

Symposium on the Impact of Digital Media

October 10-21, 2006

NMC Campus, Second Life

The NMC is hosting a 12-day symposium on the NMC Campus in Second Life focusing on the impact of digital media on all aspects of our daily lives. At the intersection of virtual 3-D space and the "flat-web" of the browser, virtual worlds like Second Life are active settings for collaboration and socialization. The Symposium on the Impact of Digital Media will explore the ways we encounter and understand digital media -- inside such a setting.

This virtual symposium is informed by the MacArthur Foundation Series on Digital Media and Learning, a two-year project in which the NMC is helping to explore the impact of digital media on our lives in a variety of ways, and encouraging dialog among experts, visionaries, and thought leaders from around the globe. This unique event brings that dialog to the current residents of Second Life. The symposium is also a precursor to the upcoming [NMC Online Conference on Digital Media](#) (October 24-25), which will reflect on some of the same themes.

The event will run from Tuesday, October 10 through Saturday, October 21. The 12 days of activities culminate in a live presentation on the NMC Campus by Howard Rheingold, author of [SmartMobs](#), among many other books and articles, on October 21.

The singular focus of the 12-day symposium is to consider how the applications of digital media are changing our lives, and how they have impacted the ways we work, learn, collaborate, and even socialize. Recurring themes will be:

- Identity and self-image
- Credibility and the reliability of information
- Civic and social involvement
- The arts, creativity, and design
- Social networking
- Pedagogical potentials and implications

Digital media, for this event, is interpreted broadly as anything from the traditional uses of the medium for creating and sharing rich content to the explosion of blogs for self expression, and increasingly, real time interpretation of news and breaking events. Also included is the notion of shared content via sites like Flickr, YouTube, and blip.tv, social sites like FaceBook and MySpace, and more powerful content and media search tools.

A range of events and activities will take place over the twelve-day symposium, including a photo contest, panels and discussions, a running poster exhibit, and a visit from Henry VIII, just to name a few. The complete schedule appears below.

Ongoing activities

These activities will be going on continuously throughout the 12-day symposium.

- **Wiki-based Dialog on the Impact of Digital Media** Lend your voice to the discussion!
- **Video interviews and podcasts** with editors and advisors from the MacArthur Series on Digital Media and Learning (available throughout the two weeks in various locations)
- **Poster Sessions** on the Impact of Digital Media through Oct 21 (locations TBD)
- **Voices of Youth** -- winning essays from the Global Kids Essays on display in the Library
- **Digital Stories** in Boardroom through Oct 21
- **"The Art of Second Life"** — New exhibition in the Aho Museum.
- **Special links to resources** in the impact of digital media in the Brown Library
- **Library of Congress Declaration of Independence Exhibit** will be displayed as an example of using digital media to make history come alive.

Live and Featured Events

...all times are SLT (Pacific Time)...

October 10

- Welcome video from Julia Stasch, Vice President at the MacArthur Foundation -- on main screen all day.
- Thoughts on the impact of digital media on their own lives from selected editors developing volumes as part of the MacArthur Series on Digital Media and Learning -- via video on screens across campus all day.
- Wiki discussion begins

October 11

- [Global Kids in Second Life](#) a video focusing on how [Global Kids](#) is using its island in the Teen Grid to promote GK activities and the unique challenges encountered developing activities within a virtual world -- on the main screen all day
- **5:00 PM - Henry VIII visits the Malcolm Brown Library** to talk about his life and how biographers have vilified him. Come and heckle Henry during his one hour program. **Live Event**

October 12

- **Machinima Day** -- [machinima from SL](#) on screens all over campus all day
- **11:30 AM - Experiments in Acting in SL: Movement and Basic exercises.** Dan Zellner, Northwestern University. Gonick Amphitheatre **Live Event**

October 13

- **TED Talks with Sir Ken Robinson** on creativity -- on the main screen all day

October 14

- **TED Talks with Professor Hans Rosling** on [Gapminder](#), a tool he developed to chart global demographic shifts -- on main screen all day

October 15

- **5:00-7:00 PM Grand Opening of the "Art of Second Life"** the first major exhibition by our new Aho Museum Curator, Tayzia Abattoir **Live Event**
- **A video conversation with Henry Jenkins** in Jacob Hall

October 16

- [Global Kids 2006 Digital Media Essay Contest Awards Ceremony](#) video from the [Global Kids](#) Annual Youth Conference's essay contest award ceremony as well as the simultaneous award ceremony within Second Life -- on the main screen all day
- **6:00 PM - "Audio Books and Video: The Media Revolution in Libraries"** - an informal discussion led by Tom Peters and Lori Bell -- in the Malcolm Brown Library. **Live Event**

October 17

- **A video conversation with David Buckingham** -- on main screen all day
- **6:00 PM - Teacher's Buzz Session**-- the topic for this session of this ongoing NMC Campus discussion group will be the impact of digital media on education **Live Event**

October 18

- **TED Talks with Jeff Han** on human-computer interfaces -- on main screen all day
- **12:00 - 1:30 PM Simteach.com / Second Life Educators** Panel Discussion "Are We Playing Games? Finding Legitimacy in the Academy" featuring Sarah "Intellagirl" Robbins of Ball State and Aline Click of NIU. **Live Event**

October 19

- **7:00 AM - 9:15 AM Live video from the launch of the MacArthur Foundation Program on Digital Media and Learning** taking place in New York City. (Can we record this stream for later rebroadcast the same day?) See the [official invitation](#). **Live Event**
- **Featured podcast with [danah boyd](#)** on social networks.

October 20

- **11:00 AM - Announcement of [Digital Media Photo Contest](#) Winners**, Gonick Amphitheater **Live Event**
- **1:00 PM - Premiere of [Camp Global Kids](#) Camp Global Kids 2006 "The Year of the Hippo" video**. In Camp GK, 14 teens from 3 countries spent 3 hours a day, 5 days a week, for 4 weeks, learning about global issues and building a challenging maze to end child sex trafficking. Live panel discussion via NMC's streaming audio server. **Live Event**

October 21

- **11:00 AM Live Keynote with [Howard Rheingold](#)** Gonick Ampitheater
- **4:00 PM "Life on Mars?"** Troy McLuham (International Space and Flight Museum) at the NMC library **Live Event**
- **5:00 PM Concluding remarks** from Larry Johnson, CEO of the NMC. **Live Event**



The New Media Consortium (NMC) is a not-for-profit organization that connects leaders in colleges, universities, museums and advanced technology companies that are working to define and explore new ways of teaching, learning, and creative expression. Founded in 1993, NMC counts almost 200 learning organizations and a dozen visionary companies among its members, each selected for their creativity and expertise in the exploration of new ways of teaching, learning, and creative expression.

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