

From the Dean

Wayne First goals were met; now we Aim Higher

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As you know, Michigan is reeling from the worldwide economic crisis and the related auto industry contraction. While we all understand the challenges of a state supported institution in tough times (approximately 1/3 of WSU's budget comes from the state) we are and will continue to weather this storm. Wayne State's commitment to remaining an institution of promise and opportunity is unwavering.

There is always good news to share and powerful stories to tell as you will see highlighted in this issue of *Expressions*. Here are just a few highlights:

- Our *Wayne First* campaign goal of \$22.9m was not only met but exceeded as the college announced a \$4.5m future estate gift and named the second of our five departments.
- Distinguished guests such as noted alums **S. Epatha Merkerson** and **Helen Thomas** were on campus to interact with students and to lend their names to our fund raising events.
- Our faculty continue to push students to excel, as demonstrated in the many awards and honors we enjoy — several of which are noted in the following pages.
- Our commitment to enriching the lives of young people is evident in our 44 outreach and engagement programs that touch the lives of so many. One of our newest programs, String Project @ Wayne, was featured in the inauguration of Wayne State's tenth president, Dr. **Jay Noren**, on April 7. See page 3 for more about String Project @ Wayne.

As we look toward the 2009–10 academic year, the campus acknowledges the increased struggles of our students to stay in school, since so many must work to support themselves. In response, Wayne State has launched *Aim Higher for Students*, directing our fund raising efforts specifically into this area where need is both immediate and important. You will hear more about this in coming months as our annual appeals focus on need-based scholarships and direct awards to students.

As you browse through this issue of *Expressions*, please note our Honor Roll, beginning on page 10, that acknowledges and thanks alumni and friends who have made a difference through their generous gifts. My sincerest thanks on behalf of the college to all of you!



Dean Sharon L. Vasquez



WSU's 10th president, Dr. Jay Noren, inaugurated April 7

Day of ceremony, celebration, includes performances from theatre, music, dance



In his inaugural address at the DIA, Dr. Noren expressed his vision for the university to 1) nurture and develop students' capacity to thrive in the complex world in which they live and to 2) explore creative solutions to the problems and challenges faced by the world's population. Here's how Wayne State will address these critical challenges:

1. *Educational opportunity, particularly immersed in diversity*

WSU is committed to not only the gifted student but also the student who is disadvantaged, either economically or scholastically. "Our sustained democratic society, economic productivity and quality of life depend upon that commitment," Noren said.

2. *Research and outreach focused on the challenges of America's great cities*

"Many of the problems our society faces are felt most keenly in metropolitan areas like Detroit," Noren said. As Michigan's only urban research university, Wayne State's specialized resources must address the challenges of urban life.

3. *Instilling in our students a lifelong commitment to citizenship through community activism with a special urban insight*

Wayne State seeks to excite in its students a commitment to lifelong citizenship through urban community activism, engagement in the public policy process and informed leadership emphasizing urban issues. "It's a long tradition at Wayne State," Noren said. "We consider it a major educational priority."

4. *Economic development, to which the previous three all relate, particularly for metropolitan Detroit and all of Michigan*

"When Michigan returns to economic health, it will be because we act now to build, nurture and attract knowledge based economic ventures," Noren said.

After the presidential inauguration ceremony, the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts took to the DIA/Detroit Film Theater's stage, presenting a special inaugural performance titled *Curtain Call*. Sponsored by the WSU Alumni Association, the program included theatrical selections from *Ragtime: The Musical*, performances by WSU dancers, the WSU Jazz Big Band and the children string musicians of String Project @ Wayne. A standing ovation was lead by Dr. Noren and members of his family who traveled to WSU to share in the momentous day.

"More than 75% of our alumni live and work in Michigan. It has been said, rightly so, without Wayne State, Michigan could not open for business each day."

— Jay Noren

IN STEP WITH STUDENTS:
At the university's annual President's Holiday Celebration in December, **Dr. Noren** showed concentration learning the steps to the Detroit Hustle, a more hip variation of the Grapevine, from WSU dancer **Lydia Porter**.



President **Jay Noren** addresses CFPCA's 2009 graduating class, May 7, while honorary degree recipient **S. Epatha Merkerson** and WSU Governor **Paul Massaron** look on.

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Expressions

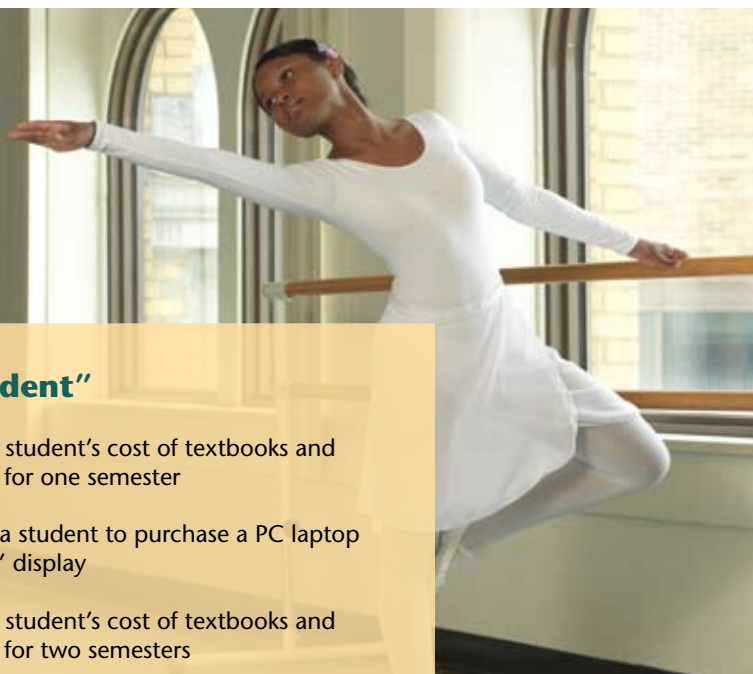
WSU launches *Aim Higher for Students*

Wayne State University has a strong tradition as a place where students from all walks of life come to build a better future. The current economic situation that pervades this nation, and our state especially, leaves increasing numbers of students searching for ways to stay in school.

Wayne State upholds its promise as a university of opportunity with an urgent appeal to our alumni and friends — the *Aim Higher for Students* campaign.

With your help we can increase need-based and merit-based scholarships, enhance student access to technology and increase targeted experiences such as internships and service-learning. Our goal is to increase annual scholarships and new endowed funds, creating resources that provide a significant and direct impact for Wayne State students.

The future of our students is in your hands. Your gift to the *Aim Higher for Students* campaign can assure Wayne State students the opportunity to pursue their dreams.



“Adopt-a-Student”

\$ 475	covers a student’s cost of textbooks and supplies for one semester
\$ 800	enables a student to purchase a PC laptop with 15” display
\$ 950	covers a student’s cost of textbooks and supplies for two semesters
\$ 1,325	provides a 15 meals/week plan for a student for one semester
\$ 2,650	provides a 15 meals/week plan for a student for a year
\$ 4,175	gives one student housing in a residence hall for two semesters
\$ 7,726	covers tuition and fees (28 credits) for an undergraduate student for one year
\$ 7,723	covers tuition and fees (16 credits) for a graduate student for one year
\$ 17,254	covers a full year for an undergraduate student (tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies)

The need is now:

- 70% of WSU students rely on financial aid to cover their educational expenses.
- Finances were the primary reason for a 4.1% enrollment drop in winter 2009.
- 24.6% of WSU students fall below 150% of the poverty level.

Please contact the Office of University Development at 313-577-2263 for more information about the campaign or if you wish to speak with someone about making a gift. You can

make your gift online at <https://cardinal.wayne.edu/wsugiving/give.cfm>



They sure can dance. But research too?

A number of dance students presented findings from extensive research projects at the university’s Undergraduate Research Symposium hosted by WSU’s Office of Undergraduate Research in November. Taking top honors overall, awarded Outstanding Research Presentation, were senior **Martha Dobbs** and junior **Kate Vincek** for their project *Solo Forms in Contemporary Choreography: Performance and Analysis of Jan Van Dyke’s “Luna.”* Dobbs and Vincek earned the honor of representing Wayne State at April’s 23rd annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse.

Theatre’s strong showing

In March, acting students from the Department of Theatre took their annual acting showcase on the road to theatre companies and casting agents in hopes of landing jobs. This showcase gave the theatre department’s top graduate and undergraduate acting students the opportunity to perform for and network with theatre professionals.

The Acting Showcase performed in Detroit, New York, Chicago and Cleveland. With many other schools also performing showcases at the same time, competition for agents was steep. However, Wayne State, with its reputation for talent and quality training, was successful in capturing representatives from some of the biggest names in theatre including The Purple Rose, Steppenwolf, Second City and The Goodman Theatre and agencies such as Warner Bros. Television Casting and Aria Talent.

Many of the students who participated have been contacted already by casting agents and theatre companies. Two students have been offered representation from major agencies in Detroit and New York. With such immediate results, it is clear why the Department of Theatre considers this year’s Acting Showcase a success. This large investment could not have been possible without the support of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, the Department of Theatre and WSU Theatre patrons. Thank you to all!




Safiya Johnson as Nurse Ratched and **James Kuhl** as Randle McMurphy in the Hilbery’s spring production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*.

Music lifts voices, young string players

WSU's Concert Chorale, conducted by Associate Professor and Associate Music Department Chair, **Norah Duncan IV**, received the prestigious invitation to perform at the 4th annual Michigan Music Conference, January 22, at DeVos Performance Hall in Grand Rapids.



In followup to a fall collaboration between the Department of Music and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Power of Dreams project, WSU launched the String Project @ Wayne program, led by Assistant Professor of Strings, **Laura Roelofs**. It is a laboratory school for string playing, where undergraduate string majors grow into excellent teachers by providing Detroit area children with high quality, affordable instruction in violin, viola, cello or bass. Recent performances by the children include their spring concert at the DSO, April 22, and participation in the college's April 7 show in honor of President Noren's inauguration at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

 music.wayne.edu/stringproject/
for much more about String Project @ Wayne



Communication students soar; new degree certificate offered

The department announces inter-departmental collaborations leading to the offering of a graduate certificate in health communication. The new certificate is designed to provide research-based professional study for graduate students in communication and health-related disciplines such as public health, nursing, sociology, social work and more.


In followup to last fall's hosting of the national conference of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), which brought 1,000 public relations students and faculty to Detroit, Junior, **Jenna Huskinson**, was elected by delegates from the nation's PRSSA chapters to serve as vice president of regional activities.

A team of students, lead by Professor of Journalism, **Ben Burns**, won the Institute for Interactive Journalism's New Voices Grant, out of 300+ entries nationwide. Professional journalists were recruited to contribute seed money and write and edit content submitted by citizen contributors and online journalism students at WSU and UofM-Dearborn for a full-service news and information site, grossepointetoday.com, about Detroit's five Grosse Pointes.

Welcome to CFPCA

Academic Services Officer II, **Talitha Trout**, joins the CFPCA dean's office to support ongoing student services, recruitment and retention activities.



 www.cfpc.wayne.edu/Trout.pdf
for much more about Talitha

Art aims higher for students through faculty excellence

The James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History recognizes that the most impactful way a department can improve the experience of currently enrolled students is by providing them with the highest quality instruction.

Associate Professor of Sculpture and Associate Department Chair, **John Richardson**, was elected president of the Mid-America College Art Association.

Professor of Painting and Drawing, **Mel Rosas**, won the coveted Pollock-Krasner Grant, one of the most important national grants for artists.

The people called it Ragtime!

2008-9 brought remarkable seasons at the Hilberry and Bonstelle Theatres with continued support from our patrons. In spite of the state of the economy and how hard Detroit and Michigan have been hit, box office revenue is down only 1% from the 2007-8 season. Winter highlights from the Hilberry include *Born Yesterday*, directed by Professor **James Thomas**, *All My Sons*, directed by Professor **David Magidson**, and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, directed by Assistant Professor **Lavinia Hart**. At the Bonstelle, Senior Lecturer **Aku Kadogo** directed a most successful production of *Zora Is My Name*, dramatizing the life of Zora Neale Hurston, and Assistant Professor **Michael Barnes** directed the rousing *Ragtime: The Musical*.



Taurean Hogan played Coalhouse Walker, Jr. in the Bonstelle's smash production of *Ragtime: The Musical*.

CFPCA's endowed funds

The college is extremely proud of its growing list of endowed funds established by generous donors to provide vital assistance to our students in perpetuity. If you are interested in establishing a named endowed fund, please contact Kevin McAlpine at kevinmc Alpine@wayne.edu or 313-577-1458.

James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History

Carol Ann Albertson Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Wilfred C. & Audrey M. Becker Endowed Scholarship in Industrial Design
Martin "Bud" Bernstein Endowed Prize Fund in Art & Art History
Albert & Peggy DeSalle Trust Endowed Scholarship in Photography & Metalsmithing
DeSalle Challenge Endowment
James P. Duffy Endowed Fund in Art & Art History
Brian Gahagan Memorial Endowed Scholarship
W. Hawkins Ferry Chair in Art & Art History Endowment Fund
Linda Marlene Iden Scholarship
Elaine L. Jacob Gallery Fund
Jacob Endowed Chair in Visual Arts
Brian Killian & Company Endowed Scholarship Fund
Marji Kunz Fashion Scholarship Endowment Fund
President's Endowed Scholarship in Art
John & Irene Sowinski Scholarship
Albert L. & Alice W. Steinbach Scholarship
Horst Uhr Endowed Travel Fund
Robert Wilbert Visiting Artist Endowed Fund
Raymond Zimmerman & Joyce Stuart Endowed Fiber Room

Department of Communication

Renee M. Abraham-Harries Memorial Scholarship
Bob Allison (Allesee) Endowed Chair in Media
Bantz Endowed Faculty Award
Bernstein Endowment for Forensics
George Bohman/Rupert Cortwright/Elizabeth Youngjohn Fund
William A. Boyce Memorial Scholarship
Bernard Brock Endowed Fund for Intellectual Enrichment
Winifred Clephane Endowed Graduate Scholarship
Angela Cowan Memorial Scholarship in Debate
Angelo Dermidoff Endowed Fund for Graduate Student Research & Travel
Forensics Endowment Fund
The Jeannine Gregory Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Communication
Raymond & Alice Hayes Scholarship Fund
W. Sprague Holden Memorial Scholarship
Journalism Institute for Media Diversity Scholarship
Robert G. McGruder Endowed Scholarship
The Paul Nine Endowed Scholarship in Forensics
President's Endowed Scholarship in Forensics
PRSSA Endowed Support Fund
Alfonso Rodriguez Endowed Scholarship in Forensics Debate
E. Ray Skinner Endowment Fund Award
Renee Skoglund Endowed Student Award
George M. & Mabel H. Slocum Scholarship
The Helen Thomas Endowed Spirit of Diversity Award
Irvin D. & Pamela Trotman Reid Endowed Journalism Scholarship
WXYZ/Scripps Howard Fund Endowed Scholarship
WXYZ Endowed Fund for Excellence in Teaching
Elizabeth G. Youngjohn Award Fund

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“As graduates, each of you joins a world wide family of Wayne alumni. I have seen over and over again the support and the affection that these alumni have for Wayne State. And I predict that you graduates will find the same as you pursue your future goals.”

— WSU President **Jay Noren** speaking to CFPCA’s graduating class, May 7


The university officially closed *Wayne First: The Campaign for Wayne State University*, its first capital campaign, December 31, 2008, after seven years and after eclipsing its original \$500 million goal, raising a total of \$900 million. More than 40,000 alumni supported their alma mater through gifts to *Wayne First*.

 giving.wayne.edu
for the final report on *Wayne First*, including a by-the-numbers analysis

Diamond anniversary, ethnic media meeting, round out the year in communication

WSU’s chapter of Delta Sigma Rho/Tau Kappa Alpha, the national forensics honor society, held its annual Forensics Dinner, May 3, at the Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn. This year’s event, which featured an address by former Governor of Michigan, **James Blanchard**, celebrated the successes of the 2008–9 debate and individual events teams and recognized the 75th anniversary of DSR/TKA itself.

New America Media and Wayne State-based New Michigan Media, along with the U.S. Census Bureau, held a roundtable discussion on ethnic media’s role in the census, April 28, at Detroit’s Westin Book Cadillac Hotel. New Michigan Media is directed by Associate Professor of Communication **Hayg Oshagan**. Representatives of ethnic media outlets in Michigan participated in the roundtable to hear from census officials as well as to share their views about how to reach the respective communities as they attempt to count every living person in the United States in 2010. Some of the most difficult individuals to count are immigrants and minorities. Ethnic media will be an important intermediary for the Census Bureau.

 newmichiganmedia.com
for more about ethnic media in Michigan

Hilberry season will celebrate subscribers

The Hilberry Theatre is launching its 2009–10 season with a special recognition of its most loyal patrons, its subscribers. In 46 years, the Hilberry has produced hundreds of performances in front of thousands of patrons. Twenty-five percent of all patrons have been attending the Hilberry for over twenty years and many are alumni of Wayne State University. With this kind of support, it is no wonder that the Department of Theatre is graduating some of the most talented theatre professionals in the country. Since 1963, Hilberry alumni have gone on to win almost every accolade recognized by the professional theatre community, including Tonys, Golden Globes and Emmys.

In order to keep this tradition alive, the Department of Theatre continues to offer subscriptions. By investing in an entire season, Hilberry subscribers gain unforgettable experiences that can’t be found anywhere else. Subscribers, more than any other patrons, forge lasting relationships with students. They get to watch students’ talents develop across three years of study, mingle with company members at events and network with other alumni.

Next season opens with *The Fantasticks* (music by Harvey Schmidt, lyrics by Tom Jones), followed by *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* by William Shakespeare, *The Seagull* by Anton Chekhov, *Good* by C.P. Taylor, *The Servant of Two Masters* by Carlo Goldoni and *The Beaux Stratagem* by George Farquhar. For more information about ticketing and our special WSU Alumni Association price of \$90 for all six shows, please visit Hilberry.com or call 313-577-2972.



Funds . . . continued

Maggie Allesee Department of Dance

Maggie Allesee Endowed Dance Program Support Fund
Maggie Allesee Endowed Department of Dance
The Harriet Berg Endowed Choreography Award
Meredith Ilene Campbell Endowed Scholarship in Dance
Dance Scholarship & Awards Fund
Kathryn Ellis Endowed Scholarship in Dance
The Portia Fields-Anderson Endowed Scholarship in Dance
Rose Marie Floyd Endowed Scholarship
The Karen Ruth Lacroff Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Dance
Ruth Lovell Murray Scholarship
The Lisa Nowak Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Dance
Ann Zirulnik Visiting Artist Fund

Department of Music

Edward P. Frohlich Endowed Piano Scholarship
Robert Harris Award for Choral Excellence
Malcolm Johns Endowed Memorial Room
Bernard Katz Endowed Scholarship
Rebecca Katzman Frohman Endowed Scholarship
The Lawrence J. LaGore Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Harry M. Langsford Endowed Scholarship
Professor Robert F. Lawson Endowed Memorial Music Scholarship
Alice R. LeFevre Scholarship
Loughead-Eldredge Endowed Scholarship in Piano
The Irma Marshall Endowed Fund
The Frank Murch Endowed Memorial Scholarship
The Music Study Club of Metropolitan Detroit Endowed Scholarship in Music
Mark Otis Endowed Scholarship Fund
Eli David Parks Endowed Scholarship
President’s Endowed Scholarship in Music
Chester E. Puchalski Endowed Scholarship
Joan Katherine Rossi Memorial Vocal Scholarship
Emma Lazaroff Schaver Endowment Fund
Robert Stawski Endowed Scholarship
Dennis Tini Endowed Fund in Music
Robert Van Walleghem Memorial Endowment Fund
Melvin F. Wanzo Endowed Trombone Scholarship

Department of Theatre

Lynn Anderson Hilberry Fellowship
Mrs. Billie Barak Endowment Fund
Robert G. Bartle Memorial Endowed Fund in Theatre
Blakely-Molson Scholarship Fund
The Doris & Wilber Brucker Endowed Scholarship for Theatre
Lynne M. & Arthur W. Bryant Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Support Fund
Honorable Michael and Marilyn Connor Endowed Hilberry Fellowship
Phyllis M. & Donald D. Dodge Endowed Scholarship
Irv & Olga F. Dworkin Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Fund
Jacquelin Eckhous Award for Student Development in Theatre
The Phil Fox Scholarship Fund
Cheryl Harvey Endowed Hilberry Fellowship
Robert T. Hazzard Student Production Support Endowed Fund
Hezlap Endowed Scholarship Fund in Theatre
Clarence B. Hilberry Fellowship
Hilberry Fellowships

. . . continued

Art receives naming gift

At the April 24 gala opening of the exhibit *Time and Place: Art of Detroit's Cass Corridor from the Wayne State University Collection*, the art department announced a \$4.5 million future estate gift from Detroit businessman and art collector **James Pearson Duffy**. The gift creates an endowed fund in the department that will attract professionals of national or international renown to share their expertise and engage WSU students in the field of contemporary art.



In addition to the estate gift, Duffy donated more than 1,000 works to the University Art Collection in late 2008, adding to the hundreds he donated previously. To recognize his generous contributions and his long-standing tradition of supporting artists in Detroit and at Wayne State, the university's Board of Governors approved naming the art department as the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History.

"This extraordinary gift is the embodiment of Mr. Duffy's support of Detroit's arts scene," said Dean **Sharon Vasquez**, pictured above at the gala with beloved retired art professor **Robert Wilbert**. "Mr. Duffy's particular affinity for the young, aspiring artists of the Detroit area who attend Wayne State has made his long association with the university mutually enriching. Because his many gifts of art and financial support have been based on his belief in the importance of artists and the power of artistic expression, it is especially fitting that his name is linked forever with the Department of Art and Art History."

Dance Workshop's pro debut in Cincinnati

In its 80th anniversary year, Wayne State's Dance Workshop continued to distinguish itself with 2008 American College Dance Festival honors and its New York City debut last March. Fresh on the heels of its NYC premiere, WSU Dance Workshop, directed by faculty members **Doug Risner** and **Alison Woerner**, made its professional debut in the 35th anniversary concert of Cincinnati's Contemporary Dance Theater. Dance Workshop continues to establish itself as a university dance company of national prominence and offers outstanding performance and choreography to student dancers well before they graduate.



Bass Ace

Seven time Grammy Award nominee, bassist/composer/conductor, **John Clayton**, performed with the Wayne State Big Band at the Music Box in Detroit's Max M. Fisher Music Center, April 3. The concert featured Clayton's original compositions as well as his arrangements of works by **Johnny Hodges**, **Sonny Stitt**, **Thelonious Monk** and **Hoagy Carmichael**. Clayton, who won a 2008 Grammy for his work on **Queen Latifah's** album *Trav'lin' Light*, is the Detroit International Jazz Festival's 2009 Artist in Residence.

Broadway stars roll up their sleeves to work with students

Recipients of the 2009 Apple Award, Broadway, film and TV supertars, **Mandy Patinkin** and **Patti LuPone**, performed April 14-19 *An Evening with Patti LuPone and Mandy Patinkin* at the Fisher Theatre and were honored at the April 16 Apple Gala. Ms. LuPone and Mr. Patinkin conducted a master class with students in the Department of Theatre, followed by a free, public Q&A session in Old Main's Schaver Music Recital Hall. Both of the stars were thoroughly impressed with the talent, focus and openness of Wayne State's theatre majors, and their words of advice were inspirational to scores of students and guests.

In 2001, the Nederlander family formed a partnership with CFPCA, establishing the Sarah Applebaum Nederlander Award for Excellence in Theatre, an annual award and visiting artist fund. The Apple Award, appropriately named for **Sarah "Apple" Nederlander**, each year brings internationally prominent theatre professionals to campus as guest lecturers to interact with WSU's theatre majors.

The college wishes to give special recognition to the event's annual Planning Committee Chairperson, and member of the CFPCA Board of Visitors, **Sue Nine**,



pictured at left with her husband Paul at this year's gala. Thank you to Sue for her tireless work on the Apple Award Gala every year!



"Be true to yourself. Develop your technique. Honor your craft. Honor your talent. And audiences will embrace you."

— Patti LuPone



"You're invincible; you're all very young. Let me just tell you: this life is short! It is fast like you can't imagine. Don't waste your time."

— Mandy Patinkin

Funds . . . continued

- Vivilore Heavner Hitchman Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Fund
- Audrey I. Olson France Endowed Hilberry Support Fund
- Austin Kanter Award in Theatre
- The Kukla-Scheibner Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Support Fund
- Leonard Leone Guest Artist Fund
- Loughead-Eldredge Endowed Fund for Support of Playwriting
- Tracey Lupo Memorial Scholarship
- The Lois Proctor Mack Endowed Scholarship in Theatre
- Phoebe & Harris Mainster Endowed Hilberry Fellowship
- Russell McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship
- Ruth & Ralph Miller Endowed Hilberry Fellowship
- National Costumer Association Scholarship
- Sarah Applebaum Nederlander Endowed Award for Excellence in Theatre
- Patricia & Henry Nickol Endowed Hilberry Fellowship
- Sue Nine Faculty Award in Theatre
- Rosalind and George Robinson Endowed Hilberry Fellowship
- Gladys Pelham Roscoe Theatre Award Fund
- The Fred & Ladene Schoen Annual Award in Theatre
- The Trudi Schreiber Endowed Scholarship in Theatre
- The Louise Scott Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Support Fund
- Andrew & Marjorie Shaw Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Support Fund
- Russ Smith Endowed Scholarship in Design/Tech or Musical Theatre
- Margaret & Richard Spear Award
- Milli Stennis Endowed Support
- Lily Tomlin Endowed Scholarship
- Tuchow/Tolan Endowed Theatre Award
- Ed & Curl Tutag Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Fund
- Welch Endowed Hilberry Fellowship Fund
- Eva Woodbridge Victor Scholarship
- The Robert Zeman Endowed Memorial Scholarship in Theatre
- Leonard & Mary Zudick Endowed Scholarship

CFPCA Dean's Office

- Richard J. Bilaitis Award for Creative Excellence
- CFPCA Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship
- International Council of Fine Arts Dean's (ICFAD) Endowed Travel Scholarship
- The Harriet Kanter Endowed Scholarship for Student Development
- Rex E. Lamoreaux Endowed Fund
- Ledge/Palmer Endowed Scholarship Fund
- LGBT Endowed Scholarship
- Linda L. Moore Endowed Scholarship



AIM HIGHER

Expressions

Former Department of Communication chair, CFPCA interim dean and WSU associate provost, Dr. **Jack Kay**, will begin a new tenure as provost of Eastern Michigan University in August.

Kay received a PhD in communication from Wayne State in 1979. He received a master's degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in 1975 and an undergraduate degree from Wayne State in speech and political science in 1974.

He was a professor of communication at Wayne State from 1990 to 2005 and an associate professor of speech communication at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 1985-1990. September 2005-February 2007, Kay served as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at University of Michigan-Flint. He served as interim chancellor at U-M Flint from January 2007 to August 2008, then returned as provost. He also served as acting vice chancellor for Institutional Advancement from October 2008 to the present. His expertise and scholarship are in the areas of rhetoric, political communication and hate crimes.



Daniel Loepp '82 '86 was named a "2008 Newsmaker of the Year" by *Crain's Detroit Business*. Loepp is CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.



Jennifer Machiorlatti '96, associate professor of communication at Western Michigan University, received **Loepp** an Emerging Scholar Award from the university. Machiorlatti is an award-winning filmmaker and multimedia specialist with expertise in the areas of feminist theory and intercultural communication.

Janet MacQueen '78, vice president and chief information officer of Blue Care Network of Michigan, was named by *Computerworld Magazine* as one of the nation's "Premier 100 IT Leaders for 2009" for her outstanding achievements in the field of information technology.

Gilbert A. Maddox '54 '59 '61 '70 was named the Margaret McCall Thomas Ward History Maker for 2008 by the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society of the Detroit Public Library in September. Maddox was honored for his distinctions as an educator, historian and pioneer in African American broadcast media. Upon the occasion, he also received a testimonial resolution in tribute to his life and legacy from Detroit's city council.



Maddox

Leslie Mertz '80 '92 '97 is the author of *Driving Michigan: Mile by Mile on I-75*, a book about the places, people, legends and scenery at hundreds of exits and mile markers along the entire length of the freeway.

Marti K. Miller '59 attended the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, MN, as a delegate elected by the 13th Congressional District. Miller is retired from University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe and is a past president of the Women of Wayne alumni association and the Republican Women's Club of Grosse Pointe.

Dorothy Rich '54 is founder/president of the nonprofit Home and School Institute and is creator of MegaSkills for Dorothy Rich Associates, Washington, DC.

Natasha Robinson '08 is the recipient of two Michigan Excellence in Journalism Competition Awards from the Detroit Press Club Foundation. The awards were for wire service reporting and wire service feature writing.

Jim Sites '50 wrote the article "What For?," a true story about love and World War II. The article appeared in the Jesse Stuart Foundation's *JSF Magazine*.

Communication

Carolyn Artman '89 joined HealthPlus of Michigan as the health benefits company's southeast Michigan community relations administrator. Artman manages the company's corporate citizenship efforts throughout the region. She most recently served as media relations manager for the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau where she planned, created and executed media relations initiatives for major events such as Super Bowl XL, the 2006 MLB World Series, the North American International Auto Show and the bureau's newest division, Film Detroit.



Artman

Heather Carmona '91 was recognized by *Crain's Detroit Business* in the magazine's annual "40 under 40" special edition. Carmona is executive director of Detroit's Woodward Avenue Action Association.

Esperanza Malave Cintron '74 '82 teaches writing and literature at Wayne County Community College District's downtown Detroit campus. Cintron authored the collection of poetry *Chocolate City Latina* published in 2006. She earned a 1992 PhD from State University of New York at Albany.

George Eichorn '80 received the Kathy Best "Best of the Best" award from the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association for his work as executive director and spokesperson for the DSBA.

Berl Falbaum '61 edited the 2005 book *Shanghai Remembered: Stories of Jews Who Escaped to Shanghai from Nazi Europe*.



Herschel Fink '64, former member of the college's Board of Visitors, was named to *Crain's Detroit Business*' 2008 "Power Lawyers" list. Fink counts among his clients the *Detroit Free Press* which had a very busy few years in court, legally chasing, and being sued by, former mayor of Detroit, **Kwame Kilpatrick**. Other notable clients of Fink's are author **Stephen King**, singer **Michael Jackson**, rapper **Dr. Dre**, filmmaker **Michael Moore** and many of the Detroit area's media outlets. In 2005, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Michigan's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Jerry Flint '53, a columnist for *Forbes* magazine, received the Elliott Bell Award from the New York Financial Writers Association.

Tamme Quinn Grzebyk '95, president and founder of Plymouth based VerbalWise, received a year long Adams Entrepreneurial Fellowship from Walsh College. The fellowship partners promising business students with aspiring entrepreneurs in order to develop the students' entrepreneurial skills.

Heather Hall '05 was appointed executive director of Gilda's Club of Metro Detroit, a free cancer support community based in Royal Oak.



Hall

Ken "Kal" Kalczynski '79 received the Ty Tyson Excellence in Sports Broadcasting Award from the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association for excellence in sports broadcasting and for his work in the 2007 sports season. Kalczynski is the radio play-by-play voice of the Detroit Red Wings on CBS-owned WXYT-AM/FM and the Red Wings Radio Network.

Nancy Kaufman '79 founded Kaufman Children's Center 15 years ago, an internationally known facility in West Bloomfield, MI, that helps children and adolescents suffering from apraxia, and other disorders, learn to communicate.

Gregory John Kowalski '74 is editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric*, a part of metro Detroit's *Observer and Eccentric* newspapers chain.

Jack Kresnak '73 was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame, located at Michigan State University, on April 19. Kresnak is a former juvenile justice reporter at the *Detroit Free Press*. He won the Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism and the Child Welfare League of America's Anna Quindlen Award, among others. A journalist for 38 years, Kresnak now is president and chief executive officer of the advocacy group Voice for Michigan's Children in Lansing. He retired from the *Detroit Free Press* in December 2007.

Sam Locricchio '88 is president of John Bailey & Associates Inc. public relations.



Dionna Griffin-Irons '89 is director of outreach and diversity for Second City, Chicago, where she has worked since 1999, providing scholarship, audition, education and performance opportunities for actors and comedy improvisers of color. Her bachelor's degree from Wayne State's Department of Communication is in radio and television. She also is an alumna of Second City, Detroit.

Griffin-Irons has performed at Second City and has produced numerous shows. In 2002, she created their first multicultural ensemble and instituted annual auditions and career resources for diverse talent. She has been instrumental in identifying talent for the stage and produced shows such as *Papa's Got a Brand New Baghdad*, *How the Kanye West Was Won* and *The Audacity of Dope*. Her solo work, *The Freedom Show*, online at dmgfreedom.org, received three years of support from the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

"I believe there is a unique connection between both worlds: theatre and communication. Actors need to be reminded to use the very skills learned on stage OFF stage to create more work and opportunity for themselves. Creating a strong message and telling your story in a unique way is something I picked up from my mass media critical analysis class! Communication majors need to borrow from actors in thinking outside of the box, taking risks and giving themselves permission to play."

— **Dionna Griffin-Irons**, April, 2009

Karah Street '07 is a senior account executive at Strat@comm, a strategic communications firm.

Helen Thomas '42 was inducted into the Order of the Owl at the Spring Hoot gala of the National Press Club's Silver Owls group, April 30.

Karen Tintori '70 co-authored the novel *The Illumination* published in January. With husband **Lawrence Katz '69 '72**, she presented the paper "Reclaiming Italian/European Citizenship: Why Italian Americans Should and Must" at the Conference on Land and Our Return: Diasporic Encounters with Italy in New York City, City University of New York, in April.

Cassandra Ulbrich '03, member of the Michigan State Board of Education and director of corporate and foundations relations at WSU, offered her insights on the current state of public education in Michigan during the Education21K Forum in East Lansing in March. She also talked about the federal stimulus package and its impact on education. Ulbrich was recently appointed to the National Association of State Boards of Education Governmental Affairs Committee and will help develop recommendations for the reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Lawrence Ulrich '93 is a car reviewer and auto industry columnist for the *New York Times*.

Tracy Walker '99 is communications director for Representative **Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick** of Detroit.

Michael Zadoorian '79 '95 released this spring his latest book, *The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit*, published by Wayne State University Press. It follows his January 2009 novel *The Leisure Seeker* and his 2000 novel *Second Hand*. Zadoorian is a part time copywriter for Campbell-Ewald advertising agency in Warren, MI.

Karl Ziomek '79 was appointed president of the Michigan Press Association in February. Ziomek is regional director of editorial for Heritage Newspapers of metro Detroit and has won various writing awards at the state and national level.

Honoris Causa

S. Epatha Merkerson '76 was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree, at WSU's commencement ceremony for CFPCA, May 7, in recognition of her contributions to the arts. Merkerson is an award-winning actor many times over, best known for her television role as Lt. Anita Van Buren in the NBC primetime drama *Law & Order*. Hers is the show's longest-running character and is the longest-running African American character in TV history. Her work in the 2005 HBO movie *Lackawanna Blues*, written by and co-starring fellow WSU alum **Ruben Santiago Hudson** and co-starring fellow alum **Ernie Hudson**, won her Emmy, Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild awards. She also has been twice nominated for a Tony Award for work on Broadway.



"I learned things here that I carry with me today, things that have been very important in my development as an artist. There's nothing like a theatre education. It's, like, 'the bomb'!"

— **S. Epatha Merkerson '76** speaking to students, May 8, at a public Q&A session in Old Main's Schaver Music Recital Hall the day after she received the university's honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Right: **S. Epatha Merkerson** is congratulated by President **Jay Noren**. Below: CFPCA's Board of Visitors President, **Ed Lapham**, and his wife, **Marge Sorge**, were among several friends of the college to attend a May 8 dinner in Merkerson's honor.



commencements.wayne.edu/2009coecfzca.php
to view Dr. Noren's and S. Epatha Merkerson's commencement addresses

Performing Arts

Roger Bean '88, wrote and directed the musical *The Marvelous Wonderettes* which opened off-Broadway at New York's Westside Theatre in September.

Michael Boynton '08 was accepted into the PhD program in theatre and performance studies at the Univ. of Maryland, College Park, with a full fellowship. Boynton was commissioned by the Washington Bach Consort to write the play *Bach to Bach: A Dramatic Counterpoint*. He is playing Orsino in the current production of *Twelfth Night* with the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company. He also is teaching at the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, DC. Additionally, a number of songs he penned the lyrics for are being used around the NYC cabaret circuit.



Boynton

Dean Chekvala '00 played the role of J.D. Dunn on the spring '09 CBS primetime series *Harper's Island*. Chekvala had previous roles on *ER*, *Without A Trace*, *Navy NCIS* and *Numb3rs*.

Cynthia Dane, attended 1980s, starred in the 2008 film *Soulmates* which won a British Academy of Film Television Arts BAFTA/LA award.



Dane

Alan Danielson '79 celebrated the 20th anniversary of his company Dance by Alan Danielson by debuting a work, titled *a way here*, at Dancespace Project in NYC, March 5-7. The new work is a collaboration with dancers from NY, Finland and Japan which explores the physical and metaphoric aspects of distance and space.

Ursula Davis-Mason '95 wrote a hit song titled "Obama," recorded, published and sold-out throughout Detroit.

Jason Gittinger '99 opened his business, Detroit School of Rock and Pop, a little over a year ago in Royal Oak, MI. Gittinger also is the drummer for regional cult favorite group The Mega '80s and contracts out as a consultant to other tribute bands.



Krill

Ruben Santiago Hudson '81 is co-starring in the ABC-TV drama *Castle*. Santiago Hudson has had roles in several television shows and films, including *Lackawanna Blues* and *Law & Order*.

Sean Allan Krill, attended 1990s, joined the Broadway cast of the musical *Mamma Mia!* in September.

Barbara Ogar '79 was appointed director of Galway Flute Workshops by the Galway Network. She works with flutist **Sir James Galway**, presenting flute workshops in conjunction with Galway's concert and recital tours. One of her favorites was at the Hollywood Bowl summer 2008, where Galway was inducted into the Hollywood Bowl Hall of Fame. Ogar resides in Shelby Township,



Barbara Ogar with Sir James Galway

MI, and enjoys teaching in her active flute studio and performing regularly in Southeast Michigan with chamber ensembles and orchestras.

Bobby Pearce '87, served as costume designer for the off-Broadway production of *The Marvelous Wonderettes* at New York's Westside Theatre in September. Pearce was nominated for a Tony Award for the 2003 production of *Taboo*. He has designed costumes for **Glenn Close**, **Liza Minnelli**, **The Who**, **Leslie Uggams**, **Tracy Ullman** and **Gwen Verdon**, among others.

David Ramsey, attended early '90s, portrayed informant Anton Briggs throughout 2008 on HBO's *Dexter*, which was nominated for a 2009 Golden Globe award for Best Television Drama.



Reynolds

Jenaya Jones Reynolds '02 starred in Second City Detroit's winter 2009 comedy revue *Kwame A River: The Chronicles of Detroit's Hip-Hop Mayor*. Other WSU alums involved in the show include actors **Sharon Brooks** and **Renell Michael White '07** and stage manager **Ed Cosgriff**.

Anna J. Small Roseboro '66 received the Distinguished Service Award from the California Association of Teachers of English. Roseboro was an instructor, chair of the English department and director of the summer session at The Bishop's School in La Jolla CA.

Vickie Schmitt '87 appeared recently in TV ads for Holiday Inn and Verizon. In the fall she performed her one woman show *Bullschmitt* at the Pix Theatre in Lapeer, MI.

continued . . .

"I can't imagine anyone having a more interesting [law] practice, and I still love what I do."

— **Herschel Fink '64** on being named to *Crain's Detroit Business' 2008 "Power Lawyers" list*, see page 6

Expressions



Nice stamps!
Nicole LaFave's fresh company, Omelle, rapidly is becoming the world's hottest thing in women's luxury footwear.

Nicole LaFave '02 is co-owner and creative director for Omelle, a luxury women's footwear company in California.

LaFave and her business partner, **Cherise Angelle**, wrote a business plan in mid-2007. By the end of that year they had secured investors and founded the company. They spent the first half of 2008 in Italy sourcing factories and establishing other supplier and vendor relationships. The second half of last year was spent building the actual products of their debut line.

Since fall '08, Omelle has exploded upon the international fashion scene, having been featured with high praise in *Vogue*, *Marie Claire*, *Lucky*, *Elle*, *Women's Wear Daily*, *New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times*. In early 2009 the company launched itself on the Web at omelle.com.

"Our story is short and sweet!" LaFave told Expressions. "Along the way, the graphics background of my WSU degree proves to be one of my most valuable skills in branding our identity, designing our packaging, etc."

George Shirley '56 performed the role of John Styx in the Eugene Opera's production of *Orpheus in the Underworld* in Eugene, OR, in January.

Annie Walker '06 relocated to Los Angeles. She is developing a vocal performance repertoire, composing music and teaching private voice and piano lessons.

Jamie Warrow '93 '03 has been performing with the actors of the *Who Wants Cake?* company at the Ringwald Theatre in Ferndale, MI.

Roger Wareham '92 is director of the grants development office at the University of Minnesota, Morris.

John Wojciechowski '00 is a music teacher at St. Charles North High School in Chicago. Wojciechowski also is a professional saxophonist with a national reputation and a strong following around Chicago.

Christine Bossler '05 will mount her first solo exhibition, titled *Repel - Allure - Adapt*, at the Luke and Eloy Gallery in Pittsburgh, spring 2010. September will mark the end of Bossler's first term as president of the Michigan Silversmiths Guild.

Rick Bruner '83 is a professor of art at Shepherd University in West Virginia.

Kurt Buesching '86 teaches at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit and owns Novindi, Inc., through which he designs internet, intranet and extranet solutions.

James Lee Byars, attended 1950s, was the subject of a retrospective in the November issue of *Art in America* magazine. Byars, who passed away in 1997, was a prolific sculptor and performance artist known throughout the world to be radical, controversial, elegant and visionary.

Ingrid Dean '87 became Traverse City, Michigan's first female Michigan State Police detective sergeant. Dean was appointed to the new position at the end of April. She is a 20-year veteran of the state police and still paints and draws.

Francoise Dureese '96 is on the faculty of the Department of Art and Art History at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she teaches painting.

Deborah Friedman '97 '99 continues to expand her project titled *Claudene*, a visual narrative composed of stunning yet sensitive abstractions of city life in Detroit.

Sergio De Giusti '66 '68 curated the exhibition titled *Apocalypse Re-collected* at the Art Gallery of Marygrove College in February. Among the artists exhibited was former member of the WSU art faculty, **David Becker**. Last fall, De Giusti created bronze

sculptures that served as awards given by DOW Automotive and Detroit Renaissance. He donated a plaster relief titled *Emergence* to the city of Brighton, MI, where it was installed in the city hall lobby. Last summer, he curated the show *View of Toledo: Paintings and Sculpture from Toledo Artists* at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.



Contingency, at left, was awarded to NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson by DOW Automotive last fall. At right is the sculpture given each year by Detroit Renaissance as its Renaissance Award. Tim Nasso, vice president of marketing for DOW Automotive of Auburn Hills, MI, told Detroit's *dbusiness* magazine in January "What I like about Sergio is that he works in a distinctive, figurative style. He's passionate and he gets the job done on time - and on budget."

Linda (Zapczynski) Dimitroff '90 '02 celebrated the grand opening of her gallery, Graffia Gallery, June 5-6 in Spring Lake, MI. Dimitroff is an interdepartmental alum within CFPCA, holding a BA in journalism and an MA in art.



Dimitroff

Nick Donakowski '06 is a graphic designer for Doubletake Studios publication design firm in Plymouth, MI.

Robert Downs '85 exhibited work at the Buckham Gallery in Flint in the fall.

Gary Eleinko '67 '69 '75 exhibited work in the gallery of the Cass Cafe on campus last fall.

Rex Ellis '76 works in the African-American History department of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. The author of several books, Ellis is noted for his use of storytelling as a historical teaching tool.

Karl Erickson '96 is a small business owner in Los Angeles with an internet art gallery and a store specializing in authentic, vintage ephemera for artists.

Visual Arts

Lynne Avadenka '78 '81 is showing art presently at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, MI. This spring Avadenka served as guest faculty at Dartmouth College. Her solo exhibition, *Then and Now*, ran this spring at Lemberg Gallery in Ferndale, MI. Her work was included in an invitational show at San Francisco's Contemporary Jewish Museum in February.



Avadenka

Pat Benincasa '76 is breaking new ground with glass and wood constructional sculptures created in Minnesota where she teaches as artist in residence in a high school. Her recent work focuses on building three dimensional stained glass windows that incorporate materials and objects other than glass.

Larry Blovits '64 '66 teaches pastel and oil painting workshops throughout the US, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. Blovits is a professor emeritus from the art department of Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, MI. He authored the 2004 book *No Experience Required! Sketching and Drawing* and the 1996 book *Pastel for the Serious Beginner: Basic Lessons in Becoming a Good Painter*.



Detail of *John Meehan*, oil, 36x28" by **Larry Blovits**



Ovation
10.16.09
Awards

Lynn Galbreath Fausone '85 teaches at Oakland University. In the fall she exhibited work at Marygrove College.

James Findlay '70 is the librarian of the Broward County, FL, library's Bienes Center for the Literary Arts Special Collection and Rare Book Library.

M. Saffell Gardner '79 '87 exhibits paintings state-wide in Michigan.

Lenore Gimpert '01 is an active painter, frequently exhibiting in Michigan and the Boston area.

Gerd Koch '51 celebrated his 80th birthday in January with a retrospective exhibition, 1949-2009, at Studio Channel Islands Art Center, on the grounds of California State University - Channel Islands, the gallery he co-founded ten years ago. Koch established an artists' commune in Ojai, CA, in the 1950s and taught for 38 years as an art professor at Ventura College and UC Santa Barbara Extension. He has delivered public talks at museums, galleries and other sites (his lecture subjects include Rembrandt, King Tut and Van Gogh); led more than 600 people over the years on "art tour" trips to Europe and other destinations; served as Ventura's public art commissioner; served as a board member and volunteer for numerous local arts organizations; curated more than 20 exhibits; and displayed his own work, mainly abstract-expressionist watercolors and oils, throughout Ventura county.

Kay '72 and **Jim Grubola** '72 are in Louisville, KY, where she is curator of the Louisville Visual Art Association and an active fundraiser and he is a professor of drawing as well as chair of the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Louisville.

Rebecca Hart '06 is associate curator and acting head of contemporary art at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Hart was project manager for the installation of a monumental sculpture by Alexander Calder and was instrumental in attracting noted animation graphic artist William Kentridge to Detroit and the DIA.

James Kaminski '76 has had a 30-year career in applied arts and design in metro Detroit. He has worked as a consultant, artist and designer for several development firms, including Pine Knob Music Theater and Country Club in Clarkston, The Hotel Group in Southfield and Deguilio Kitchens in Birmingham. Kaminski also has worked on design projects for Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, Lotus Imports and Arianna Gallery.

Mary Lubienski '56 has spent many years working in the political, museum, publications and design worlds. Lubienski was the recipient of an award from the American Council for Polish Culture for exceptional contributions.

Carole McDonald Harris '66 mounted a solo show of quilts and two dimensional fabric works at the Ellen Kayrod Gallery in February.

Dannis Jones '90 has exhibited in numerous group shows, competitions and solo shows, most of which have taken place in Michigan.

Germaine Keller '74 '76 is teaching at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey.

Donna Kleszcz '66 is teaching at Southwest College in Texas, following a Fulbright year and numerous exhibitions.

Gary Lawe '72 is a multi-media artist in Santa Barbara, CA.

Stanley Lechtzin '60 is professor and head of metals at the Tyler School of Art at Temple University. Lechtzin is known for his use of an electroforming process that allows him to combine otherwise incompatible materials in unusual ways. His work is in the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Natalia Lonchnya '79 is head of the art reference library at the North Carolina Museum of Art.

Carol Luc '74 is chair of the Department of Visual Communications at the American Academy of Art in Chicago.

James Lutomski '73 '77 is an assistant professor of art at Marygrove College. He specializes in hand building and glaze technology and researches medium range stoneware glazes and raku firing techniques.

Justin Morin '02 is a graphics and Web designer for Atlas Oil Company in Taylor, MI. Previously, Morin was the Web master for two of Detroit's ABC-owned FM radio stations, 93.1 WDRQ and 96.3 WDVD.

Dennis Nawrocki '61 '81 teaches in WSU's James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History and authored the third edition of the book *Art in Detroit Public Places*.

Theodore Waddell '86 is showing paintings now through Sept. 6 at the Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art in St. Joseph, MI. Waddell is among Montana's most nationally renowned artists and has played a significant role in the development of late modernism in his native state. From his youth, he knew he wanted to paint for the rest of his life, so he studied at the Brooklyn Museum Art School and Montana State University and earned an MFA from Wayne State. Waddell later taught in the art department of the University of Montana. He now ranches in central Montana and northern Idaho.

In Memoriam

Thomas Freel '69, a past president of the WSU Alumni Association, died December 3. Freel worked in public relations at AAA Michigan for many years, was past president of the Detroit Press Club and a member of the Michigan Outdoor Writers Association.

Steve Kram, office supervisor in the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History, died suddenly on March 29. Steve had served 24 years in the department, managing daily and long term operations, coordinating financial activities, faculty and staff searches, schedules, classes and countless special projects. To say he was a mainstay in the art department would be an understatement. Steve's sense of humor was widely known and enjoyed by many at Wayne State. Associate professor of photography, Marilyn Zimmerman, said, "Steve was equal opportunity. He would tease, cajole, goad, insult and joke with anyone and everyone in contact with him if they were willing to play. Many of us feel like we want just one more joke, one more tease, one more of the energetic staccato laugh we all loved."

Asia McGowan, 20, former theatre undergraduate student, was killed April 10 on the campus of Henry Ford Community College when a gunman on an apparent murder/suicide mission stormed the campus's MacKenzie Fine Arts Center. McGowan had attended WSU in the 2006-7 school year.

Don Palmer '62 '64 died March 22 at his home in California after a battle with cancer. His first musical instrument was the violin, which he picked up at five years old. During the course of his life, he mastered many instruments but was most known for violin, performing as recently as January. He played with some of the greats of the industry, including Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis, Jr., Barbara Streisand, Tony Bennett, Luciano Pavarotti and, for 19 years, was a member of the orchestra for *The Simpsons* TV series.

Gordon H. Smith '46 '51 passed away January 22 at the age of 87 after a battle with cancer. Both of Smith's Wayne State degrees were in music. He played trumpet with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra from 1946 until his retirement in 1987 and was a member of the part time faculty in the WSU Department of Music. Smith taught hundreds of students at WSU and at home. He also gigged and traveled with some of the biggest names in show business. He was a 50+ year member of the Detroit Federation of Musicians Union, Local #5.

Gary Wetzel-Righettini '80 was killed in a car accident April 4 in Jackson County, MI. He was 56. Wetzel-Righettini was director of theatre at Jackson Community College, where he had worked for more than 21 years. He was a member of the board of the Michigan Shakespeare Festival and was an artist of many talents. He wrote a one act play that JCC students performed. He also wrote short stories and music and could play, among other instruments, the accordion, banjo, mandolin and keyboards, despite having no formal training.

Aldo Vagnozzi '48 died March 22 at the age of 83 after fighting pancreatic cancer. Vagnozzi, whose WSU degree was in journalism, was very active in politics and the Michigan Democratic Party. He served three terms in the state House and was term-limited out of office last year. He served as mayor of Farmington Hills in 1991 and 1995-99 and was a member of the Farmington Hills City Council from 1987 to '99. He was on the Farmington School Board from 1969 to '73. He was a retired editor of *Detroit Labor News* and the *AFL-CIO News*. A long time Democratic activist, Vagnozzi was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention last year.

Wanda Wilk '43 passed away at home in Los Angeles February 18 after a long illness. Wilk was a strong advocate for Polish music, was a philanthropist and a dedicated teacher. She helped create the Polish Music Center, which has been operated by the University of Southern California since 1985. She also launched the center's Web site in 1994 along with an online newsletter. Wilk established *Ars Musica Poloniae*, a charitable foundation that facilitates a variety of projects in Polish music from publishing and recording to scholarships for Polish students in Los Angeles. For her extraordinary service to Polish music Wanda Wilk was awarded the highest state award of Poland, the Polonia Restituta medal in 1996. Her enthusiasm and far-reaching achievements encouraged the awareness and appreciation of Polish music throughout the world and will continue to be an inspiration for generations.

Ann Zirulnik passed on March 4. She is dearly missed and remembered for her keen intelligence, her groundbreaking work in dance education and her boundless encouragement to many educators. In a career that spanned six decades, Ann was in the vanguard, bringing dance education to the forefront at all levels of the discipline during her years as a Detroit public school elementary and secondary dance educator. In 1966 Ann joined the faculty of Wayne State University Dance Department. She was appointed chairperson of the department in 1971 and developed a dance major program of strength and diversity known throughout the United States for its thorough preparation of teachers in the field of creative movement/dance. Ann's belief in the transformative and creative power of dance lives on in all those she touched, whether it was through dance classes, arts advocacy or mentoring. Her life and work are remembered and honored nationally through dance scholarships.

Annual Donor Recognition

This list includes donations of \$250 or more made to the college from January 1 through December 31, 2008. A * indicates deceased. Every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of this list. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact CFPCA Assistant Director of Development, Kelly Cronin, ay2912@wayne.edu and 313-577-5336 with corrections.

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Sharon L. Vasquez, Dean

Expressions Summer 2009

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