FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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International study endowment

Clowes Fund provides $75,000 challenge, Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation matches for Herron’s budding artists to travel abroad

Herron students in Venice at the Peggy Guggenheim Museum.

When The Clowes Fund announced its support through a $75,000 challenge grant to grow Herron School of Art and Design’s Reverend A.G. Fraser International Travel Fund, the gift came with a challenge: come up with a match. The Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation stepped forward, in effect doubling its own $75,000 grant through the challenge. The $150,000 in new gifts combined to bolster the Reverend A.G. Fraser International Travel Fund, an endowment which has now exceeded the goal of reaching $300,000. This support will provide travel awards in perpetuity for Herron School of Art and Design students.

So far in 2011, faculty members have led 28 students to programs in England and Italy with stops in London, Rome, Florence, Assisi, Siena and Venice. Fourteen of these students went with $12,000 in awards ranging from $500 to $1,000 each from the Fraser Travel endowment.

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The Clowes Fund’s generous challenge grant was given in honor of former Herron art history faculty member A. Ian Fraser. Fraser was the driving force behind some of the school’s earliest international trips after its merger with Indiana University.

The Reverend A.G. Fraser International Travel Fund, named in memory of Fraser’s father, has touched the lives of more than 100 students since its inception in 1996. Destinations have included China, Italy, Greece, France, London and Germany.

Beth Casselman, executive director of The Clowes Fund, said the Fund “...is proud to honor Ian Fraser’s professional affiliation and longstanding friendship with the Clowes family. The support is a fitting tribute to Ian, who was the first curator of the Clowes Collection of Old Masters paintings which hung in Westerley, the Indianapolis home of Dr. George Clowes and his wife, Edith, before the paintings were transferred to the Indianapolis Museum of Art in 1971.

“The Clowes Fund recognizes the life-changing value of international travel and study abroad,” Casselman added. “The challenge grant to help fully establish the endowment will provide more Herron students, especially those demonstrating financial need, with the means to participate.”

“Oftentimes, scholarships and awards are the determining factor in whether a student can go,” said Herron’s dean, Valerie Eickmeier. “To be able to provide that experience to others is an exciting proposition for donors.”

As Herron grows its International Study Program, it will continue seeking support for its students through the Reverend A.G. Fraser International Travel Fund and other named scholarships and awards. To learn more about supporting international study, contact Kim Hodges, Office of Development, at 317-278-9472 or kshodges@iupui.edu. To give online, visit www.herron.iupui.edu.