

Fine Arts Program To Begin

By MARLA CARPENTER
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MORGANTON — Hankering to be another Rembrandt? Western Piedmont Community College now has a special way to get fledgling artists in the area off to a productive career.

A new degree program, the associate in fine arts, starts in the fall at WPCC, according to fine arts instructor Raymond Goodfellow.

The degree program received approval in the spring from the state Department of Community Colleges.

Registration for the courses will be Sept. 2-3 at the college.

The two-year program is designed as a pre-professional program, allowing the student to transfer to a senior institution to complete the requirements for the bachelor of fine arts degree.

But it also provides for the cultural arts interest in the community and surrounding areas, Goodfellow said.

"There seems to be a lot of interest in the program (among the students) and in the community for art," Goodfellow said.

While community interest and participation is invited and encouraged, Goodfellow said, the Fine Arts Department is emphasizing the quality of courses offered so students could transfer to any four-year institution.

"We expect the number of art majors to go up," Goodfellow noted.

Currently, there are approximately 10 art majors at WPCC in the associate of arts degree, and about 40 to 50 people enrolled in art courses per quarter, he said.

Like its sister program, the associate of arts program is also a transfer program for a bachelor of arts degree.

The new associate in fine arts degree program — the drive for which was initiated by WPCC President Wilmon Droze — requires 96 quarter hours of course work, 54 of them in studio art work.

Basically, this program offers more studio time for the student and more time to work in a singular direction (area or discipline), Goodfellow said.

The fine arts program is built around a core program which emphasizes beginning drawing, composition and design courses, including color and two- and three-dimensional design, Goodfellow said.

Once the student completes the basic courses, he or she must elect two areas of concentration from among drawing, painting, sculpture and print making.

Currently, WPCC art facilities include a large art studio and a library with about 4,000 art slides, films and filmstrips in addition to comprehensive holdings of art history and fine arts books.

But already the college is in the pre-planning stage for a fine arts building, Goodfellow said. WPCC has plans to establish music and theatre programs, which would also be housed in the fine arts building, he added.

In addition, Audrey Olson, who received a master of arts from the Art Institute of Chicago, will serve as visiting artist next year. Ms. Olson has been teaching in the state system at the Technical College of the Alamance.

Her service as resident artist is subject to approval of a grant request.

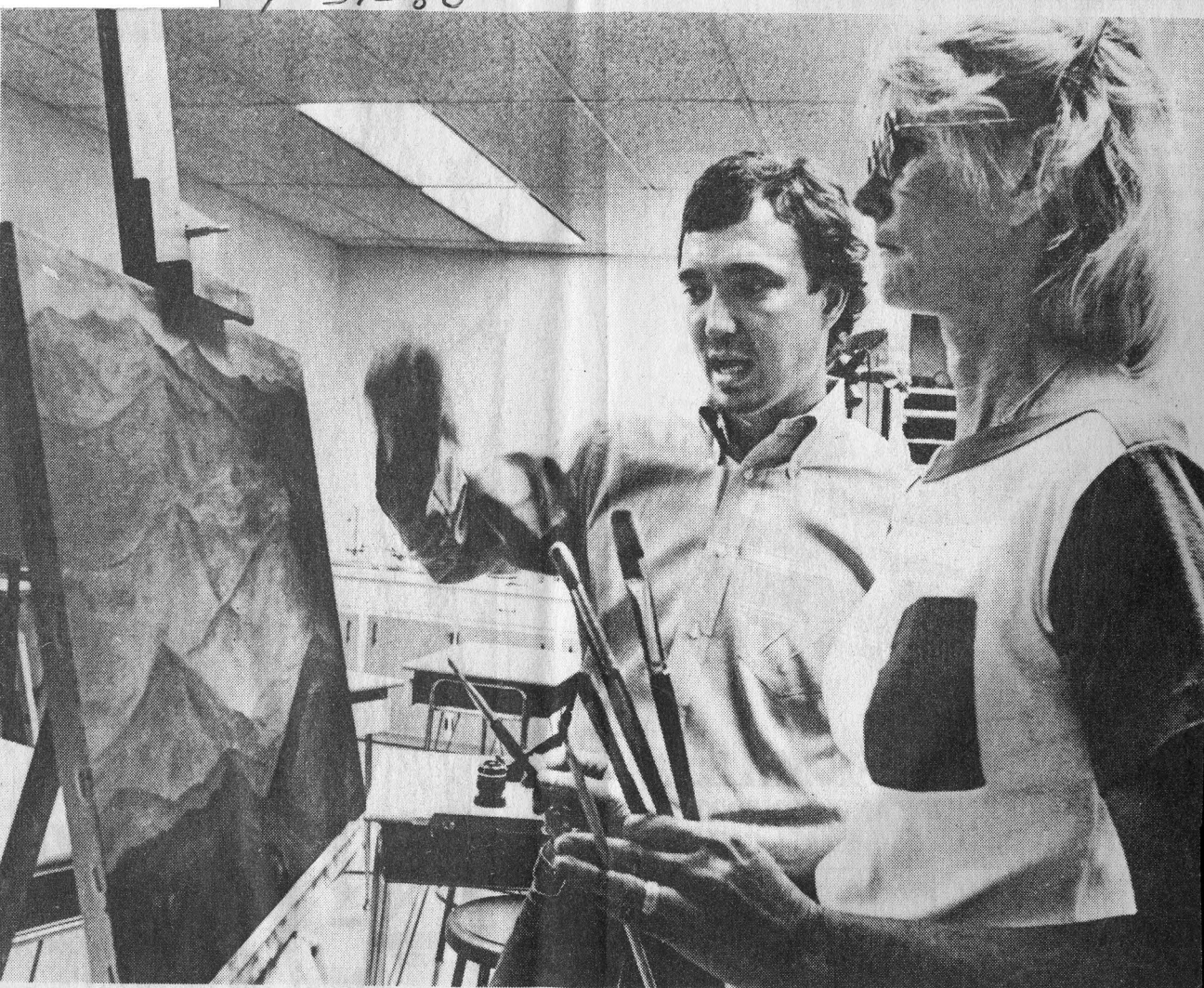
Goodfellow, from Chattanooga, Tenn., has been with the associate of arts program for the past year. He also will teach in the new degree program.

While Goodfellow "is" the fine arts department at the present, he said he anticipates the college hiring more staff as enrollment increases in the program.

Recipient of the master of fine arts degree from East Tennessee State University, Goodfellow also served as assistant instructor of drawing there.

His work has been featured in regional and national exhibitions, most recently at the 22nd Annual Delta Art Exhibition at the Arkansas Art Center in Little Rock, Ark., and at the Annual Dalton Arts Guild Art Exhibition in Dalton, Ga.

Goodfellow lives in Hickory with his wife, Renie, and daughter, Kasey.



By Peter Morris, Record Staff Photographer

Fine Arts Instructor Raymond Goodfellow Gives Pointers To Painting Student Daisy Ogle