



# MIAD Faculty News



“ Being a photography professor at MAID has allowed me to combine my two greatest passions in life:exploring and exhibiting my images of people involved in everyday life, and sharing my love of the media with young future photographers” -*Al Balinsky, photographer, educator.*

**Professor Al Balinsky, who founded the MIAD Photography Major Program** when he came to our college in 1980, is retiring at the end of this spring, 2011 semester. Al has also served as Dean of Fine Arts, Chair of Fine Arts, Faculty Chair, Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, and Photography Area Head during his 31 years of tenure at the College. He has been awarded three Sabbaticals and received the first Professional Development Grant funded by MIAD. Al is also the recipient of two Wisconsin Humanities Council/National Endowment for the Humanities, and a Wisconsin Arts Board/National Endowment for the Arts Grants. His photographic work has been shown extensively both nationally and internationally, and is included in the collections of numerous museums and galleries. Al plans on doing much upon retiring. He just doesn't know when he'll begin.



**Jan Feldhausen, Professor of Foundations,** received the **Master Educator Award** by FATE (Foundations in Art: Theory and Education) at the national 13th Biennial FATE Conference. This is a highly prestigious award and the first time an educator from an independent college of art & design has received the honor. The Master Educator Award recognizes individuals for their strong commitment and increasing contribution to FATE as an organization, dedication to foundation teaching and/or administration, capacity for innovation and a willingness to share knowledge with colleagues.

Professor Feldhausen with Barbara Jo Giorgio-Booher, chair of the FATE Awards Committee.

**Adjunct Writing Faculty, Lisa Goldman,** was hired as a full time producer at 88Nine Radio Milwaukee where she will attempt to balance creating copious amounts of radio pieces while teaching part time at MIAD and UW-M. MIAD and its students will be focused on in some of the community initiative pieces to air on the station.

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"You come to nature with all your theories and she knocks them all flat" -Henry Moore, sculptor.



Jon Horvath *Abstract Food Ritual #1: Oreo Wars*

**Jon Horvath, Adjunct Photography Faculty**, has recently participated in multiple local and national group exhibitions, including *PhotoMidwest* (Madison, WI), *Eye Candy: The Print Center Annual Auction* (Philadelphia, PA), and *Suburbia* (IHC Platform Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA). His piece, *Abstract Food Ritual #1: Oreo Wars*, will be included in the upcoming exhibition, *Game Show New York*, held at Columbia University in New York City. Horvath has also had work included in recent issues of *Wisconsin: People & Ideas* and *Cream City Review*, as well as having a photograph featured on FlakPhoto.com.

Students enrolled in **MIAD Adjunct Science Faculty Paul Engevold's** Limnology class, embarked upon a unique field trip experience to investigate the lakes of northern Wisconsin. Spending a couple of days at the Kemp Station, students had the chance to compare a more pristine environment to the highly urbanized aquatic habitats that the class has previously been studying in Milwaukee. Other activities included drilling holes in the icy surface of Lake Tomahawk, as well as performing nutrient analyses and identifying phytoplankton and zooplankton.

Integrated studio arts major, Dakota Whitehouse drills a whole through 30 inches of snow. Image by photography student Zachary Seib.



**Writing Professor Judith Harway's** story, "What We Don't Know," appears in the April/May issue of *The Bark* magazine. Affectionately known as "the New Yorker of dog magazines," *The Bark* publishes many highly acclaimed authors (including Ann Patchett, Augusten Burroughs, Amy Hempel, and Pulitzer Prize winning poet Mary Oliver), and boasts a circulation of over 250,000.

In May, **Judith and Foundations Professor Bruce Grudzinski** will lead a study abroad course based at the Burren College of Art in County Clare, Ireland. The dozen students enrolled will explore the theme of "Landscape and Memory" through readings in history, art, and literature; field trips and hiking in the Burren; critical and creative writing; and studio practice that will culminate in an exhibition at BCA in June and at MIAD next fall.

**Adjunct Writing Instructor Donna Tanzer**, contracted with Cengage Learning to write a chapter for the upcoming AP edition of *Perrine's Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense* (a major introductory college text now used widely for AP) and an AP edition of *Sound and Sense*, devoted exclusively to poetry. Donna's contract also includes writing 74 practice essay prompts for the larger text, 40 of which will also appear in *AP Sound and Sense*. **Donna** and a co-presenter, Martin Beller, Ph.D. will present "The Speaker in Poetry: Who Am I This Time?" in San Francisco for the Advanced Placement Annual Conference. They will also present a session on teaching Shakespeare's sonnets for the NCTE 2011 Annual Convention in Chicago.

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"Design is a plan for arranging elements in such a way as best to accomplish a particular purpose"  
-Charles Eames, designer.

The Industrial Design Society of America named **Adjunct Professor Jeremy Knopow** one of four 2010 Catalyst Award winners. IDSA's Catalyst Award is the industry's highest award for design's ability to affect positive social change. Prof. Knopow was awarded the Catalyst for his rapid development and implementation of a mobile shower system for rescue workers immediately following 9/11, providing over 110,000 hot showers for weary first responders. Knopow joins fellow winners including OXO Good Grips, the Toyota Prius, and Apple's I-Pod. Additionally, Knopow traveled to Roorkee, India, where he delivered a keynote presentation on "Design for Social Impact" at the Indian Institute of Technology, during Cognizance 2011, Asia's largest technical conference.

**Pascal Malassigné FIDSA, Professor of Industrial Design**, has for the fourth time served on the jury of the Medical Design Excellence Awards competition in Los Angeles. The MDEA, the most prestigious international design competition, is dedicated to promoting excellence in medical and diagnostic equipment design and is sponsored by UBM-Canon Communications. This year, a 12-person jury composed of biomedical engineers, medical equipment developers, surgeons, human factors experts and industrial designers reviewed 100 entries.

[www.canontradeshows.com/expo/awards/jurors/](http://www.canontradeshows.com/expo/awards/jurors/)

**Janna Wrench, MIAD's Adjunct Writing Instructor** presented "Uplift this Downtrodden Multitude: Lizzie Kander Black and the Purpose of the Milwaukee School of Trades for Girls" at the annual conference of the American Educational Research Association in New Orleans. This paper is the beginning of the exploration of Janna's dissertation subject: the cultural and social implications of a public trade school for girls during the Progressive Era.

**Shana McCaw, Adjunct Faculty in Foundations and Fine Arts**, and Brent Budsberg, 3-D Lab Supervisor, exhibited four large-scale photographs and two drawings in the gallery at the Lynden Sculpture Garden. They also created a daylong performance that resulted in a temporary outdoor installation on the sculpture garden grounds. The works were part of Lynden's "Inside/Outside" series.



McCaw and Budsberg, *Coal and Ice* performance/ installation 2011



**James Weyenberg, Communication Design Adjunct Instructor's** logo for his Crookedjaw Design & Illustration Studio, is featured in volume 6 of the Logo Lounge Series published by Rockport.

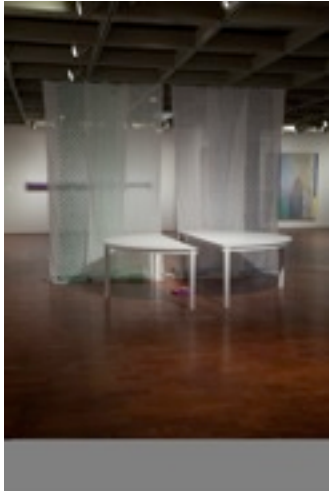
**Weyenberg's Typography I students** have developed the book *Type Stories*. Each student group was charged with creating a chapter of typographic explorations based on a short work of existing or original fiction. The collaborative nature of the assignment brought students together and opened up effective dialogue. The class utilized Blurb as a way to formally print and share the book which is available at:

<http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/2027567>

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“As soon as an artist fills a certain area on the canvas or circumscribes it, he becomes historical. He acts from or upon other artists” -*Willem de Kooning, painter.*

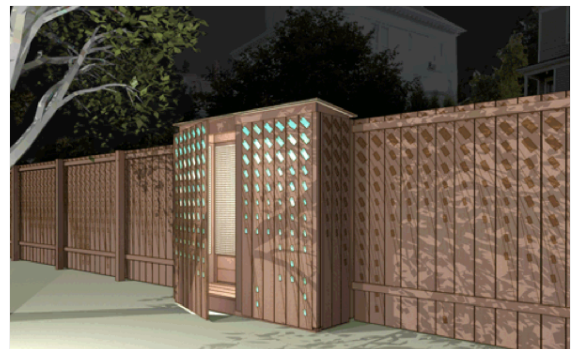
**Fahimeh Vahdat's, MIAD Professor of Painting and Printmaking**, large mixed media installation: “I am Iran I am America” was part Art of the Table exhibition at the Milwaukee Art Museum. This was one of Professor Vahdat's, an Iranian- American artist, first major installations to deal directly with her personal journey from Iran to America, as the political situation has gotten more intense since she lived in the US for the last 30 years. Dealing with the human rights abuses in Iran, her recent exhibit “Dreaming of a Free Iran” was geared toward creating dialogue among both the MIAD student population and young people in the community. She gave a lecture on the topic as part of the show's opening.



At MIAD, **Professor Vahdat** exhibited her recent work which deals with Human Rights abuses in Iran. Entitled “Dreaming of a Free Iran,” the show was geared toward the **MIAD student population** with the purpose to create dialogue among young people in our community. She was also invited to lecture during the International Human Rights Day in Madison at the Amnesty international Mid-West region last December. This coming June, Professor Vahdat will produce mono prints with national and international artists during her residence at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. She also will be an artist in residence at Redline-Milwaukee where she will bring her educational and artistic expertise to selected high school students and the community at large. Finally, Vahdat was awarded a yearlong sabbatical for the academic year 2011-2012 and is very pleased that Richard Galling, a Yale graduate and her mentee will teach classes while she is gone.

Vahdat, *I am Iran I am America*, installation at the Milwaukee Art Museum.

**Paul Mattek, Foundations Adjunct Instructor at MIAD** and Managing Member of the firm Design Fugitives, LLC has recently completed several new products including the “Butterfly Storage Fence” which was featured as a centerpiece at the Creativity Works Showcase held this winter at the Harley Davidson Museum.



This coming June, **Science Assistant Professor Maurizio Murru and Adjunct Faculty Paul Engevoid** will teach a pair of innovative, full immersion, concurrent Natural Science Field Experience courses: “Lakes of Northern Wisconsin” and “Forests of Northern Wisconsin”. These courses will allow students to apply in the field the theoretical knowledge gained in the classroom, with direct inquiry and hands-on activities and investigations that will culminate in peer-reviewed presentations.

This MIAD faculty report to the Board of Trustees is compiled, via submissions of full time and adjunct faculty, and edited by Natanya Blanck, Assistant Professor of Art History and MIAD Faculty Board Representative.

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Cover image: Al Balinsky, *Purepecha Woman*, 1975, Capacuaro, Mexico.