

Visual Arts

Art has been a part of Notre Dame from the beginning. Pere both collected art and artifacts from around the world and encouraged artistic activity on campus. He stated the important role of all the arts in his philosophy for building the Notre Dame man and woman, which was to obtain balance in all things.

Today we run a full program for grades nine to twelve. This program allows students to develop and then master basic skills in a variety of media, from drawing and design, to painting, sculpture, and print-making. Art history is included through video, essays, and presentations.

Senior grades have field trips to local art galleries and compete in art contests from Remembrance Day and Canada Day Challenges to the annual Notre Dame Christmas Card creation. Often the College will request some artwork done for a Notre Dame event or space. Students have always worked hard and have risen to the challenge of producing a high standard of art both technically and creatively. They have the opportunity to show off their considerable talents in the three art

exhibitions a year; the Christmas Art Show, the Allapodreda Art Show and the May long weekend show.

Emphasis is put on skills and then developing more advanced ideas and skills from this solid foundation. As well students are made aware of the growing Visual Arts sector and if they are interested in a career in this area can obtain guidance from me to develop a portfolio in their senior year for preparation for post-secondary art institutes. We can boast of quite a few students who have become successful in areas of graphic design, international art marketing, architecture, fashion design, computer graphics and fine art painting. Visual Art is an area where students can have hands on involve-

ment and enjoy the fruits of their labor. It is always enjoyable as an art teacher at Notre Dame to discover and create with these motivated art students.

Julie Rudrick ' 77



Dmitry and Krista working on their art projects.



Julie Rudrick with her Art Class

Notre Dame Drama



THE ARTS

Drama is in full swing at Notre Dame with students and staff getting ready for the Christmas production. This year the drama group will present *The Rented Christmas* on December 16. This is a heart-warming Christmas tale wherein John Dale, a wealthy businessman, tries to rent a Christmas from Anne Weston's rental shop. He wants it complete with decorations, gifts, carolers, and even a family. Wherever will Anne be able to find the wife and five children that are to be part of Mr. Dale's rented Christmas?

Students are making time in between classes, hockey, basketball, and homework to learn lines, paint set pieces, and attend rehearsals. The cast of the play includes the following students, and then there are also always some last minute volunteers who want to help with sets, make-up, publicity, stage hand tasks, or sound and lighting.

The Rented Christmas Cast List

Anne Weston	- Colleen Lea
Jimmy	- Levi Scheibel
John Dale	- Jens Johnson
Bridget	- Kate Humphreys
Martha	- Amie Wright
Jean	- Jessica Frison
Cynthia	- Amanda Hall
Wendy	- Victoria Hinds
Lettie	- Micah Lindo
Mrs. Alice Lindsey	- Bianca Fiedler
Fred	- Tennessee Fafard
Christmas Carollers	- Alexis Bryce
	- Gayle Castillo
	- Courtenay Jacklin
	- Maddy King
	- Teri Scott
	- Carson Tarnasky

Sets

On November 17, students in the drama group had the opportunity to attend a presentation and reading by renowned Canadian playwright Drew Haden Taylor at the University of Regina. He is an excellent speaker and humorist, and while his talk touched on serious topics, his theme was the universality of humour. This was an enjoyable outing which was made even better by stopping to pick up snacks on the way home. (Food is often part of the fun of being in the ND drama productions.)

This year drama has found a new home for rehearsals and for storing costumes and props. We are in the process of moving to the basement lounge area of Seaman Hall. This will be a comfortable space for us as well as being very convenient for boarding students.

Drama will continue after the Christmas break. There will be a spring production (yet to be determined) in May. We also hope to be able to offer an acting skills workshop, possibly focussing on "improv". As well, we will be attending at least one live theatre production before the end of the school year. We would also like to arrange to tour a theatre.

Any ND student who is interested in drama is encouraged to participate. Participation can mean anything from having a large or small acting role to making posters or moving sets.

The staff drama directors are teachers Margaret Campbell, Elena Krueger, and Matt Fehr. Art teacher Julie Rudrick also helps with sets, and Rhonda Ryan assists with some of the administrative duties.

Margaret Campbell



News from the Music Room



Carson Tarnasky

This semester has seen a whirlwind of activity happening in the music program. As many of you know, this is my first year at the college and while running the current programs already in place, I am at the same time exploring new opportunities that would further develop the music department.

We have two choral groups currently in place. The first one is a choir class, which is built right into the school schedule and taken for credit. This class allows me to step beyond merely practicing for performance, and gives the students more background in theory, as well as sight singing and ear training. I have many students in this class who have never sung in a choir before, (or have never sung before!). This class provides a relaxed setting in which to learn the skills required to perform as a group without the stress of perfection. It truly is a class for anyone and I am thrilled that students here can choose this elective.

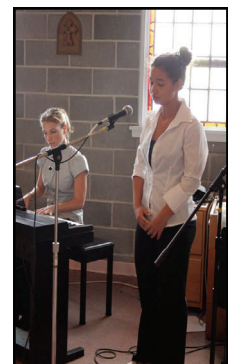
We have had a couple school performances to date, and have a couple more scheduled before Christmas break. Our first performance saw us singing "Amazing Grace" and "Forever" as we prepared to depart for Thanksgiving. Most recently we participated in the Remembrance Day service at the school. We lead "O Canada" (in both official languages), sang a setting of "In Flanders Fields" and finished the service with an old time favourite, "Danny Boy". The choir showed a lot of development between the two performances, and I hope to see this continue into the Christmas season, when we are scheduled to perform a more extensive concert on Dec 16. This concert is open to the public, and all are welcome to attend.

The second choral group is the Notre Dame Canadians. This is an extracurricular activity offered during shack time. We meet three times a week, and are looking forward to singing in our first performance of the 2008/2009 season. We will also be performing on Dec 16. As well, this group will be taking a trip next semester. Watch for details on this in the New Year. The Arts Ed program has the both 10 and 30 levels active this semester. In these classes we learn and experience music in many different ways. Each class works on basic music theory, and history, as well as learning how to put these skills to use in a practical way. The students are self-learning an instrument (of their choice) with guidance from me as we go along. I have outlined several projects for each class. Setting these short term goals, help students to mark their progress on their instrument and see where they can improve. This portion of the class, as stated above, is largely self driven and requires the student to practice lesson work (to learn the technical aspects of their instrument) and a song of their choice. As you can well imagine, there is always a wealth of sound resounding from our corner of the campus!

We have gotten off to a great start this year and I look forward to continued expansion of the music department both on and off campus.

Lisa Welder

**Lisa Welder &
Patricia**



Liturgical Choir

We have had a lot of fun on the church choir team this year. We have a pretty regular crew that gathers for weekly practices on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm and every second Sunday before we play at church. The practices on Tuesday nights are one of the highlights of my week. We have a lot of fun just playing around and jamming while we prepare to play the next days songs. We play two songs almost every Wednesday morning for our school gospel reflection and lead all of the worship singing on every second Sunday at church. I continue to be amazed at the musical talent that surfaces at this "sport school". We have some very gifted young people at Notre Dame. I look forward to more fun and musical talent discoveries as the year unfolds.

Josh Campbell '93



**Josh Campbell plays with Matt
and Steven.**



Alice Dumba

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