GIVING WAYS…

Last issue, we included our “Wish List” of needed items for the CFA (see our current wish list at right). One particular, big-ticket item on the list attracted the attention of Ruth Cortright, long-time friend of Millikin and member of the Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra Guild. The item was a timpani drum, estimated at $8,000.

Long story short: after a flurry of emails, a proposal, and a board meeting, the Guild offered to partner with the School of Music to purchase a new set of timpani, with a total price tag of $32,000, available for use by the MDSO and other School of Music ensembles. We couldn’t be more thrilled, and we are grateful to the Guild for their generous gift. Special thanks to Ruth, Sam Kershaw and all the members of the Symphony Orchestra Guild for their quick response! If you would like to support the College of Fine Arts, see our current wish list to the right.

This experience made me realize how much we ask of you, our patrons, and how often you must receive requests from numerous organizations asking for your support. We are thankful for your choice to support the College of Fine Arts, and as we enter the holiday season, we sincerely hope to offer you a return on your investment. You will see your support in action in the coming days through events like the Holiday Jazz concert, the Faculty Biennial Art Exhibit, Shakespeare’s “Macbeth” in Albert Taylor Theatre and Vespers, Millikin’s cherished Christmas gift to the Decatur community. Thankfully, the well of enthusiasm, creativity and artistry of our students and faculty never runs dry!

continued page 2

College of Fine Arts [wish list]

A donation of any amount helps bring us closer to purchasing the items we need.

› Cable and lighting instruments $25 and up

› Instruments for the Music Education program $100 to $1,000

› Updated studio drawing benches $200 each

› Compressor and airbrush for printmaking $300

› Round-trip airfare for students, faculty or guest artists to/from NYC $300

› Flatbed color scanner for printmaking $500

› Dress forms for the costume studio $800 each

› Industry-standard lighting control system for Albert Taylor Theatre $5,000

Give now at www.millikin.edu/give
I've been reading a book by Doug Borwick called “Building Communities, Not Audiences.” It is required reading for many of our College of Fine Arts seniors. The book's message is that many arts organizations have unintentionally isolated themselves from the communities in which they exist. They have not sought, developed or maintained partnerships with community policy-shapers, businesses or organizations that could be mutually beneficial.

In my position as interim dean, I see how much time and creative energy our faculty spend by offering their services to area churches, schools, the Decatur Park District, the DMH Cancer Care Center, and much more. And while students are often involved with faculty in these activities, I can't help but sometimes think that many of our students remain fairly isolated from the Decatur community. They practice their craft and perform for the community, but how often do they really connect with audience members and learn about their values, passions and concerns?

So my question for you, patrons of the arts and community members, is how can we work closer together to make the community we share more vibrant? While much of our programming is driven by the needs of our students in preparation for their professional lives, how can we make sure we don’t neglect their need to learn to engage, here and now through their art, with the communities in which they will live?

I want to have this conversation. Will you join me? Call me at 217-362-6499, or email me at lledford@millikin.edu. Let’s get this party started!

Laura Lefdord  
Interim Dean of the College of Fine Arts
JOIN US FOR AN EVENT THIS WINTER!

VESPERS
Saturday, Dec. 1, at 5 p.m.
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
Adults: $10 • Seniors: $6*
One of Millikin’s most popular events, Vespers (which means ‘evening prayers’) provides the context for a seasonal concert that has become one of the university’s beloved traditions. Performed by 350 singers and instrumentalists, the concert features traditional and new music for choirs and brass.

“MACBETH” BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m.
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
Adults: $14-$20 • Children: $10-$14* Have yourself a holly, jolly, jazzy holiday season! The Millikin University Faculty Jazz Sextet will get you in the holiday spirit once again with a reprise of their jazzy swing on Christmas classics. Upbeat and soothing favorites are sure to make everyone in the family tap their toes and sing along. Come celebrate the sounds of the season during our fifth annual holiday concert with Millikin’s own School of Music faculty: Brian Justison, Ed Schaller, Randy Reyman, Dave Burdick, Perry Rask and Steve Widenhofer. Once again, the sextet will be joined by guest vocalist and Millikin alum Angel Spiccia ‘03.

HOLIDAY JAZZ
Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
Adults: $14-$20 • Children: $10-$14* Have yourself a holly, jolly, jazzy holiday season! The Millikin University Faculty Jazz Sextet will get you in the holiday spirit once again with a reprise of their jazzy swing on Christ- mas classics. Upbeat and soothing favorites are sure to make everyone in the family tap their toes and sing along. Come celebrate the sounds of the season during our fifth annual holiday concert with Millikin’s own School of Music faculty: Brian Justison, Ed Schaller, Randy Reyman, Dave Burdick, Perry Rask and Steve Widenhofer. Once again, the sextet will be joined by guest vocalist and Millikin alum Angel Spiccia ‘03.

WOODWIND QUINTET
Sunday, Feb. 10, at 2 p.m.
Westminster Presbyterian Church
The KirkOut: Chamber Series is an informal lecture-recital series offering the audience an experience that combines informative dialogue with great creative exchanges.

CHAMBER LATE NIGHT: WORLD PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
Thursday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.
Katz on Merchant
The KirkOut: Chamber Series is an informal lecture-recital series offering the audience an experience that combines informative dialogue with great creative exchanges.

VOCAL JAZZ FESTIVAL
Saturday, Feb. 16, at 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
No ticket required.
The pace is fast and furious as over 25 high school and collegiate vocal jazz ensembles display their talents at this all-day event. World-class clinicians then work with each group, making this an outstanding educational event. Millikin’s award-winning group, OneVoice, makes a special appearance at 1 p.m. Come and go as you please, and enjoy the fun!

SYNERGY
Sunday, Feb. 17, at 4 p.m.
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
Tickets: $8
Percussion ensemble Synergy showcases the distinctiveness of Millikin’s ubiquitous interdisciplinary alliances through a collaborative concert featuring performances with students and faculty across the College of Fine Arts. This year’s concert explores the relationship between percussion chamber music and ecology.

THE SPENCERS: THEATRE OF ILLUSION
Friday, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m.
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
Adults: $16-$28 • Children: $10-$14* More than illusion! Today’s magic isn’t merely about baffling the audience by doing something seemingly impossible. It’s about spectacle, drama, danger and personality. And that’s exactly what separates the husband-wife team of The Spencers from all other magical performers in the field.

MILLIKIN FACULTY BIELNIAL ART EXHIBITION
Dec. 5, 2012-Feb. 1, 2013
Perkinson Gallery, KFAC
Works from the Art Department faculty will be featured in this exhibition. A variety of mediums and styles representative of a diversity of aesthetic approaches toward art making will be on display.

MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY BANDS
Friday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.
Kirkland Fine Arts Center
No ticket required.
The Millikin University Symphonic Wind Ensemble and University Concert Band present a special concert featuring the music of guest composer John Mackey.

*All discounted tickets, including senior and child tickets, must be purchased through the box office (217-424-6318).

1184 West Main Street, Decatur, Illinois 62522 | www.millikin.edu/alumni/getinvolved/patronssociety | 1-877-568-2586 | Fax: 217-424-3755