

around the **BLOCK**

A Newsletter of the Colorado College Community Block 4 • 2008

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Char Lee '09 and Spike Lee

Student 'does the right thing': brings Spike Lee to campus

Armstrong Theatre was packed. An overflow crowd of more than 400 spilled into Shove Memorial Chapel. Later, audience members were seen hopping to their cars through

the snow in their stocking feet with autographed shoes clutched to their chests. Filmmaker Spike Lee's lecture at Colorado College on Dec. 9 was a huge success.

The student behind Spike's CC appearance is senior Char Lee (no relation), an English major on the film track, who serves as the co-chair of the film series and executive vice president of CC's film union.

It was late September when Char first conceived the idea of bringing the famed writer, director, actor, and producer to campus. "I definitely wanted to pick a filmmaker who would appeal to a lot of people, not just students interested in film," she said.

"He's a perfect fit for CC, which as a liberal arts school encompasses so many different things," Char said. "Spike Lee's films explore political, social, and racial issues, so many issues that are important to people at CC."

Char, who has held several film-related internships in Los Angeles, has heard a variety of directors speak, including James Mangold ("Walk the Line," "Girl Interrupted"), Paul Haggis ("Crash," "Million Dollar

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Get to know: Eric Popkin

How does one go from working with refugees and immigrants to becoming dean of summer session?

It may not be as convoluted a route as it seems.

Eric Popkin has always had a strong interest in working with immigrants; in fact, he left school for about a year as an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison to work on the U.S.-Mexican border with refugees fleeing El Salvador and Guatemala. He later founded the Wisconsin Interfaith Committee on Central America, a nonprofit organization devoted to Central American refugee relief.

Through the organization, he led human rights delegations composed of congressional members, community members, religious leaders, and students to various countries in Central America. "It was extraordinarily rewarding," he said.

He also developed the Madison-Arcatao Sister City Committee between Madison, Wis., and Arcatao, El



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KUDOS



Living stick sculpture named

Sculptor Patrick Dougherty spent two weeks at CC during Block 3, creating a site-specific sculpture comprised of hundreds of woven tree saplings and twigs. Several at CC wanted to name the sculpture “Wind Wams,” but Dougherty

said the name is too close to the title of another of his works. Instead, Dougherty has named it “Creature Comforts.” The multi-piece sculpture is located outside Armstrong Hall on the corner of Cascade Avenue and Cache La Poudre Street, and is expected to last for approximately two years.

HR Director Barbara Wilson receives national award

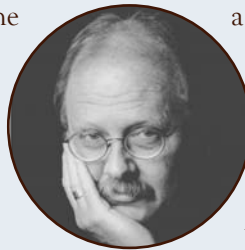
Barbara Wilson, who joined CC in 2000 as the director of human resources, received the Distinguished Service Award from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources. The award is given to CUPA-HR members who have given outstanding service to the association. Wilson has been a member of CUPA-HR

for more than 20 years and has served in numerous leadership roles within the association at national, regional, and local levels. This year at CC she also has served as interim vice president for finance and administration.



Stephen Scott receives unrestricted \$50,000 grant

Stephen Scott, CC professor of music, is one of 50 artists nationwide to be awarded a United States Artists fellowship. Scott was named USA Simon Fellow for 2008 at the foundation’s gala announcement celebration in Chicago’s Museum of Contemporary Art in November. He is



a renowned composer and founder of Colorado College’s Bowed Piano Ensemble, which performs worldwide. His fellowship includes a \$50,000 unrestricted grant. Scott intends to devote the fellowship funds to researching and composing a large mixed-media theatrical work for singers, bowed piano, and orchestra.

Time spent online good for teens, study by CC professor shows

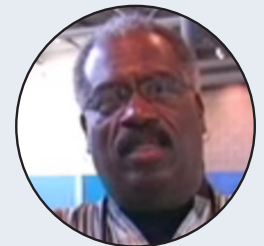
C.J. Pascoe, assistant sociology professor at Colorado College, is a lead author on a newly released study that shows time spent online is important for teen development. The study was released at the American Anthropological Association’s annual meeting on Nov.

20 in San Francisco. Over the course of three years, researchers interviewed more than 800 young people and their parents, and spent more than 5,000 hours observing teens on digital social networking sites.

Drama/dance professor, student attend conference

CC Associate Drama/Dance Professor Clinton Turner Davis and Thaddeus Phillips, a member of the Colorado College class of 1994, attended the 32nd International Theatre Institute World Congress (ITI-UNESCO) in Madrid, Spain, as U.S. delegates this fall.

Founded in Prague in 1948 by UNESCO and the international theater community, the organization aims to promote international exchange of knowledge and increase understanding and cooperation in theater arts.





Volunteer Daniel Kidney '12 works on a bike

Students, administration in tandem on bike co-op

Last year, CC students Jimmy Singer and David Sullivan could be found working on bikes in a friend's basement.

Now, sophomore Singer and senior Sullivan are co-founders of the Colorado College Bicycle Cooperative, a hands-on club complete with an on-campus workshop, located in a single-car port on the northwest end of the Matthias parking lot.

The club's goals include increasing the number of cyclists at CC, empowering all cyclists with the ability to understand and repair their own bicycles, and promoting the bicycle both as recreation and as a sustainable mode of transportation.

Or put more simply, "We're just trying to get kids on safe bicycles and make it sustainable," Singer said.

Singer and Sullivan, along with senior John Barker and junior Mitch Hoke, arrived on campus Aug. 12 to set up in the new location, which was donated by the office of residential life and housing.

The co-founders, who wanted to move their basement project to a larger space on campus, sent a proposal last spring to the administration. "I thought it was an extremely well-written proposal and showed entrepreneurial spirit," said Edmonds. "We want students to be less dependent on cars and more energy conscious. We need to be sure that we have a method for students to get bikes repaired or to be able to have a central place for bicycle maintenance."

Edmonds called together a council of pertinent players from facilities services and residential life to help find the co-op an on-campus space.

Facilities donated work and materials, and the club received \$500 from Steve Crosby, head of outdoor education and the club's faculty advisor, as well as \$500 from EnAct. With this, the volunteers bought work benches, hanging

racks, tools, a basic inventory, and bike frames.

The co-op is open from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays through Thursdays, and is open to faculty and staff, as well as students. Clients wheel or walk in to get supplies, learn how to fix various parts, and even build their own bikes, with basic frames and parts supplied by the co-op for between \$15 and \$25.

"There's been probably about six or seven kids who have actually built a bike at the co-op and are now riding them around campus, and that's a pretty cool thing," said Singer.

With winter weather moving in, visitors have dropped from around 15 to between six and 12 daily. However, volunteers stay busy the entire time, helping with repairs and giving advice.

On Mondays, the co-op hosts clinics, with topics such as how to fix brakes and tires. Fridays, the co-op's 15 volunteers have time to work on their own bikes.

Three months into their new venture, the co-founders are worried about running low on funds to keep their shop supplied; as an unrecognized group, they are unable to tap CCSGA funds and are struggling to find other sources of support.

"They're probably experiencing a lot of what our student groups do when they begin, a little bit of growing pains. I think it's to be expected while they continue to grow and mature, but I see no reason to believe they will not be around," Edmonds said.

The co-op continues to think ahead. As early as next year, Singer hopes to move to a larger space, have more tools and parts available, and host social events such as group rides.

With first-year students taking leadership roles, administration support, and CC students still riding strong, the co-op remains firmly grounded on campus.

"There's definitely a demand for a bike co-op," said Singer. "We're out of money and we've outgrown our space, but we can still make it work."

block 4 CALENDAR of events

Monday, December 1

Gallery talk: Reception and Gallery Talk with Lida Abdul, 4:30 p.m., I.D.E.A. Space

Lecture: State of the Rockies Speaker Series: Wolves on the Range, 7 p.m., Gates Common Room

Tuesday, December 2

Lecture: Italian Writer Francesco Luti Talks About Florence, 3 p.m., Max Kade Theatre, inside Armstrong Hall Room 300

Lecture: "The New Iraq: Genocide," 7 p.m., W.E.S. Room, lower level of Worner Campus Center

Film: Italian Movie Night: "A Journey Called Love," 7 p.m., Max Kade Theatre, inside Armstrong Hall Room 300

Wednesday, December 3

Lecture: Aficionados Luncheon and Lecture: "The Last Indian War: The Nez Perce Story and the Making of the West," Noon, Gaylord Hall, main floor of Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., \$13.25

Lecture: Iftikhar Dadi: Lida Abdul and The Architecture of Desire, 4:30 p.m., Film Screening Room in the Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center

Thursday, December 4

Reading: Juan Morales and Steven Wingate, 7 p.m., Jerome P. McHugh Student Commons

Lecture: Elliott West: "The View from Pikes Peak: Colorado's Gold Rush and the American West," 7 p.m., Gates Common Room

Film: Un Air de Famille (Family Resemblances), 7 p.m., Haskell House (French house)

Friday, December 5-7

Sale: Colorado College Annual Arts and Crafts Sale, 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6 and 7, Worner Campus Center

Friday, December 5

Concert: CC Choir and Colorado Vocal Arts Ensemble Concert, 7:30 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Performance: Daughters, Dancers, & Dirty Old Men: A Musical Revue, 9:30 p.m., Sacred Grounds Coffee Shop, basement of Shove Memorial Chapel

Saturday, December 6

Celebration: Bemis 100-Year Celebration, 6 p.m., Bemis Hall

Performance: Odissi Dance, Meditation and Kirtan, 6:30 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Concert: Concert Band Performance, 7:30 p.m., Packard Hall

Film: Teton Gravity Research "Under the Influence" Ski Movie Premiere, 8:30 p.m., Armstrong Theatre

Sunday, December 7

Concert: African Music Ensemble Performance, 3 p.m., Packard Hall

Service: Festival of Lessons and Carols, 6 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Monday, December 8

Lecture: John Duffield: "The Costs of U.S. Foreign Oil Dependence and What We Can Do About Them?" 7 p.m., Gaylord Hall

Tuesday, December 9

Lecture: Filmmaker Spike Lee, 7 p.m.,
Armstrong Theatre

Concert: Chamber Orchestra Concert,
7:30 p.m., Packard Hall

Concert: Room 46 Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m.,
Gates Common Room

Wednesday, December 10

Symposium: India-Pakistan Relations in the Wake of
Attacks in Mumbai, 1 p.m., Gaylord Hall

Reading: Steven Hayward, 7 p.m., Jerome P. McHugh
Student Commons

Concert: Etown with the Flobots and Matthew Caws
of Nada Surf, 7 p.m., Armstrong Theatre, inside
Armstrong Hall, \$22, \$17 for students, or \$17 with a
CC ID; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information
Desk and Ticketswest.com.

Film: "Occupation: Dreamland," 7 p.m.,
W.E.S. Room, lower level of Worner Campus Center

Concert: Room 46 Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m.,
Gates Common Room

Thursday, December 11

Lecture: David Bevington: Shakespeare's Political
Philosophy, 7 p.m., Jerome P. McHugh Student
Commons

Theater: Odyssey, 7:30 p.m., Edith Kinney Gaylord
Cornerstone Arts Center, \$6 or \$3 with a CC ID;
tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk
and Ticketswest.com.

Friday, December 12, 2008

Gallery talk: Faculty Throwdown: Bob Lee & David
Torres-Rouff, 3:30 p.m., I.D.E.A. Space

Concert: Colorado College Tiger Jazz Ensemble,
7:30 p.m., Packard Hall

Theater: Odyssey, 7:30 p.m., Edith Kinney Gaylord
Cornerstone Arts Center, \$3 with a CC ID; tickets
at Worner Campus Center Information Desk and
Ticketswest.com.

Saturday, December 13

Performance: Amahl and the Night Visitors,
Noon, Armstrong Theatre

Theater: Odyssey, 7:30 p.m., Edith Kinney Gaylord
Cornerstone Arts Center, \$3 with a CC ID; tickets
at Worner Campus Center Information Desk and
Ticketswest.com.

Sunday, December 14

Concert: Chamber Chorus Concert and Collegium
Musicum Instrumental Ensemble, 3 p.m., Packard Hall

Monday, December 15

Performance: Amahl and the Night Visitors,
7 p.m., Armstrong Theatre

Tuesday, December 16

Concert: A Concert of Balinese Music and Dance,
7:30 p.m., Packard Hall

If you have a story idea for Around the Block,
send it to Leslie.Weddell@ColoradoCollege.edu

Student radio station making big (air) waves

The student-run radio station, the Sound of Colorado College (SOCC), is operating out of a humble room in the basement of its parent station, KRCC. Yet the programming coming out of the SOCC belies its modest surroundings.

Molly Adams '08, Jackie Danzig '10, and Matthew Baer '10 were instrumental in getting the station started, installing the studio in the basement of KRCC's offices at 912 N. Weber St., putting together a DJ list, and making sure everything was up and running by Block 7 last year.

The SOCC, which is broadcast through KRCC on the HD3 channel of 91.5 FM, has 40 to 50 volunteer DJs, including co-founders Baer, who serves as general manager, and Danzig, who is the program director. Claire Crawford '11 is the operations manager.

Students have taken advantage of the available airtime, with student programs broadcast daily from noon to about 1 or 2 a.m. Listeners tuning in at 3 p.m. on Fridays can hear the student news program, which is written, reported, and edited by students, with material drawn from the three Cutler publications.

Although the SOCC predominately broadcasts music, the variety is huge, ranging from indie rock to heavy metal to bluegrass to jazz. "It is incredibly eclectic. I really think that is the beauty of it," says Baer. "I can tune in almost everyday to hear something completely new. And to be honest, I think we have really captured the spirit of college radio once again here at CC.

"College radio is supposed to be about amateur DJs getting on air and sharing interesting, weird, horrible, amazing, and just plain fun music. On top of that, we have a raw feeling to every show. Nobody sounds like they've

been run through a million processors to sound like that crazy radio host you hear on your local hip-hop station. Everybody sounds like normal college kids."

Working with the SOCC also provides students insight into what goes on behind the scenes and what it takes to broadcast a show. DJ Danielle "Moxie" Dubler '09 finds the backstage work a gratifying part of her experience. "It's been great learning how to work all the equipment and geek out in the KRCC basement until the technology cooperates.

There's nothing more exhilarating than fixing a tech problem while live and on air."

Of course, finding solutions to those technical problems is made easier with the guidance of a long-running station such as KRCC, which has been on the air for nearly 60 years, affiliated with NPR since 1984, and is staffed by professionals.

The SOCC has changed student perspectives about the community. "All

of the sudden you can step behind a microphone (seemingly by yourself in a little room) and instantly be connected to your community in such a personal way," says Baer. "When you have devoted listeners, they let you into their lives in ways that not many people get to. You are in their cars, in their rooms, in their bathrooms. It's incredibly powerful."

Dubler echoes this sentiment, and elaborates, "There's actually a great creative scene in Colorado Springs, and in Colorado, that a lot of CC students ignore due to misconceptions. I believe that good music floods into the mainstream from little unsuspecting podunk tributaries and we're living in one of them."

○ Anya Aylesworth '09



Matt Baer '10 works at the SOCC

Contact the SOCC staff at socc@krcc.org or listen online at www.thesocc.org. To request a song, call 266-3239 or e-mail the on-air DJ at dj@thesocc.org

Recommended reading

With the winter break coming up and more time to read, we turned to Stephanie Daigle, manager of the CC Bookstore, for reading recommendations. Daigle, who joined CC on Labor Day 2007, started reading at age four (everything from the back of cereal boxes and ketchup labels to a wide variety of books), and has been involved with books and reading ever since. Her first job was at Waldenbooks (the first bookstore to have stores in every state); she then went to work for Borders Books, first as an assistant manager at the Chapel Hills store, then as the general manager at the Southgate store. As evidenced by her list, she especially likes female authors and Latin American authors.



The Daigle list:

“Tender Bar’ by Jay Moehringer
“The Shadow of the Wind’ by Carlos Ruiz Zafon
“March” and “Year of Wonders” by Geraldine Brooks
“The Thirteenth Tale’ by Diane Setterfield
“Ines of My Soul” by Isabel Allende
“Living to Tell the Tale” Gabriel Garcia Marquez
“The Bean Trees” by Barbara Kingsolver
“Turtle Moon” by Alice Hoffman
“The Stolen Child” by Keith Donohue
The Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling

CC recognized for green cleaning initiative

Colorado College has taken a leadership position in sustainable cleaning practices by being named one of only two colleges honored by *American School & University* magazine, the Green Cleaning Network, and the Healthy Schools Campaign for the 2008 Green Cleaning Award for Schools and Universities. One winner and one honorable mention award were given in the college category.

CC’s custodial department, Sodexo Custodial Services, started going green by reducing chemical inventory, piloting environmentally preferable chemicals, installing better chemical dispensing systems, and using microfiber cloths and mops, which reduced custodial-cleaning water use by about 247,000 gallons per year. The department also reduced the number of cleaning products by half, and currently uses four Green Seal™-certified core products to perform routine cleaning. (Products that are Green Seal™-certified have a third-party endorsement of environmental responsibility.)

“The Green Cleaning Initiative at Colorado College began in the summer of 2006 with the goal of going

beyond the ‘reduce, reuse and recycle’ mindset to a more comprehensive approach integrating all aspects of CC cleaning procedures,” according to the application submitted by Karen Hunt, district manager of CC’s custodial operations, and Tom Allen, director of CC’s custodial operations.

The single-stream recycling program started this year is another way Colorado College is staying green. This method of recycling allows for all recyclable materials to be commingled and then later separated at a processing facility, eliminating the need for separate recycling containers. Due to the vast simplification of the recycling process, the program has a goal of reducing traditional waste on campus. “If done properly, about 80 percent of our current trash could be diverted to recycle and not have to go to landfills. We need a lot more commitment from the college community for this to happen,” says George Eckhardt, assistant director of facilities. Colorado College is the pilot location for single-stream recycling for the city of Colorado Springs.

Spike Lee *(from p.1)*

Baby”), and Marc Forester (the most recent Bond movie, “Kite Runner,” “Monster’s Ball”). “I wanted others to have the same opportunity,” she said.

“I wasn’t sure how to go about getting a speaker. I didn’t know how it would work if you didn’t have any connections and the event wasn’t industry-related,” she said.

Nonetheless, she did her research, and contacted Spike’s agency. “They were great, but it was much more complicated than I thought it would be,” said Char,

who worked with the agency for two months to book the event. One of the major obstacles was finding a mutually compatible date: Block breaks and the availability of facilities dictated the date on CC’s part, while Spike’s travel and filming schedule determined his availability. The lecture originally was scheduled for February 2009, then January, then November, then various dates in December. “It was frustrating, but it also was a learning experience,” said Char.

○ *Leslie Weddell*

Get to know: Eric Popkin *(from p.1)*

Salvador, a program that recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. “You know when a program lasts that long that the initiative is successful,” he says. “It’s good to create something that lasts beyond you.” The program had other benefits as well: Popkin met his wife, Carol Hoffman, when she became director of the Madison-Arcatao Sister City Committee.

Popkin came to CC in 2001 as an assistant sociology professor, having previously taught at Sarah Lawrence College, where he founded a semester abroad program in Havana, Cuba; that program also continues today. From 2004-06 he served as founding director of the Colorado College Partnership for Civic Engagement, a program aimed at integrating public work into academic scholarship and cultivating social responsibility among students and community members.

“A lot of what I have done is community-based learning,” Popkin says. “It’s incorporating community experiences into a course as a way to enhance theoretical knowledge.

“I’m interested in curriculum development and working with external communities,” he says. “I’m interested in international studies. I like running programs.” All of these are essential components in what he now does as dean of summer session, a position he assumed September 1.

As dean, he hopes to further enhance the academic offerings during the summer with more and varied

international courses, and hopes to see more hands-on, community-based research classes and overseas field work. As it is, Colorado College is unique among small liberal arts colleges in the number of summer courses it offers and festivals it hosts.

CC sends almost as many students abroad during the summer months as it does during the academic year, with nearly 80 students going to Italy and Spain alone for language courses.

He also hopes to develop summer programs in social entrepreneurship, environmental sustainability, and community organizing, with a component of some of the new programs being international internships.

Another area he would like to emphasize is the “Enrich Your Life” program, which was initiated last year and offers a variety of classes for community members.

Popkin, who has two children and a third due in January, loves community work and traveling, and his career has allowed him to combine those interests. He’s taught 10 international courses, many of which focus on such issues as globalization, international migration, and urban sociology in countries such as Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Mexico, and Cuba. His wife and children have been able to travel with him, and his children, a 9-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter, have grown up speaking Spanish and learning about other cultures.

○ *Leslie Weddell*