Construction to begin May 17

Furniture and equipment will be installed in January, and if all goes according to plan the NCAT will open its doors on January 22, 2007 – the first day of the spring semester. The current facility, located in Griffiths Arts Center, will close its doors on December 15, 2006.

Several special events are in the works to celebrate the opening of the NCAT. Watch for more information about these events in the coming months.

Phase II of the Arts Renovation Project is on schedule to begin May 17. This phase includes construction of the NCAT, as well as the construction of the new Photography Studio and the installation of a new elevator in Noble Center. The noisiest and messiest parts of the process should be completed by the start of the fall semester, and parts of the Noble Center will be open in the fall as the work continues.

John and Susie Wean make generous gift

St. Lawrence gratefully acknowledges a $200,000 gift from John and Susie Wean (parents of Britton ’06), made through the Raymond John Wean Foundation of Warren, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Wean, who live in Pittsburgh, have been active on the SLU Parents Committee and currently serve as its co-chairs. They have been strong supporters of the Arts Renovation Project from the beginning.

The Wean family’s gift will go toward equipment in the NCAT, which includes computer equipment, audio and video equipment, scanners, printers, cameras, camcorders, and software.

Greg Matejcik to join NCAT staff as Arts Technical Support Specialist

The Newell Center for Arts Technology is very pleased to announce that Greg Matejcik will soon join the NCAT staff.

Matejcik, a St. Lawrence alumnus (’04), has been appointed as the Arts Technical Support Specialist, and will start work in the NCAT on June 1st. This is a joint position with IT.

“Greg is a great choice for us, because he has experience and also knows our campus and its people,” says NCAT Director Christopher Watts.

Please welcome Greg back to campus when you see him.

IN THIS ISSUE:
- Construction begins May 17
- Gift from Wean Foundation
- Greg Matejcik to join NCAT staff
- Art in the local community

for more photos, check out the NCAT construction blog this summer at arts.stlawu.edu/ncat/blog
Experimental course mixes things up on St. Lawrence campus, in local community

The Department of Fine Arts, the Brush Gallery, and the NCAT teamed up to offer an experimental studio art course this semester.

Team-taught by Amy Hauber, Cathy Tedford, and Chris Watts, the course sought to challenge students’ conceptions of artist, art, and audience. “We’re trying to kick over the pedestal,” says Watts.

To that end, the class included a wide array of activities, from paint-by-numbers to one minute sculptures; from handmade pillows to pop song remixes to public service announcements. The strangest thing about this course? Its title: All Your Art Are Belong to Us. (Google snowclone for more. ;-)

In conjunction with Hauber’s beginning sculpture class and the Community-Based Learning program, students in this class are putting together a community art event in the old Glass Onion restaurant, downtown Canton (soon to be Cuca’s Mexican restaurant). The event, Obsessive Consumption, will be held on May 5-6, combining art objects on display with interactive and participatory works.

Special thanks to Ron Flores and the Community-Based Learning program, and especially to Amy Hauber, for organizing the event; thank you to Dean Cornwell for helping to make the course possible.

Clockwise from top: Bowen Borgeson ’08 as Captain B, artistic genius; the death of irony; Cynthia Thorburn ’08 and Sasha Stoecklein ’06 bend gender roles (stills from three PSAs about modernism and postmodernism). Next: Sticker designs by Dan McCune ’08, Nick Alena ’07, Liz McCormick ’06, and Craig Rukszni ’07.