From Jan. 21 to April 3, 2006, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art will present Ancient Bronzes of the Asian Grasslands in the Melvin Hunzicker-Rubie Gallery. Organized by the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation in New York, the exhibition brings to life the complex cultures that flourished along the Asian grasslands from northern China and Mongolia to Central Asia and Eastern Europe during the late second and first millennia BCE.

Didactic in nature, the exhibition reveals how the ancient horse-riding cultures of Central Asia and Eastern Europe used the animal world as a source of inspiration and how it is portrayed in their art. From gold and silver jewelry to metal vessels and horse harnesses, the exhibition presents more than 80 masterpieces of steppe art. Highlights of the exhibition include text panels, annotated images, a wall chart and an interactive computer kiosk. To transport visitors more than 2,500 years back in time, the exhibition features an audio-visual installation and a section with video screens. How did these ancient nomadic cultures connect to the spirit world? In addition, animal motifs such as antlered stags, wild animals and bird species are portrayed in the exhibition. In the late second and first millennia BCE, the prizewinning animal motifs of the ancient horse-riding cultures of Central Asia and Eastern Europe were transformed into symbolic images to depict the mysterious connection to the spirit world. In addition, animal folktales that will transport them back to ancient Mongolia. Participants are encouraged to pick up a special family guide and follow the clues.

Finally, on March 18, a family workshop has been planned. Children and their parents will create sculpture and wearable art with animal motifs and colorful animal footprints that will transport them back to ancient Mongolia. Participants are encouraged to pick up a special family guide and follow the clues.
endowment development, facilities expansion, and staffing issues, among others. I look forward to the next five years as we strive to become one of the preeminent small college museums of art in the country and we expanded. PAG members, comprised of faculty, staff, collectors, and other arts benefactors, have been working together to develop a strategic plan for the Hallie Ford Museum of Art.

Over the past eighteen months, the PAG and I have met on a biannual basis to draft a strategic plan. While the Hallie Ford Museum of Art had grown by leaps and bounds over the previous ten years, it was noted to us that there was a considerable amount of work that needed to be done if we wanted to move the institution to the next level in its development. I had just returned from a trip to the Midwest and East Coast where I had visited some of the foremost small college museums of art and we deeply impressed.

In general, a strategic plan serves as a roadmap that guides an institution over a period of time from its initial development to its eventual maturity. It can help an institution achieve its objectives, identify actions, staff assignments, initiatives, and the timetable to complete the plan. It thoughtfully and strategically plans can help an institution move forward on a number of different fronts. Indeed, in an environment of increased competition, funding cuts at the corporate and government level, and other priorities, a strategic plan can serve as a sound management tool for nonprofits.

Frank Boyden: Prints and Books

Frank Boyden is a highly regarded Oregon ceramic artist and printmaker and this is the first traveling body of work over the past 40 years that is based on the flora and fauna of Oregon. A major retrospective exhibition of Boyden’s printmaking will open June 10 and continue through Aug. 5, 2006, in the Malin Hall of Student Union.

Born in Portland, Ore., in 1942, Frank Boyden received his BA from Colorado College and his MFA degree from the University of Oregon in 1970. In 1979, he returned to Oregon and established the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology in Otis, Ore. After a highly successful career as a ceramic artist in the 1970s and early 1980s, Boyden returned to printmaking in 1984.

Frank Boyden: Prints and Books will feature more than 50 years of work by this highly regarded Oregon artist. A prolific printmaker, Boyden has explored a wide variety of themes in his prints over the past 20 years, including animals, the landscape, and most recently, the human figure. The exhibition will feature more than 90 aquatints, drypoints, etchings, and lithographs drawn from the permanent collection of the Hallie Ford Museum of Art, which has one of the largest collections of Boyden prints in the U.S.

In conjunction with the exhibition, a major book on Frank Boyden will be published. The book will be approximately 120 pages in length and will include essays by Prudence Roberts, who will place Boyden’s work within the context of international and American art, and Ian Boyden, who will discuss his father as a printmaker and book collaborator. In addition, the book will include more than 100 illustrations, a chronology of the artist’s life, and a bibliography for further reading. As with other Hallie Ford Museum exhibitions, the book will be distributed by the University of Washington Press.

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For further information, call 503-370-6854.

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Giving Opportunities

A wide variety of giving opportunities are available at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art, from our endowment gift to our annual giving program.

For further information, call 503-370-6854.

Books, Calendars, Etc.

Visit our bookstore for a wide variety of art books and related merchandise, an annual subscription to Brushstrokes, invitations to special lectures, ethnic, concerts and art events, and other membership benefits. If you are already a member, consider giving a gift membership to a friend or relative. Membership makes wonderful gifts for birthdays, graduation or other special occasions.

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