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Inside Front and Back Covers

Robert Andrews

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The Bridgewater State College Artist-in-Residence for Fall, 1995 is Robert Andrews, who specializes in mosaics and has completed commissions for churches and other public buildings in various locations throughout the United States, as well as for a church in London. Andrews is a graduate of Bridgewater State College, and is well known to many Bridgewater students and faculty through his years of teaching at several area high schools.

His slide lecture, given at the college on October 19, 1995, discussed his working procedures and several of his projects, and a video showed the artist installing a mosaic on the enormous vault of a church in California, working from a walkway of scaffolding about ninety feet above the floor. The following Saturday he took a group of students, faculty and staff to the Greek Orthodox Church of the Transfiguration in Lowell, where he presented and explained his largest mosaic project, completed over a thirty year period. All of the upper walls and ceiling vaults are covered with his mosaics, made in colored glass which comes mostly from Venice. These portray, in a combination of Byzantine style with a modern cast, the religious personages and scenes arranged according to long-established conventions for Byzantine and later Greek Orthodox churches. (The style and program for location of these images within a church were established as early as the sixth century.)



Andrews continued the tour with a stop at Weed Hall on the campus of the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, where the group viewed his thirty-foot tall mosaic done in a modern, abstract style.

In the coming months, he will be working with a group of art students in creating and installing three mosaics at the College's St. Basil Catholic Center. These will be over the three doors opening to the church from its narthex. The tiles will be in both glass and clay, the latter created in our own ceramics studio.

The Art Department's Artist-in-Residency program is possible thanks to a generous endowment given by the Class of 1936 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of their graduation. The foundation was established in memory of their art instructors, Frill Beckwith, Priscilla Nye and Gordon Reynolds. Over the past several years it has brought artists and other art professionals of differing specializations to the campus to give presentations to the campus community, and to engage in projects with students of art classes. In the Spring 1996 semester, the Artist-In-Residents will be Audrey Flack, renowned as a photo-realist painter and as a figurative sculptor.