

# ARTS &

## International Recognition for Meredith Art Professor

Lyn Triplett, Staff Writer

All institutions of higher education fight for bragging rights in some form or another— some through athletic competitions, some through building incentives, and others through the intellectual superiority of their professors. This philosophy is usually referred to as the “publish or perish” mentality. Therefore, Warner Hyde should be the darling of the marketing folks at Meredith College. His ceramic sculpture titled Brothers of the Deep will travel to 60 different countries over the next year.

Warner Hyde, full-time art professor at Meredith, was seeking an intellectual and artistic challenge in the summer of 2009. He responded to an e-mail from the U.S. Naval and Submarine Museum of Groton, Conn. The administrators were seeking an artist who could create a sculpture that “represented the patriotism, brotherhood, service, and sacrifice of the men who manned submarines in the post WWII era of the Cold War.” Sixty countries would be represented in the sculpture. An international committee comprised of elite Naval officers (both retired and active),

private citizens, and former submariners aided others in the long process of reviewing diagrams, drawings, and artistic statements of over 100 submissions. Hyde presented drawings, a 3-dimensional model, and a statement of purpose and vision to the committee. He was notified in December 2009 that he had been selected to create a ceramic sculpture for permanent display.

Hyde is very clear about his philosophy as a sculptor. He is an artist who is constantly looking to nature for inspiration and material and views himself as being a liaison between the elements of the earth and the energy of the spiritual forces that drive him to create his art. “When I let go of the human ego and let the forces of nature speak to my heart and mind, I find that I am capable of reconnecting with the creative forces of the earth and its raw elements,” Hyde says of his work.

This combination of raw energy and powerful beauty are evident in Hyde’s piece. He is a person who must create works that represent his personal and artistic philosophy. Recognized as an accomplished artist

in woodworking, wood sculpture, and ceramics, Hyde produces works that can be functional or artistic. His easygoing demeanor belies the complex skill and artistic maturity that makes his sculptures look and seem like child’s play. However, seriousness of the topic is reflected in his technical knowledge combined with his artistic vision to produce an exciting work of art. Brothers of the Deep successfully pays tribute to the impact these submariners had in maintaining peace between opposing countries.

Hyde researched the different styles of the international submarines and used their common shapes and structure to represent each of the 60 countries. The globe-shaped sculpture is 40 inches in diameter and five and a half feet high. Even though it is hollow inside, it still weighs about 400 pounds. Although his works are not realistic ren-

derings of the individual submarines, Hyde was surprised to see the service men identify the shape that best represented their ship. The globe-shaped sculpture, made of North Carolina clay, is on display in front of the U.S. Naval and Submarine Museum until the end of September. Eventually, it will be permanently housed at the U.S. Naval and Submarine Museum of Groton, Connecticut, but first it will begin an around-the-world journey to each of the 60 countries represented. Moreover, everywhere the ceramic sculpture is displayed, viewers from 60 countries will see not only Warner Hyde’s name but also his title: professor at Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C. Students and faculty can take pride in saying, “Well done, Mr. Hyde. Well done, Meredith College.”

### Ask Gigi

Dear Gigi,

I’m a freshman germophobe living in a dorm on campus. Every time I hear my roommate cough or sneeze, I freak out! I can’t stand living in an enclosed environment where bacteria are clinging to every surface, but I don’t have a choice. Besides using Clorox wipes on every single surface, every single day, from now until winter break, how can I stay happily germ-free this flu season?

Sincerely,  
Grossed Out

Dear Grossed Out,

Ahhh, the Clorox wipes...once upon a time, my freshman year roommate performed the same daily ritual! It’s a good, thorough precaution, but rest assured: there are easier ways to avoid catching the cooties this fall and winter. First, as elementary as it may sound, WASH YOUR HANDS! Clorox wipes won’t do much good if the hands that contaminate every tangible surface stay dirty. Notice that I used the verb wash, not sanitize—hand sanitizer is better than nothing when you’re in a bind, but it should only be used as a quick fix and NOT routinely, as frequent use of 100% antibacterial soaps and sanitizers actually encourages reproduction of resistant germs. Eat healthy, well-balanced meals with lots of antioxidants, and get plenty of exercise and sleep so as to strengthen your immune system. Label all of your individual kitchen commodities so that neither of you eats nor drinks after the other one. Lastly, keep your entire living space clean—not just YOUR side—because germs thrive in dirt and grime. And don’t forget to visit your doctor’s office or the Health Center here on campus to get your combined H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccine! Talk to your roommate about mutual implementation of these hygienic practices; as long as you cohabitate, it will take a dual effort to stave off sickness.

Yours truly,  
Gigi

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- 12 – 24: The Piano Lesson @ Raleigh Little Theater
- 14 – 26: Carolina Ballet’s Dracula @ Fletcher Opera House
- 14: Ainal, Brett Harris, and The Honored Guests @ the Pour House
- 15: Derzu Uzala @ NCMA’s Fall Film Series
- NC Symphony’s Rockwell Reflections @ Meymandi Concert Hall
- The Old Ceremony with Hammer No More The Fingers @ Kings
- 16: The Thermals with Cymbals Eat Guitars @ Kings
- 17: Vampire Weekend with Beach House @ Raleigh Amphitheater
- 21: The Merchants of Bollywood @ Memorial Auditorium
- Mount Moriah, Old Bricks, and Filthybird @ the Pour House
- The Love Language with Veelee and Laughing Man @ Kings
- 22: Hail the Conquering Hero @ NCMA’s Fall Film Series
- 23: Gray Young CD Release Party with Free Electric State @ the Pour House
- The Moaners, Embarrassing Fruits, and Grand Champeen @ Kings
- 26: Muse @ the RBC Center