Department of Fine Arts 2014-15 Advisory Board

The Advisory Board is an informal group of alumni and friends who have been willing to lend their knowledge, advice and expertise to the ongoing efforts of our program. They have been invaluable to helping the Department of Fine Arts address critical learning skills for the 21st Century. If you would like to know more about the Advisory Board, contact sumnerc@winthrop.edu.

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Artist and Educator

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Alf Ward, Rock Hill, S.C.
Artist and Professor Emeritus, Winthrop University

Justin Wilson, Seattle, Wash.
Artist/Instructor, The Studio

Fine Arts Education Initiative Critical Thinking, Technology and Innovation

Spring 2014 Fine Arts Newsletter

Winthrop students creating art for new Headquarters

When Family Trust’s new headquarters opens in 2015, art created by Winthrop University students will tell the story of Family Trust history and impact in the community. Five students have been commissioned to create six pieces of art for the lobby, a community room, an employee canteen and the board room. The pieces will be made from a variety of materials, including railroad ties, ceramics, steel, and colored glass, and will reflect Family Trust’s ties to textiles, its core values and service to York County.

The new 36,000-square-foot headquarters will bring the heart of the credit union back to its roots when it is constructed on the site of the White Street branch. The three-story building will be the first constructed in Knowledge Park, an area being redeveloped for jobs, housing and retail between Winthrop University and downtown.

“Winthrop University plays an important role in the history of Rock Hill, and in the economy of York County,” said Lee Gardner, president/CEO. “This project helps us tap into the wealth of hidden talent there to make a meaningful and impactful contribution to our project and the development of the Knowledge Park.”

Tom Stanley, chair of the Winthrop Department of Fine Arts, and Shaun Cassidy, professor of fine arts, are leading the students. They are:

Chelsea Arthur of Greenville, S.C. is a senior pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), general studio, with emphases in sculpture and jewelry/metal.

Nicole Davenport of Anderson, S.C., is a junior pursuing a B.F.A., general studio, with emphases in sculpture and printmaking.

Samantha Oliver of Rock Hill graduated in December with a B.F.A. in ceramics. She is a non-degree graduate student at Winthrop.

Christopher Smalls of Beaufort, S.C., is a senior pursuing a B.F.A., jewelry/metal.

Kaitlyn Walters of Greenville, S.C., graduated in December with a B.F.A., general studio, with emphases in jewelry/metals.

December with a B.F.A., general studio, with emphases in photography and sculpture.

“This opportunity provided by Family Trust and their design team gives our students the kind of professional experience required to succeed in their chosen fields,” said Stanley. “It allows real community engagement through meaningful collaborative projects.”

The artwork will be finished by early May and stored until the building opens. In the meantime, White Street road improvements are underway and construction begins this spring. The branch is expected to close sometime in April.

Design Technology ARTS 204 3D Media Studies

In launching this new course for art education students in the Department of Fine Arts at Winthrop University we have become part of an important international educational goal: “To develop a design and technology literacy that will enable our K-12 students to effectively participate in the future technological society and economy in which they will live and work.”

This semester our students are participating in design/tech assignments that include...
**Design Technology** (continued)

Instructor Alf Ward

Arduino electronic applications, solar energy, aerodynamics, product design, prototype modeling, and experiments in sound, light, performance, fashion, and reverse forensics.

Through group and individual experiments, brainstorming, practical projects, and studies in materials and processes, the main emphasis of the course is directly concerned with developing the student as an artist/innovative designer/critical thinker and teacher.

As students’ progress in team research and experiments they are encouraged to experience a wide range of collaborative arts activities that include performance and creative group planning – toward a realization that art and design are no longer supplementary to a child’s education but fundamental to his or her future success.

Art Education Brings Mentor Teachers and College of Education Netscope Team Together

Dec. 12 in the Rutledge Building art education room marked an important gathering of area mentor teachers who serve the Art Education Teacher Internship Program. The gathering also provided an opportunity for fine arts faculty and the Richard W. Riley College of Education Netscope School Partnership team to hear mentor teachers’ ideas about how we can best work together to create meaningful internship experiences for both the students and their mentors.

Representing the College of Education at the Dec. 12 meeting was Lisa Johnson, partnership director; Paul Horne, Netscope coordinator; and David Beiter, coordinator of professional learning.

Seymour Simmons and Laura Gardner, fine arts education faculty, noted it was the beginning of an important initiative to serve not only our art ed students, but the teacher mentors who are at the core of our program.

Topics discussed included:
- Making best use of the Winthrop University-School Partnership
- How to join a content area assembly for art education, visit www.winthrop.edu/netscope/mentor_process.htm
- Informal art education gatherings on a regular basis to consider common goals and to network.
- Preparing Winthrop art ed students in junior contact experiences to help serve specific needs in classes, for example, lessons involving technology.
- Developing renewal credit or graduate credit workshops that focus on the use of technology or other specific themes.
- Discussions about how to better prepare future interns for their school experience.
- Development of a website and blog about technology in the classroom.
- Distribution of news about arts related events at Winthrop that could be of interest to mentors and their students.

Emerging Scholars & Teachers in the Arts

The annual student-based Emerging Scholars & Teachers in the Arts took place Tuesday, March 4 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Rutledge 119. In its 8th year, the event highlights the research of students in the College of Visual and Performing Arts through public presentations. This year student participants and topics included:

- Art History Essay: Lauren Copley “Olafur Eliasson: The Power of Co-Production”
- Art Education Project: Bethany Dickey and Morgan McWhite “Exploring & Learning Together: iPad Camera in Middle School Art”
- Music Graduate Essay: Alex Muller, Graduate Student “Through the Moonlight: Examining Claude Debussy’s Multiple Versions of ‘Clair de Lune’”
- Sculpture Essay: Andrew Davis, Graduate Student “Thesis Statement: Sculpture”

"Bending Sticks: The Sculpture of Patrick Dougherty," a documentary film by Penelope Maunsell and Kenny Dalsheimer will be shown in Rock Hill, S.C., for the first time Monday, March 24 at 7 p.m. in Dina’s Place, DiGiorgio Campus Center.

The film celebrates the 25 year career of internationally renowned environmental artist Patrick Dougherty, who has created hundreds of monumental, site-specific sculptures out of nothing more than saplings.

The film follows the artist and his collaborators during a year of stick work and reveals Dougherty’s process, personal story and inspirations.

The heart of the film is the creation of five Dougherty commissions in different locations – inside the new wing of the N.C. Museum of Art, on Main Street in Rock Hill, S.C., at a private home in Chapel Hill, N.C., at the Bascom Art Center in the mountains of N.C., and in the gardens of Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C. Of special interest is the Rock Hill film footage that demonstrates the creation of “Ain’t Misbehavin’” by Dougherty on Main Street. The Rock Hill sculpture was funded by the Artists and Civic Engagement Project at Winthrop. Fine Arts faculty and students participated in its creation. To purchase the film, and for more information, go to: http://bendingsticksthefilm.com/
From Army fatigues to Navy blues, the designers have put a haute spin on how to make anytime the right time to pay homage to the proud men and women in uniform. 

Winthrop President Jayne Marie (Jamie) Comstock has been vocal about her personal commitment – and Winthrop’s institutional responsibility – to ensure veterans feel welcome and supported on campus. She has even used her blog, Advancing the Higher Education Agenda, to raise awareness about the sacrifices service men and women have made for their country at home and abroad. Her leadership has inspired student event planners to undertake the project with confidence that the fashion show can make a difference.

The event is a way for Fair to blend her love of fashion and respect for the military. “I wanted to pick a cause and this felt right,” she said, adding that she has several family members who serve and have served in the armed forces. Among those involved are members of the Guild of Emerging Metalsmiths and Student Veterans of Winthrop.

• The March 7 fashion show will be held from 6 to 9:30 p.m. at McBryde Hall. There also will be a silent auction of art and other donated items in the adjoining Tuttle Dining Room. Check out the web site www.salutetocouture.com or www.facebook.com/salutetocouture.

Fatima Santos
Visual Artist and Musician

Fatima Santos is a Portuguese painter and accordionist, splitting her professional activity between research, exhibitions and concerts. Throughout her professional life, music has inspired her creative process. The “interference” of musical theory and practice in the creation of abstract geometric paintings is the central theme of Santos’s Ph.D. dissertation, to be presented to the Academy of Fine Arts of the University of Porto, Portugal in December 2014. This presentation is co-sponsored by the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies and the Department of Fine Arts and made possible in part by a grant from Global Learning Initiative at Winthrop.

Fashion Show to Benefit Wounded Warrior Project

Nearly 60 Winthrop University students will model military-inspired attire with a twist during a March 7 fashion runway show as a way to honor the courageous members of the United States Armed Forces with proceeds going to Wounded Warrior Project.

The fashion runway show, Salute to Couture, organized by M.F.A. candidate Rita Fair, is designed to highlight the military’s choice of colors and patterns with a touch of flare and pizzazz, coupled with edgy accessories.

Interview with J. Andrew Davis

Major and concentration.
M.F.A. in sculpture and a minor in drawing.

Describe your work.
It is an exploration of the sculptural presence, and the interaction between space, viewer and form.

How does location affect your work?
It’s really more of a response to the space. The space is kind of self sufficient and I’m reacting to the space as opposed to the other way around. Ideally, it needs to be a location that is generally conducive to the work like a clean, white, stark, empty space, but the dimensions can vary and the placement of the work will correspond to the varying dimensions. How close it is to the wall and center of the room, and how the piece divides the space. Specific things like that.

Who or what are your influences?
Robert Morris is a heavy influence in his thinking about space and form within space. I have always thought of my professors as a major influence within the context of a studio interaction. They have always had a big impact on how I do what I do.

How long does it take to make a sculpture?
During my final year as an undergrad I only made two pieces. For me it seems to be a long drawn-out process that takes quite awhile. I enjoy the time it takes to make a very mechanical drawn-out precise piece. I like the breathing room it gives me.
The Department of Fine Arts established the Art of Thinking Series in fall 2013. This spring it has produced another line-up of successful alumni whose critical and creative thinking skills provide models for current students.

**Joey Hays ‘03**, Landscape Designer, Philadelphia, Penn.  
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 8 p.m., Rutledge 119  
Joey has a 2003 Winthrop grad with a B.F.A. and B.S. in mathematics. He currently lives in Philadelphia where he works as landscape designer at OLIN. Hays holds a M.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon University and a M.L.A. from the University of Virginia where he received an ASLA Student Merit Award in 2012.

**Mark McLeod ‘02**, Assistant Professor of Art, Cleveland State Community College  
Thursday, February 27, 8 p.m., Rutledge 119  
Mark McLeod is a 2002 Winthrop B.F.A. grad in sculpture and holds a M.F.A. from Syracuse University. His hometown is Sumter, S.C., and he currently lives in Cleveland, Tenn., where he is an assistant professor of art at Cleveland State Community College.

Tuesday, March 11, 8 p.m., Rutledge 119  
Beth Melton holds a 2003 B.F.A. and a 2010 M.F.A. from Winthrop. She lives and works in her hometown of Rock Hill, S.C. where she manages Follow the Thread Fiber Studio as a professional artist. Beth has been recognized with a South Carolina Arts Commission Visual Arts Fellowship and by the Center for Craft, Creativity and Design in Asheville, N.C., with a Graduate Research Grant to study the work of Anni Albers at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation in Bethany, Conn.

**Katie Poterala ‘09**, Artist and Educator, Greenville, S.C.  
Monday, April 7, 7:30 p.m., Rutledge 119  
Katie Poterala is a 2009 Winthrop B.F.A. graduate and holds a M.F.A. in metals from Arizona State University. Katie currently lives in her hometown of Greenville, S.C., where she maintains a studio practice. She is an adjunct at Winthrop and silversmithing instructor in Tryon, N.C.

Tuesday, April 17, 11 a.m., Rutledge 119  
Alana Owens is a 2004 Winthrop B.A. in art education graduate. She holds a M.A. in creative arts in therapy: art therapy specialization from Drexel University, Philadelphia, Penn. Her hometown is Landrum, S.C., and she currently lives in New Orleans, La., where she works as a teaching artist at the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts.

**Fine Arts Education Initiative Fund**  
Creativity + Community + Collaboration = Mindset  
Your support of our student-based learning initiatives allows the Department of Fine Arts to fund programs and projects for the future of our engaged students including:  
- The Art of Thinking, fine arts alumni presentations.  
- Globally relevant visiting artists like Fátima Santos.  
- Real-world learning experiences like Family Trust or downtown public art project.  
- Scholarships for worthy students in immediate need.

Please consider making a gift to the Department of Fine Arts. We have many different giving levels available and 100 percent of your gift goes toward student educational experiences and opportunities. To make a gift simply complete the form below and return to: Department of Fine Arts, 305 McLaurin Hall, Rock Hill, SC 29733.

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