

## American pie

Heather Glenhead/TN  
MELISSA HAVILAND, A GRADUATE student in printmaking, is making apple pies in the Rotunda Gallery in the Nebraska Union all week. She said she never felt she was an average girl, and apple pie symbolizes this. "I decided I had to get into the space with the apple pie and kind of work things out. And it turned into this performance piece."



*Performance art is just desserts for UNL student*

By Josh Nichols  
Staff writer

If you've been around the Nebraska Union's Rotunda Gallery this week, you've probably wondered why there is a woman in there baking apple pies all day. Performance artist Melissa Haviland is attempting to bring a deeper meaning to the old cliché "as American as apple pie." Haviland, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate student in printmaking, is exhibiting her first work as a performance artist every day this week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. She is surrounded by pasted-on prints of apples and her hands are always in the room all day and baking apple pies in the Rotunda Gallery.

She said she saw apple pie as one of the most average items in America. So she began calling herself "Apple Pie Girl." To expand on this feeling, she developed the performance she is displaying this week, which she compares to what an "average girl" in society is supposed to be. She said she has carried the idea with her for three years and is happy to be able to display it to the public. Like all performance artists, Haviland said she is using her body as a tool to deliver an artistic message. She plans to put in 16 hours making pies this week and said the performance also deals with the aspect of time.

she has seen many people wander in and out. The most enjoyable part of her display thus far, she said, has been listening to people's comments as they wander through and look around. A common remark has been, "I had one of those when I was a kid," in reference to the Easy Bake Oven. Although many people have taken time to experience Haviland's work, she said she also is alone in the room a lot of the time. This is not a problem for Haviland, who said the time alone allows her to think. "It's been like a vacation we don't allow ourselves to have," she said. Viewers and art enthusiasts can enjoy a taste of the

## Sheldon collaborates to create extensive exhibition

By Jason Hardy  
Staff writer

For an artist to be inventive and creative in the presentation of ideas is essential to creating quality art. For many museums, the same criteria applies to presenting the actual art. More are seeking out new ways of acquiring and showcasing quality collections. One such way is by collaborating with other museums, an example of which can be seen this weekend at the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12<sup>th</sup> and R streets. "Parallel Perspectives: Early Twentieth Century American Art" opens Friday with a reception at 5 p.m. The exhibit is a combination of 35 pieces from the Sheldon's permanent collection and another 35 works from the Addison Gallery of American Art in Andover, Mass. Dan Siedell, curator and interim director of the Sheldon, said the event was a way of presenting an impressive body of work without having to spend copious amounts of money to secure it. "I think it's the trend in the museum profession just because of the lack of funds," he said. "It's an easier way than one institution doing it alone because it's certainly difficult to secure

loans for traveling exhibitions." The exhibit is the second in a series of collaborative exhibitions organized by the Addison Gallery and supported by the Henry Luce Foundation's American Collections Enhancement Initiative. To organize the show, Siedell met with Susan Faxon, associate director and curator of the Addison Gallery, and decided on a goal for the exhibition and what pieces would be included. "The exhibition focuses on early 20<sup>th</sup> century American art because it's a strength of the Addison and the Sheldon," Siedell said. "A lot of these works are masterpieces known throughout the country as important paintings, but they're often seen in isolation. We were interested in putting them in the context of our own collection." Faxon said the first exhibit was held at the University of California Berkeley Art Museum, but that "Parallel Perspectives" was much more comprehensive. "It's a way of bringing collections together to increase their visibility and audience understanding of why we chose them," she said. "Dan and I worked together extraordinarily well because we have like collections, interests and a like focus. "Also, our collections are extraordinarily

PREVIEW

**Parallel Perspectives: Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Art**

**WHERE:** Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12<sup>th</sup> & R Streets  
**WHEN:** Feb. 25 - May 9  
**COST:** Free  
**THE SKINNY:** Two galleries join together to present cohesive, modern exhibit.

matched, so in that way it was easier than borrowing from a lot of different places." Once the collection was established, Siedell said he was impressed with the overall quality and comprehensiveness of the works being presented. "This is important because the resources that the Addison and the Sheldon have aren't just a



COURTESY PHOTO  
Joseph Stella's "Battle of Lights, Coney Island" is included in the Sheldon's exhibit.

Please see **SHELDON** on 10