Project Learning Around the World hopes to expand beyond BGSU

Dr. Audrey Ellenwood, coordinator of the graduate program in school psychology in the College of Education and Human Development, is continuing her efforts to expand her charity, Project Learning Around the World. She invites the BGSU community to be a part of the effort to help needy schoolchildren.

Since 2005, with the help of graduate students in the school-psychology program and other faculty members from the School of Intervention Services, Ellenwood has been able to bring much-needed supplies to rural schools in South Africa each year.

The mission of the charity is to alleviate some of the difficulties the children face in the rural townships, where most are orphaned and limited to one meal a day, and about 80 percent of schoolchildren have AIDS. The project hopes to remedy the children’s educational needs by providing books and other supplies for the schools.

In 2008, the project began to work with Alan Winde, the South African minister for finance, economic development and tourism, to bring educational supplies such as books and calculators to rural schools in Knysna, South Africa. Graduate students also began bringing personal-hygiene supplies to an abused women’s shelter and donating playground equipment for the children.

Project Learning Around the World is made possible by Ellenwood and nine others on the board of directors in the United States, along with South African educators and community organizers.

Ellenwood hopes to expand the project beyond BGSU in 2010 and reach out to new organizations, student groups and schools. If you would like to donate, become involved or learn more about Project Learning Around the World, visit http://www.platw.org. For more information, contact Ellenwood at 2-9848 or aellenw@bgsu.edu.

Over 1,000 students to receive diplomas from BGSU

BGSU will award more than 1,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees, plus one honorary degree, during fall commencement ceremonies Friday and Saturday (Dec. 18 and 19) in Anderson Arena.

Graduating at 7 p.m. Friday will be nearly 200 students from the Graduate College, along with undergraduates from the colleges of Business Administration, Health and Human Services, Musical Arts, and Technology, and BGSU Firelands. Students from the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Education and Human Development will receive diplomas during a 10 a.m. ceremony Saturday.

Friday’s speaker will be John Meier, chair and chief executive officer of glass tableware giant Libbey Inc. Meier is a BGSU alumnus as well, having earned a master of business administration degree in 1970.

The honorary degree will be awarded during the same ceremony, to Ned Baker, a retired public health official who will be named a doctor of science in public health.
In 1991, as president-elect of the Ohio Association of Boards of Health, Baker was instrumental in the founding of the Bowling Green-based National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH). The Bowling Green resident, who received a bachelor's degree in biology from BGSU in 1950, was NALBOH's first president, from 1993-94, and its first executive director, from 1995-98.

Speaking at Saturday's ceremony will be Rebecca Tirabassi, representing the College of Arts and Sciences, and Mary Rucker, from the College of Education and Human Development.

Tirabassi will receive a bachelor of liberal studies degree, with a concentration in communications and telecommunications, 35 years after she initially enrolled at BGSU. She left during her sophomore year and "returned" to BGSU several years ago after learning about its online bachelor's program in liberal studies, in which she was among the first students.

Rucker, the education speaker, will graduate with a bachelor's degree in human development and family studies, as well as the Outstanding Senior in Human Development and Family Studies Award. The Oxford native plans to pursue a master's degree in public service management at DePaul University in Chicago.

IN BRIEF

Campus communications holiday schedule announced

The last issue of Zoom News before winter break will come out on Friday, Dec. 18, followed by the Monitor on Monday, Dec. 21. Both will return on Monday, Jan. 11.

Campus Update will also be on hiatus Dec. 21 until Jan. 11.

Marketing and Communications will alert the University if there is information to be communicated in the interim.

CALENDAR

Tuesday, Dec. 15
Presentation, "Exploding the Myths: Positive Answers to Negative Questions about Affirmative Action," with Marshall Rose, director of the Office of Equity and Diversity, and Dr. Jack Taylor, Associate Professor Emeritus of ethnic studies, 2:30-4 p.m., 315 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Presented by equity and diversity, ethnic studies, multicultural affairs, the Equal Opportunity Compliance Committee and the National Coalition Building Institute.

Wednesday, Dec. 16
Classified Staff Council, 10 a.m., 201 Union.
Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Challenge Planning Meeting, 8 p.m., 315 University Hall.

Friday, Dec. 18
Dissertation Defense, "Quasi-Unconditionality: Higher Call to the Virtue of Forgiveness," by Fred Olwendo, philosophy, 1-3 p.m., 317 Shatzel Hall.
Commencement Ceremony for the Graduate College and the colleges of Business Administration, Health and Human Services, Musical Arts, and Technology, and BGSU Firelands, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena, Memorial Hall. To volunteer, visit the online sign-up sheet at https://reslife.bgsu.edu/forms/volunteer-fallcommencement.php. For more information, call Bonita Bembry at 2-2381 or Jen Moore at 2-2774.
Saturday, Dec. 19

Mountain Dulcimer Workshop, participants will receive their own mountain dulcimer and learn how to play it, 9 a.m.-noon. Workshop led by Joe Zsigray. The fee is $39. For more information or to register, visit http://pace.bgsu.edu or call 2-8181.

Commencement Ceremony for the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Education and Human Development, 10 a.m., Anderson Arena, Memorial Hall. To volunteer, visit the online sign-up sheet at https://reslife.bgsu.edu/forms/volunteer-fallcommencement.php. For more information, call Bonita Bembry at 2-2381 or Jen Moore at 2-2774.

Harmonica Workshop, participants will receive their own harmonica and learn how to play it, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Workshop led by Joe Zsigray. The fee is $39. For more information or to register, visit http://pace.bgsu.edu or call 2-8181.

Ukulele Workshop, participants will receive their own ukulele and learn how to play it, 3-5 p.m. Workshop led by Joe Zsigray. The fee is $59. For more information or to register, visit http://pace.bgsu.edu or call 2-8181.

Magic Close-Up Workshop, participants will receive music supplies and learn tricks, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Workshop led by Joe Zsigray. The fee is $39. For more information or to register, visit http://pace.bgsu.edu or call 2-8181.

Continuing Events

Dec. 14-18

Final Exam Week.

Through Dec. 15

Faculty/Staff Art Exhibition, Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Beginning Dec. 21

Winter Recess.

Through Dec. 24

Planetarium Show, “Secret of the Star: A Show for Christmastime,” showings at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, and Thursday, Dec. 24. $1 donation suggested.

Through Jan. 6

Art Exhibit, “Synthetic Space,” Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.
OBITUARY

There were no obituaries this week.