Katya Czerepak Greer Memorial Scholarship Established for Art Education Students

The Art Department is mourning the loss of a former student, talented artist and dear friend, Katya Czerepak Greer, who passed away on February 22, 2009. Katya was a 2002 graduate of our Art History program, minoring in Studio Art. At the time of her death, Katya was pursuing her Master Of Science In Education at SUNY Potsdam while teaching art part-time at Potsdam High School.

In her memory, the Art Department is working with Katya’s mentor teacher and close friend, Mrs. Leslie Strong Sutter, to establish the Katya C. Greer Memorial Scholarship at SUNY Potsdam. Mrs. Sutter, who is advisor to Potsdam High School’s “Artistic Congress,” worked tirelessly with her students throughout the school year to raise funds in memory of Katya. Thanks to their hard work and love for Katya, the funds raised at the school in Katya’s memory have been donated to SUNY Potsdam to start a fund to create the College’s first scholarship designated for a student in Art Education.

"Katya was incredibly successful at communicating her passion for art to her students," said Mrs. Sutter. “She served as a great example of the importance of having a passion in your life.”
Katya was described as “a very talented artist” and “a woman of strong faith and gentle spirit.”

Inspired by Mrs. Sutter and her students, several members of the Art Department faculty, led by Department Chair Mark Huff and Professor Caroline Downing, have made generous donations to Katya’s scholarship. Their goal is to raise enough money to endow the scholarship at $20,000, which would provide income to award the scholarship each year in perpetuity. Once endowed, the scholarship will be a lasting tribute to Katya’s passion for the arts and devotion to her students.

Donations to the Katya C. Greer Memorial Scholarship Fund are welcome and appreciated. Checks made payable to the Potsdam College Foundation/Katya C. Greer Scholarship may be mailed to the Potsdam College Foundation, SUNY Potsdam, Potsdam, NY 13676.

Secure on-line donations may be made on the College’s web site at https://secure.potsdam.edu/giving/. Please be sure to indicate that your gift is for the Katya C. Greer Memorial Scholarship.

For more information, please contact Nancy Griffin, Development Officer, at (315) 267-2112 or at griffine@potsdam.edu.
Meet the Art Department

Dr. Caroline Downing
Professor
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PhD, Indiana University
Bloomington, IN

Dr. Mary Jo McNamara
Professor
Art History
PhD, Stanford University
Palo Alto, CA

Morgan Perkins
Assistant Professor
Anthropology & Art
PhD, Oxford University
Oxford, England

Joe Hildreth
Professor
Printmaking
MFA, Pratt Institute
New York, NY

Douglass Schatz
Associate Professor
Sculpture
MFA, University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY

Lindy Strauss
Adjunct Instructor
Printmaking & Foundations
MFA, Vermont College
Montpelier, VT

Mark Huff
Chair
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MFA, Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

Amy Swartelé
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Buffalo, NY

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MFA, University of Buffalo
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Associate Professor
Photography
MFA, Virginia Commonwealth Univ.
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Toronto, Canada

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MFA, UNC
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Edwin Clark
Adjunct Instructor
Foundations
MFA, Universidad de Guanajuato
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Helen Bush
Secretary
Art News Editor
Art Department
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Potsdam, NY
Faculty and Staff News

Caroline Downing enjoyed developing and teaching a new course with Tracy Watts on vases, which was taught in the fall semester. In December she and students from Kappa Pi Art Honor Society and our own Student Art Association again put on a very successful art auction which raised money to support student art projects. In spring, her essay "The Adirondacks and American Art" was published in Inside the Blueline: Essays on Adirondack Environments. She also published a review of A Keener Perception: Ecocritical Studies in American Art History for Blueline. Caroline has been reappointed for a second term as Director of General Education for the college.

Mary Jo McNamara attended a terrific two-day symposium in October on Impressionism at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Mass. Then in March she presented a paper on "Rodin and the Construction of Patriarchy" at a conference on Family/Resemblance at the University of Texas in Austin.

Marc Leuthold spent last summer creating art at Bruckner Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland for a solo exhibit at the Daum Museum in Missouri. The exhibit is a mid-career retrospective that also features a commissioned, site specific 3200 Sq ft multimedia installation. Artwork can be seen on the Daum Museum website. Leuthold also did fundraising for the Ceramics program obtaining funds needed for installation of the new gas kiln.

Joe Hildreth finished work on the development of the SUNY Student Mobility Plan. This plan provides for seamless transfer for all students within the SUNY System. As a result, students will now be able to transfer from two-year to four-year institutions without the loss of credit. This plan was adopted by the SUNY Board of Trustees in November 2009. In addition, Joe was named the Co-chair of the Arts and Culture Working Group for the SUNY Strategic Plan. His report includes several strategies for the support of the arts within SUNY. Finally, Joe continues to serve as Art Curator for the SUNY System. In this capacity, he organized three System-wide exhibitions and a special exhibition for the Albany Airport.

Nathaniel Infante had another busy year in the Art Department. During the Fall semester he taught one section of Color And Design and began uploading images and metadata to Resource Space, a searchable database for art historical images. This spring Nathaniel married his long time girlfriend and Art Department alumni Kelly Haas. They were married at Bend in the River Park in Canton, NY.

2010 Faculty Exhibition

The SUNY Potsdam Art Faculty presented their work in the full faculty exhibition at the Roland Gibson Gallery from January 25th – February 20th. The show allows the college community and the region at large to see the accomplishments of the art faculty. The exhibitions included works from all media and were all very recent representations of each faculty’s work.

Some of the works that were presented in this show were from: Emily Bennett Beck, Ed Clark, Laura Fair-Schulz, Joseph Hildreth, Mark Huff, Nate Infante, Danielle Johns, Virginia Layne, Marc Leuthold, Doug Schatz, Linda Strauss, Amy Swartele’, and Michael Yeomans.

The exhibition was especially wonderful because it offered an opportunity for students to see that the SUNY Potsdam faculty is producing professionals make finely crafted and intellectually provocative art. The faculty exhibition was funded in part by the SUNY Potsdam Student Government Association, the Potsdam College Foundation, and the Sweetgrass Foundation.

Doug Schatz - Dogs of War
Alumni News

Kaitlin Dempsey has been a substitute teacher for art and history classes in the Johnson City Central School District for grades k-12 and she is a manager at Wegman's. Kaitlin has been doing some traveling around the states to visit museums and see art shows [Chicago, NYC]. She is attending the Tyler School of Art at Temple University in the fall for her Master's in Art History. She hopes to go on to get her Doctorate in Art History at Temple as well.

Kate Kocyba is continuing work on her doctoral dissertation at the University of Missouri, Columbia. This summer she held the Sally Kress Thompson Fellowship in Washington, D.C.

Kayla Purcell, 2009. After graduation, she traveled to Australia to explore the country. In August of 2009, she was hired at Bishop Grimes to teach art at the high school level. Kayla also coach volleyball and softball at Bishop Grimes. She has had a very successful year re-creating the art curriculum and sending students’ work to art shows. In May, She will begin classes part time at Syracuse University for her masters in art education and professional certification.

Art History News

This year’s John C. Riordan Book Award for Excellence in Art History was awarded to Scott Miller. Naturally, Scott wanted a book on medieval stained glass! Both of our Presidential Scholars, Robert Lyon and Scott Miller, graduated this year. Robert, a double major in Art History and Archaeology, also received the Archaeological Studies Award from the Anthropology Department. This year we said goodbye to our graduates at the Twelfth Annual Art History Dinner, this year held at Julian’s Restaurant in downtown Potsdam. We will miss you all!

Our students have been very successful at obtaining internships this year. Ben Peery will be interning at the Guggenheim Museum this summer, and Stefanie Clark will be at the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum. Lizz Matyas will be continuing her work at a science museum in Buffalo.

Two Art History students, Lizz Matyas and Colleen Fitzgerald, presented a poster at Potsdam’s Learning and Research Fair on research they conducted with Dr. Watts on 18th century vases.

While the state of the economy forced the cancellation of our planned Art History trip to Italy this spring, we’re considering that a temporary setback. Dr. Watts has already begun organizing the trip for next spring; all interested students should contact Dr. Watts.

Joseph Leroux recently received his MFA from Madison-Wisconsin University. He is moving to Philadelphia, PA to work with Moore College of Art as an adjunct in the Sculpture area. He recently updated his website: www.JosephLeroux.com and is looking forward to his move to the East Coast in August.

Christina Ely who received a BA in Studio Art in 1999, went on to earn an MA in Museum Professions from Seton Hall University in New Jersey. Her successful career has included three years as Curator of Education at Grounds For Sculpture in Hamilton, New Jersey and prior to that, three years as Cultural Programs Manager at the New Bedford Whaling Museum in Massachusetts. Christine will now be returning to upstate NY where she will be working in the Education Department of the Fenimore Museum.

Sarah Kuenzler will be attending graduate school at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota.

The Frech ’63 - Trinkle Scholarship

The Art Department is pleased to announce a new scholarship from Peter and Veronica Frech – Trinkle. The scholarship will be awarded yearly to a freshman Art Major. This is the first Art Department scholarship devoted to first year students and will be awarded to an outstanding student with financial need in the fall 2010.

Veronica “Ronnie” Frech - Trinkle and Peter were married in 1967, and lived in Riverdale in the Bronx. There they had two children: Kimberly, born in 1969 and Christopher, born in 1971. In 1972 the family moved to Yorktown Heights and in 1976, ultimately settled in St. Petersburg, FL.

Ronnie passed away on August 26, 2006. Her memory and passion are very much alive in their home in St. Petersburg as over 100 of her paintings are hung and on display.

In her honor and in celebration of their love for one another, Peter chose to establish a scholarship at Potsdam. A major factor in Peter’s decision to establish the scholarship was that Ronnie, during her four years at Potsdam, struggled financially, yet was so very proud of her accomplishments. Ronnie loved the culture, small campus size and friendliness of everyone, especially the outstanding and very caring professors at Potsdam.
BFA Thesis Exhibition

This year’s Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition upheld our proud tradition in the Art Department at SUNY Potsdam, a tradition of quality and success demonstrated by the achievements of our students. The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree is the professional undergraduate degree in the Visual Arts. The faculty are very proud of the accomplishments of these students and wish them great success in their future endeavors.

This year the BFA Thesis Exhibition included Kathryn Alfredson - Drawing, Megan Barnes - Painting, Sara Fernandez - Painting, Sarah Haze - Sculpture, Philip Keays - Video and Installation, Kendra Matott - Photography, Alex Minnick - Ceramic Installation and Performance, Jonathan Smith - Ceramic Sculpture, Sebastian Stoddart - Sculpture, and Paul Ulrich - Drawing. On behalf of the Art Department, congratulations to these students.

2010 Art Attack Student Juried Exhibition

Art Attack is Gibson Gallery’s annual juried student art exhibition. This has been a campus tradition for over 25 years. Its goal is to acknowledge the accomplishments of the college’s student-artists and to offer them concrete encouragement as they pursue their studies.

This year, 78 artists entered 242 works to be considered for inclusion in the exhibition. Guest Juror for 2010 was Tim Sheesley, Director of the SUNY Oneonta Art Gallery. The winners for 2010 Art Attack are as follows:

- Art Department Award - Chase Winkler, Prank Call, mixed media
- President's Award - Hong Hong, Untitled I, oil
- Provost's Award - Angela Heisch, Untitled, oil
- Dean's Award- Thomas Newton, Baby Powder Portrait, photography
- PACES Award - Sara Haze, Self-Portrait, mixed media

Gibson Gallery Fall 2010 Exhibitions

For more information on the Gibson Gallery please consult their website www.potsdam.edu/gibson

Dave Beck - Continuation
Jonathan Soard - Closer to the Bone
September 16 – October 16

Art Attack - Annual Juried Student Exhibition
October 28 – December 4
"Best Of" SUNY Student Art Exhibition

This year the Best of SUNY Student Art Exhibition was held in the first floor gallery of SUNY System Administration. The dates for the exhibition were June 7-September 24, 2010. The event is designed to showcase the work of SUNY’s best student artists. In order to be selected for the show, the student's art had to be selected by a majority of the professional artists who reviewed the work included in either the 2009 Fall Student Art Exhibition or the 2010 Spring Student Art Exhibition. Once they are in the "Best of" show they are eligible to receive a $1000 scholarship or a $500 Honorable Mention Award. The jurors for the scholarships are from a panel selected by the New York State Council on the Arts.

This year SUNY Potsdam had three students selected to exhibit in the “Best of Exhibition.” The selected artists were: Angela Heisch, Mackenzie Reynolds and Josh Taylor. Potsdam faculty member, Joe Hildreth, conceived and designed the SUNY Art Exhibition Series in 2002. For additional information on the Series, please enter Online Art Gallery in the search window of the SUNY System Website www.SUNY.edu.

Kappa Pi

Zeta Alpha Rho Chapter - National Art Honor Society

 Conducted by student President Sarah Haze, Kappa Pi inducted its new members. The ceremony was attended by both President Schwaller and Dean Pletcher, as well as most of the Art Department faculty. As usual, a lovely reception, catered by PACES, followed the ceremony. Inducted this year were:

Ola Aldous
Erin Ball
Ashley Baylor
Joella Burt
Michelle Cillis
Stefanie Clark
Nettie Emery
Sara Fernandez
Hong Hong
Jordan Knippenberg
Melissa Marschner
Kendra Matott
Kirsten Moore
Elizabeth O'Neill-Krop
Jacob Offield
Morgan Owen
Benjamin Peery
Madeline Phillips
Paige Potter
Olivia Privitera
Kyle Pumilio
Jonathan Reeves
Sarah Sevier
Jay Tyndall
Dayle Yandoh
Corrine Young

Kappa Pi Inductees Ceremony 2010

Kappa Pi Art Auction Held

Officers and Faculty of Kappa Pi Art Honor Society, with assistance from some Student Art Association members, decided to put on an auction of student and faculty work, with all of the proceeds to be used by students for completion of art projects. The auction was a great success, and the money was awarded to five deserving students for their art projects. Auctioneer Joe Hildreth kept the show moving at all times. All of the hard work of keeping track of the funds was handled with aplomb by Dr. Tracy Watts.

Kappa Pi is an International Art Honor Society of which SUNY Potsdam is a member. Five student artists received support this year from funds raised by the Kappa Pi Art Auction. Artists receiving support were Sarah Haze, Philip Keays, Sebastian Stoddart, Jay Tyndall, and Chase Winkler. The Department is very proud to have contributed to their projects.
Art Department Scholarship Winners

SUNY Potsdam offers a variety of scholarships to deserving students. The following is a list of winners for 2009-2010:

Andre Alexander & Patricia Sanford Scholarship: Leah Thompson  
Noreen M. Canfield Scholarship: Elizabeth Labarge  
St. Lawrence River Patrons of the Arts Scholarship in Painting: Hong Hong & Angela Heisch  
D. Allen Edrington Scholarship: Bonnie Anderson  
St. Lawrence River Patrons of the Arts Scholarship in Ceramics: Chase Winkler  
Marty Phillips Scholarship: Jacob Offield  
William Gambling Scholarship: Olivia Privitera  
Lucy Dai Scholarship: Katherine Irwin  
Ramage Art History Travel Award: Melissa Marschner  
St. Lawrence River Patrons of the Arts Scholarship in Ceramics: Chase Winkler  
William Gambling Scholarship: Olivia Privitera  

Departmental Scholars:

Noelle McCall  Jessica Bellingham  Deborah Lewis  
Carlie Miller  Sierra Zielinski  Marie DiLorenzo  
Stefanie Clark  

Art and Sciences Convocation 2010- Art Department Award Recipients

SUNY Potsdam Senior Awards Convocation Winners:

Riorden Book Award: Scott Miller  
Robert B. Dunn Award: Sarah Haze

The Art Department awards were presented by Mark Huff, Chair of the Art Department at the School of Arts and Sciences Honors Convocation on May 6th, 2010. The Art Department Senior Awards, the Robert Dunn Award, for the outstanding senior art major, and the John Riordan Award, for the outstanding senior art history major, were presented at the College-Wide Honors Convocation on May 16, 2010 by Dr. Caroline Downing. The faculty of the Art Department congratulate all the recipients for their achievements.
Attention Alumni

At SUNY Potsdam Art Department, we take great pride in having close relationships with our alumni. We would love to hear from you! Please answer the following questions and return the form.

Name and Year of Graduation ____________________________________________

What you have been up to _______________________________________________

Any news you would like to share ________________________________________

Anything you would like to see added to the Newsletter ________________________

Address or name changes _________________________________________________

You can send your information via email to:

SUBJECT: Newsletter
artnews@potsdam.edu

OR WRITE TO:
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