On a recent spring afternoon, theatre students read through and rehearsed a new play in Harvey theatre while the two authors of the play watched from the audience, occasionally making comments to the director and actors. The two new playwrights just happened to be two creative writing students, Danny Rothschild and Mishka Hoosen. It was the type of learning experience that exemplifies the Arts Academy.

Danny and Mishka co-wrote the play about Vincent Van Gogh's last days, with the guidance of Anne-Marie Oomen. The play features broken, poetic text spoken by a chorus, made up of characters from Van Gogh’s paintings. After a reading by creative writing students, the play was finally performed by theatre students, giving the writers an opportunity to see their vision realized, and theatre students a chance to perform a new play and work directly with the playwrights.
Marshall M. Fredericks, sculptor of “Two Bears” died on this day. Born in Rock Island, Illinois in 1908, he became a prominent Michigan sculptor and teacher. Many of his major works are civic pieces; his “Spirit of Detroit” has repeatedly been replicated for presentation to visiting officials. Saginaw Valley State University features an entire sculpture museum of his work. A bronze casting of “Two Bears” (1962) and a bronze relief of Alden B. Dow have graced the plaza in front of Corson Auditorium for 25 years and the bears continue to be a popular photo site on the Interlochen campus. The sculpture is even featured on the Interlochen Facebook page.

Academy at 50

While some Interlochen trustees clearly doubted the wisdom of establishing the Academy, others were enthusiastic supporters from the very start. Chief among these may have been Ann Arbor attorney Roscoe O. Bonisteel, who came to the Interlochen board after serving a decade as a regent with The University of Michigan.

In 1957, he delivered a speech to Camp students and faculty called “Thirty Years of Guidance for
America’s Gifted Youth.” Looking to the past, he described the Camp as a refuge where artists could concentrate on their work, largely free from the world’s distractions. Turning to future and the idea of a year-round school, he expressed his belief that Handel, Edison and Heifetz probably would not have achieved what they did, if they had been compelled to sit in a typical American school, instead of investing the hours required to master their fields.

Although the Academy seemed like a distant dream in 1957, he made a seemingly bold prediction that Interlochen would “develop in the next thirty years, a highly specialized academy for gifted young people who are talented in one of the arts fields – as most gifted children are.” Bonisteel’s prediction became a reality in a mere five years and one month, when the Arts Academy welcomed its first students in 1962.

**Spring 1961**

Although the opening of the Academy had been postponed to the following year, positive signs continued to emerge from the executive committee – the trustees voted to change name of Interlochen Hotel to Interlochen Student Center; to engage pianist Van Cliburn for a benefit concert, and to proceed with a permanent transfer of the institution’s staff and offices from Ann Arbor to Interlochen. As early as 1945, Dr. Maddy had lamented that the organization was growing too large to be managed from 240 miles away, but it proved difficult to persuade staff accustomed to the relatively cosmopolitan comforts of Ann Arbor to move their households to the northern frontier. The future was clear to the trustees, however, and the arduous annual move for office, library and staff was finally over.
The Winter Dance performance featured the works of two guest artists.


Source URL:  http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/video-winter-dance-features-works-guest-artists  

Links:  
After a live performance in Overture Hall, accompanied by the Madison Symphony Orchestra (MSO), Ariela Bohrod was named the winner of the Bolz Young Artist Competition in Madison, Wisconsin. As the winner of the competition, the senior piano major at the Arts Academy will receive a scholarship and will be a featured soloist with the MSO at the Spring Young People’s Concert.

Ariela and the three other finalists in the competition each performed a concerto excerpt with the MSO under the direction of Music Director John DeMain before a live audience. Bohrod performed the first movement from “Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22” by Camille Saint-Saëns.

“Ariela hears and flows with the actual musical effect, giving her timing and poise a level of maturity that is unusual among young performers,” said Thomas “T.J.” Lymenstull, instructor of piano at Interlochen Arts Academy, of his student. “She is also a hard worker and meticulously demanding of herself, which is also a key component of any serious artist.”
The concert was broadcast on Wisconsin Public Radio and Wisconsin Public Television, which prepared a short video profile of Ariela. The short video is posted with the permission of Wisconsin Public Television below.

Source URL: http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/academy-pianist-wins-bolz-young-artist-competition

Links:
Eleven Interlochen Arts Academy students were honored in the 2011 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. The competition attracted 185,000 submissions in 30 different categories writing and arts categories. Nearly 1,500 students from 45 states in the U.S., as well as students in American schools abroad, were chosen to receive national medals. Of the eleven Arts Academy students honored, three students received two awards. The award recipients are:

Nicole Acton - junior, silver medal in poetry

Delali Ayivor - senior, gold medal in poetry

Min Jeong Cho - junior, gold medal in drawing

Kelly Clare* - junior, silver medals poetry and short story

Rebecca Cornwall - senior, arts portfolio silver medal
Sophia Fisher - junior, gold medal in poetry

Justine Jaffe* - senior, gold medals in poetry and silver writing portfolio medal

Jeff Kasanoff - senior, gold medal in film

Danielle Katz - senior, silver medal in mixed media

Jessica Loper - senior, American Visions Medal in sculpture

Mihyun Ryu* - junior, gold medals in mixed media and sculpture

*Received multiple awards

The student works were adjudicated first locally and then nationally by panels of judges comprised of renowned artists, authors, educators and arts professionals. The works were judged on originality, technical skill, and the emergence of personal vision or voice. The nonprofit Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, which administers the Awards, will honor national winners at a special ceremony at the world-famous Carnegie Hall in New York City on May 31.

A Milestone Honor for the Motion Picture Arts program

While students from the motion picture arts program have received a variety awards, senior Jeff Kasanoff took home the first national Scholastic Gold Medal for the five year-old program. He was recognized for his film, “Sarah” about a teenager who is unable to say goodbye to his lifelong imaginary friend. After receiving the award, Jeff was quick to share credit with the many actors and musicians who performed and composed original music for his short film. “What I love about Interlochen is that I have a chance to work with people who are strong in areas where I am not as strong, like music or acting,” said Jeff. “At home, I would have been on my own. And even when I go to college, it will probably be a long time before I can work with such a wide range of talents.” Jeff’s award-winning film can be viewed below.

Video: Motion Picture Arts Production "Sarah" [1]


Source URL: http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/academy-students-honored-scholastic

Links:
Brittany Newell, a junior from Belvedere, California, has been selected as the winner of the 2010-2011 Virginia B. Ball Creative Writing Competition. As the winner, she will receive a $30,000 scholarship to attend Interlochen Arts Academy where she will study with a faculty of published authors and other students who share her love for writing and the arts.

Mika Perrine, the director of the creative writing program at Interlochen, called Brittany’s portfolio mesmerizing and original. “We were particularly impressed with her riveting short story ‘Darwin,’” said Perrine. “It combined remarkable precision of imagery with a whimsical, fairy-tale like cadence.”

An avid writer and reader, Brittany has already finished a novel and a screenplay, and leads the poetry slam team at her current high school. She regularly submits to writing contests, which is how she discovered the Virginia B. Ball Writing Competition. After sending her portfolio to Interlochen on a whim, Brittany learned more about the Arts Academy and was drawn to the idea...
of being able to work with and exchange ideas with other writers and artists. “Writing has always been such a solitary thing for me, so the community aspect of Interlochen is something that is really appealing,” she explained. An accomplished musician, she also looks forward to the musical opportunities at Interlochen. She has taken private voice lessons since age seven and is currently studying privately with the chair of the voice department at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Despite her many interests, Brittany’s future plans remain focused on building a career as a writer. She hopes to get published and see one of her screenplays realized. “I feel like I am a writer - and I would love for that to be validated by readers.”

“We are thrilled to have the opportunity to help her take her writing to the next level,” said Perrine. “She will be surrounded by peers who share her passion for writing and will have opportunities to interact with nationally-renowned visiting authors. With the support and guidance of a dedicated faculty comprised of professional writers, she will have the opportunity to further hone her fresh voice and unique vision.”

The Virginia B. Ball Creative Writing Competition bears the name of a remarkable philanthropist. Known for her many and varied interests, Ball was a longtime Interlochen supporter. She attended Camp in 1941 and later served on the Alumni Board and the Board of Trustees. She passed away in 2003. A 2007 commitment from the Edmund E. and Virginia B. Ball Foundation endowed a biennial creative writing competition that provides substantial scholarship support for the winner to attend Interlochen Arts Academy as a creative writing major.
Motifs: April 2011

April 1, 2011

Thomas Wolf (AS 62-63, IAC 64, IAA 64-66) and his wife Barbara reconstruct historical harpsichords, fortepianos and clavichords in their workshop in rural Virginia. They have been in this business for forty-seven years.

Christina (Czukor) Britton Conroy (IAC 66-67, 69 IAA 67-70, IAA St 70) performed incidental music at the reading of Seamus Heaney’s translation of “Beowulf” presented by Anthony Newfield.

John Hilliard (IAC Staff 67,70,72-74, IAA Staff 73-74, 76, IAC Fac 76-78, 83, 86-91) is a professor of music and resident composer at the School of Music at James Madison University. In 2007 John had a complete concert of his works presented at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In October his third piano concerto was premiered at the Virginia Music Teachers Association conference.

Jeffrey Kay (IAA 73-75) can often be found racing his sailboat in New York and South Carolina. When not sailing, he can be found in a television control room in New York City, where he directs live multi-camera television for Nightline at ABC News.

Jessica Marsten (IAC 73-74, UW 79) was the soprano soloist in the Toledo Symphony’s performance of Handel's Messiah in December 2010. She lives in New York City with her partner of 14 years, David Jackson (AS 72-73).

Karen (Graczyk) Krause (IAC 75) and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter, Karina Ann on January 20, 2011. They also have two sons: Noah and Jonah. Karen is an IT project manager at Chemical Bank in Midland, Michigan.

Susan (Hover) Oehme (IAC 75) recently opened Oehme Graphics, a fine print publisher and printmaking facility in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

German Prentki (IAC 75) and Raul Jaurena perform as Tango de Concierto and recently toured in Germany, giving 15 concerts.

David Viscoli (IAC 77-78, IAA 79-83) recently performed concerts with the Chiarina Piano Quartet on the Columbus and Mansfield campuses of The Ohio State University and at Augsburg
College in Minneapolis. In October, he performed two-piano concerts at The University of California, Santa Barbara and Idyllwild Arts Academy in Idyllwild, California.

**Leann Sandel-Pantaleo (AS 80, IAC 81-82)** performed in the opera “Die Walkure” in the world-renowned La Scala opera house, in Milan, Italy.

**Emily (Gloger) Bracale (IAC 81, IAC 81-85)** recently published her personal story about life with Lyme disease, "In the Lyme-Light: Portraits of Illness and Healing." Some of the original paintings are traveling to libraries in Maine and all are viewable online.

**Christoph Ptack (IAC 81, 86)** is the associate artistic administrator at the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

**Elizabeth Marvel (IAC 82-83, IAA 83-87)** appeared in the Lincoln Center Theater production of “Other Desert Cities” by Jon Robin Baitz.

**Zuill Bailey (IAC 87-88)** will perform with Piers Lane at the Detroit Country Day School in Bloomfield, Michigan. Zuill will be featured in a pre-concert talk.

**Drew Foster (AS 87, IAA 87-89, IAC St 89)** plays Action in the touring production of the Broadway revival of West Side Story, directed by Arthur Laurents.

**Renee Latendresse Johnson (IAA 87-91)** and husband Alan welcomed their daughter Emi Jane Johnson on December 8, 2010. She is adored by her nine year-old brother Luke and six year-old sister Ava. They live in Seacrest Beach, Florida, and own a property management company.

**Gabriella Santinelli (IAA 87-89)** lives London and has a varied career as actress and singer. Gabriella performed as Carlotta in United Kingdom tour of “The Phantom of the Opera,” she received an Olivier Award for “Jerry Springer - The Opera” and has worked artists including Marianne Faithfull, Tom Waits, Robert Wilson and Colin Firth. She is currently acting American-themed plays like “The Last Pilgrim” and “The Exonerated.” Gabriella has directed boutique theatre productions and also coaches actors and singers.

**Ranardo-Domeico Grays (AS 88, IAC 89, IAA 89-90, IAC St 91)** teaches master classes in urban fusion, a combination of many different dance styles such as Afro-Latin, street jazz, and music-video dance. Ranardo gave a master class in January at Pearl Studios in New York City.

**Kate Baldwin (IAC 91-92)** graduated from Northwestern University, then spent two years working in musical theater in Chicago before going to New York City. She was honored with a Tony nomination last year for her work as Sharon in “Finian's Rainbow”.

**Jonathan Smucker (IAA 93-96)** will produce and perform in “The Giovanni Project,” a concert reading of Mozart's Don Giovanni. The performance will be at St. John's Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, California.

**Manisha Snoyer's (IAC 93, IAA 96-99)** translation of "I Tremble," by Joel Pommerat will be published in the summer 2012 issue of Yale Theater Magazine.
Gregory Wooddell (IAC 93-94) performs as Sir Robert Chiltern in Oscar Wilde's comedy "An Ideal Husband" with the Shakespeare Theatre Company, in Washington, D.C. This is Gregory's 12th appearance with the Shakespeare Theatre Company.

Carlos Izcaray (IAC 94, IAA 94-95) and the Virginia Company won best opera at the Irish Times Theatre Awards.

Richmond Punch (IAC 95-96) reaped the rewards of many who invested in his skills when he was a young musician without the financial resources to attend Interlochen Arts Camp on his own. He and his family are now involved in an epic endeavor to “Pay it Forward” through the work of the Punch Family Foundation. The foundation has four core programs: Dallas Uptown Youth Orchestra, community outreach, annual benefit recital and master class, and The Harp Project, which serves students ages seven to eighteen who come from schools that offer limited or no orchestra training. The foundation's vision addresses the under-representation of minorities in the classical music community by providing exposure opportunities for minority children.

Ian Whitney (IAA 96-98) was appointed co-chair of the Florida Democratic Party Campaign Committee and will be working on statewide efforts to elect Democratic candidates in 2012. He serves as the Florida Keys' Democratic State Committeeman and is a member of the Florida GLBT Democratic Caucus.

Cynthia Bayt Bradford (IAC Fac 97) is the co-founder and artistic director emerita of the Southlake Children's Choir in northwest Indiana. Cynthia specializes in music for middle and elementary school students.

Emily Heroy (IAC 97-98, IAA 01-03) was named one of the top 100 "most inspiring people delivering for girls and women" from the non-governmental organization Women Deliver. Emily was featured in a profile in USA Today, in connection with International Women's Day. Also, Emily is engaged to Yale Fillingham and lives in Chicago.

Donny Jones (IAA 97-99) is part of the music team for the upcoming Broadway production of “Wonderland,” which opens at the Marquis Theater on April 17.

Lila (Cohen) Pinksfeld, (IAA 97-99) her husband Nadav, and three-year old son Aviv are delighted to announce the birth of Zoe Pinksfeld. Zoe was born February 17, 2011 weighing in at five pounds, eight ounces. Lila and family reside on a Kibbutz in northern Israel where Lila is currently the director of resource development at the Kinneret College on the Sea of Galilee.

Holly Weis (IAC 99-01) is in her last year of medical school at Rush Medical College in Chicago. Following graduation, she will complete her residency training in ophthalmology at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

Gohar Vardanyan (IAA 01-04) signed on as a “Strings by Mail" sponsored artist and embarked on her first tour sponsored by the company.

Kristina Hanna (IAA 01-05, IAC St 05) earned her bachelor's degree in dance in 2009 from The Juilliard School and joined Keigwin + Company in New York, New York.

Nicole Premo (IAC 02, IAA 02-06) graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's
degree in French, English and Spanish. In August, she was married in Traverse City. Now she
works for the University of Michigan Health System doing marketing and communications for the
School of Nursing. Nicole no longer dances, but she is a Pure Barre instructor where her
previous training comes in handy.

Henry Moyerman (IAC 06, IAA 06-08) is the staff broadcast engineer at the Berklee internet
Radio Network (BIRN).

Brad DePlanche (IAA 02-06) recently completed runs in several regional theatre productions
including: Pseudolus in "Forum" at Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Porthos in "The Three
Musketeers" at People’s Light and Theatre Company, Malvern, Pennsylvania, Clown One in "The
39 Steps" for Orlando Shakespeare Theatre, Florida Repertory Theatre, Fort Myers and Actors
Playhouse, Miami, as well as a four-person "Comedy of Errors" at Playhouse on Park, Hartford,
Connecticut.

Jana Bontrager (IAC 08-10) won the reader-submitted photo contest in the Centre Daily Times
Newspaper, State College, Pennsylvania.

David Dickey (IAC 08) attends the University of Maryland, College Park and studies vocal
performance and oboe performance.
In Memoriam: April 2011

March 25, 2011

Jack McKenzie (IAC Fac 54-65, IAA Fac 63-66) of Bonita Springs, FL passed away on November 11, 2010.

Alan Fischlowitz (IAC Staff 56-57, 73-78) of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Madeline Island, Wisconsin passed away on December 19, 2010.


Source URL: http://www.interlochen.org/crescendo/memoriam-april-2011

Links: