From the Dean

This is the first edition of "Stories from Avant-Garde," an electronic newsletter that we will be publishing monthly about the people of the College of Visual Arts and Design at the University of North Texas.

My great thanks to my assistant, Elyce Franks for putting this together for us, and to all of the friends of CVAD who have provided the stories. We hope you enjoy reading about our faculty, students and alumni and that you will contribute stories for the publication. Follow us on our website at art.unt.edu or on Facebook for up-to-the-minute activities. Please share our Stories with others and encourage them to subscribe as well.

CVAD students and programs need your support to help them thrive and continue the creative work and scholarly endeavors that are making our graduates, faculty and staff so prominent nationally and internationally. Clicking on the Support CVAD button in the left column will lead you to information on how to support the college and to an easy-to-use, on-line contribution form. We thank you for your help and hope you enjoy our Stories!

Where Are They Now and What Are They Doing?

We proudly recognize the achievements of our alumni as they accomplish wonderful things around the globe. Within each issue of Avant-Garde, you will have the
opportunity to find out what your fellow alumni have been doing not only professionally, but personally. Please [click here](#) to see the most recent list.

### CVAD Faculty Accomplishments

CVAD is extremely lucky to have a fantastic group of faculty teaching here at UNT. Their accomplishments run the gamut from publications, shows, awards and speaking engagements. To see just a small example of what are faculty are accomplishing [click here](#).

### CVAD Student Accomplishments

CVAD is excited by what our current students are learning and doing while still studying here at UNT. Please [click here](#) to see the most recent list.

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### CVAD Phone-a-thon

Beginning Tuesday, November 9 you may receive a call from UNT asking you to contribute to UNT and to the College of Visual Arts and Design. Every semester a small team of students dedicate a week of their schedule to call CVAD alumni and ask them to support UNT and more specifically, CVAD. So when you get that call, please consider donating. Even a small amount can make a huge difference in the life of student receiving a scholarship. [click here for more...](#)

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### Art Path paves the way for student’s interest, creativity

UNT is internationally known for its pieces of artwork, but many people never notice them. Now 36 of them, including “In High Places,” the UNT eagle, will be featured on the Art Path, a map showcasing some of the most influential works of art, which was formed this semester by the College of Visual Arts and Design and the UNT Art in Public Places Program. [click here for more...](#)
Gallery, Exhibits & Show Openings

Our faculty, alumni and students have some fabulous shows happening all across the metroplex and the country. To see a list of those shows click here.

Contact Us!

If you have any events that you would like us to include in our next newsletter, please send the to elyce.franks@unt.edu.

We welcome news about show openings, new jobs, exhibits, new companies, marriages, births and anything else that your fellow alumni and friends of CVAD would like to read about. Please forward this to others who may wish to receive it. We would like to build our readership!

Art in Public Places dedicates new art

The UNT’s Art in Public Places Committee dedicated four paintings by alumni in the General Academic Building this month. The paintings are by Mariko Frost and Sarah Williams, who were both Master of Fine Arts students from 2006 to 2009 and are now teaching as adjunct faculty. click here for more...

Robert Richard, Fashion Design Senior wins award

Robert Richard can practically wear his resume to a future job interview. The University of North Texas student designed a job interview suit that earned him 2nd place and a $4,000 scholarship at the national Design Your Future > competition presented by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and Gap Inc. Richard was one of five finalists who competed Sept. 19 during HACU’s 24th annual conference at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront. click here for more...
Workers learn from alumni

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More than 200 applicants apply to be a part of the phonathon team and a small team is selected to man phones in an effort to reconnect alumni with their alma mater. The Mean Green Phonathon is a group of students who call alumni in an attempt to develop relationships, update them about the university, and ask for a monetary gift, said Jackie Quintero, assistant director of annual giving for the phonathon.

Stefani Guerrero, a marketing junior, has worked at the phonathon for more than three semesters and said her favorite part is learning about the successes of the alumni, even if the job gets difficult at times. Last year, the students raised $318,862, which goes to scholarships, study abroad programs and the distinguished Lectures Series program, which brings guest speakers to the university.

The students go through what they call “boot camp” for the job. “We hire aggressively,” Quintero said. “We like to hire people who are very into philanthropy, who are excited about the university, who like to give back to the university.” Students go through three days of training. The first day, they go over house rules and learn what the phonathon is and its purpose. On day two, they make “easy calls” — mock calls that go smoothly. Day three consists of “hard calls” where they go through worst-case scenarios.

The student callers don’t have a script to follow like telemarketers do. Instead, they have to make conversation with the alumni and be able to establish a connection with them. Megan Yenter, a painting, drawing and visual studies sophomore, started working at the phonathon a month ago and said she loves every minute of it. “It’s incredible to be making a difference instead of just going to work and be like, ‘Oh, hey I got my nine-to-five,’” she said. “I’m actually helping students and making a difference in the university.”

One of the most interesting parts of the job is talking to alumni who graduated more than 70 years ago and being able to update them on what is going on at UNT, Yenter said. “I’ve talked to people that graduated in 1938 and they have incredible stories about their lives and it gives me that sense of tradition because they’ve walked the halls that we walk every day, they know Fry Street, and they know what it’s like to be Mean Green,” she said. “I think it gives that extra tug on the heart for them to donate.”

http://www.ntdaily.com/?p=12272#more-12272
Art Path paves the way for student’s interest, creativity

UNT is internationally known for its pieces of artwork, but many people never notice them. Now 36 of them, including “In High Places,” the UNT eagle, will be featured on the Art Path, a map showcasing some of the most influential works of art, which was formed this semester by the College of Visual Arts and Design and the UNT Art in Public Places Program.

Tours are free and open to the public and can be self-guided or scheduled with a docent, a tour guide specifically for the arts. “Once you start to learn about these artworks you have a sense of honor that this is your campus and these pieces add a lot to your experience,” said Tracee Robertson, director of the UNT art galleries.

Two starting points are listed on the Art Path map: outside the Hurley Administration Building and the Murchison Performing Arts Center, according to the Art Path map. Pamphlets can be picked up in four locations: the Information Center in the University Union, UNT on the Square, the dean’s office of CVAD in the Art Building and the Alumni Center at Gateway Center, Robertson said.

The Art Path differs from a museum because the pieces relate to university history and are grouped by location, not chronologically, Robertson said. “Art applies to everyone and everything,” said Susannah Mauro, an international business junior. “There is no demographic it appeals to, which is the beauty of it.” The flow of where people walk on the tour was something that needed to be as easy as possible. Pieces were chosen that would allow the tour to create a circle, Robertson said. “I really appreciate that our university takes note that we have art on campus, not just to make it look pretty, but to let us know that there’s a story behind everything,” said Jazzella McKeel, photography and visual arts senior and tour participant.

While only half of the art on campus is included, Robertson is open to incorporating more pieces as the Art Path sparks people’s curiosity. “The artworks can be seen as gateways to the campus and all the wonderful things that happen at UNT,” she said. Some of the stops on the Art Path are the University Archives and Judge Sarah T. Hughes Reading Room, according to the brochure. “I appreciated learning about pieces on campus like the Rare Book Room Collection because you’re always around it, but you never stop and take time to know what it really is,” McKeel said. Artworks featured in the tour range from book to insulation art. Artists vary from students to known artists who donated pieces, Robertson said. The Art Path has the ability to be done in one day or bits at a time, Robertson said. “Once it catches on, students will be very interested because it’s something fun to do if you have friends or family coming to visit,” Robertson said. “It’s a fun way to show them the campus that you see every day.”
Art in Public Places Committee dedicates new art

The University of North Texas Art in Public Places Committee dedicated four paintings by alumni in the General Academic Building this month. The paintings are by Mariko Frost and Sarah Williams, who were both Master of Fine Arts students from 2006 to 2009 and are now teaching as adjunct faculty.

It’s M.A.R.T.A., a 2007 painting by Mariko Frost, hangs in a commons area in the University of North Texas’ General Academic Building. The committee was started in 2008 to manage art acquisitions on campus. It is made up of various faculty and students. “It’s a very diverse group from people across campus,” said Tracee Robertson, director of the UNT Art Gallery and a member of the committee.

The four paintings, which have been in the General Academic Building since fall 2009, were purchased through a grant from Wells Fargo. Robert Milnes, dean of the College of Visual Arts and Design and the committee’s chairman, will give the welcome and introduce UNT President Lane Rawlins. Wells Fargo representatives will attend, too. It will be time to thank and recognize the donors and artists, Robertson said. These paintings are included in the UNT art path, a self-guided walking tour of 36 works of art in public places on campus, Robertson said.
Robert Richard, Fashion Design Senior Wins Award

Robert Richard can practically wear his resume to a future job interview. The University of North Texas student designed a job interview suit that earned him 2nd place and a $4,000 scholarship at the national Design Your Future competition presented by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and Gap Inc. Richard was one of five finalists who competed Sept. 19 during HACU’s 24th annual conference at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront.

He describes the suit as a "modern interpretation of a classic menswear staple -- the American-style two button suit." With peak lapels and a metallic sheen, the gray suit follows modern trends while staying grounded in classic roots, he said. Richard not only had to design the suit, but he had to model it on the runway -- in his first-ever modeling experience.

"This contest is an interesting one because it follows everything from sketch to design to modeling," said Richard, a double major in fashion design at CVAD and fashion merchandising in the School of Merchandising and Hospitality Management. "The fashion program at UNT is really extensive and makes sure that you are responsible for everything from the sketch to the creation. It definitely prepared me."

Richard's suit was modeled in the Fashion at the Fountains event, a fashion show organized by the student organization MODA (Members of Designing Arts), on Oct. 22. Richard, from Concan, Texas, is the second UNT student in two years to earn a top prize in the HACU competition. Last year, UNT student Neil Marek took first prize for designing a suit with a military-inspired jacket and V-neck sweater.

http://www.hacu.net/
http://www.smhmr.unt.edu/
Where are they now? and What are they doing?

Alumni Professional Updates

Lillian Lewis (MA in Art Education, 2008)

Lillian Lewis was recently promoted to Curator of Education at the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts. The Museum is the recent recipient of an IMLS National Leadership grant to fund the Center for Creative Energy initiative over a period of three years. She is also an invited presenter at the Museum Computer Network conference, as is Emily Black, fellow alumna. Lillian will be presenting at TAEA next month and at NAEA in March 2012. www.sanfa.org

Emily Black (MA in Art History, 2008)

Emily Black, an Art History alum is Priddy Fellow, has helped develop the Mobile Guide Tours at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, MO. Museum visitors can use their own smartphones or one of the Museum’s iPod Touch players and easily listen to information about more than 250 works of art. The Mobile Guide is actually a mobile-optimized website: http://www.naguide.org . The entire Museum and Sculpture Park is now equipped with Wi-Fi, so visitors can access the guide anywhere on the Museum campus from their smartphones or laptops. The new website also makes information about works of art available to “virtual visitors,” who will be able to access favorite works of art from their homes, offices and schools.

Margo Rowder Gremmler (BFA in Communication Design, 1999)

http://aby.blogspot.com/2012/05/8bopaooT5hYaexGyC7J11/AAAAAAAACsM/yr_FvYXbpc/s1600/0G_6-2012c-Twitter.jpg

Alumna Margo Rowder Gremmler earned her first blog interview on “We Do Write” for her new work as an aspiring novelist. Margo says, “I discovered fiction-writing in an odd way. I studied art direction for advertising, and part of each assignment was to write a target market profile: a made-up persona our campaign should attract. A quirky meet—cute for sure, but that’s when I fell in love with creating characters and toying with voice.” Fast forward to today and Margo is deep into writing a young adult dystopian novel, Thirty Decibels. The interview is short but a great way to catch up with all that Margo has been up to. And the premise of the story sounds great.

Dr. Maria Leake (PhD in Art Education, 2010)

Congratulations Dr. Maria Leake, a very recent alum of the Art Education program! Maria was selected to be featured in the student researcher section of an upcoming UNT Research magazine. Her dissertation is titled “Exploring a community partnership: A narrative inquiry into the 2004-2006 semester programs between Artspace San Antonio and Lotus Fox Academy and Technical High School”, but the article will focus on research she did while participating in a Summer 2006 Fulbright-Hays in Mexico. Maria was the only art teacher in her group selected for this highly prestigious Fulbright Fellowship.
Haley Laurence (BFA in Interior Design, 2010)

A UNT alumna was named the 2010 Volunteer of the Year by Preservation Dallas, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring Dallas buildings. Haley Laurence, who graduated with a degree in interior design in May 2010, said her interest in architectural buildings and historical landmarks motivated her to help save important aspects of Dallas.

"I think especially in Dallas there's a tendency to not respect architectural history," Laurence said. "Preservation Dallas is great because it provides awareness as our city history... is important to preserve buildings and structures." Laurence began volunteering about a year ago and used her degree to complete several projects with Preservation Dallas, she said.

Last fall, Laurence led the Young Preservationist group, a new addition to Preservation Dallas, to increase the youth participation, one of her biggest accomplishments. Next February, Laurence will attend graduate school at the University of Sydney, where she plans to study illumination design and get involved with the preservation program there.

Caitlin McConnell (BA in Interdisciplinary Art and Design Studies, 2010)

Caitlin McConnell is designing shirts for Steven Tyler of Aerosmith. Tyler also joined American Idol this season as a Judge. He wore the shirts in his last three concerts with Aerosmith, with the Vancouver show billed as possibly the last Aerosmith concert ever. Caitlin has designed numerous pieces for him and may design shirts that he will wear during American Idol this season, so tune in to see! Caitlin graduated from CVAD with a degree in design in May and is feeling like this "is surreal that this A-List Celebrity asked me to make him some items, but to actually see him on stage, all we can say is WOW!!!"

While the focus of this company was to do custom bling logos for dental and medical practices, and small businesses that could not meet minimum order requirements with large custom bling companies, they've really expanded in 90 days. She has now done over 80 dental practices, and many fundraising groups including SmilePink.com, Autism Speaks, PAWS In The City and WCSPCA in Oklahoma. 

http://BlingIsTheNewBlack.com

Eric McGehearty (MFA in Sculpture, 2004)

Eric McGehearty received his MFA in Sculpture from UNT in 2004. Since graduation, he has been active in public art commissions for the City of Fort Worth with his "United We Stand" recognized by the Americans for the Arts as one of the forty best projects in 2007.

McGehearty has struggled with dyslexia throughout his life. He has never, with his own eyes, read a book. As a child, he realized how differently he relates to the written word and to the process of reading. "I approach literature from the perspective of a person who cannot read or who does not have access to written material," says Eric. "By combining the logic embedded in language with the irrationality of thinking without words, my art work engages questions about how we understand the world." He is an inspirational speaker working with Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D), a national nonprofit, volunteer organization, sharing his struggles and successes as a dyslexic. His art work reflects his difficulties reading and helps audiences see into the world of print disability.

In English, the Vietnamese word "Nhã" means delight and "Khanh" is typically masculine, meaning prince. Khanh Nguyen, founder and head designer of the Nha Khanh fashion line, unveiled her Spring 2011 Ready-To-Wear Collection and the custom-made and limited edition Black Velvet Collection at the Meyerson Symphony Center in October.

Khanh Nguyen, originally a custom designer, is known for making elegant, flowing gowns, said Rachel Courts, operations manager and editor of the Fashionistas and a UNT alumna. For her spring 2011 collection, she’s taking a different approach. “I wanted the ready-to-wear to have an edgy, effortless and casual feel,” she said. Ninh Nguyen is Khanh Nguyen’s counterpart. Both have different styles of fashion. The combination is a mash-up of masculine and feminine, Courts said.

Khanh Nguyen was confident in creating her first collection because of the skills she learned from UNT. “The major is frustrating at times and needs a lot of patience, but the school prepared me very well,” she said. “I’m really proud of where I came from, and I owe it all to UNT.”

Andrea Karnes (BFA in Art History, 1988)

From Texas Monthly magazine

Andrea Karnes, who grew up in Fort Worth, earned an art history degree from the University of North Texas and Texas Christian University. She has worked at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth since 1989.

“This is my twentieth year at the Modern, and I still get the question, ‘What is a curator?’ Traditionally it meant ‘caretaker of the objects,’ but now, in the context of a modern art museum, it’s the person who has the idea for an exhibition, negotiates to borrow artworks, arranges how those pieces will be displayed, and writes the accompanying catalog, which requires a lot of research. In a way, being a curator is analogous to being a lawyer. You have to pick an argument about a certain artist or group of artists and try to convince viewers of that argument. For example, I’m currently working on a big show featuring the young American painter Barnaby Furnas.”

“This exhibition, which will open in 2012 and be called ‘States of Glory,’ aims to prove that he’s one of the best artists of his generation. Some of his abstract paintings are only five strokes on a gigantic canvas, which is a scary thing to do, considering he’s coming several decades after the Abstract Expressionists. His historical subject matter is interesting too, because he picks figures—Civil War soldiers, Abraham Lincoln, John Brown—who are heroes but have some tragic aspect to them. He’s really bold.”

“The Modern’s chief curator, Michael Atuping, always reminds me that you can only do so many shows in your career, so each one needs to be something you absolutely want to do. On average it takes three or four years to put a show together, so it’s a challenge to stay fully engaged, but I don’t get tired of these projects. The Modern has about 83,000 square feet of gallery space, and it usually takes a minimum of fifty works to fill one floor. Because somebody owns each piece of art, there can be a lot of negotiating—and paperwork—to get the ones we want.”

I’m an anomaly in the curator world because I’ve spent my whole career at the same museum. I grew up going to the Modern, but it wasn’t until my mother took me to Italy when I was twelve and we went to the museums in Rome, Florence, and Milan that I realized how much art reflects the time, history, and culture of a place. I knew, “All right, when I go home, this is what I’m pursuing.”
Summer Ortiz (BFA in Printmaking, 2009)

http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_FlcI6BpAP_I/TKaMVDoRDnlI/AAAAAAAAAADI/KSruRN1BTfU/s1600/Ortiz.jpg

After Summer Ortiz graduated from UNT in 2009 with a BFA in printmaking, she founded Signifying Not: - http://www.signifyingnot.com - The brand first arose from a lack of the kind of clothing and art that we wanted to wear ourselves. From there, it grew—and continues to grow—into something new and different all the time. We are always expanding with new products, new designs, and new directions. Summer draws her inspiration mainly from fairy tales, literature, cabinets of curiosity, medical anomalies, anatomical studies, and Victorian postmortem photography. She lives and works in Dallas, Texas.

Kate Jung (BFA in Interior Design, 2009)

Kate is celebrating one year in her own design business: Noble Design Group. She started the residential design business shortly after moving to Chicago. She describes the business as “a wonderful blessing and challenge in so many ways!” www.nobledesigngroup.com

FAMILY UPDATES

Jennifer Cross Vincent (BFA ’08)

Jennifer Cross Vincent (BFA ’08) gave birth to a new bundle of designer joy, Olivia Lynn Vincent (they call her Libby), on August 19. Congratulations to Jennifer and her husband. “I must say, all the late night thumbnail sessions and all-nighters before review did make the transition into baby all-nighters and 2am feedings easy!,” says Jennifer.

Elizabeth Thurmond Monroe (BFA in Interior Design, 2004)

Elizabeth and her husband, Greg Monroe, welcomed a daughter on November 17, 2009. The beautiful baby named, Genevieve Louise, already has quite an eye for color and texture according to mom!
FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Art Education/Art History
Terry Barrett (Art Education)

Kelly Donahue-Wallace (Art History)
Kelly Donahue-Wallace’s third book, *Album artístico de 1855*, has just been accepted for publication by the Instituto de Investigaciones Estéticas de la Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. The Instituto is the global leader in the study of Latin American colonial and modern art. The book introduces, translates, and annotates the recently discovered album of Mexican nineteenth-century artist, Bernardo Clavero Arias. This album is exceedingly rare as an example of Mexican art historiography, providing biographies of heretofore undocumented artists and first-hand accounts of artistic practice as Mexico emerged from Spanish rule. It is, in fact, one of the very earliest histories of Mexican art.

Lisa Owen (Art History)
CVAD Assistant Professor of Art History Lisa Owen has been awarded a senior fellowship from the American Institute of Indian Studies (AIFS). AIFS <http://www.indianstudies.org/> is the premier institution for the study of South Asia and the senior fellowship is one of the most prestigious awards available for her research. The fellowship is to support Lisa’s project examining a group of early rock-cut monuments in South India as part of a larger study on cave architecture across the subcontinent. The fellowship will support 3 months of fieldwork in India this summer. Professor Owen is lecturing at the 37th annual International conference on South Asia <http://southeastconference.ucr.edu/> at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she will be serving as adjudicant on the panel “Architectural Negotiations: Monuments,Audience and Reception in Pre-Modern and Early Modern India.”

Nada Shabout (Art History)

Conceived as a gathering place where questions are asked, ideas are explored and creativity is fostered, Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art will open to the public on December 30, 2010, in Doha, Qatar.

Mathaf will open with *Sejbil: A Century of Modern Art* on view from December 30, 2010; an inaugural exhibition of highlights from the collection, featuring works by more than 100 artists and representing pivotal experiments in aesthetics. The exhibition is organized and curated by Dr. Nada Shabout, guest curator and consultant, Associate Professor of Art History and Director of the Contemporary Arab and Muslim Cultural Studies Institute at the University of North Texas; Wassan Al-Khudhair, Mathaf’s Chief Curator and Acting Director; and Dena Ghali, Mathaf’s Head of Strategy.

Jennifer Way (Art History) & the entire Art Education and Art History Department
The Eagle Feather, UNT’s journal of undergraduate research, is honoring Dr. Jennifer Way as 2010 Mentor of the Year and the Department of Art Education and Art History as Department of the Year. Art History faculty members Mickey Abel, Lisa Owen, and Jennifer Way mentored art history undergraduate students Lauren Hirsch, Stephanie Santayana, David Thomas (now alumnus), Kevin Butler (now UNT MA student), and Charisse Weston (now MSC program, University of Edinburgh) for the 2010 issue of the journal. Undergraduate art history students contributed essays and served as guest editors.

Design
Li-Fen Amy Chang (Design) & James Thurman (Core3D)
CVAD Assistant Professors Li-Fen Amy Chang and James Thurman are two among eighteen artists, designers, and architects who have been chosen as finalists for the publication released on November 1, 2010 (along with the survey publication of the Top 15 vote receiving artists, architects + designers, ‘CURATE THIS! 2010’). The publication/exhibition, sponsored by the BECA (Bridge for Emerging Contemporary Art) Foundation of New Orleans, is the result of a national competition with hundreds of entries.
Eric Ligon (Communication Design) & wife, Leslie Ligon
<http://johnboy.blogspot.com/2009/05/Braille-AlphabetFashion.jpg>

Communication Design Professor Eric Ligon's wife won the Cooper Hewitt 2010 People's Design Award for her Braille alphabet bracelets. The public voted on line and voted for their favorite selections.

"While it is a great honor for my wife, it is an especially great platform from which to promote Braille literacy - a cause my wife and I both have long been interested and active in," said Eric Ligon. Log on to http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/11206186 to see Leslie accept her award (skip to about 44.30 minutes). To order the award winning jewelry visit their website at www.braillejewelry.blogspot.com. <http://www.braillejewelry.blogspot.com>.

Jack Sprague (Communication Design)

A NOTE FROM JACK SPRAGUE:
"We are doing very well in Santa Fe and are close to getting totally sorted, though as with any new home we must be more responsible in order to keep our energy use at a minimum. There are still details that need to be worked out. And being the perfectionists that we are, we are all in the details. Our minor misalignment is cause for discomfort, but I know that I am preaching to the choir.

Our three year house project is really nothing more than a large 2-D graphic design problem that addresses the same elements of design composition, scale, proportion, harmony, unity, alignment, thresholds, juxtaposition, texture, line, shape, color, value, space and materials. Working together with a very smart natural environment for a series of day-to-day functions. The overall concept from the start has been to create a contemporary, primitive homage to architectural influences of the Ancient Indians of Mesa Verde and Chaco Canyon that aligns with the southwestern landscape and be sustainable in its use of materials and materials.

The design is very graphic and we can hear literally hear the moans of the adobe traditionalists who are still trying to hang on to unsustainable technology and aesthetics of the typical 4000+ square foot homes of the wealthy. The house is 100% solar with hot water radiator space and floor heating, solar swimming pool, all interconnected with an 800-gallon hot water heater that stands eight feet tall and is four feet in diameter. We are selling energy back to the electrical grid on a monthly basis. Additionally, the walls and floors under the concrete slab are 4" thick Styrofoam that makes the space insulated at an R-factor of 75. For those of you who pay attention and know that the average home high R factor is about 13-15 you will understand the significance of the insulation factor and energy savings.

We had in the local energy expert do a sustainable analysis of the energy utilization of the home with its extensive photovoltaic solar system and they determined that after one year of energy consumption that our "annual" total electric cost would range between $6000 to $10000. All of you must know how thrilled we were at this since our last electric bill in Dallas for the month of August at our townhouse was $2500, half of our total estimated annual cost. So that is a number that has been spent to our electric cost since we have no other energy system and have an 800 foot well for our own spring water and a rain system for watering our limited natural landscape. Everything within the perimeter plus solar panels is crushed granite and the rest of the six acres is natural pinion, cactus, juniper and excels.

Studio
Vincent Falsetta (Drawing & Painting)
Excerpted from the North Texas Daily

A UNT drawing and painting professor is making waves with his "Recent Works" collection in Dallas. Vincent Falsetta, who has taught studio art in the College of Visual Arts and Design at UNT for more than 20 years, displayed his work at the Conduit Gallery in Dallas, the exhibition ended Saturday, October 9. Using the "wet-on-wet" technique, various brushes and speeds of rhythm, Falsetta's work references nature, several types of waves and aspects of technology.

His interest in art began early, in elementary school, when he realized art was being able to communicate visually as opposed to the verbal or written form, Falsetta said. "When you draw something, intelligence can be communicated visually," he said. Asking students to help find confidence in who they are is one of Falsetta's primary motives for teaching. "My favorite part of teaching is helping students visually articulate their voice, and to start to develop a point where they believe their voice is important," Falsetta said. For more information regarding Falsetta's "Recent Works" collection, visit www.conduitgallery.com. <http://www.conduitgallery.com>.
Jenny Vogel (New Media)

UNT professor Jenny Vogel’s work We Love Germany: Thanks For Everything was screened at the Dallas VideoFest (<http://www.texasart.net/>), on Sept. 9 at the Video Cafe. “Sri Lanka National Handball Team Disappears in Germany” was reported as a small blurb on CBS News. Most surprised were the people of the small village of Wittlingen in Germany, who hosted the Sri Lankan team for a local tournament. After the match the Sri Lankans disappeared and were nowhere to be found. A brief inquiry yielded that a Sri Lankan national handball team never existed, and that the rather well-organized scammers enabled twenty-three illegal immigrants to obtain European Union visas. In We Love Germany: Thanks For Everything Jenny Vogel deals with the aftermath of the incident, as she presents the story from the point of view of the villagers of Wittlingen.

CVAD Dean Robert Milhes

“Trendsetter” Robert Milhes, dean of the University of North Texas College of Visual Arts and Design, and his wife, Karen Milhes, co-chairwoman of Sensational Settings, are shown with the table setting he designed for the Oct. 26 event.

“The tabletops historically have been beautiful and elegant,” said Karen Milhes, who has been planning the event since last March, with the help of the organization’s 117 members. This year she expects more variety, including some that will be “whimsical” and “crazy.” So far, individuals and members of the business community, arts organizations and nonprofit agencies have created 44 tabletop entries, which will be on display for both the evening and daytime events.

Karen Milhes’ husband, Robert Milhes, a sculptor and dean of the University of North Texas College of Visual Arts and Design, donated his talents to the fundraiser. “DBL is such a great organization and they help so many people. It’s easy to be involved,” he said. [President] Gail Graves asked me about doing a table this year, and she’s so gracious, who could say no?”

His “Texas Twister – Kick Up Your Heels” is created with copper tubing, wooden rods, insulation and his collection of cowboy boots. “I have 14 pair and use 10 of them in the tornado,” Robert Milhes said. “A number of these are vintage pairs of Tony Lama boots, and there is one pair of Donald Pliner Italian blue suede boots.” He uses patterns and textures in his artwork, and a number of his boots are made with enameled leather and reptile skin. He warns partygoers: “Please don’t take the boots out of the tornado for dancing after the tornado is taken!”

David Stout – iARTA faculty member

Media performance artist and iARTA faculty member David Stout premiered a new live cinema work, Drill, Wide Open, at the Dallas Contemporary in October. Drill, Wide Open was a performance integrating 3D animation, electronic sound and visual abstraction into a distinctly musical expression of live cinema. Minding the approaches of early analog video art, glitch-noise practice and current data visualization techniques, the work is a meditation on the expansive vistas, elemental forces and manifest displacement and industrialization of the west. The piece, conceived as a reflective panoptic evocation of time and place, has been specifically created for its premiere at the Dallas Contemporary. www.noisefold.com <http://www.noisefold.com> <http://www.dallascontemporary.org>
STUDENT UPDATES
Mayra Alcantar, Courtney Powers, Jordan Wiehle (all Fashion Design Seniors) and Jonathan Apraricio (BFA in Fashion Design, 2010)

Senior students Mayra Alcantar, Courtney Powers, Jordan Wiehle and 2010 graduate Jonathan Apraricio were given the honor of participating in Kidney Texas, Inc (www.kidneytexas.org). The event is one the biggest social fundraisers in Dallas of the year. They were given the chance to display an all paper dress, in the gallery before the show that they designed & created for sponsor donors. Sponsor donors for the designers included: Courtney with Adeluna Cellars, Jordan for Millet the Printer, Mayra with Coppertone Farm, and Jonathan had CBS11. For event details, visit http://mysweetcharity.com/2010/09/jam-strimpel-reveals-the-making-of-kidneytexas-paper-dresses-honoring-event-sponsors/.

Emily Schwarting (Communication Design – Senior)

Communication Design senior Emily Schwarting has been named one of three finalists in the non-browser-based design category at the international Adobe Design Achievement Awards 2010. The competition is billed as “the world’s premier design, film, and interactive media competition for higher education students.” As a finalist, Schwarting earned lodging and airfare to the awards competition in Los Angeles in October.

For an interactive design class at UNT, Schwarting used Adobe After Effects software to create the concept of an interface that helps people shop for food while looking for recipes to fit their groceries.

Her inspiration came from her own troubles with leftover groceries. “I buy groceries and make one meal, but the rest of the food is waste,” said Schwarting. “This video gives you suggestions of what else to create out of those ingredients. It’s a money saver and teaches people about cooking.”

The interface “allows users to browse recipes quickly while shopping, sync smartphone grocery lists, find the fastest route around the grocery store, discover additional meals based on their purchases and check out and pay for items with ease,” she states in her project video.
Wesley Chin & Colleen Long (Art History – MA Candidate)

Art history graduate students Wesley Chin and Colleen Long presented lectures at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth as part of the museum’s Graduate Student Lectureship Program.

Anna Eliot (Printmaking – MFA Candidate)


Lauren Hirsch (Printmaking & Art History – Senior)

http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_FiCI6EpAP_4/TKqvZI1HwQI/AAAAAAAADA/TT5Hoomi3ZA/s1600/hirsch.jpg. Lauren Hirsch <http://laurenblairhirsch.com/>, a senior BFA with a double major in Printmaking and Art History, spent this past summer as a Letterpress Intern at Hound Dog Press <http://HoundDogPress.com> in Louisville, Kentucky. "Working at the press was one of the best experiences I've had so far. Not only did I learn a new print technique, but I gained an understanding of what it is like to start a business from scratch. Seeing the owners, two printmakers with their BFAs, put so much time and energy into doing what they love is not only an inspiration, but an eye-opener," said Hirsch.

The two were at the studio all day, every day, combining traditional and modern letterpress practices for custom invitations, business cards, stationery, and posters. Their work has helped locally revive the practice, and their success continues to grow.

Brad Raines (Communication Design – Freshman)

Excerpted from the North Texas Daily

http://www.ntdaily.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/09-22-10-brad FEATURE.png. Brad Raines, a communication design freshman, has been at work on a side project for several years and said the hobby began with an old pair of jeans. "It started back in my sophomore year when I had an old pair of jeans that were kind of ratty," Raines said. "I took some paint and basically painted with a ton of paint on them and it turned out really bad."

The process of making a piece of art starts with finding ideas, he said. He tries to find two ideas that might work well together on denim, he said, and draws inspiration from music video, art history and national advertisements. "I really like the people that think outside of the box and there's just so few of those," Raines said. While he had considered selling his creations, he does not plan on turning his hobby into a business, he said.

After attending UNT for a few weeks, Raines said he "started to fall in love with it. I started finding out exactly how strong the [UNT] program is compared to MICA or RISD or these extremely acclaimed design schools and art schools of New England," he said. "I realized how much of a better value it is, how close it is, and just all the perks of being right near it. There really couldn't be a better university for my major right now."
Hamid Rasul (Communication Design – Junior)

Excerpted from the North Texas Daily

Bears are known for being big, scary and hairy, and some might call them beasts. However, Hamid Rasul, a communication design junior, relates himself to a bear and has his own clothing line named Beast Mode. “The name has changed a few times, but on my birthday last year, I decided to go with Beast Mode. It’s an art company I made and I make T-shirts, board graphics, grip tape designs and logo designs,” Rasul said.

The entrepreneur already sponsors skateboard teams and sells shirts in local skate shops. The Beast Mode team is made up of 10 skaters who are some of Rasul’s close friends and support his line. “I’m really into the skateboarding community because that’s something we have a passion for,” he said.

In addition to his clothing line, Rasul is also an aspiring artist. He likes to be creative and designing clothes gives him the opportunity to express his creativity, he said. “I started drawing when I was 9. Even my teachers thought I was talented and I used to think my drawings were so cool when they were just flowers and ladybugs that looked wretched,” Rasul said.

He wants his company to continue growing in the future, Rasul said. “I just want to do my own stuff in my own terms. I hand-make everything, I don’t print or press anything, so I’m just a one-man band,” Rasul said.

Loring Taoka (Metalsmithing & Jewelry – MFA Candidate)

http://www.artjewelryforum.org/blog/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/Loring-Taoka_Split-brooches-e128649281653.jpg. Students from the CVAD Metals program are being featured this month on the Art Jewelry Forum <http://www.artjewelryforum.org/blog/2010/10/10/schools-ont-xvi/> blog. Works by graduate students Loring Taoka’s Split brooches and many others are featured. AJF is very pleased to bring you the sixteenth in a series of posts showcasing the work of graduate contemporary jewelry students from leading schools around the world. The sixteenth entry in the AJF honor roll for 2010 is the University of North Texas.

Carli Torti (Drawing & Painting – Sophomore)

Excerpted from the North Texas Daily

http://www.ntdaily.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/10-19-10-mission-FEATURE.png. Carli Torti, a drawing and painting sophomore, decorates shoes for Baptist Student Ministry’s GO NOW Missions. She charges $25 when she provides the shoes and $15 when the student provides their own. All money raised goes to GO NOW missions, helping to send UNT students all over the world to share their faith and help those in need. “We want to get involved, but we don’t,” Torti said. “This is a great opportunity to share the gospel. It’s something so small in a way, but could be so huge.”

This is the second year Torti has been decorating shoes. Last year, she raised about $60, and this year she hopes to raise even more. “I’ve always liked drawing on shoes,” she said. “Everyone wants cool shoes.”
GALLERY EVENTS/OPENINGS

Garland Fielder (MFA in Drawing & Painting, 2005)
Garland Fielder announces his opening at the Holly Johnson Gallery in of Modulations, an exhibition of recent paintings and sculpture. The exhibit continues through December 18th. Born in Houston, Texas in 1971, Fielder currently resides in Austin where he is pursuing a Masters of Architecture at the University of Texas. Fielder's education is as robust and diverse as his artwork. He received a BA in philosophy and creative writing from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, a BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute, and a MFA from the University of North Texas. Most recently, Fielder was included in the New American Talent exhibition, a two-year traveling exhibition originating in Austin.

Lupita Murillo Tininen (MFA in Photography, 2001)
Richland College presented "Context," a photography exhibition about the discrepancy between place and subject. The photographic works of Lupita Murillo Tininen and Keith Wilson investigate Mexican/American relationships from exterior aggrandizement to interior isolation.
UNT MFA Photography alum Murillo Tininen's work considers the individual's living quarters as intimate portraiture. The homes belong to undocumented people living in America. As a series they question the visibility and viability of these families. By removing the traditional subject we are left to ponder the stories of these people through a peak into their homes.

Faculty, staff share their creations with students
The Annual Faculty and Staff Exhibition showcased art work created by the faculty and staff of the CVAD. "The exhibition features a variety of art media and subjects, and includes both abstract and representative imagery," said Tracee Robertson, director of exhibitions for UNT's art program.

The showcase allowed the North Texas community to see the accomplishments of the CVAD's faculty and staff and gave art students a chance to see what could be done with the tools they acquire in class. The gallery also displayed art from UNT alumni who are currently working as adjunct professors in the CVAD.

"The Ark of the Naguals," a mixed-media piece by UNT alumnus Bernardo Cantu, featured colorful beads, tangled wires and a LED marquee with a cycling message. Other points of interest included portions of an installation piece called the "McMuseum of Anthropological Archaeology," created by James Thurman of the art studio faculty.

Since UNT first began offering art courses in 1894, the CVAD has grown to offer seven different Bachelors in Fine Arts and five different Masters in Fine Arts, including concentrations in design and studio art in a variety of media. The CVAD holds approximately seven galleries each calendar year, said Michael Little, the manager of programming for CVAD.
"I was excited to see the faculty show because it's always interesting to see what my professors are doing," said Paige Walton, an art history junior. "Last year's show was really impressive and inspiring, and I look forward to seeing the new work they've done since." For more information, visit art.unt.edu or call (940) 565-4005.

Recuerdos: Nostalgia on the Periphery

The term "recuerdo" may refer both to an experienced memory and to an object that conjures nostalgia and commemorates nationality and heritage. The artists in this exhibition incorporate elements of nostalgia, both public and private, where cultural commonalities exist. Their works attempt to capture a heritage on the periphery of everyday existence. This exhibition is made possible in part by grants from the UNT Fine Arts Series and Texas Commission on the Arts. Exhibit will be shown at the UNT Art Gallery from November 9 - December 18.

The exhibit is co-curated by Victoria DeCuir and Adriana Martinez. The Opening Reception will be on Tuesday, November 9 from 4:30pm-6:30 pm at the UNT Art Gallery in the Art building at UNT. Participating artist Lupita Murillo Tinaja <http://www.lupitatinaja.com/Home.html> will talk about her work in CVAD's History of Photography class prior to the reception in Art Room 223, starting at 3:30.

"Art of the Book" 2 Day Workshop

The workshop will cover the making of pamphlets as well as case binding. Jigs for use in edition work will also be demonstrated. I will cover how the binding of artists books or other printer material can become more personal by the use of non-traditional materials. The principles of slip cases and clam-shell boxes will be covered as time allows.

Charles D. Jones is currently head of the Printmaking/Book Arts program at Stephen F. Austin, Charles is a printer, co-founder of the LaNana Creek Press, and the Regents Professor of Art at the University. Jones has also designed books and printed under his Crazy Creek Press imprint. His books may be found in major collections in both the United States and Great Britain. He has had a long career in Printmaking with a major interest in the relief print. His recent series of large format woodcuts may be seen at http://homepage.mac.com/charlesd.jones/PhotoAlbum2.html. Charles is also a player of old time and Irish music on fiddle and banjo.

The Workshop will be held Saturday, November 6 and Sunday, November 7 from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm. Cost is $100 for current UNT students, $125 from UNT alumni/faculty, $125 for Senior citizens and $150 for Artists. Register online: http://www.art.unt.edu/print/workshops.html <http://www.art.unt.edu/print/workshops.html>

Andrew DeCaen (Assistant Professor, Print) and Lari Gibbons (Associate Professor, Core Drawing)

Works by printmaking faculty members Andrew DeCaen <http://andrewdecena.com/home.html> and Lari Gibbons <http://blog.lrgibbons.net/> were included in Printastic Printacular, which took place in October at the Carillon Gallery in Fort Worth. <http://www.tccd.edu/Courses_and_Programs/Program_Offerings/Art/South_Campus_Gallery.html>
Like Water for Chocolate:
A response by local women artists

featuring
Iris Bicknell
Nancy Brown
Sarah Maxwell English
Jen Gassiraro
Elizabeth Hurtado
Kelly James
Natalie Macelio
Adriana Martinez
Tina Medina
Tesa Morin
Harmony Padgett
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Diane Sikes
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