The arts scene at Mission College

Too often in higher education, the arts are overshadowed by those fields of study that are more commonly viewed as career paths. As educators, we know the value of the arts to society and to individual development. Still, arts education does not always get its due. Next month will bring an event to Mission College that we hope will change perceptions.

The talents of our students, our faculty and of five renowned artists will be showcased during a two-week period running from May 4-18. This festival of the arts, to which we are inviting the community, is the result of the combined efforts of our art and multimedia departments.

The celebration begins May 4 with the launching of the Multimedia Art Show, featuring as many as 100 works by our multimedia and art students. On view will be works created on computers, interactive pieces, and freestanding art. Grand opening festivities will take place on May 4 at 6 p.m. in the South Atrium, where the works will remain on display through May 11. Instructors Lucy Griesbach and Joumana Witt are the curators of what we expect to be our best-ever multimedia exhibit.

Just as the Multimedia Art Show is closing on May 11, we will see the premiere of two other exhibitions. “Installations” will feature the work of artists Adam Belt, Shin Kitahara, Louisa Miller, Lothar Schmitz and Wendy Welch. If you are unfamiliar with installation art, it’s been described as “a unique piece of creative work that is site-specific and enhances the environment in which it is placed.” In this case, the five artists will create their outdoor works at locations around Veterans Park. Music and food will be an added plus at the premiere on May 11 at 1 p.m. Instructor Barbara Kerwin is working tirelessly as curator of this special event.

Running concurrently with the Installations event will the “Insiders” exhibition, which will feature the creative work of our own faculty members. At least 20 instructors and adjunct faculty members are expected to display their art, which will include paintings and multimedia exhibitions. The works will be on display in the Century Gallery at the Cultural Arts Center in Veterans Park through May 18. Art instructor Debra Paulsen is curator of this event.

I hope you will join me in attending these events and in supporting the work of our wonderful art and multimedia departments, the faculty and their students.

Mission students meet with U.S. Treasurer

Eight Mission College students and ASO advisor Robert Crossley had a private audience with U.S. Treasurer Rosario Marin during the group’s six-day visit to Washington last month.

Marin, a former mayor of Huntington Park, will be the featured speaker at Mission College’s commencement on May 31.

“She’s very excited about coming to Mission,” said ASO President Jose Oliva, one of the students who participated in the meeting. “She attended East Los Angeles Community College before moving on to Cal State, Los Angeles, so she feels a bond with community colleges.”

The students were in Washington to attend the National Conference on Student Advocacy, sponsored by the American Student Association of Community Colleges. The week-long session focused on lobbying issues related to federal laws affecting two-year colleges. The conference included workshops on such topics as building a more productive student organization and keynote speakers Ralph...
Los Angeles Mission College

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Upcoming Events

Date | Event
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4/18 | Chicoan Speakers Series: “Globalization and Communities,” 4 p.m., CC 6
4/21-27 | Administrative Professionals Week
4/24 | College Citizens Oversight Committee (Prop.A), 6 p.m., CC 4
5/2 | Chicoan Speakers Series: “Culture, Women’s Health and Traditional Medicine,” 4 p.m., CC 6
5/3 | Mission College Scholarship Breakfast, 8:30 a.m., CSB 110-11
5/3 | Expo 2002: Bridging the Digital Divide, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Various campus locations
5/4-11 | Multimedia Art Show, South Atrium
5/11-18 | Installations Art exhibit, Veterans Park Insiders Art exhibit, Century Gallery, Cultural Arts Center
5/13 | Installation Artists lecture, 5 p.m., LRC Teleconference Room

U.S. Treasurer (continued from front page)

Nader, the 2000 Green Party candidate for President, and political commentator Paul Begala.

But the highlight of the trip was the one-hour visit with Marin and the tour of the Treasury Department, said Oliva. He said Marin was enthusiastic and gave encouragement to the student group.

“She told us not to lose sight of our goals and our objectives, and to believe in ourselves,” said Oliva. “She told us about decisions she had made as a mayor that were controversial, but she stuck by her guns and the result was a better city.”


New Mileage Rate

The district’s Board of Trustees has approved a new mileage rate for district-related travel. Effective March 20, 2002, the mileage rate was increased to 36 cents per mile. Those who have not yet filed March claims may apply the old rate (31 cents per mile prior to March 20) and new rates on the same claim form.

Focus on Mission People

Associate Dean Jose Luis Ramirez and his wife Norma have been honored for their dedication to community service by State Senator Richard Alarcon. The Ramirez’s were praised for their civic leadership and many efforts to “improve the quality of life for the residents of the San Fernando Valley.” Jose Luis was cited for his commitment to the educational and cultural development of young people; Norma received praise for her work in organizing parent centers.

The work of Mission College art students Alex Garcia, Brian Gates and Ira Hayes recently was display at the Mentor/MENTO exhibition at California State University, Los Angeles. Selected acrylic and gouache paintings by students Terry Wilson, Diana Contreas and Rashan Kartak recently were shown at the All California Community College Exhibition at Riverside Community College. Contreas took a first place award against state competition.

For the latest campus news, visit: News and Events: www.lamission.edu/news
For a listing of planned campus activities, click on: Upcoming Events

Gerald Scheib has been busy lately judging the work of young artists. He recently served as a judge for the California Alliance for Arts Education’s “Emerging Young Artist Awards” and as a judge in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power’s “Green LA Contest.” Scheib is retired but continues to teach art classes at Mission College.

Melanie Bocanegra has been chosen to take part in the Summer Graduate Research Program in the Oncology Department at Harvard University. Bocanegra currently is a biology student at U-C San Diego.

The comments and insights of psychology instructor Patricia Johnson are featured in an article published in the March-April issue of “Family Therapy Magazine,” a publication of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Johnson discusses cultural competency in the mental health profession in the article, which was part of an entire issue dedicated to culture and color.

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