

## IU Honors College Fall 2004 Extracurricular Programs

2004-05 Series

# Asking the Tough Questions

Sign-ups for small-group programs will begin at **7:30 a.m.** on **Wednesday, Sept. 22.** (See page 2 for instructions.)

*The fall calendar includes an evening at the opera for a performance of La Bohème, an evening at the theatre for Dracula, and an evening at the Honors College in which students and faculty can test their powers of perception in the game of Set. It opens with an occasion to welcome and talk with college students from the University of Namibia and continues with a series of programs focused on this year's extracurricular programming theme: Asking the Tough Questions. We especially hope you will join us on October 7 at the fall student/faculty keynote program, "What Are the Tough Questions?"—both to wrestle with that question and to help develop ideas for second-semester programming.*

**Mon., Sept. 27**

**Welcome! The UNAM (University of Namibia) Choir**  
**7:30 p.m., Grand Hall, Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center.**  
**Refreshments served.**

The UNAM (University of Namibia) Choir has been wowing audiences around the world, from heads of states at official gatherings to the crowds that gather around impromptu performances in airports and malls. Whether in Scotland, Germany, the United States, or at home, these talented and enthusiastic college students have been bringing audiences to their feet and inspiring crowds to break into dance. They perform in all the languages of the southwest African nation of Namibia, including German, English, Afrikaans, and indigenous languages, and draw on their country's rich cultural rituals and dance traditions. We invite you to see them perform and to meet informally with them afterwards to talk about their music, their country, their university, and their impressions of the United States. The event is co-sponsored by the Honors College, the African American Arts Institute, the Wells Scholars Program, the Office of International Programs, and the African Studies Program. *Everyone is welcome!*



**Fri., Oct. 1**

**An Evening at the Opera: *La Bohème*—with a pre-performance talk by music critic Peter Jacobi.**  
**6:30 p.m., Musical Arts Center. Refreshments provided.**  
**Tickets: \$10 each. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

The IU Opera Theater season opens with an audience favorite. *La Bohème* tells the bittersweet stories of young artists, writers, friends, and lovers in the Paris of the 1830s. Adapted from Henri Murger's *La Vie de la Bohème (Scenes from Bohemian Life)*, which also inspired the musical *Rent* and the movie *Moulin Rouge*, the opera was composed by Giacomo Puccini, whose extraordinarily beautiful music captures the gaiety of Bohemian café life, as well as the excitement, jealousy, and sadness passionate love can bring.

Peter Jacobi, music critic and columnist for *The (Bloomington) Herald-Times*, has written for *The New York Times*, the *Chicago Daily News*, *Opera*, *Symphony*, and a wide range of other publications. He is a

professor emeritus in the IU School of Journalism and a former chair of the Indiana Arts Commission.

## SERIES KEYNOTE EVENT



**Thurs., Oct. 7**

**Student/Faculty Discussion: “What Are the Tough Questions?”  
7:15-9 p.m., Georgian Room, IMU. Refreshments served. **SIGN-UP  
REQUIRED.** (You may sign up for this program and an additional “first  
choice” program. See page 2 for details.)**

Is your food safe to consume? Is it possible to win the war on terror? Will this century be known as the China Century? How would a discovery of life on another planet impact you? What are the issues that concern you, and the world at large? What are the pressing questions at the heart of your field of study? What questions would you like to tackle in HC extracurricular programs next semester?

Join your fellow IU undergraduates as well as professors from the Honors College and other departments for a conversation about questions.



**Fri., Oct. 8**

**An Evening at the Theatre: From *Dracula* to *Fear Factor*: What Can  
the Arts Tell Us About our Fears?**  
7 p.m., dessert and discussion at Honors House, 324 N. Jordan.  
8 p.m., performance of *Dracula* at Ruth N. Halls Theatre.  
Tickets: \$10 each. **SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

What are we afraid of? Join Richard Burke, actor, Honors College faculty member, and professor emeritus of telecommunications, in a discussion of what we fear and how the arts have been used to address those fears. After the discussion and dessert, attend a performance at the nearby Ruth N. Halls Theatre of *Dracula*, a recent play by Steven Dietz that provides a modern take on Bram Stoker's classic 1890 vampire novel. Dietz's play blends humor and horror to explore fear, faith, passion, and our belief in science without, as one preview notes, “sacrificing the lifeblood of [Stoker's] original story” of the vampire from Transylvania.



**Thurs., Oct. 14**

**Pizza Discussion Supper: “Are We Alone? The Search for Other  
Planets”—with astronomer Geoffrey Marcy of the University of California  
at Berkeley.**  
5-6:30 p.m., Harlos House, 1331 E. Tenth. **SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

Is there life elsewhere in the Universe? Geoffrey Marcy and his team of planet-finders have discovered most of the more than 100 extra-solar planets that have been found to date, and he is credited with creating a new branch of astronomy. In studying the physical characteristics of planets and their solar systems, he has, as an IU faculty member has observed, “opened the imaginations of people throughout the globe with his visions of worlds beyond our own.”

Described as a gifted lecturer as well as an outstanding scientist, Professor Marcy has received many awards, including *Discover* magazine's 2003 Space Scientist of the Year and the Carl Sagan Award for his contributions to public understanding of science, and has appeared on such programs as NBC's *The Today Show*, CBS *Nightly News*, and the *Late Show with David Letterman*. The supper is co-sponsored

by the Honors College and the Wells Scholars Program.

**Professor Marcy, on campus as a Patten Lecturer, will deliver his first lecture on “Planets, Yellowstone, and Prospects for Life in the Universe” on Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 7:30 p.m. His second, on “Hunting for Solar Systems with Earth-Like Planets,” will be Thursday, Oct. 14, also at 7:30 p.m. Both lectures will be presented in Rawles 100 and are free and open to the public.**



**Mon., Oct. 18**

**A Pizza Discussion Supper and Master Class with artist Robert Colescott. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Morgan and Monroe halls, Woodlawn Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Light supper provided. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

You are invited to participate in an informal master class with Robert Colescott, one of the world's leading contemporary artists, as he comments on the work of current IU students and talks about content, form, and technique, as well as inspiration, effort, and talent. Whether you are interested in being an artist yourself or in learning about the creative process, you will be welcome to add your comments, to ask questions, and to enjoy some pizza.

**Fri., Oct. 22**

**“An Evening with Robert Colescott”: A public conversation with artist Robert Colescott. 5:30 p.m., Fine Arts 015; followed by reception, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the IU Art Museum. Free and open to the public.**

What is the purpose of art? Is it to criticize modern social institutions, to create a snapshot in time, to allow an artist to express him or herself, or to invite the audience to reexamine themselves and their ideas? Robert Colescott does all these things and more with his colorful and often shocking paintings. Born in 1925 in Oakland, California, where his parents moved in their desire to leave the heavily segregated south, he eventually attended the University of California at Berkeley, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. He had an interest in international relations but recalls being advised that he could not expect to have a future in that field because he was African American. Instead, he was encouraged to study art, another area in which he had talent and interest.

Robert Colescott has become a provocative painter, famous for the satirical way in which he criticizes racism, often by replacing white figures from famous paintings with black caricatures or reversing black and white images from popular culture, as he did in his 1957 *George Washington Carver Crossing the Delaware: Page From an American History Textbook*. He taught for 43 years and retired in 1995 as the Regents' Professor of Art at the University of Arizona. In 1997, he became the first African American painter to represent the United States in a solo exhibition at the prestigious Venice Biennale. Professor Colescott will be visiting IU for two weeks as the Class of 1943 Wells Professor and will be participating in an Honors College course called Pressure Points: Contemporary Art that Challenges Us. At the reception, guests will be able to visit Pressure Points, a special exhibition of 54 prints by 23 artists, including Professor Colescott, on loan to the IU Art Museum from the renowned Schnitzer Foundation.



**Wed., Oct. 27**

**Pizza Discussion Supper: “Stereotypes, Identity, and Addictions”—with psychologist Claude Steele of Stanford University.  
5-6:30 p.m., Honors House, 324 N. Jordan. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

How much do group stereotypes affect individual academic and athletic performance? How much does stress contribute to alcoholism and addictive behaviors? The work of Claude Steele, a world-renowned psychologist and the Lucie Stern Professor in the Social Sciences at Stanford, has revolutionized the way social scientists think about stereotypes, prejudice, addiction, self-esteem, and other phenomena of pressing social concern. He is perhaps most noted for his research on *stereotype threat*, which is a phenomenon that often leads people to perform poorly on a task due to a fear of and preoccupation with inadvertently affirming a negative stereotype about a group to which that person belongs. This, Professor Steele has shown, can cause capable students to under perform on examinations such as the SAT.

For his ground-breaking, influential work, Professor Steele has won prestigious awards from the American Psychological Association and the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, among others. He has also received honorary doctorates from Yale and Princeton universities, and the University of Chicago. His papers have been published in numerous scholarly journals and are among the most cited articles by psychologists worldwide. His research and writing have had a significant impact on education policies and practices, as well as on law and public policy.

**Professor Steele, on campus as a Patten Lecturer, will deliver two public speeches, including “The Predicaments of Our Social Identities: How They Shape Intellectual and Athletic Performance, as well as the Quality of Life in a Diverse Society,” on Monday, Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m. in Rawles 100 and “The Predicaments of Our Social Identities: How to Overcome Their Ill Effects” on Wednesday, Oct. 27, at 7:30 p.m., also in Rawles 100.**

**Thurs., Oct. 28**


**Student/Faculty Pizza Discussion Supper: “Why Vote for George Bush? Why Vote for John Kerry? Truth, Lies, and Politics.”  
5:30-7:30 p.m., Honors House, 324 N. Jordan. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

Have you been inundated with ads from Bush, Kerry, and independent groups? What did you learn from those ads about the issues? If you are from a “shoe-in” state, you may have seen few, if any, ads. Have the media given you the information you need to make a choice? Who is responsible for making certain you get the truth . . . in context? In this program, Professor Amy Reynolds of the IU School of Journalism and Jim Parham, vice president of the marketing agency Hiron & Company, among others, will join us to take a look at this year’s presidential campaign, the ads and the coverage, and will challenge you to identify the truly relevant issues and to discuss the facts that are essential to casting your vote on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Wed., Nov. 3**


**Student/Faculty/Journalist Discussion: “Should this Picture Be Published?”  
6:30-8 p.m., Honors House, 324 N. Jordan. Dessert served. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

So much of the news is about death, destruction, violence, and scandal that the images that capture the news can test the consciences of photographers and editors and affront the sensibilities of the public. How do photographers decide what pictures to take? How do editors decide which ones to publish? And what do you think of their decisions? Join IU journalism Professor Steven Raymer, a former *National Geographic Magazine* staff photographer who continues to photograph the world, and Bob Zaltsberg, who as editor of *The (Bloomington) Herald-Times* has faced many tough decisions, to discuss and debate which pictures are appropriate, even necessary, and which too gruesome, too intimate, too revealing, too intrusive.


-  **Mon., Nov. 8**      **Student/Faculty Discussion: “Ethical Dilemmas: Facing Tough Questions Every Day”—featuring student facilitators from IU’s National Champion Ethics Bowl Team.**  
**7-9:15 p.m., Honors House, 324 N. Jordan. Refreshments served. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

*Should concerns about national security override an individual’s right to privacy? Can children serve as translators for their ill, non-English-speaking parents in medical settings? Who gets the right to use water when there is not enough of it to go around? Should schools allow students to leave class for sexual and reproductive health appointments without parental consent?*

Our society and each of us face tough ethical questions every day. Do you have answers to those questions? Can you persuade others, especially those who have different answers, that you are right and your arguments relevant? Ethical cases with questions such as those noted above will be explored, and debated, at this informal discussion program with the guidance of students from IU’s National Champion Ethics Bowl Team. Also participating will be Karen Hanson, dean of the Honors College and professor of philosophy, and Richard Miller, director of the Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions and professor of religious studies.

-  **Wed., Nov. 10**      **Set – For the Fun of It!**  
**7-8:30 p.m., Honors House, 324 N. Jordan.**  
**Dessert served. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

Come have fun Honors College style! Over dessert, groups of IU faculty and students will contend to win games of Set. In Set different kinds of thinkers can apply their particular skills and modes of cognition to the same game in order to be successful. (The game consists of 81 cards, each with a different combination of four properties: shape, color, shading, and number. You can check it out at <http://www.setgame.com>.) The evening will give you an opportunity not only to get to know IU faculty and other students but also to explore some of the artistic, mathematical, and philosophical ideas at the heart of the game. Among the faculty participating will be Ed Comentale from English, Shehira Davezac from fine arts, and Jonathan Weinberg from philosophy.

-  **Tues., Nov. 16**      **“Under Pressure?”: An Interactive Gallery Session Exploring through Art the Challenges and Stresses of Contemporary Life—with Curator Ed Maxedon and museum staff.**  
**6-8 p.m., IU Art Museum. Dessert Served. SIGN-UP REQUIRED.**

The focus of this after-hours program at the IU Art Museum will be on selections from *Pressure Points*, a special Fall 2004 exhibition of 54 prints, by 23 artists, on loan from the renowned Schnitzer Foundation. Some of the images are playful, while others are more disturbing. All have been created in the past seven years and “dare the viewer to think, question, and react,” as one commentator has noted. Participants, together and in small groups, will explore how these contemporary artists have used the language of art to convey identity, to face memories, to challenge stereotypes, to question reality, to interact with popular culture, to engage social and political issues, and to cross artistic, social, and personal borders.