

San José State University  
The Department of Computer Science and  
The Department of Computer Engineering jointly present  
**THE HISTORY OF COMPUTING SPEAKER SERIES**

**Alan Kay**

**The Dynabook**

Wednesday, November 16

6:00 – 7:00 PM

Auditorium ENGR 189

Engineering Building

The Dynabook is the forerunner of today's laptop and tablet computers. Alan Kay created the concept in 1968. It would have had software targeted mainly at children to give them access to digital media. The concept is now 43 years old, but has the Dynabook finally been invented?

Dr. Kay is one of the earliest pioneers of object-oriented programming, personal computing, and graphical user interfaces. While at Xerox PARC during the early 1970s, he invented Smalltalk, the first completely object-oriented programming, authoring, and operating system, which included the now-ubiquitous overlapping window interface. He also instigated the bit-mapped screen and screen painting and animation, and he participated in the development of desktop publishing. He contributed to the development of the Alto, the first modern networked personal computer.

“The best way to predict the future is to invent it.” – Alan Kay

Alan received his Ph.D. with distinction in Computer Science from the University of Utah in 1969. He has a Turing Award, a Draper Prize, and a Kyoto Prize. He has been a Xerox Fellow, Atari Chief Scientist, Apple Fellow, Disney Fellow, and HP Senior Fellow. He has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Royal Society of Arts, the Association for Computing Machinery, and the Computer History Museum.

Alan is president of Viewpoints Research Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to children, learning, and advanced systems research that he founded in 2001. He is currently an Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at UCLA.

Next: **Ted Kahn**  
**Monday, November 21**