

# CVPA Community Engagement Annual Report 2023–2024



University of North Carolina at Greensboro







# A Note from The Dean

Welcome to UNC Greensboro College of Visual and Performing Arts' 2023–2024 Community Engagement Report. This year UNCG was one of only forty US colleges and universities to have received the 2024 Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification, an elective designation awarded by the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching that highlights an institution's commitment to community engagement. Unlike the outdated concept of community outreach, community engagement is defined through mutual benefit plus reciprocity according to the Carnegie Foundation.

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 sixteen community programs and opportunities in art, dance, music, and theatre. As the Dean of this College, 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 expert 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 2023–2024 academic year, UNC Greensboro's College of Visual and Performing Arts engaged with over **17,477 people** in the community through **16 community-engaged programs and activities**, which engaged participants from **325 schools** (K–12 and higher education institutions) in North Carolina. This was made possible by **99 CVPA faculty and staff members**, **88 CVPA Master's and Doctoral students**, and **240 CVPA undergraduate students**.

# Experiential Learning through Community Partners

CVPA engages with and maintains viable community partnerships throughout our local community and beyond. Additionally, the College's Arts Administration program has students placed within our community partners and arts organizations through their internship and employment opportunities. The below list are the community partners engaged with during the 2023–2024 academic year:

Arts of the Abermarle  
B.T. Bullock Elementary School  
Brooks Global Studies  
Creative Greensboro  
Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History  
Double Oaks Bed & Breakfast  
Eastern Music Festival  
Elsewhere Museum  
Gatewood Gallery, UNCG School of Art  
Greensboro Bound  
Greensboro Opera  
Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department  
Greensboro Symphony Orchestra  
Guilford College  
Guilford County Schools  
North Carolina Black Repertory Company  
North Carolina Folk Festival  
Oak Hill Elementary School  
Oden Brewery  
Peacehaven Community Farm  
Rankin Elementary School  
Reconsidered Goods  
Scuppernong Books  
Southeastern Shakespeare Company  
St. Pius X Catholic School  
Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts  
Summerfield Elementary School  
Sylvan Elementary School  
The Arts Based School  
The Carolina Theatre of Greensboro  
The Dance Project  
The Experiential School of Greensboro  
Transform GSO  
UNCG School of Dance  
UNSCA School of Dance  
Washington Street School  
Weatherspoon Art Museum  
Westchester Country Day School  
William Mangum Fine 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.

## Peer Artist Leadership (PAL) Program

The mission of the Peer Artist 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 LRBS and the PAL programs offer string (violin, viola, cello, and bass) lessons to the students of Guilford County at no cost. Both programs provide access to instrumental music and offer opportunities that would otherwise not be available to these students. While some alumni from both the PAL and LRBS programs have gone on to become musicians or music educators, many have gone to college or university to study other subjects, some of these students being first generation college students. The community that is built within these programs is truly extraordinary, with some of these students forming lifelong friendships and finding strong mentors; I believe the programs aid in these efforts. Our UNCG Music Education students also greatly benefit from PAL and LRBS, giving them real, hands-on experiences with teaching before they enter the field. They are two of the most exceptional community engagement programs in the CVPA, and it is an absolute honor and pleasure to be a part of them.

—Jennifer Aikey, UNCG PhD Student, Educator and Program Coordinator LRBS & PAL



## Double Reed Day

Hosted by the UNCG oboe and bassoon faculty members, this event gathers double reed players from around North Carolina and beyond with esteemed guest artists and invites them to spend a day on the UNCG campus. The day features a faculty recital, masterclasses and clinics, sessions on reeds, and a massed double reed band with all participants. Additionally, there are vendors selling instruments, reeds, tools, music, and supplies.

UNCG's Double Reed Day has been a joy to attend for several years for me and other musicians from the Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill area. I am impressed by the guest artists, vendors, students, professors, and facilities overall.

—Charles Gragg, Double Reed Day Community Attendee

Double Reed Day provides leadership and mentoring opportunities for every student in UNCG's oboe and bassoon studios at UNCG. One of the highlights was watching my students work with the high school and middle school students who attended Double Reed Day. Our UNCG students helped officially welcome each participant, learn about music, and encourage them throughout the day.

—Courtney Miller, Assistant Professor of Oboe

### Community Music Lessons (CML)

The Community Music Lessons program connects interested community members with one-on-one private music lesson instructors by School of Music students. It is an opportunity for our undergraduate and graduate students to gain valuable teaching experience during their time at UNCG. Additionally, each semester they present free opportunities for kids (and adults!) to engage with music via Instrument Petting Zoos and *Peter and the Wolf* interactive concerts. Participating in lessons and performances allows Greensboro community members of all ages to experience the joy and accomplishment of gaining artistic and technical skills in music.

I took my two-year-old daughter to see CML presents *Peter and the Wolf*. My daughter could not take her eyes off the instruments. She was mesmerized the entire performance. I was blown away that the students' performance sounded just like the professional recording. The care and musicianship of these young musicians was outstanding. It was a great experience and one we need more of to keep classical music alive. The experience was so powerful that months later my daughter still asks to listen to *Peter and the Wolf* every day and wants to grow up to study the flute with Dr. Erika Boysen. Thank you UNCG!

—Alexandra Arpajian, Community Member, Community Music Lessons



Instrument Petting Zoo

### Brews-Keys

Brews-Keys is an event sponsored by the Keyboard Area that occurs each semester at various gathering venues including Oden Brewing Company and Double Oaks Bed & Breakfast. Students and faculty of the Keyboard Area perform a casual marathon-style concert for members of the community in spaces that would otherwise rarely be exposed to classical music.





### UNCG Summer Music Camp

UNCG Summer Music Camp ranks as the largest university-sponsored music camp in the United States, having successfully hosted about sixty thousand students since 1983. 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.

### UNCG Opera Theatre's Opera at the Carolina (OAC)

Annually, the UNCG Opera Theatre collaborates with the Guilford County Schools to bring every fifth grader (over six thousand) to the downtown Carolina Theatre of Greensboro to experience the magic of live opera. An integral part of OAC is the performance of the "Write Your Own Opera" contest. For fifteen years, an original opera is created in collaboration with the Guilford County Schools; fourth grade students submit creative writing stories to the Greensboro Opera, which get transformed into an opera, performed the following year at the Opera at the Carolina event. The teachers and students of Guilford County are engaged, as are the students and singers at UNCG, as well as the Greensboro Opera board and the Carolina Theatre staff. In past years, the winning opera has also been presented at the annual Greensboro Bound Literary Festival.

The UNCG Opera Theatre is an important program because of the impact on our community and as a vehicle for our UNCG students to make the transition into the professional world. It provides stage time and performances for our students through our official partnership with Greensboro Opera. Many appear in Greensboro Opera's professional mainstage shows, either in the chorus and often in smaller roles. These stage credits, as well as those from our UNCG productions, enhance our students' resumes as they move out into the professional world. Triad art lovers get to hear world-class artists who begun their careers right here with UNCG Opera Theatre.

—David Holley, Professor of Opera and Director of Opera at the Carolina



Opera at the Carolina

### Community Dance Day

Local and regional high students 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. Participants partake in dance classes covering a diverse range of styles such as jazz, contemporary, ballet, safety release technique, Afro-beats, samba, salsa, rumba, yoga, Pilates, and percussion workshops. Dance majors pursuing K-12 licensure play an integral role in event management and administrative tasks, serve as ambassadors and conversational partners during lunch, and participate as class assistants. Their involvement enhances the event's organizational efficiency and fosters a supportive environment for high school participants.

One surprising outcome is how coming to the campus and participating in classes with “real professors” piques the interest high school students have in UNCG in general. In particular, I had two teachers talking to me about continuing their education in the graduate program at UNCG. I guess I expected to hear this from high school students and was delighted to hear about the interest from teachers, too! Hearing the interest and positive responses reminds UNCG students about what a wonderful place the School of Dance is and taking part in serving others as ambassadors and reaching out and engaging the community keeps us in touch with the real world of dance and its possibility to inspire.

—Melinda Waegerle, UNCG School of Dance Faculty Emerita, Community Dance Day



Community Dance Day

### Greensboro Dance Film Festival (GDFF)

Greensboro Dance Film Festival is a boutique dance film festival that seeks to connect diverse communities through the innovative genre of dance on screen. Merging performance and cinematic aesthetics, Screen Dance has expanded the possibilities of choreographic composition and structure by pushing the boundaries of dance beyond its staged possibilities. The festival, situated in historic Greensboro, uses the background of city and country to highlight dance films from around the world and to support artists through collaboration and creative exchange. GDFF is also interested in extensive community outreach, offering screenings, workshops, and masterclasses in dance and filmmaking while providing local audiences access to this emerging global arts genre.

### 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 through an immersive, hands-on learning experiences. The 2023 Intensive marked the 10th anniversary with over one hundred high school artists participating! Its goal is to foster creativity, positive learning, and community through visual art and aims to enhance students' skills



and broaden their artistic perspectives. The UNCG School of Art faculty and Weatherspoon Art Museum staff collaborate with campers to provide a creative and productive environment as high school students explore and experiment with new media, concepts, and techniques through college-level studio classes and inspiring art-enrichment events on the UNCG campus. SADI encourages collaboration and exchange of ideas among participants, promoting a sense of community. It also serves as a cultural enrichment opportunity for the larger community, showcasing the talents of emerging artists and fostering a greater appreciation for visual art.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my work with the SADI program is witnessing its transformative impact on participants. During the week-long program, the School of Art's faculty members instruct and empower campers to develop their unique artistic voices and to achieve significant milestones in their creative journeys. I am equally proud to see UNCG art education students who intern as camp counselors grow confident and become inspiring art educators. The program's emphasis on fostering creativity, innovation, and collaboration based on culturally responsive pedagogy aligns with my passion for arts education and community building. For ten years, SADI has contributed to the cultural enrichment of the larger community and strengthened UNCG's role as a hub for artistic excellence. It is a source of immense pride as the founder and program director.

—**Maria Lim**, Professor of Art Education, Founder and Director of SADI

Summer Arts and Design Intensive  
Greensboro Dance Film Festival



### Greensboro Project Space (GPS)

Created by UNCG's School of Art, Greensboro Project Space is an off-campus, multi-purpose art space and satellite gallery in downtown Greensboro, which is a bridge between students and faculty in the School of Art and the Greensboro community. GPS serves a vital role in the art students' educational experience and functions as an additional site for teaching and learning. In addition to the traditional exhibition opportunities for student and community artists, GPS also serves as a site for professional field-related internships, encourages student-initiated and curated group exhibitions, supports in-process experimentation, and offers an annual undergraduate student residency program. 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 increased amount of interdisciplinary collaboration.

As both an intern and a longtime visitor of GPS, I adore that every single visit is its own unique experience. I cherish the connections that I've made with both my UNCG and Greensboro communities, and I look forward to discovering new favorite artists and people on a regular basis

—**KT Wilson**, UNCG Art Student, GPS Intern

GPS has been an instrumental place for professional and artistic growth for both undergraduate and graduate students within the School of Art. During my time at GPS, I have gained insights into the workings of a gallery space and art handling. Being able to problem solve complex installations, seek satisfaction for our clients (artists), and communicate with the Greensboro community about the outstanding Art program that UNCG offers has been an irreplaceable experience. It's great to know that students and faculty can curate shows in this space, which highlights the artistic merits of UNCG students.

—**Nil Smith**, UNCG MFA Student, GPS Graduate Assistant



Greensboro Project Space  
Mayer Park Mural Project

### Mayer Park Mural Project

The UNCG School of Art and Greensboro Project Space partnered with Creative Greensboro and Greensboro Parks and Recreation Department to offer a mural commission opportunity for a selected student. The mural is the final stage of the City's 2024 renovation plan for Mayer Park, and the selected student designed a large, outdoor, painted sidewalk mural on the grounds of the newly renovated Mayer Park. Student design proposals considered the Mayer Park neighborhood and community voices.

I was thrilled to get a glimpse of the next generation of artists, and GPS provided the art students with a real-world experience that allowed them to shine. As a community partner with Creative Greensboro, it was so helpful that GPS really understood the learning opportunity that the Mayer Park Mural Project provided for students and helped them make the most of it. Now, a piece of public art created by a UNCG student will be a centerpiece in the newly renovated Mayer Park, which serves the surrounding community and fellow UNCG students. I can see how working with UNCG and GPS will help grow artists and their artistic careers and be a part of creative place-keeping and creative place-making efforts in our city and beyond. As Creative Greensboro continues to build relationships, it is so helpful and wonderful to see UNCG and GPS want that community-based work to be part of the learning experience for its students. It is so important. And faculty members are willing to put in the effort to help make the experiences meaningful and relevant.

—**Karen Archia**, Community Partnerships, Creative Greensboro, Mayer Park Mural Project

Participation in the Mayer Park Mural Project has given me a greater understanding of the process of creating public art. Though I had some prior experience, being the lead artist for the first time in a public art project has given me insight into the behind-the-scenes work that is necessary before paint can meet the canvas. As someone looking to move further into public art in my career, it was very valuable to have this opportunity through UNCG because it became a supportive learning experience. I am now more informed in executing public art projects and will be better prepared for any projects in the future.

—**Destiny Turner**, UNCG Art Student, Artist Selected for Mayer Park Mural Project



## North Carolina Theatre for Young People (NCTYP)

Since 1962, UNCG's North Carolina Theatre for Young People 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. NCTYP realizes this vision through producing plays, facilitating creative partnerships, and educating Theatre for Youth graduate students to apply knowledge in practice in area schools and community organizations. NCTYP strives to embrace all community members in its offerings and to provide outreach programs and touring productions, bringing expertise in theatre education and drama-in-education to area educators and community members.

This program has been invaluable for both the students at UNCG as well as the students at elementary schools in Franklin, Vance, Granville, and Warren Counties. When UNCG students in the touring productions come to Louisburg College they get to perform in a big, beautiful auditorium, which holds twelve hundred seats. This kind of experience is often rare and incredibly valuable when a student is studying theatre. They really get a chance to flex the skills they've been learning in their program, and in turn, the school children attending these shows from the surrounding communities get to see children's plays that are tailored to their grade level. Seeing a live show performed and often designed or directed by actors, designers, and directors who are working to make their art into a career shows children that they too might be able to pursue a career in the arts. Some of these school children have never seen a live play before. It is a win-win for all involved.

—**Josie Smith**, UNCG MFA Acting Alumna; President, Southeastern Shakespeare Company, NCTYP Sponsor



NC Theatre for Young People

Frame/Works

## Frame/Works

Frame/Works is a UNCG School of Theatre program intended to share the contextual underpinnings of theatrical productions, as they frame the work they produce—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. Those involved in Frame/Works believe audiences are essential collaborators in the creative process.

Frame/Works has opened a lot of doors for me as an artist it pertains to my confidence in my public speaking and leadership skills. Hosting was not a skill I knew I had until this opportunity. It's not as easy as it looks, but I always enjoy it so much. I have Frame/Works to thank for this discovery, and what's to come because of it!

—**Seania Burnett**, UNCG Theatre Student, Frame/Works Host

I overall love being a part of the engagement community team for the School of Theatre and more specifically being able to host and support our Frame/Works program. My specific job when it comes to Frame/Works is to make sure our technology is up and running smoothly so the viewers can watch remotely. I am an artist myself and Frame/Works really changed my mindset of why we do art in the first place—it's about the "why," not the "how" of our art that's impactful.

—**DeAsia McRae**, UNCG Theatre Student, Frame/Works Team Member

### Unity in Diversity

Unity in Diversity was an event organized by UNCG MFA Theatre student Jamaas Britton with the assistance of Professor Rachel Briley and funded with a UNCG iBelong Grant. This specific project was created to bridge a gap between the different disciplines in the CVPA not only to bring together art students in different degree tracks but also to encourage representation in the arts by inviting Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC) students to audition and to demonstrate who they are, what they study, and why this matters. This allowed students to showcase a part of themselves that is not regularly presented outside of their fields of study and was also a way to work together to cultivate a community within a community for the community.

The Unity in Diversity event was something that I really wanted to do ever since I first arrived at UNCG. It was important to me because I felt that students should get the opportunity to work with other artists and to gain access to someone else's word. I fully believe that artists are connected in more ways than we think, and we should continue to work together to create beautiful moments. Creating this project was just that for me. It gave me a moment of realization that sharing your art with someone else is important in expressing who you are and has the potential of opening the eyes of others to new ideas and experiences. I had the chance to make new connections, to meet new people that were incredible in their crafts, and to share a piece of me that I don't often get to share. It was bittersweet to display representation for those that looked like me, to congregate with an audience, and to be a part of a change that I hope continues.

—**Jamaas Britton**, UNCG MFA Theatre Student, Organizer of Unity in Diversity



Unity in Diversity  
Short Tales for Children



## 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 School of 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.

I adored working on Short Tales. Being involved in this festival was my first glimpse into the Greensboro theatre scene. It was heartwarming to meet parents that are getting their children involved in the arts at such a young age. Having those interactions, however brief, filled me with optimism for the future of theatre in our schools and communities. Short Tales brought together local students, parents, children, and playwrights from around the area to share in the excitement of youth theatre. I truly hope this play festival lives on in the Greensboro Cultural Center and continues to highlight young talent in the area!

—**Amarah Pearson**, UNCG Theatre Student, Design and Technical Production,  
Assistant Director, Short Tales

Over the past two years, I've had the opportunity to direct two short, goofy plays written by local playwrights. Both shows starred an amazing ensemble of young actors of all ages and skill levels. Short Tales is an incredible learning opportunity for everyone involved. The actors help each other grow, gain confidence, and create the best performance they can. Short Tales showed me as a student the transformative power of theatre. I've seen young actors fall in love with and decide to continue acting because of the friends they made in Short Tales. I learned to communicate effectively with actors, parents, and community members. I talked with local playwrights who expressed amazement at seeing their words joyfully brought to life through the program. Short Tales is an incredible part of our UNCG and the Greensboro theatre community. It provides limitless opportunities for growth, learning, and joy.

—**Frances Barnett**, UNCG Theatre Student; Director, Short Tales

## Where-Else? at Elsewhere Museum

*Where-Else?* was the School of Theatre's first Community Based Theatre Project as part of their 2023–2024 production season. Led by Assistant Professor Robi Arce-Martínez, students from UNCG embarked on a journey using storytelling, multiple disciplines, interviews from their communities, and lived experiences to create a new devised performance from the ground up at Elsewhere Museum, a living museum, artist residency, and learning laboratory set within a three-story former thrift store in Greensboro.



Where-Else? at Elsewhere Museum

# Academic Programs That Embrace Community Engagement Foundations

## Interdisciplinary Art & Social Practice (IASP)

A minor in Interdisciplinary Art & Social Practice provides students with a set of seminar and project-based experiences, which explore unique creative practices that engage the public sphere, build community, 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 minor crafts a unique educational experience, which 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.

Throughout the academic year, IASP's Social Practice classes facilitated several experiential workshops open to the community, which explored ways to relate and to connect with each other through skill sharing. Students designed participatory activities that were included in the UNCG–Duke Arts partnership event Meshroom and co-created a zine for our campus community. The collaborative zine outlined spaces on campus that provide resources to our diverse community. The locations selected were identified as intentionally designed to connect students to each other and themselves, and to provide spaces where they are seen, safe, and welcome and that openly by supporting basic needs such as clothing, comfort, and privacy.

## IASP Visiting Artist—Center for Artistic Activism

In the spring, the IASP program welcomed its 2024 Visiting Artist, Center for Creative Activism (C4AA), which brought three artists to campus to provide a two-day workshop: “Tools for Activism: a 48-Hour Crash Course.” C4AA is an organization that has worked in twenty-three countries on six continents to help people use creativity to power change. This two-day engagement was generously funded by the Victoria and Ron Milstein Fund under the programmatic umbrella for Interdisciplinary Art & Social Practice.

Working with UNCG students and community members has been a highlight of this election year. The UNCG community was clearly so hungry for creative approaches to help our country vote and came up with such incredible ideas for how to mobilize students and North Carolinians at large. We offered a variety of programs, and it was telling to see how each one provided something different and wanted—from stories about past civic engagement campaigns that went well and have lessons to share, to my colleagues and my own stories for how we came to be artistic activists, to coming up with campaigns that will work in North Carolina in 2024. It gave me hope!

—Rachel Gita Karp, Program Director, Unstoppable Voters, Center for Artistic Activism

C4AA's visit to campus was a wonderful capstone to my college experience and time in the IASP program. As an interdisciplinary artist and scholar, I left feeling inspired and equipped with practical tools of how to use art as a medium for change and to celebrate the ways my artistic practice can exist outside of artistic spaces all together. This workshop helped break down big ideas into small steps, which made these big ideas feel accessible, possible, and even more meaningful. The tools they shared demanded that I get specific while still honoring the expansiveness of social practice work.

—Amabel Prisk, UNCG Theatre Student, IASP Minor





## Meshroom

Meshroom is a performance environment that forms an intellectual/intentional community around an open space. It is a designed for all involved to move, to rest, to witness, to think, and, if compelled, to dance, with live music and occasional performances. UNCG was thrilled to bring Meshroom to the Greensboro community, hosted in partnership with Duke Arts. The event featured performances and multimedia installation by current UNCG students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community artists from all four disciplines: art, dance, music, and theatre.

Coming back to UNCG to support Meshroom was like a homecoming. My time at UNCG was spent as an MFA student and later as a professor. At Meshroom I reunited with members of my cohort, faculty advisors, and former students. Meshroom creates a permeable and democratic creative space, which makes it an ideal work to build bridges between communities.

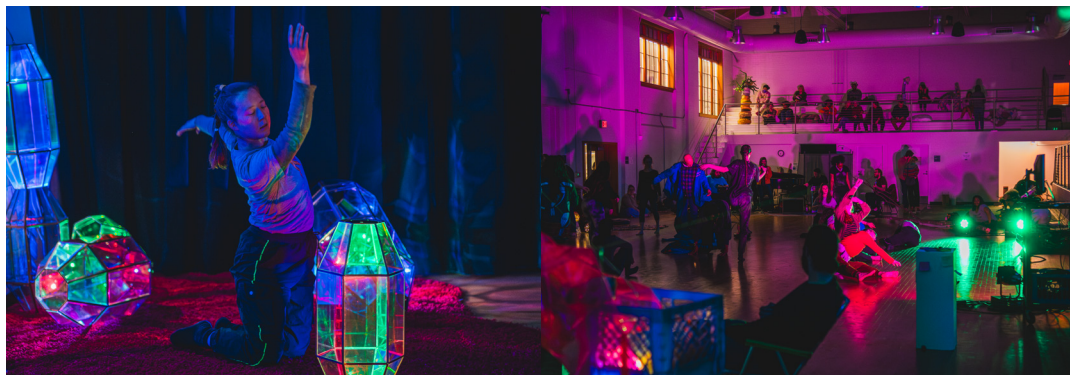
—**Anna Wallace**, UNCG MFA Art Alumna, Student Engagement Manager, Duke Arts

I absolutely loved being part of Meshroom! I felt so connected to all the participants during the experience. We bonded through spontaneous creation of music and dance and art, and it was such an amazing reminder that the possibilities are endless when artists communicate closely with a spirit of collaboration.

—**Carole Ott Coelho**, Professor of Conducting and Chorale Music, Performing Artist, Meshroom

Performing at the Meshroom provided me with an incredible opportunity to share not just movement, but an expression of emotion and presence. It was not merely a performance; it was an offering, a gift of movement and expression. Through this experience, I explored conveying these expressions through collaboration with other artists. Working with others enhanced the performance, creating a richer and dynamic experience for both performers and audience.

—**Angelica Kankam**, MFA Student, School of Dance, Performing Artist, Meshroom



Meshroom

## Arts Administration

The College of Visual and Performing Arts' Arts Administration program develops the skills necessary for a career working in arts organizations, arts-related businesses, and in one's 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.

The UNCG Arts Administration program is a top-tier educational program for today's emerging leaders. Professor Hannah Grannemann prepares her students with knowledge of not only the best practices in arts administration but also what is most practical in today's rapidly changing world. We were blessed with the most incredible intern this past semester, Iciar Martinez-Sagarra. Iciar jumped right into any task we handed her with curiosity, drive, dedication, and innovation. She was such an incredible asset to the team that we are looking into creating a position for her. We are thrilled for this partnership with UNCG and look forward to helping shape the next generation of leaders for years to come.

—Alexandra Arpajian, President, Executive Director, High Point Arts Council



Arts Administration

## CVPA Community Engagement Advisory Committee

The CVPA Community Engagement Advisory Committee (CEAC), which was convened in January 2021, includes a faculty representative from each CVPA School and a University member from outside the College. Next year we look forward to welcoming a community arts partner as an additional Committee member. In 2021 the Committee established the CVPA Community Engagement Grant Program. 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, *The Path Forward*. In addition, the Committee assesses and problem solves unique needs for CVPA's ongoing community-engaged programs, assists in identifying new opportunities for growth, and advocates for better awareness and education around community engagement for members of the College. We are happy to report that a portion of The Cemala Foundation Grant awarded to CVPA in 2023 is earmarked toward increased funding of community-engaged activities for the College over the next three academic years, allowing the scope and depth of partnerships to expand.



## Committee Members

- **Caitlyn Schrader**, Director, Greensboro Project Space, School of Art and Director of Community Engagement, College of Visual and Performing Arts
- **Jennifer Reis**, Assistant Professor of Arts Administration, School of Art
- **Annie Jeng**, Assistant Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy, School of Music
- **Atiba Rorie**, Lecturer in Accompanying, School of Dance
- **Rachel Briley**, Professor of Theatre for Young People, School of Theatre
- **Emily Janke** (Fall 2023), Director, Institute for Community and Economic Engagement and Associate Professor, Peace and Conflict Studies
- **Kristy Howell** (Spring 2024), Associate Director, Institute for Community and Economic Engagement

The CEAC is a valuable sounding board and creative hivemind for important discussions regarding collaborations between the CVPA and the community. The committee has energizing conversations about community engagement. Each member's shared excitement to discover ways to foster bridges between the University and the greater Greensboro community are inspirational and helpful in turning action items into initiatives created by Director of Community Engagement Caitlyn Schrader. The Committee has focused on the importance of awareness of resources for CVPA's faculty, staff, and students through workshops and information sessions during faculty meetings that breakdown different definitions and levels of community engagement. It has been uplifting to see members of the CVPA better understand community engagement and apply newfound knowledge in courses and projects—some made possible through funding awarded by the Community Engagement Grants reviewed by this Committee. It has been an honor to serve as the School of Music faculty representative on this Committee. I love sharing how School of Music students, faculty, and staff are involved with community partners and hearing the incredible things the Schools of Art, Dance, and Theatre are doing.

—Annie Jeng, Assistant Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy, CEAC Committee Member

# CVPA Community Engagement Grant Awardee Features

## Making Touring Theatre for Young People Accessible for All: NCTYP's *Winnie-the-Pooh* Tour

The North Carolina Theatre for Young People toured the world premiere of Janet Allard's adaptation of *Winnie-the-Pooh* to various elementary schools in Guilford and surrounding counties, playing to over eleven thousand young people. Because of the generosity of a CVPA Community Engagement Grant awarded, the production was able to perform at Doris Henderson Newcomers School and Lindley Elementary School. Through the grant, seven young Independent Consultants (ages 6–12) were hired to attend rehearsals at UNCG, to provide feedback to the actors on their performances, and to give interpretations of the script. Some of these Independent Consultants were also able to participate in a post-show panel with the actors.

## UNCG Flute Studio Runout Concerts

The UNCG Flute Studio traveled to, performed, and taught at Apex High School and Walter M. Williams High School. The Flute Studio answered questions from high school students about what it is like to major in music in a college or university and led woodwind sectionals for oboe, flute, clarinet, saxophone students.

## Greensboro Dance Film Festival (GDFF)

The GDFF was presented at two locations in downtown Greensboro—Transform GSO and Greensboro Project Space, bringing two guest artists and nine filmmakers to the festival. Guest artists conducted classes in Mapping Dance, Digital Media, and Editing on campus and with two community partners. Additionally, the festival featured the premiere of *What's Bred in the Blood and Bone*, which has gone on to screen at twenty-two festivals around the world.



Greensboro Dance Film Festival



Flute Studio Runout Concerts

## 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 UNCG's College of Visual and Performing Arts where she supports and advocates for community engaged programs and initiatives led by students, staff, and faculty, which advance partnerships between the College and the community. Schrader is also the Director of Greensboro Project Space (GPS), an off-campus, multi-purpose art space in downtown Greensboro, which is 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 interdisciplinarity, accessibility, and collaboration.

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

[vpa.uncg.edu/cvpa-home/community-engagement](http://vpa.uncg.edu/cvpa-home/community-engagement)





CVPA Community Engagement Annual Report 2023–2024  
graphic designer: Rachele Riley





