

## 1997 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients



### **Steve Williams Applied Arts Award Sheridan College**

Nominated in 1995 for a Best Visual Effects Academy Award for *The Mask*, Steve Williams has earned an unmatched reputation as an innovative genius in digital production and computer animation. His animation of the *Jurassic Park* dinosaurs defied all expectations, the most intriguing characters in *Star Wars Special Edition* bear his stamp and he most recently co-produced the hit movie *Spawn*. Eight feature films in ten years and multiple international contracts for animated commercials attest to the breadth and reach of his skill. From his beginnings as an animator for Alias Research in Toronto in 1986, he has risen to founding partner of his own production company in California. The *Financial Post Magazine's Tech Watch- A User's Guide to the Digital World* (September 1997) spotlights that has "put the animation business front and centre in our daily lives".

Steve Williams give back his talent-in two countries. The *Toronto Star* headline of February 28/1996 says it all: *Film whiz shares know-how*. He coaches high school students in North York's CyberArts program and is a regular speaker in public schools where he not only invites entire classes to send him letters but responds to each and every one. While at Lucasfilm's Industrial Light & Magic he volunteered with an organization working with fatherless boys by offering tours through the studio. His support of the Marin County Arts Council has raised thousands of dollars for that community. Steve continues to support Sheridan Adjunct Professor in the School of Animation and Design.

Truly a "world class" graduate of a "world class" college program Steve Williams has put Ontario on the map as his achievements blaze a trail for other animation graduates. He is a committed mentor of young talent. It is with great pleasure that we present Steve Williams with the 1997 Premier's Award for a Graduate of Applied Arts.

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### **Marlene E. Conway Business Award Mohawk College**

From an idea to recycle disposable diapers, Marlene E. Conway, a Mohawk College business graduate, has become an award winning environmental entrepreneur now President and CEO of Envirolutions (EVI). With no formal scientific training she invented a recycling process creating a solution to over five million tonnes of diaper waste accumulating each year in North America alone. Her pioneering spirit and business savvy persuaded huge corporations to put more than \$15 million dollars in equipment, cash and services to fund her idea and launch Knowaste Technologies in a 20,000 sq. ft. diaper recycling factory. Selling her profitable business in 1996, as President and CEO of Envirolutions, she turned her energy to other environmental and recycling challenges. For Marlene, "There's no such thing as garbage".

Marlene Conway's extraordinary efforts have been acknowledged by both the business and scientific communities. Repeatedly show-cased as one of

Canada's most successful female entrepreneurs she was invited to join Prime Minister Jean Chretien's trade mission to Asia and was most recently nominated for the international Rolex Awards for Enterprise. She has received Honorary Associates in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering from the Chemical Institute of Canada and her achievements in waste management have been acknowledged through a number of awards.

Marlene Conway combines her vision and business expertise to pave the way for healthy business. In recognition of her leadership and contribution to our global environment, it is our great pleasure to present Marlene Conway with the Premier's Award for a Graduate of Business .

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### **Dr. Kenneth M. Schneider Health Sciences Award St. Clair College**

A respected and talented Radiation Oncologist with the Windsor Regional Cancer Centre, Dr. Kenneth Schneider launched his career in health as a graduate of St. Clair College's Medical Laboratory Technology Program in 1980. He went on to a B.Sc. at the University of Windsor and an M.D. at McMaster University achieving his appointment as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 1991. His extraordinary skill and devotion to his patients is matched by his collegiality with peers and mentoring of his students who seek out his abilities.

Well known in Windsor as teacher and coach, Ken Schneider's lectures on radiation therapy provide students with practical assistance based on his own hands-on experience in the lab. St. Clair students on clinical placement at the Windsor Cancer Centre and at Metropolitan Hospital benefit from his advice and encouragement. Known for sharing his experience in cancer treatment with technologists and other medical professionals, he contributes to the fight against cancer by

developing curriculum for radiotherapy programmes.

Ken Schneider is a committed volunteer within his community and his profession. He trains volunteer workers with the Hospice of Windsor, is a medical advisor to the Windsor-Essex Council on Health and Smoking and serves on the Executive of Canadian Cancer Society's Ambassador Unit, and five other medically-related committees at local, provincial and national levels.

Dr. Kenneth Schneider is an outstanding medical professional, a team player, an educator, and a committed community volunteer. It is our great pleasure to honour his valuable contribution with the 1997 Premier's Award for a Graduate of Health Sciences.

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### **Larry O'Brien Technology Award Algonquin College**

A graduate of Algonquin College's Physics Technology Program, Larry O'Brien, through strategic direction and several key acquisitions, has turned his Kanata-based operation into a leading international technology services company. Launched as a one-man consulting firm in 1982, Calian Technology Ltd. has grown under O'Brien's leadership as Chairman and CEO to employ more than 900 people in Canada and in 1997, to reach more than \$60 million in sales to industry and government worldwide.

Larry O'Brien applies his vision and knowledge to his community with the same energy. In 1996 he was one of 12 prominent Canadians selected to sit on the Prime Minister's Advisory Council on Science and Technology. He is Chairman of the Sectoral Advisory Group on International Trade. From 1994-96 he was Chairman of the Canadian Advanced Technology Association. Working to foster private sector growth in the national capital region, he co-chairs REDO (Regional Economic

Diversification Opportunities), creating career options for Ottawa's changing community. Larry is always eager to assist in community fundraising and in 1996 was honoured as the Ottawa-Carleton Board of Trades's Business Person of the Year.

Through the growth of Calian Technology Ltd. Larry O'Brien has contributed enormously to the advancement of technology and the economic well-being of our province and Canada. His personal contribution to his own community of Ottawa is equally significant. We are pleased to recognize Larry O'Brien for his outstanding personal and professional contribution with the 1997 Premier's Award for a Graduate of Technology .