

Big Shot back home at RIT



Mix a splash of spirit, hundreds of flashes of light and a dash of good weather, and it's the perfect recipe for RIT's Big Shot. Hundreds of volunteers gathered in the administration circle to light up The Sentinel sculpture, the Student Alumni Union and the George Eastman Building on Sept. 12 to celebrate RIT's 175th anniversary. This is RIT's 21st Big Shot. It's described as a "painting with light" photograph because the camera flashes and flashlights provided by the volunteers illuminate the subject area during a several-minute exposure.

news&events

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Concert to benefit South African orphans

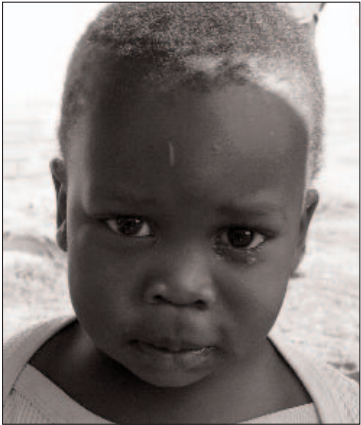
What dominates the landscape of South Africa is not exotic vegetation or animal sightings, but orphans raising orphans because there is no one else left to help. AIDS has taken a toll on the youths of South Africa, and while it continues to scorch the earth, it barely makes a ripple in the United States—until people like Colleen Freeman decide to help, not with false hope, but with a commitment to do something meaningful.

Freeman, coordinator for interpreting services in RIT's College of Liberal Arts, visited South Africa in 2003 and 2004 on a personal quest that changed her life.

"I wanted to take a first-hand look at the culture," Freeman says. "These people, many of those dying from AIDS, don't have proper medical attention and are living in such poverty and without food," she notes, "but the one thing they would say they needed most were jobs."

Freeman brought their message home and together with interpreting services colleagues, Kathy Darroch and Cynthia Collward, came up with a plan of action called Microfinance for Youth of South Africa.

The fund-raising event will kick off with an afternoon concert of



A personal journey to South Africa changed one woman's view of orphans.

eclectic musical styles from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 26, in Ingle Auditorium. Music will be provided by John Nyerges, Tony Padilla and Cachao, Steve Rowen, Emily Kirchoff and The Bill Welch Band.

For additional information on the concert and to RSVP, contact Colleen Freeman at [cmfdis@rit.edu](mailto:cmfdis@rit.edu). n

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RIT celebrates opening of Gordon Field House and Activities Center



In photo at right, Bob Gordon, far left, presents a plaque to students Sheila Sarratore and Matt Swain at the dedication of the Gordon Field House and Activities Center, a facility named in his honor, on Sept. 10.

The event featured demonstrations of the multi-use facility by RIT athletes and a special appearance by Jim Kelly, left photo, four-time Super Bowl quarterback for the Buffalo Bills and member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

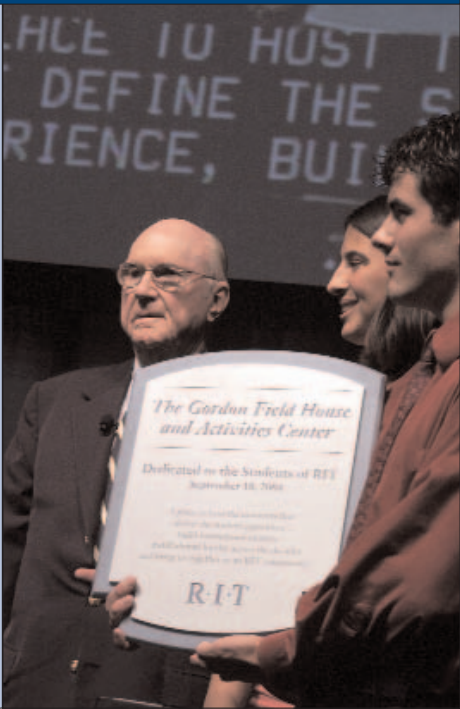


Photo students learn from a master  
Rodney Smith known for black and white images

You've heard the saying, "It's not always black and white." In the photographic world of Rodney Smith, it always is. The popular commercial, fashion and landscape photographer, known for his black and white images, will make his first visit to RIT.

Smith, who shoots for a host of commercial and editorial fashion accounts, will give a free lecture at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 30, in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. A reception immediately follows.

"I grew up in a tradition where being a photographer was a very noble pursuit," Smith says. "You pursued it for the love and the passion, and doing it was a very difficult thing to do. There are thousands of people who take photographs, but very few photographers, because one has to have an eye, one has to have the vision, one has to have something to say."

"Smith's exquisite black and white



A.J. on a ladder, Harriman Estate, 1994. Photograph by Rodney Smith

images evoke a whimsical surrealist expression," says Denis Defibaugh, associate professor, School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

Photography students will have the opportunity for Smith to critique their work on Oct. 1 during a portfolio review. A location and time will be announced at

the lecture. The lecture and portfolio review are sponsored by Eastman Kodak Co.

No matter how different Smith's subject matter, one factor remains consistent: Smith always uses Kodak's professional black and white film, Tri-X.

And Kodak's Tri-X film is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Throughout the day on Sept. 30, Kodak will offer specials on film and black and white photographic paper at RIT's Campus Connections bookstore. There will also be giveaways. n

Kelly Downs | [kaduns@rit.edu](mailto:kaduns@rit.edu)

Becker named assistant VP

RIT's Division of Finance and Administration recently announced a promotion and a new appointment.

Marty Becker was promoted to assistant vice president for Facilities Management Services.

Becker has oversight of about 200 employees and successfully led more than \$40 million in construction projects during the past five years, says Jim Watters, vice president of finance and administration.

"This is to acknowledge Marty's significant accomplishments in leading major projects on campus," says Watters. "He has created an efficient and effective workforce and shown great leadership."

Steven Morse has been appointed executive director of internal audit and compliance. Morse was previously the chief financial officer of Genesee Corp. Morse is responsible for ensuring that RIT is compliant with numerous regulations. This new position was created to keep RIT ahead of the curve on fair and accurate reporting practices, says Watters. n

Bob Finnerty | [refuns@rit.edu](mailto:refuns@rit.edu)



Marty Becker

Lecture by sports photographer

*Sports Illustrated* photographer Bill Frakes will give a free lecture at RIT at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 7, in the B. Thomas Golisano College auditorium.



Olympic Divers by Bill Frakes

Frakes, who recently returned from the Olympic Games in Athens, has captured some of the greatest moments in sports history in his 20-year career with *Sports Illustrated*.

One of Frakes' most popular images is of Olympic gold medalist Marion Jones winning the 100-meter dash at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. Frakes advises photojournalist students to worry about content more than technique.

"Great photographers use their minds, eyes, souls, hearts and don't concern themselves so much with the black box," he says.

His lecture is co-sponsored by Bogen Imaging Inc. and the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences. n

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\$1 million gift

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digital signal-processing integrated circuits. One of the RIT engineering college's first and strongest industrial affiliates, the company currently employs 30 RIT alumni. The gift to RIT represents one of the largest ever to a university by the firm.

"RIT is not only educating the next generation of professionals through the analog and mixed-signal design program, it is advancing the scientific knowledge vital to our industry through the new research facility," says Sam Fuller, ADI's vice president of research and development." n

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# ·I·T news&events

Rochester Institute of Technology

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## Inside



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RIT galleries open  
2004-2005 season



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CIAS alumni profile—photo  
legend Bernie Boston

## \$1 million gift for new electrical engineering lab

RIT’s electrical engineering department in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering is launching a new lab and program concentration thanks to a \$1 million gift from Analog Devices Inc.

The analog and mixed-signal program concentration merges studies of analog integrated electronic circuit

design and digital signal processing into a single environment providing a foundation for professional engineering careers or



Robert Bowman

graduate study. The new 4,000-square-foot Integrated Microsystems Laboratory is scheduled to open in the James E. Gleason Building in December, says Robert Bowman, lab director and department head of electrical engineering.

“The research mission of the lab is to explore, understand, develop and apply emerging technologies in integrated electronics, communications, microelectromechanical systems and biotechnology while investigating novel analog and digital integrated circuit design methods and system-on-chip architectures,” Bowman says. “Our partnership with an industry leader like ADI is essential in developing relevant educational and research programs.”

Examples of devices using this technology include heart pacemakers, air-bag sensors and cellular telephone signal processors.

ADI, a semiconductor firm based in Norwood, Mass., specializes in high-performance analog, mixed-signal and \$1 million gift, page 4

## Robert Redford speaks to RIT community Oct. 23

RIT Student Government welcomes an Academy Award winner as this year’s featured guest for the Horton Distinguished Speaker Series.

Robert Redford, internationally acclaimed for his work as a motion picture actor, director and producer, will speak at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23, in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. His talk is among the highlights of the 2004 Brick City Festival.

In his debut as a feature film director, Redford earned a Golden Globe Award, a Directors Guild of America Award and an Oscar for the 1980 movie *Ordinary People*. Since then, he has received numerous other award nominations for various behind-the-scenes projects in Hollywood. As an actor, Redford received an Academy Award nomination for his performance in *The Sting* (1973).



Robert Redford

A strong advocate of independent filmmaking, Redford founded the Sundance Institute in 1980, which sponsors the annual Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. The festival is considered to be the top venue for the presentation of independent films in the United States.

“It’s a great honor to welcome such a legendary figure to campus,” says Sheila Sarratore, president of Student Government. “Mr. Redford’s work with the Sundance Film Festival is a great source of inspiration for RIT’s talented film students,

and his work on behalf of various environmental causes offers inspiration for all of us.”

Jack Garner, film critic for the *Democrat and Chronicle*, will moderate Redford’s presentation.

Tickets—\$3 for students, \$8 for student family members, alumni, faculty and staff, and \$12 for the public—can be purchased at the candy counter in the Student Alumni Union.

Student Government created the Horton Distinguished Speaker Series to profile influential people addressing relevant social and political issues. Past speakers include Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, Lech Welesa, Spike Lee and Colin Powell.

Frank Horton, retired congressman and longtime RIT supporter in whose honor the series is named, passed away last month. ▯

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

## RIT ‘ROCS’ the local community with service projects

An “Army of Orange” tackled volunteer projects in the Rochester area and other parts of the country and in Europe as part of RIT ROCS Day on Sept. 18.

More than 2,000 members of RIT’s extended family donned orange T-shirts for ROCS—Reaching Out for Community Service—Day, part of the commemoration of RIT’s 175th anniversary. That number included about 300 faculty, staff and alumni in the Rochester area plus about 800 participants in the annual Mud Tug fund-raiser event on campus. More than 300 faculty, staff and students at RIT’s campuses in Croatia and Kosovo participated, and more than 50 alumni took part in projects organized by a half-dozen alumni chapters around the U.S.

“RIT’s community involvement is well known, but this event is an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment as part of the celebration of a milestone in the university’s history,” says Cindee Gray, RIT’s assistant vice president for government and community relations. “It was especially gratifying to see so many students joining with staff, faculty and alumni to make this event a huge success.”



More than 80 students, staff and faculty at RIT’s partner, American University in Kosovo, participated in ROCS Day by cleaning debris from a city park in Pristina near the college campus.

The day began in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center, with encouragement from RIT President Albert Simone and RIT Trustee Tom Hubbard, CEO of High Falls Brewing Co. and chair of the 2005 United Way Campaign. Projects included:

- ▯ Helping with activities at the Fun on the Farm Festival at Springdale Farm in Ogden, sponsored by Heritage Christian Services Inc.
- ▯ Cleaning and packaging used computers for distribution by Microcycle in Rochester
- ▯ Sorting food at Foodlink

distribution center

- ▯ Cleaning and gardening at the North East Neighborhood Alliance in Rochester
- ▯ Food preparation and cleaning at Central Church of Christ in Rochester
- ▯ Coastal cleanup along the Genesee River in Genesee Valley Park and on the Lake Ontario shore at Durand-Eastman Park
- ▯ Gardening and cleanup at the Humane Society’s Lollypop Farm in Perinton ▯

Kathy Lindsley | kjlcom@rit.edu

## NASA awards RIT \$1.2 million for space exploration

The success of the Mars Exploration Rovers is a sign of things to come in the realm of space exploration. Robotic technology will play an increasingly important role in NASA’s new Exploration Systems Mission Directorate—one of the biggest initiatives since the Apollo Program.

NASA recently awarded RIT and its research partners at the NASA Glenn Research Center and the Ohio Aerospace Institute, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pennsylvania State University and the Space Vacuum Epitaxy Center at the University of



Ryne Raffaele

Houston \$6 million as part of the Human and Robotic Technology program to study nanomaterials and nanostructure for space photovoltaics.

RIT will receive \$1.2 million in support of its role in the project.

The four-year project, led by Sheila Bailey of the NASA Glenn Research Center, is focused on the use of nanotechnology and nanomaterials like quantum dots—granules of semiconductor material—to develop the next generation of space solar cells.

Scientists in RIT’s NanoPower Laboratories will use plastic solar cells containing nanomaterials to try to maximize energy conversion and exploit the sun as a power source.

“Plastic solar cells have been around for a long time,” says Ryne Raffaele, director of the lab. “We’re trying to use nanotechnology to

improve their efficiency. Quantum dots may be the key to improving the best crystalline cells available today and to making plastic solar cells better.”

More efficient solar cells would upgrade the power supplies used in robotic exploration, improving performance and range.

The Exploration Systems Mission Directorate was established in response to President Bush’s space exploration policy to send astronauts on a return visit to the moon by 2020 and to realize a manned trip to Mars.

RIT’s involvement in the Human and Robotic Technology program is an extension of previous collaborations between the NPRL and the Glenn Research Center that were funded by NASA and the National Science Foundation. ▯

Susan Gawlowitz | smguns@rit.edu

## Brick City highlights



A wide array of events will highlight this year’s Brick City Festival:

### Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Free concert featuring popular hits and music from classic movies, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 21, Gordon Field House

### Musical artist Kanye West

8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 22, Gordon Field House

### Film Festival Honors Show

2004 Works produced by School of Film and Animation students, 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 23, Chester F. Carlson Auditorium

### Kaleidoscope Concert

RIT musical talent, 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 23, Gordon Field House

### Comedian David Spade

Cast member of ABC’s *8 Simple Rules* and former *Saturday Night Live* star performs live, 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 23, Gordon Field House

### Model Railroad Club’s Train Show

Displays and workshops, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 24, Student Alumni Union

For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity).

## Liberal Arts hosts Brick City memoirs

The department of language and literature in the College of Liberal Arts and *Signatures* magazine will host Brick City Memoirs, an all-day, free celebration honoring RIT’s 175th anniversary, featuring readings and reminiscences by RIT faculty, alumni and students on Friday, Oct. 8.

The event will include:

- ▯ Faculty and emeritus readings and reminiscences, 10 a.m.-noon, Chester F. Carlson Auditorium
- ▯ Luncheon, noon-1:30 p.m., COLA Faculty Commons. Presentation of *175*—a limited edition volume honoring the past century of RIT student creativity. The publication was designed by the *Signatures* staff, in cooperation with the Cary Library, the RIT Archives and the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences’ Printing Applications Laboratory.
- ▯ Additional readings, 1:30-4 p.m., Carlson Auditorium

For information, or to be a reader, contact John Roche at [jfrgla@rit.edu](mailto:jfrgla@rit.edu) or Rahul Mehta at [rkmgsi@rit.edu](mailto:rkmgsi@rit.edu). ▯

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# RIT celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

## Author and actor will speak during October campus events

RIT celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with two October events. Author Sandra Benitez—the recipient of the 2004 Hispanic Heritage Award for Literature—will speak at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 2 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union.

A reception and autograph signing will follow in Fireside Lounge. Benitez has authored four novels—*A Place Where the Sea Remembers*, *Bitter Grounds*, *The Weight of All Things* and *Night of the Radishes*.

Born in Washington, D.C., her life and writing have been enhanced by the Latin American culture of her Puerto Rican mother and Anglo-American father from Missouri. Her stories give voice to the tales of humble, hopeful people: Salvadoran servants, coffee pickers, farmers working their small plots of land, Mexican paper-flower makers, hotel chambermaids, mid-wives and salad-makers. Benitez is a creative writing teacher and lecturer and has recently



Sandra Benitez

completed her first non-fiction book, *Bag Lady: How One Woman Turned the Sow's Ear of a Chronic Disease into the Silk Purse of a Fulfilling Life*, documenting her 30-year struggle with inflammatory bowel disease. Tickets, available from the SAU candy counter, are \$2 for students and children and \$5 general admission. Call 475-5210 to purchase with credit card. Edward James Olmos—an actor, director, producer and community



Edward James Olmos

activist—will speak at 8 p.m. on Oct. 9 in Ingle Auditorium. Following his talk, “We’re All in the Same Gang,” will be an autograph signing and reception in Fireside Lounge. As an award-winning actor, Olmos played the role of Lt. Castillo in the popular TV series, *Miami Vice*—for which he won an Emmy and a Golden Globe Award—and starred in Gregory Nava’s hit film, *Selena*. He received another Golden Globe for his work in 1994’s *The Burning Season* and an Oscar

nomination for *Stand and Deliver*. Olmos now stars in the PBS series, *American Family*—the first Latino drama series on American broadcast television. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Olmos takes a special interest in the problems that youth confront. He does his part by serving as executive director of the Lives in Hazard Education project, a national gang prevention program, and as the U.S. Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF. Tickets, also available at the SAU candy counter, are \$5 for students, \$12 for faculty, staff and alumni, and \$18 general admission. Call 475-5210 to purchase with credit card. Both speakers are sponsored by the Cultural Spotlight Series, Center for Campus Life, North Star Center and Student Hispanic Heritage planning committee. Sign language interpreters have been requested. ▬ Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom@rit.edu

# Biotech lecture series to begin

## Line-up of speakers to address biotech issues

Recent advances in biomedical science and biotechnology have sparked a national dialogue about the implications of modern medicine. The lecture series, Biotechnology: Our Future as Human Beings and Citizens, will feature prominent scholars who represent a wide range of positions in the debate over biotechnology. They will explore the challenge and promises this technological revolution poses for self-government, for individuals’ understanding of liberty and equality, and notions of humanity, virtue and citizenship. “RIT has assembled a lineup of outstanding natural science and social science scholars to address the range of issues facing biotechnology,” says John Murley, chair of political science in the College of Liberal Arts. “This lecture series is perhaps the foremost public discussion of the medical and social ramifications of the advances in biotechnology to take place in this country to date.” The free, public talks will be held

at 7:30 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium in the Student Alumni Union. The series will kick off with “The Role of Genomics in Drug Discovery” by William Haseltine on Thursday, Sept. 30. Haseltine, chair of the board of directors and chief executive officer of Human Genome Science Inc., holds a doctorate from Harvard University in biophysics and was formerly a professor at Dana-Farber Public Cancer Institute at the Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health. Since 1981, he has founded seven biotechnology firms. Upcoming talks will feature Ron Bailey, Francis Fukuyama, Lee Silver, Larry Arnhart and Leon Kass, M.D. The lecture series is co-sponsored by RIT and the New York Council for the Humanities. For more information, contact Murley at 475-2064 or jamgcj@rit.edu or Sean Sutton at 475-4620 or sdsghm@rit.edu. ▬ Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

# New ‘Common Novel’ announced

Award-winning novelist Andre Dubus III’s bestseller, *House of Sand and Fog*, is the common text being read this year by students enrolled in Writing and Literature I and II in the language and literature department in the College of Liberal Arts. Dubus will visit RIT to talk to students about his novel and to give a free lecture at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 20, in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. *House of Sand and Fog* focuses on an impassioned clash over a piece of property between an Iranian immigrant and a single working-class woman recovering from alcohol and drug addictions. “The novel takes a hard look at racism and prejudice and shows how, with imagination and empathy, we can make sense of it,” says Linda Reinfeld, chair of the common text committee. “That’s what we hope our students will be able to do.” The following panel discussion will lead up to Dubus’ lecture and will focus on: ▬ The immigrant experience, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 6, Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building. Babak Elahi, professor of



Students are reading *House of Sand and Fog*, by Andre Dubus III, as this year’s Common Text. language and literature, will lead the discussion. ▬ *House of Sand and Fog* as novel and film, lecture by Mark Price, professor of language and literature, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 13, Ingle Auditorium. For more information about the lecture, call 475-6928. ▬ Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

# RIT helps launch tourism academy

## Charlotte High School students visit RIT

One hundred 10th-graders from Charlotte High School visited RIT on Sept. 10 as part of the high school’s new Academy of Hospitality and Tourism. The field trip took the students to the RIT Inn & Conference Center, where they heard from RIT faculty, students and alumni about responsibilities, challenges, leadership and management issues in the hospitality, travel and tourism industries. RIT’s School of Hospitality and Service Management helped launch the academy this year. Later this fall, a second group of 100 Charlotte High students will visit RIT, and high school and RIT faculty will meet to discuss joint projects, says



Francis Domoy

Francis Domoy, professor and chair of RIT’s School of Hospitality and Service Management. “A goal of the alliance is to build a career-oriented curriculum emphasizing leadership and innovation, and spanning an eight-year period from ninth grade through college,” says Domoy. A new group of Charlotte High students are expected to visit RIT each year, he adds. Supported by a grant from the National Academy Foundation, the academy also offers two courses and arranges student internships. In another partnership, students from the Holley Central School District will attend RIT classes and work with RIT faculty and students on hotel management projects later this year. After leaving RIT, the Charlotte High students trekked back closer to home and got an up-close look at the fast ferry, the Spirit of Ontario. ▬ Michael Saffran | mjsuns@rit.edu

### Sitting it out



Sigma Alpha Mu concluded its 10th annual Pole Sit on Sept. 10, benefiting the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Members of the fraternity took turns over a four-day period sitting atop a 40-foot utility pole to raise money for the organization that grants wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. The event is part of the fraternity members’ efforts to be responsible citizens and perform community service.

# RIT galleries open new art season

RIT galleries extend a warm invitation to the campus and Rochester community to enjoy several distinctive exhibitions during the new 2004-2005 season. In honor of RIT’s 175th anniversary, Bevier Gallery debuts artwork by a Rochester pioneer in the arts and crafts movement—former Mechanics’ Institute graduate and instructor, M. Louise Stowell.

**Bevier Gallery**, James E. Booth Building ▬ “M. Louise Stowell: Arts and Crafts Artist and Educator,” Sept. 17–Oct. 13; opening reception, 5-7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 1; symposium: M. Louise Stowell and the Arts and Crafts at RIT, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 2, Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building ▬ “Conversations,” Oct. 22-Nov. 17; contemporary artwork; opening reception, 5-7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 22 ▬ Faculty exhibition, Dec. 3-Jan. 5; annual exhibition showcasing recent work by faculty members from the School of Art, School of Design and School for American Crafts; opening reception, 5-7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3 ▬ 2005 Rochester-Finger Lakes Region Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition, Feb. 5-22; award-winning art by junior and senior high school students from central and western New York state; opening reception, 10-11 a.m., SAU; recognition ceremony, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., SAU For information and gallery hours, call 475-7680 or 475-2646.

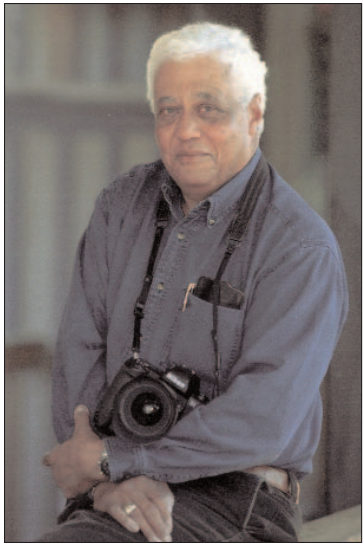


Some of the work featured in the 2004 Rochester-Finger Lakes Region Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition

**Gallery r**, 775 Park Ave.; RIT’s student-run metro showcase for contemporary art ▬ “Humor in Art,” Oct. 7-Nov. 6; three artist curators select best of RIT student work that makes us smile; opening reception, 7-9:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 15 ▬ RIT Brick City Weekend, Oct. 23; Gallery r schedules extended hours for families and alumni to visit during the anniversary festivities ▬ “School of Art Illustration Alumni Invitational,” Nov. 11-Dec. 11; guest curator Robert Dorsey showcases the variety of subjects and media that professional illustrators employ in their art; artist reception, 7-9:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 10 ▬ Park Avenue Holiday Open House, Dec. 2; School of Art sculpture students create ice sculpture; Gallery r hosts silent auction, 5-9 p.m. For information and hours, call 292-9470 or visit [www.galleryr.org](http://www.galleryr.org).

**SPAS Gallery**, Frank E. Gannett Building ▬ MFA/Gleason, Sept. 10-26 ▬ MFA/Griffin, Oct. 1-17 ▬ MFA/Jordan, Miyoshi, Oct. 23-Nov. 4 ▬ Holiday Silent Auction, Dec. 2; sponsored by the Graduate Association ▬ MFA/Breger, Finger, Dec. 6-19 Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu





Self-portrait of Boston, 1999.

*“I’ve been around photographers all my adult life, or most of it, and I think that I can say that I’ve developed an appreciation for your craft. So, it’s as an old pro that I admire the work of each of you and that each of you performs.”*—Ronald Reagan

President Reagan made these remarks during the annual awards dinner of the White House News Photographers Association in May of 1984. And one of the photojournalists Reagan was praising was RIT alum Bernie Boston, ’55 (photography).

Boston photographed numerous U.S. presidents during his 30-year career. He spent most of it in the Washington area, retiring in 1994 from *The Los Angeles Times*. Boston had established a photo operation in the *Times*’ Washington bureau.

In 1991, he was presented with the Kodak/White House News Photographers’ Association Achievement Award.

The 71-year-old, who now lives in Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley, expected to retire to what he calls “a life of leisure and bad golf,” but Boston still picks up a camera everyday.

Four years ago, he and his wife, Peggy, bought a local monthly newspaper, the *Bryce Mountain Courier*. Boston is the publisher and photographer, shooting 90 percent of the newspaper’s photographs. In addition to the newspaper, the couple owns two AM radio stations.

Boston frequently visits RIT, a place that holds fond memories for him. He has returned to teach photojournalism classes as well.



Flower Power, Anti-Vietnam Protest at the Pentagon, 1967. Photo taken by Boston.

While a student here, Boston attended classes at the downtown campus. He helped establish a professional photographic fraternity, Delta Lambda Epsilon, and was also president of the student body.

In 2003, RIT honored Boston with the Outstanding Alumnus Award. “It was a humbling experience, and I was first surprised and then honored,” says Boston. “I have considered my years in the business as average, and honors and awards I feel are for other people.”

Boston’s years ‘in the business’ have been anything but average. In addition to photographing Reagan, Boston has photographed Presidents Kennedy, Eisenhower, Ford, Nixon,

Carter, Clinton and George Herbert Walker Bush. Boston even once teamed up with Bush for a game of horseshoes.

Boston’s personal favorite photograph is his most famous. Known as *Flower Power*, Boston captured the image during the Vietnam anti-war protest at the Pentagon in 1967.

“There is no one highlight during my career in photography,” he says. “I’ve covered the civil disorders during the ’60s, which in themselves were exciting. I have had the privilege to cover several presidents and to cover both the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. I am proud to have covered much of our modern day history.”

Boston’s advice for aspiring photojournalists? “Be inquisitive and be able to get along with all kinds of people, no matter their religion, race or socioeconomic background. And be able to do an honest job of recording what you see and not put your own feelings into the photograph as to distort the true meaning of the assignment.” n

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

## New club teaches about pharmaceutical industry

Handwriting on the white board in RIT’s Integrated Plastics Center announced, “Drug Club Meeting, Thursday, 3:30, 9th Sept.” But it’s not what you may think.

Or maybe it is—after all, the pharmaceutical industry is one of the fastest growing manufacturing sectors in the world, employing 293,000 in the United States alone, according to the Department of Labor.

RIT students wanting to join those ranks now have a club to satisfy their interest. They were among a dozen packaging science majors drawn to the inaugural meeting of RIT’s new Pharmaceutical Club. Advisor Fritz Yambrach, associate professor of packaging science, hopes the group also attracts a cross section of students from business, engineering, science and other majors. Anyone interested in exploring jobs in the pharmaceutical industry is welcome, he says.

Activities planned include field trips to pharmaceutical manufacturing firms, trade-group functions and guest lectures. Group members will also enjoy educational social activities, such as playing The Pharm Game, which was created by the industry to train new employees on everything from research to product



Members of the Pharmaceutical Club gather around club advisor Fritz Yambrach as he explains *The Pharm Game* at the group’s inaugural meeting on Sept. 9. The club is geared toward students interested in pursuing careers in the pharmaceutical industry.

launch. Game questions focusing on regulations, clinical research, chemistry, and drug research and development teach industry terminology. RIT graduates will have an edge over those from other schools, Yambrach predicts, because the game and club are uniquely industry-centered.

Laura Armani, a fifth-year packaging science major and club member, agrees. “I expect to broaden my

knowledge of the process required to take a pharmaceutical product from the early stages of development through distribution and sales,” she says. “I’m looking forward to the club being a very fun and interactive experience.”

The club recently received start-up funding through the RIT Provost’s Learning Innovations Grant for Faculty Projects program, which annually awards a total of \$125,000 to various faculty initiatives aiming to enhance student learning.

“This is cutting-edge, real neat stuff,” says Yambrach, an RIT professor since 1983 and who teaches the course, Medical Products Packaging. He has also worked for and continues to consult for pharmaceutical firms.

Oh, and about that club name written on the white board. . . . Partway through the initial meeting, founding club members turned their attention to formally naming the nascent group. Though “Drug Club” drew chuckles, everyone eventually settled on the more sterile, but descriptive, “Pharmaceutical Club.”

Students interested in joining the club *don’t* have to ask their doctor if it’s right for them. Instead, use as directed and contact Chris Robinson, club vice president, at cqrmet@rit.edu. n

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### Trophy time



New York State Senator Joe Robach, third from left, receives a first-place softball trophy from President Albert Simone. Simone captained the president’s team to another championship in the annual campus softball tournament. Other members of the championship team included SUNY Chancellor Robert King, Assemblyman Joe Morelle and several RIT alumni.

### News briefs

#### Nanotechnology talk

Writer Kathleen Goonan will discuss the role of science fiction in science discourse in her talk, “Nanotechnology and the Body: A Convergence of Technology, Choices and Ethics,” 2 p.m. Sept. 27 in Chester F. Carlson Auditorium.

Goonan’s talk is part of the class The Discourse of Nanotechnology and Social Change, led by Diane Hope, Kern Professor in Communications, and Paul Petersen, special assistant to the provost on nanotechnology and former dean of the College of Engineering. For information, call 475-2057.

#### Henry’s opens for fall

Henry’s restaurant, on the fourth floor of the George Eastman Building, opens for fall quarter on Sept. 28. Operated by RIT hospitality and service management majors, the eatery serves bistro-style lunches 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Nov. 9. Take-out orders and RIT debit cards are accepted. For information, call 475-2351 or visit [www.rit.edu/~henrys](http://www.rit.edu/~henrys).

#### Literature conference

One of the hottest topics in writing and literature will be explored during the New York College English Association conference, Crossing Borders, at RIT Oct. 1-2.

Scholars will challenge the boundaries of interdisciplinary studies and the role of writing and literature starting at 9 a.m. on Oct. 1 in the Student Alumni Union.

Mary Lynn Broe, chair of RIT’s language and literature department, will present, “‘Biting off too much Sky?’: Nearly 35 Years Working in the (Women’s Studies) Life,” at noon on Oct. 2 in the Skalny Room, Interfaith Center.

For registration details, visit [www.rit.edu/~langlit/lang.html](http://www.rit.edu/~langlit/lang.html) or contact Rebecca Housel at rahgsl@rit.edu or Vincent Golphin at vxggs@rit.edu.

#### Engineering speaker series

The Kate Gleason College of Engineering kicks off its 2004-2005 Distinguished Speaker Series with a talk on Oct. 7 by retired Air Force Col. Richard Graham on “SR-71—An Engineering Marvel.” The talk, open to the public, will be held 1-1:50 p.m. in Xerox Auditorium in the James E. Gleason Building. For information, contact Mary Jane Frind at 475-2146 or mjseen@rit.edu.

#### ASQ student branch

RIT’s John D. Hromi Center for Quality and Applied Statistics in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering is starting a student branch of the American Society for Quality.

Activities include presentations, tours and training, and certification in process quality improvement methods such as Lean Enterprise and Six Sigma. For information, contact Peter Bajorski, associate professor of quality and applied statistics and group advisor, at 475-7889 or Peter.Bajorski@rit.edu.

#### Golfing for charity

More than 70 golfers, including students, faculty, alumni and local civil engineers, recently raised nearly \$1,000 for Flower City Habitat for Humanity and RIT’s concrete canoe and steel bridge student competition teams at the sixth annual Civil Engineering Technology/Environmental Management and Safety Golf Classic.