LINCC Photography Contest
by Breanne Timura '12

LINCC (Linking New London and Connecticut College Communities) was created by Holleran Center for Public Policy and Community Action scholar Jesse Meadow '08 in 2007. As part of the club’s mission to strengthen the bond between the college and city, LINCC has held annual photography contests to allow students to capture New London and Connecticut College’s relationship through the lens of a camera.

To continue the tradition, this year’s photography contest was held in conjunction with Connecticut College’s Centennial celebrations in the Provenance Center. Entitled “CONNECTIONS: Connecticut College & New London,” the exhibit features student entries, faculty submissions, works by Professor Ted Hendrickson, and a historical collection from the College’s Linda Lear Center for Special Collections and Archives.

The evening of Saturday, January 29th proved to be busy for downtown New London. Connecticut College students and New London residents came together to view the opening night of CONNECTIONS, as well as “Take the Stage,” a 12 hour performing arts talent showcase at the Garde Art Theater.

“Escaping the “Ivory Tower” Syndrome: Academics as Actors of Social Change”
by Elizabeth Barnett '12

“But Liz, why do you want to be stuck up high in an Ivory Tower your entire life; away from the problems that you care so much about?!” is the common, yet still irritating response I receive when I tell family and friends about my future career goal of becoming an educator in higher education. Why is it that many people believe that academics serve no important role as initiators and influencers in positive social, political, and cultural change? Possibly, they have yet to be exposed to the educators and their scholarship that effectively work to inspire and bring about change, and consequently have no respect for such work.

An embodiment of social activism through scholarly engagement is the current Afro-Mexican social justice movement. As the focus of my Senior Honors Thesis, Afro-Mexicans represent one of the most marginalized and neglected ethnic and racial groups throughout Mexico. This is partly because Mexican national discourse on race relegates blackness into something foreign and separate from what it means to be Mexican, and subscribes to racial ideologies of white superiority and black inferiority. Due to the stigma of slavery and the belief in the inferiority of African slaves, the African presence and contributions to Mexican national identity were left out of the national identity discourse. The popularly held belief that there are no blacks in Mexico allows for obvious anti-black racism to persist unquestioned.

And so the question remains: How can we escape the “Ivory Tower” Syndrome? As educators, how can we continue to make our voices heard in our communities? How can we continue to bring about real change in our world? These are the questions I hope to continue to answer through my future career as a public educator.
and “XXXII Salon des Indépendants Art Festival” at the Hygienic, with artwork from hundreds of community members – the only guidelines being “one piece per artist: no judge, no jury, no fees, no censorship.” Those who attended the opening night of CONNECTIONS were invited to vote for their favorite student submission. Grace Griffin ‘14 won first place, and Andrew Nathanson ‘13 placed second and third. In addition to voting, guests listened to music by local band Matzah Cigar and enjoyed hors d’oeuvres from downtown restaurants.

The exhibit will be on display through March 1st. For more information about the Provenance Center, viewing hours, and upcoming special events, please continue reading.

Provenance Center
165 State Street, New London
860-405-5887
Exhibit hours:
Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Fridays noon - 3:00 p.m.

The third annual Relay for Life will be taking place at Connecticut College on April 15th-16th. Relay for Life is the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society and provides a chance for the college community to come together in the fight against cancer. Groups of students, faculty and staff form teams to participate in the overnight event, which takes place on the college green and features food, games, prizes, and performances, as well as chances to honor the survivors in our community and to remember those we have lost. In the past two years, we have had over 400 participants annually and raised over $100,000 in total for the American Cancer Society. Learn more and sign up at www.relayforlife.org/conncoll to help create a world with more birthdays. Please feel free to contact the planning committee with any questions: relay4life@conncoll.edu.

AmeriCorps*VISTA

Potential Opportunities through Connecticut College OVCS:

- 5 summer positions
- 2 full time positions

For more information, contact OVCS at extension 2458 or stop by the office in Crozier-Williams room 217.
Please join in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 1911 fundraiser that brought Connecticut College to New London.

Date: Tuesday, March 1, 2011

Location: Harris Building Atrium
165 State Street
New London, CT 06320

Time: 5:00-6:30 PM – hors d’oeuvres, a cappella music and a Centennial photo exhibit
5:30 PM – short speaking program

Shuttle: 3:30-7:00 PM - from Cro to downtown and back to campus
Connecticut College OVCS Mentor Programs and Project Kids, Books, & Athletics

Connecticut College OVCS Mentor Programs and Kids, Books, & Athletics (KBA) promote academic excellence, physical fitness, overcoming challenges, learning new skills and having a lot of fun. The programs, collaborations with New London Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School, meet Monday through Thursday and OVCS collaborates with the Athletic Center to integrate the resources of the Athletic Center and Dayton Arena.

Connecticut College students join Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School students in learning how to ice skate at the College’s Dayton Arena and how to scale the rock wall in the Athletic Center.

A Connecticut College student learning to skate with Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School student in the KBA program

College student mentors and middle school mentees from the REACh mentor program pose following an afternoon of skating at Dayton Arena

Two SISTER mentees climb the rock wall in the college’s Athletic Center

Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School students skating in a Conga line during a KBA session

Community Learning is published by the Connecticut College Office of Volunteers for Community Service

Tracee Reiser, Associate Dean of Community Learning, Director OVCS
tracee.reiser@conncoll.edu, ext. 2105
Michael Boswell, AmeriCorps*VISTA, Education Outreach and Environmental Coordinator
mboswell@conncoll.edu, ext. 2958
Visit OVCS at http://www.conncoll.edu/offices/ovcs
P: (860) 439-2458; F: (860) 439-5408