

# UO will spearhead fine arts program

The University of Oregon Museum of Art is set to help reinforce local arts programs in K-12 schools

**Jillian Daley**  
Family/Health/Education Reporter

The University of California at Irvine chose the University to be the first school in Oregon to pilot Arts Bridge America, a national program dedicated to providing a fine arts education for K-12 schools without art facilities or sufficient funding.

University of Oregon Museum of Art officials said UC Irvine, where the program started, provided the University with funding because UOMA had already established pro-

grams similar to Arts Bridge.

The National Endowment for the Arts recently granted \$30,000 to the University and the Lane Arts Council for Art Access — a program similar to Arts Bridge — that sends UOMA staff and trained volunteers to speak and teach at local public schools.

For Arts Bridge, the UOMA staff trains undergraduate and graduate students for a term in public speaking, classroom management and areas of the museum's collection before teaching at K-12 schools in the Eugene-Springfield area.

"Since I'm in the arts administration program, I'm interested not only in art, but how to bring art to other people, so this is the ultimate part-

nership of those two things," second-year arts administration graduate student Jennifer Calame said.

Calame said students who receive the instruction also benefit.

"I think that it can change any student's life," she said. "Art's been shown to help other disciplines like language arts, mathematics and science."

However, teaching is not the only function of the Arts Bridge program.

"The idea is that the students we select are not necessarily going to teach, but it's a way of giving back to the community, regardless of what they plan to do (as a career)," University Arts Bridge director Lisa Abia-Smith said.

If the program is successful, it may

become a permanent fixture at the University, beginning fall 2003.

So far, Abia-Smith said Arts Bridge has managed to subsist on a small budget of UOMA funds. A Department of Health and Human Services bill, she said, could delegate \$1.5 million dollars to fund the arts nationwide — however, only if Congress passes it next year. UOMA will receive \$100,000 for the Arts Bridge program in fall 2003 if Congress approves the initiative.

Even with this year's limited funding, UOMA has been able to help public schools that have small arts budgets or no arts programs at all.

"With the budget cuts in education, quite often art gets cut, so this

is the way of bringing arts into the classroom," UOMA public relations and marketing coordinator Katie Sproles said. "Basically, I feel the Museum of Art is helping to fill a void in funding."

Sproles said that the program is helpful not only because schools get assistance, but because students also receive professional experience.

Three schools, O'Hara Catholic School, Edison Elementary School and Fox Hollow Elementary School, are currently involved in the new program. Sproles said that the museum hopes to expand the program to 10 Lane County schools next year.

Contact the reporter at [jilliandaley@dailyemerald.com](mailto:jilliandaley@dailyemerald.com).

## News briefs

### Seminar to advise on scholastic savings

The Oregon 529 College Savings Plan will host a free seminar Saturday at the Hilton Eugene from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. to advise the public of the benefits of early planning and to remind families of upcoming deadlines.

By investing before the end of the year, Oregon taxpayers can take up to a \$2,000 deduction from their 2002 taxable income. The seminar

will also explain some new changes at the state and federal level that make it easier for families to participate in the savings plan.

More information about the plan can be found at [www.OregonCollegeSavings.com](http://www.OregonCollegeSavings.com) or by calling 1-866-772-8464.

—Brad Schmidt

### EWEB expects level 2003 rates

Electric and water rates won't increase — or at least shouldn't increase — for consumers during 2003.

The Eugene Water & Electric Board announced its \$257 million 2003 operating budget Tuesday, a plan that doesn't include any rate increases for the company's approximately 80,000 customers.

But if Bonneville Power Administration, from which EWEB buys about 70 percent of its power supply, raises its rates, customers could see increased costs.

Last year, Bonneville raised its wholesale rates by 46 percent. EWEB then raised customer rates by an average of 33 percent.

—Brad Schmidt

## Hanukkah

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perspectives on the meaning of Hanukkah.

"Latkes, candles and primarily presents," freshman Josh Erdewollheim said. "Hanukkah is basically something we commercialized to combat Christmas so Jewish kids wouldn't be left out."

Junior Ariel Ungerleider said Hanukkah means spending time with her family. Ungerleider said she wishes people would recognize Hanukkah like they recognize Christmas.

"Most of the people who celebrate Christmas aren't even Christian ... they celebrate it because it's the American thing to do," she said.

Jews started celebrating Hanukkah after they defeated the Greek king Antiochus Epiphanes, who had forbidden the Jews to practice their religion. The Jewish army known as the Maccabees triumphed over the Greeks in 165 B.C.E., and on the 25th day of Kislev reclaimed their Temple.

When the Jews wanted to rededicate the Temple, they could find only one bottle of oil, which would normally last a single night, to light the menorah used in the Temple service. Miraculously, the oil lasted eight nights.

Jews commemorate this miracle

by lighting a menorah during the week of Hanukkah. Each sundown, a candle is lit until the eighth night, when the whole menorah is lit. There is a ninth candle on a menorah called the Shamesh that is used to light the other candles.

The Jewish community has planned many events for the holiday, including a Hanukkah candle lighting celebration that started Monday and ends tomorrow at the Hillel House, located at 1059 Hilyard St.

The Hillel House will host a "Hanukkah and Rosh Chodesh Party for Jewish Women" at 6 p.m. today. Women will be meeting at this time in front of the Hillel House to carpool to the event.

On Friday, Hillel House and the Chabad of Eugene, located at 1307 E. 19th Ave., are hosting student Hanukkah Shabbat services at 6 p.m., with food afterward. The Chabad of Eugene is requesting an RSVP; call 484-7665 for more information.

On Saturday, the Eugene Middle East Peace Group is sponsoring a Festival of Light and Renewal at the Lane Community College main campus cafeteria from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event will celebrate the Muslim holiday Eid el Fitr as well as Hanukkah, and is requesting donations of \$5 to \$25.

Alison Shaughnessy is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

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(Left to right) Rabbi Mordechai Horovitz, David Helfand, Rabbi Yitz Husbands-Hankins, Alfredo Gormezano, Justin Osher, Jonathan Seidel and Rabbi Asi Spiegel participate in a menorah lighting ceremony on Tuesday night in celebration of the fifth day of Hanukkah at Agate Hall.



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## Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. Box 3159, Eugene OR 97403

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