

The Link

Connecting Families to the University



A Publication of the University of Michigan–Dearborn

January 2004

Welcome to The Link!

Welcome to another issue of *The Link*, a digest of information from many University offices and departments. Please let me know whether you find this information interesting and useful, and what else you'd like to see in the newsletter. Is there too much information? Not enough? Do you have specific questions you'd like answered in future issues? Your comments and suggestions are important. Send e-mail to ruthg@umd.umich.edu, or call me, 313-593-9957. I'm always happy to hear from you!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Gordon".

Associate Director of Admissions and Orientation

Celebrate With Us!

Save the dates! The University Center Grand Opening will be on Wednesday, February 4, through Friday, February 6, 2004! Events will take place throughout the University Center from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. all three days. More detailed information will be announced later in January.

Join us on Thursday, February 5, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. for the dedication ceremony on the Center Stage.

The University Center Grand Opening theme is *U*niting our *C*ommunity and will celebrate our campus, our people, and our achievements, as well as offer many community-building opportunities. One of the highlights of the Grand Opening celebration will be the "Conversation on Race: Voices of the New Generation," co-sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor and New Detroit, The Coalition, on Friday, February 6.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Belgian Film Series

Four films from Belgium, a country little-known by the general public for its cinematographic production, will be shown during the Winter 2004 semester. This series includes films which represent recent Belgian cinema and its concern for questions of personal as well as collective identity and socio-political issues. The films also present a blend of Belgium's distinctive display of the surreal and "hyper-realistic" representations of issues such as immigration and poverty.

All films are in French with English subtitles and are open to the public free of charge. Free parking is located in front of the CASL Building. Films will be shown on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the CASL Building, Room 1030. For more information, please contact Stephane Spoiden, associate professor of French, 313-593-5129 or spoiden@umich.edu.

Wednesday, January 21, 7 p.m.

Toto le heroes (Toto the Hero), 1991, 90 minutes, directed by Jaco Van Dormael

Winner of the Camera d'Or at the 1991 Cannes Film Festival, this witty and audacious debut film concerns Thomas, who is convinced he was exchanged at birth with his neighbor Alfred and subsequently condemned to lead an anonymous, insignificant life. Appearing as "Toto le Heros," the invented secret agent of his adolescence, Thomas undergoes a fantastic odyssey to track Alfred down and uncover his true identity. The film also stars Michel Bouquet, Mireille Perier, and Jo de Backer.

Wednesday, January 28, 7 p.m.

L'Auberge espagnole (The Spanish Apartment), 2001, 120 minutes, directed by Cedric Klapisch

Cedric Klapisch looks at the lives and loves of seven young coeds living in a Barcelona apartment in this entertaining ensemble comedy. Focusing primarily on straight-laced French student Xavier (Romain Duris), the film follows the naive student's eye-opening experiences with his new roommates from all over Europe, much to the chagrin of his girlfriend (Audrey Tautou). The film was nominated for six 2002 Cesar Awards, with Cecile de France winning the Best Young Actress Award. It also stars Judith Godreche and Kelly Reilly.

Athletics/Recreation/Wellness

The men's basketball team is on a roll. They have won six straight games, some against NCAA–Division III schools. The next home game will be January 7 at 8:00 p.m. when they play Aquinas College. The women's team will play at 6 p.m.

The hockey team begins the second half of the season on January 9 against Washington and Jefferson College and on January 10 against Mercyhurst. Game time is 7:30 p.m. at the Field House.

The Wellness Center will be a busy place at the beginning of the term with everyone starting the New Year with a desire to become more fit. An elliptical machine has been installed and has become the new favorite.

Divine Child hockey games and Henry Ford Academy basketball games are played at the UM–Dearborn Field House/Arena. We are pleased to be the home ice and home court for these outstanding programs.

Career Services

Parents play a big role in shaping their children's attitudes. According to some experts, a positive attitude may be one of the most important tools for success in a job search during uncertain economic times. The concept is simple. Encourage your student to remain confident, focused, and steadfast in the journey toward success. Help him or her realize that there will be bumps in the road that result in frustration. Your guidance will help your student develop the persistence needed to continue toward a goal rather than becoming derailed by some inevitable rejection.

Some helpful hints for your students:

- Be enthusiastic
- Project confidence
- Don't give up
- Develop a job-search strategy
- Don't talk down your past jobs or employers
- Be brave and take risks
- Be flexible and open-minded
- Try not to feel rejected
- Stay busy

Remember that the Office of Career Services is available to provide advice about many areas including how to decide on a major, career options, and job-search skills.

Feel free to check out our Web site at www.umd.umich.edu/careerservices for upcoming events, programs, and job fairs.

Student Activities Office

The first Winter Welcome is set to warm the spirits of our campus as we begin another term. Wednesday, January 14 (10 a.m. – 10 p.m.), will be marked by the coronation of our first Winter King and Queen (chosen by a "Penny War" competition, with the proceeds going to charity), a winter "unfashionable" show, photo snowglobes, music, fun, and food.

On Thursday, January 29, the Student Activities Board will present a lecture by Daryl Davis. "Klan-destine Relationships" will look at Davis' interaction with the Klan. What makes this such a powerful presentation is that Davis is an African-American; infiltrating the Klan was both risky and racially healing. Many of those he met have since left the Klan. This presentation will take place at noon in the University Center.

The clubs and organizations that once held spaces in the Recreation and Organization Center will soon move into their new home in the Student Organization Complex in the University Center. This open cubicle layout will help build a strong community as our student groups relocate in the new heart of student life at UM–Dearborn.

Art Museum Project

- The Art Museum Project, in cooperation with the Department of Behavioral Sciences, will commemorate the 200th anniversary of Haitian Independence with an exhibition in the Alfred Berkowitz Gallery from January 12 through February 6, 2004.

Drawings, paintings and sculptures as well as traditional handcrafted objects by Haitian artists, on loan from collectors and galleries in the Detroit region, offer a glimpse of the traditions and culture of this Caribbean nation. A selection of voodoo banners and objects used in religious practice as well as a collection of documentary photographs taken by William McNeece, Adjunct Lecturer in Sociology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences at the University of Michigan–Dearborn, will also be shown.

A reception featuring a gallery talk, ethnic foods and performance is scheduled for Sunday, January 25, 3 – 5 p.m. and guest lecturer Guerin Montilus, Ph.D., from Wayne State University, will present a program on Sunday, February 8, 3 – 5 p.m.

All events are open to the public and admission to the gallery is free. The gallery is open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and is closed Saturday and Sunday.

- The Alfred Berkowitz Gallery is located in the Mardigian Library on the University of Michigan–Dearborn campus. Changing exhibitions are presented throughout the year and displays of our celebrated collection of period as well as contemporary art glass are ongoing. University collections of drawings, paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures, and decorative arts are managed through the gallery. Related programs are designed to serve the campus curriculum as well as community interests.

Environmental Interpretive Center

The EIC is celebrating winter with a number of special programs.

Winter Tea Time

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 3, 2004

Ring in the New Year in good taste with a sampling of teas from various plants found in the campus Environmental Study Area. After a leisurely winter walk, we will warm up with a selection of local wild teas. Children are welcome. Dress for outdoor activity; formal wear is not required!

Wildlife in Winter

10:00 a.m. – noon

Saturday, January 8, 2004

Join guest naturalist Mark Irish for this popular program which explores the interesting ways that animals survive cold conditions. We will begin indoors with a demonstration of animal pelts that reveal interesting clues about cold weather survival, followed by an outdoor walk. Once outside, we'll investigate various hiding places and winter habitats of various animals.

Winter Birds

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 17, 2004

It might be cold, but not all birds have flown south for the winter. As long as birds can find adequate food and shelter, they will stick around. We'll look for birds where natural food sources are found in the Environmental Study Area. After our walk, we'll warm up with hot cocoa as we observe the birds at the feeding station just outside the Quiet Room at the Center.

Note: All our programs begin at the Environmental Interpretive Center unless otherwise noted. Please dress for the weather as most of the programs will take place outdoors.

For more information, call the Environmental Interpretive Center at 313-593-5338, or view the center's online newsletter at <http://www.umd.umich.edu/eic/newsletter.PDF>.