On October 1, the IU Art Museum celebrated the opening of “Affinities of Form: The Raymond and Laura Wielgus Collection of the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas,” a special exhibition on display through February 27, 1994. This collection of ethnographic art features more than 100 objects, including pieces from the Museum’s permanent collection donated by Raymond and Laura Wielgus during their long relationship with the IU Art Museum. The opening celebration featured a special lecture by Rudy Professor Emeritus Roy Sieber, followed by a reception held in the Museum’s First Floor Atrium. In conjunction with the exhibition, the Art Museum has scheduled a special series of lectures and Sunday concerts, as well as noon talks to be held in the Special Exhibitions Gallery, in addition to a Children’s Art Workshop and Family Day. For further information, call (812) 855-5445.

Indiana University Honors Program in Foreign Languages for High School Students

Since 1961, Indiana University has offered an Honors Program for summer language study abroad for high school students who have completed their junior year and three years of French, German, or Spanish. Each year, approximately thirty students are selected as participants in each of the seven-week courses, based in Saint Brieuc, France; Krefeld, Germany; and San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Successful applicants are chosen on the basis of academic achievement, intellectual and social maturity, and their willingness to adjust to new customs and habits.

The IU Honors Program features both formal and informal learning opportunities, as well as total immersion in the study language, as student participants must pledge to speak no English during their stay abroad. Formal learning consists of 4-5 hours of daily classroom instruction by native speakers, with the primary emphasis on the improvement of students’ speaking and listening skills. Divided into groups of ten, the students study pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, conversation, and chosen texts. In addition to some homework, students are encouraged to write a diary. Informal learning comes about through singing, dancing, games and sports, artistic performances, and field trips within the surrounding region. During the course of the program, each student lives with a local family selected by the local coordinators abroad which assists the student in acquiring language skills and learning about the culture of the host country.

During the past 33 years, almost 3,000 high school students from throughout the state of Indiana have enrolled in the summer program abroad. The IU Honors Program in Foreign Languages was developed to enhance high school language programs, as well as to strengthen individual students’ language skills. Students who participate in the program have generally received at least two years of advanced placement language credit upon entering college. The study abroad program has also been found to improve participants’ future career opportunities, as well as to provide enriching and broadening personal experiences.

For further information concerning the IU Honors Program in Foreign Languages for High School Students, contact Jacqueline Danner, Director, on the Bloomington campus, 111 South Jordan, 855-5241.