

Historical Highlight

Donna Cox

Donna Cox is an artist whose widely displayed portfolio of computer-generated scientific visualizations has garnered frequent recognition from her peers and art critics—including an Academy Award nomination. Cox specializes in computer graphics and visualizations featured in art and science museums, television, and IMAX theaters. Cox's work has appeared on international television, including *NOVA*, CNN, and *NBC Nightly News*. Cox herself has been featured as a pioneering artist in the field of scientific visualizations on the national PBS television special, "The Infinite Voyage: Unseen Worlds." She has written various articles and monologues on the use of visualization in art, science, and design imaging. Her writings were some of the first to outline visualization techniques for scientific data using computer graphic iconic symbols. In 1986, she received the Leonardo Coler-Maxwell Award for her research, in which she coined the term "Renaissance teams"—a term describing interdisciplinary groups of experts who collaborate to solve visualization problems.

From 1995 to 1997, Cox was appointed to the National Research Council Committee on Modeling and Simulation: Opportunities for Collaboration Between the Defense and Entertainment Research Communities, and to the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board, and she currently serves as a member of the University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development (UCAID) Strategic Council. She still teaches at the Art and Design School at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

In 1997, Cox was nominated for an Academy Award for her work on the IMAX film, *Cosmic Voyage*. In 2002, she received the Golden Camera at the International Film Video Festival for her work as producer and art director of scientific visualizations on the film *Runaway Universe*. Her latest project has been as a producer and visual designer on the IntelliBadge™—a complex project tracking and visualizing people in a real-time public event.