

2002

## Insights- September 2002

Erika Malek

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## Message from the Desk of Salme H. Steinberg

I am pleased to welcome Lawrence P. Frank, Ph.D. as provost and vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Frank brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the position. I believe that his background as a scholar, his experience in building and strengthening academic

programs, his knowledge of international education, his understanding of and sensitivity to the needs of the liberal and professional curricula, and his promotion and support of faculty scholarship are important strengths he brings to the university.

Dr. Frank comes to NEIU from St. Xavier University where he has been serving as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences since 1995. Prior to that, he served in various capacities at Roosevelt University, including professor and chair of political science, coordinator of international studies, acting director of the public administration program, and first director of the School of Policy Studies. He has also taught at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, the American University in Cairo, Egypt, Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria and St. Lawrence University, where he also was director of international education. He is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship, a Fulbright Summer Seminar Fellowship and two National Endowment for the

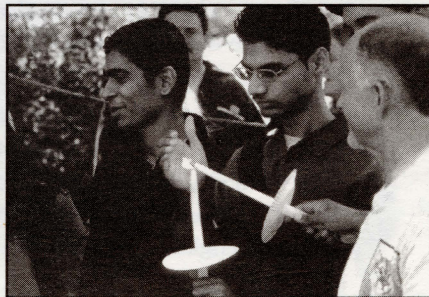
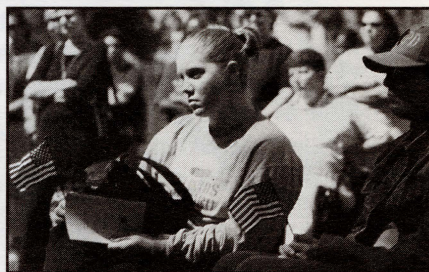
Humanities Fellowships.

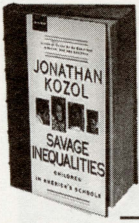
In addition, Dr. Frank has published and presented extensively in his research area on political change in Africa. He served in the Peace Corps as a secondary school teacher in Lesotho, Africa, as a research associate at both the University of Botswana and the Institute of African Studies at Columbia University, and as National Endowment for the Humanities scholar-in-residence at Sarah Lawrence College. When I spoke with Dr. Frank about his experiences in Africa, he made an interesting observation. He said that working in Africa gave him a strong sense that universities must have deep roots in their communities and he believes that Northeastern has a close connection with the students we serve.

Dr. Frank earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University and his B.A. in political science from Northwestern University.

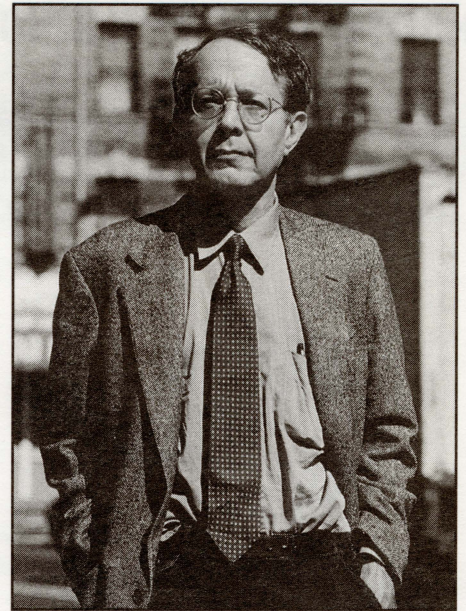
Please join me in welcoming Lawrence Frank to Northeastern. ■

## A Beacon of Light Commemoration, September 11, 2002





# Writer and Social Activist Jonathan Kozol Appears at NEIU



NEIU's Presidential Lecture Series presents an evening with award-winning writer Jonathan Kozol, Thursday, October 24 at 8 p.m., in Alumni Hall. A book signing and reception will follow. He will also lead a master class at 5 p.m., Alumni Hall. The events are free and open to the public.

Called "today's most eloquent spokesman for America's disenfranchised" by the *Chicago Sun-Times*, Kozol has given a voice to those who most desperately need to be heard.

A long-time social and education activist, Kozol is author of seven award-winning books that focus on the plight of disadvantaged children in our nation. His writing relates his first-hand experiences in such places as homeless shelters, inner city schools and housing projects,

giving the reader an intimate portrait of those who are impacted daily by these surroundings.

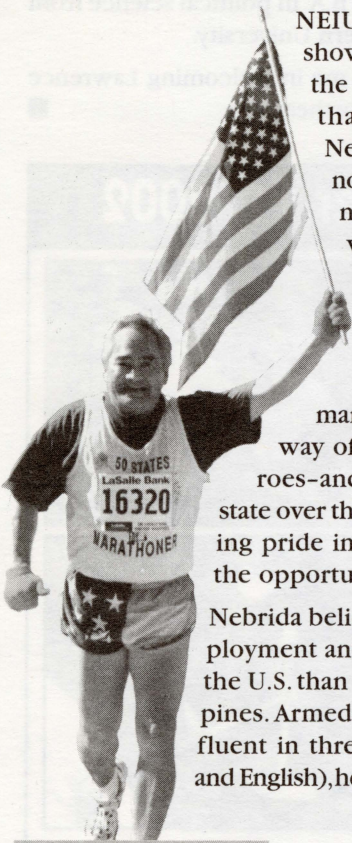
Throughout his 30 years of writing, Kozol has won numerous awards, including the National Book Award in Science, Philosophy and Religion for *Death at an Early Age: The Destruction of the Hearts and Minds of Negro Children in the Boston Public Schools* (1968) and the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award, for *Amazing Grace* (1996). *Savage Inequalities* (1992) was awarded The New England Book Award in nonfiction. It was also the subject of a PBS Special "Children in America's Schools, with Bill Moyers."

His most recent book, *Ordinary Resurrections: Children in the Years of Hope* (2000) portrays New York City's South

Bronx through the perspective of the area's children.

Born in Boston, Kozol graduated from Harvard University summa cum laude in 1958 and was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to Magdalen College, Oxford. He has held two Guggenheim Fellowships and has twice been named a fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation. ■

## Alum Runs Marathons Carrying U.S. Flag



NEIU alumnus Jose Nebrida has shown his gratitude 122 times for the freedom and the opportunity that the United States offers. Nebrida is a marathon runner, but not just an ordinary marathon runner. He runs the entire distance while carrying the American flag. "By the 20th mile, my shoulders are numb and my arms are just aching," said Nebrida, 60.

He has carried the flag in 13 marathons since September 11—his way of honoring the victims and heroes—and plans to do it once in every state over the next year. It's his way of showing pride in his country and gratitude for the opportunities it brings.

Nebrida believed that there were more employment and educational opportunities in the U.S. than in his native land of the Philippines. Armed with a bachelor's degree and fluent in three languages (Tagalog, Spanish and English), he felt he had a chance to succeed.

It took him nearly 13 years to make it to the United States—going from Germany to Canada before finally getting his visa in 1975. Once in the United States, he earned his master's degree in social work from Loyola University of Chicago. He then wanted to specialize in gifted education and came to study at NEIU, where he completed his degree in 1986 and later earned a second master's degree in educational administration in 1994.

"It seemed to me that the majority of professors at NEIU had a Ph.D. What more can I ask for? Not only are they academically superior, but at the same time, they have experience," said Nebrida. "I am grateful to NEIU for the opportunity to pursue my degree in gifted education, which is my current field."

Nebrida is the coordinator of gifted education for Chicago Public Schools. When he's not working, he's running marathons. He has participated in 122 marathons around the world, two in Europe, nine in Canada, two in Australia and the remaining in cities throughout the U.S. He says that he runs to challenge himself and to bring his marathon medals to the students. The typical response is, "Wow, I want to be like you!"

"What a wonderful compliment to hear from 7- and 8-year olds," said Nebrida. ■

## Ensemble Español Presents "Flamenco Passion" at the Auditorium Theatre

Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater celebrates 26 years with a performance of their "Flamenco Passion" on Saturday, November 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Chicago's landmark Auditorium Theatre, 50 East Congress Parkway.

Dame Libby Komaiko, founder and artistic director, presents a retrospective of the Ensemble's extensive repertoire of their first 26 years in classical, folkloric, flamenco and dance-drama styles. The show will include performances by guest artists from Spain along with the full company of 40 dancers, singers and musicians.

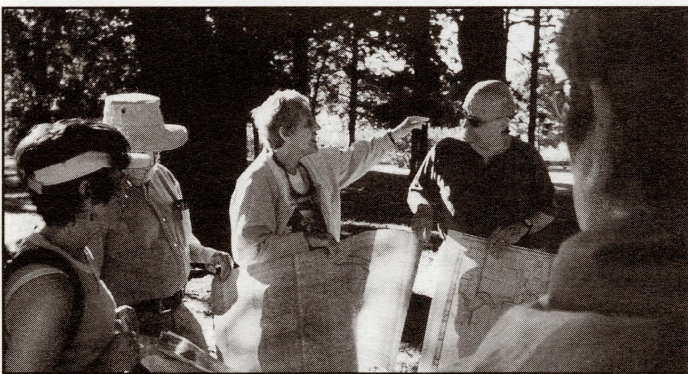
Among the dances featured in the program are "Bolero," based on the paintings and drawings of Pablo Picasso; "Recuerdos De Leyenda," choreographed and danced by Juan Mata and Ana González to the music of Issac Albéniz with musical arrangements by Juan Antonio Mata; Paco Alonso's folkloric "Alma de Aragon," by Tomás Bretón and the fiery flamenco "Zapateado," combining the choreographies of Dame Libby and Alonso. "Flamenco Passion-Cuadro Flamenco" will include Timo Lozano's "Ritmos del Flamenco," performed by the Ensemble.

The company has received many accolades over the years. Sid Smith at the *Chicago Tribune* found the company "...exciting, sensual, and breathtaking," and *La Raza* declared, "Ensemble Español proves that the language of art is universal."

Tickets are \$22, \$32, \$42 and \$52 and can be purchased by calling Ticketmaster at 312-902-1500. Group rates and senior discounts are available. ■



## River Walk at Gompers Park



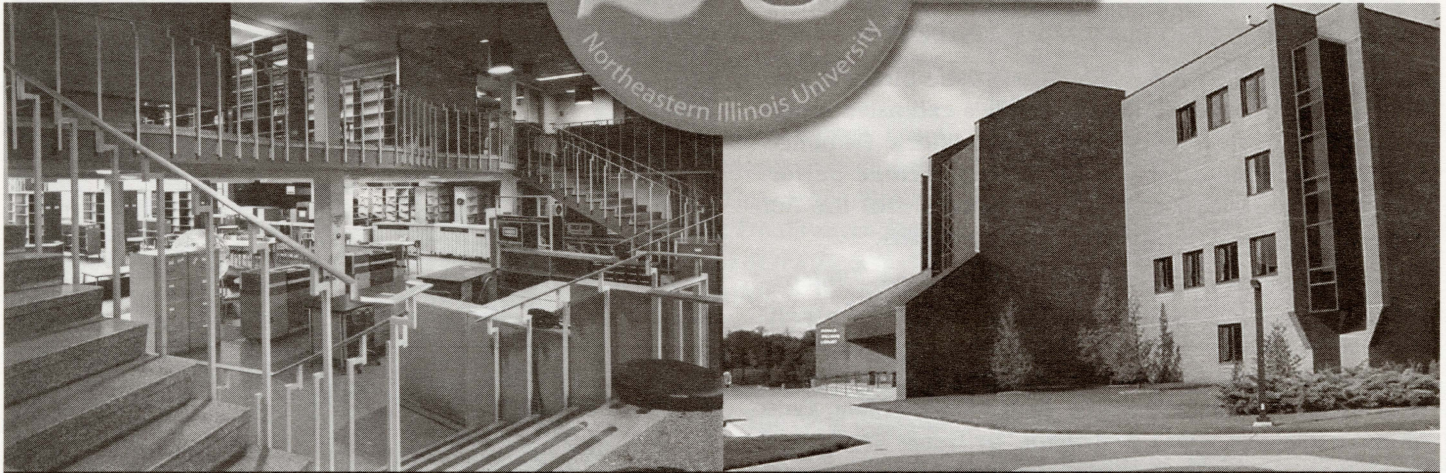
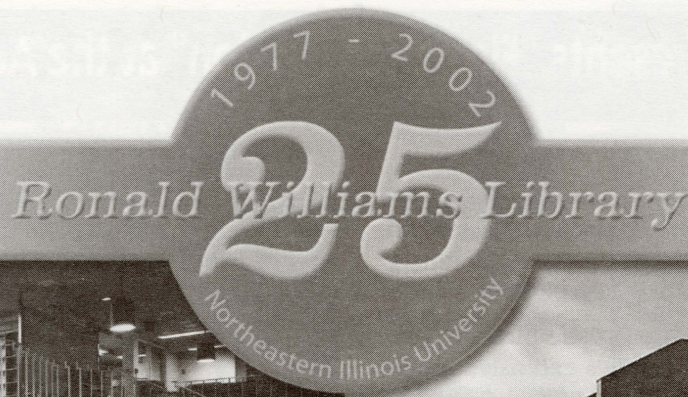
*NEIU faculty experts Libby Hill (center) and Jim Macdonald (left) lead a discussion during the "River Walk at Gompers Park." The event, sponsored by NEIU's staff fundraising committee, raised \$345 for university scholarships. Plans are being made for future events. For more information, call the development office at ext.4208.*

## New Award Established in Theater

The Michelle Madden Award in Theater, named in memory of arts publicist and advocate for Chicago's smallest theater and dance groups, was established by her family and good friend Effie Mihopoulos, NEIU alumnus and Chicago area writer. The award will honor Madden's memory by providing \$500 for tuition, books and/or fees to a deserving NEIU theater student for the 2002-2003 academic year.

"Michelle was passionate about theater and would be delighted to know that a future Chicago performer will benefit from this gift in her memory," said Mihopoulos.

Madden, who recently died at the age of 54, ran her own public relations firm called MMPR. Some of her clients included The Free Associates, American Theater Company, Shattered Globe Theatre, Bailiwick Repertory and Griffin Theatre. ■



## Celebrating Its 25th Anniversary Ronald Williams Library Gets a Technology Makeover



Brad Baker, dean of libraries and learning resources, has seen many changes in NEIU's library over the past 25 years. Before the library was built in 1977, the collection was housed in the D-building, where admissions and purchasing are presently located. "I was a graduate assistant working in the library in 1976 when the new library was being built," said Baker.

The library is in a transition from being a largely print to becoming a largely electronic environment. The library has added 25 public computer workstations and plans to add more. "In addition, new study carrels with electrical and network connections will be installed for patrons

with laptop computers," explained Baker. The library classroom on the third floor will be converted into a technology enhanced classroom with 24 computers and a new instructor's workstation. It will be used by Center for Teaching and Learning staff in their faculty development program and by library staff for student information literacy instruction.

Space consultants have looked at how usage is changing in the library. This year the first and third floors, which are the two most heavily used floors, will be remodeled. "Care is being taken to create a comfortable and inviting environment similar to that of a Barnes and Noble or Borders bookstore," Baker explained. "Our surveys of students have shown that they do expect high quality space in a library these days, along with strong collections and state-of-the-art technology." The need for small group space for collaboration and study has increased. The fourth floor will hold



study spaces for groups of four to eight people for collaborative learning.

Computers are not yet replacing books, however. "We are way over capacity. The building was designed to hold 450,000 volumes, but, due to collection growth, the library now houses more than 700,000 volumes," said Baker. The library's mission is to build and maintain a working collection that supports the curriculum. "We are finding that as reference books and journals become available electronically, we can remove printed materials to make room for new books and to restore student study space," noted Baker.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary, the Ronald Williams Library will host an open house on September 25th from 1-3 p.m.; remarks will be at 1:30 p.m. with refreshments to follow. A photo display will be set up in the first floor exhibit area.

# Faculty and Staff News

**Teddy Bofman**, linguistics professor, and **Rasoul Rezvanian**, finance professor, joined 13 other participants from minority-serving institutions around the country on a trip to Thailand and Myanmar. The goal of the five-week trip was to encourage faculty from many different disciplines to include Asian studies in the curriculum. Participants attended numerous lectures on Thailand and Myanmar by experts from each country and visited school children in villages, toured archaeological sites, farms and several larger cities. The trip was funded by grants from the Fulbright and the Freeman Foundations and led by Michael Aung-Thwin, professor of Burmese history at the University of Hawaii.

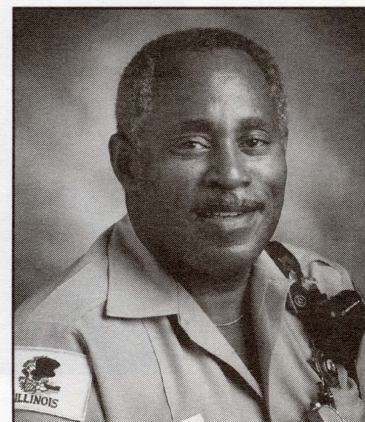
**David Helfand**, coordinator of career counseling/counseling office, was program chair and panel moderator for *Corporate Career Management: Facing Today's Challenges with Best Practices* at the National Career Development Association Conference, Careers Across America, held at the Chicago Hilton and Towers. He was also quoted on the front page of the Working section of the *Chicago Tribune* on August 28.

**Narendar Rao**, associate professor, finance, earned the Certificate in Business Management, the prestigious global business credential awarded by the Association of Professionals in Business Management.

**Brad Baker**, dean of libraries and learning resources, has been selected as the 2002 recipient of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Demco Award. This award was created by the Illinois Library Association to recognize outstanding achievements by academic librarians who have contributed significantly to improvements in the areas of library automation, library management, and library development and research. ■

## Employee of the Month

### AUGUST



**Dwight Pearson**, police officer I, public safety, was selected as the August employee of the month. He has been on the police force at NEIU for six years.

"I feel much safer knowing that Officer Pearson is on the job since I am the evening advisor and am here by myself at night," said Paisly Di Bianca, program associate, academic advising and tutoring.

Pearson became a certified police officer after attending the four month long police academy training. He thinks of it as a kind of police boot camp. "I was in the Marine Corps and police academy training was a lot like basic training," said Pearson.

He enjoys the friendly atmosphere at Northeastern and said, "I like talking to the students here. Many are the same age as my four children."

Pearson has a 43-mile commute. As a state certified officer, Pearson could transfer to a police force in any city in Illinois, but he wants to stay at Northeastern. "This is the most diverse university that I have ever seen," said Pearson. "I like it and I plan on staying here. Even though there are more students at Northeastern than at universities closer to my home, there is less crime here."

NEIU's public safety officers cover more than the immediate campus. Because they are state certified, they can be seen patrolling from Peterson to Foster Avenues and from Kedzie to Pulaski Avenues.

## Polish Heritage Month Celebration



Celebrating the contributions of Polish-Americans

Featuring Gennie O Polka Band  
and The Little Polonia of St. Hyacinth Dancers

Friday, October 4, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Free admission and refreshments • Alumni Hall

Space is limited • Reservations are required • Please call ext. 4205 no later than September 30

# Calendar Notes



Jazz Trumpet Summit • Friday, October 4, 8 p.m.

## SEPTEMBER

**Art Gallery Show.** "Contemporary Drawing Salon." Twenty leading contemporary artists, including Robert L. Schultz, Maria Tomasula, Paul Mullins, Tim Lowly, and Ellen Lanyon, will display a range of works representing the excitement of contemporary drawing. In addition to the finished drawings, the artists' sketchbooks will be on display, providing a rare behind-the-scenes look at the creative process. The exhibit runs through September 27 in the Fine Arts Center Gallery.

**Jewel Box Series Concert.** NEIU's Jewel Box Series presents the Orion Ensemble in concert on Friday, September 20, 8 p.m. Pre-concert talk, 7 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. Individual tickets are \$25; \$12.50 for current NEIU faculty, staff and alumni, non-NEIU students and seniors; \$10 for current NEIU students. For tickets and information, call 773-442-INFO.

**25th Anniversary of the Ronald Williams Library.** Wednesday, September 25, 1-3 p.m. See page 4 for more information.

**NEIU Presidential Lecture Series.** Award-winning writer Peter Carey, Thursday, September 26, 7:30 p.m., Alumni Hall. He will also lead a master class at 1:40 p.m. in the Student Union, room 214.

**Mostly Music at NEIU Benefit.** A tribute to the life of renowned baritone William Warfield on Friday, September 27, 6:30 p.m. University Club of Chicago, 76 East Monroe. Tickets are \$100. (\$50 for faculty, staff, students.) For information, contact Christie Vohs, ext. 4978.

**Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration.** Friday, September 27, 7 p.m. Alumni Hall.

**Mostly Music at NEIU Spotlight on Pianists Series** presents Pawel Checinski, Sunday, September 29, 4 p.m. Individual tickets are \$25; the three-concert series is \$65. The performance takes place in an intimate setting in an Evanston home. For information call ext. 4978.

## OCTOBER

**Studio Series.** NEIU's Studio Series presents *Marx Brothers Madness*, Tuesday and Thursday, October 1 and 3, 1:40 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. This series of short radio episodes, performed originally by the Marx Brothers comedy team in the early 1930's, has been adapted for stage. NEIU students, faculty and staff admitted free with I.D. General admission \$3. F-building, room 109. For tickets or information, call ext. 4274.

**Mostly Music at NEIU and NEIU's Department of Music** present *Jazz Trumpet Summit at NEIU* featuring Orbert Davis, Art Hoyle, Tito Carillo and Art Davis. Friday, October 4, 8 p.m. (Free jazz improvisation workshop at 9:30 a.m. and free concert at noon.) Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. Individual tickets are \$15/ \$10 for students with a current I.D. Admission is free for Northeastern faculty, staff and students.

**Stage Center Theatre.** NEIU's Stage Center Theatre presents *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!*, Thursdays through Saturdays, October 10-12, 17-19, and 24-26 at 7:30 p.m. Two young women get involved in a riot to protest the high prices at the local grocery store and find themselves tangled up in a web of lies. NEIU students, faculty and staff admitted free with I.D. General admission \$10, seniors/students \$8, children \$6. For tickets or information, call ext. 4274.

**NEIU's Department of Music's Classical Guitar Series.**

- The Waller and Maxwell Guitar Duo Concert. Thursday, October 10, 7:30 p.m., master class at noon. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.
- Guitar Showcase. Brian Torosian, director, Tuesday, October 22 at 1:40 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.
- Devilish Caprices: A Halloween Tribute to Paganini, Thursday, October 31 at 7:30 p.m. with faculty artist Brian Torosian. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.

NEIU's Department of Music presents the following concerts:

- Faculty artist Mikhail Yanovitsky, piano. Tuesday, October 15 at 1:40 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.
- Jazz combo, Mayo Tiana, director. Thursday, October 24 at 1:40 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.
- Faculty concert with Phyllis Hurt, soprano, Allen Anderson, piano and Ronald Combs, baritone. Friday, October 25 at 8 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.
- NEIU Percussion Ensemble, Shane Mizicko, director. Wednesday, October 30 at 7:30 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.
- Baritone graduate voice recital with David Richards. Jane Kenas Heller, piano. Thursday, October 31 at 1:40 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.

**Jewel Box Series.** Haydn By The Lake, Friday, October 18, 8 p.m., master class on Thursday, October 17, 1:40 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. *See page 8 for ticket information.*

**NEIU Presidential Lecture Series.** Award-winning writer and education reform activist Jonathan Kozol, Thursday, October 24, 8 p.m., Alumni Hall. He will also lead a master class at 5 p.m. Alumni Hall. *See page 2 for more information.*

## NOVEMBER

**Flamenco Passion.** Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater presents "Flamenco Passion" on Saturday, November 2, 7:30 p.m., Auditorium Theatre, 50 East Congress Parkway, Chicago. Tickets are \$22, \$32, \$42 and \$52. Group rates and senior discounts are available. *See page 3 for more information.*

**Native American Powwow** offering Native American music, dancing, food, arts and crafts, will be held in NEIU's Physical Education Complex, Friday, November 15, 5 p.m.-10 p.m., Saturday, November 16, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sunday, November 17, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Daily Admission: Adults \$10; Seniors \$4; Children (12 & under) \$4, (under 5) Free; Weekend Pass: \$18. For information, call 773-275-5871.

**Mostly Music at NEIU and NEIU's department of music** present Finnish saxophonist Olli-Pekka Tuomsali performing music of Finnish composers and Chicago composer Robert Kritz. November 19, 1:40 p.m. Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. ■

## Golden Apple Winner Caps Off Summer Art Series

### Ken Klopack Brings His Artwork to NEIU



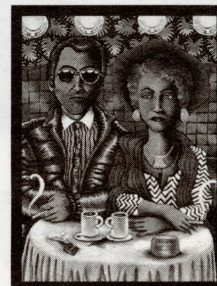
The NEIU art department recently exhibited Northeastern alumnus Ken Klopack's paintings in the Library. This showing is the culmination of the library's ongoing student and professional art series.

Klopack's inspiration comes from his experiences living in Chicago and the Midwest. When describing his work, Klopack explained that he uses "plain, unassuming characters in a beautiful way, amplifying their significance,



pride, courage, and human sensitivities."

Klopack has been teaching art in the Chicago Public Schools since 1971 and is a part-time faculty member in the art education department at the School of



the Art Institute of Chicago. He has won several awards for teaching, notably the Golden Apple Award and the Kohl International Teaching Award from the Kohl Children's Museum in Wilmette. The Illinois Art Education Association honored Klopack as the 1996 Elementary Teacher of the Year in Illinois.

Klopack earned his B.A. in secondary art education (1971) and his M.A. in gifted education (1989) from NEIU. ■

The following students exhibited their paintings in the library during the summer art series: Eric Cruz, Gary Price, Pamela Deogracias, Marianne Tan, Gladys Georges, Maciek Niedorezo, Linda Lochmiller, Patricia Medina and Jeffrey Aldridge. Look for other student exhibits throughout the year.





# Jewel Box Series Presents Haydn By The Lake Performing on Period Instruments

NEIU's Jewel Box series presents Haydn By The Lake, ensemble-in-residence at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Evanston, in a concert of chamber music of the late 18th and early 19th centuries performed on period instruments. The concert will be held Friday, October 18, 8 p.m., in the Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. A free master class, including a lecture and demonstration with members of the ensemble, will be held Thursday, October 17 from 1:40-3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.

The three accomplished ensemble members are Patricia Ahern, violin, Laura Handler, cello and James Janssen, fortepiano and artistic director.

Ahern has performed with baroque ensembles in Germany, France, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Austria, Switzerland, Australia and Chile. She has also played with the Chicago Baroque Ensemble, the Newberry Consort and at the Bloomington Early Music Festival.

Ahern plays a violin modeled after an 18th century instrument.

Handler has performed throughout the United States, Latin America and Austria. She is principal cellist with the Lyra Concert Baroque Orchestra. Her cello was made in Bohemia in the 1790s.

Janssen studied with renowned fortepianist Penelope Crawford. He has appeared with Ars Antigua, and made his debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. Janssen's five-octave fortepiano is a copy of Mozart's piano.

The program includes Haydn's *Trio in A Major, Hob., XV:18*, Giuliani's *Duet for Violin and Violoncello*, Hummel's *Sonata in F Major for Violin and Piano, Op. 24 "Spring"* and Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 14 in E-flat Major, K. 449*.

Free parking for the concert is available in Parking Lot F starting at 6 p.m. the evening of the concert. Tickets are \$25; \$12.50 for current NEIU faculty, staff and alumni, non-NEIU students and seniors;

and \$10.00 for current NEIU students. For tickets and information, call 773-442-INFO. ■

*Insights* newsletter is published monthly by Northeastern Illinois University for the NEIU community.

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