Step-by-Step
Create a digital storytelling artifact using Pinnacle Studio 7

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“Portfolios tell a story…put in anything that helps to tell the story” (Pearl and Leon Paulson, 1991, p. 294).

A reflective digital storytelling artifact uses a digital video editing program to tell a story with still images, an audio/music track and your voice narration.

Much of the philosophy and development process for Digital Storytelling can be found at The Center for Digital Storytelling (http://www.storycenter.org/)

Here is a summary of the process we will follow:
Collect JPEG formatted digital images in a separate folder (page 2)
Launch Pinnacle Studio. (page 2)
Insert images in the appropriate order (page 3)
Insert transitions (page 4)
Insert titles (page 5)
Insert pre-set music (page 6)
Insert voice-over narration (page 7)
Make the movie (page 8)

Seven Conceptual elements of digital storytelling
The Center for Digital Storytelling (http://www.storycenter.org) identifies seven conceptual elements of digital storytelling:
1. Start with Point of View – who is telling the story and why and what do they want the audience to get out of it – who is the audience? What is your purpose?
2. Dramatic Question – What is the need/problem? What should people be focusing on? What answer are you going to provide through your story – all about making and finding meaning?
3. Emotional Content – What you need to talk about. It comes from the heart – Do what matters to you – Use the story for sharing something important.
4. Your Voice – the most personal element – tell your own story.
5. Sound track – music builds the mood you want in your story
6. Economy – stories are about hearing and thinking – start with still images (maybe only 10 maximum)
Collect JPEG formatted digital images in a separate folder and then Launch Pinnacle Studio 7.

**Pinnacle 7 Screens and windows**

Screen tabs

A. Preview window
B. Album window
C. Timeline / Storyboard
D. Capture control window
E. Make Movie control window

**Using the preview window**

(If reading this document on the CD, clicking on this icon wherever it appears will play a short video demonstrating that step.)

1. Move the scrubber to the far left to start preview at beginning.
2. Click the “Single Right Arrow” to begin preview.
3. Click the “Double line” button to stop preview.

Progress can be previewed at any time during while in the Edit mode.
Insert images in the appropriate order

1. Select “Edit”

2. Select “Show Photos and Frame Grab” tab on Album window.

3. Find and select the folder with the digital images.

4. Click-Drag the image to the Video Track of the timeline. Repeat for each image.

5. Place curser on the right edge of the image to get the handle to appear. Click-Drag left or right to shorten or lengthen the duration of the clip.

Adjusting the Timeline Scale

Place curser on the Timeline scale to get the Handle to appear. Click-Drag left or right to expand or contract the timeline.
Insert Transitions

1. Select the “Transition” tab on the Album window.

2. Click-Drag the transition to the image on the Video Track of the timeline.

3. Grab the edge of the transition to adjust its length.

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Insert Titles

1. Select the “Title” tab on the Album window.
2. Move scrubber over image where title will be placed.
3. Double Click the Title Track of the timeline.

The TITLEDEKO window will appear.

4. Select the title scroll type.
5. Select the font.
6. Type in the Title
7. Justify the title.
8. Select attributes. There are several pre-set fonts and attributes available.
9. Press “F12” to accept title and add to timeline.
10. Grab the edge of the title on the Title Track of the timeline to adjust its length.
11. Transitions are added to titles the same way they are added to images.
Insert Pre-set Music

Pinnacle Studio includes several pre-set music tracks for use in projects. Those music clips will always have proper beginning and ending no matter what its length. You may also use your own music clips.

1. Double Click on Music Track of the timeline.

2. Select the “Create Background Music” tab on the Album window.

3. Select the Style, Song (title), and Version.

4. Click the “Preview” button to hear the music selected.

5. Click the “Add to Movie” button to insert the audio clip on the Music Track of the timeline.

Adjust the volume of the music clip by pointing the cursor at the dark blue line in the middle of the Background Music Track of the timeline. When the little ‘speaker’ handle appears, Click-Drag up or down to increase or decrease the volume.
Insert Voice-over Narration

1. Double-Click on the Voice-over Track of the timeline.

2. The Voice-over Recording window will appear.

3. Select the Voice Record tab.

4. Click “Record” to start recording.

5. When recording starts, there is a 3 second countdown to cue the narrator. Use the preview window to keep narration in sync with the movie.

6. Click on “Stop” to end recording.
Make the Movie

1. Select the “Make Movie” tab.

2. Select the “AVI” tab.

3. Click “Create AVI Movie” button.

4. Select a folder and give the movie a name.

5. Click “OK”.

Pinnacle Studio will take some time to render the movie. Rendering is the process of combining the Video, Transition, Title, Voice-over and Background Music Tracks into one movie file in a .avi format. The movie can then be played with any compatible movie player: Windows Movie Player or QuickTime.

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