



### St. Louis couple establishes art scholarship

A St. Louis couple has established a scholarship at Northwest for students majoring in art. Dorothy Myers Rice '46 and her husband, Donald, donated \$49,000 toward an endowed scholarship.

"Our main goal is to help someone go to Northwest who otherwise would find it impossible without a little help," Dorothy said. "I'm happy to be fortunate enough to do this for future students."

Dorothy, who received her degree in art with a minor in music, is originally from the Bethany area. As a Northwest student, she received a one-year art scholarship in addition to a music scholarship.

The Rices were married in 1959 and both taught at Rolla High School before transferring to Normandy High School in the St. Louis area, where Dorothy retired from teaching art.

For more information about the Donald and Dorothy Myers Rice Scholarship or other opportunities to support Northwest, contact the Northwest Foundation at [advance@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:advance@nwmissouri.edu) or (660) 562-1248. ■

## Science museum honors Warren and Rita Shuck

A Florida couple who spent their childhood in northwest Missouri were honored for their generous support of Northwest during a dedication ceremony for the Warren S. and Rita Peck Shuck Museum of Life Sciences.

The museum is located on the third floor of Northwest's Garrett-Strong Science Building. Opened in 2006, the museum was established by Northwest's Department of Biological Sciences.

The Shucks, who live in Destin, Fla., said they are honored by the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy on the Northwest campus.

Warren Shuck was raised in St. Joseph, and Rita Shuck grew up on the Peck family farm near DeKalb. The couple was drawn to assist Northwest when they learned they share the University's commitment to multicultural understanding.

They also believe that establishing the Warren S. and Rita Peck Shuck Scholarship is an ideal way to ensure that family, friends and future students feel at home on the Northwest campus – a positive experience shared by Rita Shuck's parents, Oliver and Virginia Peck, who attended Northwest.



Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard (center) is joined by members of the Shuck family and University officials during the museum dedication.

Likewise, it was the Shucks' recognition of the importance of higher education, and of the study of science in particular, that led to the museum being named in their honor.

"It is Mr. and Mrs. Shuck's wish that everyone who visits the museum will find inspiration from the past to benefit our society and future discoveries," said Northwest President Dr. Dean L. Hubbard. ■

## Scholarship memorializes longtime professor

A new scholarship at Northwest was recently established in memory of George Barratt '54, professor emeritus of mathematics.

Barratt, who retired in 1988 after teaching at Northwest for 25 years, was a recipient of the University's Distinguished Educator Award. He died in January 2007. The Barratt's three children are Northwest graduates: Robert Barratt '69, Calvin Barratt '76 and Joyce Barratt Turner '80.

"His entire family attended Northwest," said his wife, Marjory. "They were all mathematicians and would even gather for holidays and do math all day. Math was his field, and he wanted a scholarship to help other kids get a good math education."

The George W. Barratt Math Scholarship



is endowed at \$10,000 and will be awarded to a student who has declared a major in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics with first preference to a math education major.

"Attracting motivated students in conjunction with a high retention rate is a priority at Northwest," said Dr. Russ Euler, professor of math and statistics. "The George

W. Barratt Math Scholarship, along with other available scholarships, will enable the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to retain talented students. The scholarships provide a financial basis for students to establish career goals. I am delighted that Mr. Barratt's dedication to Northwest will be perpetuated through his scholarships." ■

## Grant assists students in pursuing ‘American dream’

Through hard work and determination, anyone can achieve the American dream – at least that’s the foundation on which many Americans stand.

While there are potential roadblocks along the way, Northwest is determined to remove at least one of those barriers, and, as a result, students who choose to further their education in order to grasp the American Dream can do so without a crippling financial burden.

Freshmen Monica Taylor and Alex Wray are recipients of the University’s pioneering needs-based financial aid initiative, the American Dream Grant. According to Del Morley, director of financial assistance, more than 840 students have benefitted from the American Dream Grant since the program’s inception in 2004. The number of awards given each year is determined by University funding and donor support.

Students who come from families with incomes of \$30,000 or less and who meet Northwest’s admissions criteria are eligible. The grant pays virtually all college expenses during a student’s first two years at Northwest, including tuition, room, board, books and the use of a laptop computer. The student contribution is \$1,000 per semester, which can be earned by working a few hours each week on campus.

Monica, a studio art major from Mount Ayr, Iowa, is one of six children. Her parents knew that financing an education for their three youngest children would be a struggle.

“When we received the letter that said Monica was going to get the American Dream Grant, I couldn’t believe it,” said her mother, Mary Ellen



Because of the American Dream Grant, Sherry Wray and her son, Alex, are both students at Northwest.

Devereux Taylor. “I even told Monica to read it to me! Monica asked what this meant, and I told her, ‘it means you can now go to Northwest!’”

Like her mother, Monica was in disbelief.

“I started crying,” Monica said. “I might not have been able to go to college if it wasn’t for this.”

Sherry Wray and her son, Alex, are two more people whose financial burdens have been lifted because of the American Dream Grant.

Sherry, a divorced mother who has been battling cancer since 2003, has been working two jobs to put herself through school at Northwest. When it came time for Alex to go to college, she was willing to drop out to allow her son to pursue his dreams. Because of the American Dream Grant, both mother and son are proud Bearcats.

“This grant took the hardship off of me trying to figure out how to finance Alex’s college education,” Sherry said. “This way, we are both able to stay on track with our education. The entire idea of the American Dream Grant is the start of something good ... that someone has faith in these students who come from lower-income families. When alumni give to the American Dream grant it’s like they’re saying to the student, ‘we want you to carry on this tradition.’”

Alex wasn’t aware of the grant until he received notification that he was eligible.

“I didn’t find the American Dream Grant. It found me – thankfully,” Alex said. “When I graduate I’m going to remember that someone provided the money for me to go to college. I want to do the same for others. Although I can’t pay the exact people back, I will at least give back so Northwest can help others like me.” ■



### Retired teacher to contribute \$10,000 annually

Janet Dinkel ’58 understands what it’s like for college students trying to work their way through school. As an undergraduate from Greenfield, Iowa, she, too, worked many jobs on and off campus before receiving her degree in elementary education. Therefore, when Dinkel learned about Northwest’s unique American Dream Grant, she knew it was something she wanted to support.

“I feel that everyone who really wants to attend college should have the opportunity,” she said. “In this day and age, it is much harder for young people starting out, as costs are so much higher, and any type of help they can obtain is of great value.”

Dinkel made her first gift of \$10,000 to Northwest and the American Dream Grant last fall. She believes so strongly in this initiative that she intends to contribute at least \$10,000 annually to the fund.

After graduating from Northwest, Dinkel moved to Keokuk, Iowa, to teach kindergarten. This opportunity turned into a 41-year teaching career in the Keokuk School District, where she retired in 1999. ■



Monica Taylor would like to pursue a career in photography. She also has an interest in dance and teaches gymnastics to children in Northwest’s Kip Kittens Movement Program.

### New resource for charitable gift planning

Northwest has created a new, easy-to-navigate Web site to help alumni and friends dream a little – about Northwest’s future and theirs. The planned giving Web site provides visitors many giving options from which to choose – strategies that enhance a donor’s personal well being, as well as Northwest.

The interactive Build Your Gift planner answers a few basic questions and guides donors through the process of narrowing down their choices. If donors already have gift options in mind, they can compare gifts to see how their choices match up or request specific information on a planning option. There’s a gift calculator, sample bequest language, a quiz to test your planned giving knowledge, articles for planned giving advisers, donor testimonials and much more.

For more information about planned giving and leaving a lasting legacy at Northwest, visit the new Web site at [www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/giving/plannedgifts.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/giving/plannedgifts.htm). ■

## Olive DeLuce paintings donated to Northwest

Northwest’s Department of Art has accepted a gift of four paintings, valued at \$9,400, created by longtime Professor of Art Olive DeLuce in the late 1930s.

Mounted in gilt frames, the oil-on-board waterscapes were purchased by Ruth Kramer Myers ’33. Myers’ son, Dr. George Myers of Hilton Head, S.C., inherited the paintings and donated them to the University through the Northwest Foundation.

Olive DeLuce, who died in 1970, joined the Northwest faculty in 1915 and was instrumental in developing the fledgling fine arts department, serving as its chairwoman until her retirement in 1955. Active in both campus and community affairs, DeLuce played a key role in establishing the University’s permanent art collection.

DeLuce helped the graduating class of 1939 obtain a print titled “Cradling Wheat” from famed Kansas City painter Thomas Hart Benton. A similar acquisition, a large mosaic by Jan



Dr. George Myers (right) of Hilton Head, S.C., inherited this painting and three similar artworks from his mother, a 1933 Northwest alumna, and donated them to the University. He is joined by Teresa Macias ’97, ’05, a development officer for the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Kim Spradling, chairman of the art department; and University Archivist Cathy Miller Palmer ’80, ’01.

Roderick Carroll given by the class of 1965, adorns the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building’s main staircase.

DeLuce’s dream of establishing a space where the University’s growing collection could be displayed was realized soon after her death, when the DeLuce Gallery was established near the front entrance of the building named in her honor. ■

## Houston gift funds theatre sound system upgrade

Performances in Northwest’s Mary Linn Auditorium have never sounded so good. At least not for a long time. The sound system in the Performing Arts Center’s auditorium has been in dire need of repair and upgrades, and a \$10,000 gift from Maryville resident Ron Houston has made these improvements possible.

A portion of Houston’s gift was used to hire an audio engineer to troubleshoot the sound system in the 24-year-old, frequently-used facility that seats 1,100. Following the engineer’s recommendation, Northwest purchased four new floor monitors, a new equalizer and two new compressor/limiters. In addition, the high frequency diaphragm was replaced in the center speaker cluster of the theatre.

Randy Wolf ’90, a vice president at Vista Productions, returned to his alma mater to install the sound system and accompanying computer software. He also provided training for Northwest

personnel and students.

Shawn Wake ’92, the Performing Arts Center’s technical director and performance facilities manager, said the gift also allowed the department to purchase a wireless headset system.

Houston, a former member of the Northwest Foundation Board of Directors, is president of the J.L. Houston Company in Hopkins, where he has been employed since 1967. He attended Northwest from 1960 to 1963 before transferring to the University of Missouri-Columbia to receive a degree in industrial engineering. In addition to his involvement at Northwest, Houston is active with the Maryville Industrial Development Corporation and the Steel Tank Institute. ■

For more information about supporting Northwest or the Department of Communication, Theatre and Languages, contact Teresa Macias at [teresa@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:teresa@nwmissouri.edu) or (660) 562-1248.