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Artist and former Purnell Faculty member, Gail Mardfin Speaks With Students During Purnell's Career Speaker Series

Posted 01/13/2012

02:48PM

Artist and former Purnell Faculty member, Gail Mardfin spoke with about twenty students attending the Career Speaker Series the evening of December 5th. She highlighted the joys and challenges of diverse careers she's held in the art field: educator, graphic designer, promoter, and now public gallery artist. After more than a decade in Purnell's Art Department, Mardfin began to build a business in the fledgling Desktop Publishing world of the mid to late-1990s, based in part on her work for Purnell's publications like the Purnell Post, our alumna magazine. From there, word of mouth from a base



of clients including Purnell alumnae and former faculty, helped Mardfin establish a thriving graphic design business which included logo and website design. In 2007, however, she took the step to start showing her decorative art pieces in oils, collage and photographs, and while she scrambled to complete 63 pieces for her first show at the Atrium Gallery, her "See The Good" theme and whimsical art helped her to sell close to one-third of those pieces in that first show. Mardfin encouraged students interested in art as a career to have a strong sense of business and to make sure their networking circles are varied and wide. When senior Miso Hong asked Mardfin, "How do you know when a piece is done?" Mardfin smiled and said, "I don't know, there is this little click. And then I know. I love that feeling when it comes." To see Mardfin's work www.seethegood.net