# accessand tunity A Newsletter from Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc.

# SUNY ULSTER'S NEWLY DESIGNED CLINICAL NURSING LABS NAMED AFTER ALUMNA

The Elizabeth H. Tucker Clinical Nursing Pavilion



On December 7, Sue Kehoe, secretary of the New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) wrote in a letter to the Daily Freeman; "Congratulations to the college and nursing faculty for developing such a dynamic educational experience for our future nurses!"

lauded Dr. Tucker for her lifetime of achievements and intense dedication to excellence in professional nursing and, specifically, to the Nursing Program at SUNY Ulster. She was remembered as "an inspirational commencement speaker, a member of the College's Alumni Hall of Fame, and an honoree of the Foundation's 2007 gala event."

Among those who were thanked, Dr. Katt singled out Ulster County and New York State for providing funds to "create a nursing lab with the most up-to-date technology." Additionally, he acknowledged SUNY Institute of Technology in Utica that has partnered with SUNY Ulster to offer its fouryear nursing classes on the Stone Ridge campus after SUNY New Paltz closed its nursing program. Dr. Katt recognized Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley which has come forward to lend support to nursing scholarships for SUNY Ulster students. In fact, according to Margo McGilvrey, Director of Nursing, who spoke at the ceremony, the scholarships were in recognition of the fact that 80 percent of the nurses serving at the two health Alliance Hospitals – Benedictine and Kingston - are SUNY Ulster graduates.

# **SPRING 2011**

More On SUNY Ulster's Hallmark **Nursing Program** 

> Professor Emerita Roberta Gavner

Howard C. St. John Distinguished **Lecture Series** 

> The Honorable Joseph J. Traficanti

NYSERDA President Francis J. Murray

- **SUNY Ulster:** Military Friendly
- **Entrepreneurs** Taking the Lead
- Feature: A Meeting of the Minds

Chancellor Zimpher & Darlene Pfeiffer

- Revitalizing the Arts at SUNY Ulster
- Spring **Preview**
- **Featured** Events

Ulster Garden Club Lecture

Anita Williams Peck **Public Speaking** Competition

Her words of praise were in response to a visit that NYSNA, District 11 members had made the previous month. They toured the new Dr. Elizabeth H. Tucker Clinical Nursing Pavilion that had been dedicated just last August and was being put through its paces for the first time during the Fall semester.

The dedication was opened by College President Donald C. Katt and attended by faculty, campus and community members and the family of the late Dr. Tucker. Speakers





# **DEDICATION** AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dedication day also brought the acknowledgement of the many SUNY Ulster Nursing Department past chairs with the placement of a commemorative plaque in the newly designed clinical nursing lab. The plaque bears the following:

The President and Board of Trustees would like to recognize the following nursing professionals for their leadership, vision, and commitment to ensure the quality and success of the SUNY Ulster Nursing Department.

1968–1973	Florence Irwin
1973–1975	John Belfiore
1975–1978	Evelyn M. Lyke
1978-1989 & 1999-2001	Joan Gilbert
1989–1994	Shirley Krembs
1994–1995	Honey Fein
1995–1997	Roberta Gavner
1997-1998	Catherine Olbeter
1998-1999	Doris Kennedy
2001–2004	Catherine Kelly
2005–2007	Barbara Maxwell
2007-present	Jody Mesches

#### SUNY ULSTER'S HALLMARK NURSING PROGRAM

continued from page one

Robert T. Brown, President Emeritus of SUNY Ulster, and chair of the College Foundation's Special Gifts Committee warmed up the audience, remarking that his special affection for the Nursing Department has arisen from the fact that he "hugs a nurse every day," referring to his wife, Bonnie Brown. Bob, a longtime friend and admirer of Elizabeth Tucker spoke of the importance of continuing to pursue your dream, as demonstrated by Elizabeth Tucker's own education and career path. He said it was the responsibility of the college and faculty to ensure that nursing students learn in a center of excellence and graduate fully abreast in their field.

He thanked the entire Tucker family, Michael Tucker, his wife, Lynette, and their children Megan, Kathleen, and Eileen, as well as Kevin and his children, Renee and Kaitlin for their generous response to the support sought by the Foundation's Special Gifts Committee to benefit the Nursing Program. As Robert Brown noted, the Committee's efforts help fund and realize projects such as the creation of the Clinical Nursing Pavilion, that features a simulated lab experience so that nursing students may learn the techniques of safe nursing practice before entering into the hospital setting with patients.

Elizabeth Tucker's son, Michael, spoke on a more personal note about his mother's life and career in nursing. He called her "a child of the Depression," growing up in High Falls and Rosendale, never farther than three miles from SUNY Ulster, which would feature so prominently in her life when she began her nursing studies in 1964 at the age of 45. She went on to receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Pace University in 1977. He said that lifelong learning was a "hallmark of her life," culminating in receiving both her Master's and Doctoral Degrees in 1979 and 1983, respectively, from Teachers College, Columbia University. In summing up the long and illustrious career his mother enjoyed in important teaching assignments in academia, including Adjunct Professor and Consultant with Regents College of the State University of New York and serving on the faculty of the Department of Nursing Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, where she was an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Leadership Development Center, he said simply and perhaps, most importantly, "She was always a teacher, an advisor, and a resource to her students."

The following past Nursing Department Chairs were present at the ceremony: Shirley Krembs, Catherine Kelly, Roberta Gavner, and Doris Kennedy. They were joined by current Department Chair Jody Mesches. •









Clinical Nursing Labs Dedication. August 17, 2010

# OPPORTUNITIES KEEP ON KNOCKING



# SUNY Ulster Nursing Professor Emerita Roberta Gavner

Roberta Gavner has welcomed new possibilities throughout her life. When she was preparing to enroll in nursing school in the 1950s she,

paradoxically, had the good fortune to contract an illness serious enough to derail her educational plans for two years. By the time she was ready to resume her pursuit of a nursing career, the opportunity to take a competitive examination emerged, and her high scores earned her admittance to a private college with a full scholarship. Misericordia University, unlike her original choice, was a baccalaureate program in Nursing Education that combined two years of college study with a three year nursing diploma awarded through Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Upon graduation, she taught at the Kingston Hospital Nursing School. When a new opportunity presented itself in the form of a part-time position with SUNY Ulster's fledgling Nursing Department, she embarked upon what would become a 21-year long professional affiliation with the College. Her career at SUNY Ulster would encompass both nursing instructor and, eventually, Chair of the Nursing Department.

The opening of the new Clinical Nursing Pavilion has caused Roberta Gavner to reflect upon the vast changes that have taken place in her field, and healthcare in general.

"Change is a good stimulus for moving on and doing new things. When I was in nursing school the focus was on attaining excellent skills. Today's nursing students to be successful must learn not only increasingly complex skills, but the principles that underlie patient care in a high-technology world — critical thinking, sophisticated assessment, and problem solving."

Both Mrs. Gavner and her husband, Joe Gavner, share a lifelong dedication to education and have become devoted supporters of the College through their ongoing generosity to the College Foundation on behalf of the Nursing Program. When asked why, she replied, "With my educational history and career, I can now fully appreciate the College's dedication to the ever changing world of Nursing. The career opportunities in Nursing are endless. Joe and I want to support the College's efforts in every way, including financially."

Roberta Gavner also has a graduate degree in Gerontology and post retirement from SUNY Ulster obtained a graduate Certificate of Thanatology. She has been an active member of the College's RSVP Advisory Council, including serving as Chair and additionally, she has helped to organize and launch LifeSpring, an organization for lifelong learning. She serves on the Curriculum Committee and Board of Directors. •





## SCHOLARSHIPS AT WORK

**Entering and second year College Scholars Recipients:** 

Scholarship Ceremony of September 8, 2010

The College Scholars Program at SUNY Ulster has provided more than \$800,000 toward the cost of tuition for close to 900 students since inception.

# THE HOWARD C. ST. JOHN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES



2010 THE HONORABLE JOSEPH J. TRAFICANTI SPEAKS AT SUNY ULSTER

Fostering Good Governance and the Rule of Law in Newly Emerging Democracies: Armenia, Macedonia, and Jordan

SUNY Ulster added an international flavor to its 2010 St. John Breakfast Lecture as The Honorable Joseph J. Traficanti shared his personal experiences and consulting assignments abroad in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Judge Traficanti is a retired Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for all of New York State courts exclusive of New York City. Joe, as he is known to most in this community, addressed business and civic leaders at a morning breakfast, followed by a student session with SUNY Ulster students and students from local high schools. Both events were held on SUNY Ulster's Stone Ridge campus.

Since his retirement in 2004, Judge Traficanti has represented DPK Consulting which has sent him on numerous and fascinating assignments in newly emerging democracies to oversee the modernization and judicial reform projects for the court systems of Armenia, Macedonia, and Jordan. Judge Traficanti spoke passionately about the importance of creating a uniform and transparent judicial infrastructure and implementing legal reforms in those countries. He expressed that while the general public tends to think in terms of specific case outcomes, it is the consistency and the dependability of the judicial infrastructure that is the true guarantor of fairness and the rule of law.

A lecturer with a more than impressive background in court-related and international legal topics, Judge Traficanti spoke on issues including judicial integrity, accountability and accessibility as well as court finances, structure, and timeliness.

While in office in the New York State courts, Judge Traficanti spearheaded innovative projects that were designed to reduce caseload backlogs, resulting in a more than 70% reduction in non-compliance cases- an outstanding result given the 4 million cases annually that flooded the court system during those years. One of the ways he accomplished efficiencies was by introducing case processing via electronic filing of procedures, web-based and electronic reporting of dispositions, and enhanced technological training. •



(Clockwise, starting with above) Mt. Ararat, Armenia; Cascade Yerevan, Armenia; Church of St. John Kaneo, Lake Ohrid, Macedonia circa 13th Century: Republic Square Fountain, Armenia.









2011 FRANCIS J. MURRAY, JR.

**Toward a Clean Energy Future** 

This year's Howard C. St. John featured speaker, Francis J. Murray, President and CEO of the NEW York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) addressed state-wide energy policies and the initiatives that NYSERDA supports to promote the solar and sustainable energy fields.

As many of our citizens know, Ulster County has been making a concerted effort to foster and attract manufacturers who are serving the solar and sustainable energy field, establishing more than 500 new positions this past year alone in these industries. SUNY Ulster has responded enthusiastically to support these efforts by instituting a variety of courses and credentialed programs within the field. The college has been the proud recipients of NYSERDA funding to lead regional community colleges in the development and implementation of curricula in a variety of sustainable energy.

With the heightened interest in the development of clean technologies, on a global and regional scale alike, the Foundation and the College have invited Mr. Francis to campus to share his insights on New York State energy policies and NYSERDA's programs. Among his many positions and appointments, Mr. Murray has served as Deputy Secretary to Governor Mario M. Cuomo for Energy and the Environment, New York State Commissioner of Energy, policy advisor to the United States Secretary of Energy, and Senior Advisor at an international environmental consulting firm where he provided strategic policy and market development guidance on energy issues to the private sector.

At the statewide 2010 Advanced Energy Conference this past November, Mr. Murray commented, "The vast diversity of technologies on display at the Advanced Energy Conference show that not only is New York already a significant hub of innovation and creativity, but that New York has all the elements needed to host the next generation of clean technology companies. NYSERDA is proud to have played a role in helping so many New York companies secure the resources and funding they needed to become successful in our challenging economy." •

# MILITARY FRIENDLY: THEN, NOW, ALWAYS AT SUNY ULSTER

# A Military Friendly Campus

For a second year running, SUNY Ulster has received designation as a military friendly campus from G.I. Jobs Magazine, ranking the college in the top 15% of all colleges and universities in its interest in educating members and veterans in the military. SUNY Ulster is deemed a "friendly" campus for a number of reasons, including having in place specific policies and practices regarding individuals either currently serving in the military or returning veterans. For example, the College awards credits for experience gained in the military in accordance with the American Council on Education's evaluation of the credit value related to those experiences. Credits can be applied to the Associate degree ranging from Network Administration and Business Math to Communications/Public Speaking, among others.

Another important reason for the designation is that SUNY Ulster boasts a Service Members Academic Resources Team. The Team is comprised of faculty and staff who plan events and review practices and policies affecting student veterans for the over 50 male and female students with military experience currently enrolled at the College. One such policy ensures that

students, who, should they be called to active duty in the National Reserve while attending the College, have the ability to withdraw and later complete their courses without being penalized in any way for time spent fulfilling their military obligations.

Moreover, veterans who enroll at SUNY Ulster under the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill, which provides eligible veterans who served since September 10, 2001 100 percent of tuition and fees, a \$1000 book stipend, and up to a \$1500 monthly housing stipend, can have their tuition deadlines deferred. The veterans can begin their course work upon enrollment without concerns about when the funding will arrive.

SUNY Ulster's students who have served in the military are a diverse group, and range in age from their 20s to their 50s. Some prefer to blend into campus life and not be singled out in any way for their service. Conversely, a student with military service who recently enrolled at the College has expressed interest in forming a chapter of Student Veterans of America. SUNY Ulster is proud to have a campus where either choice is respected and honored. •



SUNY Ulster President Donald C. Katt & Veterans.

# Fall 2010 Veterans Showcase at SUNY Ulster

On October 30, 2010 a Veterans Showcase was held at the College that included a presentation from Military One Source, "Transitioning to Civilian Life and the Cycle of Reintegration." Over a dozen community organizations presented relevant service information for veterans and their families, including Ulster County Veterans Service Agency, NYS Division of Veterans Affairs, Yellow Ribbon transfer schools, Social Security Administration, and job search assistance from the Office of Employment and Training and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) The Showcase also provided informational sessions on SUNY Ulster Admissions and the benefits of the Post 9/11 GI Bill. A care package drive for active duty personnel was part of the event. •

# Veterans Day Ceremony and Recognition Luncheon: November 2010 Stone Ridge Campus

In conjunction with multiple local VFW's and American Legion groups from the surrounding communities, the Student Government Organization sponsors an annual Veterans Day Recognition Luncheon on the Stone Ridge Campus. Students from the College's Business Club volunteer to

serve the veterans lunch. Veterans from World War II forward attend the event to share stories, reflect on the impact of their military service upon their lives, and to honor lost comrades and citizens who are currently serving their country. •











SUNY Ulster's SGO volunteer, Benjamin Okereke and Veterans

# ULSTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.

# 2010 ANNUAL GALA: ENTREPRENEURS – TAKING THE LEAD

Congratulations to our 2010 Honorees! We applaud your steadfast commitment to our community and we thank you for all you do!



#### Gerald "Ozzie" Beichert

The Beichert family opened the doors to their sign manufacturing company in 1964. President and CEO Ozzie Beichert has been in a leadership role in sales and planning, ushering in new technology and services at key points to ensure that Timely Signs remains a growing success within the signage industry. He is a dedicated civic leader serving the county with expertise in planning and zoning issues, and a deeply committed volunteer for many worthy

causes that have a measurable impact on the quality of life for members of our community.



**Frank S. Falatyn**President & CEO, Fala Technologies, Inc.

From Ulster Tool and Die Company to FALA Technologies, Frank Falatyn has transformed the family's precision manufacturing business to meet the challenges of a new age of technology. As a Founder and Vice Chair of The Solar Energy Consortium (TSEC), Frank is working with industry, academic, environmental, labor and economic development leaders as well as federal, state and local

government officials to create a new "CleanTech" solar energy industry as an emerging strategic sector for the New York economy. He recently launched a new solar energy company (PVI Solar) to engineer and manufacture solar lighting and solar sign products using advanced LED lighting, energy storage and artificial intelligence control systems.



## **Joyce Minard**

President of the Regional Chamber of Commerce at New Paltz Appointed to the position of president in 1978, Joyce Minard has led the New Paltz Chamber for more than 30 years promoting the advancement of business, industry, agriculture as well as the civic interests of the residents of New Paltz and the surrounding areas. With her characteristic energy and enthusiasm, she has been a tireless advocate on behalf of the New Paltz community and many

worthy causes. Joyce has devoted much of her career to help connect education and small business as one way to help sustain a vibrant local economy. Her leadership and hard work have helped to make New Paltz one of New York's leading destinations.



Robert A. Sena

SUNY Ulster Biology Professor Emeritus and
President of the Rosendale Library Board of Trustees
A life-long advocate for education, Bob Sena dedicated his
teaching career of more than 30 years to the students of SUNY
Ulster. Joining the College early on in 1968, Professor Sena helped
set the stage for the direction that the Biology program — and the
College — would take. Through committee participation, he helped

to guide the College through its first accreditation process — a major benchmark. A resident of the Town of Rosendale, Professor Sena has served as a member of the board of the Rosendale Library since 1992. Elected President in 2007, after serving as Vice President for seven years, he planned and implemented a capital project to restore the historic Rosendale Library roof.











# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

# 2010 Annual Gala **Celebrating Entrepreneurship**

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the resounding success of the 2010 annual gala this past October, and to recognize the honorees who were selected as shining examples of vision and entrepreneurial leadership. Through their many professional and personal accomplishments and spirit of innovation, these individuals contribute both to our community life and to the vitality of our local business economy.

#### Congratulations!

Ozzie Beichert, Frank Falatyn, Joyce Minard and Professor Emeritus Bob Sena. You are an inspiration to us all!

#### 2010 In Retrospect

The past year has been filled with rewarding experiences for the Foundation and its Board of Directors, thanks to the generosity of our contributors. Given the pressures of the economy, the Foundation had a surprisingly successful fundraising year, as the recipient of many charitable gifts — and several unexpected ones! This generosity of our community is a testament to the value placed on education as a means to improve the quality of life for so many in our community. On behalf of the members of the Foundation Board, I extend my deepest gratitude for the gifts received from the many friends of the College for the benefit of SUNY Ulster students and the programs that serve our region.

Your support enables the Foundation to provide assistance to the College for a broad spectrum of academic and community programming, including the ever important Scholarship Program that provides students with recognition of their achievements and with funding that is critical during these challenging economic times.

The Foundation Board of Directors takes great pride in partnering with the College in these and many other



initiatives that contribute to the quality of life for our students and for members of our communities throughout our region.

Richard A. Mantey Ulster Community College Foundation

# SUNY CHANCELLOR SPEAKS AND KFC FRANCHISEE DARLENE PFEIFFER TRANSLATES HER MESSAGE INTO ACTION



Chancellor, Nancy Zimpher

## **Ulster County Chamber of Commerce Breakfast:** January 16, 2011

When State University of New York Chancellor Nancy Zimpher addressed the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce on the role of SUNY as an economic engine. one member of the audience got the message loud

and clear-and immediately turned it into action at SUNY Ulster. As the Chancellor characterized the 64 campus-wide vision as the "Power of SUNY", a Kingston KFC franchisee and longstanding advocate on behalf of education was inspired to step up to help bring that vision to fruition. Much like Chancellor Zimpher who is New York's first woman chancellor, Darlene L. Pfeiffer is a pioneering business leader, successful entrepreneur, and an economic engine in her own right. Inspired by the Chancellor's vision of SUNY to create jobs, forge relationships with business, support clean technologies, and provide a trained workforce that is prepared for 21st century industry, Ms. Pfeiffer sprang to action by making a major charitable gift to enhance the Entrepreneurial Studies program at SUNY Ulster.

With the support and inspiration from the Foundation's newly established Darlene L. Pfeiffer Center for Entrepreneurial Studies fund, SUNY Ulster's Business Department will initiate and develop a physical and programmatic center on the Stone Ridge Campus. The *Center* will be designed to foster collaborations between credit programs and continuing education courses, as well as to house student and professional services that support the study of entrepreneurial business development and management. The Center will include the on campus offices of the already nationally recognized Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the Student Business Club. The formal inauguration of the Darlene L. Pfeiffer Center for Entrepreneurial Studies will take place in the Fall.



# DONOR SPOTLIGHT Darlene L. Pfeiffer

At the age of 16, Darlene was the recipient of a gift that would change her life. She was selected from approximately 700 girls her age to receive The Philip Bruck Fleming Scholarship that awarded her \$500, which at that time paid for a full year of tuition to Capital University in Columbus, Ohio.

An early indicator of Darlene's future success-and of her philanthropic inclinations, was her instinctive reaction to the award, gratitude and curiosity. Who was Philip Bruck Fleming, she wondered? In her research she discovered that the woman distributing the scholarship was the mother of the late Phillip Bruck Fleming. Following a telephone call, Darlene undertook a personal visit to the home of the donor to thank her. When she entered the living room she noticed the photo of a young man in uniform gazing down at her from his place of honor on a mantel. Mrs. Fleming, whose son fought in World

continued on page eight

War I, had honored her son's memory by establishing a scholarship fund in his name, and Darlene was honored in kind with the gift of an education, receiving the award two years in a row.

Darlene went on to graduate from college, become a flight attendant, and then launched what was to become a highly successful career as a Kentucky Fried Chicken franchisee, a business she established in Kingston. As chief executive officer and holder of two franchises with the company for 42 years, Darlene recognized the need for franchisees to combine their negotiating power if they were to remain independent and prosperous. Darlene represented one of the most influential groups of restaurateurs as a two-term president of the KFC National Franchise Association. To this day, she pays homage to KFC founder Harland Sanders, not only for his way of doing business, based upon the principles of hard work and grassroots ethics, but for his legendary corporate philanthropic model and personal generosity. Darlene has certainly continued the Colonel's tradition in both of these respects.

Deeply touched by the value of the early scholarship assistance she received from a total stranger, coupled with witnessing the philanthropic works of Harland Sanders, she became actively involved in civic projects — serving on the board of Benedictine Hospital's Health Foundation, as president of the Kingston YMCA board, and as current president of the Kingston Kiwanis Club. She is also a member of the Ulster Community College Foundation Board and member of its Finance and Executive committees.

Prior to her recent gift for entrepreneurial studies, Darlene established the Kentucky Fried Chicken Scholarship Presented by Darlene Pfeifer with the Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc. that awards five annual \$1000 scholarships to SUNY Ulster students pursuing careers in business, nursing, or other health-related areas. Qualifications include having overcome challenges and a strong drive to succeed as well as an involvement in volunteerism. The scholarship recipients are often single parents, whom she believes are under-supported. Always mindful of the need for personal involvement, Darlene attends every scholarship ceremony at the College, personally congratulating each winner and extending an invitation to have lunch with her at the college where she provides, of course, Kentucky Fried Chicken!

Darlene Pfeiffer was also the driving force in establishing the national Colonel's Scholars Program. The fund honors the principles of KFC founder, Colonel Harland Sanders, by awarding 50 scholarships annually to qualified high school seniors to be used toward four years of tuition at a state-sponsored school. As a result of her fundraising efforts at a KFC convention, \$1 million dollars was raised to fund scholarships to students in the locales where the franchisees have contributed. In 2008, two \$20,000 scholarships were awarded to students from Ulster and Dutchess counties, and in 2009 two SUNY Ulster students were recipients from the Program, which has to date sponsored more than 250 students throughout the U.S. •

# MUSIC DEGREE PROGRAM-REVIT

# **Christopher Earley Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Music**

SUNY Ulster's Music Degree Program under Christopher Earley's energetic leadership has broken all projections for enrollments in its first two years. This semester there are 50 music majors, up from 13 when the program began. With those numbers, Earley says that students are creating a "music community" – one that makes greater use of the facilities, practices more, and requires more rehearsal space. To accommodate the growing number of music majors, scheduling of rehearsal space has become an art form. What some people might consider a problem, Earley views as "exciting." He says, "Ulster's music program is gaining respect and interest in the wider community. Area musicians are being very supportive of what we're doing."

One of those very supportive musicians is Woodstock Percussion's founder and CEO, Garry Kvistad. Together with the College Foundation, he has helped make possible a major investment in new percussion instruments. Charitable gifts received from other Music Program supporters, Gary and Janeki Patrik, have allowed for the re-stringing of the department's Steinway B piano, restoring it to performance ready quality. In addition to supplemental funding for specific program needs, the Patriks' provide scholarships for music majors as their first concern. Next on Earley's "to do" list is replacing all four upright pianos in the practice rooms.

Interestingly, SUNY Ulster's Music Program is in full swing in the late afternoon and evening when most of the College has left for the day. That, according to Chris, is because the ensembles are a blend of students, local musicians, and music educators drawn from throughout the county. Involving the community means after work hours for most participants. The Music Program has one of the greater number of ensembles at community colleges statewide. The list includes wind, jazz, community band, string, college chorus, and vocal ensembles. Additionally, there are smaller duos, trios, and quartets for guitar and percussion ensembles. Inviting the participation of members from outside the College allows students to perform not only with their peers but also with more seasoned musicians – a collaboration that makes for beautiful music and an expanded concert series.

For further information on the program's Concert Series, please check SUNY Ulster's Web site at www.sunyulster.edu. •



Award winning Toronto-based percussion group, Nexus, performing at SUNY Ulster, November 20, 2010

# **ALIZING THE ARTS**



EDU-TAINMENT

Garry Kvistad

Artist in Residence at SUNY Ulster

"Get out your Boomwhackers," Grammy Award Winner, Garry Kvistad, instructed 18 of the Music Department's students mid-way through the second in a three-part series of evening workshops held in the Vanderlyn Hall Student Lounge. Kvistad's performance was under the auspices of the College's 2010 *Larry Berk Artist-in-Residence Series*.

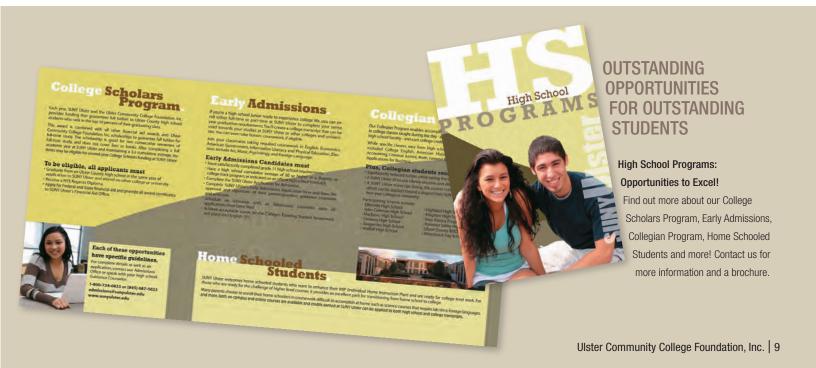
The evening's workshop, entitled "Tuning By Nature," began on a personal note with Kvistad tracing his own successful career in the music world by advising the students in the audience that "you have to combine your passion with something practical, something that pays the rent." When asked about his favorite music, he said there are three kinds of music...popular, very popular, and very unpopular. He tends to favor the unpopular because it gives him joy. His very successful business, Woodstock Percussion, which produces chimes and musical instruments sold worldwide, combines perfectly his passionate interest in sound and music with

the more pragmatic needs in life. The idea for the ubiquitous Woodstock Chimes arose, he said, out of his exploration of ancient scales and tuning.

The amount of information squeezed into the jam-packed workshop, in which Russell Hartenberger also participated, was impressive. In a demonstration of short and long sounds, Kvistad showed that the speed of simple handclapping causes its pitch. He referenced Steve Reich's "Clapping Music," which was inspired by a flamenco performance in a Spanish restaurant that Reich attended. Kvistad noted wryly that clapping does not require traditional instruments, and that "hands are not an instrument you could forget to bring with you." Kvistad and Hartenberger performed the four-handed piece, "Clapping Music," after explaining its structure, to a hearty round of appreciative clapping from the audience.

From low tech but intricate handclapping to a computer program that speeded up pulses, resulting in sounds best described as motorcycles gone wild, the audience was also treated to a lively performance by Christopher Earley's SUNY Ulster students. They demonstrated how various wave forms interact in a harmonic series with rhythmic slapping and thumping of the colorful plastic tubes called Boomwhackers. As a finale Kvistad and Hartenberger gave a masterful rendition of Piano Phase, a 1967 composition by Steve Reich, on two marimbas. Members of the audience closed their eyes to better "hear" the music - smiling, nodding their heads, and clearly mesmerized.

The final workshop in the series was a concert by the Toronto-based group NEXUS. The group, which appears throughout the world, performed a concert of all percussion music, including Steve Reich's Music for Pieces of Wood, John Cage's Third Construction For Percussion, African influenced drumming, Ragtime xylophone selections and the world premiere of a work by NEXUS member Bill Cahn written especially for the occasion. •



# FOUNDATION SPECIAL EVENTS: SPRING PREVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

# HIGH SCHOOL SPEAKERS TAKE CENTER STAGE AT SUNY ULSTER



KHS Student finalists: Danielle Beckvermit, Katie Ehmann, Sara Hutton, Stephanie Jacco, Katherine Kennedy, Kevin Kurtz, Margaret Lindeman, Erin McManus, Brandon Paton, and Sebastian Ryan.



KHS Competition Winners, Brandon Paton and Erin McManus with Marianne Collins, Anita Williams Peck and SUNY Ulster President, Donald C. Katt.

# Anita Williams Peck Public Speaking Competition for Kingston High School Students

Ten Kingston High School seniors wowed a full house in the Vanderlyn Hall Student Lounge as they competed for scholarship awards before a panel of judges at the inaugural Anita Williams Peck Annual Public Speaking Competition. While some included media support, others spoke from notes or from memory on topics ranging from The Importance of Music in our Schools to Global Warming and Hurricanes.

The judges included SUNY Ulster's own President Emeritus, Robert T. Brown, and Professor of Communication, Mary C. Tarcza. Special guest, poet and broadcast journalist, Rolland G. Smith, also lent his formidable skills to the panel.

Anita Williams Peck is a member of the Ulster Community College Foundation Board, a valued civic volunteer, and is well known in the community as the gracious proprietor of Williams Lake Resort. She established the annual competition for Kingston High School juniors and seniors to encourage students from her alma mater to better appreciate the pleasure and challenge of mastering the spoken word.

A strong advocate of communication skills, Ms. Williams Peck said, "I have long been concerned about the decline in formal language skills in our culture, but more than anything I wanted to create a competition that would highlight the importance of public speaking in preparing young people for college and for success in their chosen fields."

The judges deliberated for more than 25 minutes to decide on two winners. Brandon Paton received the first place Stentorian award in the amount of \$3,500 for his address on Overpopulation while Erin McManus took the second place \$1,000 award speaking on Segregation In Our Schools. Award money was directed to the colleges that the students will attend following their graduation from Kingston High School. •

# ULSTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION INC. INAUGURAL EVENT

# Ulster Garden Club Establishes the Elizabeth Gross Lecture Series

# Annual Lecture Series Dedicated to Horticultural Topics: Inaugural Presentation set for April 26, 2011

The Ulster Garden Club has established The Elizabeth Gross Lecture Series, an annual event that will be offered through the Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc. which will host the series on the SUNY Ulster campus. Under this collaboration, SUNY Ulster will present expert lecturers in the field of Horticulture, Floriculture, Landscape Design, Forestry, City Planning, Land Management, Botany, Conservation and Environmental Studies. The lecture series is supported by a charitable gift received by the Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc. from the Ulster Garden Club made possible through a bequest from the estate of Mrs. Gross.

The inaugural lecture, scheduled for April 26, 2011, will feature Professor Emerita, nutritional 10 | Access and Opportunity · Spring 2011

ecologist and noted author, Dr. Joan Dye Gussow. Dr. Gussow is a life-long serious food producer and a Mary Swartz Rose Professor Emerita of Teachers College, Columbia University. She has served as a member and chair of numerous nutritional organizations, including two terms on the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Academy of Sciences, and single terms on the FDA's Food Advisory Committee and the National Organic Standards Board. She is currently serving on the boards of Just Food, the Sustainability Fund, and the Frontera Farmer Foundation, as well as on the Board of Trustees of her Hudson River village.

Elizabeth Gross was a long time member of the Ulster Garden Club. Both Elizabeth and her husband Bob Gross were residents of Kingston and gave generously of their time and resources to a variety of worthwhile organizations in the community. This lecture series will continue their legacy and foster a love of horticulture by providing educational lectures and seminars to the residents of Ulster County.

The Ulster Garden Club has been affiliated with The Garden Club of America since 1940. The mission of The Garden Club of America is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to share the advantages of association by means of educational meetings, conferences, correspondence and publications, and to restore, improve, and protect the quality of the environment through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and civic improvement.

SUNY Ulster President Donald C. Katt welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with the Ulster Garden Club in adding this prestigious lecture series to the College's calendar of special events.

# opportunity

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# SPRING EVENTS CALENDAR

#### **LECTURE**

# **Temple Grandin**



Hosted by Veterinary Technology Club

Thursday, April 21 • 6:00 pm Quimby Theater

the Hudson Valley Autism Society

# Friday, April 22 • 9:00 am • Quimby Theater

One of the most accomplished and well-known adults with autism, she is the topic of the full-length HBO film, TEMPLE GRANDIN. She has been featured on NPR, ABC's Primetime Live, The Today Show, Larry King Live, 48 Hours and 20/20. She is the author of a number of books including ANIMALS IN TRANSLATION, ANIMALS MAKE US HUMAN and her current best-seller THE WAY I SEE IT: A PERSONAL LOOK AT AUTISM AND ASPERGER'S. Call 845-688-1569 for more information. Pay at the door:



\$5 for students, \$10 for public.

The Ulster Garden Club Presents

# The Elizabeth Gross **Lecture Series**

Dr. Joan Dye Gussow

# Tuesday, April 26 • 2:00 pm Student Lounge, Vanderlyn Hall

Join us as we celebrate a new annual horticultural series made possible through a bequest

received by the Ulster Garden Club from long-term club member and Kingston resident, Mrs. Elizabeth Gross. Dr. Joan Dye Gussow, noted author and Professor Emerita of Teacher's College, Columbia University, will present a lecture titled LIFE AND MY GARDEN. The lecture includes a reading from her new book, GROWING OLDER and a slide show about the destruction and revival of her riverside garden on higher ground. For more information call the Foundation office at 845-687-5283.



#### CONCERT

# **College Wind Ensemble**

Monday, May 2 7:30 pm • Quimby Theater

Attend a concert of outstanding wind ensemble selections performed by the SUNY Ulster Wind Ensemble under the direction of Victor Izzo, Jr.

#### CEREMONY

# **Foundation Scholarship Ceremony**

Tuesday, May 3 • 7:00 pm • Quimby Theater

Come celebrate and join us as we recognize the diligent work and achievements of the 2011-2012 Scholarship recipients. Through the generosity of its many contributors, and as steward of the Scholarship Program, the Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc. awards over \$140,000 annually in scholarships to more than 200 deserving students. There will be a reception following the ceremony. Open to the public.

Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc.



# **Anita Williams Peck Public Speaking Competition**

Established for Kingston High School Students

Thursday, June 9 • 7:00 pm • Student Lounge, Vanderlyn Hall

Kingston High School students compete

for \$4500 in scholarship awards for the best public speaking presentations. Each student will deliver a fiveminute persuasive speech on a current event topic before a panel of judges. The awards are made possible through a charitable gift received by the Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc. from Anita Williams Peck. The competition is designed to encourage students to refine their oral communication skills both to prepare for college and to improve communication within the larger community. •

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