Opening of the Peter London Papers and Art Education Symposium

3rd Floor Rotunda, Morris Library April 14-15

Thursday, April 14
4-6 p.m.
Official Recognition of the Opening of the Peter London Papers, reception, and keynote address by Peter London, Ph.D.

Friday, April 15
9-12 p.m.
Art Education Symposium

Sponsored by: Special Collections Research Center; School of Art and Design
Pam Hackbart-Dean, phdean@lib.siu.edu 618-453-1452

For more information on Peter London go to: http://www.peterlondon.us/biography
Opening of the Peter London Papers & Art Education Symposium, April 14-15, 2016

Come celebrate the acquisition and opening of the Peter London papers at Morris Library. Dr. London is an artist, Professor Emeritus from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and a Distinguish Fellow of the National Art Education Association. His professional and personal papers provide research value in the areas of art, philosophy and education—all areas of strength in our special collections. Please join us for the celebration and symposium.

April 14
Official Recognition of the Opening of the Peter London Papers

4:00 - 4:30  Reception
4:30 - 6:00  Welcome by Pam Hackbart-Dean, Director, Special Collections Research Center
Introduction by Josh Shearer, Vice-President, Southern Illinois Art Education Association
Talk by Peter London, Ph.D.

April 15
Art Education Symposium

09:00 - 09:45  Barbara Bickel, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Art Education
09:45 - 10:15  Thomas Alexander, Ph.D. Co-Director, Center for Dewey Studies
10:15 - 10:30  Break
10:30 - 11:00  Jon Davey, PhD, College of Architecture, Art and Education
11:00 - 11:20  Aaron Darrisaw, London Project Graduate Assistant, Philosophy
11:20 - 11:40  Patricia Rain McNichols, President, Spiritual in Art Education Caucus of the NAEA

Location: 3rd Floor Rotunda, Morris Library (Southern Illinois University Carbondale)
Art Education Symposium Shines Light  
by Zach Martin

“The college approaches art education with a broad brush...”

Education is not simply the “three R’s,” and a spring event supported by the COEHS sought to shine a light on a segment of the discipline many may overlook: art education.

A symposium held at Morris Library to receive papers from Dr. Peter London, an art educator for over 50 years, served as a way to not only increase the university’s portfolio, but assist art education students within the Curriculum and Instruction department connect with a leader in their field.

“[The symposium] was an opportunity to cross disciplinary boundaries on campus with Dr. London’s work as the central pivot point,” said Dr. Barbara Bickel, associate professor of art education.

Bickel said the university holds several collections of papers like London’s, used by scholars around the world for research. The addition of London’s work will allow graduate students and faculty of COEHS access to his writings on curriculum development and even personal correspondence with other art education scholars.

“Library archives are where future scholars can go to resurrect exemplar best practices,” Bickel said. “Dr. London’s papers are ones that we want to be able to turn to.”

Bickel said it is important for researchers in the field to be able to have access to collections like London’s because the “commodification” of art and art education has caused it to seem less important to the public, and London’s papers will help art education students change that perception.

“A restoration of the significance of the process of art as a form of inquiry and learning in education contributes to the making of a whole person and a healthy society,” Bickel said.

Dr. London’s papers will also be published on SIU’s Open Access journal Artizeín: Arts and Teaching Journal, available online starting in the fall. Artizeín can be found at: http://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/atj

COEHS approaches art education with a broad brush, requiring students to take courses in art history and studio practice as well as standard education courses, something Bickel said was important to creating successful art educators.

“Our teachers in training are encouraged to meaningfully integrate their art practice with their teaching practice and enter the teaching careers with their own emergent
and on-going questioning philosophy of art education,” she said.

Art education students also are required to integrate a community service and teaching component into their degree program, which include hands-on, collaborative teaching experiences with students in communities throughout the Southern Illinois region.

Ultimately the symposium and the introduction of Dr. London’s papers provide a unique and invaluable resource for the college’s art education students, allowing them to become the best possible teachers for the community.

“Our mission is to develop compassionate, innovative and engaged art educators,” Bickel said.