

# College of Visual and Performing Arts

Educating the new creative class  
**Generation Renaissance**  
Who will imagine and make a brighter future

CVPA@NIU--Where Creativity Thrives



**Northern Illinois University**  
*Your Future. Our Focus.*





# CVPA Vision



Engaged - "Bringing art to audiences and audiences to art"



Inclusive - "Arts for all; all for the arts"



Boundless - "Arts across the disciplines"



Strong - "Art is a noun: people, places, things"

# A community of...

- Artists who are a presence at the highest level nationally and internationally
- Scholars working at the cutting-edge and appearing in publications of the highest reputation
- Teachers routinely given the highest commendation by learners and peers
- Staff that provides the highest level of service, and most importantly
- Students eagerly sought by industry, graduate school, and public institutions because they know, they make, they do, perform, speak and write with authority, clarity, and purpose

# Knowledge/Creation



every performance and exhibit is the creation of new knowledge in the form of art



we produce a product for a paying customer on time and within budget—and sometimes without a budget at all



real world experience



high impact practices



we are acrobats of the soul!

# Points of pride • School of Art and Design

- **Frank Trankina** participated in an International three-person exhibition “Painting As A Stage”, with Marcel Glanzmann and Lukas Hirschi in Luzern, Switzerland
- **Nina Rizzo** was an invited artist-in-residence at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris, France
- **Shei-Chau Wang** was invited to present ink painting professional training for in-service art/culture teachers in São Paulo on the invitation of the Overseas Community Affairs Council in Taiwan
- **Richard Siegesmund** is the 2019 recipient of the 2019 Distinguished Service to the Field of Art Education from the Illinois Art Education Association
- **John Siblik** was named the 2019 Art Education Administrator of the Year by the Illinois Art Education Association



# Points of pride • School of Art and Design

- **Sinclair Bell** was lead presenter in the Smithsonian Channel's "Rome's Chariot Superstar" TV series
- **Bell** is currently Research Institute Fellow in residence at Harvard at the W. E. B. Du Bois Research Institute at the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research
- **Kerry Freedman** is the 2019 recipient of the United States Society for Education Through Art's (USSEA) Ziegfield Award
- **Doug Boughton** was elected Chair of the National Art Education Association (NAEA) Distinguished Fellows
- **Mary Quinlan** received a grant from the National Science Foundation grant to work on a companion book to her 2013 work, *Art, Optics and Astrology in the Italian Renaissance*, published by University of Chicago Press
- **Aleksandra (Ola) Giza** initiated the development of a Memorandum of Understanding between NIU and Uniwersytet Opolski, Opole, Poland to expand scholarly ties and promote closer academic collaboration through the exchange of faculty and students.

# Points of pride • School of Music

- Led by Professor of Music **Eric Johnson**, Cor Cantiamo, NIU Ensemble in Residence received a \$10,000 Art Works grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to commission a 20-minute work based upon first-person accounts of Central American migrant families and poetry of Gabriel Mistral. The premiere performance will be presented November 3 in Boutell Memorial Concert Hall.
- Associate Professor of Jazz Saxophone and Jazz Studies **Geof Bradfield's** new CD, "Yes, and ... Music for Nine Improvisers," was created with the support of a New Jazz Works Grant from Chamber Music America.
- Professor of Music **Gregory Beyer**, founder and director of Projeto Arcomusical is featured as performer and composer on the new CD, Spinning in the Wheel. The major work of the album, Elliot Cole's Roda, was made possible by a grant from the Chamber Music America Classical Commissioning Program, with generous funding provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



# Points of pride • School of Theatre and Dance

- **Kay Martinovich** - Directed Joseph Jefferson Award Recommended THE FATHER at Remy Bumpo with designs by **Jeremy Floyd** and **Brandon Wardell**
- **Jeremy Floyd** - multiple-time Joseph Jefferson Award nominee
- **Brandon Wardell** - multiple-time Joseph Jefferson Award nominee
- **Terry McClellan** - Designs across the US as well as Thailand and Australia in the last year alone collaborating with John Fogerty, Pentatonix, and many others
- **Stanton Davis** - Directed at Adana International Theatre Festival in Turkey in a production designed by **Sahin Sahinoglu**
- **Alexander Gelman** - Artistic Director of Organic Theater Company, just elected to National Theatre Conference.

# Success stories



# Alumni



**Joan Allen**



**Marquis Hill**



**Bruce Neimi**

# Alumni



Joan Allen



Marquis Hill



Bruce Neimi

# Faculty

## School of Music's Liam Teague to receive NIU Presidential Research, Scholarship and Artistry Professor honor

Apr 17, 2018 | Music, Music News, xFeatured

Liam Teague, Northern Illinois University Professor of Music and Chair of Steelpan Studies has been selected as a Presidential Research, Scholarship and Artistry Professor.

The award was created in 1982 to recognize faculty excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, artistry and engagement at NIU. Recipients of the award are selected on the basis of significant and sustained scholarly or creative work, including the achievement of national or international reputation in their individual fields.

Teague is a world renowned musician who is hailed as the "Paganini of the Steelpan." A native of Trinidad and Tobago, he came to NIU as an undergraduate to join the university's unique Steelpan Studies program and to play in the NIU Steelband, the longest-running steelband at any college or university in the United States.

Under the tutelage of program founder Al O'Connor and Cliff Alexis, Teague excelled as a performer and student and with their encouragement worked to become a professor in the School of Music and eventually direct the steelpan program, which to this day is the only program in the nation that offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in steelpan performance.



Liam Teague

## Theatre and Dance's Tracy Nunnally honored with Founders Award from USITT

Apr 23, 2019 | Theatre and Dance, Theatre and Dance News



Tracy Nunnally, Technical Director/Head of Design, has been honored by the United States Institute of Theatre and Dance's Founders Award from the United States Institute of Theatre and Dance.

The Founders Award is chosen from active members who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the section and assistance in the achievement of the organization's goals.

'Exploring Aspects of War in and Through the Visual Arts' opens August 27 at NIU Art Museum

August 9, 2019

Register for music lessons, ensembles, classes, and new Ukulele for Kids at the NIU Community School of the Arts

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## New exhibition at Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art features works from School of Art and Design's Jessica Labatte

Apr 26, 2018 | Art and Design, xArt and Design News, xFeatured

The exhibition "Picture Fiction: Kenneth Josephson and Contemporary Photography" opens this week at Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art, and it features two works from NIU School of Art and Design Instructor of Photography Jessica Labatte.

The exhibition is a survey of the work of Josephson, a Chicago-based photographer who taught at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago for nearly 40 years. His conceptual photography is credited with changing the way people think about pictures by conveying an idea in addition to the picture. The exhibition features not just his work, but also several others, including those of Labatte, that were influenced by his work.

Labatte has taught at NIU since 2012, and has both a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master of Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. This is the third time her work has been featured at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

While Josephson had retired before Labatte attended the School of the Art Institute, his work has had an



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# Students

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## Oona Holtane uses "illustration to tell stories and evoke emotion" and it's led to a dream summer

May 3, 2019 | Art and Design, xArt and Design News, xCVPA, xFeatured

Oona Holtane says her love of art and illustration goes back as long as she can remember, when as a three-year old she was watching Disney's *The Aristocats* while, "holding a pudding spoon in one hand and a crayon in the other." The junior illustration major from Sycamore has been developing that talent ever since, and the results are impressive.



Oona Holtane

For the second year in a row, one of her works has been selected by the Society of Illustrators in their Student Scholarship Competition. It was one of only 300 accepted from more than 8700 entries submitted by 2,114 students from 72 colleges and universities.

"I love to use illustration to tell stories and evoke emotion," she said. "While I do enjoy working on editorial illustration in class, animation has always been a passion of mine, so I work on developing that skill outside of school."

"Last year, the piece that was accepted looked completely different from the work I produce now. The illustration was a very minimalistic self-portrait, a fashion illustration of sorts. However, this year, the illustration was extremely experimental, almost appearing primitive in nature. It's very encouraging to see one of my most authentic works be accepted into the competition!"

Holtane's "method" for that piece was effective, but probably not one she wants to repeat.

"Daddy enough, I sketched the piece when I got my wisdom teeth removed. After I woke up from the anesthesia, I

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- August 9, 2019
- Register for music lessons, ensembles, classes, and new Ukulele for Kids at the NIU Community School of the Arts
- August 9, 2019
- CVPA welcomes students, faculty and staff back with Sundae on Saturday
- August 6, 2019
- Book published to commemorate alumni exhibition to celebrate Jack Acenda Hall's 50th
- August 7, 2019
- Arcomusical's spinning in the

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## NIU's Carmin Berchiolly to be honored as Best Graduate Student of the Year by Illinois Association of Museums

Sep 20, 2018 | Art History, xArt and Design News, xFeatured

NIU's Carmin Berchiolly, who recently graduated with her Master of Arts in art history will be honored by the Illinois Association of Museums with the 2018 award for "Best Graduate Student" at this year's IAM awards program, October 4 at the Kidzeum of Health and Science in Springfield.

After earning her associate's degree from Rock Valley College, Berchiolly transferred to NIU for her bachelor's degree in art history. She had a 4.0 grade point average at RVC and maintained it at NIU while making the dean's list every semester. Her very long list of awards and scholarships includes winning the Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the NIU College of Visual and Performing Arts in 2017, twice earning the Joyce L. Marcus Endowed Art History Scholarship and earning seven separate research travel grants which allowed her to spend three consecutive summers traveling abroad to Myanmar with the NIU Center for Burma Studies. She worked on collaborative projects in Myanmar that resulted in popular exhibitions at NIU's Jack Olson Gallery and NIU Art Museum. Her first trip to Myanmar was also made possible by earning the USOAR grant through NIU.



While in Myanmar, Berchiolly developed an interest in material culture and this year successfully defended her thesis on

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# Students

## **Outstanding Graduate Student Award**

Sarah Sabo, Art and Design

Danielle Sheppard, Art and Design

Emily Vitrano, Theatre and Dance

Meung-Jung Yang, Art and Design

## **University Fellowship**

Mathew Anderson, Music

Zeinab Saab, Art and Design

## **Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award**

Sasha Blitzer, Art and Design

## **Outstanding Women Student Awards**

Sarah Sabo, Art and Design

Emily Rangel-Cascio, Art and Design

# NIU Art Museum



2018-2019 exhibition season included:

- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Jack Arends Hall (Visual Arts Building) featuring an invitation of 69 alumni artists and a salon of work from 22 former faculty
- Biennial collaboration with NIU Center for Burma Studies
- Exhibitions on *Data* and on *Transparency* involved national calls for entries and attracted submissions from 93 artists

2019-2020 season features:

- Biennial School of Art and Design faculty exhibition
- Thematic exhibitions on:
  - War
  - Well-being



# Community School of the Arts

Year-round programming for more than 500 students **of all ages** from all over the region.

- Music lessons
- Art classes
- Summer camps
  - Brass
  - Percussion
  - Jazz
  - Theatre Arts
  - Visual Arts
- Ensembles
  - CSA Symphonette
  - CSA Sinfonia
  - CSA Guitar
  - NIUkulele
  - CSA Steelband

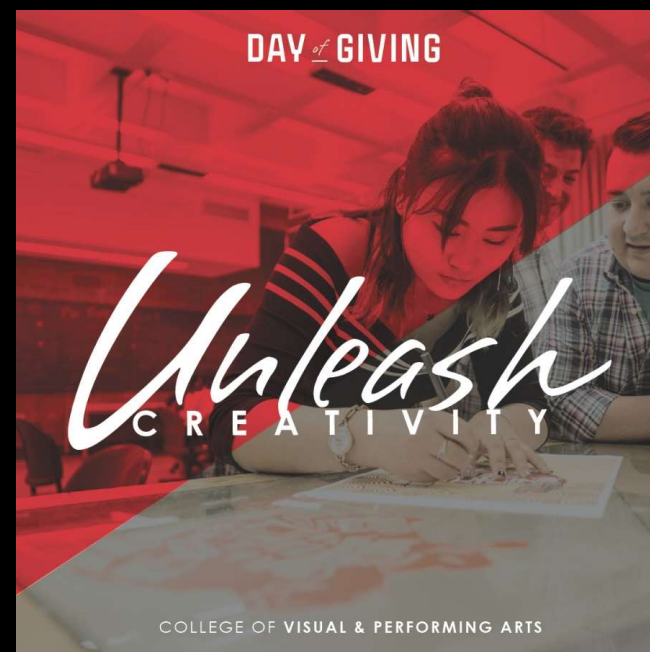


# Advancement

- CVPA secured \$635,000 in total fundraising activity and \$508,426 in cash gifts from 492 donors
- Number of donors increased by 32.9% over the previous year
- 62.3% of total giving was from individuals

## DAY OF GIVING 2019

- Total new dollars raised - \$25,036
- Third in number of gifts (191) and fourth in overall giving out of 18 participating units
- 145 unique donors
- 56 NIU Faculty/Staff members gave to CVPA



# Sponsorships

2019-2020 Season Presented by  
**SHAW MEDIA**  
est. 1851



DEKALB SYCAMORE  
CADILLAC



# Initiatives

- Data Studies/Visualization
- Engineering and Design
- Arts/Education
- Chicago Public Schools/Ingenuity/After School Matters
- Creative Path to College Success
- Arts Alliance of Illinois
  - ESSA Arts Indicator
  - Workforce Readiness



# A way of knowing A way of feeling A way towards social justice



# Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

