

NYU Partnership Creates Arts Image Database

An initiative of NYU's Institute of Fine Arts (IFA), Department of Fine Arts (DFA), Information Technology Services (ITS), and Libraries will create a new database of digital art images, along with the capability to manipulate and use them in a variety of ways. The first goal of the Digital Image Resource Initiative (DIRI), as the project is known, is to give the IFA and DFA the capacity to move from their slide collections to digital images. By fall 2006, the entire NYU campus will have access to the IFA and DFA images as well as to many others obtained through licensing agreements. A future phase will enable other departments to add images to the collections.

DIRI is implementing Luna Insight software that will enable users to conduct sophisticated searches; manipulate, annotate and weblink images; create image-based presentations; add images to Blackboard and more. This phase is expected to be complete by late 2006. DIRI images will also become available to NYU users through the Artstor interface.

Jenni Rodda, curator of the IFA's visual resources collections, said, "DIRI is an unprecedented opportunity for collaboration within the University. Images can now be shared among departments, brought into classrooms, viewed by students on their own computers. This is possible only with the staffs of IFA, DFA, ITS and the Libraries working together to make it happen."



The Bouleuterion (Council House) at IFA's excavation at Aphrodisias, Turkey
On the cover: The Temple of Aphrodite at Aphrodisias
Credit: NYU Digital Image Database, Blanche Brown bequest

Women in Science Celebrate Nobel Laureate and Alumna, Dr. Gertrude Belle Elion

Graduate students in mathematics and science filled the audience at Fales October 11 for a tribute to NYU alumna (MS Chemistry, 1941) and Nobel Laureate Gertrude Belle Elion, who broke through gender barriers in the field of scientific research. Her work led to a cure for childhood leukemia and the first safe antiviral medicine, among many other breakthroughs. Participants included, l to r, virologist Marty St. Clair, co-inventor of AZT, the world's first HIV medicine; Dr. Tamar Schlick, NYU Professor in Chemistry, Mathematics and Computer Science; and Mary Ann Bella, director of a documentary film about Elion. Dean of Libraries Carol A. Mandel co-hosted the event with Dr. Schlick, founder of WoW, a support group for women in science.



Alumni Tour Bobst Renovations



Photo © Albert Vecerka/Esto

Many of the 1,000 participants in Alumni Weekend 2005 visited Bobst for special tours of Brine Commons, the newly renovated lower levels where redesigned work/study/research spaces have become immensely popular with students. Alumni Weekend 2006 will be May 12-14.