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## Art, Occupational Therapy, Nursing Students to Benefit From George I. Alden Trust Grant

### *\$50,000 Gift will be Used for Renovation, Equipment*

KEUKA PARK, N.Y.—Keuka College has received a \$50,000 grant from the George I. Alden Trust that will enhance the learning of art, occupational therapy, and nursing students.

The funds will be used to renovate the second floor of Allen Hall—home to two art studios—and renovate space and add equipment in the basement laboratory in Hegeman Hall, used by occupational therapy and nursing students for clinical training.



“We are pleased that our relationship with the Alden Trust, that has impacted the College in myriad ways, is getting stronger,” said Executive Vice President Carolanne Marquis. “Thousands of Keuka College students have benefited from grants made by the Alden Trust and this one will have an impact on students for generations to come.”

In 2001, the College received two, \$50,000 grants to support the *Shaping the Future: One Graduate at a Time* campaign. One of those grants was made to name the anatomy and physiology lab in the Lucretia Davis Jephson Science Center.

Other gifts from the Alden Trust have provided scholarship assistance to needy students, improved access to the Dahlstrom Student Center for disabled individuals, and allowed the College to purchase much-needed equipment for its science programs.

George I. Alden (1843-1926), who taught engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute for 28 years, founded the Alden Trust in 1928. Education is the primary interest of the Trust, which makes most of its grants in the Northeast. However, it has supported many types of career-related education projects around the country.

Allen Hall was constructed in the 1940s as a residence hall and the studios were formed from dorm rooms. Some closets and interior walls remain, making the space dark and cramped. The renovation will involve the removal of closets and interior walls to make the space larger and allow for more natural light.

“[The Allen Hall renovation] is going to have a major effect on my students,” said Associate Professor of Art Dexter Benedict. “Many of them believe it to be a forgotten place on campus.

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This is going to open up the space and make it less like a dorm and more like a real art facility. It’s also going to make it a lot more comfortable for the 25 to 30 students I have in some of my classes, and be a lot more user-friendly for me to conduct class in the space.”

The Hegeman Hall laboratory project will also have a positive impact on occupational therapy students, according to Vicki Smith, professor and chair.

“As a result of the national trend of downsizing health care services within hospital settings, there is currently a dynamic shift from hospital-based practice to community-based practice,” said Smith. “As a result, the equipment and space needs to provide education have changed. Our equipment needs to be updated to include treatment modalities seen in out-patient clinics, schools, and home health settings.”