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DIGIVATIONS

CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES LEARNING LAB

Fun In Point Roberts' Natural Paradise: Creating Music, Games and Robots Playing With Science, Math and Technology Weekdays, July 12-30, 2010

Student and Employment Applications Deadline is May 20

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 22, 2010

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Point Roberts, WA

As long time residents of Point Roberts, Anne & Steve Berman are bringing their creative technology learning lab, DIGIVATIONS, to the Point for three weeks in July 2010 (Monday, July 12 through Friday, July 30).

While parents pursue their busy summer schedule and vacation plans, 7-15 year olds express their creativity and passions playing with science, math and technology designing new music, digital stories, games and robots in a unique enrichment program. The program integrates the arts and sciences focusing on creative expression encompassing relevant societal themes including alternative energy/sustainability. DIGIVATIONS will enable kids to think innovatively while unleashing their technology/digital talents in a supportive classroom environment. One of DIGIVATIONS' goals is to enrich the lives of members of the Point Roberts community this summer and beyond.

This interdisciplinary arts and technology-centered program will offer experiences for more than 28 motivated and talented youth from the US and Canada. DIGIVATIONS is now accepting applications from creative and scientifically engaged young people interested in these three

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tracks: music/digital storytelling; science/engineering; and games/robotics. Prior experience in game design, music composition is not necessary, although preference will be given to students who have basic computer literacy skills and have demonstrated age appropriate proficiency in science, math, music and technology.

Allowing children the freedom to pursue other activities in the summer, students can attend half day sessions (9am - 12:30pm or 1:30pm-5pm) or have the option to attend for the full day (9am-5pm). The deadline to submit the on-line application with brief essay is May 20 and accepted applicants will be notified by June 1. DIGIVATIONS is also hiring faculty and staff from the community and abroad to help launch the Point Roberts' program in July. Contact www.digivations.com or Dr. Anne Berman at 360-319-9475 for more information.

As passionate leaders and educators rooted in many years of experience including as parents, Anne and Steve have developed DIGIVATIONS over the past 11 years with input internationally from industry, universities and K-12 schools, as well as local, state, provincial and federal government agencies. Their distinguishing methodology is based on a foundation of interdisciplinary focus, collaborative learning style, and mentoring. DIGIVATIONS will develop passions and inspire a love of learning. This means engaging conceptual and critical thinking beyond the basics coupled with creative expression and constructive risk taking in an applications based, hands-on environment.

Facilitated by internationally renown digital media professionals and scientists, teams of students will discover how creative arts, science, math and technology enable us to more successfully live, learn, change and play in the world. Basic artistic (sound and music) and scientific principles (biological, chemical and physical processes) will be explored in creative and fun ways in order to make new works, things that move and discoveries. Together, they will produce multimedia stories (text, audio, images, robotics, and interactive media, etc.) which explore global climate change and other social themes. Once a week, on Friday afternoons, parents and friends will be invited to visit Creative Learning Lab to experience the students' collaborations including inventions, games and new music in a works-in-progress setting.

Classes are divided into levels based on maturity, experience and ability, not to exceed 12 students per each 45 minute class. There will be breaks throughout the day featuring teacher facilitated outdoor game activities to encourage group bonding. There will also be time for students to explore several Point Roberts natural ecosystems (Lilly Point, beaches and wetlands). We may also schedule parent sponsored field trips to Vancouver venues, including: Vancouver Science Center, VanDusen Botanical Gardens, Grouse Mountain, UBC museums (Anthropology) and laboratories.

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DIGIVATIONS

CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES LEARNING LAB

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:

History of DIGIVATIONS:

DIGIVATIONS' was originally founded 11 years ago by principal Steven Lee Berman, to advance innovative thinking and collaboration among world class academics, industry and government leaders.

DIGIVATIONS started as a series of high level think tanks and forums held at various educational and industrial institutions to enable the best minds to focus on advancing solutions for societal problems. These issues range from community, regional and state issues to national and international challenges. These efforts led to advancements in the fields of health (advanced surgical innovations to drug discovery), agriculture (precision agriculture and crop yield), computing and digital communications, environment and the digital arts.

Most significantly, Anne and Steve became engaged and launched think tanks which worked with governments, agencies (National Academies), leading non-profit institutions and companies trying to advance solutions to empower the next generation of thinkers, creators, leaders and workers. Endemic to the problem was a determination that unless we focused on students in K-12 with a particular emphasis starting at the 5th grade level, North America and other Western Civilizations would continue to fall behind other nations. Bottom line, we simply were not educating and producing the talent which our companies and institutions needed to compete.

In consideration of the challenges faced by educators resulting from failed public policies to pressures imposed by the exponential demands of the information society, Anne and Steve began to investigate potential solutions to many of the seemingly impossible problems in educating individuals whether novice or professional. These issues became personal when they wrestled with the same issues which face all parents, how to prepare their own children to succeed in the world today and in the future.

As innovators, academics, and professionals, Anne and Steve began to develop and implement their own strategies both at home and in the classroom. Classroom experience for both has included teaching in some of the finest educational institutions in the world to serving as technology specialists in elementary, middle and high schools. Anne and Steve are

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actively involved parents in local community science, math, computer and music classes and labs, and promote the value and fun of learning through exposure to libraries, museums, and science centers (e.g. Vancouver's Science World, California's California Science Museum and Big Lab, Point Roberts Orca Center, among others) .

Core to their and DIGIVATIONS' mission is the philosophy that achievement is far beyond traditional state standards of education whether they be California, Washington or provincially in BC, Canada. In fact, DIGIVATIONS' principals believe that the pathway to success is to inspire all learners at any age to "DO THEIR BEST." This means engaging conceptual and critical thinking beyond the basics coupled with creative expression and constructive risk taking in an applications based hands-on environment.

Biographies for DIGIVATIONS Founders:

ANNE DEANE BERMAN

Co-Founder, Director of Curriculum, and Music Specialist

www.annedeaneberman.com

BM, Oberlin Conservatory of Music

MA/PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara

Anne's music has been performed in more than 75 venues in over a dozen countries and for radio and TV (including Carnegie Hall). She was most recently a Technology Specialist and Music/Technology Teacher at Southern CA elementary and high schools. Formerly Dr. Berman was on faculty at the University of British Columbia's School of Music, Iowa State University's Virtual Reality Applications Center, and UCSB.

STEVEN L. BERMAN

Co-Founder, Director of Strategic Innovation, and Math, Science & Engineering Specialist

www.sociallyinnovativegames.com

BS, Rutgers College of Engineering, Materials and Computing

JD, Yeshiva University's Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

Steven builds international education and technology consortium focused on alternative energy/sustainability and digital/interactive media, among others. He devised and implemented a consortium between BC, Canada and California which focused on infectious disease, transportation and goods movement, digital communications and alternative energy/sustainability.

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He has been and continues to be an academic and advisor to many universities in new program development and technology commercialization, serves as a consultant to a global technology translation company for which he focuses on public-private partnerships involving university and corporate technologies and is an intellectual property and creative arts attorney. Previously, he was the Executive Director for the Advanced Gaming/Transformative Media Initiative at UCLA. Formerly, he was on faculty at UCSB's Media Arts & Technology Graduate Degree Program. Some notable clients have included BC Canada's University President's Council, BC Innovation Council, Great Northern Way Consortium Campus [BCIT, Emily Carr, SFU & UBC], and BC's Ministry of Economic Development.

Together, Anne and Steve collaborate in creating immersive environments and installations designed to illuminate historical and personally impactful events driven by sound, music and narrative.

Point Roberts Schedule, Application Details and Tuition.

Allowing students the freedom to pursue other activities in the summer, DIGIVATIONS will offer two repeat class sessions per day (Morning and Afternoon) The cost is \$325 per week for a half day session or \$600 for a full day 9:00 a.m. until 5 p.m. Financial Aid is available for qualified students. DIGIVATIONS is committed to making every effort to make the experience affordable and possible for deserving students.

Ideally, students would enroll for all three weeks to take advantage of the cohesive curriculum.

DIGIVATIONS will offer two repeat class sessions per day (Morning and Afternoon):

Monday - Friday (fees are on a sliding scale based on need and early registration)

Morning (9 am-12:30 pm) \$300 per student

Afternoon (1:30 pm - 5 pm) \$300 per student

Full Day Option (9 am -4 pm) \$500 per student

A typical day: Each day, students would gather at the Lab for three 45 minute instructional classes (Science/Math track, Music track and Games/Robotics) and a 45 minute group project work period. This schedule will repeat in the afternoon.

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MORNING SESSION:

9 am GARAGE BAND sounds from nature

9:50 am SCIENCE, MATH & ENGINEERING

10:40 am ROBOTICS

11:30 am FREE LAB (individual projects)

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm LUNCH (PICK UP/DROP OFF)

AFTERNOON SESSION:

1:30 pm GARAGE BAND sounds from nature

2:20 pm SCIENCE, MATH & ENGINEERING

3:10 pm ROBOTICS

4:00 pm FREE LAB (individual projects)

5:00 pm PICK UP

The application requires that you complete online or send to DIGIVATIONS the following:

- \$25 non-refundable application fee (using pay pal on-line)
- Completed Application Form - on-line

Additionally, it is preferable that you submit the following:

- Teacher Recommendation
- Short personal statement / essay
- Submit one or two compositions or music for games on CD or as MP3 file through email. If possible, paper manuscript either hand-copied, computer-generated, or in a computer notation file can be submitted as well through email. Well conceived and designed web sites which present the materials may also be considered. The applicant's artistic, skill level and technical abilities should be demonstrated. Materials cannot be returned.
- Financial Aid Application and accompanying documents

Student's who apply by May 20 will be notified by June 1 if they will be admitted into the program. In order to benefit from the early registration discount, full tuition is due by June 20. Late registrations pay an additional \$30 per weekly session. Payment plans may be arranged. The fee covers instruction, lectures, and supervision. Student's must bring their own lunch and snacks. A separate materials fee will be charged (for robotics kits, DVDs, etc). Parent sponsored field trips will be offered at additional charge. A completed financial aid application is required to be eligible for financial aid.