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Ballet department presents 21st Century Projects

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One of the biggest performances of the year, Symphony of Spring!

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Community Orchestra performs last concert of the year

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The summer months seem to move along quickly and a little less frenetic than the final weeks before commencement last May. The Division of Fine Arts graduated 50 participants in all of the departments. We are looking forward to 80+ new students this fall.

In June, the Friends instrumental department hosted the Kansas State Lions Club Band week. More than 250 high school students from all over the state filled the Fine Arts halls and rehearsal rooms with many scales, warm-up exercises and concerts on the weekend. Congratulations to Dr. John Taylor and all of the faculty who made this week so exciting and profitable for the students and many parents.

Several alumni and former Friends students have stopped by the campus to visit this summer. Maiko Yamashita, a fine singer in Singing Quakers during the late 1990s, came into the office with her husband and two children. They live near Tokyo and she wanted to show her children where she went to college. It was great to see Maiko again and to visit with her family.

A few days ago, Warren and Nancy Lawrence from Denver, Colorado, came by. Warren and Nancy were in my first choir here at Friends.

The vocal department recently hired Dr. Matt Schloneger as a full-time instructor in voice and vocal literature. Dr. Schloneger earned his doctorate from the University of Kansas and has been teaching at Hesston College for the past fifteen years. Dr. Schloneger will replace Dr. Holly Swartzendruber who served last year as interim instructor in voice.

If you know of any good fine arts students who might be interested in Friends University, please feel free to contact me, 316-295-5849, or Toni Libhart, 316-295-5536 or libhat@friends.edu, in the music department.

I trust you will have a great summer and if you are in the Friends University area, please feel free to come by the Fine Arts Center and, if possible, attend some of our exciting events in the fall.

Sincere Blessings,

Dr. Cecil Riney
Interim Chair
Division of Fine Arts
On Sept. 25, the Friends University Jazz Department will host a concert in Alumni Auditorium with the Dan Haerle Quintet. This group features the incredible talents of Brad Leali (saxophone), Bob Bowman (bass), Fred Hamilton (guitar), Ed Soph (drums) and Dan Haerle (piano). The members will be working with students in the afternoon and presenting a concert at 7:30 p.m. that evening. For ticket information, please call 316-295-5677.

In keeping with the long-held tradition of featuring and honoring graduating seniors, the Friends University jazz bands and jazz department presented Senior Jazz Night. The concert took place Friday, April 7, in Sebits Auditorium.

“This is always a very special time to recognize and celebrate the seniors in the program,” said Lisa Hittle, jazz director.

Eight seniors were featured in vocal and instrumental arrangements including Natassia Howell, Mary Beth Byers, Zach Fischer, Asher Isaac, L.J. Starling, Caleb Smith, Max Abood and C.J. Irving.
Incorporating some of Wichita’s best musical talent for his newest ballet, Director of Ballet Stan Rogers presented 21st Century Projects at Friends University’s Spring Ballet May 5-6. Rogers gathered Dr. Von Hansen, Dr. Susan Mayo and Torin Andersen of Spirit of the Stairs to help conceive his newest vision.

The ballet featured new compositions by Dr. Hansen, new compositions by Spirit of the Stairs and some favorites from Dr. Mayo and her quartet, including Rob Loren (violin), Elizabeth Wallace (viola) and Wichita Symphony concertmaster John Harrison (violin). 21st Century Projects was a comprehensive look forward at music for ballet.

“This live achievement was unlike anything you’ve experienced before and culminated in a group performance of works written specifically for 21st Century Projects,” Rogers said.
The Friends University Singing Quakers presented the Symphony of Spring concert featuring the theme, On the Road. Performances ran April 28-30 in Sebits Auditorium, Riney Fine Arts Center.

Audience members enjoyed a number of musical tunes, old and new, including songs from Thoroughly Modern Millie to Newsies to La La Land.

Pop standards were also heard such as Route 66, Sentimental Journey and King of the Road and other favorites like The Travel Song from Shrek.

“The audience enjoyed moving ballads, up-tempo dance numbers, and the majesty of full orchestra and chorus in this show suited for the whole family,” said Dr. Mark Bartel, director of choral music.

Photos by Dr. Joseph Myers
Spring Student Art Show

This year’s Student Art Show was a juried show, showcasing a variety of 2D and 3D works. The Final Friday Reception was April 28 in the Riney Fine Arts Gallery.

The following students placed with their selected artwork:

1st Place: German Andrade
Freshman, Studio Art and Math
The American Dream, colored pencil

2nd Place: Kelli Henderson
Senior, Graphic Design
Tupac, colored pencil

3rd Place: Kristen Nuss
Freshman, Visual Communications
Native Spirit, colored pencil

Honorable Mention: Kaelie Kendall
Senior, Visual Communications
Filled, graphite

Honorable Mention: Kerrick van Asselt
Junior, Visual Communications
Chronicles of Narnia, digital

The work was displayed in the gallery through the end of the semester.

Auditions for The Mousetrap
By Agatha Christie & produced by special permission of Samuel French, Ltd.

Thursday, Aug. 24, 3-6 p.m., D6
Friday, Aug. 25, 7-10 p.m., D6

Open readings - scripts available week of auditions
Visit the Fine Arts Office for more information!
The Friends University Community Orchestra presented its spring concert Tuesday, May 2, in Sebits Auditorium in the Riney Fine Arts Center.

“We featured Miller Concerto Competition winner Elyssa Day on Weber’s Concertino for Clarinet,” said Dan Racer, conductor.

Additional selections included Borodin’s *In the Steppes of Central Asia* and Mendelssohn’s *Fourth Italian Symphony*.

The Friends University Tower Wind Quintet presented its 16th annual recital Thursday, March 30, in Sebits Auditorium. The quintet is comprised of faculty members Amy Hoffman, Rachelle Goter, Cindy Thompson, Kimme Whittemore and Denise Kintzel.

Since the group’s inception in 2001, they have enjoyed collaborating with other artists, groups and disciplines. This year string players Chelley Graves (violin), Hailey Hatcher (viola), Susan Mayo (cello) and Dan Racer (bass) joined the quintet for Louis Spohr’s *Grand Nonett*.

“This is a beautiful romantic piece written in 1913 and was the first of its type with this instrumentation of nine players,” Hoffman said. “We’re using this same instrumentation and adding percussion (Von Hansen and Jaden Goter) to play an arrangement of the popular *Hallelujah* by Cohen. It should be quite an enjoyable program.”

The performance included works by Paul Hindemith, Morton Gould, Valerie Coleman, Louis Spohr and Leonard Cohen.
Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

Faculty Fanfare | Thursday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.
Sebts Auditorium | free

Piano Recital, featuring Dr. Jamie Knight | Monday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Sebts Auditorium | free

Dan Haerle Quintet | Monday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Alumni Auditorium | Adults: $6, Seniors & Students: $3

Gallery Opening, featuring Friends Alumni | Friday, Sept. 29, 5-7 p.m.
Riney Fine Arts Gallery | free

The Mousetrap, | Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29 and 30, 7:30 p.m. | Sunday, Oct. 1, 2 p.m.
Sebts Auditorium | Adults: $11, Seniors & Students: $8

OCTOBER

Show Me the Money | Friday, Oct. 6
Garvey Art Center

Fall Ballet | Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6 and 7, 7:30 p.m. | Sunday, Oct. 8, 2 p.m.
Sebts Auditorium | Adults: $16, Seniors & Students: $13

Jazz Combo Showcase | Wednesday, Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Sebts Auditorium | Adults: $6, Seniors & Students: $3

Jazz & Vocal Ensemble, featuring Kelley Hunt | Monday, Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m.
Sebts Auditorium | Adults: $15, Seniors & Students: $12

Gallery Opening, featuring Emily Brookover | Friday, Oct. 27, 5-7 p.m.
Riney Fine Arts Gallery | free

Community Orchestra | Tuesday, Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m.
Sebts Auditorium | Adults: $9, Seniors & Students: $6

For more Fine Arts events, please visit friends.edu/finearts.