

NEWS

THE FINE ARTS CENTER
FOR DAILY NEWS UPDATES LOG ON TO WWW.FINEARTSCENTER.NET

SUMMER 2010

Director's Comments

The Long Goodbye

No, not the Raymond Chandler novel, nor the Altman film based on the novel, but graduations present and past. This will be my twenty-first year of saying goodbye to seniors, indeed a long time and, let me tell you, it doesn't get any easier. Many of these students have been with us three or four years: you get to know them, we get close to them, to their work, their habits and moods, and we have watched them grow from tiny seeds into a Sherwood Forest of oaks! Well, perhaps I exaggerate, but the growth is remarkable. And, yes, you would expect some kind of growth in any educational setting, but here? Even if a student is with us just one year, the evidence of the extraordinary is visible in the work, in the students' sense of confidence, of discipline, of self, of the ability to focus their talents on the solution to a problem, creating something new and unique from their own impulses, guided daily by a caring professional faculty. Often, all of this adds up to a student who will succeed in nearly any setting, art or otherwise. We've seen it. Those who graduate, thankfully, find their way back here, if not in person, then by email, and they let us know what their years here meant to them. We appreciate that, of course, but I hope they don't leave thinking that only they are affected by being here. Wonderful line from Rogers and Hammerstein's *The King and I*:

It's a very ancient saying, /But a true and honest thought, /That if you become a teacher, /By your pupils you'll be taught.

Could not be truer. They have taught us, too. They have affected us—infected us?—infected us with the happy virus of the pure joy of being fully engaged each day in the process, in creation, in loving education at its purest: the magical interaction between a knowledgeable teacher and a student who wants more, a student ready to discover more about themselves and, as a consequence, grow sizeable spirits, wider understandings, able to tolerate the ambiguities of the day-to-day, and students who will be right at home in an increasingly complex world. It will be difficult for me, for the faculty and the staff, the night of the 19th of May. They'll walk across the stage and into a new life, new hopes, dreams, surprises, places, people, but they won't walk out of our hearts. They'll be there as long as there is memory, as long as they look back at these years and say, "Fine Arts Center? That's where I grew up."



Ray

Alladin's Lamp

Gotcha! Thought that would be a better heading than, Wish List. If we could rub that famous lamp, what would we wish for? See below!

1. I don't know about you but I'm getting tired of seeing that scrubby almost green stuff in front of our building! Nobody mows our grass—if that's what you call it-- because there isn't any. We need to sod it and there are two more places in the back. So, you gardeners, you realtors, you landscape types, if you can lay your hands on some excess sod we could solve that problem in a hurry.
2. While we're at it, how about some plantings in front—some shrubberies, maybe some azaleas? Mature shrubberies, so they look good right away!
3. We're going to need to start thinking about replacing our Apple computers, too, so that our students remain competitive. Let's think \$1500 to \$1800 for each. We have 35! I'm looking to start a sinking fund so that we buy them all at once. Better price. Haven't mentioned software.
4. Money. Gee, big surprise. Given where the state is and given that every school in the county has had to make financial sacrifices, dollars are needed to keep going. We didn't lose people but we lost half of our operating budget. That's right, half! We need to replace \$25,000.
5. Maybe I should just make it easy, rub the lamp, ask for one wish: a million bucks properly invested would take care of this place for a long time. Where are you John Beresford Tipton?

— Dr. Fluhrer

Explore the Arts

Explore the Arts will be offered June 14-18, 2010, Monday through Friday, at the Fine Arts Center, 102 Pine Knoll Drive. Explore the Arts summer arts program is for students currently in kindergarten (K5) through twelfth grades and beyond! This year the high school workshops include college students, art instructors, and adults with an interest in the arts. For more information, class schedules, and to download an application, go to www.fineartscenter.net. Contact Donna Shank-Major at 201-2450 or 355-2574. You may also email dshank@greenville.k12.sc.us for more information.

Our graduation speaker, **John Otis**, born and raised in New Orleans, was in charge of New Orleans Center for Creative Arts for 18 years, first as Principal, then as Executive Director upon the school's transition in 2000 from district to state agency status when it moved from a cramped 1901 elementary school building to a new facility spanning historic cotton warehouses alongside the Mississippi River just beyond the French Quarter. Having planned for years, he developed the instructional program to become available to a wider range of students by launching several additional arts disciplines, by offering late afternoon classes, Saturday classes, and a summer session with housing for students from across the state, and by joining forces with an established regional youth orchestra. Recruited by New World School of the Arts, he then served two years in Miami as its Provost/CEO and, returning to New Orleans after Katrina, has been involved in numerous education initiatives as the city rebuilds. A former president of Arts Schools Network, he is a recipient of the organization's Lawrence Award, granted to the school leader "who exemplifies an uncompromising commitment to excellence in arts education and arts training."



John first approached our Director, Roy Fluhrer, about serving on the board of Arts Schools Network in the early '90s and, since then, the two have played a significant role in the growth of the ASN, along with the development of the Cluster programs, a vehicle for bringing various arts groups together outside the annual conference. He remains one of the country's leading advocates for the role the arts must play in the education of every child.

Theory Teacher's Composition Premiered

The Atlanta Chamber Players gave the world premiere of **Jon Jeffrey Grier's** "Diverse Variations on A-C-P" on April 28 at the New American Shakespeare Tavern in Atlanta. The composition—for oboe, violin, viola, cello and piano—is the fulfillment of the commission that Jon was awarded in the ACP's Rapido! Competition in October. Atlanta music critic Pierre Ruhe described it on AccessAtlanta.com as "17 minutes of marvelous, quirky, touching, moody and thoroughly engrossing music."

The entire review can be read here: http://www.accessatlanta.com/AccessAtlanta-sharing_/concert-review-composition-contest-505028.html.

Donna Shank Major was selected to participate in The Power of Art: Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities workshop sponsored by the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation at the The Lab School of Washington in Washington, DC. She was one of 32 teachers selected for the 17th annual Power of Art workshop and worked with other art educators on developing new curricula. Mrs. Shank Major also received a certificate worth \$500 for art materials for use in her classroom.

A L U M N I N E W S

FAC Visual Arts alumni **Kate Roberts** was awarded the Regina Brown Undergraduate Student Fellowship by the national Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. She received one of three fellowships chosen from hundreds of college students from across the country. The \$1,800 award was given to Kate at the NCECA conference in Philadelphia in March. Applicants were judged for the quality and artistic merit of the artwork, the potential for growth and educational value of the proposal, and the applicant's future potential to make a significant impact on the field of ceramic arts. Kate will graduate from Alfred University this month with a BFA in Ceramics.

T H E A T E R

Guest artist **Adam Knight** has been with the Advanced Theatre Ensemble for three weeks during the month of May. He is an alum of the Fine Arts Center. He graduated the Theatre program in 1997, after which he attended the University of Evansville in Indiana, earning his BFA in Theatre. Since 2001, Adam has lived, directed, and produced theatre in New York City and regionally. His theatre company, Slant Theatre, has produced over 14 plays in New York City. Adam has spent the last three weeks with the Advanced Theatre Ensemble, auditioning and rehearsing "Mind Blow City," a collection of five ten-minute plays and incidental videos. "Mind Blow City" will perform Monday, May 10, at 7pm. The Beginning Theatre Ensemble will also perform that evening. Join us for a lively evening of contemporary theatre!



V O I C E



Lexi Aime, senior in The Fine Arts Center Voice Program, is a semi-finalist for the United States Presidential Scholars Program. The program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize and honor some of our Nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1979, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative and performing arts. Lexi sang at the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts in Miami earlier this school year and, as a result, was one of 60 students to meet the candidacy requirements. From this group the White House Commission will select 20 Arts Scholars. Should Lexi be so honored she will be invited to Washington in June for a series of events recognizing their talents.



Lexi has had quite a year singing in Miami, at The Kennedy Center and on the stage at Carnegie Hall. She has accepted a significant scholarship to attend the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio.

Thirteen percussion and woodwind students from the Fine Arts Center were honored with the extraordinary opportunity to perform alongside counterparts from Furman University, North Greenville University, and other musicians from around the country in the premier of John Luther Adams' composition, "Inuksuit." The work, commissioned by a consortium lead by Furman University Associate Professor of Percussion, **Dr. Omar Carmenates**, was rehearsed on Thursday, April 15, at Furman University and then performed the afternoon of April 16 in the area near the amphitheater (near the lake). Performed completely out of doors, "Inuksuit" evolved over the course of an hour, encompassing and becoming a part of the physical environment around Furman. Students Participating include **Moses Andrews, McKenzie Chalak, Merritt Huff, Robert Mullis, Zach Purdun, Wesley Strasser, Amber Tepedino, Audrey Hamilton, Nathan Matthews, Trevor McCurdy, Richard McDonald, Malcolm McMillan, and Kylon Tyner.** Accompanying images of Malcolm McMillan, Wesley Strasser, Audrey Hamilton, and Merritt Huff were taken during the Thursday afternoon rehearsal.



Fine Arts Center percussionist **Wesley Strasser** (Wade Hampton HS, 11) has been accepted to and will attend two prestigious summer programs for aspiring musicians: the Juilliard Summer Percussion Seminar, held in New York City, and the Boston University Tanglewood Percussion Workshop, held in Lenox, Massachusetts. As gleaned from the program's websites:

The Juilliard Summer Percussion Seminar is designed for advanced high-school percussionists. During two intensive weeks (July 18-July 30) in the exciting cultural environment of New York's Lincoln Center, students pursue hands-on study of all the major percussion instruments: two and four-mallet keyboard, snare drum, timpani, and orchestral accessories. In addition, students are introduced to world hand drums, percussion chamber music, and both multi- and solo-percussion repertoire. Seminar participants will experience a challenging range of master classes, clinics, lectures, rehearsals, and performances—all of this activity focused on preparing them for success in conservatory and college auditions.

The Boston University Tanglewood Percussion Workshop runs from June 20 through July 3. It is led by Director Tim Genis, principal timpanist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and Assistant Director Lee Vinson, percussionist of the BSO. The workshop covers a variety of topics including: snare drum, timpani and mallet technique, and equipment maintenance, such as wrapping mallets and changing timpani heads. Mr. Genis also offers instruction in the preparation of orchestral excerpts for auditions. In addition to individual practice, students have the opportunity to play in chamber groups and large ensembles. Master classes are offered by members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra percussion section. Video sessions and discussion by both workshop participants and professional percussionists provide useful feedback and direction.



The Fine Arts Center recently became the proud owner of a four-stop, single manual harpsichord, donated to the school by **Ms. Ann Burgess** of Greenville. The instrument, which bears no manufacturer's nameplate, is believed to have been constructed in South Carolina and hand-painted by Mrs. Burgess. In beautiful condition, it has appeared on the stage in Greenville Symphony Orchestra chamber concerts. Soon to be available for all departments to enjoy, the harpsichord will be employed most frequently by the Fine Arts Center's voice and strings chamber music programs.



The Greenville County Youth Orchestras' Young Artist Orchestra will present its final concert of the year on Saturday, May 15, 2010 at The Peace Center for the Performing Arts in the Gunter Theatre at 7:30 p.m. The concert will be directed by Fine Arts Center faculty member **Dr. Gary A. Robinson**. Tickets are \$15.00 and are available in advance or at the door at The Peace Center Box Office (467-3000). Student tickets are available at the door for \$8.00. The concert will include Max Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1, op. 26, in G minor. It will feature violin soloist **Sarah Leonard** (Fine Arts Center, Wade Hampton High School, 12). Also on the program will be Symphony No. 2, op 43, in D major by Jean Sibelius.



The League of American Orchestras (LAO) has selected the YAO to perform at their national conference in Atlanta on June 16. They were chosen over other youth orchestras in the southeast based on our submission of an application and recording of selections from their outstanding performance at the recent fall concert. The LAO is a national association with over 950 Orchestra Members, including youth, collegiate, community and professional, and over 500 business partners who benefit from being members of the League of American Orchestras. This conference is the National Conference for the orchestra industry in America. YAO is being asked to perform as part of the

opening session attended by every delegate attending the conference, about 1000 people — who represent about 400 orchestras across the country, including the NY Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Boston Symphony, etc., as well as youth orchestras.

The Athena String Quartet (violinists **Beth Uhimchuk** and **Sarah Leonard**; violist **Anna Catherine Bowden**; and 'cellist **Melissa Gaddy**) performed a lecture-recital with commentary by Dr. Jon Grier. The program, "Listen with Insight," explored the background of, melodies, and imagery in Dmitri Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 8, followed by a performance of the complete quartet. The event was filmed by David Dara, and will be broadcast on Charter Cable's Greenville County Schools channel later this year.

Violinist **Rebecca Crowe** and 'cellist **Aaron Sumpter** won scholarships in the amount of \$1000 in the Music Club of Greenville's annual competition. Both students performed in the winner's recital on May 3.

Violinist **Sarah Leonard** has been accepted to Boston University's School of Music. **Beth Uhimchuk** will attend the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music as a Violin Performance major.

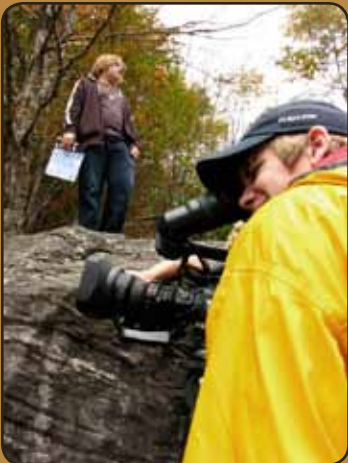
Violist **Evelyn Maris** is the valedictorian of Wade Hampton's graduating class of 2010.

Fine Arts Center flutist **Merritt Huff** (Riverside High School, 11) won first place in the Division 2 (high school woodwind players) scholarship audition sponsored by the Music Teacher Association of Greenville. The competition took place on the campus of Bob Jones University on Saturday, April 17. For winning first place, Merritt (who studies the flute with area teacher/performer Mary AllyeB Purtle) will receive \$200, which can be used for summer lessons.

On March 6, 7 and 8, students from the Digital Filmmaking Class were involved with shooting a short film called *Tom and Jake*. The film was written, directed and produced by **West Hyler**, a former FAC theatre instructor and currently a director of the Broadway production *Jersey Boys*. The film is about two turkey hunters, a father and son named Tom and Jake, and two turkeys — a tom turkey and a jake (young) turkey. The turkeys are animated but the rest of the film is live action. The animation is being produced by Clemson's Media Arts department. The film is funded by a \$100K grant from the South Carolina Film Commission. Film instructor **Eric Rogers** was hired as the cinematographer and post-production effects editor. Several current and former students including **Luke Delello**, **Leslie Bruce** and **Jeremy Camp** were hired as crew members for the production as well. The film was shot on location at Clemson's experimental forest and on set at the Fine Arts Center film studio.



Earlier this year, the film class traveled to Graveyard Fields on the Blue Ridge Parkway to shoot a short film called *Dimensions*. The film is based on the Edwin Abbott book, *Flatland*. The story involves a character from a two dimensional world who ventures into the land of three dimensions. The two-dimensional scenes were shot in the studio in front of a green screen. The book was adapted for screen by 2009 FAC graduate **Ruth Miller**. It is being produced by DigiFilm 3 students, **Jeremy Camp**, **Leslie Bruce** and **Luke Delello**, with help from DigiFilm 1, DigiFilm 2, Visual Arts and Theatre Tech students. The film stars theatre student **Corsha Johnson**, theatre instructor **Teri Parker Lewis**, local filmmaker/actor **Chris White** and his son **Whitaker White**. The film was funded by a \$1000 grant from The Upstate Film Society.



FAC Dance Students Inducted into National Honor Society for Dance Arts

Fine Arts Center Dance students **Ashley Attaway, Charlotte Brown, Lael King, Abigail Pinkerton, Jamie Taylor** and **Maren Trofatter** were inducted into the National Honor Society for Dance Arts on April 22nd. Receiving the distinction of the Gold Star Award were current members **Allison Leisgang, Jillian Leisgang, Gianni Monteleon** and **Jamie Taylor**. **Ashley Becking** received two Gold Star Awards. NHSDA President **Ashley Becking** and Vice-President **Ashley Brown** conducted the ceremony. Flowers were donated by A Arrangements Florists for each new inducted NHSDA dance student. Students must earn 30 points through dance performances and events as well as maintain a good academic grade average to be eligible for membership and may earn a Gold Star Award by earning an additional 10 points.



Dance Choreography Adjudicated for Performance

Anna Jordan and **Jeana Nitche** adjudicated dances choreographed by Dance III & Dance IV students for inclusion in the evening dance performances of Generation-to-Generation (April 22) or the Fine Arts Center Dance Concert (May 7).

The student pieces selected for the April 22 performance were the dance “Pulsate,” choreographed by **Ashley Attaway** and danced by **Jill Leisgang, Abby Pinkerton** and **Jamie Taylor**; “Chain Reaction,” choreographed by **Jill Leisgang** and danced by **Lael King, Abby Pinkerton** and **Lauren Pittman**; “Grasping Reality,” choreographed by **Allison Leisgang** and danced by **Caroline Hafer, Lauren Pittman** and **Jamie Taylor**; “Gravitational Attraction,” choreographed and danced by **Ashley Attaway** and **Jill Leisgang**; “The Physics of Normalcy,” choreographed by **Ashley Becking** and danced by **Abby Pinkerton** and **Jamie Taylor**; and “Apologize,” choreographed by **Ashley Becking** and danced by **Ashley Becking** and **Abby Pinkerton**.

The student pieces of choreography selected for performance for the FAC Dance Concert on May 7th will be performed in the same concert as professional choreographers and guest artists **Brian McGinnis, Stephanie Milling** and Andrew Kuharsky. The pieces chosen were: “Follow,” choreographed by **Ashley Brown** and danced by **Ashley Brown** and **Caroline Hafer**; “Nostalgia,” choreographed by **Jill Leisgang** and danced by **Jill Leisgang** and **Jacqueline Calle**; “Constrictus,” choreographed by **Gianni Monteleon** and danced by **Gianni Monteleon** and **Lauren Pittman**; “Pry,” choreographed by **Ashley Brown** and danced by **Ashley Becking, Lauren Pittman** and **Jamie Taylor**; “Hesitant to Let Go,” choreographed by **Ashley Becking** and danced by **Ashley Attaway, Jacqueline Calle** and **Caroline Hafer**; and “Natural Selection,” choreographed by **Gianni Monteleon** and danced by **Jacqueline Calle, Caroline Hafer** and **Lael King**.



The Design Class recently worked with artist **Matt Rink** on mold making using alginates and plaster. Mr. Rink is a recent MFA graduate of Clemson University and with an undergraduate degree from Alfred University. He creates large-scale sculptures and socially based installations. Matt has been granted several large-scale public commissions. For the Lamp Pole Project, Matt Rink received an ARGUS grant from the University to research and fund additional safety precautions for the public installation focusing on sustainable

material use. During his residency at the Fine Arts Center, Mr. Rink worked with students to create plaster casts of their feet for a temporary public installation at the Fine Arts Center. The project serves as an exercise in connecting with the audience or communication with the public and serves as way for students to map movement through space. Students also made casts of their hands and face during this wonderful residency with Matt Rink.



Students from all the visual art disciplines enjoyed learning about what it takes to be an industrial designer from metals department visiting artist **Benjamin Hitmar**. Mr. Hitmar worked for Hasbro for ten years before starting his own toy design business, Enjami Studios, which he runs out of his home in Pittsburgh, PA. During his lecture on April 5, he emphasized the importance of drawing from life and keeping art skills fresh and invigorated by looking at contemporary art and getting outside drawing. He also talked about his path as a humble art student at the Cleveland Institute of Art (where he befriended metals faculty **Katy Cassell**), to his decision to major in industrial design, how he convinced his professors to bring in designers from the toy industry, and how he works in the industry today. On April 6, he talked informally with students about the toy project they were making in metal in the metals studio, giving advice and suggestions. He demonstrated how he sketches directly on his computer with his personal Wacom Cintiq, a graphic tablet screen, and showed students how they could transform loose sketches into precise mechanical renderings using the pressure-sensitive stylus and Photoshop software. The students were delighted to see the realms of pencil and computer merged so deftly and experimented with sketching on the Cintiq, a highlight of the visit for many.



In October Pixar Animator **Jeremy Vickery** gave a fascinating lecture to visual arts and digital film students about his work on such films as *Cars*, *Ratatouille*, *The Incredibles* and *Veggie Tales*.

20th Annual Upstate High School Art Exhibit



Fourteen Fine Arts Center visual arts student artworks were included in the 20th Annual Upstate High School Art Exhibit sponsored by Greenville Technical College. **Terri Bright**, a fine art photographer who teaches both photography and drawing at Furman University, juried the exhibition. Awards were presented on April 16 to Kelly Wills (second place in Illustration), **Chelsea Waller** (third place Ceramics), **Olivia Felber** (second place Printmaking), and **Mackenzie Hendley** (second place Metals/Jewelry). Other students exhibiting included **Erin Stuart**, **Elisabeth Schlaudt**, **April Jones**, **Haley Swanson**, **Carrie Seigler**, **Amanda Bruce**, **Kyle Sanders**, and **Katie May**.

Mackenzie Hendley, second place Metals/Jewelry



The Visual Arts Department is pleased to announce the first Senior Invitational Show which will showcase the work of selected outstanding seniors. The work will be on view from April 30 to May 21, at Aabstract's Gallery, which is located at 207 South Main Street in Fountain Inn, SC. Everyone is invited to celebrate the students' hard work at the public closing reception on Friday, May 21, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. **Carol Cribb**, the owner of Aabstract's, conceived of showcasing artwork from the Fine Arts Center after her son, **Chase Cribb**, had such a good experience attending the Center from 2005-2007. After he graduated and left home to major in Photography at the Art Institute of Charleston, Ms. Cribb wanted to maintain contact



*Matt Nielson
"Best in Show"*

with the school. "This inaugural show is something we hope to repeat in future years and brings the artwork of our students out of our building and closer to residents from a different area of Greenville County," says metals faculty **Katy Cassell**, who helped Carol coordinate the exhibition. Participating students include **Carrie Siegler**, **Elissa Von Walter**, **Elisabeth Schlaudt**, **Caleb Hamby**, **Ross Redmon**, **Matthew Nielson**, **Kelley Wills**, **Dilland Gregory**, and **Kyle Sanders**.

The Sheffield Wood Gallery will be filled to the end of the year with excellent artwork created by Visual Art students from all disciplines in our annual Juried Student Show. This year the juror was **Sandy Rupp**, the owner of Hampton III Gallery, the longest-running gallery in the Greenville and the state of South Carolina. In addition to jurying the show and selecting award winners, Ms. Rupp spent the day at the Center talking to both morning and afternoon classes about what it's like to run a gallery, how she selects artists for exhibition, and how artists and gallery owners can have a mutually-productive, professional relationship. First Place award winners in each category include: **Erin Stuart**, metals; **Kyle Sanders**, photography; **Haley Swanson**, design; **Liz Hewell**, drawing/painting; **Ross Redmon**, ceramics; and **Matthew Nielson** won Best in Show for his large ceramic vessel.

Scholarships of note to graduating seniors in the Metals Department: **Fielding Lowrance** is one of no more than 13 applicants to have earned admittance into the Clemson University's coveted National Scholars Program, which will fund her education comprehensively, including four years of room, board, supplies, tuition, stipend, and travel abroad. Ms. Fielding will be majoring in Architecture. **Elisabeth Schlaudt** is one of 20 applicants to be awarded the prestigious Hollingsworth Scholarship at Furman University, where she is interested in studying environmental science. The scholarship will fund \$100,00 over four years with extra stipends for travel abroad and summer internships.

Scholastic Art Awards

Visual Arts Student **Ross Redmon** has won the American Visions Award in the national 2010 Scholastic Art Awards, representing the "Best in Show" for the state of South Carolina. His ceramic piece titled "Ancient Vessel" will be on display in New York City during the national celebration. The awards event will be held in early June at Carnegie Hall, where Ross will be recognized for his achievement. Ross has also been awarded a full scholarship (one of only six given) to attend the Kansas City Art Institute next fall.



The School District of Greenville County, Dr. Phinnize Fisher, Superintendent

Fine Arts Center • Dr. Roy S. Fluhrer, Director
102 Pine Knoll Drive • Greenville, SC 29609

The School District of Greenville County does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, color, handicap, religion, or national origin in its dealings with employees, students, the general public, applicants for employment, educational programs, activities, or access to its facilities.

This Spring has been a big one for Fine Arts Center writers. In contest news:

Junior **AJ Davis** and Freshman **Kathleen Cole** were also awarded National Gold Medals in the Scholastic Competition. Out of over 2,500 Gold Key awards forwarded to the New York round of judging, AJ and Kathleen's poems were two of only 300 individual manuscripts to be awarded national honors. Both AJ and Kathleen, along with their families, will be traveling to New York City in June to attend the awards ceremony at Carnegie Hall and take part in Scholastic's weekend of readings and workshops with industry professionals as a part of their prize.

Senior **Caroline Bayne** is the winner of the prestigious Bennington Young Writer's Award in Poetry. From over 2,300 submissions, only six works in Poetry, Fiction and Creative Non-Fiction were given recognition. Caroline's award includes a \$500 prize and publication on the Bennington Young Writer's website. Her poems, "Party Frock," "Pretty Boy" and "Shepherd," can be found at www.bennington.edu/go/news/young-writers-competition.

Juniors **Stephanie Gray**, **Molly Frazier**, **Jana Wilson** and **Andi Pardee** were all awarded Honorable Mentions for the manuscripts they submitted to the Nancy Thorpe Prize for Poetry from Hollins University. **AJ Davis** was a Runner Up in the contest and was awarded a cash prize and publication of her poem in Hollins University's undergraduate magazine, *Cargoes*.

Junior **Eric Roper** was awarded third place in the South Carolina Poetry Initiative's Young Writer's Competition for his poem "Specter." Eric will be awarded a \$50 prize, and Junior **Molly Frazier** and Senior Jaime Hammer, who were both named Honorable Mentions in the competition, will be awarded a \$25 honorarium.

Molly Frazier, **Caroline Bayne**, **Alec Brososky** and **Cara Sinicropi** have also all had work accepted for publication in *Polyphony H.S.*, the nationally juried magazine of high school writing. Molly's short story, "Dirty Laundry," Caroline's poem, "Shepherd," Alec's poem, "Limpid Hour," and Cara's poem, "Self Portrait in Velvet Dress," will all appear in Volume VI, which will be published in early summer 2010.

On Saturday, April 17th the Creative Writing class was hosted by Coffee Underground on Coffee Street in downtown Greenville for our annual fundraiser, raffle and open mic. Students ran a bookfair, MCed the open mic which included performers from the school and community, ran a Poetry On Demand table and raffled off over \$400 in goods and services donated by area businesses. Thanks to the support of parents and the community, we made \$400 to put toward the purchase of next years books.

More recently, Fine Arts Center seniors **Geoffrey Billetter**, **Caroline Bayne** and **Emma Tillman** were the featured readers at the Emrys Foundation Reading Series at Bohemian restaurant on Main Street. Fine Arts Center students shared a billing with seniors from the Governor's School for the Arts and were paid for their performance with a \$100 check from the Emrys Foundation which will be added to the Creative Writing Library Fund.

This June, Instructor **Sarah Blackman** will travel to Johnson, Vermont, to take place in a month-long writing residency at the Vermont Studio Centers. These fellowships are awarded to emerging and established writers and visual artists and are intended to afford working artists with the time they need to complete larger projects. Only 12 artists are admitted to each of the residency periods. Aided by a generous contribution from the Fine Arts Center Foundation, Sarah will take the month of her residency to work on the first draft of her novel in concert with resident writers like Rick Moody and Amy Hempel.

FAC Performance & Special Events Calendar 2010

<p>May 10 at 7:00 pm "Contemporary Theatre" in Black Box</p> <p>May 12 at 7:00 pm Brass/Winds/Percussion Concert in Recital Hall</p> <p>May 13 Showcase Rehearsals <i>Strings Chamber Music Concert in Recital Hall, 7:00 pm</i></p> <p>May 14 Showcases, 9:20 & 1:20 Anti-Prom "Masquerade," 8:00 PM Last Day Seniors</p> <p>May 15 at 7:30 pm Young Artist Orchestra Concert @ Gunter Theatre</p>	<p>May 16 at 2:00 pm Awards Day @ WHHS Auditorium</p> <p>May 18 at 4:00 pm Graduation Rehearsal @ WHHS Auditorium</p> <p>May 19 at 7:30 pm Graduation @ WHHS Auditorium</p> <p>May 21 Senior Art Show @ Abstract Gallery in Fountain Inn Last Day Underclassmen</p> <p>May 25 at 4:00 pm YAO Banquet & Awards @ FAC</p> <p>May 28 at 7:00 pm Digital Filmmaking Screening</p>
--	---