STEM Careers

Special VFX Artists and Animators

Job Description: Create special effects or animations using film, video, or other electronic tools and media for use in products, such as video games, movies, music videos, and commercials. May also draw from disciplines such as pyrotechnics, chemistry, sculpture, makeup, puppetry, and mechanics.

What do Special VFX Artists and Animators do?

- Design complex graphics and animation, using creativity and computer equipment
- Create two or three-dimensional images depicting objects in motion or illustrating a process, using computer animation or modeling programs
- Make objects or characters appear lifelike by manipulating color, texture, light, shadow, and transparency
- Manipulate static images to give the illusion of motion
- Create and install special effects as required by the script, mixing chemicals and creating needed parts from wood, metal, plaster, and clay
- Convert real objects to animated objects through modeling, using techniques such as optical scanning

Your Interests:

- Are you creative?
- Are you good at drawing?
- Do you like doing work on the computer?
- Do you communicate your ideas well?

Outlook: BRIGHT

Average Salary - $37.88 hourly, $78,790 annually
Projected Job Openings – 7,800 over the next 10 years.

Education/Program of Study:

- A degree is not required but employers are looking for a portfolio of work that is good.
- Degree paths include art, animation, film, graphic design, chemistry, and other related fields.

Sources:
https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/27-1014.00
https://www.berklee.edu/careers/roles/special-effects-artist-live