

Director's Summer Newsletter

McNair Scholars Program ~ The College of St. Scholastica ~ Duluth, MN
June 19, 2007

Director's Personal Message: It's mid-June already and we are more than half-way through the summer seminars! I know how hard each of you is working as you move through this part of your apprenticeship in education. Isn't that an interesting way to talk about your educational process: apprenticeship. I got this notion from Bill Hodapp, Chair of the English Department and a teacher of Medieval Studies. Interestingly, the concept involves students being mentored by a senior faculty member and developing an educational plan. Other activities might include reading, observing, reflecting and possibly some teaching. Sounds like what McNair scholars do! Kathleen

What does it take to be elected to the..... *National Academies?*

Outstanding talent
Recognized scientific training
Creativity
Daring
Passion
Asking new questions

Persistence
Independence
Knowing that you can succeed in any endeavor undertaken
Strong work ethic
Being 'hooked on' science
Creating new habits of thought
Hands-on experience in a research setting

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) (<http://www.nationalacademies.org>) was signed into being in 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln to apply scientific exploration to the welfare of humans. Now called The National Academies, it houses the advisors to the nation on science, engineering and medicine. Being elected to NAS is considered *one of the highest honors* accorded to a scientist or engineer. There are only 2000 current members.

As a McNair scholar you already have begun to acquire what it takes.....to reach for the highest!

Yummy cultural events right here in Duluth! We are lunching at these locations, so bring your sense of

June 19	Private Dining Room**	July 10	Le Bistro
June 26	Greenview Dining Room	July 17	Thai Kathong
June 29	Greenview Dining Room	July 24	Greenview Dining Room

adventure and appetite! You never know what you may encounter in graduate school.

**Featured speaker will be Cathy Richards from CSS Career Services.

Fascinating Statistics: 51% of CSS McNair scholars with BA degrees graduated with honors (23% *cum laude* and 28% *summa cum laude*).

SUMMER READING: May I suggest titles for fun summer reading? *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See ~ lifelong friends in ancient China use a secret language to communicate. *Bold Spirit* by Linda Hunt ~ a 'rag-rug history' of an ordinary Norwegian-American mother/daughter team who walked across America to compete for a \$10,000 prize. *The Bondswoman's Narrative* by Hannah Crafts ~ first novel written by a female fugitive slave and perhaps the first novel written by any black woman. Excellent reads!

Graduate School Visit June 28/29 ~ McNair scholars will go to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (<http://www.graduateschool.uwm.edu>) to visit faculty in one of the 22 PhD programs: anthropology; biological sciences; chemistry; CIS; English; geography; math; psychology; political science; physics; and social work.

The UW-M McNair Program Director, Doug Harder, will arrange interviews with faculty for our scholars, conduct a tour of the campus and discuss how to apply to UW-M.

UW-M is in the heart of Milwaukee with such notable cultural offerings as: Harley Davidson Motorcycles; Milwaukee Art Museum; Horticultural Dome; Eisner American Museum of Advertising & Design; Bradley Sculpture Garden and many parks and beaches. Lots to do in Milwaukee!



Great News! Pamela Knetter (cohort 11) had her senior art exhibit in May in the Science Center. Itzla Castano (cohort 4) graduated from UMD in May and is going to graduate school at New Mexico State to study archaeology. Amanda Panek Feia (cohort 9) ~ received her Master's in Special Education from St. Cloud State and is heading to boot camp with the National Guard. Her deployment will be in November. Good luck to you, Amanda! Nora Robinson McPherson (cohort 4) ~ completed her Master's as a Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist in May from the University of Minnesota. Jessica Krog-Breevwer (cohort 4) ~ is a *bona fide* Doctor of Internal Medicine. Her residency will be at Abbot Northwestern for the next 3 years. After that might look into a fellowship to specialize. Rachel Balder (cohort 6) ~ e-mailed us with her good news that she completed a PhD from the Medical College of Ohio and has begun post-doctoral studies. And Melissa Mercurief (cohort 4) ~ completed her Master of Arts in Teaching from Seattle Pacific University in May! Congratulations to these scholars on their success.

Running like crazy! Our own Carrie Taylor Kemp competed successfully in the Grandma's Half Marathon: 2 hours and 32 minutes for 13.1 miles. Go, Carrie, go!

Scholars visited the University of Wisconsin-Madison . . .

On June 14-15, CSS McNair scholars traveled with McNair scholars from the University of Wisconsin-Superior to the UW Madison (<http://www.wisc.edu>) campus. Ashly Mott, Brady Zubke, Fue Yang and Samantha Szczech had these observations about the trip: "Great appointments; got to see everyone I wanted to visit with. Thanks for making these ahead of time so that we could be prepared." "The UW-M home made ice cream at Memorial Union was incredible." "The faculty really want us to apply to their program!"

McNair Scholars to Visit the Walker Art Museum

After we go to the University of Minnesota on July 18, six scholars will be able to relax during their visit to the Walker Art Center (<http://www.walkerart.org>). Formally established in 1927, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis began as the first public art gallery in the Upper Midwest. The museum's focus on modern art began in the 1940s including works by important artists like Pablo Picasso, Henry Moore and Alberto Giacometti. Adjacent to the Walker is the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, one of the nation's largest urban sculpture parks (see Spoonbridge and Cherry photo). When the Garden opened in 1988, it was immediately heralded by the *New York Times* as "the finest new outdoor space in the country for displaying sculpture." Reopened in April 2005, the new Walker Art Center, nearly double in size, includes increased indoor and outdoor facilities. A key design aspect is a "town square," a sequence of spaces that draws people for informal conversation, interactive learning, and community programs.

