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What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Rhode Island College has been granted $100,000 from the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission to restore a dilapidated yellow cottage on the campus that once housed orphans at the State Home and School for Children. The grounds of the former State Home are now RIC’s east campus. The cottage is the last remaining wooden structure from the orphanage.

The grant was announced at a press conference on Nov. 30 at the Slater Mill in Pawtucket as part of the commission’s annual State Preservation Grant awards for capital preservation work. Twenty-four museums and cultural art centers received grants totaling $1.5 million.

Gov. Donald L. Carcieri presented the award certificates. RIC President John Nazarian accepted the award on behalf of the College.

“[This grant reflects an important recognition],” said E. Pierre Morenon, associate professor of anthropology at RIC. “Just two years ago there were lots of questions, from preservationists and others, about whether this place was worth saving. The College has answered those questions with conviction.”

RIC will use the cottage as a research center for the state’s child welfare policies. Oral histories of former State Home residents, and public policy topics in the state and nation, will have a permanent place in the center. The oral histories are currently being collected with the support of a separate grant from the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities.

Renovation plans for the cottage show a first floor with rotating displays of memorabilia, archeological finds, and historic information, plus state-of-the art technology for continued on page 5

Rhode Island College mourns the passing of Nancy Gewirtz, professor emerita of social work, co-founder and former director of The Poverty Institute at RIC, and tireless advocate for those less fortunate. She died at her home in Providence after a 3 1/2-year battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 59.

“People say, how do you keep at this, year after year, banging your head against the wall? But I love it. I’ve spent too much time understanding the injustices and the unfairness,” said Gewirtz when she received The Providence Newspaper Guild’s John Kiffney Award for Continued on page 3
Looking Back

Here at What’s News we will feature historical photos from the College’s past. Please go to your scrapbooks and send us photos with as much information as possible. All photos will be handled carefully and returned to sender.

Focus on Faculty and Staff

Several RIC faculty members were selected to deliver sessions and workshops at the 17th Annual International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics held Oct. 28-31 in New Orleans. Session papers will be published in the conference proceedings. Conference participants included:

- Donna Christy, assistant professor of mathematics, who presented the workshop “Descartes Visits Wall St. and Meets the TI-84+SE: A Financial Journey.”
- Raimundo Kovic, Rebecca Sparks, and Chris Teixeira, assistant professors of mathematics, who delivered a session on a project they have been using in the classroom: “Bringing Linear Programming to Life for Business Students: An Interactive Tool to Improve Learning.”
- Rod Rodrigues, professor of mathematics, and co-presenter Russell Beauchemin ’04, who offered the session, “Mathematical Structures in Music.”

Jianhong Liu, professor of sociology, has recently been appointed to the position of editor-in-chief of a new publication, Asian Journal of Criminology, to be published by Springer, a leading international academic publisher. The journal has established a large editorial team which consists of the most prominent criminologists including the president of the International Society of Criminology, the president of the American Society of Criminology, and most presidents of criminology societies in Asian countries, as well as other prominent scholars in the field of international and comparative criminology worldwide. Liu also presented a paper (co-authored with Lening Zhang, St. Francis University) entitled “Serious Crimes in a New Urban Pattern of Roomburbs” at the American Society of Criminology’s 56th Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn., held Nov. 16 to 21.

The Friends of the Library announce events

The Friends of the James P. Adams Library are pleased to announce the following schedule of events and lectures for 2004-2005. The entire campus community is welcome to attend these presentations. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for any or all of these activities.


The World at RIC

This regular feature of What’s News looks at the links between the world and Rhode Island College. The story below was written by David S. Thomas, professor of history, who is a specialist in Middle Eastern and Islamic history. Thomas recently went to Indonesia as a Fulbright scholar, and is currently working on a book about higher education in countries where Islam is the dominant religion.

One of my first memories of Rhode Island College was arriving to take up my position in the history department in the late summer of 1974, just a few days before the semesters began with the world much with me, having spent the summer researching in Turkey and traveling in Syria and Jordan. I wondered how I was going to keep the world I had been immersed in over the summer with me as I struggled to formulate lectures which would help bring that world to my students.

The transition from the world I had just left, however, to be a relatively easy one as the history department even then was at the forefront of opening the College and its students to the world. Its faculty included professors teaching and doing research in Africa, East Asia, Middle Eastern, European, British, Russian/Soviet, and Latin American history. It was a wonderful environment for a new professor who had come to realize how important the world had become to his generation, and, as well, that it would be even more important to the generations of students he was to teach.

Since then, with the essential help of the College through scholarships, and research awards, and various national scholarships, I have been able to travel widely in the lands of Islam, an experience which, among other things, has confirmed to me how important knowing the world has become for our students today. They, and, in fact, all of us, must understand far more than previous generations, that almost nothing of consequence happens anywhere in the world today, even in the remotest of places like Afghanistan for example, that does not have an almost immediate effect on our relatively tranquil lives in Rhode Island.

Our students at RIC must, then, know of and about the world, better and more intimately than previous generations. Fortunately the history department has maintained a leader in this regard providing courses at every level, from introductory to graduate, and from ancient to modern, on aspects of the history of Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, the Muslim world and others.

Moreover, its commitment to bringing the world into RIC has been greatly strengthened and extended by other departments such as English, modern language, political science, anthropology, sociology, geography, art, and communications, all of which offer courses and projects with students with a global perspective.

The increased visibility of a global perspective throughout the curriculum of the College has been significantly facilitated since 1997 by the College’s general education program which requires students to take core courses in Western literature and history, the Muslim, Western, and contemporary cultural issues.

Our students now have, to a far greater extent than they did when I first arrived at RIC, the opportunity to travel and live in the world while completing their undergraduate education. This comes through the Study Abroad Program and, especially, through the Ridgway F. Shinn Study Abroad Fund.

At some time, it is evident to me after three decades at RIC that the College itself, through its increasingly diverse faculty and students, better manifests the diversity we address in our programs. The world is at RIC to stay, and, I have no doubt, we are all stronger for it.

David Thomas

Committee created to review complaint resolution process

RIC President John Nazarian announced the formation of the Committee to Study the College’s Complaint Resolution Process and Related Issues, which held its first meeting Nov. 17.

The Committee members are Suzy Alba (student), Ellen Bigler (Educational Studies), Mariam Boyjan (Lib/Paralegal Bound), Aaron Bruce (Unity Center), Patricia Giammarco (Affirmative Action), Deborah Johnson (Admissions), Scott Kane (Student Life Office), Stanley Lemons (History), Nicholas Long (Legal Counsel), co-chair Lloyd Matumoto (Business), Michael Phiblin (student), co-chair Maureen Reddy (English), Forrestre Safford (student), Daniel Scott (English), and Daniel Wiesman (Social Work).

The Committee will forward its recommendations to Nazarian on March 1, 2005.

The Three Musketeers? No, just three members of the RIC fencing team from 1968: from left: Barbara Fields, Jane O’Reilly and Elaine Bentley.

ROD RODRIGUES


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David Thomas
Nancy Gewirtz

Continued from page 1

Service to the Community in 2000. Gewirtz, a social reformer, argued that welfare recipients and low-income families were the victims of tax cuts and state deficits. In doing so, she became known as a tireless and national figure as a powerful voice for individuals on the lower end of the economic scale.

“If there were more people that had the dedication that Nancy Gewirtz had, the world would be a much better place,” said RIC President John Nazarian. “She believed in what she stood for, and she stood for herself right up to the last moment, literally. She will be missed and will leave a significant void.”

The lesson of charity began in Gewirtz's childhood home in Newton, Mass., where her parents provided a temporary place to stay were welcomed. Legendary Boston Celtics Hall-of-Famer John Havlicek, who remained a lifelong friend to both Gewirtz and her father Hyman, was one of those individuals.

The seed for social advocacy took root in Gewirtz's college education. Shortly after receiving her bachelor's in sociology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, she took a position as a field investigator for the state's anti-poverty discrimination commission in Boston. She moved on to become a public health social work coordinator and supervisor in the Erie County Public Health Department in Buffalo, N.Y., senior health planner for the public health department in Machias, Maine, and director of the Rhode Island University's health plan in Washington, D.C.

She held a master's in public health from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She also earned a master's in public administration and a doctorate in political science from the University of Connecticut.

Gewirtz brought expertise in the field of social work to Rhode Island College in 1978 when she was hired to help develop a master of social work program (MSW). Along with serving as the acting assistant dean for the School of Social Work, Gewirtz became the first chair of the program, a position she held for eight years.

“Nancy was a gifted teacher, who inspired her students,” said George Metrey, former dean of the School of Social Work. “She never expected anything more of them than she expected of herself. She cared about oppressed people and worked tirelessly to change the system that oppressed them,” he said.

For 26 years, she taught in the College’s MSW program, educating students about social policy and the role of a social worker in our society. Gewirtz encouraged her students to challenge her views, telling them that in doing so, it could raise their voices.

Lisa Casavecchia, graduate assistant at RIC's Poverty Institute and student intern, said, “You can’t help but be inspired by her. Inspired to seek justice wherever and whenever you find unfair or hurtful circumstances.”

But her teaching went beyond the classroom. Her fervent activism formed the foundation of what would become The Poverty Institute at Rhode Island College, a collaborative idea of Gewirtz and Linda Katz, the institute's policy director.

The Poverty Institute, which Gewirtz directed for five years, was created in 1998 and is the only organization in the state to advocate for low-income Rhode Islanders. The institute uses policy research, analysis and education to pinpoint statistics as targets for change.

In 2001, under Gewirtz’s guidance, the Poverty Institute teamed with Trinity Repertory Theater to raise $14,000 from a performance of Nickel and Dimed, a play about a reporter who poses as a low-income worker. RIC has frequently recognized Gewirtz for her dedication to both the MSW program and The Poverty Institute. In 1984, she received the distinguished teaching award from the School of Social Work, and was cited in 1993 for distinguished service. Gewirtz also received the Alumni Faculty Award in 1999 for outstanding service to the College and her contributions through The Poverty Institute.

On Nov. 14, 2002, Gewirtz was honored by RIC at a testimonial dinner. A video tribute to her said that when Gewirtz spoke of poverty, she could hear it breathe. Gewirtz was the co-founder and chair of the Rhode Island Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Poverty for seven years. In 1994, she helped establish Rhode Island Kids Count to address the needs of low-income children.

She was a board member for R.I. Parents for Progress and vice-chair of the R.I. Family Independence Legislative Commission. Gewirtz also founded the Woman for Woman support group for low-income working women, was actively involved in The People First Budget Coalition and a board member of the Council for Community Service.

She encouraged people to join One Rhode Island, a group whose goal is to help individuals and families living in the state meet the basic needs through the expansion of existing programs and the creation of new ones.

“Nancy was a true champion of economic and social justice,” said Kate Brevort, executive director of The Poverty Institute and former intern. “Her contributions to RIC, the profession of social work, and the low-income people in this state are immeasurable. The compassion she had for people and the passion that she had for fighting injustice will always be remembered.”

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER: Casey George, a junior at BHS, is the recipient of the Dianne M. Landau scholarship, named for the late BHS graduate of the College who went on to co-found the human resource management firm of Lamountain and Associates.

Mary Olenn MEd '81, health promotion consultant at Rhode Island College, has become the first woman to be honored for helping to send a record number of freshmen to the College this year. She was the first chair of the program, a position she held for eight years.

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MARY OLENN

Chair of the Providence Public Library Board

Mary Olenn, a registered nurse and recognized leader in the Rhode Island health care community. Since 1981 she has been at RIC, where she was instrumental in making the College the first institution of higher education in Rhode Island to institute a comprehensive smoke-free policy.

Over the course of her career, Olenn has advocated for smoke-free public and workplace legislation and has been devoted to community education and health promotion, notably working with the American Cancer Society and other local businesses and organizations on tobacco-related education projects. She has achieved various honors for her work in this area, including the YWCA Outstanding Woman in Public Service Award in 2001 and the national Henry W. De Jong Award for Vision and Leadership in College Tobacco Control in 2004.

Olenn, who is also a trustee of Butler Hospital in Providence, has served as a Providence Public Library trustee and officer since 1982. She most recently served as the library’s vice chair of institutional advancement. Her involvement with the library began with her successful founding of the Mt. Pleasant Branch Library Friends Group in 1981.

“I've been fortunate in my career to have the opportunity to take a leadership role in developing and implementing community-based wellness programs for the community,” said Olenn. “I view my management role with the Providence Public Library with the same sense of mission.”
Opportunities for year-end giving to RIC

A gift to Rhode Island College demonstrates your commitment to our students. Your charitable contribution supports scholarships, athletic programs, and special designated funds focused on specific departments and programs.

There are many ways of giving that will help to fulfill your charitable intentions. Some gifts provide you and your family with significant tax benefits and/or income. Please consider:

- **Athletics** - Support a variety of athletic programs. Contact Mike Mulligan at 401-456-8180 or Arthur Pontarelli at 401-456-8663 for more information, or send your donation (payable to The Anchor Fund) to: Athletics, c/o Rhode Island College Foundation, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908.

- **Annual Fund** - Give to the primary source of unrestricted funds that support student scholarships, faculty research, the Alumni Magazine, alumni awards and other alumni events and programs.

- **Class Gifts** - Give to your class gift conveniently online at www.ric.edu/givnow.

Gift Annuities and Gifts of Real Estate - Benefit the College and realize tax benefits through your planned gift.

- **Gold and White Bequest Society** - Make a gift to the College through your estate plan and continue your support into the future.

- **Establish an Endowment** - Create a named fund for endowed and annual gift scholarships.

- **Appreciated Securities** - Preserve tax advantages by transferring securities to the College.

Contact Information:
- **Contributions to the Foundation:** Make payable to RIC Foundation and send to the attention of Nancy Hoogasian, Annual Fund, Alumni Association, Rhode Island College Foundation, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908.
- **Contact Marguerite (Peg) Brown:** At 401-456-8440. Email: mbrown@ric.edu.

Contributions to the Annual Fund:
- Make payable to RIC Annual Fund and send to the attention of Nancy Hoogasian, Annual Fund, Alumni Association, Rhode Island College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908.

*Call for Alumni Awards nominations*

The Outstanding Alumni Awards are presented annually in May to graduates and community leaders whose personal and professional attainment and service to the RIC and the community bring honor upon themselves and upon the College. Candidates are chosen on the basis of professional achievement, community service, and service to the College or Alumni Association. The Honor Roll nominations are made through the academic departments. We are seeking nominations for outstanding individuals who have been affected by one of the following scenarios:

- Estates of individuals who have declined, and the individual is thinking of selling some of the shares and reinvesting the proceeds to generate more income. He/she would not do this because tax would have to be paid on the capital gains.
- The individual would like to count on fixed income payments which are not affected by interest rates and stock prices, and which they CANNOT outlive.
- The individual wants payments to continue to a survivor without the delay of probate.
- Or, the individual would like to provide financial support to a parent, or other person in a manner that has tax-advantages.

Inquiries for the establishment of a CGA come from retirees. However, there are instances in which CGA can be used as a supplemental retirement plan by those still employed. A significant part of any institution’s long-term fund-raising program centers on planned gifts such as these annuities. Planned gifts address the future, while assisting a donor in dealing with income and tax issues in the present.

So if any of these situations pique your interest, call me at 401-456-8185. I would be happy to do some quick calculations for you, demonstrating the advantages of making a gift in ways that can benefit you and your family, while supporting the future of the College.

*Keep connected to RIC ... buy a Legacy brick*

Make a great HOLIDAY gift!!
Name yourself or pay tribute to someone special.
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Purchase a brick in our new Legacy Walk. ORDER TODAY!

- **Brick 4” x 8” - $150**
- **Paver 8” x 8” - $300**

To order a brick:
- **Call the Alumni Association at 401-456-8827 or**
- **Order conveniently online at www.ric.edu/givectory/brickcampaign.htm.**

Proceeds benefit programs of the Alumni Association or Intercollegiate Athletics.

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- **Alumna/Alumnus of the Year:** Graduate of the College, continuing interest in the College and Alumni Association as represented by outstanding service, and/or by impressive financial contribution.
- **Charles B. Willard Achievement Award:** Graduate of the College, brought honor to the College by distinguished achievement in his/her field.
- **Alumni Service Award:** Need not be a graduate of the College but has made a contribution to the College by giving time, talent, or resources; or an outstanding citizen who has made a contribution to the state, or nation that reflects ideals of service to humanity.
- **Alumni Faculty Award:** Nominees need not be alumni of the College, but shall be employed by the College; made a unique contribution to the College (e.g., wide student commitment of exceptional competence in teaching, printed publication, initiative in research, development of a new program, or wide community recognition of quality of service to the community or campus).
- **Alumni Staff Award:** Nominees need not be alumni of the College, but shall be employed by the College; made a unique contribution to the College (e.g., development of a new program, wide community recognition of quality of service to the community or campus).
- **Young Alumni Award:** Nominees must have graduated in the last 10 years from the College, and made a contribution to the College, since graduation, by giving time, talent, or resources (e.g., mentor of current students or alumni, involvement or volunteer work in a campus group or activity, or providing internship opportunities to current students or job opportunities to recent graduates).

Name of nominee __________________________ Year of graduation __________________________

Nominated for: [ ] Alumna/a of the Year [ ] Young Alumni Award [ ] Charles B. Willard Achievement Award [ ] Alumni Service Award [ ] Alumni Faculty Award [ ] Alumni Staff Award

Title __________________________ Place of employment __________________________

Attach a detailed statement on why the nominee deserves the award.

Nominated by __________________________ Date __________________________

Daytime Phone # __________________________ Email address __________________________

Mail to RIC Alumni Office, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence, RI 02908; fax to 401-456-8835; or email to alumni@ric.edu.

*Keep connected to RIC ... buy a Legacy brick*
Measuring what we do, sharing the results

For many years, assessment of student learning has been taking place at Rhode Island College. Programs that are accredited by national accrediting bodies have been meeting outcome standards required by organizations such as the Council on Social Work Education, National Association of Schools of Art and Design, and National Association of Schools of Music, National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Credentialing Commission on Nursing Education. They are required to demonstrate how they meet externally derived standards which include, but are not limited to, learning outcomes. As part of a growing, national interest, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) includes a greater emphasis on assessment of student learning and program effectiveness. In 1998, an Ad Hoc Assessment Team (AHAT) was convened on our campus to identify and promote an awareness of assessment processes already in place at RIC. This ad hoc committee was granted more permanent status with the convening and naming of a new structure, Committee on Assessment of Student Outcomes (CASO).

More recently, the College adopted Plan 150, a strategic plan which includes goals and timelines for the development of campus-wide assessment protocols and practices. Evidence of the College’s commitment to achieving and maintaining the highest standards of teaching and learning, is the renewal of CASO and the appointment of an assistant to the vice president for academic affairs for assessment.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Governors for Higher Education passed a motion in March 2004 charging the three state institutions to engage in assessment of student outcomes in 2004-05. Higher Ed Maki, of Peggy Maki Associates, has been hired to lead the process, which will be collaborative and extend over a 12-month time frame.

In spite of the external press for public accounting of what we can expect graduates of our programs to know, the process of our assessment activities is rooted in institution-wide commitment, primarily by the faculty. As faculty we have the collective wisdom to begin the discussions about the design of our curricula, application of new and technologically sound pedagogy and the measures used to determine the effectiveness of our programs. Faculty in arts and sciences began the dialogue about assessment two years ago, faculty in each major have submitted plans that include program outcome statements and measures to assess student learning. Last year a Data Reliability Committee was convened to develop guidelines for data collection and analysis and gave helpful feedback to the departments.

There is no question that beginning these activities requires consideration of human and fiscal resources in addition to recognition of the scholarship of teaching. Some faculty will require professional development to learn new teaching and evaluation strategies. Others will need time to create an interface between existing technology on the campus and individual courses.

Applications such as WebCT and Respondus allow us to consider our campus that will support the development of efficient and effective assessment practices. Assessment of student learning outcomes at Rhode Island College will continue to emphasize that a good assessment plan is faculty driven.

Institutional commitment in the form of responsiveness to the outcome data, faculty development, recognition of the scholarship of teaching and time for campus-wide dialogue on assessment will provide the impetus to sustain an effective program.

Grant
Continued from page 1

multi-media presentations for public viewing and student research. “The plans have been drawn to address historic preservation issues. This grant is the first step in addressing the planned museum display areas,” said Peg Brown, executive director of the Rhode Island College Foundation.

The total cost to complete the restoration of the proposed center is estimated to be $1.2 million.

Though worn by the elements and years of neglect, the cottage was found to be generally sound by architect Christopher (Kip) McMahon of the firm Robinson Green Beretta, and by Denis Beique, project manager for the Gilbane Company, Gilbane built the cottage circa 1885.

The renovation of the cottage is part of a larger initiative at the College that began in 2001 when it was first discovered that RIC’s east campus was once the site of the State Home. An inter-disciplinary group of RIC faculty and staff joined with the state’s Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) to form the State Home and School Project at the College.

Since then, RIC has reconnected with many of the former residents and staff and has recorded their stories and recollections for the oral history project. Currently, materials for grades 2-8 are also planned.

The project also includes restoration of a walking path to other archeological sites associated with the State Home that have been preserved by RIC Faculty. A $6,300 grant was awarded to the project from the Department of Environmental Management in April to identify and tag over 80 species of historic trees on the RIC campus. Many of the trees are on the former State Home site.

The project also established a permanent memorial on campus to former State Home residents and staff. The original gates to the orphanage have been preserved as part of the memorial.

The State Home and School for Neglected Children opened on April 1, 1885. The 80-acre site was first settled by the Brown family and includes portions of two adjoining farms once owned by the Crossman and Ives families.

The original State Home was a stone farmhouse built circa 1875 now used as admissions and administrative offices by the College, plus two wooden cottages and a barn. An addition to the farmhouse held a main floor dining room where children ate their meals, a bakery in the basement, and a dormitory and a classroom on the second floor.

In 1885, part of a $5,000 appropriation from the state legislature was used to build a new cottage for housing. The home had enrolled 211 boys and 90 girls in its first year of operation. Another 1,110 children had to be placed elsewhere.

The State Home was one of the first orphanages created post-Civil War from a model used by the Grand Army of the Republic in the mid-west to care for children of mothers who lacked resources to care for them when their husbands did not return from war.

The home was developed as a farm school, removing children from the squalor of the streets and institutions and placing them in the clean air environment of the countryside to live and attend school. The small cottage living quarters were intended to create a family living style. Children were also schooled and given practical work experience, mainly farming and gardening, on the grounds.

For more than 100 years, until 1979, children under the state’s care lived at the State Home and School’s Mount Pleasant location. The land and buildings were turned over to Rhode Island College in the early 1990s.
What do you get when you assemble insulating blankets designed for a space shuttle, hundreds of pounds of clay and temperatures that reach 2,000 degrees? Give up? You get a combination of ceramic and performance art that allows a talented sculptor to create bigger and better sculptures.

Rhode Island College was introduced to the contemporary art of Nina Hole, a Danish sculptor who has transformed the art of ceramics, in a workshop held Nov. 8-11 on the RIC campus. Hole creates a “public work of art in which the firing is a big part of the process,” said senior Amanda Brown, president of the Artist Co-op that invited Hole to RIC.

Hole operates under the premise that she can only construct a clay masterpiece as big as the kiln she will use for firing the object. Instead of the conventional approach of sculpting an object and then placing it in a kiln to be fired, Hole sculpts the clay then builds the kiln around it.

She has been perfecting her craft for nearly 10 years. “I always wanted to build larger than my kiln was. So I tried to think about ways to build out in the free,” she said in a recent Minnesota Public Radio story.

Classes under the instruction of Kate Blacklock and Carolyn Morgan, adjunct professors of art, and Bryan Steinberg, associate professor of art, participated in the workshop. Each class constructed a sculpture that was fired during Hole’s stay. The clay was wrapped in a slip called a terra sigillata, which colors the surface of the clay. The creations were fired for nearly a day by wrapping them in the insulating blankets with heat provided by a firebox powered by gas.

The taller the objects are, the more real the risk is that an object will not turn out as anticipated. Heating the object too quickly could cause it to expand rapidly and possibly explode. Uneven heating could change the look of the glaze on the sculpture.

“(Hole) is interested in creating a peak moment, an experience of awe,” wrote Mark Lancet on Hole’s Web site www.ninahole.com.

The RIC sculptures, which Brown described as “architectural towers,” are of varying heights up to four feet tall. Hole has worked with sculptures in the past that reach nearly 10 feet high and use thousands of pounds of clay.

“I am never confident before we are at the end,” Hole has said. “I just have to stay really uncertain.”

As the sun set on the last day of the workshop, the blankets were removed to reveal a glowing hot sculpture that lit up the evening sky.

After the blankets were removed, the observers threw sawdust on the blazing sculpture. The burning sawdust leaves distinctive marks on the piece that have a tendency to define the shape of the object, said Brown.

She said the presentation was a nice introduction to the world of ceramics that was inspiring for the students to see.

The four sculptures are currently on display in the Art Center.

Admissions Open House

Over 1,000 potential students and their parents attended the Admissions Office’s annual Open House on Nov. 13 in The Murray Center and throughout the campus.

Clockwise from right: HELP FROM MOM: Jasmine Greene of Coventry fills out a form using the back of her mother Lori as a desk during the Admission Office’s Open House; WALKING TOUR: Prospective students and their parents see the campus; RAISING THE ANCHOR: Justine Burgess (left) of Uxbridge, Mass. and her mother Laura look over the student newspaper, The Anchor.
From the start of her career, Kathy Swann has been developing future leaders, first as an elementary school teacher and now as the president and CEO of Leadership Rhode Island (LRI), with numerous prestigious roles in between.

With an undergraduate degree from RIC, Swann was teaching second grade in Coventry and giving private music lessons when she took a reading refresher course at RIC. She was so motivated that she decided to become a reading specialist. Swann again enrolled at RIC and earned her master's in reading. “Everything I learned, I could use later in the classroom the next day,” Swann said. She remembers Bob Rude, Ezra Stieglitz, and Jim Barton, professors of elementary education, being “so supportive and encouraging” of both the course content and the applications of coursework and of her growing interest in reading research.

Swann discovered an interesting link between reading and music and developed a Teacher’s Guide For Using Classical Music to Enhance Reading Instruction, which she presented statewide, nationally and internationally. The concept was well received and is still used today.

A highlight for Swann was presenting this research in China. At the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Education, Swann traveled to Beijing and Shanghai to work with teachers and students in schools and universities.

At the time, the Chinese were transitioning to the Pinyin system (alphabetic version) of Mandarin Chinese. The Chinese and American teachers compared issues in reading instruction including comprehension, standardized pronunciation, and fluency. They discovered strong connections through similarities in folk stories.

“The Chinese teachers and students had never seen high quality picture books like those we brought from the United States,” she said, because of the government’s control of all media. Yet, there was consistency in folk stories, such as Cinderella and Tom Thumb, handed down through the generations, that Swann was able to use for comparison.

In 1996, Swann was named Coventry’s Teacher of the Year. That same year she started RIC’s联合 Doctorate in Education program and also began facilitating teachers through the certification process of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Following completion of her PhD, Swann moved to Washington, D.C. to work for the National Board. That assignment introduced her to the world of non-profits as she developed business plans and models for National Board programs for teachers across the country.

Swann said that what she learned at RIC helped her shape her own plan for what was good teaching and learning.

She credits the College as an essential leader in growing and supporting the National Board initiative in Rhode Island through the program support, course offerings, and awarding of credits for the professional development work that teachers were doing as they continued National Board Certification.

Swann completed the Leadership Rhode Island (LRI) program in 1999.

“I was talking about leading into expectations to educators all the time,” she said, so the LRI program was a natural extension of her work. She said she wanted to better understand the state’s related systems and the collaborative efforts people need to develop when facing deeply rooted issues such as educational improvement. Swann credits the LRI experience with making her aware of the dangers of the “short-sightedness of people passionate in one field” that limit deeper understanding of the partnerships needed to address the state’s complex issues.

In July 2003, Swann was selected as the president and CEO of LRI. An experience again, this time with RIC was cemented. David Sweet, president of RIC from 1977 to 1984, was one of the founders of the program.

Sweet wrote the charter and developed the LRI curriculum in 1980. It was one of the first community leadership associations in the country and became the model for more than 300 similar programs nationwide. The College continues to support LRI and nominates a member of the College community to the program every year.

Also in 2003, LRI launched the Emerging Leaders Program, a modified version of its current program fully funded by Fidelity Investments, for students approaching graduation. Three RIC alums participated in the pilot program. Students are now being recruited for the program’s second year. “I have the best job in the state,” Swann said. “LRI is entering its 25th year and its success is obvious when you look at the impact our alumni make in the state.”

And RIC is quite proud of Kathy Swann as well.

In announcing Servian-Wilmeth as the winner, RIC President John Nazarian quoted excerpts from her nomination:

“Kathleen is the most talented and devoted teacher I have met. She works endless hours with bilingual special education pre-school children and their parents.

She established the first bilingual pre-school program in Providence and now oversees a second program. Kathleen mentors bilingual/bicultural paraprofessionals and because of her support, several are pursuing their teaching degree.

Kathleen was nominated last year for the Providence teacher of the year award and was selected as a finalist. She volunteers time on Saturday to tutor a bilingual child with multiple sclerosis (and) never gives up on any child.”

(Kathleen) is a very courageous woman and brings to education a vast knowledge and a warm heart. In America, as well as in Guatemala where she had lived 26 years, she leaves her mark in the hearts of children, their families, and anyone with whom she has contact.”

Servian-Wilmeth said being named Outstanding Multicultural Educator was “very emotional” in light of the 35 years she has spent working with diverse populations. “I received this award for all the children I’ve worked with,” she said. “It is my life.”

The other award nominees were Kristen Beland, elementary teacher at Quinlnessett Elementary School; Nancy Caram, diocesan director of Catholic Social Services, and Nancy Ross, ESL teacher at West Kingston Elementary School.

The topic at the conference was: “Challenging Re-Segregation: 50 Years After Brown vs. Board of Education.” Workshops were presented by K-12 teachers, students, social workers and college and university professors. A resources fair offered educational books, videos and games, and allowed attendees to sample new software and audio-visual materials.

The event was organized by the College’s Dialogue on Diversity Committee.
### Sports Events

**Dec. 6 – Jan. 26**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Men's Basketball</strong></td>
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<td>Thurs. Dec. 9</td>
<td>at Johnson &amp; Wales</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sat. Jan. 11</td>
<td>at Eastern Connecticut*</td>
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<td>Thurs. Jan. 13</td>
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<td>Sat. Jan. 15</td>
<td>at Keene State*</td>
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<td>UMass-Dartmouth*</td>
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<td>Sat. Jan. 22</td>
<td>Plymouth State*</td>
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<td>Tues. Jan. 25</td>
<td>at Western Connecticut*</td>
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<td><strong>Women's Basketball</strong></td>
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<td>Tues. Dec. 7</td>
<td>at Johnson &amp; Wales</td>
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<td>Thurs. Dec. 9</td>
<td>Westfield State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Dec. 11</td>
<td>at Eastern Connecticut*</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Jan. 2</td>
<td>vs. Marymount#</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
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<td>Wed. Jan. 5</td>
<td>vs. TBA (Consolation or Finals)#</td>
<td>1 or 5 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thurs. Jan. 6</td>
<td>at Wesleyan</td>
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<td>Sat. Jan. 8</td>
<td>UMass-Boston*</td>
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<td>Tues. Jan. 11</td>
<td>Southern Maine*</td>
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<td>Thurs. Jan. 13</td>
<td>at Pine Manor</td>
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<td>Sat. Jan. 15</td>
<td>at Keene State*</td>
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<td>at Western Connecticut*</td>
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| **Wrestling**                              |            |                              |          |
| Thurs. Dec. 9                             | at Plymouth State* | 7 p.m. |          |
| Wed. Dec. 29                              | at Citrus Invitational# | TBA |          |
| Thurs. Dec. 30                            | at Citrus Invitational# | TBA |          |
| Wed. Jan. 5                               | at Wesleyan | 6 p.m. |          |
| Wed. Jan. 12                              | Williams# | 7 p.m. |          |
| Fri. Jan. 14                              | at Budd Whitehill Duals (Lycoming) | 9 a.m. |          |
| Sat. Jan. 15                              | at Budd Whitehill Duals (Lycoming) | 9 a.m. |          |
| Wed. Jan. 19                              | at WPI# | 7 p.m. |          |
| Sun. Jan. 23                              | at New England Duals% | 11 a.m. |          |
| Wed. Jan. 26                              | at Western New England# | 7 p.m. |          |

| **Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field** |            |                              |          |
| Sat. Dec. 11                              | at Harvard Invitational | 11 a.m. |          |
| Sat. Jan. 15                              | at Wesleyan Invitational | 11 a.m. |          |
| Sat. Jan. 22                              | at Tufts Invitational | 11 a.m. |          |

* Little East Conference game
# Naismith Basketball Tournament (Springfield College) game
+ Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
^ New England College Conference Wrestling Association opponent
% hosted by Bridgewater State

### Athletics — dates to remember

- **Feb. 11**
  - Reception for Friends of Wrestling
  - Watch the tri-match vs. Trinity & Bridgewater State at 5 p.m.

- **Feb. 13**
  - Reception for Friends of Gymnastics
  - See the RIC gymnasts compete against Bridgewater at 6 p.m.

- **Feb. 19**
  - Retirement of Men's and Women's Basketball Uniforms
  - This will take place between games. See upcoming issues of What's News for details.

- **Feb. 19**
  - Women’s Basketball Alumni Game
  - Former players can hit the hardwood at noon.

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Please contact the athletic department at 401-456-8007 for more information on these events.

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NI-RO-PE-NAZ: (Above) The Cardi Furniture characters Nick, Ron and Pete join RIC President John Nazarian on the gym floor of The Murray Center during Anchor Madness Nov. 17. Formerly called Midnight Madness, the event is a pep rally for the winter sports teams in which residence halls compete for the highest percentage of participation. This year’s winner is Sweet Hall, whose attendees will receive a T-shirt and a gift certificate for Johnny Rocket’s restaurant.

HULA HAPPENING: (Left) A RIC student competes in a hula hooping contest.

PEPPY PARTICIPANTS: (Below left) Residents of Browne Hall whoop it up at Anchor Madness.
From the Athletic Director's Desk

- Congratulations to Athletic Hall of Famer George Tracy ’51 whose name was added to a spot on the Narragansett Town Memorial.
- Congratulations to Vin Cullen ’55 who was honored on National Philanthropy Day for his contributions to the athletic program and the College.

His team was last year's National Champion. It was a coup to have him here at RIC as the 1,000 fans who attended were treated to:
- Great new opening introduction to our Web site, thanks to Karen Rubbino and staff. Check it out at www.ric.edu/athletics.
- Over the next few weeks many people will be getting an invitation from Mike Morrison, our new assistant athletic director for development (see below) to join us for dinner and an athletic event. The purpose of these dinners is to reach out to our alumni and supporters of the program to inform you about what is happening on campus and to provide you with an opportunity to share your feelings with us. These dinners will provide you with an opportunity to meet the athletic staff and College officials as well. If you would like to attend a dinner, contact Mike at 401-456-8200.
- I want to wish everyone the happiest of holidays and best wishes for a joyous and successful new year!

Mike Morrison joins athletic department staff

Rhode Island College has named Michael Morrison the assistant athletic director for development. He is responsible for the day-to-day management of the department's development initiatives including fundraising and marketing activities.

"I am very excited about joining the Rhode Island College athletic department," Morrison said. "I am looking forward to working with RIC Athletic Director Don Tencher and Anchor Club Executive Director Art Pontarelli and hope to continue the success that they've had over the past five years."

"We are extremely glad to have Mike Morrison joining our athletic family," said Tencher. "Mike brings successful experience, energy, and a strong work ethic to the fundraising side of our house. I am confident that Mike's efforts will mean positive results that will benefit the athletic program, our student-athletes and our alumni."

Prior to joining the RIC staff, Morrison served as the assistant director of the University of New Mexico's Lobo Club. He oversaw the Hotel Program, The Gift-In-Kind Program and as the co-chairman of the Anchor Club's Board of Directors.

MATT GILL '70

Matt Gill ’70, a former baseball player at RIC, is currently the president of Hudson Aquatics, Inc., in Providence, a position he has held since 1994. Prior to joining the Hudson Companies, he was employed by the Gilbane Building Company from 1990-94 in a senior management position responsible for client relations.

Donilon was an outstanding women's basketball player for RIC in the early 80s. She was the first player in RIC women's history, co-captaining the school's history, co-captaining the Women's Basketball Tournament, the first in the school's history, co-captaining the squad and averaging 12.3 points and 3.7 rebounds per game. She was also a member of the first ever R.I. All-Star Team to travel to Ireland in 1980, where they faced competition from all over Europe.

Donilon was inducted into the RIC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003. She currently resides in Providence.

Where Are They Now?

This year – the 75th anniversary of RIC athletics – we will catch up with former student-athletes and coaches who made important contributions to the College's sports program.

Matt Gill ’70

Christine Donilon ’85

Christine Donilon is one of 16 Rhode Island College graduates on the RIC athletic and coaching staff. After working 15 years as a program coordinator in the Providence Business Department, Donilon made a career change and returned to her roots. She currently serves as a program coordinator in the Providence Business Department.

As an assistant in the athletic department’s Student-Athlete Support Center, where she assists Coordinator of Student-Athlete Support Gail Davis ’60.

Donilon is also in her second year as an assistant women's basketball coach with the Anchor-women, passing on her knowledge of the hardwood to today's RIC hoopsters. "I really enjoy both positions,” Donilon says. "I love the sport of basketball and it’s great to be involved with the team. It is also very satisfying working in the Marocco Center with all of the student-athletes, as a mentor."

Donilon was an outstanding women's basketball player for RIC in the early 80s. She was the first player in RIC women's history to reach the 1,000-points milestone, closing out her career with 1,333 points, which now ranks fourth all-time.

As a senior in 1982-83, she helped lead RIC to a berth in the NCAA Div. III Women's Basketball Tournament, the first in the school's history, co-captaining the squad and averaging 12.3 points and 3.7 rebounds per game. She was also a member of the first-ever R.I. All-Star Team to travel to Ireland in 1980, where they faced competition from all over Europe.

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Prior to joining the RIC staff, Morrison served as the assistant director of the University of New Mexico’s Lobo Club. He oversaw the Hotel Program, The Gift-In-Kind Program and was part of a development team that raised over 5 million dollars of funding from alumni dollars and gifts from various businesses. Morrison was also responsible for writing various Lobo Club publications including the Inside the Pack quarterly newsletter and Lobo Tracks, an e-newsletter sent to the entire UNM constituency.

Prior to joining the Lobos, Morrison served as an athletic development intern at Boston College in 2002-03. He was responsible for building strong relationships with prospects, donors, and volunteers, while providing customer service to a group of 4,500 people who provided the BC athletic department with nearly 57 million in financial support.

Morrison’s career in athletics began at the University of Connecticut as an athletic development assistant from 1996-2002. While at UConn, he was part of a staff that raised $10 million for consecutive years. He was also responsible for assisting and executing donor trips, providing customer support to donors, and was heavily involved in all aspects of fundraising maintenance in the development office.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in political science and a master’s degree in sport management from UConn in 2000 and 2002, respectively. A native of Putnam, Conn., he resides in Pawtucket, R.I., with his wife Nicole.

Legendary wrestling coach draws huge crowd at The Murray Center

Rhode Island College Wrestling Coach John Smith spoke at a clinic for coaches and student-athletes at The Murray Center on Sunday, Nov. 28.

Over 1,000 people turned out to see Smith, who guided the Rhode Island Wrestling to back-to-back NCAA Div. I Wrestling Championships in 2003 and 2004. The clinic was sponsored by Rhode Island College, the N.E. Wrestling Coaches Association and Rhode Island Wrestling.

Nominations for Athletic Hall of Fame

Nominations are now being accepted for the Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2005, which will be inducted during Homecoming 2005. If you would like to nominate a worthy candidate, please call Art Pontarelli ’71 at 401-456-8633 or email him at: apontarelli@ric.edu.

You must provide the current address of your nominee.

What’s News, Monday, December 6, 2004 — Page 9
Bannister Gallery –

Heffernan’s creations explore identity, gender and myth

“Julie Heffernan: Paintings,” on exhibit at Bannister Gallery through Dec. 23, features the artist’s lush and exquisitely painted imagery, a style reminiscent of the masterliness of the late Renaissance and the grandeur of the Baroque. These lavishly rendered environments invite the viewer to enter a space that is both seductive in its beauty and psychologically compelling in its ambiguity.

While cross-referencing many art historical contexts, Heffernan’s paintings are grounded in postmodern concern for cultural constructs and personal narratives that address identity, gender, and myth.

The self, whether portrayed overtly or referentially, is a carrier of symbolic representation concerning human experience, both private and political. Filled with allegorical meaning, these masterfully created images invite the viewer to admire and enjoy their sensual beauty, while at the same time contemplate and decode the multiple levels of symbolism used to speak to issues of human nature.

Heffernan is an associate professor in the art and design dept. at Montclair State University in Upper Montclair, N.J. She earned a BFA from the University of California at Santa Cruz and an MFA in painting from the Yale School of Art in New Haven. Among the numerous fellowships, grants and awards she has received are a 1986 Fulbright-Hayes Grant and a 1995 Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The exhibit is curated by Lisa Russell, RIC associate professor of art, and Jacquie Littlejohn of the Littlejohn Contemporary Gallery in New York City.

Gallery hours during exhibits are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays, noon - 9 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Exhibits and events are free and all are welcome to attend. Accessible to persons with disabilities. For more information, check the Web site at www.ric.edu/bannister or call 401-456-9765.


The Rhode Island College Chorus, Chamber Singers and Women’s Chorus will come together to help the audience praise the past and fantasize about the future with music from around the world as part the 2004 Winter Choral Concert on Friday, Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. in Sapinsley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts.

“Dreams and Visions” is the theme for the 2004-2005 choral season. It examines works and performers that have a “dream-like quality, are actually about dreams, paint a picture or are musically visual,” said Teresa Coffman, associate professor of music and concert conductor. This is the sixth Winter Choral Concert led by Coffman.

The concert will feature Mozart’s classic Solemn Vespers of the Confessor, a selection that dates back to 1780. The piece concludes with a spiritual song of praise about Mary’s vision that revealed she was to have a son who would be the fulfillment of God’s redemption.

Over 70 performers will join to present works by Thomas Tallis, a 16th century English composer, who is largely credited with presiding over the transformation from the suppression of the Reformation to the Renaissance; Libby Larsen, a leading American composer who was awarded a 1994 Grammy Award for producing the CD The Art of Arleen Augér (a recording that features Larsen’s Sonnets from the Portuguese); and Michael Kregler, adjunct professor of music at RIC, whose selection Soldier’s Elegy, has been performed internationally.

Several additional pieces will also be performed.

The Russian piece Hvalite imia Gospodne, part of the All Night Vigil adopted by Romantic composer Sergei Rachmaninoff, will attempt to convey the mystery of God through Russian chants and harmonies, Ave Maria, a classic Christian song, will praise Mary. Mi zeh hidlik will expose music aficionados to the popular Jewish song that is sung in Hebrew.

The performance will be complemented with a chamber orchestra and feature RIC students as soloists.

Coffman hopes her students take inspiration from the performance and develop an “improved ability to work with a great deal of energy to create an exciting musical whole.”

General admission tickets are $2, free for RIC students, faculty and staff. For more information, call 401-456-8144.

CONDUCTING BUSINESS: Teresa Coffman directs singers during a rehearsal for the Dec. 10 Winter Choral Concert.

The Art of Arleen Augér

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For RIC grad Amy McLaughlin ’02 and her husband Tyrus Lemerande, putting voice to Shakespeare’s words is a three-act story of love – love of performing, love of teaching and love of each other. That passion is manifested in the Knighthorse Theatre Company, the pair’s nonprofit venture to bring new life to the enduring works of the famous playwright and poet.

Founded by McLaughlin and Lemerande in September 2000, Knighthorse’s specialty is staging one- and two-person adaptations of Shakespeare plays. “All we ask is for an open space and an audience to listen; Shakespeare’s words and the audience’s imagination will do the rest,” said McLaughlin. She received a master of fine arts degree to listen; Shakespeare’s words and the audience’s imagination will do the rest,” said McLaughlin.

As a traveling company, the duo requires no sets and minimal props. “We literally throw everything into a bag and drive Tyr’s Toyota Tercel to the next destination,” said McLaughlin. “Our productions have no special lighting requirements, so we can perform just about anywhere.” That has included school cafeterias, gardens, libraries, even on the deck of someone’s home.

Lemerande, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy who has a master’s degree in history from RIC in collaboration with the Trinity Repertory Conservatory in 2002, and McLaughlin, a graduate of Pennsylvania State University, described Knighthorse’s Full Access package as workshops, discussions, seminars and lectures for faculty, staff and students while the company is in residence at schools. “Our greatest joy comes from meeting and interacting with new students,” said McLaughlin.

McLaughlin said her Trinity Rep/RIC education had a twofold benefit. It prepared her for life as an actor and helped her acquire teaching skills. “The three years I spent earning my MFA really opened my eyes to the fact that we have an absolute need for qualified, energetic, and passionate teachers of Shakespeare,” she said. McLaughlin. Before coming to RIC, McLaughlin was not a fan of Shakespeare; after spending her entire second year in the graduate program studying his literature, she began to comprehend the “intricacies of the language” and “fell in love with his words.”

This winter will find the well-traveled couple living in Wellfleet on Cape Cod, where they are scheduling dates to perform at New England schools. They hope to tour with Armed Forces Entertainment next spring, as they did this year. The duo is also developing a TV show for PBS, which would bring the company’s style of theatre into homes and classrooms all across the country. In addition, they are currently selecting a new show for touring next fall – Sophocles’ Antigone or an adaptation of Macbeth are possibilities.

Also on the agenda are plans to submit applications to the San Francisco and Minneapolicis Fringe Festivals and a return to Edinburgh, Scotland, for three shows in the summer of 2006. McLaughlin and Lemerande are hoping to develop a new production every year, and plan to add more performers as the company grows. “Ty and I have such a passion for teaching and performing, and we are determined to always keep that balance,” McLaughlin said. “We have found that the two together can really change kids’ lives.” Eventually, they would like to tour all 50 states, and invite anyone interested in having them teach or perform to get in touch with them. For information and updates on Knighthorse Theatre Company, check the Web site at www.knighthorse.org.

RIC grad’s theatre co. performs Shakespeare anywhere

TRAVELING SHAKESPEARE: Knighthorse Theatre Company’s Amy McLaughlin and Tyrus Lemerande perform Shakespeare’s The Tempest at the Bement School in Deerfield, Mass.

RIC Concert Jazz Band to fuse jazzy holiday music with ‘Some Skunk Funk’

Get ready to experience Samba Steps on a Friday Night at the Cadillac Club and other jazz classics when the RIC Concert Jazz Band performs on Monday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m. in Sapinley Hall in the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. The performance, which will include hits such as Some Skunk Funk (Randy Brecker), Big Swing Face (Buddy Rich) and L17 Darlin and Plain Brown Wrapper (Count Basie) will be synced up with two jazz arrangements of Christmas music.

The ensemble is comprised of 20 students and conducted by Susan Nicholson, assistant professor of music and jazz studies. Nicholson is known jazz trumpeter, Marvin Stamm, who performed with the RIC Jazz ensemble three years ago had high praise for the band.

“Ms. Nicholson did a wonderful job preparing the RIC Jazz Band for this performance, and the group performed beautifully,” he said. “All of us walked away from our performance feeling that we shared a wonderful experience making music together.”

“They are an enthusiastic, dedicated, talented group of students,” said Nicholson of the band members. “I am extremely proud of the progress this ensemble has made over the past few years.”

She synchronizes professional performing with musical instruction at RIC. Along with conducting the Jazz Band, Nicholson also maintains a full clarinet and saxophone studio, coaches woodwind chamber ensembles and teaches woodwind methods.

Since arriving at RIC, she has been featured on the saxophone with the RIC Wind Ensemble on Darius Milhaud’s Creation of the World, Robert Muczynski’s Saxophone Concerto, and in a clarinet and saxophone performance at a faculty recital. She also performed as a solo clarinetist on the Coppelia Clarinet Concerto with the RIC Symphony Orchestra.

Nicholson has been recognized for her musical excellence. While she was a student at the University of Miami, she premiered grammy nominated composer Gary Lindsay’s Clarinet Quintet. She also received the ”Outstanding Jazz Soloist Award” for piano at the Mobile, Alabama Jazz Festival.

The performance is free and open to the public.

Chamber Singers to perform in church concert

The Rhode Island College Chamber Singers, conducted by Teresa Coffman, will perform in a holiday concert at St. Mary’s Church, 538 Broadway in Providence on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 7 P.M.

The Pro Cantare, under the direction of Reuel Gifford, will also be featured. A free will follow in the school hall. Admission is free, and a free will offering will be taken up at the concert.

For more information, contact the rectory at 401-274-3434.

Coppelia at RIC

The State Ballet of Rhode Island, directed by Hierci Marsden, presents Coppelia, The Doll with the Enamel Eyes, Dec. 9-11 in Roberts Hall. Reserved seating is $20. Performances will be held Dec. 9 at 10 a.m.; Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m.; and Dec. 11 at 3 p.m.

Order tickets online through ArtTix or call ArtTix directly at 401-621-6123 or the RIC Box Office at 401-456-8144.
Celebrate...
the Tradition of Friendship,
the Beauty of the Season,
and a New Year of Peace and Happiness

Join RIC President John Nazarian for a Holiday Open House and Tree Lighting Ceremony

Tuesday, December 14, 2004
3:30 - 6 p.m.
President's House, RIC campus

The tree lighting will take place outside the President's House at 5 p.m. followed by a reading of "A Visit from St. Nick" by Dolores Passarella, director of OASIS.

Holiday ornament designed by RIC employee adorns White House Christmas tree

A 10” royal blue and gold hand-painted trumpet, designed by Carol Peck of RIC’s office of alumni affairs, was one of the 250 ornaments selected to decorate the Christmas tree in the Blue Room of the White House this holiday season. There were 700 ornaments from across America entered in the contest, all keeping with this year’s musical theme.

For this honor, Peck was invited to a White House reception on Dec. 1 as part of the official unveiling of this year’s White House Christmas, and to see her ornament on the tree.

Entrants were required to use only one paint color with gold stroke work.

Peck is a member of the Society of Decorative Painters. She and Alison Cate of Johnston were the only Rhode Islanders to have ornaments chosen for the White House tree.