

# ARTS NEWS

FINE ARTS CENTER - March 2002

## New Sculpture Garden Takes Root



*Above: A crew of alumni, students, teachers, staff, and parents work to help Jeri Burdick install her garden sculptures.*

*Left: The finished product! See lead story inside.*

## From the Director

We have begun recruiting for next year's class. We will graduate 122 seniors in May and need to replace them to keep our enrollments hovering near 300. We are often questioned about the size of our program and our classes. Those who ask have little knowledge of arts programs and what makes them successful. You can't put 35 students into any arts class; for that matter, you shouldn't put 35 students in any class! But, in an arts class—in arts school—the focus is on developing the individual talent of *each* student. In a math or science class certain concepts are taught and tested and while there may be some adaptations made for student idiosyncrasies they would have to be at a minimum—there just isn't time to tutor each child. In these classes we all need to follow the accepted procedures and arrive at the same answers. While there are sequential procedures in the various art forms, each student's journey is individual, it must be. After all, we are asking that particular student to respond to the "stuff" of his or her world in a unique and individual manner: There had better not be a class consensus on the "best answer." If there were, we wouldn't have art. Our ability to develop these individual skills will stand the student in good stead no matter which career direction he or she takes. Students who are creative problem solvers, who see and respond to their world in a variety of ways, who have the discipline to work through difficulties, who can work cooperatively and creatively with others will be the students who create the new wealth of this new century. Those of you who have been in our building, who have witnessed the energy and enthusiasm for excellence that permeates each and every classroom, do not need to be reminded of the importance of this program or the arts in the lives of our students. So, when you are asked about the Center, when you are told that the arts are expendable, that they really don't contribute to the educational progress of Greenville county students, remind them that the arts, properly taught, may be the best means we have to face the challenges of the coming years.

## '01 Senior Gift Arrives

Contributions from last year's graduating seniors have made possible the revitalization of the courtyard at the Fine Arts Center. On Saturday, February 8 a group of current students, alumni, faculty and parents assisted artist Jeri Burdick in creating bases for her garden sculptures, and moving 6 tons of gravel to create a permanent

pathway between the building and the gazebo. Thanks to Jeri, Paul, Greg, Andrew, Margo, Lera, Arthur, Jamie, Brandon, Sarah, Lisa, Robert, Debbie, Glenda, Jim, Jon and Susan for your enthusiastic response, and especially to Jean Hamrick for coordinating the donations by last year's graduates.

Six sculptures are now featured in the courtyard. Burdick used concrete, glass, tiles, wire, mirrored glass, and

paint to create the colorful, often humorous 3-dimensional pieces. She was selected for this commission so that the newly designed courtyard would become a more inviting and enjoyable place for students to gather.

Future plans for expanding the courtyard include purchasing concrete tables and benches that can be covered with mosaics created by FAC students, and the addition of landscaping materials such as vines, azaleas, and hostas. Parents who would like to join in the spring planting should call Carolyn Grothaus for more information.

## FACulty News

FAC music faculty member Gary A. Robinson recently served as a judge for the Symphony Guild of Charlotte Young Artists Competition held on the campus of the University of North



*Quoc Phan's portrait of his mother is currently on display here at the FAC in our Sheffield Wood Gallery.*

Carolina in Charlotte, NC.

Glenda Guion, ceramics teacher at the Fine Arts Center, has had three of her works selected to be included in *500 Teapots*, an upcoming book to be published by Lark Books (fall 2002.) The book will feature a juried collection of traditional and altered teapot forms made with any ceramic firing process.

Creative Writing teacher Claire Bateman has been invited to be a contributing editor of *Shade*, a literary journal in partnership with Four Way Books Press. She is also coediting the poetry submissions for *Emyrs Journal*.

On April 26th Jon Ravnán (Strings) will travel to Roanoke College for a performance of his piano trio, *Nostalgias*, by another group that has appeared many times at the FAC, the Kandinsky Trio.

Andrew Kuharsky (dance) traveled to Michigan where he taught classes and staged his ballet *Suite Poulenc* for the Greater Lansing Ballet on January 25-27. He also taught classes and staged his ballet *Satiescape* for the Augusta Ballet on January 4-6. Both ballets will be produced later this spring.

## Students in the News

Two Fine Arts Center strings chamber music students were chosen as winners of the Clemson concerto competition. Chloe Robinson (Greenville) performed Lalo's *Symphonie Espagnole* for violin and orchestra, and Hannah Shaw (home school) was the soloist for Bartók's *Concerto for Viola and Orchestra*. In February Chloe and



*Sarah Grothaus had her piece Wide Awake/Still Dreaming displayed at Lander University for the Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition.*

## **Student News (cont.)**

Hannah performed two concerts at the Brooks Performing Arts Center with the Clemson University Orchestra. 'Cellist Solme Hong (JL Mann) won the SC All-State Orchestra solo competition. The FAC junior will perform as soloist in the *Concerto for 'Cello and Orchestra in C Major* by Joseph Haydn. The performance on March 3 at the Brooks Performing Arts Center at Clemson University is the culminating event in an intensive three-day festival. Fifteen FAC strings students won positions in the SC All-State Orchestra. Two FAC viola students were prize-winners in the Music Clubs of Greenville annual scholarship competition. Hannah Shaw received the first place award of a \$1000 scholarship, and Susannah Plaster (Mauldin) won honorable mention. Both students will appear in the winners' recital March 11.

Fine Arts Center winds, brass, and

percussion students have made excellent showings at local regional and state band competitions. Greenville's All-County Band Festival February 4-5 featured FAC students in the following roles: Bridget Whitten (Eastside) 2nd chair flute, Julie Bentz (Eastside) section flute I, Syntha Neal (Eastside) principal oboe, Matthew Hiott (home school) principal E flat saxophone, Michael Morris (Eastside) principal trumpet, Matthew Laney (home school) trumpet I/chair 5, Elisa Wooldridge (JL Mann) horn III, Andrew Barker (Travelers Rest) principal tuba, Brandon Turner (Riverside) 2nd chair percussion, and Caleb Gaston (Pickens) principal timpani.

Selected to attend the University of South Carolina Band Clinic on February 14-17 were oboist Syntha Neal, flutist Bridget Whitten, and percussionist Caleb Gaston who won the position of principal percussion in the Advanced Band, placing him first among 28 participating percussionists. Michael Morris, this time applying as a clarinetist, also attended. Syntha and Bridget, along with flutist Julie Bentz, won chairs in the Western Region Band Clinic February 23-24, while Michael Morris, performing on the trumpet, secured a chair in the All-State Band Clinic March 1-2.

The following students have received Regional Gold Awards in the Scholastic Writing Competition: Dave Brothers (two Golds), Jamie Campbell (three Golds), Leah Coakley (two Golds), Laura Knowles (two Golds), Drew Freeman, Ashlee Goforth, Theresa Kelley, J.P. Newton, Drew

Phillips, Sara Schneider, and Rebecca Smith. Ashlee Goforth also won a Silver Award. The awards ceremonies and activities took place on Feb. 16-17 at Queens College in Charlotte, NC; readings and exhibitions were held at the Charlotte/Douglas International Airport.

Film/Video students Tyler Chapman, Andrew Corvey, and Phillip Adams recently produced a five minute motivational video for First Charter Bank. Corvey directed the piece and former student Charlie Boyles served as Director of Photography. Adams and Chapman served as location managers and production assistants. The video was shot in Charlotte and was shown at the company's annual motivational gathering.

Film/Video student Tim McKinney recently sold one of his class projects to a national skateboarding video magazine.

## Guest Artist News

The Ceruti Quartet, string quartet in residence at the University of Memphis and long time friends of the FAC, visited on February 15 to coach ensembles in the Strings Chamber Music program and to perform for the student body. The Quartet, including violist and former FAC faculty member Lenny Schranze, performed *Quartet #3*, the "Automotive," composed by theory instructor Jon Grier. On February 16 Dr. Grier traveled with the group to Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, for another performance of the "Automotive" at the annual Forum of the

Southeastern Composers League. The Quartet's appearance at the forum was received with great enthusiasm.

Creative Writing students enjoyed readings and master classes given by guest artists/authors Susan Tekulve and Rick Mulkey of Converse College in Spartanburg. Tekulve read from a story published in *Porto Del Sol* and from a novel-in-progress, and Mulkey read from his collection of poetry *Before the Age of Reason* as well as from a manuscript-in-progress.

Flutist and chamber musician Kate Steinbeck of Clemson University coached winds and brass students in chamber music performance at the Fine Arts Center on February 11.

Vincas Greene, professor of dance at Brenau University in Gainesville, Georgia, taught master classes to FAC dance students on January 15.

Rosa Shand, fiction writer and author of *The Gravity of Sunlight*, will be giving readings and master classes on March 15.

## Class Activities

A reading by Creative Writing students will be held on April 15 in the FAC theatre, and on April 29 (sponsored by the Emrys Foundation) at the Warehouse Theatre. Both performances will be at 7:00 pm. Donation for admittance to The Warehouse Theatre reading is \$2.

The Film/Video Class has been commissioned to produce a corporate video for the Metropolitan Arts Council and a Public Service Announcement for the South Carolina Alliance

## **Class Activities (cont.)**

for Arts Education which will air statewide.

A video produced by the Film/Video class is currently airing on Charter Cable Channel 14 daily at 5:45 am, 6:45 am, 7:45 am, 3:45 pm, and at 5:45 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

## **Visual Arts Students Excel in 2002 Scholastic Art Awards**

Twenty-five FAC visual arts students are represented in this year's statewide Scholastic Art Awards competition, held at Lander University in Greenwood, SC. Judges selected 155 works of art by middle and high school students from the 1300 entries submitted; 27 of the winning entries were from the Fine Arts Center. Students from across the state were honored at a reception on January 26.

Each participant received a Certificate of Merit. Additional awards included Silver Keys, Gold Keys, Portfolio Awards and American Visions Awards.

### Sculpture

Sarah Grothaus, Certificate of Merit  
Matthew Melton, Certificate of Merit

### Printmaking

Tino Allen, Gold Key  
Rachel Buff, Certificate of Merit  
Amanda Cox, Certificate of Merit  
Quoc Phan, Gold Key  
Liz Prymak, Certificate of Merit

Claire Tomlinson, Certificate of Merit  
Photography

Anna Broadwell, Certificate of Merit  
Maryann Driscoll, Certificate of Merit  
Christine Laiewski, Silver Key  
Nagao McCarthy, Silver Key  
Bradley Neaves, Certificate of Merit  
Elisavet Papatheodorou,  
Certificate of Merit (2)

Alice Youngblood, Silver Key

### Ceramics

Ashiya Brennon, Silver Key  
James Campbell, Certificate of Merit  
James Campbell, Silver Key  
Elizabeth McWilliam, Silver Key  
Nichelle Nichols, Certificate of Merit  
Film/Video  
Andrew Carvey,

American Visions Award

Max Riveria, Silver Key

### Metals

Jeremiah Adkins, Gold Key  
Caroline Brunson,

American Visions Award

Brittany Jenkins, Certificate of Merit  
Abigail Webber, Certificate of Merit

### Portfolio Awards

Elisavet Papatheodorou, Photography  
Elisavet Papatheodorou, Art

Entries receiving the Gold Key, American Visions, and Portfolio Awards will now travel to New York for judging at the national level, competing with several thousand entries from across the U.S. for Gold and Silver Medals and scholarships. Approximately 350 works will be selected for the national exhibition held each year at The Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC. Students are honored in a ceremony at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in June.



*On February 9, thirty-five Fine Arts Center voice students, staff members, parents and friends attended a recital by world-renowned countertenor David Daniels at Spivey Hall near Atlanta. Daniels, longtime friend of FAC voice instructor Michael Rice, posed for photographs with the FAC group and signed autographs following the performance which was recorded for broadcast on National Public Radio. In March, Daniels will appear with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and will later return to the Metropolitan Opera for performances of Benjamin Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream. His new CD of sacred music by Vivaldi ("Stabat Mater") was recently named recording of the week.*



*Alice Youngblood's Coat and Ties will be on display at the Upstate High School Art Exhibition which opens March 15 at Greenville Tech.*

# Calendar of Events

March 1, 2      FAC Theatre; *Alice Through the Looking Glass*, 8:00 pm  
March 15      Rosa Shand, readings and master classes  
April 15      FAC student Creative Writing reading, 7:00 pm  
April 28      School District Dance Showcase, Gunter Theatre, 6:00 pm  
April 29      FAC student Creative Writing reading, 7:00 pm at the  
Warehouse Theatre (\$2)

## Sheffield Wood Gallery Schedule

March 4 -28      Monotype prints by Dan Leary  
April 1- 26      Generation to Generation III Art Teachers of Greenville County  
May 1 - 30      1st Fine Arts Center National High School Metals Exhibit  
May 1 - 30      Fine Arts Center Student Exhibit at the GSP Airport Gallery and  
Eriksson's Art Supply

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The School District of Greenville County, Dr. William E. Harner, Superintendent  
Dr. Ken Peake, Assistant Superintendent



Fine Arts Center, Dr. Roy S. Fluhrer, Director  
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