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Animation Project 2012

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Mid-Project Status Report
Thinkfinity Grant 2012

Title: Animation Project 2012
Cornerstone #2 Community Outreach and Empowerment
Principle Investigator: Linda Herritt, Dyson College
Date: May 30, 2012

A. Goals
My goal is to produce a hand-drawn animation project with high school students, exposing them to simple approaches to creating an animation, and the use of digital video cameras and editing software. The resultant short film will be posted on the Pace Art Department website.

B. Progress towards goals
I contacted a number of high schools and teachers and ultimately chose to work with high school students in the Joan Mitchell Foundations summer program. This is a highly respected foundation in the art field. The participants are talented and highly motivated students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

At this point, I have focused on a subject for the project, met with the director of the Joan Mitchell program, Jose Ortiz, to work out a schedule for bringing the students to Pace (attached), and met with the two instructors from JMF that will be helping with the project. We toured the department facilities and the gallery, where a screening and reception will be held.

I interviewed students to assist with the filming and hired two Pace art students with extensive experience. I will also involve the students in my Summer 2 Painting in Watercolor class.

C. Impact on students
Fifteen high school students will participate (limited by the working space available), assisted by two paid pace assistants and up to fifteen students in my Summer 2 classes. The project should be very exciting and helpful to the high school students as they prepare portfolios for college art programs.

D. Impact on faculty
I am the only faculty member participating, but this will be an exciting project for me, and is something I can potentially incorporate into classes I teach at Pace.

E. Next steps
My next task is to purchase equipment and materials. I plan to visit B&H in June to order the video camera and dolly we will need. The traditional art supplies will be ordered through local suppliers. I meet with the Pace assistants in early July to review and test the new equipment.