

THE AMERICAN ANIMATION INSTITUTE CATALOGUE AND CLASS SCHEDULE ❖ Summer 2006

May 30-August 21, 2006

Information ❖ (818) 766-0521

Class reservations only ❖ (818) 766-7746

Sponsored by the Animation Guild
and Affiliated Optical Electronic and
Graphic Arts, Local 839 IATSE

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What is the American Animation Institute?

The American Animation Institute was founded in 1980 by The Animation Guild and Affiliated Optical Electronic and Graphic Arts, Local 839 IATSE, to further the art of the animated cartoon in the United States through educational and other activities.

Despite ongoing uncertainties of employment in the animation field, as the demand for computer skills increases, the need for basic artistic and technical training is ongoing.

To help fill the demand for trained talent, the American Animation Institute offers a wide range of classes in various art disciplines. Unlike many universities and graduate art programs, the Institute offers professional instruction in the “nuts and bolts” of screen cartooning. Our purpose is to provide a reasonably-priced education in the craft of animation, with classes taught by industry veterans who can offer “real-world” training geared to current industry conditions and demands.

What does the American Animation Institute offer?

As well as classes geared to industry professionals, the Institute offers introductory and intermediate classes for persons without previous professional experience who are seeking their first jobs in screen cartooning. Our craft classes and evening art classes runs for twelve weeks, one two-hour or three-hour session per week. Our daytime art classes run for twelve weeks, one five-hour or six-hour session (plus a half-hour lunch break) per week. Some special classes run for six to nine weeks.

All of the Institute’s classes are offered at the Animation Guild headquarters building at 4729 Lankershim Boulevard in North Hollywood, California. Our facilities include two lecture rooms, an animation work room equipped with lightboards and facilities for photographing and viewing pencil tests, and a fully-equipped studio classroom for art classes.

What are the prerequisites for taking AAI classes?

You must be eighteen years old and a high-school graduate to take AAI classes.

Is the Institute accredited? Does the Institute offer degrees or certificates?

No. Our classes are designed for people interested in animation, to augment their previous or current studies and/or experience in animation, fine arts or film. There is no curriculum of classes; students take as many classes as they wish in the areas of screen cartooning that interest them. Many students take the same classes over again to further sharpen their skills.

High-school graduates should be aware that most persons employed in this field have had some junior-college or college level art training. The Institute encourages college students to take its classes concurrently with their other studies.

Upon request, we will give letters of completion to students seeking employer reimbursement for class fees.

Will I be hired at an animation studio after I take the AAI classes?

Our classes are neither a guarantee nor a prerequisite for employment. Finding a job in animation depends entirely on skill, talent, perseverance, presentation and luck. Although many graduates of Institute classes have gone on to careers in screen cartooning, the Institute is not a placement service and cannot recommend students to specific employers; nor do we offer financial aid or housing assistance.

✓ How do the class rebates work?

Active members in good standing of the Animation Guild qualify for a rebate of \$20.00 on classes marked with a ✓ in the catalogue. In order to receive a rebate you must attend at least ten of the twelve class sessions. Rebates will be mailed within a week after the last class session.

How do I register for an AAI class?

Because of the great popularity of AAI classes and our somewhat limited facilities, most if not all of our classes are filled to capacity and closed to new enrollees at least one or two weeks before the first class session. **Do not expect to be enrolled in an AAI class if you have not followed the registration procedures exactly, especially regarding prompt payment.**

Reservations. Reservations for upcoming classes will be accepted by telephone only; reservations will not be accepted by E-mail, U. S. mail or in person. Reservations will be taken only at the dates and times listed for each class on pages 7-11.

The phone number for AAI class reservations only is:

(818) 766-7746

Reservation calls to the AAI or Guild phone lines will not be acknowledged.

***Animation Guild member reservations:** Active members of the Animation Guild may reserve classes *for themselves only* on **May 12, 2006**, from 10 am to noon or 2 pm to 3 pm. Inactive Guild members, members of other guilds or unions, and all others must reserve on the date listed for “all others”. Members who have not reserved their classes on May 12 must reserve at the non-members’ date and time. *For information on becoming an Animation Guild member, see page 12.*

When you call, be prepared to give your name and daytime telephone number. The operator will not be able to answer questions or conduct any other business when taking reservations. If you have questions, please call (818) 766-0521 before the reservation date.

After you have called to reserve a place in the class, you must pay in full by the due date to guarantee your reservation and complete the registration process. Otherwise, your reservation will be cancelled.

Once the class is full, we will take names and phone numbers for persons to be put on a waiting list. After the reservation date, you may call (818) 766-0521 to check class availability.

Payment. You are not registered for a class until and unless you have paid for it in full. Do not pay for a class until and unless you have reserved a space by the procedures above.

Except where otherwise listed, all payments for summer semester 2006 must be received at the AAI office on or before 5 pm on May 26, 2006. If your payment has not been received by the above deadline, your space will be given to the next person on the waiting list.

Payments may be made by mail, in person during office hours, or in our mailslot after hours. Payments must be accompanied by the enrolees' name, address, phone number, and the class being paid for.

Payments can be made by cash or check, made payable to the American Animation Institute or AAI; we do not accept credit cards. After office hours you can put class payments in the mail slot next to our front door.

Waiting list: After the due date for payment, any openings will be filled by persons who called during the reservation period and were put on the waiting list. We will contact persons on the waiting list in the order they called.

If you fail to follow the above procedures and do not get into a class, you will have to wait until the next semester and re-register to take the class. You must enroll through the AAI office to be accepted into a class. Teachers are not authorized to accept class payments, nor can they make exceptions to class registration or prerequisite requirements, which are not waived under any circumstances. Auditing of classes is prohibited.

Refunds: For nine-week or twelve-week classes, we will refund payments only if requested before the day of the second class session.

What other schools in southern California teach animation?

Virtually every southern California college with a fine arts and/or film production program offers animation classes. The AAI does not endorse or recommend any particular program.

The Animation World Network has the most comprehensive worldwide listings of animation schools, online at <http://schools.awn.com>.

Learning Tree University [818-882-5599] offers programs similar in structure to that of the AAI.

Among the accredited college-level programs in the area are:

Art Institute of Los Angeles (888) 646-4610

Art Institute of Orange County (888) 549-3055

California Institute Of The Arts
..... (661) 255-1050 x2242

Cal State Long Beach (562) 985-4352

Cal State Northridge..... (818) 677-2242

Chapman College (714) 997-6765

Mount San Antonio College..... (909) 594-5611

*Academy of Entertainment Technology @
Santa Monica College* (310) 434-3700

UCLA Animation Workshop (310) 206-8441

University of Southern California .. (213) 740-3986

Woodbury University (818) 767-0888

We also recommend contacting the junior colleges in your area for information on basic art classes such as life drawing.

Local schools that offer high-school-level classes in animation, cartooning and/or visual arts include:

Rowland High School (626) 965-3448 x294

Sierra Vista High School (818) 355-4908

Fairfax High School (323) 651-5200

Animation Creations (818) 501-1203

Sheldon's Art Academy (818) 489-6046

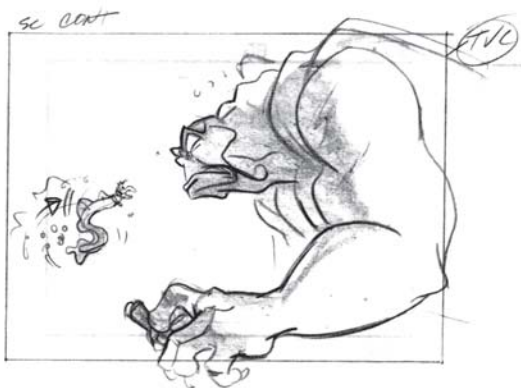
Where can I receive computer animation training?

Many artists seeking careers in computer-related fields have found our classes helpful in polishing their basic artistic and craft skills. Even with the industry emphasis on computer animation, most animation employers would rather hire a skilled and talented artist than a “computer virtuoso” lacking in basic artistic ability.

In addition to the schools listed on page 5, for further information on computer animation training in southern California contact:

<i>DH Institute of Media Arts</i>	(310) 904-1135
<i>Glendale College</i>	(818) 240-1000
<i>Gnomon School of Visual Arts</i>	(323) 466-6663
<i>Studio Arts</i>	(323) 227-8776
<i>Video Symphony</i>	(818) 557-7200
<i>Weynand Training International</i>	(818) 995-1719





THEN GETS CLOSER W/ EXCITEMENT

MOREY

— AND ALL THE GOOFY LITTLE FRIENDS?

Animation Craft Class

STORYBOARDING

Karl Gnass 36 hours

Fee: \$130.00✓

12 Wednesdays, May 31-August 16, 7 pm-10 pm

To reserve for Storyboarding, call (818) 766-7746 at the following time:

Animation Guild members*

5/12/2006, 10 am-noon or 2 pm-3 pm

All others 5/15/2006, noon-1 pm

Principals of story structure and visual storytelling for television and feature animation.

Exercises stress invention and creativity within the context of a given structure, story mechanics, continuity, staging, gag structure, character, etc.

Three storyboard assignments cover a complete range of variables a story artist might encounter.

Some understanding of visual perspective is advised.

Materials: The only materials students need to bring to the first class session are a pencil and notebook. The teacher will discuss additional materials, which may be purchased from any local art supply store.

What is the Animation Guild? How do I become a member?

The Animation Guild and Affiliated Optical Electronic and Graphic Arts, Local 839 IATSE, is a labor union representing the writers, artists, craftspersons and technicians involved in the making of animated cartoons and motion picture computer graphics. The Animation Guild administers the American Animation Institute.

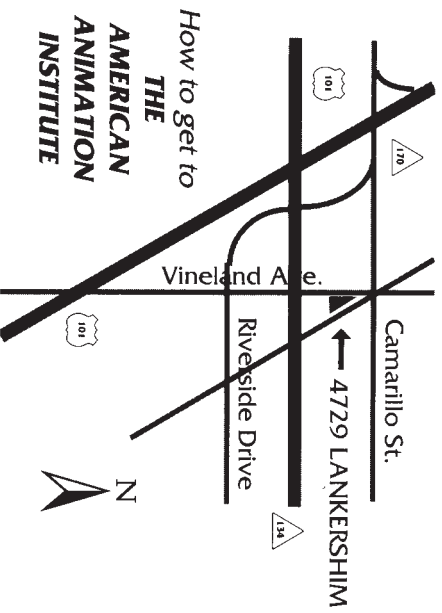
The Guild has contracts with all the major animation studios in Los Angeles County. These contracts guarantee fair wages, hours, benefits and working conditions for Guild members.

To become a member of the Guild, you must get a job with one of the studios with which the Guild has a contract. It is not necessary to join the Guild as a prerequisite for getting a job at a unionized animation studio. A list of Guild shops is available on the Guild's website at <http://www.mpsc839.org>, or you can call the Guild office for a copy.

The initiation fee is two weeks' scale wages in the job category in which you are first hired. Dues are charged quarterly. When you are hired at a Guild shop, the studio will notify us and we will send you a statement with your initial balance, representing the initiation fee and dues for the current quarter. It will not be necessary to pay the entire amount at once; we will allow you to make reasonable payments towards the balance.

For further information, contact:

**The Animation Guild Local 839 IATSE
4729 Lankershim Boulevard
North Hollywood, CA 91602-1864
phone (818) 766-7151 • fax (818) 506-4805
mpsc839@mindspring.com
<http://www.mpsc839.org>**



Hollywood Freeway North [US 101]

Exit at Vineland; right 1/2 mile to Lankershim and Camarillo; hard right 1/2 block to 4729 Lankershim.

Hollywood Freeway South [Cal 170]

Exit at Riverside Drive; left on Camarillo 1/2 mile to Lankershim and Vineland; right 1/2 block to 4729 Lankershim.

Ventura Freeway East [US 101]

Exit at Vineland; right on Riverside to second light. Left on Lankershim; 3 blocks to 4729 Lankershim.

Ventura Freeway West [Cal 134]

Exit at Lankershim Blvd.; right 2 blocks to 4729 Lankershim.

American Animation Institute
4729 Lankershim Boulevard
North Hollywood, CA 91602-1864

SUMMER 2006 CLASS SCHEDULE

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 25
North Hollywood, CA