

01/17/2011

About our People: Lucia Liao

Lucia Liao, research engineer, Thermal & Fluid Sciences, has found the UTC Employee Scholar Program (ESP) an effective way to pursue her passion for science and art.

Currently, Lucia is pursuing a master of fine arts degree and has a solo exhibit of her artwork on display at an area public library through the end of the month.

"Science and art give me the two main perspectives that comprise my world view, and I find they are complimentary to each other in many aspects," Lucia said. "I appreciate that the ESP gave me the opportunity to pursue academic training in Fine Art, and in the past two-and-a-half years I've completed courses that include art history, color theory, composition and certain techniques discovered by Renaissance Masters -- all to help build my foundation for the Arts."



Through the ESP, Lucia is working toward a master of fine arts degree in figurative painting from the Academy of Art University, San Francisco, Calif. The ESP provides UTC employees the ability to pursue their educational endeavors by funding their tuition, academic fees and books at an approved educational institution. Today, UTRC has approximately 40 employees participating in the ESP worldwide, and throughout UTC more than 15,000 employees are in the program.

Lucia explains that the influence of her father, an artist himself, led her to draw and paint at a young age.

"Lucia has remarkable artistic talent and the drive to constantly improve and explore new areas and formats," says Lucia's supervisor Dave Sobel, Group Leader, Thermal Management. "We all benefit from her willingness to share, including her donation of portraits and other artwork as part of our United Way Campaign."

The South Windsor Public Library, 1550 Sullivan Avenue, is exhibiting Lucia's artwork and featuring more than 30 original portraits, landscapes and still life paintings from her collection. The exhibit is located in the library's downstairs display cases and is available through the end of the month.

Lucia's artwork also is on display on a bulletin board within K-Building near S158K.

Lucia holds a bachelor's and master's degree in mechanical engineering from Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and a doctorate in mechanical engineering from the University of Maryland.