Stockton, Noyes Museum of Art, Bay-Atlantic Symphony Receive $426,781 in NJ Arts Grants

Stockton University, the Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University and the Bay-Atlantic Symphony, Stockton’s orchestra-in-residence, have been awarded a total of $426,781 in grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the Dodge Foundation.

The School of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) received $200,000 from the state Council on the Arts for the Emmy Award-winning “State of the Arts” program produced in collaboration with PCK Media. The program also received a $10,000 grant from the Dodge Foundation.

The Performing Arts Center also received $101,020 in general program support from the state. Dr. Lisa Honaker, dean of ARHU, recognized Suze DiPietro, manager of the Performing Arts Center; Pantelia (Lia) Bairaktaris, associate director for the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs; Joan Joseph, grants fiscal analyst; and Christy Santiago, accounting manager, for their efforts in securing the grant.

The Noyes Museum received $53,803 for its general operating budget as well as $14,000 to help support its New Jersey Arts Annual: Fine Arts. The juried exhibit showcases contemporary works by artists throughout New Jersey, including paintings, drawings, 3-dimensional and mixed media work.

The Bay-Atlantic Symphony received a $36,708 state arts grant for general operating support. The Symphony also received an $11,250 grant to expand its music/mentorship program at Atlantic City’s Sovereign Ave. School and Atlantic City High School.

Symphony musicians, along with music students from Stockton, teach strings and woodwind classes in small groups or one-on-one.

The educational portion of the program is under the direction of Dr. Christopher Di Santo, associate professor of Music and principal clarinetist with Bay-Atlantic, with Conductor Jed Gaylin providing overview.
Teaching Circles Announced for Academic Year 2015-2016

Dr. Susan Davenport, interim provost and executive vice president, recently announced the following Teaching Circles for the 2015-2016 academic year:

**Dr. Judith Turk**, assistant professor of Environmental Science, will facilitate the *Undergraduate Research Teaching Circle*, which aims to help faculty members strengthen their undergraduate research by gaining familiarity with the literature on undergraduate research, aggregating knowledge on what works and doesn’t work in undergraduate research, developing websites to promote undergraduate interest in research opportunities at Stockton, and organizing in order to take advantage of opportunities available to undergraduate researchers.

**Dr. Elizabeth Elmore**, professor of Economics, will facilitate the *Using Games for Pedagogical Purposes Teaching Circle*, which will use games to enhance students’ engagement with course content both in and out of the classroom.

**Dr. Joseph Rubenstein**, professor of Anthropology and Faculty Fellow for the Stockton Center for Community Engagement, will facilitate the *Community Engagement Teaching Circle*, which aims to aid faculty members in identifying and addressing program and university-wide issues around community engagement, and to develop ideas and strategies for infusing engagement into classes and research.

**Dr. Melissa Zwick**, assistant professor of Biology, will facilitate *Publish & Flourish: A Writing Teaching Circle*, which aims to aid faculty to become more productive writers and to complete their writing projects with the support of colleagues across the University.

**Dr. Elisa von Joeden-Forgey**, assistant professor in Holocaust and Genocide Studies; **Dr. Betsy Erbaugh**, assistant professor of Sociology; and **Dr. Jess Bonnan-White**, assistant professor of Criminal Justice, will facilitate *Teaching About Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Inside and Outside of the Classroom*. The goal of this Teaching Circle is to build on the strong interest in the topic expressed by students, faculty and staff in AY 2014-15 by continuing discussion and institutional engagement around the issues of sexual and gender-based violence. The facilitators will engage in community outreach, workshops, and film screenings, among other activities.

**Dr. Janice Joseph**, professor of Criminal Justice, will facilitate *Globalizing the Curriculum: Practical Applications*. The goal of this Teaching Circle is for faculty members to come together from different disciplines and explore ways to infuse global content into the courses in their disciplines.

The Teaching Circles program, which began as a 2020 Initiative and is now supported through Presidential Initiative Funding, provides the opportunity for faculty to further their knowledge and experience about professionally-relevant areas for the purpose of improving teaching and learning.

**Dr. Ellen Mutari**, professor of Economics; **Dr. Kristin Jacobson**, associate professor of Literature; **Dr. Doug Harvey**, associate professor of Instructional Technology; and **Dr. Bill Reynolds**, associate professor of Social Work, served on the Teaching Circle selection committee.

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**Faculty, Staff Present at Student Government-East Institute**

Stockton University hosted *The National Association for Campus Activities’ Student Government-East* Institute July 16-20. About 140 students and 10 advisers from schools from all over the east coast attended.

Joseph Lizza, assistant director of Campus Center Operations and Programs, said the purpose of the institute is to educate and provide networking opportunities for student leaders to gain the skills to lead their student governments on campus.

Lizza, who serves as a member of the NACA Institute staff, said he had applied for Stockton to be a host site after learning about the opportunity last July. Several Stockton faculty and staff members presented during the four-day conference, which featured sessions, small group meetings and roundtable discussions.

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On July 22, Nancy Messina, assistant dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, and her children Sarah Messina, professional services specialist in Graphics, and Jason Messina, a filmmaker and artist who resides in New York City, dedicated a bench in honor of their husband and father, and longtime Stockton employee, Dominick Messina. About 50 members from the Stockton community gathered on the dark path on Lake Fred for the dedication ceremony.

Dominick worked for 31 years at Stockton, as bursar from 1981-2003, and as director of Special Accounting Projects from 2003-2005. He was an alumnus of Stockton, graduating with a B.A. in Accounting in 1982 and an M.B.S. in 1999.

“We were genuinely touched by Dr. Kesselman’s kind remarks, and by all of the thoughtful comments expressed by those who attended,” Nancy Messina said. “I am so grateful and appreciative for the amazing turnout for my father’s memorial ceremony. It was a true Stockton community moment. I know that my father was smiling along with all of us. I hope that the bench brings joy, relaxation and serenity to all,” Sarah Messina said.

The location for the bench was chosen when Nancy and Sarah Messina found the letters S and J etched inside a heart previously carved into a tree along Lake Fred. The letters represent a connection to Sarah and Jason.

Nancy, Sarah and Jason established the Dominick A. Messina Endowed Scholarship in July 2008, which, to date, has provided eight scholarships for qualified Stockton students. July 2015 marks the 10th anniversary of Dominick’s passing.

“Thank you to everyone who shared this heartfelt moment with us. Dominick’s identity was connected to Stockton on so many levels.”

To view photos from the dedication ceremony, click here.
Dr. Lisa Cox Presents at International Scientific Meeting in London

Dr. Lisa Cox, associate professor of Social Work, recently presented at the 1st World Congress on Tourette Syndrome and Tic Disorders, an international scientific meeting held in London, England.

The Congress’ Scientific Steering Committee selected Dr. Cox’s research titled, “Environmental Triggers of Older Adults with Tourette Syndrome,” to be displayed as a poster presentation.

The theme of this year’s congress was “New Frontiers in Research Treatment and Global Collaboration,” and included plenary sessions, workshops, abstract and poster presentations, demonstrations and training courses by leading experts in the field. The event was the first ever international world congress on TS. The event was hosted by Tourette Syndrome Association, The European Society for the Study of Tourette Syndrome and TourettesAction UK.

“The excitement of being amidst the brilliant minds of renowned TS researchers and geneticists, clinicians, international advocates and educators who were presenting research findings and fabulous resources was palpable,” Dr. Cox said. “Attendees expressed interest in my conceptual model that examined protective factors and coping mechanisms for living successfully with TS, despite stigma and particular environmental triggers.”

The School of Arts and Humanities Welcomes Joseph Sramaty

Joseph Sramaty joins the School of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) as a clerk typist. He previously served as a student worker and as a TES in ARHU. Sramaty earned a B.A. in Vocal Music with a minor in Historical Studies from Stockton University in 2015.

He enjoys traveling, seeing shows and spending time with loved ones. He also does freelance work as a music/vocal director and performer throughout the state. Most recently, Sramaty performed in Carnegie Hall. He will serve as the vocal director on the upcoming Stockton production of Ahab: A Musical Odyssey.

“I am thrilled to begin my career here at Stockton,” Sramaty said.

University Relations & Marketing Service Request Form Reminder

As the fall semester approaches, the Office of University Relations & Marketing would like to remind the University community to use the Service Request Form to access services from the following departments: Marketing/Advertising, Graphics, Marketing Video Production, Web Communications, News & Media Relations, Social Media and Publications & Special Projects. You can now access the form through a new user friendly link: stockton.edu/request. Please complete and submit the form two weeks in advance to ensure timely delivery. For Print Shop requests, click here for the form.

Send Us Your News!

We want to know about things going on in the Stockton community. Do you have an unusual hobby? Did one of your co-workers win an award or perform outstanding public service? Births, weddings, graduations and the like are all good things to submit to The Stockton Times. Contact the editor at 609-626-5521 or email StocktonTimes@stockton.edu.

News about distinguished students can now be found at Distinctive Stockton Students. To contribute a news item for the blog, please contact the editor at distinctive@stockton.edu.