



Jason Levkulich/DN

Top: The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, designed by Phillip Johnson in the Italian travertine style, was opened at UNL in 1963. The gallery is host to more than 12,000 art objects. Right: Barbara Harris of Lincoln views part of the Sheldon's collection. The museum was one of Lincoln's many sights on her list to show one of her relatives.



Jason Levkulich/DN

Collection highlights 20th century

By Todd Ellington
Staff Reporter

The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery is the art museum at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The Sheldon Gallery's comprehensive collection documents the development of American art from the eighteenth century to the present. The Sheldon has one of the most renowned collections of 20th century art, ranking among the top five university collections, and among the top 10 collections in the world.

The collection ranges from the Realism of 19th century landscapes, to the geometric Cubism of the 1940's and '50's, and the Abstract Expressionism of the past thirty years.

In addition, Sheldon maintains extensive print and photography collections as well as a sculpture garden containing thirty major examples of

20th century sculpture. The garden encompasses nearly fifteen acres of campus, extending the impact of contemporary works beyond the limits of the art museum and into the everyday lives of University students.

"This was done," according to Sheldon's Curator and Assistant Director Daphne Deeds, "to allow students to experience art on a day-to-day basis."

She believes that if the students have enough exposure to these sculptures, they will become sympathetic toward them. The sculptures will have grown beyond the art world and will have become part of the students' every day lives.

Although some students have voiced concern over the merit of some of the sculpture found around campus, Mrs. Deeds said that was the purpose of placing the sculptures where they

were.

"The artist hopes they are worthy of questioning. The nature of reality is our encountering of light, shape and form. Art is about reality in all of its facets, and is equally as valid as any narrative. Many people choose to be oblivious to that."

The University of Nebraska funds Sheldon's operating budget, but acquisitions, publications, special exhibitions and programming are supported by grants and private donations. No tuition or student funds are used.

In selecting pieces for the Gallery, each work is judged by several criteria. It must be American art of the highest quality and have some type of historical meaning, or fill a gap in an existing collection. Each of the Sheldon's 13,000 objects not only has its own personal meaning, but also interacts with the whole collection.



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Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater thrives

Also found within the walls of the Sheldon Art Gallery is the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. The theater is actually a separate entity, belonging to the College of Fine and Performing Arts, rather than Sheldon. The Theater's program is designed to play an important role in the education of the University's academic community. It also reaches out to the Lincoln community, offering Nebraskans a stimulating alternative to commercial film and television.

With the creation of the new College of Fine and Performing Arts, and the growing collection of the Sheldon Art Gallery, the Theater's needs have outgrown the limited time and space of the present facility.

However, a grant from Mrs. Ross will soon make possible a new facility, completely autonomous from the Sheldon (part of the terms of Mrs. Ross' gift were the advent of the new college, and that the Theater would become autonomous).

The proposed new theater should have two auditoriums equipped with the most up-to-date technology. Each one will be designed for distinct and separate uses as dictated by the program. The auditoriums should be able to seat in the range of 300 to 400 people for the larger of the two, and

100 to 200 for the smaller. In addition, there should be office and work space as well as accommodation for a research library and special storage for the Theater's film and video archive.

Provisions will also be made for an appropriate lobby and display area and for limited food service.

As for when and where the new theater will be built, nothing has yet been confirmed. It has been suggested that it may be underground, and Director Dan Ladley would like to see it open on April 29, 1996, the centennial of the first showing of a public motion picture in the United States.

Activities abound at Campus Rec

By Jennifer Groen
Staff Reporter

Campus Recreation provides a wide variety of programs, services and facilities to the university community on both the city and east campuses.

According to Director of Campus Recreation Stan Campbell, Campus Recreation offers informal recreation in the facilities for students, staff, faculty and their guests. Informal recreation offers a weight training room, super circuit room, swimming pool, indoor running track, indoor practice field, ping pong tables and courts for racquetball, basketball, volleyball and badminton.

Activities are available at several

locations, including the Campus Recreation Center, the East Campus Activities Building, the Military and Naval Science Building and Mable Lee Hall. Fitness classes, outdoor adventures, programs for students with disabilities, sport clubs, intramural sports and family and youth programs are all offered through Campus Recreation.

Campbell said UNL's Campus Recreation offers the widest variety of intramural sports in the Big Eight Conference.

"Just about anything is offered — team sports to dual sports to individual sports," he said.

There are more than 160 intramural sports offered at UNL, Campbell said.

There are also many Campus Recreation services available. Campus Recreation offers equipment rental, injury prevention and care, child care, wellness services and leisure services.

Students can get exercise prescriptions through the wellness services, Campbell said.

"They can set up programs that match up with student's abilities and work with their schedule," he said.

Campbell said child care services are an inexpensive form of babysitting. The services are \$1 an hour and there is a two-hour maximum time limit.

Campus Recreation employed 503 students last year and is one of the largest on-campus student employers, he said.