

## UF Students Take Top Awards in Contest

Four students from UF were selected as finalists for the Japan-American Society of Central Ohio's (JASCO) Japanese Language Speech Contest at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. They competed Saturday, March 7, and earned the top three awards at the contest.

To enter the contest, each student was required to write an original three-minute speech in Japanese, practice it and record it on tape. A manuscript written in Japanese also was required with each submission.

During the competition, finalists were required to deliver their memorized speeches in Japanese on a stage in front of an audience. That was followed by a non-rehearsed

question-and-answer session with the judges.

Sophomore computer science and Japanese major Nathan Lazor earned the grand prize; sophomore Japanese education major Jennifer Henry earned first place; sophomore English and Japanese major Craig White earned second place; and freshman TESOL and Japanese major

Kimberly Welenc also was a finalist.

"I enjoyed it a lot," said Lazor. "I tried to make use of what I had learned in my high school public speaking class to help me reach the audience, which was challenging and fun at the same time. Last year



*Nathan Lazor, Jennifer Henry, Craig White and Kimberly Welenc were finalists at the Japanese language contest.*

was my first year doing something like this, so this year I made sure that I learned from my previous mistakes and tried my best to represent The University of Findlay the best I could."

## Honors Program Offers Academic Challenge

The Honors Program will host the 3rd annual Symposium for Scholarship and Creativity (SSC) April 7, but the Honors Program does more than coordinate the annual event.

For some students, the program offers a higher level of academic and intellectual challenge than the typical undergraduate curriculum.

Beginning in the fall of 2008, Honors students have the option to enroll in Honors-specific courses. Previously, Honors students took extra course work through independent study. Specific

Honors courses allow students from a variety of majors to study a topic together and challenge each other academically.

Honors students must complete four Honors courses by the end of their undergraduate career at the University. A final project also is completed and presented at the SSC. Each Honors student works with a faculty member to develop and research his or her final project.

Students in the Honors program also are required to attend one luncheon each semester, during which they participate in breakout

sessions to talk about different aspects of the Honors program. Topics during the sessions may include qualitative research and how to utilize the library.

Students interested in the Honors program should visit [www.findlay.edu](http://www.findlay.edu), KEYWORD: honors, to learn more and complete an online application. A cumulative GPA of 3.5 must be maintained to remain an Honors student.

Those who complete the program are designated as Honors Scholars at commencement.

## Jazz Ensemble, Concert-Chorale to Perform

The UF **Jazz Ensemble** will appear in concert at **3 p.m. Sunday, March 29**, in Winebrenner Theological Seminary.

Under the direction of Jack Taylor, UF director of bands, the jazz ensemble will perform a variety of music from traditional big band swing to more contemporary jazz selections.

Senior Tim Moon will be the featured vocalist.

Table seating will be available as well as traditional auditorium style seating, and light refreshments

will be offered at no cost during the program.

Tickets are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for students and senior citizens and free for UF faculty, staff and students with valid I.D.

The UF **Concert-Chorale** will present “One World: the Choral Music of Mark Hayes” at **3 p.m. Sunday, April 5**, in Winebrenner Theological Seminary.

Tickets are free but required.

The 70-voice Concert-Chorale will present 14 pieces by Texas composer and arranger Mark Hayes.

The group is under the direction of Micheal F. Anders, Ph.D., professor of music. Sharon Vaas is the accompanist.

The concert will conclude with a dramatic setting of “America, the Beautiful” with narration by UF theatre major Tom Lalonde.

Featured soloists are Luther Mayfield, Lisa Ragland, Tyler Jacobs, Kevin Subler and Robert Braylock.

***Tickets for both performances are available in advance from the UF Box Office; call 419-434-5335. Tickets also will be available at the door.***

## Hernandez Shares ‘Green’ Experiences

Picture life without a refrigerator — and with no electric washer or dryer, no vacuum cleaner, and no lawnmower or weed whacker. Daily meals consist of fresh produce harvested in rich soil in your own backyard.

To some, this life may seem old-fashioned and unimaginable. To Catherine Hernandez and her family, this life is a very real and pleasant state of being.

Hernandez, a native of East Toledo and fourth grade teacher at Whittier Elementary School in Toledo, is an advocate for sustainable living.

Members of the Findlay Green Campus Initiative (FGCI) invited Hernandez to speak at UF March 17. Her program, “Greening Your Space: Toward a More Sustainable Dorm, Apartment, Home,” was subtly appropriate for the greenest holiday of them all: St. Patrick’s Day.

“The points of my presentation are things you hear a lot, you know, like ‘reduce, reuse, recycle’ . . . I want to focus on the importance of gardening and how to live a more sustainable life,” said Hernandez.

Hernandez presented the information with her daughter Ruthie, 7.

The presentation included a Power

Point slide show offering information and photos about the topic and Hernandez’s personal experience.

Hernandez credits the Rainforest Action Network (RAN), an organization self-described as “environmentalism with teeth,” with assisting her in choosing the green path.

Hernandez said that she and her partner, Steve, often challenge each other with new situations concerning environmental issues.

“Giving away our refrigerator was definitely the most difficult challenge,” said Hernandez.

Hernandez answered many questions and told audience members

that she and her family drink cow’s milk in the winter, soy milk in the summer, plan all of their meals and harvest many of the fruit and produce items most people buy in their local grocery store. Many food items also are purchased through a co-op.

“Your actions today will affect seven generations from now,” said Hernandez, referring to the Great Law of the Iroquois that states, “In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations.”

*By Hannah Wurm, communication major, Bucyrus*

## Theatricks Tickets Available

Theatricks, an Xtreme martial arts show starring five-time American karate champion Matt Mullins, will perform on campus at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 28, in Winebrenner Theological Seminary.

Tickets are \$5, available at the UF Box Office, located inside the Alumni Memorial Union. Call 419-434-5335.

Theatricks presents a fusion of gymnastics, acrobatics and

martial arts and has appeared on television shows such as “The Ellen DeGeneres Show” and “America’s Got Talent.”

The audience will recognize an array of characters as seen in blockbuster movies including “Star Wars,” “Pirates of the Caribbean,” “The Karate Kid” and “V is for Vendetta!” Theatricks debuted to a standing ovation at the Rialto Theatre in Illinois and is now touring the U.S.

# Campus Buzzing with Many Activities



A. Rösser Lee

The newest members of the University's Mortar Board honor society listen as Audra Dundore speaks.



M. Marrash

Dr. DeBow Freed and Valerie Kidd discuss her artwork during the senior art exhibit reception March 15.



A. Rösser Lee

Judy Holdener, Ph.D., talks about spirals during the 22nd annual Mathematics Day March 11.



M. Marrash

Broadway star Brent Barrett sings while Grammy-nominated Phil Reno accompanies him on the piano during "An Evening with Brent Barrett" March 15.



M. Marrash

The University of Findlay men's basketball team, ranked first in the latest National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) poll, advanced to the Elite Eight for the second time in school history with a dramatic 89-86 overtime victory against 18th ranked Bellarmine University on Tuesday, March 17 in Croy Gymnasium. Left, Morgan Lewis goes up for the basket.

## Elite Eight T-shirts Available Now

Support the Oilers by wearing a UF Elite Eight T-shirt, available now from the University Stores.

# Two Guest Lecturers to Discuss Evolution

The University of Findlay will host Jim A. McGuire, Ph.D., and David A. Strickler, Ph.D., in recognition of Charles Darwin (1809-1882) and his 200th birthday.

Darwin was an English naturalist who promoted the theory of natural selection. His theory is the basis of modern evolutionary theory.

**Strickler** will talk about the life and times of Charles Darwin (1809-1882), from **7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26**, in Malcolm Lecture Hall, located in the Frost Science Center on campus.

Strickler is a manager of coatings at Pilkington, a glass company in northwest Ohio. He received a B.A. in chemistry and math from Grinnell College and a Ph.D. from Harvard in physical chemistry. Strickler develops coated glass products for solar energy applications.

**McGuire**, curator of herpetology and associate professor at the

Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and Department of Integrative Biology at the University of California in Berkeley, will be at The University of Findlay March 30-31 to share his research.

McGuire will present a public lecture, “The Comparative Biogeography of Sulawesi, Indonesia: Fieldwork, Herpetological Diversity and Integrative Molecular Genetic Analyses in the Land of Alfred Russel Wallace,” from **6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 31**, in Ritz Auditorium, located in Old Main.

He also will speak with 10 students in a UF Honors course during a special dinner; offer a classroom presentation on campus; and give a research seminar at Bowling Green State University, titled “Diversification of Hummingbirds at Altitude: Physiological Challenges of Flight Shape Hummingbird Evolution at High Eleva-

tions.” The BGSU presentation will take place at **11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 31**, in the Life Sciences Building, Room 332.

McGuire recently has been studying the island of Sulawesi, which is an island of Indonesia located east of Borneo. Sulawesi was formerly known as Celebes. The island is believed to have been formed by the collision of terranes from the Asian Plate, the Australian Plate and from island arcs previously in the Pacific.

The unique joining of land masses produced four large peninsulas and an interesting mix of life – both animal and plant – with distinctly different species living on each peninsula, separated by mountains.

Students in the UF Honors Program invited McGuire to campus; the students currently are studying biological evolution in an Honors course.

# Faculty and Staff Members Worth Noting

**Natalie Abell**, Ph.D., and **Melissa Cain**, Ph.D., both professors in the College of Education, presented “Consider Your Style – A Customized Self-Assessment Tool for Teaching Effectiveness in Online Environments” at an eLearn conference in Las Vegas recently.

**Anne Beekman**, assistant professor of graphic design, presented “From Packaging to Apparel: The History of the Feedsack” at the Popular Culture and American Culture Association conference in Albuquerque, N.M., in February.

**Richard Smith**, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, participated in the annual conference of the Central Division of the American Philo-

sophical Association in February in Chicago.

**Smith** also attended the annual conference of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics in March in Cincinnati. He was a judge for the 15th Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl and served as moderator for a panel discussion on “Ethics and Critical Thinking Across the Curriculum.”

**Penny Soboleski**, assistant professor in the College of Education, co-presented “Snapshots of Reflection: A Comparative Study Between Graduate and Undergraduate Reading Practicum courses and Their Implications for Reflective Teaching Practices at the Candi-

date and Faculty Levels” in Dallas at the Association of Teacher Educator (ATE) Annual Conference.

**Soboleski** also co-presented “Teaching the Whole Child: A Data-Driven, Culturally Responsive Approach to Literacy Intervention” and presented “Home-Grown Leadership: Building Leaders in Reading via America Reads” at the same ATE conference.

**Scott Trimmer**, academic technology specialist, presented “Implementing ResponseCardXR Campuswide at The University of Findlay” this month at the Turning Technologies User Conference at Temple University.

FYI is published by the Office of Public Information. Send story ideas to Brianna Patterson, public relations officer, at [pattersonb@findlay.edu](mailto:pattersonb@findlay.edu) or call 419-434-4345.

If you know someone who has done something “worth noting,” on campus or within the community, send the information to [pattersonb@findlay.edu](mailto:pattersonb@findlay.edu).