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New Mural Graces Linfield French Classroom Wall

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– *Thierry Durand*
professor of French studies

Une très belle peinture murale! Thanks to five Linfield College student artists, the Linfield French room in 302 Walker Hall is now home to a mural. The mural is an inspired representation of today’s Francophone world.

“We needed something in the French room that was more inspiring and more representative of today’s Francophone world, which is far more vast than just France,” said Thierry Durand, professor of French studies.

This idea is what inspired the artists to combine several images into one. Looking at the mural transports the viewer into many different types of French cultures. One image portrays a romantic Paris night where a couple sits on a rooftop overlooking the city lights and Eiffel Tower. The city lights of the town glow and one can imagine the lights of La Tour Eiffel twinkling in the night. Another image features two teenagers playing soccer in a large, green open meadow while two other teenagers read books in the hot sun. In another part of the mural, reminiscent of a Georges Seurat painting, three properly dressed individuals enjoy a picnic alongside the river bank, and you can almost feel the cool breeze blowing their hair as they enjoy the scenery. The mural also includes a mountain range, ocean and palace.

The artists include Douglas Sundman '16, Kelsey Garrett '15, Heidie Ambrose '16, Lionel Parra '15 and Taryn Takara '15.

“I loved the opportunity to collaborate with other artists,” said Ambrose. “We had the chance to be creative and problem solve as a team while giving back to our community.”

“Entering the room for the first time after the work had just been completed was wonderful!” said Durand. “Thanks to the various talents and involvement of many Linfield students, 302 Walker is now set for the next 20 years of Francophone pedagogy.”

– *Morgan Gerke '16*