

InsideUF

Your campus news source
Produced by the University Relations Office for faculty, staff and students of the University of Florida
Editor — Susan Stewart
www.insideuf.ufl.edu

April 7, 2009

UF Voices

Center is leader in children's culture



John Cech

The Center for Children's Literature and Culture is a unique inter-disciplinary, humanities-based center dedicated to the study of children's culture and the production of innovative, creative works of scholarship and the imagination.

In the past, the center has co-hosted a series of international colloquia, "Transforming Encounters," which have featured such scholars and public figures as Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Genevieve Patte, Phillippe Cousteau, Richard Louv and Geoffrey Canada. The Center has helped sponsor a range of other public programs -- from an exhibition of the childhood photographs of Jacques Henri Lartigue (in conjunction with the Harn Museum of Art) to the development of a comic book for use with migrant teens in North Florida.

The center also has produced "Recess!" — a nationally distributed, daily public radio program (<http://www.recess.ufl.edu>) about the dynamic cultures of childhood. The show has been called "a 'New Yorker' of kid's stuff" because of its mix of biographical and historical notes, original stories, and reviews of the latest books, music, movies and other media being produced for children.

Currently, the center is developing a series of short, online documentaries about children's culture, using UF's remarkable Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature, <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/baldwin/baldwin.html>, as one of its primary resources. The center hosts a monthly speakers' series on children's literature and culture. These "conversations" are free and open to the general public.

For more information about the center and any of its activities, please visit <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/cclc>, call 352-392-6650, ext. 290, or contact me at jcech@ufl.edu.

John Cech

Director, UF Center for the Study of Children's Literature & Culture; producer/host of "Recess!"

Top Stories

The Gator Nation is everywhere – including the high seas



Office of Congressman Mica

Mark Nouss (UF Alumni Association board of directors president), Rep. John Mica, Patricia Mica, Lt. j.g. Andrew Vicks, Carlos Alfonso (UF trustee) and David Mica pose in front of Alligator.



Happenings

Listings in this section are a sampling of events at the University of Florida, compiled from entries listed in the full calendar that appears on the Web at calendar.ufl.edu. To submit an event online, visit <http://calendar.ufl.edu/submit/>.

April 9
UF Office of Sustainability co-sponsors "Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed." Phillips Center, 8 p.m. Free and open to the public. Call 352-392-7578 or e-mail Anna Prizzia at aprizza@ufl.edu for more information.

April 10
Spring drop or add a course by college petition deadline. Call 352-392-1374 or visit <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu> for more information.

Spring withdrawal from UF (W assigned)
deadline. Call 352-392-1374 or visit <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu> for more information.

April 13
O'Connell Center presents "Yanni: Voices." O'Connell Center, 7:30 p.m. Admission fee and open to the public. Call 352-392-5500 or visit <http://www.oconnellcenter.ufl.edu> for more information.

April 16
CRC presents "Education Recruitment Day." Reitz Union Grand Ballroom, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Free and closed to the public. Call 352-273-2308 or visit <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/students-careerfairs.aspx> for more information.

April 18
Florida Museum presents "Earth Day." Florida Museum of Natural History, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Free and open to the public. Call 352-273-1820 or visit <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu> for more information.

April 19
UF Friends of Theatre & Dance presents "Splendor in the Park." UF President's House, 5 p.m. Call 352-273-1490 or visit http://www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance/fotd/splendor_details.asp for more information.

Ongoing Events
April 10-11 and 14-19
School of Theatre and Dance presents "Pride & Prejudice." Constance Theatre, 7:30 p.m. on April 10-18. 2 p.m. on April 19. Call 352-392-1653 or visit http://www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance/fotd/splendor_details.asp for more information.

April 16 and 18
UF Opera Theatre in Tosca. Phillips Center, 7:30 p.m. Reserved seating: \$25-35. Call 352-392-ARTS(2787) or visit <http://www.performingarts.ufl.edu> for more information.

In Focus

UF partnership tests car powered by household electrical outlet



Thomas Wright

Fluctuating gas prices and environmental concerns are leading many to electric-powered cars, and a new University of Florida partnership hopes to find out if it's really a cleaner, cheaper and more reliable choice.

UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension researcher Pierce Jones is working with North Carolina-based companies Progress Energy, Advanced Energy and Duke Energy to test a Toyota Prius modified to use electricity delivered through a regular household electrical outlet.

"This isn't a new idea, but it is one that now has to be closely examined because it's likely to be a reality in just a few years," said Jones, who is participating in the research as part of UF's Program for Resource Efficient Communities. "There are a lot of questions to be asked and a lot of details that have to be ironed out beforehand."

The UF car is one of 12 that have been deployed throughout Florida and North Carolina. The researchers involved are charting basic use patterns, such as how much gasoline and electricity is consumed. Similar vehicles are able to travel more than 100 miles on a gallon of gas.

Perhaps more importantly, though, the

electric cars is that they could become a victim of their own success. Too many electric cars plugged in at the same time, some worry, could cause power failures.

The hybrid is equipped with smart-charging hardware that moderates the time and pacing of the charging. Additionally, the car will be tested with a technology-dubbed Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) functionality.

V2G allows the car's charging system to sync with the local electrical grid. Not only does this stop the car from drawing on an overtaxed grid it also could contribute small amounts of electricity (for which the operator would be reimbursed) back in—thus helping the entire electrical grid become more reliable.

The project also will document drivers' patterns to help determine how charging stations and billing should be implemented.

"It used to be that electric vehicles were rare, but I think they're going to be here before we know it," Jones said. "That means that we've got to figure out the tricky details of how they're really going to work so we can make the best use of this new technology."

By Stu Hutson

Note This

UF communication awards recently announced

The University of Florida recently announced the winners of its annual communication program. The Golden Gator program recognizes communication efforts that strengthen the university and help to meet its mission of teaching, research and service.

For more information on the Golden Gator communication program, visit <http://ufcn.ufl.edu/goldengators/index.shtml>.

Golden Gator Award (First Place)

- **Magazine:** Levin College of Law
- **Web/Interactive:** UFCN
- **E-Newsletter:** Health Science Center
- **Special Event:** Community Relations
- **Annual Publication:** College of Fine Arts
- **News Release:** UF News Bureau
- **Broadcast:** Florida Museum of Natural History
- **Photography:** UF News Bureau
- **Brochure:** Florida Museum of Natural History
- **Print Newsletter:** UF Foundation
- **Visual Design:** European Studies, CLAS
- **Communication Program:** Florida Museum of Natural History

Silver Gator Award (Runners Up)

- **Magazine:** UF Foundation; College of Engineering
- **Web/Interactive:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Career Resource Center; Levin College of Law; Public Utility Research Center/Warrington College of Business Administration; Office of Research
- **E-Newsletter:** Levin College of Law
- **Special Event:** Housing and Residence Education
- **Annual Publication:** UF Foundation; UF Alumni Association; Florida Museum of Natural History
- **News Release:** Health Science Center
- **Broadcast:** IFAS; UF News Bureau; Housing and Residence Education
- **Photography:** Health Science Center (two awards); UF News Bureau
- **Brochure:** Health Science Center (two awards); IFAS (two awards); College of Public Health and Health Professions; Harn Museum of Art
- **Print Newsletter:** Health Science Center; Harn Museum of Art
- **Visual Design:** Student Affairs; Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center/IFAS
- **Communication Program:** Solutions For Your Life/IFAS

InsideUF

Send submissions for publication consideration at least two weeks in advance to insideuf@ufl.edu.

UF | UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
The Foundation for The Gator Nation