



UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
FORT KENT
UNIVERSITÉ DU MAINE

News / Nouvelles

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23 University Drive

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For Immediate Release

NR03083

May 2, 2003

Blake Gallery to feature work of Provenzano's fundamentals of art and drawing classes

Fort Kent – The University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Library Gallery is featuring the work of students in Therese Provenzano's fundamentals of art and drawing classes through May 15.

An opening for the exhibit will be held on Wednesday, May 7, from 11:00 a.m. through 12:00 noon, to provide the public with an opportunity to meet students in the fundamentals of art class and the instructor.

Provenzano has studied at the National Academy of Design in New York and the Philadelphia College of Art, where she earned her bachelor of fine arts in painting. Her drawings have awarded her with numerous prizes and recognition, and most recently an artist in residency grant at the Vermont Studio Center.

"My main objective in the drawing class was for students to discover and develop an understanding of the different approaches an artist can take to create a visual image by using wet and dry mediums on different paper surfaces. Drawing is a visual language that is not solely limited to rendering a depiction of reality. I find that students come to me wanting to learn this and realize later that the approach they choose to take in the act of drawing determines the outcome. That the craft of drawing is far more exciting when an intuitive, personalized response occurs," said Provenzano.

To encourage a new way of seeing and break the fear barrier, Provenzano began the course by having students work on group collaborative drawings in charcoal.

The class also studied the works of such artists as Georges Seurat, Giorgio Morandi, Alberto Giacometti, Arthur Dove, and John Singer Sargent.

The show on exhibit at UMFK also honors Brett Labbe, who is awarded the Gretchen Prize in Fine Arts, which is awarded to a student that shows exceptional initiative and industry in the visual arts with outstanding academic performance.

“Art has the ability to tell stories without a word ever being written. The stories could be ones of hope and happiness or of sorrow and hate. They can depict the struggle of life or be as simple as a can of Campbell’s Soup,” said Labbe. “I can speak volumes through my art without ever saying a word. Art allows me to go someplace free from the worries of the world or use those worries to help create it.”

Other students echo Labbe’s sentiments.

“In taking this course, the thing I thought was of the most value was developing the ability to stop and look. The second thing that surprised me was how much energy the use of line could create on the page,” said Rebecca Flanagan.

The main objective of the fundamentals of art class was to give an understanding of the language used in a work of art through practical application. The course emphasized basic elements and principles found in art and design, as well as skills with techniques and materials explored.

According to Provenzano, the course continually challenges students to the problem solving nature of the art process. It also serves, for beginners, as a foundation class for drawing or painting.

Most of the students in the class had little or no art experience.

Assignments ranged from working in pastels, watercolors, charcoal, conte, graphite and ink, to working with collage, both three-dimensionally and two-dimensionally, emphasizing or using materials through value and color, in representational and abstract imagery.

“The thing that took me by surprise the most was how professional the course was run. I think this is an important part of the way a classroom is put together and is a big benefit to the students,” said Kelsey Landry.

For more information on the exhibit, contact Blake Library Gallery curator Sophia Birden at 834-7527.

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For Immediate Release

September 12, 2003
NR03139

UMFK and Friends Art Exhibit to open on Friday, September 19 as part of 125th Anniversary Celebration

Fort Kent – The University of Maine at Fort Kent’s Blake Gallery is featuring “UMFK and Friends”, a collection of works by talented artists of UMFK and the community. The exhibit is part of the University’s 125th Anniversary Celebration, which officially began with the reenactment of the opening day of school in 1878 at the Acadian Village in August.

Works will be on view from September 19 through October 17. An official opening reception for the eleven participating artists will be held on opening day from 4:00 through 6:00 p.m. in the Blake Gallery.

“The show represents the creative spirit of the campus community; that art is being made here and it doesn’t begin and end in the classroom,” said Therese Provenzano, instructor of art at UMFK.

“There are a number of us campus members that are involved with the activity of making art, and I couldn’t think of a better way to celebrate our 125th Anniversary and the inauguration of our president, Richard Cost,” said Provenzano.

“There has been such excitement and enthusiasm about the show. The idea that UMFK has a President who paints, sets a tone for faculty, alumni, administrative staff and students to practice their own art making processes,” said Wendy Kindred, who recently retired from her position as professor of art at UMFK.

Among the members of the campus community participating is Cost, who paints in the demanding medium of watercolor. The landscapes he is showing in the exhibit demonstrate a delicate sense of color and a masterful use of the medium. One of his watercolors is of the Blake Library which houses the exhibition.

Provenzano, who is currently teaching three courses in art at UMFK, is showing both abstract and representational images. One can see a full range of her skills and diversity in subject from viewing her pastels, oils, watercolor, charcoal and monoprint.

Kindred is showing representational works in oils. Her intention in these paintings is to look closely at real life and to report as straight forwardly as possible what she perceives.

Among the other artists featured in the exhibition are Scott Voisine, UMFK's director of student services; Priscilla Daigle, part-time education faculty member; Terry Murphy, professor of education; Sofia Birden, electronic and information resource librarian and gallery curator; Stacey Horner, a first year student at UMFK; Carlyne Daigle of Madawaska, a recent graduate from UMFK's nursing program; Erika Thiele, who is a volunteer at UMFK. Thiele's mother, Edeltraut Thiele, is a graduate of UMFK and her father, Eberhard Thiele, is a retired university professor. Also showing her works is Claudette Plourde, a 1982 graduate, and member of the Community Chorus.

Two of the artists, Scott Voisine and Priscilla Daigle, have also taught art classes at UMFK. Voisine is showing two colorful bold abstract paintings in a square format. Daigle is showing a serene landscape painting in tones of blue.

The opening reception in the gallery, which includes a wine and cheese, is open to the public. Lisa Ornstein, director of the Acadian Archives/Archives Acadiennes, will provide musical entertainment for the event. Ornstein is widely known for her talents and artistry playing the violin.

The exhibit can be viewed during regular library hours. For more information, please contact Sofia Birden, gallery curator at 834-7527.

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For Immediate Release

September 26, 2003
NR03146

UMFK art exhibit features works of campus faculty, staff, students and alumni in honor of 125th Anniversary Celebration

Fort Kent – The University of Maine at Fort Kent’s Blake Gallery is featuring “UMFK and Friends”, a collection of works by talented artists connected to the UMFK campus community.

The exhibit is part of the University’s 125th Anniversary Celebration and will be on view through October 17.

“The show represents the creative spirit of the campus community; that art is being made here and it doesn’t begin and end in the classroom,” said Therese Provenzano, instructor of art at UMFK.

“There are a number of us campus members that are involved with the activity of making art, and I couldn’t think of a better way to celebrate our 125th Anniversary,” said Provenzano.

Included in the show are more than a dozen works from individuals connected to UMFK, including watercolor paintings by newly inaugurated President Richard Cost. The landscapes he is showing in the exhibit demonstrate a delicate sense of color and a masterful use of the medium. One of his watercolors is of the Blake Library which houses the exhibition.

“There has been such excitement and enthusiasm about the show. The idea that UMFK has a President who paints, sets a tone for faculty, alumni, administrative staff and students to practice their own art making processes,” said Wendy Kindred, who recently retired from her position as professor of art at UMFK.

Among the other members of the campus community participating is Provenzano, who is currently teaching three courses in art at UMFK. She is showing both abstract and representational images which feature a full range of her skills and diversity in subject from viewing her pastels, oils, watercolor, charcoal and monoprint.

Kindred is showing representational works in oils. Her intention in these paintings is to look closely at real life and to report as straight forwardly as possible what she perceives.

Other artists featured in the exhibition are Scott Voisine, UMFK's director of student services; Priscilla Daigle, part-time education faculty member; Terry Murphy, professor of education; Sofia Birden, electronic and information resource librarian and gallery curator; Stacey Horner, a first year student at UMFK; Caralynne Daigle of St. Francis, also a first year student; Erika Thiele, who is a volunteer at UMFK. Thiele's mother, Edeltraut Thiele, is a graduate of UMFK and her father, Eberhard Thiele, is a retired university professor. Also showing her works is Claudette Plourde, a 1982 graduate, and member of the Community Chorus.

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For Immediate Release

October 10, 2003
NR03152

Blake Art Gallery to feature “The styles of UMFK’s 125 years”

Fort Kent – The University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Library Gallery will be featuring an exhibit entitled “The styles of UMFK’s 125 years”. Clothing fashions and hair designs popular throughout UMFK’s 125 year history will be on display from October 22 through November 21.

The display will feature the styles for each decade beginning from 1890 to present with the emphasis on mostly women’s styles as men’s clothing didn’t see a major change until the 1960’s. Captions will be placed below the works that will give gallery viewers a look at what life was like at that decade in time and what major events took place during the ten year span.

Sofia Birden, gallery curator, was searching for a theme for an exhibit that would be appropriate during UMFK’s 125th anniversary. Melissa Jandreau, a junior in UMFK’s elementary education program and a licensed cosmetologist, came up with the idea for the exhibit because of the drastic changes in fashion over the years. Jandreau is a work- study student at the library and she showed enthusiasm for the project so Birden entrusted the organization of the exhibit to her.

“I did a lot of research about fashions and hairstyles by interviewing many of the elderly people within our community,” said Jandreau. “I spoke with individuals at Forest Hill Manor, many of whom are ninety to one-hundred years old, to find out what fashions were popular during their life-span, and I also did extensive research on the internet.”

Jandreau enjoyed putting the exhibit together. “The research taught me a great deal about the Acadian culture, especially back in the 1890’s, how women were perceived and how some of the same perceptions hold true with some people today,” said Jandreau.

“I am a descendent of the Acadians and was surprised to learn how hard the women worked on the homestead, taking care of the children, cleaning the home, tending the garden, feeding the animals and making the home pleasant and trouble free for the man when he returned from working in the woods,” said Jandreau. “ It was expected that the man should not have to worry about any of those things when he arrived home for the weekend. It is amazing how many people still think that way.”

Also featured in the fashion exhibit is a display of the T-shirts that have been created for the university’s spring melt-down celebration over the years.

The exhibit may be viewed during regular library hours. For more information contact Birden at 834-7527.

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Blake Gallery Featuring "The Styles of UMFK's 125 Years"

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Melissa Jandreau stands beside a 1930's era "Flapper Dress" that is part of her exhibit currently on display in the Blake Library.

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For Immediate Release

December 5, 2003
NR03188

UMFK student artwork exhibition opening reception scheduled for December 10

Fort Kent – An opening reception for an exhibit entitled “UMFK Painting and Fundamentals Student Art Show” will be held on Wednesday, December 10 from 11:30 a.m. through 1:30 p.m., in the University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Gallery.

The opening is planned to provide the public and campus community the opportunity to meet the students who are represented in the show and their instructor.

The exhibit features the work of UMFK students in Therese Provenzano’s painting and fundamentals of art classes. It will remain on display through January 23, 2004.

“The main objective in my painting course is for students to discover how a painting is developed as a cohesive whole when using the medium ‘pastel,’” said Provenzano.

The students had the interest to pursue the medium and the content of their work. The subject matter ranges from the landscape, the still life, portraiture, to abstraction.

“It has been my experience that students get caught up in trying to depict reality as their means to an end,” said Provenzano. “My teaching focuses on what the medium can do; what color and content can be about.”

Dianne Madore, a senior working towards a bachelor of science with a major in business and a major in computer science, is a student in Provenzano’s painting class.

“Taking this class has inspired me to use pastel,” said Madore. “In the beginning I seemed frustrated, but as I continued I found a whole new world with the guidance and patience of my professor. I really enjoyed this art class.”

“I had a terrific group of students this semester,” said Provenzano. “The majority were working in pastel for the first time. I am most excited to say they all went somewhere.”

The fundamentals of art class serves as a foundation course of drawing and painting. Provenzano's objective of the course is to give students, through practical application, an understanding of the language, materials, and skills used to create a visual image.

Students worked with a wide range of materials including charcoal, conte crayon, graphite, ink, pastels, and watercolors. Assignments were given both three dimensionally and two dimensionally with emphasis placed on using materials through value and color, in abstract and representational imagery.

"Taking fundamentals of art has enhanced my abilities to work with charcoal, conte crayon, graphite and even ink," said Caralynne Daigle of St. Francis, a first year student at UMFK. "I learned how to create a value chart, which helped me out a lot in some of my artworks. I am also learning to respect negative space and the usage of watercolors."

The public is encouraged to view the exhibit, keeping in mind while you are viewing that most of the students have not had prior experience.

Provenzano has studied at the National Academy of Design School of Fine Arts in New York, and the Philadelphia College of Art, where she earned her bachelor of fine arts in painting.

Her drawings have awarded her with numerous prizes and recognition nationally and internationally. The Vermont Studio Center awarded her with an artist in residency grant that she completed in August.

She will be teaching three studio art courses at UMFK for the Spring 2004 semester including advanced studio projects, drawing, and fundamentals of art.

To register for any of the courses, contact UMFK's registrar's office at 834-7823.

The current student exhibit may be viewed during regular library hours. For more information on the exhibit, contact Sofia Birden, gallery curator at 834-7527.

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Blake Library Gallery Features Art Students' Work

University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Gallery is featuring the work of UMFK students in Therese Provenzano's painting and fundamentals of art classes beginning December 6. The exhibit will remain on display through January 23, 2004.

An opening reception for the exhibit entitled "UMFK Painting and Fundamentals Student Art Show" will be held on Wednesday, December 10 from 11:30 a.m. through 1:30 p.m., to provide the public and campus community the opportunity to meet the students who are represented in the show and their instructor.

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Caralynne Daigle (above) and Christine Roy are among the students that will have their works exhibited in the "Painting and Fundamentals Student Show" in the Blake Library Gallery beginning December 6.



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For Immediate Release

January 9, 2004

NR04009

UMFK Blake Library to feature “Drawings of Acadian Culture-The Artists’ Eye” Exhibit

Fort Kent- The Blake Library Gallery at the University of Maine at Fort Kent will feature selected works reflecting the Acadian Culture by Therese Provenzano and the students from her studio, "Artist at Work", beginning January 27 through February 12.

An opening for the exhibit entitled "Drawings of Acadian Culture-The Artists' Eye", will be held on Saturday, January 31st from 2:30-4:00 p.m., as an opportunity for the public and campus community to meet the instructor and the students who are represented in the show.

“Our images of Maine are shaped by the works of such artists as Rockwell Kent, Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper, Neil Welliver, Alex Katz, Lois Dodd, Marsden Hartley, the Wyeths, and Fairfield Porter,” said Provenzano. “I realized that none of these artists really touched upon the hard working hands, the pulse of the St. John Valley, its Acadian heritage. To document and give respect to a culture of hard labor that put their hands to work and gave their hearts to God; I had my students work on a collection of drawings that are inspired by the Acadian culture.”

The exhibition also celebrates UMFK’s new Acadian Archives building. The Archives was founded in 1990 at UMFK to preserve and disseminate information about the history and cultural heritage of Maine’s St. John Valley. The Archives collects manuscripts and audio/visual materials relevant to the history, folklore, and folk life of the region.

“Artist at Work”, Provenzano’s studio located in Fort Kent, opened to the public in April of 2003. According to the artist and instructor, the dedication she has to serve the communities of the St. John Valley and the campus community of UMFK makes her life challenging and particularly rewarding.

“One of my missions is to inspire visual learning experiences that are influenced by the cultural and rural region of the St. John Valley,” said Provenzano. “The other is to introduce the community to what art can be, as well as the creative process that takes place and is clearly evident in the works of our contemporaries. My intent is to nurture and develop this experience through the disciplines of drawing, painting, and printmaking.”

Her hope is to plant seeds, where a student can develop art as a professional career and/or develop a deep appreciation for art.

The collection of student drawings is about dry media and primarily focus on the still life, with a few works that represent the landscape and the portrait. The drawings are intended as fully realized works rather than preliminary sketches or a rehearsal for more formal works.

Among the students represented in the show are: Kurt Holzhausen, associate professor of psychology at UMFK, Roger Damboise, Diane Voisine, Arthur Lamoreau, Greta Soucy Ouellette, Betty Desjardin, Jamie Kelly, Zachary Lopez, Phillip Dubois, Kelsey Dubois, Adam Plourde, Alisa Picard, Daniel Coloumbe, Krystal Paradis, Chelsea Paradis, and Sam Chasse.

Provenzano will also be showing some of her new work; an installation and abstractions in blue pastel. She completed this work during her residency at the Vermont Studio Center where she was awarded an artist in residency grant. This series of abstractions are about conversations, where the imagery is derived from an installation made of found or collected objects.

“This exhibit really hits home for me, with my ancestry being from the St. John Valley dating back to my great grandfather,” said Provenzano. “I am also very proud of the students work in this show. They demonstrated perseverance and a commitment to their work.”

The prestigious and reputable Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts has accepted Provenzano into their Masters of Fine Arts program. She earned her bachelor of fine arts in painting from Philadelphia College of Art and has studied at the National Academy of Design School of Fine Art in New York. Her drawings have awarded her with numerous prizes and recognition nationally and internationally.

She currently instructs privately from her studio and at UMFK. This spring semester she is teaching three studio courses at UMFK: Advanced Studio Projects, Drawing, and Fundamentals of Art.

The current exhibition may be viewed during regular library hours. For more information about the exhibit, contact gallery curator, Sophia Birden, at 834-7527.

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Acadian Culture Exhibit to be Displayed in Blake Library

(from page 8)

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Phillip Dubois and Kelsey Dubois both students of Therese Provenzano's "Artist at Work" studio will be two of the artists in the Acadian Culture exhibit that will go on display in the Blake Library later this month.



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The collection of student drawings is about dry media and primarily focus on the still life, with a few works that represent the landscape and the portrait. The drawings are intended as fully realized works rather than preliminary sketches or a rehearsal for more formal works.

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For Immediate Release

January 30, 2004
NR04021

UMFK Blake Library to host a traveling exhibition of book artist Rebecca Goodale

Fort Kent- The University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Library Gallery will feature a traveling exhibit consisting of works by book artist Rebecca Goodale beginning February 14 through March 12.

Goodale's work is a series of artist's books and prints about the plants and animals currently listed as threatened or endangered by the State of Maine. However, Goodale states, "My intention is not to become a scientific illustrator. Instead I hope to illuminate these lists so that the viewer might carefully consider what is truly at risk of being lost, perhaps forever."

Her beautiful work combines silk-screening with free brush strokes and collage giving the work a sense of earthiness that enhances the subject of each piece. Goodale's involvement with textiles and book arts plays a major role in her handling of materials and her use of color and pattern.

An opening for the exhibit will be held on Saturday, February 14 at 2:00 p.m. where Goodale will speak informally about her work.

A formal lecture entitled "The challenges and the future of protecting endangered species in Maine," presented by Mark McCullough, PhD, endangered species specialist for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service at the Maine Field Office in Old Town, will be presented on Wednesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Nadeau Hall teleconference room.

Goodale's show began at the Portland Public Library and will continue, after leaving Fort Kent, to locations including the art galleries at University of Maine at Machias, University of New England's Biddeford campus, Blum Gallery at College of the Atlantic, and the Atrium Gallery at University of Southern Maine Lewiston-Auburn College.

She has exhibited past works in various solo shows as well as in a number of public collections. Her current show is sponsored by the Maine Women Writers Collection at the University of New England, with the support of a New Century Arts and Humanities Grant from the Maine Arts Commission and Maine Humanities Council, and in collaboration with seven other Maine institutions.

The Maine Women Writers Collection (MWWC) owns five of Goodale's books from this project and may eventually acquire the entire collection. Located in the Abplanalp Library, Westbrook College campus of the University of New England, the MWWC is a pre-eminent special collection of published and non-published literary, cultural and social history sources, by and about women authors, either native or residents of Maine. These sources document and illustrate the times, circumstances and experiences of Maine women writers, revealing their public actions and private thoughts.

The exhibit may be viewed during regular library hours. The exhibit and associated lectures are free and open to the public. For information regarding the exhibit at UMFK's Blake Gallery, call Sofia Birden, gallery curator at 834-7527.

For more information regarding the traveling exhibit, call 207-797-7621, extension 4324.

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News

Nouvelles



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Endangered species biologist to speak at UMFK

Fort Kent – As part of the month long art exhibit entitled “Threatened and Endangered” by Portland artist, Rebecca Goodale at the University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Library, a lecture will be presented on Wednesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Nadeau Hall Teleconference room.

Mark McCullough, Ph.D, endangered species specialist for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Maine Field Office in Old Town, will lead the discussion. The lecture, entitled “The challenges and the future of protecting endangered species in Maine” will introduce people to threatened and endangered species in the state and how they are listed.

McCullough was a wildlife biologist and leader of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's endangered species program for 13 years. He was also leader of the Maine caribou reintroduction project in the 1980's.

Currently there are over 200 plant and animal species listed as threatened or endangered in the State of Maine. These include the peregrine falcon, box turtle, Katahdin arctic butterfly, northern bog lemming, Furbish's lousewort and alpine bearberry. Both the state of Maine and the Federal government maintain species lists.

The artist, Goodale, was drawn to these subjects and hopes that her work will encourage people to consider what is being lost as species are put at risk. The exhibit provides an ideal backdrop for a talk about what is happening in Maine in regard to these plants and animals.

McCullough will have a multimedia presentation and handouts, and will take questions from the audience. “We expect the students and community members who attend will get a lot out of Dr. McCullough’s presentation. The exhibit’s artwork is beautiful, and the subject should be important to all Mainers.” added Don Eno, coordinator of academic outreach at UMFK.

The art exhibit will officially run from February 14th until March 12th at the UMFK Blake Library. Attendees at McCullough's lecture are encouraged to view the exhibit while they are on campus. For more information contact Eno at 834-7835.

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Book Artist Rebecca Goodale to Exhibit Work in Blake Library Gallery this Month; Reception and Lecture Planned

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A formal lecture entitled



"Painted Turtle" is one of the many pieces that artist Rebecca Goodale is known for.

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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.

In complying with the letter and spirit of applicable laws and in pursuing its own goals of diversity, the University of Maine at Fort Kent shall not discriminate on the grounds