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Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continuing interest and support of the School of Art at Bowling Green State University. The students and faculty here are always working hard to make you proud of their work and your investment in them.

It’s an especially exciting time this year as we are about to open the new Wolfe Center for the Arts right next door to the Fine Arts Building the School has occupied for years. Even though Theatre and Film will be the prominent inhabitant of the Wolfe Center, the School of Art will also have a noticeable presence within the facility.

The Arts are the first of the University’s Centers of Excellence, as the arts have long been well recognized as a part of Bowling Green’s identity. Obviously, the School of Art is a dominant player in this Center. For example, the area of Digital Arts has become a national leader among its peers, with its students employed by top animation companies like Pixar, Blue Sky, Disney and so on.

Nevertheless, as you would expect, we’ve got all kinds of art. Like me, I’m sure that every time you visit our Gallery or the annual ArtsXtravaganza, you walk away marveling at the creativity and talent of our students and faculty. And it’s you who make much of that possible—YOU support the School through your generous contributions to the Medici Circle that help to raise our students to an ever-higher level.

Again this year, Medici will send students to SACI and award grants to others to pursue their talents in areas that would not otherwise be possible. Bottom line—the need for you never ends. Please help our students and their programs again this year by renewing your membership in the Medici Circle—maybe to a slightly higher level—and encouraging your friends to do the same.

Come and visit and bring those friends with you. At the end of this Newsletter you will see some of the wonderful events due to take place this year. We want to welcome you and make your friends our friends as well.

Sincerely,

Timothy F. Smith
Medici Circle President
Medici Circle Funding at Work: On the Road

In addition to visiting artists, the Medici Circle helps fund student field trips to conferences, museums and artists workshops beyond the region, as well as making conferences possible at the School of Art.

On the road: New York City
Traveling to the South Bronx over Fall 2010 Break with thirty-five other students was one of the best experiences Andrea DePaoli could have ever asked for. She writes: “among other places, we worked at The Point, a center that houses an after school program, art, theater, small businesses run by the community, a community arts printing press, and graffiti artists. We helped in picking up the kids from their schools and worked on homework together. To learn about others’ struggles and find out how they cope really puts things into perspective, and makes one realize what is really important in life. We also visited the Museum of Modern Art. To be able to view works from masters all over the world and through time to admiring works of art created by urban artists (also from all around the world) was one of the most inspirational times of my life.”

On the road: Ottawa, Canada
Also in Fall 2010 sixteen digital arts students drove to Ottawa, Canada, to participate in the Ottawa International Animation Festival, the largest animation festival in North America. A raw look at the animation industry, the festival was a great opportunity for networking. Four students even had the opportunity to sit down to brunch with a Disney Recruiter and have their portfolios professionally reviewed. The Festival had a wide variety of animated shorts as well as feature length films that cannot be seen outside the animation festival circuit. This exposed students to the possibilities available within the industry and community that they might never have considered or knew existed.

On the road: West Coast
In March 2011 a small group of students from the Arts Village traveled on the 8th annual Arts Village alternative spring break to the West Coast. Driving from Bowling Green to San Diego, on the way they visited the Canyon DeChelly and stayed with native artists at the Navajo reservation in Window Rock, AZ. In San Diego they worked with Chicano muralist Mario Torero on the largest mural project in the USA in Chicano Park and visited the LaJolla Museum of Contemporary Art. Driving on to San Francisco, they visited the San Francisco Institute of Art and the Palace of Fine Arts, as well artists studios. The ten day trip was the experience of a lifetime.

A Nicole Kenning outside “The Point’s” many walls covered in graffiti art.

B Disney Animation Recruiter, Dawn Rivera-Ennser, and Disney animator, Patrick Osborne, with the BGSU group.

C Painting the Chicano Art Mural
Medici Circle Funding at Work:
At home at BGSU, Visiting Artists & Scholars

The Medici Circle supports many projects that benefit School of Art students. None are more important than workshops and lectures by prominent visiting artists. Among the many artists and scholars who visited the BGSU School of Art community last year were:

The BGSU Ceramic Department, with the Clay Club, hosted a unique “Ceramic Symposium: featuring renowned ceramic artists Dan Anderson, Barry Bartlett, and Chris Gustin.” On October 3, 2010, the artists arrived for a weeklong workshop, working from 10am to 5pm each day and answering questions from audience members including BGSU students, and visitors from local high schools and surrounding universities. On consecutive days each artist also spoke to a captivated audience about their body of work, personal experiences, and ideas informing the work.

Internationally renowned painter and graphic novel artist, and professor at Columbia College, Chicago, Audrey Niffenegger presented her work to faculty, students and the public on November 1. The next day she met with students and also participated in a panel discussion about the relationship between text and image with Creative Writing faculty members Wendell Mayo and Sharona Muir, and School of Art faculty Lou Krueger, and students Brandon Briggs and Nikki Cahoon. Her inspirational work created a lively dialog and exposed students to new ideas about artistic interdisciplinarity.
Printmaker Crystal Wagner worked with BGSU students over the course of five twelve-hour days to create and install a large artwork in the Fine Arts Center Foyer Gallery. Made of myriads of pieces of hand-printed and cut paper, the astonishing three-dimensional installation was an improvised tour-de-force based on initial sketches and student responses under the guidance of the artist. To read a longer article about the workshop go to: http://www.printeresting.org/2011/06/20/crystal-wagner/.

To view a video of Crystal Wagner’s visit go to: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwYM_a6_kk.

Former BGSU faculty member and nationally recognized metalsmith Marilyn DaSilva visited BGSU to give a lecture about her work, critique student work and hold two workshops. A professor at California College of the Arts, Ms. DaSilva demonstrated her unique methods of applying color to metal surfaces, shared many samples and publications illustrating her work, and in her lecture talked about how she translates ideas into form. Her decades-long experience in the field provided an invaluable insight into the methods of a prominent national artist that will benefit students as they develop their creative trajectories and will inform future curriculum initiatives.

In April 2011, young scholars from Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Minnesota gathered in the School of Art to present original research on topics in art history. “New Perspectives in Visual Culture: The 5th Annual BGSU Undergraduate Art History Symposium” included lectures by nine B.A. candidates in art history selected from a nationally competitive pool of applicants. Dr. Nell Andrew, Assistant Professor of Modern Art History, University of Georgia, Athens, was keynote speaker. Two BGSU seniors presented papers developed with Dr. Allie Terry-Fritsch in her class on Medieval Art. Laura Laubenthal presented research on “The Illumination of Romance: Women and Morals in Medieval Society” and Darien Brucoli spoke on “Last Judgment Scare Tactics: Fear, Pain, and Memory in Giotto’s Last Judgment in the Arena Chapel.” Laubenthal stated that “the Symposium will be a great opportunity… to boost my professional skills before I leave for grad school [at Cooperstown] in the fall.”
I attended early spring term at SACI in Florence, taking Advanced Drawing and Italian 101. The academics at SACI were phenomenal. The course structures were challenging but rewarding and I enjoyed both of my instructors. They were well prepared, helpful, and insightful in all of the activities in class.

Drawing was truly a rewarding experience. To be able to study the subject matter in a location so vibrant with the history of art was awe-inspiring and motivational. We traveled to many places across the city, learning from the works of the masters of the Renaissance.

John Taylor was an outstanding instructor and saw my potential, pushing me to create art to the best of my ability. The most important concept I learned in drawing was how to observe. It is all about the research and being able to constantly study. Over time my skills improved because I was constantly studying and learning from my surroundings. This also gave me more confidence in my work.

Italian 101 was a significant challenge for me due to the amount of content taught in a 5-week period. I was faced with learning about a culture and its language, which was an eye-opening experience for me. I have never been to Europe and didn’t know what to expect. Learning the language itself was very interesting and fun due to the fact that I could go across the street and practice with a local in a café. In the end, I learned many things about Italian culture and my instructor, Marta Martini, was helpful in assisting me in learning the language.

Other than academically, I learned many things about myself. I learned how I interact with other people in a foreign country and how my culture is different than that of others around me. I grew as a person, maturing and becoming a well-rounded individual. I also became more spiritual as my journey through Italy enlightened me on many life lessons and values.
I will never forget my experience in Italy and its impact on me. I feel like a different person coming back to the United States, a person I can identify more as Brandon. I would recommend this experience to anyone in any profession or major. I would like to thank the Medici Circle for their contribution in helping me reach my life endeavors.

Thank you,

Brandon Moore
Chair - Bowling Green State University ACM SIGGRAPH President
Computer Art Club Technology Support Specialist
Restech BGSU Virtual Campus 3D Environment Developer
IN THE SPOTLIGHT:  
MARY WOLFE WINS GOVERNOR’S ART AWARD FOR ARTS PATRON

Mary T. Wolfe, Medici Circle honorary member and deeply beloved figure in the arts, received the highest arts honor of the State of Ohio, the Governor’s Art Award for Arts Patron in May 2011.

Mary T. Wolfe is an arts advocate, supporter, community leader and shaper of arts policy in Ohio and nationally. An art historian, she is a graduate of Wellesley College and Bowling Green State University, where she also taught and directed the McFall Gallery. She co-founded the Medici Circle of Friends of the School of Art, now in its thirtieth year.

Mary and her husband Frederic (Fritz) are the cornerstones of the new Wolfe Center for the Arts at BGSU, which will house collaborative arts initiatives spanning theatre and film, visual arts, music and dance. Much more about the Wolfe Center follows in the Newsletter’s next feature.

Mary and Fritz have also seeded the creation of a new gallery to house the Toledo Museum of Art’s contemporary art collection, where contemporary art will now stand proudly alongside the museum’s outstanding historical collections. Additionally, Mary Wolfe has served on many museum committees, including the search committee that successfully recruited the museum’s ninth director, Brian Kennedy.

Mary has served as a member, and then as an honorary member, on the Board of the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo (ACGT). During this time, the ACGT brought to full fruition one of the first public art programs in the country and established important collaborations with other arts and civic organizations. Mary’s leadership in the ACGT’s biennial Hot Glass event, which celebrates glass artists and the powerful role the region has played in the founding of the studio glass movement, has been immeasurable.

Mary has been a long-standing supporter of the Toledo Symphony, tirelessly serving on its Board and sustaining its activities over decades, including her strong leadership of its highly successful Symphony 2000 fundraising campaign.
The Wolfe Gallery at Maumee Valley Country Day School demonstrates Mary’s commitment to K-12 education. Here, too, she helped bring a nationally recognized architect, Hugh Newell Jacobsen, to create an inspiring venue for young people to engage with visual art.

At the Valentine Theatre in Toledo, Mary’s leadership led to the creation of the stupendous 70’ by 30’ mural of famous performers who have graced its stage since its inception. Mary also connected our graphic design, as well as theatre and film, students and faculty to the Valentine Theatre to create study materials for the project.

Mary has been a strong supporter of BGSU students for decades. She is fondly remembered by generations of students as an engaging art history teacher. She brought to us the James W. Strong Scholarship, our most generous fund for students in all areas of the visual arts. Mary is also a member of the BGSU Arts Advocates, who work with us to create regional opportunities for our university to serve the arts and culture.

Statewide, her three terms on the Ohio Arts Council Board saw many new initiatives, enhancing the Council as one of the most respected in the nation.

Mary’s impact on the national arts community has also been profound. Her leadership in the Alliance of Artists Communities, including the founding of new communities and its first directory, led to her receiving the organization’s first Catalyst Award.

Mary’s impact on the arts community—in our region, our state and beyond—has been, is and will continue to be profoundly transformational. She has permanently changed the face of the arts, the lives of artists and the art habits of the general public in our region. Her deep and endless passion has made her, truly, a catalyst for the arts.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT:
WOLFE CENTER FOR THE ARTS GRAND OPENING

On December 9th the long-awaited Wolfe Center for the Arts will open to the public.

The arts were named in 2008 as BGSU’s first center of excellence as part of the new University System of Ohio call for universities to identify areas of strength. The arts center of excellence will now have an impressive additional destination. The new, state of the art collaborative facility will allow students and faculty to learn and work on theatrical, dance, musical, film, graphic design and digital arts productions, as well as provide an outstanding venue for a wide range of performances for the Northwest Ohio public.

Designed by the award-winning international architectural firm Snøhetta, based in New York and Oslo, Norway, the Wolfe Center’s innovative programming, state-of-the-art equipment and green design will serve Northwest Ohio’s students and communities—not only to create new, collaborative artworks, but also to share new skills needed by Northwest Ohio’s and the nation’s creative economies. It was Mary and Fritz Wolfe who saw the need to match architectural ambition with BGSU’s long-standing record of excellence in the arts.

The Wolfe Center will be the first internationally significant design on the BGSU campus. Snøhetta Architects, winners of the Mies Van der Rohe Prize, Europe’s most distinguished design award, are also the architects of the World Trade Center Memorial Museum that has just opened at Ground Zero. Last year, the Wolfe Center was awarded, by Archetype Magazine, the honor of being the second most important performing arts center design in North America.

A Drawing by Dan Mauk
B Aerial Rendering by Snøhetta
C Lobby Rendering by Snøhetta
Construction of the $40 million, 93,000-square-foot building began in 2009. Fritz and Mary Wolfe provided the lead gift, with a second major gift for the main theater given by Thomas and Kathleen Donnell of Findlay. The building will also feature a 86 foot by 24 foot photographic work of art by Norwegian-American artist Anne Senstad, an abstract representation in 39 panels of a Northwest Ohio landscape.

During the construction of the project, Medici Circle Board member Daniel Mauk created documentary drawings of the construction site, of which some are shown here.

The construction of the Wolfe Center can be followed on a webcam at:

For more written information about the Wolfe Center go to:
http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/media_room/page62866.html.
Each year the Medici Circle purchases one or more works of art by BGSU BFA exhibitors. This year is the thirtieth year of this tradition, and thanks to excellent fiscal stewardship by Tim Smith, Medici Circle treasurer, and keenly priced student artworks, the Medici Circle were able to acquire three works by student artists. These will now form part of the permanent collection, available for loan or exhibition by the campus community. The works could not be more different.

Tara Barnes is from Bryan, Ohio, where she was involved in theatre, music, drawing and glass blowing. In May 2011 she graduated with a BFA in Art Education in 3-dimensional studies. Tara’s sculptural work deals with the idea of indulgence and self-image, using terracotta clay to make functional ware such as plates, trays and cake stands. Her artwork and teaching experiences can be viewed on her website at:


She also shares her passion for the arts through teaching, currently with 4th, 5th and 7th graders at Tipp City Schools in Tipp City, Ohio, where she resides with her fiancé. In addition to the Medici Circle Purchase Award she also received the Outstanding Senior Award.

From North Tonawanda, New York, Austin Littenberg also graduated in May 2011, with a BFA in 3-dimensional studies and a focus in glass. The Medici Circle purchased two of his filigree hand blown glass vessels—a goblet and a pitcher. Since then he has been appointed as the new studio technician at the Toledo Museum of Art’s Glass Pavilion. He also works for other independent glass artists, and is making and selling his own work. In addition to the Medici Circle Purchase Award he also received the College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Purchase Award and his work was purchased for several private collections.

A Tara Barnes, “Moment of Indulgence”
B Austin Littenberg, “Untitled Pitcher”
C Austin Littenberg, “Untitled Goblet”
BGSU Sweeps the Awards at the Toledo Area Artist’s Exhibition - again!

Once again BGSU faculty, students and alumni won most of the awards at the annual TAA exhibition, this year curated (blind) by Toledo Museum of Art Director, Dr. Brian Kennedy, and Associate Director, Dr. Amy Gillman. BGSU affiliated artists received fifteen awards in all (some receiving more than one award), of a total of twenty, and contributed a third of the works in the highly selective exhibition. Tom Muir, BGSU Distinguished Professor of the Arts, received first place, as well as the Rose E. Seder Memorial Award. The other award winners were:

- Nicholas Althoff, MFA student
- Janet Ballweg, professor
- Debra Buchanan, alumna
- Seder Burns, alumnus
- Spencer Cunningham, alumnus
- Marce Dupay, instructor
- Paul Geiger, former instructor
- Penny Gentieu, BGSU Arts Advocate
- Samantha Guy, alumna
- Camille Isaacs, BFA student
- Ronald Jacomini, emeritus professor
- Nadine Saylor, instructor
- Robin Schultes, alumna

The catalog of the exhibition can be seen online at:
http://www.toledomuseum.org/exhibitions/online-catalogues/93rd-toledo-area-artists-exhibition

Congratulations all!

SAVE THE DATE! Selected School of Art Events in 2011 and 2012

**September 19, 2011**
Dr. Brian P. Kennedy, director,
Toledo Museum of Art, OH
*Toledo Museum of Art: Temple and Forum*
6:30 p.m. Reception, foyer of, and 7:30 p.m., Rm. 206 (Theater), Bowen-Thompson Student Union

**October 3, 2011**
David Hilliard, photographer, Boston, MA
*The Highway of Thought*
7:30 p.m., Rm. 204, Fine Arts Center

**November 7, 2011**
Ethan Stern, glass artist, Seattle, WA
*Recent Work*
7:30 p.m., Rm. 1101, Fine Arts Center

**December 3, 2011**
61st Annual Faculty and Staff Exhibition *(through December 14)*
Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankleman Galleries, Fine Arts Center

**December 9, 2011**
Craig Dykers, Snøhetta Architects, New York and Oslo, Norway
4:00 p.m., Donnel Theatre, Wolfe Center for the Arts

**March 17, 2012**
BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition *(through April 3)*
Opening Reception
7:00 p.m., Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankleman Galleries, Fine Arts Center

**March 30, 2012**
Primavera Gala, Wolfe Center for the Arts
5:00 p.m.

**April 12, 2012**
MFA Thesis Exhibition 1 *(through April 19)*
Opening Reception
7:00 p.m., Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankleman Galleries, Fine Arts Center

**April 26, 2012**
MFA Thesis Exhibition 2 *(through May 2)*
Opening Reception
7:00 p.m., Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankleman Galleries, Fine Arts Center

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* A  Tom Muir, “Twin Risers”  
* B  Marcelle M. Dupay, “Free to Be?”
MEDICI CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP
CATEGORIES & BENEFITS

**STUDENTE D’ARTE**  $5
- Available for Students Only
- Invitation to ArtsX food station
- Eligibility to Apply for Medici Grant

**PARENTE D’ARTE**  $25
- Available for Parents and Relatives
- Invitation to Primavera Gala at Member’s Cost

**GHIBERTI**  $50
- Invitation to Primavera Gala at Member’s Cost

**DONATELLO**  $100
- Invitation to Primavera Gala at Member’s Cost
- Invitation to Arts Extravaganza Preview

**BOTTICELLI**  $300
- Invitation to Primavera Gala at Member’s Cost
- Invitation to Arts Extravaganza Preview
- Invitation to Visiting Artist or Scholar Event

**RAPHAEL**  $500
- Invitation to Primavera Gala
- Invitation to Arts Extravaganza Preview
- Invitation to Visiting Artist or Scholar Event
- Student Sponsorship—Student Work of Art

**MICHELANGELO**  $1,000
- Invitation to Primavera Gala
- Invitation to Arts Extravaganza Preview
- Invitation to Visiting Artist or Scholar Event
- Faculty Sponsorship—Faculty Work of Art

**LEONARDO**  $2,000
- Invitation to Primavera Gala
- Invitation to Arts Extravaganza Preview
- Invitation to Visiting Artist or Scholar Event
- Student Sponsorship—Student Work of Art
- Faculty Sponsorship—Faculty Work of Art

**LORENZO IL MAGNIFICO**  $3,000
- Invitation to Primavera Gala
- Invitation to Arts Extravaganza Preview
- Invitation to Visiting Artist or Scholar Event
- Student Sponsorship—Student Work of Art
- Faculty Sponsorship—Faculty Work of Art
- Invitation to President’s Dinner, hosted by BGSU President

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MEDICI CIRCLE
PATRONAGE FORM

Name(s) ____________________________________________

Home Address ______________________________________

City ______________________________ State __ Zip ______

Telephone (Home) ____________________ Telephone (Work) _____________

Email Address ____________________________

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PLEDGE: $ _________

☐ Check enclosed  ☐ Make all checks payable to:
                  BGSU Foundation/Medici Circle

☐ Please charge my:
  ☐ VISA   ☐ MasterCard  ☐ American Express  ☐ Discover

Account Number ______________________________ Exp. Date (mm/yy) ______

Signature ______________________________  CVV code ______

Other Pledge Options:

☐ Electronic Funds Transfer
  ☐ Checking  ☐ Savings
  ☐ Payment Frequency
  ☐ $10  ☐ monthly
  ☐ $15  ☐ quarterly
  ☐ $20  ☐ annually
  ☐ $ _________  ☐ continuous

☐ Financial Institution
  Account Number __________________________
  Bank Routing Number _______________________

Please attach a voided check or deposit slip with this form.

I (we) authorize the BGSU Foundation, Inc. to deduct my (our)
contribution from the account indicated above on the 15th of
the month. I understand that if I decide to discontinue this plan
I will notify the BGSU Foundation, Inc. at least two weeks prior.

Signature ______________________________ Date __________

☐ Other
  Amount $ _________

☐ BGSU payroll deduction
  ☐ $ _________ per pay period until pledge is paid off
  ☐ $ _________ per pay period until further notice

Company Name ______________________________ Match Ratio ____________

Employee Type   ☐ Faculty  ☐ Administrative  ☐ Classified

☐ Matching funds from my company will be applied to my gift
(Please consult your company’s human resource department
as there may be rules governing pledge payment matches)

Company Name ______________________________

Signature ______________________________ Date __________

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MEDICI CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP
CATEGORIES & BENEFITS

* All levels of membership receive invitations to annual Medici events and the Medici Newsletter.
Thank You For Supporting The Medici Circle!