American Indian student finds heritage on Oneida farm

By Sarah Vickery, College of Letters & Science

The story goes that in the beginning, the word was covered in darkness and water, but above the world dwelled the sky people. Sky Woman was pregnant and craved the roots of the celestial tree that grew in the sky. She dug beneath the tree to get to the roots and dug so far that she created a hole and fell to our world below. The animals of the world below helped her when she fell; Turtle came up from the water and provided a place for her to land. Sky Woman asked the animals for help in retrieving the dirt that lay at the bottom of the water so she could plant the seeds – corn, tobacco, and strawberry – she had managed to grab from the celestial tree before she fell.

“To us, the corn is sacred because it comes from another world,” said James Flores after he recounted the Oneida creation story. “It’s been a staple crop to us, this white corn specifically.”

Flores is a member of the Oneida Tribe and an American Indian Studies major at UWM. He’s the first member of his family to attend college, but he spent this summer off-campus, connecting with his heritage on the Tsyunhehkwa Farm on Oneida Nation lands just outside of Green Bay, Wis.

“The focus of my undergrad research is traditional Native American foods and medicinal plants. So I was researching white corn and bergamot,” Flores said. “My research was really focused on the agricultural with the emphasis on the cultural component of agriculture.”

From the beginning of June to the end of July, Flores worked the farm with other volunteers and tribe members. He grew up on the south side of Milwaukee, so farming was an entirely new experience and he had to “earn his stripes” by collecting eggs, planting corn, and dodging an obstreperous bull in between rounding up cattle.

The farm combines traditional cultural techniques with modern agricultural practices. Flores would hand-strip the kernels from the cob and braid corn stalks and hang them to dry them out. It was much faster and easier to use modern equipment to strip the kernels and jet dry them, he added.

The white corn grown on the farm isn’t just important from a cultural standpoint. All of the produce grown is fed back into the Oneida community. There is a cannery on the reservation where the corn is processed to make flour and corn bread. Tomatoes, squash, beans, and other vegetables are processed at the cannery to make organic salsa that is sold to retail stores.

“(This) is a Native American food system made for Native Americans and defined by Native Americans,” Flores said. “What we are doing is using cultural components that are important to us and we are keeping that alive in the community. In regards to tribal sovereignty … food sovereignty is underrated. It gets overlooked and it’s a big part of sovereignty. When we are not relying on food and we have food sovereignty, that’s one step closer to being self-determined.”

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Conservation and Environmental Science alumna Rebecca Mattano leads a group of Waukesha County residents through a recycling facility during an open house. Photo courtesy of Rebecca Mattano.

An earthly love turns alum into author, teacher, recycler

By Sarah Vickery, College of Letters & Science

No jokes about Rebecca Mattano’s job as the Solid Waste Supervisor of Waukesha County, please. She’s heard them all already, and besides, it’s not what you think.

Mattano is the person responsible for coordinating and overseeing the Waukesha County recycling program, which reaches 27 communities just to the west of Milwaukee County. It’s the perfect job for someone as passionate and protective of the environment as she.

“I want to make sure that seven generations from now, we still have clean water to drink, clean air to breath, and natural resources available,” Mattano said.

That passion was what led her to UWM. Mattano grew up in Oconomowoc and wanted to stay local for college. When she heard about UWM’s Conservation and Environmental Science major, she was hooked. She graduated in 2001 with a deep appreciation for her studies – especially the field work, which led her to work for the Nevada Civilian Conservation Corps after graduation.

“I ended up mapping over a million acres of wilderness area,” Mattano said. “I was getting paid to ride a four-wheeler. I slept outside on the ground in my snow pants many, many nights.”

Working in that role made Mattano realize the importance of environmental education, so she returned to Wisconsin for graduate school at UW-Stevens Point and earned a Master’s in Environmental Education. She put it to use teaching Environmental Science at Carroll University and later at Milwaukee Area Technical College.

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At what point does your brain perceive sounds as music?

In an effort to find out what draws our attention to certain sounds, including music, Adam Greenberg, an assistant professor of Psychology at UWM, is using a type of brain imaging called functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI, which shows researchers which parts of the brain are active during a task. Backed by a UWM Research Growth Initiative grant, he is teasing apart how the brain recognizes music and our response to it.

How did you get started in studying music and the brain?

I’m primarily interested in how the brain processes objects and filters out objects when necessary. Objects can be visual, but also auditory. So the sound of my voice, we would call that an auditory “object” because it’s a potential focus of attention, as opposed to the sound of traffic noise outside.

The famous example of this is the “cocktail party effect,” where you need to filter out all of the background noise so you can focus on conversing with the person who’s next to you. However, if someone on the other side of the room says your name, all of the sudden it diverts your attention.

If we observe that music has qualities that are different from just any random sound, then how do you go about finding out what those qualities are?

Music is difficult to describe because the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. The question that we set out to answer is, “If we make changes to very low-level auditory properties – the parts – will that change someone’s perception of music – the whole?”

When you say low-level auditory changes, what are you talking about?

The features of the sounds themselves – not the melodies. For this study, we explicitly stayed away from using pieces of known music because we didn’t want that to influence how subjects perceived the sounds. Instead, we randomly generated melodies using simple sequences of 10 pure tones as stimuli. To my knowledge, no one has done a study like this before.

Then we manipulated three qualities of the stimuli: One was the amplitude, or the loudness, of the tones in this sequence. Another was how sharp the notes were. When you hear a note, it can be an abrupt “ta,” or it can fade in, more like a “waaaa.” And the third thing we manipulated was timbre, which is the difference in how the same note sounds when it’s made by a flute as opposed to a piano, for example.

Tell us about the experiment.

We presented these stimuli to a group of subjects, and we asked them to rate them on a scale of one to five as to how musical they were. The first thing we noticed was that, across subjects, there was a surprising amount of agreement between which stimuli were considered musical and which were not. So right away, we knew we were on to something.

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When noise becomes music  

continued from page 3

Now you have a group of melodies and where they fit in on a scale of musical to nonmusical. Then what?

Then we brought in a new set of subjects and asked them to rate both the original base melodies, along with the modified melodies, from most musical to least.

We found that our manipulations changed the way that the subjects rated these melodies. When the loudness of the stimuli was increased, participants rated them as more musical than their baseline counterparts. The other two manipulations – where we changed the notes’ sharpness and the timbre – made those melodies sound less musical to our subjects.

So what does all this mean?

I think it means that to make judgments about what is musical requires two networks in the brain – those involved in processing music and those involved in processing low-level features of sound.

Here’s where the brain imaging comes in. We’ve shown that the two networks do partially overlap in perceiving music. That’s important because it was never thought that the two networks influenced one another directly.

And, what’s more, we also are finding that some of those brain regions that process the basic properties of sound are shared with regions that are involved in processing low-level properties of visual information. So basic “object” perception in your brain may be happening across multiple domains simultaneously.

What could be happening when the activity of sight and sound regions overlap?

The finding has implications for the kinds of things that we sometimes experience, like when you’re listening to music and you get visual imagery popping into your head or feelings of wanting to dance. The idea is that the experience of music may be much more than just an auditory phenomenon.

The kinds of manipulations that we’re making in the auditory domain are very parallel to the things that we’re doing in the visual domain. And I’m hoping it will someday lead to a better understanding of simultaneous audio-visual processing.
UWM student documents Roman History at Ancient Stabiae

By Sarah Vickery, College of Letters & Science

When Mt. Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D., Pompeii was not the only city buried in the ashes.

Stabiae, the site of a cluster of Roman villas belonging to the empire’s elite and wealthy, was also entombed in dust. Nearly 2,000 years later, a UWM student has been helping to uncover it.

Taylor Layton is a History and Religious Studies double major who has spent portions of the last three years working at the Ancient Stabiae site on the southern coast of the Bay of Naples. His parents took an Italian cruise in 2008 and visited the Stabiae dig. When Layton began to look for an internship in 2014, they suggested the ancient Roman site.

“I was put under the lead archaeologist and Dr. Thomas Howe, who is the site architect. They taught me all the components of site management and how to become not just a scholar, but how to make a site sustainable and work with the surrounding community,” Layton said. “It was a really good opportunity to go over there and learn all about site management. That’s what really drew me to Stabiae as opposed to Pompeii, where you’re only going to excavate one thing, or you’re only going to write an article on some artifacts.”

Layton completed an eight-month internship at Stabiae during his first year. He learned to use a laser scanner to map areas of Stabiae that may be unsafe for actual excavation. The next year, he was invited back to Stabiae to teach other students how to use the technique. He spent this summer in Stabiae teaching and conducting his own independent research.

Laser scanning is digital technique that both makes archaeological sites safer and quicker to process. Layton and other archaeologists use lasers to map the cracks and crevices of villa walls. The lasers measure the wall elevations and create a visual that would take an artist a year to hand-sketch.

Through laser imaging, Layton said, “We can see clearly there are different stages of architectural construction. We also

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Recommended reading from L&S authors

Get back in that learning mindset by checking out some new literature. Enjoy the excerpts below from two books recently published by Letters & Science faculty.

City of Memory: A Bilingual Anthology of Contemporary Polish Poetry

Edited and translated by Michael J. Mikos, Foreign Language and Literature

City of Memory comprises 122 poems penned by 21 contemporary authors drawing upon the deep-rooted tradition of Polish literature founded by poets such as Kochanowski, Norwid, and Herbert. Each adds their own perspective and challenges the worldviews and aesthetics of writers who have gone before.

The upheaval created by the rise of the Solidarity movement in the 1980s inspired a new generation of Polish poets to explore expressions of traditional and original themes. Marvel with these poets at the beauty of the surrounding scenery, explore their feelings for the people and places they hold most dear, and enjoy the expression of native heritage and history.

In this excerpt, listen to Michael Mikos read “Kolysanka Lipowa (My Trunk will be your cross)” by Wojciech Wencel which is a modern, dark rejoinder to a classic 16th century Polish poem called “The Linden Tree.”

To hear Michael Mikos read an excerpt from his work, click the play button above or visit http://amzn.to/2bijnRuo. Read it all by visiting http://amzn.to/2bQDwNB.

Agamemnon by Aeschylus, a verse translation

Translated by David Mulroy, Emeritus Foreign Language and Literature

Aeschylus (525–456 BC) was the first of the great tragic dramatists of ancient Greece. In “Agamemnon,” his choral songs contain an intense dramatic feeling that leaves the reader spellbound.

“Agamemnon” recounts the tale of King Agamemnon returning home to his wife, Clytemnestra, after the end of the Trojan War. Angry at her husband’s sacrifice of their daughter Iphigeneia before the war, Clytemnestra and her lover kill Agamemnon and the Trojan prophetess Cassandra, who Agamemnon has taken home as a slave.

A recent translation by David Mulroy, emeritus professor of foreign languages and linguistics, makes Aeschylus’ dramatic postscript to the Trojan War accessible to modern readers. Mulroy reads the passage describing the sacrifice of the king Agamemnon’s daughter Iphigenia to obtain favorable winds for the invasion of Troy.

To hear David Mulroy read an excerpt from his work, click the play button above or visit http://bit.ly/2bJWkb. Read it all by visiting https://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/5500.htm.
People in print


Upcoming Events

Aug. 31
Planetarium Fun: Shirts to-dye for and Stars & S'mores. 5 p.m. UW-Madison Planetarium Join the Planetarium staff for t-shirt tie-dying followed by s'mores and stargazing at 7 p.m. Tickets for tie-dying are $10 and Stars & S'mores tickets are $3. http://bit.ly/2bjOzjN

Sept. 4
Introduction to the Ferns. 10 a.m. Cedarburg Bog. Naturalist Freda van den Broek leads a talk and search for ferns. Registration required. http://bogfriends.org/events/event-registration

Sept. 7

Sept. 9 through October 14

Sept. 16
C21 Lecture: Regret and Remake. 3:30 p.m. Curtin 118. Brian Price, University of Toronto, discusses the 1946 film "The Postman Always Rings Twice." http://bit.ly/2bjXor0
In the Media and Around the Community

After a police-involved shooting and its violent aftermath in the Milwaukee neighborhood of Sherman Park, Marc Levine (History) was called upon and quoted for his expertise in several factors that have increased racial tensions in Milwaukee for decades, including segregation and income disparities. He and/or his work was cited in the Wall Street Journal (http://on.wsj.com/2biQNAs), the New York Times (http://nyti.ms/2bp4Phd and http://nyti.ms/2bY568F), CNN Money (http://cnnmoney.ie/2b4DSqo), Reuters (http://reut.rs/2b9MKp6), ABC News (http://abcnews.ws/2bE5D6G), the Chicago Sun-Times (http://bit.ly/2bxcKlE), the Associated Press (http://apne.ws/2bVzc1a), and several other news outlets.

Student Maina Fetaw (Journalism, Advertising, and Media Studies) was quoted in an article in the Huffington Post (http://huff.to/2b3tvwB) and a Los Angeles Times article about her concerns for her friends who live in the Sherman Park area after violent unrest. http://lat.ms/2aY4B1p

Kathleen Dolan (Political Science) was quoted in Congressional Quarterly regarding how Americans’ perception of gender might affect the presidential election, and spoke on the same topic for Roll Call. http://bit.ly/2ak5Ubl

Jean Creighton (Planetarium) talked about the history of space missions to Mars on WUWM’s Lake Effect.

There’s no denying that minorities face some challenges in American society, and that’s especially true in politics. Paru Shah (Political Science) discussed some of the hurdles minority candidates face during elections for Scholars Strategy Network. http://bit.ly/2aK9sCO

Presidential candidates often enjoy a post-convention bump in their polling numbers, said USA Today based on research by Thomas Holbrook (Political Science). (http://usat.ly/2ax43wV). Holbrook was also quoted in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel after polls showed Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump was polling poorly in southeastern Wisconsin. http://bit.ly/2aU4e5C

Kumkum Sangari (English) was hailed as one of several notable figures in a Scroll article exploring Indians transforming literary theory. http://bit.ly/2aCJ4Jl

When Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker announced plans to continue the UW System’s tuition freeze, several students, including Tristan Murphrey (Physics), expressed concerns about how a tuition freeze would affect their education. http://bit.ly/2avgFLo

Wilfred Tysoe (Chemistry and Biochemistry) unveiled research about the molecular structure of some drugs that could shape the way drugs are created, improving their impact and making them safer for patients. His work was lauded on Pharmaceutical Processing (http://bit.ly/2b8sqY2) and on Science Codex (http://bit.ly/2aFMUkX).

The Olympics wowed us with feats of athleticism and national pride, but instructor Jessie Garcia (Journalism, Advertising, and Media Studies) looked closer to home to profile Wisconsin Olympians in her new book, as profiled in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. http://bit.ly/2aVXfdN

Fred Anapol (Anthropology) explained on CBS 58 News how DNA can be used to help investigators in Kenosha County solve a cold case in which they are trying to identify the remains of an infant buried in 1989. http://bit.ly/2aVR9cR

How have the streets of Milwaukee changed from 50 years ago? Glen Jeansonne (Emeritus History) recounted his personal experiences witnessing civil rights and war protests in the 1960s on WUWM. http://bit.ly/2bEbAR3


When Yiddish theater star Fyvush Finkel passed away, Joel Berkowitz (Jewish Studies) was interviewed on PRI “The World” to commemorate his life. http://bit.ly/2aZuWgN

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**Alumni Accomplishments**

**Chris Ahmuty** ('74, MS History) announced that he will step down as the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin and retire at the end of the year. Ahmuty has been with the local chapter of the ACLU for 33 years and was named executive director in 1992. [http://bit.ly/2bPuFOL](http://bit.ly/2bPuFOL)

**Najiba Benabess** ('07, PhD Economics) was named Dean of the Business School at Millikin University. [http://bit.ly/2a578sU](http://bit.ly/2a578sU)

**Renae D. Prell-Mitchell** ('88, MA; '92, PhD Geography) was named the new director of the Fort Atkinson Club community center, responsible for serving the community and building new partnerships within Fort Atkinson. [http://bit.ly/2amf4Fc](http://bit.ly/2amf4Fc)

**James M. Theo** ('11, BA Journalism, Advertising and Media Studies) joined the Chicago law office of McDonald Hopkins as an associate in the firm’s Intellectual Property department. [http://prn.to/2ajJNSO](http://prn.to/2ajJNSO)

**Timothy Nettesheim** ('78, BA Economics) was named managing partner of the Waukesha County office of the business law firm Husch Blackwell. [http://bit.ly/2b1hYzS](http://bit.ly/2b1hYzS)

**Adam Boettner** ('07, BA History) was promoted to senior technical support analyst at Acuity Insurance in Sheboygan. [http://shebpr.es/2aGLg4D](http://shebpr.es/2aGLg4D)


**John Maher** ('89, BA English) was named the president of the Oregonian Media Group. He is stepping down as the president of the Reno Gazette-Journal to take the position. [http://bit.ly/2b6lIxH](http://bit.ly/2b6lIxH)


**Researchers including Trudy Turner** (Anthropology) discovered that humans have passed the *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria to green monkeys in The Gambia. Their resulting publication was written about in the *Independent UK*. [http://ind.pn/2aCNgOp](http://ind.pn/2aCNgOp)


Alumna **Sarah Hoye** ('01, BA Journalism and Mass Communication) talked about the Milwaukee she experienced growing up as the black daughter of white adoptive parents in an editorial for CNN. [http://cnn.it/2bzIb8k](http://cnn.it/2bzIb8k)


Laurels, Accolades, and Grant Awards

Neal O’Reilly (Conservation and Environmental Science) was named the winner of the 2016 Michael Frome Outreach Award by the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust for “demonstrating excellence in education related to land preservation and the environment.” [Link](http://bit.ly/2bh26Lj)

When Don Walker (’81, MS Urban Affairs) passed away, his colleagues at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel where Don worked as a reporter and editor found a touching way to honor his memory. This year, they awarded student Jakayla Phillips (Journalism, Advertising, and Media Studies) the first Don Walker Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship will be presented to students at UWM and at Marquette University in alternating years. [Link](http://bit.ly/2bgypfV)

The Kenwood Interdisciplinary Research Complex, the first new building to open on campus in 20 years, was awarded LEED Gold certification by the US Green Building Council. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the most widely-used green building rating system in the world and with measures such as water and energy efficiency, sustainable building materials, and design innovation. The $80 million facility is situated on the southwestern quarter of the UWM campus and houses offices and laboratories for Physics, Chemistry, and Public Health, as well as active learning classrooms.

Oneida farm

People on the reservation are encouraged to get involved; volunteers can come and use the cannery to make fresh food for themselves or to help package it. Flores found a deeper appreciation for his own culture doing just that.

“Walking away from this, I’ve learned so much,” he said. “I feel that it’s important to keep our cultural traditions and to show that we are educated and competent. That’s something that is important to preserve and keep going for future generations as well.”

Flores is in the process of formatting his research into the agricultural and cultural components of white corn and other plants. He’ll present his research in one of UWM’s Native American Ethnic Botany courses and bring in some of the white corn he’s grown himself. Later this fall, Flores will begin another internship at the Milwaukee Public Museum in the Native American exhibit.

“I’m really thankful to have this opportunity to take these classes at UWM. It shows the diversity that UWM has to offer,” Flores said. “We just started being able to fund our tribal members to go to college. When I speak to a lot of elders, they didn’t have the opportunity because their life was different. … Being educated and Native American in today’s world is not only going to help our family and community members, but also the country as a whole.”
use it to build a virtual model … that allows us to travel to anywhere in the villa and look at it in three-dimensional space, which is very useful for scholars trying to replicate a Roman atrium or something like that.”

Layton’s own research interests are much smaller. He looks at the household shrines, called lararia, where Romans practiced religious rituals to honor the household’s personal gods – essentially well-wishers of the family that people could pray to in times of sickness or misfortune.

“Religion is a major component that bypasses the social strata. Although it’s administered by the elites and practiced by the lower classes, it’s still a participatory thing where everyone involved is interpreting it in their own way,” Layton said of his interest. “I think little by little, scholars are including the people in the peripherals – freemen, slaves from all over the world. Their accounts are not really in literature; they’re omitted for the simple fact that only a small percentage of the population was literate. When you create the visual fabric of a place like this, it gives a scholar a chance to see what everyone was seeing, not just the wealthy.”

Layton himself became interested in history because his personal history is one that’s often overlooked. He is from a native population in Paraguay whose stories are passed down orally. As their territory shrinks due to commercial expansion, Layton worries that they will be left out of the historical record.

Meanwhile, he is helping to make Stabiae a permanent part of the record. Through careful site management – coordinating digs so that the ancient structures remain intact, building roofs to divert water from troubled areas, working with local Italians to encourage community involvement, and the like – Stabiae is on track to become an archaeological park similar to Pompeii. Eventually, Layton says, people will be able to tour the site to see places like the Villa San Marco and the Villa Arianna and discover what life was like nearly 2,000 years ago.

Learning that history is very humbling, Layton said.

“I didn’t realize there were so many perspectives that contribute to the interpretation of archaeology and the villas themselves,” he said. “At first, I was under the impression it was just an archaeological site that needed excavations and recording done. Once you arrive, you realize that the questions are endless and it’s up to how fast I can interpret software.”

Geosciences Honors Society looks for supporters

A new chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, the national Geosciences honor society, may be coming to UWM.

The Society of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was founded to recognize scholarship and professionalism in Earth Science disciplines and to advance the scholastic and professional efforts of its members. Learn more about the society at www.sigmagammaepsilon.com. Any person in any branch of Earth Sciences who has completed at least 10 semester hours or 15 quarters hours in Earth Science courses and has maintained a minimum 3.0 GPA in those courses and an overall GPA of 2.67 is eligible for membership.

To bring a chapter to UWM, applicants must send in, among other materials, a petition with interested student names and basic academic information. Students who wish to add their names to the petition or learn more about Sigma Gamma Epsilon should contact Riley Jay Banasik at mbanosik@uwm.edu.
She joined Waukesha County in 2012 and was promoted months later to her current position as the Solid Waste Supervisor.

“I have to explain it every time I introduce myself. I really would try to change my job title but then I wouldn’t have any opening line every time I went into a presentation,” Mattano joked.

She administers recycling contracts and operations for the Joint Materials Recovery Facility, or MRF, which is operated under an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Milwaukee and Waukesha County. She aligns programming and operations with state recycling laws, and she also oversees the staff members who perform education and outreach to inform people about waste reduction and recycling.

There’s a lot to inform them about.

“I think that has always been the challenge, to reach out to the public so that they know what to put in their curbside bin and what not to,” Mattano said. “There is a new term out there called ‘wish-cycling.’ People really want to recycle, and they think because it’s metal or plastic they can just throw it in their bin and somebody else will take care of it. If you send it to us and it’s not recyclable, you may be putting the workers in danger or the equipment at risk, and we’re going to have to throw it away which just shifts the burden of cost.”

Now there’s an easy way to figure out how to "Recycle Right". Mattano and her team worked with UWM’s App Brewery to create an app called Waukesha County Recycles that easily helps county residents find what can and can’t go in the recycling bin.

When communities work together, she added, the results are amazing. Last year, Waukesha County recycled 25,000 tons, a 34 percent increase over 2014, which resulted in a 13 percent reduction in landfill disposal.

Mattano’s dedication to the environment and teaching people about it carries over into her home life as well. Her oldest daughter is now 11, but when she was younger, Mattano wanted to find a fun way to teach her a love of the outdoors.

“I began to look for books to teach it. Unfortunately all I could find were fictional books depicting talking trees and animals. I wanted something real and tangible that she could walk outside and say, ‘that was in the book,’” Mattano said. “That developed into my first publication which was Nature Discovery in my Backyard. This book focused on my daughter exploring the backyard. I followed her around to see what she was interested in. She wanted to catch butterflies and pick up frogs and listen to the birds and lay in the grass and climb trees.”

For her next book, Go Green With Me, Mattano focused on easy, practical solutions that people can implement to help the environment – riding bikes, conserving water, starting a garden, and more. She designed presentations around the books and would regularly talk with young audiences about the natural world and the things they can do to preserve it.

Everyone pitching in a little bit can help, she said.

“On a local scale, what you are doing is contributing to the global solution,” Mattano added. “I have to look at it that way. I’m likely not going to solve the global crises by myself, but I’m a part of that solution.”
Help us light a SPARK!

The SPARK Early Literacy Program through the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee is looking for volunteers to make a difference in a child’s life.

Become an AmeriCorps volunteer to work with the SPARK program. Serving in AmeriCorps is a strong resume builder and a great opportunity to give back. Being a SPARK tutor is invaluable experience for pre-service teachers, and anyone interested in a career working with children and families.

**SPARK is an early literacy initiative, serving K5 and first-graders at eight Milwaukee Public Schools. Tutors work one-one-one with students, under the direct supervision of a licensed teacher. SPARK has been proven to have a statistically significant, positive impact on the children it serves.**

AmeriCorps members commit to a nine-month term of service. Tutors must be able to work three days per week (Monday-Friday), for at least four consecutive hours per day, between 8 am and 4 pm. AmeriCorps SPARK tutors receive a living stipend that totals $3,202, plus an Education Award at the end of their term, valued at $1,515. The Education Award can be used to buy textbooks, pay tuition, make payments on public loans, etc. but needs to be used within 7 years of the AmeriCorps service.

Those interested should go to [www.boysgirlsclubs.org](http://www.boysgirlsclubs.org), open the careers tab, then ”view openings” and look for the ”Program Specialist-SPARK Instructor” position. The deadline to apply is Sept. 12.

UWM Art Collection Traveling Exhibition is on the road

From now through Oct. 2, the Traveling Exhibition, Rembrandt Etchings: States, Fakes, and Restrikes, is on display at the Wright Museum of Art on the Beloit College campus in Beloit, Wis. The exhibit includes 40 works by and after Rembrandt, gifted to UWM by Emilie H. Mathis II.

The exhibit not only shares his extraordinary works but also details the problems surrounding the authentication of his etchings. The exhibit is made possible through the generous support of George S. Parker II.

For more information, visit [https://www.beloit.edu/wright/](https://www.beloit.edu/wright/).