



News

Nouvelles

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For Immediate Release

June 11, 2004
NR04123



“Painting the Maine Landscape” student exhibit featured at UMFK Blake Library

Fort Kent –The University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Library Gallery is featuring the work of students in Therese Provenzano’s “Painting the Maine Landscape”, a summer art course recently offered at UMFK. The exhibition will remain on display through June 25th.

The Maine landscape through the eyes of the painter was the topic of this course. Students combined the actual practice of painting outdoors with looking at artists who are known for painting Maine as their subject.

Provenzano introduced the work of such artists as: Winslow Homer, N.C. Wyeth, Edward Hopper, Fairfield Porter, Marsden Hartley, John Marin, Wolf Kahn, Neil Welliver, Eric Hopkins and Alan Magee.

“I am very excited by this exhibition. Working outside brings a whole new experience to the student than working in the art room. Nature challenges you to deal with and find solutions for the elements: wind, rain, sun, black flies, and changes in temperature,” said Provenzano.

“A painting can easily act as a sail and be caught by the wind. Color reads differently on a sun drenched day verses a grey day that is overcast and cloudy. Students ask me why I wear orange so often. Well, there is the hunter,” adds Provenzano

Emphasis was placed on how materials, techniques and painting directly on location can inform the painting process and visual discovery. Students committed to one medium, watercolor, oil, or pastel for the duration of the course.

The class caravanned regularly to one particular site of rolling hills in Fort Kent.

“Visually what is of interest to one individual differs from the next. This particular site inspired all of us,” commented Provenzano.

Students represented in the show are: Jeanie Beaulieu of Fort Kent, Melissa Dufresne of Van Buren, Kurt Holzhausen of St. John Plantation, Erick Johannes of St. David, Eric Mockler and Jeffrey St. Peter, both of Caribou, Christine Roy of St. Agatha, and Nancy Twomey of Wallagrass.

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



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For Immediate Release

August 6, 2004
NR04148

UMFK Blake Library to host art, science illustration and illumination exhibit

Fort Kent- The University of Maine at Fort Kent will host an exhibit of art work, science illustration, and illumination entitled "Explorations" by Joan H. Lee in the Blake Library Gallery from August 20 to September 16.

One part of the exhibit shows some of the tools and techniques for making illuminations. Illumination is a decorative art in which gold is used as one of the elements in a composition.

Dating from very early times, illumination achieved its highest form in the late Middle Ages, and since then has enjoyed small revivals from time to time.

"Always interested in the beauty of these decorated pages, especially religious prayer books and books of hours, I became fascinated on seeing what some contemporary illuminators are doing in Paris," said Lee. "It is a demanding technique that requires a lot of patience and practice, and, a little like Hokusai, I expect to master it 'by my ninetieth birthday'."

Also on display are some of the tools of the trade for making natural science drawings. Natural Science Illustration is usually defined as "art in the service of science."

Natural science illustrators, setting all artistic ego aside, work closely with the scientists. The discipline is solidly grounded in the observable physical environment, even at those times that it is describing the theoretical. It uses rigorous established methods that are universally understood by scientists. It demands accuracy and precision. There is no room for artistic license although, if done with sensitivity, science illustration can be enjoyed on an aesthetic level.

Lee works in the disciplines of botanical, archeological, and anthropological science illustration. She also conducts workshops for adults in beginning and advanced botanical and nature drawing and painting.

“It is so much fun to see someone who has said they can’t draw hold up a beautiful plant portrait that they did themselves,” Lee added. “To achieve that, they have learned how to use a few techniques from science illustration.”

If science illustration is firmly rooted in the observable environment, fine art or expressive art has but one goal: it reaches out its arms to truth. Successful expressive art is not filtered through someone else’s conventions, it does not look to authorities, and it never asks permission. It explores human emotions and is as serious, profound, irreverent or lighthearted as it needs to be. The expressive artist tries to work honestly with materials and subjects.

“Explorations” reflects one journey through life, and explores toil, fear, delight, objects, history and more in visual ways.

Lee was educated at Roosevelt University in Chicago where she received a bachelor of arts in English and was involved in masters work in comparative Literature. She received a certificate in law for community developers from John Marshall Law School, and studied publishing at University of Chicago.

She studied science illustration at Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, and art (life drawing) at Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, and lithography at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

“I have been an artist and writer my entire life,” said Lee. “When I was a child and people asked what I wanted to be when I grew up it was such an odd question. I simply knew I was an artist.”

Lee has exhibited in national juried competitions and in solo exhibits, including New Mexico State Museum, Philbrook, National Wildlife Federation in Arlington, Virginia, Fairbanks Museum in Vermont, and Denver Botanic Gardens in Colorado.

Judson College in Illinois made a purchase award of one of her watercolors. She has done illustrations for DePaul University and Loyola University in Chicago, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, Audubon Society, and others.

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

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News/Nouvelles

For Immediate Release

August 27, 2004

NR04164

UMFK staff member to hold art show during annual “Come to Campus Days”

Fort Kent – Scott Voisine, director of student services at the University of Maine at Fort Kent and graduate of the class of 1994, will be presenting a retrospective showing of his paintings, entitled “’94 to Now” during UMFK’s annual “Come to Campus Days” celebration.

The art show will open on Friday, September 17 at 4:00 p.m., following the official dedication and opening ceremonies for the Acadian Archives. A reception for the artist will be held on Saturday, September 18 between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. The show will run in the Blake Library art gallery until October 15.

Voisine’s artwork is boldly colored and abstract in style; though many of his abstracts are based on observations.

“When I paint from observation I translate to abstract, then at some point during the process I begin to focus solely on the canvas and the fundamentals of the piece; the lines, shapes, colors and designs. That is why there are many recognizable images in my paintings,” said Voisine.

Acrylic paint on canvas is the typical medium used in his paintings that will be presented in the opening. His work does vary in size but he says he tends to stay on the larger side because he likes the freedom of space that he gets from a larger canvas.

There has been a time gap in the paintings from the late 90’s to the early 2000’s because Voisine was primarily focusing on developing professionally.

Though he was not painting he continued to be creative in other ways including designing new student orientations, written materials, and programs as well as expressing his musical creativity in the UMFK campus/community chorus.

Voisine attended art classes at UMFK as well as at the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Prior to his employment at the University, Voisine taught art at the middle and high school level. And he also serves as an adjunct art faculty at UMFK.

Voisine says that he has been influenced primarily by the abstract expressionist movement. This is a painting movement in United States that began in the late 1940's, which is comprised of many styles but shares several characteristics.

The works are usually abstract; they depict forms not found in the natural world. They emphasize freedom of emotional expression, technique, and execution; they display a single unified, undifferentiated field, network, or other image in unstructured space; and the canvases are large, to enhance the visual effect and project monumentality and power.

A specific artist that has influenced his style is Wassily Kandinsky because of his composition and pure abstract form.

Franz Klein is also an influence of Voisine's due to his simple use of lines and positive and negative space.

Gustav Klimt is one he takes inspiration from for his use of intricate decorative patterns.

Voisine says his favorite artist is Piet Mondrian, a Dutch artist who observed and painted nature in its most simplistic form.

"I have started painting again relatively regularly. I have been paying a lot more attention to the colors, they have gotten much brighter," said Voisine.

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News/Nouvelles

For Immediate Release

December 3, 2004
NR04230

UMFK student artwork exhibition opening on December 8

Fort Kent – An artwork exhibition entitled “Amazing Adventures through the Arts” will go on display beginning Wednesday, December 8 in the University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Gallery.

The exhibit features the work of UMFK students in Priscilla Daigle’s fundamentals of art and arts in secondary education classes. It will remain on display through Thursday, January 20, 2005.

“The art fundamentals class introduced students to the magical world of drawing and painting nature through journaling, field sketching, and photography,” said Daigle. “These field exercises provided them with visual references for in-class works.”

The fundamentals of art class serves as a foundation course of drawing and painting. Daigle’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.

The students experimented with charcoal and watercolors while engaged in the fundamentals of art classes.

Arts in secondary education students, future middle and high school teachers, focused on the arts as a way to help students learn. --

“It is not about teaching the arts,” said Daigle. “It is about, ‘multiple roles of the arts as languages for learning...’ according to M. Goldberg’s publication *Arts and Learning*,” said Daigle.

“Another ‘happy’ result of these classes is that many of the students intend to continue studying some form of the arts,” said Daigle. “They have found art pleasurable, informative, and a way to energize their own creative proclivities.”

According to Daigle, “This semester has been an amazing adventure and we welcome the public to come to view and enjoy the exhibit, keeping in mind while you are viewing that most of the students have not had prior experience.”

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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News/Nouvelles

For Immediate Release

January 28, 2005
NR05021

University of Maine at Fort Kent Blake Library displays Black History Month Exhibit

Fort Kent – An exhibit to commemorate Black History Month will be on display at the Blake Library Gallery from February 1 through February 25.

The exhibit is being coordinated by Sofia Birden, reference librarian and Blake Gallery curator with the help of Melissa Jandreau and Sherwin Britton, students at UMFK.

The exhibit will consist of a mix of multimedia, information, and artifacts.

Videos will play continuously on one side of the gallery while on the other side one can listen to a mix of music through headphones.

In addition, a computer will be set up to offer people a chance to view specific web sites related to the history of the black communities around the world.

Included as part of the exhibit, though displayed near the front of the library, will be a mix of books and videos also related to Black History Month.

The exhibit may be viewed during regular library hours.

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

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Blake Gallery to Feature Alcatraz Eel, The John Stadig Files

The University of Maine at Fort Kent's Blake Gallery is featuring *Alcatraz Eel: The John Stadig Files* source material beginning March 7 through April 1.

In conjunction with the forthcoming publication of *Alcatraz Eel, The John Stadig Files* by author Darrell McBreairty of Allagash, Maine, an exhibit of the source material will be on display at UMFK's Blake Library Gallery

Included in this exhibition are the photographs used in *Alcatraz Eel* as well as additional family and newspaper

photographs that do not appear in the book.

In addition to the books

relating to him will also be available for viewing.

"With the Feds and media scrambling after him, John Millage Stadig established himself as the counterfeiter and escape artist to watch in 1930's America," said McBreairty.

"Although Stadig did not escape Alcatraz by studying the feeding habits of the sharks in San Francisco Bay, he was one of the first civilian prisoners on the Rock."

Drawn from hundreds of pages of prison records, newspaper clippings and transcripts, *Alcatraz Eel* is an at-

A prison photo taken of John Millage Stadig will be one of the many items on display in the Blake Library Art Gallery beginning on March 7 and running through April 1.

The photo is part of a collection of materials obtained by Allagash author Darrell McBreairty for his book "Alcatraz Eel: The John Stadig Files"



and magazines used as source material in the writing of *Alcatraz Eel*, copies of John Stadig's own writing as well as copies of telegrams and letters

tempt at demythologizing the life of John Millage Stadig, a young man from Northern Maine and Western New Brunswick, who, through his own genius and daring, became a folk hero and legend in a decade of criminals comprising the likes of Al Capone, John Dillinger, Ma Barker, Bonnie and Clyde, Roy Gardner and Machine Gun Kelly.

Copies of *Alcatraz Eel* will be available from the author and at Country Cottage Bookstore in Fort Kent.

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



President's Welcome Mission Strategic Plan History News & Events Offices & Staff Jobs Visiting Campus Videos Virtual Tour

Valley Vision

UMFK students, faculty and staff to celebrate Earth Day April 22 with many events

April 15, 2005
NR05061

Fort Kent - "Living Green- On Campus and Beyond", is the theme University of Maine at Fort Kent students, faculty and staff have adopted for series of events planned to celebrate Earth Day on Friday, April 22.

Interactive displays, informational presentations, a special theme meal, film showing and art exhibit will all be part of the campus-wide activities coordinated by the environmental studies program.

"Earth Day 2005 at UMFK represents a true campus-wide effort that illustrates the idea that the environment is everyone's concern. Planning for the event-filled day was done by students, faculty and staff from numerous campus offices and many academic disciplines, including English, the arts, and the sciences," said Kim Borges-Therien, assistant professor of environmental studies. "The collaborative effort will provide for great day allowing all of us to celebrate our natural environment while learning about ways that we can reduce our environmental impact."

Events get underway in the Bengal's Lair between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. with an Earth Day fair featuring booths, displays and activities.

Visitors to the fair will learn about recycling and its importance both on the UMFK campus and in the surrounding community through a multimedia exhibit.

Also on display will be various campus "greening" projects completed by environmental studies students, an interactive display highlighting the campus's worm composting project, an opportunity to cast a vote for the best decorated campus recycling bin, and an Earth Day quiz contest, that will end with a drawing among the top contestants for a special Earth Day iPod.

Another booth, "Benny the Bengal: An Endangered Species", will offer UMFK campus community members the opportunity to learn about the challenges facing the animal that serves as the University's mascot, as well as endangered species in Maine.

The first in a series of Earth Day presentations will be held at 11:00 a.m. in room 113 of Cyr Hall.

Following a welcome by UMFK President Richard Cost, Matt Holden, an energy consultant for the University of Maine System, will discuss UMFK's energy consumption, current and future energy conservation projects and the status of the Mars Hill wind farm project in a presentation entitled: "UMFK Energy Use: Now and the Future".

An Earth Day meal, featuring locally-grown, organic, and fair trade foods will be served in Nowland Hall, the campus dining facility, beginning at 11:00 a.m. and running through 1:30 p.m. The meal is open to the public at a cost of \$5 per person.

Week at a Glance...

Monday, May 2

Time	Event
9:30 AM	Chairs Meeting <i>Grindle Conference Room</i>
11:00 AM	Nursing Seniors Luncheon <i>Nowland Faculty Dining Room</i>

Tuesday, May 3

Time	Event
7:00 AM	Yoga Class <i>Nadeau Hall Teleconference Room</i>
8:00 AM	Kappa Delta Phi Meeting <i>Nadeau Hall Teleconference Room 114B</i>
11:00 AM	Student Senate Meeting <i>Grindle Conference Room</i>
12:30 PM	Kappa Rho Meeting <i>Grindle Conference Room</i>
5:00 PM	Dorm Council Meeting <i>Nowland Faculty Dining Room</i>

Wednesday, May 4

Time	Event
1:00 PM	RA Staff Meeting <i>Grindle Conference Room</i>
6:30 PM	Northpoint Financial Workshop <i>Nadeau Hall Conference Room 114A&B</i>

Thursday, May 5

Time	Event
9:00 AM	VPAS Staff Meeting <i>Nadeau Hall Conference Room</i>
9:30 AM	Division Chairs <i>Grindle Conference Room</i>
11:00 AM	Commencement Rehearsal <i>Spoiscenter</i>
6:00 PM	Nursing Pinning Ceremony <i>Fox Auditorium</i>

Friday, May 6

Time	Event
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At 12:00 noon an exhibit of hybrid-electric and fuel efficient vehicles will be parked in the paved area adjacent to Nadeau Hall. A number of new automobiles that are gas saving and environmentally friendly will be on display.

"To Be, or Not to Be: That is the Question", is the title of an open reading of poetry, nature writing, and Shakespearean works to celebrate both Earth Day and Shakespeare's birthday. The session will be held between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. in the Bengal's Lair.

Immediately following the open reading at 3:00 p.m. in the Bengal's Lair, will be a two-hour live acoustical music concert featuring UMFK students playing a selection of Earth-inspired music.

The day's festivities will conclude with a showing of the film *Soylent Green*, a thriller starring Charlton Heston, which paints a startling picture of a future world with so many people that real food has become a luxury, and as a result, most people live on a synthetic food called Soylent Green. The film will be shown beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Fox Auditorium.

In addition to the scheduled events, the Blake Library will also host an exhibit of artwork by UMFK art students, plus a slide show of photographs of nature and of environmental studies students exploring nature. The exhibit entitled "Art and Environmental Studies Students Celebrate Earth Day", will be on display through May 9 in the library art gallery and can be viewed during regular Blake Library hours.

The Blake Library will also host a book display featuring materials on sustainable living.

UMFK's Bookstore is also getting into the Earth Day celebration by displaying items sold in the store with recycled materials, as well as offering a 25 percent discount on all earth-toned items.

A complete listing of UMFK Earth Day events can be found at www.umfk.maine.edu.

For more information on the celebration, contact Borges-Therien at (207) 834-7612.

7:00 AM	Yoga Class <i>Nadeau Hall Conference Room 114A</i>
3:30 PM	Martin Scholarship Meeting <i>Grundle Conference Room</i>
5:30 PM	Senior Banquet <i>Sportscenter</i>

Saturday, May 7

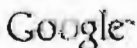
Time	Event
1:00 PM	Commencement <i>Sportscenter</i>

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[2005](#)
[2004](#)
[2003](#)
[2002](#)
[2001](#)
[2000](#)
[1999](#)
[1998](#)

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