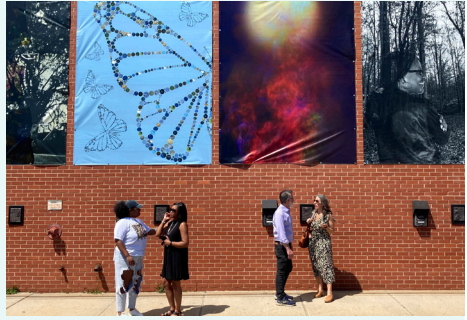


Crafting Histories of Women,
Ceramics, and



CVPA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



A Note From The Dean



Welcome to UNCG College of Visual and Performing Arts' 2022-2023 Community Engagement Report. UNCG is one of only fifty-nine universities nation-wide to have received the Carnegie Corporation's "Community Engagement" classification! Unlike the outdated concept of community outreach, community engagement is defined through mutual benefit plus reciprocity according to the Carnegie Corporation. Community engagement is part of UNCG's DNA as an institution and one of the core values that we teach our students. CVPA is proud to join with community partners to present community programs, activities, and events for children and young adults and those who are young at heart. All told, CVPA has nearly twenty community programs and opportunities in art, dance, music, and theatre. As the Dean of CVPA, I could not be prouder of our faculty leaders who are at the helm of these collaborations.

Educational programs and activities are a way that CVPA and community partners collectively build ongoing, permanent relationships for social benefits and outcomes. All these programs and activities are teaching CVPA students how to become community-based artists during their time in Greensboro and equipping them with skills for a life in the arts. CVPA's Community Engagement, under the direction of Caitlyn Schrader, is a resource to support faculty, students, and community partners. Community Engagement is guided and informed by our belief in and commitment to community and place. CVPA's 2020–2025 Strategic Plan, *The Path Forward*, challenges us to transform—and be transformed by—our community. I hope that these programs will spark your interest and creativity and cause you to become involved with our College!

Sincerely,

bruce d. mcclung, PhD
Dean, College of Visual and Performing Arts

Community Engagement Snapshot

During the 2022-2023 academic year, UNC Greensboro's College of Visual and Performing Arts engaged with over 11,650 people in the community through 18 community-engaged programs and activities, which engaged participants from 133 schools (K-12 and higher education institutions) in North Carolina. This was made possible by 55 CVPA faculty and staff members, 63 CVPA Master's and Doctoral students, and 207 CVPA undergraduate students.

18 community-engaged programs and activities	133 schools (K-12 & higher education institutions) in North Carolina	55 CVPA faculty and staff members	63 CVPA Master's and Doctoral students	207 CVPA undergraduate students
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CONTACT

For inquiries regarding community engagement that expand the scope and accessibility of the arts in the College of Visual and Performing Arts, please email

Caitlyn Schrader
cmschrad@uncg.edu



Caitlyn Schrader is the Director of Community Engagement for the College of Visual and Performing Arts at UNC Greensboro (UNCG) where she supports and advocates for community engaged programs and initiatives led by students and faculty that advance partnerships between the College and the community. Schrader is also the Director of Greensboro Project Space (GPS), an off-campus contemporary art space in downtown Greensboro, which acts as a bridge between UNCG's School of Art and the Greensboro community. GPS invites UNCG students and faculty to connect and to engage with our local and regional communities, resulting in an increased amount of interdisciplinarity, accessibility, and collaboration.

For more information about these programs and activities, and for updates, please visit

vpa.uncg.edu/community-engagement

Experiential Learning through Community Partners

CVPA engages with and maintains viable community partnerships throughout our local community and beyond. Additionally, the Arts Administration program has students placed within our community partners and arts organization through their internship and employment opportunities:

The Artists Bloc	The Forge	North Carolina Theatre
Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County	Garner Performing Arts Center	Novant Health
Arts Council of Greater Greensboro/ NC Folk Festival	Gatewood Gallery, UNCG School of Art	Peacehaven Community Farms
Artspace	GreenHill Center for	Piedmont Blues Preservation Society
Arts Plus	North Carolina Art	Piedmont Old Time Society
Barista Craft Coffee	Greensboro City Arts Programming	Reconsidered Goods
Bel Canto	Greensboro Opera	Reynolda House Museum of American Art
Burning Coal Theatre Company	Greensboro Performing Arts	Sapphire Studios
Cabarrus Arts Council	Greensboro Project Space	Sewanee Music Festival
Cardboard Castle Productions	Greensboro Symphony Orchestra	Sheryl Oring
Carolina Theatre	Greenville Museum of Art	Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art
Center for Creative Economy	Guggenheim Art Museum	Studio One
Center for Visual Artists	Guilford County Schools	Thalian Association Community Theatre
Centre Stage	Industries of the Blind	Transform GSO
Charlotte Ballet	Jacob's Pillow	Triad Stage
City Arts	JoyeMovement	Triangle Wind Ensemble
Creative Greensboro	KhromaZone Artist Agency	TZ Studio
Dance Project	Little Theater of Winston Salem	UNCG Special Collections
Davis Shakespeare Festival	Manifold Records	University Concert and Lecture Series
Durham Independent Dance Artists	Mercy Hill Church (music programming)	Watauga Arts Council
Durham Performing Arts Center	Motorco	Weatherspoon Art Museum
Eastern Music Festival	MUSEP Concert Series	Wesleyan Teaching Studios
Elgin Symphony	National Black Theatre Festival	Wicked Whimsies
Empower Dance Studio	NC Squares	Winston-Salem Symphony
Florida Studio Theatre	North Carolina Black Repertory Company	Young Musicians of Alamance
	North Carolina Museum of Art	

Community Programs, Activities, and Events

Lillian Rauch Beginning Strings (LRBS) Program

The mission of the Lillian Rauch Beginning Strings Program is to increase access to string instruction for underserved students, to provide string instrument instruction free of charge, to nurture and develop students' creative talents, and to prepare students for challenging opportunities in music and life.

Peck Alumni Leadership (PAL) Program

The mission of the Peck Alumni Leadership Program is to provide private string instruction to underserved students and to promote leadership and service. The program is designed to increase access to string instruction and to empower students as agents of change in their community.



The goal of Peck Alumni Leadership and Lillian Rauch Beginning Strings programs is to increase access to string instruction for underserved populations; this has been a goal of mine throughout my career. My involvement in LRBS and PAL has given me opportunities to learn how to take actionable steps to serve more students, to become more culturally responsive to my students and their families, and to train future teachers to work in diverse environments.

— **Heather Lofdahl, UNCG PhD Student,**
Educator LRBS; Program Coordinator PAL

UNCG's Double Reed Day allows young oboists and bassoonists who are often the only double reed player in their band to meet a network of individuals who are passionate about the same thing they are. The event brings students from all over the East Coast together to celebrate making music and make a lifelong connection to the University and the UNCG School of Music.

— **Jack Fanning, UNCG Music Alumnus,**
Double Reed Day Vendor

Double Reed Day

This event invites the community to campus to learn reed-making and adjusting, to play double-reed chamber music, and to get to work with guest artists and faculty members in the School of Music.

Community Music Lessons (CML)

One-on-one music instruction by School of Music students to members of the Greensboro community is an opportunity for our undergraduate and graduate student population to gain valuable teaching experience during their time at UNCG. Participating in lessons will allow more Greensboro community members of all ages to experience the joy and accomplishment of gaining artistic and technical skills in music.



Community Music Lessons meant a great amount to me as a community member because it provided opportunities that nourished my artistic capabilities through talented musicians who guided, mentored, and genuinely cared. These lessons shaped me into the musician I am today, leaving a lasting impact on who I am personally as well as artistically.

— **Avery Beckman, CML Student**



Brews-Keys

UNCG School of Music's piano students and faculty hosted free piano recitals for the community at Double Oaks Bed & Breakfast.

UNCG Summer Music Camp

UNCG Summer Music Camp ranks as the largest university sponsored music camp in America. Students are under the leadership and guidance of the artist-faculty of the UNCG School of Music, distinguished music teachers, performers, and conductors from throughout the state and nation who ensure that each student receives the highest quality instruction available.



High School Dance Day provides students with the opportunity to engage with acclaimed professors of UNCG, to witness and to collaborate directly with the current students and to network with other high school dance programs in Greensboro and beyond. As a former UNCG dancer who assisted with implementing the program, now directing a high school program and leading students through the experience, it is clear that the value in the program is in the ebb and flow of challenge and inspiration that the students are exposed to. This experience leads to an undeniable spark in their creativity and for me, my dancers becoming UNCG Spartans!

— **Chania Wilson**, UNCG Dance Alumna,
Enloe High School Dance Educator

This was my student's favorite field trip this year; it was nice for our students to be on a college campus, to learn from professors, and to see what other high schools are doing and how they are learning and researching dance. High School Dance Day is a valuable opportunity for my students because students can practice and understand the importance of performance values to enhance dance performance.

— **Dance Educator**, Guilford County Schools

High School Dance Day

Local and regional high schoolers are invited to explore and to experience the School of Dance facilities and to engage with dance faculty and students for this one-day event, including studio classes, performances, and other enrichment activities.

Greensboro Dance Film Festival (GDFF)

CVPA Community Engagement Grant Awardee

Greensboro Dance Film Festival is a boutique dance film festival that seeks to connect diverse communities through the innovative genre of dance on screen. The festival uses the background of both city and country to highlight dance films from around the world and support artists through interdisciplinary collaboration and creative exchange. GDFF is also interested in community outreach, offering screenings, workshops and masterclasses in dance and filmmaking while providing local audiences with access to this emerging global arts genre.



Because of the Community Engagement Grant, we were able to return to our original downtown location and were rewarded with a larger audience and the presence of out-of-town filmmakers. GDFF is growing exponentially, and our community partners are helping in this effort. We have partnered with two local schools and one dance studio to create and to implement lesson plans around dance and the camera.

— **Robin Gee**, Professor of Dance, Founder,
Greensboro Dance Film Festival

Summer Arts and Design Intensive (SADI)

The Summer Arts and Design Intensive is the School of Art's visual art summer program for high school students to engage with the arts, to develop their creative skills, and to explore the horizon of art careers. Its goal is to foster creativity, positive learning, and community through visual art. The UNCG School of Art faculty, art education staff, and Weatherspoon Art Museum collaborate with campers to provide a creative and productive environment as they explore and experiment with new media, concepts, and techniques through college-level studio classes and inspiring art-enrichment events on the UNCG campus.



College can be such an overwhelming transition in life. By offering an inclusive studio environment for students from a variety of backgrounds, SADI shows young scholars how they can be an impactful part of a flourishing art community. SADI has helped me become a better art educator by connecting with diverse students from all over North Carolina, ambitious art education interns, and innovative professors and their cutting-edge curriculum.

— **Nicolette Johnson**, SADI Site Coordinator, UNCG Art Education Alumna

My involvement in the IOB project as an individual meant a lot to me. I was able to come together not only with other blind and visually impaired artists, but also friends and coworkers, to be able to share with the community our stories, and to be able to be a part of that was awesome. The impact that this project had on me was profound. Someone who I did not know, was able to take my words, my life in a story and put photography to it and create a masterpiece that even Vincent van Gogh himself couldn't duplicate.

— **Sherrie Thompson**, IOB Associate

SADI offers students an unparalleled week-long opportunity to experience life as a full-time art student here at UNCG. They live in the dorms, eat in the cafeteria, and spend their days in classes designed to introduce them to new artistic concepts and techniques while deepening their own personal art practice. This will be my third year as an instructor at the camp, and I am consistently blown away not just by the campers' talent and dedication and the work produced, but also the sense of community and connection that we build over the course of the week.

— **Dan Hale**, UNCG Assistant Professor of Animation, Instructor for SADI

Greensboro Project Space

Created by the School of Art, Greensboro Project Space is an off-campus contemporary art space in downtown Greensboro, which acts as a bridge between students and faculty in the School of Art and the Greensboro community. Its off-campus location plays a key role in expanding accessibility to the arts and acts as a site for engagement to have critical dialogue by actively facilitating connections, resulting in an increased amount of interdisciplinarity and collaboration.

Industries of the Blind (IOB)

CVPA collaborated with Industries of the Blind on the installation of a public art piece that tells the stories of the blind and low-visioned using sight, sound, and touch, located at the IOB building at the corner of Gate City Boulevard and Tate Street, one of the main entrances to the UNC Greensboro campus.



The IOB project was an incredible experience that challenged me to listen and to think deeply during my interviews with my partner Sandra. Working with her felt more like collaborating with a friend than working for a client. As we talked, we discussed not only her life and her experiences as a blind person, but also how I could most truthfully translate those things into a visual medium. I am proud that I was able to create a piece that represents such a wonderful person and am honored that it is being displayed for all to see!

— **Bjorn Bates**, UNCG Art Student



City Billboard

The City Billboard is a collaboration between Greensboro Project Space and The Forge. The City Billboard provides local artists, international artists, and community members a megaphone into the city of Greensboro. Highly visible on the corner of Eugene Street and Gate City Boulevard, the City Billboard greets 36,000 daily commuters with a curated rotation of surprisingly uplifting, humorous, and thought-provoking texts.

NC Theatre for Young People (NCTYP)

CVPA Community Engagement Grant Awardee

Since 1962, NCTYP has performed live theatre for more than two million children in Greensboro, across the state, and throughout the region. NCTYP exists to celebrate the art of live theatre for young audiences, to enrich the lives of young people and their families, and to connect the University with the community. It offers outreach programs and touring productions bringing expertise in theatre education and drama-in-education to area educators and community members. In the spring, NCTYP toured a production of *Winnie-the-Pooh* to nearly two dozen schools in the state.



“My involvement with the NC Theatre for Young People means a lot to me as it was my first performance at UNCG, and I found myself in a very insightful and rare position as a freshman. I learned a lot about what it takes to healthily be a part of a production, especially for an extended period of time. It was inherently challenging but incredibly rewarding for me as a student and as an actor. I loved having this opportunity and hope many others get the chance to experience it.

— Aiden Feria, UNCG Theatre Student,
Winnie-the-Pooh

It's an acknowledgement that not everyone can come to the theater. So we're making live theater accessible to all children everywhere—no matter where they live.

— Rachel Briley, UNCG Associate Professor of
Theatre, Artistic Director of NCTYP

NC Young Playwrights Festival

Since 2003, the North Carolina Playwrights Festival has remained a wonderfully collaborative project between the North Carolina Association of Educators, UNCG School of Theatre, and Triad Stage, fostering playwriting in NC public schools and showcasing the budding talent of the next generation of theatre artists through an annual playwriting competition and festival. The festival is produced by the theatre education students and staff in the School of Theatre and provides several young playwrights the opportunity to see their play come to life through a staged reading performance.



Frame/Works

Frame/Works is a program intended to share the contextual underpinnings of theatrical productions—the how, the who, the what, the when, and the why. Frame/Works brings to light the important conversations that are often had before, during and after a piece of theatre is created and shared, drawing connections between scholarly examination and artistic practice.

Short Tales for Children

The Short Tales for Children program is an annual collaboration between Creative Greensboro and UNCG. It features short original plays written by members of the Greensboro Playwrights Forum, directed by UNCG School of Theater Education students under the mentorship of Creative Greensboro's Performing Arts Coordinator and UNCG Theatre faculty. Short Tales provides young actors a fun environment to explore theatre, supported by college students who are receiving real-world experience in theatre education for children.



Academic Programs That Embrace Community Engagement Foundations

INTERDISCIPLINARY ART & SOCIAL PRACTICE

A minor in Interdisciplinary Art & Social Practice (IASP) provides students with a set of seminar and project-based experiences, which explore unique creative practices that engage the public sphere, build communities, and foster meaningful experiences beyond traditional art contexts. The program is designed with an emphasis on social interactions as a medium to explore new ideas, to create change, and to cultivate collective curiosity. Only a few universities across the nation have begun to offer undergraduate degree programs focused on Social Practice. This is a way to craft a unique education that combines creativity with any major field of study, enabling students to develop art practices with civic impact and professional, transferable skill sets leading to increased opportunities within and beyond the Arts.

Taking on the IASP minor couldn't have been a better decision for my artistry. I learned the uniqueness of my individuality along with the significance of my contribution to collaborative projects and spaces while establishing partnerships. IASP allowed me to venture outside of my comfort zone and gently asked that I take risks and go just the extra mile to introduce new, innovative perspectives to the art world. The IASP minor at UNCG is certainly one where artists are empowered to find themselves in their work and to elevate from there. It is a curriculum void of traditional, market-level molding and offers students the paper and pencil needed to write the blueprint that they'll use to identify themselves and to navigate blissfully through their artistry. And most importantly, I've learned to make informed decisions in real time.

— **Aneesah Abdur-Razzaq**, UNCG Dance Student, IASP Minor

This trip was truly a wonderful and inspiring experience. You notice new things at every turn when you purposely move through the world with a social practice eye. Standing in the dining hall of Black Mountain College, I could feel the energy of the artists who lived there. There is something quite beautiful about standing where many influential and creative minds designed and laughed before you.

— **Annabelle Kizer**, UNCG Art Student, IASP Minor



IASP Research Trip & Visiting Artist

In the spring, students and faculty from the Interdisciplinary Art & Social Practice program embarked on a research trip to Asheville, North Carolina, to explore and to learn about the history and influence of Black Mountain College (1933–1957). The IASP program also welcomed their Spring '23 Visiting Artist, Christina Maria Xochitlzihuatl, a founding member of the collective Imaginistas. This trip and Visiting Artist were generously funded by the Victoria and Ron Milstein Fund for Interdisciplinary Art & Social Practice.



Alternative Campus Tour

IASP's Social Practice class co-designed and facilitated an Alternative Campus Tour, which took students, faculty, staff, community members, and prospective students on a campus tour, showcasing hidden, desired, and unexpected locations. Originally inspired by desire paths and their locations on campus, students hoped that paying attention to desire paths can teach us a lot about how we experience campus in unexpected ways and lead us to discover new places.



ARTS ADMINISTRATION

The Arts Administration Program develops the skills necessary for a career working in arts organizations, arts-related businesses, and in your own creative endeavors. The Arts Administration Program is also strong in entrepreneurship through its partnership with the Bryan School of Business and Economics. The program offers many opportunities to gain professional experience on campus and in the community through internships with a professional arts organization to make connections and to gain tangible work experience.



It is always exciting when I hear of former curatorial interns I have worked with at GreenHill who have gone on to careers in the visual arts. Whether as working studio artists such as painter Rachel Siminoski and ceramicist Danielle Carelock or as curators and arts leaders such as Katie Seiz, Erin Riggins, and Michelle Lanteri.

— **Edie Carpenter**, *Director, Artistic + Curatorial Programs, GreenHill Center for NC Art*

We LOVE UNCG Arts Administration interns. They come well prepared, curious, and ready to work. UNCG internships often lead to becoming a GreenHill staff member.

— **Jaymie Meyer**, *Director of Education, GreenHill Center for NC Art*

CVPA Community Engagement Advisory Committee

The CVPA Community Engagement Advisory Committee, which originally convened in January 2021, includes a faculty representative from each CVPA School, a University member from outside the College, a representative from the Weatherspoon Art Museum, and community arts partners. In 2021 the Committee established the CVPA Community Engagement Grant. This internal, annual grant opportunity was established to increase resources and support for CVPA community-engaged scholarship including, but not limited to, teaching, service, research, and/or creative practice for faculty, staff, and students, as outlined in the CVPA's 2020–2025 Strategic Plan. In addition, the Committee assesses and problem solves unique needs for CVPA's ongoing community-engaged programs and assists in identifying new opportunities for growth.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Caitlyn Schrader

Director of Community Engagement, College of Visual and Performing Arts
Director, Greensboro Project Space, School of Art

Jennifer Reis

Assistant Professor, School of Art

Annie Jeng

Assistant Professor, School of Music

Atiba Rorie

Lecturer, School of Dance

Robi Arce-Martínez

Assistant Professor, School of Theatre

Ann Grimaldi

Curator of Education, Weatherspoon Art Museum (Fall 2022)

Emily Janke

Director, Institute for Community and Economic Engagement
Associate Professor, Peace and Conflict Studies

Maria-Elena Surprenant

Fine Arts Grants Curator, Guilford County School

**CVPA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GRANT
AWARDEE FEATURES**

Repair, Rewear, and Reconnect Project

A project series of pop-up events and workshops working with the community to extend the life of clothes, to empower others to connect with craft and creativity, and to facilitate conversations about the effects we have on the planet. The project created an interchange around sustainability, amplifies the importance of accessibility to the arts in the community, and invigorates communication about creative solutions to climate change.



Persistence of Vision—Animation Toys and Optical Devices Exhibition

This project presented the Laura Hayes and John Howard Wileman Collection of Optical Toys held by the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematic at the Gatewood Gallery at UNCG in Fall 2022. The free Gatewood exhibition introduced the social, cultural, scientific, and cinematic histories and implications of these objects to viewers from K-12, university, and community audiences. Visitors also engaged physically with replicas and digitally with virtual reality creations of the devices.



Fire and Beer—Crafting Histories of Women, Ceramics, and Brewing

In this exhibition of ceramics and historical ephemera at Greensboro Project Space, UNCG scholars presented research from their 2021 and 2022 publications on the histories of North Carolina Triad beer and beer pot production in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Public programming highlighted the entrepreneurial spirit of women, historical brewers in both locations, through artists' talks and demonstrations.



GRAPHIC DESIGN: Rachele Riley