

**Public Information Office**

**A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**February 4, 2015**

Next Issue: Wednesday, Feb. 18  
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**‘Codex’ receives encore screening**

The Northwest Art Center lecture series features an encore screening of Micah Bloom’s original film, “Codex,” Wednesday (Feb. 4) in Aleshire Theater at 7 p.m. The film focuses on books affected by Minot’s 2011 flood.



Bloom, assistant professor of art, will introduce and briefly explain the making of “Codex,” which premiered in 2013 and went on to achieve national recognition. “Codex” received a first-place award at the Curator/Ruminant Film Prize in New York City and an honorable mention in the Fargo Film Festival, with a March screening slated.

The screening is free and open to the public; an informal reception will follow. For questions, contact [nac@minotstateu.edu](mailto:nac@minotstateu.edu).

**Darwin Day 2015: Celebrating science and humanity**

For its seventh year running, Darwin Day returns to Minot State University Feb. 12-13. Darwin Day is a global celebration of science and reason, with a focus on how all living creatures evolve.

MSU’s Darwin Day celebration begins Feb. 12 with a presentation by Minot native Barry Williams, evolutionary biologist and professor at Michigan State University, “Evolution in the limelight: Why research on the history of life is spearheading innovation in science,” in Cyril Moore Science Center Auditorium, 7 p.m.



Feb. 13 from 8:30 a.m. to noon, there will be a variety of biology activities about evolution, exploring the human brain, behavioral neuroscience with mice and evolution games in Cyril Moore Science Center. As well, individual may tour the greenhouse and research labs. At noon in Aleshire Theater, Aaron Coleman, a nationally acclaimed artist/printmaker from Chicago, will present “At the center of never enough.” A new addition to this year’s Darwin Day celebration is the Brain Bee competition in Cyril Moore Science Center, Room 210 at 1 p.m. This competition for high school students, grades 9-12, challenges students with questions about the brain, in a format similar to a spelling bee. For more information on the Brain Bee competition, visit <http://www.internationalbrainbee.com/>.

"Our hope is to get people more interested in science," said Heidi Super, chair and professor within the Department of Biology. "Too many people distrust science, and we just want to keep chipping away at the walls between the general public and the scientific community. So join us and have a day of fun and learning!"

All events are free and open to the public. For more information on the schedule of events for Darwin Day 2015, please visit <http://msubiology.info/>.

### **MSU art offers open-studio opportunities**

To fight winter doldrums, the Minot State University Art Program is offering ceramic open-studio sessions to the public during spring semester. The open-studio meetings will be Tuesdays from Feb.10 to March 10, missing the week of spring break, on again for March 24 and 31, roughly 6 to 9 p.m. To access the studio, individual should enter Pioneer Hall by the back door.

"To address an often-expressed community need, we have organized open-studio opportunities," said Linda Olson, Division of Humanities chair. "We look forward to working with community members with an interest in our specialties."

The price, assessed per session, is \$20 for adults, \$10 for MSU students, faculty and staff and \$5 for children. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Again, the proceeds from the open studio directly fund scholarships for ceramics students. Faculty work with participants depending on their needs to learn and grow in clay. Please RSVP [linda.a.olson@minotstateu.edu](mailto:linda.a.olson@minotstateu.edu) indicating interest, so that instructors can prepare and arrange for additional helpers if needed, but walk-ins are welcome. If individuals attended last semester and have not yet picked up their work, the fired ware is ready for pick up.

### **MSU seeking scholarship applications**

Minot State University is offering the most scholarships ever for the upcoming 2015-16 academic year. New, transfer and returning students should apply soon, as applications will be accepted through Feb. 17. The MSU Scholarship and Award Program Application is available online at [www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/scholarships.shtml](http://www.minotstateu.edu/finaid/scholarships.shtml).

"We encourage all prospective and returning students to submit the application to be considered for the wide variety of scholarship options available at MSU," said Laurie Weber, financial aid director.

Students should also submit the 2015-16 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by April 1 to be considered for the best possible state and federal student aid options.



Numerous scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, extracurricular activities, community involvement, leadership, and service and legacy. New freshmen and transfer students may apply for the Great Plains Exceptional Scholar Award, which offers full tuition for four consecutive years to students meeting the scholarship requirements. Other scholarships open to new freshmen and transfer students include the Distinctive & Engaged Scholarship and Service for Common Good Scholarship Awards, which offer awards up to \$3,500, as well as the Transfer Student Scholarship Award for up to \$1,500. Junior, senior or graduate students who previously received an MSU Alumni Association Scholarship may also apply for the Peggy Wittliff Memorial Scholarship. This \$4,000 scholarship is paid over the full academic year and is available online at [www.minotstateu.edu/alumni/scholarship.shtml](http://www.minotstateu.edu/alumni/scholarship.shtml). Additional scholarships for children of MSU alumni can also be found here.

For questions about alumni scholarships, contact Janna McKechnie, director of alumni relations and annual giving, at 858-3234 or [janna.mckechnie@minotstateu.edu](mailto:janna.mckechnie@minotstateu.edu). For all other scholarship inquiries, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 858-3375 or [financialaid@minotstateu.edu](mailto:financialaid@minotstateu.edu).

### **Penny Carnival adds to Pennies for Patients campaign**

The Jan. 27 Penny Carnival, coordinated by residence life and student activities, raised \$2,862.81 and had 650 people in attendance. Last year, \$1,602.13 was raised and 320 attended.

Minot State University spearheads Pennies for Patients, its annual fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, to combat blood cancer. LLS also funds lifesaving blood cancer research around the world and provides free information and support services. Chapters exist throughout the U.S. and Canada. To learn more about LLS, visit its website at [www.schoolandyouth.org](http://www.schoolandyouth.org).



"Keep collecting pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and bills in your Pennies for Patients buckets because the campaign runs until March 13," said Camila Van Dyke, residence life coordinator. "We hope to reach our \$5,500 goal."

If an individual or organization wishes to support Pennies for Patients by making a donation, contact Van Dyke at [camila.vandyke@minotstateu.edu](mailto:camila.vandyke@minotstateu.edu) or 858-3584 or Aaron Hughes, student activities coordinator, at [aaron.hughes@minotstateu.edu](mailto:aaron.hughes@minotstateu.edu) or 858-3987.

**Affordable Care Act enrollment event slated**

Individuals seeking information on the Affordable Care Act Marketplace or accessing health insurance coverage can find help Thursday (Feb. 5) in Bismarck. Minot State University's North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities, the North Dakota Disabilities Advocacy Consortium and the North Dakota Economic Security & Prosperity Alliance are organizing a free, public enrollment event at the First Presbyterian Church, 214 East Thayer Avenue, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Enrollment navigators will be on site to assist attendees enroll through the federal Marketplace, [www.Healthcare.gov](http://www.Healthcare.gov). The Marketplace is the "go to" place to shop for health insurance coverage.

Anyone interested in applying for health coverage should bring photo identification, income verification and documents showing the citizenship or immigration status of each person applying.

To read the full news release, visit [www.minotstateu.edu/pio/news/2015/01/affordable-care-act-enrollment-event-slated.shtml](http://www.minotstateu.edu/pio/news/2015/01/affordable-care-act-enrollment-event-slated.shtml). For more information, contact Neil Scharpe, Navigator project director, at 858-3596, 1-800-233-1737 or [neil.scharpe@minotstateu.edu](mailto:neil.scharpe@minotstateu.edu).

**NDGA partners in OPEN Water Planning Project**

The North Dakota Geographic Alliance, the Royal Canadian Geographical Society and the Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education are planning OPEN Water, an innovative, international project to facilitate research and sharing of information on the Lake Winnipeg watershed, an immense basin that touches four American states and four Canadian provinces.



The project is unique because of its international dimension and aim to accommodate scientific approaches and land-based traditional knowledge. While emphasizing geographic thinking, the project has other touch points with the K-12 curriculum such as science, geography, environmental studies, indigenous studies, world issues and politics.

The National Geographic Education Foundation is the source of the planning grant, "Collaborative Planning Grant Proposal: Freshwater place-based investigations through the lens of traditional and digital geo-spatial thinking."

"NDGA is pleased to join Canadian Geographic Society to design a watershed-specific online information warehouse project for teachers that investigates the importance of safe water, which is essential to all of forms of life on earth," said Marilyn Weiser, NDGA coordinator based on Minot State University's campus. "Although the international border separates American and Canadian teachers and scientists, we are committed to enhancing the ability to investigate and share information regarding the problems and solutions associated with water."

"NGEF is advancing geo-literacy across the U.S. and beyond by supporting programs, activities and materials that current research, educators and experience tell us are the most effective ways to teach geography in the classroom," said Bob Dulli, NGEF deputy director.

Currently, the partners are looking to organizations that could lend their expertise and support to OPEN Water. Individuals and organizations interested in learning more or making a contribution should contact Weiser at [marilyn.weiser@minotstateu.edu](mailto:marilyn.weiser@minotstateu.edu).

**New faculty and staff aboard**

Minot State University welcomes new employees, Carissa Botton, Jen Hutchins and Melissa Rowe.

Botton, admission counselor, joins MSU's Office of Enrollment Services after working at Dakota College at Bottineau. The Minot native holds a bachelor's degree in public relations and advertising from North Dakota State University.



*Botton*

*Hutchins*

Hutchins is the secretary in the Student Health and Development Center. In 2012-2013, she was the Learning Resource Center coordinator in the Department of Nursing. She and her husband, Tim, have two daughter, Alannah and Heather, who attend MSU. She enjoys training and showing dogs, fishing, reading and cooking.

Rowe is the admissions coordinator in enrollment services. Previously, she worked for Results Unlimited, Minot. She holds a

bachelor's degree in art with a specialization in graphic arts from Minot State.

### **In the galleries**

Feb. 4-12 — "Americans 2014: Paperworks Best of Show," sculptures by New York City artist Chris Perry, Library Gallery. There will be a public reception with Perry Thursday (Feb. 5) in the Library Gallery from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Perry will also discuss his work in a noon presentation Friday (Feb. 6) in Aleshire Theater.

Feb. 4-26 — "Americas 2015: Paperworks" juried by James Ehlers, Emporia State University, Kansas, Hartnett Hall Gallery. .

### **Faculty and staff achievements**

*The Office of Public Information proudly shares the many accomplishments of faculty and staff with the campus community in every issue.*

**Jessica Christy** and **Ryan Stander**, art faculty, and **Max Patzner**, MSU alumnus, exhibited works at the Plains Art Museum's Bakken Boom exhibition.

Pictured are (from the left) Ryan Stander, Jessica Christy and Max Patzner.



**Dan Conn**, **Kathy Hintz** and **Leslee Thorpe**, teacher education and human performance faculty, presented faculty development Jan. 19 to K-12 teachers for the Roughrider Education Services Program January Inservice. Conn worked with grade 7-12 language arts teachers, Hintz worked with grade 7-12 social studies teachers and Thorpe worked with K-3 teachers on math.

### **Minot State University mission**

*Minot State University is first and foremost dedicated to the success of all students: their growth and development as educated citizens, their confidence, and their life-long devotion to the common good and the welfare of others.*

**Be seen. Be heard.**