Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Edward Jones Center friends and supporters,

You may have noticed that you didn’t hear from us in March. You should have received a third quarter newsletter in March, but we could not stop long enough to reflect on what we were doing and share it with you. That is not a good thing and should not become a habit. We should never be too busy to reflect, assess and adjust so that our programming is fluid and dynamic and ever-improving for our students and the community. Sometimes you have to just get in the trenches and not come up for air until you achieve your goals and that is what we did these past few months. We juggle many projects at the Edward Jones Center, both for our students and the community; but, our overarching goal for the spring semester was to get a foundation of support for Drury on C-Street that will allow us to fulfill our obligation to the Community Foundation over the next five years and contribute toward making the operation sustainable. Because of the donated work by our architect and contractor and the momentum created by a couple of key gifts from Edward Jones Center Advisory...
Board members, we ended up with nearly 60 individuals, companies and banks pledging their support to Drury on C-Street. These relationships are about more than money - the banks and other professionals will be collaborating with us as we develop idea competitions and a micro-lending program. I know I said this at Christmas, but it's worth repeating - I'm so thankful for my colleagues at Drury. Alumni & Development, Art & Art History, Architecture, Arts Administration, Facilities, Administration, Security - we all worked together to make Drury on C-Street a reality.

The wrap up of the spring semester was a roller coaster of emotion. Celebrating the first graduating class of Edward Jones Scholars was a mixture of sheer joy and sadness as we can't imagine being without them next year. All are headed to interesting things, it will be fun to follow them and keep them connected to our new Scholars. The Grand Opening celebration of Drury on C-Street was such a great time as we honored our supporters, dedicated the weaving studio in Harriet Mears' name, and welcomed the Trustees, alumni and the community to the space.

I mistakenly thought we would all get a bit of respite this summer, and we are - I'm being facetious. But the Edward Jones Center will remain in the trenches, creating opportunities for our students which, in turn, make our community better - that's Drury Connect.

Happy Independence Day and enjoy the holiday week!

 Kelley
was enjoyed by nearly 100 women and a few men. The event started off with a session titled "Be Bold, Present Yourself" by Kim Hartmayer. Attendees then got to choose breakout sessions including: Impressing Your Banker, Women in Manufacturing Panel, Exploring Direct Sales, Pricing Your Goods and Services, How to Sell to the Government and Are You Ready to be Self-Employed. Between sessions, attendees were able to network with other entrepreneurs as well as over 20 exhibitors including bankers, marketing professionals, attorneys, community resources and direct sales opportunities. The attendees gathered back in Reed Auditorium for the lunch session which included keynote speakers from Tulsa, OK. Adrienne Kallweit, owner of Seeking Sitters, and Shannon Wilburn, Co-Founder and CEO of Just Between Friends, shared their experiences as women entrepreneurs with nationally recognized businesses. Attendees reported having a wonderful day at Drury. One attendee stated "So coordinated - each presentation a part of the whole - and a holistic personal and professional engagement and enrichment. Again - time invested, not just spent."

Many local media outlets covered the event leading up to it, including this story on OzarksFirst Pre. As well, OzarksFirst also did a story on the day of the event: OzarksFirst Story.

5th Annual Self Employment in the Arts Conference

On March 31, the Edward Jones Center held the 5th Annual Self-Employment in the Arts (OzArts) Conference. This event, part of an initiative of the Coleman Foundation, focused on the business side of pursuing a visual, performing or literary arts career as well as reviewed fundamental skills necessary for all self-employed artists. Speakers included professional visual, literary and performing artists as well as arts administrators. The morning began with a welcome by President Todd Parnell, followed by keynote Susan Sommer-Luarca, internationally acclaimed artist. Susan is an official artist for the U.S. Olympic Team and has received many prestigious awards for her paintings and gave a inspirational presentation titled "Growing up to be Entrepreneurial." The conference then moved into breakout sessions with professionals from all of the arts disciplines who shared strategies for success in their fields. The conference concluded with lunch and a keynote presentation by Patrick Mureithi, documentary filmmaker and Drury Artist-in-Residence. His presentation, "Using Your Talent to Inspire Hope, Encourage Dialogue and Maybe, Sorta, Kinda Make Somewhat of a Living While You're At It," is still all the buzz at Drury.
Six of the first class of 10 Edward Jones Minority Scholars received diplomas in May. Two others will graduate later this summer and one in December. Graduation is a milestone for a program that has given opportunity to minority students and increased diversity at Drury. See full story here: ScholarsGrad.

In addition to preparing to graduate the first class, the Scholars enjoyed many fun activities these quarters including a Christmas party, Martin Luther King Jr Day, paintballing, a graduation party and multiple lunches at the President's House. Drury was a sponsor of MLK day this year, so students were able to listen to the speaker, Dr. Tererai Trent right on campus. Dr. Trent was Oprah's all time favorite guest and provided a very inspiring presentation to a packed house. The lunch and learn speakers this semester included Rodney Shepard, President of Arvest Bank, Patrick Mureithi, documentary film-maker and Drury Artist-in-Residence, and Christina Winters, Mortgage Loan Officer with Guaranty Bank.

Drury on C-Street

The Drury on C-Street space is now fully operational and even celebrated an official grand opening and ribbon cutting in May. All classes and internships at the site are community-related. The Arts Administration Practicum students were given the task of putting together an entire show for the C-Street Stroll openings on the first Friday of February, March and April. Each show was very successful, each drawing in 150-200 guests. In May, the gallery featured weaving works, including those of long-time Drury weaving instructor, Harriett Mears, as well as student works from the classes who meet in the space. Architecture students worked on concepting bike and bus hubs for the City of Springfield's Link Project. The Drury community celebrated the space on May 10 with art, music and refreshments. A good time was had by all as we celebrated the donors for the space and named the Harriett Mears Weaving Studio.

Community Events

The Edward Jones Center co-sponsored various events with the Chamber and other groups this semester. In April, The Edward Jones Center and The Network for Springfield’s Young Professionals co-sponsored an event on Commercial Street for members of The Network. The event began with a tour of Askinoise Chocolate followed by a tour of Drury on C-Street, continued with a C-Street fun find and concluded with cocktail hour at Q Enoteca. All attendees really enjoyed the event and were quite impressed with Drury's efforts on Commercial Street. In April, the Edward Jones Center, SBTD at MSU and Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored the next in a series of Entrepreneur Exchanges. This event, titled "Creative Marketing: From Grassroots to Greatness," was held at the Chamber and featured a panel of speakers: Deb Lumos, The Cake Pop Company; Chris Reynolds, Intuitive Web Solutions and Jeremy Wicks, Mother's Brewing Company. The event was well attended and the speakers very well received. Look for the next Entrepreneur Exchange on September 27, more details to come.
Quarterly Lunch and Learns

The February Quarterly Lunch and Learn, hosted by the Edward Jones Center, featured John Locher, Development Agent for That! Pizza. John's presentation, titled "All About Franchises," was given in an informal lunch setting at the Drury President's House. Attendees listened intently as John described the ins and outs of franchises. John has been a serial entrepreneur since he was 12 years old and started a lawn business with a borrowed push mower; he is very excited to be the franchise Development Agent for Missouri. Because of his vast experiences, John was able to provide insight on both sides of franchising and offer some very relevant and practical advice.

The May Quarterly Lunch and Learn, part of Springfield's Small Business Week, featured Dr. Kelley Still of the Edward Jones Center. Kelley's presentation was titled "Don't Sell Yourself Short - Pricing Your Products and Services." This program, also in an informal lunch setting at the Drury President's House, was very informative on pricing for all types of business. Look for the next Quarterly Lunch and Learn in August featuring "Social Entrepreneurship."

Zen of the Idea

In the fall of 2012, a special topics course was added to the Entrepreneurship curriculum titled "Zen of the Idea" and taught by Dr. Rebecca Burrell. For this first semester, the students reached out to the Missouri Hotel to help a small group of residents learn to search for job opportunities and develop interviewing and personal presentation skills. In the spirit of full circle creative collaboration, the project culminated with a Zen Tea at the Historic President's House. This forum provided a rich synthesis sharing by all involved. This project exemplified Emerson's "Go not where the path may lead, but rather go where there is no path and leave a trail." Indeed, this epitomizes the essence of The Zen of the Idea---Beyond the Box.

Attention Entrepreneurs: The Creative Foundry is Open

A new community work-space has opened its doors, The Creative Foundry is a modern and eco-friendly loft space in downtown Springfield. You can work in the heart of Springfield at 325 W McDaniel St., above Herba-Thea and across the street from a free city parking garage.

The Creative Foundry offers a professional location and a productive environment for start-ups, entrepreneurs, freelancers and other independent professionals. The theme here is community - individuals and organizations share a common office provided with the amenities needed for daily operations. The coworking concept keeps businesses' operating costs low, provides a professional image and includes built-in networking.

The space was designed by Nathan Taylor of Obelisk Home to be an eclectic mix of high-tech, re-purposed and hand-made materials that creates a feel of the "un-office" while still maximizing functionality. The Creative Foundry is packed with functional areas designed to support your business.
Visit their website at thecreativefoundry.org and contact Jim Michels, jim@thecreativefoundry.org or 917.817.1343, for more information.

We've moved to Lay Hall, 3rd floor - please come visit!

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