

# CSI in the News

October 2010



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***ADS***

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Center for the Arts (Building 1P)  
Sunday, October 17, 2010 • 11:00 AM

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### GRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAMS

#### MASTER OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

- Biology (MS)
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- Cinema and Media Studies (MA)
- Computer Science (MS)
- Education (MSEd)
  - Childhood Education
  - Adolescence Education (Biology, English, Mathematics or Social Studies)
  - Special Education (Childhood or Middle Childhood Generalist)
- English (MA)
- Environmental Science (MS)
- History (MA)
- Liberal Studies (MA)
- Mental Health Counseling (MA)
- Neuroscience, Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (MS)
- Nursing (MS)
  - Adult Health
  - Gerontological

#### POST-MASTER'S AND ADVANCED CERTIFICATES

- Leadership in Education (Post-Master's)
  - School Building Leader
  - School District Leader
  - School Building Leader and School District Leader (Dual Certificate)
- Nursing (Post-Master's)
  - Adult Health
  - Gerontological
- Nursing (Advanced Certificate)
  - Cultural Competence
  - Nursing Education

#### DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

- The College of Staten Island offers Doctoral programs jointly with the CUNY Graduate Center.
- Biochemistry (PhD)
  - Biology (Specialty in Neuroscience) (PhD)
  - Computer Science (PhD)
  - Nursing (DNS)
  - Physics (PhD)
  - Polymer Chemistry (PhD)
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*Dean Balsamini Sr., Director*

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U.S. Small Business Administration



**for start-up or existing businesses**

***Arts***

## CSI Art show, open to public, has Native American theme

Published: Thursday, October 14, 2010, 11:58 AM



Mark D. Stein



Artwork, highlighting Native American culture, is currently on display in the gallery at the Center for the Arts on the campus of the [College of Staten Island](#), Willowbrook. (Staten Island Advance/Mark Stein)  
STATEN ISLAND, NY - WILLOWBROOK - A collection of 25 works that blend words and images reflecting Native American culture and a strong historical message is currently hanging in Building 1P, in the Art Gallery of the [College of Staten Island \(CSI\)](#).

The four female contemporary artists' work included, collectively called "Wording the Imagine/Imaging the Word," has been on display since Sept. 27, and will be open for viewing, free of charge, until Nov. 7.

The printmaking techniques on display include woodcut, etching, soft-ground etching, aquatint, spit-bite, dry point, lithography, photolithography, digital printing, letterpress and chine colle, according to a short essay about the art collection that is distributed, also for free, at the gallery.

The artists, born between 1940 and 1950, are Pat Steir, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Lynne Allen and Lesley Dill.

Guest curator for the exhibition is Kit Smyth Basquin, whose doctoral dissertation deals with the subject of this exhibition. She works in the Drawings and Prints Department at The Metropolitan Museum of Art,



according to CSI.

Professor of art history and curator of the Art Gallery of the College of Staten Island/CUNY is Nanette Salomon.

Together, both wrote the short essay.

"These four remarkable artists enlist the power and eloquence of their creative imaginations to contest given truths, raise questions and awareness, and add beauty to our world through their words and images," read a portion of the essay.

Jessica Boehman, an adjunct professor of art history, said she was impressed by the exhibition. She emphasized the juxtaposition between word and image.

"It's not often that we see people addressing problems we had in our country 200 years ago," she said, adding that it is a good learning experience for CSI students.

Ms. Boehman enjoyed one of the works in particular - a 2003 piece titled "What Shall We Do With Our Indians?"

The item created by Ms. Allen, who used an 1875 British pamphlet to craft her work, a lithograph with chine colle. The work shows red ink, seemingly illegible, as it surrounds a gray silhouette, likely a person, who has a large red spot - perhaps a wound - in its chest.

She admired how it was old, but full of modern features, she said.

"It's a nice gallery. They've got a great collection," Ms. Boehman remarked. She said it provided a great opportunity for the school to show school-related art and see others' work.

Craig Manister, director of the art gallery and adjunct professor of painting and art history at the Willowbrook campus, said the gallery hosts four shows a year.

He described it as a "mini museum," and called the works in the gallery "a distinguished collection with an interesting idea."

Manister likes to use art shows that reflect academic offerings at the school.

"I love it," he said. "It's always easier when you have good work to hang."

Manister said that CSI students are picking up on it, too, and that attendance remained higher than usual in the show's second week.

"There's a number of ways students can relate to it," he said. "We're always trying to give insight into creative culture."

The gallery is open to the public from noon to 4 p.m., Monday to Thursday, and noon to 3 p.m., every Saturday. It is closed Fridays and Sundays. For more information, call Manister at 718-982-2553. **CSI** is located at 2800 Victory Blvd.

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## Pictures write stories of feminism and Native American exploitation

Published: Sunday, October 17, 2010, 4:10 AM



Michael J. Fressola



"Wind Woman" by Lynne Allen is featured at the [CSI](#) Gallery show.

STATEN ISLAND, NY — Most art outlets will give you an easier assignment this fall than the [College of Staten Island](#) Gallery, where "Wording the Image/Imaging the Word" opened recently.

But easy art is cheating. The school is doing exactly what it should: At a college, no area of inquiry should surrender easily, art included.

It's not that it's a big show — just four unusually dexterous printmakers with intricate agendas. Guest curated by Kit Smyth Basquin, "Wording the Image/Imaging the Word" has just 25 pieces, made over a 35-year span.

The earliest comes from Pat Steir, the well-established painter whose ongoing “Waterfall” paintings are ubiquitous and welcome today in museum and corporate

The most recent works were made in the past few years by Lynne Allen. Allen and another participant, Jaune Quick-to-see Smith, have Native American blood, which informs their work.

All four participants are art-world veterans — 60-to-70 years of age — and all find an illuminated path in the vintage feminist dictum, “the personal is political.”

In the catalogue essay, gallery director Nanette Salomon and the curator collaboratively assert that the slogan is as relevant today “as when it was introduced in 1969 and popularized through the 1970s.”

They understate it. The idea is so pervasive today, it’s an automatic assumption.

## **WORD MADE FLESH**

Allen establishes one of the overriding themes, at the entrance to the gallery with “Invasion,” a grommetted hanging made of out of thick quilted pads that moving men use to protect furniture.

A flotilla of small beaded warships (stenciled onto the surface, it turns out), float across the fabric, which is sprinkled with talismans— fishing weights, oxidized bottle caps — and printed with text in English and a Native language.

The text is personal, political, historical, an eyewitness account: “The advance was like the seasons. It came on so gradually that we were not aware of it until it was upon us.”

The piece suggests how the colonization might have entered the Native record in a commemorative artifact.

Two print methods, digital and woodcut, are used in the smaller (17x17 inch) piece “Wind Woman (Ita ta Win).” It’s a dim portrait of Allen’s great grandmother, underscored with faint handwriting and overlaid with bright red markings, like lesions, scattershot or pox.

“Wind Woman,” we’re encouraged to think, endured privations.

Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, probably the best-known female Native American artist at work today, grew up on a reservation in Montana. Her work combines 20th century American styles of art-making with issues that concern her as an Indian. On top of it all, there’s the printmaking agenda.

One large piece, “What is an American” (2001), has a central, sketchy headless figure. A little red, white and blue blood gusher fountains from one of its hands.

References are distributed throughout like little icons. There's a bison, a pineapple, the profile on an Indian head nickel, Mickey Mouse ears and a slogan, "Americans have big ideas."

Elsewhere, Quick-to-See Smith ruminates about heritage, as in "pure-bloods" and "mestizos," and about appropriation when Indian imagery is co-opted for advertising.

Empty dresses were such pervasive metaphor years ago in feminist art, the idea became threadbare. Still, Lesley Dill combines them with letterpress-printed lines from Emily Dickinson to suggest how poetry can function like armor, like a defense system.

Dill stains her often three-dimensional prints with tea so they look aged or she sews on them, adding lines of poems on thin strips (like the "Hosannas" that stream out of angel's mouths in some manuscript paintings). They're austere, not hopechest artsy-craftsy.

Thirty-five years ago Pat Steir, the senior figure in the show, produced a series of small black and white etchings prints ("Burial Mound Series") as a memorial to a deceased friend. They're gridded puzzles and word-games inscribed with repeated phrases.

Her big piece in the show — a wide, colorful, three-panel 42-inch piece called "Abstraction, Belief, Desire" — required such successive printing processes ("color aquatint with soft-ground and hard-ground etching, spit-bite aquatint and drypoint"), it's practically the creation of the world.

There's a lexicon of shapes in white on red, labeled "Form," at the far left. In the middle ("Illusion") the flat shapes are now rounded and dimensional. At the far right ("Myth"), the shapes have become recognizable entities: a young woman, an angel at prayer, etc.

Other ideas are inlaid in this non-schematic illustration/manifesto, accessible to any viewer willing to drum them out.

### **'Wording the Image: Imaging the Word'**

Four printmakers present 25 pieces made over a 35-year span.

#### **Where**

**College of Staten Island** Gallery, in the Center for the Arts on the campus at 2800 Victory Blvd., Willowbrook.

#### **When**

Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, noon-3 p.m.; up through Nov. 6.

**How much**

Admission is free.

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## NYMETROPARENTS

### Today's Family & Kids Activities in Brooklyn-Oct 17

by Directories Editor



Parents, don't let your children miss out on the fun! Here are some of today's kids and family activities in Brooklyn, from concerts and museums to decorating cupcakes and gardening! Want to see what's going on next weekend or when you have those few days off? Check out the NY Metro Parents' [calendar!](#)

[Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great - Center for the Arts, College of Staten Island Island](#)  
October 17, 2010 - Staten Island

See the production of "Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great," based on the novel by Judy Blume. Sheila Tubman, sometimes known as Sheila the Great, comes of age in this lively musical about discovering the person within. Along with music and comedy, Sheila is about learn that her trials are, unfortunately, essential to growing up.

[William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" - Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts](#)  
October 17, 2010 - Brooklyn

See Aquila Theatre Company's interpretation of Shakespeare's timeless comedy that weaves a web of theatrical magic that takes audiences to an enchanted forest, where two sets of lovers and a bumbling troupe of amateur actors cross paths with members of the fairy kingdom, creating an endless supply of mirth, mistaken identity, and ridiculous passions.

[Work of Art: Abdi Farah - Brooklyn Museum](#)  
Through October 17, 2010 -

The winner of Bravo's "Work of Art: The Next Great Artist" television series, Abdi Farah will have a solo exhibition that highlights ten artworks recently created in a variety of media.

## Today's Family & Kids Activities in Brooklyn-Oct 17

Brooklyn has many things for families and kids to do, and during the spring and summer New York City has thousands of kid- and family-friendly activities that include arts and crafts, museum exhibitions, concerts, sports, nature walks in local parks, and many other outdoor activities. Here are some of today's activities in Brooklyn, from gardening to sports meets!

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### [Pumpkin Picking - Decker Farm](#)

October 17, 2010 - Staten Island

Search for and select your pumpkins for the fall season and enjoy a hayride and corn maze. Pumpkins are available for purchase by the pound. Parking is available at Historic Richmond Town; a free shuttle service to the farm will be provided.

### [Old Home Day - Historic Richmond Town](#)

October 17, 2010 - Staten Island

Watch as numerous hand crafts that defined American life in previous centuries come to life. Learn how these skills helped build thousands of small villages and towns into a prosperous nation. Savor fresh hot bread baked from the 200-year-old village oven and then head to the farm for pumpkin picking and a hay ride. It's all part of the delicious fun strolling through America's past and present.

### [Art Works - Brooklyn Children's Museum](#)

October 17, 2010 -

Visit the Totally Tots Art Studio and see what activity is in store for your young Picasso (ages 5 and under).



## NYMETROPARENTS

### **This Weekend's Kids & Family Activities in Brooklyn**

by Directories Editor - Weekly



There's so much to do with your family in Brooklyn on the weekends! Interested in theater and museums? How about a festival or concert? Find it in our list of this weekend's best kids and family activities in Brooklyn. Or, check out NY Metro Parents' [calendar](#) for upcoming weekend family and children events.

#### [Little Scientists - Brooklyn Children's Museum](#)

October 20, 2010 -

Investigate the world of natural science with hand-on activities. Recommended for ages 5 and under.

#### [Clay Play - Staten Island Children's Museum](#)

October 20, 2010 - Staten Island

An opportunity for you and yours to squeeze, mold, and temper some clay, and perhaps create something beautiful.

#### [Children's Hour - Brooklyn Public Library: Crown Heights Branch](#)

October 20, 2010 - Brooklyn

After-school activities that include read alouds, games, arts and crafts, and special programs.

#### [Electronic Gaming - Brooklyn Public Library: Gravesend Branch](#)

October 20, 2010 - Brooklyn

A chance to meet friends while playing Wii, Playstation, and Rock Band

[Black Violin - Center for the Arts, College of Staten Island](#)

October 23, 2010 - Staten Island

Kev Marcus and Wil B, the artists behind Black Violin are classically trained musicians who, along with their DJ TK, have created the ultimate synergy between classical and hip-hop music. Performing and touring with Alicia Keys, Diddy, and Akon, Black Violin is committed to give back and educate children that classical music is cool.

[It's My Park Day - Prospect Park](#)

October 23, 2010 - Brooklyn

Join thousands of New Yorkers at Prospect Park and more than 150 sites in all five boroughs to help clean up the parks.

[Pumpkin Picking - Decker Farm](#)

October 23, 2010 - Staten Island

Search for and select your pumpkins for the fall season. Parking is available at Historic Richmond Town; a free shuttle service to the farm will be provided.

[Be Green Kids Consignments Fall 2010 Sale - Textile Arts Center](#)

October 23, 2010 - Brooklyn

Sell unwanted children's items or purchase them at a discount.

[Art Works - Brooklyn Children's Museum](#)

October 23, 2010 -

Visit the Totally Tots Art Studio and see what activity is in store for your young Picasso (ages 5 and under). Additional class at 2:30pm.

[Bark Painting - Brooklyn Children's Museum](#)

October 23, 2010 - Brooklyn

Painting on natural materials such as tree bark is a practice that has spanned centuries and continents. Bark painting is a tradition in Australia and participants will create their own Australian bark painting to take home. Recommended for ages 3 and older.

[Beauty and the Beast - Puppetworks](#)

October 23, 2010 - Brooklyn

This season's production of Beauty and the Beast features the same artfully crafted marionettes and lively character voicings as everything Puppetworks has done for decades.

[Saturday's Tots - Staten Island Children's Museum](#)

October 23, 2010 - Staten Island

A time for parents and toddlers to spend some quality time singing, creating and sharing adventures.

## NYMETROPARENTS

### Today's Family & Kids Activities in Manhattan-Oct 23

by Directories Editor



The options for finding fun family activities in New York City are limitless. Below we've compiled the best of today's events. Whether your family prefers music and museums or theater and libraries, check out today's family activities in Manhattan. Making plans for next weekend? Take a glance at the NY Metro Parents' calendar! Want to see what's going on next weekend or when you have those few days off? Check out the NY Metro Parents' [calendar](#)!

[Watson Adventures' Wizard School Scavenger Hunt for Harry Potter Fans - Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)  
October 23, 2010 -

Kids (10 and up) and adults can follow in the footsteps of young wizards on an adventure in the museum, where they'll search for art that echoes characters, places, and enchanted objects featured in the Harry Potter books and movies. Advance purchase required at [www.watsonadventures.com](http://www.watsonadventures.com).

[Brownstone School's Halloween Fun Fair - PS 87 School Yard](#)  
October 23, 2010 - Manhattan

This fair is also the school's largest annual fundraiser. Attractions include bouncy rides, a life-sized Candyland course, pumpkin and cupcake decorating, games, music, and food.

[Black Violin - Center for the Arts, College of Staten Island](#)  
October 23, 2010 - Staten Island

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## Music made to be seen at CSI

Published: Thursday, October 28, 2010, 1:54 PM



**Mark D. Stein**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - WILLOWBROOK - The Department of Performing and Creative Arts at the College of Staten Island (CSI) has always risen to the occasion, and once again, it delivered.



David Wechsler, left, a professor at the **College of Staten Island**, plays the flute as James Johnston performs on the piano during the OMNI Ensemble, held inside the Recital Hall in the Willowbrook school's Center for the Performing Arts. (Staten Island Advance/Mark Stein)

Last Thursday, the OMNI Ensemble played up close and person for more than 2 dozen students and school staff members inside the Willowbrook campus' Recital Hall, inside the Center of the Arts Building.

"We do music hours once a month for students; it gives them a chance to see live music and a chance to see their professors perform," said Jennifer Straniere, manager of the department. "It's free art, and in this case, free music."

Musicians, clad in black, were led by David Wechsler, a jazz teacher and flutist at **CSI** for many years who is beginning his 28th year with the Ensemble. Joining him were John Johnston, a pianist new to the group who joined Wechsler and others on stage for most of their hour-long show.

They performed "Amiable Beast," a flute and piano piece which is comprised of three different portions,

composed by Jay Vilnai.

The group's new cellist, Brian Snow, helped switch up the pace when he joined in mid-way through the performance. Guest vocalist Renee Manning topped off the show with her mesmerizing voice, singing in harmony with the musicians' instrumentals.

Wechsler said his performance includes a lot of improvisation and relies on great chemistry with the other musicians.

Wechsler said hearing music performed can help students better relate to the subject, as opposed to listening to a lecture.

And it's even better to hear it in person.

"When you hear it on a record, it's removed from the reality, from what it really is to hear it live," he said. "If you're going to cultivate to a music department, it's great to see it live."

Professor David Keberle, program coordinator for music, said enjoying music live is a great opportunity for students who haven't been exposed to hearing music in person.

"For many of the students, it's one of the first concerts of this nature," he said.

Mauricio Fajardo, a 17-year-old freshman from Brooklyn, was impressed.

"I thought it was pretty good," he said, putting emphasis on the cellist's role.

He said his interest level in the genre increased.

"It's a different variety of music. You can't just listen to one," he mentioned.

Following the show, Andrew Conti, a sophomore from Rosebank, said the performance was cool.

He attended it on his own time, and said it was worth it, adding that the genre deserves its due.

"It all boils down to taste. It's nice to give classical music that recognition," said Conti, noting that other styles have bumped it from the mainstream spotlight.

Information on upcoming events, which are either free or at most \$10 per person, are open to everyone, including the public, and can be obtained at the Center of the Arts, Building 1P. The college is at 2800 Victory Blvd.