

## For Immediate Release

## Woodbury University's Animation Club Kicks Off 'Extracurricular' Animation Art Gallery on Leap Day

Animation Club Exhibition Opens on Feb. 29, Runs Through March 3 – Showcases Student and Faculty Work Created Outside the Classroom



LOS ANGELES (Feb.29, 2016) – Curious about what tomorrow's artists (and today's artist mentors) create when no assignment hanging in the balance -- and no one's looking? Today, Leap Day, make a date to visit the Nan Rae Gallery on the Woodbury University campus, for "Extracurricular," the Woodbury Animation Club's second annual student and faculty art gallery.

According to Animation Chair Dori Littell-Herrick, the Animation Club art gallery is an opportunity for students and faculty to display personal artwork -- drawings, figure drawings, paintings, photography, and sculpture -- created away from the dictates of a school assignment. The gallery will be open through March 3, kicking off with a reception on the night of Feb. 29. As they did in 2015, Animation Club members Emily Carson, Zare Oganesyan and Christian Alvarez have organized this year's exhibition, in cooperation with Nan Rae Gallery curator and Woodbury associate professor Patrick Nickell.

"While members of Woodbury's animation community can count on a vast array of venues and creative opportunities within the curriculum, *Extracurricular* explores how they

pursue their art on their free time, as it were," said Littell-Herrick. "The results are always compelling."

"We started this gallery to showcase the diverse talents throughout our students and faculty," said Carson, Woodbury Animation Club president. "Even though we spend the entire academic year observing and critiquing each other's school work, we often have no idea what other creative outlets our peers dabble in. We are not just animation students and professors, we are also painters, photographers, sculptors, and everything in between."

Woodbury's <u>Animation Department</u> resides within the School of Media, Culture & Design (MCD), with coursework addressing hand-drawn and digital 2D animation, 3D computer animation and stop motion animation. Animation students have an opportunity for transdisciplinary studies within MCD, working alongside cohorts in the Media Technology, Film and Game Art & Design departments.

In 2015, Woodbury's Bachelor of Fine Arts in Animation degree program ranked No. 14 among the Top 25 Animation Schools in the West and No. 45 among the Top 100 Animation Schools in the nation by Animation Career Review, an online resource for people who aspire to a career in animation; game design, development and art; graphic design; digital art; and related fields. Last year, Woodbury placed 31<sup>st</sup> among private schools and colleges nationwide, and *Animation Magazine* (animationmagazine.net) named Woodbury's Animation program to its list of the "Top 25 Schools You Should Hire From." Woodbury is accredited by the National Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) and by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

For more information, email woodburyanimationclub@gmail.com.

## **About Woodbury University**

Founded in 1884, Woodbury University is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in Southern California. With campuses in Burbank/Los Angeles and San Diego, the university offers bachelor's degrees from the School of Architecture, School of Business, School of Media, Culture & Design, and College of Transdisciplinarity, along with a Master of Business Administration, Master of Arts in Media for Social Justice, Master of Architecture (MArch), Master of Interior Architecture (MIA), Master of Science in Architecture (MSArch), Master of Leadership, and Master of Arts in Media for Social Justice. The San Diego campus offers Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture, Master of Interior Architecture and Master of Landscape Architecture degrees, as well as an MSArch degree with a concentration in Real Estate Development and Landscape + Urbanism. Woodbury ranks 15th among the nation's "25 Colleges That Add the Most Value," according to *Money Magazine* and is a 2014-2015 College of Distinction. Visit woodbury.edu for more information.

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