

Title of Session: Next Vista for Learning: Turning Pictures Into Movies

Moderator: Rushton Hurley

Title of File: 20061102nextvista

Date: November 2, 2006

Room: Next Vista Group

RushtonH: Hi folks! We've already got a good group here! Hey Fred!

BJB2: We usually start all the Tapped In discussions with introductions.

BJB2: Please tell us where you are located and what brings you to the discussion

BJB2: I'm a communications teacher in Pennsylvania and am on Tapped In helpdesk

KatieMil: Katie Miller Stanford Teacher Education Program I know Rushton from some activities we did this summer in Santa Clara, CA and I'm interested in learning more about video.

IsabelCriT: I'm Isabel from Brazil. I teach English in a public language center

MichaelAM: I'm from VA and I'm taking a class where we are integrating video into lessons, so I felt this would be a great opportunity

FredK: I am a tutor for literacy at the Pushmataha County Literacy Council looking for ways to enhance the program

MaryGst12: San Rafael, CA - K-8 wanting to use more video

FredK: in Oklahoma

LynnePS: HI, I am Lynne. I am a high school teacher in Virginia. I teach Accounting and Computer classes. I am interested in learning more about video. I am in the same class as Mike above.

IsabelCriT: VA?

MichaelAM: Virginia

MerleR: Merle Rogers...at Los Angeles Trade Technical College a Community College in Downtown Los Angeles

CieloR: I living in Lake Charles, LA, but I from Colombia. I like to learn how can I used different techniques in the classroom

IsabelCriT: Ok, Michael. Thanks

MerleR: I want to learn more about using video in Education

RushtonH: Good deal. Ellen, how about you?

MerleR: OK...guys...I really thought this would be a microphone and voice conference...you know high tech....

RushtonH: Ellen may have stepped away from the keyboard, but we're glad she's here anyway.

RushtonH: Hi Merle - sorry about the lack of audio,

RushtonH: but at least you can play a good CD while we meet!

RushtonH: I'll go ahead and get things going.

IsabelCriT: ok.

MerleR: no big...maybe we can change the set up to do it next time

RushtonH: First, what this is not

MerleR: Fascinating that folks are from all over...even Brazil!

RushtonH: I won't take you piece by piece through a particular program. Instead, I want to discuss the idea of using slideshows and what some look like with different techniques used.

RushtonH: Please type whether you use a PC or a Mac

ValerieAW: Pc

LynnePS: PC

IsabelCriT: PC

MaryGst12: PC

CieloR: pc

FredK: PC

MerleR: Do they still make macs???

MichaelAM: PC

KatieMil: Both, am on a PC now

IsabelCriT: they are very expensive!

RushtonH: We'll call this a somewhat unbalanced crowd.

RushtonH: Nevertheless,

RushtonH: It'll work for the things I'll cover!

RushtonH: I'm going to talk about Windows Movie Maker a lot, which I'll abbreviate as WMM

RushtonH: It's the easiest video editing program I know of, and free as well (though it only works on XP)

RushtonH: How many of you already make videos?

KatieMil: me!

IsabelCriT: I do

MichaelAM: I'm doing one for a class now

MaryGst12: a little

LynnePS: I do too

ValerieAW: I am also doing one for a class

CieloR: a little

MerleR: I have shot a lot of digital video but that is all so far

RushtonH: I'll talk about the basics of slideshow videos, so while the technical parts may be simple for some, the ideas hopefully will be interesting to all.

RushtonH: First, for any video, including slideshows, the most important part is planning

RushtonH: You choose your photos, choose the order you want them to appear

RushtonH: In WMM, like all editors, there is an option for bringing pictures into your workspace - for WMM specifically, choose the 'import pictures' option and browse to where your photos are

RushtonH: Once they're in the program, you can start deciding what they'll look like as a video.

RushtonH: That's a lot to begin with, but I think you'll see where I'm going with it.

RushtonH: I'm going to use a set of pictures

RushtonH: from a program in Colima, Mexico, called Project Amigo.

RushtonH: You can find them at <http://www.projectamigo.org>

CieloR: The picture have to be in some kind of format?

RushtonH: Typically you'll want JPGs, though I believe BMP and GIF are possible, too

RushtonH: Please take a look at :
<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow1.wmv>

RushtonH: And let me know once you're back.

MichaelAM: no sound?

RushtonH: not yet

CieloR: thanks

MaryGst12: saw it

EllenA: me too

KatieMil: very cool Rushton, I'm back

ValerieAW: I'm back

MerleR: ok cool..

LindaWat: Hope I can join in, that was great

FredK: Still loading on the dialup

IsabelCriT: I'm back

RushtonH: I'll keep moving forward, but don't worry if you feel behind, we'll have time to do some Q&A

RushtonH: Hang in there, Fred 8^)

RushtonH: While seeing the photos is cool, the point of these programs is to do something more interesting than that

MerleR: yes and...

RushtonH: Let's start by adding titles (via the 'make titles or credits' option in WMM)

RushtonH: here I've added an opening title and ending blurb:
<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow2.wmv>

RushtonH: Let me know when you're back

EllenA: Can I put that URL on

EllenA: Safari

RushtonH: Hi Ellen - these are windows media files, so if you don't have the player, Safari may have trouble with it. We'll talk about how to do these separate from the OS, though, so don't worry.

MichaelAM: good intro

EllenA: Great, Thanks

IsabelCriT: I'm back again

RushtonH: I put them at the beginning and end, but you can have them over existing photos, as when you want to give the name of the person in the picture

LindaWat: Can you narrate a story?

CieloR: I am back

RushtonH: A good next step is to add transitions (in WMM, using 'view video transitions')

RushtonH: We'll add the sound very soon!

LynnePS: I had to send to pasteboard and copy and paste the address - but I saw it and am back

MaryGst12: me too

RushtonH: Way to be creative! (How fun it is for me to have such a large group - thanks!)

RushtonH: here is how it looks with a variety of transitions:
<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow3.wmv>

RushtonH: Please let me know when you return.

LindaWat: back

MerleR: moving right along

LynnePS: Love the transitions!

MichaelAM: nice transitions

CieloR: I am back

KatieMil: back

RushtonH: generally speaking, having a lot of transitions looks a bit amateurish, but if it's fun, I say go with it

FredK: I'm here

IsabelCriT: back

RushtonH: the more serious the piece, the more you'd stick to just dissolves or maybe wipes (this is something to play with)

HelenK: would you recommend a variety of transitions or using one throughout?

RushtonH: also remember you don't need a transition between every photo; sometimes the cut (i.e., no transition) works just fine

RushtonH: Helen, the best answer is to do what appeals to you! At core, this is a really fun leap into creativity,

RushtonH: and students LOVE doing these kinds of projects

RushtonH: one of the nicest things about making a slideshow is adding audio

RushtonH: in WMM, you can record directly into the program, or you can add a song or pre-recorded piece

RushtonH: I'll add an intro made by the director and founder of Project Amigo, Ted Rose

RushtonH: now give this one a look:
<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow4.wmv>

RushtonH: Please let me know when you return

MerleR: just a note...but a power point with audio becomes a different kind of file....

KatieMil: back

MichaelAM: great project

LindaWat: That really makes the presentation

LynnePS: Nice!

IsabelCriT: How did you add the audio? Was it recorded directly? Or did you import it?

RushtonH: (Merle - good to 'see' you again!) Power Point can do a lot, but you end up with much more possibility with movie editors.

MerleR: really really quiet...

CieloR: back, how the song make some changes

RushtonH: This audio was done using Audacity (a free download, once you navigate their site - search for them at <http://www.download.com>)

MerleR: right on...I bought the adobe Video editing suite

IsabelCriT: So you recorded wit Audacity and exported it as an MP3 file?

RushtonH: You can just as easily use 'Sound Recorder' (usually All Programs - Accessories - Entertainment - Sound Recorder)

MerleR: also you can record audio from a lecture on the fly with WavePad also free

RushtonH: This one was a WAV, I believe, but you can use either (I think).

RushtonH: so what are some of the biggest weakness of WMM for this kind of thing? lack of motion, for one

IsabelCriT: and then you import the file to WWM.

RushtonH: yes!

RushtonH: programs like Photo Story 3, a free download from Microsoft

RushtonH:

(<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photostory/default.mspx> or <http://tinyurl.com/4f869>), can help you add motion to the pictures

RushtonH: watch this:

http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow_PhotoStory.wmv

RushtonH: and please let me know when you return

KatieMil: Keeps telling me it reached the end of the story

KatieMil: but I didn't see anything.

MerleR: me too

HelenK: that is also what happened to me

LynnePS: just black

CieloR: me too

IsabelCriT: The file could not be opened

RushtonH: Argh. Same for me, too. Imagine the Ken Burns documentaries

MichaelAM: lol

RushtonH: with a picture starting on someone's face and then backing out to the whole piece.

LindaWat: had that problem too but have to download another version of media player

RushtonH: It may well be on the server side; it worked yesterday. I'll keep going, as I have to finish today at :45

EllenA: I can't bring anything up either!

RushtonH: another weakness is only being able to export to Windows Media files

MerleR: keep goin Rushton

RushtonH: Quicktime gives you high quality, but larger file sizes (sometimes much larger)

RushtonH: So, the question then becomes, how do I start doing these with students,

RushtonH: and what kind of projects would be cool?

RushtonH: Next Vista for Learning has three collections, and I am hoping some of you might create slideshow pieces to add to them.

RushtonH: My nonprofit's site is <http://www.nextvista.org>

RushtonH: You can string together some pictures to explain a particular topic, such as photosynthesis, or converting fractions to decimals, or telling the history of a local spot (this collection is called Light Bulbs).

RushtonH: You can use photos to tell about someone who does good things for the community (this collection is called Seeing Service).

RushtonH: You can tell about your community - show your neighborhood, tell what you learn in school, tell what you do on the weekends, and describe your hopes for the future (this collection is called Global Views).

EllenA: oh that's really neat

RushtonH: Using or contributing to the collections in the library is free - no cost, not even a registration.

IsabelCriT: My students will start to produce a video about different youth groups

RushtonH: Wonderful!

EllenA: Were doing a community lesson next week, and think it would so great to use this because you can use real photos

IsabelCriT: in Brasilia

IsabelCriT: But, I'll ask them to film with digital cameras.

IsabelCriT: I mean, not using pictures, but shooting

IsabelCriT: Is that OK?

RushtonH: Perfectly fine.

RushtonH: I'll help put pieces together, as long as they can be added to the library. 8^)

MichaelAM: I know one lesson where they took pics of items and set up a slide show to help review words for a foreign language class

MerleR: I am going to be building some videos on basic physics as they are useful in electrical...

LynnePS: Sounds like a great project Isabel!

RushtonH: Definitely a good use.

IsabelCriT: They have decided on the topic

RushtonH: How many of you are already getting the Next Vista newsletter?

MerleR: not yet

IsabelCriT: not yet

LynnePS shakes head, no

MichaelAM: no

LindaWat: no

CieloR: not yet

FredK: I think so

ValerieAW: not me

LynnePS: how do we sign up?

KatieMil: One thing I like about these projects is that kids can come by all kinds of images without the use of a camera whereas video requires a camera

RushtonH: It's an e-mail that happens about once a month. You can sign up at <http://www.nextvista.org/newsletter/>

RushtonH: Katie is right - this is a good way to use equipment that is more likely to be at your school

MaryGst12: I think something is wrong with your server as I cannot get the site.

IsabelCriT: done

RushtonH: I would like to invite anyone with questions on how to make this happen to e-mail me (rh@nextvista.org). I'm happy to trade ideas or find a time to chat or even Skype with you about different projects.

KatieMil: Thanks Rushton!

MerleR: Signed up for the newsletter

ValerieAW: thanks for sharing

LynnePS: Thanks!

LindaWat: Thanks for sharing

CieloR: thanks, it was very interesting and useful

RushtonH: Thanks to everyone for coming! You're welcome to keep sharing ideas, but unfortunately I have to go. (very humble bow)

MaryGst12: thanks

FredK: Thanks Rushton

IsabelCriT: thanks again

MichaelAM: thank you Rushton

RushtonH: Please pass along to your students a big howdy from Santa Clara, California. I look forward to seeing their projects!