



## RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison

## UW-Madison Retirement Association 2019-20 Luncheon Committee Report Ruthi Duval, Chair

Our first program for the 2019-2020 season was held on Monday, October 14, 2019 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 326 Segoe Road, Madison, WI 53705

The music for Violin and Piano was performed by Kaleigh Acord and Eric Tran. The program included Sergei Prokofiev's 5 Melodies, JS Bach's Partita No. 1 in b minor for solo violin, and Claude Debussy's Sonata for Violin and Piano.

As a Doctor of Musical Arts candidate at University of Wisconsin-Madison's Mead Witter School of Music, **Kaleigh Acord** is a student of Soh-Hyun Park Altino and a recipient of the esteemed Paul Collins Fellowship. She holds a Graduate Performance Diploma from the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, as well as a Master of Music and an Undergraduate Diploma from the Longy School of Music of Bard College in Cambridge, MA. She was a recipient of Peabody's Valerie Slingluff Violin Scholarship for the 2016-17 year.

**Eric Tran** is currently pursuing a DMA in piano at UW-Madison with Christopher Taylor. Eric is a graduate of Stanford University and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. During his studies, he was the winner of the concerto competitions of both institutions, and he was awarded the prestigious Robert M. Golden Medal for outstanding contributions to the arts. As a composer, he won the Pacific Musical Society Composition Prize. He has appeared in music festivals such as Piano Texas, Aspen, Art of the Piano, as well as festivals in Europe.

We began our 2019-2020 luncheon series with **Lisa Carter**, Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"UW-Madison Libraries: Empowering Discovery, Scholarship and Lifelong Learning" was the subject of her talk. In her role, Lisa oversees campus libraries and provides leadership for strategic planning, fundraising, ensuring coordination of campus library collections, services and personnel plus advancing campus partnerships, collaboration, and initiatives. She also directs efforts to develop and enhance access to relevant, distinct, and compelling content and collections, and cultivates campus, regional, national, and international partnerships that facilitate scholarship and support the mission of the university and the library.

Hy-Vee Catering Department provided the luncheon meal. Leftover food was donated to the Church's group that feeds their Men's Group. Monetary donations were collected for Mt. Zion Baptist Church Food Pantry. Eight-two registered for the event, five no-shows.

The second morning program and luncheon of the season was held at the Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club and featured a presentation entitled "The Wisconsin Idea Seminar – Learning about the state we serve". The Wisconsin Idea Seminar is a five-day study tour of Wisconsin that offers UW-Madison faculty and staff the opportunity to learn firsthand about the social and cultural contexts that shape the lives of many Wisconsin students and to see what the Wisconsin Idea looks like in practice. **Catherine Reiland**, Director of the Seminar, took us on a travelogue of recent itineraries and took a look

back at the program's early years in the mid-1980s, to what inspired the UW-Madison to create the Seminar and why it is still relevant today.

Our luncheon speaker was **Joanna Estep**, a critically acclaimed illustrator, designer, and author of such titles as *The Fantastic Four* (Marvel Comics), *Death Head* (Dark Horse) and *Fraggle Rock* (Henson Studios). Using her experience as a comic book illustrator and author as a backdrop, Joanna explored the values of comics within contemporary popular culture and her experience as a woman entering an industry dominated by men, as well as the pros and cons of dealing with the comic world's leading publishers. Comics may be considered by many as a crude art form, but that stance, she argues, is mistaken. Like films, comics have the ability to combine words and images. In the case of comics, however, the roles of writer, director, cinematographer, and actor are combined in a single person, who must have a skill set far greater than just the ability to draw.

The Concourse served a plated luncheon entrée. Monetary donations were collected for the Open Seat Food Pantry. Thirty-four registered for the event, six no-shows.

The Spring luncheons scheduled for March and April 2020 were cancelled in compliance with the COVID-19 stay at home health guidelines.

The Luncheon Committee members are Ruthi Duval, Chair, Marc Fink, Pat Henrikson, Judith Louer, Sarah Potts, Christine Schindler, Joel Skornicka, and Barb Wiley. Appreciation is extended to Sandi Haase for receiving reservations and payments.