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OPAS season coming to an end

Promotional poster unveiled

By **REBECCA DE LONG**
 Reporter

MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society unveiled its new promotional poster during a reception Wednesday night honoring the poster's artist.

The reception marked the end of another season for OPAS, while allowing members to introduce next year's new promotional gimmick to guests. About 300 of the 750 invited guests, including student body officials, student organization chairmen, community leaders and season ticket holders, were present for the reception.

Also present was the poster's artist, Bryan resident Margit Ilika, who signed and sold limited editions to the guests. Ilika, who had just returned from an exhibit in Houston, borrowed some of her works sold to private collections and displayed them during the reception.

OPAS will use the poster throughout the 1985-86 season on such things as programs, tickets, ads and mailouts. Jody Boarnet, director of public relations, said the poster will

be displayed on everything it possibly can.

Lucy Peterson, the director of student development for OPAS, said she hopes the poster becomes synonymous with the 1985-86 season. Peterson said this is only the first of many annual promotional posters OPAS plans to use. From now on the unveiling of a poster will become an annual event.

Ilika expressed her enthusiasm and said she was proud to be the first artist to do a promotional poster in the Bryan-College Station area. When traveling around the United States this year for exhibits, she will carry copies to sell. Boarnet said that this will be good public relations for Texas A&M.

OPAS contacted Ilika about a year ago to do the poster, but the actual work began in November. Ilika used a local dancer, Susan Doerge, as the model for the poster.

Following the reception, the Houston Ballet performed "Mixed Repertoire." The company will perform "Swan Lake" tonight at 8 in Rudder Auditorium.



Artist Margit E. Ilika signs some of the posters designed for the 1985-86 OPAS season.

Specialist gives cool advice for lowering high energy bills

By **BRENDA NEEPER**
 Reporter

Consumers won't have to "sweat it out" when summer cooling bills arrive if they start planning now. Spring is the best time for consumers, especially apartment dwellers, to begin preparing their homes and pocketbooks for the summer heat.

"The problem with apartment dwellers is they don't want to spend a lot of money on enhancing their building to make it more energy efficient," said Charlie Shear, College Station energy specialist.

However, Shear said an apartment could probably be caulked and weather stripped for less than \$50. If a person wants low-cost or no-cost insulation, taping around windows and stuffing things into cracks are solutions, he said.

Consumers should keep in mind

that air infiltration is one of the leading creators of high energy bills, Shear said.

"Thirty percent of the load placed on the heating and air conditioning system is due to poor caulking, weather stripping and air infiltration," Shear said.

Another way to save money is to keep the thermostat at 78 degrees Fahrenheit, he said.

"Some of these apartment complexes put in cheaper air conditioners with a lower energy efficiency ratio, so it costs the students more," Shear said. "So students need to watch for that."

A clean air conditioning filter also can help save money.

"A 10 percent reduction in air supply, which is not a very dirty fil-

ter, can increase operating costs by as much as 11 percent," Shear said.

Shear also suggested turning the air conditioner thermostat up and using a fan at the same time.

If a person doesn't want to pay any cooling bills this summer, Shear suggests the open window technique.

Opening the windows halfway on the windward side and all the way on the leeward side will create a stack effect and actually make more wind than is actually blowing. Using white shades on windows will reduce the amount of heat coming through the windows.

"White shading could save you \$50 a year on your air conditioning bill," Shear said.

Consumers do not have to spend a lot of money on curtains — any kind of white shading device will work, he said.

Aggies manufacture and sell wooden toothpaste gadget

By **MELINDA MURPHY**
 Reporter

Each semester, Texas A&M students enrolled in Industrial Education 137, Manufacturing, design, produce and market a product.

The project this spring is "The Toothpaster," a wooden gadget shaped like an Aggie thumb which holds a toothbrush and makes it easy to squeeze the toothpaste tube.

"The Toothpaster" was designed by James Odom, a student at Texas A&M.

Stephen Egger, a graduate assistant, teaches the manufacturing class, which is open to all students.

"The purpose of this class is to teach leadership and management skills to the students," Egger said. "The class is set up like a small business with elected officers, and we use various government manuals like the Small Business Manual."

Lectures on management are given the first six to eight weeks of the semester. Students are required to write a paper about a famous entrepreneur, stressing the process by which the entrepreneur succeeded.

For the remainder of the semester, the students determine the direction of the class. They begin by forming and naming a small company, and electing the company's officers. This semester, the company is Aggie Manufacturing Company, AMCO.

Each student is required to generate five ideas for projects the company could manufacture. A market survey determines which product would sell the best, and that product is produced and marketed.

Funding for the project comes from stock that the students buy for \$1 a share. The profits from the project are divided in accordance with the number of shares each student owns.

"The profit is really a minuscule part of the course," Egger said. "The students learn many skills not found in a normal class."

After the market survey is completed, a breakeven chart is drawn to determine how many products should be made. Production begins next.

"Production is time consuming and the amount of work is really determined by the attitude of the students," Egger said. "A lot of time outside class is required."

Most products are related to A&M, and some past products have been copyrighted, Egger said.

"We are ready to begin marketing this semester," said Greg Hunter, the Marketing Manager. "Each student will probably have to sell about ten products. It's been hard this semester because there are only eight in the class. The product this semester will probably cost \$2 to make and sell for \$5 or \$6."

Class size, which varies each semester, determines the amount of work each student must do.

"The class tries to assimilate what happens in a real business," Egger said. "You can go out to the mall and just watch businesses fail. This class hopefully prepares the students and keeps them from making common mistakes that small businessmen make."

People interested in purchasing "The Toothpaster" should contact Hunter at 260-2049.

RA adviser applications available

By **CHOYCE ELSIK**
 Reporter

Applications are now being accepted by the Department of Student Affairs for anticipated summer openings in head resident and resident adviser positions.

Nyla Ptomey, housing programs supervisor, said the applications are for anticipated summer positions only. There is a guarantee that any positions actually will open, she said.

Although current resident hall staff members get first priority, Ptomey said, anyone interested in a position as a head resident or resident adviser still is urged to apply.

Also, although anyone can apply, the Department of Student Affairs does prefer that applicants have previous residence hall experience (though not necessarily at Texas A&M), as well as an interest to work with students and some type of leadership experience such as hall council, Ptomey said.

Both positions involve administrative tasks, programming, counseling, disciplinary actions and general overall residence hall management, she said.

Applicants must meet the minimum grade-point ratio and classification qualifications, she said.

Head resident applicants must have a minimum GPR of 3.0. They must be a graduate student because of the extra responsibilities involved.

The qualifications for resident adviser are a minimum GPR of 2.25 and at least a sophomore classification, she said.

Although both resident advisers and head residents receive a salary, Ptomey said head residents do receive a free room because of the extra duties involved.

Anyone interested in applying for the positions can pick up an application at the Central Area Office in A-2 Lounge; the North Area Office in B-1 Lounge; the Commons Area Office; or the Corps Area Office in the Trigone.

The deadline for all applications is April 19 at 5 p.m.

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