

## Current Exhibits

**38TH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION** — Student artwork from over 25 high schools from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, **daily thru March 23**, John P. Weatherhead Gallery, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 497-0417

**ALAN MCLUCKIE** — Paintings, **Tuesday-Sunday thru April 16**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

**CREATIVE MOTIVATIONS: CELEBRATE IPFW ART/DESIGN FACULTY** — Exhibition of works by faculty of the Department of Fine Arts, Interior Design and Visual Communications and Design, **daily thru April 1**, Visual Arts Gallery, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 481-6705

**DECATUR SCULPTURE TOUR** — Features 20 sculptures on display, **daily thru May 31**, 2nd & Monroe Streets, Decatur, 724-2604

**DIANE GROENERT** — Works by Fort Wayne artist, **Tuesday-Sunday thru April 30**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440

**FORTSIDE STORY EXHIBIT** — All media exhibit in partnership with Wunderkammer, **Tuesday-Sunday thru April 16**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

**FUSION PROJECT WITH F.A.M.E.** — Various media, **Tuesday-Sunday thru April 16**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

**HIGH PLACES, HIDDEN SPACES** — Garden exhibit, **Tuesday-Sunday thru April 6**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440

**Ide's of ART** — Works by area, regional and national artists, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru March 29**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568

**LTD. ED. PRINTMAKING DEFINED** — Prints by Frank Bougher, Greg Coffee, Paul Demaree, Dan Hudson, Alan Larkin, Megan Moore, Katy Strass and Julie Wall Toles, **Tuesday-Saturday thru April 12**, Potters Wife Gallery, Fort Wayne, 420-8300

**NORMAN AND DIXIE BRADLEY** — Paintings and The Art Farm's found object furniture, **Tuesday-Saturday, thru April 12**, Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080

**PENNY FRENCH-DEAL AND KAY KOHLER** — Watercolors and baskets, **daily thru April 20** at First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 426-7421

**PONDS, RIVERS, LAKES & SEAS** — Water-inspired artwork, **Tuesday-Sunday thru March 31**, The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

**RANDALL SCOTT HARDEN: PARIS, LA TROISIEME FOIS EST UN CHARMÉ** — Forty impressionistic, Paris-inspired pieces, **daily thru April 6**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

**RED LOVE LETTERS** — Works by Beth Forst, Santa Brink, Karen Moriarty, Nazar Harran, David Buenrostro, Chas Davis, Vicki Junk Wright and Penny French Deal, **daily thru April 6**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

**SACRED CIRCLES** — Natural gems set by local artisans for use in Tantric meditation and mystic portal journeys, **Friday-Sunday March 28-May 4**, 3R Gallery, Fort Wayne, 493-0913

**To 'MY PLATE' AND BEYOND: ADVENTURES IN HEALTHY EATING** — Traveling exhibit featuring USDA's MyPlate healthy eating initiative, **Wednesday-Sunday thru May 4**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$8 (2 and under, free), 424-2400

**WABASH COUNTY SCHOOLS** — Student artwork, **daily thru April 30**, Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102

## Artifacts

**CALL FOR ARTISTS**

**PORTLAND CENTER OF ARTS PLACE** — Accepting proposals for 2- or 3-dimensional solo or group exhibitions running 4-6 weeks; deadline is **March 31**, lnewton@artsland.org, 726-4809

**AMERICAN CRAFT EXHIBITION** — Accepting original metal, glass, clay, textile and woodwork, deadline for submissions is **April 11**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**8TH ANNUAL EDIBLE BOOK FESTIVAL** — Dishes based on a book or a pun of a book title, **12-1 p.m.** (viewing), **1-2 p.m.** (sampling) **Monday, April 7**, Ivy Tech Northeast, Fort Wayne, 480-4176

## Upcoming Exhibits

**MARCH**

**LIGHT: CHANGING THE WAY WE CONSUME ART** — Digital art for HD televisions from world-wide artists, **Friday-Sunday March 28-May 4**, 3R Gallery, Fort Wayne, 493-0913

**SUSAN KLINE and KIMBERLY RORICK** — Whimsical art on wood and canvas plus clay sculptures, **Tuesday-Sunday, April 2-30**, The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

**JON BOWER: CAPTURING THE SOUL OF INDIANA** — Photography, **daily, May 3-June 15** (public reception **7 p.m. Tuesday, May 6**), Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102

**TERRY ARMSTRONG** — Wildlife and landscape watercolors, **Tuesday-Sunday, May 2-31**, The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

**APRIL**

**34TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PRINT EXHIBITION** — Hand-pulled prints, **Tuesday-Sunday April 25-May 28** (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Friday, April 25**), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

**38TH ANNUAL SOCA STUDENT EXHIBITION** — Over 500 art, music and performance-based works by students at the School of Creative Arts, **daily, April 5-27, 2014** (opening reception and awards **6-9 p.m. Saturday, April 5, 2014**), John P. Weatherhead Gallery, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 497-0417

**ARTLINK STUDENT ART** — Artwork created by children in Artlink's classes, **Tuesday-Sunday April 25-May 28** (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Friday, April 25**), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

**BFA EXHIBITION** — Senior fine arts BFA graduates exhibit senior projects, **daily, April 7-27** (artists reception **5-7 p.m. Thursday, April 10**), Visual Arts Gallery, IPFW, 481-6709

**BFA EXHIBITION** — Seniors graduating from IPFW's Department of Visual Communications and Design display senior thesis projects, **Monday-Saturday, April 11-May 18** (artists reception **6:30 p.m. Friday, April 11**), Jeffrey R. Krull Gallery, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, 481-6709

**MARK PHENICIA** — Spaceships from found objects, **daily, April 25-June 8** (artists' reception **Saturday, April 26**) at First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 426-7421

**SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS MASTERS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS EXHIBITION** — Annual showcase of artwork by graduate students in the School of Creative Arts Masters program, **Monday-Friday, April 5-27, 2014** (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Saturday, April 5, 2014**), Lupke Gallery, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

**TATTOO INVITATIONAL** — Tattoo art, **Tuesday-Sunday April 25-May 28** (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Friday, April 25**), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

**MAY**

**INTERIOR DESIGN SENIOR EXHIBITION** — Exhibition of works by graduating seniors from the IPFW interior design program, **daily, May 2-18** (opening reception **6-8 p.m. Friday, May 2**), Visual Arts Gallery, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 481-6705

**JON BOWER: CAPTURING THE SOUL OF INDIANA** — Photography, **daily, May 3-June 15** (public reception **7 p.m. Tuesday, May 6**), Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102

**TERRY ARMSTRONG** — Wildlife and landscape watercolors, **Tuesday-Sunday, May 2-31**, The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

# Just in Time for Spring

Is it spring yet?

I don't know about you, but I am ready to skip spring altogether for a summer vacation at the beach. And even though it's only mid-March, I got a little taste of that at the Arena Dinner Theatre production of *Dixie Swim Club*, making its Fort Wayne debut and running through March 29.

I call the play *Steel Magnolias* meets *Same Time Next Year*. It spans 33 years, following five Southern girlfriends from their college swim team who meet up once a year at a cabin in South Carolina for a weekend of gossiping and swimming. As the years go by, the women change but their friendship, even when strained, remains firmly intact.

Written by former *Golden Girls* writers Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, *Dixie Swim Club* is a heartwarming, laugh-filled confection of a comedy. It's nothing too thought-provoking or heavy, despite addressing some serious issues (illness, death, dementia) but feels more like a very entertaining, high-quality, two-hour sitcom.

The characters are "types," but director Suzan Moriarty has led her talented cast in bringing out their humanity.

Team Captain Sheree Hollinger (Rebecca Karcher) is the lovable control freak/health food nut. Her mung bean and anchovy oil hors d'oeuvres are a running gag (pun intended) throughout the play.

Dinah Grayson (Julie Donnell) is an aggressive, high-powered attorney who is never without a martini in her hand. She is wise and tough but has a soft side that is revealed later in the play.

Jeri Neal McFeeley (Jeanne Hanford) is the naïve member of the group. After graduation she became a nun, but she has a bit of a transformation throughout the years.

Lexie Richards (Regan Kreigh) is the self-absorbed beauty of the group. She has a new cosmetic surgery – and a new man – in each scene.

Vernadette Simms (Susan Domer) is the hard-luck case. Every time we meet her, she has a new injury or story about her run-down house and deadbeat family.

Several of the cast members are longtime friends themselves, and the chemistry shows onstage.

Karcher's performance is understated but natural, bringing energy and spunk to her role of Sheree.

As Vernadette and Lexie, Kreigh and Domer have by far the best lines in the show. The actresses are particularly well cast and well suited for the demands of their roles.

Kreigh conveys Lexie's narcissism while retaining her lovable nature, even when it is revealed she once tried to flirtatiously lick her friend's husband's ear.

Domer is genius at balancing deadpan pragmatism with sunny optimism. Her comic timing is impeccable and her monologue about biscuits is worth the price of admission all by itself. It brought the house down (so to speak).

The play may be funnier than even the cast expected it to be. On opening night, the audience's laughter rang out loud and long, and several times the actresses could have waited longer to speak their next lines.

The pre-show dinner, catered by Goeglein's, was, once again, highly enjoyable. French bread and a light spinach salad with mandarin oranges and walnuts started the meal, followed by Romano almond chicken over spinach fettucini and California blend vegetables, and assorted fruit pies for dessert. The lightly breaded chicken was excellent, although the mushroom velouté that topped the chicken was a touch salty for me (but I don't eat much salt). However, it was delicious, and it certainly didn't stop me from finishing it.

*Dixie Swim Club* is the perfect almost-springtime diversion to get you out of the house and into a public place again after a long winter.



## Curtain Call

JEN POIRY-PROUGH

**THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB**  
7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain  
Friday-Saturday,  
March 21-22 & 28-29  
Arena Dinner Theatre  
719 Rockhill St., Fort Wayne  
Tix.: \$35, 260-424-5622

jen@greenroomonline.org

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