

THE ARTS AT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Center for Performing Arts

Ives Hall 205 and Green Music Center
(707) 664-2235

ACADEMIC DIRECTOR
Jeff Langley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Floyd Ross

UNIVERSITY BOX OFFICE
Evert B. Person Theatre and Green Music Center
(707) 664-2353

The Center for Performing Arts coordinates the performance activities of the music and theatre arts departments, providing technical support in scenery, costumes, makeup, lighting and sound, as well as development, marketing and promotions, facility management, and ticketing services.

The center manages a variety of distinct performance venues:

- Evert B. Person Theatre, opened in 1990, a beautiful, state-of-the-art, fully equipped and accessible, 475-seat proscenium theatre with excellent sight lines, a complete fly system, movable thrust with orchestra lift, large stage, computerized lighting board system, well-equipped scene and costume shops, and actor-friendly dressing rooms and makeup facilities. It is used for most large-scale theatre, dance, and music theatre productions, as well as for concerts, lectures, and special events;
- Warren Auditorium, a 200-seat proscenium auditorium, the main venue for jazz concerts and other music and theatre events. Equipped as a “smart classroom” for lecture-style classes and home of the Sonoma Film Institute;
- A 125-seat flexible recital hall, used for solo recitals, chamber, choral, and student concerts, and occasionally for drama productions;
- A 50-seat black box studio theatre suited to small-scale, intimate productions;
- A 100-seat dance studio/theatre, the primary venue for the presentation of student dance work; and
- Alumni Amphitheater, a small outdoor space surrounded by trees, used for a variety of performances.

The center sponsors both on- and off-campus performances by University performing arts groups as well as a guest artist series.

The Center for Performing Arts is home to a variety of performing ensembles comprised of both students and community members, including Drama Ensemble, Dance Ensemble, University Chorus, Sonoma County Bach Choir, Chamber Singers, Music Theatre Production, Music Theatre Scenes Workshop, Vocal Jazz Ensemble,

Indian Singing Ensemble, Gospel Choir, Chamber Music Ensembles, Symphonic Wind Ensemble (Concert Band), Chamber Wind Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, Classical Guitar Ensemble, American Gamelan, Percussion Ensemble, Concert Jazz Ensemble, Contemporary Jazz Ensemble, Latin Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Big Band, and Jazz Piano Group. In addition, a number of student-initiated projects in music, dance, and drama are presented each semester, including noon-hour recitals each week.

There are more than 150 performances presented each academic year, with an annual attendance of more than 16,000 people. In addition, the Center sponsors special benefit performances and the annual Performing Arts Talent Award Ceremony, the annual High School Jazz Combo Intensive Workshop, the annual choral festival for high schools and colleges, the annual NASM concert band festival, and each summer, other programs for students of all ages under the umbrella of Greenfarm, the arts education component of the Donald and Maureen Green Music Center.

Since its inception, the Center has provided venues and support for a variety of campus activities, including convocations, lectures, conferences, and events sponsored by Associated Students Productions and campus academic programs. In addition, many off-campus groups rent the Center's facilities for meetings, conferences, dance, theatre, and music performances.

The Center's box offices are located in the Evert B. Person Theatre and at the new Green Music Center. Reserved-seat tickets are available for many performances. Discount rates on all tickets for students, senior citizens, and groups are in effect for all performances. Free admission tickets are available for all SSU students.

Green Music Center

The new Donald and Maureen Green Music Center's mission is to aim high, reach wide and educate all. The Center's concert hall is modeled after Tanglewood's renowned Seiji Ozawa Hall and brings to Northern California a world-class concert venue, establishing SSU as a major western destination for the study of music. Designed by the best architects and acousticians in the field, the Green Music Center will include a 1,400-seat concert hall; 250-seat recital hall; large lobby; extensive amenities for patrons, performers, and students; and the ability to accommodate 3,000-10,000 additional patrons on the lawns surrounding the facility. The Green Music Center will provide the ideal performance setting for vocal, choral, chamber, jazz, popular, instrumental, world, and symphonic music of every style and tradition, as well as for the spoken word and the exchange of ideas, and will be known for its superb acoustics and spectacular setting among the hills and vineyards of Sonoma County. The Green Music Center will be the performance home of the Santa Rosa Symphony. The first classes will be held in the Green Music Center's academic wing beginning Fall 2008.

University Art Gallery

Art 101
(707) 664-2295

DIRECTOR
Michael Schwager

Opened in 1978 as part of SSU's new art department complex, the University Art Gallery is a large and well-equipped facility with almost 2,500 square feet of exhibition space in two adjoining galleries. The Art Gallery serves the campus and surrounding communities through ongoing presentation of exhibitions, publications, and lectures, featuring work by some of the most talented and respected local, national, and international contemporary artists.

During each academic year, the Art Gallery presents five exhibitions, including work by graduating Bachelor of Fine Arts students and the annual Juried Student Show, which is open to all SSU students and is selected by two art professionals from the off-campus art world. Work by the SSU Art Department faculty is also shown in the gallery every other year. In addition, the Art Gallery hosts a variety of programs and events, chief among them the Art from the Heart Auction, which each year features affordable works of art by more than 100 local and nationally recognized artists, the proceeds from which directly benefit the gallery's programs.

Throughout its existence, the Art Gallery has organized and displayed museum-quality exhibitions, ranging in focus from experimental installations and multimedia works to art that celebrates traditional styles and techniques. A brief list of artists featured at the Art Gallery includes Seyed Alavi, Enrique Chagoya, Lowell Darling, Mineko Grimmer, Wally Hedrick, Mildred Howard, Robert Hudson, Mike Kelley, Maya Lin, Hung Liu, Judith Linhares, Manuel Ocampo, Judy Pfaff, Raymond Saunders, Peter Shelton, Katherine Sherwood, Masami Teraoka, Bill Viola, Peter Voukos, William Wegman, and William T. Wiley, among many others.

In addition to its public programs, the Art Gallery serves as a teaching facility, providing both art history and art studio students hands-on experience in the fields of museum and gallery work and arts administration.

The Art Gallery is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Fridays, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission is free.

University Library Arts and Lectures Program

Jean and Charles Schulz Information Center
(707) 664-4240
libweb.sonoma.edu/about/gallery/eventscal.html

DIRECTOR
Karen Brodsky

The Arts and Lectures Program in the University Library strives to enrich the intellectual, educational, and cultural life of the Sonoma State community. The program provides a venue for people to come together to share ideas through art, lectures, and discussions. Using a variety of locations within the Information Center, the program supports the liberal arts mission of the University. Activities are designed to explore a diversity of ideas, values, and intellectual and artistic expressions. Emphasis is placed on exposure to library collections; research interests of SSU faculty, staff, and students; and regional issues, including the support of local cultural initiatives.

The University Library Art Gallery presents exhibitions by students, professional artists, selections from the Library's unique collections, and material from traveling exhibitions. Some past exhibits include the work of local photographer John LeBaron, an annual showing of work by the Edward C. Boyle Scholarship recipient, and participation in the Sonoma County-wide celebration of work by the world-renowned Christo.

The University Library Art Gallery is located on the second floor of the Information Center and includes approximately 1,250 square feet of exhibition space. Exhibits are scheduled throughout the year. The gallery is open Mondays through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m., excluding holidays.

Lectures and readings organized each semester by the University Library Arts and Lectures Committee, often in collaboration with campus departments and community groups, include presentations of faculty research, author readings, and other events of interest. The public reading room (Schulz 3001) is reserved to provide a gathering place for people to come together to listen, learn, and discuss.