Professors prove artistic skills get better with age

John Flynn
THE SANTA CLARA

Offering a rare look at what happens when professors create, a new exhibit shows what university staff make outside of the classroom. Santa Clara University's Arts and Art History Department presented the Studio Art Faculty Exhibition on Oct. 9. The show displays the wide variety of faculty expertise in the department. The exhibit consists of a combination of photographs, paintings and sculptures, and will be ongoing until Oct. 24.

"We wanted to put on this show because sometimes what we teach in the classroom is not what we do in our own studio," said veteran art professor Kelly Detwiler. Detwiler offered a self-portrait inside his studio in the style of Henri Matisse, which he completed during his sabbatical.

A few other professors' works, including Renee Billingsley and Pauchi Jimenez, are displayed. Billingsley presented a series of photographs entitled "Sheevy," featuring one with an African mask in front of a former slave auction site. Jimenez combined fairytale imagery from a series of "commercial moulds of you might see in a grandmother's home" to create a turquoise glazed ceramic portal into childhood memories. Sophomore Kristin Ronholt enjoyed the exhibition. "It's a fun introduction to the teachers I haven't met yet," said Ronholt. "You never really get to see their work otherwise."

Following a viewing of the exhibit, a panel of professors spoke about their individual journeys to becoming artists and what their creative processes look like. Jimenez moderated the roundtable discussion featuring three art professors: Kathy Ashik, Ryan Reynolds and Ryan Carrington. Speaking in front of a full room, the panel detailed their individual experiences from art student to professor. The three professors all had unsure beginnings to their art careers. Reynolds traveled for five years before deciding to refine his craft in graduate school. Ashik finished her undergraduate career as a French major and Carrington entered college with his sights set on becoming a high school biology teacher. However, they all soon found out their true passion was in the arts.

Although graduate school was a common factor for each panelist, they each took their own paths to get there. Carrington described his postgraduate school days as an artist-in-residence. "You get to make art all day and eat food and be around people who make art all day and eat food," Carrington said.

A few months into his residency, Carrington's funds ran out. He was saved by the site operator who hired him to do manual labor, providing him with the necessary income to keep creating art. This job was a crucial step in the young professor's climb to becoming an established artist.

"When you have these internships, be the last one with the broom in the shop because it will pay off and you'll get the opportunity of a lifetime," Carrington said.

Although each professor is relatively secure in their style and professional status, they challenged students to improve their own art and think critically about why they produce their work.

"Questions about your voice and why you're doing art never really go away and I think that's just part of the artistic process," said Reynolds in the end, senior art major Marvin García realized that becoming a professional artist is an arduous, but attainable feat.

"It's nice to see three different perspectives all at once and it's reassuring to see three different paths to the same place," said García.

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October Calendar

10/16 | THURSDAY
Associated Student Government's Meet the Candidates
Time: 8 p.m.
Location: The Bronco
Why Go? Find out who is in the running to represent your voice in student government.

Tenants' Rights Event
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Weigand Room
Why Go? Learn more about your rights when you live off campus and which resources are available to you.

10/17 | FRIDAY
John Kennedy, Musical Maverick
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Music Recital Hall
Why Go? Composer and conductor John Kennedy will perform alongside faculty and SCU Orchestra. Be amazed by the use of river rocks and iPhones as instruments.

10/18 | SATURDAY
Fall Dance Festival
Time: 2 p.m., 8 p.m.
Location: Fonoff-Parker Studio Theatre
Why Go? Explore diverse dance styles in the biannual festival featuring the choreography of senior dance majors.

10/19 | SUNDAY
Sunday Liturgy
Time: 10 a.m., 8 p.m.
Location: Mission Church

10/20 | MONDAY
Last Lecture with Professor Lalani Miller
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Sobrato Hall Common Room B and C
Why Go? Hear a professor's insight into genetic and forensic testing.

10/21 | TUESDAY
Voter Registration Drive
Time: 4:30 a.m.
Location: Benson Plaza, In front of Shapell Lounge
Why Go? Register to vote, do your civic duty and have your voice heard on issues that affect your community.

10/22 | WEDNESDAY
Spoken Word Artist David Romero
Time: 8 p.m.
Location: The Bronco
Why Go? Hear a poet perform for Latino Heritage Month.

Sustainability Day
Time: 11 a.m.
Location: Learning Commons Lawn
Why Go? Find free tips, tools and resources to create a more sustainable lifestyle. Have a heart, do your part.

To suggest events for the calendar contact Eddie Solis Jr. at calendar@scu.edu.
Students support Broncos in coming out celebration

Eddie Solis Jr.
THE SANTA CLARA

Santa Clara celebrates sexual diversity last week by creating a space that allowed students to be vocal and proud of their sexual orientation on National Coming Out Day.

"Coming out is the most powerful tool in equality, especially if you can put a face to it," said junior Kristen Grew. "The idea of the day is to be proud and be visible so that coming out doesn't seem like a hidden thing, but is instead something that is celebrated." Grew is the program coordinator of the Gay and Straight People for the Education of Diversity program of Santa Clara Community Action Program.

On Oct. 11, club members filled in Benson Plaza in a coloration of color, energy and music. Students spray painted backpack banners to support their cause for gay rights. A large float was also made, inviting students to "come out" in a light-hearted way. As if addressing the boatloads of many Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered people face, a message atop the doors read, "Clothes are for clothes." As dogs in years past, participants signed the wardrobe and a whiteboard, offering thanks for the support system. Messages included words of encouragement to others in the coming out process and student signatures. The goal of the day was for Santa Clara to be a visible beacon of support.

October is LGBT History Month. It was established as a time to observe the history of the gay rights and other related civil rights movements.

On Oct. 16, National LGBT Spirit Day, people are encouraged to wear purple in solidarity with those who have suffered from bullying and oppression for their sexuality. The club will be tabling to spread awareness of the day's importance in the LGBT community.

Sophomore Jose Arriaga appreciated the club bringing LGBT issues to light.

"It creates a sense of community," he said. "It allows the non-LGBT community to see the hardship of coming out. It's difficult to own up to who you are. It gives people a small glimpse of what it's like to come out of the closet.

LGBT students may be facing discrimination or hardships in college because sexuality is not an obvious component of one's identity. Although the LGBT community may not be immediately identifiable, there are plenty of resources for students who would identify as a gender or sexuality-based minority. The Rainbow Resource Center is located in downtown Benson Memorial Center and offers an array of support groups for LGBT students and allies.

In addition, the BCC is a "Safe Space," inviting students to be themselves without fear of judgment. The "Safe Space" stickers around campus are a visible sign that students and university members can freely hold conversations on LGBT issues.

Freshman Benito Koh felt that the small rainbow sticker can offer a large amount of support for students.

"I have seen Safe Space stickers all over the place," said Koh. "It's great. You can go wherever and talk about our issues and we have a place where we can express our feelings and who we are and be not judged by it.

GASPED also hosts events that encourage acceptance and normalization of the gay lifestyle. These events include an annual drag show and Rainbow Proem, which allows students to attend with their dates, regardless of their gender.

Despite controversy surrounding last year's drag show, GASPED continues to host these events as Broncos can rejoice in the spirit of acceptance and lean on each other for support. An example of this support network was found in a note left on the front door. One student signed their name next to the equality symbol and beneath that, a writing '84 graduate directly wrote, "I support LGBT (Santa Clara) students."

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Pre-Game Parties Amp School Spirit

New program rallies students for sporting events, increases attendance

Samantha Nitz
THE SANTA CLARA

The Ruff Riders launched an initiative to revue school spirit by hosting tailgating events at off-campus residences.

Junior Aaron Poor, president of the Ruff Riders, created the Educated Tailgaters Program to increase support for athletic teams and overall school spirit. The club collaborates with off-campus houses to host tailgates before athletic events.

"We really want more people to get involved and excited for games," said Poor. "We want to unite the university as a whole."

The Ruff Riders are encouraging all students, especially off-campus residents, to join in the festivities. Hot dogs, burgers and other refreshments are provided at the tailgates. Attendees at Benson are led in a "spirit stampede" to the game or match.

Poor confesses this year will show a great improvement for school spirit through the club's new core objectives and programs like Educated Tailgaters. He notes the potential students of different years have in reviving excitement for the athletic teams.

"I've separated the club into different groups in order to better chart what I want to see from the students and Ruff Riders in the following years," Poor said. "The freshmen are on the A team, the sophomores are the B team, the juniors are the C team and the seniors are the D team. Students should feel their excitement within the school continue to grow as they age rather than separate when they move off campus."

Poor suspects that the events will help students recognize all the effort that athletes put into their games.

"People work hard for their sports," he said. "I want people to go out and support these teams. It's not like they are random strangers, but they are all of our friends and classmates."

Student attendance for the tailgates has been positive, averaging around 50 individuals.

Off-campus residents are especially responding well to the opportunities tailgates offer. Junior Claire Bardette and senior Megan Barrett said they would be more likely to go to a sporting event if a tailgate took place beforehand.

"I don't usually go to sporting events here at school because none of my friends go. They just aren't that popular," said Barrett. "However, I think tailgates would encourage the students to really come together.

"Rendelle school Barrett's thoughts.

"I don't live on campus as I don't even hear that often about events," she said. "I think there needs to be a connection between those off campus and other events taking place on campus. Tailgating could be one of those connections."

The next tailgate is set for Oct. 17. The location is to be announced.

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Students join in the Ruff Rider's stampedes and support their Santa Clara Broncos. The Ruff Riders Educated Tailgaters Program aims to increase student attendance at sporting events and draw in off-campus residents.