

To Give Concert Tonight



CONSTANCE KEENE
Pianist will appear in Schwab Auditorium

Keene to Give Recital Tonight

Constance Keene, young American pianist, will present the second program in the Community Concert series at 8:30 tonight in Schwab Auditorium.

Miss Keene will include a composition by her husband, Abram Chasins, as well as the works of 18th century composers.

Marines Offer Reserve Plan To Students

The United States Marine Corps is offering a program enabling any qualified college student to enter the USMC Reserve. Those accepted will automatically be deferred from the draft and will be permitted to complete their college work. Upon graduation from college a commission will be granted.

There are three divisions of the program. One is for college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who must attend two six-week training camps in Quantico, Va.

Another plan is for seniors or graduates with a baccalaureate degree. This group would undergo ten weeks of training at Quantico.

The final plan is for college women and is sub-divided like the program for men.

The service obligations for those accepted are the same as for any newly commissioned reservist—two years active service and six years in the reserves.

Those interested in the program should contact Major Bucher, 201 Engineering E from 4 until 5 p.m. any day except Thursday or Sunday.

The word pumpkin comes from the old French pompon, meaning to be eaten when ripe.

It's A Fact

Professor J. S. Whitman's daughter, Minerva, was the first female to attend classes at Penn State.

Enrollment has increased since 1865 when Minerva listened to Botany lectures to the grand total of 3150 women registered at the College in the fall of 1952.

Things have changed at Vic's too. From now on Vic's will be open from 5 to 12 o'clock on Sundays. So for that Sunday supper, that 9 o'clock snack we all love so well, or that take-out for your roommate. Stop in at Vic's any night of the week and you'll get the best.

145 S. ALLEN ST.

Vic's

Deadline Listed For Caps, Gowns

Today is the deadline for January graduates in chemistry-physicals and mineral industries to register for caps and gowns at the Athletic store, according to George Donovan, director of associated student activities.

Home economics, liberal arts, and physical education graduating seniors will sign up Monday and Tuesday.

The deposit for cap and gown is \$5. Hat size should be known when ordering.

Invitations and announcements may be ordered at the Student Union desk in Old Main according to the same schedule. These cost 10 cents each.

Those seniors who will graduate in military uniform should not sign up.

Ceramics Awards Offered

The Ferro Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio, is offering \$1000 in cash awards to ceramics students for the best paper on porcelain enameling technology in their fourth annual student contest.

The papers, for a first prize of \$500, must be of 3000 words or less and may be on any phase of technology related to the porcelain enameling of metal. The competition is open to all students, both graduates and undergraduates, in ceramics or ceramic engineering and must be the student's own work entirely.

The deadline for the contest is March 23, but an entry blank must be filed before January 26. These entry blanks may be obtained from the Ferro Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio, or in the ceramics department office.

The prizes will be awarded at the 55th annual meeting of the American Ceramic Society, which will be held in New York City on April 24-28, 1953.

Dr. G. H. McIntyre, vice president and director of research for the Ferro Corporation, pioneers in the production of ceramics and porcelain enameling, stated that his company hopes these contests will promote student interest in the fast-growing fields of the ceramic industry.

Additional information about the contest and the proper form of makeup for the paper are available at the ceramics department office.

Root-Tilden Awards

Application forms for the Root-Tilden scholarships at New York University for the 1953-54 term are available in 119 Sparks. The scholarships are designed to train and develop potential leaders in public affairs.

Land Grant Murals Dream of 20 Years

By BILL SNYDER

Like the old saying "Rome wasn't built in a day," the painting of the famous land grant murals in Old Main is a lengthy story—the result of an art professor's dream that took 20 years to be fulfilled, a class gift that was four years late, and the loyalty and interest of Penn State students themselves.

A 15 minute sound film in color, "Painting a True Fresco," showing artist Henry Varnum Poor painting the murals, will be shown publicly for the first time to the Faculty Luncheon Club at noon Monday in the State College Hotel.

These murals include the 15-foot-high painting of Abraham Lincoln and the surrounding murals depicting aspects of Penn State. It is the only work of art in an American college to have been financed twice by students.

No State Funds

Back in the early 1930's a group of art professors, headed by Prof. H. E. Dickson, decided the College needed some first-rate art. And what, they asked, would be more appropriate than murals, which were then the rage. As a site the professors chose Old Main, the center of campus.

The professors soon found that transforming dreams into reality wasn't easy. Murals cost money, and the state made it quite clear it would grant no funds for "art." The years crept by with no result. No one was interested. It began to seem that the dream of a few art professors was destined to die without becoming a reality.

Funds Sought

Then came the first break. In 1936 Ridge Riley, executive alumni secretary, was seeking a suitable project for his class of '32, which had not yet made its gift. The idea of murals in Old Main attracted him. He and Dickson had a talk and agreed the mural project could be adopted by the class of '32 as its gift.

Riley mailed personal cards to class members explaining the murals and asking for contributions. In time the class responded with \$4500 which, Dickson decided, was enough for the north wall.

Henry Varnum Poor, an artist widely praised for his murals in some federal buildings in Washington, came to the attention of Dickson and his colleagues. Although a short while previously Poor had been paid more than \$4500 by the Government for a mural smaller than the north wall of Old Main, there was something about the Penn State mural that interested him. Perhaps it was because the idea had been kept alive for ten years by a group of art professors. Poor accepted the commission and started work.

War Stops Work

On June 8, 1940, Poor put the finishing touches on the Lincoln mural while Dickson stood by, watching half the dream being made a reality.

But Dickson couldn't relax. He wondered if his dream would ever reach completion. Although \$1000 had been raised for the mural through class gifts, the war came along and the money was put in-

to war bonds. During the next four years the whole project was forgotten in the light of more important things.

Dickson had almost forgotten the project when, one day, in the fall of 1945, soon after the war's end, a girl entered his office and announced that the murals were going to be finished.

Students Help Again

Nowhere, says Dickson, is there a parallel for what followed. Once before students had raised the money to complete the murals. Now a second time they went into action. Dickson's years of work were finished. From here on he merely observed.

The students called it "their project." Proceeds of \$3800 from the first big post-war dance went into the project's fund. Throughout that school year money was added from bake sales, talent shows, and bazaars. The student council also contributed.

By spring of 1946 the total was over \$11,000. Poor took up his brush again and by 1949 the murals were complete. A dream begun nearly 20 years ago was fulfilled.

Staters Featured

If you look closely at the hod-carrier at the right side of Lincoln, you will see the features of Professor Dickson. Poor painted him as a hod-carrier because, he said, Dickson carried most of the load in getting the murals.

Scattered throughout the murals are the features of many Penn State students and founding fathers.

The Lincoln mural commemorates the Morrel Land Grant Act of 1862 and represents the various interests of the state of Pennsylvania. The actual painting of it took only six weeks.

Fresco Process Shown

The film showing Poor painting the mural explains in a step-by-step method how he and his assistants—Anne, his daughter, and Willard Cummings—progressed from preliminary sketches of the proposed murals to the actual painting of them.

The College's motion picture and recording studio made the movie to show the execution of

(Continued on page eight)



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