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
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
- we are acrobats of the soul!
- high impact practices
- real world experience
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 Bumppo 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

April 17, 2018 | Music, Music News, Featured

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

The award was created in 1992 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 recognition in their individual fields.

Teague is a world renowned musician who is hailed as the “Magician of the Steppin’.” A native of Trinidad and Tobago, he came to NIU as an undergraduate to join the university’s unique Steppin’ Studies program and to play in the NIU Steelpad, the longest running steelpad 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 Steppin’ program, which is the only program in the nation that offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in steppin’ performance.

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

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

Tracy Nunnally, Technical Director of Design and Production at NIU, has been honored by the United States Institute of Theater Technology (USITT) with the Founders Award. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the advancement of professional theatre and dance.

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

April 26, 2019 | Art and Design, Art and Design News, Featured

This exhibition “Picture This: Kenneth Josephson and Contemporary Photography” opens this week at Chicago’s Museum of Contemporary Art. 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 exhibited with images that seem to puncture the way people think about pictures by challenging the way they see. The exhibition features not just his work, but also several others, including those of Labatte, which were influenced by his work.

Labatte has taught at NIU since 2012 and has been 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.
Students

Oona Hiltane uses “illustration to tell stories and evoke emotion” and it’s led to a dream summer
May 3, 2019 Art, Design, chef and Design News, ICVA, sf loadData.js

Oona Hiltane says how far an art and illustration goes back as long as she can remember, when as a three-year-old she was watching Disney’s The Aristocats where “Catwoman and the cat, and the one other. The just deals with the more from Symmeron has been developing that talent ever since, and the results are impressive.”

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 8,000 and all submitted by 234 students from 29 colleges and universities.

“Never in my illustration had I ever seen working on a digital illustration in college, and it’s always been a passion of mine, so I want to develop that skill outside of school.”

“Last year the piece that was accepted was completely different than the ones produced now. The illustration was very realistic, almost photographic in nature. It’s very encouraging to see one of my most August 6, 2019

NIU’s Carmin Berchil to be honored as Best Graduate Student of the Year by Illinois Association of Museums
September 26, 2018 | Art History, Art and Design News, sf

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

After earning her associate’s degree from Rock Valley College, Berchil moved to NIU for her bachelor’s degree in art history. She had a 4.6 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 Doctoral 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 USIS grant through NIU.

While in Myanmar, Berchil developed an interest in material culture and this year successfully defended her thesis on...
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:
• 50th Anniversary Celebration of Jack Arends Hall (Visual Arts Building) featuring an invitational 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

WNJN  WNIU

89.5  NEWS  90.5  MUSIC

First National Bank

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