UA Faculty Win CDC Foundation Grant, Design Award, for Campaign for Vaccine Confidence.
welcome back

UA ART CAMP RETURNS IN JUNE 2023!

Mark your calendars and apply now! Join us for UA Art Camp June 26-30, 2023. High school students can explore their creativity in a week-long camp that provides a taste of UA’s undergraduate-level studio art classes. Rising freshman to rising seniors may choose from Printmaking, Ceramics, Graphic Design, Sculpture and Zines/Movable Books and immerse themselves in a five-session, half-day studio class. Go to: https://art.ua.edu/ua-artcamp/ or scan the QR code for more information and to apply.

LEFT, ABOVE & BELOW: Photos from UA Art Camp ceramics and printmaking sessions. ABOVE: Group photo of everybody at UA Art Camp 2022.

ON THE COVER: Four poster designs by Jonathan Cumberland, part of the CDC Foundation-funded project “Campaign to Build Vaccine Confidence.”
Jonathan Cumberland’s Pro-Vax Posters Win Award; Exhibited at CDC Museum

The CDC Foundation awarded the team of Professor Jason Guynes, Assistant Professor Jonathan Cumberland and Associate Dean Tricia McElroy a grant for the project, “Campaign to Build Vaccine Confidence,” to create five poster designs to engage the public in overcoming COVID-19 and influenza vaccine hesitancy, one of only 30 national organizations awarded. The designs, created by Cumberland, were posted on roadside billboards and featured on posters and sandwich boards in community institutions, health centers and businesses around rural west Alabama. Cumberland received the Graphic Design USA Award of Excellence for the five posters at GDUSA’s 59th anniversary American Inhouse Design Awards. The project was selected for the exhibition, Trusted Messengers: Building Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccines Through Art, at the David J. Spencer CDC Museum in Association with the Smithsonian Institution in Atlanta. UA was among only six of the 30 organizations chosen. It runs through March 2023.
STUDENT RESEARCH

ARH Grad Student Interns at Crystal Bridges

This summer, art history graduate student Julie Weber served as a Havner Curatorial Intern at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas, which holds one of the nation’s top collections of American art. During the eight-week intensive internship, Weber researched topics for the curatorial department, including future projects. She worked one-on-one with a staff member, sat in on meetings with curators and was able to be present when new works or exhibitions were installed. “My favorite task was researching objects in the museum’s permanent collection and building files for those objects,” Weber said, including works by Elizabeth Catlett and Rosa Rolanda. This fall and continuing for a year, Weber will serve as a Goodrich Intern at the Birmingham Museum of Art.

New Grad Student Juried into Three Shows

In late summer and fall, new ceramics grad student Dillan Ladner’s work was juried into three exhibitions: CHROMA, Wildfire Ceramic Studio, in Missoula, Montana; the Southern Mississippi National Ceramics in Hattiesburg, Mississippi and the 48th Annual Bi-State Art Competition in Meridian, Mississippi.

Studio Grad Student Awarded Levitetz Grant

Printmaking grad student Kat Murray has been awarded a Levitetz 2023 Innovation Seed Grant for her art project, “Grabbing Traces.” The grant will support Murray’s experimentation and learning in drawing and printing techniques. Murray said that her work is about how stories change with each retelling: “how memory is an unreliable witness.” She is creating marker drawings which she plans to turn into large-scale screen prints using plotter printers.
Painting Grad Student Wins Best in Show

Graduate student in painting Nathan Childers received the Best in Show award for his oil painting *Peter's Denial* in the exhibition *Queer Aesthetics* held at Mississippi University for Women Galleries in October in Columbus, Mississippi. Curated by MUW faculty, the show highlighted artwork from the area LGBTQ+ community. Childers said that classical paintings of biblical stories have been weaponized to establish hierarchies and erase [LGBTQ+] people as participants of that history. He utilizes the traditional techniques of those paintings to tell Bible stories in which queer people are not invisible. “My aim is to use them to make present a community of people that has been often overlooked or erased.”

**ABOVE LEFT:** Nathan Childers, *Peters Denial*, 2022, oil on canvas, 24 x 30 inches. Image courtesy of the artist. **TOP RIGHT:** Riley Balzer presenting her research in Baltimore. Photo courtesy Dr. Lucy Curzon. **RIGHT:** Abigail Brewer, courtesy A. Brewer.

READ MORE STUDENT NEWS HERE: https://art.ua.edu/category/student-news/

Art History Grad Students and New Alumna Present Research at SECAC

In Baltimore, art history graduate students, studio and art history faculty, and alumni presented original research at SECAC (Southeastern College Art Conference), the annual meeting of one of the largest art conferences of its kind in the US. Grad student Riley Balzer (right) presented her paper, “Connoisseurs vs. Forgers: A Conversation on the Intersections of Art Forgery, Patronage, and Methodology.” Olivia Sims presented “Bound to Bodichon: Prominent Female Networks Found in Effects of Tight Lacing.”

Undergrad Promotes Art in Tuscaloosa

Abigail Brewer, a junior majoring in studio art in the CREATE Path to MBA program, has been working with the West Alabama Chamber of Commerce to promote the arts downtown by recruiting student artists to demonstrate their art during First Friday Art Walks. Brewer sits on the Chamber’s Cultural Arts and Tourism committee with Arts Council director Sandy Wolfe who has led the effort. Brewer joined the Chamber because she has an art business — Abi Brewer Fine Art. Her artwork was juried into 51st Kentuck Festival of the Arts and the 36th annual West Alabama Juried Show.
exhibitions

SARAH MOODY GALLERY OF ART

Rebecca Rutstein
OUT OF THIN AIR:
MICROSCOPIC JOURNEYS THROUGH COSMIC LANDSCAPES
September 8 – October 14, 2022

LEFT: Rebecca Rutstein, Vespa’s Matrix, 2022, acrylic and spray paint on canvas, 36 x 36 inches. Image courtesy of the artist.

ABOVE: Installation view, Rebecca Rutstein, Sarah Moody Gallery of Art.

Clay+/Invitational
October 27 – December 21, 2022
CURATED BY WADE MACDONALD

BELOW: Kourtney Stone, Framework of a Mythology, 2022, earthenware, kiln-cast glass, wax, wood, fleece jacket, VCT, prescription pill bottle, ethernet cable, doorknob, 12 x 11 x 18 inches. Image courtesy of the artist.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS:
ADDITIONS TO THE PAUL R. JONES COLLECTION
OF AMERICAN ART AT UA 2015 – 2022
August 5 - September 23, 2022
CURATED BY EMILY BIBB

Cedric Smith: Horsepower
October 7 - December 9, 2022


ABOVE: Visitors to the Paul R. Jones Museum during Cedric Smith: Horsepower.

RIGHT: Cedric Smith, Red Wild Rag, oil on canvas. Courtesy of the artist.

LEFT: Cedric Smith, Rodeo, 2021, oil on canvas. Courtesy of the artist.
exhibitions

SELLA-GRANATA ART GALLERY

Kathy Rodriguez

RUMINATIONS
September 8 – 22, 2022

ABOVE:
Kathy Rodriguez, Bean Moon, 2021, oil on muslin, 48 x 36 inches. Image courtesy of the artist.

Formations

NEW AND RETURNING GRADUATE STUDENT SHOW
September 7 - October 8, 2022

ABOVE: Celeste Pfau, Tree Parts, 2022, installation (detail).

ABOVE:
Stephen Blades, Composite God 3 - Seed, 2021, watercolor paper, oak, steel, 13½ x 8 x 6¼ inches. Image courtesy of the artist.

2022 Senior BFA Thesis Exhibition
December 6 – 9, 2022

LEFT:
Poster design by Courtney Simmons for her project, “Happiness is the Secret Sauce”

RIGHT:
Poster design by Zimberlyn Major for her project, “AfriCOBRA vs. The Black Community”
Pat Snow
YOU WILL NEVER READ MY POETRY
August 5 – September 28, 2022

LEFT: Pat Snow, Ballcap, 2022, oil on wood, 7 x 5 inches. Courtesy of the artist.


Patty B. Driscoll
THE MAGPIE IN THE MIRROR
October 7 - December 2, 2022

LEFT: Visitors to The Magpie in the Mirror in the UA Gallery.

ABOVE: Patty B. Driscoll, Garzoni and Gluck, oil on panel, 18 x 24 x 1 inches. Image courtesy of the artist.
Jenny Fine Wins South Arts State Fellowship

Alumna Jenny Fine (BFA 2006) has won the 2022 South Arts State Fellowship for Alabama, given to “acknowledge, support, and celebrate the highest quality art being created in the South.” As one of nine awardees (for each state in the American South), Fine received a cash prize and her work was included in an exhibition at the Bo Bartlett Center in Columbus, Georgia, in the fall. Fine also presented her performance/installation work, *Synchronized Swimmers*, at the Gadsden Museum of Art and she installed *Sync/Swim* at the Vulcan Materials Gallery at the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham.

ABOVE: Jenny Fine. Image courtesy of the artist.

NY Times Style Mag Seeks Out Arielle Grey

Along with her regular studies in her third year of the MFA photography program at Yale University, alumna Arielle Gray (BA 2019) was contacted this summer by an editor at *The New York Times Style Magazine*, to photograph for a story, “The New New Haven” about the New Haven art scene and Yale. This fall, works in progress by Gray and her classmates in Yale’s MFA program were featured in *Cultured Magazine*. Gray’s work will be included in *Photolucida’s Critical Mass TOP 50 Exhibition*.


Reed O’Mara Awarded Research Grant

Art history alumna Reed O’Mara, now a PhD student in the Case Western Reserve University Department of Art History and Art, was named a Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities Graduate Student Affiliate for spring 2023. The research fund supports work in progress in the humanities at Case Western. O’Mara is researching Hebrew word panels and erased images in the German Medieval biblical commentary, the *Munich Rashi*. She was also accepted to an immersive language program in Hebrew at the Middlebury Language School in Vermont.

LEFT: Reed O’Mara in the Dr. and Mrs. William T. Price Asian Art Book Collection at UA.
Ringo Lisko Sculpture Selected for First Feminist Biennial

This fall, a sculpture by BFA alumna Ringo Lisko was selected for inclusion in the first Feminist Biennial, hosted by the groundbreaking Woman Made Gallery in Chicago. Established thirty years ago, Woman Made Gallery has featured renowned feminist artists such as Judy Chicago and Faith Ringgold. Lisko also had three works in the SECAC 2022 Juried Exhibition, in Baltimore, Maryland. She is pursuing an MFA in the Rinehart School of Sculpture at MICA (Maryland Institute College of Art).

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Martha Hopkins Work Installed at Airport in Fairhope

A steel sculpture, *Fly Away*, by Martha Markline Hopkins (BFA 2004), was installed by the Fairhope City Council at the H. L. “Sonny” Callahan Airport in Fairhope, Alabama. The graceful shapes that Hopkins created in her welded steel tube artwork reflect the “airborne” theme of the sculpture's new home. Hopkins' sculptures have been selected for numerous national and international juried exhibitions in New York, San Francisco, Chicago, and St. Louis, as well as locations around the South.
Rebecca Teague’s Artwork Selected for International Papermaking Exhibition

Instructor and alumna Rebecca Teague (MA 2018, art history, summa cum laude) had work juried into the North American Hand Papermakers' 8th Collegiate Paper Art Triennial 2022-2024. The exhibition will travel to Allentown, Pennsylvania; Evanston, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; and Athens, Georgia, over the next three years. Teague, who holds an MLIS summa cum laude with a concentration in archives and a certificate in Book Arts, has taught art history at UA since 2019 and is a co-creator in the Global Makers digital art history project supported by the Kress Foundation.

Ali Hval To Teach at University of Iowa

BFA alumna Ali Hval has accepted a position as lecturer in painting and drawing at the University of Iowa beginning in the spring of 2023. Hval, who received the MFA from Iowa in 2019, is an interdisciplinary artist currently living and working in Iowa City. Her work combines painting, fabric, ceramic, sculpture and installation. She is also a prolific muralist.

Nadia DelMedico Receives Full Scholarship to University of Minnesota

Alumna Nadia DelMedico (MA 2021, art history) was accepted to the doctoral program in art history at the University of Minnesota. The program is fully funded for all graduate students and DelMedico was also awarded a College of Liberal Arts Graduate Fellowship for her first year. In addition, she will continue teaching an online survey of art history course for UA.
Doris Sung Speaks at Birmingham Museum

Assistant Professor Dr. Doris Sung presented a talk at the Birmingham Museum of Art, “Women Artists in Late Imperial China,” for the museum’s Art in Conversation series in October. She focused on women artists in late imperial China and detailed the social and cultural contexts that led to the neglect of women artists in this vast period, as well as the resulting lack of works by these women in collections today. She also highlighted women artists over the centuries who defied their circumstances in order to create. Art in Conversation is a bi-monthly series at the BMA where curators, museum professionals and other special guests lead conversations on art and culture.

Jonathan Cumberland Publishes Poster

A poster, Habitat, designed by Assistant Professor Jonathan Cumberland, is included in the book Posters for the Planet published by Princeton Architectural Press, a leading publisher of books on architecture, design and visual culture. The poster is one of 50 full-color tear-out tabloid-sized original posters selected from 800 international submissions that convey “the urgent need to take action to combat climate change.” Proceeds of sales will be donated to Indigenous Environmental Network, Clean Air Task Force and Coalition for Rainforest Nations. Cumberland also received the Graphic Design USA Award of Excellence for his five “Vaccine Confidence” posters, at GDUSA’s 59th anniversary American Inhouse Design Awards.

Wade MacDonald Curates Clay+/Invitational

Clay+/Invitational, curated by Assistant Professor Wade MacDonald, was up in the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art in November, with works by ten ceramicists who use materials and methods that de-emphasize traditional clay-centric practices and use an interdisciplinary approach: Audrey An, Heather Nameth Bren, Andrew Castañeda, Ling Chun, Jennifer Ling Datchuk, Jason Hackett, Salvador Jiménez-Flores, Julie Malen, Kourtney Stone, and Kyle Triplett. Clay+/Invitational was based on an international juried show MacDonald organized for the Clay Center of New Orleans.
FACULTY RESEARCH

Pete Schulte In Two-Person Show

Work by Professor Pete Schulte is in a two-person exhibition with Yevgeniya Baras curated by the Gallery at Heimbold Visual Arts Center, Bronxville, New York that traveled to the Margie E. West Gallery at the University of Georgia in November. The exhibition will travel to the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art in January of 2023.

Bryce Speed Presents Solo, 3-Person Shows

Associate Professor Bryce Speed held a solo exhibition, Think It and Breathe It, in The Arts Council Gallery at the Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center in October. In December Speed was part of a three-person exhibition, Long Breakfast, at Ground Floor Contemporary in Birmingham.

Allison Grant, Holland Hopson Trace Thin Air

Artists and UA art professors Allison Grant and Holland Hopson collaborated with artist Karen Brummund for a multi-media public art project, Tracing Thin Air, in November and December at the Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center and in a downtown Tuscaloosa neighborhood. Brummund, Grant and Hopson presented artworks that visualize and consider how the air near their homes in Tuscaloosa is inhabited by their community. They used hand and digital mark making, video, sound, drawings by community members and participatory elements to activate and reimagine a community’s shared space and the air in between, and examined air as a framework for personal and social existence.

TOP LEFT: (left) Yevgeniya Baras, Untitled, 2016-2019, oil, wood, mixed media on burlap, 20 x 16 inches. (right) Pete Schulte, Untitled, 2021, graphite, pigment, paper, 11 X 11 inches. TOP RIGHT: Allison Grant, Tracing Thin Air, 2022. LEFT: Poster for Long Breakfast, featuring the image Universal Table by Bryce Speed, 2022, acrylic on canvas, 58 x 46 inches. All images courtesy of the artists.
Intermedia Artist Appointed Assistant Professor of Digital Media

Melissa Yes, an intermedia artist, has been appointed assistant professor of art, teaching courses in digital media. Yes works primarily in video and installation art. Her studio practice considers American myths and attitudes, reflecting and processing them as objects, moving images, and constructed environments, she says, “fraught with their relationship to our cultural economy’s ‘business as usual.’” Her work often uses subtle humor as a form of critique, directed both outwardly and inwardly. She often works collaboratively and creates contexts for engaged participation. A recent example is her collaborative project, *Finches*, which uses Harper Lee’s character, Atticus Finch, as an opening to conversations about the complicated figures—the “Finches”—in our personal and civic life.

Alumnus, Post Doc Appointed Assistant Professor of Photography

Celestia Morgan has been appointed assistant professor of art, teaching courses in digital and film photography. Morgan has served as a postdoctoral research associate in the College of Arts and Sciences since fall 2020. She works across artistic mediums, incorporating sculpture, map-making and community engagement into her photography and video work to explore systemic racism through racial zoning practices and environmental injustice. Her awards include an Alabama State Council on the Arts Media/Photography Fellowship and a Collaborative Art Research Initiative Joint Pilot for Arts and Research grant. Morgan has had solo shows at the Paul R. Jones Museum and the Birmingham Museum of Art; and group exhibitions at the National Public Housing Museum in Chicago; and the Ogden Museum of Southern Art in New Orleans, among many others.

CONTINUE READING FACULTY NEWS HERE: https://art.ua.edu/category/facultystaff-news/
Jennifer Feltman Awarded FACE Grant to Study Notre Dame Cathedral’s Historic Sculptures

The iconic sculptures of the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris were once painted in rich colors and even real gold. Now researchers from The University of Alabama and Sorbonne Université in Paris will work together to digitally restore the sculptures’ historic colors in order to study changes to the cathedral over the centuries.

UA associate professor of art history, Dr. Jennifer M. Feltman, and Sorbonne Université architect and 3D engineer, Grégory Chaumet, were awarded a 2022 FACE Foundation – Transatlantic Research Partnership for their project, “Notre Dame in Color: Visualizing the Layered Polychromy of the Cathedral of Paris.” The two-year grant establishes the first research partnership between UA and the Centre Chastel of the Sorbonne Université in Paris. It will facilitate the analysis, documentation and digital reconstruction of the vibrant paints on the exterior sculptures of the cathedral. This is the first time UA has been awarded a FACE Foundation – Transatlantic Research Partnership.

Using data from the Laboratoire de recherche des monuments historiques, project leaders and team members will digitally paint layers onto a 3D model in order to document and visualize the changing aesthetics of Notre Dame. In December, Feltman took a team of UA researchers to Paris to collaborate with colleagues at the Plemo 3D lab of the Centre Chastel. Team members from UA include anthropologist Alexandre Tokovivine, Jeremiah Stager of the Office of Archaeological Research, and graduate students.

Dr. Feltman has been closely involved in the restoration of Notre Dame since the devastating fire destroyed the roof and more in April 2019. In 2021, she visited the cathedral in person to begin hands-on research as a member of a team of scientists and art historians. “Notre Dame in Color” is one of Feltman’s projects as an A&S Collaborative Arts Research Initiative Fellow.