



THE ALICE NEWSLETTER

LEARNING TO PROGRAM WITH ALICE

June, 2007

Volume 3, Number 5

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Hi all,

We hope you are enjoying what on the East Coast of the US is a lovely start to the summer.



Caitlin Kelleher has created a web page for downloading Storytelling Alice. Just go to:

<http://www.alice.org/kelleher/storytelling/>

and download it. She also has a short .pdf file containing instructions on how to set up scenes in her version, and illustrates some of the differences with respect to regular Alice 2.0. Especially for those of you working with younger children, you should take a look! We'd also like to congratulate Caitlin on her acceptance of an assistant professor of computer science position at Washington University of Saint Louis.



An Alice tutorial and command reference

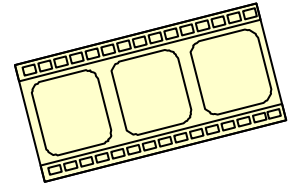
At long last, we are finally starting on the creation of a combined Alice tutorial and Command Reference. Please take a look at:

<http://www.aliceprogramming.net/Tutorials/>

We have placed a single tutorial (involving camera control) on this site. Please take a look, and let us know how you'd like us to change the style of the tutorial/command reference, as well as which topics and commands (or command options) you'd be most interested in seeing first. We are nearing completion of a tutorial on translational and rotational motion, which should be available shortly. Please send e-mail to my student Desmond

(desmondb2005@yahoo.com) and cc me (scooper@sju.edu). We'll do our best to accommodate your requests!

Results from the Alice Film Festival



Links

aliceprogramming.net
Helpful information on Teaching with Alice (course calendars, lectures, labs, assignments, exams, solutions, etc.)

alice.org
Download Alice, Alice community

visualization.sju.edu
The Center for Visualization website. Archive of past newsletters; listing of grants; useful information for users

Both the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) High School Programming Contest (HSPC) and the Alice Film Festival (AFF) web pages are now complete. The Alice Film Festival took a lot of time in converting the movies and I wanted to send this email out when everything was completed.

The Alice Film Festival web page contains all student movies in Flash, WMV, and Alice source. The web page also contains photos, videos, contest results, and a list of all participants (the "Movie Bill").

The HSPC web page contains photos, videos, contest results, and the problem set. I do not yet have the solutions up, but will let you know when they are ready.

I am sure that I have made a mistake somewhere (typos, name misspellings, etc). Please report to me any errors and I will work toward an update.

The updated Alice Film Festival website is at:

<http://www.cis.uab.edu/programs/alice-festival/>

The updated HSPC website is at:

<http://www.cis.uab.edu/programs/hspc/>

(you can find the 2007 results at

<http://www.cis.uab.edu/programs/hspc/2007/index.htm>,

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editor's note: We were especially impressed with the quality of student worlds, available from:

<http://www.cis.uab.edu/programs/alice-festival/movies/index.htm>

Do spend a few minutes and take a look!

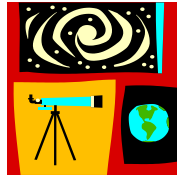
Contact Us

- Recommend a colleague to the Alice Newsletter
- Share your success stories with other users
- Upcoming events / plans using Alice
- Comments, corrections or omissions

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Alice in Wonderspace

Sorry we didn't get any pictures, but our annual Math Awareness Day (MAD), held on March 29th this year, was a great success. MAD is an outreach program put on by undergrads in our Mathematical Sciences Department where we invite 8th grade students from area schools to campus for a day of fun with mathematics. One session entitled "Alice in Wonderspace" was lead by senior Dzung "Zoom" Tran who conducted a hands-on activity using Alice. The theme of the day was Mathematics in Space and he had the students build and animate their own solar systems. He incorporated the mathematics of gravity and orbits, and although most of the students built regular planets, some had fun with orbiting bunnies, chickens, and aliens on wheels. As they left, students and their teachers were given handouts with information on Alice and the many resources available at the website.

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Regards,
Wanda and Steve