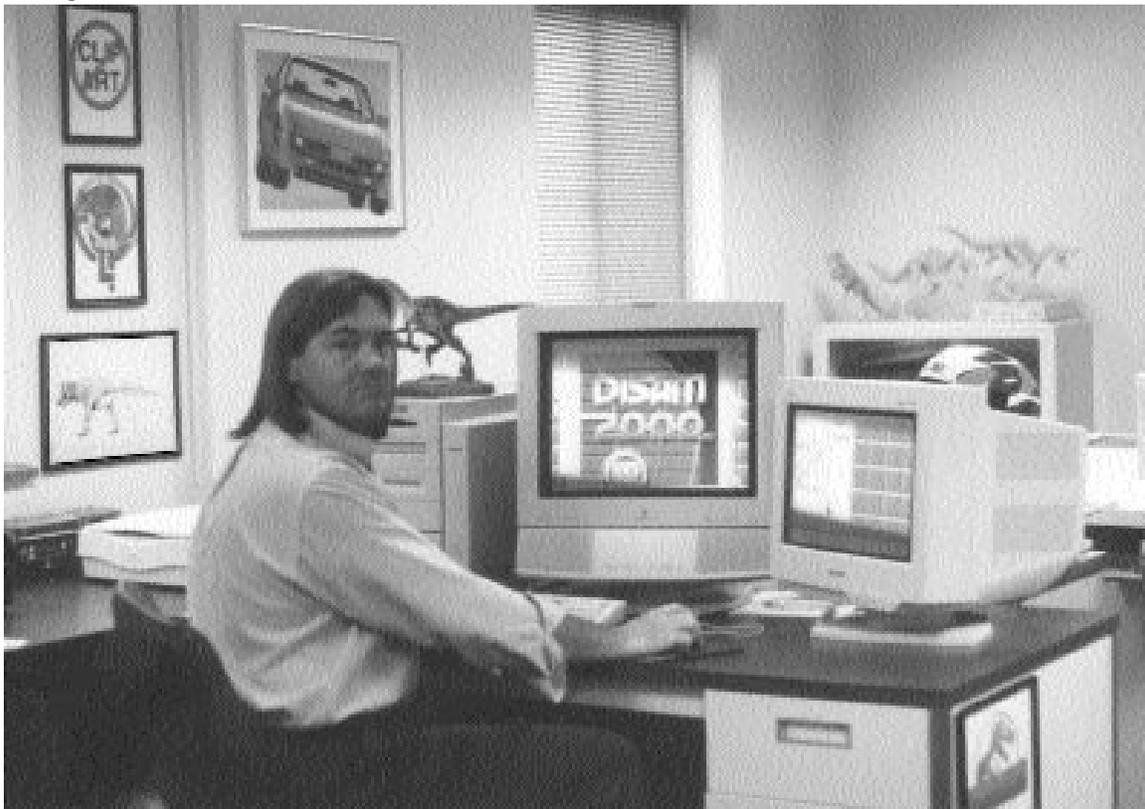


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## Danny Palmer DISAM's Virtuoso Graphic Artist

The corridors outside DISAM's Directorate of Research are an art gallery filled with colorful works demonstrating a variety of styles. Unlike a museum where works of many different artists are on display, DISAM's collection is the output of a single person, our staff artist, Danny Palmer. Since the first DISAM Journal was published in the fall of 1978, Danny has prepared every cover of the quarterly journal, employing a wide variety of artistic skills from freehand drawings to photography to air brush illustration. The collection of past covers is an eye-catching tribute to Danny's talents.

After graduating from high school in 1973, he took fine and commercial art courses at local universities before accepting employment as a technical illustrator and photographic technician at a Dayton area research and development firm where he did pre-press photography, air brush illustration, and aircraft instrument mock-ups. He came to work for the government in the fall of 1977. Thus, Danny has been providing graphic support to DISAM virtually since the Institute's beginning.



The DISAM student is aware of Danny's work from the time the class starts. Palmer is responsible for the preparation of all our visual presentations and has created the thousands of visual aids used in our courses over the years. During his tenure here at DISAM, the preparation of visual aids has changed dramatically. Twenty years ago, overhead transparencies were prepared by using a type setting machine that produced a single line of type on 35mm film. These had to be pasted up into the final format, then developed using an ammonia developer and a diazo printer. Each color required separate artwork. Today, computer graphics packages produce a projectable image without the creation of any physical material at all. Of course, the graphic artist

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has had to adapt to these new techniques, but Danny has clearly mastered the new digital technology.

Aside from classroom materials, he is in charge of design and illustration of all DISAM publications, including the Green Book, *The Management of Security Assistance* and the quarterly *DISAM Journal*. Visitors to DISAM are also struck by the display depicting the history of U.S. security assistance policy which Danny designed to be produced in Plexiglas and laminates.

In the age of the computer, there are myriad new places where graphic artistry can be demonstrated. Danny has adapted to the new demands on his position and has led the development of the DSCA and DISAM web pages, where he was responsible for the design of the pages as well as their HTML links. He has since turned over the technical management of the web sites but still maintains control over the graphics which appear there and the “look” of the sites as a whole. To complete his graphic wizardry using the computer, he is now actively involved in developing the graphics and animation for DISAM’s computer-based training projects.

While Danny’s artistic talent is of great value to DISAM, he does not restrict his efforts to the workday. In fact, the whole community is aware of his abilities. As part of a major renovation of the Dayton Museum of Natural History, he was hired to paint landscape murals for the “Wild Ohio” exhibit, which features realistic habitats of the fauna of the state. Even the raccoons were impressed with Danny’s artistry as they tried to climb the trees in Danny’s forest!

Over the years he has produced various newspaper and magazine illustrations and designed logos for local businesses. His record jackets for several local bands have won awards in contests sponsored by a Dayton radio station.

Danny still lives in the school district where he graduated, and the local schools have been beneficiaries of his talents. He has designed various schools and athletic teams logos as well as the high school sports programs. Communications from the school district office also bear his mark, as he created its own logo and the design for its newsletter. His artwork won a statewide Best of the Best Award of the National School Public Relations Association of Ohio for effective print communications. For the last five years Danny has been a member of the Stebbins High School Vocational Graphic Arts Advisory Board.

His contributions to the schools are not limited to art. He has served on various public committees, and as chair of a levy committee was responsible for the passing of crucial funding for the district by coordinating 300 volunteers and spending over 200 hours of his own time. For his efforts, Danny was the recipient of another state award, the National School Public Relations Association Friend of Education Award in 1996, one of seventeen throughout Ohio. He was also awarded the local booster club’s Outstanding Volunteer Award in 1998.

Although you would think that his artistic efforts would completely fill his time, Danny has spent the last eleven years as a youth soccer coach. Not content to simply coach, he has also served as president of one youth soccer association and a board member for two others, all at the same time. Finally, to fill his last waking hours, he serves as a member of the city’s Parks and Recreation Commission.

Next time you come to DISAM, stop by our art gallery. DISAM is proud to exhibit the works of one of its most talented members. Maybe you could even stop by and see the dinosaur sculptures that he makes for a hobby.