



Graduate Profile

Peggy Shields
2006 graduate from Westwood College



Five years ago, Peggy Shields' job in the health care industry changed, taking away much of what she liked about her job. Instead of reconciling herself to a job with less and less responsibility, she decided to make a change—not an easy decision for a 40-something mother of three.

Shields knew she had some talent in creating web sites, so she jumped at the chance to earn a bachelor's degree in Web Design and Multimedia from Westwood College Online. She graduated in 2006 and now runs her own business in Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania. She has between 75 and 100 clients, not including the five new ones she landed the week we talked with her.

Her business, Projects by Peggy, (www.projectsbypeggy.com) focuses on creating web sites and web hosting for smaller companies and non-profits. So far, it's working out and her salary has nearly tripled from her days in the health care industry.



Westwood College Online

GarageGames competition

Westwood College and GarageGames recently participated in a game design competition that was open to all online gaming students. Four teams entered and spent several weeks making their games for the competition. "Noobs 'R' Us," with Brian Powell, Brett Canter, Adam Cohen, Greg Favre and Zak Higgins, took home first place. Each team member received a copy of the new Torque 3D Game Engine. Retail value—\$1,000. Their game and a review of the design process will be featured on GarageGames' web site later this year.

Torque 3D: www.garagegames.com/products/torque-3d



Campus Briefs

Dueling campuses a big charity win

Students and faculty from our two northern Virginia Westwood College campuses came together recently for some friendly competition to raise money to support breast cancer research. Chasity Melvin and Angela Taylor of the WNBA's Washington Mystics refereed the basketball game, and the second annual sporting competition between the Arlington and Annandale campuses of Westwood College resulted in a tie. All proceeds will benefit the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

Campus presidents on the move

At the Houston campus, David P. "Skip" Higley was named as its new president. He comes with 30 years experience in education from institutions such as Sullivan College, The Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale, Southern Ohio College, to name just a few.

Westwood College—Dallas Campus President Paul Kepic was recently elected as president of the Metro Area Careers Schools (MACS) in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.



On the Net

New site hits on awesome facts

Westwood graduate Steve Wiiseman, who was featured in the November issue of *The buzz*, launched a new web site—www.westwoodisawesome.com. The site is full of great content about Westwood, including videos and testimonials. Check it out.

2009 holiday card contest winners

We sent out the call to our talented student body to create this year's holiday card for both print and animation. You didn't fail us! We received over 150 submissions. A panel of judges narrowed these down to 15, and from there they were voted on by students, friends, staff and faculty.

And the winners are:

Print winner: Veronika Rivera for *Fly Away*, a mixed media on canvas. Veronika is an Interior Design student at Westwood College Online. Originally from Bratislava, Slovakia, she currently lives in Richland, North Carolina. *Fly Away* symbolizes peace, freedom and transformation in the New Year.

Animation winner: Michelle Sunny for *Window Frost*. Michelle Sunny is an Animation student at Westwood College—DuPage Campus, on track to graduate at the end of the current term. She captured the holiday spirit in her animated eCard by bringing to life the fanciful winter experience of writing messages on window frost.

See all the entries at: www.westwoodcollegecontest.com



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