

Splendor of Sheldon exhibits awaits students

Josh Nichols

Staff writer

Wandering through campus at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, numerous buildings and structures may catch one's eye.

But just west of the College of Business Administration is an area of campus that is quite unique.

The paths curve and cross a bit differently, there is more grass, trees and bushes to be seen and an array of bronze and steel sculptures dot the landscape.

The Sculpture Garden, then, is a bit different from the other parts of campus, as is the white rectangular building standing directly next to it, the ancient Greek-looking outer structure of the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, founded in 1963.

With huge windows centered on either side of the building, a passerby is able to catch a glimpse of the numerous different creations and pieces of art-work housed inside.

Behind the gigantic windows sits what the Sheldon webpage claims is "one of the most important collections of 20th century

American art in the Midwest, particularly in the areas of Realism, Cubism, Modernism and Abstract Expressionism."

It also exhibits extensive print and photography collections and brings in approximately 20 featured exhibitions each year.

Dan Siedell, Curator of the Sheldon, said the gallery is open to anyone in the public to enjoy, but is especially there for University students.

The purpose of the gallery, according to Siedell, is to "provide an opportunity for students to engage directly with some of the finest and most challenging creative products of American Culture."

Despite all it has to offer, it can be assumed that many students will go through four or five years of college without ever stepping foot inside the building doors.

Siedell is aware of this, and said one thing he strives for is to bring in a variety of art that many students, if willing to take the time, can enjoy.

"We have to find ways to explore and engage students in different ways to make the gallery a more integrated part of



Sculptor Bruno Lucchesi's piece "Pieta," catches the weight of the afternoon sun Friday in the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery's Sculpture Garden. The work is from the 1972 Nebraska Art Collection.

Steven Bender/DN

their college experience," he said. The gallery isn't a place that you just go to once and try to take in everything, he said. There is far too much to absorb.

"I'd like to see students in there more often," he said. "They should find works they like and make it a part of their routine to come look at them."

As part of the attempt to keep attracting students, Siedell described this Fall as having a "very active exhibitions schedule."

July 21 through September 24 features the return of "American Impressionism from the Permanent Collection of the Sheldon Art Gallery."

The exhibition, which has toured six museums in the past two years, provides a look at the influence of French Impressionism on American art in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Also coming in July and being shown through September will be "Local Color II," which features the work of numerous local artists.

This includes trompe l'oeil paintings by Judith Cherry, con-

ceptual-object oriented work of Patty Gallimore, installation work of David Helm and expressionist figurative-abstract paintings by Larry Roots.

In another effort to show diverse work in the gallery, "Jam" by Lincoln native S.C. Wilson and Wichita, Kan. native John Gierlich will be shown Sept. 19 through Nov. 12.

"Jam" is a 21 panel collection of watercolors on ink paper originally exhibited in 1977 as part of the underground comic arts revolution.

These works provide a satirical look at many contemporary views in our society.

September 20 through Nov. 5 will feature the sculpture work of Conrad Bakker.

But the collection, titled "Art and Objecthood," is not a collection of typical artistic sculptures.

Taking everyday objects made out of wood, Bakker remakes and paints them, often times exaggeration their forms in the process.

Doing this, Bakker investigates the differences between whether something is "art" or a mere "object."

Wendy Katz, Assistant Professor of Art and Art History at UNL, looks forward to what will be shown at the Sheldon this Fall.

As an art professor at UNL, she said, "A great thing about teaching here is having this collection at the Sheldon to work with."

She said in the past, Dan Siedell has scheduled exhibitions that pertain to and correspond with the classes she is teaching.

"Dan has been great," she said.

"You lose a lot just looking at slides of art."

"You are able to see and develop a whole other set of ideas looking at them directly," she said.

If you are in one of Katz's classes, you are sure to see and utilize the Sheldon, but she encouraged all students to walk around and see what it has to offer.

"Art history allows you to understand the meanings behind art, but art can be appreciated on many different levels," she said.

"It is just a fun place for students to visit."

Live Mariachi Band
Every Thursday and Friday
6:30-8:30 pm

Happy Hour 8-10 pm
Monday - Thursday
Drink and Food Specials

Lincoln's Margarita and Tequila Headquarters.

803 Q St. 475-8226

We've got all the answers for back to school.

Computer
RENAISSANCE

New Custom Built Computers from \$499

Used systems from \$199 • Notebooks from \$199
Service-Upgrades-Networks-Accessories

330 North 48th Street • 465-4040

Store Hours: M-F 10-7 • Sat 10-6 • Sun 12-4

The Stuff You Want. The Service You Deserve.

Inject Some Excitement Into Your Workout

Cardio Kicks and Aerobic Kickboxing
Or Try our 'Super Karate' =
Taekwondo classes for Adults
(Beginner or Advanced).
Free Uniform with Trial Program

According to national surveys, aerobic kickboxing is one of the fastest growing forms of exercise among young adults today.

kickboxing teaches you how to defend yourself as you get in the best shape of you life. So if you're looking to breakup the boredom of you current exercise program while burning up to 800 calories an hour, then check out our Cardio Kicks classes for adults.

That's because it's an exciting, fast-paced workout and toning muscles. But best of all, aerobic It's the work out that packs a punch. Call now!

Longoria's ATA Black Belt Academy
We build champions
466-2433 • 66th and Holdrege

MEMBER: National Association of Professional Martial Artists