



# HOME GROWN PROGRAMMERS

*Coaching the Next Generation to Success*

It's a brand new school year as HomeGrown Programmers launches into being, and the aspen leaves are turning yellow in the Colorado Rockies! The owner/director of HomeGrown Programmers, Allan Paris, lives in Colorado Springs with his very active homeschooling family.

His children excel in national speech competitions, fencing tournaments, ballet, swimming, and many other activities, as well as their academic

studies! Several other instructors also live in the Colorado area, and my husband and I have just made our first trip out to Colorado from North Carolina to visit with the Paris and Blondeau families. These families are truly amazing, and we are so glad to be able to work with them. With the beauty of the mountains here and the variety of available activities, small wonder that most of the instructors are such outdoorsmen, in addition to their excellent computer skills!



The Paris Family,  
Colorado  
Springs, CO:

Allan and  
Kristen with  
daughters  
Afton and  
Sorrel, and son  
Gage

## Welcome Students!

We are excited to welcome our students from across the United States to the program, and encourage these families to give us their input as the program is growing! Students may register for classes as late as 2 weeks after the quarter begins, and we will let you know how early you may sign up for classes before the next quarter. Our current class schedule is September 15-November 24, 2008. The Winter Quarter will be from December 1-February 23, and additional classes will be added to the list of available courses.



Colorado Aspen Trees

The three introductory classes we offer this quarter are just the beginning of the program. VBScript is our introduction to a basic programming language, which covers the general concepts used by many different languages.

Telecommuting 101 gives students an introduction to the basic tools for working or taking classes online, as well as an overview of the different elements and tools of our classroom environment. Java 101 is a more advanced programming language that is available after an aptitude test, or after students complete VBScript 101, and thus will become available to more students next quarter.

## Looking to the Future: BLENDER

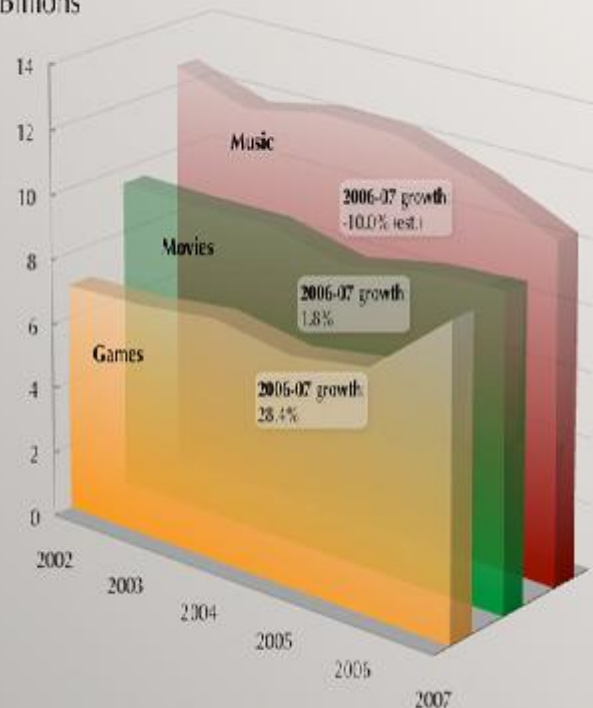
We have six more classes in the development stages for the next two quarters, three of which will be introductions to new programming languages (C++, Python, PHP). The other three are classes in other computer related activities. The featured class for this newsletter is Blender 101. Blender 101 is a class where students will learn to create 3D animation using a free, open source tool that can be used in many different contexts, especially as a tool for eventually creating wholesome, Christian-based video games with HomeGrown Programmers in the future! Blender can not only create good 3D graphics for still shots, it can be used for computer video as well. Figure 1 was created using Blender, and is part of a slideshow/video compilation showing the design of a multi-use facility!



Fig. 1: 3D Organic Greenhouse/Athletic Facility

Fig. 2 (left): Growth of Major Entertainment Industries  
(Data source: NPD Group; ESA; MPAA;  
BoxOfficeMojo.com; RIAA; IFPI)

US music, movie, and gaming revenues — 2002-07  
\$ Billions



## Video Game Creation

The video game industry is one of the biggest entertainment industries in the world, and growing faster than the movie and music industries. (See Fig. 2). Almost none of the games produced are quality Christian games.

There is a huge untapped market in this area where HomeGrown Programmers would like to raise up interested students to become apprentices and possibly even make a career out of creating and producing quality video games acceptable to the Christian community. The amount of skill, creativity, and character within the homeschooling community across the United States has yet to be tapped in this area, and that is something that HomeGrown Programmers would like to see happen if we can facilitate it. In order for this to happen, we need homeschoolers to be trained in programming and using various graphic design tools, as well as homeschoolers with creative writing skills. We would like to invite any student who has interests in any of these areas to take classes with us, so that eventually we can bring this vision into being, and help our students find a career path in the things that interest them.