

Apoorva Kaushik

Mr. Speice

Independent Study Mentorship

13 October, 2017

### **Interview Assessment 1**

**Name of Professional:** Joey Cade

**Profession/Title:** Executive Producer

**Studio Name:** Infinite Fiction

**Date of Interview:** October 5, 2017

My first interview was conducted with Joey Cade, the executive producer at Infinite Fiction. From our meeting I was hoping to gain a better understanding of the specific skills and attribute needed to be in the animation industry. Since I am not completely sure what part of the animation industry I want to be in, I decided to ask some questions regarding specific fields. This interview also gave me the perspective of a producer who has hired people for many jobs. During this meeting I also spoke to David Gaitan the creative director at Infinite Fiction who had more information regarding skills need to be in the animation industry.

From this interview I learned the importance of being a good communicator and being flexible when working on projects. Since Infinite Fiction is a studio that works on commercials they need people who are generalists and can work in many areas of the animation pipeline. On the other hand a studio that works on feature films will have people who specialize very heavily

in one area. Ms.Cade emphasized that when hiring she looked for people who were flexible and could work in multiple areas and were flexible when being moved between projects. She also mentioned that people had to be able to communicate as she had worked with people who had amazing technical skill, but did not communicate their ideas with her. From this I was able to have a better understanding of the soft skills that employers are looking for when they hire people.

In addition to gaining an understanding of the soft skills that producers look for I was also able to understand the technical skills creative directors look for. Mr. Gaitan mentioned that in a studio that makes commercials people need to be able to do multiple jobs and takeover for someone if they are gone. This ability is critical in this type of studio because they have a short amount of time to get something completed so people have to be able to complete many types of tasks. However, in a larger studio that makes feature length films and video games people tend to be specialist in a specific skillset rather than being generalist. Both Mr Gaitan and Ms.Cade said that they look for a good portfolio and demo reel over a degree from a prestigious university. Additionally, they said that they prefer short demo reels that show many skillsets and styles so that they know the full abilities of a person.

The most interesting part of my meeting with Ms.Cade and Mr. Gaitan was discussing how to decide what area of the pipeline to get into and how to improve my skills in various areas. Mr. Gaitan said to try working in many areas such as modeling, animation,lighting, and simulations. He then went on to say that I should try to specialize in what I find myself thinking about the most when working in a different areas. For example, if I was animating a scene and thinking about how I would have liked to model parts of the scene I should focus more on

modeling. He also said that the best way to learn new skills is to work through many tutorials that are related to the many specialties of the animation pipeline such as doing tutorials on modeling, animation and simulation rather than only working through tutorials on one topic. This will allow me to learn many skills so that I can determine which I like most and explore that in more depth. In addition to working through tutorials I will have to practice the skills I learn in order to get faster and improve the quality of my work.

Overall this interview was very informative and I was able to learn a lot about the animation industry. This was also a good starting point as I gained a lot of general information regarding the skills and qualities needed to enter the animation industry. In addition the information I learned about how to improve my skills in various areas was very informative and will be critical to achieving my goals. This information will allow me to achieve my goals in the future even as I grow to have more ambitious ideas.

## Infinite Fiction Interview Notes

1. What skills are most important for animators? Fine arts, principles of animation or technology?
  - a. All animators should understand their principles and should have the ability to do rough thumbnail sketches. This will help quality of work and allow you to plan out their animation.
  - b. Also helpful to know some basics in technology if in modeling or texturing etc. Try to know Python if you are working as a technical person. In character animation less skill with technology is needed.
2. What advice do you have for someone who wants to enter the animation industry?
  - a. Have a focus on demo reel rather than a degree from prestigious school. Demo reel should show a wide skill set and also be rather short. Also have an updated demo reel with latest work.
  - b. Have a good ability to communicate and be flexible when moving between projects and tasks.
3. What would you suggest someone do to improve modeling or animation skills?
  - a. Work through many tutorials and practice to refine skills and have a better quality of work.
4. Have you worked in other areas of the animation pipeline such as modeling, lighting or rigging?
  - a. Worked in many areas in a commercial based studio since people are generalists rather than specialists. Specialists are usually in a studio that makes feature length films.
5. What softwares are used by this studio? Do they include Maya, Zbrush or Photoshop?
  - a. Cinema 4D, Nuke for compositing, and Arnold to render
6. How closely do you work with other departments of this studio and how does this affect the product that is created?
  - a. Need to have an understanding of what the other departments do so that you can understand what you need to do to make the process efficient.
7. As an animator how did you refine your understanding of the 12 principles of animation?
  - a. Using tutorials and practicing the principle while working on various projects will improve skill. Do tutorials on many topics so that your skillset is wider and you understand many aspects of pipeline.

Rubric rating submitted on: 11/9/2017, 7:10:13 PM by speicee@friscoisd.org

	10	8	5	0
Understanding Your score: 10	Thoroughly describes and paraphrases the information. Thoroughly answers the question "What did you learn?"	Adequately describes and paraphrases the information. Adequately answers the question "What did you learn?"	Somewhat describes and paraphrases the information. Somewhat answers the question "What did you learn?"	Does not describe paraphrase the information. Does not answer the question "What did you learn?"
Applying Your score: 10	Thoroughly applies and illustrates the information. Thoroughly answers the following questions: "Why is this information relevant to you, your learning, your topic, and your ISM journey?"	Adequately applies and illustrates the information. Adequately answers the following questions: "Why is this information relevant to you, your learning, your topic, and your ISM journey?"	Somewhat applies and illustrates the information. Somewhat answers the following questions: "Why is this information relevant to you, your learning, your topic, and your ISM journey?"	Does not apply and/or illustrate the information. Does not answer the following questions: "Why is this information relevant to you, your learning, your topic, and your ISM journey?"
Analyzing Your score: 10	Thoroughly analyzes, examines, and breaks down the information. Thoroughly answers the questions: What are the key parts of this information? How can it be classified? Thoroughly connects to prior knowledge and thoroughly explains whether or not the information changed or modified prior knowledge	Adequately analyzes, examines, and breaks down the information. Adequately answers the questions: What are the key parts of this information? How can it be classified? Adequately connects to prior knowledge and thoroughly explains whether or not the information changed or modified prior knowledge	Somewhat analyzes, examines, and breaks down the information. Somewhat answers the questions: What are the key parts of this information? How can it be classified? Somewhat connects to prior knowledge and thoroughly explains whether or not the information changed or modified prior knowledge	Does not analyze, examine, and break down the information. Does not answer the questions: What are the key parts of this information? How can it be classified? Does not connect to prior knowledge and does not explain whether or not the information changed or modified prior knowledge
Synthesizing Your score: 10	Thoroughly synthesizes prior knowledge with	Adequately synthesizes prior knowledge with	Somewhat synthesizes prior knowledge with	Does not synthesize prior knowledge with new learning to

	<p>new learning to demonstrate continuous growth of knowledge. Thoroughly answers the questions: How can I combine this new knowledge with my prior knowledge in order to facilitate continuous growth? How can I combine all of this information to create a plan to develop my original work?</p>	<p>new learning to demonstrate continuous growth of knowledge. Adequately answers the questions: How can I combine this new knowledge with my prior knowledge in order to facilitate continuous growth? How can I combine all of this information to create a plan to develop my original work?</p>	<p>new learning to demonstrate continuous growth of knowledge. Somewhat answers the questions: How can I combine this new knowledge with my prior knowledge in order to facilitate continuous growth? How can I combine all of this information to create a plan to develop my original work?</p>	<p>demonstrate continuous growth of knowledge. Does not answer the questions: How can I combine this new knowledge with my prior knowledge in order to facilitate continuous growth? How can I combine all of this information to create a plan to develop my original work?</p>
<p>Evaluating Your score: 8</p>	<p>Thoroughly judges/appraises the information. Thoroughly answers the questions: Was this new knowledge effective in helping me achieve my goals? Was this new knowledge helpful, surprising, encouraging, discouraging, motivating, disagreeable, controversial?</p>	<p>Adequately judges/appraises the information. Adequately answers the questions: Was this new knowledge effective in helping me achieve my goals? Was this new knowledge helpful, surprising, encouraging, discouraging, motivating, disagreeable, controversial?</p>	<p>Somewhat judges/appraises the information. Somewhat answers the questions: Was this new knowledge effective in helping me achieve my goals? Was this new knowledge helpful, surprising, encouraging, discouraging, motivating, disagreeable, controversial?</p>	<p>Does not judge/appraise the information. Does not answer the questions: Was this new knowledge effective in helping me achieve my goals? Was this new knowledge helpful, surprising, encouraging, discouraging, motivating, disagreeable, controversial?</p>
<p>Creating Your score: 8</p>	<p>Demonstrates a clear, detailed, and well-thought-out plan describing what you will do with/as a result of this new learning. Thoroughly answers the questions: How can I blend this new knowledge with</p>	<p>Demonstrates a clear and well-thought-out plan describing what you will do with/as a result of this new learning. Adequately answers the questions: How can I blend this new knowledge with</p>	<p>Demonstrates a somewhat clear and well-thought-out plan describing what you will do with/as a result of this new learning. Somewhat answers the questions: How can I blend this new knowledge with</p>	<p>Does not demonstrate an acceptable plan describing what you will do with/as a result of this new learning. Does not adequately answer the questions: How can I blend this new knowledge with</p>

	previous knowledge to create new ideas? What new questions have arisen as a result of this new information.	previous knowledge to create new ideas? What new questions have arisen as a result of this new information.	previous knowledge to create new ideas? What new questions have arisen as a result of this new information.	previous knowledge to create new ideas? What new questions have arisen as a result of this new information.
Evidence of Proofreading Your score: 10	No grammatical, spelling, or usage errors.	Very few grammatical, spelling, or usage errors.	Too many grammatical, spelling, or usage errors.	Enough grammatical, spelling, or usage errors that the assessment is borderline incomprehensible.
Proper Heading/Format Your score: 10	All requirements met	Most requirements met	Some requirements met	Few or none of the requirements met.
Professional Tone Your score: 10	Entirety of assessment is written in the appropriate professional tone.	Most of assessment is written in the appropriate professional tone.	Some of assessment is written in the appropriate professional tone.	None of assessment is written in the appropriate professional tone.
Annotated Article Your score: 10	Thoroughly annotated article submitted with assignment	Adequately annotated article submitted with assignment	Somewhat annotated article submitted with assignment	No annotated article submitted with assignment

Comments: