AHRC Connected Communities Heritage Network Symposium
Lincoln, 14th-15th January 2015

Workshop proposal (50 minutes)

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Title: *'Storying' the Cultural Heritage: exploring how to apply Digital Storytelling in Cultural and Heritage Education in the light of 21st Century learning*

Abstract

DICHE - Digital Innovation in Cultural and Heritage Education in the light of 21st Century learning is a EU funded project that involves museums professionals, ICT experts and academics from the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy and UK to develop a set of digital tools and reflect on future scenarios in heritage education.

Starting from the research questions emerged from the Common Research Agenda of DICHE Project - led by Loughborough University - this workshop proposes to engage participants in exploring how Digital Storytelling can be applied in heritage education to enhance the 21th Century skills.
As suggested by Porter (2015), 'the digital storytelling process helps us transform isolated facts into illuminated, enduring understandings'. Hence we propose *'storying' the cultural heritage* as a way of making information come emotionally alive in a learning process aimed at improving the 21st Century skills. Given that Digital Storytelling problematises our relationship with heritage artefacts, we intend also to recognise limitations and challenges of this methodology.

During the workshop, after a presentation of initial research findings (10 minutes), participants will be invited to join in a story-circle session (25 minutes) and to share a personal story that tells how 'experiencing' the cultural heritage has enhanced their creativity, critical thinking, ability to communicate and their attitude to collaborate with people with different backgrounds. In the last 15 minutes a discussion about how to use Digital Storytelling in heritage education will be facilitated to gather answers to the research questions delineated at the beginning of the workshop and to co-design further lines of inquiry.

Biographies

Mike Wilson
Mike Wilson is Professor of Drama at Loughborough University. His research lies in the field of popular and vernacular performance and he has published extensively on Storytelling, Grand-Guignol and Brecht and his collaborators. His

work on storytelling has led him to research the interface between storytelling and digital technology and the way in which the internet has enabled the telling and sharing of stories of everyday experience. He has recently been researching the use of storytelling as a framework for public policy development, especially in relation to climate change and environmental challenge.

Antonia Liguori
Dr Antonia Liguori is Research Assistant in Applied digital storytelling at the School of the Arts, English and Drama of Loughborough University.
She has a PhD in History and Computer Science from the University of Bologna and a Masters in Contemporary History from the University of Rome. She is also a journalist and a Web content and SEO manager.
Since January 2006, she has coordinated the Multimedia Department at BAICR Sistema Cultura with the aim of contributing to the enhancement of the Italian cultural heritage through the use of innovative methodologies and the creation of digital environments. In the last 4 years she has been working in narrative researches at transnational level to understand how to adapt the digital storytelling methodology in different contexts (both social and cultural).