

Western Illinois University
Academic Affairs, Annual Reporting Documents —Deans
Academic Year 2022–2023

Due to Provost's Office: **May 12, 2023**

College of Fine Arts and Communication

The Purpose of These Documents

With this annual report, Deans and Chairpersons/Directors will align past and future work in their programs and in the colleges as a whole with wider planning in the Division of Academic Affairs, as well as with the University's larger Strategic Plan, *Higher Values in Higher Education, 2017-2027 (HVHE)*. Among other things, in the report Deans will describe what is unique about their College, document progress on enrollment, program development, and faculty development; document and develop recruitment and retention initiatives; and, finally, record and celebrate faculty, staff, and student successes and achievements.

In order to understand the context for these documents, please review the current version of the University's strategic planning document, as well as the supplemental planning documents on recruitment, retention, University distinctiveness, QC planning, and so on. All of these documents can be found at http://www.wiu.edu/aasp/university_planning/. Also, when reading the University's planning documents, please note the following vision, mission, and core values of the institution:

WIU Vision

Western Illinois University will be the leader in educational quality, opportunity, and affordability among regional public universities.

WIU Mission

Western Illinois University empowers students, faculty, and staff to lead dynamic and diverse communities. We provide student-centered undergraduate and graduate programs characterized by innovative teaching, research, and service, grounded in interdisciplinary, regional and global perspectives. We engage our students in educational opportunities guided by a professional and diverse faculty and staff in collaboration with alumni and community partners.

WIU Core Values

Academic Excellence

Central to our history and tradition is the commitment to teaching, to the individual learner, and to active involvement in the teaching-learning process. WIU's highly qualified, diverse faculty promotes critical thinking, engaged learning, research, and creativity in a challenging, supportive learning community. Western is committed to an academic environment that encourages lifelong development as learners, scholars, teachers, and mentors.

Educational Opportunity

Western values educational opportunity and welcomes those who show promise and a willingness to work toward achieving shared educational goals. WIU is committed to providing accessible, high quality educational programs and financial support for our students.

Personal Growth

Because Western values the development of the whole person, WIU is committed to providing opportunities for personal growth in an environment that supports the development of wellness, ethical decision making, and personal responsibility.

Social Responsibility

Western is committed to equity, social justice, and diversity, and will maintain the highest standards of integrity in our work with others. WIU serves as a resource for and stimulus to economic, educational, cultural, environmental, and community development in our region and well beyond.

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1. What is unique and special about your College?

The primary focus of the College of Fine Arts and Communication is to provide exposure to and training for artists, professionals, and scholars. Students will comprehend the complexity of visual and performing arts, communicative arts and sciences, and interactive media through the study and applications of the aesthetics, creativity, history, and theories. The College showcases the various modes of expression that define communication and the arts, serving as a major cultural center for the region as it seeks to educate both the campus and community in how the arts and communication serve, inform, and contribute to the totality and quality of life. We also encourage and nurture continued faculty growth as artists, scholars, and teachers. The College is committed to expanding recruitment/retention activities and enrollment for our programs through participation in Discover Western and WIU admissions activities, visits to area high schools, colleges, and universities, and conducting individual meetings and virtual events with prospective students and parents. The College is also committed to utilizing online and social media marketing tools in an effort to community/regional schools, art organizations, museums, clinics, retirement homes, and hospitals to expand our mission throughout the Macomb community and Western Illinois. All of our programs, students, and faculty make an impact in the community. With the construction of the Center for Performing Arts, synergies between the community, university and the region, and a renewed belief in how the Arts Matter, COFAC has proven time and again to be one of the showcase units at WIU.

2. Enrollment growth possibilities in your College

Include in this description, where possible, market data, audience profiles, national trends, employment data, and other indicators of market potential.

Arts Leadership degree. The Department of Theatre and Dance has been working on establishing a degree option within the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) program. We feel the degree will provide another unique curriculum offering in the college. Students will have opportunities to hone their skills in the COFAC Recital Hall and the WIU Center for Performing Arts.

Bachelor's Degree in American Sign Language. Our rapidly growing minor in ASL has shown that the need is ample in our region for a full degree in American Sign Language.

Clinical Doctorate for Audiology (Au.D.). The Speech Pathology and Audiology department's hearing clinic has continued to be vital to the stability of the undergraduate majors and graduate students. Revising the audiology graduate program will increase the services that the department can provide to the local community. Students who graduate from the undergraduate program will have the option of applying for the M.S. in Speech Pathology, the clinical doctorate in Audiology, and/or dual-certification. These types of options are excellent for recruiting and retaining students.

Students who successfully complete the degree will be eligible for state licensure and depending on their completed degree, Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC/A). After completion of the AuD program at WIU, students would be prepared to enter the healthcare profession to provide patient-centered care in prevention, identification, diagnosis, and evidence-based treatment of hearing, balance, and other auditory disorders for people of all ages. Students earning the degree will be able to seek jobs in hospitals, schools, university clinics, nursing homes, private practice, industry, and many other employment settings. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projections (2016), the number of employed audiologists will increase 20% before 2026. This rate is notably faster than the 7% average growth rate for all occupations.

With the construction and completion of the Center for Performing Arts, The School of Music and the Department of Theatre and Dance have a once in a lifetime opportunity for growth. With support from enrollment management, all areas within the college can benefit from this new exposure, as well

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as the university as a whole. We are proud to be leaders in the effort to remind all that this university is growing.

3. Barriers to growth in your College

Loss of Talent Grant/Tuition Waiver funds. The allotment of these funds for our programs has been cut every year. Those funds assist in recruiting quality students. These reductions have impacted our programs ability to remain competitive with other institutions in the state. Competition for talented arts students continues to grow. Just like a talented quarterback or lineman for football, a talented trumpeter has multiple college offers to weigh. We do not have to be the highest offer, (though we do need to be competitive) but we have to be the best. We have a rich tradition of success and professionalism in our arts programs, but we cannot falter in striving for the best talent as well. Cutting student support while putting \$120 million into the Center for Performing Arts seems counter-intuitive. We continue to find creative ways to support our students, but we need support from the institution as well.

Rising cost of graduate assistantships. The amount of funding for our graduate assistants needs to be adjusted for the increase in minimum wage rates. Otherwise, we will have fewer dollars to award and attract quality graduate students.

Competitive faculty salaries. Some of our faculty have valuable professional experience in their fields. It has been difficult to hire and keep some faculty, especially those who are hired at the temporary, Unit B faculty salary levels. We spend an extraordinary amount of time and money on searches for these positions only to have a number of them stay a year or two.

The need for facility and equipment upgrades. A lack of repairs and improvements to facilities, especially impacting our accredited programs, have impacted recruiting efforts and the quality of the educational experience for our students. These facility impairments also make our reaccreditation efforts extremely challenging.

4. Enrollment

Institutional Research will create a "College Profile" for Deans and Chairpersons/Directors. Please note that most information can be found in the Fact Book. Include the following:

- a. *5 years of headcount enrollment by new freshmen, new transfer, new graduate, and continuing undergraduate and graduate students in your College*
- b. *5 years of headcount enrollment by race/ethnicity, gender, and country of origin*
- c. *5 years total credit hour production by Department/School*
- d. *Identify faculty-student ratio by College and Department/School, with explanation of disciplinary norms*

- a. 5 years of headcount enrollment by new freshmen, new transfer, new graduate, and continuing undergraduate and graduate students in college

New Freshmen

2018	78
2019	96
2020	116
2021	81
2022	113

New Transfers

2018	68
2019	79
2020	58
2021	55
2022	50

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New Graduate*

2018	53
2019	50
2020	77
2021	56
2022	49

*The Theatre Arts MFA performance program brings in a 3-year cohort. 2022 is a graduation year and 2023 will start a new class.

Continuing Undergraduate and graduate students

	UG	Grad	Total
2018	673	134	807
2019	664	133	797
2020	657	153	810
2021	569	154	723
2022	543	146	689 (including 14 second majors)

b. 6 years of headcount enrollment by race/ethnicity, gender, and country of origin

College of Fine Arts & Communication

Fall Term	International	American					Pacific		Two or More	Unknown	Male	Female	Total
		Black	Indian	Asian	Hispanic	Islander	White						
2017													
Undergrad	9	193	2	8	56	1	437	27	7	336	404	740	
Graduate	12	10	-	-	8	-	113	2	3	49	99	148	
Total	21	203	2	8	64	1	550	29	10	385	503	888	
2018													
Undergrad	10	168	-	6	54	1	407	19	8	287	386	673	
Graduate	15	5	-	1	6	-	100	4	3	47	87	134	
Total	25	173	-	7	60	1	507	23	11	334	473	807	
2019													
Undergrad	8	149	1	11	58	1	400	25	11	288	376	664	
Graduate	13	9	-	1	5	-	99	3	3	52	81	133	
Total	21	158	1	12	63	1	499	28	14	340	457	797	
2020													
Undergrad	6	164	-	9	61	-	380	26	11	285	372	657	
Graduate	8	10	-	1	6	1	120	3	4	62	91	153	
Total	14	174	-	10	67	1	500	29	15	347	463	810	
2021													

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Undergrad	7	127	1	10	47	1	338	26	12	237	332	569
Graduate	19	10	-	1	6	-	110	4	4	65	89	154
Total	26	137	1	11	53	1	448	30	16	302	421	723

Fall Term	International	Black	Indian	Asian	Hispanic	Islander	White	More	Unknown	Male	Female	Total
2022												
Undergrad	9	193	2	8	56	1	437	27	7	336	404	740
Graduate	12	10	-	-	8	-	113	2	3	49	99	148
Total	21	203	2	8	64	1	550	29	10	385	503	888

c. 5 years total credit hour production by department

COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022 Not Available in Fact Book 2022- 2023
FINE ARTS & COMMUNICATION	28,882	27,361	25,368	25,805	
Art & Design	4,252	3,812	3,430	3,380	
Broadcasting & Journalism	3,483	2,893	2,527	2,461	
Communication	9,032	8,739	8,011	7,991	
Museum Studies	583	499	448	462	
School of Music	6,366	5,909	5,770	6,412	
Speech Pathology & Audiology	1,952	2,035	2,121	2,285	
Theatre & Dance	3,214	3,474	3,331	2,814	

d. Identify faculty-student ratios by college and department, with explanation of disciplinary norms.

Faculty-student ratios in COFAC can vary, due to disciplinary norms and accreditation requirements.

NASAD Accredited requirements call for enrollment thresholds in some Art and Design studio courses to be 8 students for undergraduate courses and 5 students in graduates classes. Due to the unique nature of these courses, smaller ratios are needed in order to facilitate more individualized instruction. Individual interaction allows for immediate feedback encouraging student participation, supporting individual learning, and honing technical skills.

BC&J courses involving hands-on instruction in video, news and sports production are smaller.

Many SOM applied study courses also have smaller faculty-student ratios due to the unique nature of individualized and group instruction in these courses per NASM.

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The Museum Studies graduate program also has moderate ratios, which allow students to receive individual attention from faculty. This individual attention allows for immediate feedback encouraging student participation, supporting individual learning, and honing technical skills.

SPA courses involving faculty supervision of students conducting client diagnostic and screening also limit ratios due to ASHA national accreditation requirements.

NAST requires enrollment thresholds in dance technique or applied theatre classes to be 8 students for undergraduate courses and 4 for graduate courses.

5. Degrees conferred

Include the following:

- a. *Total number of degrees conferred for most recent academic year*
- b. *Total number of degrees conferred for most recent academic year per department and/or program*
- c. *Number of degrees conferred for most recent academic year per race/ethnicity, gender, country of origin*

- a. Total number of degrees conferred 2022: 140 UG, 50 Grad
- b. Total number of degrees conferred per department and/or program

Undergraduate	
Art & Design	13
Broadcasting & Journalism	31
Communication	43
Music	19
Speech Path & Aud	20
Theatre & Dance	14

Graduate	
Communication	3
Museum Studies	14
Music	17
Speech Pathology	15
Theatre	1

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COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS & COMMUNICATION

Undergraduate Degree Programs

	International	Black	Indian	Asian	Hispanic	White	Pacific		2 or more	MALE TOTAL	FEMALE TOTAL	TOTAL
							Islander	Unknown				
Art & Design		1			1	11				1	12	13
B.A. in Art		1			1	6				1	7	8
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art						5						5
Broadcasting & Journalism		14			1	13			3	22	9	31
B.A. in Broadcasting		3								2	1	3
B.A. in Broadcasting & Journalism		10			1	13			3	20	7	27
B.A. in Journalism		1									1	1
B.A. in Communication		10			7	24			2	22	21	43
B.M. in Music		2		2	1	11			3	6	13	19
B.S. in Speech Pathology & Audiology					4			1	1	1	19	20
Theatre & Dance		2			1	10			1	6	8	14
B.F.A. in Musical Theatre						9			1	4	6	10
B.A. in Theatre		2			1	1				2	2	4
TOTAL FINE ARTS & COMMUNICATION		29		2	15	83		1	10	58	82	140

Graduate Degree Programs

M.A. in Communication	3									1	2	3
Museum Studies						12		1	1	7	7	14
M.A. in Museum Studies						11		1	1	6	7	13
PBC in Museum Studies						1				1		1
M.M. in Music				1	2	13		1		12	5	17
M.S. in Speech Pathology	1	1				13					15	15
M.F.A. in Theatre						1				1		1
TOTAL FINE ARTS & COMMUNICA	4	1		1	2	39		2	1	21	29	50

c.

6. Retention of students

List retention initiatives for the following:

- a. Current students
- b. Transfer students

The College of Fine Arts and Communication prides itself in our retention initiatives. Year after year we tend to hold the highest or close to highest retention rates across the university

See COFAC Attachment #1

See COFAC Attachment #2

See COFAC Attachment #3

7. Recruitment of students

List recruitment initiatives for the following:

- a. First-year students
- b. Graduate students

The College of Fine Arts and Communication also prides itself in our recruitment initiatives. In a highly competitive marketplace, COFAC must continue to raise the bar on recruitment.

Partnering with Admissions and Enrollment Management would assist us greatly in our pursuit of talented, exceptional students in the arts and communication fields.

See COFAC Attachment #1

See COFAC Attachment #2

See COFAC Attachment #3

8. Recruitment and retention of faculty and staff

Describe the following:

- a. Initiatives to retain faculty and staff

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b. Plans to hire faculty and staff

While budget constraints always come into play in the search request process, the college is committed to filling critical positions while leaving empty lines where we can. As a vital team plays at the university, COFAC understands the need to be fiscally responsible in an effort to keep the university headed in the right direction. As we have shown time and again, COFAC is one of the colleges committed to returning funds and lines where possible.

As we recruit for fewer positions, excellence, diversity and need are critical for our continued success as a college. We strive to ensure all of our searches are thorough, allowing for the top candidates to reach the finalists level. We have to be great to be relevant. COFAC has always had a search and screen policy and will be revising it later this summer, in order to best serve all our areas as well as the university.

In terms of retention, the deans are actively committed to illustrate support through attendance at numerous departmental events and meeting individually with faculty.

Our faculty peer mentoring program was shelved for a year due to the shift in personnel at the dean level. This coming year we will revise and activate this program again. These peer mentoring sessions will cover relevant topics for both new and tenured faculty.

9. Courses

Include the following:

- a. Total number of general education courses*
- b. Total number of FYE courses*
- c. Total number of major courses*
- d. Total number of independent study, internship, and other courses*
- e. Total number of graduate courses*
- f. Number of courses offered through Macomb campus*
- g. Number of courses offered through QC campus*
- h. Number of courses offered through Online campus*

- a. 199 total general education courses (67/52/0) FS22/SP23/SUM22
- b. In 2022-2023 COFAC offered 11 FYE courses
- c. 938 (430/429/79) total number of major courses
- d. 72 (27/27/22) total number of independent study, internship, and other courses
- e. 253 (117/111/25) total number of graduate courses
- f. 1012 (468/472/72) number of courses offered through Macomb campus
- g. 23 (14/13/5) number of courses offered through QC campus
- h. 101 (42/37/22) number of courses offered through Online campus

10. Number of new and revised academic programs

Include the following:

- a. New major options (include audience for the program and aspect of mission served by the program)*
- b. New minors (include audience for the program and aspect of mission served by the program)*
- c. New certificates, emphases, or other (include audience and aspect of mission served)*

No major or revised academic programs. Changes were minor and were at the course and program level. Art and Design is in the process of adding the MAT option (alternative licensure in teaching)

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All programs will be looking at curricular review in line with the Strategic Planning Process in each area. Speech Pathology revised their curriculum recently especially on the graduate level to reflect the reality of the summer clinical program. This brought about a better structure and a more accurate reflection of tuition for summer.

11. Eliminated academic programs

List eliminated majors, minors, other

N/A

12. Faculty activities

Include the following:

- a. Achievements*
- b. Professional development*
- c. Outreach and significant service*
- d. Research (books, articles, conference presentations, other)*

ART AND DESIGN

Czechowski, Susan -

- Elected to the Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI) Board and is serving has the organizations Treasurer.
- Equinox, Western Illinois University Art Gallery, Macomb, Illinois (small group show)

Holz, Keith -

- Invitation from *Austrian History Yearbook* (Cambridge University Press) accepted in August 2022 to review Charles Dellheim. *Belonging and Betrayal: How Jews Made the Art World Modern*. Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press, 2021. (653 pp., in progress, not yet credited)
- "Kokoschka views the new world order from postwar London (1945-1951)," in: *Sites of Interchange: Modernism, Politics, and Culture in Britain and Germany, 1919-1951*," edited by Robin Reisenfeld and Lucy Wasensteiner. Series "German Visual Culture," edited by Christian Weikop. New York and Frankfurt: Peter Lang Verlag, January 2022, 283-302. ca. 5,200 words.
- "Oskar Kokoschka's American Campaign," in *Oskar Kokoschka: New Insights and Perspectives*, edited by Régine Bonnefoit and Bernadette Reinhold. Berlin: deGruyter Verlag, October 2021, 168-203. ca. 6,300 words (each English and German)

Howard, Bill -

- 2022 Summer Stipend Award
- Macomb Beautiful Gelsosomo's mural - facilitated, designed, painted, and supervised.

Knavel, Jenny -

- *The Floating World*, Joe McCauley Gallery, Heartland CC, Normal, IL (4-person invitational)
- *Nature of Hackmatack Art Show*, 10th Anniversary Celebration, The Dole, Crystal Lake, IL
- *Equinox*, Western Illinois University Art Gallery, Macomb, IL (3-person show)
- *Midwest Views*, Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fibers, Cedarburg, WI (group show)

Ta-Teh Ku -

- Performing Art Society Grant for Community Art Program, 12th Award, WIU PAS, Macomb, IL

Lindquist, Sherry -

- Kress Subvention grant from the Renaissance Society of America, \$3000
- "Political, Artistic, and Existential Borders in the Hours of Thomas Butler," Leeds International Medieval Congress, 2022. Session: "Transgression and Conflict in Multi- Text Manuscripts," organized by Mary Bateman.

Oursler, Duke -

- Collaborated with Modelo USA, created artwork for Midwest city inspired glassware, Chicago, IL
- Commission Concrete Inlay Pavers, Suwanee GA, City Amphitheater

Shelly, Ian -

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- Shapes of Influence, National Juried Exhibition, Springfield, Illinois - Juror: Jennifer Holt
- Partners in Art, Local Invitational, Macomb, IL
- Small Works, Invitational Exhibition, Rushville, IL
- DelectABLE - The Fine Art of Dining: Sixth Biennial National Functional Ceramics Exhibit, National Juried Exhibition, Denver, CO - Juror: Andrew Clark
- Down on Paper, National Juried Exhibition, Pittsburgh, PA
- Impressions - The art of the Print, National Juried Exhibition, Tubac, AZ - Juror: Jennifer Clarke
- The Unknown Nature of Being, National Juried Exhibition, Tubac, AZ - Juror: Josh Goldberg
- Innovations in Printmaking and Mixed Media, National Juried Exhibition, Denver, CO- Juror: Mellanie Yazzie
- Dirty South Mug Competition, National Juried Exhibition, Alexandria, LA - Juror: Renee LoPresti
- Modern Craft, National Juried Exhibition, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Light & Shade, International Juried Exhibition, Las Laguna Gallery (Online)

Waldrop, Tim -

- "Close to Home" Solo Exhibition, University Art Gallery, WIU, Macomb, IL

BROADCASTING & JOURNALISM

- Academic Advisor Jennifer Grimm continues to guide students across our major, providing them with a keen understanding of existing requirements and degree paths, in ways that help students progress from where they are in college to where they wish to be in the professional world.
- Instructor and Chief Broadcast Engineer Ken Clayton helps the technical elements of the news and sports broadcasting programming run smoothly, with a close eye toward creative solutions in a variety of situations.
Professor Will Buss is guiding students as adviser to both the Western Courier newspaper and 88.3 The Dog radio station. He looks for ways to help students apply the lessons they learn in the classroom to hands on campus media scenarios.
- Dr. Eun Go is working on a variety of departmental committees, especially to guide assessment and future planning processes. Her efforts are helping show a way to both streamline and refine curriculum, identifying linkages between courses.*
- Dr. Jessica Martin's students are actively engaged in the production of "Live at Four" a live weekly newscast that takes place on the third floor of Sallee Hall on the Macomb campus. Students take charge of the entire production process, handling both behind the camera and in front of the camera, roles.
- Professor Pechulano Ngwe Ali's BCJ 200: AP News Writing and Reporting class recently went on a field trip around campus to learn about reporting community issues. Their work featured a suicide prevention campaign by an organization called Active Minds (which is seeking to 'Send Silence Packing'), in partnership with the Counseling Center at WIU.
- Professor Quintin "Q" Parker continues to guide students on the field and in the classroom across sports broadcasting and production courses. He is particularly engaged in encouraging students to try out new (to them) roles, either in front of or behind the camera, as the case may be. His students are also actively producing the Leatherneck Insider on the 3rd floor of Sallee Hall.
- Dr. Yong Tang continues his engaged teaching and broad service efforts. Recently, he led his Mass Media Law students through an engaging moot court exercise. Students assumed the roles of famous media law court case characters and Dr. Tang even donned a judge's attire for the occasion.
- Office Manager Kelsey Ault continues to provide vital assistance to department colleagues and the department chair as BCJ works to understand the past, embrace the present and work toward the future.
- Department Chair Dr. Peter Gloviczki recently had four short essays accepted for

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publication in scholarly journals. These new writings explore the relationship between the self and the social in a media context. They are forthcoming in *Qualitative Inquiry*; *Critical Studies/Cultural Methodologies*; *The International Review of Qualitative Research* and *Journal of Autoethnography*

COMMUNICATION

Department of Communication faculty published six articles/books over the past year, made six presentations to regional and national conferences, and engaged in the delivery of thirteen professional workshops. Additionally the following faculty/staff achievements are noteworthy:

- Dr. Chris Carpenter was named to a national list of the top 1 percent of academic publishers in Communication research.
- Assistant Professor Stacey Macchi conducted four training and development workshops at the Illinois Emergency Management Training Summit in Springfield, IL.
- The Department of Communication at Western Illinois University was named the recipient of the 2022 National Communication Association's Rex Mix Program of Excellence Award.
- Dr. Danyang Zhao delivered the annual Thompson Lecture with her presentation on "Media 'Therapy' and Growth Durring the Pandemic: Exploring the Associations Between Media Use, Resilience, and Post-Traumatic Growth."
- Assistant Professor Stacey Macchi gained status as a Nationally Certified Online Profile Expert (NCOPE) through the National Resume Writers' Association (NRWA).
- Dr. Josh Averbeck received the Top Paper Award from the Strategic and Applied Communication Interest Group of the Central States Communication Association for his paper "An Integrative Model of Behavioral Approach to Reduce the Use of Adderall as a Study Aid on College Campus."

MUSEUM STUDIES

Heidi Lung

Professional Service:

President, Iowa Museum Association, 2018 – 2022

Regional Representative for the Award of Excellence Selection Committee, American Association for State and Local History, 2020 – 2023

Content Advisory Committee, Alliance of American Museums, 2023

Grant Reviewer, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 2020-2022

Professional Mentor, STEPS-IMA, Iowa Museum Association, 2021-2023

Presentations:

2023 *Teaching Iowa History with Primary Sources*, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

2022 *Barriers to Engagement*, Iowa Museum Association, online session

2022 *Interpretive Approaches*, Iowa Museum Association, online session

2022 *Engaging Museum Visitors*, Iowa Museum Association, online session

2022 *Evaluation: A Necessary Part of Our Process*, Iowa Museum Association Conference

Angela McClanahan-Simmons

- November 2022, Chaired and presented a session at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA

-March 2023, Submitted peer-reviewed journal article to the *Journal of Contemporary Archaeology*

MUSIC

Dr. Mike Fansler, Director of Bands, conducted a performance with eight WIU music professors at the Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago and performed as guest conductor of the United States Navy Band at the 88th American Bandmasters Association Convention.

Dr. Jason Hawkins, Assistant Director of the School of Music, presented two sessions on assessment and technology at the Florida Music Education Association Conference in Tampa, FL.

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Dr. Brian Winnie, Director of Choral Studies, presented a session on musical expression and vocal technique at the World Choral Expo in Lisbon, Portugal.

Dr. James Romig, Professor of Theory and Composition, released an album titled *The Complexity of Distance* on New World Records and was a guest artist in residence at Bard College and William Paterson University.

Dr. Jena Gardner, Assistant Professor of Horn and Director of the Community Music School, received the Provost's Award for Academic Excellence in Teaching and continued to increase enrollment in the Community Music School with expanded classes and lessons for students of all ages.

Dr. James Land, Assistant Professor of Tuba, served on the faculty of the Interlochen Arts Camp and Indiana University Summer Music Clinics, and he performed several concerts as guest artist with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Suyeon Ko, Assistant Professor of Flute, was appointed flutist with the Des Moines Metro Opera Orchestra beginning with their Summer 2023 season, performed at the National Flute Association Conference in Chicago, and performed as soloist with the WIU Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Kenny Lee, Director of Orchestral Activities, performed and presented masterclasses as a member of the Parrish Trio at the Fine Arts Center in Greenville, South Carolina.

Dr. Whitney Ashe, Director of Jazz Studies, presented a workshop at the 2023 Illinois Music Education Conference in Peoria, IL.

Dr. Paul Chinen, Assistant Professor of Oboe, performed as soloist in a world premiere of an oboe concerto by Robert W. Smith with the WIU Wind Ensemble.

Dr. Hong-Da Chin, Assistant Professor of Composition, performed his compositions at the Western Michigan University Electronic Music Concert in Kalamazoo, MI.

Dr. Rich Cangro, Professor of Music Education, presented lectures on music education at the Uludag University in Bursa, Turkey.

Courtney Blankenship, Associate Professor of Music Business, presented at the NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Show in Anaheim, CA.

Emily Sevcik, Assistant Professor of Music Therapy, presented at the Great Lakes Region of the American Music Therapy Association 2023 Conference in Fort Wayne, IN.

Dr. Natalie Landowski, Director of Keyboard Studies, presented at the Illinois State Music Teachers Association Fall Conference.

Charlie Chadwell, Assistant Professor of Saxophone, was appointed Conference Planner for the College Music Society, and he performed as soloist in the premiere of a concert by James Stephenson with the WIU Wind Ensemble.

Dr. Bruce Briney, Professor of Trumpet, will retire at the conclusion of this academic year after 30 years of distinguished service and welcomed numerous students, faculty, and alumni to the Festival of Trumpets celebration in March.

John Mindeman, Associate Professor of Trombone, will retire at the conclusion of this academic year after 23 years of distinguished service and composed a new work for trumpet and wind ensemble premiered by Dr. Bruce Briney and the WIU Wind Ensemble.

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We have faculty who are involved in professional organizations:

Julie Cox is Conference Track Chair for Neurogenic Communication Disorders for Illinois Speech-Hearing Association (ISHA).

Angi Martin serves as the VP of Audiological Affairs for ISHA and Michael Sharp is on the Healthcare Economics Committee for American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Publications. Angi Martin and Julie Cox have published a book chapter in this current academic year (2023).

THEATRE AND DANCE

Lysa Fox – ALMOST, MAINE – Director (Grant Street Theatre); WORKING – Director (Actors Theatre of Indiana) (MITTY AWARD WINNER); URINE TOWN – Director (Idaho State University).

Hadley Kamminga-Peck – UNDONE: THE LADY M PROJECT – Co-writer/Collaborator (Local Theatre Company, Denver); LEGALLY BLONDE – Director (Timberlake Playhouse); MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR – Director (Festival 56); KC/ACTF Illinois State Representative.

Rebel Mickelson – Illinois Theatre Association Theatre Board Representative; LEADING LADIES – Costume Designer (Cumberland County Playhouse).

Carolyn Blackinton – CHICAGO FIRE – Merle's Mom (TV Series).

Steven House – Illinois Theatre Association Board of Directors; Performing Arts Society – GALA Designer; BATTLE OF THE BRUSHES- Painter (Macomb Arts Center); Scenic Designer – Clinton Area Showboat Theatre; Scenic Painter – Santa Fe Opera.

Josh Wroblewski – Young Playwrights Festival (Chicago) – Lighting Designer; FENCES at Fit Theatre in Las Vega – Lighting Designer; RENT at Omaha Community Playhouse – Lighting Designer; SCHOOL OF ROCK at Omaha Community Playhouse – Lighting Designer.

Adam Lewis – BAREFOOT IN THE PARK – Director (Playcrafters Barn Theatre); Performer - Guys in Ties; Performer – Comedy Sports.

DC Wright – Fight/Intimacy Director for MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR at Festival 56 in Princeton, Illinois; Fight/Intimacy Director for THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG at Circa '21 Playhouse in Rock Island, Illinois; Fight Director for the WIU Mainstage production of ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL; Fight Director for WIU Faculty Showcase production of MARGARET OF ANJOU; Instructor at the Dueling Arts International Winter Workshop; Instructor at the Central Illinois Stage Combat Workshop; Instructor at the Central Illinois Stage Combat Teacher Trainer; Instructor at the Dueling Arts International Stage Combat.

Dan Schmidt – Technical Consultant and Rigger for YMCA of McDonough County Gymnastics and YMCA of McDonough County Circus.

Lisa Wipperling – CALENDAR GIRLS, SHOWBOAT, WEDDING SINGER, THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND - Performer (Clinton Showboat Theatre); Jazz at the Pub – Guest Artist (Jackson Street Pub); Women's Month At Wine Sellers – Performer (Wine Sellers);

Donald Laney – West Virginia Dance Company Tour – “Active Interference” (NEA Grant) Guest Artist with the West Virginia Dance Company. Performing a solo and group number. Performances are: Greenbrier Valley Theatre (Lewisburg, WV), Beckley Concert Association (Beckley, WV), West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV), Robinson Grand Theatre (Clarksburg, WV); Birke Fine Arts Symposium 2023 Grant; Dancer in *AHAVA AND THE RESIDUAL HOLOCAUSTS* - Choreography - Toneta Akers-Toler; Dancer in *4x4* - Choreography - Gerri Houlihan; Clinton Showboat *THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND* Choreographer; Master Class Teacher - Grier Dance Gala; *The Nutcracker* - Beckley Performing Arts and Beckley Dance Theatre, WV; Mid Atlantic Dance Intensive Master

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Teacher 2023 - Clay Center, Charleston, WV; Guest Adjudicator - Student Choreography-University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

TRI STATES PUBLIC RADIO

General Manager, **Heather Norman**, was chosen for the 5th cohort of the Public Media Diversity Leaders Initiative

Jane Carlson, part of the TSPR News Team received the following awards:

2nd place in Small Markets Investigative Reporting from INBA (Illinois News Broadcasters Association) for reporting on the closure of Cottage Hospital in Galesburg

2nd place in Small Markets Sports Reporting from INBA for reporting on the esports national champion at Carl Sandburg College.

TSPR brought NPR's National Justice Correspondent, Carrie Johnson, to Macomb in April. News Director, **Rich Egger**, held a conversation with her that was attended by local residents and live-streamed (and recorded) for others to view.

Music Director, **Ken Zahnle**, produced a mini program for Black History Month. The program, *Classically Black*, aired weekdays in February. Each 2 min program featured information about a composer of African descent. The episodes aired during breaks on *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*. Ken also featured a least one work by the day's featured composer on *Ovation*, TSPR's daily classical program.

The TSPR Development Team and General Manager attended the Public Media Development and Marketing Conference last July to learn best practices in fundraising and marketing for the station.

We received an Illinois Humanities Council Grant, to develop and produce a podcast series on Forgottonia. This is part of the IHC Foreground Rural Initiative

13. Grant activities and external funding

Illinois Arts Council Grant – BCA

Illinois Arts Council grant – Tri States Public Radio

Illinois Humanities Grant – Tri States Public Radio, Forgottonia Files

Mellinger Foundation grant – Speech Pathology and Audiology

Twelve (approx.) Externally Funded Graduate Assistantships

Corporation for Public Broadcasting – Tri States Public Radio

Radio Information Services, Illinois State Library Grant-WIUM/WIUW

14. Value of programming

Explain how departments, programs, and other aspects of your College add value to the educational experiences of Western's students.

The College of Fine Arts and Communication brings the visual and performing arts to the student population. We also feature media programming that keeps students informed and entertained. Our programs also serve the physical needs (speech and hearing) of students. We bring over 20,000 visitors to our campus yearly. Through Recruiting events, performances, gallery shows, recitals, lectures and our Speech and Hearing Clinic, COFAC serves as a major entry point for our region and beyond. From five to eighty-five years, we proudly welcome all our community and provides services second to none. With the completion of the Center for Performing Arts, we expect that impact to grow substantially. WIU and Macomb are truly THE ARTS DESTINATION for the region.

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COFAC Recital Hall

The Recital Hall offers an outstanding performance space for audiences to experience outstanding musical presentations through the year. The Recital Hall also provides five-camera live-streaming capabilities. The School of Music presents an average of 175 events each year in the Recital Hall.

Local News and Sports Coverage

Broadcasting and Journalism provide WIU and the local community with award-winning coverage of local news (NEWS3) and WIU sports events (ESPN+).

Speech and Hearing Clinic

WIU students can have their speech and hearing evaluated free of charge at the WIU Speech and Hearing Clinic, operated by the department of Speech Pathology and Audiology.

Theatre and Dance Productions

The department of Theatre and Dance produces 13-15 stage productions throughout the year. Students can attend the events for free.

Art Exhibitions and Events

The department of Art and Design holds student, faculty and guest artist exhibitions throughout the year at the WIU Art Gallery and other on-campus locations.

15. Student success

List the following:

- a. Student clubs and organizations in the College*
- b. Results of any student surveys in your College, including surveys on student success, program development, student satisfaction, etc.*
- c. All new initiatives in the College regarding student success*
- d. All initiatives to support underrepresented student populations in your College*

ART AND DESIGN

Molly Borth has 3 images in forthcoming WIU Elements literary magazine.
Grace Lessen has 2 images in forthcoming WIU Elements literary magazine

BROADCASTING & JOURNALISM

Broadcasting & Journalism Sophomore Jaycie Doerr won third place in an Illinois College Press Association (ICPA) competition, for an opinion piece published in The Western Courier. Doerr serves as editor-in-chief of the Courier, which is Western Illinois University's college newspaper. The awards were announced in mid-February during the association's annual conference, which was held in Chicago, Illinois.

Senior Kennedy Williams was selected as Honors College scholar.

COMMUNICATION

Major student achievements and recognitions for the 2022-2023 academic year include:

- Savannah Ballard, Fall 2022 Thompson Undergraduate Scholar Award
- Emmanuel Odunfa, Fall 2022 Thompson Graduate Scholar
- Emily Fielden, Fall 2022 Department Scholar
- Emmanuel Odunfa, Folake Okor, and Joyce Peter, working with Dr. Josh Averbek, earned a Top Four Paper Award from the Health Communication Interest Group of the Central States Communication Association for their paper "Regulatory Fit and STI Screening: Persuasive Effects of Regulatory Orientation on Message Regulatory Focus."

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- Maureen Roland, Spring 2023 Thompson Undergraduate Scholar Award
- Folake Okor, Spring 2023 Thompson Graduate Scholar Award
- Savannah Ballard, Spring 2023 Department Scholar
- Trevor Cook, Spring 2023 COFAC Student Leadership Award (Communication)

MUSEUM STUDIES

MST MA Graduates, December/May:

Emma Kohlman
Addison Marsengill
Jordan Miller
Olivia Newcomb
Elyse Nurenberg
Hope Stropes
Jacob Verplaetse
Seth Weinrich

Anna Griswold, appointed to Board Member, Buffalo Bill Museum (current student)

Elyse Nurenberg, appointed to Assistant Registrar, Figge Art Museum

MUSIC

Brett Dougherty is studying abroad in the 2022–2023 academic year at the Prince Claus Conservatoire in Amsterdam.

Joseph Runkle was a semifinalist in the International Trumpet Guild 2023 Orchestral Excerpts Competition

Joe Ross and Wesley Oliver were selected as recipients of the President's Innovation Award from the National Association of Music Merchants.

McKenna Churchill was a semifinalist in the 2022 Central Region National Association of Teachers of Singing competition.

The University Singers were named national semifinalists in the performance of American Music category of the American Prize national competition.

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Two honors students will present their theses at Undergraduate Research Day at WIU

THEATRE AND DANCE

University Dance Company at American College Dance Association Festival:

University Dance Company's "Innocence of the Siege" (Choreographed by Donald Laney) was selected as an Alternate for American College Dance Association Nationals. Dancers: Kelly Brown, Hannah Guilinger, Lily Wilson, Erin Forde, McGwire Holman, Jeremy Neale Cox, Bailey Grace Walker-Seiter, Nora Wragg, Tessa Luechtefeld, and Adriana Grams.

KC/ACTF (Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival Region 3): Tech Olympics "Spirit Award" – Montana Carlson, Rio Canas, Trevor Turner; Musical Theatre Intensive Finals – Izzy Maxwell, McGwire Holman, Kelly Brown; Stage Management Finals – Emma Wahlmann; Irene Ryan Acting Award Finalist: Ann Garcia, Kelly Brown, Izzy Maxwell, McGwire Holman.

BLITHE SPIRIT

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- Riley Francis
- Emma Quick

Student Design Nominations:

Trevor Turner – Lighting Design

Corinna Knighten – Costume Design

Student Stage Management Nominations:

Emma Wahlmann – Stage Management

Faculty Design Nomination:

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Steven House – Scenic Design

Recommendations:

- Recommended for Celebration of Associate Productions
- Recommended for Festival Costume Parade ~
Madame Arcati

WOMAN IN MIND

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- Taylor Clark
- Ben Patterson

LUCKY STIFF

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- McGwire Holman
- Joshua Kenebrew

Certificate of Merit:

- Alexander Graham – Stage Management

COLLECTIVE RAGE

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- Rowan LaFleur
- Ann Garcia

Certificate of Merit:

- Rio Cañas – Costume Design

Betties 2 and 3 costumes ~ Nominated for “Costume Parade”

SMALL MOUTH SOUNDS

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- Lauren Wagner
- Kelly Brown

Certificate of Merit:

- Meagan Morrow for Direction
- Bryan Zipp for Lighting Design
- Shelby Doyle for Costume Design
- Harrison Clarke for Stage Management

Recommended for Celebration of Associate Productions

Recommended for Festival Costume Parade ~ Ned & Joan

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- Kallie Scott
- Kena McCance

Certificate of Merit:

- Montana Carlson – Costume Design
- Trevor Turner – Lighting Design
- Craig Downing – Stage Management

Nominated for “Costume Parade” ~ Ensemble

CABARET

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- Jakob Innes
- Izzy Maxwell

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Student Directing Nomination:

- Courtney Crouse

Student Acting Nomination:

Student Ensemble

Student Design Nominations:

Bryan Zipp – Lighting Design

Rio Canas – Costume Design

Faculty Choreography Nomination:

- Donald Laney

Recommendations:

- Recommended for Celebration of Associate Productions
- Recommended for Festival Costume Parade-Kit Kat Club

THE GULF

Irene Ryan Nominees:

- Bailey Walker-Seiter
- Lauren Wagner

Student Design Nomination:

- Meaghan Morrow – Sound Design

16. Alumni highlights

List notable highlights from College alumni.

ART AND DESIGN

- Alanna DeRocchi - Won an \$18,000 fellowship grant from the Rasmuson Foundation. For Alaska artists this foundation honors the merit and significance of a life dedicated to serious artistic exploration and growth. The Foundation believes an artist's energy, ideas, and creative drive cannot bear fruit without time devoted to experimentation, education, and personal reflection.
- Keosha Westphal was chosen by a member of the artist activist group Pussy Riot from Russia for a feminist based NFT exhibition in NYC.
- Krissy Bergquist was just featured in 19th issue of Tattoo Industry Magazine.
- Jeff Hughes, Graphic Design professor, Savannah College of Art & Design, Savannah, GA
- Charley Pleshko admitted to MAF program at SUIC with full tuition scholarship.
- Alexis Sodaro, Graphic Design position at Post and Prairie Design Studio in Ottawa, IL
- Zoe Hughes, Multimedia Designer with Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., Fairfield, IA

BROADCASTING & JOURNALISM

Our alumni are regularly seeking to make connections with our current students, as they look to fill jobs and internships. Perhaps not surprisingly, this happens most often across Illinois, Missouri and Iowa, but it's throughout the country as well. I've taken calls this year from folks in Ohio, in Florida, and in California who are looking for WIU BCJ students to fill roles across media organizations because they know that WIU BCJ students have the skills they need at their organizations to do the right job the right way.

Our alums also regularly come back to campus. For example, BCJ alum Devin Brooks came to visit our "Live @ 4" television broadcast on Thursday February 23. Brooks now works at WQAD TV (Moline, IL/ABC affiliate) as a reporter and anchor. With him were the news director, meteorologist and production engineer from the station

COMMUNICATION

Numerous alumni participated in our Career Preparation Day during the Fall 2022 semester. Several alumni were invited to speak to selected classes over the course of the year

MUSEUM STUDIES

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Kelly Lao, Vice President of Museum Experiences
Liz Crooks, Director, Pentacrest Museums, University of Iowa
Nathan Kraft, Director Bix Beiderbacke Museum
Brian Allen, Director, German American Heritage Museum
Clair Tobin, Assistant Director, German American Heritage Museum
Vanessa Sage, Assistant Curator, Figge Museum
Ashlie Scott, Collections Assistant and Guest Services, Colorado Rail Road Museum
Neville Crenshaw, Special Exhibitions, Saint Louis Science Center
Abby Klug, Museum Specialist, Edwards Creative
Victoria House, Archaeological and Archival Collections Technician
Kenedy Heimerdinger, Digital Education Coordinator, State Historical Museum of Iowa
Kristen Michael, Executive Tours Coordinator, Buffalo Bill Center of the West
Matthew Toland, Director, Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology
Kelly Duffy, Deputy Director, National Museum of the American Sailor
Madison Basso, Curator, National Museum of the American Sailor
Chandler Cox, Volunteer Coordinator, Family Resources
Jeremy Murray, Curator of Collections, Carver County Historical Society
Jess Cruz, Exhibit Preparator and Outreach Coordinator, University of Northern Iowa
Melanie Wier, Assistant Curator, Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum
Emily VanWaardhuizen, Collections Coordinator, Karpeles Manuscript
Devin Oake, Curatorial Assistant, Putnam
Maryam Qaryaqs, Arabic Interpreter, Rock Island and Milan School District
Katie Conrad, Director at Rockwall County Historical Foundation Museum

MUSIC

Ric Furman ('98), performed leading roles at the Teatro di San Carlo in Italy, the Staatstheater Augsburg in Germany, and La Seine Musicale in Paris.

Margaret Gawrysiak ('02), was selected to be an understudy in *Peter Grimes* at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

Michael Rockstroh ('22), is nearing completion of the master's degree in euphonium performance at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, England.

Kyle Goldsmith ('22), was appointed Product Enrichment Specialist at West Music.

Adam Gorz ('15), was appointed Assistant Category Manager in Band and Orchestra at Sweetwater

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

None to report at this time.

THEATRE AND DANCE

Shantina Lowe (BA 2017)

Shantina Lynet' was seen this year on the Grammy Awards singing and dancing with Lizzo.

Amina Alexander (MFA 2020)

Recently Amina designed SUPERHERO at the Sheen Center in NYC. She has worked extensively as an assistant designer/associate designer in NYC and regionally. She got a shout out at the Tony's last year for the work she did on MICHAEL JACKSON: The Musical.

In St. Louis she was the Lighting Designer of STICK FLY at St. Louis Rep. Prior to that she was working in Boston as an associate designer for Aaron Copp on the Silkroad Musical Festival. While there she designed Alex Edelman's Comedy Show and then went on to Princeton University to design their Dance Festival at the end of January 2022. Since graduating from WIU Amina has worked with the production group SIMPLE SOLUTIONS as a designer/programmer and assistant production manager. They converted spaces, museums and warehouse into runways for New York Fashion Week! Amina spent a lot of time outside doing both lights and sound for their live events. She also designed Colin Quinn's Comedy Special. She served as the Lighting Assistant for the NYC Fall Dance Festival.

She is the Black Theatre Coalition (BTC) Fellowship Recipient for 2021. As part of her fellowship she will shadow and work with Kathy Perkins and Natasha Katz. Her first show with BTC was assisting Natasha Katz on MJ MUSICAL

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on Broadway. She is also the 2nd assistant to Jeff Crotier on BLACK NO MORE Off-Broadway. She is thrilled to have so many opportunities and looks forward to what her future holds!

Nissi Shalome (BFA 2019)

Nissi has her BFA in Musical Theater from Western Illinois University. She is currently in rehearsal for the Chicago premiere of PERSONALITY: THE LLOYD PRICE MUSICAL. She played CeCe in FACTOTUM at the Lyric Opera (Chicago); The Leading Player in PIPPIN, Mary Magdalene in JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR, Charlene in AIN'T MISBEHAVIN and Chiffon in LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS all at Timberlake Playhouse; Lil Inez in HAIRSPRAY at Crossroad Repertory Theatre; Martha in A CHRISTMAS CAROL at Drury Lane (Chicago); Ensemble/Swing in DREAMGIRLS at Paramount Theatre (Chicago).

She performed in her first national tour last summer in SUMMER: THE DONNA SUMMER MUSICAL as a swing!

Melody Betts (MFA 2009)

From the National Tour of THE SOUND OF MUSIC (Mother Abbess) directed by Tony Award Winner, Jack O'Brien was last seen in Broadway's AND the first National Tour of WAITRESS THE MUSICAL directed by Tony Award Winner, Diane Paulus. She is a lover of all things "art" and prides herself on living "outside the box". Melody received her Master's degree of Fine Arts from WIU and then went on to play in regional theaters all over the nation. You may have seen her as The Rain Lady in WITNESS UGANDA/INVISIBLE THREAD (2012-2015), The Ghost of Christmas Present IN A CHRISTMAS CAROL (Milwaukee Rep 2010-2012), Sylvia in the Marriott Theater's production of ALL SHOOK UP and The Courtesan in Chicago Shakespeare Theater's production of A COMEDY OF ERRORS. She cultivated her professional acting career in Chicago where she was last seen in the Jeff Award winning production of RAGTIME as Sarah's Friend. You may have also recognized her from her appearances on the TV shows: *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago Code*, *Chicago PD*, *Power* on STARZ and *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR LIVE* on NBC! As a singer/songwriter, Melody aspires to inspire and evoke love and worship. She has shared her mellifluous vocals on projects of worldwide favorites such as *Arrested Development*, *Joshua Generation*, *Funktelligence* and the *Conan O'Brien show*. Singing since the age of 4, Melody has refined a voice that possesses versatility and conviction

Tyler Herald (BA – Theatre; Production/Design 2016) is a New York-based scenic designer. He has designed environments for film, opera, dance, plays, and musicals. Additionally, he has helped to create immersive experiences, museum exhibits, and events. The focus of his work is to imagine emotionally evocative and compelling spaces within which a story or event can unfold. He endeavors to construct memories and experiences through design and storytelling.

Tyler admires the collaborative nature of this work and is excited about what possibilities can happen when everyone comes together. He is committed to the importance of new work, different ways of storytelling, supporting stories often unheard or overlooked and challenging the conversation—fostering a better industry and artform rooted in equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

Most recently Tyler designed TROJAN WOMEN, a world premier opera by Ellen McLaughlin and Sarah Taylor Ellis directed by Rebecca Miller Kratzer: a production that challenged audiences to “grapple with the Trojan horses—misogyny, white supremacy, partisanship—we have welcomed blindly into our own lives and allowed to fester for so long.” Other recent and favorite work includes: FAIRY TALES AND OTHER STORIES THAT SCARE ME—a filmed dream ballet that divulges into a nightmare, and TITUS ANDRONICUS—an immersive storytelling experience framed as a support group in a church.

In addition to his own work, Tyler has also spent his time in New York assisting Broadway scenic designer David Korins on various projects including: The Original Immersive Van Gogh, THE GREAT SOCIETY, The Hamilton Exhibition, the 91st Academy Awards, and TREASURES FROM CHATSWORTH. He also works with Adam Koch on various and ongoing projects as an assistant designer and model builder. Regionally, Tyler has assisted at numerous theaters including: Studio Theater, Signature Theater (VA), Fords Theater, Chicago Shakespeare, Olney Theater, the Kennedy Center (DC), and the Glimmerglass Festival

Tyler received his MFA in Theatre Design from University of Maryland and holds a BA from Western Illinois University. He is a proud member of USAA Union.

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17. Community and/or regional engagement from College:

List notable community and regional engagement activities.

In the fall and spring semesters, the School of Music offers the WIU Community School of Music, which provides high-quality, affordable, music instruction to the community. Instruction includes private lessons and group classes for people of all ages.

Each summer, the School of Music also offers the Summer Music Institute. Both Day and Resident Camps allow area youth to come to campus and have the opportunity to develop musical skills and knowledge in a fun-filled, nurturing environment. The Institute was held virtually in summer 2021. With recent review and reconfiguring of the summer programs they were brought under the auspices of the Community Music School. Currently enrollments stand at 120+.

While it had been postponed during the COVID pandemic, the College has brought area theatre talent, including local students in fourth grade through high school, to campus during the summer for our “SummerStage” production. After weeks of rehearsal, the event concludes with live productions available to the public.

This year's production is SCHOOL OF ROCK.



(A little shameless advertising!)

The Speech Pathology and Audiology clinic serves the community in many ways. Faculty and students diagnose and treat clients in the on-campus clinic. Additionally, they serve clients at Bridgeway, Elms, West Central Illinois Special Education Cooperative (Macomb), and Knox-Warren County Special Education Cooperative (Monmouth, Roseville, and Abingdon). The services not only provide a much needed service to our community members and our local school districts, but it is providing experience for our students.

Through the BCA, PAS and YPAS, we are providing exposure to the arts for not only the youth of Illinois (over 6,000 annually), but we are promoting and facilitating lifelong learning through the arts for everyone in our community in West-Central Illinois.

BCA

The Bureau of Cultural Affairs (BCA) has endeavored through the years to provide high quality, affordable performing arts programs for the citizens of West-Central Illinois, as well as the Western Illinois University (WIU) campus community. The BCA is unique in that it has a diverse membership, including college students, faculty, staff, administrators and members of the community. The students of the BCA have excellent role models from non-students who choose to volunteer with our organization and through their own involvement meet a wide variety of community members who have a passion for the arts. Our lectures, demonstrations and educational outreach activities provide the information needed to have a greater understanding of and appreciation for the arts. We strive to find opportunities to get artists into our community to help foster the idea that the arts can be anywhere, as well as bringing in students to witness the vast job opportunities related to the arts. The BCA strives for diversity within our programming

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bringing to western Illinois performances ranging from dance to nationally known comedians such as The Second City, Ryan Stiles, Larry Miller, and Jim Gaffigan, as well as internationally renowned violinist and Macomb native Benny Kim to the Tibetan Monks. The BCA brought to Macomb and the community a wide and varied assortment of artists, including Artrageous, Recycled Percussion, Doktor Kaboom, Ryan and Ryan Piano Duo, Step Afrika, and more.

YPAS

In normal years through the Youth Performing Arts Series (YPAS), we bring in students from pre-K to High School to our campus facilities to experience top-flight performances ranging from dance to music to theater. In recent years, the shows selected are geared towards a topic of conversation in the school system such as anti-bullying and pro-recycling. All students and teachers attend the YPAS performances free of charge and transportation expenses are also covered 100% for the bus expenses. For many of these Illinois children the YPAS performances are their first exposure to the arts, of any kind. The past two years, however, due to COVID-19, we offered the YPAS shows virtually through Zoom. This year, through a combination of Virtual and live events, we were able to expand our reach to a number of school districts in the 20 surrounding counties and provided arts entertainment to nearly 6,000 children.

18. Conclusion

The College of Fine Arts and Communication epitomizes what it means to be a Leatherneck. The members of our college; faculty, staff and students alike, believe in the mission of the college and this university. We will never be the largest, but we strive to be the mightiest. Our students learn from true professionals in their field, who are expected to continue practicing their craft professionally. Students are held to high standards of professionalism as well. Our performances, clinics, broadcasts, lectures and of course classroom instruction, allow students to learn and prepare for their futures as well as entertain and broaden our communities. The staff across the college is as dedicated as any and are exceptional in their commitment to all things WIU. We continue to do more with less year after year. Oftentimes, because of the college's unwavering commitment to Recruitment and retention, we feel we are left to our own devices. Seldom do we know what the plan is from the institution on support and assistance for COFAC. With the President's goal of Distinctiveness, our college can shine. We support events across campus every time we are asked. We believe in the all-for-one and one-for-all approach. We have embraced all of the President's priorities; Financial Sustainability, Institutional Distinctiveness, Internationalization, Student Success, Justice, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity. We have invested in the Provost's Academic Affairs Strategic Planning, OKR's and Swimlane priorities and are working to move Western Illinois University forward. Together with the President's STEAMA initiative, we look forward to a brighter day for WIU.