

Olivia Shepard
Third Year Award Outcome Report
March 2022

Pandora's Holographic Box Pilot: Outcome Report

Over this school year, I developed the pilot for my original animated series concept, *Pandora's Holographic Box*. It is about a 16-year-old girl named Marney who lives on the Moon and aspires to be the next great "Evil Space Empress Overlord", but to do this, she must conquer her greatest foe yet: high school. In my original proposal, I planned to create a 5-6 minute short. My production would follow the traditional animation pipeline, including concept development, character and environment design, screenwriting, casting voice actors, recording audio, sound design and animation. The purpose of creating this pilot was to pursue a project I have been passionate about for a while as well as enhance my portfolio for graduate school programs and work opportunities.

For our awards we were asked to choose a mentor highly skilled in our discipline. I chose Professor Federico Cuatlacuatl as my mentor; he is a New Media professor and advisor within the Studio Art department. I asked him to be my mentor because he has expertise in the fields of graphic design and animation. Federico works in After Effects and Photoshop, the primary software I used to create this project. I thank Federico for his guidance in the development of my project and for his help in strengthening my animation skills.

When I first started this project last summer, I brainstormed ideas for the pilot's plot and began designing the characters. At the beginning of Fall Semester, I began meeting with Federico weekly through an independent study to develop my project. Through my mentorship I finalized the character and environment designs, as well as learned how to use Adobe After Effects. Outside of the independent study, I planned the plot of the episode and coordinated with student writer Sophie Scott to create the script. Concurrently, I auditioned a full cast of voice actors, including fellow Miller Arts Scholars Regan Borucke and Karen Zipor. Sophie completed the script at the end of October, and I began working with my cast over winter break. Around Thanksgiving I completed my storyboard and used that as the basis for my animation over Winter Break. During the Spring Semester, I worked on principal animation. Due to some unforeseen circumstances from this semester, *Pandora's Holographic Box* is still in development -- I aim to use the resources gifted to me from the Miller Arts Scholars Program to continue my project in the upcoming year. I am interested in pursuing this through independent study and for my Fourth Year Studio Art Exhibition.

I learned so much from this experience. Before this, I had only worked on character design and animation. Throughout my project I worked with environment design, creating characters for an environment, mouth-movement animation for vocal scenes, and rigging characters for motion in After Effects. I worked collaboratively with several other people within and out of the Charlottesville/UVA community to coordinate and develop the various aspects of my project. I gained practical skills in time management, organization, and communication. I grew as a leader over the course of this project and will take the knowledge and skills I gained through this experience into my other endeavors.

This was an incredible experience and I thank the Miller Arts Scholars program for granting me the opportunity to make my pilot come to fruition. I hope to share my finalized project with the Miller Arts Scholars community soon. Attached at the end of this document are

some images and links of my development of this project. Updates can be found on my website: www.oliviashepard.com

Final Expenditure	Amount
Animation/Editing Equipment	
Mac Desktop	\$1,099.99
Huion KAMVAS Pro 16 Drawing Tablet (tax included)	\$348.88
Drawing Tablet Case bag	\$41.09
Screen Protector for Huion KAMVAS 16	\$22.00
Huion Drawing Pen 10 Pack Replacement Nibs	\$8.99
USB-C to HDMI Adapter	\$18.89
Arkon TAB086-12 Heavy Duty Tablet Clamp Mount	\$37.05
Sony Noise Canceling Headphones	\$148.43
Recording Equipment	
Microphone (Daniel Zhao)	\$29.99
Microphone (Shalom Onuorah)	\$28.57
Microphone (Sadie Randall)	\$28.42
Microphone (Regan Borucke)	\$31.58
Dongle (Sadie Randall)	\$20.01
Adaptor (Tanaka)	\$7.89
Fonts/Graphics	
Creative Fabrica Font Purchase	\$4.00
Vegalia Photoshop Brush Set	\$12.00
Agile Sloth Font	\$1.00
Promotional	
Posters (NK Print Design)	\$5
Storage	
SanDisk 1TB Extreme Pro Portable SSD	\$169.99
4 TB Extreme Pro Portable SSD + Tax	\$545.43
Education	

Skillshare Subscription Purchase	\$117.52
<i>Fundamentals of Character Design</i> by 3dtotal Publishing	\$38.29
<i>Sketch Every Day</i> by Simone Grünewald	\$29.32
<i>How to Draw Black People</i> by Malik Shabazz	\$26.57
Music/Sound Effects	
"Discovery 60 Sec (Dark 1980S Synth Pop Tv Show Trailer) - P5"	\$39.00
"Electronic Stars - 80S Action Synthwave - 122 Bpm"	\$29.40
"Hologram Small Engage 27"	\$3.00
"School, High, Ambience"	\$4.99
"Christmas Loop Fireplace Light Household with Sizzle Crackle 1 Bb 127"	\$2.50
"Disco Dancing and Chic Fashion Party Alternate Background"	\$15
"Cop Siren"	\$3.00
"Synthwave Hybrid Trailer 100Bpm (No Drums) 80S Synth Action Cinematic Intro"	\$35.00
"Hey Britney"	\$15
Total Spending	\$2967.79

**Note on Expenditure:

I originally asked for \$600 to pay voice actors, however most of the voice actors that I auditioned were UVA students and so I could not pay them with the grant money. I ultimately used those funds to purchase microphones for members of my cast who did not have them during our remote recording sessions. I allocated the rest of the funds to the other parts of the project, such as storage equipment, educational materials, and music/sound effects. There was a surplus of about \$33, which I will use on future development of this project.

Media Links/Examples:

Pandora's Holographic Box -- Opening Scene: <https://www.oliviashepard.com/pandora-s-holographic-box-in-progress?pgid=l02vzh0p-f0589697-4995-469f-87e1-836ca6abcfe0>

Full Script:

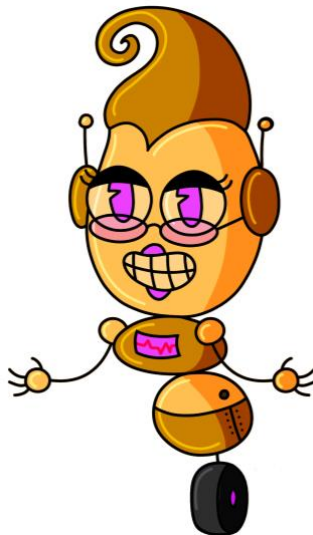
https://www.oliviashepard.com/files/ugd/b990cd_30801f25065848629fcaae20ab7e422b.pdf

Storyboard Examples:

https://static.wixstatic.com/media/b990cd_91472cbebe004fb19e654762968d4c33~mv2.jpg/v1/fitt/w_1656,h_1170,q_90/b990cd_91472cbebe004fb19e654762968d4c33~mv2.webp

https://static.wixstatic.com/media/b990cd_e03ae53151b946d6a9a79d195814fd21~mv2.png/v1/fitt/w_1656,h_1170,q_90/b990cd_e03ae53151b946d6a9a79d195814fd21~mv2.webp

Character Designs (In order from top to bottom, left to right: Devin, Tyranna, Calliope, Tino, MS-DROID, Mr. Gooper):



Images from Production (Top to Bottom, Left to Right: Title Screen, South Crater High School Ext. Shot, Marney's Notebook Closeup, Marney during Villain's Monologue Medium Closeup)

