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Speech, Cer. Inv. (Inv. at Council)



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BLOOMINGTON, ILL.--Artists from throughout the eastern half of the United States will participate in Illinois Wesleyan University's Ceramics Invitational, "Current Trends in Clay," which will open at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in the Merwin Gallery. There will be an opening reception.

The show, which will run through Mar. 15, will be open free to the public during regular gallery hours--1-4 p.m. daily and 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays.

Among the artists are three who will lecture and present demonstrations. All programs will be open free to the public.

Ron Pivovar, associate professor of art, Thiel College, Greenville, Pa., will work with pottery Feb. 26 and 27 during the day and present a slide lecture at 8 p.m. Feb. 27. He says potters are nuts, but he loves working and creating with clay.

Joe Bova, associate professor of art, Louisiana State University, also will be on campus two days, Mar. 5 and 6. He will present a slide lecture on ceramic sculptures at 7 p.m. Mar. 5 and demonstrate his work Mar. 6 throughout the day. Bova's work is about reality.

"I try to fuse the reality of the clay and the reality of the image so that the work is strong enough to command the viewer's interest," he says.

Don Pilcher, professor of art, University of Illinois, considers the challenge of making pots more than just beautiful, a difficult task. He will elaborate on that idea during his slide lecture at 7 p.m. Mar. 11.

The other artists include Richard Hensley, owner of a pottery works in Floyd, Va., who attempts to answer functional considerations in his work while exploring his decorative talents; Susan Kowalczyk, artist and part-time instructor from North Carolina; Jenny Lind, a painter who has found a new and challenging interest in pottery

even though she has no formal training in clay; Jens Arts Morrison, head of the ceramics department at Niagara University, to whom ceramics is just one material he enjoys working with; Donna Polsano, a Floyd, Va. potter whose work centers around the making of vessels; Niles Wallace, instructor at Memphis State University, whose recent work deals with basically spiritual images; and Paula Winokur, instructor at Beaver College, Glenside, Pa., who likes to explore space on a small scale in her work.

All of the contributing artists are frequent exhibitors in some of the nation's top shows around the nation.