



Dean Andy Schulz visits with first-year musical theatre students after they performed at the University of Arizona vaccination pod. Left-to-right: Sophia Scarsi, Brach Drew, Lillie Langston; back: John Henry Stamper, Andy Schulz, Madelyn whitehead, Andrew Tong. Photo by Teri McGill.

DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

I am delighted to share with you our third edition of "State of the Arts," which covers the period from July 2020 through June 2021.

As in past years, we are providing a selective overview of the wide-ranging accomplishments of the students, faculty, staff, and alumni across the units and disciplines that comprise Arizona Arts. In many instances, links inviting you to "read more" will connect you to in-depth stories about particular items. New for this year's report, we've added three sections covering initiatives centered on murals, arts research, and the Borderlands.

In addition to detailing individual accomplishments, this report captures and demonstrates our tangible progress in implementing the Arts Initiative in the University's strategic plan. That initiative calls on us to elevate the arts and to integrate them into all aspects of the University's mission. I am sure you will agree that the collective challenges we have all faced over the past 18 months demonstrate now more than ever the critical role and value of the arts in our lives and our world.

In closing, the activities and accomplishments recorded in the pages that follow would not have been possible without the unwavering support of President Robert C. Robbins, Provost Liesl Folks, and the University's entire Senior Leadership Team. Equally vital is the ongoing support and generosity of our many patrons and donors, whose deep engagement demonstrates the belief we share in the transformative power of the arts for our students, our University, our communities, and our future.

With warmest best wishes,

Andrew Schulz
Vice President for the Arts
Dean, College of Fine Arts

YEAR-IN-REVIEW



Photo: Zakiriya Gladney

Sama Alshaibi awarded Guggenheim Fellowship

School of Art Professor and artist **Sama Alshaibi** was <u>awarded a</u> 2021 <u>Guggenheim Fellowship</u>. "Not only is this award a significant recognition of her standing as a leading figure in contemporary art, it also provides her with critical support as she continues to push the boundaries of her field," said Dean Andrew Schulz.

Arizona Arts launches new website

The Arizona Arts website launched at arts.arizona.edu, the online destination for art stories and art experiences from the four schools of the College of Fine Arts, as well as Arizona Arts in Schools, Arizona Arts Live, Center for Creative Photography and the University of Arizona Museum of Art.

Aaron Coleman earns Provost Award

School of Art Associate Professor **Aaron Coleman** was selected as the recipient of the **Provost Award for Innovation in Teaching**. Coleman designed an entirely innovative curriculum in print-making, including alternative methods in screen-printing and lithography, relevant for art as well as commercial production.

In-Person Graduation at Arizona Stadium

The Class of 2021 was celebrated with an <u>CFA Virtual Ceremony</u> and an <u>In-person ceremony at Arizona Stadium</u>, hosted by **President Robert C. Robbins** and **Provost Liesl Folks**. The ceremony featured showstopper performances by CFA students. All of the songs, speeches and showcases illuminated how gifted our students are and how ready they are for their careers.

ARIZONA ARTS

Arizona Arts became the newest division at the University of Arizona on July 1, 2019, creating a unified gateway to the unique visual and performing arts assets, experiences, and educational programs on campus.

Arizona Arts brings together the highly regarded academic programs in the College of Fine Arts — the schools of dance, art, music; and theatre, film & television — together with the University's world-class arts presenting and engagement units, including the Center for Creative Photography, the University of Arizona Museum of Art, Arizona Arts Live, and Arizona Arts in Schools K-12 programs.

Arizona Arts integrates the arts throughout the university experience and beyond in order to establish the university as an arts destination. In doing so, we ensure that all students — regardless of major — have opportunities for meaningful experiences in the arts, and that the arts play an essential role in realizing the university's land-grant mission.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.



After attending a "Leaders in STEM" conference, School of Dance student Sebastian Martinez discovered kinesthetic empathy or dance therapy. Photo: Ed Flores

Best recruitment numbers in 16 years

In the fall of 2020, the College of Fine Arts enjoyed the <u>best fall</u> <u>recruitment numbers</u> since 2004 with **403 class of first-year students**. This class is notably diverse; 46.65% self-identify as non-white. The number of Black students grew by 45% from last year and Native Americans doubled.

UA Presents is now Arizona Arts Live

UA Presents, the University's performing arts presenter, changed its name to Arizona Arts Live and embarked on a new mission: offering extraordinary, unique live experiences for Southern Arizona. "The beauty of great arts experiences is to push us to new ideas and perspectives by lighting a spark within us," said Executive Director Chad Herzog.

Racial Justice Studio

The Racial Justice Studio was launched, co-founded by Drs. **Amelia Kraehe** and **Gloria J. Wilson**, professors from the School of Art, with UAMA's **Chelsea Farrar**, curator of community engagement. The <u>Racial Justice Studio</u> aims to promote deep understanding of racism and produce anti-racist knowledge through creative practice.

A Statement from Arizona Arts

Following the latest example of discrimination, violence and hate against individuals in the **Asian American and Pacific Islander community**, Arizona Arts issued a statement: "The <u>Arizona Arts family stands</u> in solidarity with our University in condemning violence of any kind, and we stand in solidarity with the Asian American Pacific Islander community."

Jory Hancock, Melissa Lowe retiring

Architects of the University of Arizona School of Dance, the husband-and-wife team of **Jory Hancock** and **Melissa Lowe** are <u>retiring after 34 years on campus</u> after establishing one of the nation's elite collegiate, dance programs. "This is the end of an era," said **Andrew Schulz**, vice president for the arts.

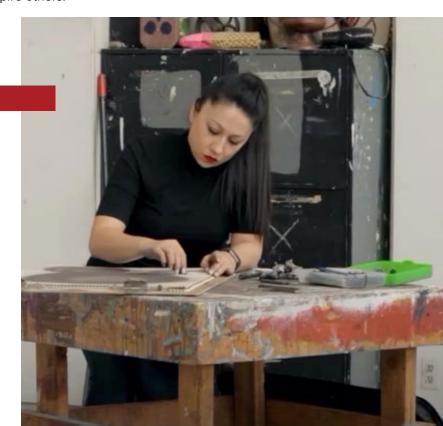




Kaissy Yau was the College of Fine Arts and Fred Fox School of Music Outstanding Senior this spring, graduating summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Music – Flute Performance. In addition to performing in concerts and ensembles as a soloist and principal flutist, Yau was CFA Ambassadors President, graduated from the Honors College and studied at the Eller College of Management, where her entrepreneurial skills were honed. Her group developed a new innovative lightning protective technology. Yau will attend graduate school at the Northwestern Bienen School of Music.

"I remember coming here being so far away from home and obviously feeling mixed emotions like, 'Oh, did I make the right decision?' I had no friends before coming here, but I'm just so grateful for all the friends I've made. Shout out to my best friend, **Diego Abeytia**, all the faculty, who have just been so supportive as well as all the staff. I'm just so thankful because I think they've built me to be the person I am and someone I hope can inspire others."

Deborah Ruiz (BFA, '20, Design + Illustration) had a comeback story for the ages. A high school dropout at 15, Ruiz earned her GED in her 20s and an A.A. degree from Pima Community College. Through it all, always in the back of her mind, she wanted to be a Wildcat. A dream that seemed financially impossible, but she saved, applied for scholarships and hoped. She took the path less travelled, but in December Ruiz graduated as the Outstanding Senior for the School of Art and College of Fine Arts and is now in the Arizona MFA Program.



With over 250 members encompassing 60 different majors, the **Pride of Arizona Marching Band** is the largest musical ensemble on campus. So, what happens when the marching band is faced with a global pandemic that postpones the football season and prevents them from doing what they do best – march? The band innovated and adapted in order to create music safely.

UAMA curatorial intern **Makenna Lockwood** (BFA '21) collaborated with the General Education Office and writing & Learning Project to develop Writing With Art, a mobile guide to provides faculty with the resources and activities to write about works of art. This project is a first-of-its-kind collaboration that will embed visual art with general education instruction across campus.

Several acting and musical theatre students from the School of Theatre, Film & Television signed with agencies in the spring:

Vaune Suitt (BFA '21, Acting) with Ryan Entertainment in Los Angeles.

Lotus Rogers (BFA '21, Musical Theatre) with The Movement Talent Agency in New York.

Tony Moreno (BFA '21, Musical Theatre) with CGF Talent in New York.

Lauren Vialva (BFA '21, Acting) with Bleeker Street Entertainment in Los Angeles.

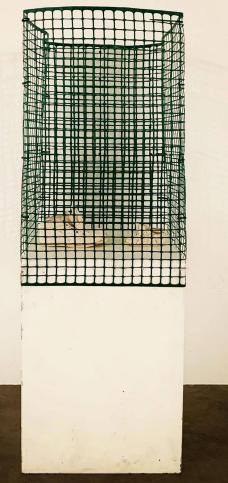
Rebekah Clark earned the fall **Creative Achievement Award**, which <u>recognizes exceptional creativity in students</u> and in the spring was named **Outstanding GTA** by the School of Theatre, Film & Television. Clark graduated with an MFA in Theatre Arts, Scenic Design and Production this spring, then earned a Hangar Theatre Company fellowship.

Penélope Stuart created a <u>digital storytelling project</u> about the life and legacy of renowned Mexican printmaker and satirist **José Guadalupe Posada** for her UAMA internship, working with UAMA Assistant Curator **Willa Ahlschwede**. The project was an opportunity for Stuart to share her curatorial perspective and the fragile prints with the public.

School of Art's **Perla Segovia** (MFA '22) was the only current student included in the Tucson Museum of Art's **Arizona Biennial 2020**, along with 16 School of Art faculty and alumni. Originally from Lima, Peru, Segovia's work focuses on the immigrant experience, often incorporating textiles.

"I believe textiles transcend culture, geography and time and are capable of serving as a unifying impetus in our tumultuous society."

Video: Perla in the Studio





Have you ever woken up one morning, turned to your best friend, and said, "Hey, let's make a documentary?" TFTV students Jenna Meadows and Camryn Elias did just that. Interviewing fellow graduating seniors about their CFA experience, including Cali Poole (dance), Kevin Zuniga (photography), Brice Kimble (piano), Mandy Spartz (design + tech), and Atlas Woods-Smith (film). "It was cool to hear everyone's journey."

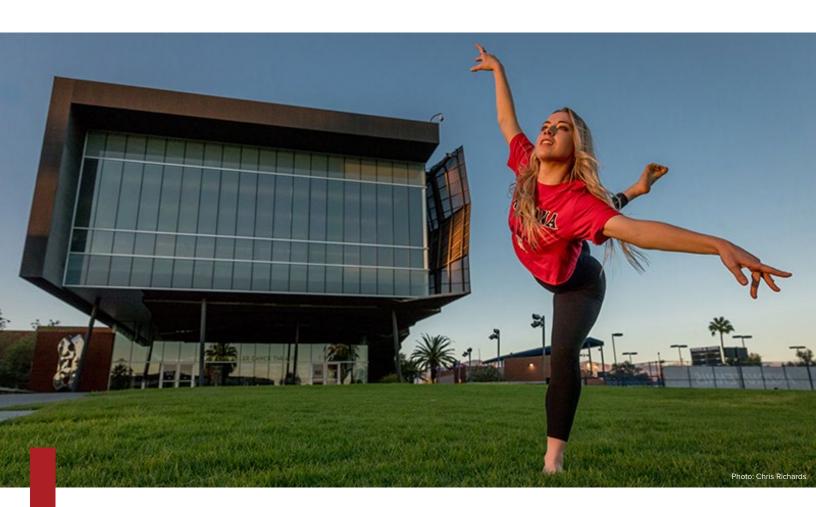
Emmy Tisdel, a first-year doctoral candidate and violinist at the Fred Fox School of Music, joined **University Fellow program**, the flagship initiative of the University of Arizona Graduate Center, which recruits the <u>most distinguished graduate</u> <u>students</u> and prepares them to be innovative leaders. Tisdel graduated from Oberlin Conservatory with a bachelor's degree, completed her Masters at Rice University, and has an Artist and Graduate Diploma from McGill University in Montreal.

School of Art's **Benjamin Dearstyne Hoste** brought his <u>interactive art installation "Tangencies"</u> to Biosphere 2 in May. Over the course of one weekend Ben made 100+ tangent chalk circles around the Biosphere 2 grounds -- encouraging visitors and researchers alike to find pause, stillness, and presence with one another.

After attending a recent "Leaders in STEM" conference, dancer **Sebastian Martinez**, fascinated by the human mind, <u>discovered kinesthetic empathy or dance therapy</u>. Martinez came to the School of Dance from the Arizona School for the Arts, and he also trained with Ballet Arizona. He is a double major in dance and psychology with a minor in music. He'd like to combined all three in the future.

Graduating senior **Emily Drum**, a music minor, earned the **Outstanding Arrangement** award at the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA). Drum, the director of Amplified A Cappella on campus, created a new arrangement of Ben Platt's "Rain." The group shot a <u>performance video in Tucson</u>. Amplified had their best finish ever at the ICCA West Semifinal, taking second.

Following a national search, **Tony Moreno** (BFA '21, Musical Theatre) and **Jenna Meadows** (BFA '21, Musical Theatre) were selected to join the <u>Hangar Theatre Lab Company</u> in Ithaca, New York. The Company is an ensemble of early-career actors, choreographers and directors who collaborate with mentors, including nationally prominent directors.



Hannah Weinmaster was the <u>Outstanding Senior</u> in the spring for the School of Dance. She performed 30 pieces created by faculty and iconic choreographers and choreographed a dozen works on her own. In the spring, Weinmaster was feature in the Arizona Alumni magazine in a story, "<u>Graceful Resilience</u>."

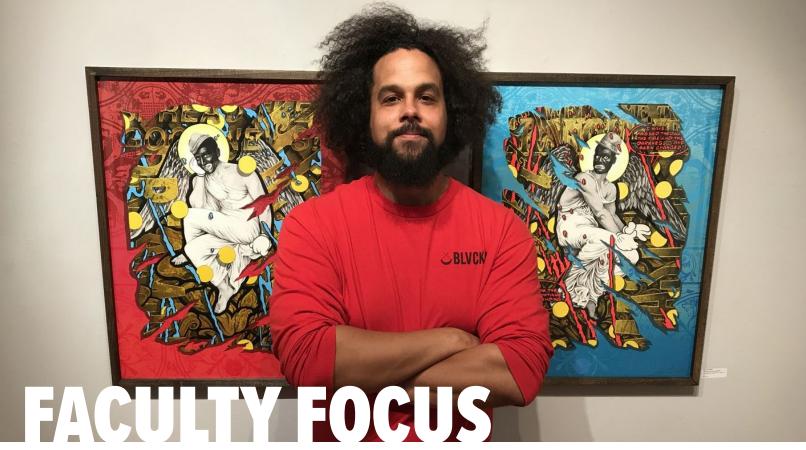


Photo: Lynn Trimble/Phoenix New Times

School of Art Associate Professor **Aaron Coleman** received the <u>Provost Award for Innovation in Teaching</u>. Coleman earned the honor after developing new printmaking studios for students and new curriculum. Plus, he has shown an extraordinary commitment to student success, mentoring, advising, and serving on 20 MFA committees, chairing seven.

"I have been influenced by incredible mentors previously, but I always felt like I had to adapt to their language, points of view and taste whereas Aaron's mentorship and constant presence was in many ways, a reflection of myself, making him an ally for a plurality of students who have shared the experience of a lack of representation in educational institutions – socio-economically, materialistically, and culturally," writes **Karlito Miller Espinosa**, artist and alumni.

Missing in Brooks County has screened at more than 35 film festivals internationally. Co-directed by TFTV instructor Lisa Molomot, and edited by TFTV Associate Professor Jacob Bricca ACE, the film has earned the Human Rights Award at the RiverRun International Film Festival, the Les Blank Award at the Ashland Independent Film Festival and the Best Documentary Feature award at both the Thin Line Festival and the San Luis Obispo International Film Festival, among many others.

Assistant Professor **Molly Gebrian** led a team of violists in developing a database of music for viola by underrepresented composers (women and composers of color), which is now a fully searchable database with **over 1,500 pieces by nearly 500 different composers**. Gebrian hopes that this project can encourage positive change, helping women students and students of color feel more welcome in the classical music space.



School of Art Professor **Gary Setzer** has a three-channel video and sound installation at the <u>Biennale Architettura 2021</u>, a prestigious, global event in Venice. Setzer and Dan Majka of The Nature Conservatory created "The Corridor: Climate Change, Border Permeability, and Ecosystem Resilience" that asks as climate change alters habitats and disrupts ecosystems, where will animals move to survive?



Associate Professors **Elizabeth George-Fesch** (dance) and **Theodore Buchholz** (music) presented a virtual session "When Music and Movement Collide" as part of the Learning Curve's virtual lecture series, *Feast for the Senses*. Chef **Doug Levy** of Feast invented culinary creations inspired by George-Fesch and Buchholz's dance-and-music collaboration "Afterglow."

Alejandro Macias, assistant professor at the School of Art, had art in <u>four exhibitions in Texas during Hispanic Heritage Month</u>. "My work has been driven by my Mexican-American identity and the current social-political climate," writes Macias. "Raised in the Rio Grande Valley, my body of work addresses themes of heritage, immigration and ethnicity."

Associate Professor **Joseph Farbrook**'s interactive art installation is now featured as a permanent installation in Meow Wolf's <u>Omega Mart</u>, now open in Las Vegas. "**Soul Crushing Machine**" is a <u>multi-room interactive installation</u> featuring 3D printed diorama, kinetic crushing mechanism, interactive video screens, plus a transparent display attached to a live feed of participants walking through a separate capture area, installed on a different level.

RomeroFest, a month-long international festival, celebrates the impactful works of playwright and TFTV Associate Professor Elaine Romero. The festival was a collaboration between Arizona Theatre Company, the Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre, and Winding Road Theater Ensemble. Theatre companies participating were from Mexico City, Portland, New York, Colorado Springs, Raleigh and Philadelphia.

School of Dance faculty member **Autumn Eckman** (pictured) and artist **Jonathan Marquis** (MFA '17, MA '19, Art History) <u>collaborated on the video, Shape-less</u>, for *Picturing 2020: A Community Reflects. Shape-less* is about stepping into the world after quarantine; and was filmed near the location of the Bighorn Fire in the Catalina Mountains. This project was supported by a grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts.

Tom Patterson celebrated his 40th work anniversary with the University and the Fred Fox School of Music last spring as Director of the <u>Bolton Guitar Studies</u> program. Patterson's program brings the <u>best guitarists from around the globe</u> to learn and perform in Tucson.

Associate Professor **Philip Alejo** of the Fred Fox School of Music completed a fellowship program with the National Association of Latino Arts and Culture. Several weeks of online preparation led to an intensive virtual visit to Washington D.C. where fellows met with artistic leaders at the National Endowment of the Arts and the Smithsonian Institution, as well as with congressional representatives and White House staff. Alejo focused on **how to recruit and fund Latinx musicians** into public school teaching careers in Southern Arizona.

School of Art Professor **Larry D. Busbea** wrote a book that examines of the idea of social distance: *Proxemics and the Architecture of Social Interaction*. The book is based on **Edward T. Hall**'s archive, which is held at the University of Arizona.

Carissa DiCindio, assistant professor of art, collaborated with students, staff and faculty from the School of Art, University of Texas and UAMA to provide real-world experiences for students in museum education courses related to UAMA's upcoming *The Art of Food*. The students developed virtual tours focused on care, health, and wellness. DiCindio presented about this unique cross-university project at the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries conference.

School of Dance's Assistant Professor **Hayley Meier** coordinated two virtual Pilates fundraising events, **"Pilates with a Purpose,"** providing lunches to essential healthcare workers in her hometown of Rochester, New York, and four major hospitals in the area. One class raised \$2,200, providing 275 lunches. Meier also taught Pilates to raise money for Toys for Tots in Rochester and Chicago.

Chad Nicholson, director of bands for the Fred Fox School of Music, created the <u>High School Band Virtual Music</u>
<u>Festival</u>, when COVID mitigations stopped wind instrument performances. This conference featured 23 virtual sessions and masterclasses, integrating music history, theory, and education, and applied faculty from the Fred Fox School of Music. The free festival had over 150 attendees from 13 states and three countries.

Alana Wiesing (pictured), adjunct professor of percussion at the Fred Fox School of Music, helped create and develop a new non-profit organization, Network for Diversity in Concert Percussion. The NDCP is a collective of performers, educators, and businesses who serve as a resource for, and support to, aspiring professional percussionists from underserved communities.

School of Art's **Lawrence Gipe** curated an online exhibition with Antoine Girard of The Underground Museum in Los Angeles. "The Democracy Project 2020" featured the West Coast's most compelling artists, including **Sama Alshaibi**, **Aaron Coleman** and **Alejandro Macias** from the School of Art. The artists illuminate the human connections at the heart of democracy even as they remind us of the power of place.

Co-Directors and music faculty **Fanya Lin, Daniel Linder,** and **Meily Mendez** created the <u>Trester Festival for Latin American Music</u>, featuring outstanding alumni and internationally renowned concert pianists. The event, co-sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, featured lectures, master classes and concerts.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Keith Johnson, who taught at the University of Arizona for 32 years (1975-2007), died in 2020. His infectious smile and gentle, supportive demeanor will be remembered by students and colleagues alike. Dr. Johnson taught horn performance, brass pedagogy, conducting, and music education courses. He was a founding member of the faculty Arizona Wind Quintet. He had a positive impact on countless students, many of whom went on to musical careers. Johnson served for decades as the principal horn of Arizona Opera, and performed with the Tucson Symphony and the Tucson Pops Orchestra.



From left: 'Minari's' Steven Yeun, Lee Isaac Chung and Christina Oh, a School of Theatre, Film & Television alumna. Photo: Raul Romo for The Hollywood Reporter

Producer **Christina Oh** (BA, '09, Media Arts) earned a 'Best Picture' Academy Award nomination for *Minari*, which earned six Oscar nominations. The filmmakers were featured in *The Hollywood Reporter* story, "*Minari* broke new ground for storytellers of color." Oh was the first woman of color to be the sole producer of a 'Best Picture' nominee.

"Before she became an Oscar nominee, she was just another Comic-Con nerd who slept outside Hall H in line," **Inkoo Kang** writes. "As a student at the University of Arizona, Oh ended up in the film program after applying with an 'If I get in, I'll try it' attitude, then chose the producing track because it meant graduating faster. In the first two and a half years of her decade at Plan B, Oh served as co-president **Dede Gardner's** assistant, then got her producing start working with a director whose films her dad had introduced her to in college: **Bong Joon Ho**."

In a <u>breakthrough moment for Native representation</u> in comedy television, **Sierra Teller Ornelas** (BA, '05, Media Arts) premiered the new Peacock Original comedy series *Rutherford Falls*. Ornelas is the cocreator, showrunner, writer, and executive producer.

"When my family survived the **Navajo Long Walk**— the Navajo equivalent of The Trail of Tears — at
Bosque Redondo, the government gave everyone a
census number and a name, like a messed-up Ellis
Island," <u>Ornelas told the New York Times</u>.



Dwayne Manuel (MFA '14, 2D Studies) <u>redesigned the</u> <u>medallion</u> for Regents Professor, Distinguished Professor and Distinguished Outreach Faculty appointees. With a saguaro, sun and mountains, the new medallion reflects the University's sense of place. Manuel, who belongs to the On'K Akimel O'odham and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian communities, teaches painting and drawing at Tohono O'odham Community College.

Paul Pennolino (BA '85, Radio Television) earned his sixth career Emmy nomination and his fifth for Last Week Tonight with John Oliver for 'Outstanding Director for a Variety Series'. Pennolino also directs The Daily Show with Trevor Noah. He actually directed portions of both shows from his home in Tucson during the pandemic.

Alex Turner (MFA '20, Photography, Video and Imaging) was named to the Silver Eye Center's '2021 Silver List,' which features early-career photographers as selected by 500 curators, educators, and critics. The list of 47 photographers was featured in *Vanity Fair*. "The criteria ... who is a living, early-career photographer whose work deserves to be seen by more people?" Turner was included in the Critical Mass Top 50 from *Photolucida*, won the *LensCulture* Black & White Award, and was shortlisted for the Bird in Flight Prize 2020.

Alexandra (Alex!) Jimenez (BFA '14, Visual Communications) was selected to partner with Tucson Water as part of the US Water Alliance's nationwide program that <u>addresses local water and climate issues</u>. "I am delighted that an alumna from our School of Art has been chosen for this innovative project, which recognizes the 'value added' when artists are engaged in the civic arena," said **Andrew Schulz**, vice president for the arts.

Tenor and alumnus **Edgar Ricaud** (BM '15, Music) dropped his debut album, "El Recuerdo," a collection of Mexican pop songs and mariachi music honoring the Mexican musical heritage that defined Edgar's youth in Sonora, Mexico ... with a little bit of opera. Ricaud met his wife, Angela Barraza -- who stars in the video -- at a Mexican Independence Day celebration on campus. The first single and video, "Piel Canela," was directed by **Nolan Veneklasen** with assistant director **Grant Webb**, both TFTV alumni.

Do anything fun this weekend? Dance alumnus **JaVonte' Marquez** (BFA '20, Dance) <u>performed with The Weeknd</u>
during the **Super Bowl Halftime Show**. JaVonte' posted on social: "I can't feel my face, but I love it I also love my job. I performed with The Weeknd today ... at the Super Bowl. I'm still processing, but I'm so thankful!!"



Lindsay Utz (BA '03, Media Arts) is on a roll. She edited "American Factory" the film that won the 2020 Academy Award for Best Documentary feature. Utz discusses the task of whittling down 2,000 hours of footage to create "American Factory" and her early days of filmmaking in Tucson in the Arizona Alumni magazine.

She also worked on the documentary projects for pop superstars, Taylor Swift and Billie Eilish.

Kareem Anthony-Ferreira (MFA '20, 2D Studies) had his painting, "Dinner by Aunty Nicole" featured in a **LeBron James**' Instagram post on Mother's Day. The painting was on the wall in James' family dining room.

Reena Dutt (BA '98, Media Arts) was <u>selected from hundreds</u> <u>of candidates</u> to receive a 2021-2022 Drama League New York Directing Fellowship. As a Drama League Fellow, Reena will receive financial support, career development, and production opportunities at theaters across the country.

Scott Aaron Silver (BA '09, Media Arts) was promoted to Vice President, Visual Effects at <u>Searchlight Pictures</u>, where he oversees the VFX for all Searchlight Pictures' films. Some of his many credits include the Academy Award-winning *Nomadland*, *JoJo Rabbit, and Deadpool*.

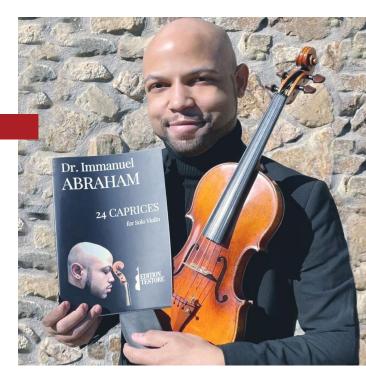
Taylor Bradley (BFA '15, Dance) and **Alex Yonkovich** (BFA '15, Dance), both dancers for Cirque du Soleil in Las Vegas, teamed up on a new podcast, "Inside Dance with Taylor and Alex," which provides advice to up-and-coming pre-professional dancers. Bradley was featured this year in the University's marketing campaign, "Wonder Makes Taylor Bradley Move." Yonkovich just wrapped up five years in **The Beatles LOVE** (2015-20), as dance captain, artist coach and soloist.

Faye Ruiz's (BFA '20, Film & Television) senior thesis film, "The Lights Are On, No One's Home" from "I Dream in Widescreen 2020" was **acquired for national distribution** – a TFTV first – by Kino Lorber and Dedza Films, who are featuring the works of nine <u>emerging filmmakers from underrepresented communities</u> worldwide. The film was selected to screen at London's BFI Flare, Outfest Fusion, and the Palm Springs ShortFest.

Elliott Jamal Robbins (MFA '17, Art) received a grant from the **Pollock-Krasner Foundation**. In support of Lee Krasner's mission to <u>advance the work of visual artists</u>, the Foundation provides financial resources for artists to create new work, acquire supplies, rent studio space, etc.

Frozen Fluid, the new play from Fly Jamerson (MFA, '19, Theatre Arts), was produced at The Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre and was selected to be part of the Women's Theatre Festival. The Festival is the nation's largest symposium on gender in theatre. The play is described as an "Antarctic gender non-conforming creation myth" and all members of the cast must be trans or gender non-conforming.

Dr. Immanuel T. Abraham (DMA '18, Violin Performance) produced "24 Caprices for Solo Violin," a collection of advanced repertoires for unaccompanied violin written between 2010 and 2020. The number of works is a tribute to four violin performer-composers whose works Abraham studied, performed, and taught: Pierre Gaviniès (1728-1800), Jaques Pierre Joseph Rode (1774-1830), Niccolò Paganini (1782-1840), and Jakob Dont (1815-1888). Each wrote a collection of 24 caprices for solo violin as well.



Kaitlyn Jo Smith (MFA '20, Photography, Video, Imaging) won a national juried showcase at the 2021 College Arts Association annual conference in Graduate Film/Video, Animations & New Genres. In the film, "Lights Out," Smith features over 50,000 deep-fake portraits created by artificial intelligence, commenting on the trend in manufacturing to replace workers with fully-automated factories that require no human presence.

Tesoro by Roxanna Denise Stevens Ibarra (BFA '20, Film & Television) was selected to screen at the LFM Film Festival in New York, Philadelphia Latino Film Festival, the San Diego Latino Film Festival, the Latino & Native American Film Festival, and the Phoenix Film Festival. It was also nominated for 'Best Drama Short' at the International Motor Film Awards. Ibarra is now working on a Bachelor of Music in music education.

Ibarra and **Stephanie Silva** (BFA '19, Film & Television) were awarded **Emerging Content Creators Scholarships** to be part of the <u>2020 Latino Media Fest</u>, presented by the National Association of Latino Independent Producers.

Brandon Coleman (BFA '15, Dance) created an online mentorship program for pre-professional dancers called SHIFT and hosted 2021 graduate and Medici Scholar **Kyle Halford** (BFA '21, Dance) in the first-ever three-week session. Coleman dance with the Metropolitan Opera and in Punchdrunk's *Sleep No More*, among others. Coleman also launched a podcast, *Breaking the Wall*, to "demystify the dance industry."

IN MEMORIAM

Janet Ann Stewart, 95, passed away in early 2021. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1967 and Master of Arts in art history in 1970, both from the University of Arizona. She is recognized at the Women's Plaza of Honor, for her significant contributions to the history of Arizona. She worked as an art and architecture researcher, historian and author, published in the Journal of Arizona History, Southwest Art, and British Heritage. Stewart executed the nomination for the El Presidio Historic District for the National Register of Historic Places, the first such in the State of Arizona. Later, she presented the significance for the nominations of the Barrio Historico and Sam Hughes Historic Districts in Tucson. She volunteered at the University of Arizona Museum of Art.



Photo: Audria Abne

Dr. Amelia (Amy) Kraehe was appointed the inaugural <u>Associate Vice President of Equity in the Arts</u> for Arizona Arts. Kraehe is a tenured associate professor in the Art and Visual Culture Education program at the School of Art and affiliate faculty in Human Rights Practice. She co-founded the <u>Racial Justice Studio</u>, an interdisciplinary research incubator that promotes understanding racism and anti-racism through artistic and creative practice.

"Arizona Arts is committed to racial justice and equity in the arts," said Andrew Schulz, vice president for the arts. "Dr. Kraehe is the ideal person with years of experience to strengthen our commitment, recognizing and embracing the diversity of identities, experiences and perspectives in the classroom, in curriculum, recruiting and hiring."

Tilghman H. Moyer IV assumed the role of Executive Director of Development. Moyer was the vice president for development at the University of Arizona since 2018. In that role, Moyer was responsible for the overall management of nine college fundraising programs, including Arizona Arts.

Lee O'Rourke, a College of Fine Arts alumna, was appointed <u>Deputy Senior Director of Development</u> for Arizona Arts. O'Rourke worked in the College of Education development office for six years; the last three years as the Director.

Whitney Herr-Buchholz (BFA '11), who has served in a leadership role at the School of Dance, joined the Arizona Arts' philanthropy efforts as Director of Development, completing the roster for a new Arizona Arts development department.

Acclaimed Steinway pianist, CFA Faculty Senator and Fred Fox School of Music faculty **John Milbauer** was appointed Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs. "We often say — and I truly believe — that faculty are our most important asset in the college," said Dean Andy Schulz. "John's deep engagement with faculty governance and his recent experiences at Harvard's Kennedy School position him well to work with, and advocate for, faculty at all career stages."

Deanna Fitzgerald, the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs for the College of Fine Arts, is serving as the interim director at the <u>School of Dance</u>, following the retirement of long-time Director Jory Hancock announced last spring.



Sama Alshaibi, *The Cessation* (2019), neon, aluminum, acrylic, palm fronds, water, copper, terracotta, and sound (commissioned by Artpace San Antonio, photo courtesy Seale Photography Studios)

Sama Alshaibi was among 184 artists, writers, scholars and scientists to <u>receive a 2021 Guggenheim Fellowship</u>. Alshaibi is cochair of the School of Art's nationally ranked Photography, Video and Imaging program. "As we continue to elevate the arts at the University of Arizona, the groundbreaking work of Fine Arts faculty such as Sama provides important evidence **that creative practice is a critical part** of Arizona's reputation as a leading research university," said **Andrew Schulz**, vice president for the arts.

Her Guggenheim Fellowship project, **To Speak of Silence**, will use images, video and text to shed light on the ways in which Iraqi women are affected in wartime. "My practice is a union of these immediate concerns: a commitment to share an Arab American, feminist perspective through a bodily site of struggle and identification," Alshaibi said.

The University of Arizona Office for **Research, Innovation** and **Impact** (RII) has awarded its first round of production seed grants to <u>four faculty members in the College of Fine</u>

<u>Arts.</u> In 2020, RII launched dedicated seed grants to aid in the production of original works and scholarship.

"The arts, humanities, and social sciences provide excellent examples of research with societal impacts, offering new ways of understanding and making meaning of the world," said **Elizabeth "Betsy" Cantwell**, senior vice president for research and innovation.

Kevin Black ... *Fine Revolution*, an immersive theatre that reimagines Hamlet as a modern tragedy

Sara Fraker ... a music/visual art piece for live performance and digital media inspired by tree ring research

Yuri Makino ... *America's Health*, a documentary to raise awareness and humanize struggles in *America's Health*

David Taylor ... *Complex*, an examination of detention centers that contextualizes immigrant incarceration

"This new RII seed grant is a significant development in bringing arts research into the larger research ecosystem of the University," said **Ellen McMahon**, associate dean for research. "These projects – all interdisciplinary with natural sciences, social sciences and/or humanities – provide a set of case studies that will help build a common understanding of the diverse nature of research in the arts and its value within the university, community and society."

Dr. Sara Fraker's production seed grant-winning project was *Performing Dendrochronology: Tree-Ring Music for Three Woodwinds.* The piece was inspired by methods and data sets from the **Laboratory for Tree-Ring Research**. Her collaborative project involving oboes, woodwinds, composers, biologists and tree-rings. The project was called a 'collective behemoth.'

In partnership with Health Sciences, Arizona Arts cohosted "Aging and the Arts," a free education series to
promote better health for an aging population. The eightpart streamed series demonstrated awareness through
movement with mental and physical exercises from the
Feldenkrais Method, led by School of Theatre, Film &
Television Director Andrew Belser. This series was part of
Health Sciences' focus on health and the humanities that
will explore the connections between health care, science,
art, literature, music, and philosophy.



Ellen McMahon, Associate Dean for Research, and the inaugural cohort of Arizona Arts Interdisciplinary Arts

Research Fellows – Autumn Eckman (dance), Jennie Gubner (music), Joe Klug (theatre), Amy Kraehe (art) and Johanna

Lundy (music) – coauthored a white paper which describes the contours of research in the arts, proposes a common framework to enable arts researchers to communicate their diverse methodologies, and initiates a set of ideas that will inspire further discussion and increase visibility for research in the arts across the University of Arizona.

Artist **Rebecca Thompson**, a Ph.D. candidate in Applied Intercultural Arts Research, obtained a large research grant to design and build a Sensory Garden for the <u>Gospel Rescue Mission Women's Center</u> for her doctoral research. She also received research grants for a project with the University Cancer Center in partnership with the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.

AIAR graduate student **Yunjia Yang's** paper, "Creative Group Dance and its Role in Integrative Wellness Within Diverse Communities" was accepted by the <u>National Dance Education</u> <u>Organization</u> for its annual conference. The paper was based on a semester-long practicum with a Tucson dance company.

Keyania Campbell received her Master of Art in AIAR in Spring 2021, becoming **the program's first graduate**. She completed a dissertation called "Sounding the Black Churches of Dallas." She has now matriculated into the PhD program in AIAR.

Jennie Gubner, chair of Applied Intercultural Arts Research (AIAR), presented "Exploring Brain Health Disparities through Jazz" at the event Jazz, Equity & Brain Health. This event was a collaboration between the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, UC San Francisco Memory and Aging Center and Global Brain Health Institute, in collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association.

Fred Fox School of Music Assistant Professor Molly Gebrian's five-part YouTube series, "What Musicians Can Learn About Practicing from Current Brain Research," offers fascinating insights into the human brain and how to efficiently practice for success. She gave presentations on her use of neuroscience at nearly 40 music organizations, including top music schools such as Juilliard, New England Conservatory of Music, San Francisco Conservatory, Interlochen Arts Academy, and McGill University.



The School of Art's **Mariel Miranda**, had a stellar first year in Tucson as a MFA candidate, earning two major fellowships.

Emmy Tisdel, first-year doctoral candidate at the Fred Fox School of Music, and **Miranda** were selected for the Graduate Center's prestigious 2020-21 University Fellows program, receiving a multi-year financial package, professional development, community engagement opportunities, and a richly interdisciplinary cohort.

Miranda, **Bella Maria Varela** (MFA '21, Photo, Video, Imaging) and **Diana Peralta** (MM '21, Voice Performance) were awarded scholarships to conduct border-engaged research for the **Confluencenter for Creative Inquiry**. The <u>2021 Mellon-Fronteridades Graduate Fellows</u> aimed to bring focus on building public understanding and interpretation of the U.S.-Mexico border dynamics.

Miranda also earned the 2021 Marcia Grand Centennial Sculpture Prize.



Felipe S. Molina was recognized as a community leader for the art installation, Monuments, by Arizona Arts Live. Photo: Nick Smallwood

Arizona Arts Live brings extraordinary live experiences to the million people in this community. In its inaugural year, innovative programming for a world changed by COVID-19 included "Monuments" by Craig Walsh. Animated video images were projected on trees, <u>celebrating three local heroes</u>: Isabel Garcia, promoter of human rights; Adiba Nelson, advocate for inclusivity for children; and Felipe S. Molina, preserver of Yaqui culture (pictured).

A Thousand Ways by 600 Highwaymen ... achieving critical acclaim from the *New York Times, The New Yorker* and *American Theatre*, brought Tucsonans safely together through audio theatre.

Scott Silven's The Journey ... as co-commissioner, this sold-out virtual experience with illusionist Scott Silven garnered national acclaim from the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and National Public Radio.

BANDALOOP ... this internationally renowned company <u>danced on the face</u> of the Optical Sciences building next to the University's Vaccination Pod.

University of Arizona Museum of Art engaged our community with *Picturing 2020: A Community Reflects*. The exhibition featured works by **more than 150 artists from Southern Arizona** that depict our local community's myriad experiences with the destabilizing events of this year. Despite the differences in medium and style, many of these artworks share common themes related to feelings of isolation, frustration, longing, and hope. To date, the exhibition has had virtual visitors from over 25 countries.

The community's creative response to the pandemic, racial violence, climate change, and a highly-charged political environment inspired UAMA curators to select works from the Museum's permanent collection that echo those themes, *Visions from the Permanent Collection*.

UAMA's LGBTQ+ youth suicide prevention program, Mapping Q, went virtual this past fall to accommodate the critical needs of youth across the state. For the first time in its six years, the program hosted youth from all over Arizona and welcomed a new partner, one-n-ten, Phoenix's LGBTQ youth resource center. The talented, young artists were featured in Mapping Q's first online exhibition.

UAMA's annual exhibition *Our Stories: High School Artists* moved online this year, showcasing 32 artists from 11 high schools. Their work shows the power of art during challenging times and the resourcefulness and commitment of Arizona art educators and emerging artists.

The Fred Fox School of Music's **University Community Chorus**, led by Dr. Alyssa Cossey, launched an interactive, eight-part Virtual Webinar Series that covered subjects as broad as decolonization, shape-note singing, composer Q&As, experiential exercises to maintain vocal health and the "Messiah Sing-along" and "Justice Choir Sing-along."

The Center for Creative Photography completed construction on the **Alice Chaiten Baker Interdisciplinary Gallery**, a groundbreaking space for programming, education, and exhibition, the first expansion of gallery space in over 20 years. The Arizona Daily Star wrote, "Examining the multiple layers and thought-provoking impacts of such single moments and exploring social questions are the focus of a new gallery and complementary interdisciplinary exhibits."

The School of Dance annual event, the **Arizona Jazz Dance Showcase**, was one of 13 events statewide recognized by the Arizona Dance Coalition with a <u>Creating Connections Award</u>. Professor **Michael Williams** was presented with a certificate of appreciation and recognition from Mayor **Regina Romero** for his work directing the showcase for 28 years.

School of Dance instructor **Barbea Williams** spoke about dance in the Southwest at the Black Dance USA Dance Festival. Williams told *The Daily Wildcat* that she has embraced the diversity of the Tucson community, saying that Black dance in the Southwest has been influenced by Latinx and Indigenous cultures. Living here, "I have been introduced to such a richness of culturally rich, deep legacies."



In spite of some substantial obstacles presented by school closures and the devastating impact of COVID-19 on the Tohono O'odham Nation, Arizona Arts in Schools launched 'WindPeople,' a new program to serve students in the Indian-Oasis Baboquivari Unified School District. The curriculum was written by Grammynominated Native flutist and alumnus Vince Redhouse to serve Native students throughout Arizona and the Southwest. Redhouse earned his bachelor's and doctorate from the University of Arizona.

The School of Theatre, Film & Television was awarded full funding -- \$187,000 for two years -- from the Spring 2021 Provost's Investment Fund. "Stories Travel" is a new initiative designed to distinguish the School as a premier study destination for BIPOC students, and to develop meaningful bridges between TFTV and our regional cultures. This initiative is TFTV's first ever long-term plan to meaningfully interact with and draw curricular inspiration from our communities.

School of Art alumna **Sadie Shaw** (BFA '19, Art & Visual Culture Education) was elected to the **Tucson Unified School District** governing board in the 2020 election. Shaw was the School of Art 2019 **Outstanding Senior** and has a <u>history of activism in Tucson</u>.

The beloved <u>Tucson Folk Festival returned</u> with a range of new ways to enjoy the festival's 75 socially-distanced performances from three stages, including Centennial Hall. "The festival this year would not be possible without the <u>Arizona Arts and Arizona Arts Live</u> team coming on as title sponsors," said organizer **Matt Rolland**.

Arizona Arts Live created two ongoing video series to further highlight the culture of Southern Arizona. The Tucson Studio features live performances by local musicians. Over 40 performances have been captured with the musicians keeping 100 percent of online donations. In the Kitchen recognizes that food and art are intertwined, telling the story behind the cuisine of local chefs, **Devon Sanner** (Zio Peppe), **Maria Angelita** Garcia (La Indita), and James Beard Award-winning chef, Janos Wilder (The Carriage House).

One of the community's most treasured traditions of the holiday season, the Fred Fox School of Music's annual **Holiday Card to Tucson** was streamed on YouTube this year on both the music and Arizona Arts channels with nearly 4,500 views.



Karlito Miller Espinosa created a mural on the Joseph Gross Gallery that depicts elements that resonate with the Southern Arizona community.

Photos: Nick Smallwood

School of Art alumnus and international muralist **Karlito Miller Espinosa** (MFA '19, Studio Art) completed a spectacular mural on the Joseph Gross Gallery that includes images that represents the University of Arizona, the Sonoran desert, local Indigenous culture, and fine art. The mural is an important step in realizing the University's vision of connecting the campus and the community.

"I'm excited about painting a large mural on the campus of a public institution of higher learning such as the University of Arizona, because it falls in line with the tradition of my favorite artists such as **Diego Rivera**, **David Alfaro Siqueiros**, and **Juan O'Gorman** whose work decorate the campus of the National Autonomous University of Mexico," said Karlito.

"Their murals and mosaics not only beautified the campus, but also played a historically important role in the development of the student body's progressive ideology, particularly in the '60s and again more recently today. This is a great moment to take on a project that reflects the changing tides."

"The mural serves as a literal point of connection between campus and the broader community," said School of Art Director Colin Blakely. "This connection is reinforced by Karlito's thoughtful content celebrating the art's connection to the culture and people of Southern Arizona. That the mural is designed and painted by one of our own former students who is also internationally renowned for his mural work makes the project all the more meaningful for us."





Jessica Gonzales (BFA '12, 2D Art) created interactive puzzle mural, "Woven Bonds We've Grown Upon" for the public art project sponsored by Southern Arts and Cultural Alliance (SAACA) and the town of Sahuarita. AZPM's <u>Arizona Illustrated</u> profile "The Muralist" looks at Gonzales' evolution and her recent projects in Tucson.

Arizona Arts Live launched the storytelling campaign #ReadyforRenaissance. A mural project which commissioned a group of local artists, Brandon Varela, Mel Dominguez, and Robb Harris to create renaissance-inspired murals around the city to lift our community's spirits and give us a sense of hope during these difficult times.





David Taylor, Border Monument No. 239 Near Campo, California, from the series Monuments: 276 Views of the United States—Mexico Border, 2007–15, inkjet print, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Museum purchase funded by the Caroline Wiess Law Accessions Endowment Fund.

School of Art Professor **David Taylor** is in exactly the right place. The renowned photographer's work explores the Borderlands, asks what exactly is a border, and now tells the stories of those whose lives are at the center of conflict. Unsatisfied with the sparse public information about the sprawling detention centers that pepper the Southwest, Taylor is using his work to change the narrative.

"What I want to show through the accumulation of imagery is that this is literally an industry," Taylor says in <u>The Guardian</u>. Taylor used drones to take images of 28 for-profit detention centers on the border. In addition to the visual narrative from his photographs and video, Taylor wrote a feature on the subject for the journal, *Places*, "<u>Refuge and Fortification</u>."



Taylor had two series pieces acquired and displayed this year at the **Museum of Fine Arts, Houston**. *COMPLEX: A Visual Index of the Immigrant Detention Industry* and *Monuments: 276 Views of the United States - Mexico Border*. The works are part of <u>Border, Mapping, Witness</u>, the inaugural exhibition in the MFAH's new building dedicated to international works of modern and contemporary art.

Taylor's latest endeavor is an <u>ambitious collaboration</u> to interview migrants housed in these centers and share the stories in their own words. Taylor and **Nicole Antebi** from the School of Art are <u>participating in 'Digital Borderlands</u>,' a three-year grant project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and facilitated through the University of Arizona Libraries. The project aims to facilitate vulnerable border populations to tell their own stories by integrating library services into a collaborative research process that emphasizes data-intensive, digital storytelling.

David Taylor, *La Palma Correctional Center, Eloy, Arizona*, 2019-2020, Archival inkjet print on dibond From the project *COMPLEX: A Visual Index of the Immigrant Detention Industry* 33.3 x 50 image size, 40.3 x 57 sheet size

Arizona Theatre Company's RomeroFest honoring Elaine Romero featured readings of Romero's Arizona/Mexican Border Trilogy: Wetback, Mother of Exiles, Title IX. "Each of the 'Border Trilogy' plays deals with a social issue ... and features a Latina educator at their center," Romero said. "I'm interested in flawed people, people who can't live up to their highest ideals." Broadway World wrote, "The scope and breadth of her work as a playwright is monumental, ranging from a trilogy about border issues to a pentalogy of plays dealing with the emotional trauma of war and then to a play asserting the imperative of equal rights for women."

Bella Maria Varela (MFA '21, Art) was selected for the Border Art Residency (BAR) in El Paso, Texas. Founded in 1999, the BAR has become an internationally competitive opportunity. Over the last 20 years the BAR has hosted numerous artists of national and international renown including Kumi Yamashita, Philip Zimmermann, and Alejandro Almanza Pereda. "It is an absolute privilege to be able to work on the border. I am excited to listen and learn from El Pasoans about their experiences in such an important city." Varela said.



On stage with the Borderlands Ensemble, featuring paintings by School of Art alumna Jessica Gonzales.

The **Borderlands Ensemble** presented the <u>Concert at the Border: Place and Identity</u>. The event was organized by Johanna Lundy, assistant professor of horn at the Fred Fox School of Music. The concert featured world premieres from composers Charly Daniels and Jay Vosk. The event was co-presented by the Ensemble, the Fred Fox School of Music and UNAM-Tucson Center for Mexican Studies with support from a CFA Diversity and Inclusion grant and a New Work Artist Project grant from the Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona.

The concert was part of an event celebrating the five-year anniversary of UNAM-Tucson. On stage, during the performance, <u>viewers can see paintings</u> <u>by alumna Jessica Gonzales</u> inspired by pieces in the concert. The ensemble features:

Ellen Chamberlain and Emily Chao, violins Sarah Toy and Ann Weaver, violas Robert Chamberlain, cello Johanna Lundy, horn Jose Luis Puerta, guitar (special guest) Gia del Pino, doctoral student in Art & Visual Culture Education, was selected for the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Creative Writing Fellow for Crossing Latinidades. She is also a visual artist, activist, and artist-teacher who is committed to a socially engaged art praxis. Her research examines systemic and systematic violence and trauma related to immigration policy and its long-lasting and intergenerational effects on families.

School of Art's **Dorsey Kaufmann** (MFA '20, Illustration + Design) continues to find new ways to use her artwork to communicate the **environmental impacts of corporate mining** in rural Arizona communities. Her newest project in this initiative, "Years of Life Lost," visualizes the toxic aftermath of corporate mining in rural low-income, predominantly communities of color throughout Arizona.

Fred Fox School of Music Assistant Professor **Fanya Lin** was invited as guest soloist to perform Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini at the National Concert Hall. View the encore here: Rachmaninoff/ Kreisler - Liebeslied. She also performed Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue at the National Opera House with NewArts Symphony in Taiwan in 2020. Both concerts were sold out live performances.



The **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Concert**, premiered on the <u>Arizona Arts YouTube</u> channel, in celebration of AAPI heritage and to build bridges to unit people across borders. The concert was organized by Applied Intercultural Arts Research (AIAR) PhD candidate Jina Xia and was presented by Arizona Arts, AIAR and Tucson Chinese Cultural Center. Speakers represented East Asian Studies, Asian Pacific American Student Affairs, Pima County Public Library and National REACH Coalition. <u>Artists performed music from China</u>, Japan, Korea, Mexico, India, Argentina, Greece, and the Middle East.

Ramallah-based artist School of Art Alumnu **Khaled Jarrar** (MFA '19, Photography) has entered the Non-Fungible Token (NFT) market with his work, "If I don't steal your home someone else will steal it." Jarrar has been collecting dirt on his daily walks and is now selling bars of Palestinian soil as an NFT to bring light to the annexation of Palestinian lands, as part of the blockchain project, "State of Palestine."

UAMA's Curator of Community Engagement Chelsea Farrar cotaught a Global Art Workshop for students at Beijing University of Chemical Technology and the University of Arizona. The online workshop, co-taught with Ran Qi, AVCE graduate student, and Dr. Carissa DiCindio, assistant art professor, provided students a chance to express themselves and learn about each other's culture while creating artwork together. All three educators also presented on this global workshop at the National Arts Education Association conference.

School of Dance faculty **Tamara Dyke-Compton** and **Christopher Compton** virtually presented their research "The Mindful Dancer: Implementing mindfulness, healthy rhythms, and habits in the technique class" at the 16th International Conference on The Arts in Society.

The city of Pontecorvo, Italy, honored **Lee Bottelberghe** (MM, '21, Wind Conducting) with a plaque of merit for his two-year investigation of Italian composer **Davide Delle Cese** (1856-1938), who was from the town. Bottelberghe was researching a piece by Delle Cese's that he had been assigned to conduct for the Wind Ensemble. He connected with the top Delle Cese researcher in Italy. That researcher, Adamo Massimo Lancia, gifted his book on the composer to the Arizona Libraries.

Ziyun Li (DMA, Choral Conducting) was selected to join Zheng Xiaoying's Conducting Masterclass in Changsha, China. There were 80 music educators attending this masterclass, coming from all over China. After written exams and oral auditions, Ziyun was approved to have lessons with professor Zheng, the first female conductor in China and the founder of China's first women's symphony orchestra.

Sarah Moore, professor of art at the School of Art, received received the Terra Foundation Visiting Professorship, which will take her to teach American art history at Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan for the 2021-2022 academic year. The Terra Foundation for American Art is dedicated to fostering exploration, understanding, and enjoyment of the visual arts of the United States for national and international audiences.



Juniors Robbie Voigt and Becca Worden (in the moon) in "From the Fishbowl." Photo: Julius Schlosburg

Theatre Studies students from the School of Theatre, Film & Television created a unique, original work, "From the Fishbowl," collaborating with the Scoundrel & Scamp Theatre, directed by Wolfe Bowart, a TFTV adjunct instructor and award-winning physical theatre creator and illusionist. Students moved seamlessly between stage and screen telling largely non-verbal stories.

"From the Fishbowl, which explores our new normal through the lenses of early cinema and stage illusion, delights and entertains, but it documents the moment of a young person struggling to come of age during the pandemic better than any oral history or written diary account ever could." -- The Theatre Times

This was the first co-production between the school and Scoundrel & Scamp, a Tucson professional company dedicated to sharing diverse stories about and by underrepresented voices.

Arizona Arts <u>launched the Racial Justice Studio</u>, founded by **Amelia Kraehe** and **Gloria J. Wilson**, professors from the School of Art, and UAMA's Curator of Community Engagement, **Chelsea Farrar**. The Studio is conceived as a hub for campus and virtual activities to promote a deep understanding of racism and anti-racism by centering artistic and creative practice. The group's first offering will be a new course, "Rehearsals in Anti-Racism," designed to engage students in personal, political, philosophical, and aesthetic conversations about race, racism, and their intersections with other markers of identity.

David Hume Kennerly, University of Arizona Presidential Scholar and White House photographer, presented an illustrated tour of historical and modern presidential inaugurations, "Presidential Transitions of Power," in an event presented by the College of Social Behavioral Sciences, the Center for Creative Photography and Arizona Arts.

A new Bachelor of Arts degree starting in Fall 2022, <u>Live and Immersive Arts</u> seeks to produce a new generation of artists and designers who work across all visually interactive media to live experiences. By creating digital technology, soundscapes, images, events and environments, students create an immersive arts experience for audiences. The degree will train students to view design as a method of problem solving. The steering committee for the new degree includes faculty from the School of Art and School of Theatre. Film & Television.

School closures had a disproportionately negative impact on students of color, students from low socio-economic status backgrounds and arts learning. **Arizona Arts in Schools** programs pivoted immediately to online learning, developing state of the art distance learning systems for its programs UpBeat, Step Up, Music First and Lead Guitar. Particularly noteworthy is the online learning presence developed by Upbeat, whose team created 100s of interactive video-based learning modules, flash cards and tutorials.

Over 100 people participated in the University of Arizona Museum of Art's monthly, virtual **Art Trivia Happy Hour**. Hosted by Curator **Olivia Miller** and UAMA Leadership Council member, **Lauren Rabb**, art trivia remains a way to connect with audiences near and far in an exciting and educational way. Rabb and Miller also shared the program's successes at the College Art Association conference.

The School of Dance presented masterwork repertoire this past season, including excerpts from two **Paul Taylor** works, "Cloven Kingdom" and "Runes," and presented an excerpt of **Frank Chaves**' signature piece, "Habaneras, the Music of Cuba." Faculty embraced pandemic factors such as masks, social distancing and wove them into their creative process, resulting in nine new premieres presented by UA Dance.

Each year **BFA Acting/Musical Theatre seniors** perform live for an audience comprised of invited casting directors, managers and agents. This year **Hank Stratton**, artistic director of the Arizona Repertory Theatre, and team reimagined the showcase with a digital edition. Students were filmed performing in a closed theatre. The digital showcase was then sent to thousands of talent representatives, casting directors and network executives across North America, resulting in farreaching, unprecedented attention for our students, many of whom signed with agencies.

Rebecca Senf, Center for Creative Photography's chief curator, taught a <u>Humanities Seminar 10-week course</u>, "How Ansel Adams Came to Be the Photographer We Know," with assistance from **Meg Jackson Fox**, CCP's associate curator, academic and public programs.

The Center for Creative Photography presented diverse, digital exhibitions, tackling timely issues impacting Southern Arizona.

Photojournalism 20/20: A Think Tank for an Unimaginable Present explored how photographs reveal the world around us in a charged political year. The exhibition combined images from the Center's collection with the latest from news outlets, social media and thought leaders.

Finding Meaning: An Offering of Photographs for an Uncertain Time, provided audiences with an opportunity to connect with the Center's curatorial team who reflected on meaningful photographs from the collection. Images touched on connection/isolation, wellness/illness, solace/discomfort, presence/absence and communal/domestic.



Photo: Julius Schlosburg

The School of Theatre, Film & Television's 2021 edition "I Dream in Widescreen," a showcase of senior thesis films, was held at the Cactus Drive-In Theatre. Every last spot at the drive-in was filled as students, cast, crew, faculty, friends, family, and community members gathered in cars, on rooftops, and in lawn chairs to watch stories of love, family dramas, a paranormal investigation, an intergalactic music video and more. Photo Gallery.



Brad Richter, director of Arizona Arts in Schools, also hosts the YouTube series, "We Are Guitar."

The University of Arizona's arts and humanities programs move up to No. 10 among public universities and No. 26 among all U.S. institutions by Times Higher Education. The programs were ranked 80th out of 565 universities worldwide. "'Top 10' always has a nice ring to it, and I am delighted to see us move into this elite group of U.S. public universities," said Andrew Schulz, vice president for the arts.

Arizona Arts in Schools' programs, UpBeat, Step Up and Music First were able to continue school-based arts learning for 847 students in 13 local schools when our public-school partners could not. More than **75 percent** of students served were BIPOC and more than **80 percent** qualified for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch. **Brad Richter** (pictured), director of arts outreach, hosts 'We Are Guitar' YouTube broadcast, featuring global guitar celebrities including **Zach Filkins** of One Republic, Emmy-winning composer **Carlos Rafael Rivera**, and 11-time Grammy/Latin Grammy winner **Sergio Vallín**. Broadcasts were viewed **more than 23,000** in 2021.

The School of Dance offered four fully produced on-demand digital programs to the public free of charge. The programs garnered **3,948 registrations** and were **viewed 4,891** times.

The School of Dance was listed in two: national rankings College Magazine's "Top 10 Colleges for Dance 2020" and danceus.org's "Best College Dance Programs."

The University of Arizona Museum of Art had 15,000 views for virtual exhibitions. It's not surprising than that *Phoenix New Times* named **Olivia Miller** one of the "15 Women Curators to Know in Arizona."

The Center for Creative Photography instituted new experimental modes of digital engagement, including online streaming, video tours and collection lectures, and micro talks, with approximately 15,000 local, national, and international views/participants. CCP's overall social media following grew 289 percent across all platforms – 5,500 – thanks to storytelling, learning, and community building, one of the best increases of followers on campus.

School of Theatre, Film & Television's overall enrollment of committed undergraduate majors has increased by **25 percent** over 2019 and 2020. The number of Film & Television undergraduate majors is up by **42 percent** this year over 2019 and 2020.

Senior thesis films from TFTV's "I Dream in Widescreen 2020" earned a record-setting 14 film festival selections in cities including Phoenix, Los Angeles and London. That's a record number of festival selections in a year for the school.

Senior thesis films from TFTV's was again recognized as a <u>Top</u> <u>50 U.S. Film School</u> by *The Wrap*. The rankings are determined by a poll of more than 2,000 industry leaders, educators, deans, filmmakers and film commentators, plus, experts who evaluated each school.



Courtney Blanc (BFA '21, Musical Theatre) graduated summa cum laude with honors, thanks in part to support from Arizona Art friends and donors, like Barbara Molotsky

The division of Arizona Arts received **\$28.4 million** in private support last year, an increase of nearly \$16 million over the previous year. Thank you to all the alumni, friends, foundations and corporations that made Arizona Arts a philanthropic priority – your support has a tremendous impact on our students, community programing and collections.

The **School of Art** broke ground on phase one of its facility renovation thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who provided **\$6 million** to fund a new outdoor living room, lobby and gathering space, a new Visual Resource Center, and multiple classroom studio improvements. **Lee Herbst** and the **School Advisory Board** led an effort to raise \$80,000 for custom lobby doors.

John and Sandi Flint funded "Race/Remix," a new podcast from the Racial Justice Studio that will feature an interdisciplinary conversation on the topic of race and racism in the arts.

The Advisory Board provided seed money to pilot the Changemaker Mentoring Program which will serve underrepresented student artists and focus on building professional networks that enable successful careers in the arts. An anonymous donor provided two years of funding for the Art History Graduate Student Association's annual symposium, which is the oldest student-run art history symposium in the country.

The **School of Dance** received an anonymous lead gift of \$100,000, establishing the *Jory Hancock and Melissa Lowe Dance Fund for Excellence*. The gift launched a **\$300,000 fundraising campaign** to name the breathtaking third-floor studio of the Stevie Eller Dance Theatre after Jory and Melissa for their 34 years of service to the School. **Tom and Cande Grogan**, longtime supporters of the School, made an initial gift of \$25,000 to the Fund, and agreed to a matching gift of \$25,000 to encourage others to support to the campaign.

The Ruthie Kolker Spirit Award was established by the School of Dance Advisory Board to honor the memory of one of its longest standing members. Ruthie's husband, Ron Kolker, along with many board members, friends and family have contributed over \$25,000 towards the fund. The award will provide financial assistance to dance students. Other support includes John Fikkan and Thom Sherwood's \$30,000 three-year gift commitment for student support. Gretchen Goswick significantly increased her support this year by giving \$25,000 for operational measures taken to safeguard faculty and students with inperson classes.

The Fred Fox School of Music hosted its first crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for music scholarships in lieu of the traditional in-person luncheon. The School raised \$12,804 from 71 donors, exceeding its goal. The Vocal Area Fund received a gift of \$26,596 from Gretchen Goswick fulfilling her three-gift commitment. The fund was established to increase awareness and hire a graduate assistant to assist with recruitment. An estate gift of \$144,780 was received from the Shropshire Family Charitable Fund to benefit the Donald and Mary Ruth Shropshire Endowed Scholarship in Choral Studies.

The **School of Theatre, Film & Television** received several large gifts supporting state-of-the art technology and optimal audience experiences at the Marroney Theatre: Anonymous, \$750,000; **Jane Kivel**, \$500,000; **Greg Knopf**, \$250,000; **Doris Coris**, \$50,000. **Jane and Marvin Brown** fulfilled their five-year \$25,000 gift commitment to start the Brown-Newman Family Scholarship. The endowment provides recruitment funds for first-year acting/musical theatre students.

The <u>David and Lura Lovell Foundation</u> has awarded **Arizona Arts in School**'s partner, <u>Lead Guitar</u>, a **\$1,000,000 Strategic Initiative Grant** to support nationwide expansion of the program over the next four years. Lead Guitar's new growth is beginning with a collaboration with the University of Georgia to begin services in Atlanta this fall and a collaboration with the Eastman Conservatory of Music in Rochester, New York, and the Rochester City School District to initiate services in 2022.

Arizona Arts Live received \$30,000 from the Marshall Foundation to support the innovative art installation, Monuments. A family foundation that requested anonymity provided a gift of \$50,000 for general program support.



Center for Creative Photography saw the completion of the new 2,131 square-foot Alice Chaiten Baker Interdisciplinary Gallery. The gallery is named in recognition of Tucson philanthropist and art patron Alice Chaiten Baker. "I consider the Center for Creative Photography a community treasure," said Baker. "The Center's unique collection and mission has inspired me and is something I'm happy to support. I believe the interdisciplinary role of this gallery will deeply engage audiences on campus and in the community for years to come."

This past year the Center received the works of a number of important photographers, including a significant number of prints of **Joel Sternfeld**, whose large-format color photographs of roadside America established him as visionary among American landscape photographers. The value of these new additions to the Center's collection totals in access of **\$19 million**.

IN MEMORIAM

Peter Salomon, an ardent supporter of the arts in Tucson, died in July. He was 83. Salomon was the head of pathology at El Dorado Hospital in Tucson. In addition to supporting many areas of the university, Salomon and Patricia Carr Morgan have funded an upcoming public art installation in the Speedway underpass. They also financially supported renovations in the photo area, transforming the darkrooms by creating a non-silver, advanced photography space. Together they established the Morgan and Salomon Faculty Professional Development Fund and contributed to the new CCP entryway.