milesstones

2023 Art & Art History Degree Recipients

Congratulations to our 2023 graduates for all that you’ve accomplished this year and in the past several years. Art and art history faculty and staff are proud of you for your creativity, perseverance and resilience. We wish you all the best as you move into the next part of your life journey.

BACHELOR OF ARTS, ART HISTORY

Bethany Baker, Amelia Beacham, Ivy Borden, Andrew De Poortere, Aidan Miles-Jamison, Isabella Paredes-Radoslovich, Andres Vargas

BACHELOR OF ARTS, STUDIO ART

Meredith Barnes, Julia Block, Judith R. Borom, Allex Briggs, Anna Butts, Noah Calvert, Joseph Cousins, Morgan Duggan, Glorynn Estrada, Sarah R. Hartsell, Abigail Hinckley, Ian B. Irwin, Arden Lieux, Jasmine Nixon, Emily Rabbideau, Kirsten Standifer, Claire Taggart, Elyiana Van Ee, Anthony Vreeland, Susan Xiao

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS, GRAPHIC DESIGN

Christine Choi, Katelyn Daniewicz, Cole Engelbrecht, Lily Galluccio, Austin Grant, Olivia Griep, Danielle Guy, Zim Major, Emma Milowski, Katherine Nebbia, Emma Robinson, Sydney Tomaine, and Rachel Walser

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS, STUDIO ART

Madison Bray, Sylvia Cervino, Ryan Glantz, Brylane Hay, Mackenna Overholt, Courtney Simmons, Liv Komisar, Liza Reid Smith, Ella Smyth, Autumn Darah Williams, Hannah Willis

MASTER OF ARTS, ART HISTORY

Riley E.B. Balzer, Olivia Tayler Sims, Michele J. Taylor, Julie Weber

MASTER OF FINE ARTS, STUDIO ART

Ryan Akers, Will Henry, Parker Hunt, Molly Lay, Kole Nichols

In late-breaking news, SANDRA ARACELY VEGA (MFA 2022), pictured left, was awarded the Outstanding Non-Traditional Thesis Award by the UA Graduate School. Vega was also the department’s 2022 Outstanding Graduate Student in Studio Art.

The Loupe, published since 2002, is the newsletter of the NASAD-accredited department of art and art history in The University of Alabama’s College of Arts and Sciences, for students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the department. Please send correspondence to Rachel Dobson: rachel.dobson@ua.edu.

(loop), n. 1. a small magnifying glass used by jewelers or watchmakers, or for viewing photographic transparencies.

ON THE COVER: Kole Nichols (MFA 2023), Eclipsed, 2023, etching on slate, 3 x 4 x 1 inches. Courtesy of the artist. https://www.kolenichols.com/
UA ART & ART HISTORY OUTSTANDING STUDENTS NAMED

A student was selected from each of our five degree programs for the Outstanding Student Award, the department’s most prestigious student accolades of the year. In recognition of their exemplary dedication and commitment to academic achievement: Ryan Akers (MFA studio art), Amelia Beacham (BA art history), Christine Choi (BFA graphic design), Ella Smyth (BFA studio art), and Julie Weber (MA, art history) were selected in their respective areas. Read more about them: https://bit.ly/uaoutstanding2023

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: JULIE WEBER with Dr. Jennifer Feltman (art history); AMELIA BEACHAM, near groves of academe; ELLA SMYTH with Prof. Jason Guynes (painting); RYAN AKERS; CHRISTINE CHOI with Prof. Jonathan Cumberland (graphic design).
Printmaking Students Respond to Paul R. Jones Collection Artwork

Associate Professor Sarah Marshall’s printmaking students in ART 321 created artworks in response to selected works from the Paul R. Jones Collection of American Art for the June and July exhibition, Lasting Impressions at the Paul R. Jones Museum. The student exhibitors were Preston Beard, Cecily Downey, Kathleen Kelley, Kat Murray, Irasema Quezada Hammock, Beth Sheehan, Ella Smyth, Kirsten Standifer, SK Steen, and Claire Taggart.

Grad Student and Alum Present Research at Harvard Conference

In March, Riley Balzer (MA 2023) and Rebecca Lowery (MA 2022) were selected to present their research at the international Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies at Harvard University. The 2023 conference was sponsored by Harvard’s Medieval Graduate Interdisciplinary Workshop and their English Department Medieval Colloquium.

Where UA Art History Graduates Are Headed

UA Art & Art History grads are studying and working in prestigious programs and positions at home and around the world:

- **Sophia Ancira** (BA 2022, art history, BS 2022, marketing) is enrolled in Georgetown University’s graduate program in art and museum studies. In 2023, Ancira interned at the Kreeger Museum in Washington, D.C., and held a marketing internship with the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum.

- **Olivia Bennes** (BA 2022, art history) is an MA candidate in art history at the University of Georgia. Bennes studies Medieval Slavic art and architecture and has interned at the National Czech and Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

- **Katherine Crowe** (BA 2022, double major in political science and art history) is in UA School of Law. Crow recently served as a judicial intern to Judge L. Scott Coogler in the District Court for the Northern District of Alabama and a summer associate at the law firm Carr Allison.

- **Olivia Janson** (BA 2022, art history, minors in Italian and Medieval and Early Modern European Studies) is in the master’s program in art history at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, with an assistantship. She studies women and religion in late Medieval and Early Modern Italy.

- **Ashleigh Junkin** (MA 2022, art history) is a part-time instructor in art history at The University of Alabama.

- **Rebecca Lowery** (MA summer 2022) is in the PhD program in the history of art and architecture at the University of Pittsburgh with a full university fellowship. Lowery recently presented her research at the Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies at Harvard.

- **Lizzie Orlofsky** (MA 2022, art history) serves as the digital history curator for the Alabama Department of Archives & History in Montgomery.

Read more at https://art.ua.edu/student-news/
What We Did on Our Summer Vacation!

Twenty-four tired but happy University of Alabama students returned to the US recently after spending fifteen days in Spain, studying art history and studio art. Professor Jason Guynes and Associate Professor Dr. Rachel Stephens led the group on a study tour of historic art and architectural sites in several Spanish cities. They were based in the Medieval city of Toledo and went on excursions to Madrid, Segovia, Cordoba, Granada and Barcelona.

Students who traveled ranged from grad students to undergrads. A little over half of the students were art history or studio art majors; the rest were majors in a variety of fields, from psychology and engineering to business, and nursing.

Where UA Studio Art Graduates Are Headed

Ramsey Chandler (BA 2020, double major in studio art [focus on graphic design] and creative advertising) works as a junior art director at GSD&M in Austin, Texas. She was part of the team that won the Young Ones Bronze Pencil award in 2020 for their Free Speech Whopper advertising campaign.

Charlie Cruz (BA 2020, studio art and psychology) works as an instructional tech assistant for ACCESS Virtual Learning and in OTIDE: Office of Teaching Innovation and Digital Education (formerly the College of Continuing Studies) at UA.

Sarah Dittmann (MFA 2021, printmaking) is a lecturer in 2D art and drawing in the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh department of art. Dittmann’s quilted print, titled Mrs. John Kokeš, won a Special Merit Award in the “47th Juried Annual” art exhibition at the Miller Art Museum in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Danielle Guy (BFA 2023, graphic design) is a graphic designer and customer representative for OxyCare Plus, Inc.

Allie McGilberry (BA 2022, studio art with a focus on graphic design) is a graphic designer for the Nashville software company, i3 Verticals. McGilberry writes that her professors, “Cassandra Palmer and Jonathan Cumberland helped me be fully prepared and excited to join the professional world, and I felt very well equipped for my new job.”

Amber Quinn (MFA 2021, photography), who teaches photography at The Altamont School in Birmingham, was named one of “12 Black Artists in Birmingham that are Making the City Look Better” in 2022 by BHAM NOW.

Hannah Warner (BFA 2022, digital media/sculpture) had her work, Lucid Beacon, selected for a 2023 Black Rock City Honrararia art grant for the international Burning Man event August 27-September 4, 2023, one of only 16 and the first from Alabama.
MASTER OF FINE ARTS EXHIBITIONS

Rough Around the Edges
PARKER HUNT
April 5 – 14, 2023
Sella-Granata Art Gallery

An Act of Attention
MOLLY LAY
April 7 – May 5, 2023
The University of Alabama Gallery

Star Patterns
KOLE NICHOLS
April 5 – 14, 2023, Sella-Granata Art Gallery

ABOVE RIGHT: Parker Hunt, Buh!, 2023, terra cotta, low-fire slips and glaze, with sgraffito. BELOW RIGHT: Kole Nichols, Eclipsed, 2023, etching on slate, 3 x 4 x 1 inches, and a second work. BELOW LEFT: Molly Lay, from An Act of Attention, 2023. Images courtesy of the artists.
exhibitions

MASTER OF FINE ARTS THESIS EXHIBITIONS:

Pyle On
RYAN AKERS
March 20 – 27, 2023
Sella-Granata Art Gallery

Look or Don’t
THIS SHOW IS PROBABLY NOT FOR YOU
WILL HENRY
March 20 – 27, 2023
Sella-Granata Art Gallery

exhibitions

MASTER OF ARTS THESIS EXHIBITIONS

Old Haunts
KAT MURRAY
February 23 – March 3, 2023
Sella-Granata Art Gallery

ABOVE AND RIGHT: Kat Murray, installation view, 2023
Knowing Your Place
NATHAN CHILDERS
February 23 – March 3, 2023

Visiting Playscapes
DILLAN LADNER
February 23 – March 3, 2023
Sella-Granata Art Gallery
paths

BFA DEGREE EXHIBITIONS: SELLA-GRANATA ART GALLERY

PANTONE 201
BFA GRAPHIC DESIGN
SENIOR THESIS SHOW
April 20 – 25, 2023

Christine Choi • Katelyn Daniewicz • Cole Engelbrecht • Lily Galluccio • Austin Grant • Olivia Griep
Danielle Guy • Emma Milowski • Katherine Nebbia • Emma Robinson • Sydney Tomaine • Rachel Walser

ABOVE AND CLOCKWISE:
Ryan Glantz
DIGITAL MEDIA, DRAWING

Brylane Hay
DIGITAL MEDIA, DRAWING

Hannah Caitlin Willis
CERAMICS, SCULPTURE

NEXT PAGE, BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT:
Liv Komisar
PAINTING, DIGITAL MEDIA

Autumn Darah Williams
DIGITAL MEDIA, PAINTING

Liza Reid Smith
PAINTING, DIGITAL MEDIA
paths

BFA DEGREE EXHIBITIONS: SELLA-GRANATA ART GALLERY

2023 BFA STUDIO ART SENIOR THESIS SHOW
May 3 – 6, 2023

TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT:
Sylvia Cervino
DIGITAL MEDIA, PAINTING

Mackenna Overholt
PAINTING, DRAWING

Ella Smyth
PAINTING, SCULPTURE

BFA THESIS EXHIBITION
LIV KOMISAR

EVIL EYES
MAY 3-6, 2023
OPENING RECEPTION:
MAY 4, 4-6 PM

SELLA-GRANATA ART GALLERY
109 WOODS HALL
UA CAMPUS

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Liv Komisar, Where Are You, Home? 2023, acrylic on canvas, 30 x 48 inches

Liza Red Smith
HYPERCURIOUS

Liz Red Smith, Knocturne, 2022, mixed media, 48 x 72 inches
paths

SARAH MOODY GALLERY OF ART • PAUL R. JONES MUSEUM

PETE SCHULTE AND YEVGENIYA BARAS
January 19 – February 24, 2023

Coulter Fussell
MY LOVE FOR YOU IS DEATHLESS
March 23 – May 3, 2023

Michael C. Thorpe
NONSENSICAL FORMALISM
March 3 – April 28, 2023

Images courtesy of the artists.
**Roscoe Hall: Two Houses**
January 9 – February 23, 2023

**Tony Sturgis – Pulse & Color**
June 2 – July 28, 2023

**Lasting Impressions: Responses to the Paul R. Jones Collection by Printmaking 321**
May 5 – July 28, 2023

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Art & Art History Professors Add STEAM to K-5 Science Learning

Assistant professors Celestia Morgan and Dr. Mina Kim were part of a UA team that presented “STEAM FEST for Green Energy” Family Night and Art Exhibition to Skyland Elementary school-children. “STEAM FEST” was part of a study by UA faculty and graduate researchers to explore ways in which science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM) fits into 3rd-through 5th-grade curricula, including through an after-school program on fluid mechanics. Morgan curated a children’s art show and provided expertise in photography. “Students were able to use tablet cameras to capture fluid motion and learn about green energy during the two-day STEAM FEST event,” she said.

Jennifer Feltman Receives President’s Faculty Research Award in Arts & Humanities

Associate Professor Dr. Jennifer M. Feltman is the 2023 President’s Faculty Research Award recipient for Mid-Career Scholars in the Arts and Humanities. Dr. Feltman received the award for her distinguished research, much of it related to her work as co-director of the project, “Notre Dame in Color: Visualizing the Layered Polychromy of the Cathedral of Paris,” funded by the Transatlantic Research Partnership, UA Collaborative Arts Research Initiative, UA Office of Research and Economic Development, and the Établissement public chargé pour la restauration de la Cathédrale de Notre Dame de Paris.

Paul R. Jones Collection Curator Keynotes at Flint Institute of Art

Emily Bibb, curator and collections manager of The Paul R. Jones Collection of American Art at UA, gave the keynote address to a packed house in Michigan at the Flint Institute of Art’s (FIA) 16th Annual Community Gala in January. The gala celebrated the opening of the exhibition Bibb curated for the FIA, Ways of Seeing: The Paul R. Jones Collection of American Art at the University of Alabama, raised funds to add works by Black artists to FIA’s permanent collection, and heralded Black History Month.
Doris Sung Awarded Two Grants Including CAA Millard Meiss Grant

Assistant Professor Dr. Doris Sung received two grants to support her upcoming monograph: the prestigious College Art Association Millard Meiss Publication Grant and The Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies Individual Grant. Her book, *Women of Chinese Modern Art: Gender and Reforming Traditions in National and Global Spheres, 1900s–1930s*, is scheduled for publication in the fall of 2023, published by De Gruyter.

Melissa Yes Awarded Verdant Fund Grant for Performance Piece

Assistant Professor Melissa Yes had work included in the *6th southXeast contemporary art triennial exhibition* in Schmidt Center Gallery and Riter Art Gallery at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. Yes was also awarded a Verdant Fund grant (an expansion of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts’ Regional Re-granting program) to support *Finches*, her collaborative performance and installation project. *Finches* uses Harper Lee’s character, Atticus Finch, as an opening to conversations about the complicated figures—the "Finches"—in our personal and civic life.

Wade MacDonald Appointed to ALVAN Board

Assistant Professor Wade MacDonald has been appointed to a three-year term on the Alabama Visual Arts Network board of directors. In April, MacDonald was awarded second place for his ceramic work in the national exhibition *Shapes of Influence 2023*, juried by Jennifer Holt. He also participated in the weeklong invitational Pentaculum Residency at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, in May.
UA Art Camp Gives High Schoolers a Taste of Undergrad Life

UA studio art faculty and staff had a blast at our second annual UA Art Camp this summer. Rising 9th through 12th graders from as far away as Fairhope and Huntsville experienced a bit of undergraduate life at UA. They were able to explore and create in printmaking and book arts, graphic design, ceramics, and sculpture, led by expert faculty and highly skilled assistants. Check out photos of some of their activities at Flickr.com. And join us next year! Go to https://art.ua.edu/ua-artcamp/