

Dear Alumni,

I want to wish all of you a very Happy New Year and I hope you will consider making a resolution during 2006 to help the Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center Art Gallery.

I am writing to you not only as the Art Gallery Director but as a SUNY Fredonia alumnae and art gallery volunteer. During the spring of 2004 I volunteered my time to organize a fundraising exhibition of the work of American Impressionist artist Carl J. Nordell (1885-1955). This event inevitably broadened our audience base and promoted educational outreach while raising nearly \$2,500. I am honored to say that another SUNY Fredonia alumni has now stepped up to the plate. Thomas Waring of Waring Financial Group in Buffalo is credited with bringing "Norman Rockwell: The American Family Drawings" to our gallery as a kick-off event for initiating the the very first endowment for the art gallery. This exhibition will be made possible through the generous loan of 40 original Norman Rockwell drawings from the private collection of Massachusetts Mutual Insurance. Please mark your calendars for this special event scheduled to open on Saturday, June 17 through June 25, 2006. Tickets will be available beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> through the central box office at 716-673-3501.

The Art Gallery is undergoing many subtle positive changes as it struggles to promote itself as a rich cultural resource for SUNY Fredonia students, faculty, community members and the region at large. The Art Gallery still remains the only unendowed art space on the SUNY Fredonia campus with a small percentage of the annual Friends of Rockefeller Arts Center Fund supporting exhibit expenses. We are actively seeking a sizable donation to secure support for future programming and officially designate a name for the gallery.

Please consider giving back to the university in a meaningful way by establishing an individual endowment. An endowment is a permanent fund that will exist in perpetuity, with the principal preserved and an annual income available for expenditure. Endowment funds are invested by the Fredonia College Foundation with the goal of providing both annual expenditures and appreciation of the principal. It takes \$10,00 to fully endow a fund. An individual can initiate and name an endowment with \$2,000 and secure remaining payments over a period of four years.

If this level of giving does not work with your current finances then please join me and other classmates by contributing to the SUNY Fredonia alumni art gallery fund. As mentioned earlier, the proceeds from the Norman Rockwell exhibit will start the art gallery endowment. If you choose to become a donor you will have the ability to make additional contributions at any time. Gifts of cash, securities, real estate, life insurance and bequests can be directed to this special fund. I have enclosed a form to be completed and returned with your contribution made payable to Fredonia Foundation—art gallery. Gifts made by credit card are also acceptable with a \$25 minimum.

I want to thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of the art gallery. If you should have any suggestions regarding other fund raising events or questions about become a donor for the gallery, please feel free to contact me at 716-673-4897 or via email at [spannjm@fredonia.edu](mailto:spannjm@fredonia.edu)

Most Sincerely,

June Miller-Spann  
Art Gallery Director