



Leslie Lemke benefit concert raises funds for care

Musically gifted prodigious savant Leslie Lemke performed a benefit concert, "And Sings My Soul," on April 15, 2011 in Marian University's Stayer Center Auditorium.

"Savant syndrome is rare. But even more rare are the so-called prodigious savants — handicapped persons who have skills that would be remarkable even if they were to occur in a normal person," said Darold Treffert, M.D., an expert on savant syndrome and a member of the Marian University Board of Trustees. "There are less than 100 prodigious savants described in this last century. Leslie Lemke is one in a billion."

Since the late 1970s, Lemke has shared his amazing gifts throughout the United States and around the world. In recent years, however, his concert performances have become fewer, making his performance at Marian University special. Lemke's Marian performance raised \$4,000 to support his ongoing care and health needs, so to continue the wish of his mother, May, that Lemke never be institutionalized.

The concert was hosted by the Marian University Kappa Delta Pi Chapter, the International Education Honor Society.

For more information about Leslie Lemke, visit www.savantsyndrome.com.



"IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR AMERICAN DREAM" —

May Commencement keynote speaker FBI Special Agent in Charge of the New York Division Mary Galligan addressed the importance of family support and those who serve and protect our nation. She challenged graduates to inspire others and work toward achieving goals: "You sit here today in the middle of your American Dream. You are receiving a degree from Marian University; you have learned what the word 'community' means; and you have learned how we must all fight for social justice. You know about service to others. So how do you get the best American Dream? How are you going to make the most of your chance? You need to grab hold of your dream and run with it." Galligan, a Fordham University classmate of Marian President Steven DiSalvo, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Law degree. The 71st annual spring ceremony featured the graduation of 256 undergraduates and 119 graduate students. Three students received Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership and Administration degrees. The May 13-14 weekend's activities also included a graduation Mass, a School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony, and a School of Education Commissioning Ceremony.



Marian builds one-of-a-kind indoor recreation facility

Construction of an indoor athletic training and general recreation facility began in May, located west of Herr-Baker baseball field. The 17,000-square foot facility sits on previously undeveloped campus land on the southeast corner of East Division Street and Prairie Road.

The only collegiate facility of its kind in Wisconsin, Marian's indoor recreation facility features sports turf flooring, a 90-foot baseball field and a 60-foot softball field, four batting cages with drop-down netting, and ample practice, viewing and reception space. The new facility will be geared toward the baseball and softball programs, but will give all sports programs opportunities to train indoors and provides flexible space for additional sports, camps and clinics. All Marian students will benefit from the facility for intramurals and general recreational activities.

The facility also allows for the reallocation of the Sadoff Gymnasium space for additional University programming.



NOTHING PLAIN ABOUT THIS SHOW —

Plain White T's headlined the Student Senate's annual concert in April in Marian's Sadoff Gymnasium. The rock/pop band started in Chicago and is best known for their songs "Hey There Delilah," which hit the charts in many countries, and "1, 2, 3, 4." Plain White T's released *The Wonders of the Younger*, their latest album, in 2010, with the hit "The Rhythm of Love." Opening the evening's show were The Downtown Fiction and The Ready Set. Marian is known for bringing big name musical acts on campus, funded by a student activity fee.

