A MESSAGE FROM DR. ELIZABETH A. THROOP, COLLEGE OF LAE DEAN

It’s always humbling to be in the presence of UW-Platteville’s musicians. Whether they are student choir members who are also engineering majors or full professors in the Performing and Visual Arts department, the well of creative talent at UW-Platteville never fails to astound me. On Sunday, Nov. 3, UW-Platteville hosted the Steinway Gala, formally introducing our new Steinway D 9-foot Concert Grand Piano to our community. Also included in the celebration were two other pianos: our other Steinway D 9-foot Concert Grand Piano, c. 1983 but recently completely refurbished, and a Steinway D 9-foot Concert Grand Piano, c. 1908, on loan from the Frank Lloyd Wright Estate at Taliesin in Spring Green, Wisconsin. The program, put together by one of our new tenure-track music faculty members, Dr. Jacqui Wilson, was breathtaking in its scope. The Steinway Gala truly showed our new piano in all its glory, across genres and expertise levels—student accompanists, senior music majors, Dr. Eugene Alcalay, and Dr. Johannes Wallman (director of Jazz Studies at Madison) all provided stunning performances. Thanks to all who contributed to the Gala, and to the wonderful reception for the 1866 Cornerstone Society just prior to the Gala. It was truly a magical Sunday.

WISCONSIN HISTORY SYMPOSIUM 2014 CONDUCTS A CALL FOR PAPERS

UW-Platteville has issued a Call for Papers for its "Wisconsin History Symposium 2014 - People and the Land," to be held on the university campus April 3–5, 2014. With three notable keynote speakers and 36 anticipated presenters, more than 150 people from throughout Wisconsin and the region are expected to attend. The planning committee welcomes proposals for individual papers or panels on topics related to the symposium’s theme, “People and the Land.” For more information, contact Tracey Roberts, Symposium Coordinator and Senior Lecturer of History.

STUDENT SERVES AS GOVERNMENT INTERN IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

David Merrick, a junior political science major and criminal justice minor at UW-Platteville from Janesville, Wis., served as a government intern for U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) in Washington, D.C. this summer. Merrick stayed in a residence hall at the American University in Tenleytown, a historic neighborhood in Northwest, Washington, D.C., about a half-hour commute from capitol hill. As Ryan’s intern, Merrick was responsible for giving tours of the capitol, preparing mailings, running errands and answering phones.

HAVE NEWS THAT YOU’D LIKE FEATURED IN THE NEXT LAE NEWSLETTER? SEND IT TO LAEPR@UWPLATT.EDU.
**HORRIFIC CRIME SCENE REVISITED**

The Horrific Crime Scene Revisited event held Oct. 30 at UW-Platteville’s Forensic Investigation Crime Scene House drew more than 500 people. This year’s exhibit re-created a 1976 murder that occurred in Madison, Wis. Visitors examined the scene and made their own determinations based on the forensic evidence presented. Media coverage included radio interviews, television news stories and newspaper reports from a variety of sources, as well as a variety of blog posts.

**STUDENTS WIN $1,000 PRIZE AT VOICES ART SLAM EVENT**

Three UW-Platteville students won a $1,000 prize at the Voices Art Slam arts and cultural event in Dubuque, Iowa, on Sept. 21. The students included Laura Grotjan, Christina Harris, and Michael Ward. During the competition, they painted against other student teams from Clarke University, Dubuque; Loras College, Dubuque; St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Iowa; as well as four professional artists. Each team had 90 minutes to collaboratively create the best painting possible for the theme “Rustbelt Decadence,” using a variety of mediums. Judges reviewed the paintings and chose the winner based on interpretation and handling of the theme and the artistic quality of the artwork.

**STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT GERMAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND CULTURE**

Thirteen criminal justice majors had the opportunity to live, learn, and work with German police academy students and high-ranking police and government officials on the campus of the Brandenburg State Police Academy and College in Oranienburg, Germany. Dr. Sabina Burton led the trip and also handled translation services. Students learned how criminal justice and police science in Germany evolved over time, especially since World War II.

**MEDIATION TEAM WINS DOUBLE CHAMPIONSHIP**

The UW-Platteville mediation team won a double championship at the 12th Annual Peacemaker Challenge Intercollegiate Mediation Tournament held Oct. 11–12 at UW-Platteville’s Markee Pioneer Student Center. The team took first place as both mediators and as advocates in a ten-team field from six schools. At the end of the fall semester, UW-Platteville will have participated in mock trials and mock mediation for 20 years.

**ADAPTIVE DISC GOLF ACTIVITY BRINGS STUDENTS TOGETHER**

On Oct. 2, 15 students from the Wisconsin Center for Blind and Visual Impairment in Janesville, Wis., participated in a round of adaptive disc golf at a course in Platteville, Wis., with 15 UW-Platteville health and human performance students enrolled in the course Teaching Children with Exceptional Abilities in Health and Physical Education. UW-Platteville’s PACCE provided adaptive disc golf equipment for the students with visual impairments, including small beepers that adhered to the bottoms of the golf discs, which enabled students to locate them after they were thrown.
**Cantus Performance**

Cantus, an a cappella group from Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., performed in the Richard and Helen Brodbeck Concert Hall on Oct. 4. Cantus is known worldwide for its engaging performances of music ranging from the Renaissance to the 21st century.

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**Marching Pioneers to Debut New Uniforms**

The UW-Platteville Marching Pioneers will soon be performing at pregame and halftime ceremonies at UW-Platteville Pioneer home football games in new uniforms. The 200 new uniforms should arrive just in time for the UW-Platteville Department of Performing and Visual Arts’ Last Blast Concert, a special, final Marching Pioneers performance to be held on Nov. 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the UW-Platteville Williams Fieldhouse. During the performance, the Marching Pioneers will play music they played both on the field and in the stands during football games throughout the season. The event is free and open to the public. The band will debut the new uniforms the previous day at the last home football game.

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**Kassia and Friends IV Concert**

The Department of Performing and Visual Arts hosted its fourth Kassia and Friends faculty chamber recital on Sept. 29 at the Richard and Helen Brodbeck Concert Hall in the Center for the Arts. This collaborative concert combined the talents of the university’s vocal and instrumental faculty members in repertoire by four contemporary composers, as well as classical and romantic works.

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**Henrik Ibsen's Family Drama "Ghosts"**

The Department of Performing and Visual Arts Theatre and Pioneer Players opened their fall season with Henrik Ibsen’s family drama, “Ghosts,” which ran from Oct. 23–27 in the Center for the Arts Theatre.

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**Band Extravaganza**

The UW-Platteville Symphony Band and Symphonic Wind Ensemble performed together at the second annual Band Extravaganza concert on Oct. 29. There are 43 UW-Platteville students and 22 community members in the Symphony Band and 46 UW-Platteville students in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

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**Octubaween**

The UW-Platteville Department of Performing and Visual Arts' music program hosted “Octubaween” on Oct. 31 at the Center for the Arts. The event featured performances by the newly-founded Pioneer Low Brass Ensemble, several low brass student soloists; a student tuba and euphonium quartet; and a student brass quintet. Performers were dressed in Halloween costumes and audience members were encouraged to wear costumes as well.
Creative Writing Student Reading Series

On Oct. 16, the Department of Humanities hosted the fall 2013 Creative Writing Student Reading Series. Student Jennifer Kreske was the host of the event. The event featured two creative writing students, Emily Herrick and Kaleigh Dunn, as well as an open microphone.

Elementary Chinese language courses offered for first time in school’s history

For the first time in UW-Platteville history, students will be able to enroll in and receive credit for elementary Chinese language courses. Chinese Language, or Chinese 1540, is being taught at the university through an agreement between the UW-Platteville Department of Humanities and Confucius Institute, and counts as the first course in a sequence that will satisfy the general education requirement for the foreign languages.

DRIFTLESS REVIEW SPONSORS FLASH FICTION CONTEST

The Driftless Review literary magazine is sponsoring a flash fiction contest for new and emerging writers as well as published authors. Flash fiction is a style of fiction that tells a story with a very limited number of words—in the case of this contest, no more than 500. Writers may send up to three flash fiction stories per submission to contest@driftlessreview.org by Dec. 31. One submission will receive a $500 award. There is a $15 reading fee. Published by Platteville Poets, Writers and Editors LLC, an organization dedicated to showcasing the works of emerging and established writers, the Driftless Review literary magazine showcases local writers, but accepts submissions from anyone.

SYRIAN CONFLICT FORUM

Sponsored by UW-Platteville’s Social and Environmental Justice program and Students for Peace and Justice, the forum featured four panelists who are UW-Platteville faculty members, including Dr. Travis Nelson, Dr. David Rowley, Dr. Shan Sappleton, and Dr. Nancy Turner. Panelists discussed and explored the current status of the conflict in Syria and amongst the Syrian people, the context of the conflict within the broader Middle East, Russia’s role and interest in the situation, the question of and legislation surrounding chemical weapons, and much more.

VISITING WRITERS READINGS

Featured authors at the Oct. 9 reading included Jennifer Perrine and Karla Huston, who performed selected readings of their published works, which include prose and poetry. The Department of Humanities Visiting Writers Reading Series features three reading events each semester. The series exposes members of the campus community to the diverse world of contemporary literature and provides creative writing students with professional models for reading, publishing and promoting their own work. These readings and other creative writing readings during the past year have been made possible, in part, by donations from an anonymous patron of the arts.

CREATIVE WRITING STUDENT READING SERIES

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