



Media alert

Sculpting the body; molding ‘the human side’ of doctors
With live model, MIAD sculpture prof teaches med students the Art of Medicine

PRESS RELEASE

Event: “The Body and Sculpture” for medical students
Date: Thursday, Feb. 22, 4 – 5:30 p.m.
Place: MIAD, 273 E. Erie St., Third Ward
For more info: Vivian M. Rothschild, Communications Director; 414.847.3239, cell, 414.507.7364; vrothsch@miad.edu.

Using a live model, MIAD Assistant Professor of Sculpture Will Pergl will lead students from the Medical College of Wisconsin in sculpting the human form in clay to bring a new perspective to their understanding of the human body. Thursday, Feb. 22, 4 – 5:30 p.m. at MIAD, 273 E. Erie St. 1st floor.

“The Body in Sculpture” session at MIAD is part of the MCW’s new Art of Medicine Through the Humanities program, which aims to bring back to the physician such qualities as empathy, communication and compassion in a fuller understanding of the medical professional.

The Medical College students will be joining the studio portion of Pergl’s Figure Sculpture class at Wisconsin’s only independent, four-year college of art and design.

According to Pergl, “Modeling a figure sculpture from direct observation of a live model will connect the medical students’ hands, eyes and mind in consideration of the human body as a whole. Looking and studying the body’s form in this holistic manner is a radically different approach to understanding the anatomy of the human body. This potent, sensory experience, coupled with exposure to artistic practices involving the body as subject, content and metaphor, will expand the way medical students see and perceive the body.”

Pergl, a partial amputee, will also draw on his personal history as it relates to body imagery in the discussion.

The Art of Medicine Through the Humanities program is a new elective open to fourth-year medical students. It is directed by Arthur R. Derse, M.D., J.D., director of medical and legal affairs and professor of bioethics and emergency medicine at the Medical College.

More information on the Art of Medicine Through the Humanities program is available from the Jan. 31 Lake Effect radiobroadcast at wuwm.com. Information about MIAD is available at miad.edu.

(Note: The model will be nude, but permission has been obtained for media presence. Media may arrive earlier than 4, but the clay-sculpting portion will be at its most photogenic after that time.)

MIAD is Wisconsin’s only four-year college devoted exclusively to the education of artists and designers. Founded in 1974, it is accredited to award the bachelor of fine arts degree in 11 majors. With 80 percent of its 2,000 graduates living and working in Wisconsin, the college contributes a “brain gain” to the state that shapes its creative and economic future.