

Patriot Digest

The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter Jan. 14, 2005

28th-annual Art's Alive festival to feature art show

The annual Art's Alive festival on the campus of Francis Marion University will have a new addition this year: an art show featuring visual arts and fine crafts.

The 28th-annual festival, and the art show, will be held on Saturday, April 16, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

Art's Alive is an all-day festival of the performing and visual arts, and features a wide variety of dance, music, theatrical performances and song.

The Art's Alive Art Show is a one-day exhibition and sales event designed to promote the quality of diverse artisans residing in the region. In addition to booths displaying items for sale, several sites will have artisans demonstrating

their skills.

The art show will be juried, with cash awards of \$600, \$300 and \$150 awarded to first, second and third place respectively.

Area artists are invited to participate. There is an application/jury fee of \$75 (\$65 for Florence residents). Applications must be received by Feb. 15.

For more information or an application, contact Libby Cooper, FMU's director of community relations, at 1225, or ecooper@fmarion.edu.

Applications are also available at the Lynda English Studio-Gallery, located at 403 Second Loop Road in Florence.

National Players to perform 'Romeo and Juliet,' Jan. 24

National Players will present Williams Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," Monday, Jan. 24, at Francis Marion University, as part of the university's Artist Series.

The performance will begin at 8 p.m. in the McNair Science Building auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public, and seating is on a first-come, first-seated basis.

Written in the mid-1590s and first published in 1597, "Romeo and Juliet" is Shakespeare's first non-historical tragedy, and it is in many ways the richest and most mature of his early works.

Filled with all the passion and turbulence of young love, this timeless story of star-crossed lovers is a master-

piece of poetry and a whirlwind of emotion.

National Players, America's longest running classical touring company, has now reached its 56th consecutive season of touring. Currently the touring program of Olney Theatre Center for the Arts in Olney, Md., National Players has earned a distinctive place in American theater.

Committed to the formation of young theatrical talent and audiences, National Players seeks to celebrate the experience of theatergoing by presenting the world's greatest dramatic literature.

National Players has performed for the public in 35 states and 10 foreign countries, reaching audiences in areas

that are isolated geographically or economically; audiences that would otherwise never see quality live performances of classic plays.

Continuing in the tradition of traveling players, the troupe is totally involved in every aspect of the plays they perform. They arrive a few hours before their scheduled performance to prepare each stage: raise the set, hang and focus the lights, check sound equipment and props, arrange dressing rooms, and perhaps run a brush-up rehearsal before donning costumes and makeup. When the final curtain falls, they do everything in reverse.

More information about the group can be found at www.nationalplayers.org.

FMU to host Graduate and Professional Program Open House, Jan. 24

The Francis Marion University Office of Graduate Programs will host a Graduate and Professional Program Open House, Monday, Jan. 24.

The event will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in The Cottage on the FMU campus.

This event will highlight FMU's master's degree programs in psychology, education, and business, as

well as FMU's new undergraduate Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

Faculty from each of these areas will be present to meet prospective students, outline program requirements, and answer questions. Staff members will also be available to discuss admissions and financial assistance. For more information, call the Provost's Office at 1284.

Faculty/Staff News

Kristy Hughes of Florence has joined the FMU staff as a student services counselor in the Nursing Department. She received a B.S. degree in biology from FMU in 1999 and a teaching license from the University of Iowa in 2004.

Jeff Pompe, professor of economics, and **Travis Knowles**, assistant professor of biology, have had a paper titled "The Safe Harbor Program for Red-cockaded

Woodpeckers in South Carolina: An Incentive to Conservation for Private Landowners" accepted for publication by the Southern Business and Economic Journal.

Eunice Rabon, director of publications and printing, was injured in an accident while in Ecuador over the holidays. She is currently recuperating at HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital in Florence.

Society of Physics Students receives national recognition

The Francis Marion University chapter of the Society of Physics Students has been named an Outstanding SPS Chapter for the 2003-2004 school year.

Less than 10 percent of SPS chapters nationwide are so honored - about one per state.

The selection is based on the depth and breadth of SPS activities conducted by the chapter in such areas as physics research, public science outreach, physics tutoring programs, hosting and representation at physics meetings, and providing social interaction for chapter members.

SPS is the professional society for physics students and their mentors. With over 4,500 members in over 700 chapters on college campuses, SPS provides opportunities for physics students across the nation, including research awards, outreach programs, scholarships, and travel awards.

The FMU chapter was founded in 1985, and last year changed its name to the Society of Physics and Engineering Students (SPES) to accommodate engineering students.

FMU physics professors Seth Smith and Derek Jokisch are the advisers of the organization.

"This award is due to the collective efforts of the excellent students in the Department of Physics and Astronomy," said Smith. "They have worked very hard to make SPES a vibrant organization, and I am very proud of them. They are a large part of the dramatic growth that our department has experienced in recent years. It is a joy to be one of their professors."

The FMU chapter was also recently named SPS "Chapter of the Month," joining the University of Tennessee and the University of Louisville as the only chapters to achieve that distinction thus far.

Entries being sought for Lewis E. Beasley Americanism Scholarship

The Lewis E. Beasley Americanism Scholarship is awarded to the student who submits the most effective paper arguing for (1) the form of government established by the U.S. Constitution, and (2) the American private enterprise system.

Competition for this scholarship is limited to undergraduate students enrolled at Francis Marion University. The winner of the Lewis E. Beasley Americanism Scholarship, valued at \$500, will be announced at Academic Awards Day in the spring semester.

Papers will be judged on strength of argument, presentation, and style. Throughout the paper the principles of

effective writing will be observed. Manuscripts must be typewritten, double-spaced, with standard margins and a commonly accepted font.

Each manuscript must be no less than eight and no more than 12 pages long, exclusive of the title page. Where appropriate, the paper should be documented. The selection committee will read each paper without knowledge of its author.

To be considered for this competition, papers must be received in the Office of the Provost by 5 p.m. on Jan. 21, 2005. The selection committee encourages all interested students to enter this scholarship competition.

**Spring 2005 FMU Faculty Senate
and General Faculty Meetings**
(All are at 3:45 p.m.)

Faculty Senate Meetings - in UC 218
February 15, March 29, April 19

Faculty Meetings - in McNair Auditorium
March 1, April 12

***Let the FMU community
know what you've
been up to!***

**E-Mail faculty and staff news to
thudak@fmarion.edu**

Rogers Library increases number of user visits in 2004

During 2004, Rogers Library counted 151,219 customer visits. This represents a 7 percent increase over the previous calendar year, or 10,118 more user visits. September was the busiest month, with 22,211 users in the library. Dec. 5 saw an all-time record number of Sunday users, at 535.

Students flocked to the library to study, use study carrels, read e-mail, perform research in both print and electronic formats, do word processing and other computer-assisted work, read books, journals, and newspapers, seek reference assistance, check out books and reserve materials,

look for information on the web, copy information from print and electronic sources, attend library instruction classes, use and copy microforms, and return borrowed items.

Rogers Library's busiest year on record was 1997, with 154,061 patron visits. The least busy year since records have been maintained (1991) was 2002, with 115,055 customer visits.

"To go from 115,000 customer visits to 151,000 in two years is a phenomenal 31.4 percent increase," library dean Paul Dove noted.

Drawings, digital images and clay works to be exhibited through Feb. 17

Drawings by Howard Frye, digital images by Kathleen Pompe, and sculptural/functional clay works from the University of South Carolina's ceramics program will be on display as part of Francis Marion University's Art Gallery Series through Feb. 17.

The displays are open to the public, free of charge, and may be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday in the Hyman Fine Arts Center galleries.

Frye is an assistant professor of art education at FMU. "I've always been attracted to the expressive qualities of line and so I have a natural affinity for drawing," Frye said. "Looking at a drawing, you get a glimpse of the

artist's thought process in its most direct form; you can see where the artist paused, and which parts of the drawing he or she gave the most attention."

Pompe's exhibit is titled "Reorganization of Space." "The digital images are narratives of landscapes that only partially exist," Pompe said. "They represent views of places that are personal, surreal, and a product of my imagination. Although I present views of places as they exist today, I can't resist creating personal, imagined places."

Pompe is a professor of photography at FMU.

The clay exhibition will highlight

the creative research from the University of South Carolina's ceramics program within the Department of Art.

The ceramics program has received national attention through its dynamic program, which is headed by Professor Virginia Scotchie. Scotchie has headed the program for the past 11 years and has exhibited her work on an international scale.

The graduate students in USC's ceramics program come from Michigan, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Korea. The work includes a variety of hand-built and wheel-thrown forms exploring new directions in the ceramic arts.

Paintings by James Meekins to be displayed through March 17

Paintings by James Meekins will be exhibited as part of Francis Marion University's Art Gallery Series, Jan. 11 through March 17.

The display is open to the public, free of charge, and may be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday in the Smith University Center gallery.

Meekins began to draw and paint very early in life due to the influence of two older sisters. They taught him to read and write at an early age and, as they were also talented at drawing and painting, they taught him those arts as well.

His first drawings were of horses, cattle and simple landscapes, as

Meekins was born on a Texas ranch where working animals dominated family life.

He attended many schools and had personal instruction under many leading artists. He studied color and composition under Thelma De Goede Smith, and attended many workshops in France, Holland and Germany in both design and portraits. He never abandoned the Western influence in his work, although he did a "Renaissance" series that won many awards, and does commissioned portraits as well.

His great, great grandfather, Jonathan Meekins, was an early settler in the old Cheraws, which later became Marlboro County. Jonathan Meekins'

sons and daughters moved to several of the surrounding counties, where James Meekins has acquired land that once belonged to his family.

His studio, once a school and lodge known as the Dalcho School, was built by Masons in 1874 and has itself survived through many changes in fortune.

Meekins came to South Carolina in 1989 seeking his roots and he found them through the help of many people in Dillon, Marlboro and other surrounding counties. Soon after he arrived, the Florence Museum invited him to exhibit his work, together with portrait artist Lorna Shanks. The show launched his art in the area.



Easy steps to prevent the flu

It's flu season again, and the best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu shot.

However, if you have been unable to do so there are several things you can do to decrease your chance of getting the flu.

■ **Avoid close contact.** Stay away from people who are sick.

■ **Stay home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and other public places when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.

■ **Cover your mouth and nose.** Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

■ **Clean your hands.** Germs can

live for two hours or more on surfaces such as doorknobs, desks, telephones and tables. Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.

■ **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.** Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.

■ **Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food.** Practicing healthy habits will help you stay healthy during flu season and all year long.

Some people are more at risk for this virus than others. If you are in any of these groups you should consider contacting a local flu clinic to receive a flu shot.

Welcome back faculty and staff!

Coming Up On Campus

JAN.

through Feb. 17 Art Gallery Series: Drawings by Howard Frye, HFAC galleries

through Feb. 17 Art Gallery Series: "Reorganization of Space," digital images by Kathleen Pompe, HFAC galleries

through Feb. 17 Art Gallery Series: Sculptural/Functional Clay from USC's Ceramics Program, HFAC galleries

through March 17 Art Gallery Series: Paintings by James Meekins, UC gallery

17 University closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

24 8 pm Artist Series: William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," by the National Players, McNair auditorium

FEB.

1 8 pm Concert: The Firenze String Quartet, Kassab Hall, HFAC

8 8 pm Concert: Stephen Carlson, piano, Kassab Hall, HFAC
22-April 7 Art Gallery Series: "Beginnings," paintings by Anya Belkina, HFAC gallery

22-April 7 Art Gallery Series: "Spirit Houses," by Carol Owens, HFAC gallery

Jobs On-Campus

(as of 1-11-05)

- Part-time Instructor of Spanish
- Temporary Full-Time Instructor of French
- Assistant Professor of History (East Asia)
- Assistant Professor of History (Europe)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Accounting
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Management Information Systems
- Assistant Professor of Nursing (Pediatric Nursing)
- Assistant Professor of Nursing (Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing)
- Assistant Professor of Nursing (Medical Surgical Nursing)
- Assistant Professor of Physics
- Instructor of English
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Mass Communication
- Administrative Associate - School of Business

Visit Human Resources, SAB 105, or call 1140.

Patriot Digest deadlines

Patriot Digest is published twice monthly and distributed on paydays. The printing schedule is:

<u>Copy due</u>	<u>Publication</u>
Jan. 23	Jan. 30

Submit articles via e-mail at thudak@fmarion.edu. Questions or comments? Contact Todd J. Hudak at 1227.

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