

# I N S I G H T S

**Excellence. Access. Diversity. Community.**

**March 2007 - Vol. 9, No. 2**



## Greetings from President Hahs

Greetings! It has been my pleasure to meet so many of you since I arrived on campus last month. I am truly honored to be here at Northeastern and I appreciate the warm welcome I have received. In the short time since my arrival, I have found an extraordinary university with strong academic programs, committed faculty and staff, and serious and hard-working students.

As part of the many activities of my first month, I have visited Springfield to meet legislators, attend briefings, and testify before the House Higher Education Appropriations Committee. One of the briefings provided formal presentations from the National Council of State Legislators and the Illinois Education Research Council. Among the information shared was a description of current and future students in Illinois. The demographic profile of Illinois in 2030, in which minorities are the new majority and students on average are older and more attend college on a part-time basis, is already here at NEIU today.

In many ways NEIU is the university of the future: Many students are older, a high proportion of them attend part-time, most students work and many support families. This is a commuter campus. Students transfer both in and out of NEIU; nearly three-fourths of our graduating students have come to us as transfer students. NEIU is a wonderfully diverse institution—the most ethnically diverse institution in Illinois and in the Midwest. Approximately 25% of our students are Latino students, 11% are African American. (These two groups are the fastest growing populations nationally and in Illinois.) We also have about 10% Asian American students, 2% international students, and a rich mix of ethnic groups—over fifty languages are spoken on our campus. Indeed, we are the university of the future.

An important mark of quality for any institution is its accreditation. Northeastern is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. This spring we have concluded a lengthy process of self-study and hosting our site visit. That visit was very positive. The official process will not be complete

until early summer, but we expect to receive continuing accreditation for another ten years, the maximum allowed by the process. This is an excellent outcome. Additionally the visiting team has recommended that we focus on planning for the future.

So as we look to our future, we will build on the positive Higher Learning Commission process of self-study and reaffirmation of accreditation. We will respond to the recommendation for planning that integrates all aspects and functions of the University. We are beginning that process with a discussion of institutional values, those fundamental concepts and ideals on which an institution bases all of its plans and actions. In a collaborative process beginning with University Day, we are taking the initial steps toward developing a Statement of Values. Together with NEIU's Statement of Mission, it will serve as the foundation for all future planning efforts.

Although there will be challenges ahead, the future looks bright as together we work to continue to fulfill Northeastern's mission.

# Northeastern in the media



Edward Odisho, professor, teacher education, was featured in an article titled “He left Iraq for Morton Grove” in a January issue of *The Bugle*. The article discussed Odisho’s reaction to Saddam Hussein’s execution.



Mike Kempfski, student, was featured in a *Lake County News Sun* article titled “A leader since he was a boy” on January 5. The article discussed a surprise celebration organized by Kempfski’s coworkers at the Lake Forest Hospital in honor of his accomplishments as a military officer in Iraq.



Sandra L. Schneller, (B.A. '97 Political Science, M.A. '99 Political Science), president, Apex Business Link, LLC, was featured in a *Today's Chicago Woman* article titled “No Guts, No Glory” in the January issue of the magazine. The article quoted several entrepreneurs including Schneller.



Ellen Cannon, professor, political science and women’s studies, wrote an article titled “Preparing for Terror in the U.S.” that was published in *New York Jewish Week* on January 26. The article suggested that Jewish and American communal preparedness against the threat of terrorism attacks is significant and necessary.



Steven Reiss, professor, history, was interviewed on WBEZ’s “Eight Forty-Eight” show on February 5. Reiss discussed the Chicago Bears’ Super Bowl game and their fans’ reactions.



A two-page color spread featuring the Ensemble Español titled “Step by Step” was published in the Weekend section of the *Chicago Sun-Times*. The article discussed “Flamenco Passion,” which was performed by NEIU’s Ensemble Español at the Auditorium Theater, and illustrated examples of various steps of Flamenco dancing.



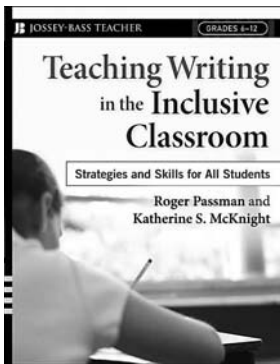
## NEIU Red Cross Mass Care Shelter Agreement

NEIU has again been designated a Red Cross Mass Care Shelter. In February, Ralph Zia, assistant vice president, facilities management, hosted a meeting with NEIU and Red Cross representatives to coordinate the details of the agreement.

In the event of a disaster, after meeting its responsibilities to NEIU students, faculty and staff, NEIU will allow the Red Cross to use the Physical Education Complex to aid individuals and families who are victims of disaster.

The Red Cross will provide supplies and a communications vehicle that will supply the building with electricity (via an on-board generator), computers, internet access, telephone service, and satellite television service.

# Northeastern Faculty Alums Co-Author Book on Teaching Writing



Katherine McKnight (M.Ed. '93) and Roger Passman (M.Ed. '93) were recently honored at a reception for Northeastern faculty authors. Passman, associate professor, teacher education and McKnight, chair, teacher education department, co-authored "Teaching Writing in the Inclusive Classroom", a book of techniques and activities to help every student acquire good writing skills.

McKnight and Passman met at Northeastern while working on their master's degrees. "In our first class together, each of us made a distinct impression on the other," said Passman. "We both went home and told our spouses about this outspoken person in our class who we couldn't quite figure out."

It didn't take long for Passman and McKnight to discover that they had many common bonds, not the least of which was teaching English/language arts in the Chicago Public Schools. It was this shared experience that led to discussions about writing a book on teaching writing.

"We had long conversations about how to overcome the obstacles of teaching writing in a classroom that includes everyone from students with special needs, to second language learners, to students reading well above grade level," said Passman. Added McKnight, "With that kind of audience, work sheets and teacher lectures just don't do the trick. You've got to mix it up a lot more than that."

After receiving their master's degrees, McKnight and Passman parted ways. Both had been encouraged by their faculty advisor and mentor Beverly Otto, professor, teacher education, to pursue doctorate degrees. And they did. However, it wasn't until more than ten years later that they found themselves together again, this time as faculty at Northeastern. It was then that they finally decided it was time to write the book. Jossey-Bass, the first publisher they approached, accepted their proposal.

The book answers questions about developing an approach to teaching writing that caters to students with a wide range of learning styles and skill levels all of whom are learning in the same classroom. It discusses how to help each student develop his own voice and organize his thoughts in a coherent matter. It also provides concrete examples of techniques and activities to accomplish those goals.

"This book was a labor of love," said McKnight. "It's filled with 'kitchen-tested recipes.' Everything that we put in the book, we've used successfully in our own classrooms. We hope that what we've written will benefit other teachers in their quest for developing successful writers out of all of their students."

## THE DR. BERNARD J. BROMMEL DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

The office of scholarships and retention is currently accepting applications for the Dr. Bernard J. Brommel Doctoral Scholarship. First awarded in 2001, the scholarship is given to support doctoral study for alumni who have received either bachelor's or master's degrees from Northeastern and who meet specified criteria as stipulated by the donor, Professor Emeritus Bernard J. Brommel.

Five thousand dollars is available for the 2007-2008 academic year, with one or more scholarships to be awarded from that amount. Following are the scholarship criteria:

- Must be a first- or second-year student admitted to and enrolled full-time in a Ph.D. Program (any field) or Psy.D. program, which is accredited by the North Central Association or equivalent Ph.D. accrediting agency. (Online and Ed.D. programs will not fulfill this requirement.)
- Must have completed an NEIU bachelor's degree in the College of Arts and Sciences or the College of Education or received a master's degree from any institution in any of the fields within arts and sciences or the areas of counselor education or psychology.

OR

- Must have completed a master's degree from NEIU in the fields within arts and sciences or the areas of counselor education or psychology and completed a bachelor's degree from NEIU or any institution within the areas of arts and sciences or education.
- A strong research background, published articles and/or papers presented at state or regional conferences is highly desirable.

**The scholarship application  
deadline is  
Thursday, May 31 at 4 p.m.  
For more information,  
contact Michelle Morrow, director,  
scholarships and retention,  
m-morrow@neiu.edu or ext. 4606.**

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## The Death of Pluto

at the Fine Arts Center Gallery Now through Friday,  
April 6. Call ext. 4944 for gallery hours.

An opening reception for the artist will be held on  
Friday, March 9 from 6 - 9 p.m.  
in the Fine Arts Center Gallery.

All events are free and open to the public.



Using the widely discussed transition of Pluto from a planet to a pluton as a catalyst, *The Death of Pluto* is an exploration of what we know or what we think we know. Hovsepian's beautiful photographs and video depict images of family members. The juxtaposition of family, those who are closest to us, with the recent demotion of Pluto causes us to question our ability to know someone or something and to contemplate how our knowledge and understanding can change over time.

### ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL

Ext. 5930

#### **Flamenco Nights with members of the Ensemble Español and guest musicians**

Tuesday, May 1, shows at 8 and 9 p.m.

Rumba, 351 West Hubbard Street in Chicago, (312) 222-1442 and Tuesday, April 17 and Tuesday, May 15, shows at 6:15, 7:15 and 8:15 p.m.

Tapas Barcelona, 1615 Chicago Avenue in Evanston, (847) 866-9900

#### **Flamenco Dance Workshops**

The next six-week session begins April 17. Classes are held Tuesday evenings.

A-113 - \$90 per session; \$75 students

#### **Intermediate Flamenco Technique/Choreography Workshop with live guitar accompaniment**

The next six-week session begins April 19. Classes are held Thursday evenings.

A-113 - \$120 per session; \$102 students

### FINE ARTS CENTER GALLERY

Ext. 4944

**Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition**, work in all media created by NEIU students, juried by recent visiting artist Barbara Cooper Monday, April 16 - Friday, May 11, call for gallery hours Fine Arts Center Gallery - Free

\*A free opening reception for the artists will be held on Friday, April 20 from 6 - 9 p.m. in the gallery.

### JEWEL BOX SERIES

Ext. 4636

#### **Countertenor Mark Crayton**

Friday, April 20, 8 p.m.

Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - \$25; \$15 NEIU faculty, staff and alumni; \$10 students

A free master class with Mark Crayton will be held on Monday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.

### MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND DANCE PROGRAM

Ext. 5921

#### **Jazz Combos**, Mayo Tiana, director

Tuesday, March 27, 7:30 p.m.

NEIU Auditorium - Free

#### **Percussion Ensemble**, Owen Clay Condon, director

Wednesday, March 28, 7:30 p.m.

NEIU Auditorium - Free

#### **Robin Koelsch**, clarinet, graduate recital

Friday, March 30, 7:30 p.m.

Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

#### **Senior Recital**, Joshua Therriault, clarinet

Tuesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.

Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**Caribe**, Mayo Tiana, director  
Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - Free

**Guitar Ensemble**, Brian Torosian, director  
Thursday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - Free

**Graduate Recital**, Lindsay Schoenberger, soprano  
Friday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**Voice Master Class**, Mark Crayton  
Monday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**Music Convocation**, Music of George Gershwin, featuring  
faculty artists  
Tuesday, April 10, 1:45 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - Free

**Varsity Big Band**, Mayo Tiana, director, with guest artist  
Steve Huffsteter, trumpet  
Tuesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - Free

**Clarinet Showcase**, studio of Rose Sperrazza  
Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**Guitar Master Class**, Elena Papandreu  
Thursday, April 12, 3 p.m.  
FA-144 - Free

**Faculty Artist**, Mikhail Yanovitsky, piano  
Monday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**New Music Concert**, Nelson Mandrell, director  
Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**Percussion Showcase**  
Thursday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**The Opera Workshop Presents Cinderella**, by Jules Massenet,  
an opera based on the fairy tale by Charles Perrault, directed  
by Ronald Combs, orchestra conducted by Michael Melton  
Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21 at 8 p.m.; Sunday,  
April 22 at 2:30 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - \$10; NEIU students, faculty and staff  
free with I.D.

**Woodwind and Brass Showcase**, Rose Sperrazza, director  
Tuesday, April 24, 1:45 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**NEIU Chorus and Chamber Singers**, Michael Melton, conductor  
Tuesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - Free

**Vocal Showcase**, studio of Phyllis Hurt  
Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**NEIU String Orchestra**, Joseph Glymph, conductor  
Thursday, April 26, 1:45 p.m.  
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall - Free

**NEIU Wind Ensemble**, R. Shayne Cofer, conductor  
Thursday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - Free

## MOSTLY MUSIC

Ext. 4978

**Con D'Amore**, Ars Antigua with Rachel Barton Pine  
Sunday, April 29, 4 p.m.  
Hyde Park Residence - \$25; \$15 students

## PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

Ext. 4636

**Charles Rosen**, Musical Ambition in the 18th Century  
Presented by the Presidential Lecture Series  
Thursday, April 12, 8 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - Free

**Pianist Charles Rosen**  
Friday, April 13, 8 p.m.  
NEIU Auditorium - \$25; \$15 NEIU faculty, staff and alumni;  
\$10 students

## STAGE CENTER THEATRE

Ext. 4272

**Gary Grinkle's Battles with Wrinkles and Other Troubles  
in Mudgeville**, by Stefan Graves Lanfer  
Children's Theatre Workshop Production for 1st - 4th grade students  
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, now - April 25 at 10:30 a.m.  
Stage Center Theatre, Building F - \$3; NEIU faculty, staff and  
students free with I.D.  
For reservations call Kat Matassarini at (847) 373-1817.

**Fitting Rooms**, by Susan Cinoman  
Studio Series Production  
Tuesday, April 10 and Thursday, April 12; shows at 1:40 and  
7:30 p.m.  
F109 - \$3; NEIU faculty, staff and students free with I.D.

**The Mineola Twins**, by Paula Vogel  
Thursday - Saturday, April 19 - 21, 26 - 28 and May 3 - 5 at 7:30 p.m.  
Stage Center Theatre, Building F - \$10; NEIU faculty, staff  
and students free with I.D.  
\*Opening night ticket-holders are invited to a free reception  
immediately following the first performance.

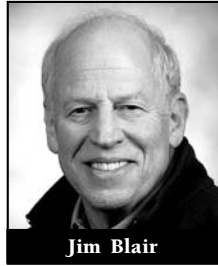
**3rd Annual Communication, Media and Theatre Student  
Showcase**, including short videos, acting scenes, monologues,  
and comedy sketches  
Tuesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.  
Stage Center Theatre, Building F - Free

# Did you know...

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Frank Perino



Jim Blair



Steven Brown



Debra Bruce-Kinnebrew



Alice Giacobbe

**Frank Perino**, associate professor, teacher education, co-authored an article with Steve Miller, professor emeritus, Loyola University Chicago, titled "Race, Kinds and Ontological Commitments: Issues for Social Policy Clarification." The article was published in the *Journal of Applied Philosophy* in January.

**Jim Blair**, coordinator, College of Arts and Sciences Education Program, and **Steven Brown**, professor, educational leadership and development, were awarded a 2006 Golden Gavel Award by the State Bar of Wisconsin. Blair and Brown won the award for their work as director (Blair) and writer (Brown) for "And on the Eighth Day: The 1925 Scopes Trail," a radio play broadcast on WGTD FM, a Wisconsin Public Radio affiliate. The award was presented at a ceremony in Madison, Wis. in January.

**Debra Bruce-Kinnebrew**, professor, English, recently published several works of poetry. "Swans Grooming" was published in the fall issue of *The American Poetry Journal*; "Note From An Extremophile" was published in the fall issue of *The National Poetry Review*; "Late Winter Lesson" was published in the winter issue of *The Virginia Quarterly Review*; and "Objects of Desire" was published in the winter issue of *Shenandoah*.

**Alice Giacobbe**, assistant professor, special education, was the 2006 recipient of the University Center of Lake County's Learning, Innovation, and Scholarship in Teaching (LIST) Award. The LIST award honors faculty who actively demonstrate the University Center's core values of life-long learning, commitment to academic quality, responsiveness to adult learners, and innovation in teaching.

**Susan Rosa**, assistant professor, history, was one of five scholars from across the country selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities to serve as an evaluator in its Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions (FPIRI) program. FPIRI supports fellowships at independent institutions devoted to advanced study and research in the humanities. The meeting of the evaluation panel took place in Washington D.C. in December.

**Kim Tracy**, executive director, university computing, wrote a guest editorial on computer security that was published in the January issue of *Ed Tech Focus on Higher Education* magazine. Additionally, he wrote an article titled "A Career in Motion: From the Back Office to the Executive Office," that was published in the May/June 2006 issue of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' *Potentials* magazine.

**Susan Stall**, chair and professor, sociology, African and African American studies, Latino and Latin American studies, and women's studies, has been elected president of the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), a regional professional society. The theme she created for the 2008 MSS conference is "Making Sociology More Public."

**Edward Stuart**, professor, economics, gave a presentation titled "Economic Outlook for 2007" at the January APICS Professional Development Meeting in South Barrington. According to their Web site, APICS, the association for operations management, "builds excellence in individuals and enterprises through superior education and training, internationally recognized certifications, comprehensive resources, and a world-wide network of accomplished industry professionals."



Susan Rosa



Kim Tracy



Susan Stall



Edward Stuart

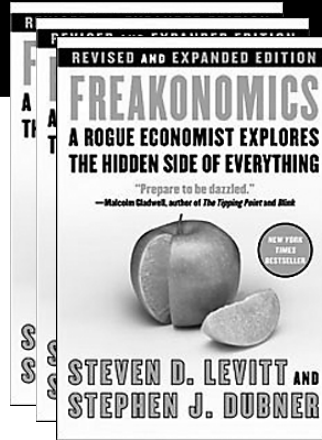
Please e-mail items for **Did you know...** to Carolyn at [c-bonner@neiu.edu](mailto:c-bonner@neiu.edu).

# COBM'S ONE BOOK PER SEMESTER PROJECT

The College of Business and Management (COBM) has developed a unique student-centered teaching and learning model that creates a sense of community and promotes faculty/student collaboration across the business disciplines. Known as "One Book per Semester," the project engages members of the COBM community in meaningful dialogue through discussion of best-seller books that cover cutting-edge issues in business and management.

Each semester (excluding summers) business faculty have the opportunity to nominate a book for consideration. Once the list of nominations is compiled, students and faculty are invited to vote on a selection. After the book is selected, faculty have the option of incorporating the selected book into their course curriculum for the semester.

Participation is not mandatory. However, faculty who choose to take part generally



include the book in one or more ways including suggested reading, discussion of the entire book or specific chapters, to class credit for a written book summary or book review. In addition, faculty are encouraged to invite their students to the "Super Class Sessions" where faculty and students participate in student-led discussions about the book.

Now in its third year the project has been a great success. Student surveys indicate that more than 90 percent of the students are in favor of the project and would like to see it continue. Fac-

ulty have also welcomed the project. More than 50 percent of all class sections incorporated this semester's book, "Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything," into the curriculum.

Commented Dilek Yunlu, instructor, management and marketing, who has participated in the project since its inception, "The 'One Book per Semester' project is a wonderful way to accompany information from the textbook with knowledge about the practical issues in today's world of business." She adds, "It promotes creativity and helps students to think outside the box...an indispensable skill for success in business."

The college plans to continue collecting survey data each semester with the goal of presenting the "One Book per Semester" model some time next year at a conference sponsored by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

## NEIU Students to Spend Spring Break 2007 in Greece Continuing and Applying Research



A group of NEIU Honors Program students will travel to Greece for Spring Break this semester. The trip is part of the course "Byzantium vs. the Caliphate: Confronting the Cultural Other" taught by Michael Davros, instructor, English. The class is studying the literature of Hellenic Americans and will explore historic sites in mainland Greece that are significant to the Greek Revolution of 1821-1832, as well as to the literature produced by Hellenic Americans. The course also extends from Davros' research for his book "The Literature of Animosity: The Response to Greco-Turkish Conflict in the Novels of Greek American Writers." The book and the course are the direct products of an Educational Leave awarded to

him January-May 2006.

Among the sites the class will visit are the castles at Nafplion and Nafpaktos, the site of the beginnings of the revolution at Agia Lavra, and historical locations at Mystras, near Sparta.

They will also be exploring the Parthenon in Athens, the classical theater at Epidavros and the temples of Olympia and Delphi.

The course will explore the works of Harry Mark Petrakis, Jeffrey Eugenides, and Jim Kokoris as well as the detective fiction of George Pelecanos. While the class will focus on a variety of prose narratives, they will also study several other local authors including Steven P. Stamatis and Nicholas D. Kokonis.

## The NEIU Jewel Box Series Presents: Quartet San Francisco

Tickets are \$25; NEIU faculty and staff \$15; students \$10. Call the NEIU Box Office at ext. 4636 or visit [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com) for tickets.

**Quartet San Francisco** is a dynamic and virtuosic ensemble that has achieved a distinguished reputation for excellence in musical performance. Its members have come together with the unified purpose of performing multiple styles of interesting and engaging music – from tango to jazz, classical to Latin, contemporary to world music – using the techniques and performance practices authentic to each style. Since its concert debut in 2001, Quartet San Francisco has offered its unique fare of musical styles to local, national and international audiences in a variety of venues that include tango and concert halls, jazz festivals, museums, and classrooms.

The 2007 double Grammy nominees deliver an irresistible mixture of genre-bending world chamber music. Playful and non-traditional in their delivery, Quartet San Francisco redefines the sound of chamber music and leaves concert-goers with a new appreciation for what can be accomplished by eight hands and 16 strings.



NEIU's Jewel Box Series presents Quartet San Francisco on Thursday, March 29 at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.

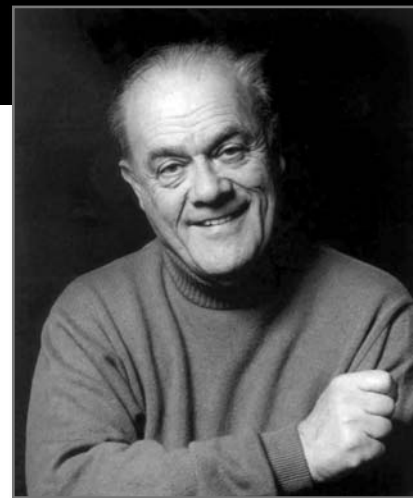
## The Performing Arts Series Presents: Pianist Charles Rosen

Tickets are \$25; NEIU faculty and staff \$15; students \$10. Call the NEIU Box Office at ext. 4636 or visit [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com) for tickets.

One of the most respected pianists of our time, **Charles Rosen** is internationally acclaimed for his performances and recordings of a repertoire that ranges from Bach to the 20th century's most significant composers. He is also a writer whose books are informed by an extraordinary sensibility and a speaker whose talks are characterized by depth, breadth, wit, and the effortless elegance of the natural communicator.

The *Boston Globe* describes Charles Rosen as an “explosively intelligent musician who can convey his highly original ideas with all the silkiness of sound and subtlety of rubato of the great romantic virtuosos.”

Rosen's recital program at NEIU will include works by W.A. Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven and Frederic Chopin. The lecture that he will present is titled “Musical Ambition in the 18th Century.”



NEIU's Performing Arts Series presents pianist Charles Rosen in a free lecture on Thursday, April 12 at 8 p.m., and a recital on Friday, April 13 at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.

The *Insights* newsletter is published monthly by the public relations office for the NEIU community.



Get Insights online at [www.neiu.edu/insights](http://www.neiu.edu/insights).

Comments and story suggestions are welcome. Call us at ext. 4223 or e-mail [e-krehbiel@neiu.edu](mailto:e-krehbiel@neiu.edu).