Securing a strong future
for the BGSU School of Art

The

MEDICI
Circle

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Dear Friends,

We are off to the beginning of another great year at the School of Art at Bowling Green State University. As you would expect, the School is teeming with highly talented students already creating very interesting work.

Whenever you visit, you can’t help but notice that together we are developing a vibrant arts community. The collaboration between the College of Musical Arts, Theater and Film and the School of Art continues to develop. We know it’s important as it showcases the strengths and talents of all the arts areas, creates teamwork and interdisciplinary advocacy.

Come again this year to ArtsX on Friday evening, November 30 in the Fine Arts Building. There you will see and hear collaboration at its best all in one evening. ArtsX grows each year—more for you to experience, too.

Your continued interest and membership in the School of Art and our Medici Circle for patrons of the arts helps many of our students gain additional insights and experiences as we are able to bring noted artists to campus to work with the students. Medici funding also grants our students opportunities to travel to conferences and workshops that they would otherwise be unable to do. And your gifts enable several students to travel to and study at SACI each summer.

It’s no wonder the School of Art graduates so many talented young people each year!

Please continue your support, renew your Medici membership (increase it if you can), and make an effort to recruit friends and family for Medici membership as it is one more way to help us increase our base of support. Then visit us and take pleasure in the creativity and talent that you generously support.

Sincerely,

Timothy F. Smith
Medici Circle President
In the past year or so the Medici Circle has proudly welcomed a number of new members:

Susan Conda, of Perrysburg OH, is a long-standing advocate of the Arts, including the Toledo Museum of Art, Valentine Theatre, Toledo Symphony, and Toledo Opera, and is actively involved in organizations that support them. She is particularly interested in helping to foster BGSU’s collaboration with the Toledo School for the Arts. Susan has served on many boards in the Toledo area.

Eve Crandall recently joined BGSU as the College Advisor for the School of Art. Holding an MA in English Literature from Syracuse University and a BA in English Literature from The University of Toledo, Eve greatly appreciates the arts and looks forward to actively supporting student and faculty artists as a Medici Circle board member. Eve resides in Toledo with her husband, Raymond, and sons, Dylan and Wesley.

Jay Grothouse, from Wapakoneta, is a Senior studying Business Management. He is chapter President of Alpha Sigma Phi and Vice President of Membership for University Activities Organization. He is very excited to take on his role in the Medici Circle as it is something completely different than anything he has done in the past and he cannot wait to jump right into the group and start working.

Lee Hakel has served on the boards of many organizations and is pleased to now serve on the Medici Circle board. A former director of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Lee and her husband, Milt, are collectors of art, especially contemporary art glass. Because the Hakels travel widely, their collection includes works of artists from many countries, but also from NW Ohio.

Eryn Pierce is a senior at BGSU, currently pursuing an undergraduate degree in Biology and Graphic Design. Outside of her studies she is happily working as a Resident Advisor in the Conklin North residence hall. Eryn’s interests include long-distance cycling and gourmet cooking.

Anne Tracy, resident of Bowling Green, and a BGSU ’73 alumna (B. Music Ed) retired from BGSU in 2012. She worked for the last 10 years as an assistant to former Presidents Ribeau and Cartwright and current President Mary Ellen Mazey. Previously, Anne worked in the Music Library and Sound Recordings Archives. She and her husband Bob are the parents of three children and have six grandchildren.

Lori Tretter is the Assistant Municipal Administrator for the City of Bowling Green. She holds a Master of Public Administration degree from BGSU and a BA in Political Science degree from the University of Dayton. Lori lives in Bowling Green with her husband, Michael, and her nine-year old daughter, Kate.

Dr. Ralph Haven Wolfe, resident of North Baltimore, is Gish Professor of Film Studies and Curator of the Gish Film Theater and Gallery. Retired Distinguished Teaching Professor of English, he is a member of the Benefactors Society of the President’s Club, the BGSU Foundation’s Heritage Society, the BGSU Foundation Leadership Circle, and the Dean’s Council in the College of Arts and Sciences.
In October 2011, ceramics students traveled to the symposium Shared Journeys II: Symposium on Chinese and American Ceramic Art and Education at West Virginia University on ceramics in Jingdezhen, China. Students were inspired by Chinese practicing tradesman, artists and educators, and by MacArthur “Genius” Award recipient and President and CEO of Manchester Bidwell Corporation, Bill Strickland.

In November 2011, the Art History Association traveled to Chicago to meet at the Art Institute of Chicago with EveStraussman-Pflanzer, Associate Curator of European Painting and Sculpture before 1750 and view the collection; study Medieval manuscripts at the Newberry Library; tour the Leslie Hindman Auction House to learn about art auctions; and visit the Museum of Contemporary Art.

In March 2012, Print Society students attended the Southern Graphics Council International Conference in New Orleans, including keynote addresses by Nicola Lopez and Willie Cole, award presentation lectures by Esther Sparks and David Driesbach, and panel discussions on current issues in printmaking. Gaining insights into print history, the group bonded to return to BGSU as a stronger unit.

Painting and other students attended Professor Susan D’Amato’s lecture and critiques at BGSU,centering on the relationships between drawing and photography. Professor D’Amato showed charcoal/graphite renderings and works in variety of mixed media, supported by a wealth of art historical knowledge. The talk was very well received and students were delighted with the knowledge and approachability of the artist.

Douglas Harling’s April 2012 BGSU lecture and workshop on Granulation was an overwhelming success, with unanticipated discoveries for all participants. Highly attended, the study of this ancient technique involved learning about metal–silver, gold, and copper at the material science level. The experience opened students’ understanding of the history of metalsmithing and the intensive labor of metalsmiths.

1. Masters Dai and Zhan.

2. AHA at the Museum of Contemporary Art.
Right to left: Jess Ro. Pfundstein, Caity Bothwell, Ruthy Light, Elizabeth Bolze, Caitlin Gorman, Allie Terry-Fritsch, Deanna Kaczala, Jennifer Fechák, Samantha Gaier.

3. Print Society students with former visiting artist Crystal Wagner at her exhibition opening. Left to right: Dave Short, Lauren Tanner, Janet Ballweg, former BGSU student Lena Ellis-Boatman, Crystal Wagner, Peter Mills, Ian Welch, and Chaz O’Neil.

4. Susan D’Amato and Jonathan Sudler.

5. Doug Harling and metals students.
This summer I was fortunate enough to travel to Florence, Italy, to study during SACI’s 2012 late spring term. I took two classes while I was there, a graduate level photography course and beginners Italian. This trip was the most important artistic experience of my life thus far. While at SACI I re-ignited my passion for photography, (re)finding a medium that mirrors and works with my content in a way that I have been looking for the past two years. I was also finally able to focus inwards to understand my work in a deeper, more mature way. Being in Florence, and having the support of the faculty and staff at SACI was a large part of this. I am more excited and engaged with my work than I have ever been in my life. Because of my new-found excitement and dedication to my process, and because of the large amount of work I came home with, the trip has set a strong foundation for my MFA show. In addition to that, my better understanding of the Italian language has set a foundation for my future pursuits; I feel I am one step closer to reaching my goals as an artist and art historian.
Between Fall 2011 and Fall 2012 five new tenure-track faculty and eleven new instructors joined the BGSU School of Art. All were hired through highly competitive national searches. Four faculty were promoted to full Professor, requiring national and international recognition, and one was promoted to Lecturer. If you wish to know more about our faculty, go to http://art.bgsu.edu/faculty/index.cfm?link=facStaff, and click on Directory.

Meet Our New and Promoted Faculty

Promoted Faculty

Charles Kanwischer[^1] is Professor of Drawing in the 2-Dimensional Studies division. Interested in drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, art history and criticism, his work addresses the intersection of non-objective and representational imagery within landscape contexts.

Dena Eber[^2] is Professor in Digital Arts. Her teaching specialties are in mixed media, digital imaging and photography, curatorial work and digital arts theory. Her research explores the art and aesthetics of “virtual” environments.

Amy Fidler[^3] is Lecturer in the Graphic Design division. Her artistic focus is in sustainability & ethics, K-12 design education, information graphics, book design, web design, and collaborative and/or community-based projects.

Bonnie Mitchell[^4] is Professor of Digital Arts. She works with animation, programming, www art, stereo imaging, interactive art installation and 3-D modeling and rendering to explore spatial environments and experiential relationships to natural elements.

Mille Guldebeck[^5] is Professor of Painting. Her interdisciplinary approach to the interpretation of art, has led her to pursue interests and teach courses within museum studies, conservation and photography, as well as painting.
New Tenure-Track Faculty

Robert Geyer[^1] is Assistant Professor of Glass in the 3-Dimensional Studies division and glass program head. His objects and installations use the interplay of light, color and visual perception of glass to create a tension between form and experience.

Jennifer Stucker[^3] is Assistant Professor of Graphic Design in the Graphic Design division. Her areas of interest include methods of making, bookmaking, collaboration, sustainability and community issues.

Leigh-Ann Pahapill[^5] is Assistant Professor in the First Year Program and 3-D Studies division. Pahapill creates interventions, recordings, assemblies, and disassemblies that look at how language and thought influence our experiences of objects and space.

New Full-Time Temporary Faculty

Zimra Beiner
Ceramics Instructor, 3-D Studies division

Brandon Briggs
Drawing and Painting Instructor, 2-D Studies division

Erin Garber-Pearson
Instructor, First Year Program

Andrew Kuebeck
Jewelry/Metals Instructor,
3-D Studies division

Clay Leonard
Ceramics Instructor and area head, 3-D Studies division

Ben Lock
Sculpture Instructor, 3-D Studies division

Wayne Madsen
Digital Arts Instructor

Andrew Newbold
Glass Instructor, 3-D Studies division

Ryan Shelley
Graphic Design Instructor

Casey Smith
Drawing and Painting Instructor, 2-D Studies division

Jane Vanden Eynden
Art Education Instructor

[^1]: Robert Geyer
[^2]: Thomas Huang
[^3]: Jennifer Stucker
[^4]: Stephanie Langin-Hooper
[^5]: Leigh-Ann Pahapill
In 2010 BGSU students began to work with the Latino community in Toledo’s Old South End to create murals. By 2011 the mural project was so successful that it received a Mayoral Proclamation and a City Council Resolution.

In 2012 the School of Art in collaboration with Sofia Quintero Arts and Cultural Centre (SQACC), La Galería de los Americas, Duane and Maria Rodriguez-Winter and the Old South End community all were excited about offering the mural workshop again. With nationally renowned San Diego Latino visiting ‘artist’ (art activist) Mario Torero they again created astonishing art works that spoke to all peoples and helped revitalize a great community.

The project included many previous participants, plus some new artists. Mario Torero, with his vast experience and charismatic persona was, for the third time, invited as Artistic Director. The BGSU student group was joined by a new arts group, the Organization of Latino Artist (OLA), led by local Chicano artists including Ricardo Quiñónez, former School of Art faculty, who now lives and works in the Old South End. This group worked with other local artists, community leaders and residents. Creative contributions and a major portion of the physical work came from BGSU students under the direction of Director of the Arts Village Gordon Ricketts, and with the help of Associate Director Charlie Kanwischer. The College of Arts and Sciences, the Ethnic Cultural Arts program, Office of Service Learning and the Ethnic Studies Department were other partners in the project.

The dynamic mural images were consistent with a true Chicano/ Latino aesthetic; respectful of the diverse neighborhood, they continue to be a source of city and community pride. The Toledo Blade covered the project in great depth on Sunday September 2nd, online at: http://www.toledoblade.com/Art/2012/09/02/Dazzling-murals-light-up-Old-South-End.html

Chelsea Snyder, BFA 2-D Studies major wrote: “As a painter I am accustomed to working in the studio alone and away from the world. The collaborative quality of mural painting is one of the most beautiful to me. Sharing the excitement of art making with other artists in a way that supports community is the perfect example of the transformative property of art.”

Building upon past successes the BGSU School of Art hopes that the collaboration in the mural project can continue as long as it can—students and faculty look forward to four, five or even six years!
**Bearing Witness:**

**The Voices of Our Survivors**

A powerful new documentary film created by School of Art Professor, Heather Elliott-Famularo, records the collective stories of six Holocaust survivors: Rolf Hess (Germany) witnessed Kristallnacht, was deported to a relocation camp, separated from his family, was rescued and hidden in a French orphanage. Al Negrin (Greece) fought in the resistance before being sent to Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen. Philip Markowicz and Aron Wajskol (Poland) survived the Lodz Ghetto, only to be shuffled between forced labor camps, ending the war on death marches. William Leons (Netherlands) spent two years alone in an attic room as a hidden child, and Clara Rona (Hungary) was torn from her family and sent to work camps before escaping a death march days before the end of the war.

The broadcast television premiere took place on WGTE Public Media on July 5th as part of Toledo Stories. A collaboration with Toledo’s Jewish community, Bearing Witness fosters dialogue between the survivors and today’s youth, cultivating personal awareness and responsibility to understand history so that future generations prevent such atrocities from recurring. Through the survivors’ individual stories, the Holocaust’s collective history is shared. Through their personal messages of hope, we are inspired by the human will to survive.

Collaborative on many levels, Bearing Witness connected the survivors with about 65 students, in grades 7-12, from three local synagogues for face-to-face interviews, recorded by Elliott-Famularo and photographed by School of Art Professor, Dena Eber. With help from Elliott-Famularo, the students questioned the survivors about their memories and experiences.

“I was honored to have this opportunity to meet and interview the survivors, and collaborating with the community to educate students was profoundly rewarding,” Elliott-Famularo said.

BGSU graphic design and digital arts students helped develop the graphic identity for the film and packaging. “It was great to share my research with students and provide them the opportunity to see their graphics on broadcast television.” This film is the first step in potentially a lifetime of exploration on the topic for Elliott-Famularo. She has already begun work on a documentary short, The Last Torah, sharing further personal and historic revelations discovered in the research process. Pending additional funding, she will create a short film about each survivor, involving research trips back to European locations where these events occurred.

Bearing Witness is sponsored by grants from BGSU, The Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo, Institute for the Study of Culture and Society (BGSU), the Andersons Foundation and private donors. A 501(c)(3) charitable gift fund at the BGSU Foundation will accept donations for the future of the project.

See: [http://www.bearingwitnessledo.com](http://www.bearingwitnessledo.com)
Cleveland native and recent alumna of Bowling Green State University, Kara Fallon received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2-Dimensional Studies with a focus in Photography and a Marketing Minor. While studying Fine Art at BGSU, Kara’s work focused on family and her past connections to the city of Cleveland. Through street photography, she began observing the urban landscape and incorporating her past. Kara also attended SACI and worked as a student photographer for the university. Her photography is greatly influenced by her studies in Fine Art, as well as her three years of experience as a photojournalist at the Office of Marketing and Communications. Since her graduation in May 2012 Kara has continued working with BGSU and other clients as a freelance photographer in the Toledo and Cleveland areas.

**School of Art Events in 2012 and 2013**

**2012**

- **November 30th (-Dec 16th) 6:00 p.m.**
  ArtsX and Annual Faculty and Staff Exhibition and Event Opening
  Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

- **February 10th (-24th) 2:00 p.m.**
  Undergraduate Student Exhibition
  Exhibition opening
  Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

- **March 23rd (-April 10th) 7:00 p.m.**
  BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition
  Exhibition opening
  Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

- **April 5th 6:00 p.m.**
  Medici Circle Primavera Gala and Medici Circle Awards Announcements

**2013**

- **April 12th (-April 21st) 7:00 p.m.**
  MFA Thesis Exhibition I
  Exhibition opening
  Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries

- **April 13th 5:00 p.m.**
  The Chemo Paintings
  Exhibition opening
  Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery Foyer

- **April 26th (-May 5th) 7:00 p.m.**
  MFA Thesis Exhibition II
  Exhibition opening
  Dorothy Uber Bryan and Willard Wankelman Galleries
Thank you for supporting the Medici Circle!