Center for Performing Arts

Ives Hall 206 and Green Music Center Education Hall
(707) 664-2235

DEAN
The School of Arts and Humanities
Thaine Stearns

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Juliet Pokorny

BOX OFFICE
(707) 664-2353

In addition to its broad spectrum of course offerings in music, dance, and theatre, the Center for Performing Arts coordinates the performance activities of the music and theatre arts departments by providing technical support in scenery, costumes, makeup, lighting, and sound, as well as marketing, facility management, and ticketing services. An estimated 16,000 people attend the Center’s annual presentation of more than 140 student and guest artist workshops and performances.

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, Symphonic Chorus, Chamber Singers, Music Theatre Production, Music Theatre Scenes Workshop, Indian Singing Ensemble, Chamber Music Ensembles, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Concert Jazz Ensembles (2), Latin Jazz Ensemble, and Jazz Orchestra. In addition, a number of student-initiated projects in music, dance, and theatre are presented each semester, including senior recitals and projects.

In addition to the regular performances of its resident ensembles, Performing Arts’ departments and programs each year host and present a variety of other special events and activities. The Music Department’s Collage Concert, presented each October as part of parent visitation weekend, launches the Music Department’s performance season with debut performances by its major ensembles—it is soon followed by the annual Talent Award Ceremony for scholarship and endowment donors, which in addition to music, features highlights of fall dance and theatre productions. Other fall events include the High School Invitational Choral and Jazz Festivals and the annual vocal teacher’s workshop presented by the local chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Throughout the year, the jazz and symphonic wind programs host a variety of regional clinics and festivals, all of which bring high school and college ensembles to SSU. Trio Navarro, the Music Department’s resident professional ensemble, presents a 4-concert chamber series. Finally, the Theatre Arts and Music departments and their many programs present each year a varied season of guest artist residencies, workshops, and concerts that introduce students to intensive, hands-on creative work with top-ranking artist professionals. The Center’s guest artist series—and the departments’ many talent scholarships—is made possible by the Evert B. Person endowment established in 1991.

The center manages a variety of distinct performance venues:

- Schroeder Recital Hall: Designed as part of the Green Music Center, this 240-seat recital hall houses a Magnificent Brombaugh Opus 9 Organ and functions as an intimate venue for choral performance, chamber music, and jazz. It is equipped as a “smart” classroom and function as a well-appointed lecture hall.
- 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 drama theatre and rehearsal space, also used for music rehearsals and events, including solo recitals, chamber, choral and student concerts;
- 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.

In addition to its own concerts and productions, the School provides venues and support for a variety of campus activities, including convocations, lecture and film series, conferences, and events sponsored by Associated Students Productions. Many off-campus groups also rent the School’s performance facilities for meetings, conferences, dance, theatre, and music performances.

Information about performances and tickets is best accessed online at the Music and Theatre Arts & Dance websites: www.sonoma.edu/music/performances/ and www.sonoma.edu/theatreanddance/. Tickets to all CPA performances can be reserved or purchased weekdays at the main campus box office located in the new student University Center. Tickets can also be obtained at three campus box office outlets 30-60 minutes prior to the performance: 1) the Evert B. Person Theatre Box Office; 2) Ives Hall box office (main floor outside Warren Auditorium); and 3) the lobby of Schroeder’s Recital

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 off-campus. Work by the SSU Art Department faculty is also shown in the gallery every two to three years. In addition, the Art Gallery hosts a variety of programs and events, chief among them the annual Art from the Heart Auction, featuring affordable works of art by more than 100 local and nationally recognized artists, the proceeds from which directly benefit the gallery’s programs.

In addition to its public programs, the Art Gallery serves as a teaching facility, providing art history, art studio, and other students with 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
library.sonoma.edu/about/gallery.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.

Green Music Center
The 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 and performance of music. Designed by the best architects and acousticians in the field, the Green Music Center opened in fall 2012 and includes 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 provides 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 is fast becoming known for its superb acoustics and spectacular setting among the hills and vineyards of Sonoma County. The Green Music Center is the performance home of the Santa Rosa Symphony. The SSU Music Department is housed in the Center’s Education Hall. All of its classes and most of its performances are held there.

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 local, national, and international contemporary artists.

Throughout its existence, the Art Gallery has organized and displayed museum-quality exhibitions, ranging in focus from experimental installations and multimedia works to more traditional styles and techniques. Some of the artists featured in Art Gallery exhibitions are Sandow Birk, Enrique Chagoya, Kota Ezawa, Eric Fischl, Mineko Grimmer, Mark Grotjahn, Mildred Howard, Salomon Huerta, Chris Johanson, Judith Linhares, Hung Liu, Julie Mehretu, Deborah Oropallo, Elizabeth Peyton, Walter Robinson, Clare Rojas, Richard Serra, Masami Teraoka, Ann Weber, and William T. Wiley, among many others.

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