

## Larry L. Life | Leader, Mentor, Colleague, Friend | 1943–2007

With the unexpected passing of Larry L. Life on February 10, the IPFW Department of Theatre has indeed reached the end of an era.

Friends and family organized a fitting tribute to the chair and artistic director at the Embassy Theatre on February 22, attended by more than 500 people.

Gregory Manifold, executive director of the AIDS Task

Force, read a letter of remembrance by actor and *Fraiser* alumnus Dan Butler and gave a eulogy filled with funny, touching moments and rehearsal stories that the audience identified with fond regard.

Although often viewed as a controversial figure, Life was the unforgettable spearhead of several productions that challenged



performers and audiences alike throughout his 35 years on the IPFW faculty.

He also acted in, directed, and choreographed productions for the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Arena Dinner Theatre, and First Presbyterian Theatre. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him and loved him.



A PUBLICATION OF THE IPFW COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS **SPRING 2007**

## Earth and Sky

### The Wall as Ethereal Canvas

Each year, hundreds of applicants submit proposals to the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, with the hope they will be one of the 60 or so chosen to exhibit at NCECA's Annual Conference—the world's top ceramist convention. IPFW's ceramic program is no stranger to this conference, having participated several times in past years. And this year is no different.

Associate Professor Dana Goodman, chair of the Fine Arts program, will curate "Earth and Sky: The Wall as Ethereal Canvas" at the Mellwood Art and Entertainment Center's Pigment Gallery in Louisville, Ky. Reflecting the conference's theme, "Old Currents/New Blends: A Distillation of Art and Geography," the ceramic work exhibited by IPFW Associate Professor Nancy McCroskey, Missouri State University's Kevin Hughes, Kent State University's Eva Kwong, and Fort Wayne artist Nathan Taves will portray differing interpretations of landscape.

▲ "Bacteria, Diatoms and Cells," ceramic, 2006  
Eva Kwong

## Robertson Readies for Retirement

For those who have been a part of IPFW since Kettler Hall was the hub of campus, memories of the university's beginnings and its gradual expansion are plentiful.

There are professors who have observed departments grow from their basement classrooms into buildings all their own. Ironically, yet regrettably, one of those professors, Masson Robertson, will be just one year shy of ushering his music department to its new home, as he is retiring this semester.



"When we were in Kettler Hall, it always smelled of formaldehyde because of the biological stores," Robertson said. "The basement was dark, and my wife, who also taught, was sometimes afraid. When the music department moved to Neff, there was very loud machinery underneath us. But it was a nice arrangement with more studios. The basement of Classroom-Medical, on the other hand, was nearly made into a parking garage."

Robertson has enjoyed a distinguished career performing piano recitals, concertos, and chamber music in the Midwest, New York, Chicago, and Austria. He has maintained memberships in prestigious organizations such as the American Federation of Musicians, the American Philatelic Society, the College Music Society, and Rotary International. His solo recitals and piano trio concerts have been broadcast on WBNI's *In the Spotlight*, and videos of his performances have been broadcast on WFWA-TV PBS 39.

"The first time I heard myself on the radio, I didn't know who it was," Robertson said. "I was like, 'Gee, I wonder who that is; he's pretty good.' The exposure was great, both

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▲ The Minneapolis Guitar Quartet will perform at the 15th Annual Mid-America Guitar Ensemble Festival on Saturday, March 24, at 8 p.m. in Neff Recital Hall.

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

As northeast Indiana's premier center for arts education, the college offers programs in fine arts, music, theatre and dance, and visual communication and design. More than 600 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).



▲ Brent Johnson (far right) of the Public Safety Academy congratulates John Motz's Graphic Design III Class. The class was challenged with creating a logo for the new Public Safety Academy. The winning design chosen by city officials was created by Ashley Baumgartner (third from the right).

## Public Safety Academy Fond of Our Design Flair

Last semester, continuing lecturer John Motz's Graphic Design III class was contacted by the City of Fort Wayne to create a logo for the new Public Safety Academy (PSA) that will include the Fort Wayne Fire and Police Training academies.

Working in conjunction with IPFW's Center for Industrial Innovation and Design (CIID) and PSA Director Brent Johnson, Motz's class tackled a project where dozens of designs are distilled down to one, providing the students with the real-world experience that can only be achieved by working closely with clients from outside the university.

"Brent Johnson came in several times to meet with the class," Motz said. "His presentation of the project included members from the architectural firm and construction company speaking about the PSA. Students were invited to visit the site to gain ideas. They went online to research logos for other municipalities. They pulled in a lot of resources, including relatives they have working in public safety."

Students were given approximately one week to complete their concepts of their individual logos, and those finished concepts were then combed over via a class critique. Following that, the designs were submitted to the Fort Wayne mayor's office. All were ranked, and the three logos that scored best became the guide, so to speak, for the other logos.

Students worked together to edit their individual logos to meet their client's needs. This aspect of the project was particularly important, as the project counted toward the group project portion of the class.

Motz's class submitted two rounds of 32 individual designs to the mayor's office throughout the semester. Presented with nearly three dozen high-quality designs, the mayor's office found it a difficult task to decide on a final representation, as only one was chosen as the official logo for PSA. Ashley Baumgartner's design was selected, and Johnson presented her a certificate from the mayor's office.

"This project hit home that this is what it really takes. Sometimes it takes weeks or months for a final decision to be made about a design," Motz said. "A logo establishes an identity. It can't keep changing. That's why only one logo was chosen. Because if you keep changing your logo, your identity, then you have an identity crisis."

"Students benefit from this type of project because it includes real-world experience," Motz added. "They had to listen to a client, read through the lines, understand what was wanted, and come up with a product. And I think that they really proved their capabilities. The mayor's office was impressed."

Baumgartner's logo, about eight feet in diameter, will be etched into the floor of the finished PSA building. The logo will also be displayed in 3-D on the sign in front of the building, on PSA's Web site, and on all PSA publications and documents. There are also T-shirts and gold medallions currently in consideration.

## Ione Auer: A True Champion of the Arts

When the Music Building opens this fall with its Auer Concert/Lecture Hall, at least one notable face will be missing: Ione Auer's. She passed away on January 8, at the amazing age of 103.



Despite the misfortunes she experienced in her life—her parents died when she was 16, her husband died of a heart attack, and she lost two sons within ten years—Auer was committed to helping others, particularly the Fort Wayne community and the arts. She was always willing to donate needed funds and art resources to

organizations such as the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, the Courthouse Green project, and IPFW.

Auer created a \$250,000 scholarship for IPFW art students in addition to donating \$2.5 million dollars to the new Music Building.

"She really believed in the arts, and she loved the square that she helped to develop downtown," said IPFW Chancellor Michael Wartell. "In general, she wanted Fort Wayne to be a better place, and she used her money to make that happen.

"She was the kind of donor who said, 'Thank you for giving me the opportunity to help.' She never understood why she was so fortunate, and she

always tried to give back," Wartell continued. "She came from a fairly modest background and ended up being able to help a lot of people with the money she had."

Auer served as an advisory trustee of the Fort Wayne Museum of Art and was a life member of the Friends of the School of Music at Indiana University. In 2005, Auer was honored by IPFW's annual Tapestry: A Day for Women event.

Auer is survived by two daughters-in-law, five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

## Bowling — A Blend of Humor and Humanity

Stephen Dietz's *More Fun than Bowling* concludes the Department of Theatre's 2006–2007 season with a seamless blend of down-to-earth humor and undemanding “moments of humanity,” according to director Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft.

The story of single father who anticipates death with paranoia, *More Fun than Bowling* explores hidden dreams, obsessions, and life at a fruitless Midwestern bowling alley with a sense of silliness that will leave audiences amused, intrigued, and satisfied.

“We really wanted to end the season with a comedy,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said. “And that’s how we’re approaching the show, although there are moments of humanity and clarity that strike you about the characters. It’s a character-driven rather than a plot-driven story, and there is a large component of lost dreams that should resonate with the audience. But there is a lot of silliness!”

Purse-Wiedenhoeft, more than anyone, understands that silliness. In the early 80s, she knew the show’s playwright, Stephen Dietz, while living in Minneapolis. To this day, the two remain in contact, enjoying how their lives have evolved while maintaining parallels, such as marriage and children of the same age.



▲ *More Fun Than Bowling* opens at Williams Theatre on April 20 and runs through April 29.

“I feel that personally knowing the playwright brings something unique to the show,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said. “I know how goofy and silly he can be, and I know what a nice man he truly is. Because I knew him when he wrote the play, it adds something more to my understanding of the show. I understand his off-the-wall humor. I know the cultural and societal struggles that were prevalent at that time.

“From the start, when we were discussing what show should end the season, I was interested in

doing something by Dietz,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft added. “His comedies were mentioned a lot in the discussions, and I thought that *More Fun than Bowling* was unique and silly. After we mentioned *More Fun than Bowling*, that seemed to be it. We never discussed anything else. You don’t have to be a “bowler” to enjoy the show. The use of bowling as a life and death metaphor in the play is quite clever.”

Another unique facet of the show is its relative obscurity in Fort Wayne. Purse-Wiedenhoeft said she enjoys the fact the play hasn’t been seen or heard of in this community.

“People will come in, see the set, and think that this looks like fun,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said. “We’re going with the idea that the world is askew—that it’s not as it seems—the past and present collide, things don’t match, angles aren’t even. It’s not a realistic setting because we’re often switching from present to past such as when the deceased wives are gardening their own graves.”

“It is something entirely different,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said. “It’s accessible. It’s goofy. There’s a true warmth and humanity that shines through. I hope that’s what audience members take with them when they leave the theatre.”

## Arts Scholars Help Design Future Cities



▲ Miami Middle School's Vortexcitiy won two special awards at the 2007 Future City Competition. Students are shown with their teacher Coleen Diehl (far right).

Vortexcitiy is a spacious city, largely round in appearance with five high-rise buildings, homes, and plenty of water and green space to spare. Looking at the city, sitting on its model board, the imagination is the limit for this city of the future, as the seventh and eighth graders at Miami Middle School can attest.

Vortexcitiy was built for the Indiana Regional Future City Competition hosted by the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science on January 20 at Walb Student Union. IPFW Arts Connection’s Arts Scholar Jessica Norton helped with the project.

The Arts Connection, initiated last spring, is a relatively new concept for the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Arts Scholars work with local teachers and students in a K–12 classroom or after school for an average of 30 to 40 hours during a flexible, multi-week period on a project proposed by the teacher. Projects are intended to be interdisciplinary, blending arts with social studies, math, literature, foreign language, and many other subjects.

In order for an Arts Scholar to be placed, a K–12 classroom teacher must submit an

application and have it approved. Then, a student who has expressed interest in being an Arts Scholar is selected and notified of placement in the classroom.

During fall 2006, Norton, a senior majoring in graphic design, became the first Arts Scholar to collaborate with a K–12 teacher to enhance the arts in the classroom. That teacher was Coleen Diehl, the advisor of the students who built Vortexcitiy as part of an after-school club.

“I was very fortunate to receive an Arts Scholar, as Jessica has been a huge help,” Diehl said. “I helped the students with the writing aspect of the project, while Jessica helped with the design aspects of our city model. It’s been great to have someone else to help.”

With that help, the Miami students’ city won two special awards in the competition: Best Essay on Fuel Cells and the Best City Abstract describing Vortexcitiy’s features.

“I helped to collaborate with the students to come up with ideas, generally,” Norton said. “I also helped them choose an appropriate fuel cell for the city.”

The Future City Competition offers students a way to learn about engineering and cities of the future. With a budget of only \$100 and a limitation of using primarily recyclable materials, the creation of a model city is complete with roads, buildings, water, and other creative additions.

For more information on obtaining or becoming an IPFW Arts Scholar, contact Maggie Hunter at 260-481-6059 or visit our Web site at [www.ipfw.edu/vpa/opportunities/cooperative.shtml](http://www.ipfw.edu/vpa/opportunities/cooperative.shtml).

*Earth/continued from page 1*

“We’re doing landscape but not literal landscape. The works will show rain, moisture, and atmosphere—the design of nature,” Goodman said. “I think about nature a lot, and exploring how earth and sky mix was an easy decision.”

All the artwork in the exhibition is wall work, such as murals, in order to create the ethereal canvas referred to in the title of the show.

The Mellwood Art and Entertainment Center is a former meat packing plant, having been transformed into a “pretty outstanding” mecca of sorts for the arts, according to Goodman. Spanning more than 42 acres and including 25 artist studios, a 160-seat theatre, a coffee shop, storefront retail, and a three-story tenant art gallery, the complex is a resurrected arena, complementary of fresh ideas and the bridge between artist and curator.

“Being the curator of a show is another way to be an artist without being in a show,” Goodman said. “It’s about spreading out and doing new things. Showing is fine, but being the curator is a different challenge.”

With more than 5,000 people attending NCECA’s annual conference on average, Goodman seems downright delighted for the opportunity to network and socialize with other ceramicists.

“It’s also great for the students,” Goodman added. “Last year we took 10 students to help us set up. They got to meet artists and handle famous works. It was a big deal. It’s great for them to get out of Fort Wayne, to network, to meet other programs and students. It’s a bigger scene.”

## Chamber Singers Collaborate with Vesper Chorale

A year and a half ago, the South Bend Vesper Chorale proposed a collaborative effort between themselves and IPFW: to band together with the IPFW Chamber Singers for two combined choral-orchestral performances.

Assistant Professor Todd Prickett, director of Choral Studies at IPFW, was more than happy to accept such an offer; however, one obstacle stood in the way: funding.

"Our ability to participate in the collaboration was reliant upon budget," Prickett said. "While many

groups have outside funding, we have to rely on in-house funds. For the collaboration to be possible, we needed to find an additional source of funding."

After submitting a proposal to Arts United, Prickett and his Chamber Singers were given \$2,340 through a Community Partnership Grant. Such a grant is intended to further the appreciation of the role of arts in education and the United States' rich cultural heritage, as well as ensure access to a variety of arts activities that can occur in the community.

With the provided funds in hand, Prickett and the South Bend Vesper Chorale moved forward with their plans of a collaborative effort. Several repertoire options were considered, though Prickett never had anything in mind but Haydn's grand oratorio, *The Creation*.

"*The Creation* hasn't been performed in Fort Wayne for at least 10 years," Prickett said. "It's comparable to Handel's *Messiah* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* as one of the great monuments of Western music."

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## VPA Faculty Successes

### VPA

Entrepreneurship in the Arts won the 2006 Creative Program Noncredit Award from the Mid-America Region Awards and Recognition through the University Continuing Education Association.

Entrepreneurship in the Arts is an **IPFW Continuing Studies** program designed to teach art students, alumni, and community artists how to make a living from their art. The program offers five business courses and will begin its third year during fall 2007.

The Schneider Foundation has generously donated scholarship dollars to benefit in-need groups through the **IPFW Community Arts Academy** among the following organizations: United Hispanic Americans Inc., Big Brothers—Big Sisters of Northeast Indiana, Phoenix Youth Center, Center for Non-Violence, Youth Services Center, League for the Blind and Disabled, and Twenty-First Century Scholars.

### Visual Communication and Design

**Jim Gabbard** recently attended the Michiana Professional Photographers Inc. three-day convention in Elkhart, Ind., where six of his prints were accepted for exhibition. His print "In My Daddy's Hand" was given the silver award and named the Highest Scoring Black and White Print.



▲ "In My Daddy's Hand"  
Black/white print by Jim Gabbard

**Richard Nelipovich** exhibited at Virtual Tangible 2.0 at San Francisco's Velvet de Vinci Gallery in January. He presented "Scripting in Rhino 3-D" at the CADlaboration conference at the Tyler School of Art in November 2006. Nelipovich gave a visiting artist presentation and workshop on scripting in Rhino3D at the Kendall College of Art and Design in October.

**Gary Travis** exhibited at Artlink's Wood—Sculptural and Functional Exhibition in December 2006.

### Fine Arts

Professor Emeritus **Norman Bradley** and his wife, Dixie, are staging a joint exhibition, "Travel With Us," at the Fort Wayne International Airport through April 1.

**Christopher Ganz** is exhibiting his etching "Self-Checkout" at the Boston Printmakers' 2007 North American Print Biennial, a national juried printmaking exhibition, from February 18 to April 1. From January 9 to February 17, his solo exhibition "Alter Egos: Drawings and Self-Portraits" was at Trisolini Gallery at the University of Ohio, where he was also a visiting artist. While there, he lectured on his personal artistic history and influences and critiqued student work. He also exhibited at The Printed Image: The First Biennial Midwestern Graphics Juried Exhibition at the Alice C. Sabatini Gallery in Topeka, Kan. In January, he curated "Colors and Stories from Africa: The Woodcuts of Fred Mutebi" at IPFW and conducted a week-long woodcutting workshop with Mutebi.

Associate Professor **Dana Goodman** will curate an exhibition as part of NCECA (National Council on Education in the Ceramic Arts) in March. The exhibition, "Earth and Sky," will feature the work of Kevin Hughes, Nathan Taves, Nancy McCroskey, and Eva Kwong and be presented at the Mellwood Arts and Entertainment Center in Louisville, Ky. Goodman's artwork will also be featured in the exhibition "Ohio University: 1990 Until Now" at the Riverbend Winery during this year's NCECA.

Assistant Professor **Hai Kyung Kim** will present two lectures at the National Art Education Association (NAEA) conference in New York in March. Her first presentation, "Culture in Patterns," will examine ways of understanding Korean culture through studying traditional patterns and will include options teachers have using Kim's instructional package for teaching Korean patterns. Her second lecture will be "What do they want to say?: How pre-service teachers interpret commercial advertisements."

In January, **Nancy McCroskey's** design concepts for six ceramic tile murals were approved by Central Insurance in Van Wert, Ohio. The tile designs were developed from November to December 2006. The design concept was inspired by "FireMarks," or early markers used in the insurance industry. The murals focus on themes relevant to insurance protection, Van Wert, Ohio, and the Central Insurance Company.

Associate faculty member **Robert F. Schroeder** was the juror of the Indiana State University Student Art Exhibition at the University Art Gallery in Terre Haute in February. Schroeder also presented the lecture "Christo and Jeanne Claude: An Overview" at the Center for Performing and Fine Arts in Terre Haute on February 8.

Associate faculty member **Mee Kyung Shim** hosted her "Garden Story" exhibition at the James Gray Gallery in Santa Monica, Calif., from January 6 to February 4.

In November 2006, Professor **Audrey Ushenko** was featured as one of the first six IPFW faculty members to be highlighted by the university's Featured Faculty campaign, which recognizes faculty for exemplary research and teaching accomplishments.

### Music

**Melanie Bookout** presented "Court and Cathedral: an Introduction to Renaissance Music" at the 2006 Honors Freshman Seminar via the IPFW Honors Program. She performed in a master class with Barthold Kujiken at the University of Indianapolis in January.

**Gregg Gausline** was recently appointed Indiana State Chair for the College Band Directors National Association and State Chair of the Indiana Collegiate Band for the 2008 Indiana Music Educators Association. Upcoming engagements include guest conducting and adjudication in Toronto and Killarney, Ireland. Gausline will be resident conductor for the New York Summer Music Festival and International Flute Festival in 2007.

**Nancy Jackson** was invited by juried selection to present her session "Music-based Assessment for Children with ADHD" at the 10th Korean Music Therapy Conference in Seoul, South Korea, in November 2006. She received an IPFW international travel grant to support travel expenses. Jackson was chosen by juried selection to present her session "Exploring Professional Supervision" at the 2006 American Music Therapy Association national conference in Kansas City, Mo., in November.

**Barbara Resch** was named president-elect of the Indiana Music Educators Association (IMEA).

### Theatre

Assistant Professors **Shari Troy** and **Benita Brewer** (of VCD) were awarded 2007 IPFW Summer Faculty Grants, both receiving \$7,000. Twenty-seven proposals were submitted with only ten chosen.

**Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft** is the co-chair of the Acting and Directing Symposium of the Mid-America Conference in Minneapolis during March. She is the artistic director and co-founder of a new professional women's theatre company in Fort Wayne, tentatively called the Primrose Theatre Company. The group evolved from a project that was produced for Sophia's Portico last year. Its premier outreach production will be a part of the Women's Studies conference at IPFW in April.

on the radio and on TV. I had students telling me that they'd seen me on television and wanted to study with me. Stuff like that helps keep perspective."

Perspective, it seems, is important for Robertson. He values regularity and maintaining a schedule. Small classes and knowing each of his students' names are an essential draw to IPFW. Robertson stresses the preservation of the professor-student relationship, although at times, "Grandpa Robertson" is an adage not too far off the mark.

"I'm teaching the children of my students," Robertson said. "I have a grandson in Cincinnati. He's a real cutie and growing up fast. There's a possibility that I may relocate there. I'd also like to travel. I'm young enough to still have fun!"

"I've been here a long time," Robertson observed. "I've made a lot of contributions. I have former students who have earned master's degrees and doctorates. It's amazing to see where they go, where they end up."

Robertson's contributions are as many as his years at IPFW, including his teaching a plethora of courses, including private lessons, sight singing and ear training, form and analysis, and piano accompanying among them.

"The timing of my retirement is out of sync with the new building, but it's a good package," Robertson said. "I just hope there's a room for emeritus professors when the Music Building is finished. But I'll be coming to concerts, and I'm curious to see how my students perform under the guidance of a new teacher."

## VPA Alumni Successes



▲ "Three Altered Pieces," stoneware, 2005 Kristy Jo Beber

### Fine Arts

**Kristy Jo Beber** ('04) has been accepted as a member of The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art in Fort Wayne. She is preparing work for the gallery's themed invitational *Looking Up*, which will run in March 2007. Beber will be the featured artist at Haute Décor on March 24. She will be participating in the BroadRipple Art Fair in Indianapolis in May and the Village at Winona Art Fair in June. For more information, visit [www.kristyjobeber.com](http://www.kristyjobeber.com).

Alumni **Tim Brumeloe**, **Palermo Galindo**, **Holly Heath**, continuing lecturer **Jim Gabbard**, and VCD student **Dan Dienelt** made submissions to Artlink's Fort Wayne Photographers' Exhibition. The exhibition featured more than 60 area photographers from January 19–February 24.

**Deborah Robinson Miller** ('06) won the George and Abby Thomas Purchase Award of \$900 for "Fallen Rose," a terracotta artwork displayed at the 28th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition.

**Jason Stopa** ('04) is currently an adjunct faculty member at Ivy Tech Community College–Northeast, teaching both computer art and drawing. He has also received a C.A.P. grant to work with Memorial Park Middle School students to complete a mural that will be permanently installed on the Fort Wayne River Greenway.

### Music

**Connie Bach** ('06) as accepted a position as music therapist with Indiana Behavioral Specialists and will be providing music therapy services to a variety of clients in the South Bend, Ind., area.

Music therapy major **Marianne Goodland** ('84) won the harp competition in the 2006 Longs Peak Scottish Irish Highland Festival, one of the nation's largest celebrations of Scottish heritage. She was also chosen as the festival's outstanding folk musician.

**Tess Reiling** ('04) gave a presentation on the life and compositions of Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel at the monthly meeting of the Fort Wayne Alumnae Chapter of SAI in January. In the presentation were two of Hensel's songs for voice and piano, "Die Sommernacht" and "Die Mainacht."

**Jan Rittenhouse** ('03) played Gertrude McFuzz in the Jay County Civic Theatre's production of *Seussical the Musical* during summer 2006. She began her second year of teaching choir at Jay County High School, with her class increasing from two choirs to three choirs that feature more than 70 students.



▲ Jan Rittenhouse as Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical*

### Theatre

**Carol Buglewicz** ('02) is performing in the one woman show *The Belle of Amherst* at her theatre company, And Beyond Theatre Co. She has toured the show in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and is currently performing it for private parties in Denver, Colo.



▲ Carol Buglewicz in the role of Emily Dickinson in *The Belle of Amherst*.

**Jane Frazier** ('00) was the box office assistant, house manager, and part-time stage manager for Richmond Shakespeare Theatre's productions of *Julius Caesar* and *A Christmas Carol for Two*



▲ Cast members from Jane Frazier's production of *The Most Massive Woman Wins*.

*Actors*. She was the director for *The Most Massive Woman Wins* at Virginia Commonwealth University's Shafer Street Playhouse. Frazier was the assistant director for *Christmas with the Crawfords* at the Richmond Triangle Players.

**Jonathan Gilbert** ('02) was recently hired as the Chief of Staff for DC Comics in New York City, the third-largest comic book and graphic novel publishing company in the world.

**Brian Schilb** ('01) completed his Master of Fine Arts in Acting at the University of South Carolina during fall 2006.

**Erica Tobolski** ('86) was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor at the University of South Carolina in May 2006.



She coordinates the voice component of the professional acting training program and teaches voice, speech, and acting. In July, she was elected as a board member of the University/Resident Theatre Association. Tobolski spent the fall season at the Utah Shakespearean Festival, where she was the voice, speech, and dialect coach on *The Merchant of Venice*, *Peg O' My Heart*, and *Johnny Guitar*, a new musical.

### Visual Communication and Design

**Andy Barnes** ('02) has become the Interactive Developer/Art Director of the newly restructured Web team at Brand Innovation Group (BIG). More information about BIG can be found at [www.gotobig.com](http://www.gotobig.com).

## Software Training for Students

Following graduation, many students believe that having a bachelor's degree is sufficient to navigate them through the work force. However, as technological advancements increase, expectations change. What many students may not realize is that experience with high-end software is becoming a necessity for jobs in almost any field.



Studio M, a collaborative effort between Information Technology Services (ITS) and the Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT), is a new on-campus resource designed specifically for students. Its mission is to help students familiarize themselves with the types of software that are prominent in the workplace, such as the Adobe and AutoDesk suites.

Studio M offers five XI desktops and one iMac G5, all with 23" wide screen monitors and each loaded with more RAM and Gigabyte space than the standard student computers in labs across campus. Altogether, Studio M allows for powerful usage and creation of multimedia presentations and projects not available to students elsewhere on campus.

"With Studio M, students now have the tools to create professional presentations," said John Ladd, recent VCD graduate and coordinator of Studio M. "Flash video and Adobe's Creative Suite, for example, are becoming huge, and the skills are needed to produce those types of projects. Technology and traditionally non-technological jobs are converging. Incoming secretaries are being expected to know how to build a Web site, use Adobe software, know about information technology, and utilize what is available."

As coordinator of Studio M, Ladd is charged with helping students develop familiarity with the software. Nevertheless, Studio M is intended to be for independent use even as it exists to help develop an understanding of new, professional technology.

"I will help teach the basics of the programs, but I won't produce someone's project for them," Ladd said. "Some of this software requires a (college) degree to completely know how to use it. I can assist those who don't."

Studio M is intended to be of service to students of every department on campus, should they need to create multimedia projects beyond what is achievable in designated student computer labs.

"VCD, communication, and engineering students may have an easier time with some of the software, while others will need more guidance," Ladd said. "Studio M caters to both ends of the spectrum."

For more information, visit [www.ipfw.edu/studiom](http://www.ipfw.edu/studiom).

## University Singers Tour East Coast

From November 15–21, the IPFW University Singers toured the United States, performing in Washington, D.C., New York City, and Lansing, Mich.

Under the direction of Todd Prickett, the Singers performed at National City Christian Church for their *Music at Midday* series and sang a patriotic medley on the Capitol steps, Washington monument, and Lincoln Monument in Washington, D.C.

In New York, the Singers performed at the Riverside Church, singing a 20-minute prelude. They sang at Plymouth Congregational Church in Michigan, and then performed at Eastside High School and Carroll High School in Fort Wayne.

To finish their tour, the Singers performed a home concert at IPFW in Neff Recital Hall.

During their tour, the Singers attended the play *Shear Madness* at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.



▲ University Singers perform in Washington, D.C., at the National City Christian Church.

They also toured national monuments, the Capitol building, and Ford's Theatre while there. The Singers attended a Metropolitan Opera performance of Puccini's *Tosca* and toured the Statue of Liberty while in New York.

## VPA Student Successes

### Theatre



**Tabetha Brake** was the winner for the Make-up design category in the Regional Design Competition for Region III of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KC/ACTF). Her project was based on the play *M. Butterfly* by David Henry Hwang. **Meagan McKean** was a finalist in the scenic design category and her project was based on the play *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. The conference was in Milwaukee, Wis., at Cardinal Stritch University in January.

**Brent Bruin** and **James Velez** competed in the Stage Management competition of KC/ACTF. Velez was nominated for his work on *The Exonerated*, and Bruin was nominated for his work on *Story Theatre*.

Irene Ryan Award nominees and their acting partners also competed in the Region III KC/ACTF. Nominees included **Greg Boyles** with partner **Jim Schneider**, **Jessica Butler** with partner **Blane Bressler**, **Breona Conrad** with partner **Blane Pressler**, and **Stephanie Vanderwall** with partner **Tamara Ricketts**.

**Stefan Zubal** has been accepted into the graduate program at Florida State University in Tallahassee to work toward an M.E.A. in dance.

### Music

Soprano **Meg Lothamer** was the first-runner up in the fourth annual Miss IPFW Scholarship Pageant in October 2006.

Several students successfully completed university-based clinical music therapy internships in 2006 and they include **Connie Bach** and **Heather Palmer** at Byron Health Center in Fort Wayne; **Jennifer Barnes** with Behavioral Consultation and Therapy Services; and **Melissa Reeve** at Big Bend Hospice in Tallahassee, Fla.

Both **Melissa Reeve** and **Mareta Spencer** have passed the board certification exam for their credentials of MT-BC. Spencer has accepted a professional music therapy position at Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee, Fla.

In January 2007, **Sarah Scott** was accepted to the music therapy clinical internship program at Helping Hands for Special Needs School in Worthington, Ohio.

### Fine Arts

Winners in the recent Northeast Indiana College Juried Student Art Exhibition at IPFW include **Benjamin Lawrence**, first place, IPFW; **Ryan Pickart**, second place, Grace College; and **Daron Short**, third place, Huntington University. Honorable mention winners included **Sara Auman-Smith**, IPFW; **Cho Long Kim**, Grace College; and **Jonathan Burns**, IPFW. Forty-three artworks were chosen for exhibition, including work by students from Manchester College and Ivy Tech Community College–Northeast.



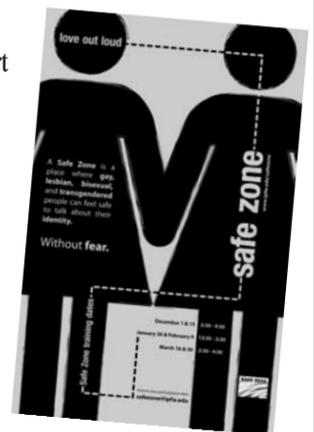
**Elizabeth Bradford**, **Leanne Christman**, **Jennifer Clements**, **Leah Fleetwood**, **Abbey Murray**, and **Chase Wire** attended the 2006 Art Education Association of Indiana (AEAI) in Lafayette this November. **Clements**, **Murray**, and **Wire** also attended the National Art Education Association conference in New York in March.

An interview with **Hatizda Mulic** was featured in the In Studio section of the Arlink Contemporary Art Gallery's *Genre* newsletter in January.

### Visual Communication and Design

**Matthew Colwell**, majoring in graphic design, won first place and a \$500 award for his design for the IPFW Safe Zone poster competition. **William Baulkey**, majoring in photography, was chosen as first runner-up.

**William Baulkey's** entry for the cover and poster art regarding Indiana University's 19th Annual Women's and Gender Studies Conference won first place and a cash award. Last year, he also held his first solo photography exhibition, "The Female of the Species," at the Dash-In coffee house.



One of Matthew Colwell's winning Safe Zone posters ▲

## spring 2007 calendar

## Visual Arts Gallery

**Spring Senior B.F.A. Fine Arts Exhibition**

Seniors graduating from the Department of Fine Arts share their work.

March 12–April 6

For information, call the Department of Fine Arts at 260-481-6705 or visit [www.ipfw.edu/vpa/finearts](http://www.ipfw.edu/vpa/finearts).

**Spring Senior B.F.A. Visual Communication and Design Exhibition**

Seniors graduating from the Department of Visual Communication and Design share their work.

April 16–May 11

For information, call the Department of Visual Communication and Design at 481-6705.

**Mid-America Guitar Ensemble Festival**

Friday, March 23–Sunday, March 25

Opportunities abound for everyone this weekend to listen to a wide variety of guitar repertoire as schools from all of Mid-America converge to participate in this popular and exciting festival, hosted this year by IPFW.

For more information on how you can participate as an ensemble, contact Laura Ferguson Lydy, coordinator of the 2007 festival, at 260-481-0479 or [fergusol@ipfw.edu](mailto:fergusol@ipfw.edu).

**Opening Festival Ensemble Concert**

Festival opening night performance will feature university ensembles from Illinois State University, Grand Rapids Community College, IPFW, and Elmhurst College.

Friday, March 23, 8 p.m. Neff Recital Hall

Tickets are \$10.

Admission for IPFW students with ID is free.

**Masterclass with the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet**

Saturday, March 24, 2–4 p.m. Neff Recital Hall

Tickets are \$10.

Admission for IPFW students with ID is free.

**Minneapolis Guitar Quartet**

One of the world's leading guitar ensembles since 1986 is the featured guest ensemble for the festival. Passionate, stylish, and sophisticated, their first-rate repertoire ranges from Renaissance and Baroque to Spanish, Latin American, and Romantic, to highly imaginative contemporary works.

Saturday, March 24, 8 p.m. Neff Recital Hall

Tickets are \$15.

**Closing Festival Ensemble Concert**

Featured university ensembles include Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Roosevelt Conservatory, Bradley University, and Millikin University. The concert will conclude with the Festival Guitar Orchestra performing Henry Brant's "Rosewood," with upwards of 100 guitarists from the festival participating.

Sunday, March 25, 1 p.m. Walb Student Union Ballroom

Tickets are \$10.

Admission for IPFW students with ID is free.

Additional information can be found at [www.ipfw.edu/vpa](http://www.ipfw.edu/vpa).

## Music

All concerts are in Neff Recital Hall and the following ticket prices apply unless otherwise noted: Admission for IPFW students with ID is free, \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, and \$1 all other students. For information, call the Department of Music at 260-481-6714.

**Faculty Recital featuring Farrell Vernon, saxophone**

A classical recital featuring James Farrell Vernon, Jazz Ensemble director and saxophone instructor.

Thursday, March 15, 7:30 p.m.

**Songs, Fantasies, and Dances of the Renaissance and Baroque**

Melanie Bookout and the early music ensemble will be joined by Uli Giese from Erlangen, Bavaria.

Saturday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.

Newly Renovated Studio Theatre in Kettler Hall

**Chamber Singers and South Bend Vesper Chorale perform *The Creation* by Haydn**

The IPFW Chamber Singers, the South Bend Vesper Chorale, and members of the South Bend Symphony Orchestra will present a collaborative performance of Franz Joseph Haydn's grand oratorio, *The Creation*.

Saturday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.

Trinity English Lutheran Church, 405 W. Wayne St.

\$16 Adults, \$8 Students

**Songs of Love and Loss**

Soprano Amy Prickett sings "Frauenliebe und Leben" by Schumann and "Der Hirt auf dem Felsen" by Schubert with Robert Bean, piano.

Thursday, March 29, 7:30 p.m.

**Plymouth Congregational Church presents IPFW University Singers**

The IPFW University Singers will perform works by Victoria, Durufle, Tchaikovsky, Brahms, and Mendelssohn and will feature the Chichester Psalms, composed by Leonard Bernstein, for mixed choir and boy soprano, accompanied by organ, harp, and percussion.

Friday, March 30, 7:30 p.m.

Free will offering

Plymouth Congregational Church, 501 West Berry Street

**Farrell Vernon Faculty Jazz Concert**

Farrell Vernon has assembled a Monday night Jazz treat with the IPFW music faculty.

Monday, April 2, 7:30 p.m.

**Trombone Studio Recital**

Continuing lecturer and principal trombonist with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic David B. Cooke presents performances featuring eight students from his trombone studio.

Tuesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.

Admission is free.

**Jazz Ensemble**

The Jazz Ensemble continually presents a diverse cross-section of new charts and major jazz standards.

Friday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.

**Symphonic Wind Ensemble**

Wind band classics including Grainger's "Lincolnshire Posy," "Polka and Fugue" from *Schwanda the Bagpiper*, and modern works by David Maslanka, Eric Whitacre, and John Barnes *Chance*.

Sunday, April 15, 2:30 p.m.

**Percussion Ensemble**

The Percussion Ensemble will perform *The Humming Bird*, *The Ragtime Robin*, and *Log Cabin Blues* by George Hamilton Green.

Monday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.

**Saxophone Quartet and Choir**

The Sax Quartet is comprised of soprano, alto, tenor, and baritone saxophones. The saxophone choir is open to musicians throughout the community.

Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.

**An Evening of Opera**

The IPFW Opera Ensemble presents an evening of great opera, including scenes from Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Richard Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier*, and Puccini's *Turandot* and *Suor Angelica*.

Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21, 7:30 p.m.

Allen Saunders, director

**IPFW Choral Union Spring Concert**

The Choral Union will present Schubert's *Mass in G*, Cole Porter tunes, and pieces from the early 1900s. The concert will also feature several selections by the IPFW Chamber Singers.

Sunday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

**IPFW Community Orchestra**

Featuring Dvořák's *New World Symphony* No. 9.

Monday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.



## Theatre

Box Office: 260-481-6555

**Tape**

By Stephen Belber

Directed by Mark Ridgeway

When an old friend confesses a high school indiscretion on tape it threatens to unravel the lives of three young people. Beneath its suspenseful, high-stakes surface, *Tape* examines questions of motive, memory, truth, and perception. *Tape* was made into a film starring Ethan Hawke and Uma Thurman in 2001.

Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7 at 8 p.m.

Studio Theatre in Kettler Hall

Admission for IPFW students with ID is free.

\$5 All other admission

Theatre Box Office will open April 2.

**More Fun Than Bowling**

by Steven Dietz

Directed by Jane-Purse Wiedenhoef

*Serious yet comedic*, *More Fun Than Bowling* tells the story of small-town love and destiny, told through bowling balls, lanes, and trophies. *More Fun Than Bowling* provides a whimsical examination of one man's life and proves that life is more fun than bowling.

April 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 at 8 p.m.

April 29 at 2 p.m.

Williams Theatre

Admission for IPFW students with ID is free.

All other tickets are \$14 and under.

Theatre Box Office opens on April 16.

**Student Theatre Organization presents A Studio Spectacular**

The Student Theatre Organization (STO) presents a cabaret-style evening of singing, dancing, monologues, and student scenes to raise funds for upcoming STO activities. There will be a silent auction on May 11 starting at 6:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, May 11 and May 12 at 8 p.m.

Studio Theatre in Kettler Hall

Tickets are \$10.

Theatre Box Office opens on May 7.

“It requires a large orchestra,” Prickett added. “And it needs soloists. My wife, Amy, a continuing lecturer on IPFW’s voice faculty, will perform as the soprano soloist. Also, I am pleased that we will be performing it in English; it will be accessible to the audience that way.”

The collaboration is a unique opportunity for the Chamber Singers. Since they are performing side-by-side with a semi-professional chorus and a professional orchestra, the singers will have to polish their performance to a professional level—a first for the group.

“In order for the performance to be aesthetically effective, they have to put a great deal of effort into it and rise to the occasion,” Prickett said. “What’s more, the piece gives the Chamber Singers first-hand knowledge

about a piece that they otherwise wouldn’t know. All choral masterworks have something unique to offer to the performers and audience alike. This experience will undoubtedly enhance the students’ performance abilities and future careers!”

“Our goals for the collaboration are to offer a superior choral performance of this piece in Fort Wayne, and to give the students a once-in-a-lifetime educational opportunity,” Prickett said. “We’re also pleased to offer 100 free tickets to Unity Performing Arts Foundation for those with diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.”

The Fort Wayne performance will be at Trinity English Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 24. An admission fee of \$16 for adults and \$8 for students will be charged.



▲ The IPFW Chamber Singers in concert at Neff Recital Hall.

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### IPFW Department of Theatre Studio Showcase

**Tape** *By Stephen Belber; Mark Ridgeway, director*  
 When an old friend confesses a high school indiscretion on tape it threatens to unravel the lives of three young people. Beneath its suspenseful, high-stakes surface, Tape examines questions of motive, memory, truth, and perception. Tape was made into a film starring Ethan Hawke and Uma Thurman in 2001.  
**Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7, 8 p.m.**  
 Newly Renovated Studio Theatre in Kettler Hall  
 Admission for IPFW students with ID is free. \$5 All other admission. Theatre Box Office will open April 2. Call 260-481-6555. TTD 260-481-4105. [www.ipfw.edu/vpa/theatre](http://www.ipfw.edu/vpa/theatre)

### IPFW Department of Music Percussion Ensemble

*The Percussion Ensemble will perform The Humming Bird, The Ragtime Robin, and Log Cabin Blues by George Hamilton Green.*

*Braham Dembar, director*

**Monday, April 16, 7:30 p.m. Neff Recital Hall**

Admission for IPFW students with ID is free.  
 \$4 Adults, \$3 Seniors, \$1 All other students.  
 Call the Department of Music at 260-481-6714.

[www.ipfw.edu/vpa/music](http://www.ipfw.edu/vpa/music)



### IPFW Visual Arts Gallery Spring Senior B.F.A. Exhibition - VCD

*Seniors graduating from the Department of Visual Communication and Design share their work.*

**Monday, April 16–May 11**  
 Opening reception: **Friday, April 20, 6–8 p.m.**  
 Kachmann Gallery, 1301 Lafayette Street

Admission is free. The exhibition can be viewed Tuesday through Saturday in the Kachmann Gallery from Noon–4 p.m. Call the Department of Visual Communication and Design at 260-481-6705.



▲ “Fatherhood,” oil on canvas, 2006  
 Hatidza Mulic.



▲ Members of the cast of *On the Twentieth Century* at Williams Theatre, October 2006



▲ Fred Mutebi (left) with Advanced Printmaking students Mark Mowan, Jim Henson, and Chase Wire with their finished print “Encroachment.”