ENLIVENING A LONG ISLAND CITY MUSEUM

The quality of life will be a notch higher this summer in Long Island City, New York, for residents, local business owners and others visiting MoMA PS1, the Museum of Modern Art’s exhibition space dedicated to experimental art.

That’s because the design talents of NJIT Assistant Professor Georgeen Theodore and her Brooklyn-based architectural firm, Interboro Partners, will be lavished on a temporary courtyard installation open to the community. An exhibition space rather than a collecting institution, MoMA PS1 showcases emerging artists, new genres, and adventurous new work by recognized artists.

Interboro’s design, Holding Pattern, will be installed in early June. It will be a welcoming outdoor living space under a graceful rope canopy. The installation will be replete with plantings, lounges and ping pong tables – amenities that next fall will be recycled for community use.

Holding Pattern is the winning entry for 2011 in one of the world’s most prestigious competitions for young architectural talent, the annual Young Architects Program sponsored by the Museum of Modern Art and MoMA PS1. Competitors are challenged to provide visitors with an outdoor recreational area for the summer – a much-needed refuge in this part of Long Island City – and to make the best use of the pre-existing space and readily available materials.

“My partners Tobias Armbrorst and Daniel D’Oca and I are thrilled to have the opportunity to realize a project that creates both a dynamic space and a dialogue between the museum and the surrounding neighborhood,” says Theodore. “A number of NJIT grads and students were on the project team, and I am very proud that the skills they have gained at the school contributed to our award-winning design.”

Assistant Professor Georgeen Theodore

http://design.njit.edu
PRIDE IN PLACE

New Jersey Transit’s Warren Street light rail station in Newark has been transformed thanks to two NJIT Student Senate presidents (one now an alum) who rallied support for the installation of murals portraying the university and its host city.

Several years ago, students began working with NJIT administrators, New Jersey Transit officials and the state’s Historic Preservation Office to create an environment that distinctively announced one’s arrival at NJIT. Their intention was to enhance the experience of using the station for Newark residents as well as for students. The plan they developed also resulted in the identity of the stop being changed to the “Warren Street/NJIT Station.”

The project was conceived when Baker Assaf ’09* was president of the senate in 2008. Senate President Dominick Cirillo* led the initiative to its conclusion — the March 7 unveiling of a five-foot-tall by twenty-four-foot long panel on the inbound and outbound platform walls. CN Communications, Newark, created the artwork and coordinated fabrication and installation of the panels by Applied Image, Freehold. The images and text on the panels highlight NJIT’s historic engagement with Newark and the university’s exciting range of educational and research activities.

*Albert Dorman honors scholars

NJIT’S NEW LOOK

Have you seen www.njit.edu lately? You’ll want to. Evolving user expectations and innovations in technology have compelled a comprehensive website redesign – an initiative that the design firm, White Whale, characterizes as “finding space for beauty and innovation while accommodating the practical needs of a higher ed community.”

Features include improved search functionality and navigation, a “Popular Links” section and content centered on the university’s strategic initiatives. A cross section of initial reactions gleaned from social media: the navigation interface is awesome; definitely makes it more appealing to students…I actually like it; blue isn’t a great choice but it’s not bad at all…at first I didn’t think so but it grew on me…I especially like the “Popular Links” at the top…people are just afraid of change; I really like the new interface.

Redesign of pages for individual colleges, departments and administrative offices should be complete by the end of the year. Explore and tell us what you think. Send comments to Jean Llewellyn, executive director for strategic communications: jean.llewellyn@njit.edu.

There’s more online – visit NJIT Magazine at http://magazine.njit.edu

TAKE THE NJIT MAGAZINE SURVEY

Take a few minutes please to complete an online survey about NJIT Magazine to help us better meet your information needs and interests. We’re conducting the survey in cooperation with the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and Qualtrics.com, a leading survey firm.

A link to the survey was e-mailed in March to a random sample of magazine recipients. But we’d like to hear from all interested readers. Results will be reported to NJIT in summary form only; individuals will not be identified.

Share your thoughts about NJIT Magazine at http://tinyurl.com/5ua03ka or via the QR code.
NJIT was the only New Jersey university selected for an exposition featuring practical applications of nanoscience.

**DESIGN STUDENT HAS IT COVERED**

The President’s Annual Report recently published by NJIT’s Office of Strategic Communications features a glimpse of the future through the lens of the university’s Strategic Plan 2010-2015. To underscore the theme “A Vision for the Future,” the university chose to showcase its newest and fastest-growing unit, the School of Art + Design, by using a student-created image on the cover.

Various student designs were considered, but the one ultimately chosen by NJIT President Robert A. Altenkirch is a subtle and sophisticated interior with futuristic overtones. It’s the work of interior design student Mina Liba, who is an Albert Dorman honors scholar. The cover art is a portion of a larger “Design Café” image created by Liba as part of a studio project.

Interior design students were asked to remake their own studio in Campbell Hall into a café or coffee shop for the students of the College of Architecture and Design. Liba’s effort earned her the Second Year Design Award for Interior Design. She was also a member of one of the NJIT teams that created winning entries for the 2011 eastern regional competition sponsored by the Interior Design Educators Council. Liba, along with Hyungshin Stephanie Kim and Melissa Pereira, won for “Highlander Health Center,” a proposed expansion of NJIT medical facilities.

**NATIONAL NANOTECH DISTINCTION**

NJIT was the only New Jersey university selected for an exposition featuring practical applications of nanoscience resulting from the last decade of federal funding under the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI). “Directed Self-Assembly of Vertical Nanotubes for Biosensors, Logic, and Nano-Biofuel Cells” was the focus of NJIT’s exhibit at the National Nanotechnology Innovation Summit 10 in Washington, D.C.

Based on the work of NJIT Research Professors Reginald Farrow and Zafar Iqbal, the four nanotech projects illustrated innovative and practical approaches to creating structured, functional devices at molecular scales. Farrow is on the faculty of the Department of Physics and Iqbal is a member of the Department of Chemistry and Environmental Science.

The summit featured the cooperative nanotech-related activities of 25 federal agencies focused on producing transformative technological breakthroughs. It also brought together the nation’s leadership in nanotechnology research, development, implementation, policy and finance, along with a showcase of the top nanotechnology applications generated through NNI support.

**HELP WITH PE LICENSE RENEWAL**

NJIT Continuing Professional Education is ready to help you meet New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania continuing education requirements for license renewal. Sign up at NJIT for short, affordable courses to be in compliance with your state’s most recent laws.

Are you an aspiring PE? Shave a year from the four years otherwise required to sit for the PE exam by enrolling in the MS in civil engineering program that’s available online, on a company’s premises and on campus.

**RADIO RECOGNITION**

The NJIT “Edge in Knowledge” radio campaign has been recognized with a silver medal from the 26th Annual Educational Advertising Awards sponsored by Higher Education Marketing Report, the largest educational advertising awards competition in the U.S. More than 2,500 entries were submitted by colleges and secondary schools from all 50 states and several foreign countries.

To listen: njit.edu/stratcomm/library/radio/2010

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**Mina Liba**

PHOTO: JOHN MICALE

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http://chemistry.njit.edu
http://physics.njit.edu

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http://adultlearner.njit.edu
MORE SOLAR SURPRISES

Distinguished Professor of Physics Philip R. Goode and the research team at NJIT’s Big Bear Solar Observatory (BBSO) have reported new insights into the small-scale dynamics of the Sun’s surface. The observations were made during a period of historic inactivity on the Sun and reported in The Astrophysical Journal (Vol. 714, No. 1). The high-resolution capabilities of BBSO’s new 1.6-meter aperture solar telescope have made such work possible. “The solar chromosphere shows itself ceaselessly changing character with small-scale energetic events occurring constantly on the solar surface,” says NJIT Research Professor Vasyl Yurchyshyn, also at BBSO. Such events suggest a similarity of magnetic structures and events from the hemisphere to its granular scales. The researchers hope to establish how such dynamics can explain the movement underlying convective flows and turbulent magnetic fields. ■

http://bbso.njit.edu

GREAT WEST NAMES 12 HIGHLANDERS TO ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

Twelve students participating in three sports were named to the Fall 2010 Great West Conference All-Academic Team. The honorees were Jonathan Daudelin (mechanical engineering), Joseph Ju (biomedical engineering) and Brian Mendez (management) in men’s cross country; Daisy Gallegos (information technology), Megan Higgins (biomedical engineering), Kayla Howell (industrial engineering), Kelsey Johnson (civil engineering) and Ewelina Marut (management) in women’s cross country; and Amanda Dotten (chemical engineering), Meryl Hershfield (management), Erin Morris (industrial engineering) and Christi Taylor (history) in women’s soccer.

Daudelin won his spot on the team with a 4.0 grade point average. He is enrolled in Albert Dorman Honors College along with Dotten, Ju, Morris and Taylor. To be selected for the team, student-athletes must achieve a minimum cumulative 3.2 grade point average and participate in at least 50 percent of the contests scheduled. Academic selection is based on their most recent GPA.


Associate Professor Sergei Adamovich and graduate student Qinyin Qiu working with a CyberGrasp Glove and virtual piano program designed to help stroke patients regain the use of hands and fingers.

Acquired at Big Bear Solar Observatory, images such as this are yielding important new information about the Sun.

JAMA FEATURES BIOMEDICAL RESEARCHERS

The Journal of the American Medical Association (Vol. 305, No. 3) highlighted the research of Associate Professor Sergei Adamovich and colleagues at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey into whether virtual reality video games and assistive robotic devices can improve hand and arm function for stroke patients. “Scientists Look to Emerging Technology to Treat Chronic Neurological Disorders” reported the positive results achieved with a group of volunteer patients who had suffered strokes at least six months before the start of the study. ■


Jonathan Daudelin

PHOTO: JOHN MICALE

PHOTO: LARRY LEVANTI

MORE SOLAR SURPRISES

END NOTES