Miller To Serve As Keynote Speaker

A part of every Concordia student’s degree is a service learning course, which they must complete to graduate. There are many options to choose from; one of which is taught by Dr. Kathy Miller. Dr. Miller teaches a family class which focuses on stories and storytelling. During the course of the semester students in her class gather stories from a family member or a member of the community. These stories are then shared with an audience, this year the class presented at the Red Path Gallery in downtown Seward, the Ridgewood Senior Center, and the Seward Memorial Library. At these events students would share the stories they had gathered and read some scripted stories as well. After the class had shared, the floor would be opened up to the audience to share some of their own stories with the class and the audience at large. The goal of this research in the words of Miller is to share “that all of our stories are important and meant to be shared, and if these stories are important, so are yours and [they] should be preserved and shared.”

Miller is going to be bringing her work with stories to the Concordia University Guild. She and several students, including Anna Krueger and Stephanie Van Blair, will share some of the fascinating stories they have preserved through their work. They will be discussing the importance of the preservation and sharing of these stories, especially “in a society with technology that limits face to face interaction.” Miller says that the impact of this work goes beyond just the hearing and sharing of interesting stories. Her students benefited in many ways, including healing relationships and opportunities to reconnect with parents and grandparents. However, students aren’t the only ones who benefit, the students are also giving the gift of time, valuable time for college students, and using it to show they care about other’s history and stories. This work of connecting students with the community has truly been a service to both parties, and a learning opportunity for many. One participant, Bill Wolfram said of the experience, “It brought back old memories. It was enjoyable telling about them. One does not go around talking about his past. It was fun to do so where it seemed okay to do so.” He exemplifies the goal of the research, to show that it is okay to share your stories.

This research started as a class project to fulfill a service learning requirement, but it has since evolved into a sharing experience between different generations and different backgrounds. Since Miller has started using this project, her classes have interviewed local veterans, shut-ins and more recently many parents. Originally, Miller did not offer the option to interview parents. However, after she allowed a student to do so, the parent interviewed shared what a gift that interview was, and Miller has now given that choice to all her students. By opening up communication between people, it is the hope of the classes “to share the message of how important hearing the stories of others is.” Come hear her keynote address on April 20th, at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Concordia Guild. You have the opportunity to join in this work, by hearing the stories Dr. Miller and her students have to share, and can contribute to the research by bringing a few stories of your own.

52nd Annual Meeting

Please join us on April 20 for the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Concordia Guild in the Thom Leadership Education Center room 111. Registration and coffee is scheduled from 8:30 to 9 a.m. The cost of registration for the day is $5.00 each. We will break for the 11 a.m. chapel and after will tour the new Holthus Family Plaza and then go to lunch ($8.88, tax included) at the Janzow cafeteria. Dr. Kathy Miller will be our keynote speaker. We will again sponsor a “Bakeless Bake Sale” with proceeds going to scholarships. Of course, we have to take care of business as well with election of officers.

We promise an enjoyable day and hope to see you there!
Concordia University Guild—Seward
Third Quarter Treasurer’s Report

April 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

Balance on Hand – April 1, 2014 $223.36

Receipts:
- Chapter/Member-at-Large dues $528.00
- Chapter donations 4,542.94
- Member-at-Large donations 1,727.00
- Annual Meeting registration (16 @ $3.00) 48.00
- Annual Meeting offering 318.00
- Adele Frey Endowment 810.00
- Memorials/Thank-offerings 315.00
- Checking account interest 0.94

Total Receipts $8,289.88

Disbursements:
- Concordia University – newsletter expenses (2 issues) $993.47
- Concordia University – partial scholarship payment 3,000.00
- Concordia University – Adele Frey Endowment 710.00
- Annual Meeting expenses – name tags 1.60

Total Disbursements $4,705.07

Balance on Hand – December 31, 2014 $3,808.17

01/15/15 – Scholarship payment of $3,000.00*

*2014-15 – Project Goal — $10,000.00

As of March 10, 2015 Concordia Guild is $4,000 short of this goal. Our fiscal year ended March 31, 2015. Cost to print/mail the Guild newsletter twice a year has doubled during the 2014-15 fiscal year.

During the Annual Meeting at Concordia University on April 20 the Guild Board will propose to raise the dues to $9.00 per year per household (currently $6.00). Those attending the meeting will vote on the proposal.

Jan Beck, Treasurer
Concordia University Guild

The Guild Newsletter is now on-line

We are pleased to announce that the Concordia University Guild newsletter is available on line at the link below. Please email info@cune.edu with your email address so you can receive future newsletters via email.

http://www.cune.edu/giving/giving-opportunities/#ConcordiaGuild

2014-15 Scholarship Recipients

We have invited these scholarship recipients to attend the Annual Meeting on April 20. Hopefully some will be able to come and introduce themselves.

Concordia University Guild Scholarships

George Caamal—Seward, Nebraska
Montana Hayes—Superior, Nebraska
Emily Kahny—Osmond, Nebraska
Justin Kathman—Juniata, Nebraska
Ethan Kesar—Omaha, Nebraska
Andrea Leising—Arapahoe, Nebraska
Emily Muench—Chapman, Nebraska
Naomi Ristvedt—Crete, Nebraska
Aubrey Schultz—Beemer, Nebraska
Sarah Smith—Unadilla, Nebraska

Adele Frey Endowment Scholarships

Michaela Curran—Wahoo, Nebraska
Emily Kahny—Osmond, Nebraska
Justin Kathman—Juniata, Nebraska
Naomi Ristvedt—Crete, Nebraska
Benjamin Sievert—Frankenmuth, Michigan

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, April 20, 2015

52nd Annual Meeting
8:30 a.m., Thom Leadership Education Center, Room 111

“Bakeless Bake Sale” to be held

Just a reminder that proceeds of the “Bakeless Bake Sale” will go to our special project—Concordia University Guild scholarships.
MEMBER-AT-LARGE DUES AND/OR GUILD DONATIONS

Enclosed are my dues (for April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016) and/or a donation.

Name ______________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip _____________________________________________________________________
Email (required, if applicable) _______________________________________________________

$_________ Annual Dues ($9 a year per household proposed)
(Additional funds are designated for Guild projects)

Guild Project (Scholarships)

$ ___________ $ ___________ $ ___________ $ ___________ $ ___________

$_________ Memorial/Thank-offering to the project fund in memory of or honoring: ________________________________

$_________ Memorial/Thank-offering to the Adele Frey Endowment in memory of or honoring: ________________________________

Please send to: Mrs. Jan Beck, 1820 Broadmoore Dr., Lincoln, NE 68506. Make your check payable to the Concordia University Guild. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact the Guild treasurer by phone 402-488-1203 or email jnalbeck@gmail.com.

Thank you!