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### Teacher in the Spotlight: Robert Mason

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## Andrews Hosts Third Annual Music and Worship Conference

This spring marks the third annual Andrews University Music and

Worship Conference, sponsored by Andrews University's Department of Music and Center for Youth Evangelism. Hosted on the Andrews campus, this conference is a training event for professional and volunteer church musicians, pastors, and lay leaders.

For the past two years, people from around the country and as far away as Australia have traveled to participate in the useful and interesting variety of seminars, workshops, and worship experiences. This year, as in the past, important issues such as creativity, diversity, quality, and appropriateness will be discussed, outlining a biblical framework for understanding the role of music in worship. Experts in the field of worship and church music will also share techniques and strategies useful to improve music and worship in the local church. Previous years included presenters such as recording artists Ginny Owens and Michael Card, and author Robert Weber. Headlining the event this year is Sally Morgenthaler, world-renowned speaker and author of *Worship Evangelism: Inviting Unbelievers Into the Presence of God*.

"The Conference not only had a huge effect on my church's worship service, but on my perception of worship in general," commented one young participant from Ind.

It is the hope and prayer of conference organizers and sponsors that participants will leave the event in-



Christian recording artist Michael Card gave a presentation at the 2004 Andrews University Music and Worship Conference.

spired to honor God more fully in their worship, better equipped for ministry, and more connected with others who share their passion for God and desire to serve Him.

This year, the conference will take place Mar. 2-4. For more information about the Music and Worship Conference and to register online, log on to [www.auworshipconference.org](http://www.auworshipconference.org).

Nick Zork, Glendale (Ind.) Church youth pastor

## Teacher in the Spotlight: Robert Mason

If you happen to have a '05-'06 Andrews University calendar hanging on your wall, Ranko Stefanovic's book on Revelation, or one of many other University Press productions sitting on your shelf, then you're probably familiar with the creative talents of graphic



Robert Mason, Andrews University assistant professor of design

designer and Andrews' assistant professor of design, Robert Mason. But what you might not know about this British-born Andrews and Notre Dame grad is his passionate concern for the students he teaches.

Mason's classes aren't your ordinary in-and-out, lecture-style, fifty-minute courses. Each week, Mason's students spend at least six hours with him in a studio setting.

"I get to know them really well," he comments. At the beginning of each class, Mason demonstrates his interest in his students by giving them the opportunity to share what's going on in their lives.

"I care passionately about my students," Mason says. "And, I care just as much about their salvation."

Students in his Basic Design class experience this firsthand, when at the start of class, they read a handwritten Bible verse from a promise box Mason's mom made for him when he was in college. But, beyond just handwritten Bible verses, Mason works his values into his curriculum and is always on the lookout for opportunities for students to work on projects in the community that will allow them to wrestle with ethical issues.

"I have a passion for design, especially [for it to be] ethical and service-oriented," he explains. "Others do whatever their clients want, without thinking about the ramifications, but I want students to leave here with a knowledge that design has to be purposeful and not just promote materialism. I want them to see the power of design and how they influence people."

When he's not in the classroom inspiring students to change the world through design, Mason can be found planning his next travel adventure, working in his garden, or most importantly, spending time with his wife, Janean, and their three children.

Bev Stout, University Relations news writer