

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton Receives Grant, Will Help Produce *State of the Arts* Public Television Program

Award-Winning Show Provides Exposure for Arts and Artists in New Jersey

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey recently received a \$200,000 New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) grant for the cosponsored production of the award-winning *State of the Arts* public television program in partnership with PCK Media. The announcement, made recently at the annual meeting of the NJSCA, continues the council's support of the program, which dates to 1985.

Stockton Provost and Executive Vice President Harvey Kesselman said the College was pleased to become a part of the program, a New Jersey public television tradition. "As Stockton has long advanced and supported the arts in New Jersey, we welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the award-winning *State of the Arts*, he said. "Public television plays a critical role, exposing the arts and artists to a wider audience, especially during challenging economic times. It is fitting that our extraordinary faculty, celebrating the 40th anniversary of teaching here at Stockton, will contribute to such an accomplished program during its own milestone 30th anniversary."

State of the Arts debuted on NJN Public Television in 1981. It now airs on NJTV Public Media TV. Over the years it has been recognized nationally as one of the premier arts and culture programs on public television. This season *State of the Arts* marks its 30th anniversary with a new look and format: An in-depth documentary feature about an important artist or event will anchor each half-hour episode. Short studio visits will introduce viewers to the extraordinary range of New Jersey artists, musicians and poets at work today. The *Venues* segment will take viewers to performance spaces across the state including jazz clubs, opera houses, coffee houses and more.

PCK Media has produced *State of the Arts* to NJTV for more than 10 years at NJN Public Television and Radio. Formed by Emmy award-winning producers Christopher Benincasa Eric Schultz and Susan Wallner, the trio has combined to win more than a dozen Mid-Atlantic and New York Emmys for the program, as well as several CINE Golden Eagle awards.

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Stockton to partner on *State of the Arts* public television program/page 2

“Stockton College is a perfect fit for PCK Media’s production partner,” says Wallner, long-time series producer. “*State of the Arts* is going to grow in positive new directions because of Stockton’s enterprising spirit. Arts, culture and new media initiatives are all central to the school, making it one of the most energized and connected campuses in the state.”

“We are delighted to bring new episodes of the series to NJTV viewers,” said John Servidio, Interim General Manager of NJTV. “New Jersey is home to a diverse arts and culture scene, and it has always been our goal to tap into those communities and to tell their stories. We look forward to partnering with Stockton College and PCK Media to accomplish this and much more.”

A new broadcast time and day for the program is to be announced shortly, with the season premiere set for an October date to be announced.

Stockton’s Robert Gregg, Professor of History and Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, and Wendel White, Distinguished Professor of Art, will both serve on the advisory board of *State of the Arts*. Students from many of the College’s programs, including communications studies, visual and performing arts, history and education, will benefit from the collaboration with PCK Media through production and research internships, among other opportunities.

For more information on *State of the Arts*, visit <http://www.njtvonline.org/state-of-the-arts/> or contact PCK Media, 34 Abernethy Drive, Trenton, NJ 08618 or email info@pckmedia.com.

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