

Creative arts classes set

The Cranbrook P.M. winter/spring 1992 season begins the week of Jan. 20 and continues through May, with classes and events each week.

Registration is on now. Enrollment is limited. For information on all classes and programs, call 645-3535.

Winter 1992 creative arts classes are:

- **Life Drawing from the Model**, eight weeks, beginning 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21. The class is for adults and high school students, 10th to 12th grade, with parental permission. It is an opportunity to study and draw the human figure, both male and female, and work on a college portfolio. Fee is \$78.
- **Drawing in the Greenhouse**, eight weeks, beginning 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 25. Taking place in the Cranbrook greenhouse, the class offers basic principles of drawing, using colored pencils and charcoal. Fee is \$93.
- **Winter Watercolor in the Greenhouse**, eight weeks, beginning 12:15-2:15 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25. The class, for high school students and adults, meets in the Cranbrook greenhouse. Fee is \$83.
- **Sculpture**, eight weeks, beginning 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23. It is an introduction to basic and advanced principles of clay modeling and stone carving. Fee is \$85.
- **Creative Jewelry**, six weeks, beginning 7-10 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22. This course is designed to develop jewelry concepts, using the plastic qualities of non-ferrous metals, primarily sterling silver and gold. Non-commercial attitudes toward inventive, original designs are stressed. Fee is \$130.
- **Cartooning for Teens and Adults**, six weeks, beginning 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 1. This course offers the opportunity to try cartooning under the guidance of a professional cartoonist. All that is needed is a drawing pad, a soft pencil and a sense of humor to learn to create a comic strip, spot or gag cartoons or the cartoon in advertising. Fee is \$70.

Talk to examine Van Gogh

The Oakland County Cultural Council's Brown Bag Lunch Series presents "The Life, Paintings and Myths of Vincent Van Gogh" by E.J. Blackford, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16.

For more information, or for a list of future presentations, call 858-0415.

Blackford, a descendant of Van Gogh, will share her extensive knowledge and slides from her numerous travels to Holland, where she researched the artist as person and painter.

The Brown Bag Lunch Series is open to the public and is free. It takes place the third Thursday of each month in the conference room on the third floor of the Executive Office Building, 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac.

Winter art fun slated

The Paint Creek Center for the Arts offers more than 50 winter classes and workshops for art lovers from preschoolers to seniors. Register now for the eight-week session beginning Saturday, Jan. 18.

Classes for youngsters include a variety of choices in clay, drawing, jewelry making, multimedia and paper making. New this session are two innovative classes that combine art with movement or music.

Young adults, age 10 and older, have their choice of classes in clay, ceramic jewelry and drawing, plus a new paper class that introduces paper making, print making and collage.

ADULTS, AS well as high school students, may pick from a list of 22 classes and 11 workshops conveniently scheduled mornings, afternoons and evenings. Offerings include calligraphy, ceramics, drawing, fabric printing, painting, paper making and marbling, pastels, photography and portraiture.

For those interested in exploring print making and collage, a new adult Works on Paper class is available.

All PCCA classes are taught by professional artists who share their enthusiasm for the creative process. Enrollment is limited to ensure individual attention.

Registration may be in person at the art center, 407 Pine in Rochester, or by telephone. PCCA hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For more information, call 651-4110.

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Real Estate One

Toeing the mark

Past ballet training still inspiring for volunteers

By Mary Klemic
staff writer

Talk about taking something to heart.

"Those who have studied the Cecchetti ballet method have carried away more than knowledge of the dance.

So stay area residents who are involved in a fund-raiser at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester next month for a documentary on legendary dance master Enrico Cecchetti, after whom the method is named.

"ROY RESIDENT Bonnie Doner is a world champion figure skater who studied the Cecchetti method.

"I took ballet all my life," said Doner, chairman of the steering committee for the Feb. 1 event, which will include a silent and live auction, food, drinks and music.

"We did a lot of dance skating."

Doner's 14-year-old daughter now takes lessons from Rose Marie Floyd of Troy, who runs a Royal Oak dance studio. Her daughter has benefited from the lessons, Doner said.

"She does very well in school. I think it gives all girls such a grace about themselves, the way they move."

WHEN Bloomfield Hills resident Eya Powers came to the area to teach modern dance at Wayne State University, she also took classes from Floyd.

"The technical training was so good and... was perfect for me," said Powers, now associate professor of dance at WSU and director of its dance company. She is the project's finance chairman.

"It's progressive, you come in at a... grade level. There are certain steps that you learn at certain levels.

"Even the lessons themselves are divided in such a sequence that you get great training from day to day. It made a lot of sense to me as a dancer."

CECCHETTI was a ballet master in the 1890s at the Russian Imperial Ballet and an instructor at his school in St. Petersburg. His students included ballet greats Vaslav Nijinsky and Anna Pavlova.

Today an international network of Cecchetti organizations keep his method alive.

"It's a very organized, anatomically well laid out method which was a great guideline all my life," said Floyd, who has been involved with the project for some time. In 1988 she sold candy in her studio to raise money for the documentary.

"It gave me a direction to follow. It's so well organized in its progression from one level to another."

Floyd has met with Cecchetti teachers from around the world. She is past president of the Cecchetti Council of America and holds the most advanced certificate in the ballet branch of the Cecchetti Society.

"I had people who started in the method and have gone on, some into ballet companies, some into musicals."

THE LIST of Floyd's former students who have continued to major dance groups includes Joan Wenson of the Cleveland Ballet, Kathleen VanderVelde of the Houston Ballet, Tony Award winner Donna

McKeehle (who is expected to be present Feb. 1) and Julia Sasso of Toronto.

But the skills have carried other former students in other careers, among them someone who is now a dance critic in Boston and others who have entered the field of medicine.

"When I see my students who have... become doctors, they keep saying 'It's the discipline I got from dance.'

"With me, I just keep learning. I think that from ballet I've learned how to finish a project, work with something until it's done. You don't give up.

"The value of taking one of the arts is the discipline. You don't think of (failures) as failures, you think 'I haven't reached my goal yet. You never stop trying to reach the goal.'"

TENTATIVE PLANS for the project include doing additional filming in spring and summer.

Tickets for the Feb. 1 tribute are available at \$50, \$100 and \$125 by calling Powers at 642-2595.

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