

View



A Weekly Publication of University of St. Thomas Office of Marketing Communications

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I Madonnari to Brighten UST Sidewalks

Come experience artistic minds at their best at the second annual *I Madonnari* Festival and Art Competition from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20. High school students from around Houston and UST students will be creating original artwork on the University of St. Thomas Campus Life Mall sidewalks. The community is invited to join the festive atmosphere of food, music and fun for the entire family.

The *Madonnari* – or Madonna painters – go back to the 1500s, when traveling folk artists, using brightly colored chalks, would copy paintings of the Madonna by Raphael, Michelangelo and other Masters onto the pavement of sidewalks or public squares in Italy.

Today, I Madonnari festivals

are held annually in Europe, Africa and the United States. The public is invited to view their artwork from conception to completion and enjoy the festival. The top three finalists will each receive a \$200 cash prize.

The University of St. Thomas will offer a \$1,000 scholarship for up to four years to any winner who is admitted and enrolls at UST. The three finalists will go on to compete on Saturday, Oct. 11 at the *Festa Italiana*. This event is cosponsored by University of St. Thomas Campus Ministry and the Houston Italian Cultural and Community Center.

I Madonnari Art Competition

- Time: 8 a.m. 5 p.m.
- Saturday Sept. 20
- Location: Campus Life Mall sidewalks

UST Jumps in U.S News & World Report Top-Tier Rankings

For the 15th consecutive year, the University of St. Thomas has been named to the top tier of the U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges" list of universities offering master's degrees in the Western region of the United States. UST currently ranks 24th in the 2009 rankings, up four places from the 2008 list.

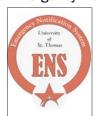
U.S. News & World Report surveyed more than 1,400 colleges and universities for its annual publication, and based its rankings on 15 widely accepted indicators of excellence. UST's low student-to-faculty ratio of 12:1, and the high percentage of freshmen

who were ranked in the top quarter of the high school their graduating class were key factors in St. Thomas' ranking.

UST is categorized among schools that provide a full range of undergraduate and master's programs, but few doctoral programs. University of St. Thomas offers eight master's programs and one doctoral program in philosophy. The 572 universities in this category are ranked within four geographic areas – North, South, Midwest and West – because these schools tend to draw students heavily from the surrounding states.

SAVE THE DATE

Emergency Notification System



The University will conduct a fall campus-wide test of the emergency notification system, Thursday, Sept. 18. If you have not updated your emergency contact information, please do so immediately at stthom.edu/ENS.

Chase Untermeyer Lecture



The Center for International Studies will present a lecture by Chase Untermeyer, the former United States Ambassador to Qatar, entitled, "Challenges Representing the United States in Today's World," at 6:30 p.m, Thursday Sept. 18, in the Ahern Room, Crooker Center.

Schlitterbahn-Galveston Trip



Join the Office of Recreational Sports for some fun in the sun at the Schlitterbahn water park in Galveston from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 21. The cost is \$15 and the deadline to register is Sept. 19. Call Jessica Domann at 713-942-5036.

"The Silk Road Excursion"



Jack Farrell, co-author of "Archery Traditions Along the Silk Road," will present "The Silk Road Excursion," at 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 21 in Anderson Hall. Farrell will showcase his research about ancient archery and show images from his journey.

"Photographing in Ireland"



The Center for Irish Studies will present a lecture by Irish photographer James Fraher entitled "Photographing in Ireland: A Photographer's Journey," at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday Sept. 24, in Cullen Hall. Fraher will share his experiences of photographing in Ireland over the past 30 years.

McLane Jr. to Recieve Leadership Award

Called by many of his peers a man of uncompromising principles and endless generosity

for his professional and philanthropic contributions to the city of Houston, Drayton McLane Jr. has been named the 2008 recipient of the Ethical Leadership in Action Award by

the Cameron School of Business Center for Business Ethics and the Greater Houston Partnership. He will be formally recognized at a luncheon Thursday, Sept. 25 at Union Station at Minute Maid Park.

In addition to his 15-year ownership of the Houston Astros franchise, McLane serves as chairman of the McLane Group, and is former vice chairman of Mal-Mart Stores, Inc. McLane's civic and charitable contributions include the United Way,

Children's Miracle Network, Boy Scouts of America and many other groups. He founded the

Astros in Action Foundation, which encourages Astros players to attend charity events and visit children's hospitals, as well as helping disadvantaged children to attend Astros games. McLane has also chaired Opportunity Houston, a \$40 million

Greater Houston Partnership initiative to generate 600,000 regional jobs.

The Ethical Leadership in Action Award honors an individual who has displayed uncommon leadership and social responsibility who has demonstrated great foresight; and who has benefited the City of Houston in a way that lives on in the community.

For more information, call Susan Bradford at 713-942-3436.

Gift News: Peavys Commit to Nursing

Thanks to the generous support of longtime friends and benefactors, Odis and Carol Peavy, the University is poised to reintroduce a nursing program. The Peavys, owners of PV Rentals, have committed \$2.5 million to provide oper-



ating support, establish an endowment fund and enable the University to begin a national search for a director of nursing.

Carol Peavy was a nurse and a St. Thomas Nursing School faculty member from 1980 to 1982.

University of St. Thomas

The Rev. William J. Young Soicial Justice Institute, the Office of Academic Affairs, the school of Arts and Sciences and Friends of Doherty Library

present

Catholics in the **American Political Tradition**



Thursday September 18

Panel Discussion on The Catholic Worker Movement: Intellectual and Spiritual Origins

Panel Discussion on The Catholic Worker Movement: Intellectual and Spiritual Origins Panelists Drs. John Hittinger, Brooke Deely and John Burke will discuss Mark and Louise Zwick's book, The Catholic Worker Movement: Intellectual and Spiritual Origins. The book is a tribute to journalist, social activist and pacifist Dorothy Day, as well as an examination of the influences which led to her conversion and to her particular approach to Catholicism.

7 p.m.

Anderson Hall

3913 Mt. VernonDoherty Library exhibit on the Catholic Worker Movement from Sept. 15 - Oct. 3.



Wednesday, October 1

Is There a "Catholic Vote" and Should There Be?

Dr. Clarke Cochran, Vice President of Mission Integration, Covenant Health System in Lubbock, Texas is a retired Texas Tech professor of political science who specializes in religion and politics, political philosophy and healthcare policy. In his talk Cochran proposes a way through the maze of contending arguments about Catholics and political life.

7:30 p.m. Jones Hall 3910 Yoakum Blvd.



Thursday, October 23

John Courtney Murray and American Politics

Fr. John Allen, STB, Dean of Men and Director of Pastoral Formation, Pontifical College Josephinum will explore the contributions of John Courtney Murray, SJ, (1904-1967) to American civil discourse and to Catholic theology. Fr. Allen teaches graduate courses in American Catholicism, Church-State Relations, and the Documents and History of the Second Vatican Council.

Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center

4000 Mt. Vernon



Wednesday, October 29

The Five Wars in Iraq: How Do We End Them?

Fr. John Langan, SJ, will discuss The Five Wars in Iraq: How Do We End Them?

Dr. John Hittinger, VPAA and Sr. Ceil Roeger, O.P. will serve as Respondents.

Fr. Langan is the Rose R. Kennedy Professor of Christian Ethics, senior research scholar

at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics and professor of philosophy at Georgetown.

7:30 p.m.

Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center

4000 Mt. Vernon

Event co-sponsored by Jesuit volunteers and Strake Jesuit College Preparatory.

For more information, contact Deborah Fernandez at 713-525-3812.



Catholic Studies Film Series

View and discuss the second of four films by Hollywood producer Stephen McEveety shown on campus before his Oct. 10 Miller Lecture speech. A screening of "Braveheart." will



be shown at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 15, in the Doherty Library Room 009, followed by a discussion with Claire McDonald, Associate Professor of Fine and Performing Arts.

Contact Sr. Paula Jean Miller, FSE, at 713-525-6989.

View and discuss the third of four films produced by Hollywood producer, Stephen McEveety shown on campus before his Oct. 10 Miller Lecture speech. A screening of "The



Man Without A Face," will be shown at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23, in the Doherty Library Room 009, followed by a discussion with UST Chaplain, Father Michael Buentello.

Contact Sr. Paula Jean Miller, FSE, at 713-525-6989.

Star View is published by the Office of Marketing Communications as a means of informing the UST community about University and campus news.

Call 713-525-3116 with questions and/or comments.

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Stephen McEveety Explores "Faith in Film"

ephen McEveety

Don't miss the chance to hear Hollywood producer Stephen McEveety speak about "Faith and

Film" at the 2008 Archbishop J. Michael Miller lecture 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10 in Jones Hall. McEveety is a two-time winner of the Director's Guild of America Award and has produced many films including *Bella*, *Passion* of the Christ,

Braveheart, We Were Soliders, Trip to Bountiful, Immortal Beloved, Payback, What Women Want and The Man Without a Face.

McEveety, a Roman Catholic, is vocal about his own pro-life views. To make a difference in politics and to put Catholic values in the public square, he serves (along with Robert George, the inaugural Miller lecturer) on the National

Advisory Board for the The Catholic Association (TCA). McEveety launched Mpower

Pictures whose first release was the Toronto Film Festival Awardwinning *Bella* to create, "high-impact, socially relevant film productions and to take risks on film projects others in Hollywood wouldn't consider."

"Being a Catholic is now playing a larger role in how I approach projects. I'm really fascinated with the question of what is good or evil – in film, in life," McEveety says. "And that definitely comes from being Catholic."

The lecture is sponsored by UST's Catholic Studies Program and the Departments of Drama and Communication.

UST Gets First Look at Stoning of Soraya M.

The University of St. Thomas community will have the rare opportunity to attend a premiere viewing of *The Stoning of Soraya M* at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28 in Doherty Library Room 009. Following the film, Sister Paula Jean Miller, FSE, will lead a discussion.

Produced by Stephen McEveety's production company MPower Pictures, *The Stoning of Soraya M* is based on a true story told in the internationally best-selling book by Freidoune Sahebjam. The fiercely emotional and thought-provoking film is set to be released in November and has

already garnered attention in the industry as an official selection at the Toronto International Film Festival.

According to MPower press materials, Jim Caviezel (known for his portrayal of Jesus in *The Passion of the Christ*) plays a French journalist stranded in a remote Iranian village. He is approached by Zahra, a woman who has a harrowing tale to tell about her niece, and tragic circumstances of her death the day before. The last and only hope for some measure of justice lies in the hands of the journalist who must escape with the story – and his life – so the world will know.