

Computer Programming as an Art Review

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This article is written based on the talk given by the Turing Award winner Don Knuth. He got the Turing award for his significant contribution to the computer science. He got Turing Award in 1974 A.m.

People on those days used to think that computer programming is some scientific task which is not meant for normal people.

Earlier people used to be in this state. After people listen to this talk their whole perspective changed towards programming world.

The whole talk is to emphasize the point that computer programming is an art and science. It requires knowledge, skill, creativity. People who are doing programming should subconsciously feel that he is an artist then he can enjoy the beauty of the art programming and will do it better.

The term art, when people listen it they start imagine things like painting, drawing etc. but according to the Latin art word meant skill and logic. art meant for some thing devised by man's intellect.

Basically the term Science being used to stand for knowledge, and art for the application of the knowledge.

eg: science of astronomy was the basis for the art of navigation. art in general consist of the truths of science, arranged in order to take in at one view.

Science contains the knowledge in the form of general laws. We don't need to worry about individual cases. we can turn out thoughts into higher level concepts. The things people do in day today life like speaking, listening, creating, and even programming are still beyond the reach of science every thing that we do is still an art.

When we think about the arts in the programming

Programming is like composing poetry and music. At the end of the day when we design good programme we get intellectual and emotional satisfaction because we mastered the complexity and established a system of consistent rules. When we read other people code we really feel the work of art.