



**CenturyCollege**

## *News Release*

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## **Century College Student Has Two Spring Graduations: College and High School**

Mention student Rhoda Gullickson's name to the instructors in [Century College's Visual Communication Technologies program](#), and they tend to smile proudly.

Gullickson, 17, a home-schooled, [Post-Secondary Enrollment Options \(PSEO\)](#) student from St. Paul, this spring will graduate from both Century College and high school. Mostly because of the large time commitment, it is highly unusual for a PSEO student to complete a Century College technical program and earn her high school diploma at the same time.

But Gullickson not only earned the diploma and the degree, she also was named the 2009 Outstanding Student in the Visual Communication Technologies program.

"I have no doubt that Rhoda Gullickson one day will achieve her dream of working for Pixar animation studios," said Prof. Gary Ruggles at the Outstanding Student ceremony on April 24. "She has the talent and the motivation to do it."

“I am a huge fan of 3-D animation and especially of Pixar,” said Gullickson, who admires the Pixar productions of “The Incredibles” and “Toy Story.” She noted that animation skills also can be used in the fields of advertising, accident reconstruction and medicine.

Gullickson was so determined to complete Century’s VCT program, she lived with her grandparents in Maplewood for part of the year to be closer to the campus. She logged so many hours in Century’s VCT computer labs, she became something of a fixture in the area, sometimes putting in six-day weeks.

“Pretty much everyone here is older than me, and that’s fine,” said Gullickson, who started at Century in fall 2007. “I have made many friends at Century, starting the second semester. It took me a while to get oriented.”

Gullickson, who has maintained a 4.0 grade-point average at Century, said being a Post-Secondary Enrollment Options student works well if you are self-directed and good at time management. She noted that she has saved thousands of dollars in college tuition by having her first two years of college paid for by the state through PSEO.



Photo: Rhoda Gullickson at Century College