

CAMPUS LIFE

Outside the Gallery: A Down to Earth Kind of Art

Caitlin Griffin, Staff Writer

On Wednesday, January 27, one Honors art class had the opportunity to meet renowned land artist Patrick Dougherty. Dougherty weaves regenerative sapling tree branches together to make large-scale three-dimensional structures. Although Dougherty makes stick sculptures for a living, he humbly claims that he doesn't do it for the final product or the profit, but instead for the spiritual connection with nature that he forges through his work. "It's all about the rightness of being and the level of emotiveness that is achieved by interacting with nature," Dougherty remarks. "Often we don't know how to place ourselves in nature and begin to establish a real relationship with it. But nature is healing. It's resolution"

When asked how he generates ideas for new projects, Dougherty claims that he rarely plans a specific structural design before beginning. "One learns how to be creative with materials just by handling them," he states, "More repetition helps me gain a deeper spiritual connection with the materials. Handling sticks takes me to a different plane of being where I have profound clarity of thought. In this plane I can blend the imaginative with the practical; I start weaving without think-



photos courtesy of Patrick Dougherty

ing, and I see what my hands can actually do." Also unlike most traditional artists, Dougherty emphasizes the transcendent process of completing the sculpture over the final product. "I don't think about making mistakes while I'm working; instead, I try my best to channel that hysterical energy into productivity."

Perhaps the most refreshing change that Dougherty brings to the art world is his emphasis on the message of his work rather

than the work itself. "Since I use living materials, all of my works are temporary; the structures don't usually last more than two years. So I don't care about what happens to a structure after I finish. I just hope that while it stands, it provokes thought." If you'd like to know more about Patrick Dougherty and track his progress on future projects, visit his official website at <http://www.stickwork.net/>.

Upcoming Events

gathered by Kristen Gallagher

- Psychology Club: February 15th-21st- Pig Pickin' Tickets on Sale in Cate Center
- Kabuki Lady MacBeth through February 21 in Studio Theater
- Meredith vs. Averett University basketball: rescheduled for February 18
- Communication Club Meeting, Thursday, Feb. 18 at 3:30pm in the Comm Study Lounge
- History and Politics Club - Monday, Feb. 22nd at 10:00a.m. in Joyner 202
- Convocation: Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in Jones: Ellen Goodman Lecture
- Canaday Math and Computer Science Club. Join us to eat snacks and watch the hit show "Numb3rs" in the Bit Lab (SMB 264) on Wednesday, February 24th at 7pm
- MEA meeting, February 26th, 10am, 204 Harris
- Alumnae Art Exhibition Opening Reception: rescheduled for February 28
- It's time to start thinking about English Club t-shirts! Get your order in by March 1st! Contact hubereri@meredith.edu.

email any campus events to herald@meredith.edu for inclusion here

Show the Earth Some Love After Valentine's Day

Erin Etheridge, Staff Writer

Wondering what do to with your used Valentine's Day gifts and packaging that serve as thoughtful reminders of your beau, family members, and friends? Do not worry, for you are not alone! According to the United States Census Bureau's Valentine's Day fact page, located at <http://www.census.gov>, approximately 180 million cards will have been exchanged on Valentine's Day. However, instead of viewing this statistic in terms of the number of Valentine's Day participants, think about it as millions of opportunities to keep spreading the love by recycling.

Meredith College Sustainability Coordinator Laura Fieselman affirms, "Leftover Valentine's goodies can have so many reuses!" She suggests placing treats in a con-

tainer in your room or apartment as welcome gifts for visitors. Also, Fieselman encourages re-crafting cards and gift wrap for future use as packaging.

If you are the recipient of a ubiquitous gift card, check out Jasmin Malik Chua's March 23, 2008 article titled "Upcycle Your Gift Cards." In the piece, which appears on Planet Green's Web site, <http://planetgreen.discovery.com>, Chua recommends cutting used gift cards into small sections and gluing them on corkboard to make coasters.

On the other hand, the World Environment Organization's 2009 Valentine's Day tips concerning candy boxes and candy wrappers are perfect for those of us possessing a sweet tooth. Found at [\[www.world.org\]\(http://www.world.org\), these suggestions include recycling used candy boxes to wrap gifts, store craft and office supplies, make Valentine's Day decorations and cards for next year, and hold pictures and loose change. This organization also proposes assembling a festive lei out of candy wrappers that have been threaded together.](http://</p></div><div data-bbox=)

No matter how you chose to celebrate Valentine's Day, make sure to follow Fieselman's advice to "remember the 'ole reduce, reuse, recycle slogan." Our planet will thank you, and you may just discover some new green traditions in the process!

Campus

Announcements

The Office for First Year Experience is now accepting applications for Student Advisors. Applications are available in the Office (1st Cate) and are due there by 2/23 at 5 pm. Interviews will be held between 3/1 and 3/11. Contact Chrissie Bumgardner at bumgardner@meredith.edu with any questions.

Want to request that a book be added to the Library's shelves? You can request books, movies, and music via the "Add a Book" link on the left side of the Library's website (meredith.edu/library) or fill out a slip and put it in the suggestion box on the Circulation Desk counter. You can also tell a library employee or email library@meredith.edu.