

Plymouthweek

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Corcoran Goes Navy

"In terms of conducting concert bands, it doesn't get any better this!" said Professor of Music Gary Corcoran of his recent guest conducting experience with the U.S. Navy Band in Washington, D.C. The PSU Director of Bands was featured recently on a public concert presented in Purcellville, Virginia.

Ensign Patrick K. Sweeten, associate conductor of the Navy Band, was one of Corcoran's graduate assistants at Pittsburg State University in Kansas in the 1980's. Regarding Corcoran as a mentor, Sweeten extended the invitation shortly after being assigned to the Navy's premiere performing ensemble.

"I was honored, of course, to have this opportunity to conduct such an outstanding organization. But, I made it clear to Pat that, for me as a teacher, the real honor was that he wanted to share his band with me in this way," said Corcoran.

"Although the performance itself was really something special, the real treat for me was to rehearse for two hours with these wonderful musicians. When I entered the rehearsal hall, I noticed that the band was dressed in full uniform. I asked Pat about this, since I knew that most service bands usually rehearse in civilian clothes. Pat told me that is a matter of pride that the Navy Band always rehearses in uniform."

Corcoran was asked to conduct Eric Whitacre's "October," a powerfully expressive work for concert band. "While conducting

the final run-through, I noticed that the young woman playing baritone saxophone was fighting to hold back tears and even stopping to weep," he said. "After the rehearsal, I asked Pat if he knew of some personal connection that she might have with this piece. He told me that she is the daughter of Dr. Gerald Welker, the director of bands at the University of Alabama. Dr. Welker passed away last February at the age of 65. October was one of his very favorite pieces. When Pat told me that, I was unable to hold back my own tears."

Corcoran decided that it would be fitting to honor his own mentor, Dr. Harry Begian, former director of bands at the University of Illinois. "I wanted to include Alfred Reed's "Armenian Dances" on the program, because it is a piece that Dr. Begian commissioned. Dr. Begian is very proud of his Armenian heritage, so he asked the composer to write a piece based on the music of the Armenian cleric, Gomidas Vartabed. "Armenian Dances" is a wonderful composition, and it was fun for the band to play. During the rehearsal, I played a rare early 20th century recording of the monk Gomidas singing this music. Although these musicians had performed this piece on numerous occasions, none had ever heard the original source material for the composition."

Corcoran was impressed by the ensemble's professionalism and protocol. "As I approached the podium to be introduced to the



band, the silence in the room was remarkable. These are not only very serious musicians, they are military musicians, so their approach to the rehearsal environment is noticeably different from other professional ensembles. We worked very hard during the rehearsal, but there were enough humorous moments to make it a lot fun for all of us. Following the rehearsal, the musicians were very generous in their praise of my work with them, which meant everything to me. They really made me and my wife, Kenda, feel like part of their family for the two days that we were with them."

Following the rehearsal, Ens. Sweeten presented Corcoran with a large, beautifully-framed, photo of the United States Navy Band. "It is difficult to describe the sense of pride I had as I watched my former student conduct one of the nation's premiere concert bands," Corcoran said.

Members of the award-winning Ashland Garden Club presented an "Art in Bloom" event at the Karl Drerup Art Gallery September 27-29

Designers participating in Art in Bloom created floral arrangements to complement various works in the current exhibition, *Enchanted Garden: Enamels by an American Master*, in the gallery until October 27.

Enchanted Garden celebrates the art and legacy of gallery namesake, Karl Drerup, who chaired the Art Department at Plymouth from 1948-1968. Drerup was a master craftsman and was named a New Hampshire Living Treasure in 1986.

Gallery hours are Monday – Saturday, noon – 5 p.m. (Wednesdays until 8 p.m.). The gallery is closed on PSU holidays.

For information call the gallery at (603) 535-2614 or logon to plymouth.edu/gallery.



News From

Karl Drerup Art Gallery

Three gallery talks will be held in October, in conjunction with the ongoing exhibition in honor of gallery namesake Karl Drerup — *Enchanted Garden: Enamels by an American Master*.

- Monday, October 14 – 6 p.m. in the gallery: “Karl Drerup: The Living Legend” by exhibition curator Jane Port and Gallery Director Catherine Amidon.
- Wednesday, October 10 at noon in the gallery. “Just What is Enamel?” by Professor of Art Naomi Kline.
- Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m. in the gallery. “Remembering the Professor” with Professor Khuan Chong and Alumnus Ray McEnaney ’68.

For information call the Drerup Gallery at 535-2614 or logon to plymouth.edu/drerup.

Social Science

Sustainability Discussion. “Sustainability in Australia.” Memorial Hall room 103, 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 1. Free. Twelve students traveled with their instructor, Steve Whitman, to study different approaches to working toward greater sustainability in our communities and in our personal lives. Contact: Steve Whitman (603) 536-5037 or via e-mail to swhitman@plymouth.edu.

Center for the Environment

Environmental Science Colloquium. “Removal of Pharmaceuticals from Water.” Boyd Science Center room 001, 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, Free. Dr. Anil Waghe, assistant professor of chemistry at PSU will speak on the potential risks to aquatic ecosystems of the products being found in surface and ground waters around the world. Various approaches and their advantages and limitations to control and remove these compounds from the water will be discussed. Environmental Science Forums are held each Wednesday. Contact: Center for the Environment (603) 535-3179.

SAGE Center (formerly Women’s Services and Gender Resources)

Candlelight Vigil. Plymouth Town Common. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 4. In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Sponsored by the PSU SAGE Center and Voices Against Domestic Violence. Last year Voices Against Violence had 3,152 contacts with adult and child victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in the local area. The sponsors invite participants to be part of the movement around the U.S. to end domestic violence. Contact: Erin Creley, The SAGE Center (603) 535-5999.

Alumni and Student Activities

The second annual Homecoming & Family Celebration will be held October 9–14. Building on last year’s success, the celebration combines the best of both former events in one fantastic celebration. Join us for what makes PSU such a special place.

A full list of events is online at plymouth.edu/celebration. Contacts: Office of Alumni Relations, 535-2589 or alumni@plymouth.edu; Student Activities Office, 535-2636 or raekstrom@plymouth.edu.

Counseling Center

Mental Health Forum. HUB multipurpose room, 4 – 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9. Free. In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Week, the Mental Health Issues class at Plymouth State University, in conjunction with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), will present a speaker from NAMI’s “In Our Own Voice” project to discuss a personal journey from serious mental illness to recovery. IOOV is an opportunity for those who have struggled with mental illness to gain confidence and to share their individual experiences of recovery and transformation. Throughout the IOOV presentation, audience members are encouraged to offer feedback and ask questions. Audience participation is an important aspect of IOOV because the more audience members become involved, the closer they come to understanding what it is like to live with a mental illness and stay in recovery. Contact: Elaine de Mello, (603) 225-5359 Ext. 15.

Two PSU Faculty Artists Featured at Franklin Pierce Law Center Exhibit

The work of 12 New Hampshire college and university faculty members who teach printmaking is currently featured in an exhibition currently on view at Franklin Pierce Law Center.

Entitled “Teaching Printmaking,” the exhibition is open daily to the public, free of charge, and will be on view through October 26.

According to exhibition organizer, Pierce Law alumnus Parker Potter of Contoocook, “This exhibition brings together the work of teachers at the University of New Hampshire, Plymouth State University, Keene State College, Dartmouth College, Colby-Sawyer College, and the New Hampshire Institute of Art. While you can often see the work of these printmakers at their home institutions’ annual faculty art shows, this exhibition is one of the few occasions upon which these artists show their work together.”

“The influence of the artists in this show may be measured in two very different ways,” says Potter. “On the one hand, these teaching printmakers have inspired any number of students over the years — many of whom have gone on to become artists themselves. And on the other, these printmaking teachers have their own direct impact on the art world; most of them — if not all — regularly exhibit their own work nationally, alongside the work of the very finest printmakers in the country.”

Featured artists are: Elizabeth D’Amico, John T. Downs, Annette Mitchell and Cynthia Vascak of PSU; Rebekah Tolley of CS; Louise Hamlin of DC; Rosemarie Bernardi and John Roberts of KSU; Bill Cass, Elizabeth Cameron and Aaron Drew of the NHIA; and Scott Schnepf of UNH.

For information, please call Franklin Pierce Law Center, (603)228-1541. The exhibition is on view on weekdays from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sodexo Supports Sustainability and Good Health

Sodexo, the provider of dining services to Plymouth State University, has taken great strides to encourage and act in a way that promotes sustainability on campus, around the region, and throughout the world, according to registered dietician Arianne Szymas.

Some of Sodexo's initiatives at Plymouth State are:

- Local and organic foods
- Fair Trade products
- Cage-free eggs
- Recycling
- Reusing fryolater grease for biodiesel fuel
- Biodegradable products
- Waste reduction methods

Some of the regional vendors from whom Sodexo purchases products are

- Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, Vermont
- Cafe Monte Alto, Plymouth— Coffee
- Dole & Bailey Inc. – Meats
- Green Mountain Coffee Roasters of Vermont – Coffee
- HP Hood, LLC - Dairy Products
- Mad River Coffee Roasters, Campton— Coffee
- Nellie's Nest Cage Free Eggs, Monroe - Cage free organic eggs
- Owens Truck Farm, Holderness - Summer & Fall Produce
- Saunders, Inc., Somersworth – Produce
- Shain's of Maine - Ice Cream
- Vermont Butter & Cheese
- Plymouth Bagels, Plymouth – Breads

PSU Dining Services has been serving Fair Trade coffee selections to their customers since 2004. Today Fair Trade coffee selections are offered at several locations on campus and from several coffee vendors.

Fair Trade products guarantee a minimum price for small farmers' harvests and encourages organic and sustainable cultivation methods that are safer for communities. The cultivation of coffee has become an issue with both environmental and human rights implications.

Fair Trade bananas are offered when available at all dining locations. Currently the team is also looking into additional Fair Trade teas and cocoa.

All steel and aluminum cans, glass and plastic bottles as well as corrugated cardboard and mixed paper are recycled at all dining services locations on campus, including in the University Dining Services offices.

Fryolator grease from kitchens and dining locations, which is not used for biodiesel, is picked up by Baker Commodities. Value of Recycling to PSU:

- * Financial savings—solid waste disposal tonnage costs avoided
- * Waste reduction— tons of waste not going into the waste stream
- * Waste Reduction & Prevention meet client expectations
- * Student satisfaction
- * It's the right thing to do!

Good health practices:

Sodexo began its conversion to zero trans-fats (ZTF) with a switch to ZTF oils and shortenings, a change that was completed in January, 2006. The ZTF products now sourced by the company include salad dressings, sauces, soups, bakery products (including cookies, muffins, breads and doughs), snacks, cereals, condiments, breaded chicken, pasta, eggs and frozen potatoes, tortillas, oils and shortenings and a range of others.

PSU Walkers in NAMI Fundraiser

The PSU Counseling Department is sponsoring a team to walk in the 5th annual National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) New Hampshire Walk! Tonya Tookes-Reznik, Counselor Education faculty member in the College of Graduate Studies, coordinated the walkers which include fellow faculty members, as well as graduate students. The 5K walk will be held on October 7, from 12:30-2 p.m. at Concord Hospital. PSU faculty, staff and students are invited to sponsor the team. Proceeds go to NAMI's "Minds across America" and the fight against mental illness.

For additional information, to participate or to sponsor PSU's team, contact Tonya Tookes-Reznik at 535-3288 or ttookeszreznik@plymouth.edu.

EAP

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-424-1749

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If it's happening at PSU then
it's happening at ThisWeek@PSU.

PSU's Freshman Abroad Program Underway

The Freshman Abroad Program, now in its fourth year, gives first-semester, first-year students at PSU the opportunity to begin their college career abroad at the University of Limerick, Ireland. Each fall semester, 20 students take two courses as a group with their accompanying PSU professor and select three other courses of their choosing from the UL offerings. Students live on campus with Irish and other international students and return to PSU for the spring semester. Supervising faculty member Patrick May is pictured here with the 2007 group as they concluded their first week of orientation at UL.



Have you signed up for PSU Alert?

PSU has launched its new emergency notification system.

Once you sign up for the service, the school can text your cell phone or send you an e-mail with timely information about emergencies, class cancellations, or other urgent campus communications.

plymouth.edu/alerts

White Mountains Art and History Explored Oct. 4 at PSU

The Center for Rural Partnerships and Arts Alliance of Northern N.H. present "Reflections of New Hampshire's Rural Landscapes, A Tour of the Notches: White Mountains Art Landscapes and Nature"

The magnificent vistas of New Hampshire's White Mountains have inspired countless artists seeking to capture the region's rural beauty. Join Plymouth State University's Center for Rural Partnerships and the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire Thursday, Oct. 4 at 6 p.m., at PSU's Heritage Commons for "Reflections of New Hampshire's Rural Landscapes, A Tour of the Notches: White Mountains Art Landscapes and Nature"

Bob Cotrell, executive director of the Remick Country Doctor Museum and Farm in Tamworth, will present the program, featuring the history and nature behind the art, the geological formations that attracted the artists, waterfalls, flora and fauna, the tools and techniques they used in their paintings, drawings and prints, the history they captured in their work such as farm and village life, fences, bridges, and livestock.

An introduction to the presentation will be made by Catherine Amidon, director of the Karl Drerup Art Gallery at Plymouth State University. The presentation begins at 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 4 at Heritage Commons in Samuel Read Hall on Highland Street. The event is free and open to the public. For more information about this event, contact the Center for Rural Partnerships at Plymouth State University, 17 High Street, Plymouth, N.H. 03264 (603) 535-3275 or ruralinfo@plymouth.edu

Volunteers Needed: Judge's for Homecoming & Family Weekend Events Oct. 9-14

The PACE Homecoming & Family Celebration Planning committee has been busy planning the great events for the week of October 9-14 (next week!).

The help of faculty and staff volunteers is essential for success, and we are looking for judges to help us with the following events:

Banner Contest: Tuesday, October 9 at noon in the HUB Fireplace Lounge. Student organizations design and create banners to decorate the Fireplace Lounge, and you help us choose the winners. We'll buy you

a cup of coffee or your drink of choice from the HUB Snackbar. Usually takes about 30 minutes.

Lip Sync: Wednesday, October 10 at 8 p.m. in the HUB Courtroom. It's like American Idol, and you get to be Paula, Randy, or Simon! We buy the pizza and sodas. Event usually lasts about 1 – 1.5 hours.

Spirit Night: Friday, October 12 at 6 p.m., PE Center Foley Gym. The event kicks off the weekend, and you get to help judge the most

spirited group. Groups check in at the door and are judged based on appearance and spirit. The contest continues once the event begins as groups are judged on their positive participation and spirit. Winning group gets \$100, you get pizza and soda (sorry, you can't trade for what's behind curtain #1). Event ends at 7:30 p.m.

We need five judges for each event. Interested? Reply to Rodney Ekstrom at raekstrom@plymouth.edu.