

VET FEE-HELP is Here!

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Introduction

Hi Neil,

AIE is excited to announce that its Advanced Diploma of Professional Game Development has been approved for VET FEE-HELP.

Students enrolling in this course are now eligible to apply for the Australian Government's FEE-HELP loan scheme.

FEE-HELP is a loan given to eligible fee-paying students to help pay for part, or all, of their tuition fees which means that you can begin studying without paying any upfront fees. Students repay the loan to the Australian Government through the tax system once a student reaches the minimum income threshold level for repayment.



For more information, please go to our [website](#)

Industry Experience Day @ AIE Sydney

Are you thinking about a career in games development, 3D animation or visual FX? At the Industry Experience day at AIE Sydney, this is a great opportunity to learn about the:

- size and structure of the local and international games and 3D animation industries;
- Common careers and key areas of skill specialisation;
- 3D animation and game development production processes.



Students will also learn about the different pathways to get into the industry, what to include and how to best present their portfolio. To read more of this article [click here](#)

Cost: Free event

When: Thursday 16th April

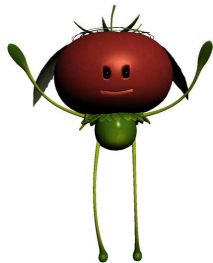
Time: 10am - 4pm

Where: AIE Sydney campus

Contact: sydney@aie.edu.au

Bookings essential

Easter School Holiday Short Courses - Sydney & Canberra



AIE is pleased to offer a range of short courses over the Easter 2009 holiday period at the Sydney & Canberra campuses.

There are courses in 3D animation, Game design & Visual FX for film for ages 10 years to 18 years.

To find out more about the holiday short course [click here](#)

Introducing our Newest Teachers at the Sydney AIE campus



Conan Bourke - Programming Teacher

As a kid Conan was an avid gamer with an imagination for creativity and fun, which spawned into an interest in modding games and the wider games. Graduating from AIE in 2003 with a Diploma of Games Development (Software Engineering) he got a job with games studio BlueTongue Entertainment. After many years and many released game titles he's returned to AIE as the Programming teacher, constantly divulging all his industry secrets and stories with passion.

Alan Maxwell - Art Teacher

Alan was interested in animation from an early age, specifically stop motion. He became involved in the film industry at age 17 and worked in Special Effects for over 12 years on countless Australian feature films, tv series and commercials. Alan was Miniature FX coordinator on "Mad Max 3 - Beyond Thunderdome". He moved into Directing, primarily working in Commercials. He has shot over seventy commercials for a diverse range of clients and brands. Alan uses his real world knowledge of camera and lighting techniques to benefit his students work in 3D.



Amy Gallan - Art Teacher

Amy is a former AIE Canberra Graduate who has been working as a freelance 3D Artist since graduating. She is currently working for Team Bondi, one of Sydney's leading games companies while teaching the part time Certificate II in Creative Industries (Media) course.

Short Courses in Melbourne in May

Melbourne campus is giving you the opportunity to learn the fundamentals in either 3D animation or games by combining forces with CAE. If you want to get to grips with the basics, find out if games or animation are your thing and start developing your portfolio in 3D or code check out:

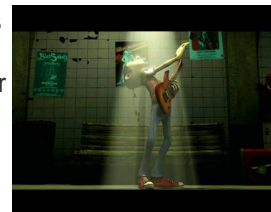
[Games Programming: An Introduction](#)

Tuesdays 6-9pm 19 May - 23 June

[Maya: Beginners](#)

Saturdays 1-4pm 9-23 May

For enrolments and enquiries please phone (03) 9652 0611



2009 BigWorld Scholarship Winners - Sydney and Canberra

The winners of the 2009 BigWorld Scholarships were announced at the end of February. The BigWorld Scholarships were offered at the Sydney and Canberra campuses at the start of this year and will subsidise the winners' tuition for the Advanced Diploma of Professional Game Development at AIE.

The Sydney BigWorld Scholarship was awarded to Michael Bell, a first year programming student and the winners of the Canberra Scholarships were Bryden Fletcher and John Welsby, both second year programming students.

To read more of this article [click here](#)



Above: Michael Bell with Simon Hayes from BigWorld, Bryden Fletcher & John Welsby with John De Margheriti, Chairman of the AIE Board.

The ABC Gets Serious About Games

ABC TV and Screen Australia have created a new initiative for the development of 3 games and the production of one game. The Serious Games Initiative provides an opportunity for emerging developers to create a game that educates, informs or raises awareness of an issue.

The AIE will be working with a number of local media professionals to head up a team of students to produce a serious game. The management team includes Lucas Li (emerging filmmaker), Lea Bartlett (Head of School AIE/Programming), Shane Trewartha (Games Industry) and Torbin Sko (Seeing Machines).



For more information on the Serious Games Initiative check out their website at www.abc.net.au/tv/seriousgames/ and watch out for more news from the AIE team.

AIE Entertains and Informs at the Big Skills

The AIE team put on a great show at Big Skills Conference which was held in Sydney from the 2nd - 5th March.

Manned by a mixed squad of students and teachers, there was a lot to do and see at the stand. Our most popular activity was the greenscreen digital postcards where delegates were digitally inserted into a scene where they fought a giant shark or braved an epic journey - inside a pig! The Mario Kart competition on the Wii also proved a winner with the crowds and created friendly competition with the other stallholders. As always the work of our students (displayed on our 4 giant plasma screens) drew a lot of attention.

Delegates were keen to investigate the courses offered at AIE and expressed their interest in the field, a great compliment given the extremely high quality of the other exhibitors.



Eddie Prickett from Team Bondi visits AIE Canberra



AIE graduate Eddie Prickett took time out to visit the students and staff at AIE Canberra. Eddie provided feedback and advice for students as well as delivering a presentation on life as a professional animator.

Eddie is currently an animation lead at Team Bondi Sydney working on the LA Noir title.

Bangladesh Delegation Visit AIE Canberra

A delegation of 13 senior government officials and industry representatives from the VET sector in Bangladesh visited the AIE on the 20th March. The visit was part of a World Bank funded project to develop a technical and vocational education and training sector in Bangladesh.

The delegation was looking at examples of best practice in vocational education in Australia.



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