

CVA

MANSE

Newsletter for friends of the College of Visual Arts

NOVEMBER 2005

Message from the President

FIRST, IT'S WONDERFUL TO FINALLY HAVE A CVA NEWSLETTER. Thanks to all involved, especially to our fearless editor-in-chief Kathy Heuer, and John DuFresne, Paul Gaines and Ann Ledy. Please stay connected with this project. Read it, contribute to it, and help the staff keep *MANSE* alive and vibrant. Good communications is what CVA is all about.

I thought I'd take a page from David Letterman's book and offer my top ten list of things I've come to love at CVA. One major caveat ... I am not going to name names.

10. Our facilities. Sure they present many challenges, but they're warm and rich with history and good character. Plus

our computer labs and photo studios are second to none.

9. The Gallery and student shows. Flat out fun events, as it's always exciting to see student work. These shows amaze, connect, and make me think anew.

8. Our gardens at the Summit mansion. Stupendous. Moreover, designed, planted and maintained by staff volunteers. What could be better?

7. The Ramsey Hill neighborhood. Gracious and beautiful. Plus you can walk anywhere!

6. CVA's very real, honest to God library. With computers to boot.

5. The mysteries of Maria Santiago's (okay, one name) print studio.

Every year I learn more.

4. Open doors. I like that all of us can go in and talk one on one with anyone at CVA.

3. Tours and open houses for prospective students and parents. Opportunities for everyone to shine and take pride in showing off the school.

2. Symposiums. Yep, love them.

1. Our students. I admire greatly their shared integrity. Genuine and down to earth, they're all here for one thing – to become an artist, to do their art.

JOE CULLIGAN

Oh yeah, and Nina's.

Upcoming Events

PHOTOGRAPHING THE BADLANDS

The College of Visual Arts invites alumni and friends to an evening of photography, wine and cheese. *An Evening with Photographer Doug Beasley: Photo Essays of the Badlands* will be held on November 17, 2005, at 7 p.m., 344 Summit Ave, Room 101. Internationally acclaimed photographer Doug Beasley will present selections from *Sacred Spaces* and present information about CVA's Inaugural Alumni Workshop – *Travel Photo Workshop: Landscapes of the Badlands*. Doug will be taking CVA alumni and friends on a weeklong journey of photographing South Dakota's Badlands May 15–19, 2006. Mark your calendars for this information session and also the dates of the workshop!

MONITORED OPEN DRAWING CO-OP

Beginning January 28, 2006 CVA will host an open drawing co-op for individuals who wish to enhance their figure drawing skills. The co-op, sponsored in part by the Lea Grant, is open to CVA students, faculty and staff, area high school art teachers, Twin Cities college art students, and other art professionals. The sessions will be held on Saturdays from 12–2 p.m. in the Western building. Cost will be \$6 per session. Participants must be 18 years or older.

WORKSHOPS AND COURSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

CVA drawing faculty member Pam Valfer will conduct a two session drawing workshop for high school juniors and seniors. *Building a Portfolio: Traditional Portfolio Development Workshop* will be held on November 5 and 12. Beginning in January 2006 CVA will run six-week courses for high school students through *Connections*, a St. Paul Public School Program. Courses will include *Sampling Art and Design*, *Introduction to Digital Photography* and *Introduction to 2D Composition*.

For more information about any of these upcoming events, please contact Carmen Harris charris@cva.edu

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 Art and Fine Arts.

With programs in communication design, illustration, photography, and in the fine arts, 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

NEW ADDITIONS & RETURNS

There are new faces in the front of some classrooms this semester. Please welcome the following brand new faculty and some returning professors who haven't taught here for that last two years.

Mary deLaitre
Orientation to Art and Design

Tony Desnick
3D Studies

Chris Faust
Photography I

Kris Lowe
Drawing I, II and III

Michelle McCreery
Orientation to Art and Design

Justin Newhall
Digital Camera

Stevie Rexroth
Orientation to Art and Design

Mari Richards
Introduction to Digital Media

Jesse Ross
Interdisciplinary Digital Applications

Vanessa Rousseau
Prehistoric to Gothic Art History

Christina Schmid
20th Century Literature, Basic Composition and College Expository Writing

Steve Stenzel
2D/Digital Design

Carla Stetson
Sculpture: Moldmaking and Casting

Erin Strauss
Natural Science

Proud @ CVA

ALLEN BREWER - faculty will be having a solo show at Gallery 360 in Edina in December.

JAROD CHARZEWSKI - faculty exhibited a multi-media video installation at the Trisolini Gallery at Ohio University.

VAL FRANK - faculty exhibited paintings at a group show of the College of St. Catherine.

CAROLINE HOUDEK - staff had a show in the Minnesota Projects Gallery at the Minnesota Center for Photography and has begun her MFA studies in photography at the U of M.

LINDA GAMMELL - faculty will be part of the Photo Bravo Exhibit and Auction at the Minnesota Center for Photography.

KELLY HULANDER - faculty received her MA in MAY 2005 from the U of M.

BARBARA KREFT - faculty is featured in the current issue of *New American Painting* and will have a show with Stuart Nielsen at the Rochester Art Center in November.

JULIE L'ENFANT - faculty presented a lecture on *Women in the Contemporary Art World* in the CVA Gallery for the Elder Learning Institute.

VAL JENKINS - faculty had a solo exhibition at the James Wegner Art Gallery at Riverland College in Austin.

NEIL JOHNSTON - faculty had a solo exhibition at the Douglas Baker Gallery in Minneapolis and was in a group show at the 526 Gallery in St. Paul.

KRIS LOWE - faculty won first place in drawing at the Minnesota State Fair. This summer she taught a drawing course called *Comparative Anatomy*. And she has been invited to participate in a December exhibition at the Anderson Center in Red Wing.

LYNDA MONICK ISENBERG - faculty has been chosen as a 2005-06 Peer Coach for the Minneapolis schools Arts for Academic Achievement grants. She sits on the design team for Arts Infused Teaching and Learning Institute and ASAP grants for the state of Minnesota's Perpich Center for Arts Education.

PHIL OGLE - faculty spent the summer teaching at the Abbruzzi Mountain Workshop in Italy.

MARIA SANTIAGO - faculty participated in a group exhibition at St. Mary's University in Winona.

CARLA STETSON - faculty exhibited a work at the North End Arts Center in Superior, Wisconsin.

CARLY STIPE - alumni has a solo exhibition on view until NOV 18 at Raymond Avenue Gallery.

AARON VAN DYKE - faculty received a Minnesota State Arts Board 2005 Project Grant, had a solo show at the Western Exhibitions in Chicago and has been named recipient of a 2005-2006 McKnight Foundation Fellowship.

KRISTA WALSH - faculty received a Bush Faculty Development grant to study digital video production at IFP Minnesota Center for Media Arts. She serves as an advisor for North Star Residency, an artist exchange between Belfast Ireland and the Twin Cities. She was a member of Local Strategy which organized *Landmark: 24 hours at the Stone Arch Bridge*. In October she directed a performance work by Britta Hallin.

Save That Date!

OCTOBER

20 Larsen Design 30th Anniversary Exhibition, thru NOV 12

NOVEMBER

7 - 11 Academic Advising Weeks
Registration for Spring 2006
18 Juried Student Exhibition Opening 6-8 PM, thru December 3

DECEMBER

1 Juried Student Exhibition Roundtable Talk with Jurors 6:30-8:30 PM
6 - 8 Senior Thesis Presentations *Weyerhaeuser Auditorium, Landmark Center*
5 - 16 Academic Advising Weeks
12 - 16 First Year Foundation Student Portfolio
15 December Graduates Exhibition Reception 6-8 PM, thru JAN 6
16 End of Fall 2005 Semester
23 Winter Holiday Break, thru January 2
All buildings closed

JANUARY

16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
All buildings closed
18 New Student Orientation/Validation
19 Validation for Returning Students
Faculty/Staff Orientation and Spring Dinner
23 Spring Semester Begins

Student Corner

CVA AT DESIGN CAMP

Six communication design majors and Visual Communications Department Chair John DuFresne joined more than a dozen CVA alumni and over 330 fellow designers at the annual AIGA/MINNESOTA conference at Grand View Lodge in Nissewa, Minnesota last month.

The three day conference, *Design Camp*, celebrated its 30TH anniversary and honored members who have been with the organization for over 20 years including CVA art history adjunct, Kolean Pitner.

Respected as one of the nation's strongest



Some of the CVA contingent attending this year's AIGA/Minnesota Design Camp annual conference. Front row: Andrew Voss, Sam Soliek, Nyla Niblo. Second row: John DuFresne, Barbara Brown, Colleen Meyer, Michelle Reid. Back row: Andy Wright, Peter Anderson, Brianna Hagstrom, Nick Zdon, and Michael Hills. Photo: Doug Knutson

conferences, *Design Camp* attracts speakers and workshops that help define the visual communications profession today and explore the

state of technology at its bleeding edge. This year's speakers included Robin Raye from Modern Dog Design Co. in Seattle, Sheree Clark from Sayles

Design in Des Moines, German born Stefan Bucher from 344 Design in Los Angeles, and John Benzick from Minneapolis based Morphic.

STUDENT LIFE

Welcome to Paul Gaines, the new Director of Student Life at CVA! This Newport, Rhode Island transplant, who most recently was working at Carleton College in Northfield, has been busy initiating new programs and services for CVA students.

THIS FALL he started a peer-mentoring program for all Foundation, Foundation Transfer, Exchange, and Post Secondary students. The peer mentor team consists of ten upper class students, who serve as liaisons between incoming stu-

dents and the resources at CVA. The mentors are fellow students who are here to listen, to affirm, and help acculturate all students who are new to the college.

OVER THE SUMMER Paul worked with Gallery Director Leslie Mehren-Gorev to renovate 401 Western into a student lounge. The work will continue until next year, but students now can use this space as a place to hang out when not in class.

ON OCT 1, the College and Student Government chartered a bus to

take students and their friends to Aamodt's Apple Orchard for a half day of apple picking and fun.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT elections were held on OCT 19. Congratulations to:

Shawn Dalsen
Joshua W. Murray
Alison Beattie
Kim Benson
Annelise Devore
Benjamin J. Jepson
Kristin Hedin

THE ANIME CLUB meets on Thursday evenings at 8 PM in the Photo Lab. The Anime Club is now a part of an international

consortium. This allows members access to numerous anime films and short stories. And light refreshments are served!

OPEN CRITIQUE NIGHT takes place weekly, on alternate Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:30 PM in Western 403. Students are encouraged to bring in their work to gain helpful feedback from friends and classmates.

STUDENTS ARE REMINDERED that they can get the three percent Early Tuition Discount if Spring tuition/fees are paid by NOV 11. Contact the FAO for details.

DID YOU KNOW?

In October 1961 the Museum of Modern Art in New York hung Henri Matisse's 'Le Bateau' upside-down for 47 days before a French stock broker noticed the error.

CONTACT INFORMATION

MANSE

is a newsletter published three 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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Campus News

DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Editor's note: Contrary to popular opinion, Elliott DeMerrell, Director of Development and External Affairs, does not live at CVA. But there was that very busy weekend in September when he seemed to take up residence here. More about this in his report below.

Ah, the warm days – Alumni Reunion and Ramsey Hill House Tour, SEP 10–11. Well if we were going to have a weekend, we might as well make it busy.

Day 1 – Alumni Reunion
The first alumni reunion in 10 years drew 60 alumni from the 1950s to 2000s, some from out of state – WI, NY, CA. With 40 mph winds, we decided it was better to have it indoors (btw never tie balloons in the middle of an outdoor stairway

in a windstorm). Put out some food, student work, building history, take out the wall between 101 and 102 and it's a party. Joe and Ann made welcomes and introductions and discussed the importance of alumni involvement. At the end alumni were asked for their feedback and suggestions, which provided some contrast to where we've been and where we're going. The evening culminated in the opening for the alumni exhibition in the gallery.

Day 2 – House Tour
Less wind, more people. 500 people visited the mansion during the Ramsey Hill House Tour. My thanks to Paul, Kathy, Barb, Jane, Carol, Kolean, and Sibyl for doing a great job of answering questions and promoting the college. People were so glad not to have to remove their shoes or

put on “booties”. We had a lot of questions from: how many children did the Davidsons have, what kind of stone is this, what degree do you offer, do you know that other art school has that gallery over by Frost. I found out about the two ghost stories – Charlie in the basement and the woman in white on the 3RD floor. We received a number of compliments on the building and the garden.

GALLERY

It has been a busy fall for Leslie Mehren Gorev, CVA Gallery Director. *The Alumni Juried Exhibition* opened in September. This was followed in October by *Ideas Made Visible: A Retrospective of Work by Larsen Design + Interactive*. The *Juried Student Exhibition* will open NOV 18 and run thru DEC 3. The semester

will end with the *December Graduates Exhibition*, on view DEC 15, 2005 to JAN 6, 2006. Monthly roundtable discussions have been held in conjunctions with the shows. The next one will be on DEC 1 from 6:30–8:30 p.m. with jurors of the juried student exhibit. The Gallery also participated in the *Art Attack Tours* on OCT 8, along with five other St. Paul college galleries, and in *Art on the Town* from OCT 6–16, a ten-day event showcasing over 70 Twin Cities galleries.

ADMISSIONS

Jane Nordhorn, our new Admissions Director, reports that her department has been very busy this fall. Staff members have been on the road visiting high schools and attending college fairs.

On OCT 20 there was a Fall Open House, at-

tended by approximately 50 prospective students and their families. The students toured the facilities, participated in a drawing workshop, had panel sessions with the Student Life Director and alumni, and had lunch with the faculty department chairs.

Portfolio workshops for prospective students will be held on NOV 5 and 12. The two Saturday sessions will focus on black & white observational drawing and portfolio building. Admission staff will be present to talk about the portfolio and the admission process.

An Admissions Information Session will be held on NOV 18. Attendees will learn about CVA, the admission process and attend the Gallery opening.