



May 18, 2005

Upcoming Events

Congratulations to the Class of 2005!

May 18	Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2005
Through May 27	Multimedia Senior Exhibition at Vox Populi Gallery
May-Aug.	Professional Institute for Educators
June 3 - Aug. 12	<i>Faces from an American Dream</i> and <i>Stormy Monday</i> (exhibitions)
June 27 - July 1	Continuing Inspiration in Wayne, PA
July 11	Pre-College Institute and Summer World of Dance Begins
July 18-22	Continuing Inspiration in Bucks County, PA
Aug. 8-12	Continuing Inspiration in Philadelphia, PA

For more information on any of the events listed above, visit the [UArts Interactive Calendar](#) or call (215) 717-6140.

Spring Fever at UArts

The sun has brought life to the steps at Broad and Pine, while semester's end has brought a buzz to the whole university - students lounging on the steps; e-mails about portfolio days, lectures and music programs hitting our in-boxes; and continual crits and exhibits going on in Solmssen Court. One day we're looking at chairs constructed of hockey sticks, the next day at illustrations of Shakespearean characters and the next at photographs of Philadelphia neighborhoods.

Alumni Activities Across the USA: From NYC to LA

Alumni activities have added to the energy here and on the east and west coasts. In March we gathered alumni in LA at the Walt Disney Concert Hall to enjoy drinks and appetizers before current musical theater students performed three numbers. A quartet with two UArts alumni - **Paul Goldberg (Perc '81)** and **Vince Trombetta III (MusPerf '95)** - also entertained the 75+ alumni and friends, while President Miguel Angel Corzo brought the group up-to-date on campus news.



In April, NYC alumni enjoyed a similar event at Saint Peter's Church. Deans Rick Lawn (College of Performing Arts) and Steve Tarantal (College of Art & Design) shared news from their schools. This time all the quartet musicians (pictured left) were alumni: **Jim Saltzman (MusPerf '00)**, **Lonnie Solaway**, **Micah Jones (MM JazzStud '99)**, and **Steve Myerson (MusPerf '99)**.

Alumni returned to Broad Street for two reunions this spring. Alumnae **Jenny Filer (ModDan '97)**, **Tina Bracciale Heuges (DanEd '97)**, and **Jeanine Shoemaker Farr (ModDan '97)** created a charged, very successful School of Dance 60th anniversary celebration. The weekend reunion included a panel discussion, master classes, a "Sounds of the City" improv on Broad, the Legacy concert and reception, and alumni performances at the Merriam.

Over 75 1960s alumni and their guests enjoyed a reception and dinner together on April 30, along with student-led tours, a student a cappella group performance and a reception at the Bridgette Mayer Gallery for fellow alum **Bob Godfrey's (Paint '66)** exhibit. Even though no one appeared in bell-bottoms or shaggy sideburns (thank goodness), yearbook images of the 60s flashed on the walls of CBS. Alumna chairperson **Margot Zalkind (Sculp'66)** is beginning to plan a 2009 reunion to coincide with the celebration of the College of Art and Design's 50th anniversary of becoming a college in 1959 (when we added Liberal Arts to the studio program and started offering degrees).



Photograph by Harry Kalish

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Looking for past issues of *From The Front Steps*?

Archives of *From The Front Steps* are accessible via the UArts alumni website at www.uarts.edu/alumni/frontsteps.cfm

Be A Mentor!

Sign up at www.uartscareers.com.
Questions? Contact Career Services at
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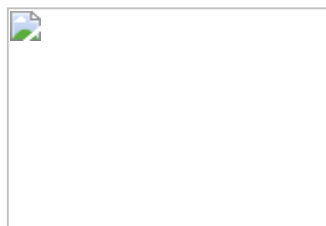
We'll be back in NYC and LA and in Florida, Boston and Washington D.C. this year. To receive invitations to these activities and others, be sure to keep your address and e-mail up-to-date by e-mailing alumni@uarts.edu.

"Selling Your Illustration" Continuing Education Class...Free to Two Alumni!

The first two alumni who [respond to this e-mail](#) will receive the "Selling Your Illustration" workshop on Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. ***at no cost***. The class, instructed by Gary Undercuffler, will help artists considering or embarking on an illustration career to package, present and promote their artwork and deal with potential buyers. Student work will be reviewed to help find its most promising niche.

And remember...***all*** alumni receive a 10% discount on Continuing Education courses. Browse through this summer's offerings at www.uarts.edu/continue and enjoy classes ranging from "Evenings in the Park with Watercolor" to "It Was a Dark and Stormy Night: a Mystery Writing Workshop" to "Jazz Jam."

Freshmen Journals Bring You Back...Via the Web



This past year's freshmen journal writers - Andrew, Elise, Jake, Karen, Maxx & Meg

Check out a great place on the UArts website, and be a student again - <http://www.uarts.edu/admission/view.cfm?link=journals>. You'll hear about dorm parties, tough exams, late nights in the studios and maybe a little homesickness. Last summer Cisco Griffin, admissions counselor in charge of technology and systems support, asked interested freshmen to provide writing samples and three sample journal entries. From the original 25 applications, Cisco searched for the right mix of locations and majors. With digital cameras and honest writing, the chosen six provided a running commentary of their first year. And this fall, there will be new freshmen, new journals, new honesty and new memories.

Animation Students Involved in Philadelphia Film Festival

The more than 60,000 people who visited the Philadelphia Film Festival in April saw a 30-second trailer designed by UArts animation juniors. Three student teams competed in developing the film clip, and the winning entry was transferred to 35mm and shown before every screening during the two-week festival. To recognize the achievement, UArts was presented with the annual film trailer award at the festival's opening ceremonies.

Speaking of Students

Applications for admission are at an all-time high with nearly 3,000 applications on file as of May 1, and applications to University graduate programs have increased 116% in the past five years. More numbers? Despite driving wind and rain, 1,450 visitors from 27 states attended Admissions' Spring Open House. And tuition for the upcoming academic year is now \$23,380; housing varies between \$5,240 - \$6,360.

Did You Know...

The February 2005 *Smithsonian* featured an article, "Out of the Shadows" by Susan E. Tiftt, on architect and University of the Arts alumnus **Julian Francis Abele** (1881-1950). Abele (pronounced "able") completed the two-year course in architectural drawing and received his certificate from the Pennsylvania Museum & School of Industrial Art (today's UArts College of Art and Design) on June 9, 1898, during a commencement ceremony held in Horticultural Hall in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park. That fall he started the architecture program at the University of Pennsylvania, from which he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1902. He was the first African-American to graduate from Penn's program (where he was known as "Willing and Able") and is perhaps best known as the first African American to enter a school of

architecture - but we had him first! He had a long association with the firm owned by Horace Trumbauer, who is credited with the design of the Free Library of Philadelphia's main building on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. It is widely speculated that Abele had a much bigger hand in the design of these buildings than he was given credit for at the time.



For more information on Abele see the website compiled on him by the Free Library of Philadelphia for their 75th anniversary:

<http://libwww.library.phila.gov/75th/abele.htm?page=arch>

Also see the University Libraries' Web page:

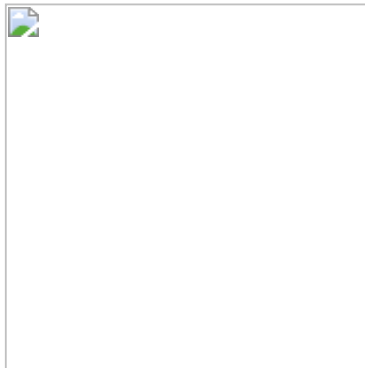
<http://www.uarts.edu/stuserv/libraries/archives/alumni/abele.html>

--Sara J. MacDonald, UArts Public Services Librarian, smacdonald@uarts.edu
Portrait courtesy of Duke University Archives

Entertaining & Educating Kids: Alumni Children's Book Illustrators

The author and illustrator of *Mozart Finds a Melody* (Henry Holt and Co.), alumnus **Stephen Costanza** says, "Children's books challenge me to combine my love of drawing and music." After various creative turns (from performing ragtime for Swedesboro Inn diners to designing merchandise for sports teams), Stephen illustrated *Noodle Man*, *The Pasta Superhero* by April Sayre (Orchard Books). The hero, Al Dente, uses noodles and other pasta to rescue people and

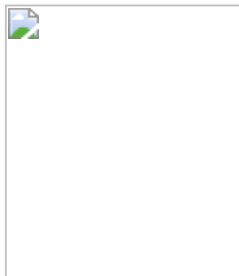
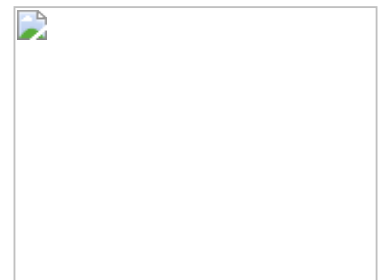
catch thieves.



Selected as one of only two American illustrators invited to exhibit at the International Children's Book Exhibit in Bologna, Italy, Stephen is producing another children's book for Henry Holt and Co. about Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi. *Mozart* took a year of intense work as Stephen created more than 20 meticulously detailed illustrations.

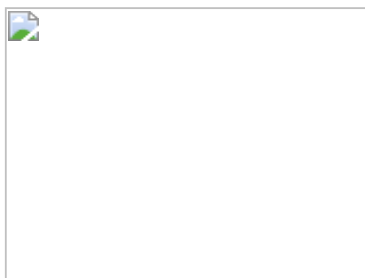
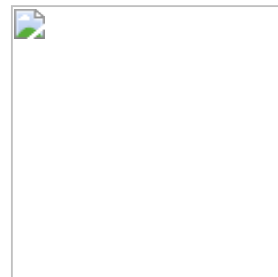
Matt Watier (Ill '01) created his first illustration in sixth grade. His

first children's book, *A.N.T.S.: Another Nice Tasty Sweet* (Marhwood Press), was published in Hebrew and English and uses a whimsical story about ants that find a giant sticky bun for the book's "moral" - a community that finds the answer to their problems through their children. Matt's newest book, *The Commute on the Sea-Line*, a fantasy set on Boston's T subway, is on display this month in Boston at the 755 Boylston Gallery.



Barbara Lanza (BFA '66) has illustrated 35+ children's books for publishers such as Random House and Scholastic. *Fairy Lane: Time to Fly* (Keene Publishing - Fall 2005) is her first book where she is the author and the illustrator.

Combining hand-colored linoleum prints with natural history notes, **Barbara Patrizzi (Scup '81)** wrote and illustrated *O Is for Oystercatcher – A Book of Seaside ABCs* (Down the Shore Publishing). **Leslee Ganss (III '80)**, design director for the publisher, designed the book, which appeals to all ages. The two alumnae didn't know each other at UArts...or at the high school they both attended!



Elbrite Brown (III '93, ArtEdu '97) is the winner of the national 2004 Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Artist for his illustrations in the children's book *My Family Plays Music* (Holiday House) by Judy Cox. He teaches at a New Jersey public school. Interviewed by radio, magazines and newspapers, Elbrite has been honored by the city government and participated in the Community College of Philadelphia's 13th Annual African American Children's Book Fair.

We love hearing from you and sharing your news!
E-mail updates and images to alumni@uarts.edu.

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