

# Tewodross Melchishua, MFA

Associate Professor, Visual Communication & Digital Media Arts  
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## Biography

Tewodross “Tee” Melchishua (pronounced Tay-oh-droze Mell keh-shoo-ah). He has years of experience as an animator, filmmaker, designer, visual artist, educator, and creative consultant in the Washington, DC, and Baltimore metropolitan areas. His animation, art and films have been shown to audiences nationally and internationally. He serves as program coordinator and has developed the new VCDMA undergraduate program in the Department of Fine & Performing Arts at Bowie State University, course scheme and curriculum, as well as instituted several new courses in hip-hop, urban/contemporary art history, criticism and theory, as it relates to technology and the arts; design, animation, digital art, computer graphics, digital filmmaking, new media, fashion design, self promotion and marketing. He has worked extensively in community based programs and the arts with K-12, university and adult students by creating and managing several mentoring, after-school and enrichment programs, summer camps and community arts programs (with emphasis in technology, animation, design and the arts) throughout the DC/Baltimore metropolitan areas.

## Education

- B.A. - Degree in Art and Photographic Media, Morgan State University
- MFA - Imaging & Digital Arts, The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC).

## Teaching

- Animation, multimedia, digital imaging & design Assistant Professor of Visual Communication & Digital Media Arts, in the Department of Fine & Performing Arts at Bowie State University, and previously as a Lecturer at Howard University
- Adjunct professor in animation, design, web design, visual communication at Howard University and Prince George’s Community College
- Howard University’s School of Continuing Education-Digital Learning Lab.
- Coordinates and manages the VCDMA Program, internship program and VCDMA Media Arts Lab on the BSU campus.
- Computer Graphics & Visual Art, Prince George’s County Public Schools

## Projects/Lectures & Synergistic Activities

- Designer Mentor/Participant, *Designers Without Borders* (DWB); DWB is a non-profit organization with a mission of delivering technology, instruction, and design consulting to students, schools and select non-profits in Africa. (2008-Present).
- Lecturer/Panelist, *International Visitor Project*: Film in the US - Women & Minorities in the Film Industry Panel, sponsored by The US Department of State, Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs, World Learning for International Development/Delphi International. Discussed film/video industry, presented films to visiting international filmmakers from the Middle East and the Ukraine. Washington, DC (2004 & 2007).
- Lecturer/Presenter on careers in digital art, technology and filmmaking before DC area high students, part of Black History Month Program, XM Satellite Radio, Washington, DC
- Animator/Course Instructor, The Capitol Children’s Museum, The National Center for Animation, Washington, DC: He conducted tours of animation exhibit and production studio; and taught techniques of 2-D, 3-D animation (stop-motion)

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- Mentor/Animation Instructor, Maryland Institute, College of Art, Baltimore, MD: He developed curriculum, syllabus, mentoring program, and was a co-founder of The Baltimore Youth Television Project, better known as BYTV. Taught clay animation, video production to middle school students. (1996 –2000).
- Lecturer to undergraduate students in The School of Communications, topic: Visual Literacy and New Media, Department of Communications, American University, Washington, DC (2006).
- Participated as Education Coordinator and organizer of FocusOnDesign™, Moderator for a panel & conference on video game design & animation at the AFI Silver Theatre
- Featured Speaker & Artist/Filmmaker Conducted a workshop on animation, and digital filmmaking for children and parents for an annual Family Day, The Walters Gallery, Baltimore, MD (2005); and The REEL Sistahs Film & Video Festival. Animation and Digital Filmmaking Workshop, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, (2005).
- Lecturer/Presenter on the History of African Americans in Animation; Advances in technology in the animation, film/video and cinema industry; sponsored by the IBM Corporation, Black Family Network and Career Communications Group; New York, NY.
- Presenter and panelist, Reality Check, A conference on Design: The State of Design Education & New Media & Animation, OBD-DC, Baltimore, MD, (2003).
- Howard University Young Artists Academy (HUYAA) Program; served as Camp Director/Facilitator and Mentor for Department of Art Community Outreach Summer

### **Awards and Recognition** (please see more at [www.soulsuite.com](http://www.soulsuite.com))

- Teacher of the Month, September, 2004, Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning & Assessment Howard University, for integration of use of technology in the classroom
- Winner, Rosebud Award for Animation, Rosebud Independent Film/Video Competition
- Sony Innovator's Award in Animation, SONY Corporation
- The Black International Cinema Festival, Fountainhead Tanz Theatre, Indiana University at Southbend, Berlin, Germany
- PBS/CPB, *In The Mix*, Screening of animated film, New York, NY.

### **Exhibitions** (please see more at [www.soulsuite.com](http://www.soulsuite.com))

- Exhibiting Filmmaker, *FLIK International Movie Festival & Interactive Art Exhibition*, 2008, Art Whino, The National Harbor, National Harbor, MD (2008).
- Exhibiting Artist, *Colorfield Remix/Contemporary Color: Contemporary Artists and the Color School Legacy*, Montpelier Art Center, Laurel, MD. (2007).

### **Grants/Activities**

- Flashpoint Gallery, Exhibition Fellowship 2008-09. Curator/Artist for "M3: MC's, Mics and Metaphors" ( a group exhibition of traditional, new media, design and fashion design based on the theme of hip hop culture, music & lyricism, CuDC, 2008-09.
- Summer Fellowship and Research Grant, The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CTEL), Bowie State University. 2008.
- Academic Excellence Award, Office of the President & ORA, Howard University
- Artist Grant, DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities.
- Participant & Scholar, The Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad, *Faces of Islam In Africa*, Research on Islamic art & culture, in Senegal and Morocco. 1999.
- Participant & Scholar, *Bringing the Lessons Home/Holocaust Studies for Teachers*, US Holocaust Memorial Museum/Ghetto Fighters House, Wash. DC/ Israel. 1998-99.