

UF Voices

College of Fine Arts fosters value of art

Society longs for art, music, theater and dance, and the creativity and innovation these disciplines encourage. Now is an especially exciting time to be an artist because of an emerging national appreciation for these contributions.



Lucinda Lavelli

Studies show that creative thinking and lifelong learning across all disciplines are keys to a successful and well-rounded life. At the University of Florida College of Fine Arts, faculty members engage students in multiple aspects of learning, not only through art training but also through interdisciplinary projects in the areas of medicine, physics, engineering, African and Latin American studies and law, to name a few.

The College of Fine Arts is uniquely poised to enrich state, national and international venues with the arts. Whether on stage or in a gallery, through education, cultural diplomacy or health care, UF arts are making a difference in the lives of our students and thus, in society.

The creative thinking fostered by the college begins with the special student-teacher relationship essential to the art-training process. The faculty deftly wields the craft of "problem-solving" with students not only for art training such as choreography, technical design, music composition, acting or ceramics but also for providing opportunities for students to combine newly acquired skills with volunteerism and social responsibility.

Artists make their contributions in many profound ways; 900 UF students major in a fine arts area and more than 5,000 enroll in courses and take part in various creative opportunities such as music ensembles, theatrical and dance productions, and art studio courses.

The college is pleased to provide these opportunities to nurture artists and cultivate future patrons of the arts.

Lucinda Lavelli
Dean, College of Fine Arts

Top Stories

Clinic offers resources to help smokers kick the habit

Smokers who want to stop know it's a tough habit to break.

"Seven out of 10 smokers have tried to quit and been unsuccessful," said former smoker Pat Fitzpatrick. "The key is to continue trying and to use different methods when one fails."

Fitzpatrick, an American Cancer Society-trained substance abuse counselor, will introduce smokers to several alternatives to help them successfully make the break in a one-hour smoking-cessation workshop being offered at the University of Florida.

The course will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Student Health Care Center.

In the seminar, Fitzpatrick draws not only on his experience in quitting smoking

but also enlists the help of other professionals. A pharmacist, an acupuncturist, a massage therapist and a hypnotist will be on hand to show smokers they have a number of options available to help them stop smoking.

"The goal of this class is to give participants a variety of options, strategies and resources and then help them identify which fits them best," said Jane Emmerée, a health promotion coordinator at the Student Health Care Center and chairwoman of the Healthy Gators 2010 Communications Work Group. The seminar is co-sponsored by the Healthy Gators 2010 and

GatorWell Health Promotion Services.

A list of free campus and community resources is available on the Web at www.ehs.ufl.edu/RiskMgmt/Smoking.htm.

"Seven out of 10 smokers have tried to quit and been unsuccessful. The key is to continue trying and to use different methods when one fails."

Pat Fitzpatrick
former smoker



Nissa Benjamin

A smoking-cessation clinic will be held on the University of Florida campus on Thursday.

To register for the class, call 392-1161, ext. 1-4282, or e-mail Jane Emmerée at emmeree@ufl.edu. The deadline to register is 4:30 p.m. today.

By Mindy Morris

UF tag No. 1 in sales as new plate hits the streets

The University of Florida has come in first in another category: sales of specialty license plates.

Figures from the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles show the state sold or renewed 90,436 UF automobile tags in 2006, edging out the No. 2-ranked "Protect the Panther" tag that sold 87,806. The panther plate was the best seller in 2005.

The new ranking comes just as UF's newly redesigned tag has begun showing up on vehicles around the state. The new design, which became available in early January, celebrates the entire university and its accomplishments using the theme "The Gator Nation."

The previous tag bore the words "National Champions" and was introduced in 1997, shortly after the Gators won their first national football title. UF officials de-



ecided on a redesign more than six months ago – after the men's basketball team won its first national title in April but before the football team won its second national championship Jan. 8.

The new tag features UF's Gator head logo and the words "The Gator Nation" on a white background with "Gator" blue borders at the top and bottom.

"We're all very proud of our success in athletics, but there are so many other amazing things happening on campus that we wanted to salute the entire Gator Nation," said Joe Hice, UF associate vice president for marketing and public relations.

For instance, he said, UF faculty members are leaders in their fields and attracted more than \$518 million in sponsored research last year. He also pointed to UF's leadership in sustainability and energy independence.

In Focus

History of black women in academia focus of UF professor's book

After more than 10 years of research, Stephanie Evans' first book on black women in academia has been published.

In "Black Women in the Ivory Tower, 1850-1954: An Intellectual History," Evans focuses on black women's struggle for access to higher education and the groundbreaking philosophies of influential scholars.

Evans said she was inspired to write the book as an undergraduate and Ronald E. McNair Scholar at California State University, Long Beach. She started thinking about historical accuracy and the relationship between civil rights and human rights for under-represented populations. In 2003, she received her doctorate in African American studies with a concentration in history and politics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

"This story needs to be told," the assistant professor of African American Studies and the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research said. "One or two scholars are well-known, but beyond that, black women are absent in the historical record."

The first part of the book provides an educational history up to the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court deci-

sion, and includes the memoirs of six influential black women in higher education. The second part offers an intellectual history from the perspective of two leading women academics: Anna Julia Cooper and Mary McLeod Bethune.

Evans said she wanted to focus on black women who were college graduates before 1954, wrote autobiographies and had a role in advancing access to higher education. She set out to reveal how these women demanded space as students and asserted their voice as educators.

"They faced significant barriers based on the combination of being both black and female in the classroom," she said. "All were determined to change the system."

Evans added that it was important for her to write about race and gender because both factors were mistakenly seen as sources of intellectual inferiority throughout history. She hopes to show readers how diversity



Stephanie Evans is seen here with photos of some of the women she talks about in her new book, "Black Women in the Ivory Tower, 1850-1954: An Intellectual History."

Ray Carson

is related to academic excellence in higher education, not just in the student population but also among faculty members. "Little scholarly work about black women's educational history exists," she said. "Racial minorities and women have contributed to human understanding and must be recognized for doing so."

Evans will sign copies of her book from 7 to 10 p.m. today at Ustler Hall.

By Panagiota Papakos

Seen & Heard

Martin Luther King III to speak Wednesday

Martin Luther King III, son of the late civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., will speak on Wednesday at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

As a human rights advocate, community activist, and president and CEO of the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta, King is carrying on his father's mission of a nonviolent movement in justice and peace. His most popular message, "The Dream Deferred," examines the goals of his father as they apply to today's society.

King's address begins at 8 p.m. The free event is sponsored by the ACCENT Speakers Bureau and Black History Month.



Martin Luther King III

Music Law Conference goes 'Beyond the CD'

This year's University of Florida Music Law Conference on Friday and Saturday will go "Beyond the CD," with discussions focusing on the music business as it relates to film, television, video games, new distribution and emerging technologies.

The two-day event will include a Live Music Showcase from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Friday, at Common Grounds, 210 S.W. Second Ave., Gainesville.

Panel discussions, which will examine the music business, will take place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, in the law school's Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom, Holland Hall, Room 180. Panelists include the Florida Film and Entertainment commissioner, a representative from Universal Music Group, general counsel for Prince, top-level entertainment lawyers, nationally recognized music artists, entertainment business executives, academics and leaders from the Florida Bar Entertainment and Sports Law Section.

University Auditorium

Feb. 9 7:30 p.m., The Big Band Sound of World War II featuring the Eric Felten Jazz Orchestra

Feb. 10 1 p.m., Organ demonstration

Feb. 11 4 p.m., Eroica Trio

Florida Museum of Natural History
Feb. 11 2:30 p.m., "A Journey Through Time and Space" talk by Tarek Saab



Galleries

"My Bags Are Packed," suitcase installation showcase by Frank Curtis on display through Feb. 16, The Gallery, Reitz Student Union; reception, 7 p.m., Feb. 9

Harn Museum of Art

Feb. 8 6 p.m., "Adwa: An African Victory," Harn Eminent Scholar Lecture

Feb. 12 7 p.m., "Flock of Dodos: The Evolution-Intelligent Design Circus," film screening

Theater

Feb. 2-4, 6-11 School of Theatre and Dance presents "American Western," Constans

For more information, visit the Web at www.law.ufl.edu/musiclawconf/ or e-mail brianjd@ufl.edu.

UF center to improve health of Floridians

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida has established a \$3.5 million endowment at the University of Florida to open the BCBSF Center for Health Care Access, Patient Safety and Quality Outcomes. The new center will be housed in the colleges of Nursing and Public Health and Health Professions and will help to significantly improve the health of Florida's residents.

The center will support evidence-based research on topics such as attracting and retaining well-prepared nurses to maximize patient safety and quality-care outcomes.

The endowment also brings both the Dorothy M. Smith Professorship in the College of Nursing and the BCBSF Professorship in Health Services Administration in the College of Public Health and Health Professions to full chair status.

Theatre, Nadine McGuire Theatre and Dance Pavilion, weekday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m.

Phillips Center

Feb. 6 7:30 p.m., Bobby McFerrin's "Voicestra"

Feb. 7 8 p.m., Martin Luther King III

Feb. 8 7:30 p.m., Guthrie Family Legacy Tour

Feb. 9 7:30 p.m., "Cirque Extravaganza"

Feb. 10 7:30 p.m., Frederica von Stade and Samuel Ramey

O'Connell Center

Feb. 10 7:30 p.m., Toby Keith

Note This

Grants available for international courses

University of Florida faculty members have until March 19 to submit proposals for the fifth annual competition for internationalizing the curriculum. Up to 16 grants of \$3,000 each will be awarded for proposals to develop new courses with substantial international content or for modifying existing courses to increase their international component.

Winners will be notified in early April. Links to this year's guidelines and proposal format and the lists of winners from previous years may be found on the International Center's Web site: www.ufl.edu/ica.htm.

For more information, call 392-5834 or e-mail srusso@ufl.edu.

Symposium features undergraduate research

Undergraduate students conducting research at the University of Florida have until Wednesday to submit abstracts for the Undergraduate Research Symposium on Feb. 17. Students have the option of taking part in a poster session or delivering a 15-minute oral presentation.

To submit an abstract for presentation consideration, visit the Web at www.honors.ufl.edu/webapps/usp/. Additional details on the symposium may be found at www.scholars.ufl.edu/symposium.html.

Mini-grants available for conservation projects

Faculty, staff and students interested in pursuing environmental projects that benefit conservation areas on the University of Florida campus may apply for mini-grants offered by the Lakes and Natural Areas Subcommittee of UF's Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee.

Grants of up to \$20,000 will be awarded by the Environmental Stewardship CITF Grant Program to complete projects that will enhance or restore one or more of the almost two dozen conservation areas.

Possible topics include management of exotic invasive plants, research on water quality enhancement, development of educational brochures or kiosks, and construction or maintenance of nature trails.

Applications are due by March 1. Application forms and additional information are available online at www.facilities.ufl.edu/cp/grant/index.htm.

Funding for the grants, which totals \$200,000, was provided by UF Student Government. The Division of Facilities Planning and Construction is responsible for major construction projects at UF, as well as management of its space and physical resources.