

Meredith celebrates international week

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Staff Reporter

The Meredith International Association (MIA) began a week-long event to celebrate cultural diversity on campus last week.

"Quite a number of different countries were represented. We have members from Cuba, Honduras, Nicaragua, Japan, the list goes on," said Natasha Venema, MIA president.

On Monday, Jan. 25 MIA held their International Bake Sale from 10-11 am in the Cate Center. MIA members baked many desserts, from Dutch to Japanese. On Tuesday, MIA held an international luncheon for all the faculty and staff. The luncheon was held in the Oak Room of Belk Dining Hall and MIA members cooked the meals once again.

All in attendance were invited to taste the somewhat famil-

iar sushi, spanish rice and quesadillas and the not-so-familiar shrimp and oyster sauce, a Japanese dish; boren koel, a Dutch dish of potatoes and kale; and samosas, an Indian dish of potatoes and peas in a bread crumb wrap.

Members decorated the Oak Room with authentic tokens and relics of their native lands and dressed in native costumes.

On Wednesday, MIA hosted *Coffee with Friends* in 2nd Cate, where students could come to chat, eat refreshments and even make a few paper lobsters and birds by taking free origami lessons.

In Belk Dining Hall on Thursday, international foods such as shrimp fried rice and Oriental chicken were served during dinner. MIA set up an international display to serve as a symbol of diversity at Meredith and to inform students of

the different cultures represented on campus. Members displayed pictures and souvenirs from either their native lands or countries they had visited.

Venema was pleased with the turnout for the week. "We had a number of students who participated, which was nice because students got to see where everyone else comes from, and they got to see the different clothes of the countries," said Venema.

MIA is representative of any student who wishes to learn about other countries, explore the realms of cultural diversity or participate in ethnic activities.

"All international students are members of MIA, but it is open to all students. International business majors may find the club of interest," added Venema. MIA meets every Friday at 10 a.m. in Noel House.

Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of inclement weather, faculty, staff and students should call 760-2384 for the latest information on class cancellations and office closings.

When possible, the College will also run public announcements on 101.5 FM and WRAL Channel 5, and on the WRAL website at www.wraltv.com/contents/.

Delacroix named official artist of '99 World Games

PRESS RELEASE
1999 Special Olympics World Games

The 1999 Special Olympics World Games has honored Fabienne Delacroix—daughter and protégé of world-renowned French painter Michel Delacroix—by naming her the Official Fine Artist of the 1999 Special Olympics World Games, scheduled for June 26-July 4, 1999 in North Carolina.

Delacroix, famous for her "naif" style of art, will create three original paintings and a poster for the '99 Games. Her father was the official artist for the 1995 Special Olympics World Games, and, in 1997, donated his painting "The White House" to a Special Olympics unveiling in Washington, D.C.

According to Dr. LeRoy Walker, president of the 1999 Special Olympics World Games, "The commissioned paintings will commemorate this year's Games, and Fabienne Delacroix's wide recognition among art lovers will add an increased awareness of the hard work and dedication to the athletes who participate in Special Olympics."

Fabienne Delacroix's Official Special Olympics artwork will serve as a moving tribute to the triumph of the human spirit over adversity, capturing the spirit of the 1999 Special Olympics World Games. More than 7,000 athletes from 150 countries will travel to North Carolina this summer to compete.

Fabienne Delacroix was twice commissioned to create

the Official Poster for New York Knicks' John Starks' Celebrity Benefit and Golf Classic. The Knicks basketball star was so taken with her work that he called Delacroix "clearly one of the brightest young stars in the world today."

For the seventh annual Boathouse Rock Party in New York's Central Park, to benefit the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFar), Delacroix was commissioned to paint commemorative artwork which was auctioned to raise thousands of dollars for the charity.

Delacroix's exclusive worldwide publisher is the New York-based company Axelle Fine Arts. Her work is on permanent display at Axelle Fine Arts Galerie in Soho and at fine art galleries throughout the United States and internationally.

An Official 1999 Special Olympics World Games Gallery exhibition featuring her work is scheduled to take place in North Carolina to coincide with the '99 Games.

The 10th 1999 Special Olympics World Games will be the largest international sporting event in North Carolina history. Special Olympics is an international program of the year-round sports and athletic competition for more than one million athletes with mental retardation.

Former NBA star Michael Jordan is the honorary chairperson, and NBA player Grant Hill serves as vice chairperson of the '99 Games.

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