

CVA

MANSE

Newsletter for friends of the College of Visual Arts

AUGUST 2006

Message from the President

One leaves behind a little of one's self... RONDEL DE L'ADIEU

My sentiments exactly.

Back in 2002, I came out of retirement ready to tackle a very special opportunity – to lead CVA to the next chapter of its long, richly productive, and often pretty colorful history. Coming from the world of advertising and design, I knew of CVA. Time and time again, I'd run into an exceptional creative talent who just happened to be from a little art school over there – (I worked in Minneapolis; they'd point to the east) – in St. Paul. St. Paul?! My hometown.

In sum, the job was to help the college to regroup, refocus and take the next big step as an art and design school. Sort of a new beginning.

Who could resist the challenge?

I set out to figure out what it was that enabled CVA to graduate with such consistent, well balanced, and highly productive young artists. What was the point of difference?

This took awhile, but it boiled down to one thing: CVA is that one art and design school where it's all about the people who make the art. Where it's all about the CVA student versus just about their art. (Now don't get me wrong. CVA is about art too, but that's another story.)

And along the way, I also figured out that the

long-term leadership of the college should be in the hands of an academic professional, someone from the ranks of higher education, someone who could connect deeply and empathetically with CVA's students and extraordinary faculty. Someone who could inspire talented people, again students and faculty, to become even more exceptional.

And I quickly realized that this *someone* should be a practicing artist, a person with an insatiable appetite for galleries, and studio shows, and museums, and art-crawls. Someone who lives and breathes and would jump off the High Bridge for art.

And, most importantly, I knew that the job of president should be an honest-to-god academic

administrator. A person who is all-the-time, plus over-time, totally consumed and uncompromisingly committed to academic excellence and heightened student performance.

And I knew that the person would understand and be committed to the pursuit of superior academic standards and heightened student performance. Plus possess the business acumen to get it all done. It would take pragmatic knowledge of real academic administrative issues: curriculum development, course restructuring, professional art practices, student policies, art gallery management – a skill set that includes, but is far from a traditional management background such as mine.

Consequently, my job became not only to keep the very strong creative flame at CVA burning bright, but to also find that rare and unique next leader who would take the college to the next level.

As you know, we got lucky. Very lucky. We recruited Ann Ledy to become first our new Academic Dean, and to eventually take over my job as President.

Ann's now been with the college for two years. In that short time she has reconfigured most everything academic we do, and she's ready for more. On the first of September, Ann will step up and lead this renewed College of Visual Arts as President and Chief Academic Officer.

And Joe Culligan? Well first I'll celebrate, then step down and move quickly out of her way.

I do this with absolute confidence, high expectations, and great excitement for what's to come. It is smart, right and good. But also, I'll step down with a bit of a heavy heart. I have

come to love CVA. I love especially our students – leaving them is the hardest part. And I also feel deeply connected to our faculty, staff, and our governing Board of Trustees. Together, with a lot of very hard work, we've accomplished a great deal to shore-up and reshape and restore the college, and more importantly, to enrich the lives of our students. To all this, I am proud.

I recognize all too well that there are still serious problems facing the college, and there is still an enormous amount to work yet to be done. Fact is, I now know that education is a never-ending road of change and improvement and adjustment. It's part of the deal. But trust me on this: with our faculty and staff, with our generous Board of Trustees, with our leader Ann Ledy, CVA is in good shape to meet these challenges head on.

I will miss CVA, and I leave behind a little of my heart.

JOE CULLIGAN

NEW ADDITIONS & RETURNS

There are some new faces around for the fall semester. Please welcome the following brand new faculty and some returning professors who haven't taught here for the last two years.

Dayton Chadwick
Basic Composition

Ellen Fitzgerald
Photography I

Bernice Folz
Intro. to Professional Practices

Jo Ann Hendricks
Intro to Professional Practices

Richard Ketelsen
Intro to Interactive Media

Paul Linden
Sculpture I

Patricia Healy McMeans
Sculpture I

Kristen Peterson
Painting I

Scott Stulen
Professional Portfolio Development

Francine Tolf
20th Century Literature

Tom Westbrook
Math thru Art

Marcus Young
Illustration/Performance

Kara ZumBahlen
Art History: Prehistoric - Gothic

SAVE THAT DATE!

Please check the CVA web site for all upcoming events.

www.cva.edu

Proud @ CVA

SHANNON BRUNETTE *alumni* received her MFA degree this spring from the School of the Visual Arts. She continues to live and work in NYC.

VALERIE FRANK *faculty* received a CVA Bush Faculty Developmental Grant to attend a Split Rock week long workshop on Figure Drawing.

SUE KOSMALSKI - *faculty* was one of four MCAD/McKnight Foundation Fellowships for Visual Artists 2005-06. An exhibition of new work that was the culmination of the fellowship year was held at the MCAD Gallery from JUL 7 - AUG 13.

BRIAN LUND - *alumni* had an exhibition of his recent drawings and paintings in a three person show in New York City, was featured in a group exhibition at the Westchester Arts Council (White Plains, NY), and received an MFA in Fine Arts from Purchase College, State University of New York.

MICHELLE MCCREERY *faculty* will be participating in the exhibition *Healing through the Arts* at the new Hudson Hospital this fall.

JUSTIN NEWHALL *faculty* will be featured in a new book by Aperture *The Midwest Photographers Publication Project* (MP3) series. In con-

junction with the book his work will be featured in a show, along with Kelli Connell and Brian Ulrich, at the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, AUG 18 - OCT 14 and he will present a lecture at the Aperture Foundation in NYC ON SEP 28.

ANDY POWELL - *faculty* is currently featured in *Incidental* a show at the Gallery Co (Mpls). The exhibit was curated by Michael Fallon and runs run SEP 30.

MARIA SANTIAGO *faculty* is participating in the Women's Art Registry of Minnesota, *Mentor Program Exhibition* currently showing thru SEP 23 at the Northrup King Building, 3rd floor Gallery, 1500 Jackson St. NE., Mpls.

CLAIRE SELKURT - *faculty* taught a seminar this summer entitled *A Century of Design* in the MA in Art History Program at the University of St. Thomas.

AARON VAN DYKE *faculty* was one of four MCAD/McKnight Foundation Fellowships for Visual Artists 2005-06. An exhibition of new work that was the culmination of the fellowship year was held at the MCAD Gallery from JUL 7 - AUG 13.

Message from Incoming President

Thank you Joe!

As the new president of the College of Visual Arts, I would like to begin by thanking Joe Culligan for all his hard work and his commitment to our institution. It is a pleasure and honor to follow in his footsteps.

Over the past four years, Joe has paved the way for CVA to step forward with renewed energy and direction. He has built a leadership team and generously handed off the baton. Joe is a man of his word. He identified a job that needed to be done. He took it on, set to work, cleared a pathway, opened future doors for CVA, and said go to it. So here we are. Again, I say thank you to a true leader for a job well done and for the opportunities set before us.

A NEW BEGINNING

The fall of 2006 will mark a new beginning at CVA. My role is not unlike that of a choreographer. The key ingredient at CVA is its faculty and staff – actively engaged professionals in their fields, extraordinary educators, and committed members of the CVA community. Through community outreach, CVA will expand its programming, recognize cross-disciplinary resources, and strengthen and build new relationships.

As both the President and Chief Academic Officer at CVA, I will have the opportunity to weave our rich resources together. I look forward to working with each and every one of you. Together we will continue to engage in what we all care so deeply about – art and design, a rich means of communicating within and around the world.

ANN LEDY

In Memoriam - Jim Czarniecki

IT IS WITH SADNESS that we report the death on JUL 9, 2006, of Jim Czarniecki, longtime trustee of the college. We thank board member Kit Richardson and his wife, Becky, for the following reflection.

Many evenings we stood at our back kitchen door listening for the rattling of Jim's diesel car coming down the street so we could be on the back porch to welcome Jim home and hear him say "Hey neighbor" as he emerged from his Mercedes. His greeting was always imbued with care, interest and the anticipation of social interaction. Jim never met a party he didn't like, but more importantly, he never met a person who didn't feel better about himself or herself after

Student Corner

STUDENT LIFE

On APR 28, *Student Government* sponsored a masquerade ball in the Mansion, which featured karaoke, costumes, and a chocolate fountain, purchased through student government fundraisers. *The Anime Club* set up their portable theater in SUMMIT 203 and showed several Anime short films throughout the evening. Just prior to the masquerade ball, the film production class hosted screening of their work in 102 SUMMIT.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

officers for 2006-07 are: Annelise DeVore (President), Katie Haugen (Secretary), Lindsay Sabean (Treasurer), Amanda Jaeger (Activities Coordinator), Ben Jepson (Representative), and Nick Knutson (Representative).

SPECIAL THANKS

to Colleen Meyer - 06, for designing our 2006-07 *Student Planner*, and her sister, Christa Meyer, CVA PSEO, for providing some of the images utilized in the design of the planner.

Jim Czarniecki - continued

being around Jim. Kitty has said being around people was a tonic for Jim, but it was also a tonic for anyone who spent time with Jim.

Jim was interested in art, but more importantly he was interested in artists. Jim was able to engage, guide, and nurture artists to surpass their goals and expectations. Of course, much of his time was spent on the Board of Trustees for the College of Visual Arts where he used his interests and talents to support the school and its students. He was committed to young people, regardless of their interests.

Jim dearly loved and took pride in his family, children Mark, Laura, and Jack, and his beloved Kitty Kat, who encouraged and sustained him and kept her, and sometimes, his feet on the ground. Jim loved the city and our neighborhood and always knew what was happening and where and who was involved. He was a wonderful neighbor who will be missed.



Exploring the beautiful and artistic Montmartre area are (left to right) Aki Shibata, Lauren Clapp, Deb Getsug, Andrew Murray, Elle Roche, Katie Haugen, Rachael Sablak, Tayna Dubrovsky, Nick Knutson, Travis Spangler, and Scott Demer-anville. Photo by Lynda Monick-Isenberg

2006-07 PEER MENTORS

The Office for Student Life is pleased to announce the Peer Mentoring Team for 2006-07: Kimberley Benson, Lauren Clapp, Annelise DeVore, Benjamin Finley, Cory Loven, Jennifer LaCasse, Suzanne Mahoney, Kristina Mooney, and Amanda Olson. Peer mentors are recommended college work-study students, trained to provide support for Foundation and transfer students. Peer mentors are responsible for contacting students on a regular basis throughout the school year.

CVA SWEEPS AIGA

Scholarships, again CVA graphic design students won the two scholarships associated with the 2006 AIGA/Minnesota Portfolio One-on-One Student Conference held this spring in Minneapolis. Colleen Meyer received the \$1,000 Minnesota Design Scholarship and Alison Beattie won the \$1,000 Larsen Design Scholarship. Judges also singled out Peter Fetsch for an honorable mention. Kudos to our students for taking top honors from a field of over 200 students from a five state region!

STUDY ABROAD 2006

Paris
This year's Study Abroad program was a two and one-half week trip to Paris. Eleven CVA students earned credits in liberal or studio arts while experiencing the art, architecture, and culture of France. The students visited museums, galleries, studios, and other art spaces as well as taking day trips to Versailles and Giverny. CVA faculty members for the Art in Paris class were Julie L'Enfant and Lynda Monick-Isenberg.

MAY 2006 GRADUATES

19 students finished their coursework in May.

Congratulations to:

Emily Allen
Barbara Brown
Anders Carlson
Shawn Dalsen
Peter Fetsch
Sara-Rose Garcia
Deborah Getsug
Brianna Hagstrom
Holly Iverson
Colleen Meyer
Jason Mumme
Monica Niedzielski
Charissa Peterson
Michelle Reid
Lindsey Scott
Rikki Sellers
Nicole Summers
Jacob Thull
Andrew Voss

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MANSE is a newsletter published two times a year by the College of Visual Arts. Submission of information for future issues can be sent to kheuer@cva.edu.

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CVA

Campus News

GALLERY

CVA is pleased to announce that Michelle Blodgett is the new Gallery Director. Michelle has experience in arts management and education. She comes to CVA via the Minnesota Children's Museum where she was the Daily Programs Coordinator. Previously she had worked at the Hawaii Children's Discovery Center, at another position at the Minnesota Children's Museum, and at other museums in Iowa.

Michelle will be busy as the start of the fall semester is also the start of the exhibition season at the CVA Gallery. The first show will be the *2006 Biennial Faculty Exhibition*. This bi-annual exhibit will feature works by the CVA faculty from all disciplines. The exhibition will run

SEP 7–OCT 7. An opening reception will be held on SEP 14 from 6–8 PM. The *Michael Vanderbyl* Exhibition will follow from OCT 20–NOV 11. Please see below for complete details.

Student work will end the semester with the *Juried Student Exhibition* on display NOV 16–DEC 2, with the opening reception on NOV 16, 6–8 PM and the *December Graduates Exhibition* will be on view DEC 14–JAN 7, with the opening reception on DEC 14 from 6–8 PM.

2006 CVA LEADERS OF DESIGN SERIES

Michael Vanderbyl AIGA Minnesota, Larsen, and the College of Visual Arts are co-sponsoring the *2006 CVA Leaders of Design Series*.

This year Michael Vanderbyl will be featured.

Michael Vanderbyl has gained international prominence in the design field as a practitioner, educator, critic, and advocate. Established in 1973, Vanderbyl Design has evolved into a multidisciplinary studio with expertise in graphics, packaging, signage, interiors, showrooms, retail spaces, furniture, textiles, and fashion apparel.

Mr. Vanderbyl is past president of AIGA, an AIGA medalist, and

current dean of design at his alma mater, California College of the Arts. He will present a lecture on OCT 16 from 7:00–8:30 PM at the 3M Auditorium in the Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul. An exhibition at the CVA Gallery will run OCT 19 through NOV 11, with an opening reception on OCT 20, from 6–8 PM. There is an admission charge for the lecture. The exhibition and opening reception are free events.

HOLIDAY SALE & SILENT AUCTION

All CVA students, staff, faculty, and alumni are invited to participate in the CVA's *First Annual Holiday Sale & Silent Auction*. All types of art, design, crafts, and baked good items are welcome for this fundraiser. The sale will be held on Saturday, DEC 9, from NOON–4 PM in the CVA Gallery. Watch for details on the CVA web site in September.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Founded in 1924, the College of Visual Arts (CVA) is an accredited, private, four-year college of art and design, located in the historic Summit Hill area of Saint Paul, Minnesota. The college offers Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Visual Communications, Fine Arts, Photography, General Studio Art, and Visual Studies.

With programs in graphic design/interactive, illustration, photography, drawing/painting, and sculpture CVA recognizes the importance of cultural literacy to a comprehensive visual arts education, and offers a rich variety of liberal arts courses that foster critical thinking and promote familiarity with cultural themes and issues and prepares students to successfully interact in the worlds of business and art.

www.cva.edu