

12-2010

## The Update, December 2010

University of Northern Iowa. College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences.

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# F U P D A T E

the OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER for  
the colleges of humanities & fine arts and natural sciences

## American Chemical Society a student affiliate group

*Courtesy of William Harwood  
Department Head & Professor  
Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry*

The ACS Affiliate Group is the main group for science majors and minors interested in chemistry and biochemistry. Members participate in a wide range of programs and activities that enhance their college experience and prepare them for successful careers. The ACS student affiliate has a lounge where students can eat lunch, study or relax. They sponsor movie nights, bowling and other activities for students

to get together and have fun. Special events include the Fall Family Weekend Chemistry Magic Show. This event is very popular and one where the faculty prepare demonstrations that the students perform for an audience of families. A regular crowd favorite is the "flaming bubbles" where children or adults can literally hold fire in their hands! Also in the fall is the annual picnic with the faculty and, at the end of the semester, a holiday party.

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Throughout the year, there are also opportunities to do demonstrations in schools or with special groups. During the spring, the big event is attending the national ACS meeting. The ACS affiliates and the department collaborate to send all students who have been involved in undergraduate research to present posters at the ACS meeting. In 2009, the meeting was in San Francisco, California, and in spring 2010 the meeting will be in Anaheim, California. Future meetings will be in San Diego, California, and New Orleans, Louisiana.

The final event of the year is the spring banquet. The banquet honors our graduating seniors and students who have won awards or scholarships from the department. There is also a short program from the outgoing and incoming officers of the ACS Affiliates. Traditionally, this involves some good natured ribbing of the faculty.

A student assists a volunteer in performing, "flaming bubbles," where children and adults can literally hold fire in their hands. Activities such as this are performed at the Fall Family Weekend Chemistry Magic Show.



# DEPARTMENT NEWS

## COMMUNICATION STUDIES

■ Electronic media student **Tiffany Schmitt's** film, "Damsel Distressed" did a screening at the Wild Rose Independent Film Festival in Des Moines on November 4-7. A young girl, bored and lacking attention from her mother, escapes into her imagination. The short film is a mix of live-action and animation. The film has previously been screened at the Iowa Independent Film Festival and the Landlocked Film Festival.

■ Electronic media student **David Maixner's** band, Followed By Ghosts, had two songs picked up for commercial use. The song, "Clear Blue Sky," was used by HBO on their series 24/7 in April, and "A New Dawn" was used in the documentary, "Wake Up," directed by Jonas Elrod and released in 2010.

■ UNI students **Paige Everly, Enrique Jair Guevara, Angela Glunz, Trisha Niceswanger, Claudia Rodríguez, Clair Williams and Landon Wood** along with Professor **Jennifer Cooley** attended the Multicultural Coalition of Grand Island annual conference on October 21. The theme of this year's conference was, "The Road to Cultural Understanding." Listed below are three links to reports about the simulation, "Border Crossing," an interactive, bilingual simulation (performance event):

[www.nebraska.tv/Global/storyasp?S=13367887&nav=menu605\\_1](http://www.nebraska.tv/Global/storyasp?S=13367887&nav=menu605_1)

[www.nebraska.tv/global/video/flash/popupplayer.asp?ClipID1=5219101&h1=Community%20Leaders%20Thrust%20Into%20Border%20Debate&vt1=v&at1=News&d1=162067&LaunchPageAdTag=News&activePane=info&rnd=16538307](http://www.nebraska.tv/global/video/flash/popupplayer.asp?ClipID1=5219101&h1=Community%20Leaders%20Thrust%20Into%20Border%20Debate&vt1=v&at1=News&d1=162067&LaunchPageAdTag=News&activePane=info&rnd=16538307)

[www.1011now.com/gieverydayheadlinesConference\\_Promotes\\_Cultural\\_Understanding\\_105482043.html](http://www.1011now.com/gieverydayheadlinesConference_Promotes_Cultural_Understanding_105482043.html)

## EARTH SCIENCE

■ **Chad Heinzl** has updated the Iowa Geoscience Education Information Network (IGEIN) to include a Twitter feed. The IGEIN, available at [www.exploreiowageology.org](http://www.exploreiowageology.org), seeks to help Iowans explore the state's landscapes and the geologic processes that contribute to their development. IGEIN is a collaborative effort between UNI, the University of Iowa, the Iowa Geological and Water Survey, the Geologic Society of Iowa, the Iowa Limestone Producers Association and the Iowa Mathematics and Science Education Partnership.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

■ **Pierre-Damien Mvuyekure** published, "Suggestibility as the Sin of Memory and the Rwandan Genocide in Paul Rusesabagina's 'An Ordinary Man: An Autobiography'" in, **Beauty Is In The Details: A Global View on Person of Color**, the 2010 Monograph Series published by National Association of African American Studies, National Association of Hispanic and Latino Studies, National Association of Native American Studies and International Association of Asian Studies. The article will also appear in a monograph to be published by the Cambridge Scholars Press. The article began as a Summer Fellowship project.

# INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

■ Industrial Technology's Construction Club won third place at the ASC Region IV Construction Management Competition. There were ten competing groups from ten different universities.

# MODERN LANGUAGES

■ **Gabriela Olivares-Cuhat's** article entitled, "Relative Importance of Learning Variables on L2 Performance," will be appearing in the next issue of *Linguistik Online*.

■ **Sara Rosell's** new book, **Dramaturgas Puertorriqueñas de 1990 a 2010, a Study of Female Puerto Rican Dramatists**, has been published by Mellen Press. Information about Rosell's book as well as blurbs, may be viewed at the publisher's web site, <[www.mellenpress.com/mellenpress.cfm?bookid=8146&pc=9](http://www.mellenpress.com/mellenpress.cfm?bookid=8146&pc=9)>.

■ The Department of Modern Languages (DML) is pleased to announce its new web presence, which includes redesigned web pages featuring links to a Facebook page, a Twitter feed and a weekly podcast highlighting "life in the languages," such as film and sound from language courses, sound from faculty members' travels abroad and so on. The DML's web presence has been redesigned by UNI student, Laura Huisinga, with an eye toward two audiences, potential students and faculty and DML alumni.

■ The DML is also pleased to announce that the keynote speaker for the spring Conference on the State of K-12 Language Education in Iowa will be Paul Sandrock, a nationally recognized voice in discussions of language education and advocacy for public school language offerings. Sandrock's lecture will close the April 9

conference as a dinner keynote to which DML alumni will also be invited. For more information about the conference, please check our Website, Facebook page and Twitter feeds for updates, or write to <[dmlwknd@uni.edu](mailto:dmlwknd@uni.edu)> to be added to the mailing list.

■ **Elena Dobrila** represented the UNI Summer Institutes for Language Teachers of Spanish (UNISSIST Program) and French (Angers Program) at the Foreign Language Association of Missouri on October 22 and 23.

■ The group, The Actos Sin Nombre/Unspeakable Acts Performers, performed simulations entitled, "Origami Factory" and "Border Crossing." There was also local TV news coverage on the events from two Nebraska stations.

# MUSIC

■ The UNI Concert Chorale has been invited to perform a world-premiere composition and present a concert in Carnegie Hall (New York City) in March 2011.

■ Eight School of Music students recently received top honors in the central regional National Association of Teachers of Singing competition which took place November 5-6, at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

UNI students swept the graduate division, claiming all three places. **Cassandra Naaktgeboren** of Cedar Falls earned first place in the Graduate Division; Naaktgeboren is a student of **Jean McDonald**. **Amanda McDonagh** of Cascade earned second place in the Graduate Division; McDonagh is also a student of Jean McDonald. **Allison Wamser** of St. Louis, Missouri, earned third place in the Graduate Division; Wamser is a student of **John Hines**. In the Sophomore Women Division, **Sarah Draffen** of Reinbeck earned first place; Draffen is a student of **Jeffrey Brich**. **Rhys Talbot** of Cedar Falls took first place honors

in the Sophomore Men Division; Talbot is a student of John Hines. In the Freshman Men Division, **Brian Langr** of Washington earned second place; Langr is a student of John Hines. **Ethan Adams** of Spillville earned third place in the same division; Adams is a student of **Leslie Morgan**. In the Freshman Women Division, **Kayla Kjeldseth** of Sioux City earned first place honors; Kjeldseth is a student of Jean McDonald.

## WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

## THEATRE

■ **Carol Colburn** was recognized at a publication celebration at the University of Minnesota. Colburn's work on Norwegian Folk dress in the United States has been published in the **Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion**, which is available online and in book format.

■ Women's and Gender Studies is moving forward and opening new doors! Beginning in January, Women's and Gender Studies will be located in Sabin 225.

■ Please consider joining us for CROW forums taking place the first Monday of December, February, March and April. Sponsored by Women's & Gender Studies, this forum is held from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. during which faculty present research that focuses on gender-related issues. This is an open and relaxed environment. The goal is to inform the broader university and community about the current research on gender taking place on campus. Please visit this link for the CROW calendar: <[www.uni.edu/womenstudies/CrowForum.htm](http://www.uni.edu/womenstudies/CrowForum.htm)>.

*Remember*

If you have any news, photos,  
alumni and student achievements or ideas,  
please submit them online to the *Update*.

<[www.uni.edu/chfa/newsletter/submit.html](http://www.uni.edu/chfa/newsletter/submit.html)>

*Thanks*

# Iowa Writing Project iwp

*Courtesy of James Davis*  
Associate Professor  
Department of English Language & Literature

Since 1978, the Iowa Writing Project (IWP) has provided professional growth opportunities for pre-K - college teachers across Iowa. First affiliated with UNI in 1997 and relocated to campus in 2003, IWP offers initial and advanced institutes, plus topical workshops on campus and at selected outreach sites. Advocating exemplary teaching of writing for learning in Iowa schools, IWP is managed by a five-member steering committee under policies developed by an advisory board of leaders from across the state. The Project also cooperates with sites in other states through the National Writing Project Network.

Teachers join this community primarily through participation in Level I, a three-week institute devoted to exploring professional insight into teaching writing and learning across the curriculum and to the individual's own writing

experience. Teachers work with a foundational aspect of literacy, the ability to write. Students must write well to succeed in school and in life, because writing strengthens reading and thinking, thus fostering learning in all subjects and is fundamental to communication across technologies and societal roles. Used well, writing creates self-awareness and better, more informed decision-making. Teachers consistently say they have gained knowledge and skills to help them teach writing better, including specific strategies and current research relevant to teaching a wide range of students. IWP promotes classroom practices, which correlate with higher student performance on the National Assessments of Educational Progress in both writing and reading, thus helping teachers and students address standards professionally and generate authentic evidence of student learning. Teachers move beyond the traditional "assign and expect" mode by increasing attention to writing as a process and to the rhetorical context in which it occurs. As a result, students become more reflective, clearer thinkers with improved abilities to observe, comprehend and express themselves. IWP also supports such practices and student achievements through district and building specific professional growth.

This summer, the IWP had nine major professional development activities, three of which were on campus.

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A large group deep in discussion during a session in Dubuque



UNI School of Music to host

## 50th Anniversary Celebration Varsity Men's Glee Club Christmas Variety Shows

The UNI School of Music will host the annual Varsity Men's Glee Club Christmas Variety Shows on December 3 and 4. The concerts will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 3, and at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 4 at the Great Hall in the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center (GBPAC) on the University of Northern Iowa campus.

The Glee Club, under the direction of John Len Wiles, will present the concerts as part of a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Men's Glee Club at UNI. This year's concert will feature over 100 UNI student performers and will feature the UNI Children's Choir in addition to the men of the Glee Club.

Musical selections will include a variety of holiday favorites such as "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year," "Carol of the Bells" and "Silent Night." The evening will also include a visit from Santa Claus.

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## Varsity Mens Glee Club *continued*

All seats for these concerts are reserved. Individual tickets may be purchased in person at the Gallagher-Bluedorn box office, by calling (319) 273-4TIX or 877-549-SHOW (7469) or at <www.unitix.uni.edu>.

For more information on this event or the UNI School of Music, contact Caroline Boehmer, UNI School of Music administrative assistant, at (319) 273-2028 or caroline.boehmer@uni.edu.

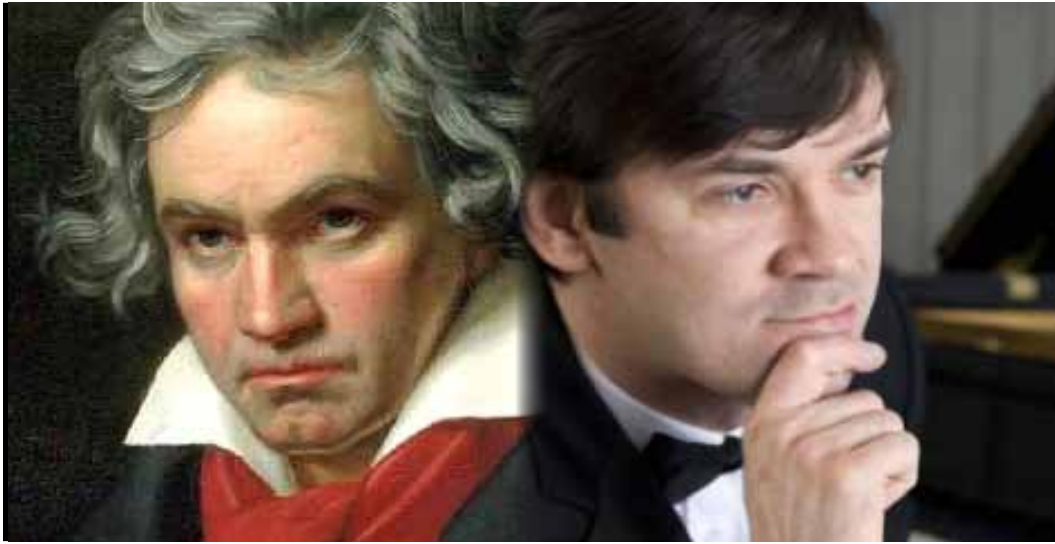


## communication studies student showcased on the jay leno show

Communication Studies major, Eva Andersen, a senior from Center Point, was showcased on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* on November 10, for a "Jaywalking All-Stars" segment. *Tonight Show* producers first discovered Andersen when she did a "Jaywalking" stint with Jay while in Los Angeles for her *Entertainment Tonight* internship last summer. She was so funny answering a question on "rules for relationships," that they invited her back and flew her to California for a taping of an all-star segment in late October.

Andersen will soon move from West Coast comedy to East Coast comedy. She will finish up her studies at UNI with an internship at *The Colbert Report* in New York beginning in January.





# Dmitri Vorobiev

## An All Beethoven Recital Series

School of Music faculty artist, Dmitri Vorobiev, will be presenting piano recitals featuring the complete works of Ludwig van Beethoven in an ongoing concert series at UNI. During a recent interview, Vorobiev discussed his decision to perform this concert series.

**What made you decide to do a concert series on Beethoven's work? What about his music inspires you?**

We, as pianists, are fortunate to have such a great body of music written for our instrument. With composers such as Beethoven and Chopin it is possible for us to live their life through performing their works. I always thought about doing Complete Piano Sonatas, but then simply decided to go further and do complete solo piano works. They start when he was only 11 and go all the way till his death, so, not just me, but the audience feels like they are living his life with these compositions.

**What experience have you had with his works?**

Every single one so far is very unique in some way. Perhaps some of these works are not as interesting as others, but I think of them as stepping stones for his masterworks. I find the works he wrote when he was 11, 12 and 13 a lot more uncomfortable to perform than much more difficult sounding compositions like "Appassionata" or "Waldstein" sonatas.

**How did you become skilled to perform such master works?**

By practicing, of course, and by inspiration from my grandfather, who was a pianist, and teachers throughout my life. Each of them was very different and unique and made me think outside the box.

**What composer(s) have had the most influence on your musical career?**

Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Beethoven, Bach and Schumann.



## student spotlights

### Joel Anderson philosophy

Joel Anderson, a senior from Waukee, Iowa, is a double major in philosophy and accounting. While here, he has completely immersed himself in all that the university has to offer. To name a few of his obligations, Anderson is a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity (SigEp), student body president of the Northern Iowa Student Government (NISG), a member of the Philosophy Students Club and a member of the Maucker Union Advisory Board among others. If this sounds a little overwhelming, he says he wouldn't have it any other way. *"I relax by being extremely busy. I thrive and feel better when I am under structured pressure, and I would not be the person or scholar I am today if it wasn't for SigEp and NISG. Both have taught me how to balance responsibilities to myself and to others."*

Some highlights that Anderson mentions are having dinner with Richard Bernstein and seeing the Dali Lama speak on the importance of education. Presiding as the student

body president has also given him the opportunity to have interesting monthly discussions with such people as the former front-page editor of the *Wall Street Journal*, a former member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, the former Iowa Attorney General and many others. In regards to these discussions, Anderson states, *"These individuals*



*do not patronize me but truly take my opinion and the advice I have when it comes to the welfare of the students at UNI."*

When asked what he would tell prospective students about attending UNI Anderson says, *"Look at double majoring in philosophy. It will help in every aspect of academia that you study. Becoming a philosopher has made me a better accountant because I can understand the ethical dilemmas that face accountants. I was told by an attorney that I job shadowed for in high school that a philosophy degree is a great way to prepare for law school. Now that I'm wrapping up my degree, I would argue that a philosophy degree is a great way to prepare for life in general."*

As for the future, Anderson would like to go on to earn a dual J.D./M.B.A. He also plans to go into more of the business consulting side of accounting versus the traditional career path in order to help small business owners learn about corporate social responsibility and how it can help both their own businesses and the community they live in.

## Elizabeth Wiedenheft

world religions

Elizabeth Wiedenheft, a senior from Mason City, Iowa, is a double major in history and the study of religion. Between her brother being a UNI alum and receiving both a Presidential and Social and Behavioral Scholarship, it was an easy decision for Wiedenheft to come to UNI. However, UNI's size is what drew her the most to the school.

Besides her academic studies, Wiedenheft enjoys belonging to on-campus organizations such as UNI's Model United Nations (an interest she also had in high school) and the Philosophy Club, which meets every two weeks to discuss philosophical issues. She states, *"I made a lot of friends through the Philosophy Club, friends who like to challenge my intellectual thinking and provoke me to look at issues in new ways."*

She has also had the opportunity to present her research at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Missoula, Montana. Her research was focused on the Empress Matilda and the ways in which she is described by chroniclers contemporary to her time.

When asked what her plans for the future are, Wiedenheft states, *"After I graduate in May, I hope to attend graduate school, eventually getting my Ph.D. in History of Medieval Studies."* Above all, she would like to be a professor, teaching and doing research in medieval English history. *"I like to take notes about what I like in my professors so that I know what to do in my future career and so that I become a successful professor."*



student spotlights continued on page 13

## UNI Students attend and participate in **sixth Annual Multicultural Conference**

*Courtesy of Samuel Gladden  
Associate Professor and Interim Head  
Department of Modern Languages*

Jennifer Cooley and seven UNI students were invited to perform simulations (interactive performance events) at the sixth Annual Multicultural Conference in Grand Island, Nebraska, on October 21.

The theme of this year's conference was "The Road to Cultural Understanding." The students facilitated two simulations, "Border Crossing" and "Origami Factory," based on immigration and its impact. Two students, Jair Guevara and Trisha Niceswanger, also performed personal narratives based on the life stories of Guatemalans living in Iowa.

All of the performances emerged from readings and films as well as from ethnographic information collected by Cooley with Guatemalan workers in Postville, Iowa, which formed part of the spring 2010 interdisciplinary courses titled, (Re)Presenting (Im)migration, taught by Jennifer Cooley in Spanish and Performance and Social Change, taught by Karen Mitchell in Communication Studies.

Students from Communication Studies and Spanish, enrolled in the spring 2010 courses, created the initial design of the simulations that the actors from the Actos sin nombre/Unspeakable Acts actors performed at the conference. The actors are Paige Everly (Communication

Studies); Angela Glunz (Communication Studies); Jair Guevara (Communication Studies); Trisha Niceswanger (Spanish Teaching and Psychology); Claudia Rodríguez (Spanish and TESOL); Clair Williams (Communication Studies); and Landon Wood (Spanish and TESOL). The group has been invited to facilitate the simulations at several events in the future.





## student spotlights continued

### Hannah Loan industrial technology

Originally from Lone Tree, Iowa, Hannah Loan is a senior majoring in electrical engineering technology. For her, the Industrial Technology Center has become her second home in Cedar Falls. When asked what she enjoys most about the department, Loan states, *“The smaller class sizes allow you to get to know your classmates and professors, and for the size of the department, there are many events and opportunities that take place.”*

According to Loan, her most influential professors have been Recayi Pecen and Gina Burkhart. She says, *“Recayi Pecen is a professor of mine and has been a huge part of my learning at UNI. Professor Burkhart is a great professor that influenced the way I think about writing and taught me how to enjoy it.”*

Loan has also been very involved in the UNI Solar Electric Boat Team. Now a three-year member, she has also had the opportunity to be the team leader for two years in a row. *“Being involved in the Solar Boat Team has opened up a lot of opportunities as far as meeting people, networking and learning great skills for teamwork, leadership and experience with hands-on applications in my field of study. Being involved is preparing me for my future and my career. It helps me find what I’m most interested in, but it also gives me useful experience with making decisions and communicating to make sure that projects are completed*

*on time, which is a large part of the industry I’m going in to.”* Loan is also involved with UNI’s efforts to build a wind turbine and install solar panels on campus to help power the Industrial Technology Center.

Realistically speaking, after graduation Loan hopes to land a full-time job somewhere in Iowa working for an engineering company. However, her dream job would be to design roller-coasters or work as part of the cast on *Mythbusters*.





*Courtesy of Katherine Lavelle  
Director of Forensics  
Department of Communication Studies*

The UNI speech and debate team recently attended the Motor City Classic hosted by Wayne State University. They took two varsity debate teams and both teams made it to elimination rounds. The team of Allie Chase and Thomas Casady were 5-3 in preliminary rounds and eighth seed. Chase and Casady were undefeated the first day, and beat a team from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor to reach elimination rounds. Chase and Casady beat Capital University (Ohio) in the partial octa-finals but lost to Iowa in their quarterfinals debate. This is Chase and Casady's second tournament of the year, and they have a winning record at both tournaments. The team of Al Hiland and Zach Simonson were 4-4 in prelims, but lost to another University of Michigan team in the partial octa-finals (a team that is currently in the finals of the tournament).

The weekend of November 5-6, the UNI Speech team traveled to Peoria, Illinois, to compete at the 61st Annual Norton Invitational. This tournament is one of the most competitive on the calendar. Of the nine students representing UNI, three students reached elimination rounds at the tournament. Sophomore Harrison Postler won After Dinner Speaking (a field of 62 entries), an event that he has already qualified to Nationals. Senior Yaw Kyeremateng was a semifinalist in dramatic interpretation, and first-year Zoe Russell placed second in Novice Impromptu (out of a field of 67). Overall, UNI competed against 44 schools at the tournament. The speech team will be taking a much needed break through the holiday, but will attend the American Forensics Association National tournament warm-up at University of Nebraska, Kearney the first weekend in December.



**Spotlight Series Concert: Chimes of Christmas**

Tuesday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.

Great Hall, GBPAC

A perfect way to celebrate the holidays! Come join the UNI School of Music choral ensembles (UNI Singers, Concert Chorale, Cantorei and Women's Chorus) in celebrating the joys of the season. Enjoy holiday favorites and majestic, winter-inspired works. *This event is ticketed. For tickets, call (319) 273-4TIX.*

**UNI New Horizons Band Winter Concert**

Monday, December 13, 7:30 p.m.

Great Hall, GBPAC

The New Horizons Band will offer its winter concert. Under the direction of Diana Blake, the New Horizons Band features musicians 55 and older who travel from all over Iowa. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**UNI Childrens Choir Winter Concert**

Friday, December 17, 7:00 p.m.

Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

The UNI Children's Choir will offer their winter concert under the direction of Michelle Swanson. *This event is free and open to the public.*



Left: Emily Stortz and Sam Schillinger (sixth grader)

Below: Clint Griffin and Sam Prophet (sixth grader)

## Communication Studies Students Teach Animation to Price Lab 6th Graders

*Courtesy of Bettina Fabos  
Associate Professor of Visual Communication  
Department of Communication Studies*

In a unique partnership with Price Lab School, this semester Communication Studies students—fresh from learning a number of foundational digital animation skills—have been teaching those same skills to PLS sixth graders.

The animation project has revolved around a popular novel **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen, which follows 14-year-old Brian as he survives (with the use of his hatchet) in the Canadian wilderness for 58 days following a plane crash. Earlier in the semester, the sixth graders, taught by Julie Creeden, read the book in their Literature Arts Unit. Meanwhile, students in Bettina Fabos' Interactive Digital Communication class were learning the basics of digital design and animation. In late October, Creeden and Fabos brought the two classes together. The UNI/sixth-grade student pairs each got a scene from the book to visualize, and got busy isolating images in Photoshop and animating them in Flash. To make the project more cohesive, the partners drew upon the same large collection of boyscout images from the 1920s that showed boys, Brian's age, in the wilderness, building fires, hunting and using hatchets. The images, which are in the public domain, actually originated on cigarette packs.

The end result is a scene-by-scene animation of **Hatchet**, which now lives at [www.uni.edu/fabos/PLS.html](http://www.uni.edu/fabos/PLS.html). Both groups of students gained from the collaboration. According

to UNI student, Jessica Myers, her sixth grade partner picked up the digital tools much more quickly than she even thought was possible. *"I would barely understand a concept after working on it for a few weeks, but he would instantly understand what he was doing,"* she said. As with other UNI students, her student partner helped her hone her own skills,



and pushed her to figure out new things she didn't already know. Likewise, the sixth graders learned by exploring new possibilities in storytelling. Some said they connected more deeply with the text by actively working to make specific scenes come to life.

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Also on campus was the third annual IWP workshop on "Teaching First Year College Writing," involving faculty from two- and four-year colleges and from high school AP and dual-enrollment assignments.

Currently, an IWP Seminar in Reflective Practice, a journal-based, assisted self-study, is currently underway for a group of teachers in the Charles City District. Led by Charles City teacher, Kirstey Ewald, participants are supporting each other and studying effects as they implement practices learned in an IWP institute last summer.

Follow-through continues with teacher teams from nine districts who participated in an IWP "Teaching Deliberatively: Writing and Civic Literacy" workshop. Teams gather on campus to share their progress implementing deliberative approaches to public issues in classes, clubs and communities. A project report on this joint enterprise (IWP and the Iowa Partners in Learning) is being prepared for the National Issues Forums Institute and the Kettering Foundation.

The IWP Advisory Board will meet in January to plan programs and activities for summer 2011 and beyond.



Charles City institute group

## Communication Studies Students Teach Animation to Price Lab sixth Graders *continued*



Above: Gabrielle Carr (sixth grader) with Cassandra Milbrandt

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For Fabos, putting the emphasis on "creativity" rather than "technology" was the most significant outcome of the project. *"What this project is showing me as a media scholar is that putting good content and creativity at the center of the activity is essential for digital learning to really happen,"* Fabos said. *"We're not just introducing students to digital technology, we're bringing art and design together with narrative, which is special, and gives kids the imagination to keep on thinking creatively."*

As UNI student, Emily Stortz, summarized, *"I believe that at least one of the students in Mrs. Creedon's class will someday pursue a career related to electronic development/media/programming, and this tutorial helped to guide them in the right direction."*