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the Bulletin

MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

MCC art instructor to exhibit in Italy

Mesa Community College art students are paying a little closer attention to instructor Paul Andrus in light of his recent invitation to exhibit his work in the prestigious Florence Biennale in Italy.

Paul, an adjunct professor at MCC and an art professor at the University of Advancing Technology in Tempe, will travel to Florence in December to participate in the sixth edition of the Florence Biennale. The event is an international assembly of established and emerging artists from around the world. Andrus said he was surprised and elated to receive the invitation through email.

"I was highly skeptical when I received the invitation," Paul said. "You receive so many crazy things through the Internet. But I did research and asked some other professors who said to be accepted was quite a high honor."

Paul is a colorist who paints mostly landscapes and people, influenced by painter Edward Hopper and mentored by colorist Ed Paschke at Northwestern University. Andrus said his paintings of people represent the way in which he sees them, a different approach than traditional portraits. His paintings are filled with natural, intense colors.

"I express my emotions through color to show how I see the world," Paul said.

Paul's varied life experiences make him the perfect fit for an international art exhibit. Paul holds two master's of fine arts from Northwestern University in Chicago. He has studied art in France,

England and Denmark, performed skits in the streets of Paris, and worked as a Navy illustrator for NATO. Paul's work is on exhibit in nine galleries in Europe, New Zealand, Australia, and Hong Kong.

Paul said as he prepares to attend the Biennale in December, he's both excited and scared at the same time. Artists who exhibit work are responsible for a number of fees, including shipping, insurance, and storage, in addition to travel expenses and lodging. These fees could total about \$25,000, an amount he says is "beyond my pocketbook." Paul is looking for sponsors to help with these funds.

In the meantime, Paul continues teaching his students who are a bit surprised to find out about the honor bestowed upon their instructor.

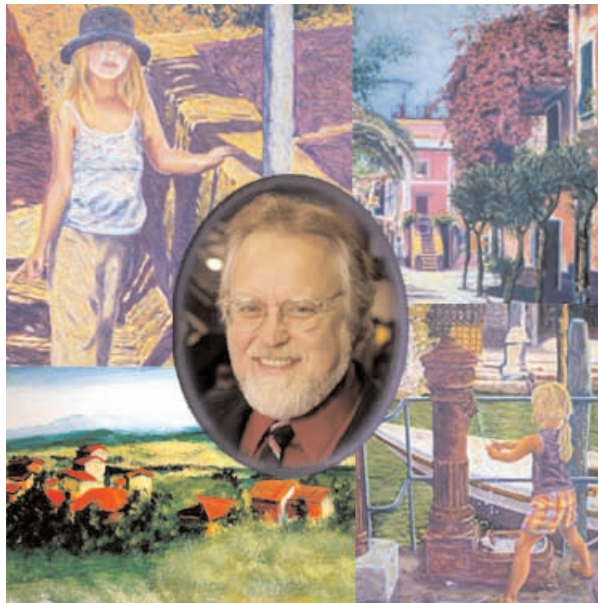
"They look at me a little more eagerly to learn now," Paul said, laughing.

Paul said he would never have thought to enter anything like this himself, but he's always had goals for his work.

"I've always wanted my work to be exhibited in famous museums, and this could be a stepping stone to that," Paul said.

To view Paul's work, visit <http://landruscapes.com/>.

To obtain information about sponsorship, contact Paul at landruscapes@mchsi.com.



Program Brochures

Mesa Community College's online program brochures are now updated and easily accessible, thanks to the combined efforts of MCC's Office of Institutional Advancement, Jan Rohloff in MCC's Curriculum Office, and MCC's Web Support Services. To locate PDF files of more than 60 district-approved program brochures, visit http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/academics/mcc_programs/ or click on the "academics" link on MCC's homepage and "program brochures."

MCC's Coordinator of Marketing, Mary Jordan, said this section will be helpful to both MCC counselors and high school counselors, as well as potential students and enrolled students who want a list of required courses for their chosen degree program.

"Having online program brochures provides easy access for students and counselors," Mary said. "So many potential students use online sources to collect information."

The online program brochures include a description of the degree or certificate program, the requirements of the program, and step-by-step instructions on how to get started in the program.

Sherrie Soria in MCC's Admissions and Recruitment Department has already sent the link to high school counselors and received enthusiastic responses.

"High school counselors are in search of comprehensive and concise information about MCC programs," Sherrie said. "These online brochures provide the information they need in an easy-to-find location."



Athletic facilities upgraded

John Mulhern has been appointed acting Athletic Director for the balance of the current academic year to enable Athletic Director Dan Dunn to focus on his duties as head football coach and teach two math courses at the college's Red Mountain campus.

There's a fresh new look to Mesa Community College's athletic facilities due to several recent improvements to nearly all of the areas on campus used by MCC sports teams. Acting Athletic Director John Mulhern said the goal is to make the facilities a destination for local sports fans.

"We want athletics to have a higher profile," John said. "The upgrades make it a place for students and community members to come and watch sports in a positive atmosphere."

John said the upgrades could not have been done without the support of the Maricopa County Community College District and the MCC administration.

"Our district and administration were huge in the success of this upgrading," John said.

The bleachers in both the Theo Heap Gymnasium and the softball field were replaced. The bleachers at the softball field, some of which used to sit lower than the field, are now elevated, enhancing the safety and viewing aspect of games for fans. These bleachers were funded by the MCC administration. Handicap access is improved and new handrails and fencing have been installed, but no additional seating was added. The baseball field, which was not flat, has also been regraded.

"The regrading of the field was a pretty extensive project," John said. "At one point, there was enough material removed that piles were as high as the dugout and as long as the dugout."

At the Theo Heap Gym, upgrades include new bleachers, fresh paint, and a new scorer's table and team chairs. The chairs were a donation from Corporate Express. MCC raised funds for

the new scoring table, which has a clock and illuminated panels that show scoring and other statistics. Money for the table came from the MCC sports information department, Follett, MCC student government, and alumni Jon and Steven Cropper.

The John D. Riggs Stadium features a new public address system and additional lighting. A new light pole for night track meets was added, along with a modified d-track that makes it easier to view high jumps and javelin throwing events.

The Health Improvement Center and weight room have been renovated and new equipment installed, with five new power lifting weight platforms bearing the Thunderbird logo soon to be added. Improvements to the health improvement center are funded through the exercise science department.

In addition, the new physical science building construction has spurred changes to the tennis court area to make way for expanded parking. Eight new tennis courts will be located at the southeastern part of the campus, with an additional soccer field also in that area.

John said all the changes fire up school spirit and yield positive comments.

"I've heard more compliments from people recently than in the seven years I've been here," John said.



Blood Donations

Mesa Community College's Student Services witnessed a fantastic response from employees and friends during the February campus blood drive and hopes for more of the same during the upcoming March and April blood drives.

MCC's Trinity Blackwell and MCC faculty member Linda Larson made special pleas for participation during the February event in honor of Judy Taussig, MCC's dean of student affairs, who recently needed blood for treatment of leukemia and had difficulty receiving it due to a shortage at the hospital. Judy has a lifetime history of donating blood and has given 43 pints during her adult life. She will likely need more transfusions, as do so many others.

"Donating blood truly will help and many, many of us can do this," Linda wrote in a campus-wide email. "It is a small contribution to bring good to Judy, a member of our college community, and to our larger community. Doing good for our community is the role of all of us who work here at MCC."

Janet Hopkins of United Blood Services (UBS) reported that during MCC's February blood drive, 40 people presented to donate blood, but only 17 were

eligible. UBS was able to collect 15 whole blood donations along with two power red donations, which will help approximately 51 Arizona hospital patients.

Trinity said some employees were unable to donate at that time, but have expressed interest in donating at a future date. She encourages employees to go online and register to pick a time that is most convenient for them. To sign up, go to <https://bloodhero.com/> and use sponsor code "MCC."

Dates for upcoming blood drives at MCC:

Thursday, March 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, April 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Did you know?

Every 3 seconds someone needs blood. (Approximately 40,000 units are used each day in the U.S.)

Just one pint of donated blood can help save the lives of several people.

Sixty percent of the population is eligible to donate blood, yet less than 5 percent actually does.

You can donate whole blood every 56 days, and platelets every 7 days.

There is a 95 percent chance that you will need blood transfusions in your lifetime. The number one reason cited for not donating blood is "no one ever asked me."

Recognition to...

Evonne Bowling Program director of MCC's Apparel Merchandising and Design Department, who was one of five honorees for the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art's Catalyst Award. The award honors those who have made a difference in the arts.

Greg Reents MCC's director of Student Life and Leadership, who received the Outstanding Staff/Faculty Leader award at the 2007 AZ Collegiate Leadership Conference at the University of Arizona in Tucson. The award honors those who facilitate and support leadership growth and development and impact the lives of students and the community.

Bernie Ronan Director of the Maricopa Community Colleges' Center for Civic Participation, who was elected in December 2006 as director of the National Issues Forums Institute, an organization that promotes public deliberation in the United States. Ronan will take office at the Institute's annual meeting in Washington, D.C., in May 2007. The Institute's directors are volunteers drawn from leaders in government, colleges and universities, libraries, civic organizations, the media, and medicine.

Christy Beckman MCC Communication faculty, who presented her doctoral research at the National Association of Secondary Principals in Las Vegas. The title is "Understanding No Child Left Behind: Following the Rhetoric and the Money." Christy said she believes MCC needs to do more to connect with high school principals and listen to their concerns over No Child Left Behind. "In the very near future we will be inheriting this new generation which has been 'schooled' under this policy," Christy said. View her paper and PowerPoint presentation at: <http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~beckman/>.

Susan Taffer and Christa Adams Who hosted a prevention HIV presentation called "HIV? Not for me!" with renowned guest speaker Dr. Bertram Jacobs. Over 125 students attended.

Susan Taffer Recognized by the Soroptomist International of Mesa for the 2007 "Making a Difference for Women Award".

Jeff Andelora MCC English faculty, who has been elected to the Executive Board of the Council of Writing Program Administrators. The Council of Writing Program Administrators (WPA) is a national organization of college and university faculty with professional and scholarly interests in directing writing programs. The Council has 500 individual and 100 institutional members nationwide. Jeff said one of his tasks will be to help two-year colleges develop more coherent writing programs by drawing on the research and scholarship of four-year colleges and universities. Jeff's three-year term will begin in July 2007.