

Welcome to the 2021 Tennessee Arts Academy!

2021 Tennessee Arts Academy Inspiring Learning - Changing Lives Our 35th Year

Please Read A Welcome Message from Frank Bluestein
Tennessee Arts Academy Executive Director

Before we get started!



The 2021 Academy is taking place primarily online and will be using Zoom. If you haven't already, please make sure you have Zoom installed on your device.

Download Zoom below (if you haven't already)

[Desktop \(Recommended\)](#)

[Google Play Store](#)

[App Store](#)

TAA Facts, Tips, and Helpful Hints

TAA Virtual
Guidelines

Academic
Credit

Visitors' Day

Schedule
Overview

Press Release

TAA Staff

Sponsors and
Advertisers

TAA
Foundation
Board of
Directors

Contact Us

Academy
History

TAA Online
Auction

FAQs

TAA Alumni
Association

TAA Credit
Hours
Overview

Final TAA
Evaluation
Survey

TAA
News and
Notes
Newsletter

Purchase
An NYC
Broadway
Giveaway
Ticket

TAA MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Tennessee Arts Academy is to provide exceptional quality professional development, arts training, support, encouragement, information and renewal to K-12 teachers and to promote and honor the role of the arts in the lives of all Tennesseans.

The Tennessee Arts Academy is a project of the **Tennessee Department of Education** and is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee.

Major corporate, organizational, and individual funding support for the Tennessee Arts Academy is generously provided by:



Significant sponsorship, scholarship, and event support for the 2021 Tennessee Arts Academy is generously provided by Stephen Coleman; Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee; Rena Ellzy; Solie Fott; Bobby Jean Frost; Dorothy M. Gillespie Foundation; Morel Enoch Harvey; Marlene and Spencer Hays Foundation; Kem Hinton; Patricia Hudson; Lingner Gift Fund; Pinnacle Financial Partners; Sara Savell; Tennessee Book Company; Jeanette and Bill Watkins; and Watkins College of Art at Belmont University.

Core Sessions

Select a category below to explore

Music Core Sessions

The Academy Music division encompasses the broad spectrum of choral, instrumental, and general music. Separate tracks are offered in Elementary Music, Instrumental Music, and Choral Music. The prestigious faculty members are gathered from around the country and use their expertise to help participants enhance their musical skills and renew their enthusiasm for teaching. All of it combines to provide cutting-edge training, community, and renewal.

Elementary/Lower Middle

Teaching with Love and Grace

[Natasha Thurmon](#)

Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way

[Manju Durairaj](#)

Upper Middle/Secondary

It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom

[Victor Johnson](#)

Toward Becoming a Complete Conductor: Synthesizing Deep Preparation; Clear Communication; and Fluid, Dynamic Rehearsal Technique

[Gary W. Hill](#)

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!

[Ann Clements](#)

Theatre Core Sessions

The Academy Theatre division combines practical and creative elements to expand the teacher's ability to interpret curriculum in exciting new ways. Arts Integration, Creative Drama, and Movement is the focus area for the Elementary/Lower Middle Theatre sessions. The Upper Middle/Secondary Theatre sessions explore various theatre interest areas. Prestigious instructors from around the country provide stimulating class sessions that reflect a mix of classroom, stage, and performance techniques, coupled with current trends and the latest research in arts education.

Elementary/Lower Middle

Collaborative Storytelling: Active Engagement in Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

[Rachel Hamilton](#)

Strategies for Success: Incorporating Movement and Dance into the Curriculum

[Deborah Damast](#)

Upper Middle/Secondary

We're All in This Together: Musical Theatre Directing Strategies to Expand Your Process

[Rob Roznowski](#)

Foundations of Michael Chekhov Technique for Stage and On-camera Performance

[Margaret Laurena Kemp](#)

Visual Art Core Sessions

The Tennessee Arts Academy Visual Art division explores art from the perspective of production, history, criticism, and aesthetics. Nationally recognized instructors, whose work has influenced current educational practice and theory, are gathered from around the country to provide stimulating and practical instruction. The class sessions reflect a mix of skills-based training, coupled with current trends and the latest research in art education.

Elementary/Lower Middle

Using Voice and Choice to Promote Cultural Awareness in the Art Studio

[Wynita Harmon](#)

Taking Shape Further with Movement and Texture

[Ashley McKee](#)

Upper Middle/Secondary

Wire and Fabric Sculptures: Line into Form

[Leslie Pearson](#)

Connect, Create, and Reflect: Art Making in 2021

[Drew Brown](#)

Arts Leadership and Administration Core Sessions

The Academy's Arts Leadership and Administration division (ALAA) aims to inspire and empower participants to support and advance arts education. ALAA connects teachers, school and district leaders, program directors, and others who are interested in active arts education leadership. Practical and thought-provoking daily sessions link contemporary arts research and trends to targeted arts initiatives at multiple levels within schools, districts, and beyond. Numerous interactive discussions with state and national leaders are also part of the innovative curriculum.

Daily Core Session

Daily Core Class

[Dru Davison and Amanda](#)

Class Webinars

Leading for Growth

[Julie Cohen Theobald](#)

Arts Education and Social Emotional Learning: The Heart of the Arts

[Scott Edgar](#)

A Conversation with Aaron P. Dworkin

[Aaron P. Dworkin](#)

Trio Track Core Sessions

Trio Track is a unique division of the Academy that provides participants with a daily multidisciplinary experience in three distinct arts areas. Trio Track participants attend a pre-designated class daily in music and theatre. Additionally, Trio Track participants will attend a minimum of one VisualArt Interlude each afternoon. The experience allows the participants to enjoy complete immersion in one topic for each arts discipline each day. Please Note:Upper Middle/Secondary Trio Track participants will attend two of the classes listed below each day according to their group designation.

Elementary/Lower Middle

Teaching with Love and Grace

[Natasha Thurmon](#)

Collaborative Storytelling: Active Engagement in Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

[Rachel Hamilton](#)

Upper Middle/Secondary

It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom

[Victor Johnson](#)

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!

[Ann Clements](#)

We're All in This Together: Musical Theatre Directing Strategies to Expand Your Process

[Rob Roznowski](#)

Foundations of Michael Chekhov Technique for Stage and On-camera Performance

[Margaret Laurena Kemp](#)

Faculty Bios



Drew Brown

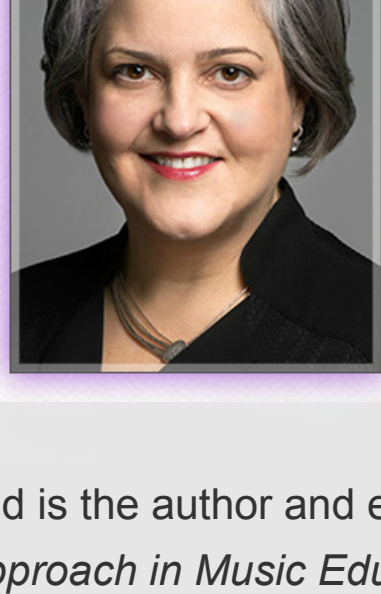
Visual Art Upper Middle/Secondary

Workshop: [Connect, Create, and Reflect: Art Making in 2021](#)

Interlude: [Visual Art Connections - Drew Brown](#)

Drew Brown is currently an art teacher at Milton High School in Milton, Georgia, although she has taught at all grade levels. She draws inspiration from her students and encourages them to embrace personal connections to their artwork while making dialogue and reflection major components of learning through the arts. Brown was previously the associate curator for education services at the Morris Museum of Art, and has also served as an adjunct professor on the university level. She is past president of the Georgia Art Education Association and was designated as its Georgia Art Educator

for 2020. Brown has shown her own work in various venues across Georgia including the University of North Georgia and the Alpharetta Arts Center. She has frequently presented on the state and national levels, including Harvard's Project Zero, and especially enjoys co-presenting and collaborating with colleagues.



Ann Clements

Music Upper Middle/Secondary

Workshop: [Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)

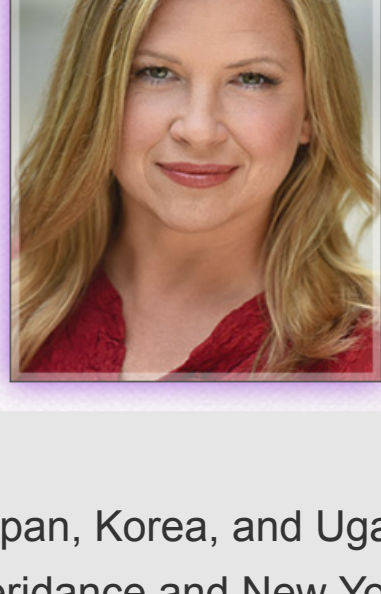
Interlude: [The Arts During COVID-19](#)

Interlude: [Music Connections - Ann Clements](#)

Ann Clements is a professor of music education at Pennsylvania State University and serves as assistant vice provost of faculty affairs-faculty development, where she oversees the advancement of more than 6,400 full time faculty members. Clements is an active researcher, musician, and pedagogue, who has given more than 150 keynote addresses and presentations throughout the United States and around the world. She is published in multiple national and international journals

and is the author and editor of multiple books in her field, including *Field Guide to Student Teaching in Music*, *Alternative Approach in Music Education: Case Studies from the Field*, and *Popular Music Pedagogies: A Practical Guide for Music Teachers*. Her primary research areas include music participation, game theory in education, learning in augmented realities,

professional development in higher education, arts integration, and ethnomusicology. Clements is also a recognized scholar in Maori music of New Zealand.



Deborah Damast

Theatre Elementary/Lower Middle

Workshop: [Strategies for Success: Incorporating Movement and Dance into the Curriculum](#)

Interlude: [Gratitude Dance](#)

Deborah Damast is director and clinical associate professor of dance education at the New York University Steinhardt School, where she teaches classes, directs concerts, oversees outreach, and serves as director for the Uganda study abroad program. She has presented at numerous conferences, and her choreography has been performed in more than one hundred venues in New York City, including the Alley Citigroup Theatre; Peridance Center, World Financial Center, and Symphony Space. She has worked throughout the United States, and internationally in Canada, Italy,

Japan, Korea, and Uganda. Damast has been active in numerous professional organizations and has written curricula for Peridance and New York City Ballet, among others. She is the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Dance Educator Award from the National Dance Education Organization, the 2019 New York University Steinhardt Excellence in Teaching Award, and the 2020 Dance Teacher Magazine Award.

Dru Davison

Arts Leadership and Administration

Workshop: [Daily Core Class](#)



Dru Davison is a music program leader for Shelby County Schools in Memphis, Tennessee, and an active researcher in areas of creative leadership, education policy, and program development. Davison recently served as project chair for the Tennessee State Board of Education's Standards Revisions for Arts Education and has consulted for the United States Department of Education

Reform Support Network and the Insight Education Group. He is active with the National Association for Music Education with past service as chair of the council of Music Program Leaders,

where he oversaw the revisions of Opportunity-to-Learn Standards for Music Instruction. Prior to his work in administration, Davison taught instrumental music in rural and urban areas, was an adjunct jazz and saxophone instructor at Arkansas State University, and was a teaching fellow at the

University of North Texas, where he received a doctorate in Music Education. He recently developed a course in creative leadership for Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. He is also active as a freelance saxophonist in the Memphis area.



Manju Durairaj

Music Elementary/Lower Middle

Workshop: [Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)

Interlude: [Creating Playalong Videos](#)

Interlude: [Music Connections - Manju Durairaj](#)

Manju Durairaj was born and raised in India and studied in Pune, India. As a graduate student at Middlesex University in London, she was involved in research projects on comparative pedagogical practices of Indian (*Carnatic*) and Western music. Later, at VanderCook College of Music in Chicago, she earned her second master's degree as well as her K–12 teaching certification. Durairaj is currently the lower school music teacher at the Latin School of Chicago. She is past president of the Greater Chicago Orff Chapter and is a certified Orff-Schulwerk instructor and arts integration specialist. She also serves an adjunct professor at VanderCook College of Music, Chicago, where she teaches curriculum and elementary methods courses. She is a frequent clinician for state, national, and international conferences. She has been published in numerous publications, including the *Orff Echo*, *Reverberations*, *Illinois Music Educators Journal*, *General Music Today*, and the *Journal of the Council for Research in Music Education*.



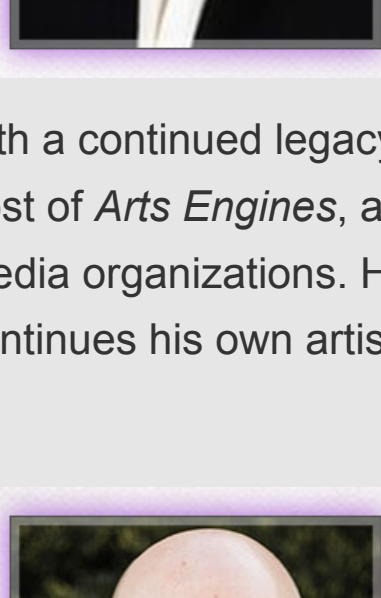
Aaron P. Dworkin

Arts Leadership and Administration

Workshop: [A Conversation with Aaron P. Dworkin](#)

Author, artist, and filmmaker Aaron Dworkin exemplifies commitment to action when it comes to connecting people to the arts. He served on President Obama's National Council on the Arts and on President Biden's arts policy committee. Dworkin served as dean of the University of Michigan's School of Music, Theatre, and Dance and is a tenured professor of arts leadership and entrepreneurship. He is also a professor of entrepreneurship at the Stephen M. Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. He is the founder of the Sphinx Organization, an organization

with a continued legacy of changing lives through the transformative power of diversity in the arts. Dworkin also serves as the host of *Arts Engines*, a weekly nationally broadcast show that represents a collaboration between several influential arts and media organizations. He was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2005 and is a frequent keynote speaker at national conferences. He continues his own artistic practice as a published author, a highly sought spoken word artist, and an award-winning filmmaker.



Scott Edgar

Arts Leadership and Administration

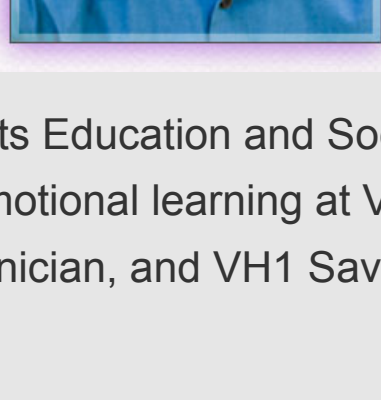
Workshop: [Arts Education and Social Emotional Learning: The Heart of the Arts](#)

Scott Edgar is associate professor of music, music education chair, and director of bands at Lake Forest College. He received degrees from the University of Michigan, the University of Dayton, and Bowling Green State University. Prior to his work in higher education, he taught music to students from kindergarten through twelfth grade in Ohio and Michigan. Edgar is the author of *Music Education and Social Emotional Learning: The Heart of Teaching Music* and is an internationally sought-after clinician on the topic. Additionally, he serves as director of practice and research for The Center for Arts Education and Social Emotional Learning. In addition to clinics, he also teaches graduate courses on musical social emotional learning at VanderCook College of Music. Edgar is a Music for All educational consultant, a Conn-Selmer educational clinician, and VH1 Save the Music Foundation educational consultant.

Amanda Galbraith

Arts Leadership and Administration

Workshop: [Daily Core Class](#)



Amanda Galbraith is an art educator with the Bartlett City Schools in Tennessee. In 2017–2018, she was an educator fellow with the State Collaborative on Reforming Education, a Tennessee-based nonprofit education research institution. Her students have consistently received recognition and awards, and many have gone on to successfully pursue further studies in the arts. Galbraith has served on the Tennessee Department of Education's subject matter expert committee, two standards revision committees, a textbook and instructional materials advisory panel, and numerous curriculum development teams. She's received the Tennessee Art Education Association's West Tennessee Art Educator of the Year award two times—in 2011 and 2013. In 2019 Galbraith was named the Tennessee Art Education Association Art Educator of the Year. She is a frequent presenter at local, state, and national conferences.



Rachel Hamilton

Theatre Elementary/Lower Middle

Workshop: [Collaborative Storytelling: Active Engagement in Critical Thinking and Problem Solving](#)

Interlude: [Page to Stage](#)

Rachel Hamilton holds a degree in theatre for youth from Arizona State University and a degree in library science from Texas Woman's University. Currently, Hamilton works with Thinkery, a children's museum in Austin, Texas, as the associate director of programs. There, she creates and manages a variety of STEAM-based programs for learners from birth to age eleven. Before moving to Texas, she ran the theatre division at Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation and was the associate director of education at Nashville Children's Theatre. She is a recipient of the National Arts Strategies' Creative Communities Fellowship and was a member of the Metro Nashville Arts Commission's Racial Equity in Arts Leadership cadre. Her work focuses on community building, storytelling, and facilitating opportunities for students to use their innate creativity to shape the world into a more vibrant and equitable place.



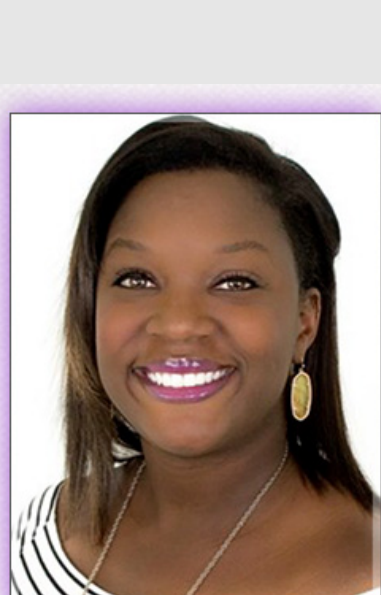
Wynita Harmon

Visual Art Elementary/Lower Middle

Workshop: [Using Voice and Choice to Promote Cultural Awareness in the Art Studio](#)

Interlude: [Visual Art Connections - Wynita Harmon](#)

Wynita Harmon is an associate professor and instructional coach at the Art of Education University, an organization committed to developing amazing art teachers by providing rigorous, relevant, and engaging learning at every stage of their careers. Harmon holds a doctorate degree in educational leadership from Dallas Baptist University. She taught in elementary Title I schools for fourteen years and served as an art team lead teacher in a large Texas school district. As an advocate for choice-based art education and student equity, Harmon has presented in various capacities on student choice, equity, and cultural awareness. She actively seeks opportunities to support the arts and promote change within the field. Recently, Harmon presented as part of a panel for the Columbia Museum of Art's webinar Doing the (Art)Work: Building an Anti-racist Curriculum using the Arts.



Gary W. Hill

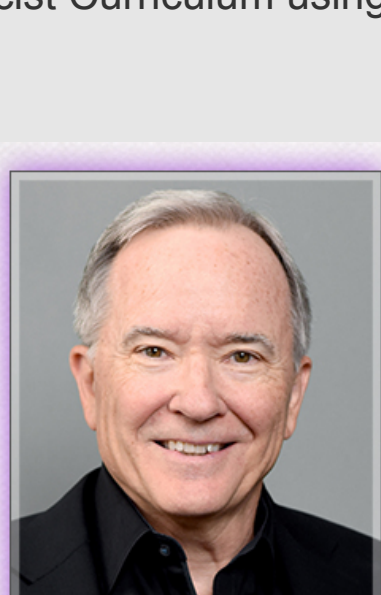
Music Upper Middle/Secondary

Workshop: [Toward Becoming a Complete Conductor: Synthesizing Deep Preparation: Clear Communication: and Fluid, Dynamic Rehearsal Technique](#)

Interlude: [How my Dogs Taught Me to be a Better Teacher and Conductor](#)

Interlude: [Music Connections - Gary Hill](#)

Gary Hill is a professor of music and the director of bands emeritus at Arizona State University. He taught at Arizona State from 1999 to 2019 and is one of the most sought-after guest conductors and clinicians in the instrumental music education field. As a conductor, he has made appearances in more than a dozen countries and throughout the United States, including performances with myriad honor bands, numerous college and university wind bands and orchestras, and many professional ensembles. He has also been a conductor at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and at conferences of the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles. As a clinician, Hill has presented hundreds of workshops on conducting and rehearsal technique for music teachers of all levels and has worked with thousands of bands and orchestras and their teachers. Hill is currently a Conn-Selmer educational clinician.



Victor Johnson

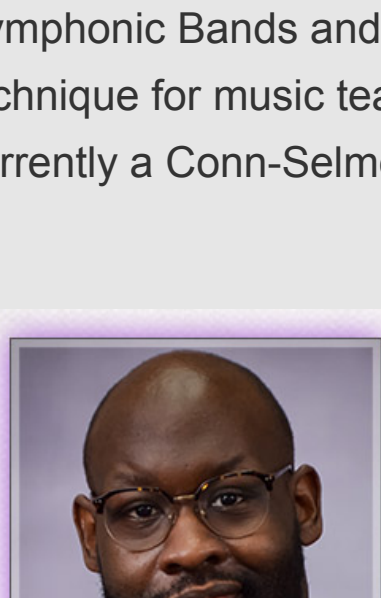
Music Upper Middle/Secondary

Workshop: [It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom](#)

Interlude: [Exploring Music Composition Outside of the Music Classroom](#)

Interlude: [Music Connections - Victor Johnson](#)

Victor Johnson, a native of Dallas, Texas, is the school choral editor for the educational publishing division of Choristers Guild. A prolific composer and arranger, he has more than 350 choral works, vocal solo books, and keyboard collections currently in print. Previously, he was a choral director at the Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts. During his time there, he directed the Academy Singers, the Academy Men's Choir, and was artistic director of the Singing Girls of Texas and Children's Choir of Texas. Johnson is in demand as a guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician for music educators and students throughout the United States. His choirs have performed at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention as well as the American Choral Directors Association Southwest Division conference. His professional affiliations include the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (commonly known as "ASCAP").



Margaret Laurena Kemp

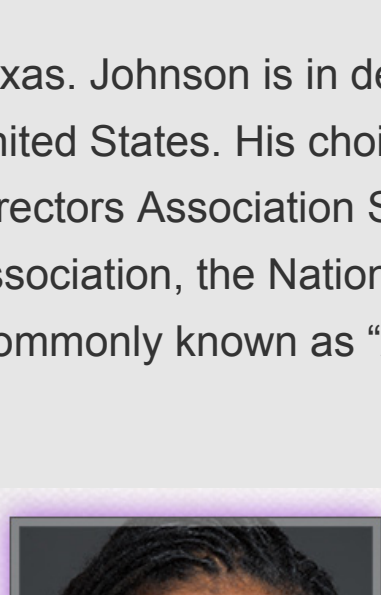
Theatre Upper Middle/Secondary

Workshop: [Foundations of Michael Chekhov Technique for Stage and On-camera Performance](#)

Interlude: [Warming Up: Fitzmaurice Voicework and Michael Chekhov \(Rolling\)](#)

Interlude: [Shooting Down: Fitzmaurice Voicework and Michael Chekhov \(De-rolling\)](#)

Margaret Laurena Kemp is an actor, multi-disciplinary performing artist, writer, and teaching artist. She is an associate professor of theatre and dance at the University of California, Davis, and has been a guest artist at several institutions both in this country and abroad. Her research explores authorship and spatial politics through performance. As a solo actor, Kemp has toured her work in Australia, South Africa, and the United States. She has won worldwide praise for her starring role in the film *Children of God*. Her visual work has been shown in solo and group shows in the United States and the Bahamas. In 2019, Kemp was awarded a Lucas Art Residency at the Montalvo Arts Center; and in 2017, she received a Headlands Residency. She is also a recipient of the Michael Chekhov Artist Scholar Award and the 2019 Voice and Speech Trainers Association Featured Artist Award. Her production of *The Blue Eye* was recently honored with multiple Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Awards. Kemp is a faculty member of the Michael Chekhov Association and a designated Fitzmaurice Voicework Lead Teacher.



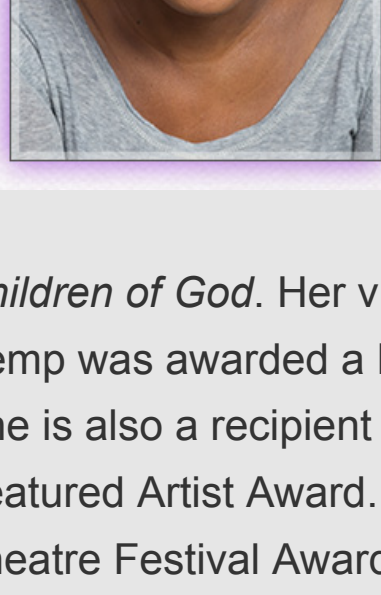
Ashley McKee

Visual Art Elementary/Lower Middle

Workshop: [Taking Shape Further with Movement and Texture](#)

Interlude: [Visual Art Connections - Ashley McKee](#)

Ashley McKee is currently teaching kindergarten through sixth grade art in Westfield, Pennsylvania. She actively advocates for the arts in her rural community, uses local resources, celebrates what makes the area special, and maximizes student experiences on a shoestring budget. She encourages her students to explore, make mistakes, and try new things. The primary goal of her work in the classroom is to develop creative problem solvers who can communicate effectively. McKee recently presented for the virtual art conference A Call to Art, hosted by Art Class Curator, in which she shared ways to make art with what is available in remote areas and when supplies are limited. She has also been a presenting artist for Pentel of America. In this role, she focuses on thanking her community through her illustrations.



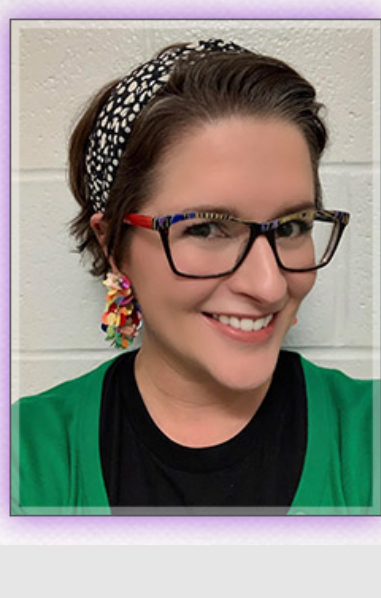
Leslie Pearson

Visual Art Upper Middle/Secondary

Workshop: [Wire and Fabric Sculptures: Line Into Form](#)

Interlude: [Visual Art Connections - Leslie Pearson](#)

Leslie Pearson is a multimedia artist who uses diverse fiber-based materials, processes, and techniques to create sculptures, installations, encaustic paintings, and handmade books in which she explores themes of memory and identity. She pursues art as a studio artist, community arts advocate, and educator. She earned her first degree in fine art from Southeast Missouri State University. She earned a master's degree in Museum Studies at Newcastle University in England and completed an internship at the Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art in Sunderland. In 2011, she earned a degree in Textile Design at East Carolina University's School of Art and Design in Greenville, North Carolina. She has taught at various colleges and universities and currently serves on the board of trustees at the Arts Council of Fayetteville. Pearson exhibits her work nationally and internationally.



Rob Roznowski

Theatre Upper Middle/Secondary

Workshop: [We're All in This Together: Musical Theatre Directing Strategies to Expand Your Process](#)

Interlude: [Creativity Through Limitations: Using Restrictions to Spur Innovation](#)

Interlude: [Theatre Connections - Rob Roznowski](#)

Rob Roznowski is an award-winning actor, author, director, educator, and playwright. He is a professor at Michigan State University, where he serves as the head of acting and directing in the Department of Theatre. His publications include the books *The Introverted Actor*, *Roadblocks in Acting*, *Inner Monologue in Acting*, and *Collaboration in Theatre*; numerous plays, and more. He worked as the national outreach and education coordinator for the Actors' Equity Association and has appeared extensively throughout the United States as an actor and director in New York and Los Angeles, and regionally, at Goodspeed Musicals, Long Wharf Theatre, and the Pittsburgh Public Theatre. He was part of the original cast of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* and can be heard on the show's recording. He has directed internationally in Colombia, Dubai, and Greece, where he was a Fulbright Fellow. Among his many awards are the Mid-Michigan Alumni Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and the Michigan Professor of the Year Award from the President's Council State Universities of Michigan.

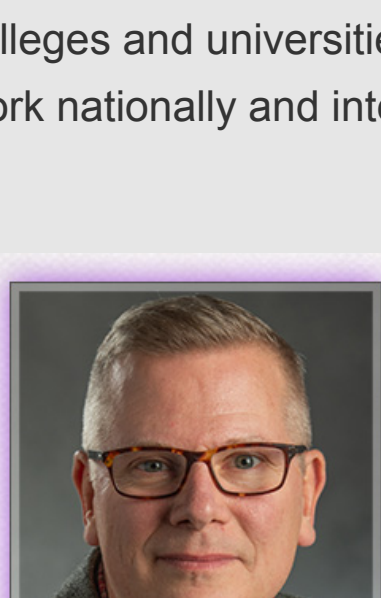


Julie Cohen Theobald

Arts Leadership and Administration

Interlude: [Leading for Growth](#)

Julie Cohen Theobald is the president of the Educational Theatre Foundation and executive director of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), which is the home of the International Thespian Society. At EdTA, Theobald serves more than five thousand theatre educators and one hundred thousand student members of the International Thespian Society. Since taking the helm in 2011, she has doubled the size of the organization and forged key partnerships with the theatre and entertainment industry. Theobald has a lifelong involvement in theatre and more than twenty-five years of business, marketing, and management experience. In her career at Procter & Gamble, she launched the Febreze brand, served as brand manager of Tide detergent, and grew sales during the strongest period of growth in the company's history. Theobald is active in Cincinnati community theatre as an actor, director, and producer.



Natasha Thurmon

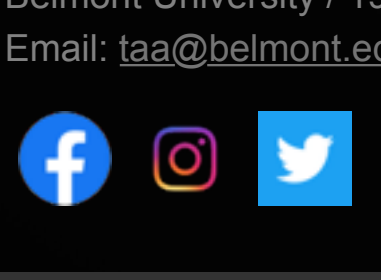
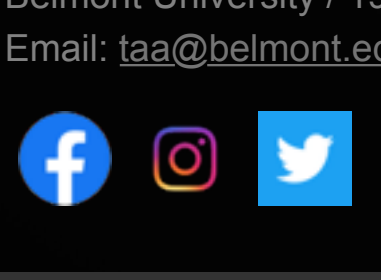
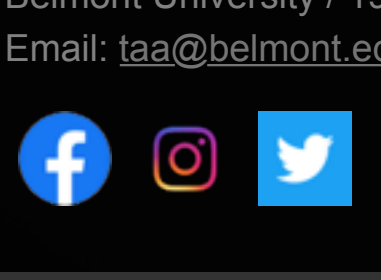
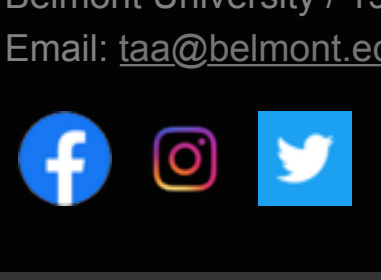
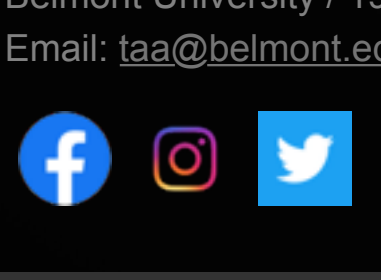
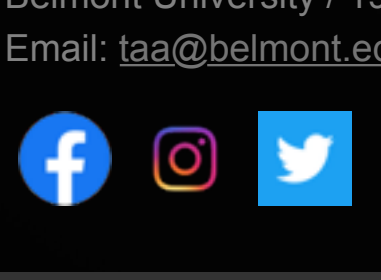
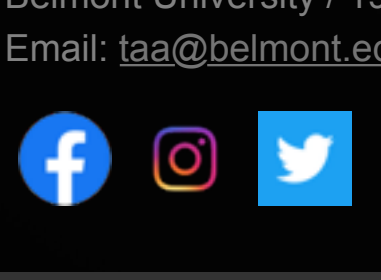
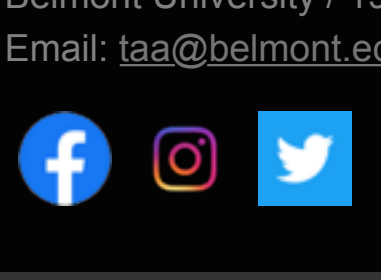
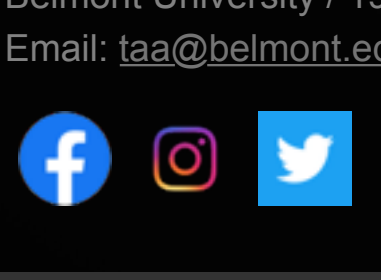
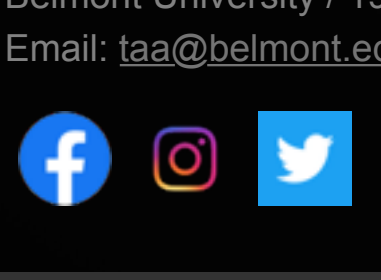
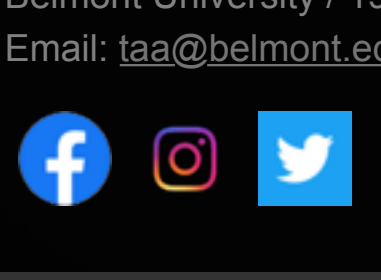
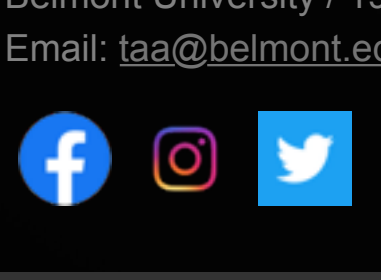
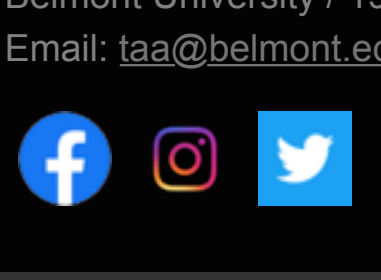
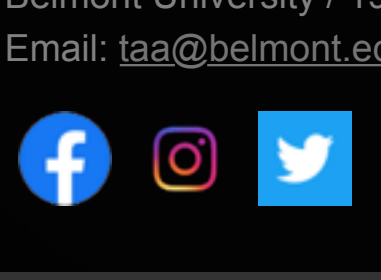
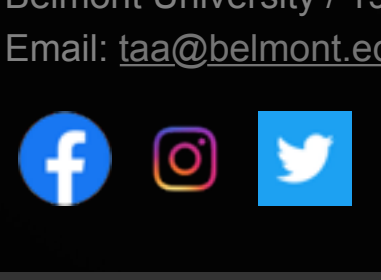
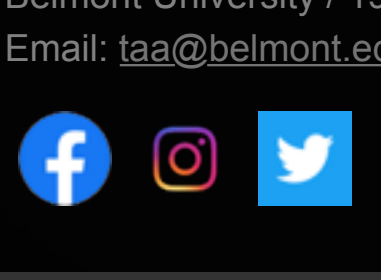
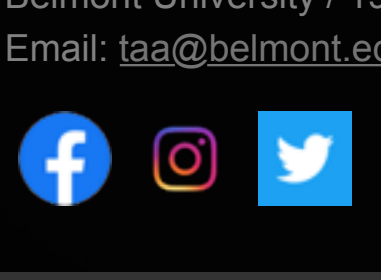
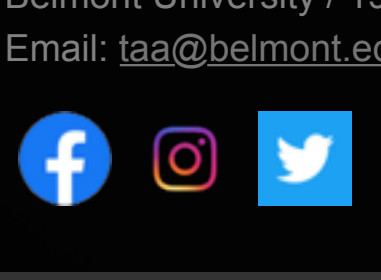
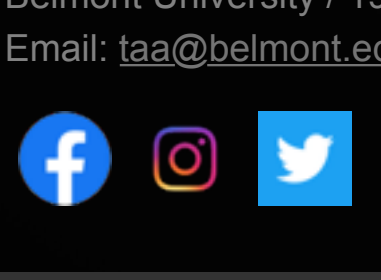
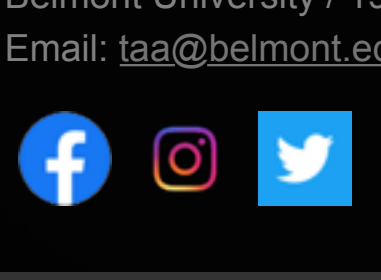
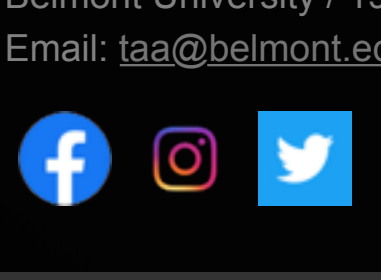
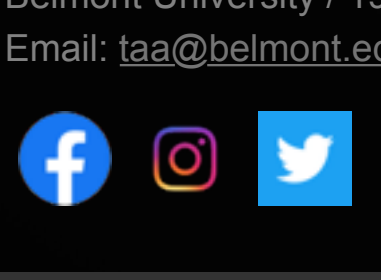
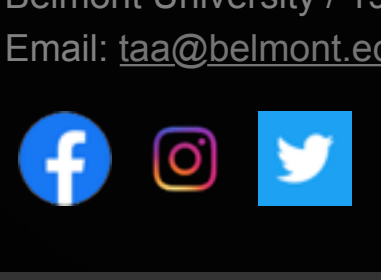
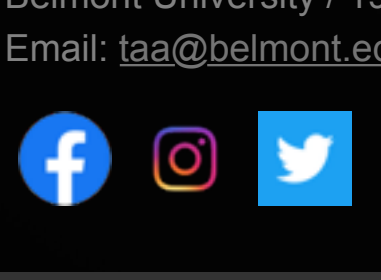
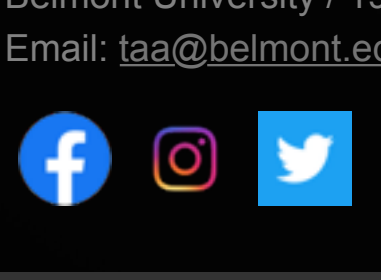
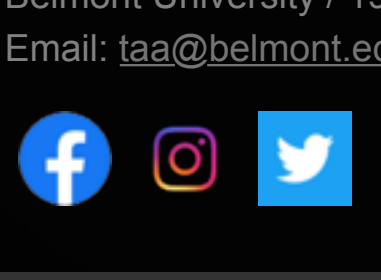
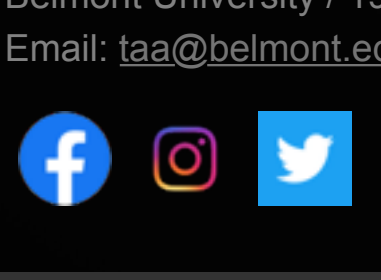
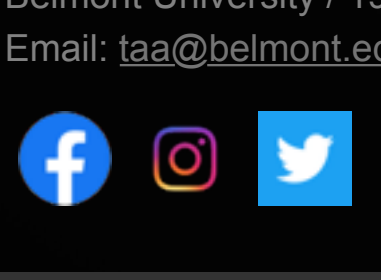
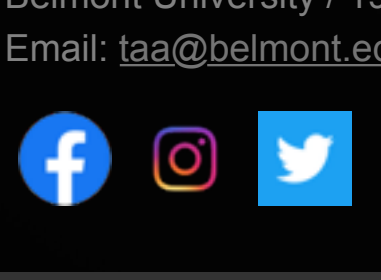
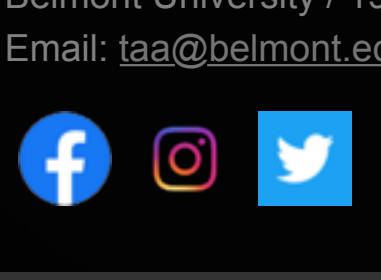
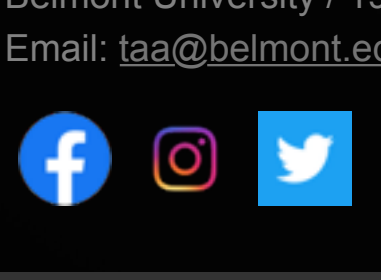
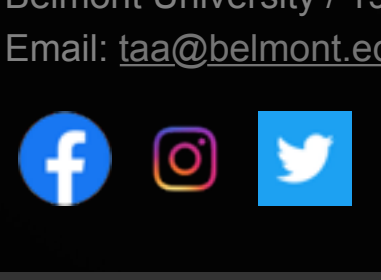
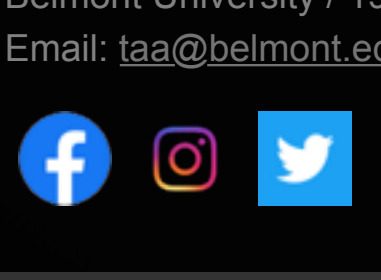
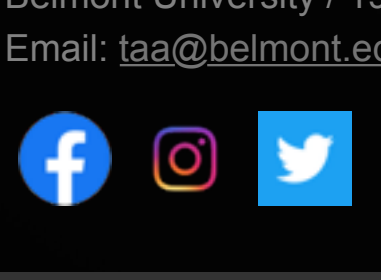
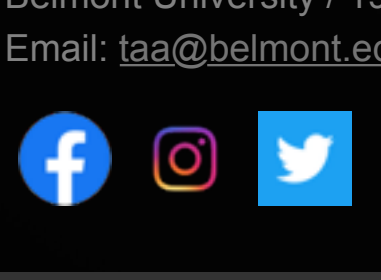
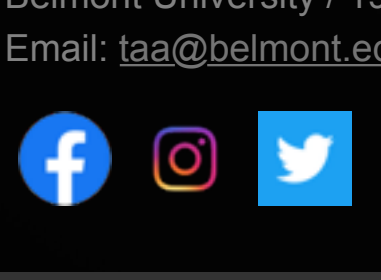
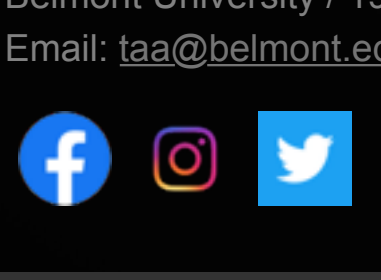
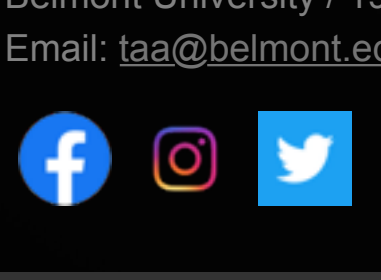
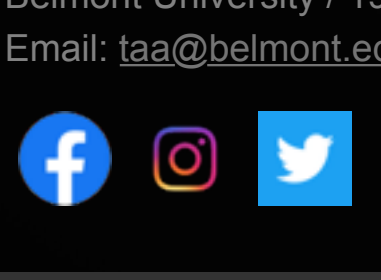
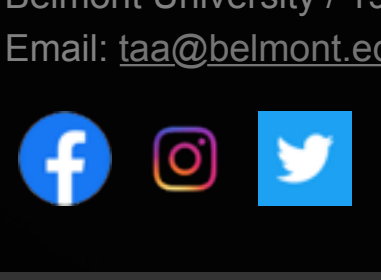
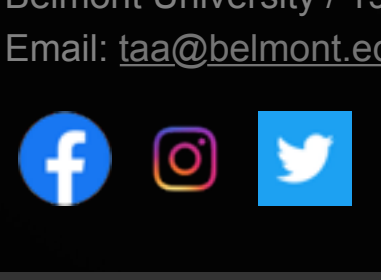
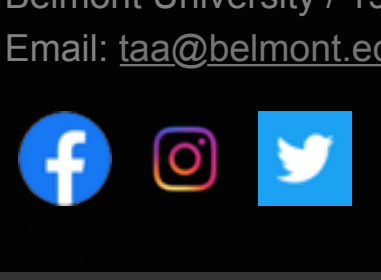
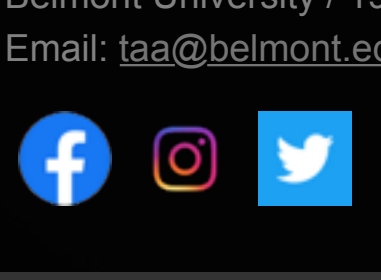
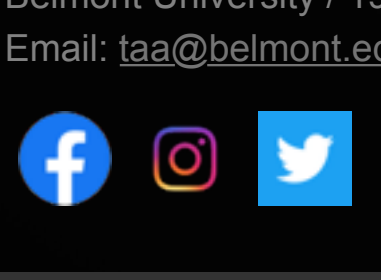
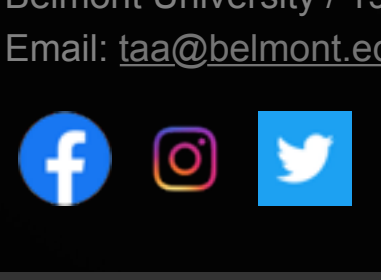
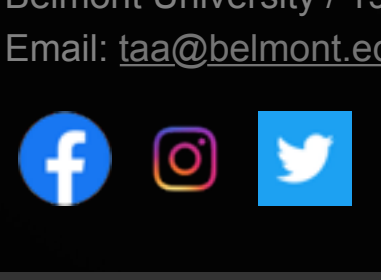
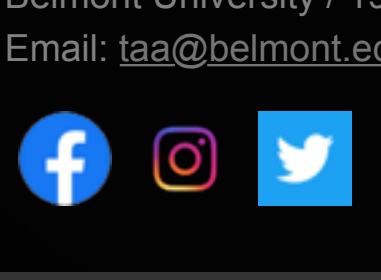
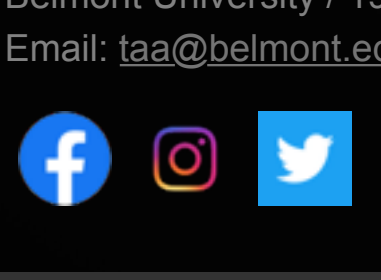
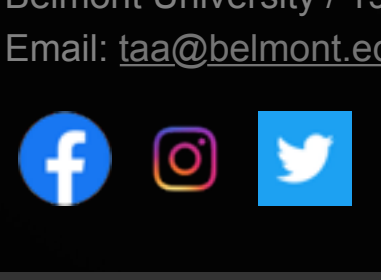
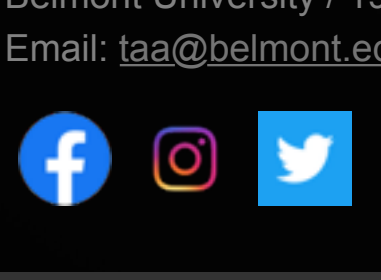
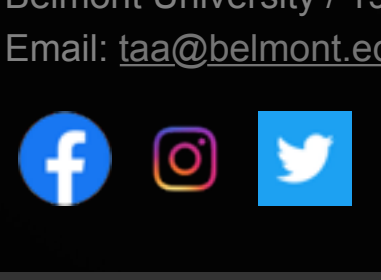
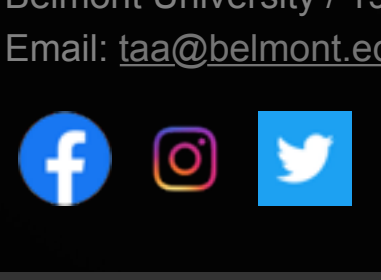
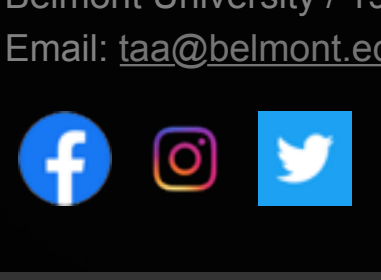
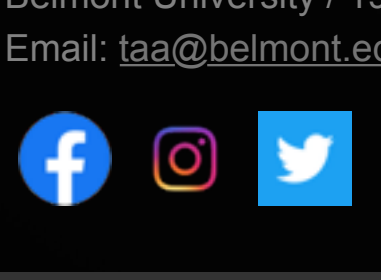
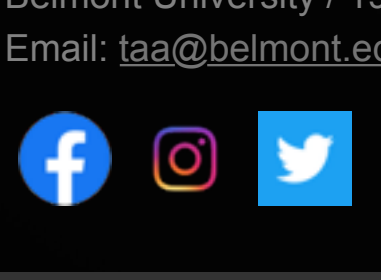
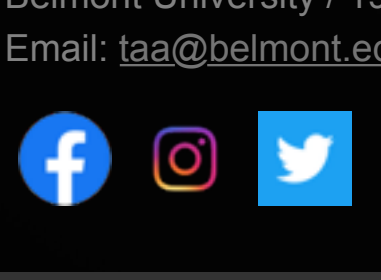
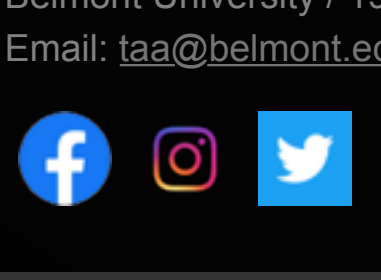
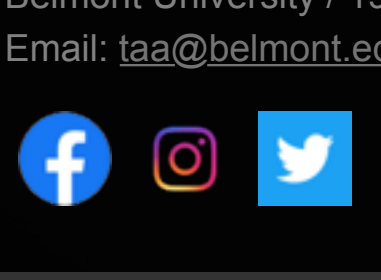
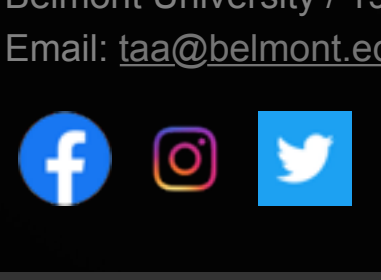
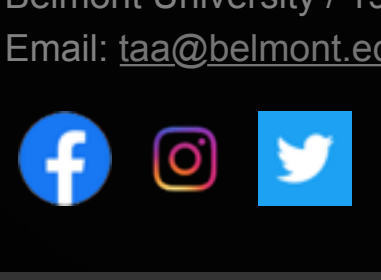
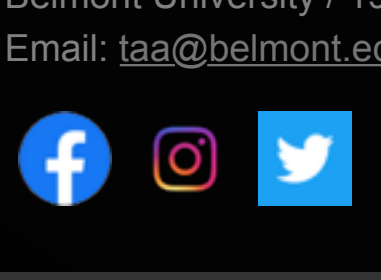
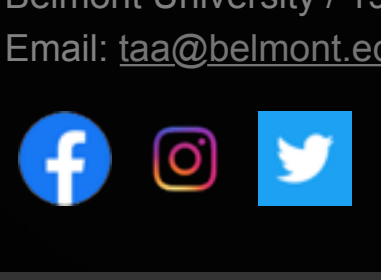
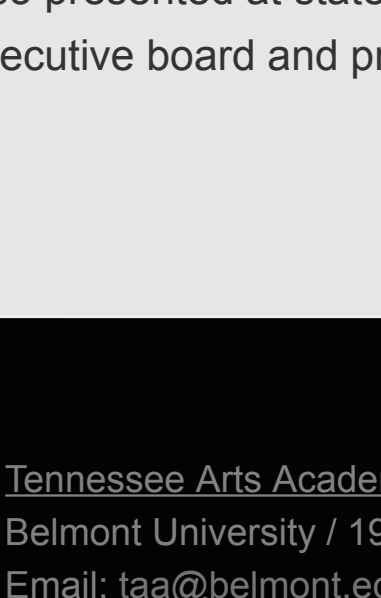
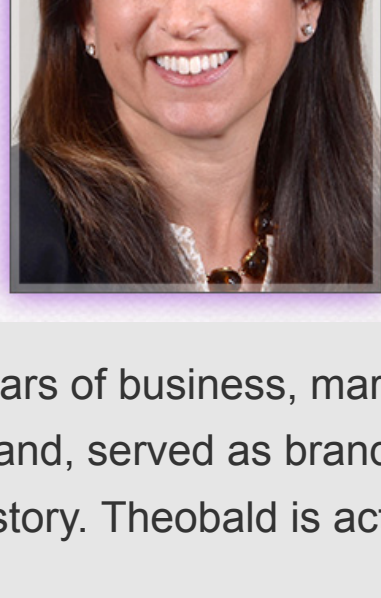
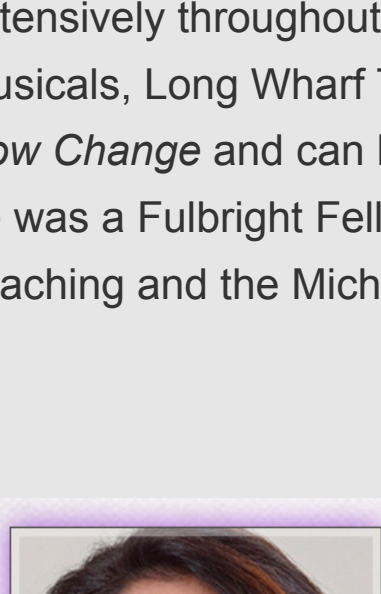
Music Elementary/Lower Middle

Workshop: [Teaching with Love and Grace](#)

Interlude: [Let's Go on a Trip: A Musical Journey to Korea](#)

Interlude: [Music Connections - Natasha Thurmon](#)

Natasha Thurmon teaches Kindergarten through fifth grade general music, choir, strings, recorder, and Orff ensemble at Boldt Elementary School in the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio, Texas. She has degrees from Pacific Lutheran University and the University of Texas at San Antonio. She completed her Orff certification training at Trinity University in San Antonio, where she now teaches recorder. Thurmon is past president of the Central Texas Orff chapter, has served on several subcommittees for the American Orff Schulwerk Association (AOSA), and currently serves on the Recorder Teacher Apprenticeship Panel. She has presented numerous local and regional workshops, including for many Orff chapters. She has also presented at state conferences and the national AOSA conference. In addition to these many roles, Thurmon serves on the executive board and professional development committee for her local American Federation of Teachers association.



Sunday July 11

OVERTURE: Sunday Night Opening Celebration

2:30 PM
(Central Daylight Time)

Welcome, Introduction of Faculty, and Performance

TAA Executive Director

Sunday Afternoon Performance with Steven Banks



Recognized for his “glowing mahogany tone” (*Seen and Heard International*) and his “breathtaking” performances (*Classical Voice of North Carolina*), Steven Banks is establishing himself as an important young artist on the saxophone, which is rarely heard as a solo concert instrument. In 2019, Steven Banks captured first prize at the Young Concert Artists International auditions. This makes him the first saxophonist to earn a place on the Young Concert Artists roster in its sixty-year history. This season, Banks will make his New York debut at Merkin Concert Hall.

Banks has performed as a concerto soloist with the Durham Symphony and the North Carolina Symphony, and he regularly gives recitals at universities and appears on music series across the United States. His appearances this season will include performances with the Oregon Mozart Players, Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle, Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, Mary Baldwin University, Buffalo Chamber Music Society, Port Washington Library, and Tannery Pond. In addition to his solo work, Banks has an ongoing relationship with the Cleveland Orchestra, appearing with the ensemble under various conductors, including Alain Altinoglu, Roderick Cox, Jahja Ling, Matthias Pintscher, and Franz Welser-Most. He appears on a Naxos recording as baritone saxophonist of the award-winning Kenari Quartet. As a jazz performer, he has played alongside musicians affiliated with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Buddy Rich Big Band, and Vanguard Jazz Orchestra. Banks is an advocate for diversity and inclusion in music education and performance, as well as newly commissioned works in the classical realm. In 2017, he gave a talk at the TEDxNorthwesternU conference that included ideas about how to change institutionalized prejudices against women and people of color. He has also written and given guest lectures on the history of black classical composers. As assistant professor of saxophone at Ithaca College, in Ithaca, New York, he makes a concerted effort to ensure that all music students feel supported in their everyday studies. Steven Banks appears by arrangement with Young Concert Artists, Inc. YCA.org. Please [click here](#) for program information regarding the Steven Banks Arts Academy performance.



About the Zorá Quartet

Named “the future of chamber music” in a concert review in *Oregon Arts Watch*, the Zorá Quartet leapt to national attention in 2015 when they won three major awards: the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, the Grand Prize and Gold Medal of the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition, and the Coleman Chamber Music Competition in California. The quartet formed at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music under the tutelage of the Pacifica String Quartet. “Zorá” means “sunrise” in Bulgarian. Zora Quartet appears by arrangement with Young Concert Artists, Inc. YCA.org

About Xak Bjerken, accompanist

Pianist Xak Bjerken has appeared with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Spoleto Festival Orchestra, Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra, the Schoenberg Ensemble, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic in Disney Hall. He is a professor of music at Cornell University, where he co-directs Mayfest, an international chamber music festival, with his wife, pianist Miri Yampolsky.

The performance by Steven Banks is made possible by generous gifts from Country Music Association Foundation; and Sara Savell, in memory of Las Savell.

Content Area Orientation Meetings

4:15 PM
(Central Daylight Time)

Sunday Orientation - Music

TAA Music Director

Sunday Orientation - Theatre and Dance

TAA Theatre Director

Sunday Orientation - Visual Art

TAA Visual Art Director

Sunday Orientation - Arts Leadership

TAA Arts Leadership and Administration Director

Sunday Orientation - Trio Track

TAA Trio Track Director

Music Schedule

Monday July 12

(All Times Listed Are Central Daylight Time)

Morning Movement with Vanessa

8–8:30 am

Optional and Open to All Academy Participants
[TAA Morning Yoga Class \(Optional - No Credit Offered\)](#)
Vanessa Paletta

Core Session 1

9–10:15 am

Group A
[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)
Manju Durairaj

Group B
[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)
Natasha Thurmon

Group C
[It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom](#)
Victor Johnson

Group D
[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)
Ann Clements

Core Session 2

10:30–11:45 am

Group A
[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)
Natasha Thurmon

Group B
[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)
Manju Durairaj

Group C
[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)
Ann Clements

Group D
[Toward Becoming a Complete Conductor: Synthesizing Deep Preparation; Clear Communication; and Fluid, Dynamic Rehearsal Technique](#)
Gary W. Hill

All TAA Participants

1–1:45 pm

Monday Afternoon Musing with Gabriela Lena Frank



Identity has always been central to the music of composer and pianist Gabriela Lena Frank. Born in Berkeley, California, to a mother of mixed Peruvian and Chinese ancestry and a father of Lithuanian and Jewish descent, Frank explores her multicultural heritage through her compositions. Frank currently serves as composer-in-residence with the Philadelphia Orchestra. *The Washington Post* has named her as one of the thirty-five most significant women composers in history.

Inspired by the works of Béla Bartók and Alberto Ginastera, Frank has traveled extensively throughout South America in creative exploration. Her music often reflects her own personal experience as a multi-racial Latina, but also reflects her studies of Latin American cultures. She also incorporates poetry, mythology, and native musical styles into a western classical framework that is uniquely her own. Frank says that there is usually a story line behind her music—such as a scenario or character. While the enjoyment of her works can be obtained solely from the music itself, Frank's program notes are designed to enhance the listener's experience. Her compositions also reflect her virtuosity as a pianist. In addition to her work as a composer, she is a sought-after performer who specializes in contemporary repertoire.

In 2020, Frank was a recipient of the prestigious 25th anniversary Heinz Award in the Arts and Humanity category with an unrestricted cash prize of 250,000 dollars, a meaningful portion of which was donated to the Gabriela Lena Frank Creative Academy of Music. The award recognized her for breaking gender, disability, and cultural barriers in the classical music industry, and for her work as an activist on behalf of emerging composers of all demographics and aesthetics. Winner of a Latin Grammy and nominated for Grammys as both a composer and a pianist, she also holds a Guggenheim Fellowship and a USA Artist Fellowship, which is given each year to fifty of the country's finest artists. Frank has been the subject of several scholarly books and numerous television documentaries. She is regularly commissioned by luminaries such as cellist Yo Yo Ma, soprano Dawn Upshaw, the King's Singers, the Cuarteto Latinoamericano with guitarist Manuel Barrueco, Brooklyn Rider, and conductors Marin Alsop and Yannick Nézet-Séguin. In the 2018–19 school year, she also became visiting artist-in-residence at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University, adding to her long list of residencies at universities and conservatories through the United States.

Civic outreach is an essential part of Frank's work. She has volunteered extensively in hospitals and prisons, with her current focus on developing the school music program at Anderson Valley High School, a rural public school of modest means with a large Latino population in Boonville, California.

The appearance of Gabriela Lena Frank is made possible by a generous gift from the Country Music Association Foundation.

Interludes

2:15–2:45 PM

[The Arts During COVID-19](#)
Ann Clements
2:15–2:45 PM
Music Related

[Spatial Awareness Through Dance Maps](#)
Amanda Pintore
2:15–2:45 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Creativity Through Limitations: Using Restrictions to Spur Innovation](#)
Rob Roznowski
2:15–2:45 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visual Art Connections - Drew Brown](#)
Drew Brown
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Heavy Metal Music, a Visual Arts Lesson Using Metal Tooling](#)
Nic Hahn
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Cracks in the Road](#)
Jeanne Oliver
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Meet the Artist: Herb Williams](#)
Herb Williams
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Evaluating Artistic Relevancy through Social Impact](#)
William L. Lake, Jr.
2:15–2:45 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[The Power of Repetition](#)
Douglas Beam
2:15–2:45 PM
Music Related

[Developing a Grid Drawing with a Theme](#)
Lendon Hamilton Noe
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Ancestral Legacy](#)
Ted Rose
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Mastering Miniature Watercolor Landscapes](#)
Melody Weintraub
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

3:00–3:30 PM

[A Conversation About Arts Education and Social Emotional Learning](#)
Scott Edgar
3:00–3:30 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Music ConstructED: Practical and Purposeful Professional Development for the Passionate Music Educator](#)
Sarah Fairfield and Kate Hagen
3:00–3:30 PM
Music Related

[Page to Stage](#)
Rachel Hamilton
3:00–3:30 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Plot Making: Accessible Improvisation to Introduce Conflict and Explore Resolution](#)
Jennifer Gray
3:00–3:30 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Silo is a Four-letter Word: Re-thinking How Arts Educators Collaborate](#)
Lindsay Halford
3:00–3:30 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Visual Art Connections - Leslie Pearson](#)
Leslie Pearson
3:00–3:30 PM
Visual Art Related

[Zoomed Out: Enduring Lessons of Distanced Learning](#)
Troy Robertson
3:00–3:30 PM
Music Related

3:00–4:00 PM

[Inspiring Conversation through Art](#)
Ephraim Urevbu
3:00–4:00 PM
Visual Art Related

[Literacy Through Puppetry: Giving Kids a Reason to Read](#)
Karen Konnerth
3:00–4:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[The Kinetic Connection](#)
Leland Faulkner
3:00–4:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

3:45–4:15 PM

[A Conversation About Arts Education and Social Emotional Learning](#)
Scott Edgar
3:45–4:15 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Creative Drama in Your Classroom with Nashville Children's Theatre](#)
Jacqueline Komos
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Performance Polygraph: Utilizing FBI Tactics to Inform and Clarify Your Acting](#)
Josh Chenard
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Teaching Rhythm through the Vertical Method](#)
Anthony DeQuattro
3:45–4:15 PM
Music Related

[Visual Art Connections - Ashley McKee](#)
Ashley McKee
3:45–4:15 PM
Visual Art Related

4:30–5:00 PM

[A Conversation About Arts Education and Social Emotional Learning](#)
Scott Edgar
4:30–5:00 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Artist Talk with Gary Chapman](#)
Gary Chapman
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

[Caring and Sharing for Elementary Music Teachers](#)
David Chambers
4:30–5:00 PM
Music Related

[Intermediate Commedia dell'Arte—Lotsa Lazzis!](#)
Holly Adams
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Using Drama to Develop the Four Cs of Twenty-first Century Learning](#)
Jacqueline Komos
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visual Art Connections - Wynita Harmon](#)
Wynita Harmon
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

[Visual Art Student Recognition Salute](#)
Jim Dodson, Patricia Hudson, and Best of the Best student winners
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

Music Schedule

Tuesday July 13

(All Times Listed Are Central Daylight Time)

Morning Movement with Vanessa

8–8:30 am

Optional and Open to All Academy Participants
[TAA Morning Yoga Class \(Optional - No Credit Offered\)](#)
Vanessa Paletta

TAA Virtual Arts Vendor Fair

8:30–9:00 am

Optional and Open to All Academy Participants
[QuaverEd \(Optional - No Credit Offered\)](#)

Core Session 1

9–10:15 am

- Group A

[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)

Manju Durairaj
- Group B

[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)

Natasha Thurmon
- Group C

[It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom](#)

Victor Johnson
- Group D

[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)

Ann Clements

Core Session 2

10:30–11:45 am

- Group A

[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)

Natasha Thurmon
- Group B

[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)

Manju Durairaj
- Group C

[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)

Ann Clements
- Group D

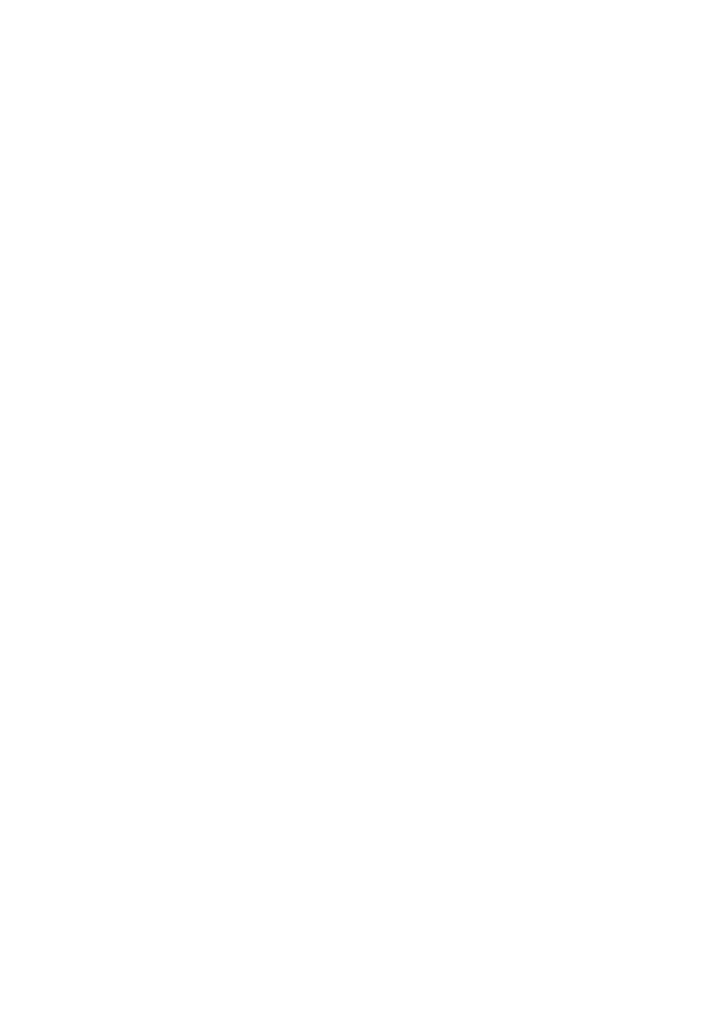
[Toward Becoming a Complete Conductor: Synthesizing Deep Preparation; Clear Communication; and Fluid, Dynamic Rehearsal Technique](#)

Gary W. Hill

All TAA Participants

1–1:45 pm

Tuesday Afternoon Musing with Beverly McIver



Beverly McIver is a significant presence in contemporary American art and has charted a new direction as an African American woman artist. She is committed to making art that consistently examines racial, gender, social, and occupational identities.

McIver was born in Greensboro, North Carolina, and is the youngest of three girls. Her oldest sister Renee is mentally disabled and is a frequent subject of the artist, as are other family members. *Raising Renee*, a feature-length documentary film produced in association with HBO by Academy Award-nominated and award-winning filmmakers Steven Ascher and Jeanne Jordan, tells the story of the impact of McIver's promise to care for her sister when their mother dies. The film, which is available on [Amazon Prime](#), played in festivals around the country and was nominated for an Emmy Award.

McIver's work is in the collection of the National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian, the [North Carolina Museum of Art](#), the Weatherspoon Art Museum, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Asheville Museum of Art, the Crocker Art Museum, the Nelson Fine Arts Center Art Museum at Arizona State University, the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, the Cameron Art Museum and the Mint Museum, as well as significant corporate and private collections.

McIver's recent honors include a yearlong residency at the American Academy in Rome, where she was featured in *Beverly McIver e il colore nero*, a documentary for Italian television. In 2017, she received the lifetime achievement award from the Anyone Can Fly Foundation in a ceremony hosted by artist Faith Ringgold. McIver has received numerous grants and awards including a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, a Radcliffe Fellowship from Harvard University, a Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation Award, a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award, and a Creative Capital grant. McIver is currently the Ebenshade Professor of the Practice in Studio Arts at Duke University. In 2021, she is curating a show of contemporary African American artists working in North Carolina for Craven Allen Gallery in Durham, North Carolina. In 2022, a career survey of the artist's work will begin at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art before touring the country.

The appearance of Beverly McIver is made possible by generous gifts from Pinnacle Financial Partners, Solie Fott, and Rena Elitz.

TAA Virtual Arts Vendor Fair

2:00–2:30 pm

Optional and Open to All Academy Participants
[QuaverEd \(Optional - No Credit Offered\)](#)

Interludes

- 2:15–2:45 PM

[A Story to Tell](#)

Jessica Young

2:15–2:45 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Building Community through Collaborative Arts Programming](#)

Janet Thompson

2:15–2:45 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Developing a Grid Drawing with a Theme](#)

Lendon Hamilton Noe

2:15–2:45 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Increasing Art Educator Engagement](#)

Tina M Atkinson

2:15–2:45 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Lifting the Story from the Page: Storytelling in Seven Easy Steps](#)

Lynnir Mirvis

2:15–2:45 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Meet the Artist: Audrey Flack \(Cancelled - Moved to Thursday\)](#)

Audrey Flack

2:15–2:45 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Music Connections - Gary Hill](#)

Gary W. Hill

2:15–2:45 PM

Music Related
- [Music Connections - Manju Durairaj](#)

Manju Durairaj

2:15–2:45 PM

Music Related
- [Poetry Out Loud: A New Performance Opportunity for Your Students](#)

Michelle Sipes

2:15–2:45 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [The Art of Caricature: The Basics](#)

David Arnold

2:15–2:45 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Using Model Magic in the Classroom](#)

Lauralee Chambers

2:15–2:45 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Visual Art Connections - Drew Brown](#)

Drew Brown

2:15–2:45 PM

Visual Art Related
- 3:00–3:30 PM

[A Story to Tell](#)

Jessica Young

3:00–3:30 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Becoming an Impactful Mentor](#)

Ryan Fisher

3:00–3:30 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Building Community through Collaborative Arts Programming](#)

Janet Thompson

3:00–3:30 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Charcoal Workshop: A Painter's Approach to Drawing](#)

Gary Chapman

3:00–3:30 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Curating Character and Caricature: Finding the Voice for the Role](#)

Foster Johns

3:00–3:30 PM

Theatre Related
- [Getting Started](#)

Caren Ginsberg

3:00–3:30 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Heavy Metal Music, a Visual Arts Lesson Using Metal Tooling](#)

Nic Hahn

3:00–3:30 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Music Connections - Victor Johnson](#)

Victor Johnson

3:00–3:30 PM

Music Related
- [Using Drama to Explore Poetry in Elementary Classrooms](#)

George Belliveau and Sue Belliveau

3:00–3:30 PM

Theatre Related
- [Visual Art Connections - Leslie Pearson](#)

Leslie Pearson

3:00–3:30 PM

Visual Art Related
- 3:00–4:00 PM

[I'm Funny on Paper: Comedy and Sketch Writing](#)

J. Thomas Mayfield

3:00–4:00 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Toy Theatre: Quick, Easy, and Inexpensive Puppets and Stages for the Classroom](#)

Michael and Valerie Nelson

3:00–4:00 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- 3:45–4:15 PM

[A Story to Tell](#)

Jessica Young

3:45–4:15 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Building Community through Collaborative Arts Programming](#)

Janet Thompson

3:45–4:15 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Gratitude Dance](#)

Deborah Damast

3:45–4:15 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Mapping the Slapping: Building More Dynamic Stage Combat Moments](#)

Alexis Black

3:45–4:15 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Mindful Art and Yoga](#)

Libby Lynch

3:45–4:15 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Music Connections - Ann Clements](#)

Ann Clements

3:45–4:15 PM

Music Related
- [Reuse Art: Addressing Inequity, Twenty-first Century Skills, and Social Awareness](#)

Dee Kimbrell

3:45–4:15 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Shift Happens: Cultivating Student Success in In-person, Online, and Hybrid Experiential and Performance-based Courses](#)

Derrick Fox

3:45–4:15 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Theatre Connections - Rob Roznowski](#)

Rob Roznowski

3:45–4:15 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Visual Art Connections - Ashley McKee](#)

Ashley McKee

3:45–4:15 PM

Visual Art Related
- 4:30–5:00 PM

[Caring and Sharing for Secondary Choral Music Teachers](#)

Kami Lunsford and Chris Strelecki

4:30–5:00 PM

Music Related
- [Community Building: Start Strong in the New Year!](#)

Lara Dossett

4:30–5:00 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Growing Community Arts Support](#)

Lizzie Emmons

4:30–5:00 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Music Connections - Natasha Thurmon](#)

Natasha Thurmon

4:30–5:00 PM

Music Related
- [One World, Many Journeys](#)

Ellen S. Gilbert

4:30–5:00 PM

Arts Leadership & Administration Related
- [Shakespeare Soul: The Rhythm in Verse and What It Reveals](#)

Stephanie Shine

4:30–5:00 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Theatre Connections - Rachel Hamilton](#)

Rachel Hamilton

4:30–5:00 PM

Theatre and Dance Related
- [Visual Art Connections - Wynita Harmon](#)

Wynita Harmon

4:30–5:00 PM

Visual Art Related
- [Visual Art Student Recognition Salute](#)

Jim Dodson, Patricia Hudson, and Best of the Best student winners

4:30–5:00 PM

Visual Art Related

Music Schedule

Thursday July 15

(All Times Listed Are Central Daylight Time)

Morning Movement with Vanessa

8–8:30 am

Optional and Open to All Academy Participants
[TAA Morning Yoga Class \(Optional - No Credit Offered\)](#)
Vanessa Paletta

Core Session 1

9–10:15 am

Group A
[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)
Manju Durairaj

Group B
[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)
Natasha Thurmon

Group C
[It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom](#)
Victor Johnson

Group D
[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)
Ann Clements

Core Session 2

10:30–11:45 am

Group A
[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)
Natasha Thurmon

Group B
[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)
Manju Durairaj

Group C
[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)
Ann Clements

Group D
[Toward Becoming a Complete Conductor: Synthesizing Deep Preparation, Clear Communication, and Fluid, Dynamic Rehearsal Technique](#)
Gary W. Hill

All TAA Participants

1–1:45 pm

[Thursday Afternoon Performance with Ballet Memphis](#)



In this program for the Tennessee Arts Academy, Ballet Memphis will perform three works—the duet from *Water of the Flowery Mill*, highlights from the ballet *Paquita*, and *Being Here with Other People*. The first work, *Water of the Flower Mill*, was choreographed by American choreographer Matthew Neenan for Ballet Memphis in 2010. Danced to music by Tchaikovsky, the piece was inspired by the 1944 painting of the same name by artist Arshile Gorky. *Paquita*, originally choreographed by Marius Petipa with music by Ludwig Minkus, is a three-act ballet that tells the story of *Paquita*, a young woman who falls in love with a noble man. The ballet is rarely performed in its entirety in the West; however, the third act remains a staple in the repertoire of ballet companies across the world. No longer performed as a narrative work, the dance is now used as a vehicle for virtuosity, artistry, and exceptional corps de ballet work. *Being Here with Other People* was choreographed by Ballet Memphis's artistic director Steven McMahon in 2009. The dance is a response to the joyous music of Beethoven's *Violin Concerto in D Major*. After the program, McMahon will host a question and answer session for the audience. [Click here for complete program information.](#)

Ballet Memphis aspires to reveal and celebrate the universality of the human experience through dance. The company performs classical ballet and is a leader in the creation of new work that builds American dance using the catalog of American music, often finding inspiration in the Memphis sound. The Ballet Memphis School offers ballet training for students ages three and older, while adult students enjoy ballet, tap, and Pilates classes. Ballet Memphis is entering its thirty-fifth season.

The appearance of Ballet Memphis is made possible by generous gifts from Bobby Jean Frost, in memory of Donna Frost; the Lingner Gift Fund; and Bill and Jeanette Watkins.

Interludes

2:15–2:45 PM

[Lifting the Story from the Page: Storytelling in Seven Easy Steps](#)
Lynnie Mirvis
2:15–2:45 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Meet the Artist: Audrey Flack](#)
Audrey Flack
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Music Connections - Gary Hill](#)
Gary W. Hill
2:15–2:45 PM
Music Related

[Music Connections - Manju Durairaj](#)
Manju Durairaj
2:15–2:45 PM
Music Related

[Shift Happens: Cultivating Student Success in In-person, Online, and Hybrid Experiential and Performance-based Courses](#)
Derrick Fox
2:15–2:45 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Southern Word in Schools](#)
Benjamin Smith
2:15–2:45 PM
General Interest Related

[The Art of Caricature: The Basics](#)
David Arnold
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Using Model Magic in the Classroom](#)
Lauralee Chambers
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Visual Art Connections - Drew Brown](#)
Drew Brown
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Warming Up: Fitzmaurice Voicework and Michael Chekhov \(Rolling\)](#)
Margaret Laurena Kemp
2:15–2:45 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[3:00–3:30 PM](#)
[Becoming An Impactful Mentor](#)
Ryan Fisher
3:00–3:30 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Creativity and Artist's Block](#)
Gary Chapman
3:00–3:30 PM
Visual Art Related

[Getting Started](#)
Caren Ginsberg
3:00–3:30 PM
Visual Art Related

[Gratitude Dance](#)
Deborah Damast
3:00–3:30 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Music Connections - Victor Johnson](#)
Victor Johnson
3:00–3:30 PM
Music Related

[Playback Theatre Youth Peace Building Program: Be the Peace](#)
Virginia Murphy
3:00–3:30 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Silo is a Four-letter Word: Re-thinking How Arts Educators Collaborate](#)
Lindsay Halford
3:00–3:30 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Visual Art Connections - Leslie Pearson](#)
Leslie Pearson
3:00–3:30 PM
Visual Art Related

[3:00–4:00 PM](#)
[Inviting Surprise, Delight, and Curiosity into the Classroom](#)
Janet Revell Barrett
3:00–4:00 PM
Music Related

[I'm Funny on Paper: Comedy and Sketch Writing](#)
J. Thomas Mayfield
3:00–4:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Toy Theatre: Quick, Easy, and Inexpensive Puppets and Stages for the Classroom](#)
Michael and Valerie Nelson
3:00–4:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[3:45–4:15 PM](#)
[Easy Voiceover Projects for You and Your Classroom](#)
Holly Adams
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Mindful Art and Yoga](#)
Libby Lynch
3:45–4:15 PM
Visual Art Related

[Music Connections - Ann Clements](#)
Ann Clements
3:45–4:15 PM
Music Related

[Reuse Art: Addressing Inequity, Twenty-first Century Skills, and Social Awareness](#)
Dee Kimbrell
3:45–4:15 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Southern Word in Schools](#)
Benjamin Smith
3:45–4:15 PM
General Interest Related

[Theatre Connections - Margaret Kemp](#)
Margaret Laurena Kemp
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Theatre Connections - Rachel Hamilton](#)
Rachel Hamilton
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Using Drama to Explore Poetry in Elementary Classrooms](#)
George Belliveau and Sue Belliveau
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visual Art Connections - Ashley McKee](#)
Ashley McKee
3:45–4:15 PM
Visual Art Related

[4:30–5:00 PM](#)
[Deep Engagement: Drama-based Strategies for Arts Integration in the New Normal](#)
Mary McAvoy
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Kpanlogo, Kpatcha, Right Foot Forward Back, Left Foot Forward Back](#)
Christian Kofi Mawuko
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Music Connections - Natasha Thurmon](#)
Natasha Thurmon
4:30–5:00 PM
Music Related

[Paper, Pencil, Pizazz! Three Projects with Simple Supplies](#)
Christian Allen and Karen Strachen
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

[Re-Membering the Lock-down: Best Practices for the New Normal](#)
Jeffrey Allen Murdock
4:30–5:00 PM
Music Related

[Reuse Art: Addressing Inequity, Twenty-first Century Skills, and Social Awareness](#)
Dee Kimbrell
4:30–5:00 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Shakespeare Soul: The Rhythm in Verse and What It Reveals](#)
Stephanie Shine
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Theatre Connections - Rob Roznowski](#)
Rob Roznowski
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Using Strategic Planning to Grow K–12 Visual and Performing Arts \(VAPA\) Programs](#)
Jeff Smith
4:30–5:00 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Visual Art Connections - Wynita Harmon](#)
Wynita Harmon
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

[Visual Art Student Recognition Salute](#)
Jim Dodson, Patricia Hudson, and Best of the Best student winners
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

Music Schedule

Friday July 16

(All Times Listed Are Central Daylight Time)

Morning Movement with Vanessa

8–8:30 am

Optional and Open to All Academy Participants
[TAA Morning Yoga Class \(Optional - No Credit Offered\)](#)
Vanessa Paletta

Core Session 1

9–10:15 am

Group A
[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)
Manju Durairaj

Group B
[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)
Natasha Thurmon

Group C
[It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom](#)
Victor Johnson

Group D
[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)
Ann Clements

Core Session 2

10:30–11:45 am

Group A
[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)
Natasha Thurmon

Group B
[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)
Manju Durairaj

Group C
[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)
Ann Clements

Group D
[Toward Becoming a Complete Conductor: Synthesizing Deep Preparation; Clear Communication; and Fluid, Dynamic Rehearsal Technique](#)
Gary W. Hill

All TAA Participants

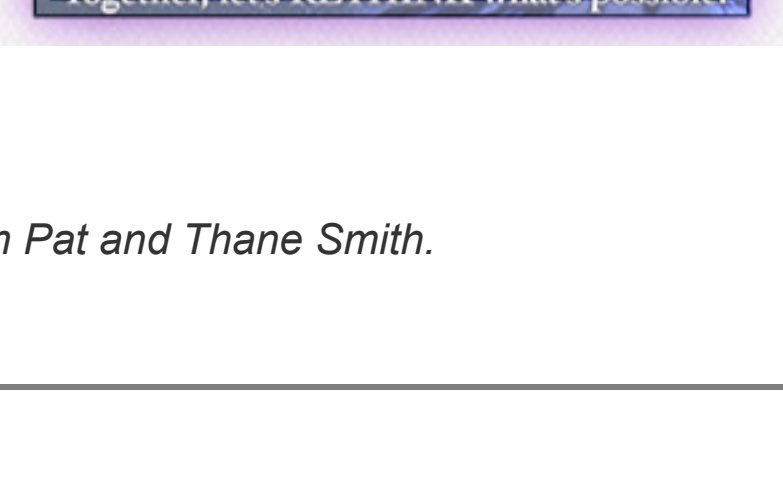
1–1:45 pm

Friday Afternoon Performance with Cumberland County Playhouse



In 2020, the pandemic brought many changes to Cumberland County Playhouse's original season lineup. The topical *Alabama Story*, for example, was a small cast show that the Playhouse decided to perform for both a limited in-person and live-stream audience simultaneously. Coming out of the pandemic, the Playhouse's theme of "rebuild and renew, recommit to the community we share, and redefine the stories we tell," helped drive the company's decision to include the Pulitzer Prize winning *Driving Miss Daisy* and *Godspell*, a musical that celebrates love and community, in its 2021 season. Academy participants will be treated to scenes from all three of these productions, which Cumberland County Playhouse's producing director Bryce McDonald will introduce and members of the company will perform. After the performances, McDonald and artistic director Britt Hancock will hold a question-and-answer session.

The Cumberland County Playhouse is the only major non-profit professional performing arts resource in rural Tennessee and one of the ten largest professional theatres in rural America. It serves more than eighty thousand visitors every year and has two indoor stages, one outdoor stage, theatre for young audience productions, a comprehensive education program, and a concert series. The Cumberland County Playhouse provides arts opportunities to a vast region that is under-served by other arts resources, including rural East and Middle Tennessee, North Georgia, Northern Alabama, Southern Kentucky, and metropolitan Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Nashville.



The appearance of Cumberland County Playhouse is made possible by a generous gift from Pat and Thane Smith.

Interludes

2:15–2:45 PM

[Curating Character and Caricature: Finding the Voice for the Role](#)
Foster Johns
2:15–2:45 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Getting the Right People on the Bus: Best Practices for Recruitment and Retention of Visual and Performing Arts \(VAPA\) Teachers of Excellence](#)
Jeff Smith
2:15–2:45 PM
Arts Leadership & Administration Related

[Imaginative Teaching in Role](#)
Amanda Pintore
2:15–2:45 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Meet Photojournalist, Author and Teacher Linda Solomon](#)
Linda Solomon
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Special Education Law: Music Educators' Rights and Responsibilities](#)
Kimberly VanWeelden
2:15–2:45 PM
Music Related

[The Art of Caricature: The Basics](#)
David Arnold
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

[Theatre Connections - Margaret Kemp](#)
Margaret Laurena Kemp
2:15–2:45 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visual Art Connections - Drew Brown](#)
Drew Brown
2:15–2:45 PM
Visual Art Related

3:00–3:30 PM

[10th Annual Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition and Awards Presentation](#)
Melody Weintraub
3:00–3:30 PM
Visual Art Related

[Introduction to Television, Film, and Independent Theatre](#)
Princeton James
3:00–3:30 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Meet Photojournalist, Author and Teacher Linda Solomon](#)
Linda Solomon
3:00–3:30 PM
Visual Art Related

[Plot Making: Accessible Improvisation to Introduce Conflict and Explore Resolution](#)
Jennifer Gray
3:00–3:30 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[The ToolBox Edit: Organizing your Rehearsal Strategies for Efficiency and Success](#)
Lesley Mann
3:00–3:30 PM
Music Related

[Using Drama to Explore Poetry in Elementary Classrooms](#)
George Belliveau and Sue Belliveau
3:00–3:30 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visual Art Connections - Leslie Pearson](#)
Leslie Pearson
3:00–3:30 PM
Visual Art Related

3:00–4:00 PM

[Dynamic Storytelling for Actors and Directors](#)
Leland Faulkner
3:00–4:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Literacy Through Puppetry: Giving Kids a Reason to Read](#)
Karen Konnerth
3:00–4:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Nature Journaling](#)
John (Jack) Muir Laws
3:00–4:00 PM
Visual Art Related

3:45–4:15 PM

[Cooling Down: Fitzmaurice Voicework and Michael Chekhov \(De-roling\)](#)
Margaret Laurena Kemp
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Developing Music Literacy in your Beginning Band and Orchestra Classroom](#)
Rob Chilton
3:45–4:15 PM
Music Related

[Introduction to Television, Film, and Independent Theatre](#)
Princeton James
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Theatre Connections - Deborah Damast](#)
Deborah Damast
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visit NCT or NCT Visits You: A Q&A with Nashville Children's Theatre!](#)
Catherine Birdsong
3:45–4:15 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visual Art Connections - Ashley McKee](#)
Ashley McKee
3:45–4:15 PM
Visual Art Related

4:30–5:00 PM

[Arts360 Working Group: Meeting #2](#)
Alicia Lark Fuss
4:30–5:00 PM
General Interest Related

[Community Building: Start Strong in the New Year!](#)
Lara Dossett
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Foster Care to Arts Career](#)
Allison Galloway-Gonzalez
4:30–5:00 PM
General Interest Related

[Kpanlogo, Kpatcha, Right Foot Forward Back, Left Foot Forward Back](#)
Christian Kofi Mawuko
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

[Visual Art Connections - Wynita Harmon](#)
Wynita Harmon
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

[Visual Student Recognition Salute](#)
Jim Dodson, Patricia Hudson, and Best of the Best student winners
4:30–5:00 PM
Visual Art Related

[Yes. But! Then ...](#)
Jacob Banigan
4:30–5:00 PM
Theatre and Dance Related

Q&A with Frank Bluestein

5–5:30 pm

Optional and Open to All Academy Participants
[Q&A with Frank Bluestein \(Optional - No Credit Offered\)](#)
Frank Bluestein



Music Post Academy Session

The Post Academy period is designed to allow each TAA participant the opportunity to gain additional Academy credit hours. In order to receive the TAA certificate, participants need to achieve a total of 36 TAA credit hours. TAA is offering a variety of activities that allow you to quickly and easily reach the 36-hour benchmark.

Below you will find two sessions that are being taught over the TAA Zoom platform. On July 21st there is an optional one-hour Networking and Collaboration session that will help you to reflect and act on learning from this summer's TAA sessions. On July 23rd all TAA participants are expected to attend two final wrap-up classes with their core instructors.

Additional suggested activities for earning Post Academy credit hours can be found by visiting the Post Academy pull-down menu on this site, where you can access numerous archived musings, art exhibition tours, TAA Chorale performances, and a host of additional viewing opportunities and resources.

For further information, you may also wish to view the [TAA Credit Hours Overview](#) page for a breakdown of the hours needed to successfully complete the 2021 Tennessee Arts Academy and to gain the 36 hours needed to receive the TAA certificate.

Wednesday July 21

(All Times Listed Are Central Daylight Time)

TAA Networking & Collaboration Day

The purpose of the networking and collaboration sessions is to provide space for Academy participants to reflect and act on learning from this summer's TAA sessions. Participants will work collaboratively to create new teaching strategies, strengthen professional networks, and synthesize and connect learning with existing and newly created professional goals. A facilitator will guide the session.

10:30–11:30 am (CDT)

[Elementary/Lower Middle Music](#)

[Upper Middle/Secondary Vocal Music](#)

[Upper Middle/Secondary Instrumental Music](#)

Friday July 23

(All Times Listed Are Central Daylight Time)

Final Wrap-up

Core Session 1

9–10:30 am (CDT)

Group A

[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)

Manju Durairaj

Group B

[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)

Natasha Thurmon

Group C

[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)

Ann Clements

Group D

[Toward Becoming a Complete Conductor: Synthesizing Deep Preparation; Clear Communication; and Fluid, Dynamic Rehearsal Technique](#)

Gary W. Hill

Core Session 2

10:45 am–12:15 pm (CDT)

Group A

[Teaching with Love and Grace](#)

Natasha Thurmon

Group B

[Sing, Say, Dance, and Play: Create in a Responsive Way](#)

Manju Durairaj

Group C

[It's All in a Year's Work: Practical and Purposeful Strategies for the Choral Classroom](#)

Victor Johnson

Group D

[Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Let Them Choose!](#)

Ann Clements

Live! Alumni Kroger Gift Card Drawings and More

12:30 PM CDT

July 23

Launch Zoom