TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY

1986 - 2016
Three Decades of Excellence

July 10–15, 2016
On the Campus of Belmont University
Connecting PEOPLE to the ARTS

Tennessee’s only Center devoted to research, creation and education in the arts. For more information about the Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts, visit www.apsu.edu/creativearts.
The Premier Summer Institute for Arts Education

Three Decades of Excellence

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

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Welcome TO THE TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY

From the Governor

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the great State of Tennessee, it is my honor to welcome participants and guests to the 2016 Tennessee Arts Academy. I congratulate you on this very special thirtieth anniversary and hope you have lasting memories of this occasion for many years to come.

As you gather together again this year, I am sure you will enjoy interacting with colleagues as you 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 and regards for an exciting and enriching event.

Warmest regards,

Bill Haslam

From the Tennessee Department of Education

Dear Educators:

Welcome to the 2016 Tennessee Arts Academy! How fortunate you are to be a part of the thirtieth anniversary of this enriching and challenging professional learning experience. I hope your presence this week 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, to 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 meaningful, 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

Welcome to Belmont University!

We wish to congratulate the Tennessee Arts Academy on thirty successful years of promoting the arts by developing and encouraging teachers of the arts. We are honored to partner with the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Arts Academy in this vital work.

We are very pleased to host the Tennessee Arts Academy, and hope your experience is enhanced by our campus environment and facilities. We trust that your time here will be inspirational and productive as you share best practices and learn from gifted instructors.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Fisher
President
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### Holly Adams
**Theatre-Upper Middle/Secondary**

Holly Adams is a performer who divides her time between original pieces with the physical theatre company Kakeru, audiobook narration for Audible, clown therapy projects, and acting gigs. Adams is also a passionate teaching artist; her favorite recent projects include her work with girls in Kabul for the Afghan Children’s Circus and with the brand new Theatre Company in Balan, Haiti. Her work as an artist-in-residence for schools and universities links academic and arts curricula while addressing socio-cultural challenges. Adams is a graduate of the International Dell’Arte School, and holds a masters in theatre, education, and social change. She is a recipient of the Association of Teaching Artists’ Service to the Field Award. Adams believes art is how we connect to, process, and understand our world, each other, our communities, and our living and dying.

### Douglas Akey
**Music-Upper Middle/Secondary**

Douglas Akey has a bachelor’s degree in instrumental music and a master’s degree in solo performance from Arizona State University. He has also studied brass performance at the Banff Centre for the Performing Arts in Alberta, Canada. He has been teaching middle level band in the Phoenix area since 1979. His school ensembles have been invited to perform at the Midwest Clinic and the Music Educators National Conference. As a clinician, Akey has directed many junior high and high school honor bands, in addition to presenting sessions to music educators throughout the United States and as far away as Singapore. Akey is recognized as an accomplished composer of band music. He has composed thirty-four commissions for band and has more than forty-five published works. After thirty-three years performing in its horn section, Akey began his tenure as music director of the Tempe Symphony Orchestra in 2010.

### Jamin Carter
**Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment**

Jamin Carter is a visual artist and educator from Memphis, Tennessee. He holds degrees in visual arts education as well as sculpture and painting. He has taught in several diverse Title I classrooms ranging from elementary and high school studio art to Advanced Placement art history. Additionally, Carter has served as a mentor for elementary and middle school art educators in his school district. He currently works as a national arts integration consultant and is refining a new workshop in partnership with the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Working out of his Memphis studio, Carter uses various art mediums including oil painting, sculpture, and brush with ink. He participates in exhibitions, volunteers as a consultant for public artwork, and occasionally curates shows.

### Dru Davison
**Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment**

Dru Davison is an arts administrator for the Shelby County Schools and currently serves as project chair for the Tennessee State Board of Education’s Standards Revision Committee. He has held several professional appointments with the National Association for Music Education including chair of the association’s Council of Music Program Leaders, its President’s Cabinet, and its Professional Development Committee, as well as being a current revision team member of the association’s Opportunity to Learn Standards. Davison has been a consultant for the United States Department of Education and the Tennessee Department of Education as well as the Insight Education Group. He has taught music to students in kindergarten through twelfth grade, was an adjunct jazz instructor at Arkansas State University, and was a teaching fellow in music education at the University of North Texas. He has been a member of the Bill and Melinda Gates College Readiness Advisory Council and is a former national fellow for the Hope Street Group.

### Mark Friedman
**Theatre-Upper Middle/Secondary**

Mark Friedman fell in love with musicals at an early age when he and his brothers built their own theatre in the basement of their home. A longtime classroom teacher and producer, Friedman was named National Music Educator of the Year in 2005. He has scripted, written music, and hosted events for national conventions and is a sought-after speaker at music and education seminars around the country. He co-founded, produced, and performed with Cincinnati’s first free outdoor Shakespeare Festival, the Peanut Butter Theatre for Children. In partnership with his collaborator, Janet Yates Vogt, Friedman is the composer, lyricist, and playwright of many successful theatrical works represented by Theatrical Rights Worldwide and Rodgers and Hammerstein, including How I Became a Pirate, Rapunzel! Rapunzel! A Very Hairy Fairy Tale, and The Magical Adventures of Merlin. His newest work, Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Musical, has been described by critics as “touching, affecting, and greatly entertaining,” and is currently enjoying much success playing in theatres across the country.

### Kevin Gerrity
**Music-Upper Middle/Secondary**

Kevin Gerrity is associate professor of music education at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Before joining the faculty in 2007, Gerrity taught instrumental and general music in Ohio for thirteen years. His research interests include teacher preparation, the impact of policy on music education, the integration of music and reading instruction, education issues related to adolescence, and the teaching of secondary general music. In addition to serving as a frequent presenter at state, national, and international conferences, Gerrity has published articles in Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education, General Music Today, Journal of Research in Music Education, Music Educators Journal, Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, and other notable journals.
Susan Haefner  
**Theatre-Upper Middle/Secondary**

Susan Haefner is an actor, director, and teacher who divides her time between New York City and her home in Vermont. She has appeared on Broadway in 42nd Street, State Fair, and Thoroughly Modern Millie. Her national tour credits include Billy Elliot and Damn Yankees with Jerry Lewis. She has appeared regionally at theatres such as Asolo Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Northern Stage, and Weston Playhouse. Haefner has directed for colleges and regional theatres in Connecticut, New York, and Vermont. She has taught acting and musical theatre at several schools and theatres including Castleton University, Geva Theatre Center’s Summer Academy, Shuffles Tap School, Studio New Canaan, and Weston Playhouse.

**Daniel A. Kelin II**  
**Theatre-Elementary/Lower Middle**

Daniel A. Kelin II is the director of drama education for the Honolulu Theatre for Youth and a teaching artist with the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. He was a Fulbright-Nehru Scholar in India and has been awarded arts in education fellowships at the Montalvo Arts Center, Theatre for Young Audiences, and the Children’s Theatre Foundation of America. Kelin was director of theatre training for the Crossroads Theatre for Youth in American Samoa. He served as president of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AA TE) from 2011 to 2013. Over the years, AA TE has honored Kelin with the Youth Theatre Director of the Year Award, the Lin Elliot Special Recognition Award for his work with pre-service teachers, and a distinguished book award. Kelin has published many journal articles and has four books to his credit, including The Reflective Teaching Artist: Collected Wisdom from the Drama/Theatre Field.

**Karen Kennedy**  
**Music-Upper Middle/Secondary**

Praised by the San Francisco Classical Voice for her “wizardry with voices” and named by the Honolulu Star Bulletin as “a popular and charismatic leader,” Karen Kennedy is currently the director of choral studies at the University of Miami. Her previous positions include director of choral activities at the University of Hawaii, artistic director of the Honolulu Symphony Chorus, and director of choral studies at Towson University in Maryland. Kennedy regularly enjoys leading festival performances, recently in notable venues such as Carnegie Hall; the Mormon Tabernacle; Canterbury Cathedral in England; the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, Sweden; St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican; and multiple venues in Austria. Upcoming engagements include a return to Carnegie Hall, a musical tour of the Greek Isles, and All-state Choirs throughout the United States.

**Phyllis King**  
**Music-Elementary/Lower Middle**

Phyllis King is a retired educator who spent the majority of her thirty-one-year career as an elementary music specialist. After graduating from Sam Houston State University, she spent a year in Hungary, where she studied at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest during the school year and then attended a summer session at the Kodály Institute in Kecskemet. King has been a featured clinician for many state and national conferences and has been a conductor for many elementary honor groups. During her teaching career, she taught in the Texas public schools for the Conroe, Killeen, Plano, and Odessa districts. Though now officially retired, King stays quite active as she volunteers at church and at the local historical museum. She also continues to enjoy sharing ideas with other music educators while conducting honor choirs and during convention sessions, in-service trainings, summer courses, substitute teaching, and other professional learning opportunities.

**Emily Mason**  
**Music-Elementary/Lower Middle**

Emily Mason is an assistant professor at California State University in Fresno, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music education. Mason has certification and training in several teaching pedagogies including the Kodály method, the Orff-Schulwerk approach, and Dalcroze-Eurhythmics. She has presented workshops and research at state and national conferences and has been published in General Music Today, Music Educators Journal, and Update: Applications of Research in Music Education. Her research interests include community engagement, music in early childhood, and pre-service teachers. Additionally, Mason is in demand as a choral conductor, and she has conducted children’s choirs in Florida, Illinois, and New York. She has also been a guest conductor for numerous music festivals in Florida and New York and has adjudicated festivals in both California and Illinois.

**Judith O’Hare**  
**Theatre-Elementary/Lower Middle**

Judith O’Hare, the education consultant for Puppeteers of America, has a masters in theatre from Tufts University and a degree in education. She has combined her training in education and theatre to develop you and Me Puppets, a program that provides innovative ways to involve children, educators, and young adults in puppet theater productions, classroom training, teacher workshops, and graduate courses. O’Hare has presented her unique style of puppetry in numerous venues and has performed internationally in Canada, China, Kenya, and Tanzania, as well as throughout the United States. Awards she has received include the Marjorie Batchelder Award for Puppetry in Education and Therapy from the Puppeteers of America. She has also been recognized by the Northeast Region of the Puppeteers of America for her work in puppetry in education as well as her local community for her work in founding Creative Arts, a multi-disciplinary art center for adults, children, and teens. O’Hare’s most recent work is focused on small table top theatre, called Toy Theatre.

**Kathy Robinson**  
**Music-Elementary/Lower Middle**

Music educator and performer Kathy Robinson holds degrees from Lebanon Valley College, Northwestern University, and the University of Michigan. She is associate professor of music education at the University of Alberta, where she has directed several professional development programs for in-service teachers including Umculo! Kimberley, featuring immersion in Kimberley and Galeshewe, South Africa, and Teaching Music Globally: China,
Joshua Streeter  
**Theatre—Elementary/Lower Middle**

Joshua Streeter is a drama specialist at the University of Texas at Austin. He works primarily with in-service and pre-service teachers in elementary drama pedagogy, curriculum design, and arts integration. Streeter has taught second and third grades and has led workshops for educators across the United States. He recently served as a writer for the National Core Arts Standards and has worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Center for Educator Development in Fine Arts in Texas. Streeter was named the 2015 Winifred Ward Scholar by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education. He holds degrees in theatre and education from the University of Texas at Austin, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, Emerson College, and Millikin University.

Sheri Treadwell  
**Visual Art—Upper Middle/Secondary**

Sheri Treadwell has used many mediums to produce a wide array of artwork during her thirty-year career as an artist. Treadwell's urge to create has come from her relentless pursuit to unearth her authentic voice as both a human and an artist. Treadwell works out of her studio, Temple of Trust, which is based in northern California. Her current work is esoteric in nature and includes wearable iconic sculpture and vessels that she describes as Objects of Power and Light. Treadwell's work is represented in her personal online gallery and various regional galleries and exhibits. Her work can also be found in private and public collections, including the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian. She has completed numerous permanent installations for spiritual sanctuaries and private residences. Through her unique teaching style, Treadwell has become a sought-after workshop leader and facilitator. Her students often describe her as a free-spirited inspiration who creates a joyful classroom.

Lynn Tuttle  
**Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment**

Lynn Tuttle is currently the senior regulatory policy advisor for the National Association for Music Education. Her duties in the organization include supporting state level music education associations in the areas of standards, assessment, teacher evaluation, professional development, and the interconnection of federal and state policy. Formerly, she served as the director of arts education at the Arizona Department of Education. Tuttle has presented for Americans for the Arts, the Arts Education Partnership, the Educational Theatre Association, the Kennedy Center Alliances for Arts Education Network, the National Art Education Association, the National Dance Education Organization, the National Association for Music Education, and the State Arts Advocacy Network. She served as a past president for the State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education and is one of the leaders involved in the revision of the National Voluntary Arts Education Standards, serving as its secretary until the summer of 2015.

Elisa Wiedeman  
**Visual Art—Elementary/Lower Middle**

Elisa Wiedeman is currently a lecturer at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona. As an advocate for a student-centered learning environment, she emphasizes environmental sustainability, global awareness, and tolerance. She has also taught at the middle and high school levels. Wiedeman draws inspiration from her continual discovery of fledgling contemporary artists. Above all, she encourages her students to embrace the creative journey itself rather than the idea of achieving “perfection.” Wiedeman is a member of the National Council of Teachers of English and the National Art Education Association, for which she serves as a division council member. In 2014, Wiedeman received the Arizona Higher Education Outstanding Art Education Award; during her career, she has also been the recipient of multiple grants from the Arizona Commission of the Arts.

Nancy Walkup  
**Visual Art—Upper Middle/Secondary**

Nancy Walkup is the editor of SchoolArts, a longstanding magazine for art educators that has been published since 1901. She is also a contributing author, along with Marilyn Stewart, Eldon Katter, and Laura Chapman, of Explorations in Art, an elementary art textbook series by Davis Publications. Walkup's teaching experience covers grade levels from kindergarten through university and spans more than thirty years. One of the highlights of her career was the time she spent serving as project coordinator and director for the North Texas Institute for Educators on the Visual Arts, a national art education initiative funded in part by the Getty Institute and the Annenberg Foundation. Walkup has won numerous art education awards from the art education associations of Texas and Louisiana, as well as the National Art Education Association. Her international teaching experience includes serving as an invited teacher at an elementary school in Beijing, China, in 2007; and being selected for the Japanese Fulbright Memorial Teacher program in 2008.

Pam Stephens  
**Visual Art—Elementary/Lower Middle**

Pam Stephens is professor of art education at Northern Arizona University where she was recently named as a President’s Distinguished Teaching Fellow. Prior to her work at the university level, Stephens taught visual art in grade school. Her years of elementary teaching resulted in the award-winning Dropping In On series of art history picture books and animated videos for children. She recently co-authored the third edition of Bridging the Curriculum through Art. Stephens currently serves on the editorial board of SchoolArts magazine and is the awards chair for the Arizona Art Education Association.

Sheri Treadwell has earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre from Emerson College, and Millikin University.

Austin, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, and education from the University of Texas at Austin. He holds degrees in theatre and Education. He was named the 2015 Winifred Ward Educator Development in Fine Arts in Texas.

Faculty featuring study in Shandong province, China. Robinson's research focuses on world music in education, Ghanaian and South African music, culturally relevant pedagogy, and urban music education. She has presented and published research on world music in education and culturally relevant pedagogy and is an active clinician with more than ninety presentations given on five continents.
**ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE MUSIC**

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

**Music Literacy: How to Make Work Feel Like Play**
Instructor: Phyllis King

Teaching state and district music literacy standards in a way that keeps active students engaged can be a challenge. In this session, participants will explore ways of actively and playfully teaching music literacy in the classroom. The pedagogical methods participants will explore include the use of rhythm cards, memory games, beat and rhythm games, song puzzles, PowerPoint music writing, and many other tactile, kinesthetic approaches. Each day the session lessons will also include a make-and-take idea.

**Bridges and Corridors: New Routes to Creativity through Movement**
Instructor: Emily Mason

Have you ever thought about adding movement to your music classes but weren’t sure how? Participants in this workshop will engage in active music making and movement exercises that will inspire new routes to creativity in the music classroom. Ideas for planning classroom movement activities, including age-appropriate sequential activities, will be explored. The workshop will also explore ideas for how to incorporate movement into already existing curricula.

**Sing it! Move it! Hear it! Groove it!: Building a More Globalized and Inclusive Music Curriculum**
Instructor: Kathy Robinson

A music curriculum that incorporates diverse content and perspective has become an expectation in America’s schools, yet many teachers are grappling with how to bring more globalized offerings to their students. In this workshop, participants will experience the role and power of music in people’s lives. Participants will become part of communities both local and global as they sing, dance, play, and listen to music. Music from South Africa, Afghanistan, the South Pacific, and the Northwest Territories will serve as points of departure for exploring ways of including diverse content and perspectives in the elementary music classroom. This session will also explore issues related to cultural context, culturally responsive pedagogy, representation (including language), transmission, teacher comfort, and how to successfully foster intercultural understanding through music.

**UPPER MIDDLE/SECONDARY MUSIC**

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

**Teaching to Play Music or to Play THE Music? That is the Question!**
Instructor: Douglas Akey

Are you just teaching your students how to play repertoire, or are you actually helping them develop the skills and insights they will need to be skilled and independently expressive musicians? While it may seem more efficient to focus on the preparation of specific works, developing both technical skills and musical insight in student-musicians will result in highly efficient rehearsals, a shorter learning curve for each work, and students who will be prepared to make music on their own and become musical leaders in the future. This session will include practical methods that you can use to prepare your students to eagerly accept the burden of performance, which then allows you to focus your music direction on the development of expressive elements and aesthetic awareness.

**A Comprehensive Approach to Secondary General Music**
Instructor: Kevin Gerrity

Teaching secondary general music is an aspect of music teacher education programs that is often neglected. As a result, many music teachers feel ill-prepared to teach general music and meet the needs of their students. Participants in these sessions will discuss the knowledge and skills that are related to artistic processes, such as performing, creating, listening, responding, and connecting, while also exploring the best ways to approach these processes with adolescents. These sessions will emphasize a comprehensive approach that makes use of active engagement, problem-based learning, and other strategies that resonate with adolescent learners. Additionally, these sessions will include strategies that show ensemble directors how to include more general music activities in their ensemble rehearsals. This includes learning how to facilitate and encourage a more comprehensive approach to their ensemble classes without compromising the integrity and importance of performing.

**The Key is Culture**
Instructor: Karen Kennedy

In these workshops, participants will explore how they can best train themselves and their students to maximize rehearsal time, prescribe and implement best practices for building vocal and rehearsal technique, and focus their energies on bringing music alive through thoughtful score study. The key is culture: in the classroom, in the score, in the brain, and in the performance. Interactive lectures and master class opportunities will be offered throughout the week.

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The 2016 TAA music faculty is sponsored by a generous gift in memory of Marilee Kester Stites from the Lingner Gift Fund, Lee Stites and Beth Bennett.
ELEMENyARy/Lower MIDDLE THEATRE

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

Dramatic Investigations: Critical Thinking through Drama and Science
Instructor: Daniel A. Kelin II

This workshop will demonstrate how teachers can integrate drama and science in the classroom to encourage children to think critically about big concepts. Participants will learn how to encourage students to imagine themselves as scientists conducting virtual investigations in creatively engaging ways. By combining drama and science in a virtual setting, students will learn the value of applying the investigative process in real life as well.

Puppet Power: Bringing Literature, Social Studies, and Social Issues to Life Using Puppets
Instructor: Judith O’Hare

Puppets offer a unique way for children to explore the dynamics of language, literacy, social interaction, and feelings. Because puppets are not real but represent something or someone who is real, they act as metaphors for both personal interaction and life situations. In this session, participants who teach kindergarten through third grade will first create puppets. Then they will investigate ways their puppets can be used in the classroom to explore sensitive issues and help students express themselves. Participants who teach fourth to sixth grade will create puppets that bring poetry and literature to life by constructing large, imaginative puppets to dramatize “the Jabberwock” and shadow puppets to retell Aesop’s Fables.

Jumping into the Story: Using Drama to Develop Literacy Skills
Instructor: Joshua Streeter

This hands-on workshop invites participants to consider using drama as a tool for exploring characters, situations, and environments within a given text. The read-to-use classroom strategies will help improve reading comprehension as well as develop the skills of collaboration and critical thinking.

Upper MIDDLE/Secondary THEATRE

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

Laughing at Life: Commedia Then and Now
Instructor: Holly Adams

From Brighelli to Bugs Bunny and from Moliere to the Muppets, our ability to poke fun at ourselves is imbued with Commedia dell’Arte, including its lazzi and its core characters. This workshop will include an exploration of Commedia’s historical context, masks, and characters (including rehearsal techniques to use with other genres), the creation of comic scenes, and a look at contemporary expressions of this delightful form.

From Story to Stage: The Art of Adaptation
Instructor: Mark Friedman

In this session, participants will gain insight into the art of adapting a wide range of source material—from novels to fairy tales and from fictional characters to real-life biographies—into theatrical works that engage audiences from the first words spoken all the way to the final scene! Participants will learn how to pick and choose the most important moments in a story, create and condense characters for the stage, and craft the finishing touches that allow them to weave every important element into the all-important arc of a show. This will be a fun and creative session; educators will go home with many ideas they can share with their students.

VIEWPOINTS: Magic in Time and Space
Instructor: Susan Haefner

This workshop will offer a hands-on, practical, and innovative approach to using collaboration and improvisation in theatre. Based on Anne Bogart and the SITI Company’s groundbreaking technique “Viewpoints,” the workshop will spark participants’ imaginations and bring new insights about unlocking the power of the ensemble and creating dynamic moments in theatre.
ELEMENTARY/LOWER MIDDLE VISUAL ART

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

**Bridging the Curriculum through Art**
Instructor: Pam Stephens

This interactive workshop offers elementary and middle school teachers the chance to experiment with meaningful and engaging 2D and 3D art activities. Participants will learn ways to help children respond to art and make connections across the curriculum. Activities include simple approaches to bookmaking, paper marbling, paper sculptures, and watercolor. Lesson plans tied to the National Visual Arts Standards will be provided for each activity.

**Patterns of Chaos**
Instructor: Elisa Wiedeman

This interactive workshop will offer elementary and middle school art educators the opportunity to explore printmaking, pattern, and environmental sustainability. Participants will work in color pencil, ink, paint, and printmaking materials. Special focus will be placed on collaboration and how to effectively integrate written and visual compositions. Lesson plans tied to the National Visual Arts Standards will be provided to participants.

UPPER MIDDLE/SECONDARY VISUAL ART

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

**The Sculptors Dance**
Instructor: Sheri Treadwell

The dancer Gabrielle Roth identified five musical rhythms that influence humans on both an emotional and a physical level. Through her own experience dancing these Five Rhythms, artist Sheri Treadwell has begun to discover a new, unique method of sculpting that she uses in her classes to help fire up the confidence and creativity of her students. In this workshop, participants will experience the power of the Sculptors Dance, an intuitive approach to exploring organic sculptural form. During the workshop, participants will complete an organic sculpture. Finishing and firing techniques will also be discussed.

**Bridging the Curriculum through Art**
Instructor: Nancy Walkup

This interactive workshop will offer upper middle and high school teachers the chance to explore culturally based ephemeral art experiences while making meaningful connections across the curriculum. The term “ephemeral art” refers to works of art that are not long-lasting or permanent. Workshop activities will include paper cutting and marbling, photography, stenciling, and tape drawing.

VISUAL ART TRIO TRACK

Trio Track participants will each day attend the appropriate workshop listed below based on their grade level designation.

**Foundations in Art Begin Now**
Elementary/Lower Middle School Trio Track
Instructor: Cliff Tierney

This session will teach instructors to help young minds understand the importance of visual literacy. Participants will learn simple and effective ways of altering preconceived ideas about art-making by creating both traditional and non-traditional projects such as mold-making and casting as well as alternative drawing techniques.

**Concept-driven Approaches to Art-making**
Upper Middle/Secondary Trio Track
Instructor: Cliff Tierney

This session will focus on art-making through the process of mapping and semiotics. Attendees will develop a concept that is based on personal, reciprocal, or communal interactions and the elements that exist within these dynamics. Participants will learn how to teach their students to develop ideas and create artwork that is the result of intellectual comprehension combined with visual perception.
Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment

The goal of the Arts Leadership, Assessment, and Administration track (ALAA) is to inspire and equip participants to continue effective arts leadership within a variety of environments. Relevant topics include advocacy, leadership strategies, developing opportunities for students, professional development, effective use of social media, national and state policies, and the Tennessee Fine Arts Portfolio Growth Measures System.

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

Participants will engage in interactive sessions that connect contemporary arts research and trends to targeted arts initiatives at multiple levels within schools, districts, and beyond. Field experience opportunities will include visits to content sessions throughout the Academy to observe from the perspective of an arts leader. Webinars with state and national leaders will be part of the curriculum. The ALAA track is specifically designed to connect teachers, principals, supervisors, district personnel, and others who are interested in being arts education leaders.

**SEMINARS AND WEBINARS**

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

**Social Media and the Arts Roundtable**  
**Instructors: Tina Atkinson, Rita Black, Ted Edinger**

Three educators will present their diverse perspectives on social media and the arts in a roundtable discussion format. The presenters will discuss their inspiration and strategies for using social media, the lessons they have learned, and surprising outcomes or suggestions they have for other educators. They will also share their ideas for using social media in the future. Visual art educator Ted Edinger, who is behind the popular blog artwithmre.com, will discuss the intersections of teaching and the online art educators' community. Visual art educator Tina Atkinson will talk about writing for the nonprofit organization Americans for the Arts. Music educator Rita Black will share the experience of having an inspirational video produced about her classroom and the possibilities of using video to promote the arts.

Tina M. Atkinson has been teaching visual art at the elementary level in Nashville for nearly twenty years. She has developed an innovative and highly successful visual arts program that keeps parents, students, and community stakeholders connected to the learning that takes place in the art classroom. Her students' artwork can be seen in the school hallways, in the community at various local art shows, and on artsonia.com in Percy Priest Elementary's online art gallery.

Rita Black serves as a district mentor teacher and is the music teacher at Eakin Elementary School in Nashville. She also currently serves as a teacher advisor and lesson designer for Quaver Music, a company that produces online kindergarten through eighth grade interactive music curriculum resources. In 2014, she served as a committee co-chairman for the national conference of the American Orff Schulwerk Association. Recently, Black was one of the music educators honored in the first class of the Country Music Association’s Music Teachers of Excellence.

Ted Edinger has been a visual art teacher with the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools since 1997. His blog artwithmre.com has been a source of inspiration for art educators nationally. In 2008 and 2016, he served on the Tennessee Standards Revision Teams and has also served his district as a content lead teacher, trainer, and peer and executive reviewer for the Visual Arts Portfolio Assessment. In 2012, he was named the Tennessee Art Education Association’s Elementary Teacher of the Year.

**Exploring Arts Integration**  
**Instructor: Jamin Carter**

This interactive webinar will define arts integration and give an overview of its trends and common misunderstandings. A national perspective will be shared, and Carter will lead a discussion about the response to arts integration by school districts across the country. How to successfully use the arts as a primary teaching tool and strategies for creating effective arts integration practices will also be explored. Success stories will be analyzed to identify effective approaches and conditions that can be recreated and refined for use in specific local environments.

**Opportunities for Arts Education in the Every Student Succeeds Act**  
**Instructor: Lynn Tuttle**

This webinar session will offer educators an overview of the opportunities for arts education that have become available through the recently passed Every Student Succeeds Act. The session will also include conversation about what’s coming next in Tennessee as a result of the standards revision and adoption cycle.
Trio Track

Trio Track provides participants a multidisciplinary experience in three distinct arts areas: music, theatre, and visual art. Participants will attend the same core class in each content area on a daily basis for the entire week, allowing complete immersion in one topic in all three of the designated arts disciplines.

**Elementary/Lower Middle School Trio Track**

Elementary/lower middle school Trio Track participants will attend the following classes each day:

**Music:** Sing it! Move it! Hear it! Groove it!: Building a More Globalized and Inclusive Music Curriculum  
Instructor: Kathy Robinson

**Theatre:** K–3: Puppet Power: Bringing Literature, Social Studies, and Social Issues to Life Using Puppets  
Instructor: Judith O’Hare

4–6: Jumping into the Story: Using Drama to Develop Literacy Skills  
Instructor: Joshua Streeter

**Visual Art:** Foundations in Art  
Begin Now  
Instructor: Cliff Tierney

Upper Middle/Secondary Trio Track

Upper middle/secondary Trio Track participants will attend the following classes each day:

**Music:** A Comprehensive Approach to Secondary General Music  
Instructor: Kevin Gerrity

**Theatre:** Laughing at Life: Commedia Then and Now  
Instructor: Holly Adams

**Visual Art:** Concept-driven Approaches to Art-making  
Instructor: Cliff Tierney

Session details may be found in the program book under the appropriate content area listing. Biographical information on the music and theatre instructors may be found in the faculty section of the program book. Cliff Tierney’s biography appears on this page.

Trio Track participants will also attend all Academy performances, musings, interludes and special events.

Cliff Tierney
Visual Art-Trio Track

Cliff Tierney is an associate professor of art at David Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he also chairs the visual arts department. Previously, he taught as an adjunct at Middle Tennessee State University and was an illustrator and graphic artist at The Tennessean newspaper in Nashville and The Florida Times-Union newspaper in Jacksonville. His work has been shown both regionally and nationally in commercial and university galleries. Tierney is a member of a local artist cooperative as well as national arts organizations. In 2012, he worked as a creative arts consultant for Evergreen Life Services, an organization that works with intellectually disabled adults. He has taught for Lipscomb’s LIFE Program at the Riverbend Maximum Security Facility and the Tennessee Prison for Women where he was the art director for their annual literary journal Chiaroscuro.
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.

**MUSIC RELATED INTERLUDES**

**Personal Commitment and Metaphor**
**Presenter: Douglas Akey**  
(Monday and Wednesday)

Two powerful teaching tools that every educator has are a personal commitment to his or her art and creative metaphors. A daily demonstration of personal commitment will increase students’ “buy in” to a program and teach them to take chances with their art. Creative metaphors help students connect their prior experiences and learning with the often-abstract concepts that are part of creative expression.

**Diversity in the Orchestra: The Nashville Symphony Accelerando Program**
**Presenter: Kelley Bell**  
(Wednesday)

The Nashville Symphony Accelerando Program helps create professional opportunities for musicians of diverse backgrounds who are underrepresented in today’s orchestras. The program does this by providing student musicians with instruction, mentorship, performance experience, and assistance with applications to music schools. With access to the resources of a major American orchestra, these students are prepared to realize their full potential and contribute to the next generation of orchestra musicians. Learn more about efforts behind the creation of Accelerando—only the second program of its kind in the country.

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

**Music in the Pre-Kindergarten Class: Laying the Musical Foundation for our Youngest Students**
**Presenter: David F. Chambers**  
(Monday)

This interlude will present numerous activities that teachers can use in their pre-kindergarten classes. These activities will build upon students’ musicality while also reinforcing the skills they learn in their regular classrooms. Many of these activities can be used in kindergarten, first, and second grade music classrooms as well.

For more than twenty years, David F. Chambers has served as a music specialist in the Fentress County Schools where he teaches students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Chambers has presented many sessions on the use of music with pre-kindergarten students and the incorporation of music into the physical education class. He also serves as choir director for both the Fentress County Community Choir and Allardt Presbyterian Church.

**Tennessee Standards Revisions Preview Session for Instrumental and Choral Music**
**Presenters: Dru Davison, Atticus Hensley, Amanda Galbraith**  
(Wednesday)

The newly revised state standards will soon be finalized and released by the Tennessee State Board of Education. This session will provide an overview of the revision process, offer a preview of the new instrumental and choral standards, and highlight important changes that will go into effect.

Atticus Hensley is the Tullahoma City Schools District lead for implementation of the Fine Arts Growth Measure. He is a member of the Tennessee Council of Visual and Performing Arts Supervisors, where he currently serves on the portfolio steering committee, and has also served on the Tennessee Fine Arts Standards Revision team. Hensley has taught instrumental music in Tullahoma since 1995.
Developing a Non-traditional Performing Ensemble in the Public School Setting: Trials and Techniques
Presenters: Gabriella Fuentes and Jason Walsh (Monday)

In the public school setting, multicultural music can offer a positive and life-changing way for music students to acquire cultural experiences, achieve academic success, and establish closer connections with one another. This session will present strategies that teachers can use to create non-traditional music groups or ensembles in their schools. The presenters will share their personal approaches to recruiting and retaining students and developing successful non-traditional music ensembles based on curricula, repertoire, and teaching strategies that might differ from those commonly used.

Gabriela Fuentes is currently the director of Mariachi education at Glencliff High School in the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. As a native Texan, she studied Mariachi music for more than twenty years in schools and professional settings. Her students have performed for a variety of events such as the inauguration of Mayor Megan Barry, and have accompanied the Latin country artist Stephanie Urbina Jones in concert.

Jason Walsh teaches world percussion and is an instructional coach for emerging music teachers in the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. He also serves as the director of Metro Indoor, a district initiative to increase percussion education in the Nashville schools. Walsh has presented percussion education sessions at national and state conferences.

Why Popular Music Matters
Presenter: Kevin Gerrity (Monday and Wednesday)

Although popular music is more widely used in K–12 music settings today than in previous decades, this interlude will highlight the need to further expand the role of popular music within all student music courses. The session will explore an elitist trend within music education and describe ways that popular music can reach a larger student audience, while still offering a comprehensive exploration of musical skills and knowledge. The belief that popular music is a rich source of musical content, coupled with philosopher John Dewey’s principle that education should begin within the social world of the child, is the underlying principle of this interlude.

Techniques for Recording Your Students
Presenter: Matthew Johnson (Monday)

In this session, Matthew Johnson will talk to educators about recording their students for all types of honors choir auditions—including everything from full choirs to individual performances. Johnson’s discussion of recording equipment and software will focus on Audacity, a free recording software application that is available on most computer platforms. The session will cover the basics of set up, recording, and exporting music. Participants should bring their own technology for this session.

Matthew Johnson has been a music educator since 1981. He currently represents Clarksville Christian School and has taught in both private and public schools. He has also taught theatre arts and has directed a wide variety of musicals and plays. Johnson has worked as an IT and technology coordinator since 1989.

Academy Chorale
Presenter: Karen Kennedy (Tuesday and Thursday)

Please come and join other participants as the Academy Chorale prepares a program of music to be performed at the Academy Finale Luncheon on Friday. The Academy Chorale performs under the direction of Karen Kennedy, the Academy’s secondary choral instructor.

Layered Learning: Add MORE to the CORE
Presenter: Phyllis King (Wednesday)

As teachers of the arts, we should recognize how incredibly personal it is for students to share their talents. And when we have students of different levels in one classroom, it also becomes a challenge to reach our students where they are. How can we continue to develop students who struggle with basic techniques while simultaneously challenging those who are more advanced? In this session, we will talk about ways of layering the learning that will allow us to reach many students at one time.

The Corridor to Integration: Taking the Path to Creativity in Music, Literature, Poetry, and Art
Presenter: Emily Mason (Wednesday)

Literature, poetry, and art have long been inspiration for musical works and vice versa. However, present-day education often teaches these topics separately, and educators may even forget how each influences the other. This interlude will explore ways to integrate aspects of different art forms into each participant's area of expertise. How to present these topics in ways that students find them relevant to their own lives will also be part of the discussion.

Musical Tongue Twisters
Presenter: Susan Ramsay (Monday)

Tongue twisters can be used to create delightful, musical experiences that emphasize rhythm. In this interlude, participants will use speech, movement, and unpitched percussion instruments to weave traditional tongue twisters into musical activities.

Choral Connections with South Africa
Presenter: Kathy Robinson (Wednesday)

This interlude will feature a hands-on, aural learning experience that offers educators traditional South African songs that they can teach and use in their upper elementary to high school classrooms. Participants will learn songs that blend music with dance and combine African and European musical characteristics. The songs that will be taught include a song about Zulu sandals (Khululu Imbadada), a famous folk song about riding on a train (Shosholoza), a song about becoming an adult in South African society (Somogwaza), and a song about the introduction of a bicycle into a community (Amabhayaskili). Cultural context, translation, notation, use, and a videotape of each song will also be presented.
THEATRE RELATED INTERLUDES

Staging a Brawl
Presenter: Holly Adams
(Monday and Wednesday)
This hands-on workshop will introduce participants to some basic techniques, tricks, and safety tips they can use to create outrageous and hilarious brawl scenes. Participants should come prepared to move.

Theatre Curriculum Caring and Sharing: Kindergarten through Sixth Grade
Presenters: Nancy Beard and Nancy Essary
(Thursday)
In this interlude, kindergarten through sixth grade teachers are encouraged to come and share their favorite classroom activities, teaching tips, and theatre lesson plans with other teachers from across the state. Theatre facilitators Nancy Beard and Nancy Essary will lead the session.

Nancy Beard is an Orff elementary music specialist. Before teaching in the Memphis City Schools, Beard taught band, chorus, and general music in Illinois and throughout Kentucky. She currently teaches at Kate Bond Elementary in the Shelby County Schools District. After having a wonderful time attending the drama sessions as a participant, Beard decided to change roles and join the Academy staff as a facilitator.

Nancy Essary teaches second grade at Thurman Francis Arts Academy, a magnet school in Rutherford County where she integrates the arts into general classroom education. In the past, Essary has enjoyed taking part in many of the Tennessee Arts Academy’s summer institutes. Once again, she is participating as a facilitator with the elementary drama staff.

The Sequel: They Raised My Budget to $1.75, but I Still Don’t Know How I Can Build a Set For That!
Presenter: Andy Bleiler
(Tuesday and Thursday)
In this workshop, Andy Bleiler will describe how educators can creatively use inexpensive materials to help a little money go a long way. Participants will also discuss ways of building stronger networks with other teachers to help them share resources and strategies with each other.

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

Tennessee Standards Revisions Preview Session for Dance and Theatre
Presenters: Dru Davison, Atticus Hensley, Amanda Galbraith
(Tuesday)
The newly revised state standards will soon be finalized and released by the Tennessee State Board of Education. This session will provide an overview of the revision process, offer a preview of the new dance and theatre standards, and highlight important changes that will go into effect.

Atticus Hensley is the Tullahoma City Schools District lead for implementation of the Fine Arts Growth Measure. He is a member of the Tennessee Council of Visual and Performing Arts Supervisors, where he currently serves on the portfolio steering committee, and has also served on the Tennessee Fine Arts Standards Revision team. Hensley has taught instrumental music in Tullahoma since 1995.

Lyrically Speaking: The Art of Lyric Writing
Presenter: Mark Friedman
(Monday and Wednesday)
What comes first: the words or the music? With the guidance of composer and playwright Mark Friedman, educators in this interlude will explore the answer to this famous question as they sing, create, and discuss the art of combining lyrics with music for the stage.
Participants will learn about the importance of choosing lyrics that come to life when set to just the right music and will discover how bringing these art forms together leads to endless combinations and possibilities.

**Introduction to Theatrical Lighting**

**Presenters: Jeff Goetsch, Tom Stanziano**

(Thursday)

Beginning with an overview of typical equipment, this introductory seminar covers the basics of stage lighting with an emphasis on getting everything up and working with safety in mind.

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

Tom Stanziano is the southeast regional manager for Philips Strand Lighting/Philips Selecon, Showline, and Philips Vari-Lite. Stanziano is an experienced lighting designer for theatre, houses of worship, concerts, trade shows, television, theme parks, cruise ships, large scale industry events, and trade show booths.

**Triple Threat: Musical Theatre Workshop**

**Presenter: Susan Haeffner**

(Monday and Wednesday)

In this workshop, Susan Haeffner will offer a taste of what it feels like to be in a Broadway show. Participants will have the opportunity to learn a brief Broadway-style musical theatre number that will have them singing, dancing, and acting—all at the same time!

**Spamalot and Other New TRW High School Editions!**

**Presenter: Jim Hoare**

(Thursday)

The Tony Award winning Spamalot can be produced in a high school theatre. Approved changes, creative casting suggestions (more girls), resources for costumes, props, sets, SFX, accompaniment tracks, and projections will be discussed. Ghost the Musical, Saturday Night Fever, and We Will Rock You School Edition will be also introduced. Perusal scripts for all Theatrical Rights Worldwide Broadway and School Edition titles will be offered.

Jim Hoare, Theatrical Rights Worldwide vice president of education, has been involved in educational theatre for forty years. He has presented workshops throughout the United States, and is a recipient of the New York State Theatre Education Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

**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 teaches in the Williamson County school system where she started the drama program at Grassland Middle School. In 2014, Keith was named teacher of the year by the faculty of Grassland for her work in and out of the classroom. She is an avid traveler who regularly brings her global experiences back to her students and her curriculum.

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.

**More than Just Words: Building Creativity with Vocal Expression**

**Presenter: Daniel A. Kelin II**

(Monday and Wednesday)

In this interlude, Daniel A. Kelin II will share effective ways of encouraging students to creatively express texts using a story’s senses, moods, emotions, and sounds in order to better understand characters, plots, and meaning.

**Costumes from Recycled Materials**

**Presenter: June Kingsbury**

(Tuesday)

June Kingsbury will display costumes that she has made from recycled materials. She will also demonstrate how to make fairy wings out of clothes hangers and old tights.

**Costuming on a Shoestring: Modern Clothing Turned into Period Clothing**

**Presenter: June Kingsbury**

(Thursday)

June Kingsbury will discuss ways in which modern clothing can be adapted to substitute for period clothing. She will show clothing modifications, distressing techniques, and ways to apply grommets.

June Kingsbury is the assistant costume shop manager and costume rentals manager for Nashville Repertory Theatre. She has been costuming Nashville theatre productions since 2000. Recently, she has worked for recording artists such as Vince Gill, Alan Jackson, Carrie Underwood, and Jewel, and television shows including NBC’s Nashville Star. She has designed shows for the Nashville Shakespeare Festival since 2006. She has also designed costumes for the Actors Bridge Ensemble, Belmont University Theatre, Chaffin’s Barn Dinner Theater, Lipscomb University Theatre, and Vanderbilt University Opera. In 2011, the Nashville Scene named Kingsbury as their Best Costume Designer.

**Theatre in Miniature: An Introduction to Tabletop Toy Theatre**

**Presenter: Judith O’Hare**

(Monday and Wednesday)

Tabletop Toy Theatre is theatre in miniature. Before movies, television, tablets, and computers there was Toy Theatre—a type of puppetry played out in the drawing rooms of Victorian families. It is a perfect type of theatre for children and teens because it is small and contains all of the elements of adult theatre: sets, story, and characters who play out the story. During this interlude, there will be a demonstration of several Toy Theatres, a sample puppet play, and a PowerPoint presentation of Toy Theatre in the classroom.
A Midsummer Night’s Dream for Young Players (Grades K–8)
Presenter: Santiago Sosa
(Tuesday)
In this session, 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. Santiago Sosa will also share his 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.

Romeo and Juliet: Entry Points for Middle and High School Students (Grades 5–12)
Presenter: Santiago Sosa
(Thursday)
Participants will explore Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet with Santiago Sosa to find scenes and excerpts that will resonate with their students. The discussion will include exploring themes that modern audiences can relate to their own lives. Romeo and Juliet will be the Nashville Shakespeare Festival’s winter offering in January 2017. This session will also provide participants with a great way to introduce Shakespeare to their students while preparing those students who will attend the upcoming production.

Santiago Sosa is the lead teaching artist and director of the school of the Nashville Shakespeare Festival and will serve as the director for its upcoming production of Romeo and Juliet. Recently, he appeared in the festival’s productions of King Lear, As You Like It, and Twelfth Night. Sosa is also an adjunct professor of theatre at Lipscomb University as well as Middle Tennessee State University.

Breaking Down the Script
Presenter: Joshua Streeter
(Monday and Wednesday)
This interlude will walk participants through an interactive and creative approach to analyzing scripts. This hands-on workshop will take challenging acting skills and break them down into manageable pieces.

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.

VISUAL ART RELATED INTERLUDES

Storytelling Approach to Building with Clay
Presenter: Tina M. Atkinson
(Monday and continued on Wednesday)
In this two-part workshop, participants will take a storytelling approach to building with clay and using clay slabs to teach old birds new tricks. Classic cardboard roll birds will be transformed into amazing clay sculptures, even with limited time, space, and materials. Monday’s session will introduce the background on the unit plan as well as serve as a creative planning session with a “Mrs. A” twist. Participants should bring their sketchbooks. On Wednesday, participants will use clay slabs and texture tools to bring their drawings to life in a way that will have everyone tweeting in no time!

3D Letter Sculptures: Teaching a Construction Process
Presenter: Daryle Grenead
(Monday and continued on Wednesday)
In this two-part mini-workshop, Daryle Grenead will present a lesson on the work of Pop artist Robert Indiana and his Love print and subsequent 3D sculptures. This lesson is designed to teach students about the steps involved in a process and how to improve their skills by using different media. Over the two sessions, participants will create a simple letter sculpture to learn the processes and possibilities of this memorable project.

Daryle Grenead has recently retired from South Christian Elementary in Herndon, Kentucky, where he was the visual arts specialist. Grenead has more than forty years of experience as an art teacher and has presented many workshops for teachers. He has been active in the Tennessee Arts Academy and was named Art Educator of the Year by the Tennessee Art Educators Association in 2000.

Tennessee Standards Revisions
Preview Session for Visual and Media Arts
Presenters: Dru Davison, Atticus Hensley, Amanda Galbraith
(Thursday)
The newly revised state standards will soon be finalized and released by the Tennessee State Board of Education. This session will provide an overview of the revision process, offer a preview of the new visual and media arts standards, and highlight important changes that will go into effect.

Atticus Hensley is the Tullahoma City Schools District lead for implementation of the Fine Arts Growth Measure. He is a member of the Tennessee Council of Visual and Performing Arts Supervisors, where he currently serves on the portfolio steering committee, and has also served on the Tennessee Fine Arts Standards Revision team. Hensley has taught instrumental music in Tullahoma since 1995.

Art Therapy in Schools and Communities: Building Partnerships with Art Therapists
Presenters: Catherine M. Harris and Paige Scheinberg
(Monday and Tuesday)
What is art therapy? Where does art therapy take place? How can educators, administrators, and parents create partnerships with art therapists to meet the mental, emotional, and...
behavioral needs of students in Tennessee? In this session, credentialed art therapists will address these frequently asked questions. They will also present case examples about ways that art therapists have worked with schools and communities across the state. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions about connecting with local art therapists and advocating for art therapy programs and services in their own schools.

Catherine M. Harris is a Nashville-based, board-certified and registered art therapist with nine years of experience in the field. She has worked with a variety of client populations, including older adults, children, and adults in medical settings and psychiatric facilities. She is the president of the Tennessee Art Therapy Association.

Paige Scheinberg is a Memphis-based, registered art therapist who has worked with art therapy clients of all ages in community, medical, and private settings. She is an adjunct professor of art therapy at Christian Brothers University and is the West Tennessee chair of the Tennessee Art Therapy Association.

Collage Work Based on Photojournalist Dan Eldon: Who is Your Hero?
Presenter: Alexis Keever (Wednesday)

In this mini-workshop, participants will explore the work of artist and photojournalist Dan Eldon and his dedication to the people of Africa during the early 1990s. Eldon was a hero during the war in Somalia and has created many journal collages of his experiences during that time. Conversation about Eldon’s work will serve as a shared point of departure as participants get the chance to create collages based on a hero or influential character in their own lives. This experience will offer participants the opportunity to think about their definitions and perceptions of heroes while experimenting with a variety of collage techniques.

Alexis Keever is a recent graduate of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where she earned a master of arts degree in art education and a bachelor of fine arts in ceramics. Her artwork has been accepted into many juried art shows including the Synergy East Tennessee Art Educator Art Exhibition where her ceramic piece won third place, and her painting received an honorable mention. She also received an honorable mention for artwork she entered into the art show Connections, held at Belmont University.

Building a Strong Portfolio for College Admission and Scholarships
Presenter: Blake Long (Monday and continued on Wednesday)

In this two-day session, Blake Long will share a collection of his lessons that teachers can use in their own classrooms. These lessons are designed to help students build portfolios for college admission and scholarship opportunities and are focused on the practices of painting, drawing, and mixed media. During the second session, Long will demonstrate one of these lessons, “The Emotional Watercolor,” from start to finish.

Blake Long has completed his tenth 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. He received his bachelor of fine arts from the Memphis College of Art in 1988 and received his master’s degree in educational leadership from Lipscomb University in 2005.

Maximize Your Minutes in the Art Room!
Presenter: Cassie Stephens (Monday)

Elementary art teacher Cassie Stephens has established routines in her art room to make the most of her students’ studio time, which is a scant thirty minutes. In this session, Stephens will share her ideas and experiences with participants. From vocabulary flashcards, call and response routines, and art word of the week activities to fun wrap-up games, songs, and assessments, participants will see that the amount that can be packed into every art class is amazing. Students will love learning in the art room, and administrators will be floored by how every minute matters.

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

Visual Art Studio Connections
Visual Art Core Faculty (Tuesday and Thursday)

Visual art participants may use this time to continue working in the studio, talking with their instructors, or networking with fellow teachers about issues and concerns related to the arts and arts education.
Audrey Flack
Tuesday • July 12 • 1:10 PM

A pioneer of photorealism and an internationally recognized painter and sculptor, Audrey Flack’s work is in the collections of major museums around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the National Museum of Art in Canberra, Australia. Flack was the first photorealist painter to have work purchased by the Museum of Modern Art and the first woman, along with Mary Cassatt, to be included in Tony Janson’s History of Art. Flack has taught and lectured extensively both nationally and internationally.

Unlike many photorealists who used masculine and often unemotional subjects, Flack’s paintings concentrated on highly emotional social and political themes. She is known for her feminine color schemes, which were dominated by pastel colors. Flack underwent a transformation in the early 1980s, when she switched her primary medium from painting to sculpture. She began to use iconographic and mythological elements to communicate in this new medium.

Among her public commissions are Civitas, a monumental gateway to the city of Rock Hill, South Carolina, which consists of four twenty-foot high bronze figures on granite pedestals, and Islandia, a nine-foot high bronze sculpture created for the New York City technical college in Brooklyn, New York. Her sculptures Recording Angel (installed 2006) and Colossal Head of Daphne (installed 2008) are located in Nashville, Tennessee. Recording Angel is located at Schermerhorn Symphony Hall in Nashville. The musical group Audrey Flack and the History of Art Band is a recent venture. Featuring Flack on banjo and playing American old time and bluegrass music, the band treats audiences to songs and entertaining history lessons about the lives of artists. Audrey Flack lives and works in New York City and Long Island.

Doc Severinsen
Monday • July 11 • 1:10 PM

“Heeeere’s Johnny!” That lead-in, followed by the blast of a big band trumpet, was the landmark of late night television for three decades. Of course, that Johnny was Johnny Carson, the announcer was Ed McMahon, and the bandleader was Doc Severinsen. Beginning in October 1962, The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson ruled the night air for thirty years. Severinsen was part of The Tonight Show throughout Carson’s tenure.

Before his time with The Tonight Show, Severinsen toured with the Tommy Dorsey and the Benny Goodman bands in the late 40s. He then spent years playing with NBC’s many studio bands before being invited to play in the highly respected The Tonight Show Band in 1962. In 1967, only five years later, Severinsen became the music director for The Tonight Show. Within only a week of the show’s final telecast, Severinsen was already on the road with his group Doc Severinsen and His Big Band. The band’s repertoire includes Ellington and Basie standards, pop, jazz, ballads, big band classics, and, of course, The Tonight Show theme. A Grammy award winner, Severinsen has made more than thirty albums—from big band to jazz-fusion to classical.

In 2006, Severinsen moved to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, ostensibly to retire from performance. However, within weeks, he was jamming with the magnificent guitarist Gil Gutierrez and started making appearances and touring with the San Miguel 5. Over the years, Severinsen has been the principal pops conductor with the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Colorado Symphony, the Milwaukee Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Phoenix Symphony, and the Pacific Symphony. He has not lost his flair for outrageous fashion statement or his trademark wit. His gregarious nature has never interfered with the fact that he has been one of the greatest trumpeters and musicians of the last sixty years, respected in the worlds of classical music, jazz, big band, and now even world music.

The presentation by Doc Severinsen is made possible by a generous gift from Pinnacle Financial Partners.
Andrew Lippa is an award-winning American composer, lyricist, performer, producer, and writer. His most recent achievements include his highly successful new hit song “Evil Like Me,” which appears in the 2015 Disney movie Descendants. Written for noted performer Kristin Chenoweth, the song rose to number one on the Billboard 200 album chart as well as the iTunes and Billboard soundtrack charts; the video associated with the song has been viewed more than twenty-seven million times on YouTube. Lippa also recently composed and conducted a world premiere piece for the international piano virtuoso Lang Lang and the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra in Guangzhou, China. This new work, a thirty-two minute, five-movement piece called “Rising Tide,” will be reprised later in 2016 and recorded in China. Lippa’s epic concept opera I am Anne Hutchinson/I Am Harvey Milk, starring Kristin Chenoweth as Anne Hutchinson and Lippa himself as Harvey Milk, had its world premiere at the Music Center at Strathmore in Rockville, Maryland, in April of this year. This summer is the United States premiere of Life of the Party, a musical compendium of Lippa’s career. Starring Lippa, the show is produced by Theatreworks in Mountain View, California.

Lippa’s Broadway credits include the music and lyrics for Big Fish, directed and choreographed by Susan Stroman; the Tony-nominated music and lyrics for the Broadway musical The Addams Family; and the music for Aaron Sorkin’s Broadway play The Farnsworth Invention. Other credits include the book, music, and lyrics for the Drama Desk award-winning musical The Wild Party; the music for A Little Princess; the music and co-written book for John & Jen; the music and lyrics for Asphalt Beach; and additional music for You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown. Lippa’s epic oratorio for men’s chorus, orchestra, and soloists, I Am Harvey Milk, has been produced more than twenty times including performances at Disney Hall and Lincoln Center. His musical A Little Princess, which he wrote with Brian Crawley, premiered at Theatreworks, was seen in concert at Texas State University in 2011, and is licensed for worldwide production by Music Theater International. Lippa has garnered Tony and Grammy award nominations and shared an Emmy award for Nickelodeon’s “The Wonder Pets.” Additional awards include the Gilman/Gonzalez-Falla Theater Foundation Award; ASCAP’s Richard Rodgers/New Horizons Award; the Drama Desk Award; and the Outer Critics Circle Award. A graduate of the University of Michigan, Lippa currently serves as president of the Dramatists Guild Fund. He was born in Leeds, England and grew up in suburban Detroit. The appearance of Andrew Lippa throughout the Academy week is made possible by a generous gift from Tennessee Book Company.

Stephanie J. Block has established herself as one of the most relevant and versatile voices in contemporary musical theatre. She will return to Broadway this fall as Trina in Lincoln Center’s highly anticipated revival of Falsettos. For her portrayal of Alice Nutting/Edwin Drood in the Roundabout Theatre’s production of The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Block received both the 2013 Tony Award and Drama Desk nominations for best leading actress in a musical. Her additional and numerous Broadway credits and honors include her role as Reno Sweeney in the revival of Anything Goes, which received the 2011 Tony Award, and the role of Judy Bernly in 9 to 5: The Musical, for which she received a Drama Desk nomination for best actress in a musical. Block created the roles of Grace O’Malley in The Pirate Queen and Liza Minnelli in The Boy from Oz, in which she played opposite Hugh Jackman. Block is best known for her portrayal of Elphaba in the Broadway company’s production of Wicked, as well as for originating the role in the first national tour, for which she won numerous awards, including the prestigious Helen Hayes Award for outstanding actress in a musical.

Block has sung with numerous symphony orchestras, including the Boston Pops, the Charlotte Symphony, the Cleveland Pops, the Columbus Symphony, the Dallas Symphony, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra (under the baton of Marvin Hamlisch), the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall, and the Utah Symphony among many others. Her solo concert has been critically acclaimed and continues to sell out throughout the United States and in London.

Some of her Off-Broadway and regional theatrical credits include Little Miss Sunshine, for which she received the Drama Desk nomination for outstanding featured actress in a musical; By the Way, Meet Vera Stark, for which she received the Drama Desk nomination for outstanding featured actress in a play; They’re Playing Our Song, in which she starred opposite Jason Alexander; Cats, for which she received the St. Louis Kevin Kline Award nomination for best actress; Funny Girl, Crazy For You, for which she received an LA Ovation Award nomination; Oliver, for which she received the Critics Award for best actress; The Dead, which was adapted from the novel by James Joyce; Triumph of Love; The Grass Harp; South Pacific; Will Rogers Follies; and the world premiere of Wicked. The appearance of Stephanie J. Block throughout the Academy week is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.
Boston Brass
Brass Quintet Concert
Sunday • July 10 • 4:15 PM
Massey Performing Arts Center

From exciting classical arrangements, to burning jazz standards, and the best of the original brass quintet repertoire, Boston Brass has created a one-of-a-kind musical experience that is captivating to audiences of all ages. The ensemble's lively repartee, touched with humor and personality, attempts to bridge the ocean of classical formality and delight audiences with performances of great music and boisterous fun. Through more than 100 performances each year, the members of Boston Brass play to audiences at concerts, educational venues, and jazz festivals. They have performed in forty-nine states and thirty countries and have conducted master classes around the world, including sessions and residencies at the Eastman School of Music, the Juilliard School, Peabody Conservatory of Music, Royal Academy of Music in London, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory at the National University of Singapore, and Mahidol University in Bangkok. Boston Brass has been featured on The CBS Early Show, National Public Radio's Performance Today, and The Great American Brass Band Festival and has also recorded several diverse albums. Ensemble members have been featured educators and performers at the American Bandmaster Association Conference, Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Texas Bandmasters Association Convention, and the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles. Along with Jupiter Band Instruments, the Boston Brass performers are ambassadors for the Give a Note Foundation, an organization that gives musical instruments to schools in need.

The Boston Brass performance is generously sponsored and made possible by gifts from KHS America and Sara Savell, in memory of Las Savell.

Appalachian Ballet Company
Words in Motion
Monday • July 11 • 11:30 AM
Massey Performing Arts Center

Language is the unifying theme of the Appalachian Ballet Company's Words in Motion, a group of five works presented by the company under the artistic direction of Amy Morton Vaughn. The first piece in Words in Motion combines ballet with contemporary movement to create a lyrical dance piece that incorporates several different forms and uses music with lyrics. Coming up Roses, choreographed by Melissa Anduiza with music by Eliza Rickman, contains hauntingly beautiful words and emotions. A solo performed by Kylie Morton Berry will be danced to the words of the late Libba Moore Gray, a Blount County school teacher and author of more than nine children's books and poems. The poem is entitled “For an Artist,” and the piece was first performed more than twenty years ago at the Arts Academy with Amy Morton Vaughn dancing the solo as her mother, Gray, read the poem. Now, Gray’s granddaughter will dance to those same words. Perhaps, a tribute to the artist Vincent Van Gogh, uses music and lyrics that the audience will find familiar. Silence, a solo featuring an instrumental version of “Sounds of Silence” will incorporate American Sign Language into the choreography.

The Appalachian Ballet Company (ABC), a Southeastern Regional Ballet Company from the Greater Knoxville area, is currently celebrating its forty-fourth season.

Voices of the South
Listening
Wednesday • July 13 • 11:30 AM
Massey Performing Arts Center

Listening is a Voices of the South production based on the first chapter of Eudora Welty’s autobiography, One Writer’s Beginnings. Written in 1983 when she was 74 years old, One Writer’s Beginnings is a beautiful testament to the power of memory and should be read by all creative artists. In Listening, Voices of the South uses their signature narrative theatre style to take a lyrical look into Welty’s childhood—exploring memory, family, and the author’s lifelong love of words.

About the Author
Eudora Welty (1909–2001) was born in Jackson, Mississippi. She worked for newspapers and radio stations in Mississippi during the early years of the depression. In 1942, she received the Guggenheim Fellowship; in 1944, she won the National Institute of Arts and Letters grant in literature. Her novels Losing Battles and The Optimist’s Daughter won the Pulitzer Prize in 1971 and 1973,
respectively. Welty was the first living author to have her works published by the Library of America. Welty’s fiction is unique—her work is highly imaginative, yet her fantasies are distinguished by what writer Katherine Anne Porter calls “the waking faculty of daylight reason recollecting and recording the crazy logic of the dream.”

About the Company

Voices of the South is celebrating twenty years of producing and premiering works reflecting Southern culture. The company shares the art of theatre by illuminating the heart and voice of short stories, novels, poetry, and creative non-fiction in order to provide a transformative experience for its audiences.

Stephanie J. Block

This Place I Know
Wednesday • July 13 • 8:15 PM
Curb Event Center Arena

Stephanie J. Block has established herself as one of the most relevant and versatile voices in contemporary musical theatre. She will return to Broadway this fall as Trina in Lincoln Center’s highly anticipated revival of Falsettos. For her portrayal of Alice Nutting/Edwin Drood in the Roundabout Theatre’s production of The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Block received the 2013 Tony Award and Drama Desk nominations for best leading actress in a musical. Her additional and numerous Broadway credits and honors include her role as Reno Sweeney in the revival of Anything Goes, which received the 2011 Tony Award, and the role of Judy Bernly in 9 to 5: The Musical, for which she received a Drama Desk nomination for best actress in a musical. Block created the roles of Grace O’Malley in The Pirate Queen and Liza Minnelli in The Boy from Oz, in which she played opposite Hugh Jackman. Block is best known for her portrayal as Elphaba in the Broadway company’s production of Wicked, as well as for originating the role in the first national tour, for which she won numerous awards, including the prestigious Helen Hayes Award for outstanding actress in a musical.

for which she received the Critics Award for best actress; The Dead, which was adapted from the novel by James Joyce; Triumph of Love; The Grass Harp; South Pacific; Will Rogers Follies; and the world premiere of Wicked.

The appearance of Stephanie J. Block throughout the Academy week is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.

Portara Ensemble

Vocal Ensemble
Thursday • July 14 • 11:20 AM
McAfee Concert Hall

Led by artistic director Jason Shelton, the Portara Ensemble invokes the beauty of the human voice and crosses the boundaries of the visual and performing arts to bring exciting new music to audiences. The ensemble’s thought-provoking, thematic, and innovative collaborations explore a wide variety of global music that is sung by professional, semi-professional, and amateur volunteer singers. For its Tennessee Arts Academy performance, Portara will sing selections from its recent Concert, “Nashville Originals.” Featuring locally composed selections from Music Row professionals, church music directors, university faculty, a pop superstar, and even a high school student, this concert shows that Music City truly is a home for the creative arts unlike any other. Portara is thrilled to showcase the craft of Nashville’s choral composers, many of whom are household names in the broader choral world but remain relatively unknown in their own hometown. The group hopes this concert will show that “Music City” could just as easily be known as “Choral Music City.”
Overture
Sunday Evening Opening Celebration & Reception
Sunday • July 10 • 6:30–8:00 PM
The Tennessee Arts Academy opening convocation, Overture, provides participants with the first of many dazzling performances, a preview of the week ahead, and an opportunity to meet faculty and fellow members of the Academy. Afterward, participants are treated to an elegant buffet reception in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium complemented by multiple entertainment options inside and out. Our artists for this event include Duo Sudeste (in the MPA C Lobby prior to the opening session), Trevor Caddell Quartet (in the Beaman Student Life Center lobby), Austin Filingo Duo (in the Curb Event Center Glass Lobby), David Arnold, caricature artist (in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium), and Rich Ripani Trio (in the Curb Event Center Grand Atrium).

High Tea in the Mansion
Monday • July 11 • 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.

TENNESSEE ARTS ACADEMY EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

Opening Receptions and Art Crawl for Featured Exhibitions
Tuesday • July 12 • 5:30–8:00 PM
Leu Art Gallery (Lila D. Bunch Library) and Leu Center for the Visual Arts
Reception music provided by Todd London, vibraphonist (Leu Center for the Visual Arts) and Michael Valaras, guitarist (Leu Art Gallery).

‘Pataphysical Ponderings by Craig Nutt
June 30–September 9, 2016
Leu Art Gallery
Artist Statement
Ten years ago, after more than thirty years as a full-time studio artist, I took a sabbatical to work as director of programs for the national artists’ service organization CERF+ that is building a safety net for artists in the United States. In many ways, this was less a detour than an extension of a history that has always included my involvement with arts organizations as an organizer, volunteer, or board member. Though I have kept one hand in studio work and public art throughout my sabbatical, I have acquired a new respect for the difficult path many artists follow when they pursue their art while teaching or working other jobs. Coming as it does, at the end of my tenure with CERF+ and my return to a full-time studio practice, this exhibition is timely. It has given me an opportunity to contemplate my work over the last several decades, to consider the thematic threads that tie it together, and to ponder future directions.

About the Artist
Craig Nutt is a studio furniture maker and sculptor, whose work can be found in numerous museum collections. These collections include the Birmingham Museum of Art, the Huntsville Museum of Art, and the Mobile Museum of Art in Alabama, as well as the Georgia Museum of Art, the Tennessee State Museum, and the Smithsonian's American Art Museum. In April 2015, Nutt completed a ten-year term as director of programs for CERF+ (Craft Emergency Relief Fund + Artists’ Emergency Resources), a national artists’ service organization based in Vermont. During his tenure with CERF+, Nutt completed two successful public art projects for the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, including the iconic Corncorde, a ten-foot long carved wooden jet ear of corn commissioned prior to the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. In 2013, he also completed a commission from the Metro Nashville Arts Commission that was among six works to commemorate responses to the 2010 Nashville flood. The 12,000 polychrome concrete bench sculpture, which is located in the Bellevue community of Nashville, represents an intersection of Nutt’s experience in emergency response and art. In 2009, the Tennessee Arts Academy was honored to have Nutt as one of its Musers.

‘Pataphysical Ponderings is co-sponsored by the Belmont University Department of Art.
Tennessee’s Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition
June 27–August 12, 2016
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.

Tennessee’s Best of the Best Retrospective Exhibition: Ten Years of Excellence in Student Art
June 27–August 12, 2016
Leu Center for the Visual Arts
Lobby Gallery

This exhibition visually traces the past ten years of the Tennessee Art Education Association’s statewide student art exhibition and scholarship program. Presenting student artwork that represents the best of the three grand divisions of the state, the exhibition chronicles the achievement of Tennessee’s top visual art students and their many accomplishments.

Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition
June 27–August 12, 2016
Leu Art Gallery
Entry 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.

Student and Teacher Artist Recognition Ceremony and Reception
Tuesday • July 12 • 5:30 PM
Leu Center for the Visual Arts

Artist Talk with Craig Nutt
Tuesday • July 12 • 6:45 PM
Leu Art Gallery

The four Tennessee Arts Academy art exhibitions, art crawl, receptions, recognition ceremony, and artist talk are made possible by a generous gift from the Wolfe Family Fund.
Visitors’ Day  
**Wednesday • July 13**  
**8:00 AM–5:00 PM**

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

**Bravo! The Tennessee Arts Academy Awards Banquet and Performance**  
**Wednesday • July 13 • 6:30 PM**  
On Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., participants will gather for the Academy Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance in the Curb Event Center Arena. This night is designed to honor and reward the hard work and artistic talents of all of the Academy participants. The banquet will include an elegant full-course dinner. Music will be provided by Jeff Lisenby on piano. To begin the evening, the Arts Leadership Award of Excellence will be presented to Belmont University, in recognition of the school’s strong support of and belief in the arts and for its thirty-year partnership with the Tennessee Arts Academy. After dinner, the Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Audrey Flack for her talent and achievements as a groundbreaking photorealist painter and sculptor and to the celebrated composer, lyricist, performer, producer, and writer Andrew Lippa, in recognition of his extraordinary talents and artistry. The evening will conclude with a special TAA Carnival during an expanded Thursday afternoon break period from 3:05 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. Peanuts, popcorn, popsicles, live music (the Derek Pell Duo), and juggling acts will enliven the afternoon.

**TAA Carnival and Arts Vendor Fair**  
**Thursday • July 14**  
**12:00 PM–4:30 PM**

Academy participants and all interested arts teachers across the state are invited to attend the TAA Arts Vendor Fair on Thursday in the Beaman Student Life Center. The Arts Vendor Fair will offer display booths from leading music, theatre, and visual art vendors, as well as arts-related organizations. Participants will have several opportunities throughout the day to enjoy learning about the many resources, products and perks offered by the exhibitors. A special TAA Carnival will occur during an expanded Thursday afternoon break period from 3:05 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. Peanuts, popcorn, popsicles, live music (the Derek Pell Duo), and juggling acts will enliven the afternoon.

**Alumni Day and Ice Cream Social**  
**Thursday • July 14 • 5:15 PM**

All TAA Alumni Association members are invited to the Academy to attend the day’s activities. At 5:15 p.m. the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation sponsors its annual Ice Cream Social. Alumni Association members, and all participants who donate to or win a bid in the Tennessee Arts Academy Silent 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.  
*Refreshments for this event have been generously provided by Carol Crittenden.*

**Finale**  
**Friday • July 15 • 11:30 AM**

The Academy activities conclude with the Academy Finale Luncheon in the Curb Event Center Arena at 11:30 a.m. on Friday. This event brings together the diverse experiences of the Academy week 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 2016 honoree is Ted Rose, award-winning artist, author, and educator. Rose 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 Karen Kennedy and composed of Academy participants, is featured in the final performance for the 2016 session.
Belmont University
Arts Leadership Award of Excellence
Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance
Curb Event Center
July 13 • 6:30 PM

Ranked fifth in the Regional Universities South category and named as a "Most Innovative" university by U.S. News & World Report, Belmont University recently celebrated its 125th anniversary in academic year 2015–16 in honor of its 1890 founding. Today, the university consists of more than 7,400 students who come from every state and more than twenty-five countries. Committed to being a leader among teaching universities, Belmont brings together the best of liberal arts and professional education in a Christian community of learning and service.

Located in the heart of Music City USA (Nashville, Tennessee), one of Belmont's consistent success stories comes from its world-renowned music and music business programs. Several well-known recording artists started their careers at Belmont including American Idol finalists Rayvon Owen and Melinda Doolittle; Christian recording artists Ginny Owens and Steven Curtis Chapman; country stars Trisha Yearwood, Brad Paisley, and Josh Turner; and international opera singer Clifton Forbis. In addition, the annual Christmas at Belmont concert features performing ensembles from many different genres and has been broadcast nationwide on PBS thirteen years in a row.

But music isn’t Belmont’s only investment in the arts. The College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) strives to be an active and diverse community that encourages imagination, nurtures creativity, and promotes intellectual and professional growth by offering programs in visual art, theatre, and dance, in addition to music. In addition to majors in art, music, and theatre education, CVPA offer diverse majors including music therapy, commercial music, classical performance, design communications, and a theatre BFA with emphasis in performance, production design, directing, or education. Meanwhile, the university’s Mike Curb College of Entertainment and Music Business prepares men and women for operational, administrative, creative, and technical careers in a variety of entertainment related industries. Belmont’s music and arts programs frequently receive national attention for their accomplishments, including praise from news outlets such as Rolling Stone, Time, and the Hollywood Reporter.

Belmont partners with and supports a number of arts-related community organizations, including the Actor’s Bridge Ensemble, Studio Tenn, the Nashville Ballet, the Nashville Shakespeare Festival, Tennessee Arts Academy, and Rejoice Ministries, among others. Most recently, Belmont has sponsored a mobile app in conjunction with the National Museum of African American Music, which seeks to celebrate the contributions of African Americans in creating and shaping the soundtrack of American life.

Audrey Flack
Distinguished Service Award
Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance
Curb Event Center
July 13 • 6:30 PM

A pioneer of photorealism and an internationally recognized painter and sculptor, Audrey Flack’s work is in the collections of major museums around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the National Museum of Art in Canberra, Australia. Flack was the first photorealist painter to have work purchased by the Museum of Modern Art and the first woman, along with Mary Cassatt, to be included in Tony Janson’s History of Art. Flack has taught and lectured extensively both nationally and internationally. Unlike many photorealists who used masculine and often unemotional subjects, Flack’s paintings concentrated on highly emotional social and political themes. She is known for her feminine color schemes, which were dominated by pastel colors. Flack underwent a transformation in the early 1980s, when she switched her primary medium from painting to sculpture. She began to use iconographic and mythological elements to communicate in this new medium.

Among her public commissions are Civitas, a monumental gateway to the city of Rock Hill, South Carolina, which consists of four twenty-foot high bronze figures on granite pedestals, and Islandia, a nine-foot high bronze sculpture created for the New York City technical college in Brooklyn, New York. Her sculptures Recording Angel (installed 2006) and Colossal Head of Daphne (installed 2008) are located in Nashville, Tennessee. Recording Angel is located at Schermerhorn Symphony Hall in Nashville. The musical group Audrey Flack and the History of Art Band is a recent venture. Featuring Flack on banjo and playing American old time and bluegrass music, the band treats audiences to songs and entertaining history lessons about the lives of artists. Audrey Flack lives and works in New York City and Long Island.
Andrew Lippa
Distinguished Service Award
Bravo Awards Banquet and Performance
Curb Event Center
July 13 • 6:30 PM

Andrew Lippa is an award-winning American composer, lyricist, performer, producer, and writer. His most recent achievements include his highly successful new hit song “Evil Like Me,” which appears in the 2015 Disney movie Descendants. Written for noted performer Kristin Chenoweth, the song rose to number one on the Billboard 200 album chart as well as the iTunes and Billboard soundtrack charts; the video associated with the song has been viewed more than twenty-seven million times on YouTube. Lippa also recently composed and conducted a world premiere piece for the international piano virtuoso Lang Lang and the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra in Guangzhou, China. This new work, a thirty-two minute, five-movement piece called “Rising Tide,” will be reprised later in 2016 and recorded in China. Lippa’s epic concept opera I am Anne Hutchinson/ I Am Harvey Milk, starring Kristin Chenoweth as Anne Hutchinson and Lippa himself as Harvey Milk, will have its world premiere at the Music Center at Strathmore in Rockville, Maryland, in April of this year. This summer is the United States premiere of Life of the Party, a musical compendium of Lippa’s career. Starring Lippa, the show is produced by Theatreworks in Mountain View, California.

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The appearance of Andrew Lippa throughout the Academy week is made possible by a generous gift from Tennessee Book Company.

Ted Rose
Joe W. Giles Lifetime Achievement Award
TAA Finale Luncheon
Curb Event Center
July 15 • 11:30 AM

A nationally known artist and author, Ted Rose has influenced the field of arts through his role as an artist, author, consultant, and educator. He has worked in secondary education and colleges and universities in several states for more than thirty-five years. He is currently professor and chair of the art department at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee. Rose’s artwork explores a diverse range of concepts and content, from highly detailed works to more abstract pieces. He has had twenty-one solo exhibitions in seven states, six international exhibitions, and has received more than fifty awards for his work. He currently has paintings on exhibit at the Contemporary Art Museum in Boulder, Colorado, and recently had a solo exhibition at the Mary C. O’Keefe Cultural Center in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. Rose has several publications to his name, including a top-selling secondary education textbook, Discovering Drawing, which is currently in its third edition. He has also served as keynote speaker for state art conferences in five states and has worked extensively with fine arts organizations as an instructor and board member. These organizations include the Tennessee Arts Academy, the Governor’s School for the Arts, and state fine arts programs in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. He and his wife, Kathy, make their home in Lebanon.

Doc Severinsen
Distinguished Service Award
Massey Performing Arts Center
Monday Musings
July 11 • 1:10 PM

“Heeeeere’s Johnny!” That lead-in, followed by the blast of a big band trumpet, was the landmark of late night television for three decades. Of course, that Johnny was Johnny Carson, the announcer was Ed McMahon, and the bandleader was Doc Severinsen. Beginning in October 1962, The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson ruled the night air for thirty years. Severinsen was part of The Tonight Show throughout Carson’s tenure.

Before his time with The Tonight Show, Severinsen toured with the Tommy Dorsey and the Benny Goodman bands in the late 40s. He then spent years playing with NBC’s many studio bands before being invited to play in the highly respected The Tonight Show Band in 1962. In 1967, only five years later, Severinsen became the music director for The Tonight Show. Within
only a week of the show’s final telecast, Severinsen was already on the road with his group Doc Severinsen and His Big Band. The band’s repertoire includes Ellington and Basie standards, pop, jazz, ballads, big band classics, and, of course, The Tonight Show theme. A Grammy award winner, Severinsen has made more than thirty albums—from big band to jazz-fusion to classical.

In 2006, Severinsen moved to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, ostensibly to retire from performance. However, within weeks, he was jamming with the magnificent guitarist Gil Gutierrez and started making appearances and touring with the San Miguel 5. Over the years, Severinsen has been the principal pops conductor with the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Colorado Symphony, the Milwaukee Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Phoenix Symphony, and the Pacific Symphony. He has not lost his flair for outrageous fashion statement or his trademark wit. His gregarious nature has never interfered with the fact that he has been one of the greatest trumpeters and musicians of the last sixty years, respected in the worlds of classical music, jazz, big band, and now even world music.

The presentation by Doc Severinsen is made possible by a generous gift from Pinnacle Financial Partners.

2016 Academy Awards

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 Hamlish, composer and pianist
- 2012 Richard M. Sherman, composer and lyricist
- 2013 Marc Cherry, Hollywood writer and producer
- 2014 Rupert Holmes, Broadway playwright, composer, and lyricist
- 2015 Richard Maltby, Jr., director, lyricist, producer, and writer

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 Bachesler, Kingsport
- 1998 James Charles Mills, Johnson City
- 1998 Gene Crain, Memphis
- 1999 Patricia Brown, Knoxville
- 2000 Robert Plotcher, Nashville
- 2000 Kathy Hawk, Kingsport
- 2001 Tommie Pardue, Memphis
- 2001 Tully Daniel, Memphis (awarded posthumously)
- 2004 Marilyn duBrisk, Greeneville
- 2004 Bobby Jean Frost, Nashville
- 2005 Nancy Boone-Allsbrook, Murfreesboro
- 2005 Sally Cram Jager, Cookeville
- 2006 Michael Combs, Knoxville
- 2006 Jean R. Thomas, Chattanooga
- 2006 Mitchell Van Metre, Knoxville
- 2007 David Logan, Johnson City
- 2010 James R. Holcomb, Memphis
- 2011 Flowerree W. (Galetovic) McDonough, Knoxville
- 2011 Joe W. Giles, Nashville
- 2012 Richard Mitchell, Knoxville
- 2013 Carol Crittenden, Nashville
- 2014 Fred Patterson, Knoxville
- 2015 Gregg Coats, Memphis

Lorin Hollander Award
- 1994 Cavit 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, music educator
- 2001 Solie Fott, music educator
- 2002 Alice Swanson, arts education administrator
- 2003 Pat and Thane Smith, arts advocates
- 2004 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 Joe W. Giles, Broadway composer and lyricist
- 2006 Dolph Smith, visual artist
- 2007 Joe W. Giles, Lifetime Achievement Award recipient
- 2009 Jackie Nichols, theatre administrator
- 2010 Smokey and the Bandits, film composers
- 2011 Cavit Cheshier, education executive
- 2012 Steven Cohen, state senator
- 2013 Senator Lamar Alexander, United States senator
- 2014 Douglas Henry, Tennessee state senator

Arts Leadership Award of Excellence
- 2013 E. Frank Bluestein, Germantown
- 2015 Music Makes Us, Nashville

Partner in the Arts Award
- 2008 Steve Spiegel, president of Theatrical Rights Worldwide

Lamar Alexander Founder’s Award of Distinction
- 2013 Senator Lamar Alexander, United States senator
- 2014 Doug Henry, Tennessee state senator

Arts Leadership Award of Excellence
- 2013 E. Frank Bluestein, Germantown
- 2015 Music Makes Us, Nashville

Partner in the Arts Award
- 2008 Steve Spiegel, president of Theatrical Rights Worldwide
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 Humanities Tennessee Board by Governor Bill Haslam in 2013 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 seven million dollars 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 Kodaly national conferences and for the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). She serves as an adjunct professor at several colleges and universities and maintains an active schedule of performances as a storyteller and as a musician.
TAA Coordinator

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. Mr. Giles is past president of the Southern Division of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) and of the National Council of State Supervisors of Music. He taught music in Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools for twenty-two years, has taken choral groups on concert tours in Europe, and has received gold and silver medals in international music festivals.

TAA Office Staff

Melody Hart  
Office Manager

Melody Hart earned a bachelor of music degree in bassoon performance from Ball State University in Indiana. After graduation she moved to Nashville and worked for Badger-Bogle, Architects as executive assistant and bookkeeper from 1993 to 1998. She then began working with her husband, photographer Scott Schrecker, as office manager and bookkeeper. Hart also played bassoon for the Belmont University orchestra for several years 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  
TAA Support Specialist

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.

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

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Jerome Souther
David Chambers  
Chris Strelecki
Kami Lunsford  
Kerry Vaughn

Visual Art
Tina Atkinson  
Kim Shamblin
Libby Lynch  
Ken Snyder
Jeanie Parker

Theatre
Nancy Beard  
Key McKinney
Nancy Essary  
Pollyanna Parker
Jennifer Keith

Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment
Atticus Hensley

Trio Track
Paula Medlin

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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, Dan Lawson, 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 the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board of Directors.
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 recently retired dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, was selected as the Academy’s first dean.

The rest, as they say, is history. The Academy began with workshops in music and art and in 1988 was expanded to include theatre. Several years later, the Academy added classes in school administration 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 thirty 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.
The Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to aid and assist in the growth and expansion of the Tennessee Arts Academy and Arts Academy America. The TAAF Board of Directors shares in the belief that educators trained at the Tennessee Arts Academy are better equipped and motivated to serve their students, significantly raise achievement levels, and effect positive and lasting change in classrooms throughout the state.

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

For further information on Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation sponsorship, contribution, and membership opportunities, please email us at taa@belmont.edu or call the TAA office at 615-460-5451 or visit the TAA website at www.tennesseeartsacademy.org

1962-2016

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Ron Meers

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Dru Davison

Summa Cum Laude

Stephanie Bastin
Joshua Bolling
Madeline Bridges
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Deborah Flynn
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David Chambers
Regina Crawley
Karen Dean
Earl Delong
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Kerstin Sisco
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Anne Snider
Emily Utley

Cum Laude

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Donna Anderson
Jean Anderson
Melanie Anderson
Saralyn Archibald
Allison Archie
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Angela Beale
Nancy Beard
Suzanne Binkley
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- by Jim Dodson
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