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University of Massachusetts Boston

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## Functional Folk Art

Nearly 100 examples of the craftsmanship, artistry, and personalities of creators of American functional folk art in the medium of hooked rugs will be revealed at the University of Massachusetts at Boston Exhibition Hall, 100 Arlington Street, beginning Monday, February 17th and continuing through March 30th.

The Museum of American Folk Art exhibit at UMass-Boston is the opening event of the University's contributions to the Bicentennial observation in Boston and the State.

Professor Bates Lowry, Chairman of the Art Department and Chairman of UMass-Boston's Bicentennial Committee said the "hooked rugs exhibit in the folk art tradition is the first of its kind, devoted solely to both early and contemporary hooked rugs."

The exhibit has samples of beauty, verve and charm in pictorial, geometric, and floral designs.

One of the highlights of the exhibit is "Whaling Panorama", a hooked rag on burlap, 40" x 140" in several striking colors showing the drama of whaling. Other hooked rugs on exhibition will be of New England town scenes, aphorisms of the 19th century, animals, flowers, holiday scenes, and historical nostalgia.

As a technique and a means of artistic expression, hooked rug making is a folk art conceived and developed in America.

Professor Lowry noted that the "hooked rug" includes three basic techniques including yarn sewn, shirred, and thrummed rugs.

Yarn sewn rugs first appeared during the 18th century in this country, and these include Acadian rugs made early in the 18th century by French settlers in Quebec and Nova Scotia.

Shirred rugs, made with rags, first appeared in 1820 and continued to be produced until the late 1850s.

Sailors and their wives are believed to have been the originators of hooked rugs during the early 1800s. The marlinspike tool used by sailors, which was for ropework, is similar to a rug hook and a modified version was used by the sailor's wife for the rugs hooked at home.

Lowry added that personal pride in workmanship, the imaginative use of colors, and the evidence of skills produced an American folk art form that is now beginning to receive urban attention that it always had in rural America. "We are grateful to the Museum of American Folk Art for sharing these manifestations of American artistry and skills with the people of Greater Boston," Lowry said.

The exhibit is free and will be open daily from 11 a. m. to 6 p. m. at the UMass-Boston Exhibition Hall, 100 Arlington St., from February 17th through March 30th.

## College of Public and Community Service

David Matz, Chairperson of the Legal Education Services Center of the College of Public and Community Service, has been elected Founding Chairperson of the Organization of Paralegal Educators, a national group of teachers and program directors of paralegal workers. Professor Matz is also editor of the Newsletter published by the new organization.

Nancy Hoffman of the College of Public and Community Service has been appointed to the Chapter 622 Advisory Committee of the Greater Boston Regional Education Center Advisory Council. The Committee is charged with assisting in developing procedures for implementing the provisions of Chapter 622 prohibiting sex discrimination in public education.

Sheila Stone, a student in the College of Public and Community Service, was recently appointed by the Governor to the 1202 Commission of Post-Secondary Education as the student representative of public education.

Romona Modlin, a College of Public and Community Service student has recently been awarded a scholarship of \$300 from the P. E. O. Sisterhood Fund for Continuing Education. Ms. Modlin was sponsored for this award by Chapter K of the P. E. O. Sisterhood in Newton. Grants such as this are made nationally to aid women who wish to continue their education and may be spent for a variety of necessities from baby sitting to tuition.

## Serials List

A new edition of the University of Massachusetts at Boston, Library Serial Holdings has just been issued. This is a complete listing of periodicals in the library's collection, and all other serial publications, such as yearbooks, learned society proceedings, and monographic series which are currently received. Copies have been sent to all departments in the university. A limited number of extra copies are available. Interested faculty and staff should contact Ann Schaffner, Serials Dept., Ext. 2228 - 2229.

## Telephones

The University has found that it must live within a very tight allocation for telephone service. This will only be possible if all University telephone users cut back on telephone use. Please consider these money-saving points:

- 1) Make all calls as short as possible.
- 2) Use University telephones for University business only. Message unit bills, the hidden cost for local calls, are phenomenally high -- \$4,000 a month at the Harbor Campus alone. Every time you dial "9" you raise our message unit charges.
- 3) Write letters first, place a long distance call as a last resort. When you do have to call long distance, make it station to station if possible.
- 4) WATS line service, available for calls within Massachusetts, is not free. We pay a high hourly rate for these lines.
- 5) Leave messages for people to call you back.

## International Students

The International Student Affairs Committee will give a wine and-cheese get-acquainted party for foreign and American students Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 3:00 in the English Department lounge, 6th floor, College 1. UMass-Boston has 104 foreign students from 34 foreign countries. Meeting them here is the next best thing to meeting them abroad. All students, faculty and staff are invited.

### Anthropology Colloquium

Dr. Frederick Gamst, Department of Anthropology, Rice University, spoke on Friday at the Anthropology colloquium on "The Passing of the Great Herd: The Transition from Tribalism to Peasantry among the Wayto of Ethiopia."

Dr. Gamst is an authority on Subsaharan Africa. Among his publications are *The Qemant: A Pagan-Hebraic Peasantry of Ethiopia* (Holt, Rinehart, Winston, 1969). *Peasants in Complex Society* (Holt, Rinehart, Winston, 1974), and *The Idea of Culture* (with Edward Norbeck; in press).

### Artistic Heritage

Professor Bates Lowry (Art) is the President of the Dunlap Society in Washington which was established to broaden and encourage the awareness and study of American art. Along with Dr. Ronald Berman, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Lowry announced a new project entitled "Visual Documentation of American Art: The Nation's Capital." It will develop a complete visual record of a select number of major buildings. "For example," Dr. Lowry explained, "a monument as important as the Capitol building will be recorded from the first architectural drawings through the various remodelings to its current appearance. This visual data will be transferred to one of the newest and most versatile forms of micrographics, microfiche, which because of its low cost and ease of handling will allow widespread distribution. The microfiche can be used not only as a teaching device in itself, but also can serve as a visual catalog of the slides, filmstrips or prints which ultimately will be available from the Dunlap Society.

The National Endowment for the Humanities is supporting the project with a \$50,000 grant.

### Economics Lesson

Massachusetts has some 60 new members of the Legislature this year, and it is customary for the leadership to provide them with seminars on the legislative process. Professor Maurice Donahue (Politics) organizes the sessions, and this year one of the prime lectures on economics was given by Professor David Podoff (Economics), who told the new members he predicted that unemployment will rise in the Commonwealth this year, but added that recovery will follow. He warned, however, that the rate of unemployment goes up faster than it comes down and "the road to recovery will be long and painful."

### Performance Series

The Performance Series, sponsored by the Student Activities Committee, has these upcoming dates: Guitarist Andres Segovia, at Symphony Hall, Sunday, February 9, at 3 p. m.; Pianist Bryon Janis, at Symphony Hall, Sunday, February 16, at 3 p. m.; and the production of *Cinderella*, Friday and Saturday, January 31 and February 1 at the National Theater.

Tickets are on sale at the College II ticket booth, second floor.

The Sarah Vaughn concert recently was an outstanding, critical success. The performance won rave reviews in the Boston Globe and the Boston Herald-American.

### Faculty Meeting

A most important faculty meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 29, at 12:30 p. m. in the Science Auditorium.

## From British Columbia

Dr. Arnold Beichman (Politics II) is on a leave of absence this year as a visiting Professor of Politics at the University of British Columbia, and continues with his writing ways as reviewer, essayist, and in the midst of writing a new book. A recent book review on Edwin Newman's Strictly Speaking: Will America Be the Death of English? will give Beichman an opportunity to compare notes with Lee Grove (English II) who reviewed the book for the Boston Globe. His subject for a new book is on the future of the UN.

## Philip's Prose and Fiction

Professor Michel Philip (Chairman French II) recently published a short story entitled "Deus Ex Machina" in the French avant-garde magazine Minuit. The publication is in the library here and Professor Philip's short story may be found in issue No. 11. He also published a long review of a major book by Starobinski on the relationship between revolutionary ideology and esthetics during the French Revolution and the Napoleonic era in La Quinzaine Litteraire, a literary magazine also available in the UMass-Boston library.

## Five College Charter Flight

A Five College Charter Flight will be offered next summer:-- Boston - London June 18, London - Boston August 20, \$285 round-trip. Pan American 707. Deadline for full payment March 14. Early sign up urged. Contact International Programs Office, 239 Whitmore, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

## Antarctica

The Science Library is sponsoring an exhibit: Antarctica, January 27th - February 28th, featuring an exhibit of books and materials on exploration of the polar regions from the collection of Robert B. Stephenson. The exhibit is open from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

## Trustees Meeting

The February meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Massachusetts will be held at the Harbor Campus, Wednesday, February 5th, at 2 p. m. in the Administration Building.

## Paul Brennen

Paul Brennen of Community Services moves on to larger and greater responsibilities next month when he assumes his new position at St. Margaret's Hospital, Dorchester, in charge of public and community relations and fund raising. He is a graduate of UMass-Boston and has completed requirements for his Master's degree in Public Administration from Northeastern University. At UMass-Boston he worked closely with community groups and leaders, winning their confidence and inspiring their cooperation with the university.

## Would you Believe?

Today, January 28th, is the first anniversary of classes beginning at the Harbor Campus. Reflecting on a year's academic progress -- we're now at the beginning of our third semester here -- it has been a great year. Visitors to the campus have expressed their positive sentiments about the site, the facilities, and the academic atmosphere. International visitors, especially, from Ireland and Italy, Germany and Japan, India and Iran, Ghana and England have told us how fortunate we are to have this opportunity for learning experiences.