Arts Programming

Enhancing the Learning Experience

The arts are thriving as never before at Stanford. Creativity lives within and beyond the art departments and drives an increasingly vibrant arts scene—the product of major investments in faculty, students, spaces, and programs through the Arts Initiative and the Stanford Arts Institute.

The next phase, “Stanford Arts | Arts 2016,” represents an opportunity to sustain and expand the most successful programs, securing their place at the heart of the curriculum and at the center of student life.

Curricular innovations are bringing the arts to a greater number of classrooms, including in non-arts disciplines. These include class trips to course-related performances and exhibitions, artist visits to classes and studios, and materials for course projects and productions.

Faculty-guided arts immersion programs combine academic preparation with several days of behind-the-scenes meetings with artists, gallery owners, and arts administrators in cities like New York and Los Angeles.

Another opportunity—the Arts Intensive program—offers students the chance to explore their creativity in small group settings for two weeks before the school year begins.

And finally, undergraduate internships in arts administration give students the opportunity to step out of the classroom and build skills that will serve them as artists, managers, and leaders. Placements include the San Francisco Opera, the San Francisco Exploratorium, the Public Theater of New York, and the Contemporary Jewish Museum.

ARTIST VISITS AND RESIDENCIES

Dancer, choreographer, and performance artist Ann Carlson was in residence at the Drama Department in 2011–12 and was the inaugural visiting artist at Stanford’s Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve in Winter 2012.

In addition to teaching undergraduate courses, she also involved students in the design, production, and performance of her new work: a series of live-action recreations of historical Jasper Ridge photographs.

Visiting artists bring fresh perspectives to the curriculum and expose students to diverse ways of creating art. Regionally and internationally known artists are invited to engage with students through performances, lectures, seminars, informal visits to classrooms and dorms, and co-production of their works.

Visits vary from a single performance to longer appointments for arts and humanities fellows, critics in residence, and teaching artists in residence.
Fostering Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration

Arts Initiative support has also produced innovative collaborations among the arts and connected them to other disciplines, including the humanities, medicine, science, and engineering. The events and programs generated by these cross-disciplinary efforts have opened up new modes of interaction and expanded the scope of scholarship, performance, coursework, and practice in the arts and beyond.

Projects and symposia have explored everything from the relationship between longevity, memory, and music to the interplay between contemporary art and the environment.

At Stanford, art is created and explored from dawn to dusk, on and off campus. The arts are increasingly integrated into the residence halls through expanded programming and specialized facilities such as recording studios and upgraded theater space. Future plans include equipping residence hall dining rooms to be easily converted to spaces for events ranging from dorm plays to visiting artist performances.

With the help of Stanford-subsidized tickets and transportation, more students than ever are also attending world-class performances and exhibits. These opportunities help make the arts accessible to all Stanford students.

With your support, Stanford students will continue to engage with the arts inside and outside classroom walls.

Giving Opportunities

There are many ways to support Arts Programming at Stanford, including:

Cross-disciplinary Program Support | Enable new modes of interaction among and between the arts and other disciplines. Gifts of $10,000 or more.

Visiting Artists | Engage students through performances, lessons, seminars, and collaborations on new works. Gifts of $25,000 or more.

Student Arts Programming Funds | Increase avenues for student art making and for professional opportunities such as internships. Gifts of $5,000 or more.

Student Art Making in the Residences | Create arts community spaces by upgrading and converting residences and performance spaces. Gifts of $30,000 or more.

Permanent named funds may be established with a gift of $100,000 or more.

For more information, please contact:
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