Graphic Design Students Win Best of Show Fourth Year in a Row
by Lana P. Beardslee and Noel Lorson

On Tuesday, February 25, students and faculty from the Department of Art attended the American Advertising Award (ADDY) ceremony in Nashville. The national awards program is for full-time and part-time students enrolled in an accredited college or university. Participating students experience regional and national judging through competition. There were 310 entries submitted from nine universities around middle Tennessee. MTSU entered approximately 50 projects. The students, all concentrating in Graphic Design, won ten gold awards, eight silver awards, the Rising Star Award, and the Best of Show. This was the fourth year in a row that an MTSU design student won Best of Show. The projects that won gold are forwarded to the regional ADDY competition. Students who won silver had the option of sending their work to the regional competition for a fee. Best of Show went to Jolene Binkley for her Zoey and Friends campaign, and Kelsey Greer won the Rising Star award for her New Eyes Calendar project.

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We are so proud of our students and faculty and the dedication they exhibit daily.

**Gold Awards**
- **Ruby Jazz**, Enlightened
- **Taylor M. Watson**, Sisters of Seattle Annual Report
- **Kyle Patterson**, Mine vs. Yours
- **LaRon Stewart**, Vagancy PSA
- **Abigail Atkins**, Random Acts Promotional Calendar
- **Kelsey Greer**, New Eyes Calendar
- **Kyle Patterson**, redpepper Intern Promotional Video
- **Ethan Farmer**, ArtFlow
- **Jolene Binkley**, Zoey and Friends
- **Alexa Games**, Polaris Island Resort Campaign

**Silver Awards**
- **Joy McCrary**, Salt on the Rim Annual Report
- **Taylor M. Watson**, Not All Clowns . . .
- **Whitney Walker Pierce**, How to Look the Part
- **Ethan Farmer**, Create
- **Courtney Hunter**, Exposed
- **Sterling Hooks**, Down Memory Lane
- **Kyle Patterson**, Parents Raising Dinosaur Kids
- **Ethan Farmer**, Respect

**Rising Star Award**
- **Kelsey Greer**, New Eyes Calendar

**Best of Show**
- **Jolene Binkley**, Zoey and Friends

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Professor Marisa Recchia included in Prestigious Chawan International Exhibition
by Marisa Recchia, Lana P. Beardslee, and Eric Snyder

Ms. Recchia was one of five American artists chosen to participate in an international exhibition of 100 worldwide chawan makers. A chawan is a bowl used to serve tea, and the production of chawan bowls is a long-held tradition in East Asian cultures. The exhibition was held in Taiwan October 5–20, 2013, and was organized by the Kaohsiung Ceramic Industry Alliance.

About her chawan work, Recchia said, “These chawan were produced in a spirit of resonance between old technology (the ancient practice of wood-firing pottery) and new technology: a recently built low-carbon-footprint energy-efficient smokeless wood kiln. They represent to me thoughts of reverence and respect for the past [while] embracing the present moment and what presence has to offer: connections to ceremony, beauty in the movement of the potter’s wheel, and the dance of the flame as the kiln is firing. I think about the idea of simplicity, honesty to form, and the space a form takes up as well as the space around the form.”

All three of her bowls were purchased and are now in the private collection of Mr. and Mrs. Ken-hsiung Lee. Professor Recchia is working to bring a version of the exhibit to MTSU in 2015.
Scott Sulfridge Wins the Design the Mask Contest for the Nashville Predators

by Lana P. Beardslee

The Nashville Predators recently gave fans a chance to participate in a Design the Mask contest presented by AT&T. Fans submitted designs for a new mask for Pekka Rinne, goaltender for the Preds. Three finalists were selected by Rinne and then displayed online for an open vote, which was won by Studio Art and sculpture student Scott Sulfridge. His design was sent to the NHL for approval and then to Sweden for Dave Gunnarsson of DAVEART, who creates all of Rinne’s masks, to paint. The mask debuted on March 30 during a game against the Washington Capitals. Sulfridge’s winning design incorporates Pred’s gold, a guitar, and the Nashville skyline in a vivid and colorful display of civic pride.

As a senior, Scott is particularly thankful for the guidance he has received from Sculpture Professor Michael Baggarly. Says Scott, “He always pushed me to do my best work, even when I thought I already had!”

Art Education Visits the Arctic Circle & More!

by Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt

This May, students enrolled in art education courses will travel with me to Scandinavia to teach art to children, meet with local artists, make art, and learn about cultural sites in Norway and Denmark. Our trip will begin in Denmark with a week of teaching, picnics, and living with Danish host families. From Denmark, we will fly to Norway’s Lofoten Islands in the Arctic Circle, where we will work with leading art educator Kristan Risan, who recently received a prestigious award for her work from King Harald V. In the Arctic, we will stay at an artist’s retreat called Kunstnerhuset Lofoten, where we will have access to their wonderful studio spaces, enjoy views of the fjord, and get to know local artists and their work. Our trip will continue to Bergen, Flåm, and Oslo, where we will visit amazing places including the Oleana Sweater Factory, stave churches, Viking ships, and museums.

You are invited to learn about our experience in Scandinavia by visiting our upcoming exhibition, Passport to Happiness, which opens July 21 in Todd Art Gallery. See our displays of original artworks, photographs, videos, and children’s art, which demonstrate why Scandinavians are some of the happiest people in the world. For more information and/or to sign up for the 2015 trip to Scandinavia, please contact me at dsickler@mtsu.edu. Like our Facebook page, “MTSU Scandinavia Study Abroad.” Opportunities like this make MTSU’s art education program successful in helping students secure meaningful careers!
Nancy L. Kelker Releases New Book
by Lana P. Beardslee and Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt

Dr. Nancy L. Kelker’s newest book, *Mel Casas: Artist as Cultural Adjuster* places American pop artist Mel Casas’s body of work into context and identifies its significant meanings. The book showcases Casas’s work and discusses how his art became a vehicle for cultural, social, and political commentary from a Chicano point of view. Kelker explains how Casas as cultural adjuster serves as a leading burster of society’s bubble about on-screen fantasies. Kelker highlights consequences associated with overt objectification, hidden truths, and loss of personal and cultural identity. The book should appeal to general audiences and academics alike. With art history as its foundation, Kelker’s book correlates Casas’s body of work to America’s social history, popular culture, psychology, gender studies, and issues of social justice. Baby Boomers and Generation Xers will reflect on how the social and political climate of the last half of the 20th century shaped their lives. Academics and educators focusing on postmodern principles of social justice, equity, and inclusion will find the book most useful. Those looking for an interesting read will appreciate the author’s ability to communicate widely, presenting the terminology in context and adding wit and personal narrative that resonates. The book is available on amazon.com.

Department of Art News
by Lana P. Beardslee

2014 Scholarships
Please congratulate the following students on being awarded the following 2014 departmental scholarships.

**Studio Art and Graphic Design**
Jesse Bulla, Department of Art Scholarship for Art Majors
Laura Brake, Charles W. and Ola Belle Massey Memorial Art Scholarship
Mika Mollenkopf, Charles W. and Ola Belle Massey Memorial Art Scholarship
Amber Lelli, David G. LeDoux Scholarship
Robert “Bob” Brzozowski, Dr. Charles M. Brandon Scholarship

**Scholarship in Art**
Allison Ford, Jerry’s Artarama Art Supply Scholarship

**Art Education**
Hester Rogers, Ray Memorial Scholarship

**Art History**
Kaitlyn Roberts, Jill Montgomery Memorial Scholarship

Goodbye to Departing Professors
Three professors are leaving the Department of Art at the end of the 2014 spring semester, and we wish them well in their respective adventures. Bonnie Rushlow, art education; Bob Durham, foundations; and Seth Johnson, graphic design, will all be missed! Thank you for your years of dedicated teaching!

Calendar
The Todd Art Galleries
TAG | 220, Todd Art Gallery (Main Gallery)
TAG | 210, Student Art Gallery (Student Gallery)

All gallery receptions, lectures, exhibits and other events are free and open to the public Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. closing only for university holidays, installations, and the special hours of the annual Seasonal Scholarship Sale.

Summer 2014
TAG | 220, Todd Hall, room 220

NSEW: What Grew Us
National Juried Student Exhibit
May 12-29; Reception – May 12, 2014, 5-7 p.m.
NSEW Curator, Laura Brake, Department of Art Student Gallery Committee (SGC)
Governor’s School for the Arts
June 1-26
A statewide pre-professional summer program for rising junior and senior high school students with curriculum that includes individual and group instruction designed to help each student explore and develop talent in music, ballet, theatre, filmmaking, or visual art.

2014 Branches of One Tree Invitational Art Exhibit
July 10-17; Reception – July 10, 5-7 p.m.
Featured guest speaker Michael Baggarly, MTSU Associate Professor of Art
This exhibit includes students from Murfreesboro City & Rutherford County Schools, kindergarten through 12th grade selected as award recipients in Murfreesboro City Hall Art Committee sponsored art competitions held in the Rotunda of City Hall early 2014.

Passport to Happiness
July 21-August 15
Reception – July 21, 5-7 p.m.
Come and see why Scandinavians are the happiest people in the world during our “Passport to Happiness” exhibit featuring artworks, photographs, and videos created in Norway and Denmark by Art Education undergraduates studying with Dr. Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt through MTSU Scandinavia Study Abroad during the 2014 Summer May Term.

Fall 2014
TAG | 220, Todd Art Gallery

Alumni Exhibit
August 28–September 11; Reception, August 27, 5–7 p.m.
An exhibit curated by 2003 MTSU Painting and Printmaking graduate Hans Schmitt-Matzen, Exhibition Designer for the Frist Center for the Arts, Nashville, Tennessee.

In/finite Earth
September 16-October 1; Reception, September 15, 5–7 p.m.
The Twelfth national traveling exhibition in the VSA’s annual Emerging Artists Program is an initiative that seeks to discover young artists living with a disability at the cusp of their careers. The VSA was founded 35 years ago by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith as the international organization on arts, disability, and equal access. Now an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. the VSA has 17 college-age (19-22) students participating. Not only does this exhibit promote diversity and success over one’s adversity, but it also showcases, supports, and reaffirms the innovative training and creativity of MTSU art faculty in the areas of graphic design and studio art.

Illustration
October 7-23; Reception, October 6, 5–7 p.m.
Curated by Ashley Doughty the exhibit includes the work of critically acclaimed African American artist and illustrator Kadir Nelson. He is a recipient of multiple awards and honors from children’s books to major publishers and publication companies like Coca-Cola and Major League Baseball. Also involved is John Hendrix a professor of illustration and typography at Washington University in St. Louis. His work has been published in numerous publications including Time Magazine, Rolling Stone, Sports Illustrated, and Entertainment Weekly. He has also illustrated and authored award winning children’s books including John Brown: His Fight for Freedom and A Boy Called Dickens.

Mid-South Sculpture Alliance
October 28-November 14
Curated by Sculpture Professor Michael Baggarly the Mid-South Sculpture Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the creation and understanding of sculpture. Sculpture educates; effects social change; and engages artists; art professionals and community in dialogue.

Studio Bachelor of Fine Arts Senior Exhibition
November 18–26; Reception, November 17, 5–7 p.m.
The celebration and exit exhibit of Senior-level art majors nearing completion of their studies for the Bachelor of Arts degree (BFA) in Studio Art. All will have selected an emphasis of Ceramics, Painting, Printmaking, or Sculpture.

Department of Art Seasonal Scholarship Sale
December 1–3; Hours: Monday & Tuesday, December 1 and 2, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.; Wednesday, December 3, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
Artworks and other treasures for sale with proceeds going to the Department of Art scholarships. All work donated by MTSU art faculty, staff, alums, students, working artists, and art enthusiasts.

TAG | 210
(Student Art Gallery)

NAAEA Exhibition: Art Education on a Budget
August 28–September 11; Reception, August 27, 5–7 p.m.
Curated by senior art education major Kelsey Rogers and juried by Dr. Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt this exhibit investigates the costs, sacrifices, and dedication required from today’s newly employed art teachers to tomorrow’s art education majors as they approach graduation.

Call for Student Proposals
September 16–October 1; Reception, September 15, 5–7 p.m.
To submit a proposal contact Meaghan Nelson, Student Gallery Committee Faculty Advisor at Meaghan.Nelson@mtsu.edu or Todd Art Gallery Director-Eric.Snyder@mtsu.edu

Call for Student Proposals
October 7–23; Reception October 6, 5–7 p.m.

Graphic Design Juried Student Show
October 28–November 14; Reception October 27, 5–7 p.m.

Studio Bachelor of Fine Arts Senior Exhibition
November 18–26; Reception, November 17, 5–7p.m.
Senior art majors nearing graduation in Ceramics, Painting, Printmaking, and Sculpture