Healing Art
IPFW professor paints in a Chicago hospital

Once again, New York artist and IPFW Professor Audrey Ushenko has drawn an adoring crowd around her easel as she creates an exciting painting in a most unusual setting. Since June 2005, she has been painting at the University of Chicago Hospitals’ Duchossois Center for Advanced Medicine. She has placed her canvas in the three-story atrium of the hospital and has committed herself to painting a 4-foot by 5-foot oil rendition of the spacious area.

The “beautiful space with an open appearance and natural light,” as Ushenko describes it, caught her attention after repeated visits to the hospital, where her husband is a patient. “My husband’s illness has given me ambivalent feelings to the whole building and the activities going on there,” Ushenko explained. “There are hopes and fears there, which is something I can relate to. Because of my husband, I’m not an outsider looking in as I create this painting.”

Building administrators Michelle Novak and Michael Mann approached Ushenko about creating the atrium painting and asked her to join the hospital’s artist-in-residence program. Excited to take on the project, she started with a sketch of the atrium and volunteer models. The hospital staff were enthusiastic about the project and told Ushenko that the patients were interested as well.

“I want my students prepared for all the different types of students and environments in schools,” Resch said. “There’s a potential to develop a greater understanding of each other through Adams.”

The link with Adams was developed through Jill Dougherty, who teaches all music classes there. She approached Resch about student teaching, and eventually 12 music education students were invited to observe Dougherty’s students. The first day IPFW students visited, Dougherty came down with a surprise case of laryngitis just before her first-grade classes arrived. Three music education students helped teach a lesson on rhythm to three classes. Since then, Dougherty and music education students have had a tight rapport.

IPFW students Zach Cain and Suzy Buchs went to Adams once a week during the fall semester, observing and helping Dougherty with her classes. Buchs and student James “Jimmer” Moeller came on alternating nights, helping Dougherty and her classes prepare for Circle the State With Song (CSWS), a children’s choral festival. More than that, the IPFW chapter of the Music Educators National Conference: The National Association of Music Education (MENC) paid the tuition for Adams’ involvement at CSWS.

In fall 2005, IPFW students began a project with Adams through MENC, which has caused the school to become a required site for music education majors. Each student in Introduction to Music Education must spend one hour observing there.

“Nothing Without Joy”: IPFW partners with Whitney Young

Art is a universally shared language, though expressed in different ways. For adults, it can be a catharsis, career, or captivating experience. For children, it’s a way to declare what they know and to understand more about the world around them.

At the Whitney Young Early Childhood Education Center, an arts magnet school with Fort Wayne Community Schools, this is stressed above all else. Hallways are decorated with artwork made by preschool and kindergarten students, and in some places, colorful murals adorn the walls. A mobile hangs in the school’s open two-story atrium.

Associate professor Nancy McCroskey’s Site Specific Ceramic Class at IPFW has been visiting Whitney Young for nearly two semesters. The class is creating a ceramic mural, scheduled for installation in Whitney Young’s entryway in May 2006.

McCroskey has enjoyed the partnership between IPFW and Whitney Young. “We’ve appreciated learning from the teachers on what the philosophy of the school is and allowing us to work with their children,” she said. “We’ve loved seeing what they can do. The energy of the children has been an inspiration for all of us.”

Diana Parker, principal at Whitney Young, has observed blossoming relationships between fine arts students of all ages: “It took time for the IPFW and
The story behind *Story Theatre* p2
Great opportunities to be a part of art p3
Art Ed majors more than double p3
Bean named IMEA Administrator of the Year p4
George McCullough will be missed p6
Music alums featured in Jesus Christ Superstar p6
Check out our spring calendar p7

**VPA Visions** is a publication of the School of Visual and Performing Arts at Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne.

As northeast Indiana’s premier center for arts education, the school offers programs in fine arts, music, theatre and dance, and visual communication and design. More than 500 arts majors and minors study at IPFW, and numerous outreach activities are available to the community. VPA features more than 100 annual performances and exhibitions that are open to the public. Visit our Web site at [www.ipfw.edu/vpa](http://www.ipfw.edu/vpa).

---

**New Center Combines Engineering, Art, & Business**

If a local business needs help with industrial or design problems, where does it turn for help? Conversely, how do university professors find real-world experiences for their students, so they can test theories they have learned in the classroom and apply research findings to their field?

Now the IPFW Center of Excellence for Industrial Innovation and Design (CIID) provides services in response to those needs. The center focuses on industrial problem analysis for manufacturing; product design, modeling simulation, and prototyping; and business planning and marketing.

The center is a unique academic collaboration, providing the engineering, artistic, and business expertise of IPFW faculty and students. The schools of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science (ETS) and Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) in partnership with the IPFW School of Business and Management Sciences and the Northeast Indiana Innovation Center (NIIC) match students and faculty with regional entrepreneurs to develop creative solutions for real problems.

One of CIID’s recent clients is Kalista Johnston of Garrett, Ind., who needed logo and package design for her new business, Grace Island Specialty Foods Inc. Johnston originally sought help from the Allen County Extension Office, which suggested she work with associate faculty John Motz, of visual communication and design, and his students.

Motz’s students from Graphic Design III & IV are involved in package design for her product, Baked Cheese Crisps. “Package development goes through a number of phases, and it helps for us to be in close proximity as we work through the design process,” Motz explained. “Having the entrepreneur meet with students and engage in group discussions helped develop effective designs and ensure that Grace Island Baked Cheese Crisps tap into the product’s target market.”

CIID provides a variety of academic resources including three-dimensional modeling, CAD, real-time rendering, and package and Web design. The perfect client for the center is a community entrepreneur who wants to work with interdisciplinary student teams from a nonprofit educational organization.

According to Johnston, “I came with a pretty good concept of what the business was and what I was looking for. As it turned out, as the students’ ideas started emerging, it started sending me in new and exciting directions that I had never thought of before.”

Another client, Eco Vehicle from Charlotte, N.C., was a catalyst for CIID’s creation after IPFW departments presented their collaborative electric car project to Purdue University President Martin C. Jischke during his visit to IPFW last year. That project allowed Gerard Voland, CIID’s director and dean of ETS, to see the center’s potential: “We knew at that time we could provide exciting and innovative services for clients brought to us by groups like the Allen County Economic Development Alliance.”

CIID is housed in the IPFW Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science Building. For more information on how you can become involved with the center, call Yoland at 260-481-6893.

---

**The Story Unfolds: Improvisation for the entire family**

The play *Story Theatre* is much more than a conglomeration of children’s fairy tales. It is actually a theatrical style that encourages a specific approach to acting within the context of narrating a story. Playwright Paul Sills of Second City fame created improvisational plays, such as *Story Theatre*, using a method that is still used by actors today. This work was inspired by Sills’ mother, Viola Spolin, who wrote the book *Improvisation for the Theatre*, which is known in theatre circles as the “bible” of improvisational acting.

Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft, director of IPFW’s production of *Story Theatre*, uses this improvisational method in the play. Introduced to *Story Theatre* in high school, Purse-Wiedenhoeft was drawn to how the piece had been developed through improvisation. She suggested that IPFW produce the play, and when it was selected, she applied to participate in Paul Sills’ Improvisational Games Workshop in Bailey’s Harbor, Wis. It was a week of intensive master classes focusing on games and group interaction, with Paul and daughter Aretha Sills, to learn to give over to the idea of “playing” as an approach to acting.

Awarded this opportunity through a Faculty Development Grant from the School of Visual and Performing Arts, Purse-Wiedenhoeft will draw from her workshop experiences for her direction of *Story Theatre*, which opens in Williams Theatre on April 21. Using the premise of “play,” the improvisational auditions included manipulating imaginary objects in space, being animals, and general silliness. “You can’t hold back in this show,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said. “You have to be silly and help the audience to see the stories unfold.”

The cast members, all IPFW theatre students, play multiple roles, including that of narrators, so all the actors are onstage all of the time. While the show is obviously for younger audiences, it is written with adults in mind. “It’s like cartoons,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft explained. “Kids like the physical, visual part, while adults can enjoy the clever line.”

The original version of the play was a protest piece against the Vietnam War. While the stories have moral lessons and some darkness to them, Purse-Wiedenhoeft said that this production of *Story Theatre* is “not pushing the political aspects, but will play with the contrasts” for an enjoyable experience for every “kid” at heart.
Be a Part of Art

Entrepreneurship in the Arts
For students, alumni, and community artists who want to learn how to make a living through their art, the Entrepreneurship in the Arts Certificate is a new way VPA helps artists link their artistic creativity with the powerful tools of business knowledge. Through six classes in entrepreneurship, participants will acquire a basic understanding of business plans, market analysis, budgeting, accounting, and legal issues, as well as management in their artistic specialization. The program was designed by VPA in consultation with the IPFW School of Business and Management Sciences, the Northeast Indiana Small Business Development Center, and the IPFW Division of Continuing Studies. Instruction will be provided by experts from the business community and successful arts entrepreneurs. Classes will be held Thursday evenings from May 17 to June 21, 2006, at $35 per course or $180 for all six classes. For more information and registration, please contact the IPFW Division of Continuing Studies at 260-480-6619.

International Photography Contest
For those who have taken creative, original, and high-quality pictures of places outside of the United States, IPFW’s International Studies Program is sponsoring the first annual International Photography Contest. It is open to all IPFW faculty, students, and staff with prizes for high-quality pictures of places outside of the United States, IPFW's International Studies Certificate. Winning photographs may also be used in calendars and greeting cards. The deadline for all entries is Friday, March 24, 2006, at 5 p.m. For more information, e-mail Professor Nancy Virtue at virtue@ipfw.edu.

Teachers – Bring IPFW into Your Classroom
VPA now offers a new way to connect our arts faculty, students, and visiting artists with Allen County K-12 students. ACELINK videoconferencing technology provides fully interactive voice, video, and data transmissions between IPFW and connected facilities throughout the county, including all Allen County schools. This exciting new program, contact Ross at 260-481-6877.

Art Education at IPFW
The newest opportunity for a university art education degree in northeast Indiana has been met with enthusiastic enrollment at IPFW. In 2002, the IPFW Department of Fine Arts conducted a survey of public schools within 150 miles of Fort Wayne, which revealed a growing need for art teachers. This discovery led to a new four-year art education program at IPFW, headed by Lorraine Ross, assistant professor of art education. Enrollment in art education is steadily increasing, from 25 students in the first year, to more than 55 students in winter 2006, and new students coming in every day. Owen Schmucker, the program’s first alumna, graduated in December 2005, while Jill Maroney, Deena Church, and Jana Bloom will graduate this spring.

“There’s been a good response to the art education program,” Ross said. “It’s growing, and it’s very successful. It’s also boosting the rest of the visual and performing arts by increasing enrollment in basic classes, like drawing and design classes.” Ross believes that hands-on activities are a crucial part of art education. “It makes the classroom work real and more than a theory,” she said. “Students put what they learn in the classroom into practice. They recognize what they’ve learned, in the behavior and actions of the children they are around.” More than that, however, having her students interact with children in public places allows Ross to see her students in what she calls “real situations.” It is critical to allow for these hands-on activities, outreach programs, and outside projects.

The Fort Wayne Museum of Art has proven to be an important partner for IPFW art education. “A lot of the outreach programs circle back to the Fort Wayne Museum of Art or are associated in some way with it,” Ross explained. Students in Methods I and II classes have acted as docents at the museum, which includes giving children tours of the museum and encouraging them to draw what they see. Students have provided simplified art education to the public in other venues as well. They have twice been involved with the Jefferson Point Art Fair, once using paper picado to celebrate the Day of the Dead. The Gingerbread House, a daycare/after-school institution, has been a learning curve for Ross’ students, in part due to its location in an area underserved by the arts and because the challenge students faced in finding a way to combine reading and art for three-, four-, and five-year-olds. An exceptional learning experience for students of all ages was accomplished by incorporating music and artwork into the books they read to the children. Although the art education students are under the K-12 certification license rather than pre-K, Ross feels it was “a good thing to do regardless.”

Ross knows her students’ strengths and places them accordingly with student teaching and other teaching opportunities. “I’m out to produce the best art ed students,” she said. “I want them to be the best they can be. I want my students to be the most successful students and teachers that they can be.” For Ross, having her students be unique teachers with their own styles is one of the most important facets of the program. She wants them to develop knowledge and an understanding of the artist/teacher role, and “things to keep them growing and flourishing.”

Course work for the art education program combines general and professional education credits, including general educational psychology, Introduction to Teaching, and Microcomputers for Education. On the visual arts side of the degree program, 45 credits are required: 6 in art history, 12 in foundation courses such as Drawing and Design Fundamentals, 6 each in 2D and 3D studio, and an additional 15 credits in an area of concentration at the 300 and 400 levels.

For more information about the art education program, contact Ross at 260-481-6877.
Faculty Successes

Fine Arts

IPFW visual art faculty participated in the IPFW/University of Saint Francis Faculty Exhibition from March 3 to April 5, 2006, in the main gallery at Artlink. The show is held every two years.

Assistant Professor Christopher Ganz was the recipient of the School of Visual and Performing Arts Excellence in Teaching Award for 2005. His prints Self-Portrait in the Dark, Ebb and Flow; and Self-Checkout were selected for the 13th University of Dallas National Print Invitational. An etching and his piece Self-Checkout were selected out of more than 1,000 entries for the Parkside National Juried Small Print Exhibition at the University of Wisconsin Parkside. His drawings Self-Checkout and A Faustian Compact were selected for the “Paper in Particular—National Juried Works on Paper” exhibition at the Sidney Larson Gallery at Columbia College in Columbia, Mo.

Associate Faculty Sayaka Ganz was one of three regional winners in Artlink’s Regional Winners show, Oct. 7–Nov. 9, 2005. The gallery was filled with charming birds and animals sculpted and welded from found-metal objects.

Professor John Hrehov was one of 72 artists invited to create and exhibit an original work of art for the 25th Anniversary Exhibition The Art of the Bookplate at Printworks Gallery in Chicago. The exhibition, running from Dec. 2 through Feb. 4, featured other notable artists such as Phyllis Risser, Tom Phardel, Nathan Taves, and Jamie Walker.

Music

Robert Bean, chair of the IPFW Department of Music, was chosen to receive the 2006 Outstanding Administrator Award from the Indiana Music Educators Association. The award was presented at the IMEA convention general session on Jan. 13 in the Indianapolis Convention Center. Qualifications for the award included achievement in and support for music education, support of faculty, and contributions to the musical life of the community.

Gregg Gausline, assistant professor, received the Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association at the 2006 Indiana Music Educators Association State Convention. He presented a clinic at the IMEA convention titled “Ready or Not, Here Comes the Ensemble.” In November, he conducted the Indiana Bandmasters Association Northeast Region Honor Band. Gausline guest conducted the Mid-Maryland All-Region Band in February.

Assistant Professor Nancy Jackson received a presidential appointment to chair the Affiliate Relations Committee of the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) in January 2006. She presented two sessions at the AMTA’s annual conference in November in Orlando, Fla. By invitation she presented “Designing and Implementing Survey Research,” and by juried selection she presented “Music-based Assessment for Children with ADHD.”

Assistant Professor Todd Prickett is the new conductor of the Fort Wayne Youth Chorale. He conducted the most advanced ensemble of the Fort Wayne Children’s Choir in a youth choir festival hosted by the Bach Chamber Youth Choir in Toronto, Canada, in November 2005. In December, he conducted the ensemble in its performances at the Fort Wayne Children’s Choir Rejoice Concerts that were aired on WBNJ during the holiday season.

Continuing Lecturer Jenny Robinson won first place in the flute Society of Washington, D.C., Piccolo Artist Competition in February 2006.

Assistant Professor Allen Saunders presented his lecture recital on “Ornamentation in Handel Bass Arias” on Nov. 7, 2005, and was awarded the Doctor of Music in voice from Indiana University Bloomington on Dec. 17, 2005.

Assistant Professor Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft was awarded a KACCTF Region III nomination to compete at the national level. Nominees are those teacher/administrators who best exemplify the educational mission of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KACCTF) as established actors who wish to pursue artistic growth in their craft. She was guest director for the University of Saint Francis production of Her Women Were Called to Gather, a play about midwifery produced by Sophia’s Pericope in September 2005. She performed in Gite the Dog or Bone for the Indiana Theatre Association (ITA) at the Wheeler Center in Indianapolis. The play was a finalist at the ITA’s ITOWORKS Conference last fall. Purse-Wiedenhoeft presented an acting workshop entitled “Improvisation! The Actor at Play.”

Associate Professor Jane Rebekah Frazier was the assistant director for Merrily We Roll Along, Oct. 2006. She conducted an acting workshop for third through fifth graders at Hickory Center School in fall 2005. In part of the workshop, she took a Native American tale, “The Frogs and the Crane,” and adapted it into a short script for the students to perform.

Assistant Professors Mark Ridgeway and Shari Troy presented a workshop entitled “Designing Ways to Use a Dramaturge” at the KACCTF Region III Conference in January. The workshop explored ways in which dramaturgs and designers might collaborate and bring their respective research methods together to help shape the conceptual creation of the production. They used the production Comedy of Errors to investigate this type of collaboration.

Shari Troy, assistant professor, had her papers “Opening Doors to Learning: The Mentoring Relationship in a Learning Community” and “The Contrast: The Later (Biblical) Plays of Royall Tyler” accepted to the American Theatre in Higher Education Conference that will take place in Chicago in August 2006. She and Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft were copresenters of “Exploring the Director/Dramaturge Relationship: Where Does the Direction End and the Dramaturgy Begin? The Creative Journey of Producing Paul Sills’ Story Theatre through the Shared Vision of Director and Dramaturge” at the Director’s Symposium at the Mid-America Theatre Conference in Chicago, Ill.

Assistant Professor Thomas Bernard was invited to present a display of his computer-designed renderings for Hay Fever at the KACCTF. He is also one of eight people in the United States to be regionally nominated for a Summer Internship Fellowship in costume design (for his work in Hay Fever) at the KACCTF in Washington, D.C., this summer.

Theatre

Assistant Professor Christopher Ganz was awarded a KACCTF Region III nomination to compete at the national level. Nominees are those teacher/administrators who best exemplify the educational mission of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KACCTF) as established actors who wish to pursue artistic growth in their craft. She was guest director for the University of Saint Francis production of Her Women Were Called to Gather, a play about midwifery produced by Sophia’s Pericope in September 2005. She performed in Gite the Dog or Bone for the Indiana Theatre Association (ITA) at the Wheeler Center in Indianapolis. The play was a finalist at the ITA’s ITOWORKS Conference last fall. Purse-Wiedenhoeft presented an acting workshop entitled “Improvisation! The Actor at Play.”

Associate Professor Jane Rebekah Frazier was the assistant director for Merrily We Roll Along, Oct. 2006. She conducted an acting workshop for third through fifth graders at Hickory Center School in fall 2005. In part of the workshop, she took a Native American tale, “The Frogs and the Crane,” and adapted it into a short script for the students to perform.

Assistant Professors Mark Ridgeway and Shari Troy presented a workshop entitled “Designing Ways to Use a Dramaturge” at the KACCTF Region III Conference in January. The workshop explored ways in which dramaturgs and designers might collaborate and bring their respective research methods together to help shape the conceptual creation of the production. They used the production Comedy of Errors to investigate this type of collaboration.

Shari Troy, assistant professor, had her papers “Opening Doors to Learning: The Mentoring Relationship in a Learning Community” and “The Contrast: The Later (Biblical) Plays of Royall Tyler” accepted to the American Theatre in Higher Education Conference that will take place in Chicago in August 2006. She and Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft were copresenters of “Exploring the Director/Dramaturge Relationship: Where Does the Direction End and the Dramaturgy Begin? The Creative Journey of Producing Paul Sills’ Story Theatre through the Shared Vision of Director and Dramaturge” at the Director’s Symposium at the Mid-America Theatre Conference in Chicago, Ill.

Assistant Professor Thomas Bernard was invited to present a display of his computer-designed renderings for Hay Fever at the KACCTF. He is also one of eight people in the United States to be regionally nominated for a Summer Internship Fellowship in costume design (for his work in Hay Fever) at the KACCTF in Washington, D.C., this summer.
Visual Communication and Design

Jim Gabbard, associate faculty, had six photographs accepted to the Michiana Professional Photographers Conference Exhibition in Elkhart, Ind. One of the works, “Anticipating,” received a jurors’ award of Court of Gold-Superior. A wedding album he entered received a Silver Award for fine craftsmanship. Jurors Edward Elsasser and six nationally recognized masters of photography.

Professor Ann Marie Leblanc has several works featured at the Digital Fine Arts Museum at www.diamuseum.org/portfolios/leblanc.htm. A new exhibition space in Marietta, Ga., with online presence, the Digital Fine Arts Museum has a permanent collection that includes Leblanc’s images. The museum’s mission is to promote public awareness of digitally created works of art and to provide artists with a museum dedicated to this genre. Leblanc also had her work “Daughter’s Rebirth” displayed in the Computer Graphics World SIGGRAPH 2005 Art Gallery.

Assistant Professor Rob Lopez’s article “Creativity Workshop: When is a Chair More than a Chair,” which he coauthored with Deena McDonagh, was published in the 2005 hardbound limited edition book IMPACT: The Synergy of Design + Technology. The book was published as a result of the IMPACT: The Synergy of Design + Technology Conference held in 2005 at the University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign, in association with the Industrial Design Society of America (Midwest District).

VPA

Gary Lanier, VPA secretary, recently choreographed Big River at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre and a piece in Purely Dance! at IPFW. In 2005, he received a special merit award for coordinating VPA’s participation in Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR).

Business Manager Barbara Romines completed training to be a Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) instructor in January 2006 and taught her first class in February. RAD is the only self-defense program endorsed by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators and is the only program of its kind to offer a free lifetime return policy. RAD’s instructional objective is “to develop and enhance the options of self-defense so they may become viable considerations to the woman who is attacked.”

VPA Student Successes

Fine Arts

Deborah Miller’s ceramic tile piece was accepted into the 27th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition at the Midwest Museum of American Art. The exhibit was from Oct. 21 to Dec. 4, 2005.

Music

Trudi Bixler successfully completed her music therapy internship at Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home in Fort Wayne.

Kristen Bouwman was offered a music therapy position with Behavioral Health Consultation and Service Inc. in Fort Wayne. BHCS is based in Indianapolis and serves communities throughout Indiana.

Kendra Brenneman began her music therapy internship in January at Bi-County Services in Bluffton, Ind.

Breon Conrad (music/theatre) won $500 as the second runner-up in the Miss IPFW Scholarship Program on Oct. 22, 2005. Jessica Butler (theatre) won $350 as the third runner-up, and Susanne Aschliman (music) was the fourth runner-up, winning $250. Meg Latham (music) won the talent award and $150. The Miss IPFW Scholarship Program is part of the Miss America system, which awards millions of dollars each year to young women. The winner of the Miss Indiana Pageant in June in Zionsville goes on to compete in the Miss America Pageant.

The IPFW Chamber Singers gave a strolling performance at the Metea Renaissance Faire. The annual festival was presented by the Allen County Parks Department in October 2005 at Metea County Park.

Thirteen IPFW music therapy students and the music therapy faculty attended the Indiana Music Therapist’s annual state meeting in September. The meeting was held at IUPUI and included sessions on therapeutic songs and uses of technology in the therapy setting.

IPFW University Singers and Symphonic Wind Ensemble were invited to perform at the annual Indiana Music Educators Association (IMEA) State Convention in Indianapolis on Jan. 12–13, 2006, at the Indiana Convention Center and RCA Dome. Elementary school, middle school, high school, and collegiate educators from across the state, along with their students, convene annually to attend workshops and performances focused on music education. Previously, ensemble groups from other institutions in the state, such as Indiana University and Ball State, have been invited to perform at this prestigious event. IMEA extended the invitation to IPFW after the University Singers and Wind Ensemble submitted recordings last March for a blind audition.

Matt Johnston, Jim Jemison Moeller, and Ashley Treadway were selected for membership in the American Choral Directors Association Central Division Collegiate Repertory Chorale. The choir is comprised of 100 to 120 of the finest collegiate choral musicians in the central division (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan) and made its debut at the division convention in Chicago in February 2006.

Tracy Robbins was recently offered a music therapy position at Heritage Park Nursing Center in Fort Wayne.

Micah Rody, Cory Kelley, Chris Ice, and Zach Cain were selected from the Symphonic Wind Ensemble to perform with the 2006 College Band Directors National Association Intercollegiate Band (CRDBNA). They performed and attended clinics and concerts at the CRDBNA Conference held at Northwestern University in March.

Mareta Spencer was offered a music therapy position at Florida State Hospital after the successful completion of her music therapy internship there.

Theatre

Theatre majors Bianca Pressler with performance partner Breona Conrad. Greg Boyles with performance partner Stephanie Vandervall, and Jessica Butler with performance partner James Velez were the nominees attending the 38th Annual Region III American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) held at Illinois State University in Bloomington/Normal, Ill. Pressler, Boyles, and Butler were chosen to compete for the Irene Ryan Scholarship auditions.

Visual Communication and Design

Elizabeth Bradford (art education), Destiny Mellon (photography), and Malina Sanfilippo (photography) were accepted to the 2005 Photography Show in The Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center in Wabash. Bradford placed third in the black and white photography category with her piece entitled “Music.”

John Ladd’s senior project animation “Mac Addict” was accepted into the third annual The Greatest Story Never Told (TGSNT) people’s choice contest at www.tgsnt.com/tgsnt_III.

Aaron Deardorff’s digital image entitled “Change” was selected as one of the winners in the Los Angeles Center for Digital Art (LACDA) “Top 40” Juried Competition, along with 40 other digital artists from around the globe.
IN MEMORIUM

George W. McCullough, 82, died Oct. 15, 2005, at his residence in Fort Wayne. The IPFW professor emeritus was born in Long Beach, Calif., and received a B.F.A. and M.F.A. from Iowa State University. He also studied art at the Academia Belle Arti, Florence, Italy, and Academie de la Grande Chaumiere, Paris, France. A local artist in Fort Wayne since 1965, he was an art teacher at the Fort Wayne Art Institute and associate professor of art at IPFW, retiring in 1984. His paintings have been in countless galleries, exhibitions, and collections including those in Fort Wayne; Louisville, Ky.; Nice, France; Indianapolis; and California. His three publications are Stencil Prints and Poems, Prints and Poems, and Camping Out. In November 2005, Artlink exhibited more than 50 pieces of McCullough’s work that he selected himself, to be shown at the retrospective. Unfortunately, on opening night his many friends and family gathered without him to celebrate the brushstrokes and details of his work. He is survived by his wife, artist Sue McCullough.

VPA Alumni Successes

▲ Kristy Jo Bolser altered bowl with cobalt ash, 2004

Fine Arts

Kristy Jo Beber (’04) participated in the Making Waves Invitational Exhibit at the Orchard Gallery in March. She will teach Ceramics on the Wheel this summer at IPFW. Beber is represented by the Park Avenue Gallery in Winona Lake, Ind., and her pieces are available at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art’s gift shop.

Downtown Landmarks featured works by IPFW alumni and faculty members at Artlink from Jan. 20 to Feb. 22, 2006. A current student, Daniel Dieneit, was also featured in the exhibit. Faculty included Cathie Rowand, Richard Tuck, and emeriti Donald Kruse and Norman Bradley. Alumni included Eric Tarr, Julie K. Doguid, Gwen Gurtwein, Pat Weiss, Rebecca Justice-Schaab, Judy Wintin, Eric M. Tarr, Gretchen Kunberner, Dixie Bradley, Diana Groenert, Karen Moriarty, Holly Heath, and Sue Sells.

Remember Black Shoes, featuring the work of Seth Harris (’03), Tracy Row, Jason Stopa, and Eric Tarr (’04) (known as e4), opened on March 4 at Charlie Cummings Clay Studio and Gallery and will run until March 25. The gallery is open Monday–Thursday 1–7 p.m. and Friday–Saturday 1–5 p.m.

Music

Melissa Junkin (’05) will play Mary Magdalene in Jesus Christ Superstar at First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia (FPC) from March 9 to April 2. She will be joined on stage by music alumni Curtis Shaw (’05) as Judas; Ben Watters (’04) as Annas; and Jana Henly-Baker (’05) as Peter’s Accuser/Spouse Woman. The role of Jesus is being played by current music major Dan Baker.

Michael Cary (’04) is assistant band director at Columbia City High School.

Kevin Christensen’s (’02) Heritage Junior-Senior High School marching band was the first-runner up in Class D state competition.

Doug Hassell (’99) led Norwell High School to an ISSMA Class C State Championship in his first year as its marching band director. The school was Bands of America (BOA) Regional Class AA Champion and BOA National Semi-finalist.

Kevin McCammon (’05) teaches middle school general music and high school vocal music at Dirksen Junior High School.

Kelly Readte (’05) teaches high school instrumental music and elementary general music at East Noble School Corporation.

Tess Reiling (’04) and Rochelle Starnes (’05) will perform for four concerts, three with the Moravian Philharmonic Oloouom (MPO) and one with only piano and organ, through the Bowling Green State University Choral Society European Tour from June 28 to July 10, 2006. As part of the 2006 American Celebration of Music in Austria, she will perform in Salzburg, Austria; Vienna, Italy; Oloouom, Czech Republic; and Prague, Czech Republic.

Mareta Spencer (’05) has earned Music Therapist-Board Certified status. She has accepted a professional music therapy position at Florida State Hospital in Chattanooga, Fla.

Theatre

Kasey Foster (’04) had a 45-minute choreography proposal approved as part of The Anatomy Collective and will perform at four venues in Chicago in summer 2006. In January 2006, she began rehearsal for Redmoon Theatre's Golden Truffle Show that will run in Chicago from April to June (www.redmoon.org). She performed in Invincible Underground with Irreverence Dance and Theatre in October 2005.

Eve Escandon (’05) was recently invited to begin a drama program at Truth North Cultural Arts Center, a nonprofit organization in Cleveland, Ohio. The children’s theatre began its first classes in January 2006. Classes run for eight weeks, with children aged 7 to 14 working with masks and puppet theatre. The classes culminated with a performance work that included a version of The Frog Prince and a play the children created, A Fairy Story.

Christine Feay (’04) will be the director and lighting designer for The Underpants at Alley Theatre in the 2006–2007 season. She was the assistant director, lighting designer, and a cast member of Rope and the assistant director and lighting designer of Quills at Alley Theatre in winter 2005.

Jonathon Gilbert (’02) is under contract with Funny Boy Films for three different projects. He is starting work on a West End-bound jukebox musical with a 1980s pop band, for which he is also set to do the book. He is also in the studio, recording the cast album for his recent production of The Day the World Went Queer.

Elizabeth Hartman (’99) played Aphrodite in Mary Zimmerman's Metamorphoses in June 2005 at Manatee Players in Bradenton, Fla. The production won a national award in the American Association of Community Theatre’s annual one-act play festival competition, where it competed against 10 other theatres nationwide.

Sarah Larkenau (’99) was nominated for an Iden B. Payne award for costume designs for The Mystery of Edwin Drood at the Austin Playhouse. She designed costumes for a new work about Austin called Keepin’ It Weird that ran during Fall 2005 and was featured on CBS Sunday Morning. She is the costume shop manager at The Zachary Scott Theatre Center (www.zachscott.com).

Gloria Minnich (’05), who currently teaches Dramagination and Youth Drama for the IPFW Community Arts Academy, had a starring role in the First Presbyterian Theater production of Eleemosynary in January 2006.

Visual Communication and Design

Tim Dieterle (’02) was included in A Family Fair at The Bank in Kansas City, Mo., which is part of the Urban Culture Project (Charlotte Street Foundation). His photography was in the biennial at the Minnesota Center of Photography in Minneapolis in fall 2005. In March 2006, his studio collective did a show in Minneapolis at the AfterMarket Art Space.

Katrina Kieser (’02) was retained as an artist-in-residence for the 2005–2006 school year at Interlochen (Mich.) Center for the Arts where she was employed as an instructor during summer 2005.

Jason Ujvari (’00) was promoted to head designer at Stump’s Party Supplies in South Whitley.
They like the aesthetics. Patients tell me it’s a nice “They were really happy that I was portraying the that the patients were calmed by the budding artwork. At first, Ushenko was skeptical, but she soon found IPFW music therapy majors and Music Therapy Student Recital Melanie Bookout, Early Music Ensemble
Symphonic Wind Ensemble The concert will feature soloist Jenny Robinson, flutist with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and IPFW music faculty member, performing Kent Kamen’s “Night Soliloquy.”
Sunday, April 9, 7:30 p.m. Gregg Gausline, conductor
Music Faculty Showcase Featuring various faculty members of the Department of Music. Monday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
Saxophone Quartet and Choir The Sax Quartet is comprised of soprano, alto, tenor, and baritone saxophones.
Thursday, April 13, 7:30 p.m. Farrell Vernon, director
Percussion Ensemble The Percussion Ensemble features musical styles from Dizzy Gillespie’s “Soul Sauce” to contemporary composer Edgar Varese’s “Ionisation.”
Monday, April 17, 7:30 p.m. Graham Dembar, director
Choral Union and Chamber Singers This performance features Ralph Vaughan Williams’ “Five Mystical Songs” with Allen Saunders, baritone, and other sacred repertoire featuring the Chamber Singers.
Friday, April 21, 7:30 p.m.
IPFW Community Orchestra Featuring the IPFW Student Concerto and Aria Competition winners. Monday, April 24, 7:30 p.m. David B. Cooke, conductor
Theatre Box Office: 260-481-6555 Studio Showcase presentations... Fool for Love By Sam Shepard Directed by Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft Paul Sills, the original director of the Second City Troupe, takes us on a zany, hilarious, and improvisational romp through a collection of classic children’s tales in the imaginary land of the Grimm Brothers’ Fairy Tales and Aesop’s Fables. Story Theatre isn’t just for children— it’s perfect for the entire family.
April 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 at 8 p.m., April 30 at 2 p.m. School Matinee: April 27, 10:30 a.m. Sign Language—Interpreted Performance April 27 Williams Theatre Admission for IPFW students with ID is free. All other tickets are $12 and under. Theatre Box Office opens April 17.
Babes in Arms Music, Lyrics, and Book by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart Directed and Choreographed by Larry L. Life Babes in Arms features a group of teenagers who decided to produce their own show in an abandoned barn and prove their mettle. Filled with sophisticated humor, every song in the show is a classic including “My Funny Valentine” and “The Lady is a Tramp.”
July 7, 8, 13, 14, 15 at 8 p.m., July 9, 16 at 2 p.m. Sign Language—Interpreted Performance July 13 Williams Theatre Admission for IPFW students with ID is free. All other tickets are $14 and under. Theatre Box Office opens June 26.
Whitney Young students to build relationships, such as getting to know each other, working with clay, and understanding the spirit of the piece. IPFW was originally only going to be at Whitney Young for a semester, but they soon learned it would take another semester to complete the mural.

The project’s goal is to represent Whitney Young’s Reggio Emilia-based philosophy of “nothing without joy,” a term coined by Loris Malaguzzi, as it applies to the artistic process and expression of children. The philosophy began after World War II in Reggio Emilia, a town in northern Italy known for its superior schools. McCroskey and her class have worked out of Jan Sarraatore and Katie Ziegler’s classrooms. Also participating are Andrea Jones and Jenny Sanders, the kindergarten and preschool art resource teachers, respectively. Because of their involvement, the entire school has had a hand in the mural.

“The children come in twice a week for an hour and a half,” Jones said. “They work with and explore different materials. Sometimes we have a cross-curriculum, working with shapes, painting, and measurements.”

Sarratore has enjoyed seeing the children explore art through the project. “The kids just loved it,” she said. “They see the world differently and are excited to work with the clay. The IPFW students had them press things into the clay, and that really excited the children, as they discovered all that they could do.”

The Site Specific class makes a plaster mold of the clay pieces made by Whitney Young students.