

# Padre: Artwork is on display in EMU

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serve and personally feel the diverse emotional, facial and cultural fabric of its people."

After he completed his trek around the globe in 1992, his hugely successful art exhibit, "Faces of the World," was celebrated at its premiere at the United Nations in New York and in the Forbidden City Royal Palace in Beijing.

Beyond his success as an artist, he is a theologian and an ordained Lutheran minister. In college he was an outstanding athlete and served as a medical chaplain. During the Vietnam War, he was wounded three times and became one of the most highly decorated chaplains in American history.

Johnson is "elusive and doesn't like to promote his achievements," Neal said. Dressed modestly in jeans and cowboy boots, Johnson spoke to those who attended the seminar about the lessons he has learned over the course of his life — as a world traveler, artist and thinker.

"A good philosopher is a good storyteller," he said. "But it is important to listen first, discard your agenda, throw away your manual."

Central to his personal philosophy is "a healthy insight into who we are." But it is also important to be open to others "regardless of cultural heritage, ethnic and racial image a person happens to wear."

In the early '80s, Johnson lived for some time with the Kalahari bushmen in Africa. There was an affection and camaraderie between members of the tribe —

men and women, adults and children treated one another with respect, he said.

"They have no words for hate, theft, possession or evil," he said. "They don't understand those things."

Johnson's words are lyrical, and he inspires and challenges everyone he encounters, Neal said.

But a great part of his purpose in coming to the University is personal interaction with students.

"I want to listen to the sounds of my listener," he said. "I want to continue to self-educate — I don't want to freeze."

Michael Olson, a political science major, said he was not aware that Johnson would be a part of the seminar when he signed up.

"It's amazing to think that there is a human who has traveled to 159 countries in 14 years," he said. "The connotations of spending time with everyone from rulers and leaders to indigenous people is thoroughly amazing."

Johnson's global experiences

added a unique perspective to the course, he said.

"By learning about Padre and his journeys, we learned about the role of the tourist traveling on an international scale — as a peace keeper," Johnson said. "International travel can contribute to world peace."

As his final project for the course, Olson plans to write about how anthropology historically existed as a mechanism of colonialism and to "basically gather information about ways that they could continue to exploit others," he said. The rise of ethics among anthropologists and the change and growth of international trade — along with a "longing in Western society for spirituality" — has manifested itself in an obsession with other cultures, he said.

The seminar will continue next weekend with an exploration of how to understand the culture and mannerisms of other cultures worldwide. A selection of Johnson's art will be on exhibit in the EMU Walnut Room from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 20.

## Plant: First chips sold March 16

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"We're pleased so far with where we're at," he said.

Hyundai's initial plan to build the plant in West Eugene was met by critics who questioned the possible economic and environmental problems that the company might bring with it. Local supporters, however, quickly came to the aid of Hyundai, noting the company would bring jobs. But the wetlands remained an issue of concern among some community members.

Following a public hearing in December 1995, in which citizens voiced their concerns, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued Hyundai a permit to fill 10.4 acres of land to begin construction on the first phase of the three-phase construction plan.

Soon after the permit was issued, Citizens for Public Accountability protested the permit issuance but failed to obtain a temporary restraining order in U.S. District Court. Earth First! members protested a ground-breaking ceremony at the plant site, chaining themselves to equipment. The protest delayed the event.

In November 1996, local voters passed a toxins right-to-know initiative, which was created to force the company to reveal its chemical-use policies. Hyundai was later unsuccessful in lobbying the state government to overturn the new law.

Last year, officials from Eugene and Lane County set new tax-break rules that hindered expansion of Hyundai and other companies in West Eugene. Hyundai later sued Eugene because of the rules; however, the company dropped the suit after the two sides came to a mutual agreement.



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