



MEDIA INVITE/NEWS RELEASE

WSD Sisler CREATE students to receive personal animation technology

November 14, 2023 (Winnipeg, MB) – Winnipeg School Division (WSD) is pleased to invite media on November 16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. to École Secondaire Sisler High School when Walter Schroeder of The Schroeder Foundation and Dave Bolton of Wacom Canada will present students with Wacom Cintiq tablets. A total of 60 CREATE students will take home a Wacom drawing tablet to help enhance their education and give them a head start for their careers in the creative industries. The Cintiq 16 tablets, used for animation, drawing, motion graphics and other creative work at major television and movie studios, retail at \$1,150 each.

“These students are receiving cutting edge education, and we want them to have the tools to match the skills they are learning,” said Walter Schroeder, head and founder of The Schroeder Foundation. “This donation will help students train at an industry level, giving them a leg up in the job market or post-secondary opportunities. We are proud to continue our partnership with the CREATE program and its incredible students.”

The Schroeder Foundation has provided over \$2M in support to the CREATE program since 2019 in the form of scholarships, staffing support, equipment, industry access travel, and more. Wacom Canada has supported the program since 2020 by providing hardware, prizes, sponsorship, and industry mentors.

“We are thrilled to be enhancing our support of the CREATE program and increasing opportunities for these students,” said Dave Bolton, Director of Wacom Canada. “We have worked closely with the program for over three years, and I have been so moved by the talent and heart of these young artists. I’m proud to be able to invest in their future.”

The Schroeder Foundation will also be announcing support for students to travel to Los Angeles and Montreal to pitch their projects at Nickelodeon and REEL FX Animation. A total of 43 students will be able to travel this year thanks to support from The Schroeder Foundation, Nickelodeon Animation, and Toon Boom Animation.

“The generous support of The Schroeder Foundation, Wacom Canada and our sponsors is changing the lives of these students,” said Jamie Leduc, CREATE Department Head. “Having access to these tools and industry opportunities results directly in jobs and bright futures for young artists. Thanks to this support, we are seeing our students succeed in the industry and follow their passion. It takes a village, and ours has shown up for us time and again.”

Media are invited to attend the announcement:

November 16, 2023

10:00am

École Secondaire Sisler High School

Room 57

Please RSVP to gcollins@terrabay.ca

WSD was established in 1871 and currently has 79 schools, over 31,000 students and over 4,500 full time employees. Its purpose is to provide a learning environment that fosters the growth of each student’s potential and provide equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary for meaningful participation in a global and diverse society.

-30-

Media contact:

Radean Carter

Senior Information Officer

(204) 789-0412 or mobile (204) 771-5352 rcarter@wsd1.org