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The Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry is Pleased to Announce Four New Fellows for 2010-2011

Hidden Treasures: An Arts Multimedia Storytelling Project
Terry Heifetz
Telecommunications

Terry and his students will research the “hidden treasures” in the Indiana arts scene to write and produce feature stories and multimedia productions on artists and art related topics for the Indiana Arts Commission, the Indy Arts Magazine and the seminar’s other regional partners such as Arts Place and Indiana Public Radio. While this project is a journalistic venture, the best journalists are not necessarily journalism majors. For that reason, in addition to journalism and telecommunications, students will be selected from art, architecture, creative writing, music, history, theater and dance. The students’ work will be aired on various media outlets, published in state and regional periodicals and posted on web sites across the state.

Freedom Remembered: An Interdisciplinary Study of Longtown Settlement
Mark Groover
Anthropology

Mark and his students will research the history, culture and descendants of the Longtown settlement, a freedmen’s community located in Darke County, Ohio. Originally settled by Quakers, the community became a destination for slaves traveling north on the Underground Railroad. The students will document the rich and diverse history of the settlement, and its remnant landscape, archeology and architecture to produce a Ken Burns-type film for their community partner, The Union Literary Institute Preservation Society. Drawing on the methods of applied anthropology, historical archaeology, cultural geography and public history, the seminar will also produce a preservation plan for its community partner.

Sexual Assault Protection Program: An Interactive Educational Experience
Chadwick Menning
Sociology

Chad and his students will draw on the disciplines of sociology, psychology and theater, as well as the practices of martial arts and the policies of victim services to create a self-protection program for the university and community. The students will produce a set of interactive multimedia productions that address the fears, risks and decision-making processes for both gay and straight populations. These productions will be staged in a theatrical space at the Cornerstone Center for the Arts where the audience, using various forms of emerging media, will be able to direct and revise the decisions the actors make in each scenario. The seminar’s community partners include Cornerstone Center for the Arts and A Better Way.

Black Baseball in Indiana: A Documentary Film and Essay Collection
Geri Strecker
English

Geri and her students will conduct original biographical, historical and statistical research on African Americans from Indiana who played professional baseball before and during the era of the Negro Leagues, up to 1964. The primary product will be a Ken Burns-type documentary that will provide profiles of major figures, key teams and major events. The students will also generate short biographical essays on Indiana born players to be published in a book. The seminar’s community sponsors include the Negro Leagues Committee of the Society for American Baseball Research, the Indiana Historical Society, the National Baseball Hall of Fame, the Marion Public Library and the Conner Prairie Interactive History Park.

For further information on these seminars, call the Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry, at 765-287-0117

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