



# TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY

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**JULY 10–15, 2022**

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**The Tennessee Arts Academy is a project of the Tennessee Department of Education and is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee.**

Major corporate, organizational, and individual funding support for the Tennessee Arts Academy is generously provided by:



Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP5534 awarded to the State of Tennessee by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Significant sponsorship, scholarship, and event support is generously provided by Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee; Rena Elzy; Morel Enoch; Solie Fott; Bobby Jean Frost, in memory of Karen Frost; Germantown Performing Arts Center; Joe W. Giles; Dorothy M. Gillespie Foundation; Patricia Hudson; Lingner Gift Fund, in memory of Marilee Stites; Novamet Specialty Products Corporation; Pinnacle Financial Partners; Amy Savell, in memory of Sara and Las Savell; Tennessee Book Company; The Big Payback; Theatrical Rights Worldwide; Jeanette and Bill Watkins; and Watkins College of Art at Belmont University.

## From the Governor of Tennessee



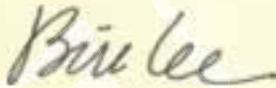
Dear Educators,

On behalf of the great State of Tennessee, it is my honor to welcome you to the 2022 Tennessee Arts Academy. We are so fortunate as a state to have a nationally recognized program for professional development in arts education.

As you gather this year, I am sure you will enjoy interacting with colleagues as you further develop your abilities to instruct students in music, theatre and dance, and the visual arts. The people of our state are known around the world for their creative talents. Your participation in TAA will help build upon this legacy and advance the next generation of Tennessee artists.

Thank you for all that you do to inspire creativity and a love for the arts in our students. Maria and I send our best wishes for an exciting and enriching event.

Warmest regards,



Bill Lee

## From the Tennessee Department of Education



Arts educators and administrators,

Welcome to the 2022 Tennessee Arts Academy! This is a wonderful opportunity to engage in a challenging and enriching professional learning experience. I hope your time at the Academy will allow for reflection and professional growth. The Academy provides a collaborative approach to strengthen your own instructional practices, which is critical to the continued growth of our students and teachers.

I believe arts education is an essential component of a well-rounded education and promotes whole-child development by providing many students with a connection to school, a safe environment to explore creativity and take risks, and the opportunity to develop crucial soft skills essential to postsecondary readiness.

Thank you for all you do for Tennessee students.

Sincerely,



Penny Schwinn, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

## From the President of Belmont University



Welcome to Belmont University!

As an institution with a strong national reputation in the performing and visual arts, we are honored to host the Tennessee Arts Academy as it continues its outstanding work. We recognize your participation in this week's programs will certainly impact our future students—and many others—who are seeking to develop their creative gifts.

By partnering with TAA and the Tennessee Department of Education, we hope to be catalysts for amplifying messages of truth, beauty, and goodness through the arts to a world seeking hope and inspiration. I trust your time on our campus will bring renewal to you personally and professionally as you share insights with one another and learn from gifted instructors.

Cheers,

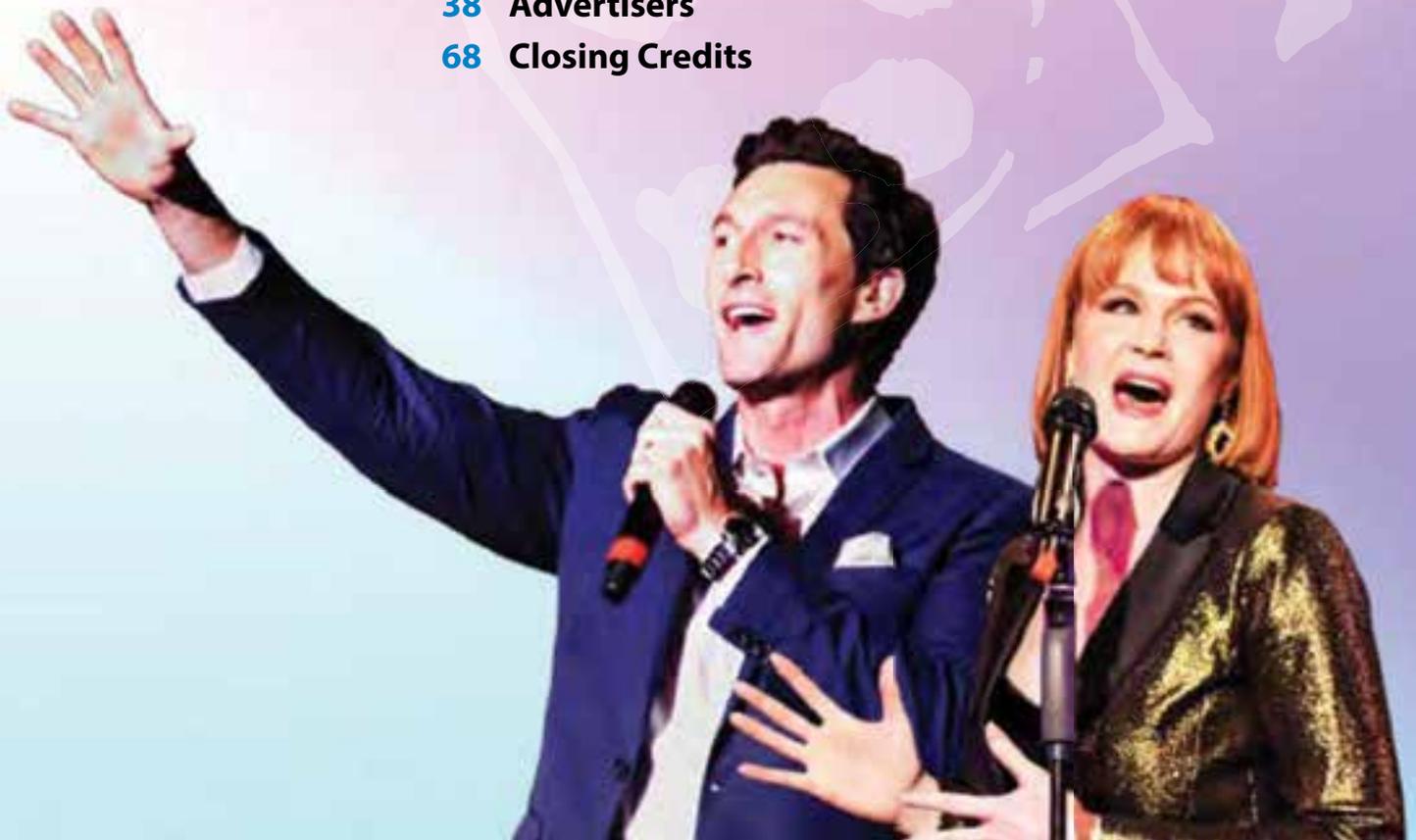


L. Gregory Jones  
President

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# FACULTY

## **Sandra Babb**

Music: Upper Middle/Secondary



Sandra Babb is an assistant professor of choral music education at Oregon State University, where she teaches choral methods, vocal pedagogy, and choral conducting. She also directs OSU

Bella Voce, which was recently featured at the 2021 National American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) conference. With degrees from Florida State University, Babb is an active conductor and clinician throughout the United States and is well known for her work in developing choral tone. She has co-authored articles for the *International Journal of Research in Choral Singing*, *The Journal of Music Teacher Education*, and *Choral Journal*. She is a contributing author for *Composing in Choirs* and *Teaching Music through Performance in Choir: Volume IV*, available from GIA Publications, and *Voices in Concert*, published by the Hal Leonard Corporation. She is also a National Center for Voice and Speech certified vocologist. Babb currently serves as the Oregon ACDA chair for treble choirs and the North West ACDA chair for student activities.

## **Dru Davison**

Arts Leadership and Administration



Dru Davison is a music program leader for the Memphis-Shelby County Schools in Memphis, Tennessee, and an active researcher in areas of creative leadership, education policy, and

program development. Davison recently served as project chair for the Tennessee State Board of Education's Standards Revisions for Arts Education. He is active with the National Association for Music Education, with past service as chair of the council of Music Program Leaders, where he oversaw the revisions of Opportunity-to-Learn Standards for Music Instruction. Prior to his work in administration, Davison taught instrumental music in rural and urban areas, was an adjunct jazz and saxophone instructor at Arkansas State University, and was a teaching fellow at the University of North Texas, where he received a doctorate in music education. He recently

developed a course in creative leadership for Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. He is also active as a freelance saxophonist in the Memphis area.

## **Caren Ginsberg**

Visual Art: Upper Middle/Secondary



Caren Ginsberg is a California-based artist known for her raw, textural style. As a child, she experimented with color and mark-making. As an adult, she worked for *Vogue* magazine

before becoming a full time artist. Ginsberg has always been intrigued with people, faces, features, and expressions—all so different and yet so extremely powerful. Using multiple layers of vibrant color, assertive mark-making, liberated brush strokes, and fluid rhythm, she paints portraits that are raw and expressive. In creating these visual narratives, she infuses an energy and vibrancy that she hopes will help people become more aware of those around them. For Ginsberg, art has morphed from being a task of technical skill to an expressive act that affords her the privilege of transferring her original ideas and senses onto the canvas. Ginsberg's work reflects her experiences in the present with remembrances of the past.

## **Alice Hammel**

Music: Elementary/Lower Middle



Alice Hammel is a widely known music educator, author, and clinician whose experience in music is extraordinarily diverse. She is a member of the faculty of James Madison University and

has taught instrumental and choral music for many years in public and private schools. She was the Virginia Music Educator Association Outstanding Educator in 2011, and currently serves as the president of the Virginia Music Educators. Hammel has put her varied experiences to great use while compiling a large body of scholarly work. She is a co-author for four texts: *Teaching Music to Students with Special Needs: A Label-free Approach*, *Teaching Music to Students with Autism*, *Winding It Back: Teaching to Individual Differences in Music Classroom and Ensemble Settings*, and *Teaching Music to Students with Special Needs: A Practical Resource*. Hammel is a past president of the Council for Exceptional Children's division for visual and performing arts education.

## **Faith Hillis**

Theatre (Arts Integration, Creative Drama, and Movement): Elementary/Lower Middle



Faith Hillis is a teaching artist, poet, and performance maker from Houston, Texas, and the capacity building manager for Arts Connect Houston. Hillis has worked with various national and global

communities and organizations including: Drama for Schools, Voices Against Violence, Creative Action, the Performing Justice Project, and the United States Embassy in Sarajevo. She has degrees from Sam Houston State University and the University of Texas at Austin. Her master's thesis, *Emergent Strategy in Applied Theatre with Youth: Traversing Fear and Creating Justice*, examines how artist-facilitators can use performance-based work with youth to help their bodies move past fear in order to envision and perform justice. Hillis is passionate about continuously working in and with communities that actively center justice, equity, and love as an embodied practice.

## **Colleen Hughes**

Theatre: Upper Middle/Secondary



Colleen Hughes is a teaching artist, movement director, and choreographer, as well as a certified intimacy director with the organization Intimacy Directors and Coordinators, where

she is also on the staff. Hughes is trained in trauma-informed practices, which are central to her work. She builds her work on a foundation of trust in the humanity of artists and the importance of theatre as a means of connection, communication, and compassion. Her work has been seen in dozens of regional and off-Broadway productions along the east coast, including the Philadelphia Theatre Company, Lantern Theatre Company, Curio Theatre Company, Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre, Simpatico Theatre Company, Drexel University, and Commonwealth Classic Theatre. Hughes holds a degree in theatre from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and has also trained at the Stella Adler Studio. She has taught dance and theatre to students in grades kindergarten through twelve for more than a decade.

# FACULTY

## Kendra Kahl

Theatre (Arts Integration, Creative Drama, and Movement):  
Elementary/Lower Middle



Kendra Kahl is a performer, director, and teaching artist based in Tempe, Arizona. She currently teaches for Childsplay Theatre Company, Desert Foothills Theatre, and Arizona

State University. She has previously taught, directed, and performed with the Rose Theater, Lexington Children's Theatre, IMAGINE!, and the Virginia Samford Theatre. Kahl's teaching artistry includes conservatory acting training, social justice building with teens, applied theatre workshops in non-theatre work and education settings, and residencies and classroom partnerships in elementary and middle schools. She is also a playwright. Her work has been performed at the Southeastern Theatre Conference, Thought Bubble Theatre Festival, the Rose Theater, and Samford

University. Her newest commission, *The One Between*, will premiere at the 2022 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Kahl is an active member of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education for which she chairs the New Guard Network.

## Luis Lanao III

Arts Leadership and Administration



Luis Lanao III is a Colombian born artist, designer, and innovator. After graduating from Full Sail University with a degree in film and movie production, he worked on feature films in Florida

before accepting a job with the Florida Panthers Hockey Club, where he became technical director of the game presentation department. He also created Luna Productions, where he and his wife designed brands, websites, and marketing materials for key players in the South Florida construction industry. Lanao currently lives in Raleigh, North Carolina, where he works as design director for IBM's global brand and leads the company's humanitarian initiative, the Be Equal design team. At IBM he has also collaborated with other members of the design, illustration, and video teams to create cross-company language guidance for the visual styling and approach of the entire company. He prides himself on being as multifaceted as a Swiss army knife and a designer for designers.

## Alysia Lee

Arts Leadership and Administration



Kennedy Center Citizen Artist Alysia Lee is the founder and artistic director of Sister Cities Girlchoir, the El Sistema-inspired, girl empowerment choral academy in Philadelphia,

Camden, and Baltimore, which is currently in its tenth season. She recently ended her tenure as the arts education policymaker for the Maryland State Department of Education. This role encompassed five arts disciplines: music, dance, visual art, theatre, and media arts. This year, Lee debuts as the series editor for Hal Leonard's *Exigence for Young Voices*, a new choral series uplifting Black and Latino composers for young choir ensembles. Lee is also on the faculty of Longy School of Music of Bard College and Peabody Conservatory, as well as a proud board member of Chorus America.

## Jeanne Oliver

Visual Art: Upper Middle/Secondary



Jeanne Oliver grew up in rural Illinois and now resides in Castle Rock, Colorado, where she lives with her spouse, Kelly, and her three children. Inspired by personal narratives, travel, and nature, Oliver

uses art to tell stories about her early life, when she was surrounded by open spaces and grew up among gravel roads and cornfields. Her artwork also reflects her present life in Castle Rock. Through mark-making, layers, and mixed media, she hopes to convey that everyone has a unique story to tell. She regularly speaks and teaches in the United States and occasionally in England. She embraces her many loves and interests, which has afforded her a sweet mash-up of family, art, and travel. Connecting with women and sharing how people's lives are shaped by creativity is one of her passions. When she is not in her studio, she can often be found hiking or finding an excuse to have another cup of coffee.

## Corin Overland

Music: Upper Middle/Secondary



Corin Overland is a nationally recognized author, conductor, and educator who specializes in twenty-first century approaches to vocal and general music education. He is an associate

professor of professional practice at the University of Miami Frost School of Music and currently serves as the chief academic editor of the *Music Educators Journal*. Overland is a member of the professional division of the GRAMMY Recording Academy and regularly appears as a guest speaker and clinician for professional development seminars and honors choirs around the country. He has more than fifteen years of experience as a vocal and general music teacher in public and private school settings. His research on labor and economic issues related to arts education can be found in the publications *Journal of Research in Historical Music Education*, *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*, *Contributions to Music Education*, *College Music Symposium*, and the *International Yearbook on Research in Arts Education*.



# FACULTY

## Mila Parrish

Theatre (Arts Integration, Creative Drama, and Movement):  
Elementary/Lower Middle



Mila Parrish is a professor of dance at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro, where she is the director of dance education. An active scholar, Parrish's research has established new

trends in curricula design, assessment, and teacher training. Her publications appear in the *Journal of Dance Education*, *Research in Dance Education*, *Arts Education Policy Review*, and *Journal for Learning through the Arts*, among others. She is internationally recognized for her scholarship in digital dance, somatics, and interdisciplinary instruction. A leader in the dance education community, Parrish has offered more than one hundred professional development courses, seminars, and workshops worldwide. She serves as special guest faculty with the Dance Education Laboratory at the 92Y Harkness Dance Center in New York City and American Dance Festival. Parrish is the recipient of the leadership award for her community initiatives and the Outstanding Dance Teacher in Higher Education Award from the National Dance Education Organization.

## Lesley Patterson-Marx

Visual Art: Trio Track



Lesley Patterson-Marx has exhibited her artist's books, prints, and mixed-media works in many galleries, art centers, colleges, and universities across the United States, Great Britain, and the

Netherlands. Her work has been featured in *New American Paintings*, *Craft*, and *ReadyMade* and can be found in the permanent collections of Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, Vanderbilt University, Mississippi University for Women, and Noelle Hotel. Patterson-Marx received degrees from Murray State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Since 1999, she has taught classes and workshops in a variety of media for groups of all ages. She has worked as a college and high school instructor and has taught at Appalachian Center for Craft; Watkins College of Art, Design, and Film;

University School of Nashville; and Tennessee State University. You can find examples of her work at [LesleyPattersonMarx.com](http://LesleyPattersonMarx.com).

## Kay Piña

Music: Elementary/Lower Middle



Kay Piña is a Ph.D. candidate at Pennsylvania State University where she supervises student teachers pursuing certification in music education. Piña has degrees from Texas State

University in San Marcos and the University of Texas at San Antonio, where she completed her Dalcroze Eurhythmics certification under David Frego and Marla Butke. She has been named Master Teacher Artist by the American Eurhythmics Society. Before moving into her current role, Piña taught general music to fifth and sixth graders, as well as sixth-grade choir, at Laura Ingalls Wilder Intermediate School in Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City Independent School District, located near San Antonio, Texas. She also taught elementary music at David Crockett Elementary, now David Crockett Academy, in the San Antonio Independent School District. Piña has completed levels one and two in Kodály music education and level one of Orff-Schulwerk certification.

## Julie Lapping Rivera

Visual Art: Elementary/Lower Middle



Julie Lapping Rivera began her career in New York, where she worked as a teaching artist with the Studio in a School, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Lincoln Center Institute. She was

awarded a fellowship in drawing from the New York Foundation for the Arts, and has received Arts in Education grants from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Art residencies include Soaring Gardens in Wyalusing, Pennsylvania, and La Muse, in La Bastide, France. She was recently awarded a 2022 Visiting Artist Residency at Scoula Internazionale di Grafica in Venice, Italy. Rivera is on the faculty of Zea Mays Printmaking in Florence, Massachusetts, and works as a visiting artist throughout the country. Her printmaking practice often



includes collaboration with artists and poets, including her current work on a portrait and poetry project honoring under-recognized women in history.

## Matthew Stensrud

Music: Elementary/Lower Middle



Matthew Stensrud is an award-winning elementary music and movement teacher who currently teaches music and movement to students from pre-kindergarten through fourth grade at

Sidwell Friends Lower School in Washington, D.C. He grew up in Norman, Oklahoma, and received degrees from George Mason University and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Stensrud is an Orff-Schulwerk approved teacher educator of movement and teaches movement for Orff certification courses in New Jersey and Oregon. He is also on *The Orff Echo* editorial board and was a key content contributor to the book *Responsive Classroom for Music, Art, PE, and Other Special Areas*. He is well-known on social media as @MisterSORff and offers newsletters, mentoring, lesson plans, and more through his website [MisterSORff.com](http://MisterSORff.com).

# FACULTY

## Marcelo Tesón

Theatre: Upper Middle/Secondary



Marcelo Tesón is an award-winning filmmaker and teacher with more than two decades of classroom experience. He started his career as a sound editor at Sony Pictures and Universal

Studios, where his professional credits included the TV shows *Law & Order*, *Arrested Development*, and *Psych*, as well as the Peabody Award-winning documentary *Southwest of Salem: The Story of the San Antonio Four*. As an instructor, Tesón teaches young people the art of filmmaking and radio with organizations such as the Traveling Film Institute and Texas Folklife, where he was the director of the award-winning *Stories from Deep in the Heart*, a radio program for teachers. He is founder and director of the Creative Action Youth Cinema Collective, a program that brings young people together from all over Austin to make socially relevant cinema. In 2016, the collective won the South by Southwest Community Award for their work lifting up the youth voices of Central Texas. A first-generation immigrant from Argentina, Tesón is currently in post-production on his first feature film as director, *Touchy-Feely*, which is scheduled for release in 2023.

## Daniel Bird Tobin

Theatre: Upper Middle/Secondary



Daniel Bird Tobin is a director, performer, science communicator, and theatre archaeologist. He has performed solo shows across the United States and in England (*An Iliad* and *Conqueror of*

*the Western Marches* are two favorites). Tobin has worked with fabulous artists, such as Liz Lerman, Danai Gurira, and Aaron Landsman, and assisted the amazing directors Emily Mann, John Doyle, and Sam Buntrock. A graduate of the master's degree in performance program at Arizona State University, Tobin has trained and worked with Dance Exchange, the SITI Company, Tectonic Theatre Project, and the Globe Theatre in London. Currently, he is

a theatre specialist in the English Department at Saint Anselm College and a Senior Faculty Fellow in the Center for Communicative Science at Virginia Tech. You can find examples of his work at [DanielBirdTobin.com](http://DanielBirdTobin.com).

## Della Wells

Visual Art: Elementary/Lower Middle



Della Wells is a self-taught artist who began drawing and painting in earnest at the age of forty-two. Her creative process uses the art of storytelling to transform personal experiences

into visual work. Her work has appeared in several publications, including *Black Collection* by Teri Henderson and *Self Taught, Outsider, and Folk Art: A Guide to American Artists, Locations and Resources* by Betty-Carol Sellen and Cynthia J. Johanson. In 2011, an award-winning play inspired by Wells's life, *Don't Tell Me I Can't Fly*, debuted in Milwaukee. The play was commissioned by Milwaukee First Stage Children's Theatre and written by Y York. Since its debut, it has also been produced in Nashville, Tennessee; Charlotte, North Carolina; and Richmond, Virginia. Wells's dolls, cards, and collages are currently sold at the Smithsonian National African Museum of History and Culture in Washington, D.C. Her work is in more than one hundred private, corporate, and museum collections, including the Hurn Museum of Contemporary Folk Art, the Museum of Wisconsin Art, and the Wright Museum of Art.

## Lois U. Wiggins

Music: Upper Middle/Secondary



Lois Wiggins is a retired band director who taught for thirty-three years in Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. She holds degrees from Austin Peay State University, the University of Georgia,

and Western Kentucky University. Wiggins is past state band chair for the Kentucky Music Educators Association (KMEA) and served for ten years as band content area leader for the Fayette County Public Schools in Lexington, Kentucky. She is currently a co-conductor with the Central Kentucky Youth Repertory Orchestra. During her career, she has served as

a guest conductor for numerous honor bands and has adjudicated at concert band, marching band, and solo and ensemble festivals throughout Kentucky, Ohio, and Tennessee. Wiggins is a 2016 Grammy Music Educator Award National finalist. Additional recognitions she has received are Outstanding Bandmaster by Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity in 2010 and KMEA Middle School Teacher of the year in 2000. In February 2022, Wiggins was inducted into the Psi Chapter of the Phi Beta Mu Band Masters Fraternity Hall of Fame.

## Tricia Williams

Arts Leadership and Administration



Tricia Williams joined the staff of the California-based Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation in 1999. In her role as program director, she supervises and implements all aspects of the program. This includes

strategic planning and implementation of support services to school districts, as well as school application review, site visits, administration of instrument donations, and evaluation of schools that receive grants from the foundation. Additionally, she maintains relationships with schools and districts nationwide through music education consultation and community engagement. She has performed with the Boston Chamber Ensemble, Brookline Symphony, American Repertory Theatre, New England Brass Band, and with former Frank Zappa guitarist Mike Keneally. Through a highly selective international process, she was acknowledged by American Express as a leader in the nonprofit sector and selected for the American Express Leadership Academy, which was held in New York City in 2017.



## ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE MUSIC

### Daily Core Classes

Every day, participants will attend each of the classes listed below.

#### ***All Means All: Teaching Students with Disabilities in our Elementary Music Classrooms***

**Instructor: Alice Hammel**

All students deserve a music education. This includes students with disabilities and differences. These sessions will be active and participatory, and teachers will leave with new ideas for teaching young students. The techniques shared will apply to both inclusive classrooms and various formats of self-contained classrooms.

#### ***Building a Space for Purposeful Movement in the Active Music Classroom***

**Instructor: Kay Piña**

This workshop will explore purposeful movement for the general music classroom. Participants will engage in quick reaction games, movement exploration, movement activities, and singing-based movement activities. Each class will focus on how to use purposeful movement activities in the active music classroom, including how to assist students with special needs.

#### ***A Playful Process: Building Creativity and Community in the Music Room***

**Instructor: Matthew Stensrud**

In this session, Matthew Stensrud will share how consistent routines, a strong classroom community, and exploration and play can be used to enhance the wonder of elementary music and help foster a responsive classroom. Starting with an Orff-Schulwerk mindset, participants will explore the xylophone and other instruments while learning many dances and creative movement activities. They will participate in the creation of body percussion and rhythmic compositions and also discover how literature, music, and art can help them learn more about themselves and their students.

## UPPER MIDDLE/ SECONDARY MUSIC

### Daily Core Classes

Participants will follow either the vocal or instrumental track and attend two of the three classes listed below each day.

#### ***Empowering All People to Sing***

**Instructor: Sandra Babb**

This course will examine best practices in creating a choral community while building vocal tone, nurturing musical independence, and elevating the artistry of developing singers. Using science-based vocal pedagogy, the class will examine various methods of vocal

production, including those used in gospel, jazz, musical theater, and contemporary commercial and classical vocal music. Participants will explore ways to diversify vocal styles and repertoire offerings that will help them include everyone in their choral programs. The instructor will also show how to build critical listening and thinking opportunities into the rehearsal setting.

#### ***Teaching Music in the Twenty-first Century: Teaching with the Old, the New, the Borrowed, and the Blues***

**Instructor: Corin Overland**

Music, like all art, evolves and changes over time. New sounds, preferences, innovative technologies, and creative performance styles are constantly being developed. For music teachers, it can be daunting to include new forms of music in their classrooms. The purpose of these sessions is to provide ways to integrate contemporary music making into daily teaching practices, including improvisation, songwriting, technology, and modern notational styles. The overarching goal is not to replace traditional approaches like solfège or takadimi; or to abandon tried-and-true performance idioms like madrigals, marching band, or string orchestras. Rather, it is to provide a framework through which the old, new, borrowed (and blues!) can be combined in mutually beneficial ways to maximize the strengths of each.

#### ***Blueprint: Designing Efficient Instrumental Music Classes for Maximum Student Achievement***

**Instructor: Lois U. Wiggins**

These sessions will focus on how educators can design musical classrooms that encourage students to reach their highest potential. Topics covered will include authentic assessments, classroom management and communication, musical literacy and musicianship, program enhancements, and teacher survival skills. The strategies shared are ones that can be used with all young musicians—from beginner to advanced.

## ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE THEATRE & DANCE

Focus Areas: Arts Integration, Creative Drama, and Movement

### Daily Core Classes

Every day, participants will attend each of the classes listed below.

#### ***Activating Dialogue and Encouraging Engagement***

**Instructor: Faith Hillis**

This participatory workshop is an opportunity for educators to gather in community to explore the power of learning in and through the arts. Together, the instructor and group will explore active and creative teaching methodologies and strategies that are designed to foster personal expression and creative thinking in the classroom.

#### ***Make Drama Count! Embodying Math and Science Curriculum***

**Instructor: Kendra Kahl**

In drama-based learning, students pursue their curiosities and use embodied engagement to explore possibilities. This participatory workshop will offer practical lessons, activities, and techniques for infusing creative drama into the math and science curriculum.

#### ***Moving Connections: Facilitating Embodied Learning in the Elementary Classroom***

**Instructor: Mila Parrish**

Curricular-based creative movement is a highly effective tool for enhancing student motivation and improving academic outcomes in all curriculum areas. In this session, attendees will engage in collaborative projects and group activities that enable them to connect through movement and embody

a shared movement language. Through demonstration and hands-on participatory dance language, participants will also explore how movement can be used to express educational concepts, support student voices, and emphasize interdisciplinary instruction.

## UPPER MIDDLE/ SECONDARY THEATRE & DANCE

### Daily Core Classes

Every day, participants will attend each of the classes listed below.

#### ***"Hey, Let's!": Consent in the Theatre Classroom***

**Instructor: Colleen Hughes**

In this course, participants will learn what it means to craft consent-forward content for their kindergarten through twelfth-grade drama classrooms. The session will explore practical tools, along with a range of games and exercises, to foster a strong pedagogical understanding of consent-forward practices and how they can be incorporated into existing lesson plans.

#### ***Podcasts, Radio, and Video, Oh My!: Expanding Your Classroom through Digital Storytelling***

**Instructor: Marcelo Tesón**

In this session, Marcelo Tesón will lead an in-depth exploration of the ways digital storytelling can play a role in theatre class, including behind-the-scenes documentation, character creation and storytelling tools, and team building. This workshop will also give participants the tools to record, edit, and publish audio or video stories, which will extend the impact of their work beyond the stage. Digital storytelling can inspire memorable moments and impactful pieces while also helping young people build relationships.

#### ***Outside In: Performing Emotions Through Rasaboxes***

**Instructor: Daniel Bird Tobin**

Using movement and the body, Rasaboxes allow performers, directors, and all artists to explore emotions and character from a different perspective than the Stanislavskian approach. In these introductory sessions, Daniel Bird Tobin will share a sequence of exercises that will help students of all ages to quickly build emotionally rich and physically alive performances.



## ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE VISUAL ART

### Daily Core Classes

Participants will attend each workshop listed below for two consecutive days and a summary workshop for both sessions on Friday morning.

#### ***The Power of Printmaking***

**Instructor: Julie Lapping Rivera**

Printmaking has a magical quality that never fails to delight students. The tools—from the brayers, barens, and ink to the carving instruments—are exciting. The unique results of the artform's interactive and novel processes also help students take pride in their work. In this workshop, Julie Lapping Rivera will explore a series of printmaking activities to demonstrate how to teach children new skills over time. Rivera will include suggestions for materials, techniques, themes, and studio organization, that are all based on years of experience working with students. There will also be time for workshop participants to share their own best practices.

#### ***Making Collages That Tell a Story***

**Instructor: Della Wells**

In this workshop, artist Della Wells will share her techniques for making collages that tell stories with paper, fabric, ribbons, magazine cutouts, and other materials. This class will integrate visual storytelling into collage, and students will create two-dimensional works that convey a visual narrative as they learn how to see beyond the materials to create a story-based collage. Participants will also explore how found objects can be used to build three-dimensional collage pillow dolls that become characters from real or imagined stories.



## UPPER MIDDLE/ SECONDARY VISUAL ART

### Daily Core Classes

Participants will attend each workshop listed below for two consecutive days and a summary workshop for both sessions on Friday morning.

#### ***Interpretive Portraiture***

**Instructor: Caren Ginsberg**

This workshop is about the fundamentals of interpretive portraiture. Participants will tap into their life experience and understand how to use it to express their subjects in an original way. The workshop will provide a method for creating an intimate relationship with one's

work. It is an open approach that shows that there truly are no wrong turns, and everything is possible.

#### ***Multimedia Abstract Art for Poets and Misfits***

**Instructor: Jeanne Oliver**

Led by Jeanne Oliver, participants will use a variety of media, layers, and texture to create large and small abstract works that build upon each other. Techniques and materials will include fabric dyeing, stitching, mark-making on vellum, newsprint, and vintage ephemera, as well as the use of wood substrates to create plaster and plexiglass pieces. By the end of the session, artworks made of plaster, stitches, layers, paint, marks, collage, and small compositions will be revealed.

## Arts Leadership and Administration

The goal of the Arts Leadership and Administration track (ALAA) is to inspire and empower participants to support and advance arts education. The ALAA track is designed to connect teachers, school and district leaders, program directors, and others who are interested in active arts education leadership.

### Daily Core Classes

Every day, participants will be led in discussion and dialogue with Dru Davison and Amanda Galbraith.

### **Arts Leadership and Administration Discussion and Dialogue**

**Instructors: Dru Davison and Amanda Galbraith**

Participants will engage in practical and thought-provoking sessions that connect contemporary arts research and trends to targeted arts initiatives at multiple levels within schools, districts, and beyond. Content will be explored through field experiences that include visits to content sessions throughout the Academy to observe from the perspective of an arts leader. Numerous interactive discussions and webinars with state and national leaders are also part of this innovative curriculum.

### Seminars and Webinars

All participants will engage in special seminars and interactive webinars throughout the week.

#### **Building a Brand**

**Webinar Instructor: Luis Lanao III**

IBM design director Luis Lanao will lead participants through the process of building a personal brand through the lens of user-centered design. He will share examples of how history, equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility have informed and driven design decisions at IBM. As a result of this session, participants will learn how important it is to honor the past when creating the present, and how crucial it is to stay present to build a clear future for a personal brand.

### **Embracing Self-care and Reflection in Professional Learning**

**Webinar Instructor: Alysia Lee**

Professional learning should embrace holistic care that improves practice, shifts thinking, and centers students and communities. In this session, Alysia Lee will present examples from her recent work and a framework to guide professional learning for arts educators.

### **Solutionist Leadership: The Power of Creativity and Mindfulness**

**Seminar Instructor: Tricia Williams**

In this session, Tricia Williams will lead participants in exploring the powerful role that creative thinking and mindfulness have in developing new concepts. As she shares her experiences as an arts educator, she will outline what it means to be a solutionist leader.



Trio Track provides participants a daily multidisciplinary experience in three distinct arts areas. Each day Trio Track participants will attend pre-designated classes in music, theatre and dance, and visual art. Participants will attend the same core class in each content area for the entire week, allowing complete immersion in one topic for each arts discipline.

## ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE TRIO TRACK

### Daily Core Classes

Every day, participants will attend each of the classes listed below.

#### Music: Trio Track

*A Playful Process: Building Creativity and Community in the Music Room*

Instructor: Matthew Stensrud

In this session, Matthew Stensrud will share how consistent routines, a strong classroom community, and exploration and play can be used to enhance the wonder of elementary music and help foster a responsive classroom. Starting with an Orff-Schulwerk mindset, participants will explore the xylophone and other instruments while learning many dances and creative movement activities. They will participate in the creation of body percussion and rhythmic compositions and also discover how literature, music, and art can help them learn more about themselves and their students.

#### Theatre/Arts Integration: Trio Track (Grades 4–6)

*Make Drama Count! Embodying Math and Science Curriculum*

Instructor: Kendra Kahl

In drama-based learning, students pursue their curiosities and use embodied engagement to explore possibilities. This participatory workshop will offer practical lessons, activities, and techniques for infusing creative drama into the math and science curriculum.

#### Theatre/Arts Integration: Trio Track (Grades K–3)

*Activating Dialogue and Encouraging Engagement*

Instructor: Faith Hillis

This participatory workshop is an opportunity for educators to gather in community to explore the power of learning in and through



the arts. Together, the instructor and group will explore active and creative teaching methodologies and strategies that are designed to foster personal expression and creative thinking in the classroom.

#### Visual Art: Trio Track

*Art and the Unknown: Connecting to Wonder and Mystery through Creative Play*

Instructor: Lesley Patterson-Marx

In these sessions, participants will engage in several experimental, playful art-making processes that are accessible to people of diverse skill levels, ages, and physical abilities. Through cyanotype printing on fabric, gelli plate printing, Japanese paper marbling, and intuitive stitching, students will find delight in the unexpected. These experiments will be incorporated into the creation of a softcover, hand-bound book that is perfect for recording creative ideas, dreams, and more.

## UPPER MIDDLE/SECONDARY TRIO TRACK

### Daily Core Classes

Every day, participants will attend each of the classes listed below.

#### Music: Trio Track

*Teaching Music in the Twenty-first Century: Teaching with the Old, the New, the Borrowed, and the Blues*

Instructor: Corin Overland

Music, like all art, evolves and changes over time. New sounds, preferences, innovative technologies, and creative performance styles are constantly being developed. For music

teachers, it can be daunting to include new forms of music in their classrooms. The purpose of these sessions is to provide ways to integrate contemporary music making into daily teaching practices, including improvisation, songwriting, technology, and modern notational styles. The overarching goal is not to replace traditional approaches like solfege or takadimi; or to abandon tried-and-true performance idioms like madrigals, marching band, or string orchestras. Rather, it is to provide a framework through which the old, new, borrowed (and blues!) can be combined in mutually beneficial ways to maximize the strengths of each.

#### Theatre & Dance: Trio Track

*Outside In: Performing Emotions Through Rasaboxes*

Instructor: Daniel Bird Tobin

Using movement and the body, Rasaboxes allow performers, directors, and all artists to explore emotions and character from a different perspective than the Stanislavskian approach. In these introductory sessions, Daniel Bird Tobin will share a sequence of exercises that will help students of all ages to quickly build emotionally rich and physically alive performances.

#### Visual Art: Trio Track

*Art and the Unknown: Connecting to Wonder and Mystery through Creative Play*

Instructor: Lesley Patterson-Marx

In these sessions, participants will engage in several experimental, playful art-making processes that are accessible to people of diverse skill levels, ages, and physical abilities. Through cyanotype printing on fabric, gelli plate printing, Japanese paper marbling, and intuitive stitching, students will find delight in the unexpected. These experiments will be incorporated into the creation of a softcover, hand-bound book that is perfect for recording creative ideas, dreams, and more.

# INTERLUDES

Interludes provide all Academy participants with the opportunity to receive cross-disciplinary training. Multiple workshops in each content area are open to everyone. All participants are expected to attend one 45-minute interlude session each afternoon. The interludes occur from 2:30 to 3:15 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, and from 2:55 to 3:40 p.m. on Thursday. Session details and the day or days each interlude will take place are listed in the program book under the course title. Biographical information on the instructors may be found either in the faculty section of the program book or in the descriptions below.

## GENERAL INTEREST INTERLUDES

### ***Balloons in the Classroom***

**Presenter: Sam Cremeens (Thursday)**

In this interlude, Sam the Balloon Man (aka Sam Cremeens) will demonstrate the value of using balloons in the classroom, especially in the visual and performing arts. Discussion will include instruction on how to twist a balloon dog (we all have to start with the basics) and how to use balloons as a performing tool.

*With nineteen years' experience as a balloon entertainer, Sam the Balloon Man is one of Nashville's premier balloon artists. He performs at more than three hundred events every year and travels the world as a renowned balloon art instructor. He has received multiple*

*multinational awards for his work, both as an artist and a performer. Sam the Balloon Man will also perform for the Arts Academy Arts Expo on Thursday.*

### ***Integrating the Arts through Literature***

**Presenter: Ronda Friend (Tuesday and Thursday)**

In this interlude, author Ronda Friend will incorporate storytelling, music, poetry, audience participation, history, humor, and character-building lessons. The unique and innovative approach she will share is one that will motivate both teachers and students alike. Everyone present will have the opportunity to participate in a memorable session that will connect generations, tickle funny bones, and touch the heart.

*Ronda Friend is a Tennessee children's author, professional storyteller, songwriter, and musician who has entertained students, staff, and families in more than two thousand schools across America. Friend has also been a children's director and writer of many children's musicals.*

### ***Yoga at Work: Move Your Body, Move Your Mood***

**Presenter: Catherine Harris (Tuesday)**

Moving the body is one of the most effective ways to cope with stress. In this presentation, attendees will practice a gentle yoga flow that can be done right at their desks. Through practicing a few simple ways to move the body

while both seated and standing, attendees will learn how to incorporate yoga into their daily routines as well as the benefits of yoga for stress relief, self-care, and overall well-being.

### ***Mindfulness and Self-Compassion: Simple Practices to Manage Stress and Promote Self-care Around the Clock***

**Presenter: Catherine Harris (Thursday)**

The pandemic experience over the last two years has led more workplaces to prioritize conversations about self-care and stress relief. This session will focus on the benefits of mindfulness and self-compassion practices for promoting stress relief, managing burnout, and building sustainable ways to provide care around the clock. Participants will do three mindful self-compassion exercises so they can personally experience the practice. They will also discuss ways to bring compassionate mindful attention into their daily routines.

*Catherine Harris is a Nashville-based, board-certified art therapist, registered yoga instructor, and mindfulness teacher with fifteen years of experience in the field. She currently works through her own private practice HeartSpace Wellness Studio LLC, and is a past president of the Tennessee Art Therapy Association.*

### ***Story Exchange: Building Empathy and Community***

**Presenter: Amanda Cantrell Roche (Wednesday and Thursday)**

Narrative 4 has used its Story Exchange narrative programs to help students across the globe learn to find their own voice and agency while listening and valuing the voices of others. This interactive workshop will model the Story Exchange personal narrative process and invite participants to share a short story of their own.

*Amanda Cantrell Roche has more than two decades of experience as an arts integration teaching artist for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. She is also a lead trainer for the organization Narrative 4.*



# INTERLUDES

## ARTS LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION RELATED INTERLUDES

### **ArtsEd TN: Bringing the Power of the Arts to all Students**

**Presenters: Stephen Coleman and Laurie Schell (Monday)**

ArtsEd Tennessee champions policies that promote access to quality arts education for all students. This session will provide an overview of ArtsEd Tennessee's current policy work and share plans for building the capacity of local arts education advocates.

*Stephen Coleman is a founding member of ArtsEd Tennessee, a statewide coalition of advocates working together to ensure that every Tennessee student has access to a comprehensive and sequential arts education. He has been a music educator at the middle school, high school, and university level.*

*Laurie Schell is a lifelong advocate for music and arts education. She is the founding principal of ElevateArtsEd, which provides consulting services and expertise to community organizations. Schell serves as founding member and board chair of ArtsEd Tennessee.*

### **Collaborative Strategies for Program Building in Times of Change**

**Presenter: Dru Davison (Tuesday)**

When continuity and stability are present in communities and schools, arts educators report significant benefits and program growth. But if change is a constant variable, frustration and burnout can occur. In this session, participants will unpack strategies for growth by purposefully involving students, parents, department team members, school administrators, and other stakeholders. Participants will learn how to anticipate and overcome challenges, such as fluctuating student enrollment or school personnel changes.



### **Reflective Drawing**

**Presenter: Amanda Galbraith (Thursday)**

In this session, participants will experiment with what it means to draw while exploring how reflective drawing can be used in the classroom and professionally through a series of questions and exercises. These activities are designed to document learning, share experiences, and generate conversation.

### **Tennessee State of the Arts Study**

**Presenters: Tiffany Kerns, Todd Shipley, and Tricia Williams (Wednesday)**

Participants in this session will meet Tiffany Kerns, Todd Shipley, and Tricia Williams for an update on the Tennessee State of the Arts Study. This will be a great opportunity to meet the driving forces behind this first-of-its-kind, statewide arts education landscape analysis. The session will include an open discussion based on preliminary key findings and explore ways that the study's results can be used for policymaking, district planning, development of resources and support systems, and investment or philanthropic activities.

*Tiffany Kerns is the executive director of the Country Music Association Foundation.*

*Todd Shipley serves as the director of arts education for the Tennessee Department of Education.*

## MUSIC RELATED INTERLUDES

### **Create, Move, and Play: A Poetic Informance**

**Presenters: Candace and Elijah Adams (Monday)**

In this session, poetry, movement, play, and instruments will be combined into one "informance." Participants will learn how easy and beneficial this concept can be in their elementary music classrooms. Through the practice of informance, an amazing number of ideas are generated, and the final form of a piece is always a surprise.

*Candace Adams has taught music for twenty-two years. She currently works at Freedom Intermediate School in Franklin, Tennessee, where she teaches fifth and sixth grade general music, Orff Orchestra, and honors choir.*

*Elijah Adams has been a music educator for sixteen years. He is in his eighth year at Moore Elementary School in the Franklin Special School District in Franklin, Tennessee.*

### **Academy Chorale**

**Presenter: Sandra Babb (Tuesday and Thursday)**

Please come and join other participants as the Academy Chorale prepares a program of music to be performed at the Academy luncheon on Friday. The Academy Chorale performs under the direction of Sandra Babb, the Academy's secondary choral instructor.

# INTERLUDES

## **Re-igniting the Spark—Helping Post-pandemic Students Rediscover their Passion for the Arts** **Presenter: Brenda Gregory** **(Monday)**

Young artists have faced innumerable obstacles during the recent pandemic. For many students, virtual learning, social isolation, and lack of routine have extinguished much of the fire and passion for performing. Participants in this session will explore ways to rekindle the desire for artistic expression—in their students as well as themselves.

*Brenda Gregory has just completed forty years as a music educator in Tennessee. She is currently the director of choral activities and the fine arts department chair at Siegel High School in Murfreesboro, where she directs the concert choir, chamber choir, Select Singers, and Siegel Chorale.*

## **Music is Everywhere: An Experience in Body Percussion, Chants, and Improvisation** **Presenter: Otto Gross** **(Monday)**

Music lives inside everyone in diverse ways and can make people feel more connected to others. In this session, Otto Gross will use chants, movement, body percussion, found sounds, and the popular “Daily Ditties” social media series to help spark creativity and connection.

*Otto Gross recently held the role of creative director for QuaverEd, where he helped create thousands of musical compositions and resources for the general music curriculum. He is known by teachers for his popular “Otto Daily Ditty” social media series, in which he turns everyday objects into instruments for musical masterpieces.*



## **Why Can't They Just Sit Still and Listen? Myths and Realities of ADHD** **Presenter: Alice Hammel** **(Wednesday)**

Students with ADHD often struggle to be understood in the arts classroom. This interlude will offer information and strategies to use when teaching students who struggle with paying attention. The session will also investigate some myths about students with ADHD and ways that teachers can support them.

## **Millennials and Beyond: Why We Need Fine Arts Now More than Ever!** **Presenter: Mark Kinzer** **(Monday)**

Good teacher-to-teacher and teacher-to-student relationships help build strong cultures in schools and are integral to connecting and educating generations of students. The fine arts strengthen these connections and help build communities that demonstrate empathy and understanding. In this session, the traits and characteristics of different generations will be examined, with an emphasis on how to interact and engage these generations accordingly. This is important, because social science and research have shown that learning and engaging often look different from generation to generation.

*Mark Kinzer currently serves as director of fine arts for Williamson County Schools in Franklin, Tennessee. Prior to this appointment, Kinzer served as director of bands at Fairview High School, Ravenwood High School, Dickson County High School, and was assistant director of bands at Harpeth High School.*

## **EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It! Getting Your Ideas Into Print** **Presenter: Corin Overland** **(Wednesday)**

This session is for anyone who has ever wanted to put their ideas into print and turn them into a column, essay, or published academic article. In this interlude, instructor Corin Overland will introduce participants to the world of writing and publishing, including tips for how to hone ideas and finesse writing to meet the needs of a specific audience. Additionally, the session will cover ways to avoid some of the most problematic issues seen by editors. The techniques that will be shared are ones that everyone—from complete beginners to seasoned authors—can use.

## **Purposeful Movement for the Singing Classroom** **Presenter: Kay Piña** **(Wednesday)**

This workshop will explore purposeful movement for the singing classroom. Participants will engage in a purposeful movement lesson with singing at the center of the activity. At the close of the session, participants will leave with a classroom-ready lesson.

## **Using Folk Dance to Foster Community and Social Engagement** **Presenter: Julia Heath Reynolds** **(Monday)**

Although folk dance is commonly used in the elementary music classroom, it is not used as often as it could be to develop social engagement in secondary classrooms. Folk dance is an enjoyable and artful way to encourage active participation in a wide variety of curricula. This interlude will share multiple folk dances and show how these dances can help students and community members of all ages actively participate in music classes.

*Julia Heath Reynolds is the newly appointed assistant professor of music education at Belmont University. Before joining the faculty at Belmont, Heath Reynolds taught courses in elementary and secondary methods, music in special education, and coordinated student teaching at Indiana State University. Heath Reynolds is an active presenter and clinician for many organizations.*

## **The Magical Drum** **Presenter: Matthew Stensrud** **(Wednesday)**

In this interlude, participants will turn their bodies into drums and then harness the true magic of hand drums through sound, body, and dance. Activities in the session will unpack the power and drama that is drum-playing.

## **Representing Cultural Diversity in Arts Classes** **Presenter: Lois U. Wiggins** **(Wednesday)**

This session will provide resources for developing a comprehensive, culturally sensitive curriculum for arts classes.

# INTERLUDES

## THEATRE AND DANCE RELATED INTERLUDES

### **Theatre Curriculum Caring and Sharing: Kindergarten through Sixth Grade**

**Presenters: Nancy Beard and Ryan Palombo (Thursday)**

In this interlude, kindergarten through sixth grade teachers will be encouraged to share their favorite classroom activities, teaching tips, and theatre lesson plans with other teachers from across the state. Theatre facilitators Nancy Beard and Ryan Palombo will lead the session.

*Nancy Beard recently retired from the Shelby County School District, where she worked with English language learners. Prior to this, Beard taught Orff Music in the Memphis and Shelby County schools. She has also taught band, chorus, and general music in Illinois and Kentucky.*

*Ryan Palombo is a third grade teacher from Murfreesboro City Schools. Before becoming a classroom teacher, he spent ten years as a theatre arts educator. He has taught theatre to students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. In 2012, his school named him Teacher of the Year.*

### **If Wyle E Coyote Can Do It, So Can I**

**Presenter: Andy Bleiler (Tuesday and Thursday)**

Have you ever wondered how cartoon characters can paint a tunnel into a wall that looks completely realistic? Have you wanted to paint your scenery to look amazing, but were overwhelmed in the paint aisle? This workshop will cover basic methods for making sets and will also share some tips and tricks that may give participants the boost of confidence that they need. Because the time frame is short, and to avoid messy conditions, no actual painting will happen during the workshop.

*Andy Bleiler serves as assistant professor of theatre, scenic designer, and production manager at Lipscomb University. His resume includes scenic designs for Lipscomb University, the Nashville Shakespeare Festival, Vanderbilt Opera Theatre, Blackbird Theater, and the Thalian Theatre in North Carolina.*

### **The Play's the Thing**

**Presenter: Katie Bruno (Tuesday and Thursday)**

Join Nashville Shakespeare Festival educators to learn and practice strategies for getting students fully engaged in Shakespeare's texts.

This collaborative workshop will focus on the element of play by stepping into the moment with an actor's approach. This workshop is designed for participants who teach grades five through twelve.

*Katie Bruno is the director of education at the Nashville Shakespeare Festival. She has been a professional actor and musician for the past ten years in New York and Tennessee and proudly holds a degree in Musical Theatre from the University of Miami, in Florida.*

### **Shakespeare Interrupted!**

**Presenter: Denice Hicks (Tuesday and Thursday)**

In this interlude, the Nashville Shakespeare Festival will share a fresh take on how to present the Bard's plays in schools. With a focus on the Nashville Shakespeare's 2023 touring versions of *Macbeth* and *The Tempest*, the session will include discussion about how and why these plays should be kept in action. This workshop is designed for participants who teach grades five through twelve.

*Denice Hicks has been the Nashville Shakespeare Festival executive artistic director since 2005. An advocate for empowering students through creativity, she has edited and directed touring productions of Shakespeare's works, developed workshops for students of all ages, and created the Festival's Apprentice Company Training and Shakespeare Allowed programming.*

### **Exploring Rhythm and Rhyme**

**Presenter: Faith Hillis (Monday and Wednesday)**

Through the use of non-verbal and poetry-based arts strategies, participants will explore group activities that encourage connection and self-expression among students and adult learners.

### **New Elementary and Middle School Scripts from TRW—Theatre Rights Worldwide!**

**Presenter: Jim Hoare (Wednesday)**

In this session, free musical scripts will be distributed to all participants. Both Young@Part (TRW's Broadway musicals for middle schools), and Younger@Part (for elementary schools) will be introduced, along with new TRW plays, including Shakespeare Young@Part. Licensing expert Jim Hoare will



# INTERLUDES

describe the many advantages and possibilities for producing a Young@Part show. Titles that will be reviewed include *The Addams Family*, *All Shook Up*, *Spamalot*, *Miss Nelson is Missing*, *The Wind in the Willows*, *We Will Rock You*, and *How I Became a Pirate*. During the workshop, questions and concerns about the theatrical licensing process will also be addressed.

## **New High School Edition Scripts from TRW—Theatre Rights Worldwide!**

**Presenter: Jim Hoare (Thursday)**

In this session, free musical scripts will be distributed to all participants and TRW Plays will be introduced. Approved changes, creative casting suggestions (the importance of using more girls), low-tech production resources, props, sets, SFX, accompaniment tracks, and projections will be discussed. School editions for *The Prom*, *All Shook Up*, *Bright Star*, *Beehive*, *The Addams Family*, *Spamalot*, *Ring of Fire*, and *We Will Rock You* will be introduced. During the workshop, questions and concerns about the theatrical licensing process will also be addressed.

*Jim Hoare is the executive vice president at TRW and the author of Your High School Improv Show Playbook and Your School Theatre Director's Playbook. This is his forty-fifth year in educational theatre. Hoare has presented workshops throughout the United States and the United Kingdom. In 2011, he received the New York State Theatre Education Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.*

## **Social Dance for All Students**

**Presenter: Colleen Hughes (Monday and Wednesday)**

Colleen Hughes will show how social dance can be a joyful and affirming experience for all students. Lace up those saddle shoes and get ready to swing in a class that emphasizes agency, consent, and fun!

## **Roll the Dice**

**Presenter: Kendra Kahl (Monday and Wednesday)**

This session will explore the fun of aleatory storytelling. Participants will work with Story Cubes and other dice tools to start and continue narratives. What will happen next? Only the dice and the imagination can tell!



## **Theatre Curriculum Caring and Sharing: Seventh through Twelfth Grade**

**Presenters: Jennifer Keith, Lea Marshall, and Pollyanna Parker (Tuesday)**

In this interlude, upper middle school and high school educators will be encouraged to share their favorite classroom activities, teaching tips, and theatre lesson plans with other teachers from across the state. Theatre facilitators Jennifer Keith, Lea Marshall, and Pollyanna Parker will lead the session.

*Jennifer Keith is the founder of the Grassland Middle School drama program in the Williamson County Schools. In 2014, she was named Grassland Middle School Teacher of the Year and in 2022 was named as a Tennessee Excellence in Education award finalist. Keith is an avid traveler who regularly brings global experiences back to her students and curriculum.*

*Lea Marshall teaches theatre at Leon High School in Tallahassee, Florida. She has taught theatre at all levels and is also a published playwright. Marshall was the 2020 James Madison Florida Education Innovator of the Year, the 2021 Leon High School Teacher of the Year, and the 2021 Florida Association for Theatre Education Outstanding Theatre Arts Educator.*

*Pollyanna Parker was inducted into the Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League's Hall of Fame in 2010 and is a past recipient of that organization's Ruby Krider Teacher of the Year award. Parker recently retired after teaching for thirty years in the Clarksville-Montgomery County Schools.*

## **The Art of Improv**

**Presenter: E. Roy Lee (Tuesday and Thursday)**

In this session, participants will move beyond the usual theatre games and learn how to teach the fundamentals of improvisation in an engaging way. The class will explore exercises designed to tap into the skills needed to succeed at improv.

*E. Roy Lee has been performing improv for more than a decade. He is an alumni of iO Chicago's improv program, and has learned from many wise improv gurus over the years, including Laura Hall (Whose Line Is It Anyway) and Kevin McDonald (Kids In the Hall). Roy is also the founder of M-Prov (Murfreesboro Improv) and a former member of Nashville Improv Company.*

## **Creating a Shadow Puppet Play with Students in Elementary Grades**

**Presenter: Morgan Matens (Tuesday and Thursday)**

In this session, Morgan Matens will teach participants how to create literature-based puppet shows in their classrooms. The process is one that enables students to develop their own shadow plays while gaining important skills including writing, art, performance, and collaboration.

*Morgan Matens has worked in the Nashville area for the last ten years as a puppet designer and fabricator, set designer, and arts educator. Matens graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in set design and also received a degree in sculpture. She currently works as a freelance illustrator and sculptor.*

# INTERLUDES



## **Multisensory Theatre**

**Presenter: Mileah Milstead  
(Tuesday and Thursday)**

This interlude is designed for elementary school educators. Attendees will learn about multisensory theatre and discover ways to incorporate all five senses into the classes that they teach.

*Mileah Milstead is a teaching artist and performer in the Nashville area. She has worked with children from age four to eighteen and has taught with Nashville Children's Theatre, Expression City Arts and Fitness, and the Rose Theater in Omaha, Nebraska. She has taught a variety of classes, including creative drama adventures, sketch comedy, and script analysis.*

## **Moving, Grooving, and Feeling Good**

**Presenter: Mila Parrish  
(Monday and Wednesday)**

In this session, Mila Parrish will address posture, alignment, core strength, breath, and relaxation. Participants will investigate breathing

techniques, movement exercises, and other simple, enjoyable ways to bring movement into the classroom and into daily life.

## **Making a Story Your Own**

**Presenter: Susan Ramsay  
(Tuesday)**

Folk tales from around the world are public domain and belong to everyone. However, learning a folk tale from a recording or a book can result in a version of the tale as it was recorded, instead of how the teller created it. In this session, participants will take the outline of a folk tale and learn how to craft it into their own unique version of the story.

## **Haunted Storytelling**

**Presenter: Susan Ramsay  
(Thursday)**

Many children and adults enjoy listening to stories that are frightening. Stories that involve a protagonist in a scary situation can share a positive theme overall, and they can even help listeners face their fears in a safe environment. In this interlude, participants will hear examples of folk tales that have frightening elements, hear

suggestions for how to choose and tell such stories, and talk about the guidelines for sharing these types of stories in the classroom.

## **45-Minute Film School**

**Presenter: Marcelo Tesón  
(Monday)**

In this interlude, Marcelo Tesón will teach useful film theory basics. He will explain how to tell a story through visual and dramatic construction and how teachers can use tools that students already have to create short film projects that punch way above their weight class.

## **One Weird Trick for Filmmaking Success**

**Presenter: Marcelo Tesón  
(Wednesday)**

In this session, Marcelo Tesón will demonstrate the fundamental building block of cinema that can be the foundation for anyone who wants to get involved in filmmaking. Despite its discovery more than a hundred years ago, it is a trick that is glossed over in most film schools.

# INTERLUDES

## **Critical Response Process: A Creative and Supportive Process for Feedback**

**Presenter: Daniel Bird Tobin  
(Monday and Wednesday)**

This session is for anyone who has ever had difficulty offering or receiving feedback about a creative endeavor. Participants will learn Liz Lerman and John Borstel's Critical Response Process, a method that fosters the exchange of productive, healthy feedback for givers and recipients alike.

## **Theatre Connections**

**Presenters: Theatre Core Faculty  
(Tuesday and Thursday)**

Theatre instructors will be in their classrooms to answer specific questions about their sessions and to provide one-on-one time with participants who desire additional information about theatre-related issues or arts-education concerns.

## **VISUAL ART RELATED INTERLUDES**

### **The Art of Caricature: The Basics**

**Presenter: David Arnold  
(Monday and Wednesday)**

This interactive drawing workshop will touch on the basics of depicting a live subject as a caricature. It will focus on the step-by-step process of creating a reasonable cartoon likeness of the subject. At the session, all participants will get a workbook, which will allow them to continue honing their skills on their own.

*David Arnold has been a caricaturist based mainly in Nashville, Tennessee, for more than forty years. He learned his craft while in high school so he could work a summer job at Opryland USA theme park. Through his company, Caricatures, etc., Arnold provides art entertainment, such as caricature artists, face painters, balloon artists, and magicians, to the public.*

### **Debates, Controversies, and Critical Thinking in Contemporary Art**

**Presenter: Jeremy Blair  
(Wednesday)**

In this session, participants will have open-ended discussions and debates about complex social issues and controversies in contemporary art. The ultimate goal of the session is to learn how to integrate social content into discussion, encourage engagement and critical discourse, and facilitate healthy debate that is appropriate for all art classrooms—from kindergarten to twelfth grade.

*Jeremy Blair is an assistant professor of art education at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tennessee.*

### **Microscopic Worlds**

**Presenter: Jim Dodson  
(Tuesday)**

Participants in this workshop will create abstracted compositions that rely on imagery found in the microscopic world. In the session, images of viruses, bacteria, cells, strands of DNA, and other objects will be layered and combined to bring together the fields of visual art and science. The lesson Jim Dodson will share is one he has successfully used in his own hometown as a true STEAM project.

Participants should bring their smart phones to the workshop since they will use them to acquire the images for their compositions.

*Jim Dodson has been an art teacher in the Oak Ridge school system since 1987. In 1998, he was recognized as the Tennessee Art Educator of the Year, and in 1999, he was named the National Middle School Art Educator of the Year. He is currently serving his second four-year term as a city councilman in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.*

### **Connecting with the Frist Art Museum**

**Presenters: Anne Henderson,  
Meagan Rust, & Jenneh Kamara  
(Monday)**

This session is appropriate for all TAA participants. Staff members from the Frist Art Museum will present a visual overview of the 2022–2023 exhibitions and related online and print resources for educators. They will also share curriculum connections for selected exhibitions.

*Frist staff members who will present include Anne Henderson, director of education and engagement; Meagan Rust, interpretation director; and Jenneh Kamara, educator for teacher and school programs. Together, they have almost fifty years of museum education experience. Their areas of expertise include developing exhibition interpretation, educator resources, and programs that address a variety of audiences, including educators.*



# INTERLUDES



## **Together We are Better: AP Roundtable**

**Presenter: Janet Laws  
(Monday)**

This session will be an open discussion for AP 2D, drawing, and 3D teachers who will have the chance to share ideas, talk about curricula, approaches that have worked well, and ways that teachers can help their students. Participants should come with questions, ideas, best practices, and an enthusiasm for helping students navigate the AP system with success.

*Janet Laws is a TAA visual art facilitator. She teaches secondary visual art at Brentwood Academy, in Brentwood, Tennessee. Laws is an advocate for collaboration and works with other local teachers to provide critique to AP portfolios in progress.*

## **Artist Alan LeQuire Introduces the “Athena Women”**

**Presenter: Alan LeQuire  
(Monday)**

Meet artist Alan LeQuire as he talks about the “Athena women.” These women are the ones who helped him build the statue *Athena* in Nashville’s Centennial Park Parthenon, as well as the ones in his suffrage monument, which is also located at the park.

*Best known for his monumental sculptures in Middle Tennessee, Alan LeQuire began his artistic career at the age of eleven, when he crafted his first objects in copper and tin. His most well-known works include the statue *Athena in the Parthenon* in Nashville’s*

*Centennial Park, Musica at the foot of Nashville’s Music Row, and the multimedia installation Dream Forest.*

## **Teaching Clay to K-12: What You Didn’t Learn in College**

**Presenter: Danielle McDaniel  
(Thursday)**

In college, most educators learn about clay but not how to teach clay to a class of thirty students and through five classes a day. During this workshop, Danielle the Clay Lady will share the Clay Lady Way—an approach that includes more than thirty years of experience with tested projects, classroom and studio management, and a single-firing technique that guarantees success.

*Danielle McDaniel, the Clay Lady, has dedicated her life to the transformative power of art by teaching clay to hundreds of thousands of children and ensuring clay would be taught in the classroom by educating art teachers. She created *The Clay Lady’s Campus*, an art community in Nashville Tennessee, which sees more than five hundred students and artists each week, filling studios and classrooms with enhancing, creative endeavors.*

## **One Sheet Wonders: Make a Book from a Single Sheet of Paper**

**Presenter: Lesley Patterson-Marx  
(Monday and Wednesday)**

In this interlude, participants will learn how to make several different folded book structures—each made from a single sheet of paper that is either 8.5 by 11 inches, or 11 by 17 inches in size.

## **Twist and Dye**

**Presenter: David Reynolds  
(Wednesday)**

Bring your TAA apron or something cotton and white to this workshop and get ready for some tie dye fun.

*David Reynolds is in his tenth year teaching art to elementary students in the Franklin Special Schools District. He has presented workshops at the national level, served as a TAA visual art facilitator, and received the Tennessee Art Education Association award in 2021 for distinguished service to the profession.*

## **Silk Painting**

**Presenter: Kim Shamblin  
(Wednesday)**

The process of painting on silk fabric originated in Asian countries such as India, Thailand, and Vietnam. Participants in this session will have the opportunity to paint on silk and walk away with a painted creation of their own.

*For the past twenty-eight years, Kim Shamblin has been an art educator in the Millington, Tennessee, area. In addition to teaching, Shamblin has become an avid quilter. This will be her fourteenth year as a TAA visual art facilitator.*

## **Modern Calligraphy Using Markers**

**Presenter: Ken Snyder  
(Monday)**

This session will present lettering tips and tricks that can be accomplished using broad tip markers and materials that are available in most classrooms. The session will share ways to help students find excitement in creating graffiti-style lettering or modern calligraphy.

*Ken Snyder has twenty-eight years of experience teaching art classes to students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade in a rural elementary school in East Tennessee. Snyder has participated in TAA for more than twenty years and served as a facilitator for the last several years.*

## **Visual Art Studio Connections**

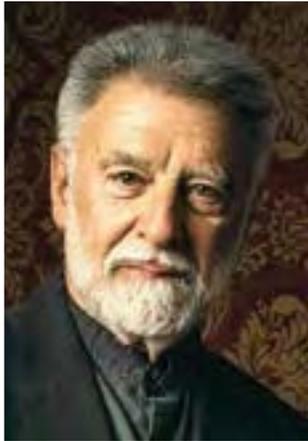
**Presenters: Visual Art Faculty  
(Tuesday and Thursday)**

Visual art participants may use this time to continue working in the studio, talking with their instructors, or networking with fellow teachers about issues and concerns related to the arts and arts education.

“Musings” is a time of thoughtful inspiration and introspection built into the heart of the busy Academy schedule each day. All participants assemble to think about the role of the arts in education and in life. At each Musings session, an individual who is significantly involved in the arts acts as a muse and leads the group in examining the richness and depth that the arts add to the lives of all people.

## Marvin Stamm

Monday • July 11 • 1:20 PM



Throughout his distinguished career, Marvin Stamm has been praised for both the art and craft of his trumpet playing. Jazz critic, Leonard Feather said that “Mr. Stamm is an accomplished performer whose technical skill is used as a means to stimulating original ends.” While attending North Texas State University, Stamm was discovered by Stan Kenton. After graduation, he joined Kenton’s orchestra and toured with him as their jazz trumpet soloist, in addition to recording five albums with the group. From 1965 to

1966, Stamm toured worldwide with Woody Herman. In late 1966, Stamm settled in New York, where he quickly established himself as a busy jazz and studio trumpeter. He gained considerable recognition for his playing with the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra and the Duke Pearson Big Band, as well as his performances with Frank Sinatra and the Benny Goodman Sextet. He also did a number of recordings with various rock and rhythm and blues artists, including Paul McCartney, James Brown, Bette Midler, Burt Bacharach, Dionne Warwick, Barry Manilow, and the Rolling Stones. Eschewing the lucrative studio scene in the late 80s, Stamm focused his attention on his first love—playing jazz. Since then, he has been a member of John Lewis’s American Jazz Orchestra, the Bob Mintzer Band, the George Gruntz Concert Jazz Band, and Louis Bellson’s big band and quintet.

Acknowledging his debt to the influence of former teachers and musicians, Stamm has spent a good deal of time and energy helping young music students develop their own voices. His involvement in jazz education has taken him to universities and high schools across the country and abroad as a performer, clinician, and mentor. Through this work, he continues to pass on the traditions that jazz represents. Over the years, Stamm has released numerous albums and CDs. He currently co-leads a quartet with pianist Mike Holoher. The quartet includes drummer Dennis Mackrel and bassist Mike McGuirk. Critical response to Stamm’s work has been highly enthusiastic. *JazzTimes* writes, “The Memphis native has chops and talent in abundance. He can burn on bebop changes, or mellow out on a ballad, all the time maintaining the lucid consistency that enthusiasm and experience engenders.” *Jazz Review* states, “It is a pleasure listening to the work of Marvin Stamm, anytime! Stamm is a musician’s musician, performing flawlessly on his trumpet and flugelhorn.”

*The appearance of Marvin Stamm is made possible by a generous gift from Country Music Association Foundation.*

## Nikkolas Smith

Tuesday • July 12 • 1:20 PM

Nikkolas Smith is a native of Houston, Texas. He received his master of architecture degree from Hampton University. After designing theme parks at Walt Disney Imagineering for eleven years, he is now an ARTivist, concept artist, children’s book author, film illustrator (*Space Jam 2*, *Black Panther 2*, and *Judah and the Black Messiah*), and movie poster designer (*Black Panther*, *Soul*, *Beale Street*, *Southside with You*, *Dear White People*, and *Stranger Fruit*).



He is the author and illustrator of the picture books *The Golden Girls of Rio*, which was nominated for an NAACP Image Award, *My Hair is Poofy and That’s Okay*, and *World Cup Women*. His latest illustrated picture book, *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water* was created in collaboration with Pulitzer prize-winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones and Renée Watson and was number one on *The New York Times* bestseller list. Smith is a proud 2016 White House Innovators of Color Fellow. Smith’s most famous and recognized works focus on Artivism. As an illustrator of color, he creates captivating art that can spark conversations about social justice in today’s world and inspire meaningful change. Many of his viral and globally published sketches are included in his latest book *Sunday Sketch: The Art of Nikkolas*, a visual journey on life and a collection of more than one hundred sketches he’s done in the last five years. His works have been featured in *Time* magazine, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *People*, CNN, BuzzFeed, NPR, the Academy of Motion Pictures, *The Guardian*, ABC, NBC, KCET, and many other publications and media sites. His art has been shared on social media by Michelle Obama, President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, Van Jones, Shaun King, Rihanna, Colin Kaepernick, Janet Jackson, Viola Davis, Jamie Foxx, Erykah Badu, Lupita Nyong’o, Kendrick Lamar, Ava Duvernay, Common, Simone Biles, Mark Ruffalo, and many others. Smith often speaks at schools, and conferences such as TEDxWatts, and leads workshops in digital painting character and movie poster design. He currently lives in Los Angeles, California.

*The appearance of Nikkolas Smith is made possible by a generous gift from Pinnacle Financial Partners.*



## Harolyn Blackwell

Wednesday • July 13 • 1:20 PM



One of the brightest stars on stages in the United States and abroad, charismatic soprano Harolyn Blackwell has been hailed by audiences and critics alike as a “model of agility, spunk, charm, and silvery tone.” Recognized for her expressive and exuberant performances, as well as for her radiant voice, she continues to make a wide and varied career on the opera, concert, and recital stages of the world.

Blackwell began her career on Broadway in Leonard Bernstein’s *West Side Story*. Shortly after, she was selected as a finalist for the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions, and her career path changed from the musical theatre to opera. At the Metropolitan Opera, Blackwell has appeared in numerous productions, including *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Manon*, *Die Fledermaus*, and *La Fille du Régimen*. She has also performed with many national and international opera companies and at festivals around the world, including Lyric Opera of Chicago, Teatro Colon de Buenos Aires, Opera Orchestra of New York, and New York’s Mostly Mozart Festival. An accomplished recitalist, Blackwell has performed in several acclaimed concert series, including London’s Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall, the Library of Congress, and the Kennedy Center’s Fortas Chamber Series. She has also appeared in a number of nationally televised concerts such as the Grammy Awards, the Kennedy Center Honors, the Memorial Day and Fourth of July Concerts on PBS, and the PBS Live from the White House concert. Blackwell has received numerous awards and honors. Most recently, she was the recipient of the National Opera Association’s Lift Every Voice Legacy Award. Her recordings include performances of her numerous Broadway and opera roles, in addition to three solo albums.

Blackwell is currently a voice faculty member at Manhattan School of Music, New York University Steinhardt, and Barnard and Columbia University. Previously, she was a member of the voice faculty at the Peabody Conservatory of Music at Johns Hopkins University. As an advocate for arts education, Blackwell is a board member of the Metropolitan Opera Guild, the Voice Foundation, and the Martina Arroyo Foundation. She is a member of the artists committee for the Kennedy Center Honors and has also served on the artists selection committee for the Marian Anderson Competition.

*The appearance of Harolyn Blackwell is made possible by a generous gift from Tennessee Book Company.*

## Kate Baldwin, Aaron Lazar, Luke Frazier

Thursday • July 14 • 1:50 PM

**Kate Baldwin** starred as Irene Molloy opposite Bette Midler, David Hyde Pierce, and Gavin Creel in the hit Broadway revival of *Hello, Dolly!*, for which she was nominated for Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critic’s Circle awards. She originated the role of Sandra Bloom in *Big Fish* on Broadway and earned accolades for her work as Leslie Lyntonn Benedict in Michael John LaChiusa’s *Giant*. She received a Drama Desk Award nomination for her role as Jen in Keen Company’s revival of *John & Jen* and garnered critical acclaim and a Lucille Lortel Award nomination for *Superhero* at Second Stage. Her starring role in the 2009 revival of the hit musical *Finian’s Rainbow*, which drew Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critic’s Circle award nominations, put her on the map as “a real musical theatre star,” according to the *New York Post*. Additional stage appearances include *Thoroughly Modern Millie* on Broadway, the star role in *The King and I* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and *South Pacific* at Arena Stage, for which she earned a Helen Hayes Award nomination. In spring 2022, Baldwin drew rave reviews for her portrayal of Francesca Johnson in *The Bridges of Madison County* opposite Aaron Lazar and directed by original cast member Hunter Foster. Baldwin has performed in concert with the Boston Pops, the National Symphony, the American Songbook series at Lincoln Center, and at the Kennedy Center. Her concert work also includes several appearances with Stephen Sondheim in his critically acclaimed evening, “A Conversation with Stephen Sondheim.” On television, her work includes a guest star role on NBC’s *Law & Order: SVU* and a featured role in the PBS filming of Stephen Sondheim’s *Passion* and the Disney+ series *Just Beyond*. Baldwin’s albums include *Let’s See What Happens*, featuring Lane and Harburg songs, and *She Loves Him*, which celebrates the work of lyricist Sheldon Harnick. In 2023, she looks forward to playing Lucille Lorusso in the new Broadway musical version of *The Karate Kid*.



**Aaron Lazar’s** career spans film, television, Broadway, and concerts and has allowed him to share his passion for the arts with audiences worldwide. On film, Lazar has worked with acclaimed directors Clint Eastwood (*J. Edgar*), Martin Scorsese (*The Wolf of Wall Street*), Shawn Levy (*This is Where I Leave You*), Mary Harron (*The Notorious Bettie Page*), and the Russo Brothers (*Avengers: Infinity War* and *Avengers: Endgame*). On television, he was recently one of the stars of *Filthy Rich* on FOX and has had leading roles on *Quantico*, *The Strain*, and *Girl Meets World*. Lazar has starred in eleven Broadway productions. He debuted in *The Phantom of the Opera*; originated



roles in the world premieres of *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Impressionism*, and *The Last Ship*; starred in the revivals of *A Little Night Music* and *Les Miserables*, for which he received a Drama Desk Award nomination; and romanced audiences in *The Light in the Piazza* at Lincoln Center and *Live from Lincoln Center* on PBS. Most recently, he starred as Larry Murphy in the first national tour of the Tony Award-winning smash *Dear Evan Hansen*, followed this past spring by a star turn, alongside his dear friend Kate Baldwin, in *The Bridges of Madison County*, directed by Hunter Foster.

Lazar has been a guest artist with some of the world's top symphonies, including the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Pops, and the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra at Masada. His acclaimed solo concert *From Broadway to Hollywood* has played cabaret clubs and performing art centers around the United States. As a producer, Lazar's projects include the album *Broadway Lullabies*; the development of a limited television series with Nicholas Pileggi (*Goodfellas*, *Casino*), which is based on the book *City For Sale: Ed Koch and the Betrayal of New York*; and his Broadway-themed destination venue, *Living Broadway* that is currently in development with World Heritage Exhibitions and the design firm Mycotoo. Lazar is proud to be an honorary board member of the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation.

**Luke Frazier** believes that the future of orchestral music depends on breaking down barriers between orchestras and audiences. In addition to musical excellence, the most important priority for a modern conductor is creating diverse and engaging programming that brings communities

together through the joy of music. Conductors are a bridge between audiences and orchestras. This is a responsibility that Frazier takes to heart. In 2015, Frazier started the American Pops Orchestra to present a broad array of popular and classical music in innovative ways and to draw new audiences into the orchestral world. Recently, the orchestra has been featured in more than twelve national broadcasts on PBS with programs ranging from *American Roots* to a complete re-imagining of the musical *Wicked*. Artists such as Midori, Patti Labelle, Joshua Bell, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Josh Groban, and many more have joined the orchestra to share music with audiences across the country, completely free of charge. Creating opportunities for the next generation of music makers and music lovers is always a priority for Frazier. Each year, he spends at least three weeks hosting free elementary school tours, as well as finding outstanding college vocalists through the orchestra's NextGen Vocal Competition. In addition to his work with APO and PBS, he serves as the principal pops conductor for the National Philharmonic and maintains a busy schedule as a guest conductor and pianist. This season includes appearances conducting classical and popular music in venues from Lincoln Center to the Smithsonian and Feinstein's 54 Below to the Kravis Center. Frazier is also in high demand as a clinician, speaker, and panelist for educational organizations across the country.



*The appearance of Kate Baldwin, Aaron Lazar, and Luke Frazier throughout the Academy week is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.*



## Young Concert Artists on Tour

**Clarinet, Flute, Piano Concert**  
**Sunday • July 10 • 4:00 PM**  
**Massey Performing Arts Center**

Young Concert Artists on Tour features three extraordinarily talented musicians: clarinetist Narek Arutyunian, pianist Ying Li, and flutist Anthony Trionfo. Their program for TAA will feature solo works, duets, and trios. TAA is honored to host this one-of-a-kind concert to celebrate our return to live performances. Here is more about each artist.



Clarinetist **Narek Arutyunian** is an artist who was described as reaching “passionate depths with seemingly effortless technical prowess and beguiling sensitivity” in a review from *The Washington Post*. As

First Prize Winner of the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Arutyunian was presented in debut recitals in New York City at Merkin Concert Hall and in Washington, D.C., at the Kennedy Center to rave reviews. In addition to solo recitals, he is a frequent soloist with orchestras around the world and has performed with the Boston Pops, Orchestra of St. Luke’s at Alice Tully Hall, Prague Radio Symphony, the Kaliningrad Philharmonic, and the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra, among others. Arutyunian also consistently receives acclaim for his educational outreach programs in New York City public schools and around the country.



Pianist **Ying Li** comes from Yantai, China. She is the winner of the 2021 Young Concert Artists Susan Wadsworth International Auditions and the inaugural Antonio Mormone International Prize in Italy. She has

received top awards in numerous national and international competitions, including first prizes at the Sarasota Artist Series Piano Competition, Brevard Music Festival solo and

concerto competitions, and the International Liszt Piano Competition for Young Pianists. Ying has performed with many orchestras including L’Accademia Orchestra del La Scala in Milan, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Brevard Music Festival Orchestra. As an avid chamber musician, Ying has appeared at prestigious festivals including the Verbier Festival Academy, the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, and the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival.



Flutist **Anthony Trionfo** was recently praised as a “breezily virtuosic flutist” by *The New York Times* after his New York concerto debut with a performance of the Ibert Flute Concerto with the Orchestra of Saint Luke’s in May 2019. In 2018, he debuted in the Young

Concert Artists series at the Merkin Concert Hall in New York City and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Trionfo took the stage for the first time at fourteen in performance with the Las Vegas Philharmonic as a winner of their Young Artist Concerto Competition. During his teen years, he also performed with the “President’s Own” Marine Band and won the Alexander & Buono International Flute and National YoungArts Foundation Competitions. In addition to more formal performances, Trionfo is committed to community outreach and teaches through the Jumpstart program in Los Angeles.

Narek Arutyunian, Ying Li, and Anthony Trionfo appear by arrangement with Young Concert Artists, Inc., YCA.org

*The Young Concert Artists on Tour performance is made possible by generous gifts from Country Music Association Foundation and Amy Savell, in memory of Sara and Las Savell.*

## New Ballet Ensemble and School

**¡José!**  
**Monday • July 11 • 11:30 AM**  
**Massey Performing Arts Center**

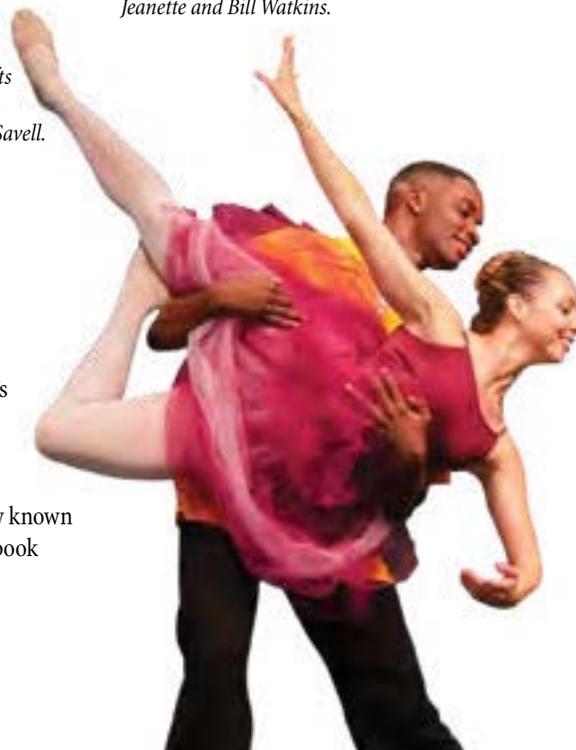
*¡José!* is New Ballet Ensemble and School’s latest touring show. It is based on the life and work of the great Mexican dancer and choreographer José Arcadio Limón (1908–1972), who developed what is now known as the Limón technique. Inspired by the book

*José! Born to Dance*, this show is a program that features various modern dance, music, and art genres, including flamenco, Spanish guitar, and modern art. All of these artistic elements inspired Limón on his journey to become one of the most influential modern dance choreographers of his time. During his life, he founded the José Limón Dance Company in the 1940s, followed by the José Limón Foundation in 1968, which he created to carry on his work.

### About New Ballet Ensemble

Founded in 2001, New Ballet Ensemble and School is a thriving after-school dance program in the heart of midtown Memphis. Dancers from all over the Mid-South attend the school to train and explore cultural forms of dance while participating in a strong, college and career-ready classical ballet curriculum. Five out of the six salaried teaching artists and trainees, who are also key staff, have been involved with New Ballet since childhood. They provide programming to Memphis-Shelby County Schools, including those they attended as children. New Ballet collaborates with education partners through school residencies and invests in other active community partnerships to reach students and audiences of all ages. In 2014, New Ballet was one of twelve organizations nationwide to receive the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. This award recognizes the country’s best creative youth development programs that use engagement in the arts and the humanities to increase self-direction, academic achievement, graduation rates, and college enrollment.

*The performance of ¡José! by New Ballet Ensemble and School is made possible by a generous gift from Jeanette and Bill Watkins.*



## Nashville African American Wind Symphony

### Wind Symphony Concert

**Wednesday • July 13 • 11:30 AM**  
**Massey Performing Arts Center**

The Nashville African American Wind Symphony was founded in September of 2020. The original vision evolved from creating a community band to creating a vital cultural experience within the African American community and beyond. This led to the desire to establish a world-class wind band ensemble that provides exceptional music education, training resources, and exposure to performing arts entertainment for young musicians. With the goal of increasing African American representation in the formal wind band community, the symphony will give young musicians the opportunity to see themselves in the concert chair. Performance opportunities in inner-city schools with a high percentage of Black students will also help encourage students to participate in their own school band programs.



On June 19, 2022, the Juneteenth holiday, the sixty-five member Nashville African American Wind Symphony will debut in Belmont University's McAfee Concert Hall. The symphony will launch its Youth Initiative Program during the 2022–2023 school year.

### About the Conductor and NAAWS Board Chairman

Bruce V. Ayers, Jr., is the founder and conductor of the Nashville African American Wind Symphony. A native of Dover, Delaware, he currently serves as a professor of music and instructor of applied euphonium at Tennessee State University in Nashville. Previously, Ayers served as the director of bands at the Grammy



Award-winning Pearl-Cohn Entertainment Magnet High School in Nashville. The Nashville African American Wind Symphony six-member board of directors is led by its

founding chairman and director, Reginald McDonald. To follow the story of NAAWS, visit [NAAWSMusic.org](http://NAAWSMusic.org) and [@naaws\\_music](https://twitter.com/naaws_music) on all social media platforms.

*The performance by the Nashville African American Wind Symphony is made possible by a generous gift from Bobby Jean Frost, in memory of Donna Frost and the Lingner Gift Fund, in memory of Marilee Kester Stites.*

## Kate Baldwin & Aaron Lazar with Luke Frazier, Musical Director

### All For You

**Wednesday • July 13 • 8:30 PM**  
**Curb Event Center Arena**

Fresh from their critically acclaimed run in *The Bridges of Madison County*, two-time Tony nominee Kate Baldwin and Broadway and television star Aaron Lazar will bring their “glorious soprano” and “soaring tenor” voices together in a brand new show, *All For You*. The show will premier at the Tennessee Arts Academy before traveling to New York City, where it will play for an extended run at Feinstein's 54 Below. Called an “unstoppable pair” with “blazing chemistry,” Baldwin and Lazar will perform songs from *The Bridges of Madison County*, reprising their roles as Francesca and Robert, while also exploring other favorites from shows past, present, and future. Joining them will be ground-breaking maestro Luke Frazier and members of the American Pops Orchestra, who will come together as one of the biggest instrumental ensembles to ever grace the TAA Bravo! stage. Get ready to spend the evening with two of the most romantic and versatile voices on Broadway.

### About the Performers

**Kate Baldwin** starred as Irene Molloy opposite Bette Midler, David Hyde Pierce, and Gavin Creel in the hit Broadway revival of *Hello, Dolly!*, for which she was nominated for Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critic's Circle awards.



She originated the role of Sandra Bloom in *Big Fish* on Broadway and earned accolades for her work as Leslie Lyntonn Benedict in Michael John LaChiusa's *Giant*. She received a Drama Desk Award nomination for her role as Jen in Keen Company's revival of *John & Jen* and garnered critical acclaim and a Lucille Lortel Award nomination for *Superhero* at Second Stage. Her starring role in the 2009 revival of the hit musical *Finian's Rainbow*, which drew Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critic's Circle award nominations, put her on the map as “a real musical theatre star,” according to the *New York Post*. Additional stage appearances include *Thoroughly Modern Millie* on Broadway, the star role in *The King and I* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and *South Pacific* at Arena Stage, for which she earned a Helen Hayes Award nomination. In spring 2022, Baldwin drew rave reviews for her portrayal of Francesca Johnson in *The Bridges of Madison County* opposite Aaron Lazar and directed by original cast member Hunter Foster. Baldwin has performed in concert with the Boston Pops, the National Symphony, the American Songbook series at Lincoln Center, and at the Kennedy Center. Her concert work also includes several appearances with Stephen Sondheim in his critically acclaimed evening, “A Conversation with Stephen Sondheim.” On television, her

work includes a guest star role on NBC's *Law & Order: SVU* and a featured role in the PBS filming of Stephen Sondheim's *Passion* and the Disney+ series *Just Beyond*. Baldwin's albums include *Let's See What Happens*, featuring Lane and Harburg songs, and *She Loves Him*, which celebrates the work of lyricist Sheldon Harnick. In 2023, she looks forward to playing Lucille Larusso in the new Broadway musical version of *The Karate Kid*.



**Aaron Lazar** is thrilled to be reunited with his dear friend Kate Baldwin after the two recently starred in *The Bridges of Madison County*, directed by Hunter Foster. On film, Lazar has worked with acclaimed directors

Clint Eastwood (*J. Edgar*), Martin Scorsese (*The Wolf of Wall Street*), Shawn Levy (*This is Where I Leave You*), Mary Harron (*The Notorious Bettie Page*), and the Russo Brothers (*Avengers: Infinity War* and *Avengers: Endgame*). On television, he was recently one of the stars of *Filthy Rich* on FOX and has had leading roles on *Quantico*, *The Strain*, and *Girl Meets World*. Lazar has starred in eleven Broadway productions. He debuted in *The Phantom of the Opera*; originated roles in the world premieres of *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Impressionism*, and *The Last Ship*; starred in the revivals of *A Little Night Music* and *Les Miserables*, for which he received a Drama Desk Award nomination; and romanced audiences in *The Light in the Piazza* at Lincoln Center and *Live from Lincoln Center* on PBS. Most recently, he starred as Larry Murphy in the first national tour of the Tony Award-winning smash *Dear Evan Hansen*. Lazar has been a guest artist with some of the world's top symphonies, including the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Pops, and the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra at Masada. His acclaimed solo concert *From Broadway to Hollywood* has played cabaret clubs and performing art centers around the United States. As a producer, Lazar's projects include the album *Broadway Lullabies*; the development of a limited television series with Nicholas Pileggi (*Goodfellas*, *Casino*), which is based on the book *City For Sale: Ed Koch and the Betrayal of New York*; and his Broadway-themed

destination venue, *Living Broadway* that is currently in development with World Heritage Exhibitions and the design firm Mycotoo. Lazar is proud to be an honorary board member of the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation.



**Luke Frazier** believes that the future of orchestral music depends on breaking down barriers between orchestras and audiences. In addition to musical excellence, the most important priority for a modern

conductor is creating diverse and engaging programming that brings communities together through the joy of music. Conductors are a bridge between audiences and orchestras. This is a responsibility that Frazier takes to heart. In 2015, Frazier started the American Pops Orchestra to present a broad array of popular and classical music in innovative ways and to draw new audiences into the orchestral world. Recently, the orchestra has been featured in more than twelve national broadcasts on PBS with programs ranging from *American Roots* to a complete re-imagining of the musical *Wicked*. Artists such as Midori, Patti LaBelle, Joshua Bell, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Josh Groban, and many more have joined the orchestra to share music with audiences across the country, completely free of charge. Creating opportunities for the next generation of music makers and music lovers is always a priority for Frazier. Each year, he spends at least three weeks hosting free elementary school tours, as well as finding outstanding college vocalists through the orchestra's NextGen Vocal Competition. In addition to his work with APO and PBS, he serves as the principal pops conductor for the National Philharmonic and maintains a busy schedule as a guest conductor and pianist. This season includes appearances conducting classical and popular music in venues from Lincoln Center to the Smithsonian and Feinstein's 54 Below to the Kravis Center. Frazier is also in high demand as a clinician, speaker, and panelist for educational organizations across the country.

*The appearance of Kate Baldwin, Aaron Lazar, and Luke Frazier throughout the Academy week is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.*

## Nashville Children's Theatre

**The SpongeBob Musical**  
Thursday • July 14 • 11:20 AM  
Massey Performing Arts Center

The stakes are higher than ever in this dynamic stage musical, as SpongeBob and all of Bikini Bottom face total annihilation of their undersea world. Chaos erupts. Lives hang in the balance. But just when all hope seems lost, a most unexpected hero rises to take center stage. The power of optimism really can save the world. *The SpongeBob Musical* is based on the beloved animated series created by Stephen Hillenburg and features a book by Kyle Jarrow, with original songs by numerous artists including Yolanda Adams, Steven Tyler, Joe Perry, Sara Bareilles, Cyndi Lauper, John Legend, and Plain White T's. Additional lyrics and music are by Jonathan Coulton and Tom Kitt, respectively. The musical production was conceived by Tina Landau.



### About Nashville Children's Theatre

With the goal of fostering cultural curiosity in children, Nashville Children's Theatre (NCT) provides transformational theatrical experiences to more than eighty thousand audience members each year. Their productions reflect an evolving community, instill profound empathy, and foster personal discovery. Founded in 1931, NCT is the oldest professional equity children's theatre in the nation and the largest theatre company in Middle Tennessee. Ranked as one of the top five children's theatres in the country by *Time* magazine, NCT productions are, according to theatre critic Jeffrey Ellis, "remarkable . . . proving that the company continues to set the standard to which others may aspire . . . the region's flagship professional theatre company." Ernie Nolan is NCT's executive artistic director.

*The performance of The SpongeBob Musical by Nashville Children's Theatre is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.*

## Overture Sunday Evening Opening Celebration & Reception Sunday • July 10 • 4:00 PM

The Tennessee Arts Academy opening convocation, Overture, provides participants with the first of many dazzling performances, a preview of the week ahead, and an opportunity to meet faculty and fellow members of the Academy. The Academy kicks off its 2022 session with a performance by three rising classical stars, clarinetist Narek Arutyunian, pianist Ying Li, and flutist Anthony Trionfo. Afterward, participants will be treated to an elegant buffet reception in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium complemented by multiple entertainment options inside and out. Our artists for this event include Duo Sudeste (in the MPAC Lobby prior to the opening session), Max Dvorin Trio (in the Beaman Student Life Center upper lobby), Carrie Kimbrough, violinist (in the Curb Event Center Glass Lobby), David Arnold, caricature artist (in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium), and Cooper Thompson Quartet (in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium).

## TAA ART EXHIBITION OPENING, ARTIST TALK, AND RECEPTION Monday • July 11 • 4:30–6:30 PM Leu Art Gallery (Lila D. Bunch Library)

### *Under the Rainbow* by Beth Edwards July 11–August 5, 2022

#### Artist Statement

My paintings are composed of small sections of the natural world represented at a magnified scale. They are usually complicated images and are slow to make. Each piece is a record of a steady, meditative painting process—hopefully imbuing the traditional subject of flowers with what the art historian, Norman Bryson termed a “meticulous particularity.” I seek to make something that is commonplace—a flower blossom—both resonate and endure. Because of the life cycle metaphorically embedded in their representation, the flowers are vanitas images symbolizing the fleetingness of life. However, because of their exuberant color and beauty, they are also meant to communicate joy. I hope this work provides a connection to and awareness of the natural world’s vitality and vulnerability.



Beth Edwards. *Garden VI*, 2021. Oil on canvas, 42 x 66 in.

Visually, my paintings can be approached similarly to how a person might look at a medieval manuscript or tapestry. The flowers and foliage are constructed out of myriad shapes that are intricately patterned and interwoven. I work to make all the elements contribute equally, including the more abstracted background shapes and spaces that play a peripheral role in the composition. Although as images they vary in their verisimilitude, each aspect of the flowers, foliage, and negative space is invested with the same degree of involvement. The way in which they are paintings first and believable images second is critical to my artistic concerns.

#### About the Artist



Beth Edwards was born in Alabama and lives and works in Memphis, Tennessee. She received degrees from the Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia and from Indiana University. Edwards has had an active thirty-year career in

painting, exhibiting, and teaching. She taught painting at the University of Memphis for twenty-one years and is the recipient of many awards, grants, commissions, and residencies. Recent awards and honors include the Distinguished Research Award and the Alumni Association Distinguished Achievement in

the Creative Arts Award from the University of Memphis, and the Arts Accelerator Grant and the Emmett O-Ryan Award for Artistic Inspiration from the organization ArtsMemphis. In 2013, Edwards was awarded a commission from the city of Memphis for her Willow Park mural and was also named artist for Memphis in May honoring Sweden. Edwards has participated in solo and group exhibitions in galleries, museums, institutions, and organizations across the United States, including the Huntsville Museum of Art in Huntsville, Alabama; the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis; the Contemporary Art Workshop in Chicago; the Arkansas Art Center in Little Rock; Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi; and the San Francisco International Fine Arts Exposition. She is represented by the David Lusk Gallery.

### Artist Talk with Beth Edwards

Monday • July 11 • 5:15 PM  
Leu Art Gallery

Reception music provided by Mario DaSilva, guitarist (Leu Art Gallery).

*Under the Rainbow* is co-sponsored by the Watkins College of Art at Belmont University and is made possible by generous gifts from Rena Ellzy, Solie Fott, and the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation.

## CMA Foundation State of the Arts Convening

**Monday • July 11 • 6:00 PM**  
**Massey Performing Arts Center**

The CMA Foundation invites TAA attendees and music and arts teachers across the state to attend an exciting update around the State of the Arts study, a partnership with the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation and the Tennessee Department of Education. Tricia Williams from the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation will share key findings, celebrate the districts who have already joined the network, and encourage others to get on board. Hors d'oeuvres will be served beginning at 5:30 PM.

## TAA ART EXHIBITION OPENINGS AND RECEPTION

**Tuesday • July 12 • 5:00–7:00 PM**  
**Leu Center for the Visual Arts and  
Leu Art Gallery (Lila D. Bunch Library)**

## Tennessee's Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition

**July 4–August 5, 2022**  
**Leu Center for the Visual Arts  
Gallery 121**

The Tennessee Arts Academy is pleased to offer a student art exhibit as part of its summer enrichment experience. *Tennessee's Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition* is a collection of the best pieces in various media by student artists

from the three grand divisions of the state. The students whose work will be featured have won college scholarships for their achievements and have had their work exhibited in museums throughout the state of Tennessee.

## Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition

**July 4–August 5, 2022**  
**Leu Center for the Visual Arts  
Lobby Gallery**

The Tennessee Arts Academy is very proud to exhibit the work of practicing artist-teachers alongside the exemplary work created by their students. *Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition* is a juried show featuring the work of kindergarten through higher education art educators from across Tennessee.

## STARS: State of Tennessee Art Review and Showcase Exhibition

**July 9–July 15, 2022**  
**Belmont University**  
**Daily Exhibition Locations  
Throughout Campus**

The STARS exhibition showcases the talent and hard work of kindergarten through fifth grade level art students and teachers from across Tennessee. The inaugural exhibition was held at the Tennessee State Museum. The Tennessee Arts Academy STARS exhibition features the first-place winners at each grade level as well as the Best of Show winner.

Reception music provided by Todd London, vibraphonist.



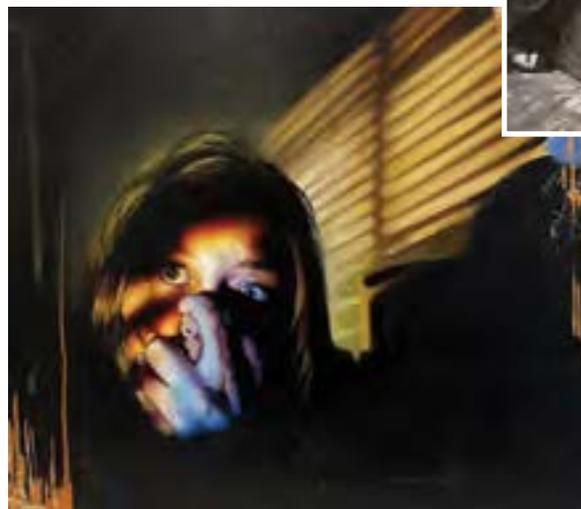
Melody Weintraub (Retired art educator, Honorable Mention TAEA member exhibition). *The Luez*, 2021. Acrylic, 24 x 30 in.

Tennessee's Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition and *Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition* is co-sponsored by the Tennessee Art Education Association and the Tennessee Arts Academy and is presented in partnership with the Watkins College of Art at Belmont University. The STARS exhibition at the Tennessee Arts Academy is sponsored and organized by the Tennessee Art Education Association and co-sponsored by the Tennessee Arts Academy.

Special thanks to Jim Dodson, the TAA Best of the Best coordinator and the founder and creator of the Best of the Best and *Connections* exhibitions, and to Flowerree McDonough for her generous contribution in support of the *Connections* exhibition.



Best of the Best, West TN Regional Winner  
Ella Keane (9th grade student, St. George's Independent School, instructor Allison Webb). *Serenity*, 2022. Painting, 18 x 24 in.



Best of the Best, East TN Regional Winner  
Magnolia Evans (12th grade student, Farragut High School, instructor Angela McCarter). *Paranoid*, 2022. Painting, 24 x 24 in.



Best of the Best, Middle TN Regional Winner  
Lynley Carpenter (12th grade student, Hendersonville High School, instructor Sandra Kandros). *Eye of the Beholder*, 2022. Drawing, 12 x 18 in.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## TAA ART CRAWL

**Tuesday • July 12 • 5:00 –7:00 PM**

Participants are invited to tour the Belmont Mansion and visit the following exhibits and museums during the TAA Art Crawl.

## High Tea in the Mansion

### Belmont Mansion

As part of the TAA Art Crawl, participants are invited on Tuesday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. for a tour of the historic Belmont Mansion. The event features Susan Ramsay playing hammered dulcimer. Light refreshments will be served.

## Frederick Hart Studio Museum Gallery of Iconic Guitars Museum

**Lila D. Bunch Library, First Floor**

Participants are invited to the Frederick Hart Studio Museum and the Gallery of Iconic Guitars Museum as part of the TAA Art Crawl.

## Under the Rainbow by Beth Edwards

**Leu Art Gallery**

## Tennessee's Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition

**Leu Center for the Visual Arts  
Gallery 121**



STARS, Best In Show  
Salma Al Naqel (5th Grade student,  
Ellendale Elementary School, instructors  
Amanda Galbraith and Tavia Bryant). Self  
Portrait, 2021. Painting, 9 x 12 in.



Flowerree McDonough (Retired art educator, Knoxville;  
second place TAEA member exhibition). Rinascita, 2021,  
Watercolor, 27 x 19.4 in.

## Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition

**Leu Center for the Visual Arts  
Lobby Gallery**

## STARS: State of Tennessee Art Review and Showcase Exhibition

**Lila D. Bunch Library Building  
Lobby**

## STUDENT AND TEACHER ARTIST RECOGNITION CEREMONY AND RECEPTION

**Tuesday • July 12 • 6:00 PM  
Leu Center for the Visual Arts**



Sarah Clark (Briarcrest Christian School art teacher, Honorable Mention TAEA  
member exhibition). Twists and Turns, 2021. Mixed Media, 30 x 48 in.

Suzanne Mortimer (The McCallie School art teacher,  
third place TAEA member exhibition). Until the  
Cows Come Home, 2021. Acrylic, 30 x 40 in.



Sherry Jankiewicz (University of Tennessee,  
Knoxville art teacher, Honorable Mention  
TAEA member exhibition). Time Passes,  
2022. Relief Reduction Print, 12 x 12 in.

## Visitors' Day

**Wednesday • July 13  
8:00 AM–5:00 PM**

Wednesday is the official TAA Visitors' Day. Arts organization directors, college and university professors, political dignitaries, Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board members, local school system officials, Tennessee Department of Education administrators, and many others from across the state are invited to be guests of the Academy. Some visitors may wish to participate in the classes, and all are invited to sit in on any of the day's activities.



Jenna Fergus (Briarcrest  
Christian School art teacher,  
first place TAEA member  
exhibition). Oculi, 2022.  
Acrylic, 24 x 48 in.

## Bravo! The Tennessee Arts Academy Awards Banquet and Performance

**Wednesday • July 13 • 6:30 PM**

On Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., participants will gather for the Academy Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance in the Curb Event Center Arena. This night is designed to honor and reward the hard work and artistic talents of each Academy participant. Once everyone has been seated in the Curb Event Center Arena, the first order of business will be the presentation of the Spirit of Tennessee Award to Broadway, film, and television star Aaron Lazar, in recognition of his exemplary support and service to the Tennessee Arts Academy. The elegant dinner will then be served with music provided by Russell Davis on piano. After dinner, Marion and Stephen Coleman will receive the Lorin Hollander Award, in honor of their remarkable lifetime achievements as band directors, educators, and arts leaders. The final award will be presented to Harolyn Blackwell, in recognition of her extraordinary talent and artistry and dedication to arts education. The evening will conclude with a world premiere performance of *All For You*, starring Broadway musical theatre stars Kate Baldwin and Aaron Lazar, accompanied by an eight-piece orchestra under the musical direction of maestro Luke Frazier.

*Bravo! The Tennessee Arts Academy Awards Banquet is generously sponsored by a gift from Belmont University. The appearance of Kate Baldwin, Aaron Lazar, and Luke Frazier is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.*

## TAA Arts Expo, Vendor Fair, and Artist Market

**Thursday • July 14**  
**11:45 AM–1:45 PM**

Academy participants and all interested arts teachers across the state are invited to attend the TAA Arts Expo, Vendor Fair, and Artist Market on Thursday in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium. The Arts Vendor Fair includes display booths from leading music, theatre, and visual art vendors, as well as arts-related organizations. Participants will enjoy learning about the many resources, products, and perks offered by the exhibitors. Concurrent with the



Vendor Fair, the TAA Artist Market features art, crafts, and jewelry sold by talented Academy artist-educators. The TAA Carnival helps enliven the entire proceedings with tuneful music by the Derek and John Pell Duo and balloon artistry by Sam Cremeens. Treats to be served include corn dogs, pretzels, popcorn, fudge, and popsicles.

## Alumni Day and Ice Cream Social

**Thursday • July 14 • 5:15 PM**

All TAA Alumni Association members are invited to the Academy to attend the day's activities. At 5:15 p.m. the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation sponsors its annual Ice Cream Social. Alumni Association members, and all participants who donate to or win a bid



in the Tennessee Arts Academy silent or online auctions receive a special invitation to attend this yummy event in the Beaman Student Life Center. Guitarist Paulo Oliviera will offer entertainment for the occasion.

## Finale

**Friday • July 15 • 11:30 AM**

The Academy activities conclude with the Academy Finale Luncheon in the Curb Event Center Arena at 11:30 a.m. on Friday. This event brings together the diverse experiences of the Academy week, reinforces the importance of arts education in classrooms across America, and pauses to honor numerous individuals who help make the Academy possible. Accordionist Alex Shor will perform during the meal. Each year, the Academy presents the Joe W. Giles Lifetime Achievement Award to one Tennessean for achievement in the field of arts education. The 2022 honoree is Madeline Bridges, longtime TAA project director, Academy founding music director, and associate dean of music at Belmont University. After lunch, the Academy Chorale, conducted by Sandra Babb and composed of Academy participants, will be featured in the final performance for the 2022 session. As the week's activities come to a joyous conclusion, TAA executive director Frank Bluestein will present the "Final Coda." This brief message is meant to inspire and challenge each person in attendance to use the knowledge and experience gained during the Academy week to make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of the students they teach.

## Harolyn Blackwell

### Distinguished Service Award

Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance

Curb Event Center

July 13 • 6:30 PM



One of the brightest stars on stages in the United States and abroad, charismatic soprano Harolyn Blackwell has been hailed by audiences and critics alike as a “model of agility, spunk, charm, and silvery tone.” Recognized for her expressive and exuberant performances, as well as for her radiant voice, she continues to make a wide and varied career on the opera, concert, and recital stages of the world. Blackwell began her career on

Broadway in Leonard Bernstein’s *West Side Story*. Shortly after, she was selected as a finalist for the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions, and her career path changed from the musical theatre to opera. At the Metropolitan Opera, Blackwell has appeared in numerous productions, including *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Manon*, *Die Fledermaus*, and *La Fille du Régimen*. She has also performed with many national and international opera companies and at festivals around the world, including Lyric Opera of Chicago, Teatro Colon de Buenos Aires, Opera Orchestra of New York, and New York’s Mostly Mozart Festival. An accomplished recitalist, Blackwell has performed in several acclaimed concert series, including London’s Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall, the Library of Congress, and the Kennedy Center’s Fortas Chamber Series. She has also appeared in a number of nationally televised concerts such as the Grammy Awards, the Kennedy Center Honors, the Memorial Day and Fourth of July Concerts on PBS, and the PBS Live from the White House concert. Blackwell has received numerous awards and honors. Most recently, she was the recipient of the National Opera Association’s Lift Every Voice Legacy Award. Her recordings include performances of her numerous Broadway and opera roles, in addition to three solo albums. Blackwell is currently a voice faculty member

at Manhattan School of Music, New York University Steinhardt, and Barnard and Columbia University. As an advocate for arts education, Blackwell is a board member of the Metropolitan Opera Guild, the Voice Foundation, and the Martina Arroyo Foundation. She is a member of the artists committee for the Kennedy Center Honors and has also served on the artists selection committee for the Marian Anderson Competition.

## Madeline Bridges

### Joe W. Giles Lifetime Achievement Award

Finale Luncheon

Curb Event Center

July 15 • 11:30 AM



Madeline Bridges is professor emerita of music at Belmont University. During her tenure in the School of Music, she taught graduate and undergraduate classes, served as director of graduate studies, and most recently was an associate dean. Bridges previously taught at Middle Tennessee State University and Carson-Newman College. She began her music education career teaching choral and general music in grades five through twelve at the University School of Nashville. During her long and storied

music education career, Bridges guest conducted all-state elementary and middle school honor choirs throughout the country and led scores of workshops for local, state, regional, and national general and choral music conferences. In 1985, as a consultant in the Arts Education Program of the Tennessee Department of Education, she worked closely with the program’s director, Joe Giles, to help create the Tennessee Arts Academy (TAA). Bridges was the TAA’s founding music director before serving as both campus and project director for the organization. During her three decades in a leadership role with the Nashville Children’s Choir, she worked as program director with a staff of fifteen to oversee the choral development of more than two hundred young singers in four choirs each year. She also co-directed the touring choir, which was regularly chosen to sing on national broadcasts of *Christmas at Belmont*. A lifelong member of the Tennessee Music Education Association (TMEA), Bridges served as president of the group and was inducted into the TMEA Hall of Fame. She was also honored with the Tennessee Chapter of American Choral Directors Association Lifetime Achievement Award. A respected leader in church music education, Bridges directed and coordinated children’s choirs in numerous churches. She served as president of the International Board of Choristers Guild and was co-founder (with Michael Hawn) and member of the inaugural faculty of Choristers Guild Institute, a national certification program for directors of children and youth choirs. Bridges’ numerous publications include *Sing Together, Children* published by Choristers Guild, and *Book of Church Songs and Spirituals* with John Feierabend (published by GIA Press). Bridges has authored or co-authored articles in both practitioner and research journals including *Tennessee Musician*, *The Chorister*, *Journal of Research in Music Education*, and *Journal of Research in Music Therapy*.



## Marion and Stephen Coleman

### Lorin Hollander Award

Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance  
Curb Event Center  
July 13 • 6:30 PM



Marion and Stephen Coleman are a unique and remarkable couple who have set the standard in Tennessee for excellence in the field of music and arts education. They have co-directed instrumental music

programs for nearly four decades, serving most recently as directors of the Tullahoma City Schools band program. Bands under their direction have performed at regional, state, and national venues. Many graduates from their programs are currently outstanding elementary, secondary, and university music educators, as well as professional musicians.

During her time as an educator, Marion Coleman taught in a variety of settings, including elementary music, vocal music, and instrumental music. She is a past president of the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association (MTSBOA) and Phi Beta Mu, and she was state chair for the National Band Association. She has served the Tennessee Music Education Association (TMEA) as the All State Band chair and the All State General chair. In retirement, she continues her advocacy for the arts—founding and serving as the first chair of the Tullahoma Arts Council and representing the arts as a member of the Mayor’s Council.

Stephen Coleman is the founder and the current president of ArtsEd Tennessee, a statewide non-profit organization that supports arts education throughout the state. He also serves as president of the TAA Foundation and has overseen its extraordinary growth during his term of office. As an instrumental music educator, he taught at the middle school, high school, and university levels. He has also served as president of MTSBOA, the Tennessee Bandmasters Association, Phi Beta Mu, and TMEA.

The Colemans have presented clinics and workshop sessions on various aspects of music education at state and national music conferences. They are recipients of the Outstanding Service Award from the City of Tullahoma and the Leadership Award from the Tullahoma School Board. Their professional honors include the National Band Association’s Citation of Excellence and induction into the TMEA and the Tennessee Bandmasters Halls of Fame.

## Aaron Lazar

### Spirit of Tennessee Award

Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance  
Curb Event Center  
July 13 • 6:30 PM



Aaron Lazar’s career spans film, television, Broadway, and concerts and has allowed him to share his passion for the arts with audiences worldwide. On film, Lazar has worked with acclaimed directors Clint Eastwood (*J. Edgar*), Martin Scorsese (*The Wolf of Wall Street*), Shawn Levy (*This is Where I Leave You*), Mary Harron (*The Notorious Bettie Page*), and the Russo Brothers (*Avengers: Infinity War* and *Avengers: Endgame*). On television, he was recently one of the stars of *Filthy Rich* on FOX and has

had leading roles on *Quantico*, *The Strain*, and *Girl Meets World*. Lazar has starred in eleven Broadway productions. He debuted in *The Phantom of the Opera*; originated roles in the world premieres of *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Impressionism*, and *The Last Ship*; starred in the revivals of *A Little Night Music* and *Les Miserables*, for which he received a Drama Desk Award nomination; and romanced audiences in *The Light in the Piazza* at Lincoln Center and *Live from Lincoln Center* on PBS. Most recently, he starred as Larry Murphy in the first national tour of the Tony Award-winning smash *Dear Evan Hansen*, followed this past spring by a star turn, alongside his dear friend Kate Baldwin, in *The Bridges of Madison County*, directed by Hunter Foster. Lazar has been a guest artist with some of the world’s top symphonies, including the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Pops, and the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra at Masada. His acclaimed solo concert *From Broadway to Hollywood* has played cabaret clubs and performing art centers around the United States. As a producer, Lazar’s projects include the album *Broadway Lullabies*; the development of a limited television series based on the book *City For Sale: Ed Koch and the Betrayal of New York*; and his Broadway-themed destination venue, *Living Broadway*. Lazar is proud to be an honorary board member of the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation.



# 2022 ACADEMY AWARDS

**Arts Leadership Award of Excellence** is presented to an individual or group who has achieved a unique milestone in the arts that deserves recognition and honor.

**Distinguished Service Award** is presented to an American whose work stands as a monument to the importance of the arts in the lives of all people.

**Joe W. Giles Lifetime Achievement Award** is conferred upon a Tennessee teacher, whose life's work is widely acknowledged to have positively influenced the role of the arts in education, thereby benefiting the students of Tennessee's schools.

**Lamar Alexander Founder's Award of Distinction** is presented to an individual whose meritorious accomplishments in the fields of education and the arts have profoundly impacted American culture and life.

## Distinguished Service Award

1994 Charles Strouse, Broadway composer  
1995 Charles Fowler, arts educator, writer, and advocate  
1996 Jerome Lawrence, playwright  
1997 Lorin Hollander, concert pianist and philosopher  
2000 Scott Ellis, Broadway theatre director  
2000 Mary Costa, opera singer  
2001 Sheldon Harnick, Broadway composer  
2001 Tina Packer, Shakespeare actor and director  
2003 Bob McGrath, singer and host of *Sesame Street*  
2005 John Simon, author and arts critic  
2005 Dean Pitchford, songwriter, lyricist, screenwriter, and director  
2006 Andre Thomas, choral conductor  
2007 Joe DiPietro, Broadway playwright and lyricist  
2008 Henry Krieger, Broadway composer  
2011 Marvin Hamlisch, composer and pianist  
2012 Richard M. Sherman, composer and lyricist  
2013 Marc Cherry, Hollywood writer and producer  
2014 Rupert Holmes, Broadway playwright, composer, and lyricist  
2015 Richard Maltby Jr., director, lyricist, producer, and writer  
2016 Audrey Flack, painter and sculptor  
2016 Andrew Lipka, composer, lyricist, performer, and writer  
2016 Doc Severinsen, musician and bandleader  
2017 Christopher Durang, playwright  
2018 Tony Walton, scenic and costume designer  
2019 Jeff Calhoun, director and choreographer

## Joe W. Giles Lifetime Achievement Award

1995 Joseph Edward Hodges, Crossville  
1996 Freda Kenner, Bells  
1996 Sue Blass, Jackson  
1997 Elizabeth Rike, Knoxville  
1997 Celia Bachelder, Kingsport  
1998 James Charles Mills, Johnson City  
1998 Gene Crain, Memphis  
1999 Patricia Brown, Knoxville  
2000 Robert Pletcher, Nashville  
2000 Kathy Hawk, Kingsport  
2001 Tommie Pardue, Memphis  
2001 Tully Daniel, Memphis (awarded posthumously)  
2004 Marilyn duBrisk, Greeneville  
2004 Bobby Jean Frost, Nashville  
2005 Nancy Boone-Allsbrook, Murfreesboro  
2005 Sally Crain Jager, Cookeville  
2006 Michael Combs, Knoxville  
2006 Jean R. Thomas, Chattanooga  
2006 Mitchell Van Metre, Knoxville  
2007 David Logan, Johnson City  
2010 James R. Holcomb, Memphis  
2011 Flowerree W. (Galetovic) McDonough, Knoxville  
2011 Joe W. Giles, Nashville  
2012 Richard Mitchell, Knoxville  
2013 Carol Crittenden, Nashville  
2014 Fred Patterson, Knoxville  
2015 Gregg Coats, Memphis  
2016 Ted Rose, Lebanon  
2017 Margaret Campbelle-Holman, Nashville  
2018 Linda Wilson Miller, Paris  
2019 Donna Anderson, Knoxville

**Lorin Hollander Award** is given to a Tennessean whose influence has benefited arts education in general and/or the Tennessee Arts Academy in particular. This award is named in honor of internationally renowned concert pianist Lorin Hollander, a special friend of the Academy.

**Partner in the Arts Award** honors an individual or business whose generosity and support have contributed in sustained and significant ways to the success of the Tennessee Arts Academy's mission.

**Spirit of Tennessee Award** recognizes an individual or group whose work exemplifies the highest standards of artistic endeavor and brings positive recognition to the place of the arts in the lives of Tennesseans.

## Lorin Hollander Award

1994 Cavit Cheshier, education executive  
1995 Steven Cohen, Tennessee state senator  
1996 Nellie McNeil, teacher and advocate  
1997 Tom L. Naylor, music educator and administrator  
1998 T. Earl Hinton, music educator  
1999 Jane Walters, educator and arts advocate  
2000 Martha McCrory, music educator  
2001 Solie Fott, music educator  
2008 Jeanette Crosswhite, arts education administrator  
2013 Pat and Thane Smith, arts advocates  
2014 Cindy Freeman and Michael Meise, music educators and arts advocates  
2019 Bill and Jeanette Watkins, arts leadership and education advocates

## Spirit of Tennessee Award

2000 Wilma Dykeman, writer  
2001 Jim Crabtree, theatre director and writer  
2002 Alice Swanson, arts education administrator and advocate  
2003 George Mabry, choral conductor  
2006 Dolph Smith, visual artist  
2009 George S. Clinton, Hollywood film composer  
2009 Jackie Nichols, theatre administrator  
2009 Michael Stern, symphony conductor  
2010 Cherry Jones, Broadway actress  
2015 Charles Brindley, visual artist

## Lamar Alexander Founder's Award of Distinction

2013 Senator Lamar Alexander, United States senator  
2014 Douglas Henry, Tennessee state senator  
2017 Bill Haslam, Tennessee Governor  
2018 Mark Norris, Tennessee Senate Majority Leader

## Arts Leadership Award of Excellence

2013 E. Frank Bluestein, Germantown  
2015 Music Makes Us, Nashville  
2016 Belmont University, Nashville

## Partner in the Arts Award

2008 Steve Spiegel, president of Theatrical Rights Worldwide

# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL & STAFF

## **E. Frank Bluestein**

Executive Director/Theatre Director



E. Frank Bluestein is the 1996-1997 Disney National Performing Arts Teacher of the Year and the 1994 Tennessee Teacher of the Year. *USA Today* named Bluestein as one of the top forty

teachers in the United States in 1998. Up until his recent retirement, he served as chairman of the Germantown High School Fine Arts Department and as executive producer for the school's three-million-dollar, Emmy Award winning television studio. Bluestein is a past winner of the American Theatre Association's John C. Barner Award and has served as an arts advisory panelist for numerous organizations, including the National Endowment for the Arts and the Tennessee Arts Commission. He spent several years as director of shows at Opryland, USA, and most recently wrote and directed the national touring production of *Beale Street Saturday Night* starring blues legend Joyce Cobb. In 2013, Bluestein was inducted into the Educational Theatre Association's Hall of Fame in Minneapolis.

## **Connie Marley**

Music Director



Connie Marley is retired after teaching twenty years at Freedom Middle School in Franklin, Tennessee. During her successful tenure at the school, her choirs consistently won superior ratings

at local and state choral festivals. Each year, her students were well represented in honor choirs at the local, regional, and national levels as well. Prior to her time in Franklin, Marley held teaching positions in Georgia, Texas and the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. Marley is also a past president of the Middle Tennessee Vocal Association and has served the organization in several other capacities. Currently, she is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association.

## **Libby Lynch**

Visual Art Director



Libby Lynch is the art instructor at Humboldt High School in Humboldt, Tennessee. She started her career in art education with the Shelby County school system after receiving degrees from Union

University, The University of Memphis, and Memphis College of Art. In 1991, she became a member of the Tennessee Art Education Association. Since joining, she has served in various leadership positions in the organization, working to ensure that as many children as possible have access to quality art instruction. In 2004, she was named Educator of the Year by the Tennessee Art Education Association and Sponsor of the Year by the National Art Honor Society. Lynch is also a jewelry designer, mixed media artist, and five-hundred hour certified yoga therapist. She combines her passion for art and yoga into mindful art workshops that she presents throughout the country.

## **Amanda Galbraith**

Arts Leadership and Administration Director



Amanda Galbraith is a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. For eighteen years, she served as an art educator with Bartlett City Schools in Tennessee. Galbraith

has served on the Tennessee Department of Education's subject matter expert committee, two standards revision committees, a textbook and instructional materials advisory panel, and numerous curriculum development teams. She has received the Tennessee Art Education Association's West Tennessee Art Educator of the Year award two times—in 2011 and 2013. In 2019, Galbraith was named the Tennessee Art Education Association's Art Educator of the Year. She is a frequent presenter at local, state, and national conferences.

## **Susan Ramsay**

Production Director



Before her retirement in May of 2008, Susan Ramsay was a music specialist at Franklin Elementary School in the Franklin Special Schools District and was named Teacher of the Year for that system. She has

received National Board Certification in Music and holds degrees from Peabody College and Middle Tennessee State University. Ramsay is past president of the Middle Tennessee Orff-Schulwerk Association and the Middle Tennessee Elementary Music Educators Association and has served as regional representative on the National Board of Trustees for AOSA. She has presented at Orff and Kodaly national conferences and for the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). She serves as an adjunct professor at several colleges and universities and maintains an active schedule of performances as a storyteller and as a musician.

## **Joe W. Giles**

TAA Founder and Dean Emeritus



Joe Giles is founder of the Tennessee Arts Academy and former director of the Arts Education Program of the Tennessee Department of Education. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in music education

from Austin Peay State University and has done additional study at Peabody College, Middle Tennessee State University, and Fisk University. Mr. Giles is past president of the Southern Division of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) and of the National Council of State Supervisors of Music. He taught music in Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools for twenty-two years, has taken choral groups on concert tours in Europe, and has received gold and silver medals in international music festivals

# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL & STAFF

## TAA Professional Services Personnel

### Jeff Kirk

Belmont State Grant Administrator



Jeff Kirk is the associate director of performance studies of the School of Music at Belmont University, where he teaches courses in advance contemporary arranging and directs Jazz Band I, Belmont's

premier jazz ensemble. Kirk has degrees from the University of Memphis, Belmont University, and the University of Miami. He has extensive recording experience, including television jingles for Ford, Toyota, and several local and national retail stores. He has toured with Pure Prairie League and Maynard Ferguson and has been the headline act for Big Orange Jazz Festival, Fort Lauderdale Festival, Kool Jazz Festival, Atlanta Jazz Festival, Summer Lights Festival, and more.

### Robinson Regen

TAA Foundation Director of Development



As one of the cornerstones of the Nashville nonprofit community, Robinson Regen has more than twenty years of experience in the nonprofit sector and currently serves as a consultant for organizations

throughout the region. Regen has successfully managed capital campaigns, strengthened fundraising programs, evaluated organization governance, built awareness among community volunteers and leaders, and worked with various boards of directors. Her nonprofit experiences and significant involvement in the community enable an organization to execute its strategic goals and deliver on promises to the community. Before beginning her consulting career, Regen spent nearly a decade in fundraising and leadership with three social service agencies and has served on numerous boards or volunteered with organizations, mainly in a leadership capacity.

### Jesse Strauss

TAA Foundation Grant Writer



Jesse Strauss is a grant writer and classical percussionist based in Nashville, TN. As a musician and lifetime music appreciator, he has enjoyed writing for a variety of arts and cultural organizations. Strauss has worked for the

Nashville Symphony since 2018 and now serves as their grants manager. Strauss has procured federal, state, and private funding in diverse service areas and last year he helped raise over \$1.5 million dollars for more than 15 nonprofits. Strauss cofounded Make Music Nashville, a free day of music that brings outdoor concerts and participatory musical activities to neighborhoods around the city each year on the summer solstice. He is also the Assistant Artistic Director for the contemporary classical ensemble chatterbird. He holds a Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance from Belmont University, where he studied under Christopher Norton.

### Savannah Aiello

TAA Administrative Assistant



Savannah Aiello is a digital learning designer at Williamson County Schools. Prior to this position, she taught speech and theatre at Ravenwood High School in Brentwood, Tennessee.

In addition to her work in the schools, Aiello has consistently performed and worked with local children's theatre groups in the area, including Bravo Creative Arts Center and Williamson County Star Bright Players. She also currently serves as technical director at Independence High School. Recently, she was elected to the board of directors of her local community theatre, Pull-Tight Players, where she frequently stage manages shows and serves as a social media and Instagram moderator. Aiello graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and lives in Franklin with her husband Sean, who is an attorney and a Williamson County Commissioner.

## TAA Office Staff

### Melody Hart

Office Manager



Melody Hart earned a bachelor of music degree in bassoon performance from Ball State University in Indiana. After graduation she moved to Nashville and worked for Badger-Bogle, Architects as executive

assistant and bookkeeper from 1993 to 1998. She then began working with her husband, photographer Scott Schrecker, as office manager and bookkeeper. Hart also played bassoon for the Belmont University orchestra for several years. She plays bassoon with First Baptist Nashville's sanctuary orchestra, teaches private bassoon lessons in her spare time, and enjoys performing duets with her daughter Sammy, who is a harpist. Hart also enjoys teaching the arts to her son Scotty.

### Liz Friend

TAA Support Specialist



Liz Friend has a fine arts degree with a concentration in ceramics from West Virginia University. She moved to Nashville six years ago to teach pottery and clay sculpture at Vanderbilt's Sarratt Art Studios. For

three years, she was the lead teacher for the kindergarten age group at Sarratt Youth Art Institute. As an artist, Friend draws inspiration from nature and spends much of her free time hiking and backpacking. She also loves helping people and has more than ten years of customer service and managerial experience.

# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL & STAFF

## TAA Year-Round Support Staff

### **Madeline Bridges**

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Belmont Residence Life

Special thanks to Katie Mitchell for her assistance in coordinating the TAA visual art exhibitions.

## TAA TAA Program Book

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*Multiple events throughout the Academy week have been made possible by the generosity of the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board of Directors: Stephen Coleman (President), Joey Beckford, Chuck Blackburn, Cavit Cheshier, Rena C. Ellzy, Solie Fott, Bobby Jean Frost, Brandon Herrenbruck, Jim Holcomb, Patricia A. Hudson, Kami Lunsford, Flowerree W. McDonough, Ron Meers, Diana K. Poe, Wayne Qualls, Jim Rieniets, Pat Smith, Thane Smith, J. Tabor Stamper, Jeanette Watkins, William H. Watkins Jr., Talmage Watts, Joe West, and André Yovanovitch.*

*The Wednesday morning TAA breakfast is generously sponsored by the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board of Directors.*

## Outstanding Service to the Arts and to the Teachers of Tennessee



With the release of “A Nation at Risk” in April 1983, Americans faced a decade of increasing interest in education reform. In Tennessee, that emphasis took the form of Governor Lamar Alexander’s Better Schools Program, through which new tax dollars and expanded state programs were instituted.

For the first time, the Tennessee Department of Education began to play an active role in promoting the importance of the arts as an integral part of the education of all students. When a panel of prominent arts educators was convened to establish priorities, they included the importance of creating ways to train teachers in the effective use of new state curriculum frameworks in the arts.

In 1984, Joe Giles was appointed to the newly created position of Director of Arts Education for the State of Tennessee. Using the style of ancient Greek learning centers as his model, Giles conceived the idea of using the funds appropriated by the state to create a unique, modern-day “Academy” that would help raise teaching standards among the arts educators across Tennessee.

During the summers of 1985 and 1986, pilot programs were introduced in all three grand divisions of the state. Teachers flocked to the free weeklong events in which nationally known arts educators came to Tennessee and, using the

new arts frameworks as their guide, provided stimulating and intensive training for teachers of art and music.

From the beginning, a conscious decision was made that the Tennessee Arts Academy would be the top-of-the-line program in professional development for teachers of the arts. Each year the faculty, performers, and speakers have been chosen by applying stringent standards of personal and professional excellence, thereby ensuring that Tennessee’s teachers will not only acquire knowledge, but will be inspired and renewed in their efforts to fulfill the mission of educating the complete child.

After two years of remarkable success and in order to maximize the use of state funding, it was decided to institutionalize the summer program. The campus of Belmont University was chosen as a permanent home because of its central location, its aesthetic beauty, and its personnel, who were interested in working with the state to develop the new entity, the Tennessee Arts Academy. Cynthia Curtis, then professor of music education at Belmont and now retired dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, was selected as the Academy’s first dean.

The rest, as they say, is history. The Academy began with workshops in music and art and in 1988 was expanded to include theatre. Several years later, the Academy added classes in school

administration, which eventually evolved into the arts leadership and administration track. The multidisciplinary trio track and the arts integration, creative drama, and movement classes have all helped to broaden and strengthen the Academy’s curricular offerings. The first musers were invited to the Academy in the early 1990s. Many innovative ideas and events were incorporated into the daily schedule, including the Academy Chorale; the TAA professional, teacher, and student art exhibitions; vendor fair; artist market; and Academy Awards, all of which are now program mainstays. In the late 1990s, the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation was created to help financially support TAA.

In the year 2000, Jeanette Crosswhite assumed the role of Academy Dean. Arts Academy America was established in 2002, giving arts teachers from outside Tennessee the opportunity to become full participants in the Academy experience. In 2008 the TAA leadership torch was passed to Madeline Bridges and Frank Bluestein. Existing programs were expanded and new programs were initiated. In response to the Covid crisis, the Academy went virtual in both 2020 and 2021. And in 2022, the first TAA Virtual Winter Retreat was held as a way to help Academy participants refresh their skills, reenergize their spirits, and reconnect with faculty and colleagues.

After thirty-six years and much scrutiny and refining, the Tennessee Arts Academy continues as the longest running, premier summer program in America for kindergarten through twelfth grade teacher training in music, theatre and dance, and visual art. Since its inception, the Academy has trained more than seven thousand teachers and administrators. As of today, more than three-million students have been positively impacted by teachers who have attended the Tennessee Arts Academy. More significantly, the lasting benefit of the Academy endures and multiplies for years to come.

# TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY FOUNDATION

The Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established to aid and assist in the growth and expansion of the Tennessee Arts Academy and Arts Academy America. The TAAF Board of Directors shares in the belief that educators trained at the Tennessee Arts Academy are better equipped and motivated to serve their students, significantly raise achievement levels, and effect positive and lasting change in classrooms throughout the state.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board of Directors meets regularly to plan and implement programs designed to financially support the activities of the Academy.

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## TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY 2021–2022 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The TAA Alumni Association is open to all graduates and supporters of the Tennessee Arts Academy and includes a variety of member benefits.

### Valedictorian

Patricia A. Hudson  
Libby Lynch  
Gerald Jerome Souther

### Salutatorian

Paula Medlin  
Ron Meers

### Summa Cum Laude

Patricia Binkley  
Joshua Bolling  
Madeline Bridges  
Cavit Cheshier  
Gail Merritt Congdon  
Earl DeLong  
Brittany Embry  
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Melissa Flanagan  
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Terri King  
Janet Laws  
Connie Marley  
Flowerree W. McDonough  
Jerry Monds  
Susan Ramsay  
Bill Shinn  
Linda Sklar

### Magna Cum Laude

Marla Agee  
Francie Beard  
Nancy Beard  
David Chambers  
Charlene Cook  
Jennifer Gray  
Christine Jarrell  
Nancy Jolley  
Tekelia Kelly  
Lea Marshall  
Janis Nunnally  
Amy Marie Oliver  
Pollyanna Parker  
Timothy Parrish  
Wendy Skinner  
Anne Snider  
Michelle Tripp  
Kimberly Witz

### Cum Laude

Donna Anderson  
Saralyn Archibald  
Angela Beale  
Cynthia Beatty  
Lisa Benton  
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For further information on Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation sponsorship, contribution, and membership opportunities, please email us at [taa@belmont.edu](mailto:taa@belmont.edu), call the TAA office at 615-460-5451 or visit the TAA website at [www.tnartsacademy.org](http://www.tnartsacademy.org)

Tax-deductible gifts may be sent to: **Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation**

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*I Dwell in Possibility: Emily Dickinson Emerges:* Thurs, Dec 1 and 8.

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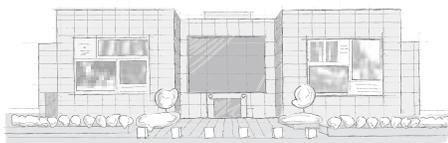
More information and tickets are available by contacting Cara McHugh Geissler at [caramchugh@tnshakespeare.org](mailto:caramchugh@tnshakespeare.org) or (901) 759-0620.



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Beauford Delaney (Knoxville 1901-1979 Paris), *Black-Red-Gold Abstraction*, circa 1963, oil on canvas, 25 1/2 x 21 1/4 inches, Knoxville Museum of Art, 2018 Delaney purchase, complete label available on [www.knoxart.org](http://www.knoxart.org)



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**Catch Jim's TAA sessions on Wednesday and Thursday**



**Jim Hoare, Executive Vice President of Education**

**Congratulations to our TRW TAA Theatre Scholarship Recipients!**

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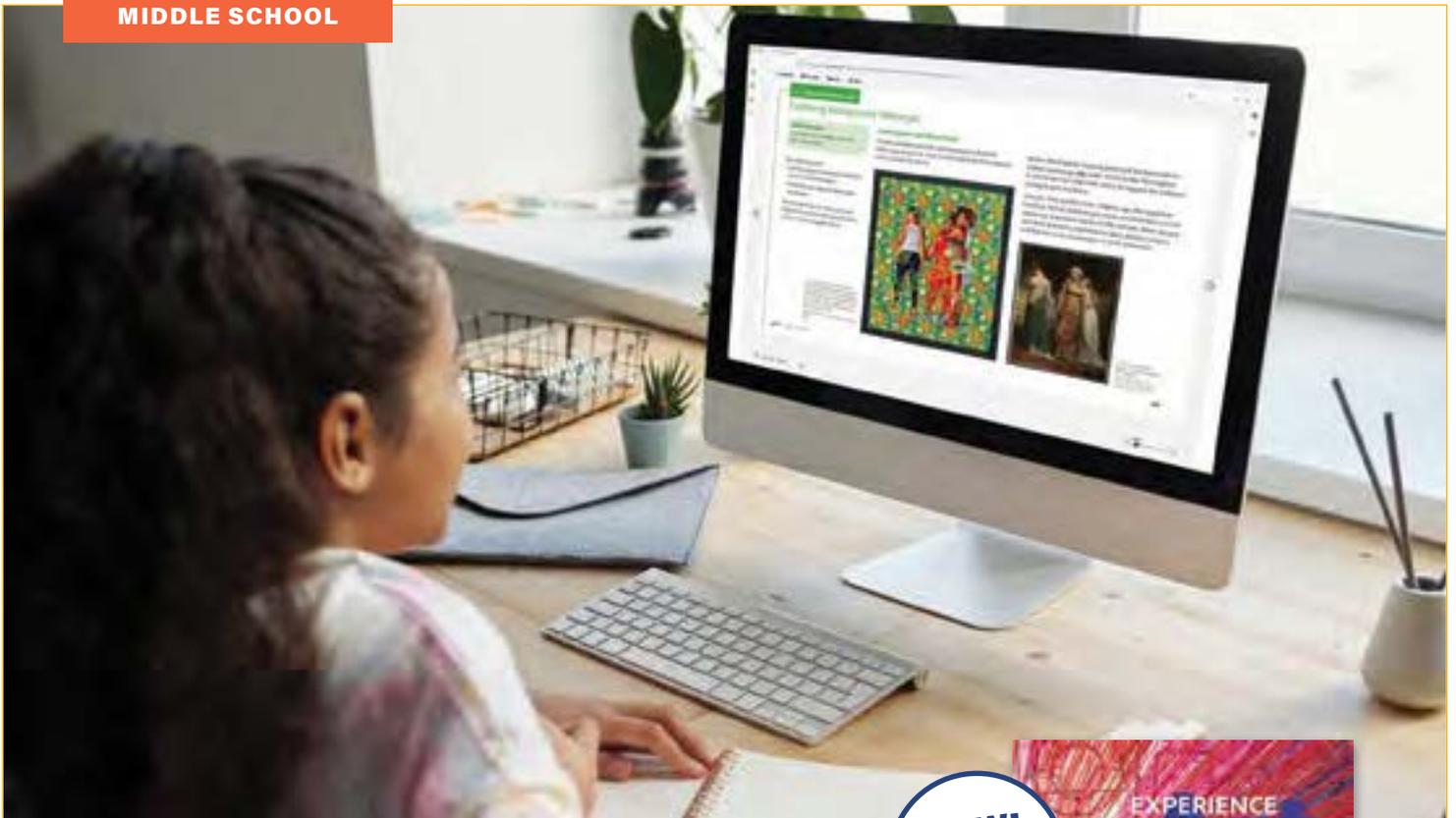
Shows: *Bright Star*, *The Addams Family*, *Beehive*, *Ghost*, *Curtains*, *Ring of Fire*, *We Will Rock You*, *The Prom*, and more

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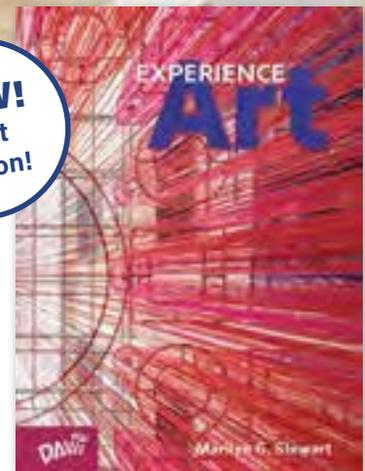
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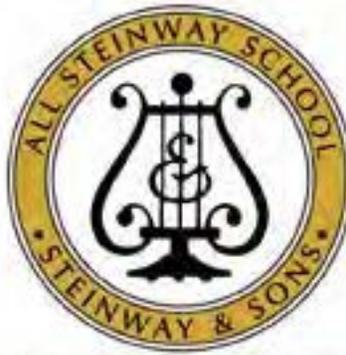
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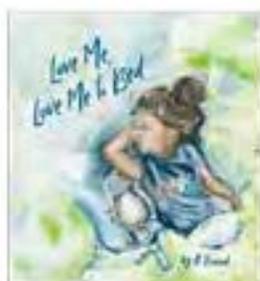


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# TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY



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Music Educator  
Middle Tennessee State University  
Lorin Hollander Award, 1998

In honor of  
**Solie Fott**  
Music Educator  
Austin Peay State University  
Lorin Hollander Award, 2001

And in honor of  
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**Frank Bluestein**

For their leadership, advocacy, and tireless efforts for the

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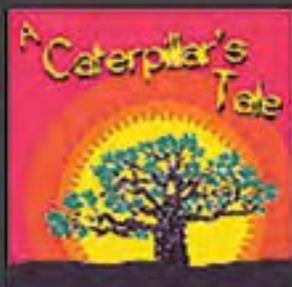


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2022-2023

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SOMETHING  
TO SAY



*The Diary of*  
Anne Frank



CLICK, CLACK,  
BOO!



HIP HOP  
CINDERELLA



llama llama  
red pajama



THE  
WIZARD  
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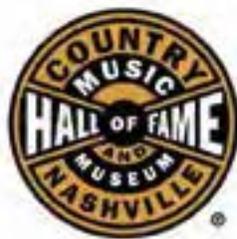
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### HATCH SHOW PRINT TOUR

Discover how a letterpress print shop established in 1879 thrives in the digital age. At Hatch Show Print, students learn about the letterpress printing process, from initial sketches to the final pass through the press—with a chance to hand-ink and print a limited-edition poster. They also explore the shop's connection to Southern entertainment and the history of graphic design.

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Celebrate fundamental freedoms through powerful American music, from rock to hip-hop and country. This high-energy program illustrates constitutional issues, including freedom of speech and the rights to assemble and to petition the government. Combine this program with a Museum tour to explore how country music connects with U.S. history and law.

*For admission details, a full list of programs, and specifics on how our programs align with state standards, visit:*

[CountryMusicHallofFame.org/SummerPrograms](http://CountryMusicHallofFame.org/SummerPrograms)



Museum programs are funded in part by the Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, and the Tennessee Arts Commission.

Museum admission or museum membership required for program attendance unless otherwise noted. Program passes required for select programs. See box office for details.

# BROADWAY

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Tennessee Art Education Association

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PROMOTE A COHESIVE PROFESSIONAL  
COMMUNITY THROUGH ADVOCACY,  
LEADERSHIP, AND PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

Building  
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for the arts

To learn more about the Tennessee Art Education Association including details about membership, professional development, conferences, and more visit our website!



More Information

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# TAEA Billboards Promote the Arts in Tennessee with Best in Show Winners

Each year the Tennessee Art Education Association promotes the importance of supporting the Arts in our schools by sponsoring three regional billboards in each grand division of the state of Tennessee.

This program rewards the students whose art was selected as Best of Show in each region by reproducing their artwork for community viewing.

Along with the photo, TAEA gives credit to the teacher and the school for all their effort in supporting and nurturing the winning student. The mission of the Tennessee Art Education Association is to advance quality visual arts education and to promote a cohesive professional community through advocacy, leadership, and professional development. By publicly acknowledging the accomplishments of both students and their teachers, TAEA is advocating a sequential K-12 visual arts program taught by highly qualified and licensed visual arts educators. This effectively communicates the importance of lifelong learning in the visual arts to our community and policy makers across Tennessee.

- by Jim Dodson



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**The mission of Trevecca's Center for Community Arts Innovation is to identify and solve the problems between artistic training and administrative community arts application.**

*In living out this mission, the center's purpose is to:*

- **EQUIP** arts leaders to innovatively accomplish their mission
- **TEACH** the tools and techniques necessary for efficient administration of a community arts program
- **SYNTHESIZE** principles, best practices, and emerging models for the management needed to operate a community arts organization
- **CREATE** unique strategies for the funding and development of community arts organizations
- **DESIGN** long -range vision and mission statements for community arts organizations

Trevecca University created the Center for Community Arts Innovation (CCAI) in response to the continuing education needs of community arts organizations and their leadership, management, and other builders and stakeholders. The CCAI looks to innovation to solve the problems that arise between artistic training and the vocational application of community arts organizations.

*Our approach to innovation recognizes that:*

- People are at the heart of every organization's mission
- Optimism then guides arts leaders in the experimentation and problem solving that arises from the tension of emerging ideas
- Finally, collaboration offers new possibilities for bringing sustainability to innovative ideas and the ongoing mission and work of any arts organization



**World-class Leadership: Tim Sharp (BM, MCM, DMA) is Executive Director of the American Choral Directors & Director of Center for Community Arts Innovation**  
[TWSharp@trevecca.edu](mailto:TWSharp@trevecca.edu)

Association (ACDA), the national professional association for choral conductors, educators, scholars, students, and choral music industry representatives in the United States. He represents choral activity in the United States to the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM).

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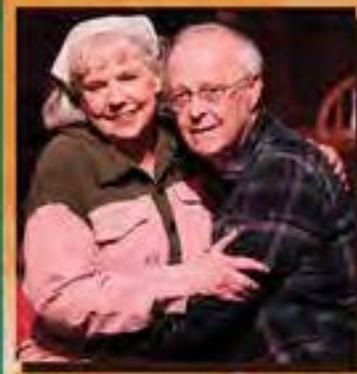
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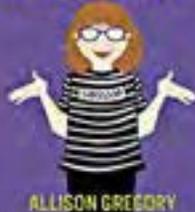
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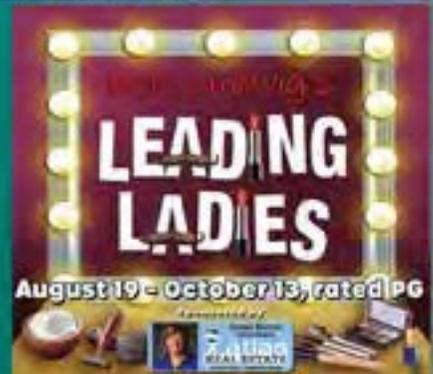


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