What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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March 15 deadline for workshop registration

Public forum on Affirming Diversity scheduled for March 23

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

As the March 23 “Affirming Diversity” keynote address and workshops program nears, members of the sponsoring group - The Rhode Island College Dialogue on Diversity Project - encourage those interested in attending one of six scheduled workshops during the Saturday event to sign up by the March 15 deadline in order to reserve a seat. The keynote address by University of Massachusetts at Amherst Professor of Education in the Cultural Diversity and Curriculum Reform Program, and author of Affirming Diversity, Sonia Nieto, will begin at 9 a.m. It is free and open to the public. However, workshop pre-registration and a non-refundable $15 fee must be paid prior to the date of the event. The $15 will cover the cost of coffee and pastries, buffet lunch and workshop materials. RIC students will be admitted free.

Affirming Diversity is the first in a series of events being organized by the Department of Nursing Roger Boey measures the latest snowfall out under “the globe, its summertime now. But even in Australia’s winters “we almost have no snow at all in Melbourne” except in the mountains about a mile and half from their home in Research which is near Melbourne. “It gets too warm sometimes,” says Roger F. Boey, a registered and certified psychiatric nurse who also has a degree in teaching from Melbourne, the second oldest institution of higher learning in Australia. He’s on faculty exchange with Margaret A. Hainsworth of Melbourne, the second oldest institution of higher learning in Australia. His wife experienced will ever end. You see, in Australia, “down under” the globe, its summertime now.

My name is Susan Kline. I am 35-years-old and attend Rhode Island College full time. I am an undergraduate student in my sophomore year working towards a degree in computer information systems and computer science. My life, so far, has led me down many paths. All of my experiences have contributed to my life in some way. The one that has contributed most to my future goals, however, was my military service. I served five years active duty in the United States Army. While in the Army, I learned how to set and attain goals. Continued on page 4

Foundation Gala takes on theme approach to heighten awareness of annual fundraiser

John J. Fitta to receive special recognition

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

Adjust your compass and start thinking about palm trees and sand because this year’s annual Rhode Island College Foundation Gala is being touted as a “Sail into Spring Caribbean Cruise.” Scheduled for Saturday, April 13, beginning at 6 p.m. with a champagne reception in Donovan Dining Center, the Gala will take a theme approach in 1996 to spark further interest in attendance, according to organizers, as well as “continue to provide an opportunity to honor the contributions of a special Foundation member.”

This year’s honoree is John J. Fitta, assistant vice president for finance and College controller. “John has served the Foundation for 14 years as assistant treasurer,” said Foundation Executive Director and College Director of Development Marguerite M. Brown. “Besides providing the Foundation with expert financial advice, John has taken on a number of leadership roles within the Foundation, one of which is as a founding organizer of the five-year-old annual golf tournament which has raised more than $50,000 to support College Continued on page 3

In their own words...

Susan Kline, Class of 1998
Recipient of: • 1995-96 RIC Alumni Departmental Scholarship

My name is Susan Kline. I am 35-years-old and attend Rhode Island College full time. I am an undergraduate student in my sophomore year working towards a degree in computer information systems and computer science. My life, so far, has led me down many paths. All of my experiences have contributed to my life in some way. The one that has contributed most to my future goals, however, was my military service. I served five years active duty in the United States Army. While in the Army, I learned how to set and attain goals. Continued on page 8

R.I. winter presents climate shock to faculty exchange prof from ‘Down Under’

by George LaTour
What’s News Associate Editor

A tenured faculty member in the nursing department of Melbourne University in Australia, on exchange with a Rhode Island College nursing professor this semester, ran smack into one of Rhode Island’s numerous snow storms upon his arrival in January and has been wondering since if the “climate shock” he and his wife experienced will ever end.

You see, in Australia, “down under” the globe, its summertime now.

But even in Australia’s winters “we almost have no snow at all in Melbourne” except in the mountains about a mile and half from their home in Research which is near Melbourne.

“It gets too warm sometimes,” says Roger F. Boey, a registered and certified psychiatric nurse who also has a degree in teaching from Melbourne, the second oldest institution of higher learning in Australia. He’s on faculty exchange with Margaret A. Hainsworth of Barrington. He and his wife, Johanna, are staying in Hainsworth’s home while she stays in theirs.

The Boeys also have use of Hainsworth’s car which in itself can lead to other problems since Americans drive on the “wrong side of the road.”

As in England, Aussies drive on the left.

“We’ve been received absolutely beautiful here,” assures Boey, who tells of being taken out to dinners and tours of the area.

When Mr. and Mrs. Boey arrived in the U.S. on the night of Jan. 2 in Chicago’s O’Hare Airport it was already snowing. By the time they Continued on page 8

"WAIT 'TIL I TELL THE FOLKS BACK HOME:" Exchange faculty member in the Department of Nursing Roger Boey measures the latest snowfall outside Fogarty Life Science Building. Boey, of Melbourne, Australia, is spending the record-breaking snowy winter in Rhode Island. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
Focus on Faculty and Staff

Janice Fifer, assistant director of aquatics, recently attended the Aquatic Exercise Association's Northeast regional conference. This provided the opportunity to attend educational sessions on a wide variety of topics specific to the field of aquatic fitness. Subject areas included advanced aquatic choreography, strength development, intergenerational exercise. This program is designed to establish and upgrade communications skills that have become increasingly important to academic communities here and throughout the world. All workshops will provide a more intensive, hands-on introduction to specific telecommunications applications than is offered at other times during the academic year.

The workshops "Designing a World Wide Web Page," "Moving from Transparencies to Computer-Generated Presentations" workshops are appropriate for users of both Macintosh and Windows-based machines.

Enrollment is limited so interested faculty and staff members are encouraged to register as soon as possible. For more information, call User Services at 406-8803.

The Rhode Island College Telecommunications Committee is sponsoring a series of free special workshops presented by GEC Computer Center staff for RIC faculty and staff during spring break (March 11-15).

Workshops will be held on "How to Use EMail with PINE or Eudora," "Using the Internet and the World Wide Web with the VAX," "Using the Internet and World Wide Web with Graphical Browsers," "Designing a World Wide Web Page," and "Moving from Transparencies to Computer-Generated Presentations.

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WHAT'S NEWS AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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The Office of Academic Support and Information Services (OASIS), located in Craig Lee 154, provides a number of academic support and advising services to help undergraduates develop their potential in a variety of ways. The office provides academic support and remedial services through the Academic Advisement Information Center, the Academic Development Center, the Mathematics Learning Center, Tutorial Services and the Writing Center.

Support for undergrads

Specific tutorial assistance is provided in such subjects as accounting, biology, chemistry, math, philosophy, physical sciences, psychology, as well as in other subjects on an as-needed basis.

Tutoring is also available in preparing for a variety of tests including the MBST, the GRE and the MAT.

Instruction is also available in study strategies, reading comprehension and time management skills. Support is also available for students with learning disabilities or ESL students.

Most services require appointments. Call the office at 456-8183 for more information.

School Superintendent of Year holds RIC master's degree

The Rhode Island Association of School Administrators has named Mario A. Mancieri of the Portsmouth school system Superintendent of the Year for 1995.

Mancieri, who received his bachelor's degree in secondary education at Providence College, holds a master's degree in education from Rhode Island College, 1970.

There are 30 superintendents in the state, all of whom are eligible for the annual recognition. Four finalists will be selected at the national convention to compete for the national Superintendent of the Year honors.
"BLACK WOMEN: ACHIEVEMENT AGAINST ALL ODDS" is the title of a display sponsored by the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society in recognition of African-American History Month and set up in the lobby of Adams Library from Feb. 20 to March 1. Above, nursing student Veronica Akpan looks over the exhibit, which heralds the achievements of several noted African-American women in the fields of education, art, science, industry, and athletics. (What’s News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Affirming Diversity
Continued from page 1

the College through the Dialogue on Diversity Committee to provide the vehicle for the College community and the state to examine the challenges and opportunity of diversity in a pluralistic and global society. With the announcement last August by RIC President John Nazarian of the support of the Office of the President, the College began planning a variety of public events "to educate and further embrace the concept of diversity in our educational institutions and in society at large."

In addition, the committee's work is "in keeping with the spirit of Katherine Murray, 1938-1993, and the Katherine Murray Endowment established upon her death to support programs for the improvement of public education, and to inform the general public by examining issues of critical significance in education, in teaching, and in learning."

James J. Scanlan, M.D., director of College Health Services, is one of 14 graduates of LaSalle Academy in Providence to be awarded a special Saint LaSalle Medal for Distinguished Service by the academy in a Liturgy-of-Thanksgiving ceremony Feb. 24 at the LaSalle chapel. A dinner followed at the Little Inn.

The medal was first awarded in 1988 to former Rhode Island governor and LaSalle alumnus Dennis J. Roberts. In recognition of this honor, the Rhode Island House of Representatives issued its own citation to Doctor Scanlan which was signed by John B. Harwood, Jeonne M. Giannini and Secretary of State James R. Langervin.

Scanlan is a 1940 LaSalle graduate after which he attended Providence College and the Harvard Medical School. In years past he served as physician to LaSalle's athletic teams and to the community of Christian Brothers. More recently, he wrote a history of the academy. Doctor Scanlan became the first director of RIC Health Services in July of 1970.

Dr. Scanlan cited by LaSalle, House of Reps

Violence-in-Society series March 20

"Violent victimization"

Sue Boney-McCoy, an assistant professor in the psychology department at Eastern Connecticut State University, will present the Violence-in-Society series on the topic "Psychosocial Sequela of Violent Victimization in a National Youth Sample" Wednesday, March 20, at 12:30 p.m. in Horace Mann Hall 193.

Sponsored by the psychology department, the Women's Studies Program, the School of Arts and Sciences, and the Violence Policy and Research Group, the colloquium is free and open to the public.

Boney-McCoy earned her doctorate in experimental psychology from Iowa State University. Following her dissertation, which examined vicarious effects of violent outcomes on children and explored the link between child abuse and subsequent substance abuse, she accepted a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Family Research Laboratory at the University of New Hampshire.

During this two-year fellowship, she examined the psychosocial consequences of violent victimization on children and explored the link between child abuse and subsequent substance abuse.

In addition, she has been investigating factors which underlie the increased likelihood of engaging in partner assault.

The next issue of What's News is Monday, March 25.

Deadline
for submission of copy, photos is Friday, March 15.
Lessons learned extend beyond the classroom for RIC faculty member

by Cynthia L. Sousa
What's News Writer

David Cappella learned a lot about life and death growing up on his father's farm in Plymouth, Mass. Not enough to prepare him for the traumas of losing two close friends in Vietnam the summer after graduating from high school.

And certainly, not enough to help him deal with the shock of becoming paralyzed from the neck down in a skiing accident at the age of 26.

But Cappella believes that all of life is a lesson—good and bad. That even traumatic events "put limits and boundaries in your life" and "teach us to accept things."

Cappella, 47, assistant professor of English and educational studies, recovered from the paralysis after months of physical therapy. He looks back at the experience as a "turning point" in his life. "I learned a lot from the incident during my months of re-learning how to walk. It taught me a lot about acceptance and growing old and how to adjust to me in all that I do," said Cappella.

Another major influence in his life was his upbringing in a culturally diverse environment. His mother's family dates back to the Mayflower and his father's family is from Southern Europe. When he was a youngster, Plymouth was a small community of 10,000 people of diverse ethnic heritages. He remembers the sights, smells and sounds of the different communities well. "We had Italians and Blacks in my neighborhood and Portuguese on the north side of town."

The religious and cultural customs of all the groups became part of Cappella's life growing up. Cappella remembers going to Holiest feasts and sampling the Portuguese specialties. "Having your driver's license and taking your date to the Holy Ghost feast was the ultimate," he recalls.

Another teaching Cappella remembers is being eight years old and hearing his friend's father play the harmonica. "I fell in love with the sound. It fostered his self-admitted addiction to blues music, he said.

Another thing Cappella remembers is being taught from grade seven to the graduate level. At small, suburban schools and at large, urban universities. This "real New England boy" received his Ed.D. from Boston University in 1994 specializing in English education and foundations of Education.

He admits that he is still learning lessons from the people, experiences and circumstances in his life. Appointed to a dual position in the English and educational studies departments in the fall of 1994, Cappella, in addition to teaching basic writing and composition courses and teaching literature, teaches a practicum course and seminar for pre-service English teachers.

"It's exciting," said this enthusiastic Teacher education has changed so drastically in the last 20 years, according to Cappella, "especially in the area of English education. English teachers today are the "cultural workers" of the classroom. "Students must be prepared for teaching students with special needs," Cappella noted. "Students have different social issues than those of the past."

He said although he is there to supervise the pre-service students, he "learns a lot from them. It's interesting to watch students who want to teach interact with the pupils and with their cooperating teachers; he is "a be a teacher, you have to come to terms with yourself first," Cappella believes.

"In order to be a teacher, you have to come to terms with yourself first," Cappella believes.

Successful 'Take a Professor to Lunch' offered for third time week of March 25

Rhode Island College students will once again have the opportunity "to take a professor to lunch" free of charge during the week of March 25.

The Student Engagement in Learning Committee initiated the "Take a Professor to Lunch" program in the spring of 1995 to promote peer group development and student-faculty interaction.

Over 275 free lunches were given out by Donovan Dining Center to Rhode Island College students and professors participating in the last "Take a Professor to Lunch" program held in November.

Posters and fliers advertised the program and encouraged students to "invite a professor to lunch" at no cost to them. Lunch vouchers were given to interested students for themselves and their guests.

About 100 more students took advantage of this opportunity in November than participated in the initial program held last spring, according to co-chairs of the Student Engagement in Learning Committee, Dr. Charles Marzocco and Dr. Tom Lavin. They both hope the spring program numbers will be even greater. "As word spreads of this program, more students will want to get in, on it," said Lavin.

Lavin termed the week-long program a "great success."

Lavin feels the program allows faculty members and students to get better acquainted with each other which in turn stimulates the students to learn and achieve more. "We know that he's no stranger, but the environment out of the classroom or office allowed for a more relaxed conversation," said Lavin.

Melanie Lee, a senior chemistry major from Pawtucket, took Dr. David Greene, professor of chemistry, to lunch. Greene is her advisor so he's no stranger, "but the environment of the classroom or office allowed for a more relaxed conversation," said Lee.

"I get interested about his interest in golf, his alma mater, Notre Dame's sport teams and my research projects," said Greene about the chemistry professor. "It was great of the College to provide the free lunches."

Prof. Greene agreed. "It's nice to get to know the students on a different level in a pleasant environment, too," he added. "The renovated Dining Center, he said."

David Greene, professor of chemistry, and Liz Demers, a senior English/sec-

Ordinary education major from Lincoln and student of Cappella's, said Cappella's wealth of experience gives his students perspective on a number of different issues.

"He's very receptive, very accessible and has been a source of inspiration and encouragement to all of us," Demers notes that Cappella's delightful sense of humor helps students feel at ease.

Cappella, a published poet, is understandably very interested in how poetry is taught in the classroom. He feels it should be used in the classroom as a means to engage students with their own experiences. "Language becomes important through the use of poetry," he said.

This eclectic man loves literature, loves education and said he "wants to make sure the two are wedded." This summer he is traveling to Heidelberg, Germany to deliver a paper at an international conference sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English. His proposal, "Global Conversations on Language and Literacy," examines the writing of pre-service and full-time teachers and explores their attitudes about their writing and toward their own teaching of writing to secondary students.

Cappella has recently moved to Providence's East Side. The European flavor of the small city appeals to him. It reminds him of Boston's Back Bay. With colorful students, abundant coffeehouses, good restaurants and music and accessible book stores, "What more does a professor need?" he said with a laugh.

Hiking is another of this versatile man's interests. He has hiked most of the Appalachian Trail and said getting above tree line "clears his head out." He also stays in shape by swimming at the College's Rec Center. During the summer Cappella stays on an island off the coast of Maine, works on a lobster boat and tries to keep up his "creative side" by writing poetry or working on other projects.

The professor's vivacious parents live on the Cape now. His mother works at Pilgrim's Plimouth Plantation and his 78-year-old father is still skiing after having a quadruple bypass.

It's no wonder Cappella has had such a good learning from life's lessons with such spry and spirited progenitors.
RIC Jazz Band serves as ambassador of good will

Playing traditional jazz music, whose roots go back to the 1920s, the Rhode Island College Jazz Band more often than not whets the appetites for jazz of Rhode Island high school students who usually are more in tune with today's rock and pop-chart favorites.

They manage to do this while fostering the same image of Rhode Island College as a "with it" institution and, thereby, enhance recruitment efforts by the College.

These musical ambassadors — 90 percent of whom are Rhode Island College music majors — regularly bring the sophistication of jazz to high school audiences such as at Barrington, the Mount Hope Regional, Lincoln and West Warwick where they perform in concert and provide a jazz clinic for high school jazz musicians.

Speaking on behalf of the band, director George Goneconto says, "We're very surprised to find such a high performance level in these high school jazz bands."

"Most high school kids," points out Seth Mandeville of Smithfield, a junior alto sax player, "display a general apathy for jazz music. Kids today are more interested in hard rock and pop-chart music. They're not into John Coltrane or Miles Davis."

He says jazz is sometimes more demanding than these other types of music "but each has its strong points."

"For some students, the study of jazz provides an introduction to formal, structured training which requires discipline," attests Kevin Brodeur of Burrillville, a sophomore trumpet player.

"Jazz requires some sophistication and attention," chimed in Mike DeQuattro of North Providence, a sophomore vibes and percussion artist.

Michael Coggeshall of Foster, a sophomore trumpet man, says that "if you hit a sour note playing in a jazz band, everyone knows it; in a rock band no one will notice."

To the non-musician, it would seem a sour note would be more readily absorbed by a jazz band with 20-plus members than the standard rock group with four.

Then, again, after listening to one of today's rock groups, the opposite seems more plausible.

The RIC Jazz Band has been bringing quality jazz music to the area's high schools for some time now which helps the schools and promotes RIC.

Requests have even come in from junior high schools as well as elementary.

At RIC, a command performance is scheduled for Sunday, April 14, at 2 p.m. when the band will perform in Donovan Dining Center for newly accepted students for next fall.

The band was created about 12 years ago. Goneconto has directed it for the past five years.

It is only one of a number of large and small performing groups at the College. These include the chorus, orchestra, theatre orchestra, chamber singers, wind, woodwind, brass, trumpet and percussion ensembles.

Currently, the jazz band — with a full sax section as well as a trumpet, a trombone and full rhythm sections — has only one female member, that being vocalist (and trombone player) Rebecca Burns of New Town, Conn., a sophomore music major.

The band regularly performs a wide variety of styles from swing to jazz rock with some blues and Latin tunes added for good measure.

"Not too many people know about the RIC Jazz Band," says Dan Dupre of Lincoln, a sophomore trumpet player, "but going to schools helps a lot."

Its appearance at an area high school is always a much-heralded event and proves fun for all.
Some 600 students from 34 junior and senior high schools are expected to converge on the Rhode Island College campus Saturday, March 30, for the seventh annual Rhode Island Science Olympiad.

In addition to demonstrating what they know about science and having a lot of fun in the process, they’ll vie for the honor of being selected to represent the state in competition at the National Science Olympiad in Atlanta, Ga.

"The ultimate thing, though, is that they have fun," Tiskus adds.

The Olympiad is a scientific/athletic competition divided into two divisions: Division A for grades 6 to 9, and Division C for those in grades 9 to 12. It is open to all schools in the state, public and private.

Opening ceremonies are set to begin at 10 a.m. in the Dining Center. Events will take place throughout the day, concluding at 4 p.m. at the Center and in or around other buildings on campus, including the Henry Barnard Science Center.

Included in the events will be one called the "Scrambler" in which students are given a mousetrap as its sole means of transport an egg a distance of 8-12 meters as fast as possible and have one attempt stop to the nearest 1/10th of a meter, "Tower Building" in which students are given certain parameters and materials and fold and build the lightest tower to carry a standard load.

Then there’s the "Trajectory Contest" in which students will design, construct, calibrate and shoot a device capable of launching a tennis ball into a target area, and "Mousetrap Vehicles" in which the contestants will construct a vehicle whose design is standard and powered by a mousetrap as its sole means of propulsion to traverse a certain distance.

There’ll be biology, chemistry and physics labs in which students can expand their practical and theoretical proficiency, and a "Pentathlon" whereby teams will traverse five obstacles on a course marked by the monitors as "Battle of Network Stars." Along the way there will be physical and mental obstacles to test their knowledge in five science areas.

All in all, there will be 34 separate events plus a non-competitive "Science Fair" on display from which each student will be able to inspect, and bonus questions in areas of science.

"Students get to see a project and see how the work is done," says Tiskus, assistant professor of educational studies and Olympiad director. "It’s a good way to see what they know without testing or grading them."

"The ultimate thing, though, is that they have fun," he adds. "It’s a non-competitive environment that places the Olympiad experience in the hands of other kids, with similar interests." By hosting the event, RIC helps to "create a positive experience for kids," Tiskus feels.

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**Scholarship winner**

Continued from page 1

I learned that self-discipline was the key to being successful. The Army gave me the confidence I needed in order to make my life what I wanted it to be. Receiving a scholarship to RIC was one of the many highlights of my life, because it allowed me to pursue my dreams in my own way. I graduated from RIC with a degree in educational studies and went on to earn a master’s degree in special education. My career as an educator has been fulfilling and rewarding. I have had the opportunity to work with students from all backgrounds and abilities. I am currently working as a special education teacher in a public school district. My experience in the Army has served me well in my career, as it has given me a strong work ethic, discipline, and the ability to handle pressure. I am very grateful for the experience and for the support I received from my family and friends who were always there for me. I am proud to be a veteran of the United States Army and the recipient of the Alton Jones Scholarship. I believe that education is the key to success and I am committed to providing my students with a quality education. I am a firm believer in the value of a college education and I am dedicated to helping my students achieve their goals. I am currently working towards a doctorate degree in educational leadership. I am looking forward to a successful and fulfilling career in education. I am proud to be an Alton Jones Scholar and I am committed to giving back to my community and making a positive impact on the lives of my students.
Athletes on the move!

The Rhode Island College Gymnastics Team won the 1996 ECAC Championship and are on their way to the National Championships in Ithaca, New York. The members of Coach Dick Stapleton's squad were just about flawless as they finessed their way to the gold in the first ECAC Championship ever held in the new facility on campus. The team defeated defending champion Ithaca by 2.5 points. Sue Paul set new records in the vault with a 9.65, floor exercise 9.5 and the all-around with a 37.4. Jenna Daum placed in every event and took second in the all-around behind team member Paul with a 36.70. We want to extend our sincerest congratulations to all of the members of this year's squad and wish them well in New York.

The men's basketball team lost a heartbreaker to Plymouth State College in the semi-finals of the Little East Conference Championship. The team led by as many as 20 points in the first half but succumbed to some long-range bombs by Plymouth in the closing minutes. All was not lost as the team was selected for the ECAC tournament where they will face first-round opponent Amherst. It was great to see two busloads of RIC students on hand to support their team during this tough loss. "Mr. Basketball", Alex Butler, was selected as player-of-the-year in the Little East Conference.

The women's softball team and men's baseball team have been working extremely hard since early February getting ready for the upcoming season. Indoor practices will soon shift outdoors in preparation for both team's southern trips. In addition to the hard work at practice, the players have been working diligently towards several fundraising efforts aimed at fulfilling this year's expenses for these spring training sessions.

I am extremely proud to announce that student-athletes Stephanie Cleary and Audra Plante have been selected by the Little East Conference as two of the conference's top scholar-athletes. They will be receiving their awards at the athletic banquet on April 28th. Congratulations to everyone!

SPRING SPRINT: Members of the women's track team took advantage of the recent spring-like temperatures to practice on the outdoor track. Left to right are: Beth Rupert, Val Verducci and Donna Balcom. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)
RIC Symphony will feature award-winning pianist

Sergey Schepkin will perform Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 5

Pianist Sergey Schepkin, winner of the 1993 Harvard Musical Association Arthur W. Foote Prize and, consequently, the 1995 Rhode Island College Foundation Chester Fund grant for performance, will be featured in the RIC Symphony Orchestra concert Monday, March 25, at 8:15 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium.

This concert is admission free due to the donation from Samuel and Esther Chester, who have underwritten the performers’ fees.

Additional support, according to Edward Markward, conductor, is being provided by the RIC Performing and Fine Arts Commission and by donations from the Durand Agency, Walco Electric Company, Alexander Tamasso and two anonymous donors.

Scherkin and the orchestra, under the baton of Markward, will perform Ludwig van Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat Major, Opus 73 “Emperor.”

Also on the program will be American composer Aaron Copland’s “Inescap” (a 12-tone piece) and Johannes Brahms’ Symphony No. 4 in E Minor, Opus 98.

Markward notes that these three works are the last of a kind for each composer. “Inescap” is the last major work by Copland, America’s most prominent composer; Beethoven’s fifth piano concerto is his last and represents the summation of that genre for the Classical period; the fourth symphony of Brahms closes out the symphonic form for the Romantic period and was arguably the finest symphony composed to that date (1884).

Scherkin has been acclaimed as a recitalist throughout the world in one mesmerized.”

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Schepkin started playing the piano at age 5. He won first prize in the International Competition for Young Musicians in Prague when he was 16, and later became a prize winner in several Russian national contests as well as in the Queen Sonja International Music Competition in Oslo.

He has taught solo piano at his alma mater in St. Petersburg, as well as at the New England Conservatory in Boston, where he is currently on the Extension Division faculty.

His performances of Bach’s Goldberg Variations, the Partitas and the Overture in the French Style are released by Ongaku Records.

Providence music devotees Samuel and Esther Chester, in an effort to aid young and talented concert artists from New England, recently endowed the RIC Foundation with $25,000 to establish a performance award in their names.

Scherkin, as the winner of the annual Foote Prize as adjudicated by the Harvard (no relation to Harvard University) Musical Association, is the first recipient.

For more information, call the RIC music department at 456-8244.

Music by the Foot concert March 15 by American Band

The American Band of Providence, conducted by Francis Marcinik, will present "Music by the Foot," a concert of music for dancing, marching and activities along the lines of Henry Holst’s “Seventy-Six Trombones,” and compositions by Holst, who will conduct the band in his own composition, “Ballet Sacral.”

Other works on the program will include the “Italian Polka” by Rachmaninoff, "Four Scottish Dances" by Malcolm Arnold, "Jig from St. Paul Suite" by Hoist and a variety of marches.

Trombonist Hartman is a former member of the Empire Brass Quintet. He has performed in concerts in all 50 states and throughout Europe and Japan, and has been featured on the Today and Good Morning America TV shows, and on the PBS documentary, Singing Brass.

He will be accompanied in the solo variations on "Seventy-Six Trombones" by the band and a trombone choir of 30 trombones from area colleges and high schools as well as from the professional ranks.

Admission is $10. Tickets may be purchased by calling the RIC music department at 456-8244 or at the box office the day of the concert.

For more information, call Marcinik at 456-8244.
Ohio Ballet makes third appearance in Performing Arts Series March 22

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

The contemporary Ohio Ballet, with a large, current repertory of works choreographed by the company’s artistic director, Heinz Poll, will make its third appearance in Rhode Island College’s Performing Arts Series Friday, March 22, with an 8 p.m. performance in Roberts Hall auditorium.

Founded in 1968, it has gained national and international recognition as a result of extensive touring which has taken it to eight countries, 36 states and more than 240 cities. The company performs in New York City on a regular basis, including biennial, week-long seasons at the Joyce Theatre.

As a German modern-dancer trained in ballet, chiefly under the influence of Kurt Jooss and his disciples, Poll has never made a rigid distinction between the classical and modern-dance idioms, says Anna Kisselgoff of the Times.

Consequently, “Another Way,” choreographed especially for the Ohio Ballet by Charles Moulton, makes the troupe look sexy.

The piece does not get down and dirty like “Thunder,” one of two Prince songs Moulton choreographed for the Joffrey Ballet’s production of “Billiards,” but the hip New York choreographer does get the well-bred Ohio Ballet dancers to shimmy, shake, throw out their hips and let down their hair, notes the Cleveland Plain Dealer’s Wilma Salisbury.

Other pieces in the program include Laura Dean’s “Earth,” choreographed and performed “with profound respect for all life on this earth” and dedicated to the memory of the victims of man-made environmental disasters, and the crowd-pleasing good-time music of Benny Goodman in Poll’s “Eight by Benny Goodman.”

The latter is a light-hearted piece, full of slick moves, debonair steps and songs from the Fabulous Forties, including “Let’s Dance,” “I’m Nobody’s Baby,” “Somebody Stole My Gal!” and “My Old Flame.”

This performance is being dedicated to the memory of Thomas R. Skelton, co-founder, associate director and resident lighting designer for the Ohio Ballet from 1969 to 1994.

Reserved seating is $17 with discounts available for senior citizens and students. Tickets may be charged via telephone by using Mastercard or VISA by calling 456-8144 or in person at the Roberts box office, which opens approximately 10 days prior to the performance from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and until time of performance on the performance date.

A champagne reception in Roberts Hall Alumni Lounge follows the performance and is being hosted by College President John Nazarian to raise funds for the creation of a dance resource library in honor of Billie Ann Burrill and Fannie Helen Melcer, RIC dance program pioneers, for their contributions to RIC and the Rhode Island dance community.

The collection will be housed in the Adams Library at RIC. It will include books and videos on dance and dance-related topics.

Please join us for a champagne reception in the Alumni Lounge hosted by President John Nazarian following the performance of the Ohio Ballet at Rhode Island College’s Roberts Auditorium.

Burrill-Melcer Dance Resource Library to be established; recognition reception to follow Ohio Ballet March 22

by Clare Eckert
What’s News Editor

Their friendship and dedication to one another and their commitment and hard work for Rhode Island College, which—all told—has seen Fannie Helen Melcer and Billie Ann Burrill through more than 30 years of devotion to teaching, learning and life, has now bound them to the College forever with the establishment of the Burrill-Melcer Dance Resource Library to be housed in the James P. Adams Library.

According to Patricia G. Cohen, a champagne reception in Alumni Lounge hosted by President Nazarian will follow March 22 performance of the Ohio Ballet to officially announce the effort. Cohen, who is a member of the organizing committee of the Burrill-Melcer Dance Resource Library, and a former student at Rhode Island College, was Melcer’s a mentor and the one who taught me how to teach (dance). She said the recognition reception and the establishment of the dance resource library is being done to “honor what they gave to the College and the dance community of Rhode Island.”

The Burrill-Melcer Dance Resource Library is the tangible means by which the women’s initiatives over the years and creative drive to bring dance to the state can be recognized, according to Cohen.

Both residents of North Providence and both RIC professors emeriti of health and physical education, Melcer and Burrill are credited by the Rhode Island dance community as being the driving force behind bringing the art of dance to the state and to the College. Burrill arrived at the College in 1950 and established the dance company serving as its first director. One year later, Melcer came here to take over the task in her capacity of professor of health, physical education, recreation and athletics. Burrill then became the College’s first director of what is now known as the Performing Arts Series, while continuing as technical lighting director for the dance program.

The selection of the date of the kick-off reception to follow the performance of The Ohio Ballet is meaningful to local dancers and especially to Burrill.

According to John Custer, director of the Performing Arts Series, “they have had a long and warm relationship with Heinz Poll (the company’s artistic director) and Tom Skelton.” Skelton was the co-founder, associate director and resident lighting designer for the Ohio Ballet from 1969 to 1994. The March 22 performance of the Ohio Ballet, which marks its third appearance in Rhode Island College’s Performing Arts Series, is being dedicated to his memory.

Cohen said fundraising activities are being planned to “buy current and state-of-the-art books and videos on dance” for the Burrill-Melcer Dance Resource Library. All donations should be made payable to the Rhode Island College Foundation, Roberts Hall, Providence, R.I. 02908 with a memo: “Burrill-Melcer Dance Resource Library.” For further information, call Cohen through Dance Alliance at (401) 829-5057.
RIC CALENDAR
MARCH 11 - 25

Mondays and Wednesdays
Volunteer at a Soup Kitchen on the second Monday of each month: serve lunch at McAuley House from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; third Wednesday of each month: serve lunch at McAuley House 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; fourth Thursday of each month: serve dinner at St. Charles from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Please sign up the day prior to the event in the Chaplains’ Office, SU 300, 456-8168. Serve lunch at McAuley House 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Catholic Student Association meets in the Student Union 300 on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. and on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. For further information, call the Chaplains’ Office at 456-8168.

Tuesdays
11 a.m.—Biofeedback-Assisted Relaxation held on the first Tuesday of every month or by appointment. Craig Lee 130, Dr. Tom Lavin. Call the Counseling Center, 456-8094 for further information.

Noon—Bible Sharing in the Chaplains’ Office, SU 300. Bring a bag lunch and join us for informal Bible study get together. Refreshments will be provided.

15 Friday

20 Wednesday
1 p.m.— Chamber Music Series. Singing Boys of Pennsylvania in Roberts Hall 138.

22 Friday
8 p.m.—Dance: Ohio Ballet. Part of the Performing Arts Series in Roberts Auditorium. Reserved seating $17, senior citizens and RIC faculty/staff $15, non-RIC students $13, RIC students $5.

25 Monday
8:15 p.m.—Music: RIC Symphony Orchestra in Roberts Auditorium. Edward Markward, conductor, Sergey Schepkin, piano. General admission $17, senior citizens and non-RIC students $10, RIC students $5.

Sports Events
11-15 Monday
TBA—RIC Women’s Softball at Women’s Intercollegiate Training Camp (North Myrtle Beach-South Carolina) against Gordon, Mercer County, Jersey City State, Delaware Valley.

19 Tuesday
3 p.m.—RIC Men’s Baseball vs. U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Home.

21 Thursday
3 p.m.—RIC Men’s Baseball vs. Stonehill College. Home.

23 Saturday
RIC Men’s Track & Field Relays—noon (field events) 2 p.m. (running events).
RIC Women’s Track & Field Relays—noon (field events) 2 p.m. (running events).

25 Monday
3 p.m.—RIC Men’s Baseball vs. Bridgewater State College. Home.

Coming up—
ETHEL MERMAN’S BROADWAY performed by Rita McKenzie in Rhode Island College’s Performing Arts Series April 23 will be in Roberts Hall Auditorium starting at 8 p.m. Reserved seating is $17 with discounts for senior citizens and students. See an upcoming issue of What’s News for more detail.

Notice of Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination
Rhode Island College is committed to equal opportunity and affirmative action. No student, employee, or applicant will be denied admission, employment, or access to programs and activities because of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap/disability status, sexual orientation or preference, or veteran status. This College policy is in concert with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries concerning the College’s administration of the nondiscrimination laws should be addressed to the College director of affirmative action. Reasonable accommodation upon request.