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The Premier Summer Institute for Arts Education

A Program of the Tennessee Department of Education

Additional support for the Tennessee Arts Academy is provided by the Tennessee Arts Commission, Belmont University, the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation, Gibson Foundation, Pinnacle Financial Partners, Pat and Thane Smith, SunTrust Foundation, Tennessee Book Company, the Wolfe Family Fund, and private donors.

The Premier Summer Institute for Arts Education
From the Governor

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the great State of Tennessee, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to the participants and guests of the 2015 Tennessee Arts Academy.

I hope that this very special event presents you with the opportunity to interact with colleagues and further develop your abilities to educate students in music, theatre, 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. Crissy and I send our best wishes.

Warmest regards,

Bill Haslam

From the Tennessee Department of Education

Dear Educators:

Welcome to the 2015 Tennessee Arts Academy! You are about to embark on an enriching and challenging professional learning experience that I hope will reenergize you around the important work of providing Tennessee’s students with a strong arts education. Over the course of the Academy, you will have the opportunity to network, share with, and learn from colleagues across the state, and to strengthen your instructional practices around an integrated arts program.

The role of the arts in education is so important to ensuring our students complete their K–12 education experience as well-rounded and creative critical thinkers. I hope that you find your experience in the Academy to be both exciting and enriching, and that you will take full advantage of this collaborative learning opportunity. Thank you for all that you do!

Best,

Candice McQueen
Commissioner

From Belmont University

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Belmont University. We are honored to host the Tennessee Arts Academy on our campus, and I trust that our facilities will provide for enriching learning experiences for each of you.

The Tennessee Arts Academy is an excellent venue for teachers of the arts to share their best practices and receive instruction from gifted faculty within a collegial community. I am confident that your students’ learning will be enhanced by the valuable techniques that you obtain as a participant.

Again, thank you for allowing Belmont to host the Arts Academy.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Fisher
President
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George Belliveau
Theatre-Elementary/Lower Middle

George Belliveau is a professor of theatre and drama education at the University of British Columbia, Canada. Before teaching at the university, Belliveau spent seven years teaching drama, English, and French at the kindergarten through twelfth-grade level. While teaching, he also worked professionally as an actor, director, and playwright. Belliveau’s research interests include Shakespeare; research-based theatre; drama and social justice; drama and L2 learning; and drama across the curriculum. His current projects include working with teachers in Dadaab, Kenya, at a refugee camp, creating theatre with military veterans as they transition to civilian life, and developing curriculum on Shakespeare for young learners. He has published more than fifty scholarly pieces and given many workshops and invited talks around the world. His books include Stepping into Drama and Exploring Curriculum: Role Drama and Learning.

Sue Belliveau
Theatre-Elementary/Lower Middle

For the last two decades, Sue Belliveau has worked with young learners of ages four to twelve in various elementary schools across Canada. She has also collaborated in numerous research projects that study the integration of drama and other arts with learning. Currently, Belliveau teaches a Montessori class in Vancouver, Canada, and frequently leads drama-based workshops for teachers. She was a key contributor to the book Stepping into Drama and has published articles exploring the use of drama during the elementary years. These articles include “Shakespeare with Young Learners” and “Teacher in (a) Role: Drama in the Elementary Classroom,” both published in the book Drama and Theatre Education: Canadian Perspectives.

Ann Talbott Brown
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment

Ann Talbott Brown joined the Tennessee Arts Commission as the director of Arts Education in 2009. She oversees all aspects of the Arts Education program, including seven grant programs. She has served as a panelist or reviewer for the National Endowment for the Arts, National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards, and Kentucky Arts Council. Before joining the Commission, Brown was an orchestral musician and worked with several university arts programs in Illinois and Oregon. She previously served as a licensed K–8 public school music teacher and oboe instructor.

Carlos Abril
Music-Elementary/Lower Middle

Carlos Abril is associate professor and director of undergraduate music education at the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami. Prior to this appointment, he served as associate professor and coordinator of music education at Northwestern University. Abril has presented music workshops for teachers around the world, including in Argentina, Brazil, China, Malaysia, and Spain. His music arrangements and instructional materials are published by World Music Press and appear in the Macmillan/McGraw-Hill textbook series Spotlight on Music. Abril has been honored as the Miami-Dade Region Teacher of the Year and with the Cervantes Outstanding Teacher Award. Most recently, he was the recipient of the Provost’s Research Award at the University of Miami.

Edith Copley
Music-Upper Middle/Secondary

Edith Copley is director of choral studies at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, where she conducts the Shrine of the Ages Choir and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting and choral literature. She has successfully taught secondary choral music in the Midwest and in Vienna, Austria. Copley has received numerous honors, including the NAU School of Performing Arts Centennial Teacher of the Year Award, Arizona Music Educator of the Year, and the Arizona American Choral Directors Association Outstanding Choral Director Award. She has published a choral series with Santa Barbara Music Publications and is in high demand as a clinician and conductor in the United States. Copley has conducted international festivals in Australia, China, England, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Tasmania, and Turkey.

Dru Davison
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment

Dru Davison is an arts administrator for Shelby County Schools and a consultant for both the United States Department of Education and the Tennessee Department of Education. His other positions and appointments include chair of the National Association for Music Education’s Council of Music Program Leaders, the National Association for Music Education’s President’s Cabinet and Professional Development Committee, and revision team member for the National Opportunity to Learn Standards for Music Education. Davison has taught music to students in kindergarten through twelfth grade, was an adjunct jazz instructor at Arkansas State University, and served as a teaching fellow in music education for the University of North Texas. He has served on the Bill and Melinda Gates College Readiness Advisory Council and is an advisor and former national fellow for the Hope Street Group.
Katie Dawson
Theatre-Elementary/Lower Middle

Katie Dawson is assistant professor and director of the Drama for Schools program at the University of Texas, Austin. She has facilitated multiyear, district-wide arts integration initiatives across the United States and in Australia. Her scholarship about the impact of the arts in education has appeared in numerous national and international journals. She is co-author of *The Reflexive Teaching Artist: Collective Wisdom from the Drama/Theatre Field*. Dawson received the Creative Drama Award and the Winifred Ward Scholar Award from the American Alliance of Theatre and Education along with multiple teaching awards from her university. A lifelong teacher and artist, Dawson has worked professionally as an actor, educational television personality, youth theatre director, classroom teacher, and museum theatre educator.

Deborah Engbring
Visual Art-Upper Middle/Secondary

Deborah Engbring is a clay artist whose work has been displayed in shows and galleries throughout the Southwest. She has extensive experience teaching middle school art and has been a visual arts instructor at Verrado High School in Buckeye, Arizona, for the last three years. In addition to teaching a full-time ceramics curriculum at Verrado High, she has directed the Visual Arts Student Awards art show, which included seventy-five mixed-media and portfolio pieces. The show resulted in more than $20,000 in student awards, which were donated by the Art Institute of Phoenix, local businesses, and individual artists. Engbring was recognized as the Arizona Art Educator of the Year by the National Art Education Association in 2008, the Arizona Art Educator of the Year in 2007, the West Side Impact Educator of the Year in 2006, and Best of Show at Prescott Arizona Art Festival in 2004.

Laurie Gatlin
Visual Art-Upper Middle/Secondary

Laurie Gatlin is assistant professor of art education at California State University in Long Beach, California. She has extensive experience teaching art at the middle and high school levels.

As a researcher and teacher, she is interested in contemporary and historical theories of art education, using reflective journals as a tool in the classroom, working with special needs students, *a/r/t/ography*, and other forms of art-based research. Gatlin’s research, which she has presented at many state and national conferences, is centered on classroom practice and the need for continued support for practicing art teachers. Her painting and sculpture have been included in group shows at Woodburn & Westcott gallery and other venues in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Doug Herbert
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment

Doug Herbert is a special assistant and acting team leader for Arts in Education in the Office of Innovation and Improvement at the United States Department of Education. During his eleven years with the department, Herbert’s responsibilities have included involvement in both intra- and interagency programs. He combines his outreach and policy-monitoring tasks with management of the office’s twenty-five million dollar arts education grants portfolio. You can follow Herbert’s posts on the Office of Innovation and Improvement’s blog site at www.ed.gov/edblogs/oii/.

Marlene Johnson
Theatre-Upper Middle/Secondary

Marlene Johnson is associate professor at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. She is also an actor, professional performance coach, and a certified instructor of the Alexander Technique. Her key research interest is the integration of voice and movement to serve “Dynamic Presence” in the actor and in “Voices of the Archetypes.” She has studied extensively with Patsy Rodenburg in London and New York and with the Art of Breathing’s Jessica Wolf. She directs and acts for City Equity Theatre in Birmingham and has taught workshops in Belgrade, Glasgow, London, Madrid, Mexico City, Vancouver, and the United States. Johnson has vocal coached more than 130 shows at such venues as the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Alliance Theatre, Orlando Shakespeare Theater, and the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival.

Chad Larabee
Theatre-Upper Middle/Secondary

Chad Larabee is the head of performance at the University at Albany in Albany, New York, and an independent stage director in New York City. He directed the critically acclaimed Off-Broadway production of Garson Kanin’s *Dreyfus in Rehearsal* and directed the London world-premiere of *Ain’t We Got Fun* (the musical), starring Siobhan McCarthy. Larabee’s Off-Broadway credits include the world-premieres of *POPart: The Musical, Do Not Disturb, Molineaux*, and *Good Good Trouble on Bad Bad Island*. Select regional directing credits include *Big River, Assassins, Always ... Patsy Cline, Violet, Clybourne Park, and Singin’ in the Rain*. Larabee recently directed and co-wrote the independent film *Life in Free Fall*, which is slated for release in the fall of 2015. He is a member of the national theatrical union, the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.
Laura Lohmann  
Visual Art-Elementary/Lower Middle  
Educator Laura Lohmann has taught in the elementary art program at Lake Local Schools in Millbury, Ohio, for more than nineteen years. She was named the 2007 North West Ohio Art Educator of the Year, and also serves as co-chair of that district’s Department of Art. Lohmann taught undergraduate arts education courses at the University of Toledo, where she served as a mentor to many art education student teachers. She regularly presents at the National Art Education Association Conference, the Crayola Dreammaker’s Regional Show, and the Ohio Art Education Association Conference. She also authors the award-winning blog, Painted Paper, which was selected as the Art of Education’s 2014 top elementary blog. Lohmann is known for her bold, brightly painted paper projects and has been published in Arts and Activities and Meredith Corporation’s Family Fun magazine.

Richard Mayne  
Music-Upper Middle/Secondary  
Richard Mayne is a professor of music and the associate director of bands at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. Mayne completed his Ph.D. in music education at Ohio State University, is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association, and has served on the National Band Association’s board of directors as second vice president. In 2013, Mayne was inducted into the Colorado Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame. He has served as an adjudicator, clinician, and conductor in Canada, China, Japan, Lebanon, and throughout the United States. During his time in Tokyo, he conducted the Musashino Academia Musicae Wind Ensemble. Among his many honors, Mayne was recently named conductor of the Fort Collins Wind Symphony.

Kimberly McCord  
Music-Elementary/Lower Middle  
Kimberly McCord is professor of music education at Illinois State University. Her books include Chop Monster, Jr., a jazz improvisation language tutor for elementary general music, and Together We Can Improvise, for elementary music and creative drama. She has held leadership positions with the International Association for Jazz Education, National Association for Music Education, Illinois Music Educators Association, Connecticut Music Educators Association, and the International Society for Music Education. McCord has worked on jazz projects for the Smithsonian Institute, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. She co-directs an after-school jazz Orff group for students in fourth through eighth grade at the Illinois State University Metcalf Lab School.

Andrew McMasters  
Theatre-Upper Middle/Secondary  
Andrew McMasters is the artistic director and co-founder of Seattle’s Jet City Improv, one of the largest improvisational theatre companies in the country. He has degrees in theatre from Temple University and the University of Washington’s professional actor training program. In addition to producing performances every weekend and educational programs and outreach to underserved youth, McMasters facilitates national and international workshops for CEOs on the topics of innovation, communication, and creativity.

Jim McNeill  
Visual Art-Elementary/Lower Middle  
Artist Jim McNeill is an Arizona-based illustrator and animator. His clients have included Popular Science, Macy’s, Metro Creative Graphics, and the British-American Chamber of Commerce. McNeill’s artwork has been exhibited internationally in the Feria Internacional del mueble de Valencia exposition in Valencia, Spain, and domestically in the Society of Illustrators 48th Annual Exhibition in New York City. He is also the animator and illustrator for Crystal Productions’ award-winning DVD and book series Dropping in On..., which now includes Puffer Learns about Ceramics, as well as episodes and books on artists Henri Rousseau, Grant Wood, Andy Warhol, and Grandma Moses. In addition to Dropping in On..., McNeill has created the award-winning how-to video Tessellations: How to Create Them and the book Tessellations: The History and Making of Symmetrical Designs. He is a frequent speaker and workshop presenter at schools as well as at state and national art education conferences.

Laurie Schell  
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment  
With more than twenty-five years as a senior executive in the nonprofit and education sectors, Laurie Schell has garnered a national reputation for innovative, effective leadership in arts and culture and K–12 education. Schell is currently serving as the director of Music Makes Us, the public and private music education initiative in Metro Nashville Public Schools, which is jointly supported by Mayor Karl Dean, music industry leaders, and the school district. Schell has worked to foster arts and music education through strategic alliances and partnerships, policy and advocacy campaigns, effective...
governance and leadership, and by mobilizing constituencies for action. Previously, Schell was the executive director of the California Alliance for Arts Education, a statewide arts education policy and advocacy organization.

Christina Svec
Music-Elementary/Lower Middle

Christina Svec is assistant professor of music education at Iowa State University. She holds certificates in Kodály and Music Learning Theory and a master’s in music education from Michigan State University. While completing her doctorate at the University of North Texas, she supervised student teachers in elementary music, served as a research assistant for music education, and was assistant director of the university’s early music program. Her dissertation was a meta-analysis of vocal development and vocal achievement research in elementary-aged children. Her research interests include qualitative research methodology, early childhood and elementary music, and vocal development. While in Texas, she taught elementary music for both the Little Elm and McKinney Independent School Districts. Svec has also presented pedagogical and research sessions for numerous symposia and conferences.

Kimberly VanWeelden
Music-Upper Middle/Secondary

Kimberly VanWeelden is professor of music education at Florida State University. Her research publications appear in leading national and international journals in music education, music therapy, and choral music. She has written about students with disabilities in choral performing ensembles, secondary general music classes, and older adult vocal pedagogy techniques. She serves on the editorial board of Update: Applications for Research in Music Education, is chair of the Music Teacher Education Special Research Interest Group’s southern division, and is the immediate past national chair for the Children with Exceptionalities Special Research Interest Group. VanWeelden is an active clinician at state, national, and international conventions and has also conducted numerous choral festivals throughout the southern United States.

James Wells
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment

James Wells joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in January 2014. He oversees arts education grants, provides technical assistance to educators, artists and nonprofit staff, and manages arts education training and projects. Wells was the education programs manager for the Culture and Heritage Museums in Rock Hill, South Carolina. He also previously served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts. Before entering the nonprofit sector, James served as a licensed K–12 visual art educator in both Tennessee and South Carolina.

Ellen Winner
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment

Ellen Winner is professor and chair of psychology at Boston College and senior research associate at Project Zero, an educational research group at Harvard Graduate School of Education. She also directs the Arts and Mind Lab at Boston College, which focuses on cognition in the arts in typical and gifted children. She is the author of more than 100 articles and four books, including Invented Worlds: The Psychology of the Arts; The Point of Words: Children’s Understanding of Metaphor and Irony; and Gifted Children: Myths and Realities, which has been translated into six languages and was the winner of the 1996–97 Alpha Sigma Nu National Jesuit Book Award in Science. She is a fellow of the American Psychological Association (Division 10) and of the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics.

Jan Wolfe
Theatre-Elementary/Lower Middle

Jan Wolfe is a National Board Certified Teacher in literacy and language arts, as well as a professional puppeteer on the Touring Artist Roster and Arts in Education Roster for the Arkansas Arts Council. As a recent fellow for the Arkansas A+ program, she is teaching how educators can integrate the arts into their curricula to fulfill Common Core State Standards. Although she taught in the classroom for more than twenty years, she has also worked in the public library to share her love of books and reading through puppetry. She is on the Puppeteers of America Board of Trustees, serving as its secretary until the summer of 2015.
**ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE MUSIC**

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

**Roads to Creativity in the Music Classroom**
*Instructor: Carlos Abril*

How can teachers best nurture and develop important mental faculties and behaviors in the elementary music classroom? Because the arts are ideal school subjects for developing the imaginations and creativity of children, this question is especially important. Participants in this session will consider this question through hands-on experiences with musical improvisation, composition, problem solving, movement, and performance. Ideas for developing a curriculum unit that focuses on creativity and assessing the creative output of children will also be addressed.

**Improving on Improv!**
*Instructor: Kimberly McCord*

Creating music is one of the three artistic processes in the new core arts standards for music, yet music teachers often feel uncomfortable teaching improvisation. This session will offer strategies for teaching improvisation in general music classes for kindergarten through eighth grade—including jazz, but not exclusively. In addition to singing, participants will use Orff instruments, unpitched percussion, and recorders in this session.

**One Layer at a Time: Improvisation and Singing Voice Development in a Kodály Classroom**
*Instructor: Christina Svec*

An effective elementary music curriculum is constructed of skill development layered with sequential instruction. While the outer layer may be perceived as simply children engaged in music play, the inner layers do the work of raising independent and musically literate music makers. Improvisation helps students cultivate their independence; and singing helps students develop the voices they naturally have; as such, both improvisation and singing voice development can foster music literacy. In this session, participants will discuss research, explore strategies, and engage in activities related to ways of immersing students in layers of learning.

**UPPER MIDDLE/SECONDARY MUSIC**

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

**The Joy of Continual Learning**
*Instructor: Edith Copley*

These Academy sessions will consider various aspects of choral rehearsal and conducting in a new light. Effective vocal warm-ups will be presented that will be helpful to singers of all ages. A list of “tried and true” choral concepts designed to enhance daily rehearsals, rather than just teaching notes and rhythms, will be shared. A session on seating placement based on voice will help participants achieve better intonation and optimal sound from their choral ensembles. Finally, the sessions will also devote time to fine-tune individual conducting gestures that enhance breath preparation, connected tone quality, and expressivity.

**Instrumental Music: Pulling All the Complexities Together for Harmony**
*Instructor: Richard Mayne*

Teaching instrumental music is one of the most complex, important, and demanding jobs in the public schools. It can also be a most rewarding career. In this session, participants will explore the many components of developing and maintaining an inspiring and successful music program. Academy sessions will address a vast array of critical topics—from honing conducting skills and selecting repertoire to improving rehearsal techniques and organizational strategies.

**Thinking Outside the Box: Connecting with Secondary General Music Students**
*Instructor: Kimberly VanWeelden*

Students in the middle and high school general music classroom consider their connection to popular culture and technology to be an essential part of everyday life. Therefore, music educators must think outside the box if they want to connect with secondary general music students. In this session, participants will discuss ways to connect “school music” to “outside music.” Topics that will be covered include how to introduce games and technology-based activities that involve listening, composing, and performing, while teaching fundamental music skills in a way that resonates with today’s middle and high school students.
**ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE THEATRE**

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

**Stepping into Drama: Shakespeare and Young Learners**
Instructors: George Belliveau and Sue Belliveau

This hands-on workshop will present a sequence of drama strategies that teachers can use to introduce Shakespeare to elementary school students. Informed by research, these interactive activities are practices that have proven highly effective for engaging children of diverse abilities, cultures, and linguistic backgrounds.

**Drama-based Instruction: Tools to Create, to Critically Engage, and to Connect Across the Curriculum**
Instructor: Katie Dawson

This hands-on workshop invites participants to explore ways that schools and school districts are using drama strategies across the United States. Uses include the goals of improving student engagement and motivation, as well as teacher effectiveness in all subject content areas.

**Two Workshops in One—Creative Non-fiction: True Stories, Well Told with Puppets plus The World of Paul Klee and Puppetry**
Instructor: Jan Wolfe

In part one of this two-part workshop, participants will explore the creative side of writing non-fiction by using the stages and elements of research writing to create a non-fiction puppet show and puppets in order to tell a true tale. Part two will focus on pre-World War II abstract artist Paul Klee, who said, “Drawing is taking a line for a walk.” Participants will make a puppet to walk through Klee’s world of color, design, and shapes. The workshop will include how-to tips for integrating art into classroom curricula.

**UPPER MIDDLE/SECONDARY THEATRE**

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

**Engaging Presence: The Second Circle Work of Patsy Rodenburg and the Alexander Technique**
Instructor: Marlene Johnson

What does it mean to be present? What does it mean to engage with and respond to a partner or to your environment? Is it possible to be present, energized, and fully aware of your body while simultaneously responding to your environment? What is the “it” in “She’s got it; but he doesn’t”? What is this elusive quality, and can it be developed or trained? Participants will investigate the First, Second, and Third Circle work of Patsy Rodenburg and the Kinesthetic Response of the Alexander Technique. This workshop will give participants an experiential vocabulary of the components of “Presence.”

**Unlocking the Creative Director: Conceptualizing Musical Theatre**
Instructor: Chad Larabee

Come to this workshop to learn about the practical tools you will need to develop your own conceptual approach to musical theatre. Participants will be given the opportunity to reconceive popular musicals by developing production approaches that are innovative, original, and specific to the needs of their students. Taking the process a step further, this interactive course will also introduce teachers to new ways of overcoming casting issues, technical limitations, and other challenges associated with launching a fully realized musical theatre production.

**Embrace the Unexpected: The Lessons and Tools of Improvisation for Curriculum**
Instructor: Andrew McMasters

This experiential learning session will provide participants with a basis for understanding the tools and lessons of improvisation. Participants will create and practice a structure for long-form improvisation that is based on the deconstruction of a topic or event and that can be used in any type of curriculum development.
**CORE WORKSHOP SESSIONS VISUAL ART**

**ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE VISUAL ART**
Participants will attend each workshop for two consecutive days and a summary session for both workshops on Friday morning.

*Travel the World of Art Using MAPP: Murals, Advocacy, and Painted Paper*
**Instructor:** Laura Lohmann

This hands-on workshop will give participants the opportunity to create activities in a variety of media with a focus on painted paper. Participants will learn simple, yet process-oriented ways of helping students explore art materials while learning art history. Activities include creating painted paper as well as drawing, painting, mixed-media, murals, and three-dimensional design. Participants will return to their classrooms with lesson plans and new ideas for teaching painting and art history to their students.

*Creating Symmetry with Tessellations*
**Instructor:** Jim McNeill

In this hands-on workshop, participants will learn how to create translation, rotation, and glide-reflection tessellations using an index card template. A simple step-by-step process that can be easily modified and expanded to create seemingly complex symmetrical patterns will be shared. Strategies for transforming abstract patterns into recognizable figures and shapes will be discussed, as well as methods of transforming flat symmetrical patterns into dimensional images with positive and negative space. Participants will receive detailed guides showing them how to create each kind of tessellation that is demonstrated in the workshop.

**UPPER MIDDLE/SECONDARY VISUAL ART**
Participants will attend each workshop for two consecutive days and a summary session for both workshops on Friday morning.

*Narrative Teapot*
**Instructor:** Deborah Engbring

From the earliest cave paintings to contemporary art, visual images have been used to communicate events and tell stories about the human experience. In this hands-on workshop, participants will use the drape method of clay construction and the common core standards of narrative writing to create a “narrative teapot.” Each teapot will be inspired by a personal experience, a moment in time, a fairy tale, fable, or nursery rhyme. Participants will create a functional teapot that has a handle, spout, and lid and is topped off with personal flair. Creating a narrative teapot is a challenging activity for students with more experience, but the simple step-by-step process can be easily modified for the novice as well.

*Making Sketchbooks Memorable*
**Instructor:** Laurie Gatlin

Is it a struggle to get your students to develop “the sketchbook habit”? In this workshop, participants will examine ways of encouraging their students to develop a sense of ownership of this valuable artistic process—beginning with binding a book, working in a variety of media, and learning new techniques and approaches that will speak to high school students. The first step in getting students sold on the process of keeping a sketchbook is to present it with enthusiasm; as such, one of the main goals of this workshop is to get you, the teacher, hooked on the process too!
The focus of the Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment track of the Tennessee Arts Academy is to empower school administrators, arts leaders, and arts teachers by giving them the necessary tools for creating a whole-school arts advantage.

**Daily Core Classes**
**Instructors: Dru Davison and Amanda Galbraith**

In these sessions, Dru Davison and Amanda Galbraith will explore a range of interrelated topics in arts leadership. Specific topics to be addressed include advocacy, arts leadership strategies, and the Tennessee Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System. Participants will engage in interactive and hands-on sessions that connect contemporary arts research and trends to targeted arts initiatives at multiple levels including their schools, districts, and beyond. Participants will also work to develop additional resources for the Tennessee Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System.

**SEMINARS AND WEBINARS**

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

**Tennessee Arts Commission: Arts Education Grant Programs**
**Instructors: Ann Talbott Brown and James Wells**

This session will provide an overview of Arts Education grant programs that provide opportunities for teachers, teaching artists, schools, and communities.

**United States Department of Education Office of Innovation and Improvement: Arts Education Grants and Initiatives**
**Instructor: Doug Herbert**

This webinar session will highlight the national programs and initiatives of the United States Department of Education’s Office of Innovation and Improvement that support arts education from the pre-kindergarten through twelfth-grade level. These programs, projects, and practices include competitive grants and intra- and interagency initiatives and efforts—such as those clarifying the flexibility of federal Title I funds to include support for arts education for at-risk students.

**Building a Support Network**
**Instructor: Laurie Schell**

Are you looking to partner with community agencies? Collaborate with peers in other departments? Or get the word out about your programs? Cultivating effective relationships both inside and outside of your school and district will help you achieve all of these goals. In this session, participants will create visual relationship maps that will give them a better understanding of their current professional relationships and also help them develop tactics for making desired improvements and professional connections.

**Is There a Relationship Between Visual Thinking in Geometry and the Visual Arts?: A Longitudinal Study of High School Students**
**Instructor: Ellen Winner**

In this interactive webinar session, Harvard’s Project Zero lead researcher, Ellen Winner, will report on a study investigating possible connections between the kind of visual-spatial thinking required in drawing and the kind involved in geometric reasoning.

**TRIO TRACK**

Trio Track has been created for upper middle/secondary grade level teachers, providing participants enrolled in this track a daily multidisciplinary experience in three distinct arts areas. Each day, Trio Track participants will attend a predesignated class in music (Thinking Outside the Box), theatre (Embrace the Unexpected), and arts leadership. Participants will attend the same core class in each content area for the entire week, which will enable them to be completely immersed in one topic for each arts discipline. Like all TAA participants, teachers enrolled in the Trio Track will attend all Academy performances, musings, interludes, and special events.
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 will be held from 2:25 to 3:10 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, and from 2:20 to 3:05 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**

**Dancing Spider Yoga! (Appropriate for teachers K–4th grade)**
**Presenter: Ajeet Khalsa (Wednesday)**

Children's yoga brings together the creative, emotional, and rational aspects of the young mind and body. When a child is in a relaxed and familiar setting with friendly activities that settle them into their own bodies, they tune into themselves and creativity happens naturally. In this somatic workshop, participants will connect to their bodies through the simple rhymes and poses, non-verbal signs, and easy singing meditations of Ajeet Khalsa’s Dancing Spider Yoga.

Ajeet Khalsa is best known for sharing yoga in the classroom and leading dance-in-education residencies throughout the Southeast. As a master teacher of Kundalini Yoga and Meditation, she also trains schools, teachers, and individuals in Dancing Spider Yoga, her unique brand of children’s yoga.

**Speaking Up for the Arts: Everyday Advocacy**
**Presenters: Leigh Patton and Noah Spiegel (Wednesday)**

As an educator, administrator, parent, or concerned citizen, the arts are important to you! Who is responsible for funding arts activities in your community? How can you ensure that public policy and public funding support the arts and arts education? What are the best ways to communicate your concerns to elected officials and candidates during an election year? This interactive session, presented by two board members of Tennesseans for the Arts, will explore these questions, provide simple entry points for arts advocacy, and assist participants in developing a set of brief, personal talking points that enable them to speak up for the arts. Leigh Patton has ten years’ experience in community arts program manager roles at the Metro Nashville Arts Commission and the Tennessee Arts Commission. Noah Spiegel is co-chair of the Nashville Arts Coalition and chief operating officer for the Nashville Opera Association.

**The Tennessee Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System: Overview Session**
**Presenters: Amanda Galbraith and Atticus Hensley (Monday)**

In continued partnership with the Tennessee Department of Education, the Tennessee Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System is now in its third year of implementation. In this session, Amanda Galbraith, Atticus Hensley, and participating teachers will provide an overview of information regarding teacher-constructed student growth evidence collections in the areas of Perform, Create, Respond, and Connect. Information will be shared about using purposeful sampling to collect evidence, the peer review process, and sample evidence collections.

Atticus Hensley is the Tullahoma City Schools district lead for implementation of the Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System and a member of the Tennessee Council of Visual and Performing Arts Supervisors. He has taught instrumental music in Tullahoma since 1995.

**The Tennessee Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System: Teacher’s Voices**
**Presenters: Dru Davison and Amanda Galbraith (Wednesday)**

This session will focus on teacher feedback about the Tennessee Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System. Participants will help inform the future of the Growth Measures System through interactive discussion. Specific topics will include reflection on the alignment between the portfolio and classroom practice, the teacher feedback loop, and the anticipated transition to the newly released national arts standards.

**MUSIC RELATED INTERLUDES**

**Who or What are We Advocating for in Arts Education?**
**Presenter: Carlos Abril (Wednesday)**

For years, arts education advocacy has been at the forefront of arts educators’ collective efforts. Is advocacy so important? Who should be advocating and what should they be advocating for? This session will address these questions and provide concrete ideas for action.

**Up, Down, and All Around: Integrating the Arts to Teach Form in the Elementary Music Classroom**
**Presenter: Janis Aston (Monday)**

In this interlude, you will use higher-level thinking skills from Bloom’s Taxonomy to teach the form of a fun piece, “Three Rides in the Park.” Discover ways of having fun while addressing pesky standards and assessments. This is a
fantastic lesson for teacher evaluation because of the obvious use of differentiated learning experiences.

Janis Aston enjoyed a thirty-year teaching career in the elementary music classrooms of the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. Currently, she develops curriculum resources that are available through her Teachers Pay Teachers online store.

From Ballet to Beethoven: An Introduction to the Nashville Symphony’s Programs and Teacher Resources
Presenter: Kelley Bell (Monday)

The Nashville Symphony offers more than twenty-five free programs and initiatives to the community. This presentation will introduce the spectrum of programs and resources available to instructors, including downloadable lesson plans that align with Common Core standards. These lesson plans explore music, visual arts, dance, theatre, and storytelling as ways of interacting with, articulating, and creating in response to music.

Kelley Bell is the education and community engagement program manager at the Nashville Symphony. As program manager, Bell continues to forge partnerships between the symphony and local nonprofits, organizations, teachers, and artists to create engaging programs for the community.

Academy Chorale
Presenter: Edith Copley (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 Edith Copley, the Academy’s secondary choral instructor.

Music and Memory
Presenter: Deborah Ferris (Monday)

Music and Memory is a personalized, therapeutic music program that was created for elders and the infirm. Using inexpensive and readily available technology, personalized music playlists are created for participants and then delivered to them through iPods. The result is often transformative. In this interlude, Deborah Ferris will talk about the various ways that teachers and students can change lives by getting involved with Music and Memory programs in their local communities. Testimonials and video clips of actual patient responses to their personal music favorites will also be part of the presentation, along with helpful resources.

As a regional director for Music and Memory, Deborah Ferris conducts motivational, informative presentations and provides guidance for certification training and program implementation. Her experience with program resources, logistics, techniques, community engagement, and fundraising help to promote the sustainability and impact of the program.

Classroom Management and Teacher Feedback: A Positive Approach
Presenter: Lesley Maxwell Mann (Wednesday)

Through an exploration of teaching patterns and sequencing, participants in this session will discuss how to keep students engaged and feeling successful. With a focus on how teachers respond to social and academic student behavior, this interlude will consider strategies for maintaining a positive and productive classroom environment.

Lesley Maxwell Mann is associate professor of choral music education at Belmont University. Her roles include coordinating the student teaching program, teaching courses in music education methods and behavior modification, and directing the women’s choir.
**Whose Program is it Anyway?**  
**Presenter: Richard Mayne (Monday and Wednesday)**

This interlude will examine proven strategies for gaining support for “The Program” by focusing on specific philosophies, priorities, and techniques for building support for the arts across school campuses. Participants will come away with a toolbox of strategies that will help them garner support for the arts programs in their schools.

**Engaging Students with Disabilities through Musical Improvisation**  
**Presenter: Kimberly McCord (Wednesday)**

Music improvisation is one of the most effective ways of engaging students with severe disabilities. For example, call and response improvisation is a very effective way to keep students with autism focused. This session will offer activities and strategies for using music and movement improvisation with students who might otherwise be difficult to reach.

**Music as a Vehicle for Social Change**  
**Presenter: Michele Phillips (Wednesday)**

This session will focus on a new pedagogical resource, *The Sounds of Change*, which is the result of collaboration between the international organization Facing History and Ourselves and the Stax Museum of American Soul Music. The unit consists of four multimedia lessons built around songs from the Stax catalog. The lessons include activities that help teachers and students analyze lyrics, explore the historical contexts in which the songs were written, and grapple with questions about human behavior.

Michele Phillips is associate program director for Facing History and Ourselves, an international organization that engages students and encourages them to examine racism, prejudice, and anti-Semitism in order to create a more humane and informed citizenry. In her role, Phillips supervises a team of program associates, supports and directs the program’s overall strategy, identifies new areas of program growth and delivery, and builds new partnerships.

**What to Say and When to Say It: Communication in Folk Dancing Instruction**  
**Presenter: Christina Svec (Wednesday)**

Come sing, dance, and discover new ways of integrating movement into your music classrooms! This session will provide a visual, aural, and kinesthetic experience for teachers needing additional support, new ideas, and reinforcement of what they already know. Authentic video footage and audience participation will clarify the ideas and methods shared in the session. Specific dances will provide music, steps, and—most importantly—ideas about how to sequence and what to say that will enable teachers to make the most efficient use of their classroom time.

**Special Education Law: Music Educators’ Rights and Responsibilities**  
**Presenter: Kimberly VanWeelden (Monday and Wednesday)**

Almost forty years after the passage of PL 94-142, music educators are still learning how to include and successfully work with students living with disabilities. This session will discuss the maxims and myths of special education law with the goal of helping teachers and all their students succeed.
Tennessee Arts Academy's summer institutes. This year, she is participating as a facilitator with the elementary drama staff.

Replenishing Yourself: Rekindle Your Creativity
Presenter: George Belliveau (Monday and Wednesday)
George Belliveau will explore ways for teachers to acknowledge, re-ignite, and foster creativity in their teaching. Through an interactive, engaging process, participants will discuss concrete ways to stimulate imagination and creativity—in themselves as well as their students.

I’ve Only Got $1.50—So How Can I Make a Set?
Presenter: Andy Bleiler (Tuesday and Thursday)
In this workshop, Andy Bleiler will describe how creatively using inexpensive materials can help a little go a long way. Participants will also discuss ways of fostering stronger networks with other teachers to help them share more resources and strategies with one another.

Andy Bleiler is a passionate arts educator, whose career has spanned thirty years as a teacher, designer, technician, director, and performer. He served as a professor at Tennessee State University, a teaching artist for the Nashville Shakespeare Festival, and a scenic designer. Bleiler currently serves as an adjunct theatre professor, a scenic designer, and a technical director at Lipscomb University.

Teaching From Your Core
Presenter: Katie Dawson (Monday and Wednesday)
Katie Dawson will facilitate this session by using a creative, interactive process that will re-engage participants with their core beliefs about teaching. During the workshop, participants will feel the power of their personal and collective intentions as they celebrate their pedagogical potential through a transformative series of activities.

Building a Costume Wardrobe
Presenter: Billy Ditty (Tuesday)
Creating a costume wardrobe from scratch can be a daunting task. In this workshop, participants will be given insider tips about collecting basic costume pieces in multiples in order to ensure design flexibility.

Sketch to Stage
Presenter: Billy Ditty (Thursday)
How do you turn a design image into reality? Costume designer Billy Ditty will lead participants through the basic process of taking a costume idea from conception to a wearable garment.

Hailing from the coal country of eastern Kentucky, Billy Ditty studied costume design and theatre at Morehead State University. Since then, he has sewn and performed his way across the country. Ditty has worked on a variety of film and musical theatre projects since landing in Nashville. Currently, he is the draper for the Nashville Ballet, where he also works as a designer.

A Midsummer Night’s Dream for Young Players (Grades K–6)
Presenter: Denice Hicks (Tuesday)
Participants will discuss and explore a one-hour edit of Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream that is specifically designed for students in kindergarten through the eighth grade. Hicks will also share her experiences directing this show in several different venues. Interested participants may request that the edited text be sent to them by email after the workshop.

King Lear: Entry Points for Middle and High School Students (Grades 5–12)
Presenter: Denice Hicks (Thursday)
Participants will explore Shakespeare’s King Lear (Nashville Shakespeare Festival’s winter offering for January 2016) to find scenes and excerpts that will resonate with their students.

Denice Hicks is the executive artistic director of the Nashville Shakespeare Festival. She has been acting, editing, and directing professionally since 1976, and has more than fifty productions of Shakespeare’s plays to her credit.

Freeing the Voice: Four Habits that Lock the Voice
Presenter: Marlene Johnson (Monday and Wednesday)
Becoming aware of habits that constrict the voice is essential to inviting a free, open, clear, and resonant voice. Participants in this session will take a look at some of the key ways that people use and constrict the freedom of their voices. These habits include the pull back, the push, the de-voice, and glottalization.
Theatre Curriculum Caring and Sharing: Seventh through Twelfth Grade
Presenters: Jennifer Keith and Pollyanna Parker (Tuesday)
Upper middle school and high school participants are encouraged to share their favorite classroom activities, teaching tips, and theatre lesson plans with other teachers from across the state. Theatre facilitators Jennifer Keith and Pollyanna Parker will lead the session.

Jennifer Keith has been teaching in the Williamson County school system for twelve years. She started the drama program at Grassland Middle School and has been running it ever since. In 2014, Keith was named teacher of the year by the faculty of Grassland for her work in and out of the classroom.

Pollyanna Parker is a recent inductee into the Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League’s Hall of Fame and is a past recipient of that organization’s Ruby Krider Teacher of the Year Award. Parker currently teaches at Rossview High School in Clarksville.

Types of Musical Theatre Songs
Presenter: Chad Larabee (Monday)
In this session, Chad Larabee will lead participants through the different types of musical theatre songs. Using a storytelling process, Larabee will also help participants uncover the purposes of these songs.

Analyzing the Song
Presenter: Chad Larabee (Wednesday)
In this session, participants will learn how to analyze lyrics and music to unlock the interpretive potential of musical theatre songs. Toward this same goal, they will also learn how to break songs into acting beats.

Improvisation: Communication and Status
Presenter: Andrew McMasters (Monday and Wednesday)
In this interlude, Andrew McMasters will lead participants through exercises that help raise their awareness of the role that status plays in communication. He will also focus on the ways embracing the lessons of “yes, and” can be used to build consensus. Lessons and tools that can be used in any situation will be provided.

Lighting Design: Paint by Number
Presenter: Stephen Moss (Tuesday)
A big part of lighting design is a numbers game. This session will explore how to use angle and direction in lighting design as well as how to use color variance to sculpt the playing space. Tips and tricks for creating depth and dimension on even the tiniest of stages will also be shared.

To LED, or Not to LED
Presenters: Stephen Moss and Jeff Goetsch (Thursday)
This interlude will examine the use of LED lighting both in the theatrical and concert lighting industries. The pros and cons of LED fixtures versus conventional lighting will be discussed. New lighting technology and equipment will be displayed for participants to examine.

Jeff Goetsch is the president of Liberty Control Company. He has worked thirty years in the theatre production and live event industry.

Stephen Moss is a freelance lighting designer working in the live entertainment industry and a member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology. He has worked in various capacities with multiple theatre companies in and around the Nashville area.

Beyond the Scrim
Presenter: Jan Wolfe (Monday and Wednesday)
Jan Wolfe pushes beyond the scrim of the puppet stage to share ways of getting students to actively participate in the art of puppetry while increasing their love of reading. Through the drama, language, storytelling, and fun of puppetry, students become an engaged, responsive audience who will want to keep reading, even after the puppet show is over.

Theatre Connections
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.
Blake Long is in his ninth year of teaching at Station Camp High School. Before his current position, he taught art at the college level for thirteen years. Long was a professional illustrator before finding his true passion of passing on his knowledge of art to aspiring young artists. In 2012, the Governor’s School of the Arts named him Visual Arts Teacher of the Year.

Coiled Baskets
Presenter: Kim Shamblin  (Monday and Wednesday)

Coiling is one type of basketry technique that is used by Native Americans across North America. Coil baskets of different regions have various styles of construction—depending on the materials used in the coil and the type of stitch used to fasten or interlock the coils together. In this interlude, participants will be using a paper coil with yarn to create a basic coiled basket using a hidden stitch. Participants will also be free to “get creative” and add patterns to their baskets that are similar to those created by Native Americans.

Kim Shamblin is in her first year as visual arts educator for Millington Middle School, having previously taught at the elementary level for eighteen years. She received her degree in textile design from Edinboro University. She enjoys watching a good game of rugby, including being the team mom for the girls storm rugby team and playing for the women’s rugby team.

Fiber Arts in the Art Room!
Presenter: Cassie Stephens  (Monday and continued on Wednesday)

In this two-day session, art teacher Cassie Stephens will share a series of short and successful fiber arts projects that include needle felting, fabric painting, stitching, and more. Participants will learn these crafts and how to teach them to elementary school students. They will also learn how Stephens used the results of these projects to create a mural emphasizing kindness and love in her school.

Cassie Stephens has taught art in Nashville and Franklin for the past sixteen years. She received her education at Indiana University and completed her student teaching in Ireland.

Three years ago she traveled to Japan as a part of the Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program. Recently, her Parisian-themed art room was featured in the art educator’s magazine School Arts. When she’s not dressed as King Tut or Mary Poppins to teach her classes, she enjoys creating her own clothing and dreaming up new art lessons.

Accordion Fold Art History Sculpture Books
Presenter: Libby Lynch  (Monday and Wednesday)

Libby Lynch will share a process that incorporates writing and art history into the visual arts curriculum. Participants will select a favorite artist, style, or time period about which to write a story. They will then illustrate the story on accordion-folded pages, which will be inserted into a book. Finally, book covers—which may be relief or three-dimensional—will be created by participants out of clay. Numerous examples of finished student works will be shared in this workshop, along with digital handouts and presentations that accompany the project.

Educated at Union University, Memphis College of Art, and the University of Memphis, Libby Lynch both actively teaches and participates in exhibits. She enjoys introducing her students to a multiplicity of materials and styles. Her own work, which often reflects educational interests, tends to always include the textural elements of collage.

Visual Art Core Faculty
(Tuesday and Thursday)

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

**Mignon Dunn**
*Monday • July 13 • 1:10 PM*

Mignon Dunn has sung leading mezzo-soprano roles in the most important opera houses in the world, including the Royal Opera and Covent Garden in London, the Bellas Artes in Mexico City, La Scala in Milan, the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, the Paris Opéra, and the Vienna Staatsoper. At New York’s Metropolitan Opera, Dunn sang more than 650 performances in a span of thirty-five years. Dunn is especially known for her portrayals of dramatic Italian roles such as Amneris in *Aida*, Azucena in *Il Trovatore*, Eboli in *Don Carlo*, the Princess in *Adriana Lecouvreur*, and Santuzza in *Cavalleria Rusticana*. Her French repertoire includes *Carmen*, which she has sung more than four hundred times in four different languages. Dunn has performed recitals throughout Europe and the United States and has sung with many major symphony orchestras. Her varied repertoire has featured the works of Mahler, Ravel, and Verdi. Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Dunn was married to the late conductor Kurt Klippstatter. She currently lives in New York City.

**Andrew Saftel**
*Tuesday • July 14 • 1:10 PM*

During his youth, Andrew Saftel worked as a sign painter at a carnival and a printer at Experimental Workshop in San Francisco, where he printed editions of etchings, paper sculptures, and woodcuts. In the mid-1980s, he moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, set up a studio and continued making paintings that were created on wood panels and inspired by carved and stained woodblocks. About the same time, Saftel also began making mixed-media sculptures that were influenced by his work teaching art to children, Southern folk art, and the many self-taught artists in the region. By the early 1990s, Saftel’s successful exhibitions at galleries in Atlanta, Denver, Knoxville, and Nashville allowed him to focus solely on his studio work. He has had more than forty-five solo exhibitions of paintings, sculptures, prints, and collages in galleries and museums across the country. His work has taken him as far as Bangladesh, Israel, and Mexico to create, exhibit, and teach art. Saftel's work can be found in many museums, including the Knoxville Museum of Art, the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, the Tennessee State Museum, the Hunter Museum of American Art, and the Huntsville Museum of Art, as well as in private and corporate collections. He currently divides his time between the Sequatchie Valley in East Tennessee, Northern California, and Patzcuaro, Mexico.

The presentation by Andrew Saftel is generously sponsored by Pinnacle Financial Partners.

**Richard Maltby, Jr.**
*Wednesday • July 15 • 1:10 PM*

Richard Maltby, Jr., is a director, producer, lyricist, book and screenplay writer, creative consultant, and all-round theatrical idea man. As an undergraduate at Yale, Maltby collaborated with composer David Shire on two musicals. Their enduring partnership continued after college, resulting in full scores for multiple hit shows including *Baby* (book by Sybille Pearson); *Big* (book by John Weidman); *Closer Than Ever*; *Starting Here, Starting Now*; and *Take Flight* (book by John Weidman). Many of their songs have been recorded by Barbra Streisand and other notable artists. In 1978, Maltby conceived, wrote additional lyrics for, and directed the revue inspired by Fats Waller’s life and music, *Ain’t Misbehavin’*. The show won Tony Awards for Best Musical and Best Direction. In 1999, Maltby achieved numerous honors for *Fosse*, a celebration of the life and work of choreographer Bob Fosse. The show received Best Musical awards from the Drama Desk, the Tonys, and the Outer Critics Circle. *Ain’t Misbehavin’* and *Fosse* are the only two musical revues ever to win the Tony Award for Best Musical. Other notable achievements include Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *Song and Dance*, for which Maltby was adapter, co-lyricist, and director. He collaborated as lyricist with Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg on *Miss Saigon*, which ran for nearly a decade and won both Tony and Drama Desk awards. Recent projects include directing *The Story of My Life*—both regionally and on Broadway, as well as conceiving and directing *Ring of Fire*, *The Johnny Cash Musical Show*. In 2007, he ventured into film with a screenplay for *Miss Potter*, starring Renée Zellweger and Ewan McGregor. Maltby and Shire are currently working together again on *Waterfall*, an epic new musical love story slated for a Broadway run. Maltby, who has five children, is notorious for contributing devilish crossword puzzles to *Harper’s Magazine*. 

**Photo by Joan Marcus**
Aaron Lazar
Thursday • July 16 • 1:15 PM

Since his 2005 critically acclaimed performance as Fabrizio Nacarelli in the Tony award-winning hit *Light in the Piazza*, Aaron Lazar has experienced a meteoric rise to fame. He recently starred on Broadway opposite sixteen-time Grammy Award-winner Sting in Sting’s epic new musical, *The Last Ship*. Other Broadway credits include the first Broadway revival of Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* opposite Catherine Zeta-Jones and Angela Lansbury, the world premiere of *Impressionism* with Jeremy Irons and Joan Allen, Sir Trevor Nunn’s revival of *Oklahoma!*, the world premiere of *A Tale of Two Cities*, the first Broadway revival of *Les Miserables*, the long-running hit *The Phantom of the Opera*, and the global phenomenon *Mamma Mia!*.


His Lincoln Center performance, *Light in the Piazza*, was seen on the PBS broadcast *Live From Lincoln Center*. Lazar’s symphonic credits include *Carousel* with the Boston Pops, *South Pacific* at the Hollywood Bowl, multiple appearances with both the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra at Masada, and the English National Opera Orchestra at the Coliseum in London’s West End. In addition to his film, television, and live performances, Lazar’s voice can be heard on numerous Broadway cast albums and on dozens of television commercials in Canada and the United States.

The appearance of Aaron Lazar throughout the Academy week is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.
Japanese-born, world-renowned marimba soloist and Yamaha performing artist Naoko Takada has toured the world, playing in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Konzert Haus in Berlin, Santory Hall in Tokyo, Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and Lincoln Center in New York. Takada’s talent was apparent at age eleven when she appeared as guest soloist with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra. She has since performed with numerous orchestras, including the China National Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke’s, the Houston Symphony, the Louisiana Philharmonic, and the Xalapa Symphony in Mexico. Following a concert at Kennedy Center, the Washington Post wrote “Naoko Takada plays a marimba, moving with speed, grace and extraordinary accuracy ... like a practitioner of some as-yet-undefined martial art, wielding two mallets in each hand and then plunging them down, with fierce exactitude, in the instrument’s solar plexus.” Along with her solo concert tours and master classes, Takada devotes herself to educational outreach programs such as Midori & Friends in New York City.

The performance by Naoko Takada is generously sponsored by Tennessee Book Company.

**Ballet Memphis**  
*The Darting Eyes and In Dreams*  
**Monday • July 13 • 11:30 AM**  
**Massey Performing Arts Center**

Founded in 1986 by Dorothy Gunther Pugh and recognized for its close ties to the region’s rich musical and literary heritage, Ballet Memphis is committed to being a classical dance company that truly reflects the contemporary world. The two pieces making up today’s performance are from the company’s *Memphis Project* and *River Project* series. *The Darting Eyes,* by Matthew Neenan, is inspired by what Neenan calls the “hauntingly beautiful images” of Mississippi River baptisms from across the eras. The dance’s movement reflects a spiritual and physical journey. The cast includes Jared Brunson and Virginia Pilgrim Ramey. *In Dreams,* by Trey McIntyre, was created for Ballet Memphis and is one of the company’s most popular works. Performed to the expressive voice of Roy Orbison, *In Dreams* is a sometimes dark, always passionate journey through six of the legendary artist’s most popular songs. The cast includes Jared Brunson, Steven McMahon, Julie Marie Niekrasz, Olivia Powell, and Virginia Pilgrim Ramey.

**Nashville Shakespeare Festival**  
*Discovering Shakespeare*  
**Wednesday • July 15 • 11:30 AM**  
**Massey Performing Arts Center**

Established in 1988, the Nashville Shakespeare Festival’s mission is to educate and entertain the Mid-south community through professional Shakespearean experiences. With its bold productions and empowering participatory programs, the group sets the standard of excellence in both educational outreach and
the production of Shakespeare’s works. For the Tennessee Arts Academy, four Festival actors will perform an ensemble piece composed of multiple scenes from the Bard’s canon. Discovering Shakespeare takes a fun and energetic look at the way Shakespeare is and will always be relevant to the human race. It is a highly accessible piece that is sure to delight students of all ages.

**Aaron Lazar**  
*Look for Me in the Songs*  
**Wednesday • July 15 • 8:15 PM**  
**Curb Event Center Arena**

Broadway musical theatre star and film and television actor Aaron Lazar will present his much-praised one-man show, *Look for Me in the Songs*, at this year’s TAA Bravo Awards Banquet. Since his 2005 critically acclaimed performance as Fabrizio Nacarelli in the Tony award-winning hit *Light in the Piazza*, Lazar has experienced a meteoric rise to fame. He recently starred on Broadway opposite sixteen-time Grammy Award-winner Sting in Sting’s epic new musical, *The Last Ship*. Other Broadway credits include the first Broadway revival of Stephen Sondheim’s *A Little Night Music* opposite Catherine Zeta-Jones and Angela Lansbury, the world premiere of *Impressionism* with Jeremy Irons and Joan Allen, Sir Trevor Nunn’s revival of *Oklahoma!*, the world premiere of *A Tale of Two Cities*, the first Broadway revival of *Les Miserables*, the long-running hit *The Phantom of the Opera*, and the global phenomenon *Mamma Mia!* Lazar’s film and television credits include *The Wolf of Wall Street* (opposite Leonardo DiCaprio and Margot Robbie), *This is Where I Leave You* (as Tina Fey’s workaholic husband Barry), *J. Edgar* (as Prosecutor Wilentz), *Company* (live with the New York Philharmonic), *The Notorious Bettie Page*, *The Blacklist*, *The Good Wife*, *Blue Bloods*, *The Following*, *A Gifted Man*, *Onion News Network*, *Ugly Betty*, *New Amsterdam*, and *All My Children*. His Lincoln Center performance, *Light in the Piazza*, was seen on the PBS broadcast Live From Lincoln Center. Lazar’s symphonic credits include *Carousel* with the Boston Pops, *South Pacific* at the Hollywood Bowl, multiple appearances with both the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra at Masada, and the English National Opera Orchestra at the Coliseum in London’s West End. In addition to his film, television, and live performances, Lazar’s voice can be heard on numerous Broadway cast albums and on dozens of television commercials in Canada and the United States. She has served as associate concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and she continues to record with the Nashville String Machine, backing up country, pop, and rock artists and performing television and movie scores. Small is assistant professor of music and coordinator of strings at Belmont University School of Music. She currently serves as artistic director for Belmont Camerata and for the multi-stylistic String Crossings Camp. World Fiddle is a string quintet that creates distinctive arrangements of world music—from Arabic to Celtic to modern pop. Formed in 2012 after meeting at Belmont University, the unique musical backgrounds of each member (Liana Alpino, Megan Bilodeau, Lauren Conklin, Ben Johnson, and Emily Scalici) converge to create the singular sound that has become the signature of World Fiddle. This sound has quickly launched their career, and they have performed at venues across the country. World Fiddle cares deeply about education, and many of their performances are geared towards spreading awareness of world styles and introducing children to alternative playing techniques on stringed instruments.

**Elisabeth Small and World Fiddle**  
*String Kaleidoscope*  
**Thursday • July 16 • 11:20 AM**  
**McAfee Concert Hall**

Violinist Elisabeth Small’s varied career includes engagements as soloist with the Atlanta, Nashville, and National Symphony Orchestras; chamber music and recital performances; and broadcasts on regional television and on public radio stations in Canada and the United States. She has served as associate concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and she continues to record with the Nashville String Machine, backing up country, pop, and rock artists and performing television and movie scores. Small is assistant professor of music and coordinator of strings at Belmont University School of Music. She currently serves as artistic director for Belmont Camerata and for the multi-stylistic String Crossings Camp. World Fiddle is a string quintet that creates distinctive arrangements of world music—from Arabic to Celtic to modern pop. Formed in 2012 after meeting at Belmont University, the unique musical backgrounds of each member (Liana Alpino, Megan Bilodeau, Lauren Conklin, Ben Johnson, and Emily Scalici) converge to create the singular sound that has become the signature of World Fiddle. This sound has quickly launched their career, and they have performed at venues across the country. World Fiddle cares deeply about education, and many of their performances are geared towards spreading awareness of world styles and introducing children to alternative playing techniques on stringed instruments.
Sunday Evening Opening Celebration & Reception  
**Sunday • July 12 • 4:30–8:00 PM**

The Tennessee Arts Academy opening session (Overture) provides participants with the first of many dazzling performances (Naoko Takada, marimba soloist), a preview of the week ahead, and an opportunity to meet faculty and fellow members of the Academy class of 2015.  

Before the opening session, the afternoon’s entertainment begins in the Massey Concert Hall Lobby with the guitarists Duo Sudeste.  

After all sessions and introductory meetings are concluded, TAA hospitality will be on full display as participants are treated to an elegant buffet reception in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium, complemented by multiple entertainment options. Artists for this event include the Rich Ripani Trio; Austin Filingo, guitarist and Trevor Caudell, flutist; David Arnold, caricature artist; and the DaVinci Recorder Group, Linda Friend, director.

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High Tea in the Mansion  
**Monday • July 15 • 5:00 PM**

Participants are invited on Monday 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.

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TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

Opening Receptions and Art Crawl for Featured Exhibitions  
**Tuesday • July 14 • 5:30–8:00 PM**

Leu Art Gallery (Lila D. Bunch Library) and Leu Center for the Visual Arts

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Those of Us Still Living by Jim Arendt  
**June 1–July 31, 2015**

*Leu Art Gallery*

Reception music will be provided by Todd London, vibraphonist (Leu Center for the Visual Arts) and Allison Kerr, guitarist (Leu Art Gallery).

Jim Arendt is associate professor and gallery director at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina. As an artist, Arendt uses narrative figure painting to explore shifting paradigms of labor and place. Influenced by the ways the rural and industrial landscapes of his childhood have been radically reshaped, the artist investigates how individual lives are affected by economic transitions. His compositions, which are constructed from layered denim, connect form and content to convey a sense of identity.

Arendt graduated from Kendall College of Art and Design and received a master’s degree with a concentration in painting from the University of South Carolina. He has studied art in England and Spain and participated in residency programs including The Fields Project in Illinois, Arrowmont’s Tactility Forum, and the Penland School of Craft.

*Those of Us Still Living is co-sponsored by the Belmont University Department of Art.*

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Tennessee’s Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition  
**June 30–August 14, 2015**

*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.

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Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition  
**June 30–August 14, 2015**

*Leu Center for the Visual Arts Lobby Gallery*

The Tennessee Arts Academy is very proud to exhibit the work of practicing artists-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.
from across the state are invited to be guests of school system officials, Tennessee Department professors, political dignitaries, Tennessee 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.

**Bravo! The Tennessee Arts Academy Awards Banquet**

**Wednesday • July 15 • 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 all of the Academy participants. The banquet will include an elegant full-course dinner. Music will be provided by Jeff Lisenby on piano. After dinner, the Spirit of Tennessee Award will be presented to Charles Brindley for his talent and achievements as a noted visual artist. Richard Maltby, Jr., will receive the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his outstanding talent as a director, producer, lyricist, and book and screenplay writer. The Arts Leadership Award of Excellence will be presented to Music Makes Us, the visionary Nashville Metro Schools initiative that focuses on music literacy and student participation across every grade level. The evening will conclude with a special performance featuring Broadway musical theatre star Aaron Lazar, who will be accompanied on piano by Jesse Kissel.

*The appearance of Aaron Lazar is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.*

**Alumni Day and Ice Cream Social**

**Thursday • July 16 • 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 Auction receive a special invitation to attend this yummy event in the Beaman Student Life Center. The Derek Pell Duo will offer entertainment for the occasion.

*Alumni Day and the Ice Cream Social are sponsored by the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board of Directors. Refreshments have been generously provided by Carol Crittenden.*

**Finale**

**Friday • July 17 • 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 and reinforces the importance of arts education in classrooms across America. Accordionist Jeff Lisenby will perform during the meal. Each year after the luncheon, the Academy honors one Tennessean for achievement in the arts. The 2015 honoree is Gregg Coats, lifelong Memphis visual arts administrator and teacher. Accordionist Jeff Lisenby will perform during the meal. Each year after the luncheon, the Academy honors one Tennessean for achievement in the arts. The 2015 honoree is Gregg Coats, lifelong Memphis visual arts administrator and teacher. Coats will receive the Joe W. Giles Lifetime Achievement Award. Following the presentation, Joe Giles, TAA Founder and Dean Emeritus, will offer his yearly “Thoughts for the Journey.” Giles’s message is meant to clearly inspire and challenge each person in attendance to live their calling to the fullest. As the week’s activities come to a joyous conclusion, the Academy Chorale, conducted by Edith Copley and composed of Academy participants, is featured in the final performance for the 2015 session.
Charles Brindley
Spirit of Tennessee Award
Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance
July 15 • 6:30 PM

Charles Brindley lives and works out of several Victorian structures in Adairville, Kentucky, a small community thirty-five miles north of Nashville, Tennessee. He has received gallery representation across the United States, including in the cities of Memphis, Nashville, New York City, Taos, and Washington, DC. His work appears in private, public, and corporate collections throughout the United States and in private collections internationally. Five touring exhibitions of Brindley’s works have travelled to museums and art centers in the Southeast and Midwest. Brindley’s paintings and drawings depict a variety of symbol-laden subjects, including giant deciduous trees, panoramic landscapes, prehistoric ruins, rock formations, architecture and still lifes. His images are highly representational while containing multi-layered abstract elements. In addition to his artistic work, Brindley has taught his creative drawing and painting class to adults for more than thirty years. He is known for embracing all levels of artistic development—from beginning to advanced students.

Richard Maltby, Jr.
Distinguished Service Award
Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance
July 15 • 6:30 PM

Richard Maltby, Jr., is a director, producer, lyricist, book and screenplay writer, creative consultant, and all-round theatrical idea man. As an undergraduate at Yale, Maltby collaborated with composer David Shire on two musicals. Their enduring partnership continued after college, resulting in full scores for multiple hit shows including Baby (book by Sybille Pearson); Big (book by John Weidman); Closer Than Ever; Starting Here, Starting Now; and Take Flight (book by John Weidman). Many of their songs have been recorded by Barbra Streisand and other notable artists. In 1978, Maltby conceived, wrote additional lyrics for, and directed the revue inspired by Fats Waller’s life and music, Ain’t Misbehavin’. The show won Tony Awards for Best Musical and Best Direction. In 1999, Maltby achieved numerous honors for Fosse, a celebration of the life and work of choreographer Bob Fosse. The show received Best Musical awards from the Drama Desk, the Tonys, and the Outer Critics Circle. Ain’t Misbehavin’ and Fosse are the only two musical revues ever to win the Tony Award for Best Musical. Other notable achievements include Andrew Lloyd Webber’s Song and Dance, for which Maltby was adapter, co-lyricist, and director. He collaborated as lyricist with Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg on Miss Saigon, which ran for nearly a decade and won both Tony and Drama Desk awards. Recent projects include directing The Story of My Life—both regionally and on Broadway, as well as conceiving and directing Ring of Fire, The Johnny Cash Musical Show. In 2007, he ventured into film with a screenplay for Miss Potter, starring Renée Zellweger and Ewan McGregor. Maltby and Shire are currently working together again on Waterfall, an epic new musical love story slated for a Broadway run. Maltby, who has five children, is notorious for contributing devilish crossword puzzles to Harper’s Magazine.

Music Makes Us
Arts Leadership Award of Excellence
Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance
July 15 • 6:30 PM

A joint effort of Metro Nashville Public Schools, Mayor Karl Dean, and music industry and community leaders, the Music Makes Us® initiative aspires to be a national model for music education. With a focus on music literacy and student participation, Music Makes Us is strengthening traditional school music while adding a contemporary curriculum that embraces new technologies and reflects a diverse musical landscape. The vision of Music Makes Us is for all kindergarten through twelfth grade students in the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools to have access to high quality traditional and contemporary music instruction that is standards-based and sequential, taught by highly qualified music educators, and enhanced by a network of music professionals and music industry and community-based organizations from the Nashville community and beyond. Since its launch in 2012, the initiative has restored band at all thirty-three middle schools; created new choral programs in ten schools; established forty-five new classes in eighteen schools in mariachi, rock band, world percussion, country/bluegrass, songwriting, and hip hop; and launched an online hub to connect Nashville music professionals with teachers. Accepting the award on behalf of Music Makes Us will be Dr. Jay Steele, chief academic officer at Metro Schools.
Gregg Coats
Joe W. Giles Lifetime Achievement Award
Finale Luncheon
July 17 • 11:30 AM

Gregg Coats is currently the fine arts instructional advisor for Shelby County Schools. He is known throughout the arts community for his unflagging commitment to exposing every student to the arts. Prior to his current role, Coats taught art in the classroom for thirty-one years, including time at Whitehaven High School as chair of the art department. He was the first elementary art teacher for Memphis City Schools while teaching at Lester Demonstration School. His accomplishments include the creation of a strong mentoring and professional development program for both new and experienced art teachers, as well as playing a key role in the development of two programs that offer art opportunities to area students: Echoes of Truth, a four-week summer work-study program for high-school students, and the annual ArtsFest, which made its debut in 2010. Coats serves on advisory boards for numerous arts organizations. He is the recipient of the Tennessee Art Education Association’s Outstanding Administrator of the Year Award and the Broadway League’s 2010 Educator’s Apple Award in association with Orpheum Theatre.

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

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 Bache1der, Kingsport
1998 James Charles Mills, Johnson City
1998 Gene Crain, Memphis
1999 Patricia Brown, Knoxville
2000 Robert Pletcher, Nashville
2000 Kathy Hawk, Kingsport
2001 Tummy Pardue, Memphis
2001 Tully Daniel, Memphis
2004 Marilyn duBris, Greeneville
2004 Bobby Jean Frost, Nashville
2005 Nancy Boone-Allbrooks, Murfreesboro
2005 Sally Crain Jager, Cookeville
2006 Michael Combbs, Knoxville
2006 Jean R. Thomas, Chattanooga
2006 Mitchell Van Metre, Knoxville
2007 David Logan, Johnson City
2010 James R. Holcomb, Memphis
2011 Floreverree W. (Galetovic) McDonough, Knoxville
2011 Joe W. Giles, Nashville
2012 Richard Mitchell, Knoxville
2013 Carol Grittenden, Nashville
2014 Fred Patterson, Knoxville

Lorin Hollander Award
1994 Cav’I Cheshier, education executive
1995 Steven Cohen, 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, education administrator
2001 Solie Fott, music educator
2002 Jeanette Crosswhite, arts education administrator
2013 Pat and Thane Smith, arts advocates
2014 Cindy Freeman and Michael Meise, music educators and arts 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 Dolf 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

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.

The 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.

The 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.

The 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.
Madeline Bridges
Project Director

Madeline Bridges is Associate Dean of Academic Studies at Belmont University’s School of Music, where she teaches music education and serves as director of the Nashville Children’s Choir program. Her degrees include a B.M. in piano performance from Shorter College in Rome, Georgia; an M. Mus. Ed. from George Peabody College of Education at Vanderbilt University; and an Ed.D. in music education from the University of Alabama. Bridges has taught music and music education in classrooms from kindergarten through the graduate level and is past president of both the Tennessee Music Educators Association and the International Board of Directors of Choristers Guild. She is a member of the Tennessee Music Education Association Hall of Fame. In 2014, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Tennessee Chapter of American Choral Directors Association.

E. Frank Bluestein
Managing 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. Until his retirement in 2013, 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 currently teaches at Freedom Middle School in Franklin, having formerly taught in Georgia, Texas, and the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. Her choirs at Freedom have consistently won superior ratings at local and state choral festivals. Her students are well represented each year in various honor choirs at the local, regional, and national levels. She is a past president of the Middle Tennessee Vocal Association and has served the organization in several other capacities. Marley is an active member of the Tennessee Music Educators Association, the National Association for Music Education and the American Choral Directors Association. She also sings with the Nashville Chamber Singers.

Jim Dodson
Visual Art Director

Since 1987, Jim Dodson has been an art teacher in the Oak Ridge school system. In 1998 he was recognized as the Tennessee Art Educator of the Year and in 1999 as the National Middle School Art Educator of the Year. Dodson was appointed to the Humanities Tennessee Board by Governor Bill Haslam in 2015 and received the Distinguished Educator Award from the Tennessee Education Association. He has led efforts to establish student art exhibitions in East, Middle, and West Tennessee at high-profile venues. Over the years, Dodson secured more than $7 million in scholarship awards for the students whose work was represented at these exhibits. He has been selected to participate in the Knoxville Leadership Education, Oak Ridge Leadership, and East Tennessee Leadership programs. Currently, Dodson is a board member and past president of the Tennessee Art Education Association and serves on the board of Dogwood Arts in East Tennessee.

Amanda Galbraith
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment Director

Amanda Galbraith has enjoyed teaching elementary-level visual art in the Shelby County area for more than ten years. Her students have consistently been honored for their accomplishments, and many have gone on to pursue further studies in the arts at both the secondary and collegiate levels. Galbraith is a member of the Tennessee Art Education Association and serves on the Tennessee Fine Arts Growth Measures Committee—the group that developed and refined the Tennessee fine arts portfolio model. Additionally, she has worked on district curriculum revision teams, a state standards revision team, and has presented several workshops. Galbraith was honored as the TAEA West Tennessee Art Educator of the Year in 2011 and 2013.

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 Kodály 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  
Dean Emeritus/Awards Coordinator

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. 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.

TAA OFFICE STAFF

Melody Hart  
Office Coordinator

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 and currently subs for them and other Nashville area orchestras on occasion. 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.

Linda Norfleet  
Office Assistant

Linda Norfleet was born and raised in Nashville, where she was educated in local parochial schools. After receiving her bachelor of arts in English from Vanderbilt University in 1977, she began working as a radio producer in news and public affairs with the local public radio affiliate, WPLN-FM radio. Norfleet held subsequent positions with Belle Meade Mansion; The Hermitage, home of President Andrew Jackson; Vanderbilt University; and Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC). In 2011, Norfleet retired from her full-time position as editorial assistant for the Section of Surgical Sciences at VUMC.

TAA 2015 SUPPORT STAFF

Elaine Bailey-Fryd  
Special Events Coordinator

Gina Miller  
Travel, Newsletter, Vendor Fair, and Grants Coordinator

Pollyanna Parker  
Communications Coordinator

Hayley Creek  
Social Media and Inventory Assistant

Charles Businaro  
Visual Enhancement Coordinator

Daniel Poston  
Equipment Coordinator

Andrea Hittle  
Transportation Coordinator

David Bridges  
Transportation Assistant

Nathan Babian  
Webmaster

Carol Poston  
Academy Accompanist

Gail Merritt Congdon  
Office Volunteer

Scott Schrecker  
TAA Photographer

TAA 2015 SUPPORT STAFF

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

TAA Facilitators

Music
David Chambers  
Kami Lunsford  
Phillip Maybee

Jerome Souther  
Kerry Vaughn

Visual Art
Debbie Flynt  
Libby Lynch  
Kim Shamblin

Ken Snyder  
Cassie Stephens

Theatre
Nancy Beard  
Nancy Essary  
Jennifer Keith

Key McKinney  
Pollyanna Parker

Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment
Atticus Hensley

Trio Track
Paula Medlin

Office Administration
Gail Merritt Congdon  
Terri King

Additional Support Personnel
Joyce Carr – Graphics Advisor
Sarah Brown – Belmont Facilities Liaison
Rusty King – MPAC Liaison
Allison Whitmore – Stage Manager
Sandra Partridge – Programs
April Simpkins – Hospitality
Marlon Crow – VIP Coordinator
Susan Hearn – Office Worker
Christopher Hearn, Elizabeth Hearn, William Hearn, Robbie Weaver – Office Aides

Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board of Directors

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), Leslee T. Alexander, Joey Beckford, Chuck Blackburn, Cavit Cheshier, Ruby Fenton, Solie Fott, Bobby Jean Frost, Brandon Herrenbruck, Kem Hinton, Jean Litterer, Flowerree W. McDonough, Diana K. Poe, Sara Savell, Pat Smith, Thane Smith, J. Tabor Stamper, Jeanette Watkins, William H. Watkins, Jr., and Talmage Watts.

The Wednesday morning TAA breakfast is generously sponsored by Joey Beckford, Ruby Fenton, Flowerree McDonough, Pat Smith, Jeanette Watkins, and an anonymous donor.
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 of 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 the 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 to its curriculum. The 2012 Academy included, for the first time, a separate track focusing on arts evaluation. 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 guest, teacher, and student art exhibitions, 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. Arts Academy America was established in 2002, giving arts teachers from outside Tennessee the opportunity to become full participants in the Academy experience.

After twenty-nine years and much scrutiny and refining, the Academy continues as the longest running, premier summer program in America for teacher training in music, the visual arts, and theatre. Since its inception, the Academy has trained more than six thousand teachers and administrators. As of today, the cumulative first-year student impact following Academy attendance exceeds two million students. More significantly, the lasting benefit of the Academy will endure and multiply for years to come.
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EXHIBITIONS
AT THE FRIST

Italian Style: Fashion since 1945
June 5—September 7, 2015
Organized by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London

Postcards of the Wiener Werkstätte:
Selections from the Leonard A. Lauder Collection
June 26—October 12, 2015
Organized by the Neue Galerie New York with additional loans from
The Wolfsonian–Florida International University

Ink, Silk, and Gold: Islamic Art from the
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
October 9, 2015—January 10, 2016
Organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Michelangelo: Sacred and Profane, Masterpiece
Drawings from the Casa Buonarroti
October 30, 2015—January 6, 2016
Organized by the Muscarelle Museum of Art at The College of William & Mary in Virginia in partnership
with Fondazione Casa Buonarroti and Associazione Culturale Metamorfosi

Phantom Bodies: The Human Aura in Art
October 30, 2015—February 14, 2016
Organized by the Frist Center for the Visual Arts

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5th Dublin International Piano Competition
First Prize Winner Selected Kawai EX

13th Jose Iturbi International Piano Competition
Top Three Prize Winners Selected Kawai EX

1st Rachmaninoff International Piano Competition (USA)
First Prize Winner Selected Kawai EX

23rd William Kapell International Piano Competition
All Three Prize Winners Selected Kawai EX

2nd Rachmaninoff International Piano Competition
First Prize Winner Selected Kawai EX

45th Ferruccio Busoni International Piano Competition
First Prize Winner Selected Kawai EX

11th Santander International Piano Competition
First Prize Winner Selected Kawai EX

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