



Monks, 1994, **Jerome Ackerman**, stoneware with matte and semi-matte glazes, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 in. diam., held in the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

"It was Wayne that gave us our start into the world of art."

Evelyn and Jerome Ackerman celebrate 50 years leading an art movement

The Wayne State University Alumni Association organized a west coast gathering of alums in San Diego in December. It took place at the beautiful Mingei Museum of Art where alums **Evelyn '45 '51** and **Jerome Ackerman, '51**, were closing a nearly year-long, landmark show of their collective work, titled *Masters of Mid-Century California Modernism: Evelyn and Jerome Ackerman*.

The exhibition, the first comprehensive retrospective of their body of work, offered an overview of the Ackermans' 50-year collaborative partnership, focusing on their outstanding work in decorative art and design and highlighting their central role as designer-craftspeople who helped shape the California Mid-Century Modern style.

The Los Angeles-based couple, now in their eighties, established their first company, Jenev Design Studio, in L.A. in 1953. In 1956 Jenev Design Studio became ERA Industries, Inc.

The years 1950 to 1975 saw L.A. become a major center of modernist design, particularly in home furnishings. The Ackermans were a vital part of this creative energy and at the forefront of the California Mid-Century Modern movement.

They've received several notable commissions. Their work has been featured in major exhibitions throughout the United States and is held in many significant public and private collections.



Jerome and Evelyn Ackerman are joined by, from left, CFPCA alumna **Kelly Jones**, Dean **Sharon L. Vasquez**, Wayne State University President **Jay Noren** and WSU Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs **David Ripple** at December's west coast regional gathering of alumni at the Mingei Museum, San Diego, CA.



Detail of *Stories from the Bible*, 1984-5, **Evelyn Ackerman**, cloisonne enamel, silver wire on copper, each 3 1/8 x 3 1/8 x 1/8 in., held in the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Dance is on the national stage

Alumna **Sonya Tayeh '02**, pictured front-center at left, alongside **Maggie Allesee** and surrounded by Wayne State dancers, returned to campus in January to work with the dancers as a 2010 Maggie Allesee Artist in Residence. Tayeh is a guest judge and choreographer on the FOX TV reality series *So You Think You Can Dance* and founded Tayeh Dance Company in Hollywood. "These beautiful dancers have an intention and a willingness that I've never seen," Tayeh said. "Wayne State is the bomb!" Wayne State dancers performed Tayeh's piece titled *If Only We Could Have it All* at the American College Dance Festival Association's regional gala concert in March.

Also performed at the March festival was senior **Kate Vincek's** piece titled *Shrill*. *Shrill*, pictured below, received the highly selective honor of being chosen for exhibition at ACDFAs National Festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, this May. Out of approximately 350 collegiate dances submitted, 31 are selected for performance on the national stage.

Three Wayne State dance students made such a positive impression on 2009 Maggie Allesee Guest Artist in Residence, **Nicholas Leichter**, that he invited them to New York to dance with his professional company in a premiere of his piece titled *Killa*, pictured below. WSU dancers **Alex Martin**, **Brian Strimpel** and **Kate Vincek**

performed in *Killa* at the Joyce Theater, one of the most renowned dance venues in the world. Such professional exposure and networking is unusual for dancers while they're still working on their degrees but Leichter, who has worked in the NYC dance scene for nearly two decades and was in residence at Wayne State in spring 2009, was bowled over by the Wayne State dancers' "commitment, focus, clarity, style and substance."



Shrill by Kate Vincek



Killa by Nicholas Leichter

dance.wayne.edu/files/dancebreakwin10.pdf
to read more Wayne State dance news

From the Dean

“Not only as a dean of a college graduating talented arts and communication students every year but also as a resident of downtown Detroit, I see and feel the excitement in the downtown cultural area. I want to see that continue — artists and creative entrepreneurs are really the promise of this city.”



Catch a glimpse of the efforts underway to engage with our alumni who are out of state. Recent regional events sponsored by the WSU Alumni Association included opportunities for the college to shine a spotlight on some of our most successful alums, like **Ernie Hudson** during his Broadway run of *Joe Turner’s Come and Gone*, or **Jerome and Evelyn Ackerman’s** retrospective exhibition *Masters of Mid-Century California Modernism* at the Mingei Museum in San Diego.

The university launched an important effort on behalf of our students, *Aim Higher for Students*, a campaign to raise \$10 million for scholarships, fellowships and funds to support student success. Our alumni are stepping up to the challenge. Our goal is to encourage students to realize their tremendous potential. If you have not yet made a contribution to our campaign, please do so today at www.cfpc.wayne.edu. With your help, every student can reach new heights of success.

Lastly, you may be curious about the Michigan Film Initiative and how the college is playing a role in helping to promote and grow this important industry. Our film program continues to expand and we have worked with the Michigan chapter of Screen Actors Guild to host workshops to prepare students (and non-students) for work in the industry. Most recently we have begun discussion with the film programs at our sister research institutions (U-M and MSU) to shape a collaborative pilot project that will draw our students and resources together for a summer workshop. We believe that by working together we can create a critical mass of creative talent that will stay in Michigan to launch careers in filmmaking.

Please enjoy your issue of *Expressions*. My best wishes,

Dean Sharon L. Vasquez

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This issue of *Expressions* celebrates the collective accomplishments of our alumni, our current students and our faculty. Together we create an extended CFPCA community that demonstrates the broad scope and diversity of our disciplines and the nature of work in the arts and communication fields. The successes outlined on these pages reveal only a fraction of the many that continue to drive the vitality, growth and excellence of the college. We are proud to share some of the highlights of our CFPCA community in this issue.

Catch a glimpse of the efforts underway to engage with our alumni who are out of state. Recent regional events sponsored by the WSU Alumni Association included opportunities for the college to shine a spotlight on some of our most successful alums, like **Ernie Hudson** during his Broadway run of *Joe Turner’s Come and*

Welcome to the BOV

CFPCA is extremely pleased to welcome several new members to its **Board of Visitors** — our community advocates, ambassadors and supporters:



Delf Dodge
Director, Global Operations
General Motors Research
and Development



Ronald Dzwonkowski '93
Associate Editor
Detroit Free Press



James Evola
Owner
Evola Music Centers



Carole Harris '66
President
Harris Design Group



Nettie Seabrooks '06
Executive Advisor to the Director
Detroit Institute of Arts



Theresa Selvaggio
Regional Vice President
Estee Lauder



www.cfpc.wayne.edu/boardofvisitors.php
for more about CFPCA’s Board of Visitors



Detroit Intl. Jazz Festival

Wayne State’s Jazz Big Band takes the stage every year at the Detroit International Jazz Festival, Hart Plaza, downtown Detroit, accompanying the festival’s headline performer. Inset: In September the Big Band backed up legendary jazz clarinet player, **Eddie Daniels**, here with Big Band conductor, professor and director of jazz studies, **Chris Collins**.

CFPCA Alumni Association Board sponsors lecture



Richard Rattner
entertainment attorney

CFPCA's Alumni Association sponsored attorney, **Richard Rattner**, in a special lecture titled *Are You Ready to be America's Next Star?* at WSU's Oakland Center, February 17. The Birmingham, MI-based attorney specializes in entertainment law, among other areas. He has clients in the music and film industries and is a member of the part-time faculty in WSU's Law School.

Attendees heard Rattner's advice on what it takes to open the door to a successful entertainment career. "Canvass every production and post-production house you can find," he said. "This is a tough industry. But you can't even get into it and go forward unless you're a part of it." Rattner also feels students have made a good first decision if they've chosen Wayne State. "Wayne State University is as good a resource as this area could ever hope to have," he said. "Wayne State is servicing and educating a tremendous number of talented artists in all fields."

CFPCA Alumni Association Board

Chris Cahill '93, Liaison to WSU Alumni Relations

Jeffrey Cutter '78 '84 '91 '94

Donald Di Pace '80

Don Haberek '74, Board President

Greg Kowalski '74

Laurie Meeker '77

James Melton '88

Eric Messing '07

Cedric Miller '98 '10, Board Secretary

Nicole Johnson '06, Liaison to Office of the Dean

Kelly O'Connor '10, Student Representative

Helen Stojic '77

Greg Trzaskoma '97

Shaun Wilson '96, Board Vice President

Communication: new media, new grad. certificates and more

After more than a decade off the air, WAYN radio is back, serving the community as an internet radio station. W-A-Y-N are Wayne State University's radio call letters, with heritage that stretches back to the 1930s. "The station was resurrected three years ago to give students experience using new media technology," said Department of Communication Chair **Matt Seeger**. Like it did in its 1970s and '80s heyday, the station operates out of the lower level of the Student Center Building, programming a mixture of recorded segments and live broadcasts, including call-in shows. Tune in online at comm.wayne.edu/wayn.php.

The newest available graduate certificate offered by the Department of Communication was launched in the fall: the Communication and New Media certificate program emphasizes theory, production and application of new media technology. The program reflects developments in communication, computer and telecommunications technologies. New Media joins the ranks with two other graduate certificates in the department: 1) Health Communication and 2) Dispute Resolution. Visit comm.wayne.edu/gradcerts.php.



The Department of Communication welcomed the community into WSU's St. Andrew's Hall, October 15, for the annual Stanley "Hank" Marx Lecture in Dispute Resolution. This year's guest speaker was internationally recognized professor and author in the field of conflict resolution, Dr. **Bernie Mayer**, on the topic "Staying with Conflict: Facing the Challenge of Long Term Disputes."

ARTS IMPACT

ArtsIMPACT, Detroit's incubator for business start-ups in the arts and communication and other creative sectors, hosted its first Creative Business Forum, March 23, in the Tech One Building at Wayne State's TechTown research and technology park. The inaugural meeting featured guest speakers **Dominic Pangborn**, founder and CEO of Pangborn Design, Ltd., and **Benjamin Hall**, owner of Russell Street Deli in Detroit's Eastern Market. The event served southeast Michigan area creative entrepreneurs through an exchange of information and networking with these outstanding business leaders.

Incorporated two years ago by Dean **Sharon L. Vasquez**, ArtsIMPACT is an innovative, adaptive, service oriented, business incubator focused on underserved yet promising markets and providing services to social enterprise as well as creative sector businesses.



www.cfPCA.wayne.edu/files/wdet21032010.mp3
to listen to Dean Vasquez discuss both ArtsIMPACT and the Creative Business Forum with WDET-FM's Ann Delisi



Striped Candy Tree by **Evelyn Ackerman**
and *Selection of Functional Ceramic Vessels*
by **Jerome Ackerman**
page 1



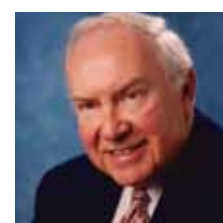
Shiva Ahmadi
page 7



Lynne Avadenka
page 7



Kristin Beaver
page 7



Frederick Chapman
page 9



Raymond Day
page 9

Alumni

Expressions

Graphic design students present projects in Paris



Kyle Kemp, Marjorie Sauer, Professor Judith Moldenhauer, Amanda Armitage and Matthew Garin at the Data Design for Decisions: Enhancing Social, Economic and Environmental Progress conference in Paris, France

Four students in the graphic design program of the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History – **Amanda Armitage, Matthew Garin, Kyle Kemp** and **Marjorie Sauer** – received WSU Undergraduate Research Awards which gave them the opportunity to produce and present, with faculty advisor **Judith Moldenhauer**, the project, “Detroit Statistics: Balancing the Equation” at the conference Data Design for Decisions: Enhancing Social, Economic and Environmental Progress in Paris, June 18-20, 2009. The conference as a whole examined how statistics affect our everyday lives by focusing on the way information is visualized, interpreted and communicated.

Wayne State was one of nine schools worldwide to present projects during DD4me, the student portion of the conference. The WSU team’s production, including work contributed by students **Kevin McGorey** and **Jose Payan**, used images of interlocking mechanical cogs containing statistics about such things as income, jobs, education, cultural influences and racial demographics, to look at how statistics about the issues facing Detroit affect the rest of the world and how global issues impact Detroit.

Film student wins natl. fellowship

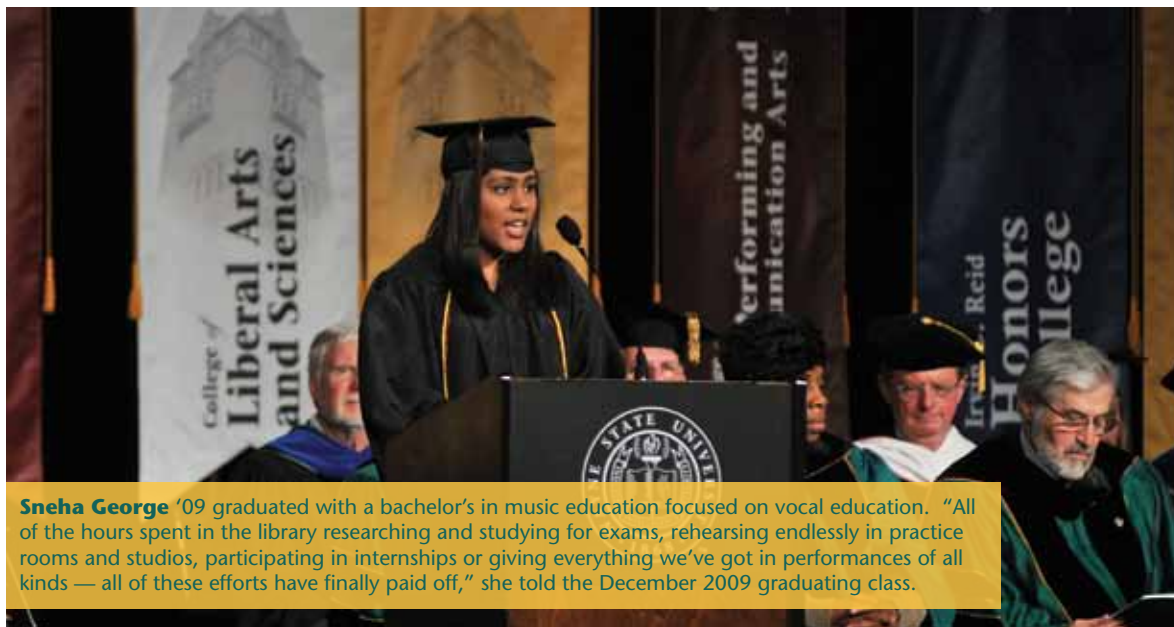
Department of Communication senior **Antal Zambo** was awarded the Writers Guild of America East Foundation’s Michael Collyer Memorial Fellowship in Screenwriting in February. The highly competitive



award includes a professional mentorship and a \$10,000 stipend to write an original

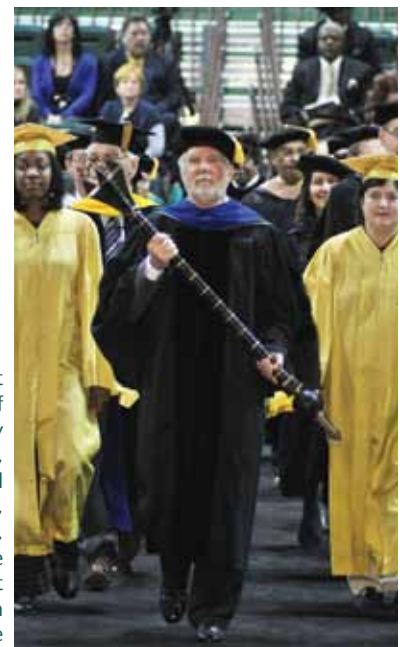
screenplay. Eleven other colleges and universities across the U.S. nominated students for the fellowship. Zambo’s screenwriting project, titled *When the Sparrows Come Home*, is loosely based on an old Lithuanian folk tale he draws upon from his family heritage.

“This great university has prepared us to venture into our professional lives.”



Sneha George '09 graduated with a bachelor’s in music education focused on vocal education. “All of the hours spent in the library researching and studying for exams, rehearsing endlessly in practice rooms and studios, participating in internships or giving everything we’ve got in performances of all kinds — all of these efforts have finally paid off,” she told the December 2009 graduating class.

Top right: past president of WSU’s Academy of Scholars, Distinguished Professor of Music, **James Hartway**, leads the commencement procession carrying the university mace. Bottom right: art major **Caitlin Machcinski** bears the college’s banner.



Wayne State University President **Jay Noren** congratulated George on finishing her degree. She completed her student teaching at Dakota High School in Macomb, MI, and entered the job market as a choral teacher.

Music major **Sneha George** delivered the student address at commencement ceremonies for the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts in December. With a concentration in vocal education, George was a member of WSU’s Concert Chorale for four years. During that time, she had the unique opportunity to travel to Ireland for the chorale’s participation in the Cork International Choral Festival.

“Because of your powerful words of encouragement and even criticism, we have been able to become not only better artists, scholars and educators but better people as well,” she told the assembled faculty at commencement. “Through you, this class is making its transition from young students to well-educated, curious and thoughtful adults.”



Right: Wayne State University President, **Jay Noren**, welcomed a September evening's excited crowd to the Hilberry Theatre for the 2009 President's Preview. Below: This year's feature was a sneak-peak at *The Fantasticks*, book and lyrics by Tom Jones and music by Harvey Schmidt, the third musical ever at the Hilberry. Save the date for the 2010 President's Preview: Saturday, September 25!



President's Preview

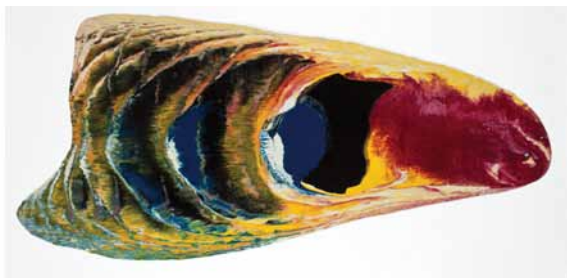


theatre.wayne.edu/nextseason.pdf for more about the 2010-11 Hilberry and Bonstelle seasons!

The International Council of Fine Arts Deans Endowed Travel Scholarship was awarded twice in the current semester. One was awarded to **Siena Hassett**, theatre major, who will travel to Moscow for the Department of Theatre's annual Month in Moscow program this summer. The second ICFAD scholarship went to **Erica Watson**, music major, film minor, who will travel to France for the Creative Minds in Cannes film program in May.

University Art Collection develops web site

Director of the University Art Collection **Sandra Schemske** and a team of dedicated assistants and web developers have been hard at work creating the collection's first ever internet home site. The site includes online exhibitions, information about how to arrange in-person tours and advice to the community about best practices in caring for artwork and collections, among several other fascinating topics.



No. 1, 1971, **John Egner**
Oil on masonite, 40 x 89 in., gift of James Pearson Duffy, 2008, is one of many works of art that will be exhibited on the University Art Collection's home page as part of its much-anticipated *Picture of the Week* feature.

www.cfpc.wayne.edu
Keep an eye on the college's home page for the launch of the University Art Collection's site this spring!

Aim Higher down under

Students from the Department of Theatre won scholarships from the Greater Wayne County chapter of The Links, Inc., and received an incredible opportunity to study for three weeks in late summer at the National Institute of Dramatic Arts in Sydney. NIDA is one of the most selective theatre and film training programs in Australia, accepting one out of every 100 applicants and claiming such alumni as actors Cate Blanchette, Mel Gibson and Hugo Weaving. Wayne State students **Justin Crutchfield**, **Taurean Hogan** and **Ciarah Mosley** were accompanied on the educational travel abroad by their advisor, theatre senior lecturer, **Aku Kadogo**.

Their once-in-a-lifetime experience would not have been possible without the generous support of the Greater Wayne County chapter of The Links, Inc., an international, not-for-profit corporation consisting of 12,000 professional women of color in 270 chapters in 42 states. It is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women committed to ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry.



Ciarah Mosley, **Taurean Hogan**, Faculty Advisor **Aku Kadogo** and **Justin Crutchfield**, pictured here on the Pacific coast near Sydney, benefited from funding provided by The Links, Inc., to spend three weeks at Australia's prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Arts.

Alumni



Paul Flancbaum
page 9



Ed Fraga
page 7



Heather Fyfe
page 6



Sneha George
page 4



Sylvia Granader
page 6



Keri Gregg
page 8



Kelly Jones
page 8

In Memoriam

Milton Aptekar '38 '43, a Detroit Public Schools music teacher for nearly 40 years, died Aug. 23, 2009. He was a member of the Fenby-Carr Quintet, a musical group formed with four other teachers in 1939. The group, known as the Singing Schoolteachers, performed at weddings, bar mitzvahs and local conventions for more than 60 years.

Irving Berg '43 '50 died Mar. 21, 2009 at the age of 88. He is survived by his wife, Harriet, and an extensive family. Berg received a BA from Wayne State in art education and taught art in the Detroit Public School System where he served as head of the art departments of both Central High School and Cass Tech. High. He also taught at Wayne State and was a docent at the Detroit Institute of Arts, where he received the Volunteer of the Year award in 2000. His works of art are in many private and public collections, including the Irving Berg Sculpture Garden at Camp Tamarack in Bloomfield Hills, MI. His work in photography chronicles modern dance over the past 50 years in Michigan and his photos were exhibited in June 2009 at the West Bloomfield Jewish Community Center.

James Pearson Duffy died Nov. 3, 2009, at his home in Grosse Pointe at the age of 86. Duffy was a longtime Detroit businessman, a consummate patron of the arts and a champion of the Detroit arts scene. It was his desire to secure the future study and support of contemporary art and artists as they contribute to the education and training of Wayne State students. In acknowledgement of Mr. Duffy's generous estate gifts and gifts of artwork, the university announced on April 24, 2009, the naming of the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History. Total gifts are approximately \$4.5m. "His passion for art manifested itself all the time, and over a lifetime he collected avidly," said DIA director, Graham Beal. "He collected widely but gave special support to Detroit artists by relentless acquisition of their works - the best sort of support that can be given." In reflecting on his great generosity, we can only hope to see other individuals so committed and supportive of the arts and artists of Detroit.

Maria Echols died Jan. 14, 2009, at the age of 50. Echols was a Los Angeles-based, independent couture seamstress who made specialty clothing commissioned by entertainers. Echols made outfits that were worn by Aretha Franklin, Mick Jagger, Beyonce Knowles, Bette Midler and Elizabeth Taylor, among other stars of music, movies and Broadway.

Armand Gebert died Sep. 9, 2009, at the age of 86. Gebert was a writer for *The Detroit News* for 43 years and was a member of the part-time faculty in Wayne State's journalism program, Department of Communication, for ten years.

Joan Hackett '60 died Aug. 7, 2009. Hackett served as technical director for the Bonstelle Theatre in the 1950s and taught theatre history at the University of Windsor for 30 years. **Betty Nederlander** passed away in September, 2009, following a battle with cancer. The Nederlander Family, which owns theaters in Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit and several on Broadway, is a tremendous supporter of Wayne State University Theatre, notably through the department's high profile visiting artist fund, the Sarah Applebaum Nederlander Endowed Award for Excellence in Theatre - the "Apple Award."

Lois Proctor Mack died Mar. 14, 2010, at the age of 83. Since 1975, Mack was highly involved in the Hilberry Theatre support group, the Understudies, and served as the group's president 1984-5. Mack was recognized by the Wayne State University Board of Governors with a Distinguished Service Award for her efforts in the theatre. In 2001, she established the Lois Proctor Mack Endowed Fund for Theatre. She also was a trustee emeritus of the Detroit Institute of Arts and past president of the DIA Women's Committee.

Samuel Petok '45, a retired aerospace executive, died April 27, 2009. He retired from Rockwell International in 1988 as senior vice president and member of the management committee. Petok enjoyed a career in public relations and communications prior to working in aerospace. He previously was public relations director of Chrysler-Plymouth Division, the principal sales group for Chrysler Corp., and vice president of public relations and advertising for White Motor Corporation. Petok was president of the Wayne State University Alumni Association in 1965-66 and was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award for outstanding achievements in the communications profession.

Paul Schaller died Sep. 1, 2009, at the age of 85. Schaller was an instructor of clarinet in the Department of Music for 30 years and, for the same duration, was principal clarinetist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Schaller served in the Army during World War II and was a member of the Army concert band. He was a member of the NBC Symphony Orchestra that performed weekly radio concert broadcasts and was a substitute with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. He was hired as principal clarinetist by the New Orleans Philharmonic and went on to the Pittsburgh Symphony before joining the DSO. He retired in 1987.

Marion "Mike" Sibille '70 died Dec. 23, 2009, at the age of 85. Sibille was a reporter with *The Daily Tribune* in Royal Oak, MI, and *The Detroit Times* and was a WSU public relations representative for more than 20 years.

Nola "Curl" Tutag '57 '58 '62 '69 died Mar. 29, 2010, at her home in Grosse Pointe Farms. She earned her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, as well as a historical certificate, all from Wayne State where she was an associate professor of art history and director of the College of Lifelong Learning. Tutag was a member of the Hilberry Theatre, the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Michigan Humane Society, among other organizations. She was a generous contributor to WSU's University Art Collection, including a wonderful 2004 gift of the sculpture *Winter Flower* by **David Barr '62 '66**, installed in late summer 2009 at Old Main's 480 W. Hancock St. entrance, the entrance to the Elaine L. Jacob Gallery and the Schaver Music Recital Hall.

David Van De Pitte died at his home in Southfield, MI, on Aug. 9, 2009, at the age of 67. Van De Pitte was an arranger, composer and music director at Motown Records. In 1971 he was nominated for a Grammy Award for best arranger of an album for Marvin Gaye's *What's Going On*. He was a member of the part-time faculty in jazz studies in WSU's Department of Music.

Kay Ann Royer Webb '57 died Aug. 8, 2009. She taught art and communication skills for almost 30 years at Bridgeport-Spaulding Schools before retiring in 1989. Webb was a member of the Bridgeport Township Board and served on the Board of Mental Health for Saginaw County.

Richard Weyer '85 died suddenly at work in July 2009. He was a BFA graduate of Wayne State's photography program, James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History.

Visual Art

Shannon Chanel Bay '07 is the art and leadership coordinator at the Georgia O'Keefe Museum in Santa Fe, NM. She also volunteers as vice president of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Alumnae Panhellenic and as president of the Albuquerque and Santa Fe alumnae chapter of Kappa Delta.

Robbie Best '08 mounted a solo show, titled *Life for Me*, during winter 2010 at Detroit's Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Best works in oil and watercolor, printmaking, charcoal, mixed media and sculpture.

Michael Budowick '78 earned an MA in medical and biological illustration at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is an art foundation and illustration instructor at the Art Institute of Atlanta.

Don Burzynski '65 '71 is creative director for OrganicByTheCase.com, a company started by his daughter, and is marketing director for HarvestMichigan.com, a company started by his son-in-law. Harvest Michigan is a distributor of exclusive Michigan-made products delivered daily to consumers and institutions.

Mary Cole '06 was named the Shelby Township Senior Center's Featured Artist in fall 2009 and mounted her first solo exhibition there during the months of September and October. Cole is active in the Mount Clemens Art Association and Mount Clemens' Anton Art Center.

Glenn Corey '74 '85 is president of Lawrence Street Gallery in Ferndale, MI. Also a tennis coach, Corey was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Sandra Epps '02 is founder of Sandy's Land Publishing House and Children's Entertainment Service in Detroit, which celebrated the launch of its first Web site, sandysland.com, in October.

Heather Fyfe '80 '82 is an occupational therapist for Health Success Rehabilitation Centers in the South Padre Island area of Texas. She also has launched her own business, Heather Fyfe Sensory Room Designs and Consultant, through which she combines her art and design background with her therapist training to create sensory interiors that are conducive to the therapy of children with Autism, ADD, ADHD and other special needs.

Sylvia Granader '41 received in March 2010 the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal for her service as a pilot in the Women Airforce Service during World War II.

Charlene Jeter '98 '04 '10 was named Mrs. Southeast Michigan and competed for the Mrs. Michigan crown in April 2010. Jeter is a mother of five children, a marathon runner and a member of the adjunct faculty at Cleary University. Her platform as Mrs. Southeast Michigan is to address the importance of entrepreneurship in Michigan. Jeter believes that many of the state's economic problems can be solved with industrial diversification led by small business owners.

Nicholas Lessins '88 and his wife **Lydia Esparza** are the owners of Great Lake Pizza in Andersonville, IL, which was cited by GQ magazine last summer as having the best pizza in the United States.

Emily Linn '07 opened the Cass Corridor designer housewares store, City Bird, in winter 2010 with her brother **Andy Linn**.

Marilyn Marchionni '68 is a graphic designer for the Division of Continuing Education at Indiana University - Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Linda Margolin '67 '91 works in the education department of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Loretta Markell '83 '00 exhibited paintings and prints at the Detroit Gallery of Contemporary Art and Alma College's Michigan Print Exhibition.

CFPCA is proud to congratulate eight former Wayne State students awarded Kresge Artist Fellowships!



Shiva Ahmadi **Lynne Avadenka** **Kristin Beaver** **Ed Fraga** **Gordon Newton** **Russ Orlando** **Senghor Reid** **Gilda Snowden**

Visit www.cfPCA.wayne.edu/kresgefellows.php



James Kuhl
page 8



Gracie Lawson-Borders
page 9



Laurie Meeker
page 8



Leslie Mertz
page 9



Detail of *Curator with Zietgeist and Observer*, 2009
Ronald Morosan
this page



Gordon Newton
this page



Russ Orlando
this page

Alumni

Daniel Mato '61 '65 is professor emeritus of art history at the University of Calgary. He conducted research in Africa and curated exhibitions of African art in Europe, the U.S. and Canada. He is a research affiliate at the University of Ghana.

Bruce McColl '95 received a Pollack-Krasner Foundation grant. He mounted a solo exhibition, titled *Remnants*, and participated in a group show, both at the New England College in New Hampshire.

Lise Melhorn-Boe '81 '84 received a grant from the Ontario Arts Council Artists in Education project. Her work is in the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Marian Melody '84 introduced an art program at Mariba in Botswana, Africa.

Marsha Miro '71 was founding director of the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit on whose board of directors she now serves. She is the author of an Emmy Award-winning documentary about the architecture of Cranbrook Education Community.

Heather Mitchell '02 is an instructor at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

Jeanne Moore '05 is co-owner and president of Mosaic Productions art exhibition company in Detroit.

Ronald Morosan '70 mounted a solo exhibition titled *Ron Morosan: Ecology of Aesthetics with Mottos, Paintings and Drawings* at both the Islip Art Museum and the Andre Zarre Gallery in New York, September through November, 2009.

Carrie Nixon '83 is an associate professor at the University of Cincinnati.

Kate O'Mara '81 has taught at several institutions in the southwest and presently is at Chandler-Gilbert Community College in Arizona.

Sandra Osip '72 exhibited a sculpture installation titled *After Life* at the Soapbox Gallery in New York.

Valerie Parks '83 exhibited new paintings in spring 2009 in a show titled *New Geometry* at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center in Birmingham, MI.

Eugene Pijanowski '64 '67 is professor emeritus of art and design and former associate dean of undergraduate education at the University of Michigan. His work in metals and jewelry design is held in numerous collections around the world, including the Detroit Institute of Arts and New York's Museum of Art and Design.

John Seale '81 is a prolific pen and ink sketch artist living in Ann Arbor. Seale emphasizes still life subjects and every-day objects in his artwork. He also is an accomplished model railroader.

Dolores Slowinski '71 showed work at Detroit's Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery, winter 2010, in an exhibit titled *Patterns and Textures*. Slowinski's work

includes drawings in oil pastel, hand-felted wool and thread pieces, hand-felted wool forms and collaged structures. The exhibit also featured work by current graduate student **Carol Cook Reid**.

David Small '69 created the book *Stitches*, published in 2009, a graphic novel-style memoir of his upbringing in northwest Detroit in the 1950s. *Kirkus Reviews* described *Stitches* as an "emotionally raw, artistically compelling and psychologically devastating graphic memoir of childhood trauma." Over a career spanning 30 years, Small illustrated more than 50 books, including seven that he also wrote. In 2001 he received the Caldecott Medal, America's highest award in the field of children's book illustrating.

Robert Spinazzola '77 was featured in the Westchester, NY, ArtsWestchester exhibit titled *Rubbish! Art and the Ecosystem*. Spinazzola's installations *Gates of Eden* and *La Ville Industrielle Fin de Siecle* received favorable reviews in *The Journal News*.

Jacquelyn Terry, attended early '00s, is co-owner and garment designer at The Style Gallery, an upscale clothing boutique in Detroit's New Center Area.

Adam Vitick '07 works in product development for Ellen Tracy apparel in New York.

Performing Arts

Ellizar Abalos '08 is band director for high school and 6th grade at Hopkins Public Schools. In addition to joining the Grand Rapids Symphony Band, Ellizar continues to research multi-cultural music. He visited the Philippines last summer and has studied in Europe and Africa.

Maggie '84 and **Bob Allesee** were honorees at the Women's Association of Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan's annual In Celebration Dinner at Orchard Lake Country Club in November 2009.

Dominic Arellano '05 is founder and owner of Few Records in Detroit, which celebrated its one year anniversary in November. Arellano credits his time spent in Wayne State's music program with diversifying his musical tastes.

Cynthia Barker '08 is a professional actor in the Atlanta area. Barker recently performed in a production of *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf* directed by Jasmine Guy.

continued . . .

"Thanks largely to the many Wayne State professors and students who supported me along the way, I have had a fruitful 25-year career."

— **Heidi Coates**
1986 bachelor of music industry management

Expressions



Laurie Meeker '77 is a radio and television commercial performer who has sung on over 75 "jingles" including national spots for Cadillac, Chevrolet, FTD, Mr. Turkey and White Castle. She is a member of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, Actors' Equity Association and Screen Actors Guild, for which she served as president of the Detroit branch 2002-08.

In October 2009, Meeker returned to WSU to give back to aspiring film acting students as the instructor of the four-week, professional workshop *Auditioning for Feature, Commercial and Industrial Films*. Meeker provided feedback and critique to students as she had them perform a series of increasingly complex and fast-paced film auditioning scenarios. Meeker also is serving on CFPCA's Alumni Association Board.

For more about the workshop, including Meeker's complete bio, visit www.cfpcawayne.edu/auditionworkshop.php

Performing Arts . . . continued

Julie Bernard '07 entered the University of Michigan Law School in the entertainment law program.

Debra Bondy '89 received a secondary teaching certificate in technology education and speech/theatre arts from Eastern Michigan University in February 2009. She also received an endorsement in drafting and design technology and completed training in two Project Lead the Way pre-engineering courses for 6-12th graders.

Keith Buckner '08 composed a classical piece titled *Prentis Street Sonata* which premiered at the *Music Written in Detroit - Plus Mozart!* concert at the Detroit Public Library in September. The concert was hosted by WSU film studies alum **Alonso Del Arte '09**.

Nicholas Buzinski '08 works in sales support at Vintage King Audio and is purchasing manager at M1 Distribution, a distributor of high-end American recording equipment.

Monica Caldare '09 composed a classical piece titled *Tiger Stadium Postcard* which premiered at the *Music Written in Detroit - Plus Mozart!* concert at the Detroit Public Library in September. Among other musicians performing *Tiger Stadium Postcard* was WSU music alumna **Diana Skinner '10**.

Heidi (Herman) Coates '86 is director of development for The Greening of Detroit, an organization leading the reforestation of the city's neighborhoods, boulevards and parks through tree planting projects and educational programs.

Chad Croteau '08 was technical director for the Chrysler Theatre in Windsor, Ontario, from graduation until July 2009 when he took the position of technical director for the Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada. Croteau freelanced as a lighting designer and has been a guest lecturer at various colleges and at the annual conference of the Educational Safety Association of Ontario.

Michael Gerald Cunningham '59 is a retired professor emeritus from the music department of the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. In October 2009 he released his second album of orchestral music, titled *Colonnade*.

Eli Echevarria '96 performs as John Lennon in The Backbeats, a popular Beatles tribute band.

Jacqueline Echols '03 is performing as Bess in a production of *Porgy and Bess* on international tour. Echols is a candidate for a master's degree in vocal performance at Cincinnati Conservatory, University of Cincinnati.

Max Effort '71 '72 is mourning the loss of his 16-year-old golden retriever, Rufus, who was affectionately known as "the wonder dog."

Keri Gregg '06 is a K-12 teacher of general music, band, chorus and theatre in central Illinois. In 2009 she completed a master's degree in music education from VanderCook College of Music in Chicago.

William Hagans '76 '82 is co-author of *Zorn in America: A Swedish Artist of the Gilded Age*. Hagans wrote the book, published by the Swedish-American Historical Society in cooperation with the American Swedish Institute, with his wife of 35 years, **Willow Hagans**, whom he met in a Medieval music history class while a student at Wayne State.

Christopher Harrington '08 is a member of the staff for the Detroit International Jazz Festival.

Christina Hastie '09 was awarded a scholarship from the University of Tennessee where she began a master's program in ethnomusicology.

Stephen Krempasky '79 was named executive director of the Midland Theatre in Newark, OH. Krempasky has been in theatre management for 35 years and is former vice president theatre operations at Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts in Harrisburg, PA.

James Kuhl '09 was named producing artistic director at Tipping Point Theatre in Northville, MI. In 2009, Kuhl was nominated for a Wilde Award for Best Actor for his portrayal of R.P. McMurphy in the Hilberry production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.

Joseph LoDuca '79 won the Emmy for Outstanding Music Composition for a Series for his music in *Legend of the Seeker* at the 61st annual Primetime Creative Arts Emmys. He previously received eight Emmy nominations and one Emmy Award for *Xena: Warrior Princess*. The accomplished jazz guitarist broke into Hollywood after composing music for *Evil Dead* director, fellow Detroiter, Sam Raimi.

Christopher Masters '04 teaches dance technique and is director of Dance Workshop at Wayne State.

S. Epatha Merkerson '76 was named national Christmas Seals chairperson by the American Lung Association in December 2009. In February 2010, Merkerson won the NAACP Image Award for outstanding supporting actress for her role on NBC's *Law & Order*.

Sarah Clare Meyer '07 was appointed full professor of arts administration at Savannah College of Art and Design. Meyer was company manager at Chautauqua Theatre Company. She is engaged to **Christopher Corporandy '08** who performed in the Buffalo, NY, world premiere of *Grenadine* by Neil Wechsler which won the 2009 Yale Playwrighting Competition guest-judged by Edward Albee.

Nicole New '07 is artistic coordinator for non-classical programming at the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Brian Ogden '07 is associate artist at Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, MI, where he has been involved with four productions, including *Bleeding Red*, which he wrote. Ogden also worked with Tipping Point Theatre, Water Works Shakespeare and has done some film and commercial acting.

Mitchell Owens '08 is a graduate student at North Park University in Chicago where he recently performed the role of Macheath in *The Threepenny Opera* and the title role in the opera *Werther*.

Natalka Podstawka '09 received a full scholarship for the Toronto Summer Music Academy in the chamber music area of the emerging artists program.

Geoffrey Proehl '77, a professor in the Department of Theatre Arts at the University of Puget Sound, received the 2009 Award for Outstanding Book from the Association for Theatre in Higher Education for his book *Toward a Dramaturgical Sensibility: Landscape and Journey*. The book, published in 2008 by the Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, explores the challenges of theatre making. Proehl also is author of *Coming Home Again: American Family Drama and the Figure of the Prodigal Son* and co-editor of *Dramaturgy in American Theatre: A Source Book*.

Michael Rais '06 is orchestra and band director at Frost Middle School in Livonia and a second year graduate student at Vandercook College of Music. Michael plays double bass in the WSU alumnus group, Segreto String Quartet.

Paul Reeves '82 '00 was selected to be superintendent of East Jackson Community Schools. The East Jackson School Board unanimously chose Reeves, who began his new role in August 2009. Reeves served as middle school principal at Mount Clemens Community Schools.

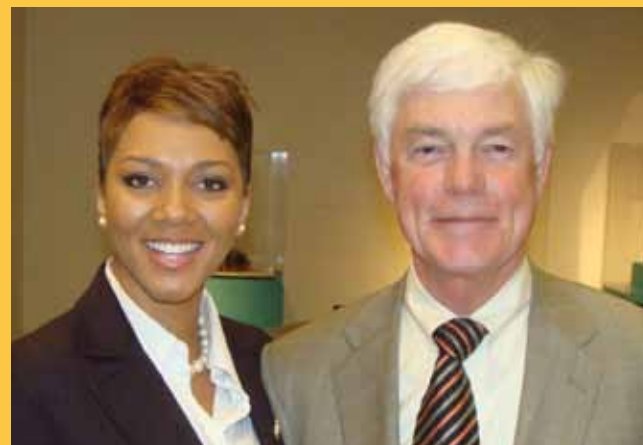
Nicholas Williams '09 is working in the accounting division of the Michigan Opera Theatre.

Communication

Denise Bateman Asker '91 is director of the Cultural Concierge, a program of the Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan that matches organizations in need of a location for special events with cultural/arts organizations in the region that can host.

Harry Atkins '72 '78 is a retired editor for the Associated Press.

Duane Barbati '03 won three awards last fall at the New Mexico Press Association - Associated Press Managing Editors Newspapers Awards. Barbati won first place for breaking news coverage, second place in news writing and second place for continuing news coverage.



Kelly Jones '05 met with Wayne State University President **Jay Noren** at the WSU Alumni Association's December 2009 reception for west coast alumni held at the Mingei Museum in San Diego. Jones is a TV news reporter at CBS-owned KFMB-TV 8, San Diego, since February 2007. She shared with *Expressions* her professional demo reel, which is online at: www.nsbvideos.com/site/preview?pid=259886

For her full bio, visit www.cbs8.com/Global/story.asp?S=9500185

“If you really have the wherewithal, if you’re not afraid of hard work, if you know how to market yourself in all the best possible ways, there are wonderful opportunities to be an artist and also to make a living. Not everybody has to have an MBA in order to run a business. But there are certain things that one must know, there’s a business savvy that is important.”

— Dean **Sharon L. Vasquez** discussing Arts/IMPACT, Detroit’s creative arts and communication business incubator, on WDET-FM, March 29. Visit www.techtownwsu.org

Kevin Barry ‘86 is a film and TV producer in Hollywood with more than 70 credits, including documentaries, DVD bonus/extra material and the docu-drama/reality series *Little People*, *Big World* and *UFO Hunters*.

Frederick A. Chapman ‘60, retired press information manager at Mercedes-Benz of North America and associate professor emeritus of communications at Grand Valley State University, was elected chairperson of the Ionia County Road Commission.

Jennifer Charney ‘88 ‘06 is a communications manager for Save the Redwoods League, a conservation organization in San Francisco. Charney’s e-newsletter won a 2009 marketing communication award given to the top 18 percent of 3,700 international entries.

Raymond Day ‘88 is vice president of communications for Ford Motor Company. Before being named vice president in 2007, Day was executive director of global corporate communications and executive director of global automotive communications.

Charles Dewandeler ‘05 shot his first feature film in Michigan in 2009, titled *Parody Movie*. The film received its debut screening in September at Wayne State’s Marvin I. Danto Engineering Development Center.

Paul Flancbaum ‘72 retired from The Budd Company after 30 years as manager of communications. He spent the past two years helping families overcome the challenges of caring for elderly parents as an eldercare advisor for A Place for Mom, the nation’s largest eldercare assistance company. Flancbaum is an expert in providing solutions for seniors dealing with dementia, Alzheimer’s and other disabilities.

Harvey Gotliffe ‘58 ‘81 retired as head of the magazine journalism program at San Jose State University in 2008. After 35 years of freelance writing, Gotliffe now writes full time. Among his projects are writing, editing and publishing *The Ho-Ho-Kus Cogitator*, a newsletter on the American scene. The 14th issue features a photograph of Old Main on the cover and a story on college days at Wayne University in the mid-1950s. Among the newsletter’s readers are Andy Rooney of *60 Minutes* and Leon Panetta, director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Michael Graczyk ‘71 regularly appears on CNN as a reporter on Texas death penalty cases. Graczyk was featured in the Associated Press’s *AP World* magazine.

Jenny Powell Grosvenor ‘07 is director of marketing and communications for Wayne State’s School of Business Administration.

Christine Hughes ‘74 is communications and marketing manager for the Downtown Development Authority of Ferndale, MI.

Casey Kasem ‘57 hosted his final *American Top 20* song countdown radio show in July. Kasem’s weekly playlists of the nation’s most popular songs started in 1970 and remained a radio staple for nearly four decades.

Heather Kolf ‘99 ‘01 wrote the screenplay for the film *Hellbent and Broken* which was nominated as Best Academic Short at the inaugural Michigan Film Awards, a program of the Detroit International Film Festival, which took place at Wayne State, March 6.

Greg Kowalski ‘74 is editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric* and joined CFPCA’s Alumni Association Board in the fall.

Jancie Krygier ‘80 is editor of *Charter School Monthly*, Arizona’s only charter school publication.

Gracie Lawson-Borders ‘01 was named associate dean for the University of Wyoming’s College of Arts and Sciences.

Lawson-Borders is an associate professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism and was director of the university’s African American Studies program for three years. She authored the book *Media Organizations and Convergence: Case Studies of Media Convergence Pioneers*, has published in several professional journals and served on the faculties of both Kent State and Southern Methodist universities.

Leslie Mertz ‘80 ‘92 ‘97 authored the book *Driving Michigan: Mile by Mile on I-75* which serves as the foundation of the Web site GoExploreMichigan.com, which catalogs scores of unique towns, cities and places throughout the lower and upper peninsulas. Mertz authored nine other books and is a successful science/medical freelance writer in northern Michigan.

Adwoa Muwzea ‘80 ‘93, senior executive for Learning for Life, part of the Detroit Area Council—Boy Scouts of America, received the Community Champions Award from Molina Healthcare of Michigan. Muwzea provided services to special education students for the past 10 years. She provides character and life skills education as well as extracurricular activities to youth with disabilities through Learning for Life’s Trailblazer program. Muwzea is a former Wayne State faculty member and is the first African-American woman to teach in a tenure track position in the Department of Communication’s film program.

Laura Palka ‘87, a former news anchor and reporter in Charlotte, NC, retired from TV news and signed with a talent agent in pursuit of a second career as a commercial and film actress. Palka is the recipient of numerous Associated Press Awards, an Edward R. Murrow Award for Station Spot News and the Vivian Castleberry Award from the Association of Women Journalists in Dallas. She has served as a volunteer and co-host for the Jerry Lewis MDA Labor Day Telethon in Charlotte for the past four years.

Mark Ridley ‘77 is owner of Ridley’s Comedy Castle in Royal Oak, MI, which reached its 30th anniversary in 2009. The nationally renowned Comedy Castle is cited as having launched the comic careers of Tim Allen and Dave Coulier.

Stan Simek ‘93 ‘06 is a personal giving officer in the development department of Children’s Hospital of Michigan.

Donald Sobel ‘67 authored the fiction book *The Young Man Who Wanted to be a Rich and Famous Writer Too: Following the Hemingway Trail*, under his pen name Donald Sinclair, about a young writer who is compelled to try to pattern his life after that of Ernest Hemingway.

Mark ‘83 and **Susan Sweetman** ‘83, of Livonia, MI, adopted Lillian Asiah Sweetman in May 2009. She joins siblings Michael, Gabriel, Bennoit, Raphael, William, Colleen and Jillian.

Casandra Ulbrich ‘03 is director of corporate and foundation relations at Wayne State and serves on Michigan’s State Board of Education. In fall 2009, *Crain’s Detroit Business* named Ulbrich to their “Forty under 40” list, 40 of metro Detroit’s most influential persons under the age of 40. During 2010 she is running for a State of Michigan Senate seat in district 12, the northeast quarter of Oakland County.

Peter Van Dyke ‘03 was named to *Crain’s Detroit Business*’ “Twenty in their 20s” list of rising stars in metro Detroit who are in their 20s. Van Dyke is a public relations account supervisor at Berg Muirhead and Associates in Detroit. While at Wayne, he was instrumental in building up WSU’s James S. Measell Chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America, through which PR students enrich their educational experience by increased interaction with area PR professionals.



Laura Palka
this page



Eugene Pijanowski
page 7



Senghor Reid
page 7



John Seale
page 7



Gilda Snowden
page 7



Casandra Ulbrich
this page



Peter Van Dyke
this page

Alumni

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 (Please also include your name as it was during your time at WSU, if it has changed.)

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Describe any career advancement, honors, publications, appointments, activities, etc.

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 If responding via hard copy: David Romas, *Expressions*, CFPCA Dean's Office, 5104 Gullen Mall - WSU, Detroit, MI 48202; FAX 313-577-5355. **CFPCA seeks alumni opinions via our online survey! It takes only a few minutes at www.cfpcawayne.edu/alumni.php**

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I would like to make a special contribution to Wayne State University in support of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts.

Enclosed is my gift of: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other _____

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CFPCA Expressions



Please mail completed form to WSU Fund Office, PO Box 4602, Detroit, MI 48232-9743. If interested in establishing a named endowed fund or a planned gift, please contact CFPCA Director of Development, Kevin McAlpine, kevinmcalpine@wayne.edu or 313-577-1458.

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WAYNE STATE
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 COLLEGE OF FINE, PERFORMING
 AND COMMUNICATION ARTS

Sharon L. Vasquez, Dean

Expressions Spring 2010

Editor: David Romas

Contributors: Jon Anderson, Kelly Cronin, Mary Fiumano, Lezlie Hart, Kristen Malecki, Michelle Franzen Martin, Kevin McAlpine, Kelly O'Connor, Steve Peters, Janine Pixley, Michele Porter, Talitha Trout
 Photography: Rick Bielaczyc, Mary Jane Murawka, David Romas

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Wayne State University has the Carnegie classification RU/VH, the nation's highest rating for research universities.

CFPCA honors five top alumni at 32nd annual Ovation Awards

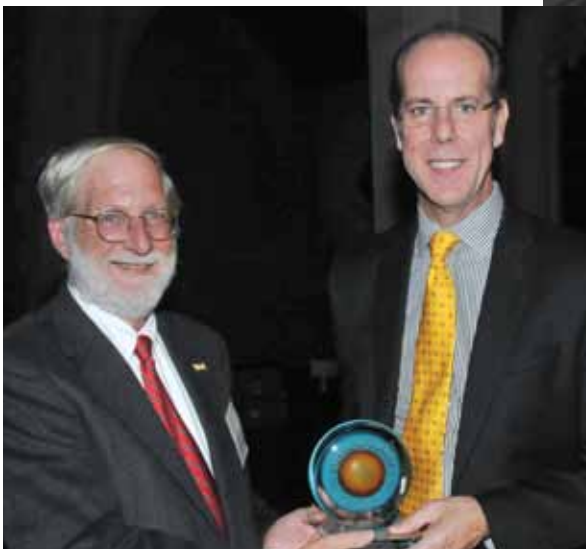
Dean **Sharon L. Vasquez** and the Alumni Association Board of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts presented the 32nd annual Ovation Awards, October 16, 2009, at St. Andrew's Hall on campus. Outstanding alumni and long-time friends of Wayne State University were recognized for their dedication to the arts and communication and for achievements in their respective fields.



Renowned artist and professor, **John Egner**, received the Career Achievement Award in the Field of Art from the college and Dean **Sharon L. Vasquez**.



Former Detroit mayor, **Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr.**, WSU '88, and wife, **Kimberly Cockrel**, WSU '89 '02, were presented the Distinguished Alumni Award in Communication, by journalism program director, **Ben Burns**.



Music Department chair, **John Vander Weg**, presented the Distinguished Alumni Award in Music to **John Feierabend** '74, noted author and professor of music at the University of Hartford.



Department of Theatre chair, **Blair Anderson**, greeted Distinguished Alumni Award in Theatre recipient, **Kent Neely**, '73 '76, provost at Western Oregon University.