In August of this year, we once again welcomed our new and returning art, theatre, dance, communication and music students to campus. These new and returning students come with bundles of energy and enthusiasm and they are eager to learn and create in the supportive environment we provide.

While every fall is exciting, this year is special. Detroit continues to evolve into a renewed, innovative and inspiring community. In fact, this is the most exciting and creative time in the city of Detroit in a generation. Students want to be part of this dynamic moment. They are taking advantage of what the city offers, engaging with the community and adding to the vibrancy.

In addition to new students, we also welcomed new faculty and staff, including a new chair of the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History. Sheryl Oring is a former journalist turned artist who examines critical social issues through projects that incorporate old and new media to tell stories, examine public opinion and foster open exchange.

Last year, with the help of alumni and supporters, Wayne State University celebrated its Sesquicentennial. Our student performers were prominently featured in that celebration. While 150 years of success is a good start, we aren’t resting on our history. The College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts continues to develop new courses, degree offerings, opportunities for engagement and approaches to student learning.

In addition, we are forging ahead with the new Gateway Performance Complex and the Gretchen Valade Jazz Center. This new home for our performing arts programs will provide unique opportunities for students to interact, collaborate, create, learn and perform in a new, modern facility. We look forward to opening the new theatre in September of 2021 and the Valade Center in September of 2022.

Please join us for a lecture or attend a performance at the Hilberry, Bonstelle or Underground Theatre. Please stop by and see an exhibition in the Elaine L. Jacob Gallery or the Art Department Gallery or find time to attend one of the uplifting dance or music concerts. We invite you to stroll past the construction site of the new Gateway or simply wander through our beautiful campus.

Higher education is changing rapidly and we are changing with it. It’s a great time to be in Detroit and it’s a great time for Wayne State and the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Matthew W. Seeger, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean
in this issue

5. Mackenzie on the Move
making way for the Gateway

7. Farewell CFPCA Friends
best wishes for a well-deserved and happy retirement

9. Fashion merchandising alumna contributes
to visual merchandising guides at Carhartt
internship provides resumé building opportunity at Carhartt Detroit

16. Alumnus inspires generations of musicians, moviegoers and television watchers
Jerry Grant

27. Alumna appreciates two generations of CFPCA connections
Cheryl Adams

32. UAC receives two grants to expand collection
with work by Arab/Middle Eastern artists

The historic Thompson is part of the University’s “Arts on Cass” project. Refurbished in 2016 with the fine, performing and communication arts in mind as “The Thompson,” this residence hall contains specialized spaces throughout. Historic features such as fireplaces and a formal reception lounge have been preserved. Most rooms are doubles with three floors offering kitchenette and dining spaces and comfortable lounges with bay windows. Viewers can now visit the website and check out a virtual tour of The Thompson at cf pca.wayne.edu/thethompson.
The College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts joined Wayne State’s third-annual STEM Day for 6th-9th grade students for the first time this year. The event welcomed nearly 2,200 students to campus.

The event, focused on science, technology, engineering and math, provides an environment to learn about various academic programs and prospective career opportunities with hands-on interactive workshops.

“The College was happy to partner on STEM Day and introduce new perspectives involving the arts alongside STEM,” said Kelly Driscoll, the academic services officer who served as the college liaison for the event. “Not only do the arts add an opportunity for students to learn creatively, many people are surprised to learn just how much of the arts involve STEM principles.”

Assistant Professor of Music Technology Dr. Joo Won Park’s hands-on workshop taught students how to use electromagnetic pick-up to detect sounds emitted from the electronics that surround us.

“They learned how to turn one form of energy into another,” he said. “They converted electric signal into sound. They learned that the energy that we use could be changed into something new.”

He said that whenever someone uses an electronic device that has an audio unit component, it emits energy.

“There’s interesting things going on inside the machines and there’s many ways to detect what’s going on using different devices,” Park said.

“In a way they learned how to look at things differently inside of technology and science,” he said. “I think the kids learned to look and listen and feel the objects differently. That’s something I encourage my students to do too.”

Instructor in Video Productions Susan Palazzolo created a stop motion animation ahead of the event so that students could create sounds to sync with video.

“They learned some new skills and techniques they hadn’t used before,” she said. “Each group had a distinctly different soundtrack.”

Palazzolo said combining technical knowledge with creativity motivated the students.

“The more the children were working on the creative story building the greater the ideas,” she said. “And then they would take the experiment a little bit further.”

“The sounds we add will change that story. It could make it funny, sad or very dramatic. “The majority of them had a really good time with it,” she said. “You could hear them just screaming with laughter while they were playing with the different things and trying to figure out what they were going to do.”

She said her intro to video production students got the chance at a “crash course” explaining goals to younger students at the event and engaging them in conversation.

Students who attended STEM Day got a complimentary lunch and a tour of campus. The event is free to students, teachers and individual and homeschooled students.

To request information on STEM day in 2020 or check out photos, lesson plans and itineraries from this year’s event, visit stemday.wayne.edu.
Wayne State University’s historic David Mackenzie House began its slow move to a new location on April 1. Moving the house was necessary to make space for the new $65 million Gateway Performance Complex.

“It’s no April Fool’s joke,” said Matt Seeger, dean of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts. “This historic Victorian home of the founder of Wayne State University was slowly and carefully relocated. It is an important part of our history and legacy and we want to ensure it continues to be part of our campus.”

Buffalo, N.Y.-based International Chimney Corp. was in charge of the delicate move. This was not the company’s first high-profile Detroit building relocation. In 1997, International Chimney moved the historic Gem Theatre five blocks to make way for Comerica Park. Working with International Chimney is longtime partner Expert House Movers, based in Sharptown, MD, which was also involved in the Gem Theatre relocation. Now that the Mackenzie House is on its new corner, construction of the Gateway project, an integrated performing arts complex for theatre, music and dance, can begin. Projected to be finished in time for the Detroit Jazz Festival in September 2022, the new facility will incorporate the existing Hilberry Theatre, which will be converted into the Gretchen Valade Jazz Center, thanks to a generous gift from Mrs. Valade.

The David Mackenzie House was most recently the home of Preservation Detroit. “Preservation Detroit is pleased to see Wayne State invest in preserving the home of the university’s founder,” said Eric Kehoe, president of Preservation Detroit. “Architectural and cultural preservation should be a central part of development across the city, and the university is taking this seriously.”

The future use of the David Mackenzie House has not yet been determined and is being considered within the larger context of the university’s master plan. •
Wayne State welcomed **Grammy award-winning musician Jack White** to its May Commencement ceremony

During the May Commencement ceremony, Jack White received an honorary doctor of humane letters for his dedication to Detroit and his significant contributions to the arts.

White is one of the most prolific and renowned artists of the past two decades. Born and raised in southwest Detroit, White graduated from Cass Technical High School, worked as an upholsterer and played in underground bands before founding the White Stripes, a garage rock duo that revolutionized music. White has won 12 Grammy Awards, and all three of his solo albums have reached number one on Billboard charts. Rolling Stone recognized him as one of “The 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time.” He has collaborated with Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones, Pearl Jam and Beyoncé, among others.
Best wishes for a well-deserved and happy retirement!

College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts

LEZLIE HART
associate director of student services

James Pearson Duffy
Department of Art and Art History

JEFFREY ABT
professor of painting and drawing

DORA APEL
professor of art history

MARY WISCHUSEN
associate professor of music history

Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance

EVA POWERS
associate professor of dance

BLAIR ANDERSON
associate professor of theatre

WILLIAM WARTERS
assistant professor of dispute resolution

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

WILLIAM WARTERS
assistant professor of dispute resolution

EXPRESSIONS | 2018-19
James Pearson Duffy
Department of Art and Art History

Sheryl Oring
Chair, James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History

“The department has a long history of educating the next generation of artists, designers, and art historians. We foster creativity across the curriculum and provide a foundation for our students to thrive in today’s multifaceted art and design worlds.”

2019-2020 Exhibition Schedule

**Art Department Gallery** 5400 Gullen Mall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Exhibition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 18 - Dec. 13, 2019</td>
<td>Jeff Abt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 10 - Feb. 7, 2020</td>
<td>Judith Moldenhauer (Murray Jackson Award Exhibition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 21 - Mar. 6, 2020</td>
<td>2020 MFA Thesis Exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 20 - Apr. 3, 2020</td>
<td>2020 Tr-County High School Exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 17 - May 8, 2020</td>
<td>Undergraduate Exhibition/Graduating Seniors Exhibition</td>
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**Elaine L. Jacob Gallery** 480 W. Hancock

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Exhibition</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 25 - Dec. 13, 2019</td>
<td>This Land Is...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 17 - Mar. 20, 2020</td>
<td>Shiva Ahmadi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 3 - July 3, 2020</td>
<td>Sunghyun Moon and JAK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Claire Cisco, a 2019 Art and Art History alumna with a bachelor’s degree in fashion merchandising, found an opportunity to learn and grow her professional resume at Carhartt Detroit’s clothing and company store.

Cisco, who also minored in business, is from the Metro Detroit area. She said going into fashion in Michigan was an affordable alternative to going to a fashion school out-of-state.

In the past Cisco “didn’t want to make clothes,” when it came to her future plans. “I didn’t always know I wanted to go into fashion,” she said. “When I was younger I didn’t know about this merchandising aspect. I always thought you could only be a fashion designer.”

Cisco explained that she found her internship at Carhartt through Handshake, Wayne State University’s career service tool for students, in June of 2018.

Her internship was technically supposed to end in August of 2018, but her term was extended and she’s now contracted as the retail merchandising intern for direct-to-consumer products.

Cisco said she controls the line of personal protective equipment (PPE) – Carhartt’s fire resistant and high visibility clothing category – and is making the buy plans and assortments for spring 2020.

“With PPE, those workers typically need their clothing right away,” she said. “So if we don’t have what they need in-store they’re going to have to go somewhere else. We want to make sure we can anticipate their needs as much as possible.”

“We can’t carry every single product so we do planning and buying for each store,” Cisco said. “We work on strategy, do visual merchandising, and work with our marketing team to come up with stories for the month.”

“I work with our planning team to do our buying and planning for our PPE product assortment each season,” she said. “We do research and look at selling and e-commerce.”

Cisco said she also assists her manager to strategize, plan, assort products and track business performance.

According to Cisco, as her internship continued, she kick-started the current visual layout project for all of Carhartt’s retail stores.

“To this day all of our retail stores follow my visual guide and merchandising direction,” she said. “I made a new template for our visual guides. As I’ve been there it’s evolved and become more clean. It’s been really cool seeing that evolution and walking in to see my visual merchandising come to life with input from my manager and others.”

Cisco said retail experience is a necessity for anyone aspiring to be in the fashion industry. Before earning her position at Carhartt, Cisco worked at Vera Bradley and other retail stores.

“I know it’s not always the most glamorous,” she said. “But I definitely think you have to have retail experience before you move on to a corporate merchandising job.”

“This internship at Carhartt has brought me so much knowledge and learning, and it has been wonderful getting to take all of my education from the Fashion Merchandising program and bring it to my internship,” she said. “I love the collaboration and sense of ownership I have received from this internship. It has taught me to be bold and to always be ready to evolve and adapt, especially because the goal at the end of the day is to protect hardworking consumers.”
The James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History and the Elaine L. Jacob Gallery were proud to host the James Lee Byars: Back in Detroit exhibition. This exhibition focused on the formative years of the Detroit-born artist James Lee Byars.

Born in Detroit on April 10, 1932, James Lee Byars spent his youth in the city. His art has been deeply rooted in Detroit. In 1956, at 24 years old, Byars decided to study art education. At Wayne State University, he developed a special bond with Olga Constantine, one of his teachers who was only three years his senior. He wrote her a series of romantic letters and cards from Japan, which Constantine treasured throughout her life. After her death on December 23, 1997, exactly seven months after Byars, Robert Wilbert, (WSU professor emeritus) donated the correspondence to the Archive of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. Although Byars wrote many extraordinary letters to people around the world with whom he worked, these earliest examples to Constantine – in delicate handwriting on precious handmade Japanese paper – have never been used by researchers nor shown in any Byars exhibition. The James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History was proud to exhibit them back in Byars beloved Detroit.

In 1960, G. Aiden Smith, head of the Art Department at the time, described Byars as ‘a simple person in love with the little things and elements of nature.’ By then Byars had begun to adopt a nomadic lifestyle, first traveling back and forth between the United States and Japan and, from 1969 onward, between the United States and Europe. This lifestyle allowed him to flourish. He crossed boundaries between disciplines and cultures, striving for – and ultimately achieving – a truly global art form.

While in the United States, Byars came into contact with the emerging minimalism movement with its geometric vocabulary of black, white, and gray, its principles of repetition, and its separation between idea and execution. These core concepts reflected his own interests in breaking down barriers between disciplines. At the end of the sixties, film and video were widely used as an artistic medium that could capture or be incorporated into transient forms
of art such as Byars’ solo and group performances, resulting in Byars often being compared to the artists of Fluxus.

*James Lee Byars: Back in Detroit* showcased a selection of documented performances including the recently retrieved and digitized *The Holy Ghost*. Visitors enjoyed a half-hour documentary made during Byars’ premiere European exhibition in Antwerp, Belgium. Filmed during the spring of 1969, the documentary contains an interview with the then 37-year-old artist and highlights one of his plural-garment performances. The exhibition also presented Byars’ experiments with the moving image, as well as *The World Question Center*, an hour-long segment that was filmed and broadcast live on Belgian national television. Works from his mature period demonstrate the power of Byars’ art, rooted in his Detroit experiences.

At the end of 1988, Byars spent time in North Africa studying death in Egyptian culture. Nearly a decade later, his life came to an end at age 65 in the city of Cairo.

*James Lee Byars: Back in Detroit* was curated by Els Hoek, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands and organized in collaboration with the Estate of James Lee Byars/Michael Werner Gallery, Märkisch-Wilmersdorf, London and New York.

*Photo Credit*: Tim Thayer

top: *World Question Center*, 1969, u-matic videotape digitized, Courtesy of ARGOS Centre for Art and Media, Brussels, Belgium

bottom: *Untitled*, 1959, ink on Japanese paper mounted paper, Courtesy of Sandra Lang and Robert Landsman
2019 Kresge Artists

The College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts would like to congratulate the outstanding artists who were named this year’s Kresge Artist Fellows. Each Kresge Artist Fellow receives a $25,000 no strings attached award and a year of professional practice support. That support begins with an intensive professional development retreat presented by the New York-based, artist-service organization Creative Capital.

Photo credit: Noah Stephens

2019 Kresge Visual Arts Fellows

MARIAM EZZAT
sculpture, a ’07 alumna of the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History

DARRYL DEANGELO TERRELL
photography, a ’15 alumnus of the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History

2019 Artist Fellowship Panelist

CAROLE HARRIS
In addition, 2015 Kresge Artist Fellow, CFPCA Board of Visitor member and ’66 alumna Carole Harris served as a Kresge Artist Fellowship application review panelist. Panelists are accomplished, well-respected national, regional and local artists and arts professionals who are selected according to the categories of arts disciplines being reviewed. Harris is a fiber artist, retired interior designer and president of Harris Design Group, LLC.

Photo credit: Kate Gowman

For more information about Kresge Arts in Detroit, visit www.kresgeartsinDetroit.org.
Faculty Spotlights

Samantha Noel  Assistant Professor, Art History  James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History

Samantha Noel received her B.A. in Fine Art from Brooklyn College, C.U.N.Y., and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Art History from Duke University. Her research interests revolve around the history of art, visual culture and performance of the Black Diaspora. She has published on black modern and contemporary art and performance in journals such as Small Axe, Third Text, and Art Journal. Noel’s current book manuscript, *Tropical Aesthetics of Black Modernism* (forthcoming, Duke University Press), examines black modernism in the early twentieth century, particularly how topicality functioned as a unifying element in African Diasporic art and performance.

“I hope that my enthusiasm for reflecting on a work of art’s social, political, racial, gendered and historical implications will be taken up by the students with whom I interact over the course of a semester.”

Roslyn Johnson-Karamoko  Lecturer, Fashion & Fiber Arts  James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History

Originally from Seattle, WA, Roslyn Johnson-Karamoko moved to Detroit in 2013 after stints in Washington D.C., New York and Singapore. After receiving her B.A. in Fashion Merchandising from Howard University, Johnson-Karamoko spent the early part of her career as a buyer for Saks Fifth Avenue and was recruited by EU e-commerce giant Rocket Internet GMBH to head up the buying operations at the Southeast Asia based fashion e-commerce start-up. Called “The Motor City’s Hottest Designer” by TIME Magazine, Roslyn is the brainchild behind Detroit’s premier label and concept shop Détroit is the New Black. Currently, the concept shop serves as a retail incubator for local artists and small businesses in Detroit’s Downtown retail district. Johnson-Karamoko was selected as one of Crain’s Detroit Business’ 2019 “40 Under 40” award recipients.

“Detroit is where you see creativity and opportunity intersect. I want the brand to reflect that intersection with diversity and inclusion.”
Norah Duncan IV
Chair, Department of Music

“Wayne State has a long legacy in music that is truly prolific. With an ineffable love for music and a thirst to express themselves through it, WSU music students are on a mission to keep this world a humane place for future generations.”

See page 18 for the Department of Music’s 2019-2020 event calendar.
Just as every conversation about Detroit eventually comes around to a discussion of its great musical tradition, this is also true about Wayne State University’s Music Department. Detroit, its music and Wayne State are intertwined. Applied music faculty are among the region’s finest musicians - notable Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Michigan Opera Theatre instrumentalists and singers, and the amazing jazz musicians who frequently play at the Dirty Dog Jazz Café, Cliff Bells and the Historic Baker’s Keyboard Lounge. With the Department of Music now entering its 101st year, the special connection the city’s iconic musicians have had to this urban university is precisely what has defined Wayne State as a valued institution that prepares its students for a real world experience. This is especially true for the Jazz Studies Program.

Institutions of higher education began offering courses in jazz studies as early as 1932 at New York University, where Duke Ellington and his band was invited by Percy Grainger, dean of Music at that time. In 1947, the University of North Texas became the first university to offer a degree in jazz studies. By the 1950s, thirty colleges and universities were offering jazz courses and by 1972, 15 were offering degrees in jazz studies. The Wayne State Jazz Studies program began in January 1979 with 102 majors. Dennis Tini and James Hartway first served as co-founders of the program. Eventually, Matt Michaels, jazz pianist, joined the faculty as co-director with Hartway, while Tini became director of the program. In order to demonstrate high academic standards, Jazz History and Jazz Theory became key components of the curriculum, along with composition, arranging and performance. Instrumental ensembles included three jazz big bands and three jazz guitar ensembles, a jazztet and several jazz combos.

As we celebrate 40 years of Jazz Studies at WSU, Detroit celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Detroit Jazz Festival, another example of how Detroit, its music and Wayne State are interconnected. One of our jazz big bands played in the first [Montreux] Detroit Jazz Festival. Tini was involved in facilitating the student clinics as a representative of the International Association of Jazz Educators. Today, Director of Jazz Studies Christopher Collins is president of the Detroit Jazz Festival Foundation, which manages and produces the Detroit Jazz Festival.

“Anniversaries always give us reason to pause and reflect on where we have been and where we are going,” said Norah Duncan IV, chair, Department of Music. “I am fortunate to have had Professors Emeriti Dennis Tini and James Hartway as teachers, mentors and colleagues, and the late Matt Michaels as a fellow faculty member and mentor.”

Duncan continued, “for Wayne State University, they were selfless men of vision, setting the path for Detroit area youth who aspired to be part of Detroit’s great Jazz tradition. By so doing, the Detroit’s jazz tradition is celebrated around the world. The path is set for future generations.”

“As a professor at WSU, now in my 26th year, and serving as President and Artistic Director of the Detroit Jazz Festival Foundation, I have been in the joyful position to create a unique connectivity between the Detroit Jazz Festival Foundation and WSU students and faculty. I am very proud to have been able to bring Gretchen Valade into the WSU world and help shape the future Gretchen Valade Jazz Center. As we pass the 40th anniversary of the Detroit Jazz Festival, the 40th anniversary of the WSU Jazz program and the 100th anniversary of WSU Music, I can tell you, there is much more to come!”

– Chris Collins
Valade Chair in Jazz and Professor, Department of Music
Jerry Grant ’58 graduated from Wayne State with a B.S. in Music Education. He attended the Detroit Institute of Musical Arts for graduate studies in composition, and, received a master’s degree in composition at California State University, Northridge.

He taught composing and conducting for film at the University of California, Los Angeles for 12 years, as well as orchestration and composition at the Dick Grove School of Music. Grant was also a visiting professor in music composition at California State University, Chico. Additionally, he taught the Young Composers Program for Music in the Mountains and headed the instrumental music program at Hollywood High School.

“It took me quite a while to realize that I needed to look at my music as a business,” said Grant. Musically, I was very cerebral in college and it wasn’t until I began connecting with my emotional self and creating my music from the gut that I began to have some commercial success in the business.”

Grant has scored for 500 episodes of series television productions including The A Team, Magnum PI, Hunter and a popular children’s TV series The Secret World of Alex Mack. Working independently since 1989, Grant has composed scores for six feature films, many A&E and Discovery Channel documentaries, and numerous animation series.

“Jerry is the quintessential Wayne State music alumnus: intelligent, resourceful and talented,” said Dr. Norah Duncan, IV, chair of the Department of Music. “Before I met him in Old Main, I was unaware of his expansive success as a composer of film scores.”

As a jazz musician, Grant formed the West Coast Nujazz Alternative – a symphonic jazz/rock orchestra – which has released several recordings. Presently, all of Grant’s music for saxophone, tuba and brass instruments is being newly published by Potenza Music Publishing.

“I feel very lucky to have been able to balance my career with producing music and teaching to give it back to others.”

In 2013, the department selected Grant to receive the College’s Arts Achievement Award in Music. The award recognizes alumni for achievements in their respective fields and advocacy for, the arts and communication and for achievements in their respective fields.

“Like so many of the college’s alumni, Grant has pursued his passion for music,” said Duncan. “He is inspiring future generations as a music teacher, and moving an unimaginable number of moviegoers and television watchers with human anguish and joy, which can only be conveyed through the art of music.”
Russell Miller is a saxophonist, flautist, composer and arranger. At Wayne State he teaches jazz improvisation, jazz lab bands, and jazz arranging and orchestration classes. His 30-year professional music career includes performances with Dizzy Gillespie, Buddy DeFranco, J.C. Heard, Rob McConnell, Jon Faddis, Joe Williams, Milt Hinton, Rosemary Clooney and Sammy Davis Jr. among others. In addition, Miller has performed with his own group and with others at the Detroit International Jazz Festival, the Michigan Jazz Festival and at various local venues. Recorded performances include: J.C. Heard Orchestra - “Some of This, Some of That” (Hiroko Records), Bill Heid - “Wet Streets” (Savant Records), John Cooper Orchestra - “Baecker Jazz Worship Service” (Baecker Music Productions) and “Two For The Road” on Jeannine Miller’s recently released recording (PKO Records) which in addition to featuring Russ on sax and flute, features his arrangements of classic jazz standards for big band, woodwinds, brass, strings and jazz quartet.

Kypros Markou
Professor, Director of University Symphony Orchestra
Department of Music

A native of Cyprus, Kypros Markou is a graduate of the Royal College of Music, London, and the New England Conservatory, Boston. Before coming to Wayne State, he served on the faculties of the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. Active as a solo/chamber violinist and conductor, he has been Music Director of several orchestras across the United States guest conducting concerts include the Rochester Philharmonic, Sinfonia Varsovia, Krakow Philharmonic, Romanian National Radio Symphony, Prague Chamber Orchestra, Moravian Philharmonic, Slovak State Philharmonic, State Orchestra of Thessaloniki, and the Cyprus State Orchestra. Markou is the conductor for several internationally distributed CDs featuring works by Tchaikovsky, Dvorak, Suk, Skalkottas, Foss and Foote. He received an honorary Doctor of Music degree from Seton Hill College, PA in 1989, the Board of Governors Recognition Award in 2011, and the Key to the City of Dearborn from Mayor John B O’Reilly in 2018.
### WINTER SPRING 2020

Department of Music Performance and Events Calendar

#### JANUARY

- **FRI. 17** $ GENERAL LECTURES AND CONCERTS SERIES  
  Eurhythmmy Presentation with Prof. Laura Larson, flute and special guest
- **SUN. 19** $ WSU JAZZJAMS
- **WED. 22** $ FACULTY ELECTROACOUSTIC MUSIC RECITAL

#### FEBRUARY

- **MON. 3** $ AMERICAN ROMANIAN FESTIVAL  
  Featuring ARF Musicians and WSU Chamber Orchestra
- **THURS. 13** M WAYNE STATE AT THE MAX  
  Wind Symphony and Concert Band
- **FRI. 14** $ GENERAL LECTURES AND CONCERTS SERIES  
  Jazz Lecture and Performance with Gretchen Valade Graduate Assistant and Prof. Chris Collins
- **SUN. 16** $ WSU JAZZJAMS
- **TUES. 18** $ VOICE AREA RECITAL
- **MON. 24** M WAYNE STATE AT THE MAX  
  Featuring the Jazz Band I and the University Symphony Orchestra
- **WED. 26** $ CHORAL SHOWCASE
- **FRI. 28** $ GENERAL LECTURES AND CONCERTS SERIES  
  Collage Concert
- **FRI. 28** $ CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT  
  Featuring Randall Goosby, violin

#### MARCH

- **WED. 4** $ ELECTRONIC MUSIC ENSEMBLE
- **FRI. 6** $ MSVMA FESTIVAL
- **FRI. 20** $ GENERAL LECTURES AND CONCERTS SERIES  
  Voice Faculty Recital
- **MON. 23** $ DEPARTMENT SHOWCASE RECITAL
- **TUES. 24** $ JAZZ COMBOS
- **WED. 25** $ PIANO STUDIO RECITAL
- **THURS. 26** $ FLUTE STUDIO RECITAL
- **MON. 30** $ GUITAR I AND GUITAR II
- **TUES. 31** $ VOICE AREA RECITAL
### APRIL

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WED. 1</td>
<td>JAZZ BAND II &amp; JAZZTET</td>
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</tbody>
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| FRI. 3 | GENERAL LECTURES AND CONCERTS SERIES  
Collage Concert                                          |
| FRI. 3 | MEN’S GLEE CLUB AND WOMEN’S CHORALE                                  |
| MON. 6 | STRING AREA RECITAL                                                  |
| TUES. 7 | WAYNE STATE AT THE MAX  
WSU Jazz Big Band I celebrating 40 years of Music at WSU |
| WED. 8 | CHAMBER MUSIC RECITAL                                                |
| MON. 13 | CHORAL SPRING CONCERT                                                |
| TUES. 14 | JAZZ BAND III AND JAZZ GUITAR III                                   |
| WED. 15 | CAMPUS BAND                                                          |
| THURS. 16 | CONCERT BAND & WIND SYMPHONY                                         |
| FRI. 17 | GENERAL LECTURES AND CONCERTS SERIES  
Jazz Big Band II                                              |
| FRI. 17 | OPERA WORKSHOP                                                       |
| SAT. 18 |                                                                       |
| SUN. 19 | WSU JAZZNIGHT                                                       |
| MON. 20 | CHORAL METHODS AND CONDUCTING CLASS RECITAL                         |

### MAY

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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</table>
| FRI. 1 | CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT  
featuring the Rolston Quartet |

### VENUES

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLIFF BELL’S</td>
<td>2030 Park Ave. / Detroit, MI 48226</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY ARTS AUDITORIUM</td>
<td>450 Reuther Mall / Detroit, MI 48202</td>
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<td>MAX M. AND MARJORIE S. FISHER MUSIC CENTER</td>
<td>3711 Woodward Ave. / Detroit, MI 48201</td>
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“Our students, faculty, and staff thrive at creating films and documentaries screened at festivals around the country, winning national competitions in speech and debate, landing high profile internships and jobs at prestigious public relations firms and journalistic organizations, and conducting award-winning research on important communication topics. I am proud to be chair in this dynamic and diverse department.”

2019-2020 Event Calendar

Nov. 7, 2019  Bernard L. Brock Memorial Lecture
Manoogian Hall (906 W. Warren)

Apr. 8, 2020  17th Annual PRSSA Alumni and Student Recognition Breakfast
Student Center Ballroom (5221 Gullen Mall)

Apr. 17, 2020  Spirit of Diversity
St. Andrew’s Hall (918 Luddington Mall)

Apr. 22-26, 2020  Freep Film Festival
Various locations
Stine Eckert joined the Wayne State journalism faculty in 2014. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland and her Master of Science from Ohio University after pursuing journalism studies, communication and media studies and American studies at the University of Leipzig, Germany. She also earned a Certificate in Graduate Studies from the Women’s Studies Department of the University of Maryland. Her research interests include international, comparative work and the intersection of social media, minorities and gender as well as the democratic potential of social media. She has published articles in *International Journal of Communication; Media, Culture & Society; Journal of Communication Inquiry* and *Journalism: Theory, Practice & Criticism*. She co-authored the chapter “Wikipedia’s Gender Gap” in Cory Armstrong’s (Ed.) *Media Disparity: A Gender Battleground* (2013). Eckert also co-founded the Wikid GRRLS project to teach middle and high school girls how to create content on knowledge sharing sites such as Wikipedia.

Michael Fuhlhage joined the Wayne State journalism faculty in 2014. He worked in news, sports, and features editing at the *Santa Fe New Mexican, Des Moines Register, Columbia Missourian, Lawrence Journal-World, The Desert Sun* of Palm Springs, CA, and *St. Cloud Times*. His first book, *Yankee Reporters and Southern Secrets*, is being published this summer by Peter Lang.

“I grew up in a family where we all gathered in the living room on Sundays and shouted at the TV during Sunday-morning news shows such as Face the Nation and Meet the Press. Combine that interest in public affairs with a love of writing and you get an aspiring news editor. Professional experience during the rise of online journalism informs my teaching of reporting. I treat my classroom as if it were a newsroom. Students learn to write and think like a professional journalist.”
MICHIGAN-NATIVE FILM PRODUCER, DIRECTOR AND STUNT COORDINATOR DONATES PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT TO FILM STUDENTS
Ele Bardha is a film producer, director, stunt coordinator, actor and writer with a successful career in the entertainment industry. As a 32 year veteran in the film and television fields, Bardha selected the Department of Communication’s film and media arts area to receive his high-end production studio equipment.

In 2008, with the help of the Michigan Film Incentive, Bardha decided to establish a production company – Bardha Productions Inc. – in Troy, Michigan. The studio was equipped with a sound stage, green screens, editing suites and all the bells and whistles needed to create independent feature films. He created a few successful films in the studio including Cash Only which received hit reviews from notable sources including The New York Times.

“It was an amazing little project that I made in Detroit and Hamtramck. That was my first movie out of the gate,” said Bardha. “I used local Michigan crew members that I became friends with. A lot of those people were actually from Wayne State’s film/television program.”

Bardha shared that when he came back to Michigan and was pursuing his acting career he had the opportunity to participate in some of the student-produced films at Wayne State.

“I heard about the auditions and I ended up being in a bunch of the films that the students were doing. I felt it was an opportunity to give back,” said Bardha.

Bardha enjoyed the enthusiasm that he felt from the students. It reminded him of himself earlier in his career and motivated him to want to share with them what he had learned throughout his career, his time in Hollywood and travels all over the world. “I really just fell into the industry. I didn’t go to any specific university and that lead me to why I donated everything to the program.”

“The one thing I always regretted is that I didn’t go to a university; I didn’t get a degree. I kind of started my dreams out by skipping a step with my passion leading the way. But in hindsight I wish that I had gone to Wayne State or any school and studied filmmaking at a much younger age,” said Bardha. I learned the hard way which was just through sheer experience. I always felt I would have saved myself a lot of time had I had better guidance from a schooling situation.”

When Michigan’s film incentives were removed, Bardha was ultimately left with a like-new studio that was not being put to use. Subsequently during a personal health scare, Bardha decided he wanted to help up and coming passionate film makers and artists by donating his studio equipment to an institution that didn’t have certain kinds of equipment.

“I was trying to find a school in Detroit and Wayne State was the first one that I thought about,” said Bardha. “My brother went to Wayne State, a lot of my friends went to Wayne State and I spent a lot of time with the students at Wayne State. I never went to Wayne State as a student but I knew that this state of the art equipment would only make the program that much more fantastic.”

Bardha donated an array of equipment including the Monarch Virtuoso 3D generator, green screen and lighting kit. This new equipment will allow students to create Computer-Generated Imagery (CGI) sets.

“The feeling I received while donating the equipment to Wayne State far outweighed any personal gain. The day everybody came to pick everything up was a really awesome day for me,” said Bardha. “I’m so happy I’ve worked so hard in my life that I can give back in this way and provide this type of equipment as a donation.”
The *Michigan Chronicle*, a news, information and events company that covers the interests of the African American community, named Chrystal Wilson (2010, journalism) one of its 2019 Women of Excellence. For over a decade, the *Michigan Chronicle* has celebrated local African American women who inspire others through vision and leadership, exceptional achievements, and participation in community service.

Wilson serves as the assistant superintendent of communications and marketing for Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD), Michigan’s largest public education system. With more than 15 years of experience in her field, Wilson has lead DPSCD through a successful leadership transition and re-branding while executing strategic communications for high-level crisis situations, community engagement, media relations and political advocacy.

“Being recognized for the work I love is tremendous. I love our children and receiving the induction into the *Michigan Chronicle*’s Women of Excellence class of 2019 brings it all full circle. The *Chronicle* gave me my first start as a writer during my time at WSU,” said Wilson.

In her previous work, Wilson served as press secretary for DPS and the Education Achievement Authority of Michigan, managing crisis communications and media relations. Wilson’s communications experience encompasses education, automotive, entertainment and consumer goods industries while working at some of Michigan’s most prominent public relations agencies.

“Reflecting on my days as a student at Wayne State, I was going after becoming a big-city newspaper woman. After a few internships at our local papers, I realized I had a bigger calling,” said Wilson. “I could actually be part of developing and sharing the positive news stories. And more specifically today, I get to tell the stories of Detroit’s children at DPSCD.

This is not the first time Wilson has been recognized by the *Michigan Chronicle*. In 2013, she was highlighted as a 40 under 40 making a difference in Detroit.
Daniel Wallace named Michigan Chronicle 40 Under 40

Daniel Wallace (2005, journalism), a multifaceted professional with nearly 15 years of progressive experience in communications and human resources with several Fortune 50 companies, was named a *Michigan Chronicle* 40 Under 40 award recipient.

The *Michigan Chronicle* is in its 4th year of recognizing local African-American professionals who inspire others through their vision, leadership, exceptional achievements, and participation in community service at its 40 Under 40 awards. The event honors individuals of extraordinary stature, poise and integrity who continue to break the mold and affect change in their professions and community.

“Daniel was in the Institute when I took this position and he was so helpful in acclimating me to Wayne and JIMD,” said Alicia Nails, Department of Communication lecturer and director the Journalism Institute for Media Diversity (JIMD). “As our first Flip Wilson full scholarship and housing award-winner he was a leader and as a student he was conscientious in his studies and in seeking out media experience.”

At General Motors, Wallace is the Global Diversity Initiatives Lead, where he manages GM’s African American portfolio -- the company’s largest budgeted diversity expenditure. He is responsible for driving the engagement strategy for diversity programming, defining philanthropic spending in the African American community, building brand awareness through local and national programs, and serving as the company’s diversity subject matter expert.

“He has been a “go-to” JIMD grad in all of the years since. He’s a supportive mentor to students and attends our annual retreat to pass on what was invested in him,” said Nails.

Over the course of his career, Wallace has held several communication roles where he created thought-provoking stories around automotive innovations and important conversations around inclusion. He is also a former journalist, where he worked on multimedia business projects, including his own video column for a Gannett newspaper in upstate New York, one of the largest media companies in the United States. •
Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance

John Wolf
Chair, Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance

“It is my honor to lead the Department of Theatre and Dance, especially at this time of great innovation and advancement. Our programs are internationally recognized as some of the top in their fields. Our students continue to impress with their skills, aptitude and curiosity. And soon we’ll lead our students into a new era with the construction of the Gateway Performance Complex.”

2019-2020 Performance Schedule

Hilberry Theatre
4743 Cass Ave.

Nov. 1 - 17, 2019  Sweat
Feb. 7-23, 2020  The Winter’s Tale
Apr. 24 - May 10, 2020  Stage Kiss

Underground at the Hilberry
4743 Cass Ave. (Lower Level)

Nov. 15 - Dec. 8, 2019  Reckless
Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 2020  Heck-Rabi One-Act Playwriting Festival
Mar. 20 - Apr. 5, 2020  Tobacco Road

Bonstelle Theatre
3424 Woodward Ave.

Dec. 4 - 15, 2019  A Christmas Carol
Feb. 27 & 28, 2020  91st Annual Spring Dance Concert
Apr. 10 - 19, 2020  Disney and Cameron Mackintosh’s Mary Poppins

Allesee Dance Theatre
4841 Cass Ave. (Third Floor)

Dec. 7, 2019  Noel Night with Company One
Jan. 10 & 11, 2020  BFA Dance Senior Capstone Dance Workshop
Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 2020  To Sangana African Dance Company
Feb. 14 & 15, 2020

Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts
350 Madison

Dec. 7 & 8, 2019  December Dance Concert
A minor in dance at Wayne State helped to pave the way for '73 alumna Cheryl Palonis Adams to introduce a new art form into her most recent creative endeavor.

While at Wayne State, Adams performed with the Orchesis Dance Group and was a member of the Harbinger Dance Company in Detroit. She then moved on to become a member of the Southern Modern Dance Collaborative for several years, serving as instructor, choreographer and dancer. She currently serves on the editorial board of Dance Education in Practice and is a member of the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) where she has served two terms on the board as K-12 director and 11 years as an editor for the Journal of Dance Education (JODE).

At NDEO in the early 2000s, Cheryl met Dr. Doug Risner, Maggie Alleesee Department of Theatre and Dance professor of dance, then chair of the Dance Department. At that time, Dr. Risner was also JODE editor-in-chief.


After retirement, Adams moved to Kentucky where she began volunteering as choreographer for the local community theatre, the Star Theater in Russell Springs, KY. In 2016, she opened ArtWorks Community Arts Education Center in Jamestown, KY and continues to serve as the program’s executive director and instructor. ArtWorks offers classes in dance, aerial silks, visual arts theatre, barre exercise and music for children and adults. The program also offers an arts-centered pre-school, SmartStart, for ages 3-5. “One major area of focus is to offer arts classes through scholarships to disadvantaged children in our rural community,” explained Adams.

More recently, Adams was choreographing “Tarzan, the Musical” for the Star Theater and suggested using aerial silks to give the community production an exciting twist. Adams knew that Dr. Risner’s daughter, Hannah Risner (2007, BFA, Dance), was an elite aerial artist based in New York City so she reached out to find contact information for this second generation CFPCA connection.

“I proposed to Hannah that she come to Kentucky to teach a weekend workshop for our cast and staff on the basics of aerial silks. Hannah said this was the first time she had done a workshop of this type,” said Adams.

“Hannah was wonderful and our cast was hooked. She taught them so many aerial basics, including an overview of all the hardware, how to hang the silks, store the silks, etc. They learned myriad aerial silks moves and sequences.”

Hannah appointed one of the program’s adult cast as the aerial silks captain, who then went on to continue to study aerial silks technique and now teaches aerial silks classes at ArtWorks. Cheryl noted, “Since Hannah’s residency, we have employed aerial silks work in two following shows at The Star.”

“Although nearly 35 years separate Wayne State alumna Cheryl Adams and Hannah Risner, the meaningful connections shared between them impact not only their own artistry but also communities who benefit from the growing professionalism of the Star Theatre and its audiences—literally, turning people upside down—that’s what CFPCA connections do,” said Dr. Doug Risner.

Early on in her career, Adams also earned a MFA in dance at the University of Utah and a teaching certificate in English at Pacific Lutheran University. She taught both English and Dance in Maryland Public Schools for the bulk of her career. When asked what she would tell current CFPCA students, Adams said, “My advice to college dance and theatre students is to take as many classes as you can,” said Adams. “Stay abreast of your field’s changes and innovations but do not ignore those who came before you. There is so much to be learned from the history of your art.”

Alumna appreciates two generations of CFPCA connections

Minor degree, major impact
The Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance’s Freedom Players were invited this year to participate in the largest international theatre festival in the world, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Cameron Blackwell, a senior studying for his BFA in theatre performance (acting) with a minor in Africana theatre and dance and a member of the department’s Freedom Players, said he thinks it’s important for the international community to have seen the Freedom Players perform at the festival.

“We represented not only ourselves, but the college,” he said. “We represented Michigan, Detroit and even the social justice theatre realm which not a lot of people are familiar with.”

Blackwell said the performance intended for the festival was called “I Am,” written by the students of Freedom Players.

“We the students, black, Latino and white, bring forth our stories and personal struggles with discrimination, race, gender, or sexuality from our own lives,” he said.

“It was the first time that most of us currently in Freedom Players performed overseas, and the first time performing something written by ourselves,” he said.

Blackwell, 20, is also a part of To Sangana, the department’s African Dance Company.

Participating in the festival will give the Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance an international presence and boost its Black Theatre and Dance Program.

“IT is really important to support the arts with an even bigger emphasis on social justice art to support Black theatre and dance,” Blackwell said. “I truly believe that it’s overlooked. People tend to dismiss things that they don’t understand. We need to take a pause and open our eyes and ears and really listen to the voices that are usually left unheard.”

Billicia Hines, artistic director for the Black Theatre and Dance Program said the students’ performance was unique at the festival. It provided a platform for sensitive topics currently taking place in society.

“Our show stood out within the festival because it had a strong social justice theme and because it delved into so many issues, things people are uncomfortable talking about.”

The Month in Moscow is a partnership program of intensive workshop training at the Moscow Art Theatre School, the conservatory wing of the renowned Moscow Art Theatre, founded in 1898 by Konstantin Stanislavsky and Vladimir Nemirovich-Danchenko.

“What I’ve been telling people mostly about my experience in Russia, is that it was absolutely the most inspiring thing I’ve ever done,” said Alice Duffy, a junior studying for her BFA in theatre with focus in acting. “I was thrown into situations and shows that I was unfamiliar with and while it was of course frightening, it has changed the way I see myself as an artist.”

Duffy explained that the opportunity intensified her passion for theatre. She said experiencing the culture of another place has helped her to be more aware of her own humanity and her country.

“It’s so rare for one to be able to take a deep look at the lives of our human counterparts in different parts of the world, what they find important, what they think about their own history and ours. I feel that this trip has expedited my growth as an artist and as a human, and I highly recommend it.”
Daughter gifts naming of Hilberry dressing room in honor of mother

Olga Dworkin attended Wayne State University and received a Bachelor of Education degree in 1946. Starting in the early 1950’s she became very active in alumni volunteering at Wayne State.

“Mom was one of the original women who put together the Women of Wayne program,” explained her daughter, Debra Partrich. Dworkin was also president of the Alumni Association and was in attendance at the dedication ceremony for the Alumni House.”

According to Partrich, for 17 years Dworkin was head of the Beautification Wayne State Project.

“She arranged for the formation of the Gullen Mall and the trees and plants to be installed all over the campus, said Partrich. “Some of the students called her ‘The Tree Lady’ because she was always down on campus ‘directing’ the plantings.”

Dworkin was also very involved in the Hilberry Understudies whose mission was very important to her. She served a term as president of this dedicated group of volunteers who support the theatres at Wayne State. Dworkin along with her husband, also created the Olga F. Dworkin Endowed Hillberry Theatre Fellowship Support Fund to recognize graduate student excellence and achievement in theatre and to encourage the continued progress of Hilberry Repertory Company members at Wayne State University.

“She would be thrilled with the new Hilberry Theatre that is currently being built. My husband and I feel that Mom would be honored to have her name somewhere on the building and the dressing room seemed like a good fit,” said Partrich.

Partrich shared that her mother received an award from the University at the Hilberry Theatre for all of her support of the theatre. Three kiosks in the lobby that day displayed the many contributions Dworkin had made to the Hilberry. ●
Biba Bell
Assistant Professor, Dance
Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance

Biba Bell (b. 1976, Sebastopol, CA) is a writer, dancer, and choreographer based in Detroit. Her performance work has been shown in France, Russia, Germany, Italy, Canada, and across the U.S. Her research interests include contemporary choreography, site-specificity, domesticity, artistic labor, intersections between dance and architecture, the performance of home, and dance in visual art contexts. Her writing has been published in The Drama Review, Dance Research Journal, Movement Research Performance Journal, Pastetelogram, Performance Research Journal, Sound American Journal, and FRONT. Bell performed as a founding member of the collective MGM Grand (Modern Garage Movement, 2005-2011) and with NYC-based choreographers Maria Hassabi and Walter Dundervill amongst others. Her recently featured project Hustle in the Park was inspired by the Detroit hustle and focuses on joyful communing through social dancing in urban green spaces.

“For dancers, studios often begin to feel like homes, spaces were we labor to uncover facets of the human experience. The home is also a space for making, where ideas are born, embodiments nurtured, identities staked. My work right now dwells in this intersection, connecting these creative sites and the ways they shape artistic practice.”
Thank you to everyone who made giving day 2019 a success!

On Thursday, April 11, 2019, Wayne State University hosted its third official Giving Day. A 24-hour fund-raising event, Wayne State Giving Day aims to inspire and engage alumni, donors, faculty, staff, students and friends. Led by the Wayne State University Office of Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving, this campaign has a direct impact on all 13 schools and colleges.

Overall, the event raised a grand total of $620,706 from over 1,100 donors. The College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts received $67,507 in gifts from more than 60 donors. A majority of these gifts benefited scholarships, the Maggie Allessee Theatre and Dance Department and the Dean’s discretionary fund.

The next Giving Day is April 23, 2020. Please mark your calendars for your chance to Give Green, Be Gold in support of CFPCA.

GIVING DAY 2020
APRIL 23
GIVE GREEN, BE GOLD
GIVINGDAY.WAYNE.EDU

University’s Giving Day Raises Funds for CFPCA

$67,507 in CFPCA Donations

60+ CFPCA Donors

expressions | 2018-19 31
University Art Collection receives two grants to expand collection with work by Arab/Middle Eastern artists

The artwork in the Wayne State University Art Collection represents some of the most important regional art made in the 20th and 21st centuries. The collection’s focus is on works created by Detroit and Michigan area artists that reflect the cultural experience of the university, Detroit, and its metropolitan region. No other collection traces more beautifully Detroit’s rich cultural heritage over the past fifty years.

Gifts made by devoted art collectors have created the University Art Collection of over six thousand works. However, as with many public art collections amassed through gifts, there are evident gaps in the representation of minority and women artists.

Through the generosity of the Knight Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, the University Art Collection will begin to fill such gaps to better reflect the rich diversity of Wayne State’s student body and the larger community. These grants will provide a unique opportunity to commission works of art by two young, emerging artists of Middle Eastern descent: Farah Al Qasimi and Shiva Ahmadi.

Farah Al Qasimi and Shiva Ahmadi will create contemporary works of art to illuminate Middle Eastern art and culture and to help deconstruct stereotypes associated with this diverse and wide-ranged ethnic culture.

The Knight Foundation grant, *Between Two Worlds: The Arab American Experience in Detroit*, will support a Detroit residency for Farah Al Qasimi, an exciting, internationally recognized photographer best known for photographs that reflect her experiences of living in two worlds. Born in the United Arab Emirates and living in the United States, she challenges audiences to reconsider the role of identity and culture, while following the theme of moving between communities in the Middle East and the United States.

Al Qasimi studied both photography and music at Yale University, where she earned her bachelor and master’s degrees. Her photographic images move fluidly between private and public spaces, while sensitively finding the fantastic in the everyday. The Knight Foundation project will culminate with an exhibition of work produced while living in Detroit and will be on display in the Adamany Undergraduate Library.

Iranian-American artist Shiva Ahmadi has been awarded the National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America grant, *Expanding Access through Diversity*, designed to use art to expand awareness of contemporary Middle Eastern art and culture through community lectures, exhibition and commissioned public work of art.

Ahmadi received her MA (2000) and MFA (2003) in drawing from Wayne State University, and an MFA (2005) in painting from Cranbrook Academy of Art. Her drawings, paintings, sculpture and moving images explore the aesthetics and cultural stereotypes of the Middle East including war and violence, experienced firsthand in her native Iran. Ahmadi’s work, influenced by Persian miniatures, explores the powerful ways that religion and politics intersect within and between the East and West. Her work conveys raw beauty and turmoil and will be featured in an exhibition at the Elaine L. Jacob Gallery January 17-March 20, 2020.

The University Art Collection will continue to serve as a tool to educate and inspire our students, serving as a mirror that reflects their worlds and their metro Detroit communities.
This page clockwise from top:
Lotus, Shiva Ahmadi, 2013
Nose Greeting, Farah Al Qasimi, 2017
The Mesh, Shiva Ahmadi, 2016, Courtesy of the artist and Haines Gallery, San Francisco

Opposite page:
Oil Barrel #19, Shiva Ahmadi, 2011
Phoebe Mainster Ph.D. (’83) has served six years on the CFPCA Board of Visitors and is currently a member emeritus. Mainster has also been an avid member of the Hilberry Understudies. In 1985, she became a member of this dedicated group of volunteers who support the theatres at Wayne State University. Mainster served as President in 1999 and 2000.

The members of the Understudies, first organized to support the MFA Repertory Theatre program under the direction of Leonard Leone, have always seen themselves as the ambassadors of Wayne State’s outstanding graduate theatre program.

“In its earliest years, it was an organization solely of women who were invited to join this prestigious organization and to bring with them their skills in the business world, academia and the arts to help fundraise and to support the funding of the Hilberry Company’s program,” said Mainster.

In 1999, the organization opened its membership to men, and most recently, the membership has been opened to supporting donors of the Hilberry and Bonstelle theatres. While funding was the primary concern of the Understudies, the added feature of “Stage Parent” has become a significant component as well. Since the majority of the graduate students who make up the Hilberry Company are from out of town, Lynne Bryant (current co-president with Art Bryant) formulated a program 10 years ago to provide extra support to students. Members of the Understudies volunteer to be the “parent” of one of the members of the Hilberry Company.

Mainster explains “[Understudy Parents] invite the student to the member’s home for dinners and holidays, take them to events outside of their usual university lives, call and text to congratulate them on specific performances over the course of the year, and just be a kind and attentive ‘parent’ in general.”

For these many years, the Understudies have been deeply involved financially as well as personally in the college’s theatre program. In 2019, Mainster committed to a major gift for the Gateway Performance Complex project which will open its doors in fall of 2021. “My commitment to the Gateway Performance Complex is an outgrowth of my commitment to the Understudies and the Hilberry Theatre programs,” explained Mainster. “I look forward to the completion of the complex that will have under one roof the theatre, dance and music [jazz] performances. I believe this center will be an asset to the students of Wayne State and will make a vital contribution to the City of Detroit.”

In addition to a full-time career in the Wayne State English Department, teaching courses in medieval English literature, Shakespeare, and British Literature, Mainster has been active in supporting theatre in the Metropolitan Detroit area. She has served on the board of directors for the Jewish Ensemble Theatre (JET) for the past 25 years. She led JET as its president from 1997-99. Currently she is President Elect and will serve again as president for 2020-21.

“I support the Stratford Festival of Canada, as well as attend most theatre productions in the Metro Detroit area.”

For the past 49 years, Mainster and her husband, Harris, a trauma surgeon at Beaumont Hospital Farmington Hills, have volunteered for six weeks each summer to serve communities in need. In these locations, Harris both performs surgery and teaches, and Phoebe teaches English.

“Over the years, we have presented slide lectures and have talked about these experiences in Africa, Europe, Asia, Central and South America, and locations in the United States, and have shared our many experiences with organizations throughout the Metro Detroit area.”
In Memoriam

Jerome Ackerman (1920-2019)
Jerome “Jerry” Ackerman and his wife Evelyn, were California mid-century modern design pioneers. A World War II veteran, he graduated from Wayne State with Evelyn in 1951 and earned his MFA in ceramics from Alfred University in 1952. They moved to Los Angeles opening Jenev where Jerry created award-winning ceramics. Their business became Era Industries, with Jerry channeling the couple’s creative expression into successful designs in mosaics, textiles, wood and metal. Jerry Ackerman's work is in museum collections, including the Smithsonian and Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Ackerman's contributions are chronicled in exhibitions, books, articles, events, and film. In 2019, their daughter established the Evelyn and Jerome Ackerman Endowed Scholarship to honor her parents.

Richard Bilaitis (1928-2019)
Richard Bilaitis earned a bachelor’s degree in 1962 and a master’s in 1966 from Wayne State, joining the faculty in the Art Department in 1962. During his tenure, Bilaitis held many positions including design instructor, Art Department chair, director of the Community Arts Gallery, and CFPCA associate dean emeritus. Bilaitis is recognized for starting the University Art Collection that endures as his lasting legacy. He also designed the centennial symbol, medallion and banners for the 1968 WSU Centennial Celebration. After his retirement in 2000, he continued as university curator and produced a book about the collection. Bilaitis was a patron, collector and accomplished artist who positively impacted students and the community.

Charles Postlewate (1941-2019)
Charles Postlewate was a founding member of the Guitar Foundation of America and retired associate Professor of Music at University of Texas at Arlington. In 1969 and 1973, he earned the first B.A. and M.A. degrees awarded in classical guitar performance at WSU. As part of his graduate studies, Postlewate developed and taught classes in ensemble, literature, pedagogy, harmony and improvisation for the guitar, as well as giving private lessons in the Detroit and Flint area. Postlewate performed in concerts across the United States, Canada, Mexico, Peru, and the Caribbean. He will be remembered for developing the use of the little finger in the right hand technique of the classical guitar.

Joel Silvers (1946-2018)
Joel Silvers is best remembered as a man who chose to fight for causes that were not simple and not popular, causes that required him to take a stance and shaped the person he became. As a filmmaker, Silvers gave a voice to those that stood in defiance of all that was wrong in this world. As a Wayne State instructor, he taught generations of future filmmakers to think about the impact of their choices and to embrace diversity. Silvers will be remembered as a social activist, an artist, a filmmaker, a mentor, a teacher, and most importantly, as a friend to many.

George Ziegelmueller (1930-2019)
George Ziegelmueller was a Distinguished Professor of Communication and an internationally recognized debate educator at Wayne State from 1957–2006. He led many Wayne State debaters to hundreds of championships on the college debate circuit. Under his direction, WSU became one of the most successful programs in the nation. In 1999, the Ziegelmueller Award was created in recognition of his more than 30 years of excellence in coaching, timeless commitment to the activity, and numerous contributions to the forensics community. In 2000, Professor Ziegelmueller was named the 2000 Michigan Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.