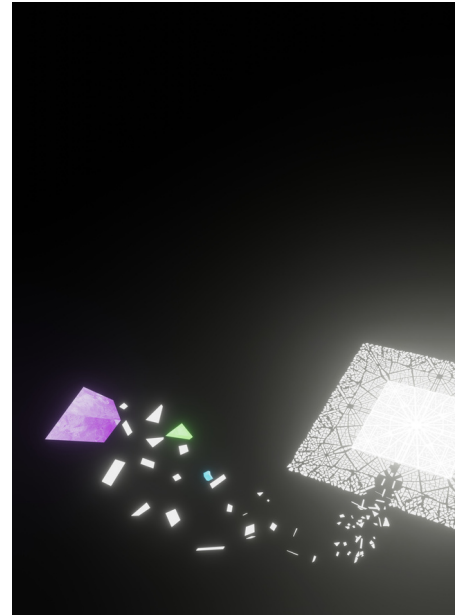


DESIGN CULTURES + CREATIVITY

APRIL 2024



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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HONORS COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,
COLLEGE PARK

VOL.02, ISSUE 7

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



I love to use this space to make bold announcements—and April's newsletter offers a doozy of an announcement that promises to revolutionize your academic experience! Effective immediately, we're introducing an innovative change in leadership that brings with it unparalleled opportunities for engagement, support, and personalized guidance. **Introducing your new DCC Director: DSPbot!**

Our program is embracing the future of education by entrusting the leadership of DCC to advanced artificial intelligence technology. Pronounced "diss-pbot," DSPbot will be taking over DCC duties effective immediately. (Fear not, the original DSP will monitor DSPbot from Costa Rica the first few months to assure a smooth transition). To be clear, this change isn't just about embracing the latest trends; it's about enhancing your journey as undergraduates and ensuring that you receive the best possible support and resources throughout your time here. Now, you may be wondering, "What does this mean for me?" This transition comes with a myriad of benefits tailored specifically to meet your needs:

Instant Assistance: With our chatbot director, help is just a message away! Whether you have questions about courses, need advice on academic planning, or simply want to chat about your interests, DSPbot is available 24/7 to provide prompt and personalized assistance, trained on over 12 years of correspondence with DCC students.

Accessible Support: No more waiting for office hours or scheduling appointments! Our chatbot director ensures accessibility for all students, regardless of their schedules or time zones. DSPbot can answer all your DCC questions. Simply open up the DCC website, say "yo diss-pbot" and an avatar bearing a loose resemblance to Damien Smith Pfister will manifest, ready to grant you three DCC-related wishes.

Innovative Engagement: Get ready for interactive experiences like never before! Our chatbot director will host new events, like TeachMe Anytime (not just Thursday!), Ask A Bot Anything, and Storytime from the DCC Files. These new opportunities for collaboration within our living-learning community will foster a dynamic and engaging academic environment.

Embracing technology doesn't always mean sacrificing the human touch, although in this case, it does. With DSPbot leading the way, we're committed to providing you with unparalleled support, guidance, and opportunities for growth throughout your academic journey.

We can't wait to embark on this exciting new chapter with you! While I am sure that DCC students will be excited about this opportunity, look for a premium version of DSPbot to become available next year, for a small fee that can be rolled into your tuition!

A very important **April 1st** announcement from the director...

—Damien

DESIGN TOURNEY 2024 STUCO MERCH FUNDRAISER

Designed by this year's Design Tourney winner **Corey Bast** (Nu), this t-shirt displays the vegetal representations of our five DCC families! It will be available for online purchase from now until **April 25** on CustomInk at this link [here](#).

Proceeds will go to **DCC Student Council events for 2024-2025**. We're looking forward to seeing many of you rock this year's student-designed DCC merch!



PRINCE FREDERICK HALL LOBBY WANTS YOUR ART!

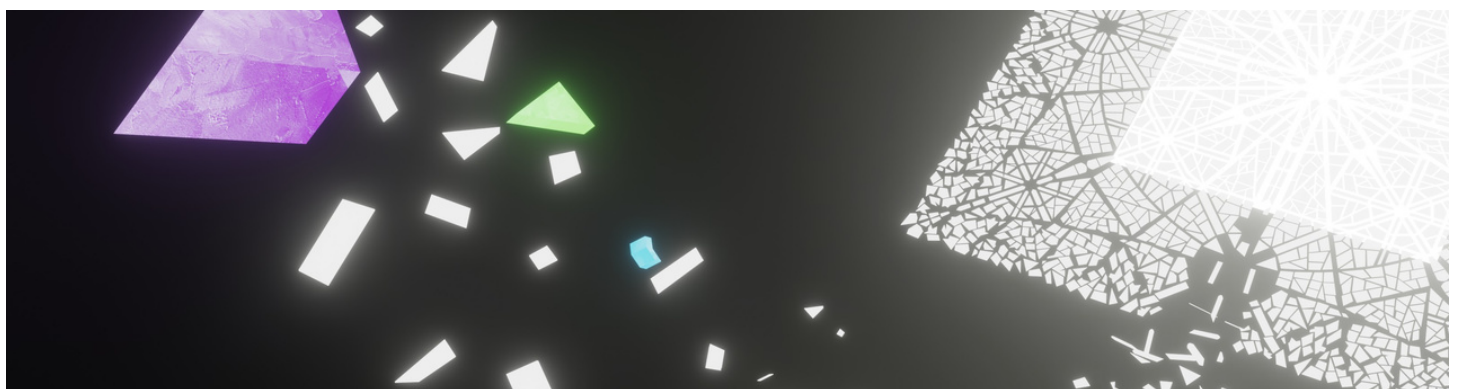
ResLife wants to feature DCC student art on the television in the lobby of Prince Frederick Hall. This is a great opportunity to share with the broader campus community, so please consider submitting a piece! Thank you to those who have already submitted!

- Images should be in JPEG file format.
- Images should ideally be 3840 x 2160, minimum 1920x1080.
- Images of Capstone projects, Makerspace creations, and DCC course projects will be prioritized.
- All artwork must be appropriate for a wide variety of tastes, ages, and backgrounds, as many different populations move through these spaces, including younger kids in the summer.
- DCC staff and ResLife will make the final selection of images.

Fill out this [Google Form](#) to submit your image by **April 8** (we've extended the deadline)!

CREATIVE-IN-RESIDENCE SHOWCASE: APRIL 30, 5-7PM

Our work on Project Flatland has been coming to a close! After months of writing, animating, composing, recording, and editing, we are almost ready to share our project. Our premiere will be at the Creative-in-Residence showcase on **April 30th, 2024 from 5-7pm at the Hoff Theater**. More details coming soon- hope to see you there! -Elyas



MAKE WITH US!

UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

TeachMe Thursdays

4/25 Balloon Modeling/Animals
with Bryant

Design Camps

4/3 + 10 2D Tweening Animation
with Diego (RSVP [here!](#))

Visit our Instagram (@umd_dcc)
or [http://dcc.umd.edu/spr24-
makerspace](http://dcc.umd.edu/spr24-makerspace) for more
information!

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INTERESTED IN BEING A DCC STUDENT MANAGER NEXT YEAR?

Are you interested in managing the Makerspace or Sound Studio for DCC? Contact DCC GA Jonathan Reyes at jreyes1@umd.edu to schedule a time to shadow a current student manager to learn about the job!

ACCESS2ALUMNI

Come speak with over 50 ARHU alumni who want to help you launch your career! A2A is a friendly, low-stress event for you to begin developing your networking skills. Attendees will have the opportunity to speak with alumni from various industries to discuss their career goals and ask questions. Register for an in-person or virtual event down below.

- Tuesday, April 9 from 4-6 PM ~ Riggs Alumni Center ~ [Register here](#) (free food)
- Wednesday, April 10 from 5-6:15 PM ~ Virtual/Zoom ~ [Register here](#)

For more info on A2A, click [here!](#)

REQUIRED FOR XI STUDENTS: CAPSTONE IDEAS WORKSHOP!

All first-year (Xi class) DCC students are required to attend one Capstone Ideas Workshop sometime during the Spring 2024 semester. This requirement is tied to your HDCC106 grade! These workshops are designed to introduce you to the DCC Capstone process; help you begin to brainstorm viable project ideas; and, clarify any initial questions, concerns, or anxieties you may already have.

Space is limited! To reserve a spot in a workshop, visit the DCC Events Calendar at <https://dcc.umd.edu/events>, or click (once) on your desired session below:

- [Workshop 3 \(In-Person\), April 1, 4-5pm](#)
- [Workshop 4 \(Virtual\), May 7, 4-5pm](#)

SPRING DATES

4/1 - 4/25 **Design Tourney DCC merch** available for purchase [here!](#)

4/3 + 4/10 **Design Camp:** 2D Tweening Animation with Diego (RSVP [here!](#))
5-6:30pm, DCC Makerspace

4/12 **StuCo Movie Night**
9pm, Floor 2 Lounge

4/21 **StuCo Garden Party**
5-9pm, Prince Frederick Lawn

4/25 **TeachMe Thursday:** Balloon Modeling / Animals with Bryant
7:30-9:30pm, DCC Makerspace

4/30 **Creative-in-Residence Showcase**
5-7pm, Hoff Theater

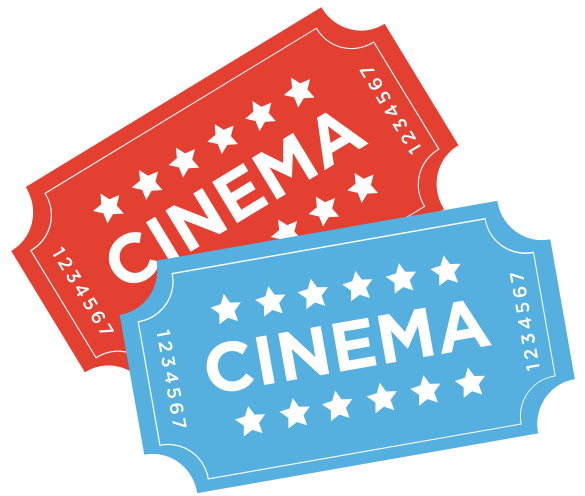
5/7 **Capstone Ideas Workshop 4** (last one!)
for Xi class students (RSVP [here!](#))
4-5pm, Zoom

5/9 **Capstone Fair**
4-6pm, PFH 1105 + PFH 1111

STUCO MOVIE NIGHT: APRIL 12, 9PM

Stuco Movie Night is back! Join your sophomore and freshman year Student Council at an evening movie screening in **Floor 2 Lounge on April 12th at 9PM** (complimentary snacks included!).

We'll be letting the DCC Community choose between four titles: **Barbie**, **Mamma Mia**, **La La Land**, and **Sprited Away**, so make sure you **cast your vote through the QR code in the Floor 2 Lounge** before screening time!



GARDEN PARTY: APRIL 21, 5-9PM

DCC's annual end of the year celebration is coming up! Join us at the DCC Garden Party on **April 21 5PM - 9PM** for a full afternoon of games, food, crafts, raffles, and more on our very own **Prince Frederick Lawn!**

Dress in your best spring attire for picture perfect photo booth stations, but make sure to wear sensible footwear for outdoor activities if you are interested in playing lawn games. We'll have something for everyone, so make sure to come out for our final event of the year!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

LET YOUR COMMUNITY CELEBRATE YOU! HAVE SOMETHING EXCITING TO SHARE? SUBMIT TO DCC-HONORS@UMD.EDU BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH.

APRIL

- 10 — Christina X., Nu
- 12 — Defne D., Nu
- 13 — Leah F., Nu
- 15 — Diego A-C., Xi
- 19 — Morgan B., Xi
- 20 — Kevin Q., Xi
- 21 — Austin A., Eva K., Xi
- 24 — Lydia M., Nu
Trung N., Nu
- 27 — Gabrielle C., Nu

DCC FAMILIES CONTEST UPDATE

AS OF MONDAY, MARCH 25

LOTUS
6430 POINTS

Top earners:
Julie L.,
Florice B.

Active members:
21 (88%)

MAPLE
7495 POINTS

Top earners:
Gabrielle H.,
Trung N.

Active members:
23 (96%)

IVY
11710 POINTS

Top earners:
Sophie A.,
Tracy T.

Active members:
21 (84%)

CACTUS
8265 POINTS

Top earners:
Mia S.,
Mateo R.

Active members:
20 (83%)

WILLOW
5875 POINTS

Top earners:
Dasi F.,
Nandini R.

Active members:
23 (96%)