To celebrate 80 years of creativity at Tyler School of Art, the cover of Gestures features an array of work from 80 current students and recent alumni. It is a window into the vast global network of Tyler-trained artists and creators working at the forefront of their disciplines.
Dear Alumni and Friends of Tyler,

Let’s celebrate 80 years of creativity at Tyler, an inspiring and collaborative community of thinkers and makers—always has been, always will be!

Read through our latest news—

• Learn about the new Division of Architecture and Environmental Design.
• Take an in-depth look at Temple Contemporary’s radical programming that starts by putting the public first and changes everyday.
• Reflect upon the timeline of Tyler history highpoints developed by Professor Emeritus Dr. Jo-Anna J. Moore. Find your decade! All and more are included within.

While we take stock of Tyler’s rich 80-year history this year, it is also time that we look to the future.

As a top-ranked art school and growing division within a major research university, our faculty are constantly developing new classes and programs that build on the interdisciplinary resources available within Tyler and within Temple’s main campus. New graduate programs in sustainability, urban design, and cultural arts management that tap such cross-disciplinary opportunities are under discussion, along with expanded online offerings to meet the needs and busy schedules of our students.

These highlight the theme of the National Conference of Arts Administrators, which we will be hosting in September. The conference theme, The Great Untapped—Unlocking Assets Through Alliances, proposes that all institutions are now challenged to reconcile their own particular histories with the development of experiential curricula that connect students to an infinitely expanding world.

Several key questions we will consider are:

• How does one honor deep institutional history while cultivating alliances with other scholarly and cultural traditions?
• What kinds of structural forms best invite us into each other’s histories?
• How can we foster alliances with outside communities as equal partners, and move away from an aesthetics of display to an ethics of care and deep understanding?

It is indeed a dynamic time to be at Tyler!

This spring, all of our full-time faculty made an investment in Tyler’s students and future by contributing to our Together For Tyler Scholarship drive. That’s right, the Tyler Faculty Scholarship Fund has received gifts (or gifts in their honor) from 100% of our full-time faculty! Join us in this effort to support the next generation of thinkers and makers at Tyler by contributing to our scholarship funds.

As a faculty member and Interim Dean it is an honor to be surrounded by such highly talented and motivated faculty and students! The best way to experience the energy of Tyler for yourself is to visit. If you are in the Philadelphia area please do come to campus—we love to see our alumni back on campus for an event, tour or lecture. In the meanwhile, enjoy this anniversary issue of Gestures.

Sincerely,

Hester Stinnett
Professor and Interim Dean
The Center for Sustainable Communities, the Department of Planning and Community Development, and the Landscape Architecture and Horticulture Department are joining with Tyler Architecture to form the Division of Architecture and Environmental Design at Tyler School of Art of Temple University. This synergetic division will create interdisciplinary learning opportunities for students that mirror real-world professional work environments, and will prepare them for successful careers that can transform our civic lives.

“We aim to put Temple and Tyler on par with other highly ranked programs focusing on the built environment,” said Hester Stinnett, Tyler’s interim dean. “The Division provides us with the opportunity to build interdisciplinary graduate programs in sustainability, urban design, and other built and natural environment fields; increase enrollment; and expand the Center for Sustainable Communities’ research base.”

From spearheading new research to better protect our homes and rivers to rehabilitating our neighborhoods and inventing novel ways to grow plants and harvest them as enlightening art—the possibilities that arise from collaboration between the fields of art, architecture, environmental design, horticulture, and planning and policy are boundless.

Temple University has long been dedicated to ensuring that the built environment and our natural environment work together as a harmonious whole, building a sustainable future for communities in the region, the nation, and the world through hands-on, real-world education and research.

Recognizing the important connections between the units, the Temple University Board of Trustees approved the formation of the Division of Architecture and Environmental Design under the Tyler School of Art. Comprising the departments of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Horticulture, the Department of Planning and Community Development, and the Center for Sustainable Communities, the synergy between the programs provides opportunities to “combine our resources, research and expertise, which can only benefit our students and further strengthen our offerings,” said Dr. Vicki Lewis McGarvey, Vice Provost for University College and Acting Executive Director of Temple University Ambler.
Aligning the programs comes quite naturally, according to Dr. Lynn Mandarano, chair of the Department of Planning and Community Development, “because planning, landscape architecture and architecture are all terminal degrees that focus on increasing students’ understanding of how design and policy impact the sustainability of built and natural environments and communities.”

“Having a division that includes all of Temple’s built environment professions will create a learning environment that will be beneficial to students, academic programming, and research and faculty collaboration,” she said. “Students will benefit from peer-to-peer learning across disciplines and interaction with faculty from related disciplines. The Division will bring visibility and the opportunity to highlight our excellent academic programs and faculty research.”

For The Center for Sustainable Communities, the benefit will be combining present research fellows and faculty with “a lot of great people with a lot of talent, resources and research experience. The Center has been involved with a lot more neighborhood-based design grants, which includes a lot of architectural design—that will allow us to further push the envelope in research. We are able to combine the large and small scale, from big picture, multi-municipal watershed projects to drilling down to single neighborhoods,” she said. “We have an arsenal of experts in green infrastructure, green building and storm water management. In the end, we’re all trying to do the same thing—protecting streams and rehabilitating neighborhoods.”

“Realigning the disciplines into one cohesive unit mirrors what students will experience in the working world,” said Kate Wingert-Playdon, Associate Dean for the Division of Architecture and Environmental Design.

“For our students, whether they are part of an architectural or planning firm, there is going to be strong collaboration between architects, engineers, landscape architects, planners, horticulturists, designers and fine arts professionals. It educates our students in the way the professional field works today—this type of cross-disciplinary cooperation will be part of their lives every day,” she said. “With Main Campus and Ambler Campus we have the entire city and metropolitan region to work in and learn from. We have talked about the Division with our alumni and professional partners and there’s such positive feedback—we have the opportunity to build our own and professional communities in ways we couldn’t do individually.”

“Collaboration between these allied fields within Temple is not without precedent,” said Baldev Lamba, Chair of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture.

“In the early 1990s there was a trial ‘marriage’ between our department and Architecture, so we’ve come full circle. At that time it was more piecemeal and it ended as soon as the two chairs at the time left—this is a much more systematic realignment with so much potential for intellectual synergy,” he said. “We will always be part of Ambler; we are grounded to this place and the history of the campus, but we are universally excited about building connections with our allied disciplines and opening up an even wider dialog about urban and suburban landscapes. I think it re-energizes all of the departments, opening up new venues and possibilities that we didn’t necessarily have the structure in place to do before.”

“And the new alignment is already bearing fruit,” said Lamba. According to Lamba, Jesse Harrod, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Fibers and Material Studies, has reached out to the Department of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture “because she is eager to create a dye garden.”

“She and her students will collaborate with our students and faculty to learn how to grow and propagate the plants, then harvest and process them to use in their art. This is just one of the immediate examples; faculty throughout Tyler are starting to see the potential for new and innovative collaborations,” he said. “We’re already talking about joint programs in urban design and urban horticulture. The best part is we will be able to work as a team of allied professionals to come up with new ideas.”

Examining programs across the country, schools are “combining art with environmental design, art and horticulture and art and planning and policy,” said Nicole Hall, Director of Admissions for the Tyler School of Art.

“There is a great deal of interest in what these disciplines can accomplish in unison, especially at the graduate level. Our faculty are particularly interested in exploring sustainable design—the intersection between art and space and art and the environment,” she said. “All of our programs are very hands-on. Everything our students are doing deals with real-world issues and points of connection. Our faculty works with our students to discover their role in society.”

“The Division of Architecture and Environmental Design provides the departments and Tyler as a whole with a new cohort of students, ideas, projects and research,” Hall said. “It provides a different vantage point and will make all of the students better prepared for when they graduate. When Tyler moved from Elkins Park to Main Campus, our students explored facets of Temple that they had never experienced before,” she said. “Ambler is now a new option to explore and I think our students will engage with the campus in the same way that they’ve engaged with so many other programs at Temple.”

Vice Provost McGarvey stressed that administratively the Department of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture, Department of Planning and Community Development, and the Center for Sustainable Communities will remain at the Temple University Ambler campus, while offering programs and courses at Main, Ambler, Center City and Harrisburg campuses.

“We are very excited about this transition, and the departments and Center will continue to be an essential part of Ambler Campus” she said. “Landscape Architecture and Horticulture and Community and Regional Planning have been a crucial part of our campus history. The Division of Architecture and Environmental Design will be just as important for our future.”
At Temple Contemporary, anything can happen.

On any given day, a visitor might enter the expansive, open space and encounter at least five active stations, where the artistic process happens in real time and artists inspire the public to take part. Visitors might listen in on (and participate in) a panel discussion on Philadelphia’s public schools or observe a living beehive that culminates in its own honeycomb sculpture over time. In that same space, students stand by, day after day, mesmerized as conservators repaired and restored a 19th century flute clock from the collection of the Franklin Institute so that its music might be heard after 100 years of silence. Concurrently, Tyler students bound and published their own books while others delved into the ancient—and modern—techniques of paper marbling during workshops led by the award-winning Chena River Marblers. If there’s a lecture, visitors choose from 75 chairs—which serve as functional art for Temple Contemporary—each one provided by a vibrant, diverse collection of Philadelphia social and cultural organizations. After visitors select the chair that uniquely suits them—whether it be a chair that has arms, a yoga chair, a lawn chair, or something completely different—they enjoy an artist talk by an influential voice in the art world such as Ebony G. Patterson, whose thought-provoking mixed-media works have included memorials for women of color who have suffered violent deaths.

“Everyday at Temple Contemporary is truly a new day,” said Robert Blackson, Director of Exhibitions and Public Programs. “The space is alive and responsive to students and visitors and is not just a passive receiver of something that’s already been done. Instead, it’s an active player in the creation of something new. As a result, it only makes sense that as participants in that process, we allow ourselves to change too.”

Every project begins with one question—a question formulated by 40 volunteer members of the Temple Contemporary Advisory Council, who Blackson convenes twice a year, the Advisory Council includes nurses, biologists, journalists, economists, farmers, historians, local high school students, and community activists, among other diverse Philadelphia personalities. Temple students, professors, and alumni also take part in the Council, and together, they ask questions and determine which ones are most pressing and relevant.

“We engage with these issues the same way two people of mutual respect would enter a conversation,” said Blackson. “Therefore, there is no way of knowing when or how our commitment to these questions will end. It is a process of becoming. The extent of community involvement in these questions is the deciding factor on how long we continue to develop an issue’s programming.” When a question receives the majority of the Council’s votes and community involvement in these questions is the deciding factor is alive and responsive to students and visitors and is not just a passive receiver of something that’s already been done. Instead, it’s an active player in the creation of something new. As a result, it only makes sense that as participants in that process, we allow ourselves to change too.”

The space becomes a focus for the programming, the Gallery is transformed into a space where a rotating schedule of mediums from film screenings to lectures to community forums surprise all who share in the lively conversations that follow. When a question receives the majority of the Council’s votes and community involvement in these questions is the deciding factor is alive and responsive to students and visitors and is not just a passive receiver of something that’s already been done. Instead, it’s an active player in the creation of something new. As a result, it only makes sense that as participants in that process, we allow ourselves to change too.”

Significant questions continue to arise that the Advisory Council deem worthy of examination. A recent pivotal one was: What do we do with the deteriorating housing stock of Philadelphia? Significant questions continue to arise that the Advisory Council deem worthy of examination. A recent pivotal one was: What do we do with the deteriorating housing stock of Philadelphia?
What’s interesting is that we’ve had calls from Milwaukee and "Funeral for a Home." In response to Philadelphia’s vacancy crisis, Temple Contemporary stunningly depicted and shared the personal significance. Although we like to think of ourselves as unique and local relevance, but I would imagine if they are questions that we truly care about, they will also carry an international significance. And in our own ways, the things that we care about are things that people in other parts of the world equally care about.”

After 3711 Mellon Street came down, Robert Blackson, Sarah Biemiller, and the rest of the “Funeral for a Home” team ventured out on a Saturday to plant 500 tulip bulbs on the space where the house once stood. Months later, when the flowers bloomed, nearby residents, along with many others who connected with this project, were deeply moved and filled with hope by the unexpected beauty that rose from the demolition of a beloved home. “We’re trying to build programming that people want to embrace and feel a kinship with,” Blackson says. “And through that kinship, they create a profound self awareness for themselves, which I think is one of the beautiful properties of Temple Contemporary’s space. You go in and you don’t know what you’re going to find. And through that process of discovery, we discover ourselves.”

Temple Contemporary’s audience is mostly generated by the specific issues raised, which have included Philadelphia education reform as well as AIDS awareness and related research, among other community concerns. However, the Temple Contemporary team also strives to maintain a strong connection to Tyler alumni, recognizing that they are not only a continual source of pride, but also one of Tyler’s most valued resources. Through the Distinguished Alumni Mentoring Program, an annual program sponsored by the Dean of Tyler School of Art, relationships are forged between Tyler’s alumni and recent graduates by combining a lecture and studio visits with an artist and selected recent graduates of Tyler. The result is a six-month paid internship for one of the graduates, culminating in a two-person exhibit held at Temple Contemporary in the subsequent summer. Tyler’s 2015-2016 Distinguished Alumna, Hope Ginsburg, collaborated with recent graduate Misha Wylie on an exhibition of new work that opened on May 4, 2016 and runs through mid-July.

What else is next at Temple Contemporary? The questions have been asked that will shape the programming for the 2016-2017 school year: What does it mean to be an ally? How and why do we fix things? What do reparations look like? How do we define images courtesy of Temple Contemporary
**A Visionary Philanthropist**

Known as two of Philadelphia’s most distinguished art collectors and patrons, Laurie Wagman and her late husband, publisher Irvin J. Borowsky, have helped Tyler’s Glass Program achieve new heights through their generous philanthropic support of glass art and their dedication to providing educational opportunities for the next generation of artists.

Wagman’s philanthropic focus reflects a broad base of interests in art, education and social services. She is the Founder and President of American Theater Arts for Youth, Inc. (TAFY) and American Family Theater (AFT). Under her guidance, the two organizations have, in over four decades, presented professional, original musical productions to over 32 million students throughout the United States. Serving both the cultural and curricular needs of school populations, TAFY and AFT have been recognized as key arts-in-education influences nationwide.

“Glass is an especially powerful medium,” remarks Wagman, “there is a singular energy about contemporary glass that I admire—Tyler embodies that vitality.”

In 2012, Wagman and Borowsky donated more than $1 million to the Tyler School of Art to promote the study and creation of glass art. To honor the gift, one of the largest known given to a college glass program, Tyler’s glass facility has been named the Irvin Borowsky Glass Studio. The donation also supports what has become an extremely popular visiting artists program called the Laurie Wagman Lecture Series in Glass, which gives students exposure to artists who are influencing the contemporary glass movement with their work.

“Art forms are the cornerstone of civilization,” explains Wagman. “Arts are the cornerstone of civilization,” explains Wagman. “Clearly, Tyler is at the heart of that movement and I am pleased to be a part of it.”

Throughout my twenty years with Temple University, I have enjoyed the rich experience teaching and learning simultaneously, faculty and students working together and learning from each other’s inexhaustible life material. This kind of relationship, characteristic of the university as a whole, is particularly fostered at the Tyler School.

Tyler glass program is ranked No. 2 in the country in 2016!

Tyler overall retained a spot in the top 15 schools in the country, under a fine arts ranking that is measured every four years by US News and World Report. Printmaking moved up to number 7 and Painting and Drawing held the number 10 ranking nationally.

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BORIS BLAI, FOUNDING DEAN, TYLER CATALOG, 1955

Images courtesy of University Archives, Special Collections Research Center, Temple University Libraries
1935
Stella Elkins Tyler School of Fine Arts established by Temple’s Board of Trustees, with Boris Bilz as Director and later Dean; fine art degrees offered through Teachers College, handful of male studio faculty, with primarily Academy training, often European trained like Boris Bilz himself. Painters such as Franklin Watkins, Earl Horter, and sculptor Raphael Sabattini taught courses that had a strong emphasis on the craft of materials. Modern Dance, with leading national dance figures and Music Composition offered to all art students.

1941
Ceramics and crafts courses added with hiring of ceramist Rudy Staffel; Art History courses added with Dr. Herman Gundersheimer in collaboration with art collections of Lessing J. Rosenwald; Morris Blackburn offered Printmaking.

1945
Art Courses in Painting and Sculpture offered by Tyler faculty and advanced students at Fort Dix with veterans, as art therapy. Many GI Bill students subsequently enrolled at Tyler.

1950
Tyler had 300 students and an expanding faculty, including Arthur Floy (Printmaking) and Alexander Abels (Painting).

1960
Boris Bilz retires as Dean Emeritus.
Painter Charles LeClair hired from Chatham College, Pittsburgh, as Dean, primarily to extend curriculum.
Painter David Pense hired to build Design program and Roman Vibeles to expand Printmaking.

1962
Faculty increased to twenty, including some female faculty in Art Education and Crafts, with new programs in photography and metals and fibers. Art course offerings expanded on Temple’s Main Campus. Addition to Elkins Park Sculpture Studio completed.

1963
Stella Elkins Tyler passes away.

1965
School changes name to Tyler School of Art, expands offerings, 20+ full-time faculty and increased number of students. Dormitories built at Elkins Park. Degrees offered: BA, BC, BA, MFA, MEd, (Voc) in Crafts, Graphic Design and Illustration, Sculpture, Printmaking, Painting. Departments were Design (including crafts, photo, and illustration), Painting, Printmaking and Drawing, Sculpture, Art History, and Art Education. There was a mural program and some inter-departmental courses.

1966
Tyler Rome Program begins under leadership of Dean Charles LeClair, who serves as dean until 1974, followed by four years of interim deans.
The Tyler School of Art has always been a setting devoted to the work of the studio. As such, it has encouraged a rich diversity of studio approaches and practices from both its faculty and students. That tradition is stronger than ever today and has placed Tyler among the top-ranked art schools in the country.

**David Pease, Dean 1978-1983**

The embodiment of serious art study, Tyler is a place where young artists are pushed to develop their individual talents and supported along this journey of discovery, all while being exposed to other artists.

**Rockie Turner, Dean 1989-2002**

Throughout Tyler’s existence, it has always had an impulse to be creatively inclusive.

Tyler has always been a laboratory where answers are not prescribed, students test their own ideas, and faculty challenge and support them every step of the way. With fantastic new studios and classrooms to work in, Tyler remains a close-knit community, yet we are at the heart of a vibrant intellectual and cultural metropolis.

**Hester Shinnett, Interim Dean**

Everyday I see our students working together intensely, taking advantage of all that Temple and Philadelphia have to offer—Tyler truly has it all.
Travel Award Empowers Tyler Student to Follow His Fascination and Study Row House Architecture in The Netherlands

Admir Sabljic has always been enamored with row houses. In Sabljic’s home city, Mostar, Bosnian and Herzegovina, residents live in single unit properties or apartment buildings—there are no row houses to be found. So one could imagine Sabljic’s excitement upon arrival in Philadelphia, where row houses define the vernacular of the city.

For Sabljic, Tyler School of Art has been a pivotal in providing him with the encouragement and tools that he needs to pursue what he loves. And the city of Philadelphia, which has the highest percentage of row homes in the United States, provides him with the perfect setting.

Having earned a Bachelor of Science in Facilities Management, Sabljic is currently a second-year student in the three-year Intensive Design track of the Master of Architecture program. Through his coursework, he has explored the evolution of the construction of row houses in Philadelphia and has discovered that there has been little change since the construction of the first row house in 1691. Predominantly made of brick, only in the past ten years have architects begun to experiment with other materials, and only when constructing façades. This sparked Sabljic’s curiosity even more and made him wonder: what it would mean to reimagine row house architecture in Philadelphia as sustainable?

In the summer of 2015, Sabljic wrote a proposal requesting to travel to the Netherlands—a place where 60% of the population dwells in row houses and architects’ visions are bold and future-oriented, all with the hope of learning how he can positively impact Philadelphia. His proposal won him the prestigious Jacob and Sheila Riz Memorial Travel Award in Architecture, which allowed him to travel to the Netherlands for seven days to study the history and current trends in row house architecture.

What he learned in one week amazed him. In taking a closer look into the history, proportions and restorations of traditional canal row houses, as well as the building methods, relations to historic precedents and current innovations—Sabljic realized that the architects of Amsterdam are forward thinkers. Because of his travel award, Sabljic had the opportunity to explore first-hand what a team of Delft University students found—how a solar-panel skin could be fitted to Dutch row houses to better align their energy usage with 21st century power demands. Instead of tearing houses down and starting all over, these solar-panel skin additions enclose houses to contain heat in the winter and open up completely in autumn and spring to provide ventilation.

Sabljic was also intrigued by architects in Amsterdam who are leaving behind traditional ways of building—which is one of the most polluting and inefficient industries out there—to experiment with 3D-printing technology to construct full houses. Using a bio-plastic mix, usually used as an industrial adhesive, containing 75% plant oil and reinforced with microfibers, this new way of creating row houses could revolutionize how cities are made.

“Admir’s examination into the row house typology within the Netherlands exemplifies the complexity of issues that our students engage in,” states Rashida Ng, chair of the Architecture Department. “His research addresses concerns that are critical to the future of the building industry, including urban density, sustainability, and material innovation.”

When it comes to researching sustainable technology to build the homes of the future, Sabljic’s work is just beginning. He’s planning on spending his last year at Tyler working on a thesis that allows him to investigate in depth what the Philadelphia row house of the future could and should be. After Sabljic completes his master’s, he plans to stay put. “I would love to stay in Philadelphia to help make the city’s beautiful and historic row houses sustainable and enduring.”

Library Research Meets the Digital Age

Kaelin Jewell, Class of 2018, wants to see buildings that no longer exist: With the help of some nifty technology in Temple’s new Digital Scholarship Center (DSC), the PhD candidate in art history can.

Jewell specializes in the visual culture and built environment of late Roman and early medieval Mediterranean societies. She’s specifically curious about what monuments and grand structures can reveal about powerful patrons, such as an aristocrat who built a church in Constantinople in the 520s CE.

High-tech resources such as 3D-camera and a wall-sized touch screen display, enable graduate students and faculty from a wide range of disciplines to use technology to investigate the problems posed in their research projects. Jewell can construct architectural re-creations of buildings that aren’t around anymore and analyze complex data about the patronage networks that supported the building of those structures.

Jewell describes the experience as transformative. “The interdisciplinary nature of the DSC, along with the hardware and software it houses, make it an extremely useful space for solving problems and coming up with new and creative ways to answer historical questions,” she said.

Dr. Elizabeth S. Bolman, Chair of the Department of Art History at Tyler, sees Jewell’s efforts in the world of digital humanities as pivotal in rediscovering history. “Kaelin’s digital work is at the heart of new endeavors in art history and heritage preservation to reconstruct lost buildings and to document and study existing ones virtually. While extraordinary monuments may last centuries or even millennia, they will eventually be reduced to dust—sometimes from natural causes, and sometimes from intentional destruction, as we see these days, tragically, in Syria. High-quality digital documentation of architecture preserves a record for the future,” she said.

Jewell has won consistent recognition for her revolutionary work, including a prestigious 2015 International Center for Medieval Art (ICMA) Graduate Student Travel Grant, which has enabled her to conduct on-site research of the late antique monuments of Italy and Croatia for her dissertation titled, “Architectural Decorum and Aristocratic Power in Late Antiquity: The Gems Ancil.”

Today’s students are not blank slates, instead they bring the seeds of diverse experiences. Future graduates will require expertise that does not just reside in a particular school, or even just in the university community.

This year’s conference theme, “The Great Untapped: Unlocking Assets with Alliances,” proposes all institutions are now challenged to reconcile their own particular histories with the development of experiential curricula that connect students to an infinitely expanding world. Schools are no longer the center of the educational universe. A fascinating line-up of speakers and events will help shed light on those untapped resources.

Tyler School of Art is partnering with Temple University School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, the Barnes Foundation, Eastern State Penitentiary, and the Mask and Wig Club to make this event possible.
STUDENT NEWS

Tyler Dean’s Student Advisory Committee Empowers Students to Create University Programs That Meet Their Needs

At Tyler School of Art, students’ voices matter.

Three times during the semester, members of the Tyler Dean’s Student Advisory Committee (DSAC) come together to initiate activities and events that enrich the Tyler experience, as well as enhance student life for the entire university and the surrounding community. Under the guidance of Tyler Co-directors and alumnae Carmina Cianciulli, Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Studies and Student Affairs, and Kari Scott, Assistant Director of Tyler Student Life, students spearhead activities and events like the annual spring Carnival; the Gender Ball fundraiser celebration of the arts at Temple.

“they are also called upon for their opinions on administrative matters, as resources for accreditation, and for leadership roles on university committees,” says Cianciulli. “DSAC is all about the students and I love that. They’re the whole reason I’m here.”

In addition to enjoying full course vegan Italian meals made by Cianciulli, members cultivate important skills such as leadership, event planning, mentoring, fundraising and more. By taking advantage of regular opportunities to engage with administration, DSAC members act as ambassadors to their fellow students. Whatever event or activity they imagine can and does become a reality.

Student members of DSAC have coordinated visits during finals weeks by therapy dogs to relieve stress, have created a student lounge area on the 2nd floor of the Tyler building, and have started “the Week Here;” a Tyler e-newsletter which has become, under Kari Scott, a critical means of communication to the Tyler community. Other members have established the First Friday bus that transports students to gallery openings; The Glass Box, a secured space within the Tyler atrium for exhibitions, now the home of the Graphic and Interactive Design Hatchery project; and the annual CARE and CREATE event, where the university community creates crafts designated for the Norris Square neighborhood. Students also have implemented essential updates to the Tyler website to ease their college experience such as a “Free Things to Do” section as well as a student-centered resource page.

Students from DSAC serve on Tyler’s Dean Search Committee, the Senior Gift Committee for the university, and on the Student Philanthropy team in Institutional Advancement. Also, a member of DSAC has won Temple’s top service award.

Life After Tyler Series Calls for Alumni to Mentor Today’s Students

Once a month, Kari Scott, Assistant Director of Student Life and Tyler alumni, moderates Life After Tyler, a forum where alumni offer students career advice. The group highlights a diverse combination of Tyler graduates, including those who now work as teachers, business writing professors, printmakers, jewelry makers, CPAs that help artists with taxes, General Counsels who specialize in copyright, art therapists, studio artists and more.

“We love it when alumni come back and talk about what they’re doing, especially if they’re doing something unexpected,” says Scott. “We want to show students that although the path can be rocky when they first graduate, it smooths out eventually, but not always in ways they expect. Students learn not to shut the road down just because it’s not the road they think they’re supposed to be on. If it looks like an interesting road, take it. You never know where it may lead.”

To share your story at a Life After Tyler session, contact Kari Scott at miss.kari@temple.edu.

Tyler Students Win Prestigious International Facilities Management Association Scholarships at World Workplace

This past year, Temple Facilities Management (FM) majors attended The International Facility Management Association’s World Workplace, where they networked with FM professionals from around the globe. Held in the heart of downtown Denver, Colorado, at the Convention Center, students had the opportunity to explore the expo floors, build professional relationships with leading figures in the FM field, attend lectures by experts, strengthen their skills in educational workshops and enjoy the city’s attractions together.

When Tyler representatives attended the scholarship reception to recognize this year’s winners, it’s no surprise that three of Tyler’s own students’ names were called. Johnathan Temple, a senior in Facilities Management, held the honor of receiving the Utilities Council scholarship. Adimir Sablic, a graduate student pursuing a Master of Architecture degree, was awarded the impressive Charles N. Claar Memorial, Central Pennsylvania Chapter Scholarship. Dorothy Scholnick, a senior in Facilities Management, was recognized for her achievements with the Greater Philadelphia Chapter scholarship.

The FM profession requires mastering various disciplines to ensure the functionality of the built environment by integrating people, place, process and technology. It involves being a clear communicator, a savvy strategist, a fearless leader, an operations and maintenance expert, a steward of the environment and more. When it comes to navigating a career that demands being prepared for just about anything that comes your way—such as facility snags, snafus or malfunctions, Tyler’s FM students are ready to rise to the bar.
For a burgeoning artist, attending the Venice Biennale is akin to winning the lottery. A contemporary visual art exhibition that dates back to 1895, the Venice Biennale is the oldest and one of the most important international biennials and cultural institutions in the world. Now, nine Tyler sculpture MFA students can say they were there to witness this artists’ utopia firsthand.

"Last summer at the Venice Biennale, our graduate students were exposed to the highest caliber of work selected from the most talented artists in the world, including one of Tyler’s own, C.T. Jasper," says Jude Tallichet, Sculpture Department chair. "It was an eye-opening experience that undoubtedly left an imprint on their lives and will impact their future work as sculptors."

Assistant Professor of Sculpture and Polish native, Jasper, with wife and collaborator Joanna Malinowska represented Poland in the 56th Venice Biennale. Their installation and film, Halka/Haiti 18°48'05"N 72°23'01"W, curated by Magdalena Moskalewicz, included a panoramic four-channel projection of a performance of Stanisław Moniuszko’s opera Halka staged outdoors in Cazale, a Haitian village inhabited by the descendants of Polish soldiers who fought for Haitian independence. The coordinates used in the project’s title identify the location of Cazale. The piece probes the present-day power of traditional artistic genres to embody, represent, and, ultimately, construct national identities in the 21st century.

"The thought-provoking conversations about Eastern European artwork that naturally developed over morning coffee and late night dinners while abroad wasn’t necessarily happen in a classroom setting," states Tallichet. "It’s important to also be immersed in and surrounded by real-life subject matter."

The group reconnected with Jasper in Poland to get a personal tour of Warsaw, and observe presentations by art students from the University of Arts in Poznań and Łódź Film School. Peer-to-peer dialogue with Polish students from major institutions for art and film opens doors to thinking about sculpture on a global scale and from myriad perspectives.

Sculpture MFAs Travel to 56th Venice Biennale, Germany and Poland


These are just some of the words Matt Jacobs, a second-year graduate student, used to describe the trip. "Attending the Venice Biennale felt like I was at the Olympics for art," says Jacobs. "In a way, the experience was a rite of passage as an artist." Attending the Vernissage (private press viewing) of the Venice Biennale, running into world-renowned Serbian performance artist Marina Abramovć at a coffee shop and bonding with his classmates over Polish cake and sausages are a few of Matt’s most memorable moments.

In addition to Venice, over the course of two weeks the group visited Berlin and three cities in Poland: Warsaw, Poznań and Łódź. In Berlin, one of today’s major metropolises for art, the students explored galleries, museums and saw major works by sculptor Joseph Beuys and sound artist Christina Kubisch. Studio visits were arranged so the students could see what it is like to be an American artist living in Berlin and to broaden their network of mentors and potential collaborators.

As Tyler faculty, we stand by our students and are steadfast in our support.

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Designate Tyler School of Art

TOGETHER FOR TYLER

JOIN US. Make an impact on the next generation of thinkers and makers.

100% of full-time Tyler faculty give to student scholarships.
How many years have you taught at Tyler? 28. I started as a Dean’s Appointment in 1988.

What is your fondest memory of teaching at Tyler? I recall quite vividly the first meeting of the first class I ever taught. I was terrified. Obviously, I survived it.

Do you have a good story about the old Elkins Park campus? When I was a student at Tyler, the famous Polish poster designer Franciszek Starowieyski came to give a talk. He spoke minimal English, and it wasn’t going well. Joe Scorsone went to the school store across the hall, bought a box of charcoal and handed it to Starowieyski, who proceeded to draw the most amazing life-size figure of a woman with a bird’s head. That image remained on the wall under plexiglass in Penrose 005 until Tyler moved to the main campus. Alumni who knew and loved that image will be relieved to know that Joe Scorsone and Scott Laserow pried the homosote panel off the wall and brought it to the new building.

Name one student who left an impact on you and why? Many great students have had a lasting impact on me, but if I had to name one person, Jon Krause comes to mind. He embodied everything that is rewarding about teaching. I watched him grow from a smart-aleck sophomore to a wise and sensitive senior who went on to become a brilliant, world-class illustrator. It doesn’t get better than that.

If you had to pick a completely different profession to go into what would it have been? Had I been any good at math, I might have gone into physics.

What is something no one knows about you? I’m a very private person—but I think most people actually do know that.

Any parting words of advice? If you fear something, that’s probably what you should do. (See response #2.)

What are you going to do on your first day of retirement? I’ll probably clean up my studio and start working on a poster.

How many years have you worked at Tyler? 44. I’ve worked in many roles—as a professor in the Department of Architecture (both when Architecture was in the School of Engineering and recently, when it was part of Tyler), as Chairperson of Architecture, as Senior Associate Dean of Tyler Main Campus, and Senior Associate Dean of Undergraduate Students.

What is your fondest memory of teaching at Tyler? Seeing my students was my great love. I remember every final thesis project my students worked on.

Do you have a good story about the old Elkins Park campus? Even though I didn’t teach at the Elkins Park campus, it was an intriguing campus from an architect’s perspective. I think the best thing that ever happened to Tyler, though, was its move to main campus. It was, and still is, an invigorating way of rethinking Tyler.

Name one student who left an impact on you and why? They all had a tremendous impact and interestingly enough, I still hear from many of them. It’s hard for me to single out one student. I would say that all of them were very special to me.

If you had to pick a completely different profession to go into what would it have been? I would never want to do anything other than being an architect because it really is my true love. But if I had to choose something else, I think I would have liked to become a cartoonist.

What is something no one knows about you? I’m so fascinated by the idea of comfort in architecture that I’m writing a book about it. We see a lot of dazzling architecture, great facades, exquisite interiors, but does architecture really make us feel good? Does it elevate our spirits? It definitely should!

Add your tribute to these faculty by supporting one of our scholarship funds:

- Painting, Drawing & Sculpture Emeritus Fund
- Graphic & Interactive Design Awards Fund
- John Christopher Knowles Travel Award

Checks can be sent to:
Mollie Repetto
Executive Director of Development
Tyler School of Art
2001 North 13th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Professor Margo Margolis, Painting, and Professor Jude Tallichet, Sculpture, are also retiring this year. We appreciate all that they have done for Tyler.

Margo and Jude, c. 1980.
New Finance Director and Architecture Faculty Join Tyler

Seher Erdogan Ford, AIA
Assistant Professor, Architecture Foundations Coordinator

Seher Erdogan Ford is an architect and the co-founder of EFFO, a design and research practice based in Philadelphia and Istanbul. Her research focuses on the material history of architecture as seen through the lens of cultural heritage and expressed via the representational strategies using new media technologies. Ford has taught at Kadir Has University in Istanbul and held teaching fellowships at Yale University. Previously, Ford worked at the offices of Gwathmey Siegel Associates, Robert A.M. Stern Architects and Rogers Marvel Architects in New York and Apicella Bunton Architects in New Haven, CT. Ford received her BA in Architecture and MArch degrees at Yale University.

Andrew John Wit
Assistant Professor, Architecture

Andrew John Wit is a designer and researcher operating on the fringes of design, technology and robotics. His projects and research on environmentally adaptive/intelligent building design processes and systems has been widely disseminated. In addition, Wit has practiced internationally at offices such as Tsushima Design Studio, Atelier Bow Wow and Toyo Ito Associates in Tokyo, Japan. Wit received a MArch from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and his BS in Architecture from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Cheryl Carreno
Director of Finance and Administration

For Cheryl Carreno, an art lover at heart, becoming Tyler School of Art’s new Director of Finance and Administration couldn’t be a more perfect fit. With thirteen years of experience working in finance management in higher education, Carreno honed her accounting and managerial know-how at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice in Newark and the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy and Practice.

Her primary responsibility involves working to transition Tyler to RCM (responsibility-centered management) budgeting. RCM, which came to Temple two years ago, requires that Tyler be as efficient and effective as possible with their finances. Under RCM, schools benefit from entrepreneurial activity. They have the freedom to set their own financial goals and priorities, and successfully work to achieve them.

“I’m excited to be leveraging my professional skills to support the important work in the arts that happens every day at Tyler.”

Assistant Professor Lisa Kay receives national award for special needs art education

Tyler School of Art’s Lisa Kay, assistant professor of art education, received the Peter J. Geisser Special Needs Art Educator of the Year award at the National Art Education Association convention in Chicago.

“This award is being given to recognize excellence in professional accomplishment and service by a dedicated art educator,” NAEA President Patricia Franklin said in a statement announcing the award. “Lisa Kay exemplifies the highly qualified art educators active in education today: leaders, teachers, students, scholars and advocates who give their best to their students and the profession.”

The award is presented by the NAEA, Council for Exceptional Children, an international special education organization, and VSA, an international nonprofit centered on arts, disability and education. “Seeing my name added to the list of other art educators who have shaped this particular field is an incredible tribute,” Kay said. “I am humbled by that.”

Art with a Message Resonates for Many: Pepón Osorio’s Installation “reForm” is Twice Featured in the New York Times

Former Fairhill students contributed to the show by writing their feelings about the closure directly onto the walls of the exhibition that were covered with enlarged lined paper to look like exercise books. Students also recorded powerful spoken responses in a row of video screens, built into structures resembling shrines, supported by oversized yellow pencils against the classroom wall. The inventive installation was more than just a place brimming with photographs, objects, and sentiments concerning the school closure—it was a place for the Fairhill community to engage and plan for change.

“The installation of the classroom became a platform for them to rethink their own education,” said Osorio. “We’re working together to figure out a way that they can define education on their own terms, and not under the terms of the School District.”

And what better platform to relay Fairhill’s story than through installation art? Project by project, Tyler visionaries like Osorio are continually expanding the dimensions in which students can create art. By engaging the community, they are changing it.

“Temple Contemporary commissioned Osorio, a Pew and MacArthur fellow, to birth a multi-dimensional installation—a collaborative venture between teachers, students, parents and neighbors—that incorporated abandoned chairs, desks and chalkboards from the closed Fairhill School building to ‘reactivate’ Fairhill experiences in a working Tyler classroom.”

An article featuring Osorio’s “reForm,” Art Show Captures the Wrenching Effects of Closing a School, was published in the New York Times in August of 2015. The installation was also featured in the New York Times’ Museum and Gallery Listings for the East and Beyond.
American painter and Tyler professor Dona Nelson was recognized for her work by the Anonymous was a Woman grant committee in the fall of 2015. The committee was established to support artists after the National Endowment of the Arts discontinued support for individual awards in 1996. All nominations for the grant are anonymous, though the body of their work pushes Nelson and other into the spotlight as doyennes of art.

Describing the process, Nelson underscores unpredictability as a trademark of her artistic unfolding for each doyenne of art.

Nelson also democratizes painting through her teaching. She focuses on developing artists’ potential by avoiding the noise of “too many images” that exist today amid our never-ending distractions. “The way you learn about painting is to go look at a painting. But to develop as an artist? Tyler students need concentration. ‘It’s concentration that yields art. That’s what painting absolutely is.’” explains Nelson. “That’s what painting absolutely is. To develop this discipline, students are required to draw for three hours and continue on even when the model makes a break. ‘The practice of drawing is important to foster concentration,’ she says. It’s clear that Nelson is building a foundation that is essential to future generations of painters in both galleries and classrooms.

Uncovering Olympia

Tyler Professor Therese Dolan reviews Manet’s Olympia

When Therese Dolan, PhD was a graduate student at Bryn Mawr College, she promised herself that she would return to Olympia, a famous painting by French painter Édouard Manet, to take a closer look at the shawl as a trademark of her artistic unfolding for each doyenne of art.

Today, Dolan comes full circle to publish “Fringe Benefits: Manet’s Olympia” (January, 2016) in The Art Bulletin, which explores how Manet created sociological narrative within his painting using a shawl.

“I try to open 21st century eyes to 19th century eyes to better understand the painting.”

When the painting was hung in the salon in 1863, viewers had to be restrained from destroying it. Nude portraits had been seen before, so what was all the fuss about? “Manet was actually devastated so what was all the fuss about? ‘Manet was actually devastated by the reaction—he was trying to be truthful rather than shocking,’” explained Dolan. From the black cat in the bouquet of flowers, Olympia’s details comment on class, gender, fashion, marriage, society, culture, and art. Olympia is more than a simple portrait; the painting served as a mirror to reflect how society passed judgment.

Concentrating on Art

Dona Nelson: Anonymous was a Woman Grant Recipient

Her explication of painting and the interaction with its space is that the work must do more than simply hang on a wall. She says, “I like to give an experience that animates or is independent of the architecture of the gallery.”

In Memoriam

Dr. Jeffrey Featherstone

Featherstone’s expertise was also recognized internationally. In 1995, he served as a team member of the United Nations Water Resources Management to Delegation to China—he has since advised Chinese government officials on water conservation and sustainability issues. A valued member of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) for more than a decade, he chaired the organization’s conference in Brisbane, Australia in 2013. In 2015, Featherstone led an international team of city planners to explore and recommend revitalization efforts in the West Bank of the Jordan River. He also provided technical assistance to a second team in the Gaza Strip.

Here at home, Featherstone led projects in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties to ensure healthy drinking water, help municipalities avoid the damaging effects of flooding, provide effective transportation, ensure food equity, and support sustainable communities for today and tomorrow. The Center’s stormwater management research in the Pennypack and Washita creeks and other parts of the state led to complete floodplain remapping by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. “Through his work at the Center, and throughout his career, Jeff has made the Delaware River Watershed incrementally more sustainable and a healthier place to live,” adds Dr. Lynn Mandarano, Chair of the Department of Planning and Community Development.

“Jeff was ahead of his time in his work; he helped many local and international communities through his practice-based research. He was hands-on and on-top for every project,” said Hester Stennett, Interim Dean of the Tyler School of Art. “We will honor Jeff’s legacy by continuing the Center’s work — Tyler fully supports the Center and is committed to its essential mission.”

The Jeffrey Featherstone Memorial Scholarship has been established to support a student in the Master of Science in City and Regional Planning program who shares Jeff’s passion for sustainable water resources management.
Inventive Thinking to Create New Star Trek-themed Stamps

When Antonio Acala, a Postal Service-contracted art director sought the right designer to craft a series of four commemorative postage stamps for the 50th anniversary of the original Star Trek television series on CBS, it’s no surprise that he chose Tyler grads Jason Kernevich and Dusty Summers for their evocative designs.

Upon discovering their work, Acala observed: “They demonstrated an ability to present complex ideas in simple, fresh illustrations.” “Antonio (Acala) wanted something vintage-y but not all nostalgic, something with a modern quality,” said Kernevich. “The process was pretty much like any other client. It went on for a while with a lot of careful, fine-toothed combing. The main limitation we had to be aware of is how something can reduce to such a small size. Designing at that scale is a challenge we hadn’t seen before—a challenge that we were excited to meet.”

The duo—Kernevich and Summers—make up The Heads of State, a local design firm that has garnered national recognition from clients such as Nike, Starbucks, Apple, Subaru and others. The pair met in a design class at Tyler where they realized their individual (and shared) passion for bringing their creative visions to life through graphic design. Both entrepreneurial in spirit, they decided to leave their full-time jobs upon graduation to open the design studio in 2004, which now includes the founders, a designer-illustrator, two more full-time staffers, plus interns. Both Kernevich and Summers also proudly teach at Tyler.

“We wouldn’t be where we are today without our Tyler education. Without the Temple experience, we wouldn’t have the blueprint to run our company. Because of my Tyler education, we were able to find our own creative path and make it our life,” said Kernevich. “Tyler really molded how we approach design and also instilled in us an incredible work ethic.” Summers added. “It’s a place that draws people together who actively make their creative dreams a reality.”

The Graphic and Interactive Design program at Tyler trains our students to meet the most demanding challenges of design practice,” explains Kelly Holohan, Program Head for GAID. “These iconic Star Trek stamp illustrations are a prime example of working with strict parameters, yet delivering gorgeous results that communicate perfectly.”

The Graphic and Interactive Design grads selected for their inventive thinking to create these new Star Trek-themed stamps are:

Bill Smith, B.S. Architecture, will receive the Temple University Gallery of Success Award for the Tyler School of Art on September 22, 2016. Bill is currently the executive vice president of design and construction for AECOM Capital and is responsible for managing the design and construction of all AECOM Capital developments nationally. Best known for his work at MGM Resorts International as president of the MGM MIRAGE Design Group in Las Vegas, where he led and completed the master planning, design and construction of the US $9-billion, 18 million square foot CityCenter in Las Vegas. That project, completed in partnership with Tishman Construction, an AECOM company, is the largest privately financed project in U.S. history. He is a Registered Architect and member of the American Institute of Architects.

Victory for Tyler Ice Box Project Space, Crane Arts

A biennial juried exhibition of work by Tyler graduates to benefit Tyler School of Art. The show takes place at the Ice Box Project Space at Crane Arts in Philadelphia’s Northern Liberties neighborhood. Submissions are juried by a nationally noted curator. The 2015 curator was Anthony Elms, Associate Curator at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia. Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2015 show. The next Victory for Tyler exhibition will take place in 2017; stay tuned for more details!
Rhythm & Hues

Using bold colors and whimsical gestures of movement and musical rhythm, Brad Carney, TYL '02, created a 33,000 square feet, music-inspired mural at Eakins Oval on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.