



MEDICI CIRCLE

2016/17 NEWSLETTER

Securing a strong future for the BGSU School of Art

Dear Friends,

If you are a Medici Circle member at BGSU, then you know—there is talent in every brush stroke, every glass piece, sculpture, and ceramics work, in every corner of the Fine Arts Center from the classrooms to the galleries.

During my time as a board member of Medici Circle, especially serving as president, I have learned and seen so much. I would never classify myself as an art expert, but I have always appreciated arts of all kind and had good friends who understood the arts better than I, such as the legendary Bob Mazur and career artists such as Dan Piersol, Dan Chudzinski, Adam Goldberg and many of last decade's graduates that I have come to know.

As I wind down my service as board president, I admit my expertise about art has not improved significantly; however my appreciation for the talent that comprises the BGSU School of Art has increased exponentially.

From Katerina Ruedi Ray's amazing advocacy as director and Charlie Kanwischer's ability to step in as acting director without missing a stroke to the dedicated and talented faculty and students across all divisions, the BGSU School of Art has reason to boast. It's been my pleasure to watch from the sidelines as our programs are recognized and our students earn awards. I also was happy to be a part of establishing the new Arts Entrepreneurship class that helps our students learn to use their craft to make a living.

My hope, as I pass the torch to incoming president Jane Vanden Eynden, is that Medici Circle continues to provide the support needed to enhance the BGSU arts experience for our students. Also, I hope the system I helped implement to balance the Medici Circle revenue with the grants awarded continues to provide enhanced opportunities for the students and keep the organization fiscally sound.

Medici Circle and the School of Art are a wonderful team. And I have every confidence that its success will be assured with your continued interest and personal support.

Best regards to continued success,

Timothy F. Smith



Medici Circle Board Members

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Ex Officio

Charles Kanwischer/
Katerina Ruedi Ray

Medici Circle

AT WORK:

Welcome to New Board Student Members

The Medici Circle is proud to include students on its Board each year. They play the invaluable role of connecting the Board to the student body. This year, the Board would like to welcome a new student member.

Vanessa Flory is from Monclova, Ohio and is a rising senior at BGSU majoring in graphic design. She is a member of AIGA Toledo, secretary of the BGSU AIGA student chapter and a member of the BGSU Printmaking Society. She was awarded 2nd place in graphic design in the 2016 BGSU Undergraduate Exhibition; she also was awarded the James W. Strong Scholarship for Graphic Design and the President's Suite Award for Graphic Design.

Upon graduation Flory would like to work at a design firm with progressive creatives who will challenge her to collaboratively develop concepts that solve problems and visually communicate ideas that will create better experiences for people around the world.



Visiting Artist

The Medici Circle's generous support makes it possible for School of Art students and faculty to welcome to campus a wide array of internationally recognized artists and scholars.

Jim Daichendt, Art Education

"Keep vibrant the strong community of artists that surround you," Jim Daichendt, Ed.D., told BGSU students and faculty during his Medici Circle-supported ARTalk, about "The Artist-Scholar and the University." Daichendt, who is the dean of Point Loma Nazarene University in Southern California, recommended that individuals who intend to create meaningful work amidst life's challenges should keep in touch with peers via regular studio visits and "crit" groups after graduation. He discussed his research about the identity and roles of artist-teachers with students in several School of Art classes. Daichendt, aka Professor Street Art, also visited Bowling Green High School to talk about his Street Art research and show images of his current projects in Los Angeles. Medici Circle's continued support of events and projects reaches faculty members and students in rich and imperceptible ways.



Jim Daichendt visits BGSU thanks to Medici Circle support.



Glass artist Anne Petters shares her original glass process with students.

Visiting Artist

Anne Petters, Glass Artist

Glass artist Anne Petters spent a day in the Glass program in November, sharing her experience as a practicing artist and her knowledge of experimental pâte de verre techniques. Petters, who was raised in Dresden, Germany, works across glass, video and mixed media/installation. Petters discussed her concept-driven work, qualities of ephemera and the exotic collection. Talking about her process with pâte de verre, she explained she was seeking a glassmaking process that was direct and could capture an expression and variability. She made a plaster impression of a sheet with some writings on it, filled it with the pâte de verre, loaded it into the kiln and later showed how to manipulate the casting while it was hot. The students benefited from seeing how Petters' original glass process was developed from a concept-driven investigation.

Visiting Artist

Kenwyn Crichlow, Art Historian

Students in Dr. Rebecca Skinner Green's undergraduate/graduate seminar, Critical Issues in World Art: Contemporary Caribbean Art, benefited from the Medici Circle-funded visit by Caribbean artist Kenwyn Crichlow. Students had a wonderful experience listening to and interacting with Crichlow, who is an artist and professor from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. His visit was a culmination of this extended conversation, which involved critical readings, discussion and in-class presentations and a pre-visit Skype meeting. Crichlow's visit was "incredibly valuable for the students to experience the expertise, vision and perspective of various scholars, and to be able to extend the theoretical and critical conversation of a seminar beyond the seemingly esoteric discussion, apply it and see it in action," Skinner Green said. "Funding like yours (Medici Circle's) enables me to organize events such as this."



Art historian Kenwyn Crichlow talks about his Caribbean roots.

Medici Circle

AT WORK: Student Travel

The Medici Circle also provides funding for student field trips, symposia, and exhibitions, to help them expand their professional experience and exposure during their undergraduate and graduate careers.



Computer Art Club members were immersed in animation at the Ottawa International Animation Festival.



One of the highlights of the First Year Program trip to Detroit was experiencing Nick Cave's Heard Detroit at Milliken State Park.



Graphic design students attended the October 2015 AIGA National Conference in New Orleans.

Ottawa International Animation Festival

The Computer Art Club members traveled to the Ottawa (Ontario, Canada) International Animation Festival, where they viewed the quality of animation projects being produced by their peers.

During the festival students learned the importance of networking and met animation industry professionals including talent recruiters, animators, production designers and directors from major animation companies such as Pixar, Cartoon network, Nickelodeon and Walt Disney Animation Studios. Several students' portfolios were reviewed and critiqued. The festival also featured creative workshops, recruiter meetings and panels.

"Everyone was given advice on steps for a successful career in the animation industry," said Chelsea Herzog, a club member. "The connections people made on this trip will help them in the future."

First Year Program Travels to Detroit

School of Art students explored the arts and culture of Detroit during a Medici Circle-funded trip in the fall.

They met and listened to Detroit artist Anthony Marcellini and participated in a jam-packed tour where they had the chance to see and hear about a variety of artist-led initiatives in the city. They also attended an opening reception of Youngworld, an artist cooperative gallery, and listened to a special performance of Heard Detroit by Chicago-based artist Nick Cave.

Visiting Submerge Records and learning the history of Techno music, exploring MOCAD and seeing artist-run spaces provided a great learning opportunity.

"I now have a great foundation to approach visiting (Detroit) again, to continue getting a bigger picture of the unique things happening there," said Daniel Molyneux, a ceramics graduate student.

AIGA National Conference, New Orleans

A group of graphic design students attended the AIGA National Conference in New Orleans in October, where they were energized and surrounded by more than 2,000 people who are passionate about design.

While at the conference, the students attended general sessions, smaller affinity sessions, networking events, panel discussions and a student portfolio review. Because design is needed across many different disciplines, they were able to see how differently careers are built by applying design to a person's passion.

The Graphic Design students also had the opportunity to meet design legends that they have studied in class, such as Michael Bierut from Pentagram. They also learned valuable tips for using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

"I finally understood that if you keep working diligently toward your passion, opportunities can open up for you, and you never know where your career can end up," said graphic design major Alaina Nogar.



Each year, BGSU students study abroad in Florence, Italy at the School of Art's partner school, Studio Art Centers International (SACI). Last summer, the Medici Circle was able to offer travel grants to each of the 12 School of Art students who studied at SACI.

My time at SACI

BY NICK PURPURA



I had the phenomenal experience of studying abroad in Florence, Italy at SACI. It was a great experience that I will remember and be influenced by for the rest of my life. There were so many great things that I was able to experience while I was there. Being a part of another culture is an eye-opening experience that makes me look at my home culture differently. Seeing the amazing art that has stood the test of time, and meeting new people who I will hopefully continue to be influenced by in the future, were my favorite parts of my time overseas.

The things that I saw while I was in Italy are in a league of their own compared to any other sights I have seen. While in Italy I saw the oldest things I have ever laid my eyes on. It really opened my eyes to how old civilized humans are and also how long people have been creating art. While in Italy I took a weekend trip to Rome and I also took many daytrips to other parts of Italy. With my art history class we went to Siena, Pisa, Lucca, Fiesole, and many other places around Florence and inside Florence. I learned a lot about the pre-Renaissance and the Renaissance by being where it actually happened. One of my favorite



sights was the view of Florence from the vantage point of Fiesole, while a storm was approaching. I also enjoyed watching the sun set while I stood on the Ponte Vecchia. Several times I remember wondering how the people who made each building in Florence made them look so beautiful.

My experience would not be what it was without the friends I made while in Florence. I met fellow SACI students from all over the United States; I met people from other countries who were studying in Italy, and I met people who lived and worked in Florence. My friends taught me so many things while I was there. I will never forget this once-in-a-lifetime trip.

Medici Circle PURCHASE AWARD

Each year, the Medici Circle purchases artwork from the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Exhibition to support student activity within the School of Art. The pieces are kept in the Gallery collection.



"Presence," a digital painting by Megan Dunn, and a 3-D piece by Davis Hartman received the 2016 Medici Circle Purchase Awards.

This year two students' works of art were purchased: Megan Dunn and Davis Hartman. Below is information about award winner Megan Dunn.

One of the BFA artworks that was selected for the Medici Circle Purchase Award this year was "Presence," by digital art student Megan Dunn.

Dunn, who graduated in December and is currently a merchandise intern in the Disney College Program at Walt Disney World, is from the Cleveland area.

According to Dunn, "Presence is a series of digital paintings that explores a dilapidated mansion. The mansion, seemingly abandoned and decaying from years of disuse, is a place that is very much frozen in time."

She used Photoshop to sketch, compose and paint this series. She enjoys the freedom that painting digitally allows her to explore and execute her art. She chose digital painting to emulate the style of oil painting in approach and execution, while using modern digital tools. "This notion, the connection between the old and the new, the past and the present, has been a major driving force behind this series," she explained.

Her interest in books, movies, architecture and history inspired her to create the series, primarily Southern Gothic literature of William Faulkner and Flannery O'Connor.

"I wanted to create a piece that embodied the atmosphere and tone of some of my favorite stories. I wanted to explore our relationship with time, how the passage of time transforms objects from every-day and mundane to otherworldly relics, and I also wanted to explore how the objects we surround ourselves with describe our character. Even though the story I'm telling in this series is purposefully vague, I wanted to leave little hints that allow viewers to draw their own conclusions about the nature of this place and the person who lived here," Dunn said.

She is extremely grateful to Medici Circle for selecting her piece for the award. "Earning this award shows me that I have the capacity to explore meaningful art that is engaging and interesting to others. Moreover, I recognize now that my voice as an artist and the stories I have to tell are valid, and that my interest in the connection between the old and the new is something worth exploring in my future as an artist," she said.



GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENTS WIN Addy Awards

BGSU students in Amy Fidler's three-dimensional design class do amazing things.

In fact, "Do Amazing Things" is the name of a mural they created that earned them top advertising awards at the local and district levels.

The students planned, developed and implemented the mural for the Toledo Arts Commission's Artomatic419 last April. The team won a gold ADDY award at the American Advertising Federation (AAF) of Toledo's awards ceremony and a Gold ADDY at the district competition, which qualifies the project for the national competition.

Team members include Fidler, a lecturer in graphic design, who served as project manager, with the creative talents of students Alyssa Batch, Michelle Carandang, Tristan Saffron-Cottrell, Rachel Court, Caroline Ellingboe, Chris Hatfield, Alaina Nogar, Trevor Rice, Rebecca Schroeder, Katelin Warner and Abigail Zbasnik.

Also representing BGSU as award winners at the Toledo awards ceremony were Nogar and Hatfield, graphic design faculty member Jenn Stucker, and the Office of Marketing and Communications,

which took a silver ADDY for the "Falcon Proud!" promotional booklet.

Nogar won a Bronze ADDY award for her poster design for "Raw: 8th Annual AIGA Toledo / BGSUGD Portfolio Review Day." She designed and silkscreened 125 posters, as well as created additional branding items such as way-finding signage, conference name badges, notebooks and postcards. Her work was part of an independent study in graphic design with Stucker last spring.

Hatfield won a Silver ADDY award for his "Hearth Healthcare Concept Promo Video." The video was created as an idea for improving patient care that connected doctors, case workers, nurses and necessary office personnel by developing a hypothetical interface to provide unified patient care understanding. Hatfield's project was done for an assignment in the System Based Design class that is specifically aimed at patient care systems.

Stucker won a Silver ADDY for a brochure design for The Arts Commission. She created the design, layout and 11 handmade collages for "Toledo Strategic Plan for Arts & Culture," a 64-page brochure. Other elements included a postcard, 12-page executive summary and an interactive PDF.

MEET OUR NEWLY PROMOTED AND NEW Faculty

Promoted Faculty

Within the School of Art, the following faculty members have been promoted. Please congratulate:

Ruthy Light, who has taught at BGSU since 2001, was promoted from lecturer to senior lecturer of art history. Light earned a B.A. in French literature and English linguistics from University of Jerusalem, and a B.A. in French, special education, and English from University of Toledo. In 2000, she earned a Master of Art degree in 19th Century French art from BGSU. Among the courses she teaches are Western Art I and II. In recognition of her teaching, Ruthy Light also received the College of Arts & Sciences Distinguished Lecturer Award.

Andrew Hershberger, who has been a BGSU faculty member since 2001, was promoted to professor of art history. He received a Ph.D. from Princeton University's Department of Art and Archaeology in 2001, and also holds an M.A. in art history from the University of Chicago and a B.F.A. in media arts from the University of Arizona. He was the 2004 Ansel Adams Fellow at the Center for Creative Photography, the 2007 Coleman Dowell Fellow at New York University and the inaugural John Teti Fellow at the New Hampshire Institute of Art for Fall 2008. He has won numerous awards and honors, most recently the 2015 Insight Award from the Society for Photographic Education.

Heather Elliott-Famularo, who has been at BGSU since 2000, was promoted to professor of digital arts. She teaches video art and film and installation art, and serves as division chair of digital arts. Elliott-Famularo earned a B.F.A. from Syracuse University in art media studies-computer graphics, and an M.F.A. in art and technology from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is an award-winning filmmaker and digital artist, who also is committed to research and exploring important cultural issues through her artwork. Her most recent, and ongoing research includes a documentary film about six Toledo-area Holocaust survivors, for which she has received numerous awards and acclaim. She also was chair of SIGGRAPH 2004 Emerging Technologies.

New Faculty

One new faculty member is named this year. Please welcome:

Alli Hoag, who has served as a glass instructor at BGSU since 2014, was named an assistant professor this spring. Hoag, who heads the BGSU glass area, earned a BFA in glass at the University of Hawaii and an MFA at the Alfred University, New York State College of Ceramics. She creates installations and sculptures that look from ancient myth to future technologies. She has developed her work internationally through residencies abroad, and has exhibited both internationally and nationally.

We also welcome two new instructors:

Liz Bayan, instructor in graphic design, comes to us from SUNY Buffalo, where she obtained an MFA in emerging Practices in 2015. With a BFA with Distinction in digital arts, and committed to collaborative teaching, Bayan will be teaching both graphic design and digital arts classes.

Marissa Saneholtz, instructor in jewelry and metals, comes to us from Boone, N.C., where she has been a visiting assistant professor at Appalachian State University. With an MFA in metals and jewelry design from Eastern Carolina University, and a BFA in three-dimensional studies from BGSU, Saneholtz will teach jewelry and metals.



FACULTY Spotlight

Skinner Green wins Distinguished Service Award

In her 20 years with BGSU, Dr. Rebecca Skinner Green, an associate professor of art history, has enhanced the University in myriad ways, from her leadership on the details of merit, tenure and promotion document revisions to the global, bringing scholars and artists from around the world to broaden the community's horizons.

Skinner Green was recognized with the Faculty Senate Distinguished Service Award at the annual Faculty Excellence Awards held April 14. The award is given in recognition of outstanding, continuous service and to highlight the importance of dedicated faculty to the well-being of the University.

In her academic "home," she served multiple times as chair of the art history division in the School of Art, from 2001-06, 2008-11 and again in fall of 2015.

"During all of my interactions as an art history faculty member working with Dr. Skinner Green as the chair, she has repeatedly proven herself to be an outstanding leader with exceptional good humor and collegiality throughout all of the ups and downs that one can expect to encounter in such a role," Dr. Andrew Hershberger said. "Indeed, I regard Dr. Skinner Green as an excellent model for all faculty administrators in terms of how to run a division efficiently, effectively, and also with humanity."

Since her earliest days as a faculty member, service has been her hallmark. "Even before she became a division chair, Dr. Skinner Green was nominated for and won the School of Art's own Dorothy Uber Bryan Award for Exceptional Service in 1998," Hershberger said.

She was the founder of the Art History Association and served as its adviser and has served on the Shanklin Graduate Research Award Committee, among numerous others.

"Her recent and longstanding service contributions to the School of Art include her leadership roles on the School's Advisory Council; on the Curriculum Committee; and chairing the RPT Committee while merit, charter, promotion and tenure documents were all being revised, within a unit the size of the School of Art. There are very few faculty, I suspect, who can claim to have done more for their unit, and for their fellow faculty members in their unit, than Dr. Skinner Green," Hershberger said.

But she also serves in other disciplines, such as Africana Studies and Asian Studies, helping to elevate initiatives within those programs.

A specialist in African art, Skinner Green has helped to create ties across disciplines and communities. "This is particularly true through her repeated organization of invited



guest speakers, artists and scholars from across the U.S. and from across the globe, including individuals from Madagascar, Senegal, Ghana, Burkina Faso, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Trinidad — the list is long," Hershberger said.

The classroom visits, conferences and performances both on and off campus in which they have taken part are a reflection of "Dr. Skinner Green's indefatigable energy and enthusiasm for educational service that benefits her fortunate students and our entire University," he said.

"I also know that she is the best colleague one could hope to work with, and that she always dedicates herself completely to the tasks at hand in all of her various service roles and duties within the Division of Art History, the School of Art, the College of Arts and Sciences, and in many other areas at BGSU and well beyond our campus through her service to professional organizations," Hershberger said.

2016-17 SCHOOL OF ART Events

2016

AUG. 23 – SEPT. 28

Exhibition: The Best of 2016

33rd annual juried exhibition sponsored by Ohio Designer Craftsmen

Willard Wankelman Gallery

SEPT. 16 | 5:30 p.m.

ARTalk: Joshua Kosker (MFA 2015), Visiting Professor of Art in Jewelry and Metals, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
204 Fine Arts Center - Reception for the artist follows in the Willard Wankelman Gallery

AUG. 30–OCT. 6

Exhibition: Face It

An expanded definition of photographic portraiture featuring work by 26 renowned artists, curated by Lynn Whitney, Andrew Hershberger & Jacqueline Nathan

Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery

SEPT. 19 | 5 p.m.

ARTalk: Jess T. Dugan, photographer, 2015 White House Champion of Change

A Decade of Visual Activism

Thomas B. and Kathleen M. Donnell Theatre, Wolfe Center for the Arts

SEPT. 26 | 5 p.m.

ARTalk: Dr. Paul Duncum, professor of art education, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The Transformation of Art Education into Visual Culture Education through Rhizomatic Thinking

Thomas B. and Kathleen M. Donnell Theatre, Wolfe Center for the Arts

OCT. 19 | 7 p.m.

Performance / New Music & Art Festival: The Poyais Group

The Deathworks of May Elizabeth Krammer

Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery

OCT. 20–NOV. 21

Exhibition: The Deathworks of May Elizabeth Krammer

The Poyais Group (Jesse Ball, Thordis Bjornsdottir, Olivia Robinson, & Jesse Stiles)
A mysterious recreation of lost works by an 'outsider' artist

Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery

OCT. 28 | 5:30 p.m.

ARTalk: Carol Jacobsen, Professor of Art, Stamps School of Art & Design, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and Director of the Michigan Women's Clemency Project

204 Fine Arts Center – Reception for the artist follows in the Willard Wankelman Gallery

OCT. 29–NOV. 20

Exhibition: Criminal Justice? Andrea Bowers (BFA 1987) and Carol Jacobsen

Artists whose work investigates biases embedded in the U.S. criminal justice system

Willard Wankelman Gallery

DEC. 3 | 5-9 p.m.

Event: ARTSX and Annual Faculty/Staff Exhibition

DEC. 4–14

Exhibition: Annual Faculty/Staff Exhibition
Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery

2017

FEB. 5 | 2 p.m.

**Opening Reception:
Annual Undergraduate Art & Design Exhibition**

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

FEB. 7–20

Exhibition: Annual Undergraduate Art & Design Exhibition

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

MARCH 17 | 6 p.m.

Event: Medici Circle Primavera Celebration and Medici Circle Awards

MARCH 18 | 3 p.m.

Event: What's Next: Art School/Work/World

Prominent artists and scholars discuss the future of art work, education and careers.

204 Fine Arts Center

MARCH 18 | 7 p.m.

Opening Reception:

Exhibition: BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

MARCH 19–APRIL 2

Exhibition: BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

APRIL 8 | 7 p.m.

Opening Reception:

Exhibition: MFA 1 Thesis Exhibition

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

APRIL 9–18

Exhibition: MFA 1 Thesis Exhibition

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

APRIL 22 | 7 p.m.

Opening Reception: MFA 2 Thesis Exhibition

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries.

APRIL 23–MAY 2

Exhibition: MFA 2 Thesis Exhibition

Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

Gallery Hours:

Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Thursday 6–9 p.m.

Sunday 1–4 p.m.



MEDICI CIRCLE



School of Art

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Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0204

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An abstract background composed of numerous overlapping, semi-transparent polygons in various colors including grey, blue, red, orange, green, and yellow. The polygons are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, resembling a landscape or architectural structure.

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