

Fountain artist provides look at past

by Robert A. Hibberd
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Much has been said and written about the historical figures who appear on the courtyard fountain. But who is the artist responsible for creating the faces of the figures who emerge from the concrete?

Lee Hunt was selected from a group of 12 artists who submitted slides in an attempt to become the artist whose work would forever grace the campus of CCC.

"Of the 12 major entries we received, we paid three artists to submit proposals," said Assistant Dean of Humanities John Hooley who was instrumental in the overall creation of the courtyard fountain. "We felt that Lee (Hunt) was our best choice."

Hunt started her work on the fountain in July of 1992 and it was prepared to install them that December.

"It would have been nice to have three or four years to work on this project," she said in retrospect. "But this was a six-month project."

Hunt said that in order to represent the historical figures accurately, she would have to attain more insight into their per-

sons through research.

"It was wonderful to be able to gain a deeper view of these people, some of whom I had never heard of," Hunt said.

Hunt talked of William Shakespeare as an example of the type of research she did in preparation for her work on the fountain.

"I listened to several audio tapes of his work (Shakespeare)," Hunt relayed. "I also read several anthologies of his writing. It was difficult to choose a quote from him because of all the many great things he'd said and written."

Hunt finally settled on:

"For God's sake, let us sit upon the ground

And tell sad stories of the death of kings."

Hunt most enjoyed creating the face of Emily Dickinson.

"She was just a terrific personality. I really enjoyed doing her," Hunt said. "Although, she was a bit difficult because there are not a lot of photos available of her as an adult."

W. Edward Deming and Grace Hopper were among the faces that Hunt said were the most challenging to create.

"Their faces are so sweet and



Photo by Nolan Kidwell

Lee Hunt was selected from a group of 12 artists to create the faces of the historical figures seen on the fountain in front of the Dye Learning Center. She began working on the faces in July of 1992 and was prepared to install them in December.

wise and they are also a bit older," Hunt said. "These are elements which are more difficult to bring across."

Although quite a lot of work has already been done on the fountain, there is still more that needs to be accomplished. The pools need to be sand blasted, the

faces need to be polished and Hunt still needs to install the bronze covers she made for the spouts.

Once the courtyard fountain is completed, Clackamas will have a way of remembering a diverse group of historical figures for as long as the fountain

stands.

"My hope is that people who see the faces on the fountain will take the opportunity to find out more about the persons displayed," Hunt said.

This would not be difficult. The library is only a few steps away.

One student's experience...

Five international students speak to young mothers

by Claudia Smulders
Staff Writer

When Ellen Burbridge, the international counselor at Clackamas, asked me if I wanted to speak to a class of women about my country, my first reaction was: "Oh no. No way I am going to do that."

But then she gave me some more information which made me change my mind. Burbridge told me that it was a class full of girls who are part of the Monroe Program. This program is for women age 12 to 21 who are either pregnant or are already mothers. This program makes it possible for them to still go to school while the school takes care of their babies. And they wanted to know about family life, women's roles, customs related to child-rearing and education of girls in countries other than the U.S.

Thursday, after a crazy ride through downtown Portland, we arrived at the public school where the women were already waiting for us. We were with five girls: Bibi from Colombia, Mitchyo from Japan, Annet from Germany, Ellen to give us some support from the U.S. and me from Holland. Since we were late because of the downtown traffic, we just ran in the class and started.

We all introduced ourselves and told them a little bit about our families, the way we were raised and our lives back home. We were sitting in front of the class and, while the others were talking, I had a chance to take a good look at the girls in the classroom.

There must have been about 30 of them. Some were white, while others were black, but they had one thing in common: to me they all looked way too young to

be either pregnant or to be mothers. The class teacher, Joel Shapiro, told me later that the average age was 16.

After all of us had talked about our native customs, the girls started asking us all kinds of different questions. From political questions: "Is there freedom in your country?" (to Annet), "How did you feel when the wall came down?" to questions related to their own situation: "Are young single mothers discriminated against in your country?" and "Do you have a school like this in your country?"

To our great shame, we all had to answer no to this question. In Japan, it still isn't even accepted to have a baby without being married. In Colombia, it is getting better, but people still look funny at you when you are a young, single mother.

The story for the two European countries is a different one. Everything is so open, we get sex education when we are about 9 years old. You can get birth control everywhere, so you don't really see a lot of young, single mothers. I am not saying that they aren't there, but it just doesn't happen as often as in America. If it happens, then they just drop out of school, which is a real shame.

I think that it also has a lot to do with the way European girls plan their lives. You go to high school, then to a university. In the meantime, you might live with a boyfriend but you don't get married yet, and then start your career. You will work on that until you are about 25 or 30, then start a family. You take care of them for a while and go back to your

career, which is, I think, a total different attitude than the American girls have.

After the girls had asked all of their questions, we asked them if they would show us the childcare facilities. They were happy to do that and showed us the two different rooms. One was for the really young babies and the other one was for the more mobile babies. One of the girls who showed us around picked up her 5-month-old son. She couldn't have been any older than 14 years old. To me it almost seemed like she was playing house.

Walking to our cars after we said goodbye, Ellen said what all of us were thinking: "Doesn't it make you feel so fortunate that you aren't in their situation?"

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Women's Poetry Reading

Two women poets will read their poetry at Clackamas Community College on Wednesday, March 10, at noon in the Gregory Forum.

The reading by CCC English instructor Kate Gray and Paulann Petersen, a teacher at West Linn High School, is free and open to the public.

Gray, who holds a Masters in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the University of Washington, has been published in regional magazines like Poetry Northwest and Seattle Review. She has won awards from the Oregon State Poetry Association and has completed a manuscript entitled No Special God.

Petersen, a Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, has also been published in a number of magazines, including Wilderness, Hubbub, Callyx, and Sequoia. She is currently teaching poetry writing for the Oregon Writers' Workshop at the Northwest Institute of Art.

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