to honor outstanding achievement in animation, visual effects and digital media by Louisiana citizens. A special screening of Mr. Joyce's most recent film, "The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore," will be shown, concluding with a end of the evening reception. Tickets are required for the evening session only, and are available at the Manship Theatre Box Office or online at <http://www.manshiptheatre.org/>.

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