

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

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Junior Art Major Ellyn Miller lives in one of the Shalom Community Houses started this year. At the recent Rhythm and Praise Chapel on February 14, Ellyn shared her art “live.” As friends presented their stories of being an ethnic minority on Wheaton’s campus, she drew images that expressed the goal of unity and abundant blessing in the crucified Christ. The imagery of water and blood flowing from Christ’s hand down onto the people is meant to symbolize Christ’s overflowing love and sacrifice for all.

## Strategic Priorities

### Globalize a Wheaton Education

Deepen Ethnic Diversity  
Promote Liberal Arts  
Excellence

### Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

## Complementary Priorities

Refresh Wheaton’s  
Mission Statement  
Completed August '13

Nurture Vibrant  
Christian Community

### Extend Affordability

Strengthen Graduate  
Education

### Globalize a Wheaton Education

In November, Dean Laura Montgomery announced the addition of globalization research grants for faculty and students. Five Wheaton faculty recently received research grants totaling \$14,000 to support their innovative projects which promise to be of great scholarly and practical benefit: Paul Egeland (Education), Rodney Scott (Biology), Ezer Kang (Psychology), and a joint project for Paul Lee and Winnie Fung (Business/Economics). For details contact the GEL office. [goglobal.wheaton.edu](http://goglobal.wheaton.edu)

Financial Aid Director Karen Belling notes that students may now apply their institutional grants and scholarships to more semester study abroad programs than ever before. The list of approved programs, including many non-Wheaton programs, has expanded from 27 to over 60 in more than 36 countries.

### Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

In early April, eight of Wheaton’s 32 voice students participated in auditions hosted by the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Thousands of students participate in these auditions each year to receive constructive feedback. Five Wheaton students placed as semi-finalists or received an honorable mention. All three auditioning seniors won first, second, or third place awards, allowing them to compete nationally. Dean of the Conservatory, Arts, and

Communication Michael Wilder says, “This is an indication of the high quality and dedication of our students, as well as the investment and expertise of our voice teachers.”

### Extend Affordability

Two new merit-based scholarships, renewable for up to 8 semesters, are being offered to all qualified freshmen for Fall 2014. The awards are named after two Wheaton alumni whose careers spanning more than forty years each transformed Christian liberal arts at the College. The Charles Blanchard President’s Award of \$20,000 (\$5,000 per year) and the Professor Arthur Holmes Award of \$10,000 (\$2,500 per year) will both be offered to students who qualify based on their GPA and test scores. These awards can be combined with the National Merit Scholarship. To read more about the Blanchard and Holmes merit awards click here. [wheaton.edu/Admissions-and-Aid/Financial-Aid/Undergraduate-Students/Scholarships-and-Aid/New-2014-Scholarships](http://wheaton.edu/Admissions-and-Aid/Financial-Aid/Undergraduate-Students/Scholarships-and-Aid/New-2014-Scholarships).

Wheaton’s need-based financial aid provides Pell Grants for 20% of our students, surpassing many elite colleges in enrolling students with economic need such as Harvard, University of Chicago, Northwestern, and Yale. At the same time, Wheaton students graduate with less than the average loan indebtedness compared to other private colleges while maintaining a low student loan default rate of 1.2%.

