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Honors Student Highlight: Harasyn Sandell



Senior Honors Student Harasyn Sandell

It is a dark and stormy night. Thieves wearing head-to-toe black garb whisper in a dark, deserted gallery—but all is not lost! Art crime prevention will be receiving a boost this year, thanks to one of our very own students.

Harasyn Sandell, Dominican Honors student and senior Art History major has been accepted to a unique Graduate Program in the beautiful town of Amelia, in Umbria, Italy. It is there that Harasyn will study crimes against art, to prepare for work in the Art Theft Department for the FBI, Scotland Yard, or the Italian Cab-

inieri, any of which would constitute the profession of her dreams.

This MA program of International Art Crime Studies is part of the educational aspect of a non-profit organization called the Association for Research into Crimes against Art (ARCA). This is a condensed program which squeezes the traditional format of a European graduate program from nine months into three months of summer classes followed by three months to complete a dissertation.

Such an intense academic schedule removes all downtime: the student at-

tends classes all day for up to seven days per week. However, the upside comes from a reduction in homework assignments the students are required to complete outside of class.

Harasyn says that she has already received her class schedule, “which consists of 2 week intervals taught by experts from various specialties including art history, criminology, the history of art crime, museum security, art policing and investigation, and my personal favorite ‘Villians in art, and artful villains...’ I’m so excited because the experts have incredible reputations and are affiliated with institutions like Yale and Harvard and Scotland Yard, so I’ll be learning from the best of the industry.”

Amelia is a small city outside of Rome, not yet discovered by many tourists. Classes will be held in what the ARCA website describes as “an elegant ballroom of a Renaissance palazzo,” a wonderful location for learning about art.

This will be Harasyn’s first trip to Italy, which, per ARCA, is a fine location for this program, since Italy is the center of the art crime

world, with ten times as much art crime per year than any other country.

Dominican has afforded Harasyn many prime opportunities to gain gallery experience, particularly through the Museum Studies class. She is also the President of the recently established Art Now Club on campus. As a Teaching Assistant for Neal Wolfe, Harasyn was able to share her knowledge of Art History and associated career goals with students in the “Art and Society” course, which helped her to gain further clarity and confidence in her aspirations. She believes that “the variety and hands-on experience Dominican offers in their curriculum has helped prepare me to be successful in this next stage of my life.”

Immediately after graduating in May, Harasyn plans to make the trip to Italy and spend a week with her mother before classes begin in June.

Harasyn is on the case!

- Dana Gross and Angela Giertych

NCUR 2009: La Crosse, Wisconsin

Even as many students are winding down after the first midterms of the year and are beginning to see the light at the tunnel of another long semester, some students in the Honors program are busy putting finishing touches on research presentations. As the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) approaches in April, Honors students from multiple disciplines prepare to share their original research papers and projects with students from across the country. Taking place in La Crosse, WI this year, NCUR offers students a chance to share information and experiences with their national peers—to, in fact, become better “scholars in the world”.

Quite a few Honors students were accepted for attendance to NCUR this year, including first-year student Laura Lightfoot; sophomores

Janelle Harris, Tasha Kahn, Teddy Morrow and Shahdad Saeedi; and seniors Rizza Alcaria, Dana Gross, and Maren Peterson. *The Angel* asked these students a few questions about their projects and expectations:

Dana Gross

Major: Humanities

Minor: History

Subject area: History

Project title: An Exploration of the Sino-Soviet Split: 1950-1970

First trip to NCUR?

This is my first trip to NCUR. Part of what pushed me to submit an abstract was that I heard from others who presented last year that it was a lot of fun. I think it will be a great experience to get a glimpse of what that part of the country is like, both in terms of the people as

well as the landscape. I presented at the Phi Alpha Theta (History Honors Society) regional conference last year and it was interesting to watch other students' presentations. I do enjoy public speaking as well as making presentations, so with all that, plus some activities I have signed up for, I am really excited.

Janelle Harris

Major: English

Minor: Law

Subject area: English and law

Project title: America's Modern Tragedy: An Examination of Bush's Tragic Flaws in Comparison to Sophocles' *Antigone*.

First trip to NCUR?

Yes, and I'm looking forward to the experience as whole: being in front of a panel, answering questions, etc. I feel

it will help me in whatever career I choose in the future, because of the preparation that is required.

Rizza Alcaria

Major: Biology

Subject area: Business and Leadership

Project title: Educated and No Where to Go: Cuba's High Literacy Despite Economic Poverty

First trip to NCUR?

This will be my first time attending NCUR. I am looking forward to networking with people in the same major as me [Biology] as well as people in different disciplines.

- Tasha Kahn



Mark your calendar:

The Honors Ceremony

Friday, April 24, 2009

4:30 pm, Conlan Rec Center

Be there! Invite friends and family to join in an hour of celebrating academic excellence.

Honors Director

Jayati Ghosh, Ph.D.

Professor of Business

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By the way...

If you are interested in joining the Angel staff, please contact Dr.

Jayati Ghosh. Writers are always welcome!

CAIRO & NILE RIVER CRUISE

JANUARY 5 to 14, 2010



Informational handouts available on the Honors bulletin board in Guzman, or at Bertrand 25B.

"It is only the farmer who faithfully plants seeds in the Spring, who reaps a harvest in the Autumn. "

-- B. C. Forbes