

# SVPA

Fall 2016 Update



# S V P A

## O N T A R G E T

In our first semester as a newly formed School of Visual and Performing Arts in the College of arts and Letters at the University of Toledo, we continue our forward movement, beginning with the Presidential Collection Reception and culminating in our multitude of musical, seasonal offerings for the UT community and the broader public.

Throughout the semester, we have visited an *Imaginary Invalid*, reminded ourselves of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, while reveling in *The Merry Widow* and showcasing our sleek new Steinway at the *All-Steinway Gala*. We travelled down memory lane with jazz favorites by the Jazz Ensemble and *FOCUS(ed)* on NW Ohio high school visual arts achievements.

Our choirs spent a great deal of time learning new vocal material in a host of foreign languages, while the Latin Jazz Ensemble and GuitArkestra concerts kept us on beat.

Film goers were offered a variety of cinematic screenings at *Fridays on Film* that entertained and engaged the growing audiences.



Our FYE students enjoyed the SVPA Kick-Off Party and were treated to a special performance by the Rocket Marching Band on their way to the Homecoming game.

We offered a “Celluloid Politico” trio of films in collaboration with the Toledo Museum of Art and challenged viewers to ask the tough questions during a contentious national election. (More to come from the SVPA as we sponsor an arts advocacy symposium to build awareness and support arts education at all levels in February.)

Our students and faculty have been busy performing, creating, writing and researching. The SVPA continues to be an ACTIVE place where students, faculty, and staff express themselves and engage with others. We are proud to be a safe place where openness of thought and being are honored and respected.



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O N T A R G E T

Faculty

Robert Ballinger presented a memorized solo piano recital, Mozart's, *Fantasy in c minor, K.396*; "Three Dances" from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliette Suite*; Brahms Intermezzi, Op. 117, Nos. 2&3, and the Beethoven's "Appassionata" *Sonata, Op.5*, in the Toledo Museum of Art Great Gallery.

Robert Ballinger and Olman E. Piedra were featured performers in the *October Festival of New Music*, conceived and organized by music Alumni Dr. Aaron and Janet Brehm Ziegler, on Saturday, October 8 in the Recital Hall. The program, consisting entirely of new music, highlighted the music of current, active composers from Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Iowa, North Carolina, and Illinois. As well, one piece was composed by a former UT Music Major, Sarah Modene.

Timothy Brakel received the John C. Maxwell Leadership Certification, recognized by *INC* magazine as the #1 Rated Author and Speaker on Leadership. Tim is recognized as a John Maxwell certified trainer, coach, and speaker.

Denise Bernardini was awarded a Kohler Grant to participate in a voice symposium in Stockholm, Sweden. The symposium is based on research with Dr. Scott McCoy, head of the Swank Voice Laboratory at OSU.

Chris Burnett, Jason Cox, Dan Hernandez, Holly Hey, Arturo Rodriguez, Mysoon Rizk, and Barry Whittaker each presented at the Mid-America College Art Association Conference.

Jerod Christy and Barry Whittaker were awarded \$5,000 each for their Arts Commission proposals for highly interactive, community-driven, collaborative works of art that are accessible to the public and civic in scope. Out of 16 submissions, four projects were selected, two of which are from UT applicants.

Jason Cox presented at the European University in St. Petersburg, Russia, at the *Social Studies of Live-Action Role-Playing Games* conference and also at the Ohio Art Education Association conference.

Dan Hernandez had a solo show at Fairmont State University in West Virginia, and was included in the Kim Foster Gallery, NYC-Booth at *Context: Art Miami*. Dan is also in a group show at the Everhart Museum in Scranton, PA.

Holly Hey and Debra Davis completed edits for a book chapter in *Beyond Graduate Attributes: Embedding Work Integrated Learning into Undergraduate Degrees*.

David Jex wrote re-arrangements for the Toledo Repertoire Theatre's production of *A Christmas Carol*, revised by David Jex, Debra Ross Calabrese, and James M. Norman.

David Jex's Chorale and Fugue: *Variations on "God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman"* will be premiered and performed by the Southview High School Orchestra, the Start HS Orchestra, and the Toledo International Youth Orchestra.

Jex's arrangements of *Two Christmas Carols* will be premiered at the TMA Peristyle by the Toledo Choral Society.

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, hosted a launch reception for the current issue of *(T)here* art journal. Two UT members, Professor Tammy Kinsey (Theatre and Film) and Dr. Jeanne Kusina (Women's and Gender Studies), known collectively as The Kinsinas, have work featured in the Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit's, art journal. *(T)here* is also appearing at Art Basel-Miami, Aqua, and Art Context, and is being distributed to donors attending the 2016 fundraiser for the New York Academy of Art. Releases in Asia are being scheduled for 2017.

Edmund Ligan published an article in the September 2016 issue of *PAJ: A Journal of Performance and Art* and finished edits on a chapter for *The Routledge International Handbook of Spirituality in Society*. Ligan co-founded a new open-access journal, *Performance, Religion, and Spirituality* with colleagues from Europe and Asia. His docudrama *Masks*, played at the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference in Toledo.

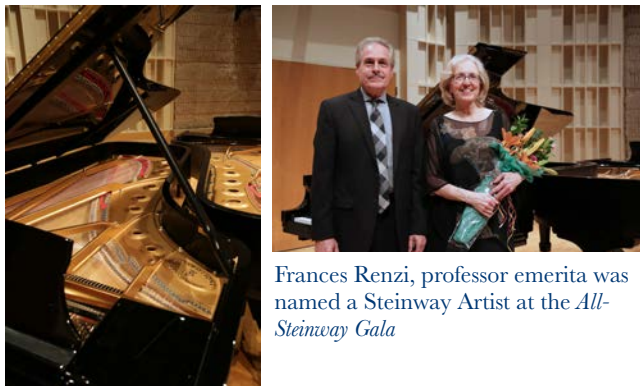
David Mariasy recently completed a recording project at Audiomatrix Recording Studios with Mary Martin and the Tuna Band from Cleveland. He also produced and mastered the latest "Sounds of the Stadium" show which was recorded at the Valentine Theatre.

Thor Mednick received a grant from the Danish Ministry of Culture, gave an invited lecture at the Institute for Baltic Studies at the University of Greifswald. Thor also completed chapter for the edited volume, *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Nineteenth-Century Art History* (Wiley-Blackwell) and a chapter for the edited volume, *Depicting Nordic Landscapes in the Anthropocene Era* (Routledge). He was a Guest Professor/Visiting Curator, for the Fuglsang Museum of Art and also the Faaborg Museum.

Barbara Miner exhibited in the *100 Sculptors - 100 Sculptures* exhibition at the Ella Sharp Museum in Jackson MI.



## O N T A R G E T



Frances Renzi, professor emerita was named a Steinway Artist at the *All-Steinway Gala*

Deborah Orloff presented at the Midwest Society for Photographic Education conference. Deborah also had a solo exhibition of her current work, *Elusive Memory*, at Elgin Community College near Chicago and gave a public lecture for their Humanities Speaker Series. *Elusive Memory* also was included in an online feature by Gallery Temenos and five large scale pieces were exhibited in Columbus at the Riffe Gallery.

Olman Piedra performed for the Art Commission's Hot Glass/Cool Music event downtown at Hensville with the Olman Piedra Trio.

Piedra also performed at Prizm Duo's voice and percussion recital at the CPA, with the Toledo Jazz Orchestra at Registry Bistro, and performed at the for *Songs for our Sister* fundraiser at the Toledo School for the Arts.

Mysoon Rizk presented a paper on David Wojnarowicz at the SECAC conference in Roanoke, Virginia, organized and chaired a session at the Mid-America College Art Association Conference, and led a *Locales* tour with docent Tonda Koszycki at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Jay Weik held a "Mindfulness, Stress and Improving Patient Outcomes" workshop at the Health Science Campus and also presented at the UT counselor self-care and wellness night on main campus, and at Welltower.

Barry Whittaker exhibited in *is EMANCIPATTON: Sociometry Fair 2016* (as Barchael), The Smell, Los Angeles, CA; *Commotion*, Hors Pistes Japon, organized by the Centre Pompidou, Tokyo, Japan; *Intermix*, Birke Art Gallery, Marshall University, Huntington, WV; and *Re: Formation*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI;

Eric Zeigler supervises the Art Print Center and has raised the profile of the center by upgrading its capabilities. These additions have increased sales with outside partners such as the Toledo Museum of Art, the Toledo Symphony, Tiffin University, as well as printing portfolios for professional artists.

Under the direction of Bradley Pierson, the Concert Chorale presented concert at Trinity Episcopal Church that was streamed live via Facebook.

Olman Piedra took the UT Latin Jazz Ensemble to perform at the Diamante Awards ceremony at the Sofia Quintero Gallery and also the ADELANTE Cesar Chavez gala.

Eric Zeigler took students to the Midwest Society for Photographic Education Conference. He also created a new course to enter the *BioDesign Challenge* that takes students to the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Wesley Forney presented his research titled *Schumann Fantasy in C, Op. 17* at the UT Scholars' Celebration Undergraduate Research Showcase in Carlson Library;

2D BFA Student Anastasia Wagner is included in a juried exhibition at Scene MetroSpace in Lansing MI. Anastasia is also currently working on a mural for the Toledo Lucas County Public Library.

Simone Tilmon has recently completed a paint touchup/repair of the Rand McNally globe in Carlson Library.

Mysoon Rizk and Eric Zeigler took students to Oberlin to hear African-American artist Fred Wilson speak about his work at Oberlin College's Allen Memorial Art Museum.

Elizabeth Hood is currently Artist in Residence with the Toledo Opera.

Caroline Jardine, Art Education, helped plan the River Centre's Clinic's eating disorder recovery walk at Harroun Park in Sylvania. Caroline also was commissioned to paint a mural at Oakdale elementary in Toledo with alum Reem Barakat, and assisted Detroit muralist, Ouizi, on her mural at Handmade Toledo.

Angela Metcalf, who is nearing completion of her Art Education license, has been teaching a number of art programs for Metroparks, including: Mansion Masterpieces, Earth Sculpture, and Photography.

Vocalist, Meridian Prall won first place in the UT concerto competition and First Place at the National Association of Teachers of Singing Auditions.

UT Alumna Ebone Waweru First Place at the Teachers of Singing Audition.

The Art Student League juried a pop-up student exhibition for *Tis the Secor* in the Secor Building.

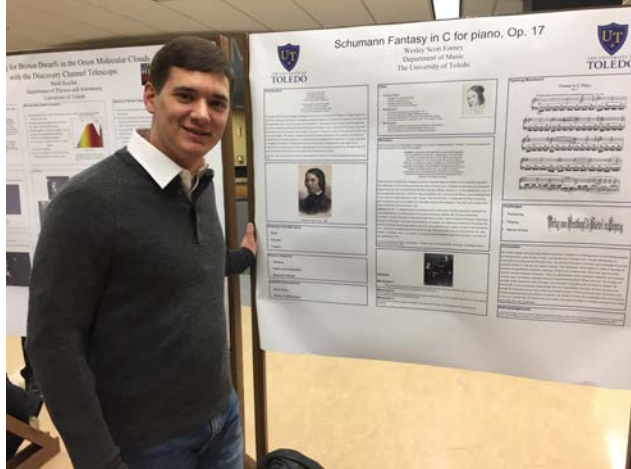
Dan Hernandez took students to Cleveland to the Kara Walker exhibition "The Ecstasy of St. Kara" at the Cleveland Museum of Art. and to Ann Arbor to hear Mark Mothersbaugh at the UM Penny Stamps Lecture Series.



## O N T A R G E T

Through many generous donations the School of Visual and Performing Arts, and its departments, are the honored recipients of \$827,512 in donations dating from July 1, 2016 through December 1, 2016. We are very grateful for the support of our efforts in the arts. Much of our gratitude goes to Dorothy MacKenzie Price. Mrs. Price was an outstanding patron of the arts in the Northwest Ohio region and beyond. The Department of Music is indebted to her for the many gifts they have received from Dorothy over the years. In Dorothy's words, "Awesome!"



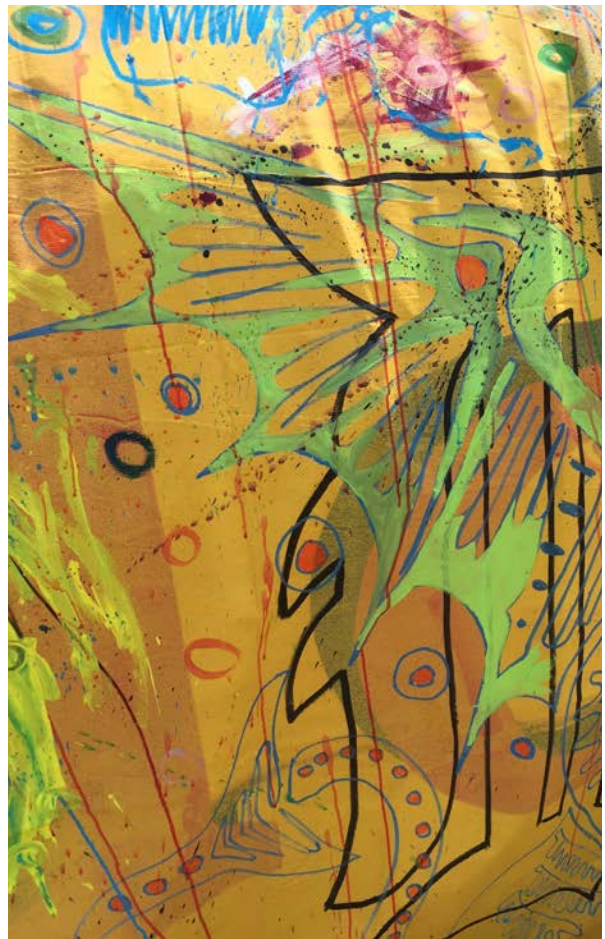


## LOOKING Ahead

2016 has been a tough year in many ways. I recently received the following statement from the League of American Orchestras, “The fates of our organizations, our people, and our art form are inextricably bound up in the broader currents of our nation and world, which we ignore at our peril. The erosion of a common belief in civil society and the mistrust of a ‘public space’ that requires government participation for sustenance cannot be good for the arts, to say nothing of the humanities, social services, education, or healthcare.” This is one of many position statements from various arts organizations that are being exchanged at this particular point in time.

In response, the School of Visual and Performing Arts is planning a one-day symposium on February 20, **2017 SVPA Arts Symposium: The Role of the Arts in Today’s America.** Please join us for this free symposium in the Student Union on the UT Main Campus.

The symposium will feature panelists in a dialogue exchange with audience members. As organizers, we are striving to be inclusive of varying opinions and positions, in order to develop a broader understanding of civil discourse within the arts. The SVPA, along with our partners from the Toledo Museum of Art, The Arts Commission and The Toledo Symphony, is planning the symposium with the intention of broadening the dialogue and building a regional arts coalition with a voice. The symposium will be free and open to the public. topics include: *Our Current Artistic Moment*, *Programming Across a Divide*, *Arts Education*, and *Arts and Community*.



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