The Update, November 2011

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

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Bahamian artist, Antonius Roberts, embarked on a residency at the University of Northern Iowa in collaboration with the Department of Art. The residency was inspired in part by the experience of the Waterloo Museum’s curator, Kent Shankle, at Antonius Roberts’ installations, Sacred Space and Welcome. Waterloo community stakeholders and their Public Art Committee asked Roberts to consider creating a piece that memorializes the devastating flood that occurred in Waterloo in 2008.

The flooding wiped out a couple of historic neighborhoods including a very special island community known as Sans Souci, which was home to 20 families and which had, in earlier times, been a thriving resort area. The Waterloo Museum provided Roberts with wood from downed trees and remnants of a gate and fence from the island — all that remains of what was once the first golf course in Waterloo — now just a wooded area.

Since the floods, the island has been purchased by the city, the homes are being torn down and it is anticipated that the entire island will become a park and nature preserve, where the works created by Roberts during his residency could be on permanent display. Kent Shankle took Roberts to visit Sans Souci.

Shankle shared stories of his childhood days living in such a small, loving and caring community where everyone joined together at the lake for picnics or walks through the wooded area enjoying the wonders of nature. What Roberts took from this experienced was the awareness of a beautiful place filled with positive energy and the spirit of love, evident by the fact that lawn areas are still nicely manicured on a regular basis by a good gentleman who once called the place his home.

In a Nassau Guardian article, Roberts is quoted: “A lot of us, we tell our stories locally and we tell our stories through our work, but this gives us an opportunity to take our stories to the world. To me, making art outside of the Bahamas is really what I would love to do,” he continues. “It provides me an opportunity to take my story with me.”

During a press conference prior to his time at UNI, Roberts expressed excitement for the week-long residency at UNI, which coincides with the “Master Artists of the Bahamas” exhibition opening at the Waterloo Center for the Arts as well as a two-day symposium. The exhibit will run from October 14, 2011, through January 2012, and will feature over 40 pieces of artwork by a diverse group of Bahamian artists, including the late Amos Ferguson, Brent Malone and Jackson Burnside as well as contemporary artists, Antonius Roberts (featured exhibit artist), Dave Smith, Eddie Minnis, John Beadle, John Cox, Kendal Hanna, Max Taylor and Stan Burnside.
CONTENTS
NOVEMBER 2011

COVER FEATURE
Bahamian Artist’s Residency at UNI

ARTICLES
7 Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting
9 ‘Home’ Project (Dean’s Triangle)
14 Beth Nybeck: Flight of Ideas

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS
6 Corey Moen - Industrial Technology
13 Rhys Talbot - School of Music

REGULAR FEATURES
3 Department News
8 School of Music Events
10 Physics Teaching Majors Present in Omaha

FEATURED ORGANIZATIONS
4 KULT - UNI’s Alternative
5 American Chemical Society

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>> ART

The UNI Gallery of Art, in association with the UNI Department of Art, will present the “2011 UNI Department of Art Faculty Exhibition” from Monday, October 31, to Monday, November 28. The opening reception was held at 7 p.m. on Monday, October 31, in the lobby of Kamerick Art Building (KAB) South. Please note that the gallery will be closed during the Thanksgiving holiday. The gallery is free and open to the public.

>> Biology

Assistant Professor of biology, Mark Myers, recently had a paper entitled, “Butterfly Response to Floral Resources at a Heterogeneous Prairie Biomass Production Site in Iowa, USA,” accepted for publication in the Journal of Insect Conservation. It was co-authored with two current UNI biology students: undergraduate, Ben Hoksch and M.S. student, Jim Mason.

The next coffee house discussion on sustainability will be on Monday, December 12, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the Oak Room, Maucker Union. This will be a brainstorming session for big ideas on furthering sustainability initiatives at UNI.

>> CEEE

Professor, Bill Stigliani’s textbook, Chemistry of the Environment, 3rd edition, has been published by University Books. The textbook was coauthored with Thomas Spiro and Katie Purvis-Roberts.

>> Chemistry & Biochemistry

Jody Stone, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and UNI’s Price Lab Research and Development School, was recognized as a finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence and Mathematics Teaching during the Iowa Academy of Science’s Science teaching conference, October 17-18, in Ames.

The awards are the nation’s highest honors for teachers of science and mathematics recognizing highly qualified K-12 teachers for their contributions in the classroom and to their profession.

>> continued on page 12
KULT
UNI’s Alternative

Tucked away in a small office and audio booth in the lower level of the Maucker Union is KULT, the student-run, low-power FM station.

Although the space is small, the sound is big, with students playing hip-hop, punk, and indie rock music that is seldom heard on commercial radio, along with some news and sports talk. It’s all true to the station’s motto: “No Commercials. No Repeats. UNI’s Alternative.”

The station is an independent student organization, but its links run deep with the Department of Communication Studies. A number of electronic media majors lead a staff of approximately 40 students, while the station is advised by communication studies professors, Ronnie Bankston and Joyce Chen. Professor, Francesca Soans and adjunct instructor, Pat Blank (of Iowa Public Radio) work on the board that oversees the station.

On a recent afternoon, the deejay team of Kenzie Bloom, a public relations major and Linnea Griffith, a communication science and disorders major, filled the airwaves with alternative music and banter about their favorite movie villains. Bloom did an internship with a radio station last summer, which spurred her continuing interest in radio. This fall she asked her friend Griffith to join her for a radio show on KULT. Griffith is enjoying the experience. “It’s fun,” she said, “You get to push a lot of buttons.”

KULT’s general manager, Bevan Lucas, a senior electronic media major who had radio experience before coming to UNI, wants students to be able to learn and grow. “I know some of our students won’t be the next Ryan Seacrest,” Lucas said, “However, KULT provides them real world experience and the opportunity to have fun while learning.”

Student broadcasting began at UNI in 1955, with the formation of a student radio station on the third floor of the Old Aud Building (now Lang Hall). The station was KYTC (Know Your Teachers College), and could only be heard on the campus of the then-Iowa State Teachers College. The programs included live dramas, concert music and news.

The station changed campus locations several times, but in 1969 moved into the new Maucker Union. In 1974, KYTC became KCRS (Campus Radio Service), and by the early 1990s it had become KGRK (“The Gerk”), and was carried as audio on campus cable channel 5. In 1998, the station began web streaming, and in 2003, it flipped the switch on a new 100-watt low power FM signal that began transmitting from atop Schindler Hall to a several mile radius. Today, the station can be heard online at www.uni.edu/kult, and at 94.5 FM.

>> Pictured Below: Kenzie Bloom (left) and Linnea Griffith, the on-air team for KULT’s afternoon program music, “Ridiculously Awesome.”

Courtesy of Chris Martin
Department of Communication Studies
We are the University of Northern Iowa Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. For our sake and yours, we simply refer to ourselves as “ACS.”

As our name implies, we are student members of a national organization known as the American Chemical Society. Chemists in all walks of life align themselves with the national organization in order to keep tabs on new developments in the realm of chemistry, improve themselves professionally and spread the word about their research.

Being a part of the national American Chemical Society is especially thrilling for us as UNI undergraduates. First of all, our membership helps connect us with chemistry graduate programs, if that is the path we choose to take after our years at UNI. Also, many of us choose to conduct research. Any ACS members at UNI who conduct research and have their abstract accepted by the national society can present that research at the society’s national annual meeting, with nearly all expenses paid by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry as well as ACS.

All work and no play makes ACS members dull boys and girls, though. No worries — ACS is not in danger of becoming dull anytime soon. For instance, we’ve recently begun an annual intradepartmental competition known as “MarCHEMadness,” held in the month of March. Participating faculty divide themselves into several teams and recruit chemistry students to their teams, all in pursuit of the most coveted of chemistry awards, the Golden Erlenmeyer. A series of about half a dozen competitions takes place throughout the month, testing team members’ titration, video game, athletic, pie eating and poker skills. You haven’t completed your chemistry education at UNI until you’ve lost all your chips to your Inorganic Chemistry professor.

When our professors aren’t kicking our tails in Mario Kart, they’re instilling in us a passion for chemistry. To share our passion, we host several outreach events annually. Freshest in our minds is this year’s Halloween House. We targeted elementary children and were rewarded with an attendance somewhere between 800-1000 guests on Friday, October 21. For our guests, we performed chemistry demos in several Halloween-themed rooms, including the Bride of Frankenstein’s 1-2-3 Superconducting Magnet, fire on the high seas, in the Pirates’ Cove and gun cotton and methane bubbles demonstrations in the Devil’s Den.

As our favorite ACS T-shirt says, “Trust us. We know what we’re doing.”
For senior, graphic technologies major, Corey Moen, UNI and the graphic technologies program has helped him prepare for a wide range of careers for the future. Moen has had the opportunity to be involved in some on-campus organizations such as UNI Dance Marathon where he is the director of graphic design, as well as the UNI Grafx club, where he currently assists as president of the club. The Graphx Club is a student organization that provides graphic imaging and production services to people and organizations not only on campus, but to the community as well. “We not only provide the services and products to the students, but also offer a valuable learning and experience building organization for any student on campus that has an interest. From portfolio building design opportunities, to building experience with running different printers, cutters and the processes that go into each and every job, I have found the Grafx Club to be a huge benefit to myself and to other members in our preparation for a career.” Moen’s involvement in theses campus organizations has allowed him to discover different learning possibilities outside of the classroom, and has given him valuable experience working with clients and his team members.

Moen has had the opportunity to intern at more than one company. He also has worked on freelance design jobs as well. Last summer, he worked as intern for RCS Millwork in Ankeny. While there, Moen worked on building a new website for them. He also interned at Viking Pump as a graphic designer this past summer. His internship was very successful, and Moen was offered a part time position until his graduation in May. Some highlights of his college career have been entering the 2011 AAF Addys and winning the “Student Best of Show” for his Blue Whale Racing logo, which he designed for a co-workers motorcycle team.

Moen credits his instructor, Jim Volgarino, as helping to influence him and give him direction within the print industry. “Jim has been in the Graphic Communications/Technology field for many years and has experience in every aspect of it, from design to production. He not only uses his connections within the community to improve student’s opportunities, but shares and updates his knowledge every day that he teaches and is in the lab. Sara Smith and Lee Geisinger are two other graphic technology instructors that make coming to class every day a fun and informational learning experience.”

In his free time Moen enjoys swimming as well as riding the bike trails at George Wyth. After graduation, he plans on obtaining a job working as a graphic designer or working for a web or marketing firm in the Des Moines area.
The annual Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting for the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences (CHAS) was held on September 19. The agenda included an introduction of new faculty, consideration of CHAS bylaws, the dean’s message on the state of the college as well as award announcements.

The multiple award recipients are shown in the picture below and are as follows, top row (l-r): Paul Siddens, associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies (2011 CHFA Faculty Excellence Award); Mohammad Iqbal, professor in the Department of Earth Science (2009-10 Dean’s Award for Superior Achievement in Research); Jeffrey Morgan, assistant professor in the Department of Physics (2010-11 Dean’s Award for Superior Teaching in Liberal Arts Core); Stephen O’Kane, professor in the Department of Biology (2010-11 Dean’s Award for Superior Achievement in Research); John Ophus, associate professor in the Department of Biology (2009-10 Dean’s Award for Superior Teaching in Liberal Arts Core). Bottom row (l-r): John McCormick, professor in the Department of Computer Science (2010-11 Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence in Departmental Programs); Joel Haack, dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences; Chad Heinzel, assistant professor in the Department of Earth Science (University Book and Supply Outstanding Teaching Award). Not pictured: Danny Galyen, assistant professor in the School of Music (University Book and Supply Outstanding Teaching Award).
School of Music Events

Viola Festival - Featuring Guest Artist, Patricia McCarty
Friday & Saturday, November 4 & 5
GBPAC and Russell Hall

Coordinated by faculty artist, Julia Bullard, the UNI Viola Festival will offer hands-on workshops as well as a performance by guest artist, Patricia McCarty, viola, at 8 p.m. on Friday, November 4, in Davis Hall, as well as a Festival Gala Concert at 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 5, in Davis Hall. Faculty artist, Robin Guy, piano, will also perform at the November 5 event. This event is free and open to the public.

Guest Artist Recital: Zodiac Ensemble
Tuesday, November 8, 6 p.m.
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

Visiting artists, the Zodiac Ensemble, will present a recital. Comprised of reedsman, Aaron Kruziki and Mike Bjella, bassist, Karl McComas-Reichl, and drummers, Colin Stranahan and Devin Drobka, the Zodiac Ensemble has given concerts across the United States, Europe, South America, Africa and Asia. This event is free and open to the public.

Non-degree Student Recital: Austin Brown, guitar
Monday, November 7, 6 p.m.
Great Hall, GBPAC

Senior music student, Austin Brown, will present a non-degree guitar recital. This event is free and open to the public.

Spotlight Series Concert: Instrumental Concerto Competition
Monday, November 7, 7:30 p.m.
Great Hall, GBPAC

This showcase features talented student finalists competing for the title of Instrumental Concerto Competition winner, and the opportunity to perform as soloist with a premiere School of Music large ensemble in the spring. This event is ticketed. For tickets, call (319) 273-4TIX.

Northern Iowa Wind Symphony
Wednesday, November 9, 7:30 p.m.
Great Hall, GBPAC

Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor Ronald Johnson, the Wind Symphony will offer its fall concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Faculty Artist Recital: Jeff Brich, tenor
Thursday, November 10, 6 p.m.
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

UNI School of Music faculty artist, Jeff Brich, will present a voice recital with pianist to be announced. This event is free and open to the public.

Spotlight Series: UNI Symphonic Band & Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra
Thursday, November 10, 7:30 p.m.
Great Hall, GBPAC

Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor and conductor, S. Daniel Galyen, the Symphonic Band will present a shared fall concert with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Rebecca Burkhardt. The program will also feature faculty artist, Sean Botkin, performing Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 4 with the orchestra. This event is ticketed. For tickets, call (319) 273-4TIX.

UNI Trombone Studio Recital
Friday, November 11, 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor of trombone, Chris Buckholz, the UNI Trombone Studio will offer a fall concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Graduate Student Recital from the studio of John Hines:
Morgan Horning-Griffin, soprano
Friday, November 11, 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Graduate music student, Morgan Horning-Griffin will present a voice recital with faculty artist, Polina Khatsko, piano. This event is free and open to the public.

Check us out on the web!
WWW.UNI.EDU/MUSIC/
UNI Suzuki School Recital Weekend
Saturday & Sunday, November 12 & 13, 8 a.m.
Russell Hall

The UNI Suzuki School will present their bi-annual recital weekend. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.uni.edu/music/suzuki.

UNI Horn Choir
Monday, November 14, 8 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Under the direction of faculty artist and professor, Yu-Ting Su, the UNI Horn Choir will offer a fall recital. This event is free and open to the public.

Non-degree Student Recital:
JOES Quartet
Tuesday, November 15, 6 p.m.
Graham Hall, Russell Hall

Students from the clarinet studio of Amanda McCandless make up the ensemble JOES Quartet. The group will present a non-degree recital. This event is free and open to the public.

Graduate Student Recital from the studio of Angeleita Floyd:
Bridget Powell, flute
Tuesday, November 15, 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Graduate music student, Bridget Powell, will present a flute recital with faculty pianist, Sean Botkin. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI Viola Studio Recital
Wednesday, November 16, 6 p.m.
Graham Hall, Russell Hall

Under the direction of professor of viola, Julia Bullard, the UNI Viola Studio will offer a fall concert. This event is free and open to the public.

"HOME" PROJECT
Dean’s Triangle

An exhibit was recently on display in the Dean's Triangle. Art instructor, Dan Perry’s 3D Concept's class completed a project with the goal of exploring the physical and proportional relationships that we have as humans to our architectural and organic surroundings. To gain a better understanding of our human scale, students were challenged to construct a scale model of the place that they call ‘home’. Students researched their ‘home’ by gathering and documenting information from photographs, drawings, web research (Google Earth) and memories. From their findings, students were able to extrapolate architectural details, landscape topography, foliage and scale references. Limited to a 12" x 12" plot, students determined the scale of their model (e.g., 1" = 20’) to best portray context and details. Materials were limited to white museum board and paper to challenge students to invent ways to portray the forms, scale and textures of the architecture and landscape that define their ‘home’.

The students’ models were displayed by order of geographic location and are as follows, top row (l-r): Jourdan Schwickerath, Parkersburg; Jack Maschka, Cedar Falls; Jen Lubka, Postville; Kaylee Ovel, New Hampton; Chelsea Smith, Decorah, middle row (l-r): Kaitlyn Pryor, Stout; Tom Frieden, Cedar Rapids; Tori Pratt, Cedar Rapids; Jordon Condon, Marion; Ahsley Black, Davenport, bottom row (l-r): Ceci Shedenhelm, West Des Moines; Tyler Moore-Kurth, Johnston; Blayne Mapp, Riverside; Nicole Jurgersen, Wilton; and Stephanie Mathena, Moline.

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 16
Physics Teaching Majors Present at 2011 AAPT Summer Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska

Matthew Hanselman, Jeremy Hulshizer and Emily Stumpff gave presentations at the national Summer 2011 American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) in Omaha, Nebraska. All three are physics teaching majors who work with professors, Jeff Morgan and Larry Escalada, on physics education research related to the Iowa Physics Teacher Instruction and Resources (IPTIR) – a three-year professional development program for Iowa physics teachers funded by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa and Title II A (of the No Child Left Behind Act). The students’ research investigated the implementation of resources provided to teachers and the impact of the IPTIR program on student/teacher learning and teacher instructional practice.

The program focuses on teachers who do not have a background in physics and have been asked to teach physics at their schools. The program is a three year course in which they meet over the summer and two weekend meetings over the course of the school year.

Matthew Hanselman’s summer research was focused on how often the teachers used the equipment provided to them in their classrooms throughout the year and which pieces of equipment they had used the most. He obtained the evidence for his research through surveys given to the teachers at the end of the year. He found that the teachers had used the equipment given to them nearly twice a week through labs.

Jeremy Hulshizer’s research was based on assessing UNI’s IPTIR program, a professional development program for high school teachers who want to improve their physics teaching skills or who need a crash course in physics teaching before they start teaching physics for the first time in their career. The teachers in the program were to be assessed to see if they were teaching the way they were instructed in the UNI program. Teachers who took part in the program sent in videos of lessons they taught in their high schools. Hulshizer used the RTOP (Reformed Teaching Observation Protocol), to assess their teaching. He then correlated how the teachers scored on the assessment to how well their students did on conceptual assessments to see if teaching correlated to improved student learning.

Emily Stumpff’s research was concentrated on finding the potential connection between participating teacher content knowledge and student’s gains over the course of the year in physics. She based this correlation upon results from conceptual exams given to both the participating teacher and their students. Through her research she found that there is little to no correlation between how much the teacher knew and how much the student learned.

The students’ research was essentially a large scale assessment of a teacher training program. Being known as the teacher’s college, it’s important not to assume that programs are working, instead we need to assess them and determine how well they are working, and correlate that to how well students that we teach are learning. The members of the AAPT ranged from undergraduate students, high school teachers, college professors and retired physics teachers.
Roberts (pictured above) also worked with students from UNI on a public art piece crafted out of local material. Students were encouraged to select a piece of wood and create a free form structure while keeping in mind a true design concept. As a measure of his positive experience during his residency at UNI with the sculpture department, Roberts had this to say, “You are all very lucky to have this facility. It’s one of the best equipped sculpture departments I’ve ever seen.”
Associate Professor, Francesca Soans’ short film, Rebirth, was competitively selected to screen at the Cedar Rapids Independent Film Festival, the Interrobang Festival (part of the Des Moines Arts Festival) and the Iowa Independent Film Festival. Rebirth explores race and politics in a small town. Her experimental documentary, Tele/kinetics, on Borders and Identities, has been selected to screen at the Indian Kaleidoscope exhibition held at International House in Philadelphia. The exhibit will run October 17 through December 2.

Five Iowa Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ISHA) scholars were recently chosen by the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. These students include Gena Aguilera, Justine Fairchild, Rachel Rachut, Kelsey Ranum and Jodi Ward. Justine Fairchild also received the Iowa Speech-Language and Hearing Association Foundation Scholarship for the amount of $500.

While some students may think College Writing and Research is just a hoop to jump through, that is not the case with Kelsey Burns, a student in the Choral Program at UNI. A video of Kelsey’s song, “I Have a Voice,” which she produced as a final reflection for her College Writing and Research class, provided the theme for the UNI Alumni Scholarship Banquet on October 6. Both Kelsey and her instructor, Kim Groninga, were on hand to speak about UNI’s first-year writing program and show the video for the song. In 2011, Groninga was singled out by President Allen and an anonymous student as a faculty member “having a positive influence on student development.”

Instructor, James Cryer, and Joanne Dorhout of the Center for Teaching and Learning Mathematics (CTLM) recently had the opportunity to visit Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. While there, Cryer and Dorhout delivered a workshop devoted to the Early Childhood Education component of Project SOAR (Student Online Achievement Resources) and relayed information about early mathematics and literacy learning to military parents, support staff and educators. A focus group of individuals from this collaboration is being created to help fine-tune the high-quality products in current development for Project SOAR. To learn more about Project SOAR and other projects at the Center for Teaching and Learning Mathematics, please visit www.uni.edu/ctlm.


The CHGE, in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines and its Jewish Community Relations Commission, will be offering a workshop entitled, “Teaching About the Holocaust and the Iowa Core Curriculum,” on Thursday, November 10, from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m., at Temple B’nai Jeshurun in Des Moines. More than 20 teachers from Des Moines and surrounding school districts will participate. The workshop, to be held on November 10, is in order to commemorate the 73rd anniversary of the Kristallnacht pogrom, will include a presentation by Fred Lorber, a resident of Des Moines who lived through Kristallnacht.
DAVIS TO SPEAK AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

Associate Professor of Languages and Literatures, James Davis, was invited to speak at the state meeting of the Iowa Council of Teachers of English (ICTE) session entitled, “So, a Centennial!” The session addressed and explained strands in the 100-year history of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), especially for young ICTE members who attended the convention, in order for them to understand more of what is being celebrated this year. It was a breakout session for which Davis was the only speaker.

Davis will also be speaking at the 2011 NCTE Annual Convention held in Chicago, November 17-22. He will present during the panel session, “Growing Teachers with Creative Non-Fiction.” The session will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. on Saturday, November 19. It will also feature former UNI student, Emma Reeve — now a classroom teacher — who is drawing upon her creative non-fiction honors thesis. Instructor of Languages and Literatures, Rick Vanderwall, will serve as a responder for the session.

The instructors in the School of Music aren’t afraid to push me to my limits to get the best that they can out of me. The vocal repertoire I’m singing is challenging and helping me grow as an artist,” stated junior, vocal performance major, Rhys Talbot. After taking lessons with UNI professor, John Hines, Talbot chose to begin his undergraduate studies at UNI.

“My first impression was that this is a nice regional university where I’ll spend four years and get a strong undergraduate education. My impression now is that I’ll have more memories leaving college than I initially bargained for.”

Talbot has had the opportunity to partake in many productions and programs while at UNI. He performed in UNI’s production of Die Fledermaus, and also competed in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Competition. The past summer Talbot auditioned and was accepted as a studio artist for the Central City Opera Company in Colorado. He was the youngest artist accepted in the history of the program!

“These programs typically give young singers a chance to do chorus work for an opera company, take classes that help improve their craft and to learn what goes on behind the scenes at an opera company,” explains Talbot.

Talbot also enjoys partaking in other activities that UNI has to offer. “I go to every football and basketball game I can. Things like that help me take pride in my school and strengthen my feeling of unity with the university. The courses you take in your chosen major will likely push you but you will come out ten times better than you went in. The university has some very good departments here. You’ll meet some great people and have some great experiences here.”

The faculty have helped him to become more experienced and has allowed him to achieve more in his studies. “The faculty in the School of Music are very knowledgeable and also supportive. They want you to succeed and do well. I looked around and UNI was the best that I saw for a reason.”

After graduating, Talbot plans on attending graduate school and continuing to perform.
The following information was gathered from Nybeck’s blog.

Beth Nybeck graduated from UNI in 2010 with a B.F.A in sculpture. Her blog, “Flight of Ideas,” was set up to share her experience and adventure in installing a major sculpture in the John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, California. The project began last fall when Nybeck submitted an application for a potential sculpture that was suspended over a new terminal within the airport. The application process included Nybeck as well as her senior partner and advisor, Dick Jobe. In January, they heard that their application had scored within the top 20 applicants and by early spring they received a letter of congratulations about being selected as one of the top three finalist teams. From there a model replica and packet of architectural renderings were produced and submitted. After taking a short trip to California with her model in hand, Nybeck and Jobe received a phone call a week later congratulating her for being selected as the team to execute the “Flight of Ideas” in the new terminal space.

The sculpture is composed of 21 bird forms that are suspended above the baggage claim area. Production on the birds was initially begun on campus, in the sculpture lab. The birds range in size from 36” wing span to 15’ wing span. The bird bodies are constructed from aluminum and the wings are a combination of aluminum and lexan panels. The lexan (high-grade plexiglass) has brightly color semi-transparent aviation maps printed on them. Aviation maps are maps that pilots use to navigate in and out of airports. These maps are filled with information and symbols that are interesting to look at, even for viewers that don’t have the background knowledge to understand the radio channels or specific runway codes. The individual birds will all be hung from a feather-shaped truss at various heights. The truss has an S-curve shape and is made from 2” x 2” steel tubing.
“I find the story behind inventions, ideas and big dreams to be inspirational. There are numerous stories untold about big dreams that were unsuccessful and just as many about challenges and failures preceded successful innovations. It is the minds of innovators and thinkers that truly intrigues me and is at the core of this project. People who are willing to try new things, experiment, explore, learn and grow are the same people who have formed our world and will continue to do so in the future. It was an idea that turned into an obsession that brought men into the sky, and changed the way we travel and view the world. The graceful ability for birds to soar, dive, and ride the wind have been the subject of daydreams for men and children alike. The first engineers watched the flight of birds to figure out what was needed for balance and structure. The first biplane and glider designs of the early 1900’s were influenced by birds’ wing structure and positioning. The advancements in charts, mathematics, instruments, and calculations increased greatly after the attempts brought success. I want to bring into the airport the rich history of aviation and where it started over 100 years ago.”
UNITUBA Concert
Wednesday, November 16, 8 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Under the direction of UNI School of Music professor of tuba, Jeffrey Funderburk, the UNITUBA Ensembles will offer a fall recital. This event is free and open to the public.

Senior Student Recital from the studio of Amanda McCandless:
James Gummert, clarinet
Thursday, November 17, 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Senior music student, James Gummert, will present a clarinet recital with faculty pianists, Polina Khatsko and Serena Hou. This event is free and open to the public.

Spotlight Series:
UNI Jazz Panthers & Jazz Band III
Thursday, November 17, 7:30 p.m.
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

The UNI Jazz Panthers, under the direction of Robert Washut, will offer a fall concert with UNI Jazz Band III. Repertoire and soloists to be announced. This event is ticketed. For tickets, call (319) 273-4TIX.

Senior Student Recital from the studio of Amanda McCandless:
Alisa Nagel, clarinet
Friday, November 18, 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Senior music student, Alisa Nagel, will present a clarinet recital with pianist to be announced. This event is free and open to the public.

Non-degree Student Recital:
Hsueh-Ling Huang, piano
Monday, November 28, 7:30 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Graduate music student, Hsueh-Ling Huang will present a non-degree piano recital. This event is free and open to the public.

UNI Opera Scenes Performance
Monday, November 28, 7:30 p.m.
Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall

UNI Opera, under the direction of Sandra Walden and vocal coach, Korey Barrett, will present an opera scenes performance. This event is free and open to the public.

Junior Student Recital from the studio of Jeff Brich:
Ashley Armstrong, mezzo-soprano
Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

Junior music student, Ashley Armstrong, will present a vocal recital with pianist to be announced. This event is free and open to the public.

9/11 REMEMBERED AT UNI