

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Photo by Russell Augustine

## Students tune into iPods during art class

**A**rt instructors have long held the practice of playing calm background music to promote creativity and peace during lab classes, but with the infiltration of the personal media player, students are expressing a different preference for their working environment.

By **Bethany Duckworth**  
A&E Editor

Student Lisa Harper who regularly wears ear buds while painting in class said, "I think you are putting yourself in your own little world, but I think most people perform best in their own little world."

Musical taste is an individualistic variable that can significantly affect a person's mood and performance.

The personal media player has enabled students to take control of this factor without subjecting fellow students or a teacher to their personal medley.

In turn, students are no longer forced to listen to a teacher's musical selection.

Photography instructor Robert Buitron said, "Depending on the individual, some music may be more inspirational to some than to others. That's considering other students' preferences."

Far from the usual classical music that most teachers pick, motion picture/television student Brendan Mulhall prefers artists like Aerosmith and Metallica. Mulhall confirmed, "I know I work best when I'm listening to music."

However, instructor of sculpture Jon Arndt argues, "I think there's a lot of opportunity for interaction that are cut short by students using the iPod. Something in the ear sends the message that they don't want to be bothered or talked to." Arndt describes education as "a circular process that involves the class

as a whole."

If students are mentally isolated, the question remains whether or not they are truly members of a class.

Marina Kuchinski who teaches ceramics said, "I find it very irritating when I try to talk to my students and they can't even hear me."

Instructor of advertising, illustration, and design John Callegari used to feel the same way. When the use of personal media players first entered his classroom a few years ago, he accused his students who used them of not listening. However, he soon realized that they were both listening and understanding what he was saying. "They're multitasking," Callegari explained. "My students come in with their laptops and they'll turn on the lab computers and set their laptop in front of it. They'll also have their iPods or their zoom players and their ear buds in there, and they're taking notes and sketching and talking all at the same time." Callegari feels this ability is not only acceptable, but necessary. "If anything, visually creative people in the future need to be more tapped into culture than ever before."

### Safety:

Kathleen Damal who teaches jewelry making is concerned about the safety issues attached to personal media

player use in the lab. Because of the loud ventilation system in the lab, Damal is worried that her students will turn their music up too loud and damage their hearing.

"We talked about repetitive trauma in class," said Damal. "You can limit your hearing because you keep hearing loud sounds over and over again; and it's just really a bad habit to get into."

One of her students, Ben Caufer agreed that using an MP3 device in class is a potential hazard, but for a different reason.

"There's a lot of crap that can hurt, like the buffing machines," he explained. "If you're not paying attention, the cord could easily get sucked in there and be flailing around like a weed-whacker."

Even if students who are wearing a device don't directly cause an accident, they may be harmed if unaware of another student's accident.

### Quality:

It can be difficult to enjoy music if it's strictly background noise.

Jon Arndt said, "If you're really gonna listen to music, you should really listen to it in a way that sounds good and not as background."

However, art student Lisa Harper said, "I think it does help you concentrate, because you're not concentrating. It's like you always find your an-

swers when you're not looking for them."

### Personal integrity:

Some instructors feel that use of a MP3 device is an indication of personal integrity.

Marina Kuchinski said, "Many students have told me that it helps them concentrate, but actually the students who do wear them are more clueless, don't know things and comprehend things later because they had their music on."

John Callegari disagrees. "I commend my students for being tapped in; and for people who aren't, I question whether they're relevant or not."

### What the future holds:

Many teachers and students are now discovering the benefit of the iPod as a way to bring education out into the world.

Photography instructor Jeff Curto has been broadcasting his history of photography lectures via podcast since fall 2005. It gives students a second chance to review his lectures before tests, clarify concepts, or make up a lecture that they've missed.

However, last semester Curto realized that his classroom had expanded from some 24 students to about 3,000 remote listeners around the world.

"It's really changed the dynamic of the classroom," Curto said. "Now questions that I'm receiving over e-mail are being shared with my in-classroom students, and classroom students' questions are being recorded on the microphone and then broadcast out to the world."

Students, too, have found innovative ways to use their personal media player for school projects or as a convenient portfolio. Especially in photography, students can upload photos on the device for convenient review, storage and sharing.

One of Curto's students, Michelle Geoga, said, "I am finding the iPod an invaluable tool to keep up with what is current in the business of photography and photojournalism." Geoga specifically used the multi-functional microphone on her iPod to record soundtracks for her photos.

Vice president of information technology Chuck Currier said, "The convergence of the iPod and cellular phone is certainly the next step."

With increasing convenience of personal technology, students and teachers are both finding ways to abuse and benefit from the features at our fingertips.

Callegari doesn't see the MP3 device boom ending anytime soon. "There's just going to be more and more of it, and those who don't accept it are not accepting reality."

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**Buffalo Theatre Ensemble**  
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May 18, 8 p.m., \$36/\$26 (COD students)

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May 19, 8 p.m., \$26/\$16 (COD students)

**DUPAGE COMMUNITY JAZZ  
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**90.9 FM WDCB and the MAC present**  
**JAZZ AT SUNSET**  
June 10, 5 p.m., \$10/\$5 (COD students)

**Buffalo Theatre Ensemble**  
**SEASCAPE WITH SHARKS  
AND DANCER**  
July 5 to 28, \$30-17

**DuPage Opera Theatre**  
**LA BOHEME**  
July 20, 21, and 27, 8 p.m.  
July 29, 3 p.m., \$43/\$33 (COD students)

**Gahlberg Gallery**  
**PHILL NIBLOCK**  
April 19 to May 26, Free



John Clayton



Percussion Ensemble



Sones de Mexico Ensemble

## Starving Artist



### Ruth Newby: Piano

*How would you describe the kind of art that you do?*

My major is piano performance and pedagogy. I "do" aural art by playing the piano, oboe, handbells, and singing.

*How did you get your start?*

I started piano when I was nine and loved it. I'm told that after the first couple weeks of lessons I announced to my teacher, "I want to be a concert pianist when I grow up."

*Who are your heroes?*

Definitely my family and music teachers. My parents taught me character built on a Christian foundation that will influence me for life, and my extended family are my heroes because they are great role models. I respect my music teachers for who they are and for their different viewpoints, and also because it takes a great amount of discipline to be a good musician - which they all are.

*Who are your favorite composers for the piano?*

I've enjoyed just about everything I've played in the past, so that's a difficult question. I'd have to say that some of my current favorites are Schumann, Brahms, Chopin, and Rachmaninoff. But there are probably one or two that I'm forgetting about.

*What character traits do you possess that lend themselves to what you do?*

Well, I try to persevere and work hard. Those are two helpful qualities because as a musician, student, and teacher, there is always

much to accomplish. Creative abilities are important for any musician/artist although sometimes I don't feel very creative. I also love to learn, which makes classes more enjoyable... well, most classes.

*Where do you find your inspiration?*

I find inspiration in competition, and in the desire to create beauty around me.

*What parts of your art do you love and what part do you hate?*

I love the creative parts of it. I love sitting down at the piano, and just playing and improvising. I really enjoy making music with other people in ensembles.

I hate the lack of effort for excellence in performed music.

*What do you plan after COD?*

I'm still in the process of thinking that through. As for college, I am checking out area schools. I would like to take on more piano students. I currently have nine with three on my waiting list, and I would also like to explore the idea of starting a custom handmade card business.

*Where do you see yourself in ten years?*

I would like to continue to teach piano, be involved in church music, and get married.

*What are your other hobbies?*

I love to sew, knit, scrapbook, design cards, read, play handbells in church, cook, bake, organize my room, play Ultimate Frisbee and Dutch Blitz...but not necessarily in that order.

### FEATURED EVENT



New Classic Singers

**New Classic Singers**  
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May 12, 8 p.m., \$22/\$12 (COD students)

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the **MAG**★ McANINCH ARTS CENTER AT COLLEGE OF DuPAGE

### For Your Information

#### New Classic Singer 'A New Creation' Concert

The concert will be held at 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 12, in the McAninch Arts Center.

New Classic Singers is completing its 25th concert season with "A New

Creation," featuring works that celebrate creation, creativity and nature.

Tickets cost \$22, \$20 for senior citizens and \$12 for College of DuPage students.

To order tickets, call (630) 942-4000 or online at [www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org).

# Bringing frescoes back to life

By **Bethany Duckworth**  
A&E Editor

While Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling fresco remains one of the most highly esteemed works of art in the world, the technique of fresco painting has become a rare and unfamiliar art form.

After traveling to Italy, art instructor Jennifer Hereth now incorporates the age-old technique in her classroom. Hereth said, "I've always found that my students enjoy learning historical methods and it makes them feel confident of their art history."

A showcase of the most recent fres-

coes Hereth's students have painted is located just outside the main library entrance through May 31.

Fresco paintings are created when a colored powder reacts with wet plaster. When the plaster dries, the image and the wall are essentially one. Each panel in the current collection is made with five coats of plaster prepared by student Ted Muelly. Between each coat, the plaster must dry and then be sanded.

"I have always loved frescoes," Hereth said. "There's something so interesting about historical painting."

Hereth's students caught on to her enthusiasm. In fact, the current ex-

hibit wouldn't exist if there hadn't been a special request that the course be repeated last fall. Not only is her class in high demand, but the market for the paintings is significant.

"Since fresco is a highly unusual art form, my students have always found that their pieces sold very well."

"What makes the current fresco show so fun is that curator Ruth Jacobsen divided the pieces to acknowledge the historical periods the students were looking at when they picked their images."

The exhibit is arranged into three time periods: Greco-Roman, Renaissance, and Modern.



Photo by Russell Augustine

Painting by Ron Bork is part of the current Fresco display outside the library.

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# Summer Calendar of Events

## June 6, July 12 Best Shot, Student Photography Exhibit

Where: Wings Gallery

Opening reception: June 6 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Photography Department group exhibition under advisor Jeff Curto

## June 7 to August 4 Susan Giles Exhibit

Where: Gahlberg Gallery

Chicago artists Susan Giles will close the season with a video installation about travel and tourism. Giles' artwork stems from living a cumulative two years in India and Indonesia researching the intersection of tourism and culture. Giles video work arises from her desire to understand what occurs at the root of common linguistic and tourist encounters, and examines the shaping of self and others abroad and at home.

## June 10

### Jazz at Sunset

When: 5 to 8 p.m.

Where: Outdoors in the MAC Courtyard.

Tickets: \$10. Call the MAC box office at 942-4000.

Sponsored by WDCB and the MAC, this concert features the COD Student

Jazz Trio, Suenos Latin Jazz, and the Bobby Broom Trio.

## June 20, July 18, and August 15 Jazz Picnic in the Park

Where: Lake Ellyn Park in Glen Ellyn  
Cost: Free

Presented by WDCB and the Glen Ellyn Park District, this concert features the Glen Ellyn Jazz Ensemble. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Call WDCB at 942-4200 for time info.

## June 22 to July 15 Aladdin

Who: College Theater  
Where: MAC Courtyard  
Cost: \$8 or 5 for \$35

Scripted through improvisation and audience participation, follow Aladdin's journey as he discovers the magic of friendship and the power of love. Bring your picnic baskets, blankets or lawn chairs.

Call the box office at 942-4000 for times or visit the website: [www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org).

## June 29 to July 15 Arabian Nights

Who: College Theater  
Where: MAC Courtyard  
Cost: Costs vary, call the box office at 942-4000 or visit [www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org)

for prices and times.

This is a beautiful tale of the realization of deeper truths, of the need for individuals to work together, or suffer the consequences for not doing so, and of ultimate justice and forgiveness.

## July 6 - 28

### Seascape with Sharks and Dancer

Who: Buffalo Theatre Ensemble  
Where: McAninch Arts Center  
Cost: Costs vary. Call the box office at 942-4000 or visit the website at [www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org) for prices and show times.

Seascape with Sharks and Dancer is a contemporary love story between two people full of flaws and fears. It examines the reality of love and the choices we must make to keep it alive. In Theatre 2. Call the box office at 942-4000 for times and prices or visit the website [www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org).

## July 13 - 23

### Photographic Exhibition class exhibit

Where: Schaumburg Prairie Arts Center in Schaumburg  
Opening reception: July 13 from 6 to 9 p.m.

This exhibit is the culminating event for the summer Photographic Exhibition class. Benefits the Alexian Broth-

ers Cancer Institute

## July 20 - 29 La Boheme

Who: DuPage Opera Theatre  
Where: McAninch Arts Center  
Cost: Costs vary. Call the box office at 942-4000 or visit [www.atthemac.org](http://www.atthemac.org).

Experience the bohemian, merry-making café-life in Paris of the 1830s when Maestro Muspratt brings alive the passions of four poverty-stricken artists.

Call the box office at 942-4000 for time, place, and price information.

## Saturday, July 14 Jazz Fest Glen Ellyn

When: 4 to 8:30 p.m.  
Where: Main Street in downtown Glen Ellyn  
Cost: Free

The concert will feature Den Chaney Trio, Paulinho Garcia/ John Moulder Duo, and Bobby Lewis Sextet. Sponsored by 90.9FM WDCB and McAninch Arts Center with Karnes Prickett Design and the Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce

## July 20 - August 27 Ceramics Exhibition

Where: Wings Gallery  
Opening reception: TBA



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# Prairie Light Review releases publication

By Bethany Duckworth  
A&E Editor

The Prairie Light Review is a bi-annual student literary magazine generated by students enrolled in English 2210.

The magazine published 42 pieces out of about 200 submissions including poetry, prose, artwork and photography. Editor and Chief Tracy Robinson said, "We had fewer submitters this issue, but we retained the level of quality."

Robinson felt that this spring's issue attracted many more art submissions than writing prose. "We have really high competition on artwork," Robinson said.

However, choosing the cover was an easier task than usual. "I've worked here for two years and usually the day we decide the cover picture and title is the most stressful day of the year," Robinson explained. "This is the first time it was a unanimous decision."

The editors were looking for a more classical look for the cover this year. Robinson said, "For the past few issues we've had a really shiny gloss cover and this time we went with



black and white matt."

The title of this issue, The Day Waits, was taken directly from a poem that can be found just inside the cover.

Copies of The Prairie Light Review are available around campus. They will be in racks in main entrance ways and hallways.

## For Your Information

### Prairie Light Review Benefit

Student editors from the Prairie Light Review will host a book fair benefit from noon till 6 p.m. on May 12 at the Naperville Barnes and Noble, 47 E. Chicago Avenue.

The students will demonstrate the process of producing the award-winning literary and arts magazine.

A portion of gift certificate proceeds

will help fund the magazine.

### DuPage Community Jazz Ensemble Dance

Led by Tom Tallman, the DuPage Community Jazz Ensemble will perform at a community dance at 1:30 p.m. on May 20 at the COD Older Adult Institute in Building K, Tickets at the door cost \$6.



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