

Student Artwork on Display in Blake Library Gallery

The Blake Gallery is featuring "Passage," a collection of drawings, paintings and improvised sculpture created by students in art classes taught by Wendy Kindred, professor of art. The exhibit will be on display through May 8.

The title "Passage" came about from a discussion among the students and Kindred about 9-11 and how the happenings in the United States since that time have been like a passage into a new beginning.

According to Kindred, the students view their art class as a passage for them as growing artists, including gaining appreciation of the meaning of art, what art truly is and what to expect as an artist going into the real world.

The exhibit features a collaborative, mixed media installation created jointly by six students taking the advanced studio projects class.

Each of the students including Autumn Bouchard, Steve Romann, Lisa Theriault and Terry Thibodeau, all of Fort Kent, Rella Pelletier of Eagle

worked on the collaborative piece, has three additional paintings in the exhibit, one of which is a triptych painting, a three-panel piece. Jackson

made me feel a little bit free, to take chances with my art, and to forget about what others think and just do it."

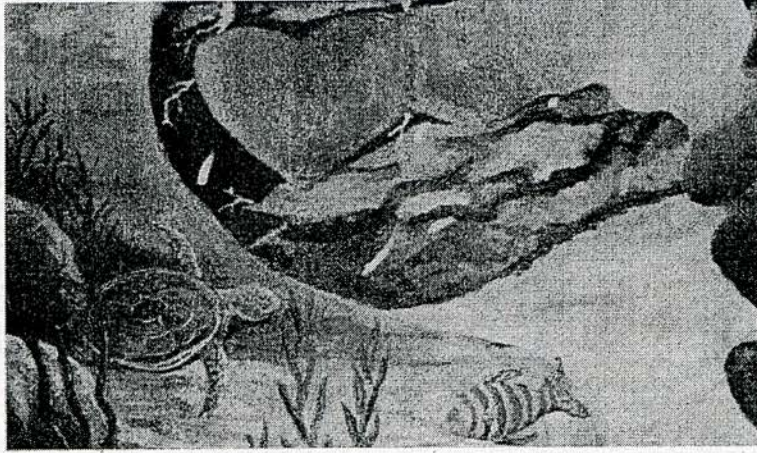
Drawings in charcoal, conte crayon and pen and ink by students in the Drawing class will also be included in the exhibition.

A chair has been provided in front of the collaborative piece for viewers to sit and view the artwork. A comment book has also been provided for the students to receive feedback on their works.

The exhibit is open to the public and can be viewed during Blake Library hours through May 8.

"Pastels of Maine" featuring local artist Ann Gendreau will be exhibited in the Blake Library Gallery beginning May 20.

For more information on the exhibits or library hours, contact gallery curator Sofia Birden at 834-7527.



This painting, a collaborative effort of students in Wendy Kindred's Advanced Studio Projects class, is among the artworks on display in the Blake Library Gallery through May 8.

Lake and Ryan Jackson of Kapolei, Hawaii will also be exhibiting individual works.

Jackson, a senior at UMFK and student in the advanced studio projects class, who

learned new techniques in the classroom and learned to feel the art.

"I have enjoyed working in the advanced course," said Jackson. "I think the class

May 2002

St. John Valley Times

SCHOOL

Gallery features students in Provenzano drawing class

FORT KENT - The University of Maine at Fort Kent's Blake Library Gallery will feature "The Art of Responsive Drawing," a collection of drawings created by students in Therese Provenzano's drawing class.

The exhibit will be on display from July 26 through August 1.

An official opening reception for the public to meet the instructor and the student artists will be held on Friday, July 26 from 11 a.m. to noon.

Provenzano, an acclaimed New York artist, having ties to the St. John Valley dating back to 1895, also exhibited her work in the Blake Gallery in August of 2001.

Provenzano studied at the Philadelphia College of Art

where she earned her bachelor of fine arts in painting, and the National Academy of Design-School of Fine Arts where she was honored with the Ralph Fabri Scholarship, the Nina Schick Scholarship, the Ernest and Helen Adams Scholarship, and the National Academy of Design School of Fine Arts Benefit Scholarship.

She has won international acclaim and awards for her work, including the distinguished Ralph Weiler Memorial Prize for her drawing, "Study of Dana."

She has most recently received a Distinction in Drawing Award for her drawing, "Study of Charles," and the Hallgarten Travel Scholarship from the National Academy-School of Fine Arts

in New York.

"Drawing is a visual language where every artist has the opportunity to convey to the viewer what is seen about a particular subject of a particular world," said Provenzano.

"My main objective was to introduce and challenge each student to the craft of drawing using an intuitive response, a personalized way of seeing; to be inventive, rather than to purely represent or render a subject."

To open up their visual senses, Provenzano encouraged them to put into practice the varied approaches an artist can take to depict nature in creating a visual image.

"Each approach explored, be it using 'Line' as in the

drawings of Alberto Giacometti, or using 'Line and Mass' as in the drawings of artists such as John Singer Sargent, or 'Shape' as in the drawings of Georges Seurat, an abstract device used to conceptualize the subject," said Provenzano.

Studying the works of these artists allowed the students practical experience where the drawing process is realized, coupled with a respectful sensitivity for the materials used in class: conte crayon, charcoal, graphite and India ink.

To excite and stimulate each student towards a new way of seeing, Provenzano began the course by having the students work on a group of collaborative drawings in charcoal using just "Line."

Therefore, each student drew on each other's drawing where "Line" was the subject.

"The process, along with the end result, was thrilling to witness," said Provenzano.

Each of the students, including Lanny Barnes of Durango, Colo., Chelsea Jarvis of Chapman, Andrey Kindred of Brooklyn, N.Y., Molly Ritz and Kelsey Bouchard of Fort Kent, and Danny Martin of St. David, will exhibit their individual works.

"Coming into this class, I had no experience with drawing of any kind," said Jarvis.

"I guess I didn't really know what to expect. I feel that I have gotten a lot more out of the class than I ever thought I would.

"The class has taught me so much about the value of a line. I didn't know it could do so much.

"In the past couple of weeks I have found myself wanting to draw random things I see.

"I know I can draw them now just by starting with a simple line and throwing in some mass/shape and a whole lot of energy," said Jarvis.

"This class has really opened my eyes to new techniques in art," said Barnes.

"I appreciate the challenge of going out of my comfort zone in drawing and exploring other possibilities.

"It will be interesting to see my artwork hung in an exhibit as I've never done so before.

"I just hope people observing the art from our drawing class will enjoy it as much as we did making it," said Ritz.

"This is a show that I believe the community would enjoy seeing and should not miss," said Provenzano.

"The drawings are purposeful, with intent and conviction. Some are done with a slow, meditative quality whereas others have more of a 'let me go at it in high gear.'

"They are all about using what you have, to find what you are looking for."

The exhibit is open to the public and can be viewed during Blake Library hours.

For more information on the exhibit or library hours, contact gallery curator Sofia Birden at 834-7527.

Blake Library Gallery Featuring "Art 2 Heart" Exhibit

The Blake Library Gallery is featuring "Art 2 Heart" a collection of artwork by local artist Gert Thibodeau, through September 27.

Included in this exhibit are paintings created in oils and acrylics. The subject matter includes still lifes and landscape paintings that Thibodeau has created over a period of twenty years.

Thibodeau is a French-Canadian artist, born in Clair, New Brunswick. Her works are known throughout the St. John River Valley on both sides of the border. She has taught as many as five adult education classes per semester for MSAD #27 since 1988. She also teaches art at the St. John Valley Technology Center in Frenchville and at Madawaska High School.

Her skills are well known in the local communities on both sides of the Maine-New Brunswick border and are en-

Well-known St. John Valley artist Gert Thibodeau stands near one of her landscape paintings currently on display in the Blake Library Art Gallery.

The exhibit entitled "Art 2 Heart" represents Thibodeau's work of the past 20 years.

The artist and art teacher will have her work up through September 27 for the campus community and general public to enjoy.

hanced by her willingness to share her time promoting art throughout the Valley.

Thibodeau believes that art has no age boundaries and she begins teaching students as young as the age of three. Her current students range in age from 4 to 93 years old and hail from Fort Kent, Wallagrass, and Eagle Lake, as well as



exhibits the art creations of her students along with her own artwork.

"Art is a basic human need and it's the highest expression of beauty," said Thibodeau.

Thibodeau was presented with the Adult Educator's Award for Aroostook County at the 1994 Aroostook County Adult Educator's conference held at the Northern Maine Technical College, and was named the MSAD 27 Adult and Community Education Outstanding Teacher in 1992-1993.

Her greatest skill rests in her ability to bring out hidden talents in her students, helping many of them to develop marketable skills.

Thibodeau's exhibit can be viewed during Blake Library hours. For more information on the exhibit or library hours, contact gallery curator Sofia Birden at 834-7527.

Mainly Abstractions featured at UMFK's Blake Gallery

ST. JOHN VALLEY - The University of Maine at Fort Kent's Blake Gallery is featuring "Mainly Abstractions-Recent Charcoal Drawings," a collection of works by the talented New York artist Therese Provenzano.

The exhibit will be on view from Oct. 21 through Oct. 31.

An official opening reception for the public to meet the artist will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 22 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

An adjunct faculty member at

UMFK, Provenzano taught drawing during the summer session this year and will be teaching during the spring 2003 semester.

Students from her summer class displayed a successful collection of their works entitled, "The Art of Responsive Drawing" at the Blake Gallery in July.

"I am an artist that believes in challenges, versatility and learning your craft," said Provenzano.

"Though I am skilled in watercolor, pastel and oil painting, drawing is my number one passion.

"The activity of drawing is a discipline that I take seriously in conveying to the viewer what I see about a particular world or subject."

Provenzano's show last year entitled, "Works on Paper - Drawing and the Possibilities Of," showed how choosing graphite, charcoal, conte crayon and ink on different paper surfaces in conjunction with a particular approach determines an outcome.

This show is vastly different in that it features one medium, charcoal, and the same paper surface, text laid.

The imagery is primarily about pure abstraction to works more closely identifiable to a particular subject in nature, some of which are of the St. John Valley.

"I enjoy reaching for an image I have yet to fully understand," said Provenzano.

"Pure abstraction, to get rid of an identifiable object as in representing one was a breakthrough for me with my roots being in

academic training."

Sonia Gechtoff, an abstract expressionist, that Provenzano attributes as one of her mentors, encouraged her to find her voice in drawing; a personalized way of seeing.

Her teaching was not about "this is how you do it."

A series of eight drawings "Fly Me To The Moon" represents this breakthrough for her.

"The concept of structure versus organic form is not as important to me than that the drawings themselves function well as an abstraction unto itself - where my art and craft are in balance," said Provenzano.

"This is what makes me want to draw."

Provenzano has an emotional attachment to the St. John Valley, owning a fourth generation homestead in Wallagrass.

She has a goal to move from New York to the Valley permanently to make a contribution by teaching to others what she has been so fortunate to have learned.

Provenzano was most recently awarded the Distinction in Drawing Prize for her drawing, *Study of Charles*, and the Hallgarten Travel Scholarship for the National Academy of Design, School of Fine Arts in New York.

The travel scholarship has allowed her to prolong her stay here in the St. John Valley this fall.

She has studied at the Philadelphia College of Art where she earned her bachelor of fine arts in painting and was the recipient of the Philadelphia

Watercolor Club Award.

The National Academy of Design School of Fine arts has honored her with the Ralph Fabri Scholarship, the Nina Schick Scholarship, the Ernest and Helen Adams Scholarship and most recently the National Academy of Design School of Fine Arts Benefit Scholarship.

She also received the distinguished Ralph Weiler Memorial Prize for her drawing, *Study of Diana*, the Distinction in Watercolor Award, an Honorable Mention in Portrait, and an Honorable Mention in Figure Composition.

The National Academy also chose her as one of the three students to represent the school in the National Arts Club 25th Annual Student Show.

Her work has appeared in many juried exhibitions including the Cork Gallery at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, the National Academy Museum, the National Academy of Design School of Fine Arts, the National Arts Club, all in New York, the University of the Arts, Paley Art Center, Philadelphia College of Art, the Fabric Workshop Exhibitions, all in Philadelphia, and the Metropolitan Museum and Art Center in Coral Gables, Florida.

Provenzano has also used her talents as a print designer, stylist, product manager, and sales representative in the home furnishing and apparel market working for Polo Ralph Lauren Corporation, Liz Claiborne Accessories and Printfolio, Ltd. in New York.

"This show is intended to open up the visual senses of the community and should not be missed," said Provenzano.

"For those who saw my show last year, this will take you by surprise.

"It could happen where you find that one drawing that speaks to you and stays in your mind days later."

The exhibit is open to the public and can be viewed during Blake Library hours.

For more information on the exhibit and library hours, contact gallery curator Sofia Birden at 834-7527.



MAINLY ABSTRACTIONS - Therese Provenzano works on a drawing from a location on the Charette Hill Road in Fort Kent. Provenzano will be exhibiting a collection of her charcoal drawings at the Blake Gallery on the UMFK campus beginning Oct. 21. The collection can be viewed during regular library hours.

- Contributed photo

October 2002

Blake Gallery Features the Drawing Review Magazine Collection

The University of Maine at Fort Kent's Blake Gallery is featuring "The Drawing Review Magazine Collection-Drawing on Tradition", a group of drawings that have been published in the first year of the magazine's history. The exhibit is on display through October 19.

The collection is large and varied, and the complete show will have between twenty-four and thirty-four pieces.

Drawing Review Magazine is a small journal that publishes the work of emerging artists working in all forms of drawing, alongside the great masters. It was created in March, 2001, out of the love of great drawings and to fill the gap in the art publications arena. At this point in time, there is no national magazine devoted specifically to drawing.

The magazine began by soliciting interested parties

and selling one-year subscriptions to libraries, museums, and artists. Some notable subscribers were the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Frick Collection in New York.

After finishing the first year, the magazine has taken a break. At this point in time it is no longer in circulation, however, it does still exist.

The Drawing Review Magazine Collection is a touring show that is traveling the United States in order to spread the word and to gain support for future volumes of the magazine. It has toured university galleries, large museums as well as alternative spaces allowing more



One of the pieces from the large and varied Drawing Review Magazine Collection that is on display at the Blake Gallery through October 19. The magazine is a small journal devoted to the works of emerging artists.

our greatest talents, like movement or storytelling," said Thomas Baldwin, exhibit coordinator.

The subtitle of the show, "Drawing on Tradition", explains the importance of this work. "In today's contemporary art world there is an incredible amount of variety. Many artists are working in new ways. Video, performance, installations, and new media are all great forms of expression when used well. The exhibit is trying to show that drawing is still a viable form of contemporary art and though there seems to be a decline in traditional drawing, just as many people are drawing now as ever," said Baldwin.

The exhibit can be viewed during Blake Library hours. For more information on the exhibit or library hours, contact gallery curator Sofia Birden at 834-7527.

people to see great work in a variety of settings.

"Mark making is as important to our lives as language, a different way to convey an idea. Image making is one of

November 2002

Blake Gallery Features Work of Kindred's Students

The Blake Gallery is featuring "Passage," a collection of paintings created by students in art classes taught by Wendy Kindred, professor of art. The exhibit will be on display through December 13.

Prominent in the exhibition of this semester's work will be a large collaborative self-portrait that was created jointly by all of the students in the painting class.

In addition to the collaborative painting, there will be individual paintings by all members of the class. All of the works were created in acrylics on either canvas paper or stretched canvas.

"Students in the Painting class have a double challenge, first, to gain mastery over the paint (acrylic, in this case) and second, to explore the range of their own personal possibilities. Sometimes these two challenges seem to be in conflict with one another. This exhibition is an indicator of the quality of the struggle between these two challenges," said Kindred.

Each of the students including Autumn Bouchard, Steve Romann, Terry Thibodeau, Marilyn Brundy, and Lisa Lipe, all of Fort Kent, Justin Daigle of Eagle Lake, Rachel Posocco of New Sweden, Jake Carlson of Rockland,

Maine, Mike Flanagan of Derby, Maine and Travis Garvin of Rollingsford, New Hampshire will be exhibiting

lifelong hobby," said student Lisa Lipe.

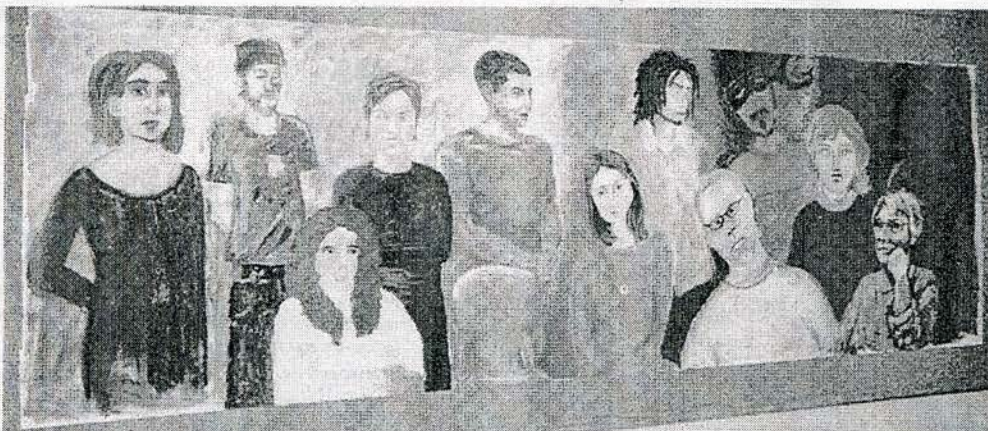
"In the Painting class this semester are several students

ing or not," said Kindred.

There will be an informal gathering on Tuesday, December 10, at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Blake Gallery to meet and talk with the artists.

The exhibit is open to the public and can be viewed during Blake Library hours through December 13.

For more information on the exhibits or library hours, contact gallery curator Sofia Birden at 834-7527.



Above - The large collaborative self-portrait that was created jointly by all of the students in Wendy Kindred's painting class hangs prominently in the Blake Library Gallery through December 13. Each of the students painted themselves in this group piece.

Below - One of the many individual student works in the art student exhibit created by Rachel Posocco of New Sweden.



more abstract work than we otherwise would have, and was always constructively critical and supportive. This was a very enjoyable class that may have led me to a new,

their works.

"Wendy Kindred was a wonderful instructor. She challenged the class to attempt

who are close to completing the requirements for a minor in art, which is the most one can do in art at UMFK.

This exhibit reveals their distinctive interests and their increasing understanding of the scope of art," added Kindred.

For the well-known UMFK art professor, this student exhibit will mark the final in her career as a full-time member of the faculty at the university.

"It is tempting to think of this exhibition as a grand finale for me, but it is more useful to think of it as a beginning for those young painters fortunate enough to have a chance to explore other approaches to art with new instructors in the coming semesters. One thing I am sure of about art, which is that it is endless, both for me and for them, whether I am teach-

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE FORT KENT UNIVERSITÉ DU MAINE

Valley Vision is a monthly publication of the UMFK Office of University Relations, distributed to the campus community and friends of the institution. The deadline for submission is Monday at 4:00 p.m., the week of publication.

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