

October 2015



University of the Arts Names New President

Board of Trustees Chairman **Jeffrey A. Lutsky** has announced that the board has voted unanimously to appoint **David Yager** (pictured above) as the University's next president. Yager will join the 139-year-old Philadelphia institution from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he currently serves as dean of the Arts Division, distinguished professor of art, and an affiliated faculty member of the Digital Arts and New Media program. Yager will begin his tenure at UArts on January 15, 2016.

[Read more >>](#)

[Read the *Philadelphia Inquirer* article >>](#)

[Read the *Philadelphia Business Journal* article >>](#)



Photo Student Shoots 'Made in America' Music Festival

Stephanie DeFeo '17 (Photography), who shoots for Philadelphia music scene website RockOnPhilly.com, was front and center at the recent Made in America music festival held this past Labor Day weekend. DeFeo took images of performances by some of music's biggest stars, including **Nick Jonas** (pictured above), **The Weeknd**, **Halsey**, **J. Cole** and others.

[Read more >>](#)

[See images of Day 1 performances on RockOnPhilly.com >>](#)

[See images of Day 2 performances on RockOnPhilly.com >>](#)



Illustration Alum Reimagines Lewis Carroll's 'Alice' as Beloved Book Turns 150

To mark the 150th anniversary of the Lewis Carroll classic *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, renowned artist and UArts alum **Charles Santore BFA '56 (Illustration)** has reimagined the beloved book's characters in drawings for an upcoming reprint. In the meantime, a special collector's edition of the original manuscript, *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, has just been released by Cider Mill Press containing Santore's never-before-seen sketches of Alice and her strange companions.

[Read more >>](#)

[Read a story on NewsWorks.com >>](#)

Above: In a detail from a four-page foldout illustration, Alice stands up to the Queen of Hearts.

Dance Alumnus Takes 3rd Place on 'SYTYCD'

Congratulations to **Virgil Gadson CERT '07 (Dance)**, who took third place in Season 12 of the Emmy Award-winning FOX TV series "So You Think You Can Dance." The former UArts faculty member, who was a fan favorite throughout the entire season, landed in the Top 4 and danced in the September 14 two-hour live finale. He also appeared in the show's eighth season, returning to "SYTYCD" this time as a member of Team Street. Gadson recently made [his Broadway debut in "After Midnight,"](#) the Tony Award-winning jazz revue that earned him a Fred Astaire Award nomination and a rave review from *The New York Times*.

[Watch Gadson's performances >>](#)





MSNBC Interviews Photography Professor

Adjunct Associate Professor of Photography **Barbara Proud** was recently featured on MSNBC's "Book Report" about her critically acclaimed book *First Comes Love: Portraits of Enduring LGBTQ Relationships*. Proud shares the mission behind the collection of black and white portraits she took of LGBTQ couples who have been together for 10, 20, 30, 40 and even 50 years.

[Watch the interview >>](#)

Above: "Del and Harriet, 42 Years."



Brind School Grad Featured on CBS Evening News

Dotan Negrin BFA '08 (Musical Theater), who in 2010 quit his day job, bought a truck and began his "[Piano Around the World](#)" tour, was featured on the CBS Evening News on September 4. The 24-year-old "wandering piano man" has lugged his 400 pound piano from coast to coast in the U.S., to Central America and even Europe, all in pursuit of bringing people together through the power of his music.

[Watch/read the story on CBSNews.com >>](#)

Above: Negrin is pictured in Switzerland with this piano.



Join Us for Alumni Weekend: October 16-18

On October 16-18, the University of the Arts will welcome family, friends and alumni back to Center City Philadelphia to connect with one another and experience campus life. This year's **Alumni Weekend** will feature several events exclusively for you, our alumni, that you won't want to miss, including the opportunity to meet UArts' incoming president, [David Yager](#).

Alumni Weekend starts with a **Welcome Back Happy Hour** on Friday evening and ends with a **Farewell Brunch** on Sunday morning. In between is the "Making It" Reception on Saturday night, featuring a juried exhibition of works by alumni graduating within the last 10 years. This event brings the whole UArts community together, allowing you to mix and mingle with fellow alumni, faculty, leadership and current students.

In addition to works by UArts alumni, visitors will also see "[Joint](#)," a collaborative, juried show of work by students from the University of the Arts, Moore College of Art & Design, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Tyler School of Art and the Art Institute of Philadelphia. You can also hear one of the School of Music's ensembles and capture the moment in our photo booth.

[More about Alumni Weekend >>](#)

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