

Talawanda Students Help Fill Empty Bowls



Once again this fall, students in Jim McWilliams' Ceramics classes are participating in a service project with roots that began in a classroom in Michigan and grew to become an international hunger relief effort.

In 1990, Michigan art teacher John Hartom initiated a class project to make ceramic bowls for a fund-raising meal. The following year, the originators had developed the concept into "Empty Bowls," a project designed to provide support for food banks, soup kitchens and other organizations that fight hunger. Since then, "Empty Bowls" events have been

held in twenty different countries throughout the world and millions of dollars have been raised to combat hunger.

Oxford Empty Bowls started in 2002 with the same concept: to celebrate art and service by bringing together the works of local artisans and local cooks to raise much-needed funds for the Oxford Community Choice Pantry's programs that supply food to families in need. In the Talawanda School District alone, nearly 1,000 children, or 1/3 of the student population, receive food aid -- a number that has increased in recent years as families struggle to keep up in the midst of a nation-wide economic recession.



This year, following in Hartom's shoes, teacher Jim McWilliams and his Ceramics I and II classes, including students Joseph Adkins, Rory Adryan, John Anzano, Peter Averbach, Heaven Barger, Dylan Betz, Jennifer Bittner, Niki Bolser, Cody Brekke, Colson Bryan, Mikaela Bretz, Thomas Burkhardt, Marlee Campbell, Ainsley Clark, Gabrielle Clausen, Grace Clausen, Roland Clausen, Thomas Clay, Spencer Crauder, Lucas Crawford, Matthew D'Arcus, Rioja, Eric Doane, Elizabeth Eberwine, Luke Eiche,

Benjamin Eichler, Joseph Farler, Benjamin Farmer, Gaege Feix, Kira Frank, Dylan Garver, Jaxon Gladwell, Valerie Green, Austin Griffin, Alexander Gunderson, Harley Hall, Ethan Hamilton, Alex Heflin, Ian Heiman, Hannah Heitger, Logan Hensley, Madison Hickman, William Hubbard, Edward Ingersoll, Chloe Jones, Wallace Kelly, John Kennedy, Jessica Killy, Logan Kist, Kyra Koontz, Ethan Kraushar, John Krumpe, Reese Lindley, Daniel Lowe, Nicole Marcum, Britney McIntosh, Rachel Merkel, Daniel Miller, Kharlyn Morgan, Piper Muhlhauser, Jaime Newcomb, Caleb Owens, De'Asia Owens, Toni Reece, Daniel Roberts, Gabriel Saulnier, Lucas Saurber, Cameron Scoggins, Austin Sherman,



Isabel Shoker, Brianna Short, Jasmin Sligar, Alyssa Smith, Charles Smith, Hanna Sparks, Matthew Speakman, Wesley Spice, Sarah Tatman, Anna Sullivan, Autumn Taylor, Nathaniel Vidourek, Tatyanna Whalen, Nathan Wheelright, Cody Wilson, Thomas Winkler, and Trenton Young donated class time and their many talents to help make bowls for the event, which last year alone raised over \$8,700 for the Pantry.

This year's Oxford Empty Bowls benefit soup luncheon will take place on Saturday, November 11th at the Oxford Community Arts Center. Luncheon details are included in the flier found elsewhere in this newsletter.