

DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS

2016 Annual MFA, BFA, BA Student Exhibition:

April 8 - May 15

The Department of Art, Art History & Design celebrated the annual MFA, BFA, and BA Student Exhibition in the Snite Museum and in the Art Gallery of O'Shaughnessy Hall with an opening reception on April 8, 2016. These exhibits showcase the graduating BA, BFA, and MFA thesis projects in studio art and design. The thesis project represents a year-long investigation involving research and production demonstrating our student's unique ability to express complex concepts and themes, and applying various strategies and processes that are individual to their particular disciplines in design and studio art. The exhibits will be open through Sunday, May 15. (pictured: award winners Hannah Chiarella, Emily Gasta, and Chris Dant)



Student Awards and Achievements

Walter Beardsley Award: For best in show at the graduate level, photography MFA Christopher Dant received the Snite Museum's Walter Beardsley Award for his project "Worthy Sons" that focuses on the commonalities between skateboarding teenage boys who are growing up in homes without fathers and the culture that surrounds them in the South Bend area.

Emil Jacques Gold and Silver Medal: The Emil Jacques Gold and Silver Medals are the oldest and most prestigious of departmental distinctions. The medals are awarded by the faculty to the two most outstanding undergraduate senior BFA students. Criteria include academic excellence, studio achievement, leadership, and citizenship in the department.

The Emil Jacques Gold Medal for Excellence - Hannah Chiarella

The Emil Jacques Silver Medal for Excellence - Emily Gasta

A complete list of this year's award winners can be found [here](#).



18th Annual Alumni Design Conference

Graduates from the class of 2006 returned to AAHD for this spring's 18th annual Alumni Design Conference to share their experiences since graduating ten years ago from the Notre Dame Design Program. Eleven alumni were invited back to campus this year to discuss their careers and conduct portfolio reviews with current students. Thursday night featured Keynote speaker Tom Schlegel, Senior Vice President of Product Development at Radio Flyer. Tom holds a dual degree in Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Design and is a graduate of the class of 1989. On Friday, the alums lectured about their professional experiences, followed by the portfolio review session. Saturday featured the design program's Crawfish Boil, a long-standing social tradition begun in the 1980s. (pictured: Tom Schlegel)

More information on the 18th Annual Alumni Design Conference can be found [here](#).

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Christine Anspach interning at The Frick

Rising BA senior and art history student Christine Anspach has been accepted into a highly competitive summer internship at the [Frick Collection's Art Reference Library](#) in New York City. Anspach will specifically be working within the Frick's Photoarchive, assisting in providing public access to more than 1.2 million reproductions of works, in addition to organizing scholarly documentation. Her duties will include, but will not be limited to, digitalizing the Photoarchive collection and collaborating with the digital art collections of other prestigious institutions.

In the fall of 2015 Anspach was enrolled in the Snite Museum of Art's PhotoFuture class, which helped students develop their own collecting criteria in order to recommend a photograph for the Snite's permanent collection.



Kevin Phaup - Making Stuff that Matters

The design program's commitment to "design for social good" was again demonstrated when graduating industrial design MFA, Kevin Phaup, made a trip to Nepal after the devastating 2015 earthquake that killed over 8,000 people, and displaced more than 3 million. Phaup visited Nepal in December 2014 to obtain research on his original thesis project, which involved designing a postural support device for wheelchair users in developing countries. During his second visit, the earthquake disaster inspired a different avenue for his thesis, "Pack: Rapid Shelter System". "Pack" is a pre-packaged backpack that contains easy-to-assemble shelter components that utilize locally sourced bamboo, giving impoverished victims an opportunity for temporary and effective shelters after natural disasters. Read more on the development of this inspiring project [here](#).

Phaup recently accepted an Assistant Professor tenure-track position at James Madison University.

FACULTY NEWS

Randy Coleman retires after 33 years

Art History Professor Robert (Randy) Coleman will retire from the University this June, 2016, after 33 years of teaching Italian art history in the Department of Art, Art History and Design. Coleman began working in the Medieval Institute as a researcher and cataloguer for Italian Old Master drawings conserved in the Biblioteca Ambrosiana, Milan. This initial work became a life-long project and for many years now, Randy has served as Project Director for the Inventory-Catalogue of the Drawings of the Biblioteca Ambrosiana, a joint project of the Medieval Institute, Notre Dame, and the Pinacoteca/Ambrosiana, Milan.



The inventory-catalogue currently has over 8000 drawings catalogued and is available [online](#).

ALUMNI STORIES



Julie Farstad '97 - Professor of Painting, KCAI

Notre Dame alumna Julie Farstad recently visited Notre Dame to present a lecture on her artwork and current projects. Farstad is Professor of Painting, and Chair of the Painting Department at the Kansas City Art Institute. She works in oil, watercolors, and quilted fabric paintings that explore girlhood, mysticism, and landscape. Born and raised in Elmira, New York, Farstad earned a BFA in Painting from the University of Notre Dame in 1997, and an MFA in Painting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2000. Her work is represented by Zg Gallery in Chicago, Illinois. Farstad has exhibited her work nationally, with solo shows most recently at Zg Gallery, Plug Projects in Kansas City, Missouri, and Studios Inc. in Kansas City. She was awarded a three-year residency at The Studios Inc. in Kansas City in 2010 and her work was exhibited in Women to Watch 2010, Body of Work: New Perspectives in Figure Painting at the National Museum for Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. Julie Farstad lives in Kansas City with her husband and two children.

Thinking and Making is published by the department of Art, Art History & Design.

Send comments to the Department at Art@ND.edu. For more information about the department, visit our web site at artdept.nd.edu.

