THE ARTS AT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

- Center for Performing Arts
- University Art Gallery
- University Library Arts and Lectures Program

Center for Performing Arts

Ives Hall 205
(707) 664-2235

Executive Director
Floyd Ross

University Box Office
Evert B. Person Theatre
(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, moveable 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 182-seat proscenium auditorium, the main venue for jazz concerts and other music and theatre events.
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.
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, Wind Ensemble (Concert Band), 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 140 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, and each summer, Summer Arts for Youth, and Young Artists Chamber Ensembles, and other programs 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. In addition, many off-campus groups rent the center's facilities for meetings, conferences, ballet, theatre, and music performances.

The center's box office is located in the Evert B. Person Theatre. Reserved-seat tickets are available for many performances. Discount rates on all tickets for SSU students, senior citizens, and groups are in effect for all performances. Student rush tickets are available for SSU students.

**Green Music Center**

The new Donald and Maureen Green Music Center, modeled after Tanglewood's Seiji Ozawa Hall, will bring 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; 300-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, 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.

**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 one of the largest and best-equipped contemporary art facilities in the North Bay. 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 B.F.A. (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 Valentine 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, 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 Voulkos, 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 also works with local schools and community groups, offering outreach programs, such as slide packets and study guides, that supplement the exhibitions and help make contemporary art more accessible to a wide range of people.

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 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays, excluding holidays.

Lectures and readings organized each semester by the University Library Arts & 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.