

Spring 3-2015

## The Update, March 2015

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

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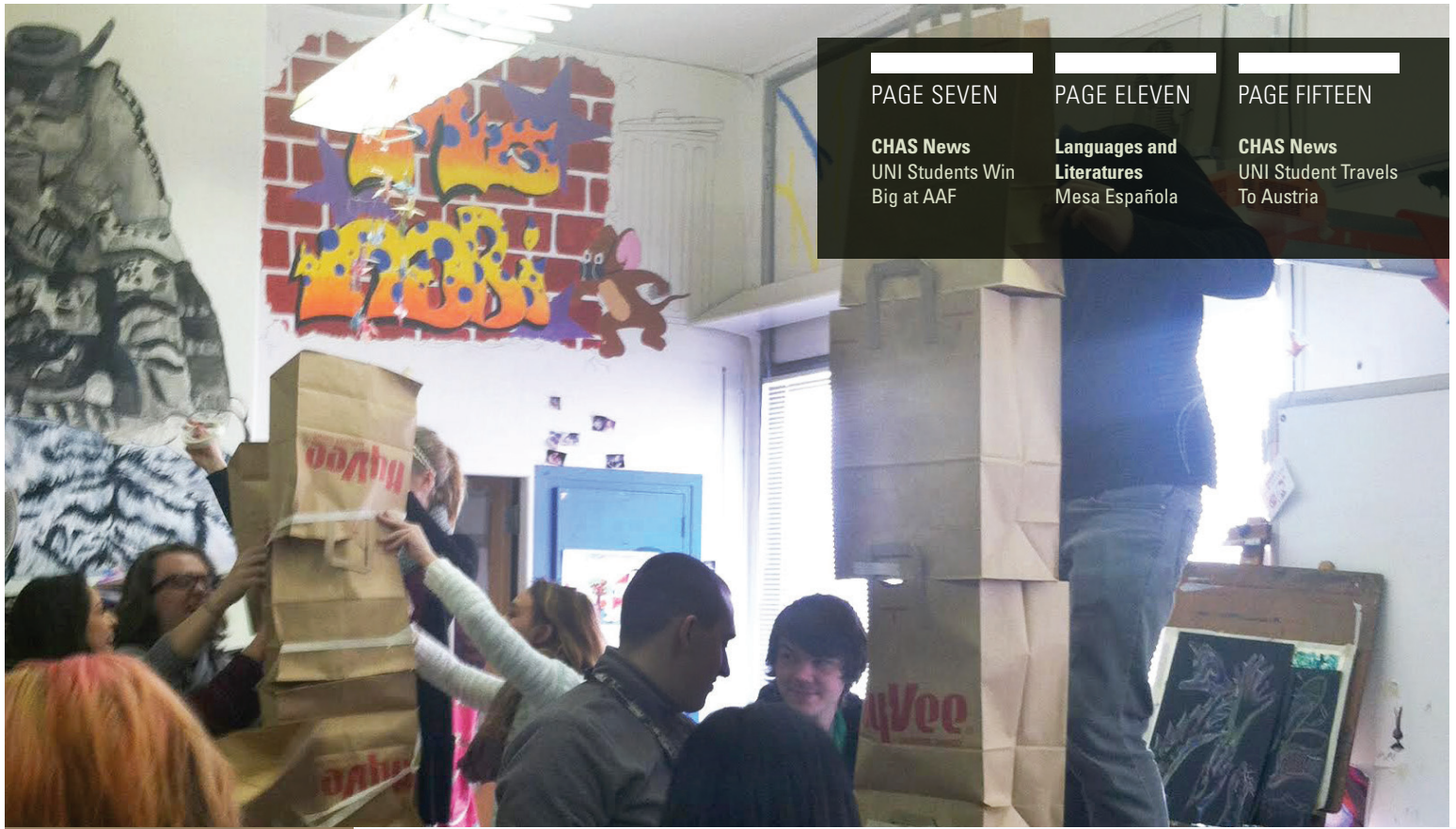
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# THE UPDATE

College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA**

## UNI & THE ARTS

Department of Art faculty  
engage students at  
Waterloo East High School

Towering over their heads, East High students stood on desks and chairs, craning their backs to construct their goliath artwork. Using masking tape, newspapers and old Hy-Vee grocery bags, the students—with the help of

University of Northern Iowa professors Chris Schulte and Noah Doely—created a soaring piece of abstract art.

“The project was simple,” said Schulte, visiting scholar and art education instructor. “We gave the students limited materials to work with... and using only the materials provided, students were asked to build the tallest structure they could build within the small period of time—[40 minutes].”

“Groups of five students each planned and built the self-supporting structure,” said Doely, assistant photography professor. “The challenge was to work together and see who could build the tallest structure.”

A driving factor behind the classroom visit was to establish and foster community outreach between the Waterloo school and UNI’s Art Department. “When

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## MUSIC

• Melinda Boyd, Associate Professor of Music History, received a commission from the Royal Swedish Academy of Music to write an article on Swedish-German composer Ingeborg von Bronsart. The article will be published (in English and Swedish) in the RSAM's online resource, "Swedish Musical Heritage."

• On December 13, 2015, Robin Guy, Professor of Piano/Collaborative Piano, served as an invited adjudicator for Iowa Music Teachers Association District Auditions for Des Moines/Ankeny, Levels E and F, held at Drake University, and on January 31 for Music Teachers of Central Iowa, Ames, Levels C and D, held at Iowa State University.

## WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

• In February, Women's and Gender Studies organized 'V-Week', a student-led activism campaign about women's rights. Events that were organized included a film screening, a lecture and a bake-sale.

• March is UNI Women's History Month, and Women's and Gender Studies is organizing a number of events to promote gender equality. A number of film screenings and lectures have been planned throughout the month. Many of the events include other student organizations and other UNI departments.



Students Shera Steere and Megan Vogt

## ART

• András Török, Hungarian Photographer, will travel to UNI to deliver a lecture titled "Why Hungarian Photography Matters" on March 24 in the Kamerick Art Building Auditorium. Also, Török will assist in the launch of FORTEPAN IOWA, a digital archive of historical photographs.

• The UNI Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition is arriving in late March. The selected juror, a professor from St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, Renee Meyer Ernst will be selecting the works that will be displayed. Ernst will also be presenting a lecture on March 11 in the Kammerick Art Building Auditorium.

## COMMUNICATION STUDIES

• The Soul Food Museum is an interactive performance bringing to light the magic, politics, and ritual of an African-American Sunday dinner. A challenge to mass-mediated stereotypes of the Black family and Black life, "The Soul Food Museum" invites us to laugh, eat, and share. Learned in his childhood, graduate student, DeRod Taylor, prepares for us his own Sunday Dinner as we navigate Black life and the power of family. Conceived, designed, directed and written by DeRod Taylor.

• On March 27 and 28, UNI Interpreter's Theatre and the UNI Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education are hosting Sean Lewis' performance of *Dogs of Rwanda*. Lewis is a celebrated storyteller that has traveled around the nation telling his tales. The story is a self-documentary, documenting Lewis' travels with the girl of his dreams through the Ugandan, and then Rwandan jungles to save a young boy. Along the way, they witnessed the unimaginable horrors that made up the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. The performance will take place at the UNI Interpreter's Theatre.

**Northern Iowa Band Invitational**  
**Thursday, March 12, 8:00am**  
**Davis Hall and Great Hall, GBPAC**

School of Music professor and conductor Daniel Galyen will coordinate a day-long workshop for visiting Iowa high school bands featuring Storm Lake High School, Spirit Lake High School, Algona High School, Le Mars High School and Waterloo West High School. This event is free but requires registration. Contact [music@uni.edu](mailto:music@uni.edu) for more information.

**Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra**  
**Thursday, March 12, 7:30pm**  
**Great Hall, GBPAC**

Under the direction of School of Music professor and conductor Rebecca Burkhardt, the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra will offer a spring performance. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Guest Artist Recital: Ed Morse, trombone**  
**Monday, March 23, 7:30pm**  
**Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall**

Visiting artist Ed Morse will present a trombone recital. Morse routinely performs throughout the southeast on trombone, euphonium and tuba and is Visiting Assistant Professor of Trombone and Euphonium at Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida. He is also Instructor of Trombone, Euphonium and Chamber Music at Daytona State College. In addition to studio teaching, he also directs the Wildcat Trombone Ensemble. Morse currently serves as second trombone in the Jackson (TN) Symphony and has performed with the Memphis Symphony, Waco Symphony and Knoxville Symphony. He has served as principal trombone of the Appalachian Brass and guest soloist with the East Tennessee Concert Band. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Guest Artist Master Class: Jake Heggie, composer and pianist**  
**Tuesday, March 24, 8:00pm**  
**Studio 101, Russell Hall**

Visiting artist Jake Heggie will present a master class as part of the Meryl Norton Hearst Visiting Artist Series. Jake Heggie is the American composer of the operas *Moby-Dick*, *Dead Man Walking*, *Three Decembers*, *To Hell and Back*, and *Out of Darkness: a triptych of Holocaust stories* (*Another Sunrise – Farewell*, *Auschwitz – For a Look or a Touch*). He has also composed more than 250 songs, as well as chamber, choral and orchestral works. Heggie, a Guggenheim Fellow, has served as a mentor to Washington National Opera's American Opera Initiative for young composers and librettists for the past two seasons. For more information, visit [jakeheggie.com](http://jakeheggie.com). *This event is free and open to the public.*



**Guest Artist Recital: Frank Almond, violin, and Marian Lee, piano**  
**Wednesday, March 25, 8:00pm**  
**Davis Hall, GBPAC**

Visiting artists Frank Almond, violin, and Marian Lee, piano, will collaborate to present a recital. Almond holds the Charles and Marie Caestecker Concertmaster Chair at the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He returned to the MSO after holding positions as Concertmaster of the Rotterdam Philharmonic with Valery Gergiev, and Guest Concertmaster of the London Philharmonic with Kurt Masur. Lee is assistant professor of piano at St. Ambrose University and has performed as soloist and chamber performer in Italy, France, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Poland, Russia, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Estonia, Byelorussia, Thailand, Hong Kong, and major cities throughout the United States. *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Hearst Visiting Artist Concert, featuring UNI faculty and students:**  
**Works of Jake Heggie**  
**Thursday, March 26, 7:30pm**  
**Great Hall, GBPAC**

School of Music faculty and student musicians will present a concert featuring works by visiting artist Jake Heggie. Heggie will be in residence at UNI as part of the Meryl Norton Hearst Visiting Artist Series from March 24-27. For more on Heggie, visit [jakeheggie.com](http://jakeheggie.com). *This event is free and open to the public.*

**Iowa Composer's Forum**  
**Friday – Saturday, March 27 – 28, All Day**  
**GBPAC**

The UNI School of Music will host the 2015 Iowa Composers Forum Spring New Music Festival. This festival will featured new music from Iowa composers, as well as a student musician performance featuring art songs by Hearst Series artist and composer Jake Heggie at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 27. For more information on the Iowa Composers Forum, visit [www.iowacomposers.org](http://www.iowacomposers.org). For more information on this event, contact [Alan.Schmitz@uni.edu](mailto:Alan.Schmitz@uni.edu).

**Suzuki Recital Weekend**  
**Saturday – Sunday, March 28 – 29, All Day**  
**Russell Hall**

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

**Piano Pedagogy Master Class**  
**Sunday, March 29, 12:00pm**  
**Bengtson Auditorium, Russell Hall**

UNI Faculty artist Theresa Camilli will coordinate a master class for the Piano Pedagogy program at UNI. *This event is free and open to the public.*

# SEE THIS SPACE?

## IT'S UP TO YOU TO FILL IT!

We, the creative wizards at CHAS Promotions, want to showcase all of the big things happening in your department. Are you, a fellow faculty member, or a student doing something noteworthy? Send it our way! Show off your own writing talents or leave it to us.

Here's how you can contribute:

### Option 1: Department News

Send us a brief description of an event (lectures, awards, publications, and other accomplishments) to be included in the Department News section of *The Update*.

### Option 2: Write an Article

Send us an article (around 300 words) describing the event and participants.

### Option 3: Suggest an Article

Send us a brief description of the event and let us know who to contact for more information.

[CHASUPDATE@UNI.EDU](mailto:CHASUPDATE@UNI.EDU)

continued from cover

I was in high school, I was passionate about art-making, but didn't know where to begin when I was first thinking about attending college," said Doely. "By actually going to the high school classrooms, we provide students with the opportunity to ask questions directly to professors to learn about UNI and the opportunities available to them."

"East High is a wonderful school," said Schulte, "with a rich tradition in the arts. Our visit was to continue building on our relationship with the school, the art teacher [a UNI graduate] and the students. Our hope, of course, is that East High students will continue to see UNI as the fit for their education."

The project extended far beyond the creation of art. Part of the exercise was to have students critically think about their decision making process. "Much of our time was spent interacting with the students about the choices that they were making with regard to the material and the overall design plan," said Schulte. "We asked questions, and moved them to reflect more deeply about their

work and the methods that were being used."

One way this activity engaged the students in critical thinking, was by asking the students to use and perceive these everyday items—newspaper, masking tape and grocery bags—in a new and unique way. "In addition to teaching them about the art program at UNI, they got the work with these materials in a new way," said Doely. "Using teamwork and critical thinking to form a creative solution. It required careful, deliberate planning and communication."

"We had a wonderful time," said Doely. "The students had great energy and it was interesting to see the wide variety of different approaches they took. Even in the short time, I got a good sense of their individual personalities."

Schulte agreed, saying, "I think the students really enjoyed the challenge, and we certainly enjoyed getting to know them. It is something that we will look to continue doing in the future."



# UNI WINS BIG AT AAF

## UNI Department of Art Students Bring Home the Gold

UNI Department of Art students and UNI Advertising Club students came home with several prestigious awards following the annual American Advertising Federation's (AAF) annual Cedar Valley awards event on February 20. Students Rhiannon Rasmussen, Rachael Bair and Aaron Van Fossen took home several American Advertising Awards (AAA), including one in the professional category.

This year's event was held at the historic Elk Club in downtown Waterloo. The event was adorned in AMC's TV series 'Mad Men' flair, music and food – AAF dubbed the theme for the event 'Ad-Men'.

Design firms from around the Cedar Valley came to participate in the award ceremony. Firms such as Spinutech, Cohesive Creative and Code, and VGM Forbin among many others were present at the event.

In the professional category of award winners, a category reserved for non-students, CHAS itself and the Department of Art all took home awards. In the student category, UNI students did extremely well. Of all of the pieces submitted to AAF this year, UNI students won awards for six out of nine.

"UNI's Department of Art took home six out of eight awards given to students this year. I think that this shows very well for the department and for the Art Department faculty," Bair said.

Being recognized by an organization that is not affiliated with the University is something that is highly valued among students.

"It's wonderful to be acknowledged and honored by a prestigious organization like AAF. I'm happy to list these awards on my resume, as they validate the style and direction of my work within the pieces chosen," Bair stated.

Some of the awards received by students were Gold AAAs, which are chosen for their excellence in design. Van Fossen and Rasmussen each won Gold AAA, which enables their work to automatically advance to the Regional AAF award ceremony. UNI-AAF students also won big, they won the student best of show award for one of their collaborative works. Professor Matthew Wilson, UNI Instructor of Marketing and faculty advisor of UNI-AAF won the AAF 2015 MVP Award.

There is a possibility for the works that won gold awards to advance to the national AAF competition.

In addition the Department of Theatre took home a Professional Silver AAA for the promotional poster for Theatre UNI's production of Avenue Q and Professor of Art, Phil Fass also received an award for the design of the Department of Art's Calendar of Events poster.

"The awards won by UNI faculty member Phil Faas and the Department of Theatre are very important for UNI. The awards demonstrate that our faculty and staff are well regarded by the professionals in the field," said College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences Dean, John Fritch.

UNI hopes to return to the AAF ceremony next year with more successes that demonstrate UNI's capacity for excellence in art and design.



Top Right: Student Rachael Bair  
Right Middle: Student Aaron Van Fossen  
Bottom Middle: UNI-AAF

Photos Courtesy of AAF Cedar Valley

# RICK GRISEL

## Department of Philosophy and World Religions

In philosophy it is often considered a virtue to be educated. Rick Grisel, an alumnus of UNI who graduated in 1996 reflects this virtue. Grisel, double majored in Philosophy and Religion and minored in Biology during his time at UNI. In 2010, he moved to Portland, Oregon to attend the Lewis & Clark Law School to obtain his Juris Doctor Degree for Environmental and Natural Resources Law.

Grisel currently works at FDH Velocitel, Inc. in Portland. He is a manager for wireless infrastructure development projects for telecom clients. He states that the most enjoyable parts of his career are in project management and the legality of projects.

“Commercial projects have many complex, interrelated requirements, and it is a fun organizational challenge to arrange optimal work-flows addressing these requirements,” he said. He continued, “Naturally, since I attended law school, the legal aspects of the position are a fairly satisfying substitute for the actual practice of law. Throughout this and most professional positions, there is a deep critical analysis needed to be successful, and nothing prepares one better for this than the study of philosophy, religion, and related disciplines.”

During his time at UNI Grisel balanced studying for a double major, a minor, working 30 hours a week along with playing tennis for UNI. Time management became a vital skill in his life,

coupled with organizational skills, have been essential in the work he has been doing after graduation.

He enjoys many things outside of work as well, including being an active member in multiple running clubs, continuing his involvement in competitive tennis, reading, watching performance arts, and consuming the wonderful India Pale Ales that Portland, the beer capital of America has to offer.

Grisel’s most valuable experience at UNI was his interactions with Dr. Soneson, a philosophy professor at UNI.

“Studying philosophy and religion—and particularly my coursework with Dr. Soneson—fostered a powerful love for the ‘life of the mind,’” he said.

Grisel continued, “This fundamentally formative experience has continued long past graduation, and compels one to never stop being fascinated with the human experience in all its dimensions, never stop learning, and forever develop oneself into the best person possible.”



# MICHAELA NELSON

## Department of Theatre

In 2014 Michaela Nelson graduated UNI with a B.A. in Theatre and a minor in Music. Since then she has moved on to do some great things, one of which is working at Marvel Universe LIVE.

Nelson is a great example of an alumnus with a lot of passion for the studies she undertook at UNI. During her time here she was a part of the UNI Concert Band and Flute Choir, the stage manager with the UNI Opera, wardrobe designer and performer for Sissy’s Sircus Drag and

Burlesque Troupe. She worked on a theatre production every semester through Theatre UNI, she was also an active member of the UNI Student Theatre Association. In addition, she was a member and the chair of the UNI Chapter of United States Institute of Theatre Technology.

“Involvement in organizations gets you away from some of the stress of schoolwork,” she said. “[It]can remind you why you love what you love. Because if you are willing to use some of your little free time to do something

extra for free, then it must be something you are passionate about,” she continued.

Post graduation, she has been a stitcher for the Paramounts Arts Center in Aurora, Illinois and then the Wardrobe Manager at the Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre. Today, she is on a national tour with Marvel Universe LIVE as a wardrobe assistant.

“I am traveling the world and doing a job I love at the same time,” she said.



Nelson greatly valued her time at UNI and it significantly helped her become more passionate about the career that she pursued. The Department of Theatre is one that encourages teamwork and passion to succeed.

“The people. I loved my teachers, my peers, and my co-workers. There is such camaraderie in the Theatre Department. We would have group all-nighters for big class projects. We took turns getting food or coffee (lots of coffee) for each other during tech week. We pulled together to make shows happen even when it seemed like it couldn’t be done. It was amazing to know so many people cared about you and wanted you to succeed,” she stated.

# ANGELA WEEPIE

## Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Angela Weepie, a current student in UNI's Department of Chemistry, and Biochemistry is studying to research planetary atmospheres after graduation. She is a non-traditional student who came back to school after 13 years away from science. She graduated from UNI with a B.A. in Earth Science in 2000.

"It was pretty tough at first, but I have been lucky to have amazing lab partners, friends, and professors to help me along the way," she said.

Weepie is currently a senior and pursuing graduate school. She has been able to participate in undergraduate research through her classes as well as being a part of the UNI American Chemical Society (ACS) affiliate group. These experiences have helped her connect with other students who share similar interest. Through the ACS group, students are encouraged to present their research to others through poster sessions and research presentations. The opportunities that are available through the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and through ACS, she finds are invaluable.

Weepie came to college knowing she wanted to have a career in science. Through taking classes that were offered within her department she soon learned about the field she fell in love with, astrochemistry.

"I applied for the summer undergraduate research program with the Chemistry Department in astrochemistry research because I thought the subject

was fascinating and I would have the opportunity to tell my future students about the research lab experience," she said.

As a student, she is very involved in ACS, doing research through the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, keeping track of homework, and being a Zumba Fitness Instructor in Oelwein. While all of these activities have demanding time commitments, Weepie keeps on track by keeping a weekly schedule and being very passionate about her interest.

After she graduates, she plans on pursuing graduate school and continuing her research on planetary atmospheres.



# MESA ESPAÑOLA

## Department of Languages and Literatures

Mesa Española is a new organization in the Department of Languages and Literatures this school year. It was established in Fall 2014 to give students the opportunity to practice their Spanish speaking skills with other students and professors in a non-classroom setting. Mesa Española was founded by Heather Jeronimo, an assistant professor of Spanish Literature, and Elise Dubord, an assistant professor of Linguistics.

Jeronimo and Dubord hope to encourage students to practice and speak Spanish frequently in order to hone in their skills that they have obtained through their studies at UNI. The group holds weekly meetings during

lunch-time. Last semester, meetings were held at the Rialto Dining Center where they would meet and speak Spanish for a two-hour period. Students were free to drop in at any point during this two-hour time-frame to speak with other people in Spanish. This semester, there is a similar set up in progress, but it is now hosted at the Book Bistro in Rod Library during lunch-time.

While the events are frequented by students, Spanish professors and graduate students are also involved. The professors and graduate students help to facilitate conversations between the students, it is the interactions between the students that the conversations depend on. The

professors and graduate students switch throughout the semester, facilitating the activities that the students are participating in.

Dubord, one of the founders of the Mesa Española, teaches classes in Spanish Literature. With a Spanish degree from Minnesota State University with a degree in Spanish and experience studying at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez. She later earned her Graduate degree in Spanish, after spending time in Guatemala as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Jeronimo has received her Masters and Ph.D. in Spanish from the University of Nebraska, in Lincoln. She has had the opportunity to lead many undergraduate students on study abroad programs to Toledo, Spain. Her research focuses on the representations of non-normative families in contemporary Spanish literature and film.

Both of these professors have a long-standing passion for their studies in Spanish culture and language. They hope through Mesa Española that others can come to share that same passion and interest. Mesa Española is a great opportunity for students to practice their Spanish, interact with other students, work closely with some accomplished professors and grab a bite to eat for lunch.



Mesa Española members meet at the Rialto Dining Center

## CORY SKOLD

### Department of Theatre



Junior theatre design and production major, Cory Skold, can most likely be found at Strayer-Wood—his favorite spot on campus. That is to say, when he's not jamming on his guitar, working on his sketches or out on the town with his friends. Like many students around campus, Skold works to balance an active social life and a productive academic experience.

Aside from his studies, Skold said there are many other activities that keep him busy, "I'm a board member of the, theatre techni-

cian's student chapter, USITT, as well as a board member of the Alpha Psi Omega theatre honor fraternity on campus. Additionally I've been involved with KULT radio and UNI Tae Kwon-Do. Student organizations are great to meet people with common interests as well as build skills and connections in your field."

But it was this plethora of opportunity and community involvement that brought Skold to UNI. "UNI had the best theatre program in the area near

me, plus they offered me several scholarships and opportunities to make college affordable," he said. "There's always an event to go to, or somewhere to chill and have a good time."

Skold feels that UNI has helped him with his future career in many ways. "UNI has given me several opportunities to meet professionals in the theatre industry and learn from them," said Skold. "In addition to that, I've been involved in classes and productions that have led to my employment in the theatre industry. I have completed two summer internships, one in Utah, and now have a summer job working in Colorado.

Overall, Skold is very proud of the work he has done so far in his college career. "I've built up the skills I needed to get two summer internships," he said. "I've been part of some truly amazing shows at the theatre, and had a blast doing what I love. Perhaps one of the most memorable events was the trip that the USITT organization took last year to Ft. Worth, Texas for the annual USITT convention and trade expo."

Skold is particularly fond of his time in the Department of Theatre and the shows he's worked on. "The environment is just really inclusive," he said. "We all come together to create live art and better ourselves in the process. Everyone really becomes close

when involved in a show and I like seeing the best brought out in the department."

When asked what he would say to prospective students, Skold replied, "It's the best decision you can make. If you're willing to put in the work and try, the faculty and fellow students will give you the opportunity to succeed at doing what you love."

After he graduates Skold said he would like to travel the country and work with different theatre companies. "A successful career in the arts is possible; all it takes is hard work."

## MOJTABA ALFARDAN

### Department of Computer Science



Mojtaba Alfardan, now a senior computer science major from Saudi Arabia, has accomplished much while studying here at UNI. He has studied hard during his time in class, but he also has worked extensively outside of class in his field of study.

Alfardan, originally from Qatif, Saudi Arabia, a large city in Eastern Saudi Arabia, traveled to Cedar Falls, Iowa to attend UNI based on the recommendation of others in his hometown that studied here. Upon arrival, the welcoming community that UNI presented pleased him.

"It's a nice welcoming community where you get a lot of help from the faculty and peers and I still feel the same since freshman [year]," Alfardan said.

Once here, Alfardan cultivated his passion for technology in the Department of Computer Science. Problem solving and challenging issues are something

that Alfardan took a high degree of interest in while in class.

"It might be hard at the start but it gets easier with time and we have great faculty that really try to help the students," he said.

In addition to his classwork, Alfardan pursued his passion by being involved in UNI's Network Security Club, an organization that hosts talks concerning networking and network security and vulnerability issues. He is also involved in the Cedar Falls Linux users group 'cedarlug'. The organization was created for users of the operating system, Linux. The group often hosts networking and gaming events as well as hosting talks about technical topics.

One of Alfardan's high points in his college career also came outside of class. When UNI hosted a cyber-defense competition, he was all in. For eight hours, competitors battled to gain access to systems set up by other competitors. Prior to the competition, competitors were able to construct their own secure systems – often students worked three to four hours per day on the project. Experiences like these have further cultivated Alfardan's passion for computers.

Lastly, Alfardan is currently working with Computer Science faculty and staff for the Laboratory of Security and Storage Technology, a program that investigates how data is

stored, transferred and deleted. Alfardan is currently researching exactly how things are deleted on flash drives.

After graduation, Alfardan is unsure of his exact destination, but wishes to pursue a position in systems work, but if money were no object, he said he would buy Microsoft and discontinue one of their flagship products, Internet Explorer.



# PHYSICS CLUB

## Department of Physics

The Physics Club, an organization that was founded through the Department of Physics, is a community of students who are majoring in physics and have a passion for physics outside of the classroom. Their goal as a group is to help each other and the community in understanding their studies and the importance of physics to education.

The Physics Club is composed of student members, with some assistance provided by the staff of the department. The officers of the club find events to promote and plan activates for their club members to participate in. The club has recently been offering movie nights in Begeman Hall during weeknights every month as a chance for members to become acquainted with others in the club.

Meetings are usually held on Wednesdays at 5:00 pm, where they offer pizza for dinner and discuss opportunities and events that are relevant to members of the organization. The club often does outreach programs in order to help out the community.

"In these events we have hands on activities that we do with the kids. These activities demonstrate basic physics concepts to the public," said Cassara Higgins, current Vice-President of the club.

Some other programs that the Physics Club has been known to work with are STEM Festivals and Girl Scout Events.

The Physics Club offers many experience for people in the major to get to know one another, learn

more about their opportunities in their field and helping out the community by teaching children more about physics.



# UNI STUDENT TRAVELS TO AUSTRIA

## School of Music Student Emily Bicknese for Music

Studying abroad, one of the great opportunities that is presented to students when they are in college. Many come back with extraordinary tales of self-discovery and a newfound love of adventure. This year Emily Bicknese, a student majoring in Music Education, had the chance to travel for a semester abroad. She arrived in Klagenfurt, Austria on 7 February where her new host family greeted her.

Bicknese says she is blessed to have such a caring and helpful host family. In Austria, she plans on teaching the family's eight-year-old son, Marlon, to play piano.

"He's so eager to learn. It's a challenge for me to teach with the correct vocabulary in German," she said.

Her host family has helped to immerse Bicknese into the Austrian culture. Nicole, her host mother

has been very gracious by cooking homemade Austrian dishes that Bicknese now loves.

"Nicole has generously offered for me to always eat with the family rather than buy my own food. I've enjoyed her homemade dishes and fresh fruits and vegetables," she exclaimed.

Bicknese is also enrolled in three classes that were offered to her through the study abroad program. The classes are being offered through Alpen-Adria-Universität, Klagenfurt for studies in German. She is also enrolled in music courses through the Music Conservatory, Kärntner Landeskonservatorium. Through these classes she is hoping to improve her German speaking skills, which are improving day-by-day. She also is trying to make friends through her church activities.

Bicknese is extraordinarily grateful for the time she is spending in Austria. She admires the country, people and culture that she has been allowed to be a part of. While she misses her friends and family, she is excited to learn more and see more during her time in Austria.



# ALL THE CHAS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

## MARCH 2015 EVENTS

### MARCH 11 – MARCH 15

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Poetry Reading by Rachel Morgan  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015 – 3:30pm**  
Location: Bartlett Hall, Room 1017

Sustainability Book Club  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015 – 5:30pm**  
Location: Rod Library, Room 324

Lecture: Renee Meyer Ernst  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015 – 6:00pm**  
Location: KAB 111

Northern Iowa Band Invitational  
**Thursday, March 12, 2015 – 8:00am**  
Location: GBPAC, Davis Hall

Second UNI Conference on Sustainability: Environmental  
Equity and Resilience in the Cedar Valley and Beyond  
**Thursday, March 12, 2015 – 8:00am**  
Location: Maucker Union, Old Central Ballroom

Planetarium Show  
**Thursday, March 12, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: Latham Hall, Room 105

Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra  
**Thursday, March 12, 2015 – 7:30pm**  
Location: GBPAC, Great Hall

Planetarium Show  
**Thursday, March 12, 2015 – 8:00pm**  
Location: Latham Hall, Room 105

### MARCH 30 – MARCH 31

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Women's History Month Keynote Address:  
"Can I play, Too? Gender Equity in the Age of #Gamergate"  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2015 – 7:30pm**  
Location: Lang Hall, Auditorium

### MARCH 23 – MARCH 29

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Awards Ceremony and Opening Reception -  
Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition  
**Monday, March 23, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: KAB 111

"Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition"  
**Monday, January 23, 2015 – Saturday, April 18, 2015**  
Gallery Hours: 10:00am – 7:00pm Mon.-Thur. and  
10:00am – 5:00pm Friday – Saturday  
Location: UNI Gallery of Art

"Before Animals"  
**Monday, January 19, 2015 – Saturday, February 28, 2015**  
Gallery Hours: 10:00am – 7:00pm Mon.-Thur. and  
10:00am – 5:00pm Friday – Saturday  
Location: UNI Gallery of Art

Guest Lecturer: András Török, Hungarian Photography  
**Tuesday, March 24, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: KAB 111

Film Screening: "Celebrating Colors," Reflections Unheard:  
Black Women in Civil Rights  
**Tuesday, March 24, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: Seerley Hall, Room 115

Artist Series: Elias Quartet  
**Tuesday, March 24, 2015 – 7:30pm**  
Location: GBPAC, Great Hall

The Launching of FORTEPAN IOWA:  
A public Digital Photo Archive of Iowa's History  
**Wednesday, March 25, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: Rod Library

Film Screening: "I am a Girl"  
**Wednesday, March 25, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: Sabin Hall, Room 002

Final Thursday Reading Series Featuring Jeremy Schraffenberger  
**Thursday, March 26, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: Hearst Center for the Arts

Dogs of Rwanda – UNI Interpreter's Theatre  
**Thursday, March 26, 2015 – 7:30pm**  
Location: Lang Hall, Room 040

Jennifer Joy presents "Get Inspired:  
Four Brilliant Women Scientist from the History of Science"  
**Thursday, March 26, 2015 – 7:30pm**  
Location: Seerley Hall, Room 115

LAC2A Humanities Faculty Meeting  
**Friday, March 27, 2015 – 3:30pm**  
Location: Bartlett Hall, Room 1017

Dogs of Rwanda  
**Friday, March 27, 2015 – 7:30pm**  
Location: Lang Hall, Room 040

TEDxUNI: Charting Destiny  
**Saturday, March 28, 2015 – 7:00pm**  
Location: GBPAC and viewing party locations