What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Rhode Island College called ‘leader among colleges’ in student assessment project

by Clare Flynn Joy

Almost 30 years ago, the “main interest” of a woman, who’s name is virtually synonymous with that of the Rhode Island College Dance Co., was “to create an audience that was interested in drama.”

Almost 30 years ago, Fannie Melcer, now of the Rhode Island College Dance Co., was “to create an audience that was interested in drama.”

Fannie Melcer’s legacy—

Nearly 30 years of ‘exciting’ dance

by George LaTour

“Fannie Melcer, of North Providence, admits today that that was ‘very easy to do then’ at the College.”

You see, twice a year the fledgling dance company would perform for the College community, and attendance for students was mandatory.

Fannie Melcer

That’s one reason we had standing-room-only audiences, says Melcer, now retired and a professor emerita of health and physical education. But, it wasn’t the only reason.
**Research and Grants Administration:**

**Request for proposals**

The Office of Research and Grants Administration will be providing information about requests for proposals (RFPs) on a regular basis in this column. Anyone interested in obtaining further information or applications and guidelines must simply circle the number of the RFP on the coupon below and send it to the office in Robert 312.

1. National Endowment for the Humanities: Elementary and Secondary Education in the Humanities. Grants support exchanges, conferences, workshops, cooperative projects, and other activities to improve humanities teaching in elementary and secondary schools. Projects should involve partnerships among college and university personnel and precollege-teacher organizations. Applications in history, English, and foreign languages are particularly encouraged since these fields generally fall outside the core requirements of precollege humanities programs. DEADLINE: May 15.

2. National Endowment for the Humanities: Challenge Grants. Awards are made to improve and expand humanities programs in the nation’s cultural institutions, institutions of higher education included. Institutions must match each federal dollar three to one in new or increased donations from non-federal sources. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss program plans with staff before submitting formal applications. Application deadline is May 15. DEADLINE: May 1.

3. American Honda Foundation: Grants Program. Awards are made to non-profit organizations, including colleges and universities, for projects that meet the most pressing needs of youth and scientific education, with emphasis on broad, innovative and forward-thinking projects with national scope and national outcomes. Application deadline is May 15. DEADLINE: May 1.

4. Commission on the Bicentennial of the U. S. Constitution: Constitution Bicentennial Educational Grant Program. Support grants from $3,000 to $25,000 for the development of instructional materials, conferences, and institutes that strengthen the ability of elementary and secondary school teachers to teach the principles and history of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Projects developed during the 1989-90 school year should maintain the judiciary branch and its historical development in the 200+ years since the first session of the Supreme Court. Projects beginning in 1990-91 may extend beyond the Bill of Rights through the amendment. DEADLINE: May 15.

5. Eppley Foundation: Research Grants in Advanced Science. Support for research in advanced scientific subjects in the biological and physical sciences. Grants are made to recognized educational and charitable organizations in support of postdoctoral projects. The Foundation is interested in supporting research where federal support is not available. Grants of up to $30,000 support one year of research. DEADLINE: May 1.

6. National Science Foundation: Ethics and Values Studies Program. Supports studies on ethical assumptions or value implications of the study of science and technology in areas of current social or professional concern. Special emphasis is placed on investigations of ethical or value issues that affect or are affected by the kinds of basic research support in NSF's research directorates. Awards are made for collaborative research, individual professional development, and dissertation support. Deadline cited is for required preliminary proposal. Deadlines for formal proposals are February 1 and August 1. DEADLINE: May 1.

7. National Science Foundation: Instructional Materials Development. Supports the development of new or improved instructional materials in science, mathematics, and technology for elementary, middle and secondary level students and their teachers. The program encourages the development of materials thatfill content gaps in previously developed curricula, new approaches to the study of traditional subjects, the introduction of recent discoveries, or demonstrations of applications of scientific and mathematical concepts. DEADLINE: May 15.

8. Research Corporation: Cotrell College Presidents. Supports original research in non-Ph.D. granting departments in chemistry, physics, astronomy, and related areas in the life sciences that will lead to significant contributions to the body of scientific knowledge and enhance undergraduate participation in research-oriented teaching programs. The emphasis is on initiating funding, if necessary, equipment, supplies, summer stipends and travel will be supported. The program encourages the development of materials that fill content gaps in previously developed curricula, new approaches to the study of traditional subjects, the introduction of recent discoveries, or demonstrations of applications of scientific and mathematical concepts. DEADLINE: May 15.

9. Wiener-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research: Grants in Anthropology. Research funding. Support research in all branches of anthropology. The focus of the program should be on cultural anthropology and related disciplines. Projects should use a cross-cultural, historical, biological, and/or linguistic approach to the study of man's origins, development, and variation. Special consideration is given to projects integrating two or more subfields of anthropology. Regular grants provide up to $10,000, plus a limited number of postdoctoral fellowships are available. Grants-in-Aid provide support to conference organizations. DEADLINE: May 15.

**Office of Research and Grants Administration**

Please send me information on the following topics: (Circle programs of interest to you.)

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.

Name:

Address:

**Next issue of What's News is Monday, March 6.**

**Deadline**

for copy, photos, etc. is noon, Tuesday, Feb. 28.
Over the last 30 years, college campuses across the nation have experienced a wealth of change. The 1960s are fondly looked upon with nostalgia as a time of activism, social change, and forward movement. Every facet of life, particularly on college campuses, experienced a certain amount of upheaval. It is often remarked that after 1968, nothing was ever the same.

For thousands of young black college students, the 1960s provided an upheaval that was both necessary and overdue. Essentially, the Civil Rights movement is seen as having altered the way Americans looked at race issues. Segregated public facilities—restrooms, water fountains, buses and schools—were all to become a thing of the past.

Still, one cannot help but wonder exactly how far things have changed. While the drastic social alterations are obvious in the South, what about life and events on a more liberal small Northeastern state college?

KENNETH WALKER

According to Dr. Kenneth Walker, professor of secondary education at Rhode Island College, and one of a few minority professors on the campus, change is evident. Integration in general and an overall increase in minority enrollment at Rhode Island College are apparent as the most significant changes.

Walker maintains that compared to when he first arrived as a faculty member at the College, more minority students are choosing to enter into post-secondary education. He claims that in relation to 19 years ago "any number would be an increase."

The catch phrase in the statement is "79 years."

Walker has been with Rhode Island College since 1970, when he accepted a faculty position after serving 13 years in the East Providence school system. Combined with his own educational career at a small black college in Richmond, Virginia and Providence College, Walker has seen and experienced enough to form justified opinions. He has lived and worked through the very changes that history books only mention. A native Rhode Islander, Walker first attended college in the South. The small black college he attended provided him with what he terms as "culture shock." For the first time in his life, Walker had black professors teaching him and deep social interaction with other black students.

"I thoroughly loved it," he said.

After service in the military, Walker resumed his academic career at Providence College, where he went on to become one of the few black professors.

WXXN: one step closer to goal

by Johanna Bennett

WXXN, Rhode Island College's student run radio station, has come one step closer to their goal of achieving FCC licensing.

The recent purchase of a "state of the art and industry standard" console board represents the station's most recent modification—all part of a master plan aimed at attaining the long sought after licensing.

According to Bill George, WXXN station manager and a Rhode Island College student, the board represents superior technical quality that is standard equipment in any major commercial station and "in normally way out of our price range."

Although excited about the station's purchasing coup, George is quick to explain that it is merely one of many that have been and still need to be made. Similar modifications to the station have been going on for the past two years—since formerly WRIC moved from the AM dial to become one of many unlicensed "low power transmitting" FM stations.

Purchasing equipment and modifications are the "easiest thing," George explains. In fact, it is really only a small part of a plan that has to be taken one step at a time.

According to George, the entire application process is long and complicated. Paid professional engineers, consultants must compile a tremendous amount of technical engineering data in a report for FCC application, which at any time, can be rejected. Constant modifications must be made to the station in order to meet FCC requirements including an antenna and transmitter on campus.

WXXN has been seeking FCC licensing since 1979. At the time, licensing was marked by regulations called for a station to put out a minimum of merely 10 watts. However, regulations soon changed, requiring a minimum of 100 watts. WXXN was caught in the transition and chose not to immediately make the wattage increase.

The station remained on the AM dial until 1985 when it moved to FM radio. Since then, the station has been making constant application to the FCC for licensing.

When FCC licensing is achieved, little will actually change in the running of the station. Although the College will own the license, the station will remain student run and maintain its progressive, "college music" programming. The only real difference in the station will be its expanded listenership. Rather than just the Rhode Island College campus, WXXN will be serving the Providence Metropolitan area.

The future expansion of the station depends largely on the FCC licensing. Not only will WXXN be able to bring increased attention to the campus, but the station may be offering alternative programming and public access to the community.

According to John DePetro, former general manager of WXXN and a Rhode Island College alumnus, listeners will have more to choose from than just the "pop" and "rock" programming at WHYY and WPRO. Rather, listeners will be able to choose from shows "spinning" urban rock, rap, dance music, reggae and jazz.

Additionally, expanded public access will be available as required by FCC regulations. Though a complicated and drawn out process, FCC licensing remains, according to George, "...at the top of my priority list."

George offers no definite date for finalizing FCC licensing.

"I don't like to give an exact timeframe...immediate but not real soon."

Although WXXN, if licensing is ever awarded, would act as an alternative station, it will have direct competition with the larger commercial stations in the area.

The radio station exists for a different reason—the most important reason—to train Rhode Island College students for careers in the radio industry. FCC licensing is viewed as a step in the education process.

On the road to a more progressive era

by Johanna Bennett

Black History Month has long been a part of Rhode Island College.

Since well before Jay Grier, assistant director of minority affairs, arrived five years ago as a member of the Rhode Island College staff, Black History Month has been an annual month-long campus celebration.

Grier, a native of Providence, Rhode Island, learned about the annual celebration from a former professor at what was perceived as a need to highlight the deficiencies of the past in regards to awareness of black history—obviously missing from school textbooks. Today, Black History Month has developed into a joint effort which includes participation from several spheres of the campus community.

Typically, months are spent planning and scheduling the month's events. Though the entire project is typically coordinated by Grier, there is a large amount of cooperation with various academic departments and Harambee.

According to Grier, this year's celebration was "kicked off" by the February 1st Video Conference in which 30 people attended and the February 2nd showing of the movie "The Color Purple" at Browne Hall. Events that soon followed included "full talents" by Lenzy Cabrall, various lectures and a reggae band performance.

The encouraging increase in campus awareness concerning Black History Month has been long sought after. After all, according to Grier, the month long string of events is scheduled not only to allow minorities the opportunity to celebrate their culture, but as a vehicle to educate the unaware.

"In all, the strategy seems to be working. According to Grier, "...just the fact that people know it's coming..." signifies the growing awareness. As a matter of fact, awareness has grown to the point where, according to Grier, people now come up to her asking when Black History Month is scheduled.

With each passing year, the awareness grows. With each passing year, perceptions change. That is the ultimate goal in the entire project—to reach a day when there will be no need to enhance awareness by highlighting the past.

According to Grier, we are "...on a road to a more progressive era."

Sharpen your WRITING SKILLS

The month long string of events is scheduled not only to allow minorities the opportunity to celebrate their culture, but as a vehicle to educate the unaware.
The president of Boston University gave his support for economic education for the young in this country while registering his dismay with public education in general before some 200 business leaders and educators at the annual luncheon meeting of the Rhode Island Council on Economic Education (RICEE) Feb. 6 at the Providence Marriott.

Dr. John Silber lost little time in getting to the main thrust of his speech which was entitled "Taxation without Education is a Losing Proposition."

He said that "in every state there is a good school system but, generally, education is in terrible trouble.

Silber said it has now come down to either "improve or (call for the demise) of the educational system."

He warned that as middle class and blue-collar "working families" abandon public education for private schools (for their children), "they'll soon realize they're paying for something they can't use."

The result—for public schools—will be that "they'll close them down."

He noted, as a case in point, that the Boston public school students' SAT scores are almost 200 points below the national average, while the system there spends $7,000 a year per student. This is $1,500 more than some affluent communities as Newton, Lexington and Concord spend.

Silber went on to cite some of the ills of the education system (using Boston as an example in some cases) and made some recommendations.

Among the former, he cited school committees who attempt to run school systems rather than just set policy, school committees that are seen merely as "stepping stones to higher public office" and teacher unions who hamper education (instead of helping it) by protecting incompetent teachers.

Silber called for revision of teacher certification programs, teacher testing, more men in the teacher ranks and an increase in teacher salaries.

FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE to RICEE Jeffrey Blais and was given a plaque.

BU has a proposal before the Chelsea School Committee to take over and run that community's troubled-plagued school system.

Silber then outlined in considerable detail some of the stringent steps BU would take to straighten out the system there.

The luncheon meeting was the occasion to celebrate "20 years of quality economic education for Rhode Island teachers and students," according to the RICEE annual report.

The report noted that in 1968 a group of Rhode Island business, labor and education leaders joined forces with economists at Rhode Island College... "and launched an effort to inform and educate the people of Rhode Island about the workings of our public market economy."

Peter Moore (right) is congratulated by Dr. Jeffrey Blais, RICEE president, reported that 1983 was "by far the council's busiest year to date" with 19 school districts involving 800 teachers participating in council programs effecting some 2,000 students.

He said this year RICEE hopes to reach 21 school districts and "more than 80 percent of the state's public school teachers and students."

Peter R. Moore, associate professor of economics and director of the RICEE Center for Economic Education, was presented with a plaque for his 20 years of service to RICEE, which is housed at the College, and to economic education through the national council.

Events are "making it a more enjoyable environment for Rhode Island College students."

The Wednesday Noon and Sunday Brunch series are also new entertainment additions this semester. Both are free and take place in the Main Dining Hall, making it a more enjoyable environment for Rhode Island College students according to Vito DeLucia, head of publicity and promotion for RICEE Programming. In the Noon series, events perform every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. This Tuesday John Funk, a folk guitarist of the new generation, will perform. This Sunday, from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. "Super Price Bingo" will take place during the Sunday Brunch series. Prizes include tickets to events sponsored by RICEE Programming as well as pizzas and sweatsuits.

RICEE Programming is holding a benefit for the Special Olympics on April 12 when "Club Coca-Cola" comes to Rhode Island College. This video dance event is sponsored by Coca-Cola and will include impressive sound equipment, says Cureton.

A major event sponsored by RICEE Programming is the appearance of the top female pop rock band, the Bangles, on March 21.

This week Cureton, Coyce and RICEE Programming officers Steven Ridgewell, treasurer, Eric Perreault, coordinator of "Sounds from the Ground," Renee Perreault, special projects assistant, Kristen King, staff coordinator for student activities, and Mark Paolucci, staff assistant director for campus center operations and services, are attending a national conference in Nashville, Tenn., with 2,000 delegates from college campuses across the country. They are participating in workshops and seminars in leadership and training and are exchanging ideas to plan events for Rhode Island College's annual spring weekend, RICEE End RICE End will take place April 12 through 15.

According to Cureton, RICEE Programming has "come a long way."

"The group has been rebuilding over the past few years and is making steady progress towards enhancing Rhode Island College's social life," he says.

Clinical psychologist Therese A. Rando, of Warwick, recently spoke in the Rhode Island College Faculty Center in a group social service and health professionals' focus groups on the subject of death, grief and loss. Her topic, "Dealing with Death: Loss, Grief, and Terminal Illness," was designed to help caregivers effectively assist their clients or patients with the difficult issues surrounding the loss of a loved one as a result of chronic or terminal illness.

Rando's presentation was primarily supported by a grant from the Henry and Jean Morganer Memorial Lectureship of the Rhode Island College Foundation. The program was offered through the College's "Continuing Education in Social and Human Service Project," a joint program of the School of Social Work and the Office of Continuing Education.

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What do you think of the recent Rhode Island College promotional campaign?

"I think the campaign was needed but I'm not sure lay people will find the 83 percent placement rate for grads as positive. They will wonder what the placement rate is at say, Johnson and Wales or URI."

—Brian Allen, Director of the Campus Center

"When you understand that the purpose is to upgrade the image of Rhode Island College, they're working on it in the right direction."

—Betty Ohlin, assistant professor of art

"I like the campaign. I like what it's doing. Everyone I know has seen it and that's the point. The black type in the print ads hits me wrong though."

—Ed Sheff, professor of communications and theatre

"I think it's worthwhile. The astronaut ad was a very different approach. I think it catches the public's eye."

—Gerianne Marra, senior

"I think it's a good idea as long as other areas of the College are improved, like parking and registration."

—Daniel Smith, senior

"The campaign is very positive... I'm glad to see it being done."

—Ruth McKay, administrative secretary and psychology instructor

(What's News Photos by Gordon E. Bowley)

Keeping Score with Dave Kemmy

Anchormen have won five in a row

The men's basketball team is making a strong push for post-season tournament play having won their last five games in a row to improve to 14-8 on the year. They have recently blitzed Eastern Nazarene College 102-83 and won two big Little East Conference contests over Eastern Connecticut and Southeastern Massachusetts.

Junior forward Troy Smith continues to excel on the court. He had 19 points and 18 rebounds against Eastern Connecticut. He is ranked nationally in three different categories according to statistics released by the NCAA for Division III. He is third in rebounding, seventh in field goal percentage and 27th in scoring. Senior forward Jesse Ferrell is ranked 22nd in field goal percentage and senior guard Tom Campbell is sixth in assists.

The team is in third place in the Little East with a 4-4 record and are in a strong fight for the second place position which receives a first-round bye in the post-season tournament. The winner of the Little East tournament is in third place in the Little East to fourth place behind Eastern Connecticut and Southeastern Massachusetts.

Senior guard Doreen Grasso has continued to lead the team. She is the top scorer with 22.6 points per game. Jesse Ferrell was next at 17.0 and sophomore transfer Joe McCarty has made a big impact on the team, currently third in scoring with 10.5 points per game.

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team has been in a slump of late and their record has dipped to 12-12. They have also fallen from second place in the Little East to fourth place behind Eastern Connecticut and Southeastern Massachusetts.

Senior guard Doreen Grasso has continued to lead the team. She is the top scorer with 19.6 points per game and is also averaging 3.8 assists per game. Sophomore Debbie Allen has really come on late, improving her points per game average to 10.3 and she is also the second best rebounder on the team with 4.9 per game.

The team needs to do well in their last two Little East games against Eastern Conn. and U. Mass-Boston in order to earn a post-season tournament berth. Grasso needs 68 points in her final three games to reach 1,000 points for her career. She is capable of realizing that milestone with those tremendous efforts. She also might get another opportunity if the team advances in the Little East post-season tournament.

Anchormen have won five in a row with a 2-7 pair of losses in recent action. They have recently blitzed Eastern Connecticut 122.4 to 107.05. Sophomore Bill D'Ambrosa was the third highest all arounder in the meet with a 30.70. Dawn Gates scored a 25.75 and Melissa Brule had a 22.7 in the all around as well. D'Ambrosa was the team's high scorer in each event as well with an 8.4 on the vault being her highest score of the meet.

The team also dropped a 197.48 to 134.25 decision to powerful Division II foe the University of Bridgeport. D'Ambrosa was the team's top all around performer once again with a 32.30 and she finished third in the meet, just .10 behind the performer once again with a 32.30 and she finished third in the meet, just .10 behind the

Wrestling

The wrestling team improved to 9-2 on the season with a pair of victories in recent action.

The grapplers blitzed a strong Massachusetts Institute of Technology 28-9 and truncated Amherst College 58-0.

Scott Martin, Brian Allen, Joe Amato, Scott Carlsten and Dom DiVincenzo all led the parade with two wins apiece.

Allen and Carlsten have the top dual meet records on the team both at 10-0. Scott Martin is 9-1 and Kevin Higgins is 8-0. Joe Amato is 7-1-1, Rick Swanson is 5-3, Chris Reddy is 5-4 and DiVincenzo is 3-4-1. Martin, Allen, Amato and Higgins are tied for the team lead in pins with four each. Carlsten leads in team points with 48, Martin and Allen are next with 47 apiece. Higgins has 38 and Amato is right up there with 36.

This weekend the team will be competing in the biggest tournament of the year for them, the New England College Conference Championships, of which they are the defending champions.

The tournament will take place at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge on Friday Feb. 24 and Saturday Feb. 25.

Martin and Allen will also be defending their individual titles as well.

Gymnastics

The women's gymnastics team dropped to 2-7 with a pair of losses in recent action. The team lost a tight meet to Bridgewater State College 122-107.05. Sophomore Bill D'Ambrosa was the third highest all arounder in the meet with a 30.70. Dawn Gates scored a 25.75 and Melissa Brule had a 22.7 in the all around as well. D'Ambrosa was the team's high scorer in each event as well with an 8.4 on the vault being her highest score of the meet.

The team also dropped a 197.48 to 134.25 decision to powerful Division II foe the University of Bridgeport. D'Ambrosa was the team's top all around performer once again with a 32.30 and she finished third in the meet, just .10 behind the runner-up from Bridgeport. Gates had a 24.30 and Brule had a 22.0. D'Ambrosa was the top Anchorwoman scorer in each event once again. Her highest score was an 8.45 on vault.

The Anchorwomen were scheduled to compete in the New England Division III Gymnastic League Championships this past weekend, Saturday Feb. 18 at M.I.T.
College dancers to present 30th annual spring concert series

To feature works by professional choreographers

The 30th annual spring concert series series of the Rhode Island College Dance Co. is set for March 2-4 in Roberts Hall auditorium. Each of the three performances begins at 8 p.m.

The performances consist of an all-new repertory by professional choreographers. These include works by Martha Bowers, Rick Merril and Susan Rethorst.

Also on the bill is "Densham Suite" staged by Robin Rice, dancer/choreographer, and selected student works.

"The concert celebrates 30 years of innovation and leadership in collegiate dance and continues the tradition of presenting the finest repertory modern dance concerts and educational programming in Rhode Island," says Dante DeGiuliac, acting director.

As such, two events are being offered to the Rhode Island community free of charge: A Nina Wiener Dance Co. lecture/demonstration on Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 1:30 p.m. in the Walsh Center gym, and a Nina Wiener master class later that day at 5:30 in the Walsh Center, room 106.

Enrollment is limited. Those interested should call 456-9791 for reservations.

Jazz shoes should be worn, advises DelGiudice.

Dance awards were established so talented students could participate in the American Dance Festival where they were exposed to the "racing modern dance companies in the world." Melcer recalls that Marianne (Maynard) Gardiner Nordham was the first RIC student to attend that festival in New London in 1959.

"We've had a lot of talented and extremely dedicated kids," was how she put it in an interview in 1981. Melcer stands by that assessment today.

Melcer also arranged the first scholarships for dance and music students here, and initiated a dance symposia.

A "real draw" for her coming to RIC, she related, was the Roberts auditorium stage, with its lighting and "space to dance." Reflecting for a moment, perhaps on the importance of dance and especially on its importance in her life, Melcer stood in her thinking that "dance is a part of theater" and a larger stage "is almost a sacred place."

"That meant to us that something had to be very perceptive... highly polished before it could be presented to an audience. "It had to have structure and form. "Movement had to be exciting enough to have an audience sit up and take notice."

"I felt you had to reach students earlier than college," says Melcer.

On March 2-4 the dance company, under the direction of Dante DeGiuliac, will celebrate its 30th Anniversary season with a dance series in Roberts Hall auditorium. (See separate story on page 8.)

On this occasion, Melcer, who lives adjacent to the campus, was invited to stop by and discuss the dance company's formation and her role in its development. Now 73, the former dancer-teacher is trim and trim and stays that way by walking almost every day on the RIC campus with her miniature schnauzer.

In 1959, Melcer relates, Billie A. Burrill, also of North Providence, had established the dance company and served as its first director.

A year later, Melcer was appointed director of health, physical education, recreation and athletics—the first female director of a co-educational program in the entire state. In fact, she was the only second such appointee in the country.

"I took over as artistic director of the dance company and Burrill became technical director. A friendship was formed that has lasted through the years.

For the next 18 years Melcer put her own stamp on the growing dance company, but she is quick to credit Burrill both for her initial and later contributions.

For instance, notes Melcer, Burrill brought (to dance groups to RIC, such as the Michael Graef, Limon and Paul Taylor dance companies, and, as part of their contract, they agreed to give master classes in dance here.

Burrill also had professional experience in lighting design. "She had—and used—the opportunity to consult with choreographers while she was company on subsequent years so that the lighting of their dances was in keeping with their intention. This would have been impossible had we simply hired a lighting designer."

"In the years 1960-62," remembers Melcer, "when the total budget for the company was $500 (to cover three nights of concerts, two public performances, four days of touring for public school performances and live accompaniment for company classes) I had to do it all.

That included the late Rina V. Bicho and her singing group, The Chalkstones, Riders' Way, St. Finn Jr. and his violin, Doris Hlavacek. "Just as last but not least, Angelo V. Rosati of the art department who not only designed sets and costumes, but helped make them."

"The professionals in stagecraft at RIC were absolutely competent," assurs Melcer.

"That meant to us that something had to be very perceptive... highly polished before it could be presented to an audience."

"Movement had to be exciting enough to have an audience sit up and take notice."

"I felt you had to reach students earlier than college," says Melcer.

With such a limited number of graduate students, Melcer said her advice to the evaluation team would be to "find a way to make the students use their plans for the future."

"Once I knew how to use it, it was really helpful," she said. "Most students think it is something they can take on or let go."
Exhibit by UConn artist at Bannister

Lighting reminiscent of 16th-17th Century artists Caravaggio, de La Tour

Two films on West Indian carnivals

"West Indian Carnival: There and Here: Migration and Cultural Persistence" was the title of a program featuring two films Feb. 13 in Rhode Island College's Gaige Hall. Sponsored by the anthropology/geography department and the College Lecture Committee, the films dealt with the subject of the West Indian carnivals in the Caribbean and New York. The first film, Carnival TNT, concerned the carnival in the Caribbean Island of Trinidad. It portrayed the setting, history, social significance and events of a typical pre-Lenten carnival in the nation of Trinidad and Tobago.

The second film, entitled Celebration, is the latest work of documentary filmmaker Karen Kramer of New York City. She has produced three previous films on Caribbean topics. Celebration is a documentary on the West Indian carnival held annually in Brooklyn, where there is a large West Indian community.

"It captures the joy and extravagant beauty of Brooklyn's Caribbean carnival," according to Kramer. It is filled with colorful costumes, calypso music, historical information, and a behind-the-scenes look at the costume makers at their craft.

Last year about 3 million people were expected to watch some 10,000: marchers in the West Indian Day Parade on Brooklyn's Eastern Parkway on Labor Day. According to Dr. George M. Epple, of the anthropology/geography department, this showing was the film's premiere in Rhode Island. It had already aired on WNET-TV and at the Margaret Mead Festival at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

"SELF PORTRAIT" by Rhode Island College artist Joseph Norman is on exhibit at RISD. Norman (above) is one of five local contemporary artists to have his work purchased by RISD. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

R.I. College artist's work is purchased by RISD for exhibit

by George LaTour

An adjunct instructor on the Rhode Island College art faculty is one of five prominent Rhode Island artists whose works have been purchased by the Rhode Island School of Design. Joseph E. Norman of Middletown, a native of Chicago who has taught drawing here for the past two years, had his lithograph, a "Self-Portrait from Patty's Little White Lies, 1986," purchased by RISD through a gift from the Artists' Development Fund of the Rhode Island Foundation.

Norman's lithograph is among the works on paper by historic and contemporary Rhode Island artists which form two companion exhibitions this winter at RISD. The exhibit—in the Tea Gallery—runs from Jan. 6 through Feb. 26.

The other contemporary artists are Jim Baker, an associate professor at Providence College; sculptor Richard Fulham, a full-time faculty member at Brown University; photographer David Hanson, who teaches part time in RISD's photography department, and Liz Horan of the Southern Massachusetts University art department. In conjunction with this showcase of contemporary art, "Works on Paper by Rhode Island Artists of the 19th and Early 20th Centuries" offers a selection of works from the museum's permanent collection by members of historic lineages as Grace Abee, Sydney Burleigh, Eliza Gardner, Wilmer Jennings, John LaFarge and Niles Spencer.

Exhibit—In the Tea Gallery—runs from Jan. 6 through Feb. 26.

Brisson attends opening of Italian exhibits which includes her work

Harriet E. Brisson of Rehoboth, professor of art at Rhode Island College, attended, upon invitation, the Jan. 14 opening reception of a major traveling exhibition—illustrating some of the new frontiers of mathematics and art—in Bologna, Italy.

The exhibition includes Brisson's sculpture the "Truncated 600-Cell." A terrahedron with nine-fold sides, which weighs more than 300 lbs., the sculpture was conserved here in the United States over a period of more than two months by Brisson and Olle Johnson of Stockholm, Sweden, a part-time teacher on the art faculty there.

LOOKING FROM WITHIN: Harriet Brisson's 'Truncated 600' sculpture, which stands nine feet high, envelops the viewer with its mirrored interior and fluorescent lights. It is now on display in Italy.

Exhibit sponsor, Istituto della Enciclopedia Italiana: Fondata da Giovanni Treccani, also had invited Brisson to submit an article on the theme of the "Fourth Dimension" for inclusion in a book to complement the exhibit.

Brisson had attended a two-day program in Rome in October of 1987 to participate in the founding of "Dimensionality," a relatively new concept in the world of art.

Brisson had explored the higher dimensions of space and how artists and scientists interpret them, and used the term "hypergraphical" to describe these dimensions. She has since widely exhibited her works in this new concept of image making. Brisson reports that she was contacted recently by the LaVillette, the museum of science and industry, in Paris, France, which is considering bringing her sculpture there for display next year.

Weekend Retreat

sponsored by college Chaplains' Office

Feb. 24-26

The Roman Catholic Chaplains' will sponsor a weekend retreat Feb. 24-26 in Narragansett. Interested students can contact Sr. Mary Ann Rossei at 456-8168, Student Union Room 300.
Solo violinist Arturo Delmoni to perform with College Orchestra

Violinist Arturo Delmoni, whom critics have termed "brilliant, remarkably poised, a precise soloist," will be the guest soloist at the Monday, March 6, performance of the Rhode Island College Orchestra. Under the baton of Edward Markward, the concert will begin at 8:15 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium with works by Mendelssohn, Siegmeister and Fauré. The concert is free and open to the public.

Born to Italian parents in New York, Delmoni received his first violin lessons at age 4 from Dorothy Delmoni of the Juilliard School of Music. His professional career had already started with recitals and a national television appearance by the time he entered Juilliard as a Nunberg Scholarship student.

His repertory encompasses 29 concertos, more than 50 sonatas, and a seemingly endless supply of the romantic recital and ever-popular pieces.

Delmoni has performed as soloist with the St. Louis, Dallas, Spokane, El Paso, Glen­del and Tuscan symphonies, the Brooklyn and Kansas City philharmonic orchestras, and the Boston Pops, among others.

Just a few minutes before his recording of "Songs My Mother Taught Me on Providence's Own North Star Records, "Delmoni may not be a household name, but his playing is a tribute to his teachers—Juzef Helfet, Josef Gingold and Nathan Milstein.

"There could be no finer pedagogue, and if this recording is an indication, Delmoni may be on his way to joining their ranks."

Duo piano recital by Zak, Stillman March 1st

Pianists Jonathan Zak, of the Rubin Academy of Music at Tel-Aviv University, and Judith Lynn Stillman, artist-in-residence at Rhode Island College, will perform as a duo in the Wednesday, March 1, entry of the Chamber Music Series here. They will perform works by Brahms and Mozart starting at 1 p.m. in Roberts Hall 138. The recital is free and open to the public.

Born in Tel-Aviv, Zak studied at the Juilliard School of Music under Beveridge Webster and Edward Steuermann. Before returning to Israel, he appeared extensively throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico as a soloist with orchestras, a member of chamber groups and accompanist.

So he established, with violinist Uri P胴ka and cellist Sima Heled, the Yovul Trio, which is considered one of the best on the international scene today, according to John Pellegrino of Warwick, an associate professor of music here and series publicist.

Stillman joined the RIC music faculty in 1980 as the College's first artist-in-residence. She has performed to critics' acclaim throughout the U.S., Europe and Israel as soloist and chamber musician.

In the 1986-87 academic year, she went on sabbatical leave to Israel where, among other activities, she gave seminars at the Rubin Academy of Music.

Leading classical guitarist performs here March 7th

Christopher Parkening, considered by many to be the premier classical guitarist of our day, will perform in concert in the Rhode Island College Performing Arts Series on Tuesday, March 7, at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium.

With accompanying artist David Brandon, guitarist, Parkening will perform selections ranging from Gaspar Salas' (1640-1719) "Passacaille y Canarios" to Federico Monaco-Torres's (1891-1912) "Caprices of Spain.

Parkening began his study of the guitar at age 11 with Andres Segovia. At 15, he was chosen to play in Segovia's Summer Music Festival master class at the University of California at Berkeley. Segovia describes Parkening as a "great artist...one of the most brilliant guitarists in the world."

Joining Parkening for the first time to perform in Providence is his fiancée, world-renowned cellist, Anner Bylsma, who, according to this recording is an indication, Delmoni may be on his way to joining their ranks."

Calendar of Events
Feb. 20-Mar. 6

Monday, Feb. 20
9 a.m.-New Music Night: Progressive rock to be performed by the band Thinly Sliced. Coffee Ground, Student Union. Admission is free.

Tuesday, Feb. 21
1:30 p.m.-New Winter Dance Company to give a lecture/demonstration in Wellesley Center Gymnasium. Free.

Wednesday, Feb. 22
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.-Senior Portraits for Yearbook. Seniors without appointments may come during this period to have their portraits taken. Student Union 306. For further information, call 456-6285.

Wednesday, Feb. 22
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.-Blood Drive. Student Union 304.

Thursday, Feb. 23
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.-Nicolaus John Scholars. At 12 noon, a free lunch will be served. Scholarships for second and senior year students are available. Admission is free. For more information, call 456-6184.

Friday-Saturday, Feb. 24-25
TBA—Winter Student Retreat to be offered by the Rhode Island College Student Nurses' Association. Area and regional nursing employers will have representatives present. Student Union ballroom. Open to all persons interested in careers in nursing.

February 20-25
8:15 p.m.-Rhode Island College Orchestra to offer a concert which will feature the works of Mendelssohn, Segiesmeister and Fauré. Roberts Hall auditorium. Free and open to all.