

Illuminations From Jane's Tribe

Newsletter for the Art Education and Art Therapy Community



This newsletter is created in honor of our founder, Jane Betsy Welling, and the gift of her inspiration to students and staff from 1927-1950.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



2010 Art Education & Art Therapy Alumni Exhibition - a Huge Success!



The 2010 annual Alumni Exhibition that opened on March 25th featured artists John Wood and Suzanne Paridee. The exhibition was a stunning success. Art History professor Mame Jackson, juror for the show, stated, "The level of quality of this first show will set a trajectory for the expectations in the future."

John and Suzanne's work complement each other. His works, composed of pewter with acrylic surfaces are "engaging and aesthetically compelling" says Jackson. "They draw me in...but in an unsettling way, which I assume is the artist's intent," she continues. Such titles as *Fetid Breath*, *Infanticide* and *Courting-Bananas Foster* do indeed intrigue and demand closer inspection and observation by the viewer. Though John's work is small in size, "there is a conceptual complexity and visual appeal that belies the underlying themes which, in some cases, are quite ominous," Jackson states. Nonetheless, John's works certainly speak for an artist whose dedication to his art is exceptional.

Suzanne's watercolor images are

equally compelling, and again demand our close scrutiny. "Her images," says Jackson, "are well resolved and particularly interesting for the seemingly effortless balance they maintain between simplicity and complexity, between turning outward toward representation and inward toward the joy of manipulating pigment on paper." Suzanne's intricate attention to detail and sensitive expression in water media make her paintings exceptional. There is a quiet, yet ferocious energy in her images. Suzanne's works, like John's, bespeak an individual whose creativity and dedication is exceptional.

The exhibition opening was well attended, and included former program coordinator of Art Education, Fred Attebury, and his wife Sandy, Alumnus and former Art Education faculty member. Alumni and current Art Education students and faculty were charmed by their presence. Old and new acquaintances were made, and a festive atmosphere prevailed. This certainly sets the stage for a grand Alumni Exhibition next year.

IN THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Faculty Feature | 2 |
| Community Service Award Winner | 2 |
| Art Therapy Alumni | 3 |
| Fredrick C. Neff Memorial Lecture | 4 |
| Students Loan Art | 4 |
| Events Calendar | 5 |
| AT Winter Workshop | 6 |
| Art Education Student Teachers | 7 |
| Student Feature | 7 |
| Adegbenro Cartoon | 8 |
| Digital Newsletter | 8 |

Illuminations from Jane's Tribe

Detroit Artists Market's Annual Scholarship Awards and Exhibition featuring Denes Galfi

On March 12th the Detroit Artists Market (DAM) opened its prestigious annual scholarship exhibition, honoring Wayne State University and College for Creative Studies (CCS) distinguished faculty and alumni for outstanding work. This exhibition featured a drawing titled, "A Wedding of the Ego to Spirit" from Art Education faculty member Denes Galfi.

Galfi has exhibited his artwork nationally and



internationally for many years, including exhibits in Brazil, Italy, France, and Japan. He taught at CCS for more than 35 years and continues to offer occasional workshops there. Galfi has also been teaching at WSU for over 5 years.

Denes Galfi's specialty is multi-layered intaglio prints, which are extremely detailed and require an incredible amount of time and energy. Galfi's work displays a distinct organic abstraction. His current drawings are created with carbon pencils and a variety of erasers – these drawings slowly develop and change many times before they are "finished." Galfi draws inspiration from "The Ego and the Dynamic Ground" by Michael Washburn. His drawings are explorations of the various possible relationships and are metaphors for stories, indirectly representative of the unfolding relationship at hand.

"Throughout this forty year teaching career the interplay between the "what" and the "how" has remained

(continued on page 6)

Community Service Award Winner

It is with great pleasure that we announce that this year's Community Service Award will be given to Adeboye Adegbenro, a graduate of our post-baccalaureate certification program, who is also a master's student in Visual Arts Education. Adegbenro is currently a visual arts teacher at the Nsoroma Institute, in Detroit, and has also worked at Disney Studios on well-known animation productions, including *Pocahontas* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

Adeboye has a long history of taking a stand on issues of social justice both in the United States and his homeland, Nigeria. An artist of many talents, he played saxophone in the band of the outspoken Fela Kuti in Lagos in the late 1980s. Kuti was known for his criticism of corruption in the Nigerian government, and his music became a focus of political opposition to despots throughout western Africa. A keen

observer of local and world politics, Adeboye has used his visual arts skills to share his insights in this arena. Featured on the back of this newsletter is a fine example from his published book of political cartoons.

Adeboye uses music to entertain and to inform. He has been an active voice of conscience in Nigeria and the U.S. through the music he writes. He frequently performs in the Detroit area with his band, the Odu Afrobeat Orchestra. His music is a sophisticated blend of jazz, funk, and rock, mixed with African rhythms and lyrics. If you get the chance to see him perform, it is a music that will inspire, bring a smile to your face, and get you moving!

For these and many other gifts to our community, we wish to acknowledge Adeboye with our annual Community Service Award. He is a role model for us all, especially the children whom he teaches.



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Art Therapy Alumni Features Gail Singer, MA, LLPC

Gail Singer graduated with her MA in Counseling with a concentration in Art Therapy in 2008. She writes, "The classes at Wayne gave me a solid background and understanding of the history and development of art therapy as a psychotherapeutic theory."

Gail says, "It wasn't until my final year at Wayne – in what should have been my practicum and internship year – that I found my specific niche. At the beginning of that summer, I was diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer. This led to a number of surgeries, many months of chemotherapy and six weeks of radiation. One of my first calls was to a fellow classmate, Mary Alleyne, to come and do art therapy with me during my chemo treatments. That experience was invaluable in showing me, first-hand, the benefits of art therapy in the cancer journey."

Following her cancer treatment, Gail completed an internship at the Weisberg Cancer Center. She wrote her master's essay about an adolescent with whom she worked who was experiencing anticipatory grief over his mother's cancer and terminal diagnosis.

After about a year following graduation, Gail was offered a position as the first art therapist at the Great Lakes Cancer Institute for McLaren Regional Hospital in Flint. Her job is to create an art therapy program beginning with this site.

She writes via email:

"I started in December 2009 and, so far, have met with individuals with cancer and their caregivers,



created a staff workshop, run a number of the breast cancer group sessions, have given two presentations, setup and began running a bi-monthly art therapy workshop at the Flint Institute of Arts for individuals with cancer and their caregivers, and have scheduled an art therapy program at the McFarlan Home for elderly women beginning in April. But, this is just the beginning.

In addition to McLaren, I run the Caregiver's Group at Weisberg twice a month, and also see clients at Jewish Family Services. I have two upcoming presentations on "Parenting through Cancer" for Karmanos – one at the Weisberg Facility and one at the Cancer Society in Southfield. In the past, my choices may have felt random and arbitrary, but now I can look back and see they prepared me to be exactly where I am."

Mary Ann Aitken, ATR-BC, LCAT



Mary Ann Aitken graduated from Wayne State University in 1983 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, and went on to earn her graduate degree in Art Therapy in 1987. She has also studied at the Art Student League in New York City. Mary Ann has been working in New York as an art therapist at Woodhull Hospital's in-patient psychiatric and detox units for over twenty years.

As an artist, Mary Ann has participated in group

exhibitions at the Gallery Project in Ann Arbor and at the Brooklyn Artists Gym in Brooklyn, New York. Her work is represented in the collection of Wayne State University as well as the private collection of Burt Aaron.

At this year's American Art Therapy Association Conference in Dallas, Mary Ann presented a film she made entitled, "The Story of Cordula: With Time Short, A Passion To Paint." The film is about a colleague of Mary Ann's, a 52-year-old mother of two from Brooklyn who was diagnosed with a brain tumor, who, after undergoing several failed treatment options, decided to end all medical treatment. Originally trained as an artist, Cordula had not worked as an artist professionally until after her diagnosis. Cordula was told that she might have only a year to live and it was then that she embarked on an inspiring career as a painter; she had three shows in New York City before she died. Different as her paintings are, Aitken said, they all reflect aspects of her condition. Cordula used painting as a coping mechanism and found that painting kept her "in the moment." Mary Ann Aitken showed her film to the COE art therapy classes in February, 2010.

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Frederick C. Neff Memorial Lecture in Philosophy and Education

The College of Education, the Art Therapy Program, and the Michigan Association of Art Therapy presented a free lecture on the Diagnostic Drawing Series, April 23, 2010, in the Bernath Auditorium in the David Adamany Undergraduate Library.

This lecture described the Diagnostic Drawing Series (DDS), a standardized art interview of tested reliability and validity. The three-drawing DDS, originally designed for use in adult psychiatric settings, has been studied continuously for the past twenty-five years in an international collaborative research project. Distinct graphic profiles are identified in the DDSs of various psychiatric groups that facilitate differential diagnosis among them. The originators of the DDS, Barry Cohen and Anne Mills of Alexandria, Virginia were the presenters.

The lecture was made possible through the *Fredrick C. Neff Memorial Lecture in Philosophy and Education*, endowed by a generous gift to the College of Education from Pauline Bergener, a long-time and devoted friend of



Neff. Professor Neff joined the College of Education faculty at Wayne State University in 1959. He served as chairman of the Department of History and Philosophy of Education for 12 years and as professor until his retirement in 1980.



Painting by Julie Moreno



Counseling Reception Area

Students Loan Artwork

Many thanks go to art therapy and counseling graduate students Julie Moreno, Kerin Clark, Laura Grande, Jackie Kennedy, and Amy Strong, all of whom loaned their artwork to the College of Education Counseling Program during the recent visit by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Programs accreditation team. The artwork was installed in the individual session rooms and the reception area of the Counseling and Testing Center. The accreditation team commented about the nice facilities, which contributed to their favorable impression of the program. Special thanks go to Hayat Ali, counseling student and daughter of art therapy student Makini Ali, who created three collages and donated them to the Counseling Program.



Collage by Hayat Ali

Illuminations from Jane's Tribe

Happenings

May 2010

2010 WSU Visual Art Education Exhibition, Art Department Gallery, May 14th until June 11th, Opening Reception: Friday, May 14th, 5-8pm. For more information please call 313.577.5469

William Gropper & New Social Commentary Art, Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, May 14th until June 25th, Opening Reception: Friday, May 14th, 5-8pm. For more information please call 313.577.0770

Detroit Experiences: Robert Frank Photographs, 1955, Detroit Institute of Arts, now until July 3rd. For more information please visit www.dia.org

2010 All Media Exhibition, Detroit Artists Market, now until June 5th. For info. visit www.detroitartistsmarket.org

Through African Eyes: The European in African Art, 1500 to Present, DIA, now until August 8th. For more information visit www.dia.org

Start. Stop. Repeat., Anton Art Center, now until June 19th. For more info visit www.theartcenter.org

Seventy-Third Annual Detroit Public Schools Student Exhibition, DIA, now until May 30th. For more information, please visit www.mocadetroit.org

The Beaux Stratagem, Hilberry Theatre, now until May 15th. For more info. visit www.hilberry.com

20th Annual ART Birmingham 2010, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, May 15th & 16th, Sat. 10am-6pm & Sun. 10am-5pm. For more information visit www.bbartcenter.org

Target Free Family Fun Sunday, The Anton Art Center, May 23rd, 1-4pm. For more information visit www.theartcenter.org

Visit Detroit's Museum of New Art in Pontiac, For more information visit www.detroitmona.com



June/July 2010

WSU Art Education Reunion Picnic, Stony Creek Metro Park, June 12th at 12pm. For more information email artedalums@gmail.com

Art & Autism Workshop, WSU's Community Arts Bldg. June 26th from 9am-3:30pm. Cost is \$35.00. Please call 313.577.1823 or email hfeen@wayne.edu

Fibers Methods & Materials 3 cr. taught by Najma Wilson, Summer Semester, June 30th until August 20th, room #162 Community Arts Bldg. For more information visit www.pipeline.wayne.edu

Printmaking Methods & Materials 3 cr. taught by Denes Galfi, Summer Semester, June 30th until August 20th, room #160 Community Arts Bldg. For more information visit www.pipeline.wayne.edu

Art Therapy in Schools 3 cr. taught by Linda Ulrich, Summer Semester, June 30th until August 20th, room #158 Community Arts Bldg. For more information visit www.pipeline.wayne.edu

Detroit Film Theatre
The 2010 Schedule is available on their website www.dia.org/dft

We invite all alumni to consider writing for this newsletter. Because we can all learn and benefit from your experiences and knowledge, we would love to hear what you have to say. Articles should be relatively brief (consider the lengths in this edition) and submitted electronically in Microsoft Word format to Dr. Jim Brown at ap7377@wayne.edu or Dr. Holly Feen at hfeen@wayne.edu.
Thank you.

Wayne State University Board of Governors
Richard Bernstein, *chair*; Tina Abbott, *vice-chair*; Debbie Dingell, Eugene Driker, Diane L. Dunaskiss, Paul E. Massaron, Annetta Miller, Gary S. Pollard, Jay Noren, *ex officio*

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Art Therapy Workshop Winter 2010

Each winter the Saturday Art Therapy Workshop is offered to members of the local community. The workshop serves as a practicum class for the art therapy students. Although some participants have attended the winter sessions for years, each year brings new registrants as well.

A large number of participants enrolled in the 2010 session included 20 women requesting to participate in a women's group. In response, two women's groups were formed. Student art therapists Lindsey Klingenberg and Megan Schmidt worked with one group, and Sarah Watson worked with a second group, assisted by Carol Cranston.

The participants were offered a variety of experiences including guided meditation and directed and non-directed open studio experiences. In one experiential the participants created life-sized body drawings, embellished with symbols indicating important issues

unique to their lives. Many group members had a powerful response to this and were able to share more of themselves with the others as a result.

In another experiential, the women created clay shoes following the directive "create a shoe that represents you, where you are going, or where you have been." As an example, one woman made a shoe with a heart on the sole, so she could, "leave a little love wherever I go." All of the art works were stunning, entertaining, and touching. This experiential inspired memories from the past and goals for the future.

After spending part of each session making art, the groups shared their artwork with one another. Each group was comprised of a mix of women of all ages and from various backgrounds. Each brought unique ideas and experiences to the groups that enriched the discussions. Participants were incredibly creative, insightful, and humorous each week, which made for a great semester.



(continued from page 2)

of paramount importance. In all respects the studio has always served as a vital laboratory for testing, reassessing, and pushing the boundaries of both the medium and perhaps even more importantly the academic delivery system that it is dependent upon for its continual survival. All the print work is a direct outgrowth of the sustained, persistent educational commitment and cultivation of the discipline and the sharing of those findings.

"In many important respects, as an artist I have been in search of that which is unthinkable until it is revealed in the actual interchange itself through which articulation takes place, which transforms a host of elusive

intangibles into something concrete. These efforts bring together my fascination with organic structures and formative potentialities, thus the work serves as a site where a certain contact can be established, explored and illuminated. Here, I can spend time indulging my curiosity, fluidly directing my attention, making linkages and dwelling on the interplay between things. There is a dynamic here that exists exclusively within the realities of an image that above all serves as a vehicle of thought that yields a distinctively unique synthesis. Thus image-making provides modes of experience through which contemplative cognition can be rather effectively cultivated as well as objectified."

- Denes Galfi

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Art Education Student Teachers

At press time, Art Education student teachers concluded another year in classrooms throughout Southeast Michigan. Under the mentoring of talented art educators, many of whom are COE Art Education alumni, these student teachers experienced first-hand their role as future educators of today's youth.

Whether completing full-time or part-time student teaching assignments, our Art Education students demonstrated their commitment and success as they participated in numerous national and regional art exhibitions where their students' work excelled.

Recently, in a regional show in Macomb County, Art Education student teachers Michelle Sabol and Alissa Mellis-Gruba exhibited work from several of their students. One of Michelle Sabol's students received an award for her work created in Michelle's digital photography class. Michelle recently completed her

student teaching contact at East Detroit High School and had several students' works in this exhibition.

Alissa Mellis-Gruba, who just completed her contact at Fraser High School, also had students from her painting class exhibiting in this show, including one who received an award for her "yarn painting." Also exhibiting award-winning student work was former Art Education student and alumnus Meresa Tambourini, who also teaches at Fraser.

Michelle and Alissa are only two of our students whose personal dedication and hard work was demonstrated this past academic year. We are proud of the achievements of all of our students and wish them well as they graduate.

We are equally grateful to all veteran Art Educators, who year after year share their expertise with our students. It is their dedication and mentoring that helps our students succeed.



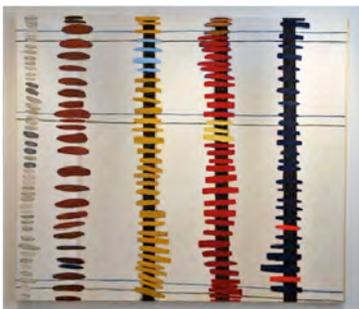
Student Feature Robert Brian Cronin

Robert Brian Cronin, better known as Brian, has long held a passion for painting, and it was in high school that he realized paint would be his medium of choice and concentration in college. In 1997, Brian graduated from University of Georgia's Lamar Dodd School of Art with his BFA in Drawing and Painting. Three years later Brian decided to move to Detroit and began attending fine art classes Wayne State. He went on to earn his MFA in Painting from WSU in 2003.

Brian's preferred materials are oil paint, oil pastel, and paper collage. His creation process is careful and extensive; he is meticulous about every detail of his work. His work ranges in size from 8"x10" to 62"x54." Brian's paintings have been shown in the All Media Exhibition at the Detroit Artists Market, as well as at the Final Cut Exhibition at the Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit, both held in 2010.

Brian is now taking Art Education courses in the College of Education, and hopes to earn his teacher certification in the near future. He says that hopefully by then the economy will be better and he can find a job teaching his passion to young students.

He adds, "Art is important in that it teaches people to appreciate all things in life."



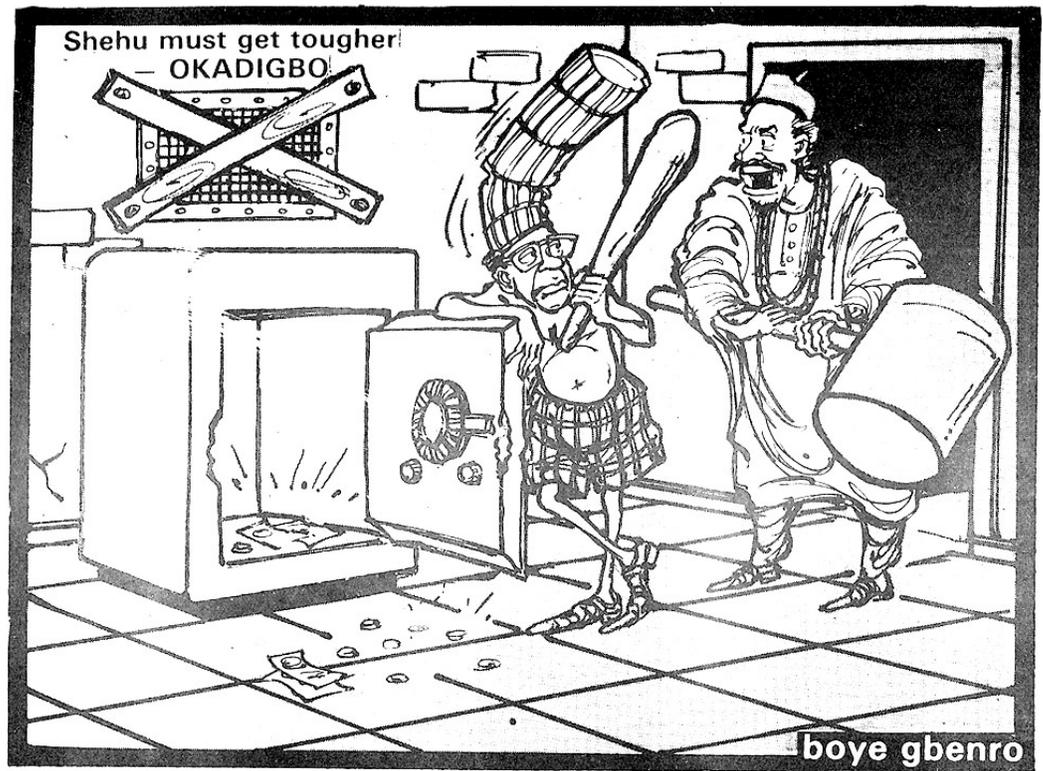
Newsletter
for the WSU Art
Education and
Art Therapy
Community

**Note to Alumni:
Help us BE GREEN**

In an effort to reduce the
amount of paper
mailings, we would like
to move to a digital
newsletter.

If you are interested in
viewing an online
version of the newsletter
in place of a paper copy,
please send your name
and email address to:

arted_arttherapy@
wayne.edu



Take this sir, and don't worry, I will tell our men to keep off!

National Concord 18th February, 1983.

A depiction of the desperation which the former civilian leadership was getting into after bringing the national treasury to a sorry state. A high-handed, tough-guy stance seemed the most attractive way to stem the rising tide of public discontent.

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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Visual Arts
Education/Art Therapy
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