

## WINTER ISP's IN THE ARTS

Seniors, Ian Engelberger and Kurt Bailey spent the winter months working on independent studies (ISPs) in the arts. Ian, known on campus for his creative writing, pursued a study in photography while Kurt followed his film making aspirations by making a short film.

Ian learned how to take and develop photos the “old fashioned way” by using film and a dark room. He plans on showcasing his work in a student exhibit at an art gallery in Kent, CT. “I never took photography before this past fall term,” said Ian. “Mr. (Brian) Lillie in the visual arts department gave me a wealth of info for utilizing the camera.” Ian opted to use film as opposed to digital. “That format comes so easy to me since I use a digital camera all the time. It was a challenge to work on film, use a dark room, and learn how to develop.” Ian’s photos consisted of general objects or whatever inspired him creatively at that time.

Although he made a major portion of his film during the winter semester, Kurt’s film has been in development for quite some time. “This really started in seventh grade,” said Kurt. “I had a friend who had a conversation with someone through a book. She would write in it. Someone else would respond and write in the same book.” This act of low-tech instant messaging was the inspiration for Kurt’s thirty minute film which may be showcased at the Alabama Sidewalk Film Festival.

“The film is about body language. There is not much dialogue. The main character writes to the other through a Bible.” Several Gunnery students including Zach Elston ‘10, Patrick Loglisci ‘09, Hope Simpson ‘09, and Sam Cobb ‘09 are featured in the film. Kurt also received help and support from faculty member, Nick Benson and Ian who helped him score the film.

Upon graduation from The Gunnery this spring, Kurt will attend film school. Ian applied for early decision to Bennington to emphasize in creative writing.