



## GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN

We did it! Another year in the books! I know that you have pulled out all the stops to make the 2022-2023 academic year one worth remembering. Thank you for all of your efforts both in and out of the classroom setting.

In addition to teaching almost 2000 students this year, the CFAC faculty published 70 articles, 20 book chapters, and 12 books. You participated in 725 creative activities, 175 presentations, 28 community service projects and 47 professional service activities.

Faculty efforts also led to amazing work by our students. In this newsletter as well as the previous issues, you can read about our student achievements and know what a central role you had in making those a reality. Thank you so much for your dedication to our students.

Thank you to our staff who helped support these successes through event planning, class scheduling, payroll processing, facility maintenance and all of the behind-the-scenes work that makes educating our students possible.

In addition to having a great 2022-2023 year, your hard work is paying off in recruitment for 2023-2024 as well. Among first-year students, we have 451 new students that have committed to attending ECU in the fall and studying in one of our four schools. This compares to 247 that had committed by this time last year. Up 83%!! We have already surpassed the census day number in Fall 2022 of 399. Amazing! Congratulations on all of your endeavors to show potential students what a goldmine ECU is!

I hope that whatever your plans this summer, you are able to fill your cup with those things that enrich and nourish you. See you in August!

Linda

## This spring...

### CFAC Excellence

- 40 under 40 Alumni Award - **Mike Catalano**
- Scholar-Teacher Award - **Jessica Teague**
- Board of Governors' Distinguished Teaching Award - **Daniel Shirley**
- ECU Creed Award - **Jayme Host**
- Graduate Faculty Mentor Award - **Keith Richards**
- Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award - **Bryan Conger**
- International Award for Service and Engagement - **Jin-Ae Kang**
- International Award for Student Mobility – **School of Theatre and Dance**
- Alice M. Ditson Fund [\$3,000] - New Music Initiative - **Travis Alford**
- Engagement Scholarship Consortium [\$5,000] The Archives Project - **Cat Normoyle**
- North Carolina Governor's Traffic Safety Program [\$62,000] - ECU Elder Driver-Safety Film Series - **Erick Green**
- National Institute of Health [\$253,000] - Geofencing to Increase Awareness of Dental Health Resources to High School Students in Bertie County - **Mary Tucker-McLaughlin** (co-PI)
- Pitt County Group Homes [\$60,000] - Music Therapy Clinic/Scholarships - **Ginny Driscoll** and **Adrienne Steiner-Brett**

**Ben Reyes** (below left) received the 2022~2023 Advising Award recognizing individuals who have demonstrated excellence in advising by going “above and beyond” their expected duties. Nominees are judged on the evidence of qualities and practices that distinguish the nominee as an outstanding leader in advising.



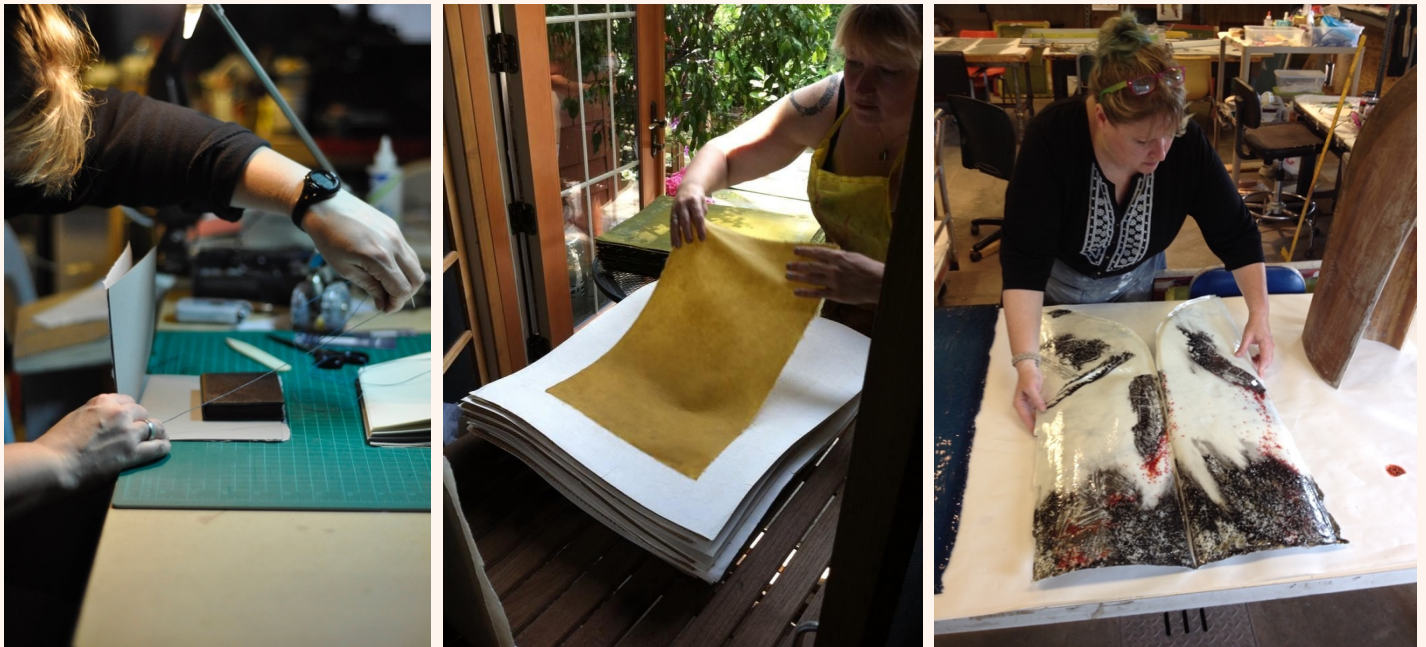
In his last year as a full-time faculty member, **Elliot Frank** (above right) performed recitals for the Columbus State University Guitar Symposium, the University of Texas at San Antonio Guitar Symposium, and the Queens University Guitar Symposium.

## This spring...

### CFAC Excellence

**Cindy Elmore** had a study published in *Feminist Media Studies*: "[Selling to soldiers: warrior hero masculinity and missing military women in Stars and Stripes' Iraq war advertising.](#)" April 2023.

**Lisa Beth Robinson** was recognized as one of the winners of the [Exemplary Trendsetters Award](#) during East Carolina University's seventh annual Research and Scholarship Awards Ceremony in April. This award honors faculty members whose works have led to important discoveries and impactful inventions and who have engaged the community and external partners for transformative collaborations.



In April, Lisa Beth Robinson presented at the [Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass MeetUp, Art and Science: Climate Change/Environmental Themes](#). Participating artists included Norwood Viviano, Kristin Thielking, Lisa Beth Robinson, and Anna Lehner, who create art to reflect environmental concerns.

Lisa Beth was also selected for an artist's residency this summer at the [C-scape Dunes Shack Program](#).

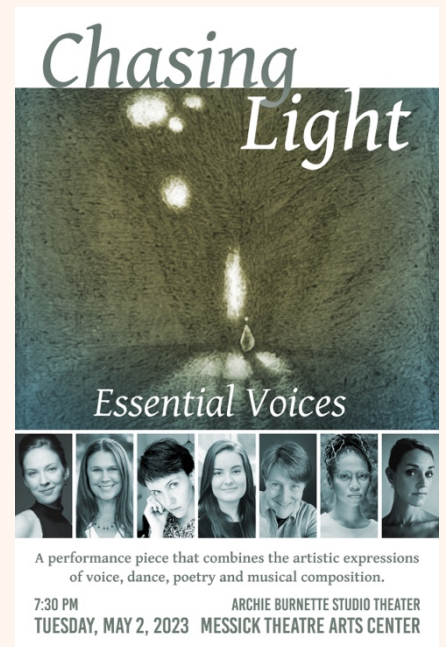
**Borim Song** worked together with three former MAEd students [[Steven Taylor](#), [Kate Wheeler](#), and [Mike Winstead](#)] and published an Art Education Article, "[Reaching Across Remote Worlds: Collaboration Between In-Service and Prospective Art Teachers in the Age of COVID-19.](#)" [<https://doi.org/10.1080/00043125.2022.2153565>]

**Mi-Sook Hur** presented "[Painted Enamel, its historical background, techniques, and processes](#)" at the [Metalwerx Virtual Spring Symposium](#) in March. A symposium featured online presentations by artists on their inspiration and knowledge, followed by demonstrating their signature skills and a studio tour. An ECU alumni, Adam Atkinson (MFA '16) also gave a talk, "[From and Movement from Flat Sheet.](#)"

This spring...

## CFAC Excellence

[\*Chasing Light: Essential Voices\*](#), a performance that combines the artistic expressions of voice, dance, poetry, and musical composition, premiered on May 2 in the Messick Theatre Arts Center. This performance is a culmination of a 2022 RCAA Grant Proposal by [Catherine Gardner](#) and [Jessica Teague](#). Collaborations by Kirsten Holley, Marth Sullivan, Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Nwгатilo Mawiyoo, and Iya Kiva . ([video of performance](#))



[Jennifer Cabacar](#) and [Jessica Rogers](#) represented CFAC during the inaugural NC Robotics State Championship on the first Saturday of April at Minges Coliseum. This event was organized by [FIRST North Carolina](#) with its mission to inspire the next generation of engineers, computer scientists, and STEM leaders.



This spring...

## CFAC Excellence

**Cynthia Bickley Green** was featured in the exhibition *Women: In Their Own Right* at the Bethesda Fine Art in Bethesda, MD. Art history has long been dominated by white male artists, eclipsing women, even those married to famous men. Long overshadowed by their renowned husbands, these women are finally gaining recognition—in their own right.



**Jayme Host**, Professor of Dance and Director of the School of Theatre and Dance, welcomed 10 economics students to the world of performing arts. She collaborated with Meghan Millea, professor of economics, and her 10 upper-level macroeconomics students on a dance and economics integrated cumulative class project and performance. The students brought their understanding of how the macroeconomy moves to the studio, where Jayme converted their ideas into action. With 4 senior dance students augmenting the troupe, the students created a 10-minute-long performance of Dance Economics. Their show was performed in the Messick Theatre and was attended by over 20 students, faculty, and staff. ([video of performance](#))



This spring...

## CFAC Excellence

**Dan Elliott** presented “*Engaging Communities Through Letterpress Printing*” at the [Craven Arts Council](#) in New Bern. Elliott brought his mobile letterpress shop, including a sign-press, spacing material, several cases of wood & metal type, ink, palette, brayer, paper, and examples of previous letterpress work.

After showing examples of his work and work made in collaboration with different communities, the attendees came up to the press and made a collaborative print with Elliott. The group decided on setting the word COMMUNITY with a “1” instead of an “l”. One reason being we are ONE community, although it was spurred by the fact that there weren’t any letter “1” in that specific font of type. This is a common practice in letterpress printing, being faced with a hurdle and finding something even more interesting than the intended print. Each participant learned how to use a brayer, properly apply ink to the form, and pulled two prints of their own.



## CFAC Updates

As we wrap up another academic year, I hope that you will find time this summer to refresh and recharge both personally and professionally. I also want to thank all of you for your flexibility and willingness to engage in the new Faculty180 Reviews system for our various personnel actions.

While learning and adapting to new processes is always challenging, I believe this new system will help to make things easier as we move forward. With that being said, I welcome any feedback on the tenure and promotion, reappointment, and annual evaluation processes that you engaged in with Faculty180 Reviews. The college coordinators will be meeting later this summer to discuss ways to improve the system, and I certainly will share any suggestions for improvement as we continue to refine the steps for each personnel action.

Congratulations on another successful year, and please don't forget to have all grades entered by Monday, May 8th at 8:00 a.m.

Jay Juchniewicz  
Associate Dean for Research, Reporting & Curriculum



<https://ecu.webex.com/meet/juchniewicz>



<https://artscomm.ecu.edu/links-and-information/>



<https://faculty180.ecu.edu/>

This spring...

## CFAC Excellence

It has been 20 years since renowned musician Billy Taylor lent his name to a jazz festival in his native Greenville. The festival is going strong at East Carolina University, where Taylor once served as the Robert L. Jones Distinguished Professor of Music. Held during Jazz Appreciation Month to celebrate the genre and its contributions to music, ECU music professor and the festival's artistic director [Carroll V. Dashiell Jr.](#) (below left) led the week-long event featuring four free concerts with guest artists Benny Green, piano, and Sean Jones, trumpet.

Recordings on [ECU School of Music Live](#) below:

- [2023 ECU Billy Taylor Jazz Festival](#)
- [2023 ECU Billy Taylor Jazz Combos Concert](#)



[Caitlyn Leach](#) (BFA '18 above right) and Talen Piner created "[SCOUTS](#)," an original musical about gender, inclusivity, and Mothman that is premiering this summer off-Broadway.

The main premise of the musical is that two troops — brother and sister Scouts — are fighting to win the Troop of the Year title when one of the scoutmasters goes missing while trying to find Mothman. One of the sister Scouts, Alex, who doesn't fit in with the other feminine sister Scouts, decides to prove they can be a brother Scout by finding the scoutmaster. Alex's best friend rallies troops to find the scoutmaster and Alex before the Mothman strikes.

After receiving the call that "SCOUTS" would be off-Broadway, Leach and Piner began thinking of ways to connect back with ECU. The result was a fundraiser showcase in April featuring numbers from SCOUTS. Leach and Talen collaborated with the 5th Street Players, an organization for students in the School of Theatre and Dance.

About SCOUTS, [video](#)



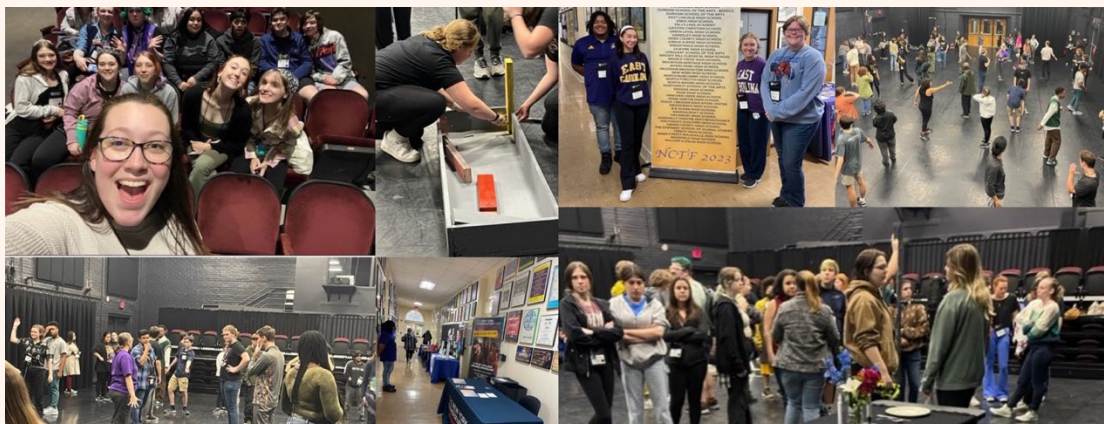
This spring...

## CFAC Excellence

Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival's very own [Ara Gregorian](#) (violin) joined Nick Luby and Susan Zhang (piano) on board The Concert Truck for a show-stopping FREE outdoor concert, organized by [Henry Michaels](#) and [Alex Davis](#).



[The School of Theatre and Dance](#) had a wonderful week hosting 70 local Dance students and their teachers from surrounding schools for Pitt County Day of Dance on Tuesday March 7th, 70 local Theatre students and their teachers from surrounding schools for Pitt County Day of Theatre on Thursday March 9th, and 600+ NC Thespians with 100 of their teachers and other NC Theatre faculty, Friday March 10th to host the [NC Thespian Festival](#). So many students have asked how they can apply and audition for ECU's SoTD programs because they love the campus, facilities, and working with the faculty at ECU.



This spring...

## CFAC Excellence

**CFAC ABIDE** Committee was recognized as the outstanding team for the ECU Group Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion award at the Chancellor's Horizon Awards for Service Ceremony.

The College of Fine Arts and Communication ABIDE committee was organized during the Summer of 2020. Since its inception, the committee sought to be an advocacy resource for members of the college through the development of its mission statement and through a college [website](#) created as a place for members of the college to find resources related to equity, belonging, and inclusion. The committee website also provides information on upcoming college and unit events. In addition, it serves as a source of connection for and between units regarding issues and events in diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Membership includes:

**Bryan Conger** / Assistant Professor SoTD

**Robin Haller** / Associate Professor SoAD

**Jin-Ae Kang** / Associate Professor SoC

**Jen-Scott Mobley** / Assistant Professor SoTD

**Adrienne Muldrow** / Assistant Professor SoC

**William Staub** / Director of Bands SoM

**Jim Tisnado** / Associate Professor SoAD

**Andrea VanDeusen** / Assistant Professor SoM Chair of ABIDE Committee.



## Student Success

Graduating senior [Jesse Reece](#) (BM '23) won fourth prize in the Queens14 in February University guitar competition and a guitar modeled on a 19th-century instrument for best ensemble interpretation of a 19th-century composition for guitar at [Appalachian Guitar Festival](#), Appalachian State University, held in April.

Textile Design Senior [Kelly Norris](#) (BFA '23) received the Outstanding Student Award by [The Surface Design Association](#). The Outstanding Student Award is presented to a student enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or graduate art/design program at a college or university, with a fiber focus. It is based on artistic and technical merit, quality of design, innovation, and professional presentation. Along with a certificate, the student receives a 1-year membership to the Surface Design Association and will be recognized in the Surface Design Journal, Fall 2023.

[Insha Pun](#) (MA '23) cared for women and children in a clinic in Nepal's capital of Kathmandu and in rural areas as a UNICEF health trainee. She also conducted research on topics ranging from patient safety to adolescent mental health. Insha believes in the importance of breaking down technical information into easy, understandable language for different audiences, and this insight led to her interest in the health communication field. She could not find degree programs in this field available in Nepal, so an online search pointed her to the United States and East Carolina University's School of Communication. This Spring, Insha graduates from ECU with a master's degree in communication with a concentration in health communication. She has completed the 30-hour program in 16 months after moving almost 8,000 miles to Greenville, where she worked as a graduate assistant in communication, both as a teaching assistant and research assistant.



[Kevin Gonzales](#), BFA Printmaking, 2022, has been accepted to Texas A&M, Corpus Christie, to pursue his MFA in Printmaking. He was awarded a tuition waiver and graduate teaching assistantship.

[Brian Mendez](#), BFA Printmaking 2023, has been accepted to the MFA program in Printmaking at the University of Kansas with a tuition waiver and assistantship. Brian will be joining Quinn Pagona, BFA Printmaking 2021, who is in her second year in the MFA Printmaking program at the University of Kansas.

This spring...

## Student Success

[Karena Kidd Graves](#) (MFA '23) will start the year-long residency at [Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts](#) this summer. The Arrowmont Artists-in-Residence Program provides early career, self-directed artists time, space, and support to develop new work and be an active part of the Arrowmont community. Each year, five artists are selected to participate in the 11-month program, which begins in mid-June and continues through late May of the following year. Started in 1991, the Arrowmont Artists-in-Residence program will celebrate 30 years in 2021.



The Junior [Graphic Design](#) students (and one grad student) from the School of Art & Design exhibited work at the ECU 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gallery this spring 2023. The show, titled *Now & Next: Typographic Futures*, was on exhibit from April 10 – April 21 and aimed to challenge assumptions about typography, its design, its use, and its expectations. Students examined issues of technology, accessibility, inclusion, representation, and style to frame their perspectives of typographic futures and created a series of posters to communicate these visions. The show included 24 augmented reality (AR) posters—the AR experiences of each poster reinforced and added to each poster’s concept through interactive media.

Students featured include Annias Boone, LC Love, Mackenzie Staten, Lee Turner, Madison Gattis, Sarah Kuentler, Charity Ray, Trevor Morgan, Sydney Cook, Kam C., Austin Becker, Autumn Avery, Myles Lain, Caroline Mills, Luisenrique Rivera, Lizzie Knox, Shari White, Celina Dix, Jeanelle Ferrell, Hayden Allen, Rusty Batten, Erick Islas-Hernandez, Bre Vocke, and Sydney Dixon. The show was facilitated by [Cat Normoyle](#), graphic design Associate Prof., and run in conjunction with the course, Graphic Design Studio III., which focuses on interaction design.

This spring...

## Student Success

**Lee Turner** (MFA '24) has been developing pilot opportunities for [introspection and reflection](#) at a site along the Greenville-Pitt County African American Cultural Trail over the past 6 months.

Led by **Robin Haller** and **Gabe Duggan** with the theme of “Sustainability” and “Beyond the Body,” students in the Textile Design featured their wearable art during the annual [AIMO Fashion Show](#) at the Black Box Theater in April.



The School of Music undergraduate student, **Sheleise Melendez**, won the Student Research Poster Award at the 2023 [Southeastern Regional Conference of the American Music Therapy Association](#) with her research, *The Effect of Rehearsal Environment on the Hearing Health of Musicians*. This is ECU's win in the second year in a row for this highly competitive award. This conference is a meeting for all states in the Southeastern region and includes 19 academic programs.



## Student Success

Journalism students **Makayla Perkins** and **Abbie Clavijo** have been recognized with national awards from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Makayla received a first-place award in the “Non-fiction Interview” category for her story about an ECU graduate who started a successful national business making and selling customized sorority apparel and gifts, a business she started while still a student. Abbie received a Certificate of Merit award in the “Non-fiction Article” category. Abbie’s story was about an ECU student who is studying to become a child life specialist—a professional who counsels the family of a child with a serious medical condition—as a result of her own sister’s childhood leukemia diagnosis.

The articles were published in the May 2022 issue of *Countenance*, a feature magazine produced annually by the School of Communication since 2017. [The same issue](#) was recognized by CSPA with its highest Gold Medal recognition. Student magazines from only three other universities (the University of Miami, Savannah College of Art & Design, and Southwestern College, California) received a Gold Medal rating.

The awards came in the [Columbia Scholastic Press Association](#)’s print news and print magazine competitions. The entries came from publications produced by students at colleges and universities throughout the United States and overseas that follow an American education plan.



**Erica Moncrief** (BFA '23) is hired by Clear View Elementary School in Jacksonville, Onslow County with Early Release.

**Courtney Cox** (BFA '23) is hired by Northern Granville Middle School, Granville County.

A School of Communication alumnae, **Anna Ray** is a Wilmington-based independent filmmaker. Hailing from Laurinburg, she has a deep-rooted passion for the art of storytelling and the North Carolina film industry. Fostering this passion she attended East Carolina University where she obtained dual degrees in Journalism with a Film Studies minor and Hispanic Studies. After graduation, she spent two years in Spain as a North American Culture and Language Assistant. While there, she produced two short films in Madrid, one of which, “Chueca,” a story documenting the life of trans sex workers, went on to have a successful international film festival run. Anna is a founding member and serves as the Growth and Outreach Director for North Carolina Black Creatives.

CFAC Colleagues,

May always arrives sooner than we would have anticipated back in August, and our students are now graduating with many accomplishments, prospects, and beautiful memories. I would like to recognize everyone's commitment to service and education that has made a significant impact on our students, community, and beyond. Yesterday at the GradBash, we were greeted by the happy faces of the graduates and their loved ones and once again were reminded that what we do at ECU and CFAC does matter and that we are building a great community.

I am excited to see what the coming year will bring and am grateful to have each of you as part of our CFAC community. Thank you so much!

I wish everyone a wonderful Summer Break,

Seo Eo

Associate Dean, Graduate and International Initiative

<https://artscomm.ecu.edu>

<https://artscomm.ecu.edu/opportunities>

*Congratulations!*

**CLASS OF  
2023**