

# PSU receives \$250,000 gift from the McLane Family for Museum of the White Mountains

*Gift will support new fellowship and development of online database of seminal 19th Century White Mountain artists*

PLYMOUTH — Plymouth State University (PSU) recently announced a \$250,000 gift to its 'Museum of the White Mountains' (MWM) from the McLane Family. The gift will support The McLane Family Fellowship, which will be awarded annually to one PSU undergraduate or graduate student to foster integration of MWM programs and projects into PSU classrooms, research, and co-curricular experiences. The gift, which is the largest ever received by the museum, will also help establish MWM as a community arts and culture center.

"The McLane family has a deep love and appreciation for the White Mountains of New Hampshire, and for many years, they have had a vision for the creative and academic integration of the Museum

of the White Mountains into the curricular and co-curricular projects of Plymouth State University," said Donald L. Birx, president, Plymouth State University. "Their commitment and this most generous gift will contribute significantly to the missions of the museum and to Plymouth State's vision for excellence. We are truly grateful."

PSU graduate student Mary DiBurro is the first-ever McLane Family Fellow. DiBurro earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from PSU in 2016 and is currently pursuing her Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT).

"Andy and the entire McLane family have been and continue to be tremendously important to the museum – and to PSU," said Cynthia C. Robinson, director, Museum of the White Mountains. "Their love



COURTESY  
Plymouth State University (PSU) recently announced a \$250,000 gift to its 'Museum of the White Mountains' (MWM). Given by The McLane Harper Family Foundation, the gift will support The McLane Family Fellowship, which will be awarded annually to one PSU undergraduate or graduate student. The McLane Family gift will also support development of the 'Campbell Online Project' – an online database of 19th Century 'White Mountain School of Painting' artists. Pictured, left to right: Donald L. Birx, president, Plymouth State University; Jessica Hoffmann Davis, Ph.D., chairperson, Museum of the White Mountains Advisory Council; Ben McLane, Shandra McLane and Andy McLane; Mary DiBurro, McLane Family Fellow, and Cynthia Robinson, director, Museum of the White Mountains.

of the art of the White Mountains and the region as a whole, and their belief that the museum has much to offer PSU students, and vice versa, has now materi-

alized in this wonderful gift that will benefit us and the region for years to come. I am thrilled to welcome Mary DiBurro as the first McLane Family Fellow, and I

am excited to begin our work."

"Plymouth State University and the Museum of the White Mountains are important to our family, and are significant, yet somewhat 'unsung assets' to the State of New Hampshire," said P. Andrews (Andy) McLane. "Our entire family has been involved with the University and the museum in various capacities for many years, we believe in their shared and respective missions, and we are honored to be able to support them with this gift."

The McLane Family

gift will also support development of the "Campbell Online Project" – an online database of 19th Century 'White Mountain School of Painting' artists, based on the book, "New Hampshire Scenery." Published by Catherine Campbell in the 1980s, the book is considered 'the bible' for collectors, dealers and lovers of White Mountain art.

For more information about Plymouth State University and the Museum of the White Mountains, please visit [www.plymouth.edu/museum-of-the-white-mountains](http://www.plymouth.edu/museum-of-the-white-mountains).

## Ashland Elementary students enjoy new playground equipment

ASHLAND — Ashland Elementary School students have been enjoying the new structure that was recently added to the playground. After two years of hard work raising funds for the addition, the dream became a reality and the students are thrilled.

Two years ago, inspired by the petition of a second grade student, the AES Student Council researched playground equipment costs and set a goal to raise the funds needed to improve the AES playground.

In the fall of 2015, the members of the Student Council began researching and applying



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for grants. In the winter of 2015-2016 the students learned that they had

been awarded a grant for \$10,000 from Meredith Village Savings

Bank. Since the cost for the structure they selected would be at least \$13,000, the group began a letter writing campaign to local businesses and initiated several other fundraisers. Thanks to the generosity of the Ashland community, the group was able to reach their goal and purchase the equipment.

The students and advisors quickly learned that shipping, storing and assembling the equipment would bring many additional challenges. Many thanks to Ashland Lumber who provided the needed storage space along with staff from ML Property Maintenance and ACE Carpentry for volunteering to install the equipment.

This was an amazing learning experience for the students involved as they incorporated math, writing and problem solving skills throughout the process.

## Liesl Magnus of Holderness enrolled at St. Lawrence University

CANTON, N.Y. — St. Lawrence University has welcomed Liesl F. Magnus of Holderness as a member of the Class of 2021. Magnus attended Holderness School.

Approximately 710 students enrolled at St. Lawrence this fall, including 69 of whom represent 24 countries around the world. Fifty-seven percent of St. Lawrence students come from outside of New York State, and 46 percent graduated in the top-10 percent of their high school class. More than 90 percent participated in athletics in high school, 75 percent volunteered or were involved with community service or volunteer work, and 38 percent participated in the arts.

Each first-year student at St. Lawrence University participates in its nationally-recognized First-Year Program, one of the oldest liv-

ing-learning programs in the country. The FYP helps students make successful transitions from high school to college. Students live together as as cohort and are taught by faculty teams, developing the writing,

speaking and research skills needed for college. Students continue to develop these skills in a spring First-Year Seminar.

Fall semester classes began on Aug. 30.

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Photo (l to r): Deb Donati and Kelsey Guarino, DPT

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