Vol. 3, No. 7 **December 8, 2005**

IN THE WORKS



Appreciating Guadalupe ...page 2



Sing, sing, sing



A new legend ...page 2



Sweet 16 all over again ...page 3



Hand bells ring ...page 4



ILS makes impact in Chicago and beyond

By Shannon Chapla

The Latino population is the fastest growing group in the Chicago area and the lead driver for jobs and housing with \$20 billion in household revenue and 38 percent of total growth among homeowners. In the past 35 years, more than 1.3 million Latinos have moved to the region, accounting for 96 percent of the total population growth.

These findings, published in "The State of Latino Chicago: This is Home Now," were released last month at a first-of-its-kind regional policy forum sponsored by the Metropolitan Chicago Initiative (MCI) of Notre Dame's Institute for Latino Studies (ILS). The MCI's mission is to enhance communities by developing policy-relevant research, cultivating partnerships and expanding the knowledge of Chicago's Latinos.

The forum attracted more than 300 policymakers, civic leaders, regional planning organizations and the Suburban Mayors' Caucus. Such a turnout suggests the project has brought "visibility and credibility to the Latino community," says MCI director Sylvia Puente, who recently was named among Hispanic Business magazine's "100 Most Influential Hispanics" in the U.S. "Chicago has been hungry for a Latino voice that can speak from a research perspective on what we know about the Latino community, and the MCI really has been that voice in Chicago for a number of years now."

Almost five, to be exact, and Puente was the first and only staffer when the MCI was launched in 2001, about a year and a half after the ILS was established. Now located on the second floor of a suburban bank building in Berwyn, Ill., the MCI boasts a full-time staff of four and two part-timers. In addition to its influence with decision makers, MCI has introduced initiatives that positively affect lives.

"When we first discussed starting the ILS, we talked about the necessity of working in Chicago," says Allert Brown-Gort, associate director of the ILS, "since it is, in effect, the capital of the Latino Midwest in terms of numbers and influence." Notre Dame's development department introduced ILS staff members to the new MacNeal Health Foundation, which has underwritten study and work with the Latino community, with a deep impact in Cicero and Berwyn.

These are communities that have transitioned rapidly, Puente says. "And a lot of people weren't comfortable accepting the fact that it was becoming predominately Latino."

With technical assistance from the University, MCI identified and prioritized challenges and assets and handed the two communities documentation about the needs and priorities for children and education: Blueprints, Puente says, for a positive contribution to the community. MCI has



Sylvia Puente is director of the Metropolitan Chicago Initiative of the Institute for Latino Studies. *Photo provided.*

helped establish both the Cicero Education Task Force and the Cicero Youth Task Force, which blend community leaders, teachers and parents in search of improvement. It also has participated in a comprehensive local education planning process. An MCI-sponsored college fair last year helped parents and their children plan for higher education.

The "State of Latino Chicago" received extensive media coverage from more than 30 different outlets, including a front page story in the Chicago Tribune, more proof of this hunger for a Latino voice.

"One of the major themes of the report," Puente said, "is that although the Latino community is most often



Chicago is, in effect, "the capital of the Latino Midwest," says Allert Brown-Gort, associate director of the Institute for Latino Studies, on ILS's work in the area. *Photo provided.*

perceived as an immigrant community, the people are here to stay. The children are citizens. The parents are parents of Americans. So, as Chicago becomes more diverse, the region is really not going to do well unless the Latino community does well."

The complete text of "The State of Latino Chicago: This is Home Now," is available on the Institute for Latino Studies Web site at http://www.nd.edu/~latino, as are several other reports by institute staff members.

Santa is bringing faster, cheaper home Internet service

ND Works staff writer

Faculty, staff and students who use, or want to use, Comcast's high-speed Internet service in their homes may do so now at discount prices. As of late last month, the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) and Comcast introduced an affinity program that discounts high-speed Internet access provided by Comcast Cable. The reduced rate is available to both current and new customers and has pricing options for both cable TV and cable-modem-only subscribers.

The program is explained in detail on the OIT Web site at http://oit.nd.edu/comcast, which provides instructions on how to join the service. Sign up requires a call to Comcast in which you ask to participate in the "Notre Dame Affinity Plan," says Steve Ellis, director of integrated communications services.

Savings are about 25 percent off the retail Comcast subscription rate. Current Comcast Cable TV subscribers now pay \$43 a month for high-speed Internet access; their monthly bill will drop to \$32. Non-cable subscribers would see their rate drop from \$58 to \$42 a month for cable-modem-only service. Both rates include free cable-modem rental that normally runs \$3 a month, representing even greater savings.

The program is available to all Notre Dame employees and off-campus students and even applies to employees who commute from areas such as Chicago.

In addition to reduced prices, Comcast has recently upgraded their high-speed Internet service in two very important ways, says DeWitt Latimer, Notre Dame's chief technology officer and driver behind the Comcast-ND affinity program.

A recent technology upgrade has increased download speeds for a four-fold improvement over original cable-modem performance. Comcast also has installed a very high-speed gigabit connection directly to Notre Dame's campus network. "Instead of passing through Chicago or Detroit on your way to accessing your Notre Dame e-mail account, for instance, you now connect directly to the core of Notre Dame's network," Latimer says.

Your existing cable-modem may not be new enough to handle the higher speeds, however. "Not to fear," states Ellis. Not only will the local Comcast office replace those modems free of charge as part of the Affinity Program, but OIT also is hosting a local exchange program up to the Christmas break. A link called End of Life Cable Modem on the OIT-Comcast Web page lists all outdated modems. Comparing your modem to that list will indicate whether a replacement is in order, Ellis says.

The OIT's Integrated
Communications Division in 230 ITC
Annex (the old Security Building) will
provide replacement modems between
8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday
through Friday. In addition to your old
modem, you will need to bring your
most recent Comcast bill and Notre
Dame ID. Ellis recommends that you
stop and chat with the staff about how
to expedite the new hookup. They
know a few shortcuts. Call the help
desk at 631-9000 if you need further
assistance.

SHORT TAKES

December odes to Mary include Guadalupe Mass

By Michael O. Garvey

A newcomer to Notre Dame, upon first hearing the sonorous anthem "Notre Dame, Our Mother," asked a student about the song: Was that the University's alma mater, or was it a hymn to Mary?"Yes," the student answered.

Apocryphal as the story may be, it vividly illustrates the indispensability of Marian devotion to the history, mission, and self-understanding of the Notre Dame community.

December at Notre Dame is an especially agreeable time to think about Mary. But on the feasts of St. Juan Diego on the 9th and of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the 12th, the University's Mother becomes unmistakably mestiza.

The feasts mark the 474th anniversary of the apparitions reported in Mexico by a Native American man, Juan Diego, who had been praying on a hill his people called Tepeyac. He said that he had encountered there a beautiful and expectant young woman, elegantly dressed in the local manner, who claimed to be the Mother of God, and that they had conversed in Nahuatl, the local language, about the Child she was carrying. She had astonished him by causing roses to grow in December, and he himself later astonished the nearby ecclesial and colonial authorities by showing them a splendid image of herself which she seemed miraculously to have imprinted on his coat. In a decisive moment for the New World, it seemed that Jesus, the Lord of the Spanish conquerors, would be born among the subjugated natives.

Our Lady of Guadalupe has become known as the patroness of the Americas—as well as many beleaguered Americans—ever since. The defeated Aztec victims of Cortez, Mexican nationalists,

Emiliano Zapata's rebels, the pioneers of the United Farmworkers Union, the Marxist guerrillas of the Salvadoran civil war, and defenders of death-row prisoners have all celebrated her inspiration and sought her advocacy and protection.



This 18th century interpretation of Our Lady of Guadalupe is part of the Snite museum collection. Image provided by the Snite

A special celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe will take place at a Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at 5:15 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9, the Feast of St. Juan Diego. Our Lady's actual feast day, Dec. 12, falls on a student exam day. "We figure Nuestra Señora will not be miffed, because we're watching out for her students," says Steve Warner, director of the Folk Choir, which will share sacred music duties with Coro Primavera de Nuestra Senora, a 25-voice choir which sings traditional and modern Hispanic liturgical music. The liturgy also will include contributions from Ballet Folklorico Azul Y Oro, a Hispanic student dance troupe.

Rev. Robert S. Pelton, C.S.C., Kellogg Institute Fellow and director of Latin American/North American Church Concerns, will preside at the Mass and a collection will be taken up for the efforts of Catholic Relief Services on behalf of victims of recent hurricanes in the Yucatan region.

Among those paying keenest attention to these events will be Notre Dame theologian Timothy Matovina, director of Notre Dame's Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism. He recently published a monumental study titled "Guadalupe and Her Faithful: Latino Catholics in San Antonio, from Colonial Origins to the Present," which examines the manner in which the devotion to Mary sustained a community for three centuries and under five governments, enabling devotees to negotiate political turmoil, war, social turbulence and ecclesiastical change during San Antonio's evolution from an agricultural settlement on the northern edge of New Spain to a vital American city. Together with scholars from Notre Dame's Institute for Latino Studies, Matovina is organizing an international conference to observe Our Lady of Guadalupe's 475th anniversary next year.

Academics to benefit from Fiesta Bowl revenue

The estimated \$14.5 million revenue from the Jan. 2 Fiesta Bowl will be dedicated to specific academic priorities: undergraduate financial aid, graduate financial aid, library acquisitions and scientific instruments for the new Jordan Hall of Science, according to President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.

The Fiesta Bowl revenue is the latest example of Notre Dame athletics supporting the University's academic priorities. Bowl game revenue has produced more than \$69 million in the past 25 years, and the market value of funds from the University's contract with NBC to televise home football games is more than \$53 million. In both cases, most of the money has been directed to the financial aid endowment, including some 2,000 scholarships totaling \$16.5 million from the NBC money.

Funds to the University libraries will support the most recent strategic plan, which calls for a commitment to building library collections that will "bring the best students and faculty to Notre Dame and attract international scholars.

Equipment for the Jordan Hall of Science, opening next summer, will support new undergraduate laboratory space for the departments of chemistry, biochemistry, biology and physics; two 250-seat lecture halls, a 150-seat multivisualization room, an observatory, teaching labs, herbarium, greenhouse and departmental offices.

WHAT THEY WERE DOING



Members of the Collegium Choir, the community choir of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, rehearse for the Christmas Midnight Mass. Directed by Andrew McShane (not pictured), the choir welcomes all nterested singers. Rehearsals will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12 through Monday, Dec. 19 in the Coleman-Morse Centers. Call McShane, of the Office of Campus Ministry, at 631-7800 or e-mail him at mcshane.1@nd.edu for more

faculty and staff of the University of Notre Dame. It is produced by the Office of Public Affairs and Communication in conjunction with the offices of Human Resources and Business Operations and the Provost's Office. ND Works is produced semimonthly during the fall and spring semesters when classes are in session and once during summer session. Fall semester publications dates: Aug. 18, Sept. 8, Sept. 26, Oct. 13, Nov. 3, Nov. 17 and Dec 8.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR Matthew Storin EDITOR IN CHIEF Gail Hinchion Mancini ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Carol C. Bradley
LAYOUT EDITOR Wai Mun Llew-Spilge

Comments should be forwarded ndworks@nd.edu or to NDWorks, 538 Grace Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Distinctions —



George A. Lopez, professor of political science and senior fellow at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, received the Media Legend Award from the Office of News and Information at its annual Christmas reception Monday, Dec. 5 at Legends.

The Media Legend Award is given annually to a Notre Dame faculty member whose contributions and availability to print, broadcast and other media have helped enhance the University's international reputation as the preeminent Catholic institution

of higher learning.

Lopez, who joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1986, has written, edited and contributed articles to books on repression, state terror, economic sanctions, the problems of state violence and gross violations of human rights. He has contributed numerous op/ed pieces to major newspapers, appeared on several television news programs, and participated in radio discussions on these and other subjects.

The University welcomes the following employees, who began working here in November.

> Heather Tipton, Center for Transgene Research

Steven Wietstock, chemistry and biochemistry

Abby Richey, athletics

Camille Evans, Educational Talent Search

Charlotte Cole, executive MBA Jason Sykes, Joyce Center

Brett Seager, naval science

Lesley Kirzeder, Office for Disabled Students

Brian Perri, information

technologies

SHORT TAKES

Be a good sport

ND Works staff writer

If you take advantage of the University's exercise facilities, you may have noticed new banners in every venue sporting the slogan "Fighting Irish, Fighting Fair." While you're noticing the banners, be aware that the RecSports staff may be noticing you, particularly if you are an exceptionally good sport.

The RecSports staff initiated the new program this semester to encourage extreme sportsmanship. Partly, staff members were inspired by the many RecSports participants who demonstrate a vital commitment to ensuring that those they play with have a great athletic experience. Beginning with student Julie Burke, who pours hours into the smooth operation of the Equestrian Club, six student and staff athletes have received recognition for their support of club sports and noon basketball games. Each has been presented a "Fighting Irish, Fighting Fair" T-shirt and water bottle and each has had their picture posted on the RecSports Web site.

Last month, the RecSports staff organized a special event for the author of the slogan, Jessica Kayongo, who submitted the phrase for a naming contest

earlier this year. Kayongo, an assistant librarian who favors swimming and tennis, says the phrase came together as she headed to one of her workout sessions. The RecSports staff presented her with the accoutrements of her athletic interest: goggles, a gift certificate for tennis playing time, and a T-shirt with the slogan.

As a companion to the recognition program, the RecSports staff has posted a code of conduct on its Web page called "Defining Sportsmanship" (http://recsports.nd.edu/Sportsmanship/index.html).



Jessica Kayongo accepts gifts from Pete Shoop, RecSports assistant director of intramurals, for creating the slogan for RecSports' new sportsmanship incentive program. *ND Works staff photo*

FYI

Tickets...get your tickets

Did you know that you can use a major credit card to make online purchases of tickets for events at the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts?

This service, which has been available since the start of the school year, allows you to choose your seat from a "real time" venue schematic. The site does not store credit card information, and ensures that your transaction is secure. To buy online, just look for the "BUY NOW" link that follows each show description. (You also can purchase tickets for Browning Cinema films online, although cinema events do not have reserved seating.)

Several events remain on the Center's Christmas roster. If you're interested in Christmas stockingstuffer tickets to spring shows that haven't gone on sale yet—the Chieftains (Thursday, March 2), for example, or the Kirov Orchestra (Thursday, March 23)—take advantage of special performing arts gift cards.

These gift cards can be used for any DPAC Presents, Browning Cinema, Music Department, or Department of Film, Television, and Theatre events that take place in the center. Cards are good for at least 12 months, expiring on June 30 of the year following the year of purchase. Dollar values can be assigned at any amount you wish, with a minimum of \$20 per card.

To purchase gift cards, call the DeBartolo Ticket Office at 631-2800. Your gift cards will be ready for pick up (with a notecard and envelope for each) during the week of Dec. 12.

Speaking of stocking stuffers

Know any little ballerinas who are ready for their first professional ballet production? The Russian National Ballet will perform "The Sleeping Beauty" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21 as the opening event in the **ND Presents: Live at the Morris.** Shows take place in the Morris Performing Arts Center in downtown South Bend.

This is the third season the University is sponsoring performances in the Morris. Tickets are available through the Morris box office by calling 235-9190 or 1-800-537-6415, or on the Web at

www.MorrisCenter.org.

Two other shows are planned: the Martha Graham Dance company at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 and "Die Fledermaus" (The Bat) at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 5, performed by the Helikon Opera of Moscow.

Time for open skating

The **Joyce Center Ice Rink** is available for Open Skate Monday, Wednesday and Friday from noon to 1 p.m. There is a \$3 fee for skate rental, and all participants must have a valid University ID card. To confirm the availability of the ice, call the rink at 631-8046.

Planning Christmas

An open house in the **Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore** on Saturday,
Dec. 17 will feature music, chocolate
samples and photo sessions with
Santa. Proceeds of the picture taking
will benefit Hannah and Friends, the
Maura and Charlie Weis foundation
that addresses autism and global
delays. University President Rev. John
I. Jenkins, C.S.C. also will read to
children. The event takes place
between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Check the bookstore Web site at **www.ndcatalog.com** for information on this activity and several other story hours. The bookstore closes at 3 p.m. Christmas Eve and reopens Dec. 26.

The discount room of the bookstore's **Catalog Center**, 1610 N. Ironwood Drive, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through Friday, Dec. 23. The **Warren Golf Shop** annual Christmas sale continues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Dec. 21. Faculty and staff receive discounts in all these locations.

Finally, if you're too tired to cook, **Catering by Design** can give you a hand. Contact 631-7859 to learn about the desserts, salads and main dishes that can bring joy to your holiday table.

Can you close your window?

Later this month, Gary Shumaker, director of facilities operations, will be sending his annual appeal that you close your office windows during the annual Christmas break, Friday, Dec. 23 through Monday, Jan. 2. By securing windows, the faculty and staff have helped avert broken water pipes and flooding.

If you notice that your window has trouble closing, Shumaker and his staff would like a chance to fix the problem. File a request for help through the online Work Order system or call 631-7701.

Holiday prayer

The Basilica at Sacred Heart Christmas liturgy schedule includes the Christmas Vigil Mass at 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24. Christmas Lessons and Carols at 11 p.m. will be followed by Midnight Mass at midnight. Christmas Day Mass will be at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 25.

Holiday workouts

You'll still be able to work out many days of the Christmas break. But it pays to consult the **RecSports break schedule** posted on their Web site for the abbreviated facilities hours. All venues will be closed Friday, Dec. 23 through Sunday, Dec. 25.

Paperwork matters

The benefits division of the Office of Human Resources reminds employees that participants of the Advantage HMO will receive new insurance cards, but those in the North American PPO and HMO will receive new cards only if they have changed coverage. Your current cards for Medco, Delta Dental, HRI and EyeMed also remain valid in 2006.

North American HMO and Advantage HMO require student status verification for full- time students prior to each semester. Fax or mail school registration or paid tuition bill information and your member ID number to: Fax: 716-319-5784 attn: Ann Labar

Mail: P.O. Box 9501, Amherst, NY 14226.

A final reminder from the Controller's Office that **if you moved** your home during 2005, please make sure the University has your new address so you can receive your W-2 with all due speed.

An online **change-of-address** form can be found on the Human Resources Web site, under the Self-Service section, or at

http://hr.nd.edu/forms/nd_name_ad dr_chng2.pdf. You also may request the form from Human Resources by calling 631-5900 or Payroll Services by calling 631-7575.

What if I get cabin fever?

So the break has begun. It's Wednesday, Dec. 28, and already you feel cooped up. Here's a way to get out of the house, and a place to meet up with your friends

The Women's Basketball Team invites you to join its 2 p.m. that day game against Valparaiso University. All faculty and staff and up to four guests will receive half-price admission to this game (\$4 for adults, and \$2.50 for youth and seniors.) For more information, call 631-3589.

You must show a valid Notre Dame ID at the Joyce Center ticket office prior to the game or at the Gate 10 ticket window on game day to redeem this special offer. Call 631-3589 for more information

FROM THE ARCHIVES



Not everyone wants to be Sweet 16 again, but for Volleyball Coach Debbie Brown, seen here during the 1994 season, it's just fine. Seeded sixth and ranked 11th, the team heads to College Station, Texas this week for the 2005 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship. They start by playing Wisconsin at 5 p.m. Friday (CST). This is the 14th NCAA bid since Brown started coaching at Notre Dame; this is the team's sixth trip to the Sweet 16. *Photo provided by Elizabeth Hogan, University Archives.*

BACK STORY

Rehearsal is vital in helping Handbell Choir members sound like one



Belle of the hand bells

By Meghan Winger

On many Sundays in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the magical sound of bells accents the liturgical music program. Students in white gloves, holding a bell in each hand, swing their arms with practiced synchronicity.

"The goal is to sound like one player," says Karen Kirner, Handbell Choir director. Although an acclaimed organist, her work with the 16-member choir produces what she may consider the sweetest music of all.

Kirner has been making music at Notre Dame for the past eight years. She had been serving as the music director of an Ohio church in 1996 when Steve Warner, director of the Folk Choir, made a visit with his group. Unable to arrange for a student accompanist to travel with him. Warner asked Kirner if she would assist them.

"I was impressed with the Folk Choir's prayerfulness, vitality and musicality," she says. A few months later, she read of a new full-time position in music ministry at Notre Dame. The job she took made her director of the Handbell Choir and Celebration Choir, assistant organist at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and assistant director of the Notre Dame Folk Choir.

Inspired and encouraged by her mother, Kirner received her bachelor's degree in music from Ball State University and a master's in music and a master's in art and religion from Yale. The first organist at Yale to win the school's graduate concerto competition, she embarked on a performance career that took her to such venues as Alice Tully Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, Westminster Abbey in London, and the Jasna Gora Basilica in Czestochowa, Poland.

Traveling from city to city "helped me to

understand that music truly is the universal language that can break down all barriers," Kirner says.

Founded in 1988, the Handbell Choir was directed by various graduate assistants until Kirner arrived. Today, the choir has released two CDs: "Ringing for Joy" in 1999 and "Echoes of Joy" in 2003.

Members are selected every fall. Prior bell-ringing experience is not necessary, but members must demonstrate musical skills including sight-reading.

The 16 members must also be coordinated.

Together, they play 48 Schulmerich hand bells. Each member holds a bell in each hand, with each bell representing a different note. Reading from sheet music, each member must ring a bell exactly when notated, for the right duration and with the appropriate dynamics. While bells are generally swung with a circular motion, special techniques include malleting, marting, shaking and fingerdamping the bells. "The goal is to sound like one player. This is why it's critically important that everyone shows up for all rehearsals and that we all work well together and listen to one another," says Kirner.

Photos by Matt Cashore.



Handbell Choir director Karen Kirner, who composes and arranges hand bell scores, says she loves every aspect of working with the choir. "I love seeing the joy in everyone's faces when we are finally working well together to create a work of beauty that hopefully lifts



Marting, malleting, shaking and finger-damping all are techniques that Handbell Choir members learn.

She's have 400 friends to dinner

By Carol C. Bradley

Most of us quail at the thought of planning a dinner party for eight. Heidi Williams, volunteer coordinator for the Friends of the Snite Museum, spends most of the year

Heidi Williams coordinates the Friends of the Snite Museum. Photo provided

planning a Christmas party for nearly 400 people.

This year's Dec. 8 celebration is the 11th year Williams has coordinated the black-tie Christmas benefit dinner. Some 400 participants who contributed \$150 a ticket were to enjoy cream of brie soup, petit filet of beef and crab cakes with roasted red pepper sauce, and chocolate Grand Marnier bombe garnished with fresh raspberries and mandarin oranges.

Since the Snite is celebrating its 25th anniversary, table decorations for the

lot of silver. As an example of the geographic reach of the Friends, honorees this year are Dr. and Mrs. R. Stephen Lehman of Indianapolis, longtime Snite benefactors and underwriters of the museum's 25th anniversary "Selected Works" catalog.

Williams has a background in business, not in the arts or in catering. But she finds that experience helpful in tracking the details involved in planning an event of this size.

"I have a checklist that's about 10 pages long," says Williams, whose duties also include coordinating the museum's 150 volunteers and activities such as High School Art Day. "It's my right arm. If I didn't have my list of things to do...it's like going to the store without a shopping

The event, chaired this year by Joyce and Dick Stifel, is a major

performing arts center venue feature a source of funding for the Friends' support of community outreach and special acquisitions. Proceeds support the salary of the museum's curator of education for public programs, who coordinates the museum's awardwinning education activities in the schools. Funds also have purchased works of art, and last year provided half the cost of a new museum van.

> The museum has two audiences, notes Director Chuck Loving, the faculty, staff and students of the University and the population of the local community. The Friends exist—there are about 700 of them—to make the resources of the museum available to the Michiana community. "Benefit proceeds are essential to the programs and operations of the museum," Loving says.

Proceeds of last year's benefit helped provide art-related education programs for at-risk children in the nearby neighborhood. Attendees this year will cast a vote for one of three contemporary photographs. The winning selection will be purchased and added to the museum's

Membership in the Friends is open to everyone. Information about joining is on the Snite Museum's Web site. Members—and only members—will receive a copy of "Selected Works."

While guests are enjoying the annual event, Williams says, she won't be thinking of a good long rest. She'll be thinking of next year's event. "I start planning the next year almost as soon as it's over," she says.