

News



Sharma leads Madhubani art workshop study tour

In January, participants in the Madhubani art workshop study tour led by Joan Sharma (Art and Design) and sponsored by College of Arts and Humanities, experienced one of the world's oldest art traditions. For five days, Fresno State students had the opportunity to learn about the Mithila painting tradition, visit artists at their home studios and villages, and see the work of students at the Mithila Art Institute. This was the first group visit to the region, located near India's border with Nepal. Study tour participants were warmly welcomed to the birthplace of Guru Gobind Singh, the last guru of the Sikh religion at the Guruwara in Patna. They visited important Buddhist sites in both Vaishali and Sarnath. From boats on the Ganga River in the Hindu pilgrimage city of Varanasi, participants viewed the beautiful evening Aarti ceremony. The group also visited the studio of traditional Varanasi silk weavers who create sumptuous silk fabrics. In addition, they saw the awe-inspiring Taj Mahal and Akbar's hilltop city, Fatehpur Sikri. A private evening concert and discussion of classical Indian music completed this unforgettable study tour.