



Computer Clubhouse Stories Speak for Themselves: Sean G.

Sean is a 17-year-old, African-American student at a high school in Boston who has taken the bus to the Clubhouse after school for the past three years. Sean has become its resident "expert" in **3DStudio Max***, an advanced system used by professional architects and animators. He says his greatest achievement at the Clubhouse has been his design of the Clubhouse logo in 3D. "A lot of people here make movies and the logo can be used on them. I'm glad it came out the way it did."

"It was a friend who told me I should come to Clubhouse. When he told me about it, I thought it was a tree house. He didn't come with me, though. I went alone. It

was a little scary. I remember the first day I came here. I put my face on a dollar bill, and took it home to show my mother. I already knew how to type from school, but had very little experience. I know a lot now. I get out of school at 12:30 and if I have a serious project, I'll come every day to get it done. My friend Fernando helped me learn 3DStudio Max and I read the manual page by page. I want to work for Industrial Light & Magic someday. Before I came, I knew I wanted to animate, but I didn't know about ILM. I'm sure I'd still be going to Star Wars movies and they would be inspiring me, but I'd be wondering how I could do it. I'd be thinking it's a long shot. Now it seems a lot more available. But I need*

more education. I definitely want to go to college. A regular college where I can focus on computers and get other essentials. If I hadn't come to Clubhouse, I'd be pretty bored. I'd be staying at home, watching TV. That would be my whole day."

Sean thinks of his work at the Clubhouse as more about "art" than "technology," but in the Computer Clubhouse the two go hand-in-hand. His greatest achievement may not be his 3D logo but rather the inspiration he has provided to countless other youth, who see him building his skills, his self-confidence, and his plans for the future through his experience at the Clubhouse.

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