



NEW WORLD SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

A year of transformation 2020

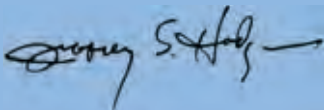
REMARKS FROM PROVOST AND CEO
DR. JEFFREY HODGSON

2020 has transformed the lives of so many, and in so many ways. Many of these experiences have been heartbreakingly sad, testing the resiliency of our communities.

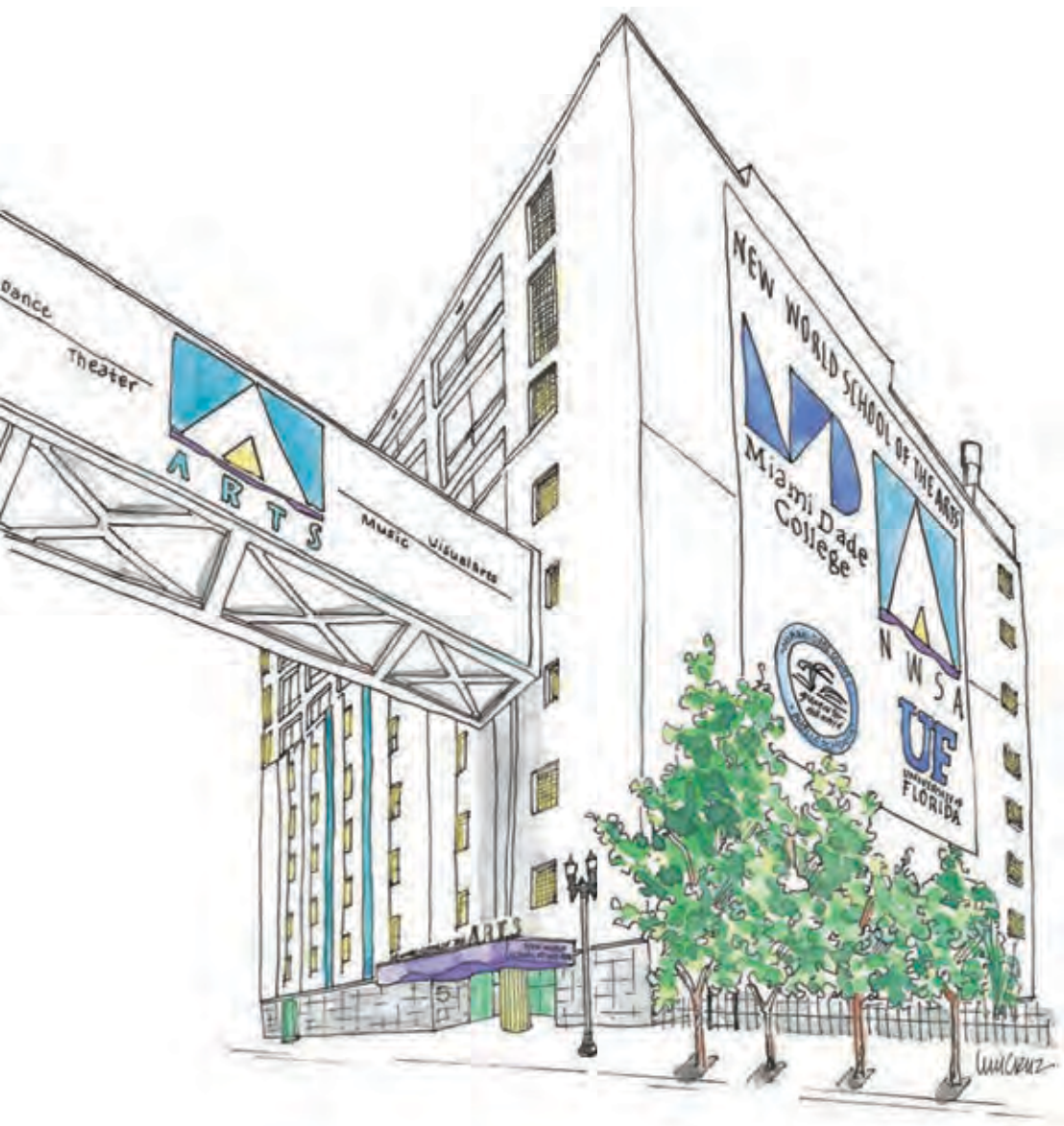
At New World School of the Arts there were some planned transformations. We embarked on projects to improve our primary building including removing an unused bridge and changing the glass block wall on the top floors of the building. Elevator replacement is next in queue and beginning soon.

But the largest transformation was that we no longer occupied the building we were working so hard to transform. Its classrooms, studios and theaters sat empty and alone while we instead interacted with one another through our devices, both large and small. From living rooms, kitchens, bedrooms or anywhere with an internet connection, our own personal spaces became classrooms and offices through little windows and screens. Teaching, learning and working became remote activities and as a school we united to bridge the remoteness to make our work come alive and feel somewhat familiar.

I thank all of the faculty, staff and students of New World School of the Arts for their perseverance and creativity as we, together, have done our best to adapt to the new realities of 2020, while being mindful of our mission - to educate and train the next generation of artists. I look forward to the transformations to come, large and small, and hopefully in safer and closer proximity, one step at a time.



#keepcreating





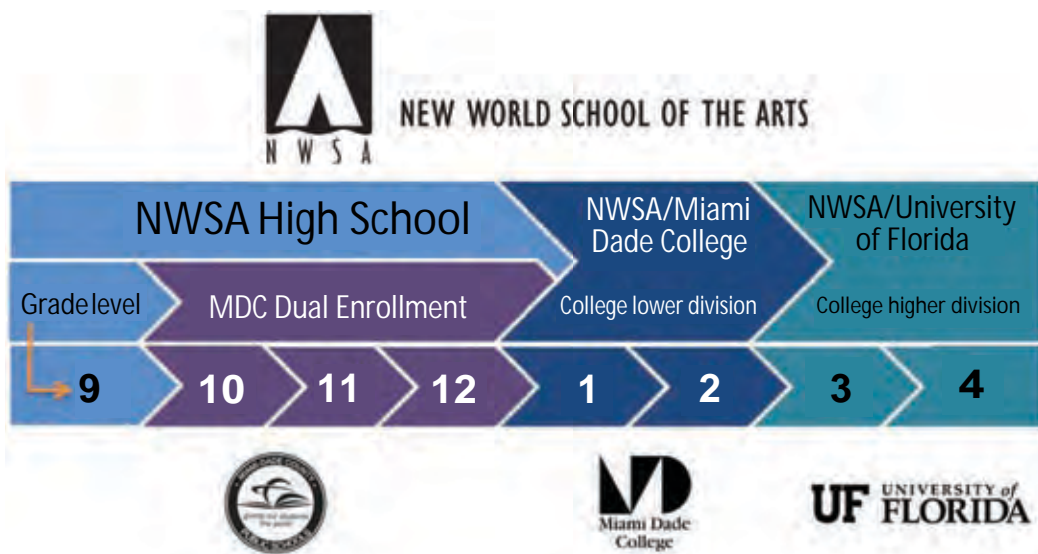
NEW WORLD SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

VISION & MISSION

A Florida Center of Excellence in the Visual and Performing Arts, NWSA provides a comprehensive program of artistic, creative, and academic development through a curriculum that reflects the rich, multicultural State of Florida. Through its rigorous eight-year curriculum and conservatory-style teaching, New World School of the Arts empowers students to become state, national, and international leaders in the arts by challenging them with innovative ideas as they prepare for professional careers in a global community.

These principles guide intensive and rigorous education for talented high school and college arts students.

Through its educational partners, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami Dade College and the University of Florida, NWSA confers the high school diploma, Associate of Arts degree, and Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees in programs accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, Music, Theater and Art & Design.



PROVIDING ACCESS IS ONE OF NEW WORLD SCHOOL OF THE ARTS' MOST IMPORTANT MISSIONS. BLIND TO ACADEMIC STANDING AT THE ONSET, NWSA'S ACCEPTANCE POLICY IS BASED SOLELY ON ARTISTIC TALENT. THIS ALLOWS STUDENTS FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS, ETHNICITIES AND SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS TO COMPETE FOR THEIR SPOT IN THE SCHOOL'S COVETED ARTS PROGRAMS BASED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL TALENT.

NEW WORLD SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

ALMA MATER

"FOREVER OUR NEW WORLD"

From the shore, the water glistens brightly,

Palm and sun create a vision clear.

As we watch, our dreams call to us only,

Our horizons, ever coming near.

'Midst the city, changing-moving;

Hope, Love, Joy to our World we'll bring.

We will ever cherish moments peaceful;

Art and Love forever our New World.

– Lyrics & Music: Dr. Lynne Gackle



The days as an NWSA student can last up to 13 hours. SGA can be a place where students look forward to those long days.



“SGA was my favorite part of my NWSA experience, serving as senator, fundraising chair and topping it off as president my final year of school. It is a platform by which students can create and build the type of experience they want. I knew that if we took ourselves seriously, we could make a lasting impact on the current and incoming students and leave a legacy at the school. When other students and new students see our passion, they want to become a part of this rewarding experience.”
– Raul (RJ) Reyes (Theater, 2020) and SGA President

2020-2021 SGA OFFICERS

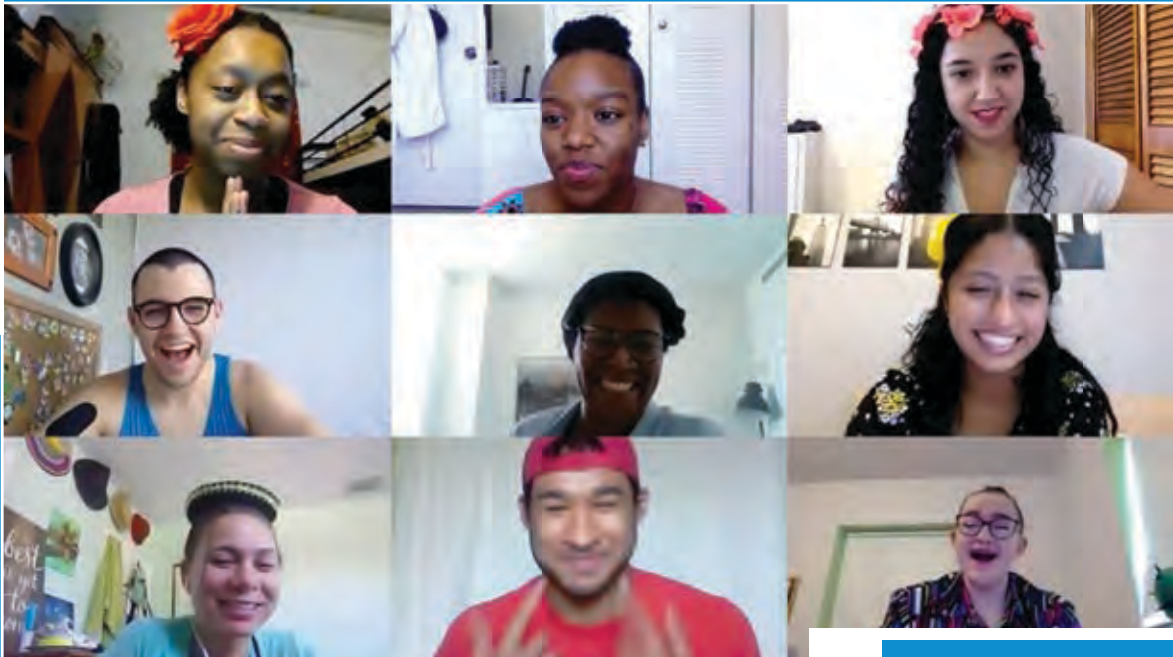
Mikayla Queeley | President

Tatiana Mack | Vice President

Jazmyn Moncrieffe | Treasurer

Elizabeth Gonzalez | VP Communications

Deanna Gamboa | VP Special Events





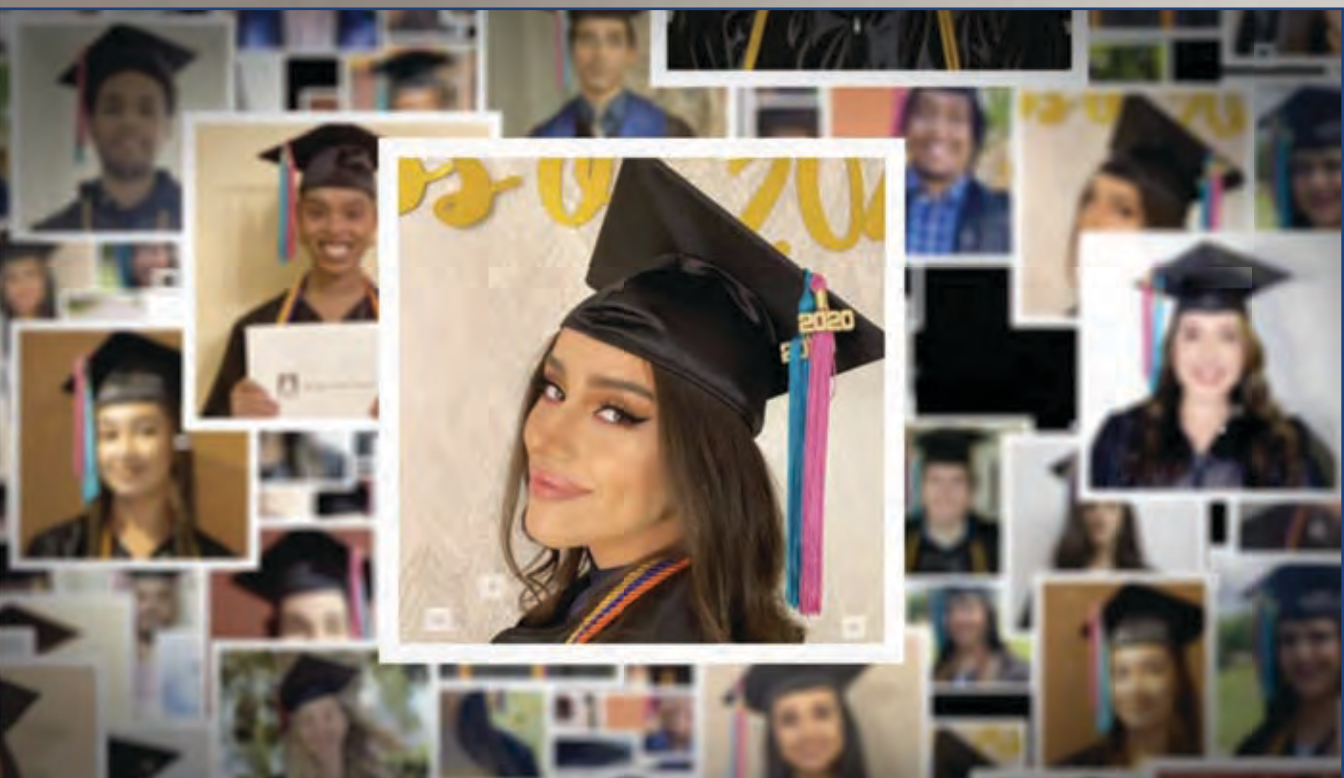
“Students at NWSA follow a rigorous curriculum which prepares them for challenging careers. SGA provides a space for students to conduct business in a living laboratory and an opportunity for them to learn and reinforce practical skills they will always employ. SGA provides the space for friendships and memories to be made, which contribute to a satisfying and fulfilling collegiate experience.” – Leslie Wilson Miranda (Director: Student Services)

SGA at NWSA represents and communicates the interests of the student body to the college administration. Working with Student Services, it maintains and improves student life by planning and executing social and educational events that encourage collaborative interaction between students in all four arts divisions. SGA’s semesterly Town Hall Meetings also allows the student body to voice their concerns outside of traditional SGA meetings.

The 2019-2020 academic year was eventful as President, Raul (RJ) Reyes (Theater, 2020) led the group with purpose and enthusiasm. The group streamlined event planning, updated and ratified the SGA constitution, recruited over 20 new senators representing all arts divisions in the college and contributed to other community outreach efforts.

One of SGA’s most popular initiatives was merchandising the school. Dubbed “The Fall Collection,” an assortment of custom NWSA wearables debuted this year with an accompanying fashion show and clothing portfolio.

During the pandemic, SGA was instrumental in ensuring that students were aware of rapid updates from Student Services by using social media. They smoothly transitioned their meetings to videoconference platforms and conducted business as usual. With #NWSA QuarARTine, SGA presented remote-friendly activities while studying, living, and socializing from home. Most importantly, the organization also focused on students’ mental health during these challenging times by making phone calls to their peers and posting wellness messages and activities on Instagram’s [@NWSASGA](#).

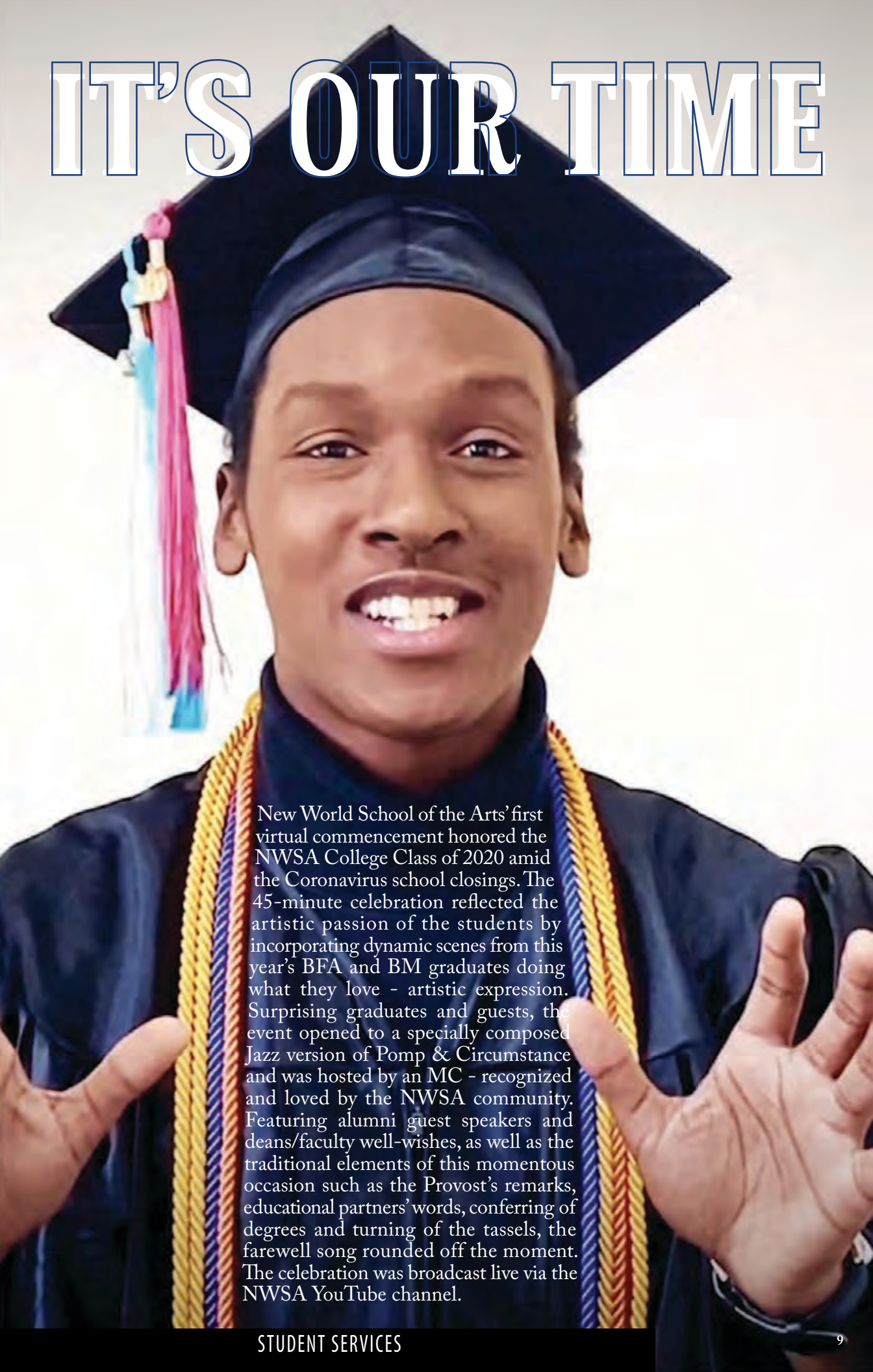


"IT'S THEIR TIME TO SHINE AND OUR PRIVILEGE TO OFFER THEM A CELEBRATION THEY WILL FOREVER HOLD IN THEIR HEART AS THEY EMBARK, FULL OF HOPE, ON AN EXPERIENCE THAT'S BECOME VASTLY DIFFERENT THAN FROM WHEN THEY BEGAN THEIR JOURNEY AT NWSA."

– DR. JEFFREY HODGSON (PROVOST & CEO)



IT'S OUR TIME



New World School of the Arts' first virtual commencement honored the NWSA College Class of 2020 amid the Coronavirus school closings. The 45-minute celebration reflected the artistic passion of the students by incorporating dynamic scenes from this year's BFA and BM graduates doing what they love - artistic expression. Surprising graduates and guests, the event opened to a specially composed Jazz version of Pomp & Circumstance and was hosted by an MC - recognized and loved by the NWSA community. Featuring alumni guest speakers and deans/faculty well-wishes, as well as the traditional elements of this momentous occasion such as the Provost's remarks, educational partners' words, conferring of degrees and turning of the tassels, the farewell song rounded off the moment. The celebration was broadcast live via the NWSA YouTube channel.

NWSA ALUMNI FOUNDATION BRINGS IT FULL CIRCLE

Established in 2012 as 501(c)(3), the New World School of the Arts Alumni Foundation has a priority to find and support alumni, both high school and college, and to create a comprehensive database of contact information for all the members of the alumni family. From school lists, to reunions, to social media, the Foundation has located and engaged a sizeable group of NWSA alumni. Its Instagram page, with daily posts about alumni accomplishments and news, has grown rapidly, with more than 1,000 followers joining in just the first 4 months!

The NWSA Alumni Foundation supports the creative and business pursuits of alumni. *“One of the ways we accomplish that is through our annual Inspiration Grant, a financial grant provided each year to help further an alumnus creative project or business. Focused on COVID-19 Edition, this year’s grant of \$2,500 went to alumna Harmony Jackson (Dance, 2014) for her dance focused project Quart.Intensive.”*
– Amy Langer (Theater, 1989) and Foundation Director.



IT'S ALL ABOUT BRINGING THIS INCREDIBLE COMMUNITY TOGETHER TO PROMOTE MUTUAL ACHIEVEMENT AND SUPPORT, AND TO HELP THE NEXT GENERATION OF EMERGING ARTISTS AS THEY DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS AND MAKE THEIR MARK IN THE WORLD.



@nwsaalumni



WHAT IS THE VALUE THAT THIS ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL MEDIA PARTICIPATION OFFER CURRENT STUDENTS AND NWSA AS A WHOLE?

"There are many New World School of the Arts alumni in businesses that benefit from employing graduates from NWSA. Whether it's the arts, arts related, or something completely different, our alumni are not only doing it all, but they are doing it well."

We have winners of Oscar, Tony, Grammy and Emmy awards, real estate agents, producers, directors, vets, attorneys, doctors, educators, engineers and the list goes on. With over three decades of experience out in the world, NWSA alumni are making their mark and they are all potential mentors for the current generation of NWSA students."

WHY WAS IT IMPORTANT FOR NWSA ALUMNI TO KEEP ENGAGED WITH THE NWSA COMMUNITY DURING THE COVID-19 TIME OF CRISIS?

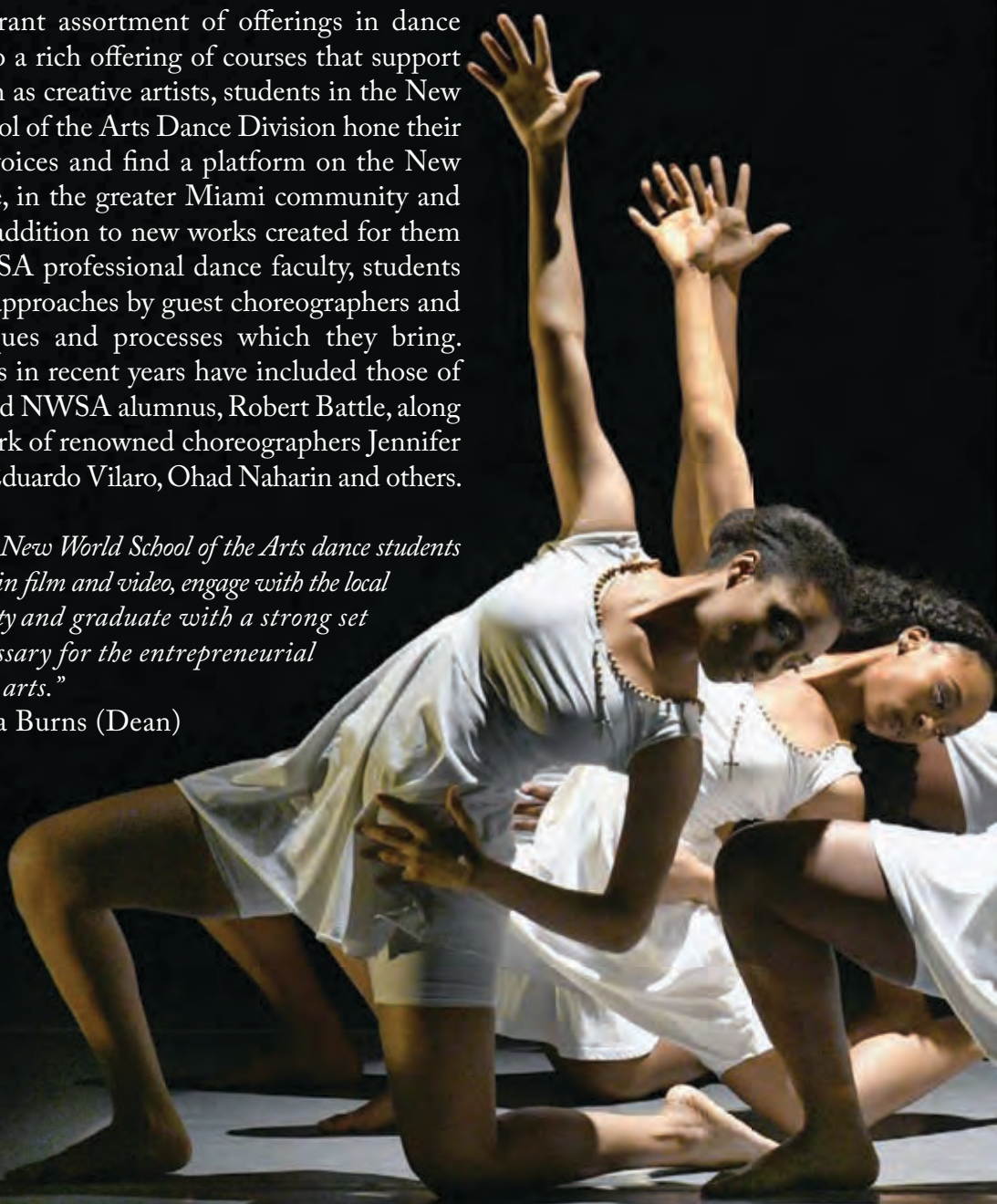
"Community is especially important, knowing that even if you are home alone, you have a group of people who support you during this time of isolation. NWSA has created a unique international family. We have alumni who range from heroes working on the frontlines and as essential workers, to alumni that are teaching classes and workshops online, participating in theatre readings, sharing art and music, and so much more. The point is that our alumni are engaged – and they care."

Dance

From a vibrant assortment of offerings in dance technique to a rich offering of courses that support their growth as creative artists, students in the New World School of the Arts Dance Division hone their individual voices and find a platform on the New World stage, in the greater Miami community and beyond. In addition to new works created for them by the NWSA professional dance faculty, students experience approaches by guest choreographers and the techniques and processes which they bring. Guest works in recent years have included those of distinguished NWSA alumnus, Robert Battle, along with the work of renowned choreographers Jennifer Archibald, Eduardo Vilaro, Ohad Naharin and others.

"In addition, New World School of the Arts dance students acquire skills in film and video, engage with the local arts community and graduate with a strong set of skills necessary for the entrepreneurial world of the arts."

– Mary Lisa Burns (Dean)



CURRICULUM

JAZZ
AFRO-CARIBBEAN
GRAHAM
HORTON
TAYLOR
BALLET
PILATES
SOMATICS

LABAN MOVEMENT ANALYSIS
DANCE COMPOSITION & IMPROVISATION
ANATOMY & KINESIOLOGY
DANCE PRODUCTION
ACTING FOR DANCE
LITERATURE & MATERIALS OF MUSIC
DANCE HISTORY
DIGITAL DESIGN FOR DANCE





BLOSSOM

**NEW WORLD SCHOOL OF THE ARTS DANCE STUDENTS REGULARLY
WORK WITH CHOREOGRAPHERS IN THE CREATION OF NEW WORKS.**

This year the college dancers had the opportunity to work with guest artist Jennifer Archibald in the creation of a new work, Blossom. Archibald's work is both physically dynamic and theatrically compelling, and engages the dancers on many levels, requiring focus, professionalism, and passion in every moment. With this new choreography, the students not only embraced the process of creation but also all of the challenges it presented.



"Working with Jennifer Archibald was an eye opening and inspiring experience. Her choreography demands elements from many different styles of dance such as classic technical rigor, full-bodied modern movement and sharp isolations derived from hip hop. It was challenging to embody different movement I was not accustomed to, but it opened my eyes to a different way of dancing and made me very grateful for the experience and opportunity to work with such a powerful and prominent artist." – Nicole Pedraza (Dance, 2021)

"The students of New World School of the Arts bring power and precision to my work. This dance program is delivering a generation of dancers that are versatile; which is essential for my choreographic voice."
– Jennifer Archibald (Choreographer)

DANCEMAKERS @ PAMM

This is a project in which NWSA Dance Composition students create dance works inspired by a work of art on exhibit at the Perez Art Museum, that stings them. That sting becomes their choreographic point of departure, as does the research about the visual artist. The selected NWSA college dance students have several work-in-progress showings at New World School of the Arts, attended by faculty, peers and representatives from the museum. At the end of the semester several of these projects are curated by PAMM to be professionally presented as a site-specific performance live during PAMM Community Nights.

"This project provided the experience of creating works in a professional setting by submitting written project proposals, receiving real-world critiques and feedback, and collaborating indirectly with a professional visual artist in the making of a site-specific work. The greatest reward was having my work, Malki, selected for presentation at the Perez Art Museum, alongside the sculpture which inspired it (Number 163 by Leonardo Drew). I had to overcome fear of rejection and allow my creative idea to reveal itself."

— Jacqueline Lopez (Dance, 2020)





“NWSADancemakers@PAMM provides a necessary bridge for NWSA students between pre-professional training and professional experience in the dance field. Students are under the very real pressure of professional expectations that cannot be simulated in a classroom. When there is something at stake the level of rigor and expectations increases as does the grit and level of commitment from the students preparing them for what it really takes to be a professional dance maker. As their professor, it is incredible to see the students’ dance projects evolve for this assignment and equally as heart warming to see the pride and delight in their eyes as they take their bows.” – Adele Myers (Faculty: Dance Composition)



**STUDENTS ENGAGE AT A HIGH LEVEL WITH COMMUNITY
VISUAL ARTS PROFESSIONALS AND CREATE
INNOVATIVE WORKS IN A REAL-WORLD CONTEXT.**

CLOVEN KINGDOM



"Learning Cloven Kingdom allowed me to fully commit to being a character in the dance as well as to attack each phrase fearlessly while feeding off of the energy of the other dancers in work. I was able to understand partnering more fully." – Rush Carson (Dance, 2020)

“One of the most difficult pieces of classic modern dance to learn, rehearse and perform Cloven Kingdom has a unique movement motif from where the dancers cannot stray. With meticulous and uneven counts and nearly impossible spacing this choreography, by Paul Taylor, requires marathon-like stamina. When we started the rehearsal process, the NWSA dancers realized day after day that each section seemed exponentially harder to execute clearly as their bodies and minds became more worn.

OVER THE STAGING PROCESS, DANCERS BEGAN WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE CLARITY OF STYLE AND SYNERGY OF ALL MOVING PARTS.

“They faced the challenges of attention to detail and exhaustion with each run. By the end of the two and half week staging process there was a sense of accomplishment for having learned such a difficult and well-known Taylor work.” – Jeffrey Lloyd Smith (Faculty: Modern)



At the Seams



"Returning to NWSA to perform this piece, choreographed by my former ballet teacher Lara Murphy, was rewarding as a professional dancer yet challenging in its rigor. I felt as if I was dancing on the edge of a cliff and as I executed each step I had to quickly shift to the next one, to prevent from falling. The driving rhythm of the music kept a constant pace but, if I wasn't careful, it would have been so easy to get lost in its repetitious loop. It was an exhilarating dance to perform!" – Sara Franco (Dance, 2019)



THE BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN DANCE STUDENT AND TEACHER HAPPENS IN NANO SECONDS AND CAN DETERMINE THE LEVEL OF SUCCESS IN HAVING THEM ACHIEVE ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE. IT IS ONE OF THE SECRETS OF THE TEACHING/LEARNING EXPERIENCE OF CREATING ART TOGETHER, AS EACH STUDENT'S EXPRESSION IS INFINITELY DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS.

REMOTE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The resilient dance faculty transitioned quickly to remote learning and kept students connected with each other and with the coursework at hand, whether it was Jazz class, dance composition, or dance history. From an online, synchronous three-week Gaga intensive to the creation of video dances inspired by the COVID-19 pandemic and Digital Design course film projects, students continued to dance, create, research, learn, and grow. Investigating the repertory of Martha Graham and creating video works, both of which were collaborative and solitary allowed the student's artistry to continue to thrive.

"This period of remote learning has provided an opportunity for a deeper level of understanding for the dancers, sharing video footage of classwork and repertory with faculty and spending time to review, analyze, and gain invaluable information in order to move to the next level of artistry."

– Peter London (Faculty: Modern)

#distdancing

"Remote learning is a challenging yet helpful tool in many ways. Although I was not able to dance to my full potential due to little movement space within my home, I was still able to focus on smaller yet crucial techniques that I wouldn't be able to learn and take the time to practice during class time." – Gizcel Miranda (Dance, 2023)

The professional NWSA dance faculty bring together a diverse set of expertise and experiences as well as a depth of experience as educators. New World School of the Arts is a small conservatory-style program in which faculty guide and mentor students as they work to develop their unique artistic voices. The faculty dedication and knowledge of their work allows students to explore multiple aspects of the field of dance, experience the joys of creativity, and feel satisfaction in sustained growth and understanding.



Dance faculty

MARY LISA BURNS
Dean of Dance

FACULTY



Please visit our website at nwsa.mdc.edu for the full list of Dance adjunct faculty.

KARIN BEJERANO

Jazz, Ballet, Composition

GERARD EBITZ

Ballet, Repertory

LARA MURPHY

Ballet, Repertory, Dance Production

REBECCA CANNAN

Repertory, Modern

PETER LONDON

Modern, Repertory

JEFFREY LLOYD SMITH

Digital Design, Contemporary, Repertory



"During the 2019–2020 academic school year, our music-making was interrupted by a world-wide pandemic, just like a musical "general pause" would profoundly silence a performer by the composer. Usually, these momentary pauses require a cue to signal that it's time for the musicians to continue forward with sound. During the pandemic, the cue was anticipated with fervor. To continue creating sound, the division became more creative and resourceful. Traditions were tested and reevaluated and all the while, everyone's commitment to the program didn't waver. The curriculum was expertly navigated by the faculty to help students innovate and develop a new way to create. New World School of the Arts delivered on all points. Although challenges were palpable, collaboration was the ingredient for success." – Dr. Daniel Andai (Dean)

MUSIC

MUSIC

MUSIC

The NWSA music division produces a vibrant program that successfully delivers on its mission to students and community. Through a curriculum supported by exceptionally talented faculty, strengthened by major institutional education partners and accredited by national association of schools of music, students are guaranteed unique and accelerated performance-based training. NWSA enriches South Florida's community by graduating educated artists trained to expand their creativity.

FACULTY AND STUDENTS ENGAGED IN PROGRESSIVE THINKING TO REDEFINE THE DEFINITION OF SUCCESS. TIME AND TECHNOLOGY BECAME AN ARTIST'S MOST VALUABLE TOOLS TO DELIVER PERFORMANCES BEYOND CONFINED SPACES.





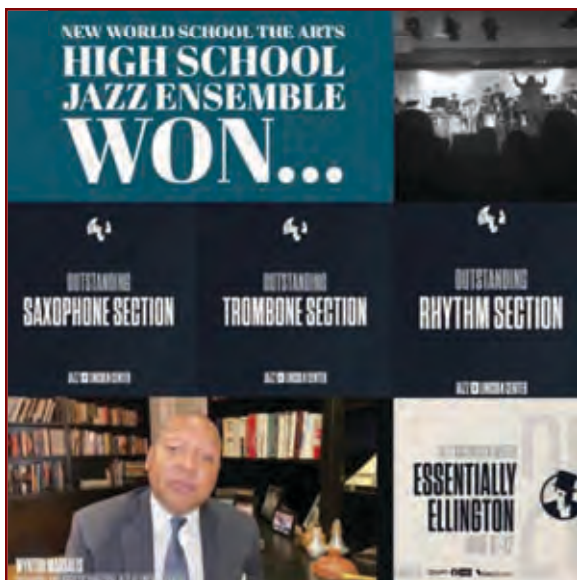
“My recent residency with the New World School of the Arts has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. I was impressed not only by the talent, energy and curiosity of the students, but also by the dedication of teachers and administration. NWSA’s vision is right on point: idealistic musical training combined with a smart educational focus that will prepare their students for success. Congratulations, NWSA!” – Robert McDuffie

WITH DISTINGUISHED GUESTS ARTISTS VISITING THE MUSIC PROGRAM SINCE THE ONSET OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR, NWSA SUCCESSFULLY PRESENTED NUMEROUS OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES, OFFERING STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY, REHEARSE AND PERFORM WITH SOME OF THE MOST IN-DEMAND CONCERT ARTISTS OF TODAY.

World renowned violinist Robert McDuffie presented a Make Art Work Series (MAW) lecture and a masterclass attended by many of the high school and college music students. Designed to bring professionals in the art world together with students and the community for a dialogue on the business of art, the lecture focused on providing tools, guidance and strategies for success in the music field, while expanding understanding of what it takes to live as an artist in the 21st century. The Grammy-nominated violinist also performed on stage during the New World School of the Arts annual Symphony

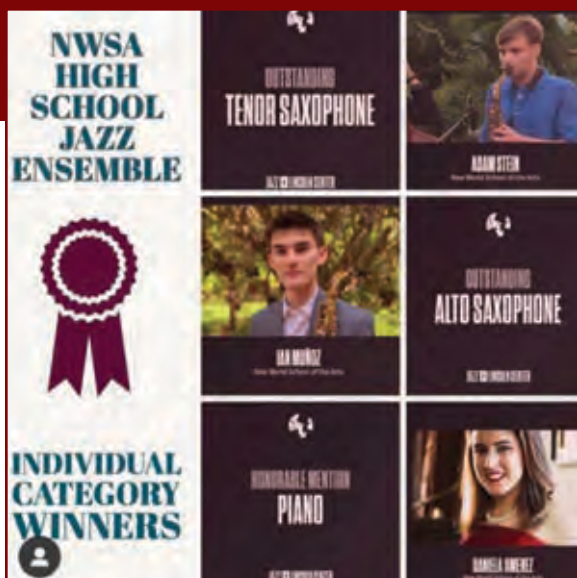
Orchestra Concert at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts. Under the baton of Maestro Alfred Gershfeld, the NWSA Symphony Orchestra, alongside McDuffie, offered a masterful interpretation of the Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor by Max Bruch. The evening’s program also featured the beautiful Prelude to Richard Wagner’s opera Tristan and Isolde, first performed in Paris in 1860, and rounded off the concert with Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No.3 “Eroica” in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the composer’s birth.

JAZZ AT NWSA WINS



NWSA was selected from schools around the country as one of 18 to compete in the renowned 2020 Jazz at Lincoln Center Essentially Ellington Competition and Festival. Although the pandemic forced the face-to-face competition to be presented on a virtual platform, the New World School of the Arts music students represented tremendously well through interviews, and had the opportunity to participate in masterclasses and the online competition that garnered NWSA multiple prestigious awards.

The High School Jazz Ensemble and Combos also had the privilege of working with NY jazz saxophonist Michael Thomas in masterclasses, rehearsals and in performance, adding to an already winning year for the NWSA music program.



The year would have ended stellarly if not for the pandemic that forced alternate programatic changes across the nation. With a noteworthy invitation for the NWSA High School Choir to perform in New York's Carnegie Hall in the Spring of 2020, under the direction of Alan Denning, the students were thrilled at the possibilities of making their performance dream a reality. Unfortunately, this opportunity had to be put on hold as the nation slowly goes back to normal. Meanwhile, both NWSA music faculty and the the students look forward to fulfilling this honor in the very near future.

RECITALS reimagined

The NWSA music division didn't miss a beat despite challenges posed by Covid-19. Using online platforms, faculty and students remained connected to complete all courses. One fascinating feat was the successful completion of juries and recitals. After researching possibilities with colleagues of NWSA's partnering institutions, New World School of the Arts made a move to engage all collaborative pianists to record and disseminate to students all pieces requiring accompaniment. Pianists worked with faculty and students to decide on musical details, and the results were staggering.

WHILE CONCERNED FOR SPONTANEITY AND OTHER PERFORMANCE ATTRIBUTES, THE RESULTS DEMONSTRATED HEIGHTENED AWARENESS FOR MANY OF THE SKILLS REQUIRED TO MAKE A RECITAL SUCCESSFUL.

I WAS SO FOCUSED ON HOW I WANTED THE MUSIC TO BE THAT I DID NOT REALIZE THAT MOMENTS LIKE THESE ARE THE ONES THAT MAKE US GROW THE MOST



"Having to fulfill my degree recital online was not an easy task, since rehearsing live with the pianist became impossible. Following a recorded piano score also posed another challenge since in a normal setting, the piano accompaniment would usually follow me. Though I was not completely satisfied with my video recorded works, I realized that this new process was an excellent exercise to develop my listening and chamber music skills. My new goal during quarantine was to learn and video record at least one new piece every week with recorded piano accompaniment. Since there was no live public to perform for, I uploaded videos to social media platforms and created a new audience. This crisis pushed me to reinvent myself and turn bad things into good ones."

– Jennifer Redondas (Music, 2020)



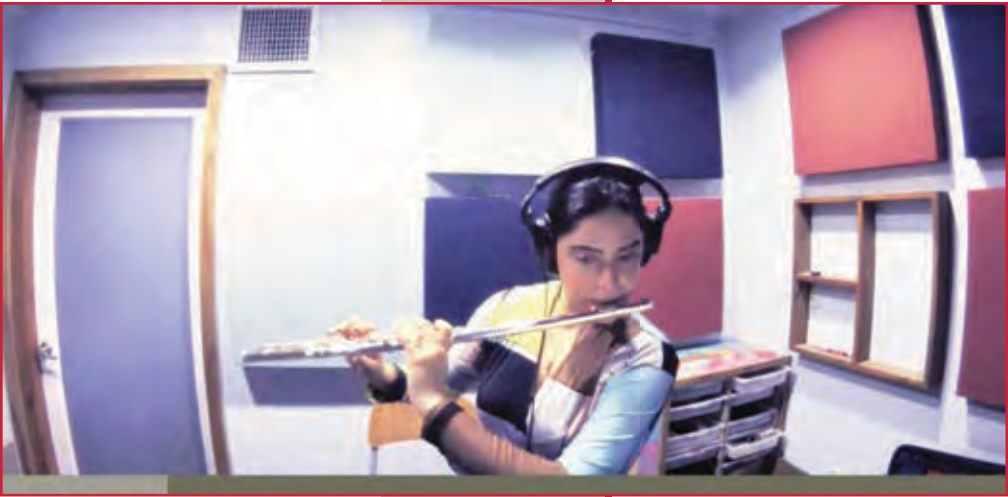
“Finishing my senior recital right as Covid-19 shut down the world presented itself with more obstacles than those that were obvious. Other than having to adapt and learn how to record and post an adequate recording of my recital, there was an impact to my expressive and emotional commitment to the music. However, I still progressed and completed my degree – not letting go of the love for the music that I was playing. It was an experience I will never forget because it not only impacted me but it also taught me many lessons as a result of seeing the world change before my eyes. It was also an experience to see the faculty do such an amazing job adapting and staying positive with the students. I’ll forever be grateful to them!” – Ronald Cowler (Music, 2020)

RECITALS and JURIES

Each year, students in the music division of NWSA are examined on their performance and technical abilities through a jury or college recital. The process is long, intense, and collaborative among teachers and pianists. Under normal circumstances, students rehearse and perform in the same venue as their pianist and faculty adjudicators. The students dress in concert attire and make an entrance on a stage. The moment is serious and exciting. The room is filled with energy. The musical interpretation lends to spontaneity of the evening. Typically, applause is heard, congratulations and celebrations follow. It's a significant part of traditional conservatory training during the pandemic however, tradition became vulnerable. With a stay-at-home order, the division was forced to help students meet degree requirements with

CDC guidelines. Without a venue to share, a decision to record and perform adjudicated works from home - alone - was needed. Students performed with highly instinctive piano recordings made by faculty, and intensely tried to imagine their special moment performing for a live audience to to gather inspiration. There was a silver lining to this experience. The music division proved to be resilient and resourceful to help students prosper. Students' mindfulness to detail, personal attitude, and self-awareness heightened to new levels. faculty and students focused on their spirit of adaptability, teamwork and flexibility to overcome challenges. Students' newfound skill of recording helped them satisfy a voracious appetite for new repertoire and build an online audience.





“Online lessons weren’t quite the same as having my instructor work side-by-side with me, but I believe with a great professor, learning is always great. In the online recital process there are thousands of non-verbal cues that happen between a soloist and accompanist. Music that has rubato and that is non-metronomic requires a push and pull ultimately achieved by seeing each other in real-time. My accompanists pre-recorded their parts and then I tried the best I could to follow. The bottom line is that, music and performance is communication, dialog and re-creating the thoughts of an artist. I’m grateful to NWSA for all the work and quick responses during the this challenging time. Thank you for your help and for a great experience at NWSA.”

– Lorena Beneítez (Music, 2020)

Students performed with highly instinctive piano recordings made by faculty, and intensely tried to imagine their special moment performing for a live audience to gather inspiration.



*Farewell
&
Thank You*



Long-time faculty member, Alfred Gershfeld, retired in 2020 after 23 years of service to New World School of the Arts. At the helm of the symphony and chamber orchestras, Mr. Gershfeld conducted rehearsal and performances at the Arsht Center for the Performing Arts with world-leading soloists. He also led all opera productions, concerto competition concerts, graduations, and NWSA's annual signature showcase, Rising Stars. Maestro Gershfeld promoted student success through solo performances and within the orchestra. Dr. Daniel Andai, Dean of Music at NWSA, is a testament to the conductor's support and music leadership. As a musician in the NWSA high school program, Dr. Andai had the honor of studying and performing under Mr. Gershfeld's baton. Now as the Dean of the division, Dr. Andai respectfully stands alongside fellow faculty, alumni and students to bid farewell and wish him well on his new endeavors.

Mr. Gershfeld was dedicated to his students, and worked closely with parents and volunteers over the years. Thank you for your dedication and service to thousands of New World School of the Arts music students.



"It's important to establish a mutually respectful, honest rapport with students where communication is a priority. Learning begins with motivation and inspiration." – Richard Fleischman



The stellar music faculty at New World School of the Arts is comprised of the most in demand professors in their respective fields. Faculty bring diverse educational and performance experiences to the classroom earned from many of the world's most recognized music centers - Curtis Institute, The Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Tchaikovsky Conservatory, among others - to promote a rigorous and nurturing environment, putting primary focus on student needs.

DR. DANIEL ANDAI
Dean of Music, Violin

DR. SUSAN EPSTEIN GARCIA
Composition & Theory

DR. LESLIE ALAN DENNING
Choir Director

RICHARD FLEISCHMAN
Viola & Chamber Music

MUSIC FACULTY



Please visit our website at nwsa.mde.edu for the full list of Music adjunct faculty.

JIM CASIOR

Jazz & Instrumental Studies
Composition & Theory

RODNEY MILLER

Voice

DR. BRYAN HAYSLETT

Cello & Theory

BRENT A. MOUNGER

Wind Ensemble Director

ACTING & MUSIC THEATER

The Theater Division at New World School of the Arts is dedicated to the professional training of talented and committed students interested in pursuing a performing career in Acting and Music Theater. At NWSA, theater students have the opportunity to work in a hands-on intensive, physically demanding, artistically challenging and exciting environment, guided by faculty who are professional actors, directors, playwrights and designers. The curriculum guides students toward the ownership of a personal technique and a comprehensive methodology of working. Their training on the classical texts and the principles of drama make practical incursions into the contemporary and experimental edges of theater, while performance, an essential part of the theater training, is approached in a sequential, progressive manner to give the student vision, strength, and a sense of purpose in the theater.



HISTORICALLY, THE MAJORITY OF NWSA STUDENTS WHO EMBARK IN THIS NEW YORK CITY ADVENTURE GET POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM INDUSTRY AGENTS WHO SPECIFICALLY ATTEND THE NWSA SHOWCASE IN SEARCH OF THEIR NEXT ARTISTIC DISCOVERY.

NEW YORK CITY

SHOWCASE

A trip to New York City marks the culmination of the BFA theater program in the spring, offering seniors a unique artistic experience that has the potential to jump-start their careers as professional artists. The showcase, where students present scenes, monologues and songs is the first step for Acting and Music Theater majors to meet, interact and network with agents and casting directors. While in New York, students have the opportunity to work with agents and hone their skills in audition techniques, acting for the camera and learn more about the business of acting, by participating in workshops.

The showcase is an opportunity for students to experience, for the first time, professional auditions and interviews with agencies for representation.

"Students also participate in the Miami showcase, held on campus, where all of the South Florida area artistic directors and commercial agents are invited to meet the next group of young actors who are ready to begin a professional career. Students are able to network, interview and receive representation from agents and be cast in regional theater productions. Many students can end up meeting with more than just one or a couple of agents, sometimes fast tracking their artistic careers into high gear." – Patrice Bailey (Dean)



SIDE SHOW

Book and Lyrics by Bill Russell
Music by Henry Krieger
Additional book material by Bill Condon

Side Show, directed by NWSA theater faculty member Matthew Buffalo, became the central production of this year's high school theater program. A Q&A with Buffalo delves into the importance of preparation and roles for a performance such as this:

HOW DO MUSIC STUDENTS PREPARE FOR A SHOW SUCH THIS?

A musical is like a mountain we are all trying to conquer and the journey up the mountain is just as important as reaching the top, if not more. Along the journey students benefit from learning how to craft their individual acting process. They rely on their guides to teach them dances, blocking, music, and they lean on their ensemble with each step and learn that in working together no one person is more important than the next.

At NWSA, high school students gain knowledge from their college counterparts and mentors while working together to build sets and costumes, run technical elements and perform together. By the time they reach the top of the mountain - closing night - they have gained confidence and experience and cultivated invaluable working relationships.

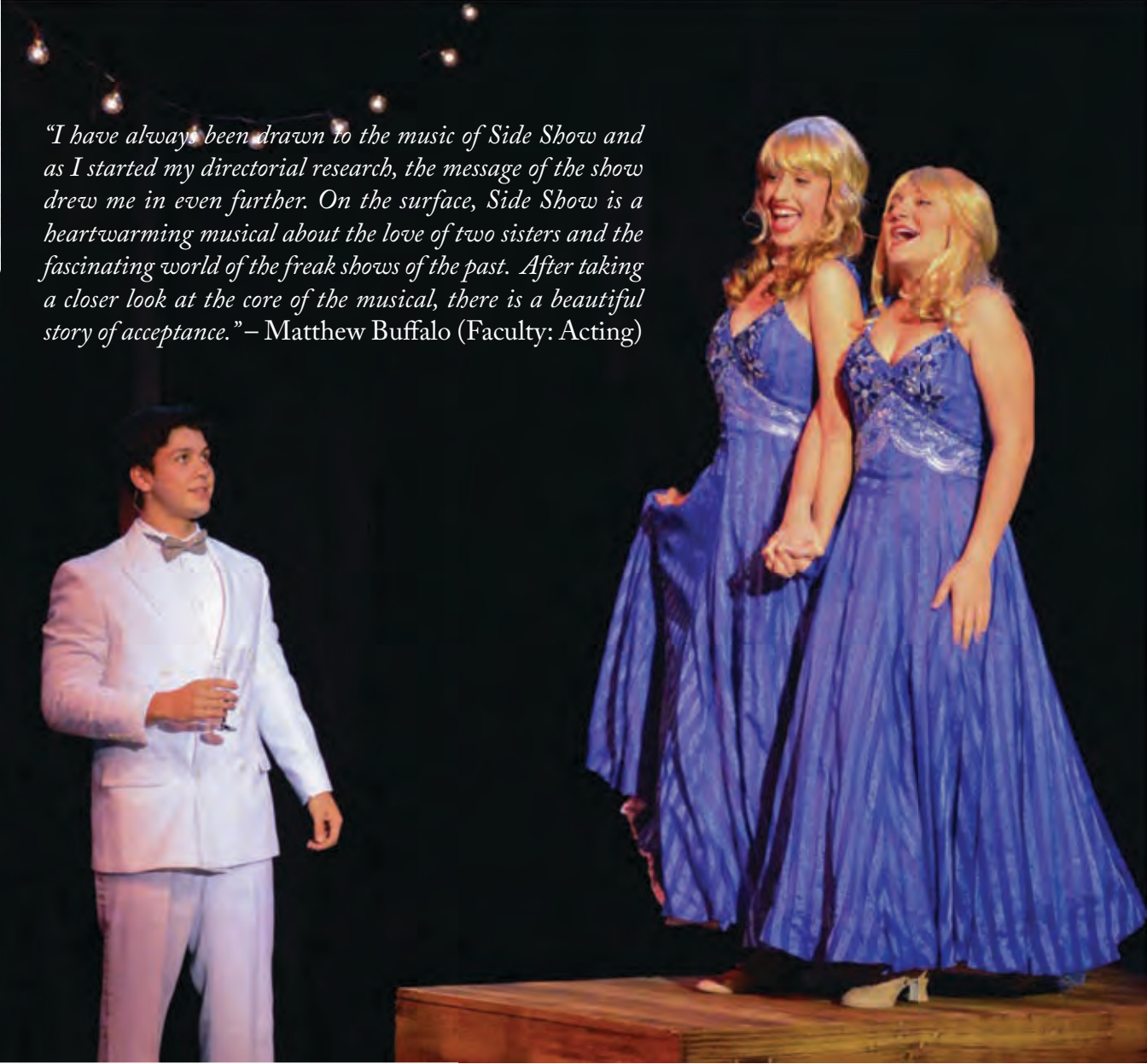
WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR WHEN AUDITIONING THE LEADS?

Each character in a show holds a special quality which is found in their dialogue, songs, and movement. Anytime I direct, I look for this unique quality and most of the time I can identify it when I hear the dialogue spoken or the song sung. This show was no different. NWSA has wonderfully talented students, which can sometimes make the casting decision more difficult.

HOW IMPORTANT IS THE ROLE OF ENSEMBLES OR SET ASSISTANTS?

Those behind the scenes of any show play as big of a role as those that we see in the spotlight. Every show is a large ensemble of on and off stage participants and each member of this ensemble has a specific job to do to tell the story. Those acting on stage, those running lights or sound, those moving sets, those dressing the actors, and those calling the show, all play an integral part in sharing the story. We are one body with many parts. It takes every part to make the body work well.

"I have always been drawn to the music of Side Show and as I started my directorial research, the message of the show drew me in even further. On the surface, Side Show is a heartwarming musical about the love of two sisters and the fascinating world of the freak shows of the past. After taking a closer look at the core of the musical, there is a beautiful story of acceptance." – Matthew Buffalo (Faculty: Acting)





"Writing my original One-Person show, Happy Father's Day, was challenging, but allowing the words to come to life and trusting myself with the guidance of my professors, I was able to find my voice. When it came to performing it, I connected my four years of training and relied on all the technique and lessons I've learned. As a freshman, I never thought I would be able to tap into this type of creativity. The overall lesson for me is to fully commit to the craft, be teachable and tell the story!"

– Donesha Rose (Theater, 2020)

ONE

PERSON
SHOWS





With 24 plays, the 2019 One Festival was the largest in NWSA's college theatre history. A collection of 15-minute plays written, directed and acted by BFA seniors - and presented in four programs over the course of two weeks, the plays were relevant, personal and varied taking audiences to what was on the conscience of these students. The theater industry is searching for actors who are able to write original material. Offering the The One Festival in the college theater curriculum allows students to demonstrate their acting skills, take enormous risk and discover the effect their words have on an audience, while writing and presenting their own work.

"Creating my One-Person show, Morning Star, was both the hardest and most rewarding thing that I have done in my life. My goal with this piece was to create a story about a man figuring out his relationship with God and forgiveness in a way that would allow anyone to relate to his struggle regardless of their faith. The most rewarding part about presenting it was hearing from an overwhelming amount of strangers how my piece helped them with their own personal faith journey."

— Alexander Perry (Theater, 2020)



AFTER GRADUATION, MANY OF THE GRADUATES CONTINUE TO EXPAND ON THEIR SCRIPTS AND FIND NEW VENUES TO PERFORM FROM FRINGE FESTIVALS, TO CREATING WEB SERIES AND FILM IN ORDER TO HELP PROPEL THEMSELVES INTO THE PROFESSIONAL INDUSTRY.

*The Divorce Club
Black Girls Don't Cry
Chipped
World's Greatest
Morning Star
And the Winner Is...
The Unabridged Soliloquy of Ms. LaLa Wiggy
Happy Father's Day
The Native Girl: Tifi Natif Natal
Luck Luster
Who The F*#@# is Jackson Pollock?
Another Blues Brother
Love, Your Wild Honey Pie
Soul by Soul
Cycles
For Those Who are Listening
Today is the Day
The Wilder and the West-er?
The Young Donor
Gaslight
Atelophobia
Mademoiselle
The Green Green Grass of Home
Thanks for Coming*

HONORING JOE ADLER, THE GODFATHER OF SOUTH FLORIDA THEATER

(October 1940 – April 2020)

by David Kwiat (Faculty: Acting 1989-2018)

The passing of Joseph Adler, the producing artistic director of GableStage, was not just a loss for the South Florida theater community, but also left an aching absence for the Theater Division at New World School of the Arts. Mr. Adler tirelessly advocated for the growth and well-being of our institution. Joe loved actors – and he was, without question, a huge supporter of the burgeoning young talent coming out of New World. As the artistic director of GableStage, his productions brought a vitality and relevance to the theater scene which had been sorely missing. Reviews often cited his productions as being ‘edgy’; often challenging the audience to take personal inventory of their values and priorities. He made us think and cherish the communal ritual of a body of people coming together to witness and celebrate the foibles and triumphs of being human. He knew and exercised the power of theater and selflessly shared that passion with NWSA. In 2006 New World School of the Arts recognized Joe Adler with the *Heart of the Arts Award*. Presented to a person or institution who has been central to supporting and expanding the arts in our community, New World School of the Arts’ Heart of the Arts Award celebrates the power of art as a catalyst to change the world.

Joe’s unending generosity could easily be measured by the countless complimentary tickets to GableStage performances which he bestowed on the students and faculty. He never missed the college Senior Showcase in the Spring where he scouted for new talent. He never turned me down the 20 times I asked him to be a guest speaker every Fall when we invited industry professionals to share their knowledge with the students. Joe’s presence as a guest speaker was invaluable to the students, as his magnificent passion, his unswerving commitment to social justice and his absolute candor made him a vital role model for the students to emulate.

Adler’s supreme gift to NWSA was giving no less than 25 college graduates the opportunity of debuting their professional careers at GableStage – and those young professionals did him proud;

many earning Carbonell and Silver Palm Awards for their performances. He gave many alumni, the golden opportunity to become Actors’ Equity union members, build their theatrical credits before moving to the even more competitive markets of Chicago, L.A. and New York.

As an actor, Joe afforded me the opportunity to perform in fourteen productions over the past two decades; garnering a Carbonell Award for Best Actor and for Best Supporting Actor. Next to NWSA, GableStage was my second artistic home. There is one thing that always struck me about Joe as a director. The story was always of supreme importance. You never saw his directorial hand in any of his productions. To him, that would have been a display of vanity. *The story: tell the story.*



David Kwiat in Wiesenthal
Photos by George Schiavone



“Having done 17 shows with Joseph Adler gave me countless high points in my career and in my life. He forced me to dig deeper in every role. If I challenged a piece of direction he listened and was always willing to accommodate because he understood that instinct over vision or concept sometimes created “happy accidents” in the moment. My personal relationship with Joe careened back and forth from mentor to father figure seamlessly for close to two decades. He was my rock during personal strife and my coach and biggest fan on stage. There will never be another Joseph Adler and I’ll miss him until my last heartbeat. But his affect on me and the theatre community will continue to reverberate. I just wish he was still here to help lead us during these turbulent times.”
 – Gregg Weiner (Theater, 1998)

Joe Ferrareli (Theater, 2014) in *It’s Only a Play*

**TO BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY
 TO SEAMLESSLY TRANSITION TO
 THE PROFESSIONAL STAGE IS
 INVALUABLE. JOE GENEROUSLY
 DID THAT FOR NWSA STUDENTS
 MANY TIMES.**



Betsy Graver (Theater, 2009) in *Informed Consent*

TEACHING THEATER REINVENTED

"Theatre has always existed in some capacity, but in times of challenges it has reinvented itself – from one arrow to another and from one century to another. This is happening again in our own lifetime."

– James Randolph (Faculty: Acting)



NWSA has found new ways of communicating with its students in order to continue its mission of teaching and training the next generation of artists, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Particularly in theater, casting decisions require a definitive focus and energy and being detached from students, physically, poses additional challenges. Professors have been tasked with assessing the level of engagement of each student through tools not typically utilized in theater classrooms. Digital screens have now become rehearsal spaces and online meetings have become today's audience groups.

"Modifying all of the work and all my classes to be solo-based was the first step. For juries, the biannual student assessments, I suggested that my students create something that was in context of the plays themselves. Having juries remotely required them to prepare, film and submit the work they had learned in a different manner - one which required a higher level of preparation. They couldn't depend on the adrenaline of the audience to make everything perfectly lined up. They had to reinvent their delivery process."

Food on demand, the familiarity of home, or distractions caused by family members sharing the same confined spaces adds layers of disruption to the new learning environment.

Establishing Facebook chat groups with each individual class while utilizing existing resources such as Blackboard and Canvas has allowed Professor James Randolph to engage in daily conversations with his students. The new web-enhanced curriculum affords flexibility of distribution and transportability as it has become, for the time being, solely electronic.



I checked in with each student to gauge their mood each day. Were they smiling with a frown? Were they sitting up straight or were they drooping? Acknowledging that I could see them was pivotal to our continued teacher/student relationship. This kept them engaged and alert.



THEATER FACULTY

Theater is a collaborative art which requires its participants to work together to find innovative solutions to given circumstances. Teaching remotely is a perfect opportunity for faculty to put their creative problem solving skills and their adaptability to use as theater artists. As a result, NWSA faculty - all professionals active in their respective artistic fields - have been able to use technology to enhance their classes, offer students personal feedback on their work, allow students the challenge of creating a new type of theater and discover a variety of new resources available to them. Students have also been able to learn new skills, complete their course work and submit their juries in acting, dance and voice with a sense of accomplishment - all taking place in a new technical environment.



PATRICE BAILEY
dean of theater

MATTHEW BUFFALO
acting

JEFF HESS
music director

SILAS HOOVER
acting

SAM MILLER
technical director

JAMES B. RANDOLPH, II
acting

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ DE CASTROVERDE
acting

SAM TRANSLEAU
production design

Please visit our website at nwsa.mdc.edu for the full list of Theater adjunct faculty.

“Teaching Acting online as a theater instructor has actually been as enlightening for me as a teacher and artist, as well as for my student artists. The camera on the computer, like the film, movie making, camera, has provided a window, an access to authentic acting training, which in turn has led to organic storytelling. The camera provides a medium for an unguarded, safe space for discussions and explorations; student artists connecting in highly empathetic, inspired ways wherein new perspectives are birthed. In a time of unfamiliar chaos, Zoom rooms have become safe havens for poetry and character to breathe. Actors are discovering how storytelling has been a primitive practice for human survival – an art form that has kept civilization growing, surviving, and thriving.”

– Jennifer Rodriguez De Castroverde

VISUAL ARTS



NWSA provides an intimate, intensive, conservatory curriculum in the visual arts. Areas of concentration in the Visual Arts Division include Art & Technology, Drawing, Painting, Photography, Sculpture and a major in Graphic Design. The small classes provide for ample one-on-one feedback with mentoring both in and out of the classroom. The faculty, who are nationally renowned practicing artists and designers, create an environment where students' individual artistic vision is at the forefront.

The goal of the program is to produce professional artists who are ready to show in galleries and museums, practice professionally in design and media firms, work in a wide variety of jobs in the arts, or pursue further study in graduate school.

NWSA is embedded in Miami's vibrant local and international art scenes. Artseen, New World School of the Arts' off campus studio space, just a few blocks from the main campus, gives students not only space to work – making work that could never be done in a classroom – but a chance to have their work seen alongside the professional artists whose studios are housed in the same building. NWSA students have also worked on numerous collaborative projects in the community including exhibiting at Art Basel Miami Beach – where New World School of the Arts has been the only educational institution to be officially included in this world-famous art fair.

“NWSA students are encouraged/expected to think of themselves as artists, not just students who make art for classes, right from their first year. Beyond the concentration or major, our mission is to graduate well-rounded artists, able to think critically about their work, produce it with technical proficiency, and prepared to navigate the complex and stimulating creative world after school.”
– John Slepian (Dean, 2019-2020)



“New World School of the Arts Artseen studios have provided a space that has allowed me to be inventive and bold within my art practice. These studios have created a community of artists that are able to collaborate and challenge each other. I believe that it is important for artists to be surrounded by other artists because they can exchange thoughts and ideas about their investigations. This dialogue allows for growth both, personally and artistically. I am grateful for the time I have in my studio and the many opportunities it has offered me.”
– Erika Cantin (Visual Arts, 2021)



ART AND CREATIVITY ARE BRINGING US TOGETHER, EVEN AS WE'VE BEEN FORCED TO STAY APART

THE POWER OF THE UNKNOWN

The Power of the UnkNOWn reminds us to focus and live in the now, particularly during this challenging period of the unknown.

Bringing typography to the foreground of his craft, graphic designer, artist, and NWSA alumnus Camilo Rojas joined New World School of the Arts to open the artistic season with the exhibition, Power of the UnkNOWn. The show presented a series of text-based mirror and light sculptures that confronted viewers with the ambiguity of words, spelling out simple but intriguing phrases and questions that encouraged viewers to attend to the act of looking inward. The artist often experiments with the meaning of words and the forms of letters in his art – using them as an expressive medium. His work presents text in an innovative way, and explores it as a multidimensional mode of communication.

“My intention with this spatial installation was to give new forms to letters in an expressive, harmonious, and skillful manner. I created an environment of thoughtfulness and playful encounters in the gallery setting by linking reflective materials, repetition, hidden messages, and the double meaning of words.

– Camilo Rojas (Visual Arts, 2008)

How do you imagine messages that resonate with a wide range of audiences?

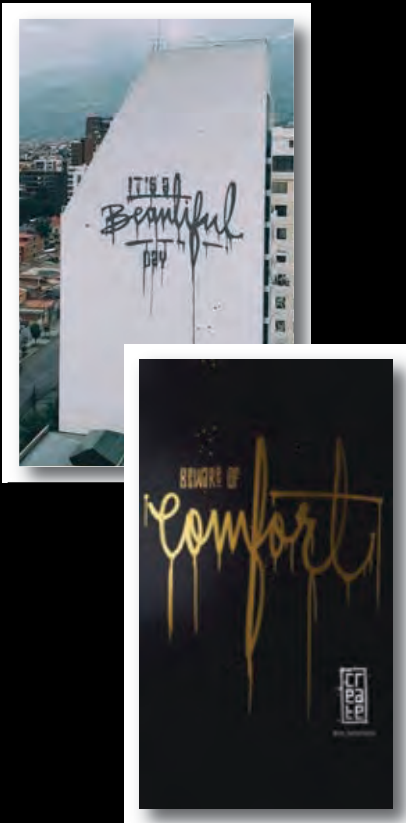
“My messages or sentiments are born from personal experiences. I turn these often-negative moments into positive ones and put my essence into every artwork, giving it the ability to transcend race, language, and culture, thus becoming relatable to anyone, anywhere.”

Do you believe that art can help us during a time of crisis?

“F o R E v E r. Art can set us free, particularly during a time of crisis and isolation, encouraging us to attend the act of introspection. When this period ends, everyone will have a story to tell. Art will once again be living proof as a force of resistance and a reminder of the power of humanity specially during difficult times.”



ART CAN SET US FREE



In this uncertain time of crisis, what message are you aiming to convey as an artist, and why do you think these messages are relevant?

“My messages/artworks are authentic, they are human, they have a soul. These works serve as self-reminders during uncertain moments and times of crisis.”

– IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY –

“A concept that was born from a dark five-month period of my adult life, It's a Beautiful Day is a phrase I wrote incessantly as part of my therapy. This became a token of gratitude for being alive and for being able to see the sky, the sunset, and experience nature.”

– BEWARE OF COMFORT –

“This global situation has forced us into a collective pause. It certainly offers invaluable lessons about all aspects of life and begins a dialogue about the repercussions of comfort.”



HOW HAS YOUR ARTS
TRAINING AT NWSA
HELPED YOU FACE THE
CURRENT HEALTH CRISIS?

It has created an
environment of
positivity and hope
which allows me to
continue to stay
calm and produce
good artwork.

– Destiny Moore (Visual Arts, 2020)
Presidential Scholar in the Arts nominee, 2020
YoungArts Finalist, 2020

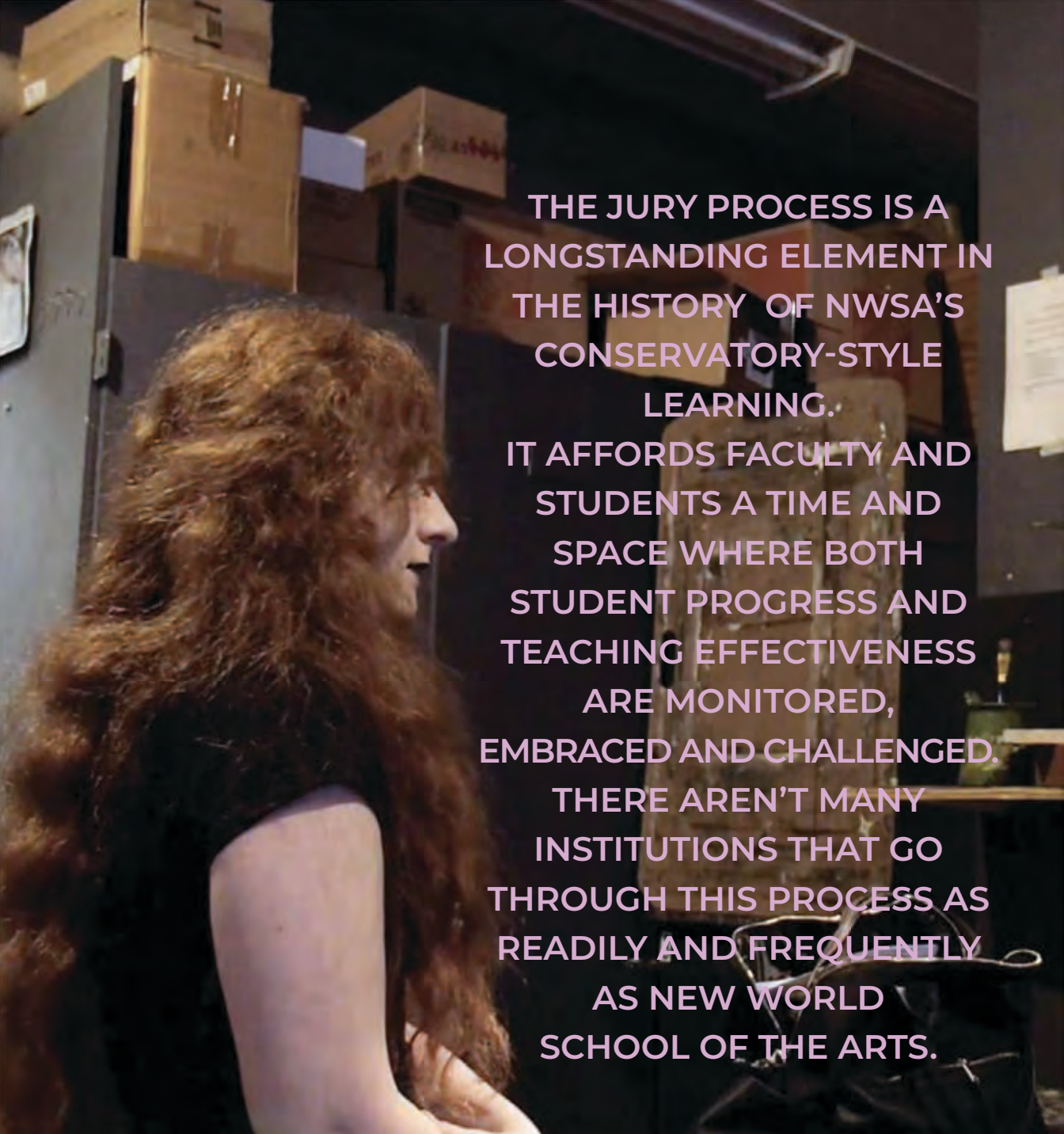




“One of the strongest displays of identity comes from painter Destiny Moore, a Miami native whose curious, confrontational portraits of friends and family are some of the first works seen in the exhibition. Moore’s subjects are clearly African-American, but with bright-blue skin and a confident gaze at the viewer, they also seem somewhat otherworldly. The work is similar to those of painters Kehinde Wiley and Amoako Boafo and photographer Deana Lawson, but with a hint of the surreal.”

– The Miami New Times
(January 2020)

New World School of the Arts’ unique high school curriculum and intimate size regularly produces students who are offered thousands of dollars each year in scholarships to attend nationally recognized colleges and universities. They are also winners of national arts awards and rank among the nation’s prestigious Presidential Scholars in the Arts. The opportunity to take college level classes creates a studio art-learning environment that is second to none, while the jury process, in which every student presents the full body of work that they’ve created during the semester to a group of their faculty and the dean of visual arts, helps students to grow as artists both visually and conceptually. This process, which begins in 9th grade, is essential in helping them learn how to talk about their work and how to analyze their work ethic. In addition, submitting work to competitions and exhibitions is excellent training for college since many competition and exhibition juries look for the students’ ability to write and discuss their work and ideas. They want to see what kind of research they have done and how they have developed in their craft over time. The top competitions expect to see a well-developed body of work that has a cohesive theme and NWSA students excel in this, in part, because of the jury process. By the time NWSA visual arts students receive their high school diploma they are working at a level that is comparable to students at the college level.



THE JURY PROCESS IS A
LONGSTANDING ELEMENT IN
THE HISTORY OF NWSA'S
CONSERVATORY-STYLE
LEARNING.
IT AFFORDS FACULTY AND
STUDENTS A TIME AND
SPACE WHERE BOTH
STUDENT PROGRESS AND
TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS
ARE MONITORED,
EMBRACED AND CHALLENGED.
THERE AREN'T MANY
INSTITUTIONS THAT GO
THROUGH THIS PROCESS AS
READILY AND FREQUENTLY
AS NEW WORLD
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS.

"Certainly, we are looking for talent – but the idea of talent is more complex than just ability. Talent involves an appetite for learning, an ambition for self-discovery and an understanding that one's creative imagination is linked to a history of other thinking across the entire spectrum of the human experience.

Every semester each student is given a space to create a mini exhibition during their juries. This is an opportunity for them to showcase the work that they have done in all of their classes during that term and a way for the faculty to gauge their creative progress in other classes. This process becomes a benchmark to record how they are advancing in their craft while opening a dialogue where the faculty and the student can discuss the many aspects of the student's conceptual and technical journey.

The faculty looks for indications in each student's work to demonstrate that they have successfully fulfilled the requirements of their courses. The student's attitude toward each of



their assignments and the way in which they personalize their work also play a role in the jury evaluation, turning an assignment into an opportunity to learn and engage it with all of their abilities and creative force. These are the qualities that I believe successful artists possess – we believe that what we do is profoundly meaningful to us.

The jury process also entails preparation. Students carefully select and display their art because they are not only evaluated on the quality and quantity of their work but also for their presentation. At juries they receive evaluations from both the faculty from their courses and from their department. These evaluations and the comments from the faculty who are present during juries are clear, honest and constructive. Students expect and appreciate our candor and we make sure that they hear all aspects of their progress. I believe that this captures the respect for the process and the seriousness by which we, as an institution, conduct this essential tool for learning.” – Aramis O’Reilly (Faculty: Drawing & Painting)





**There are
no right or
wrong
answers in
the creative
process.**

"Engaging with art is essential to the human experience. The process of juries helps students develop communicative skills more than anything else, but in order for this to happen, the intervention of the viewer is necessary when referring to the visual arts. The involvement of the faculty in juries empowers students with a sense of purpose and ownership although art is a subjective activity. What I have learned from juries is that the farther I am from art, the closer I get to it."
– Alian Martinez Rives (Visual Arts, 2021)

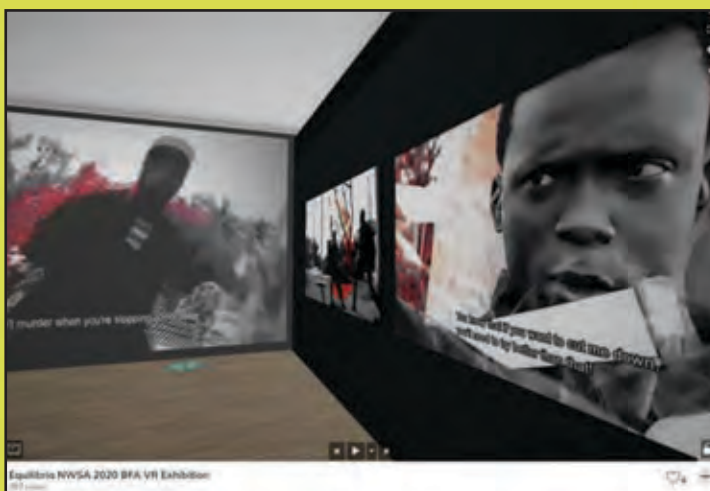


OPEN VIRTUAL GALLERY

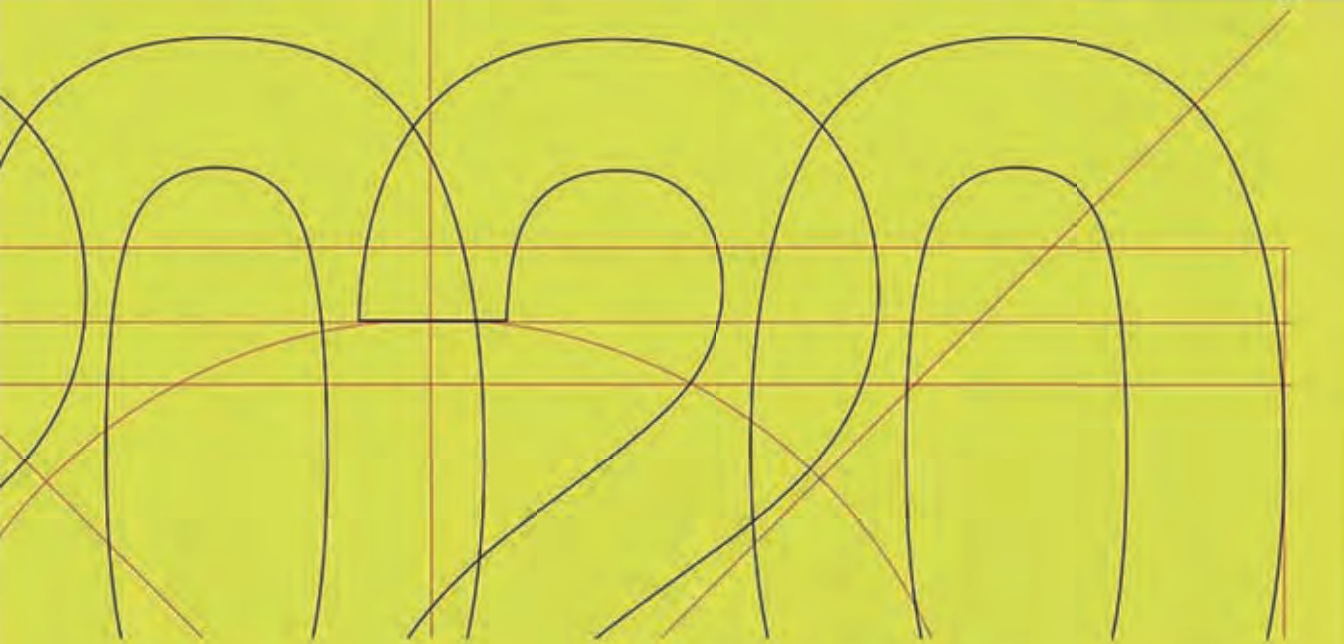
EQUILIBRIA

MELANNIE BELLO
CHRISTINE CORTES
ASHLEY COX
GABRIELA FERNANDEZ
VALERIA FERNANDEZ
MICHAEL GAUTHIER
NICHOLAS GAUTHIER
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DENYS PEREZ
GISSELLE REY
MARA RODRIGUEZ
LAURA RODRIGUEZ
STEPHANIE TORRES
YLWAHK THOMAS
COLLIN WATTS

VIRTUAL GALLERY



"The virtual reality online exhibition was a highly fulfilling and creative approach to showcasing some of our works during such an extraordinarily challenging time. We were given a significant online presence and it really felt as if we were there – in the simulated gallery space." – Barbara Gutierrez (Visual Arts, 2020)



www.nwsavisualartsbfa.com

e·qui·lib·ri·a

New World School of the Arts students once again demonstrated their fortitude, creativity and resolve when, due to unprecedented circumstances experienced with the 2020 global pandemic, they were forced to present their final showcase in a virtual universe. The brainstorm session to bring the BFA exhibition to the homes of would-be-audiences began as NWSA's Artseen studios and the school itself closed following national orders. A Zoom meeting with dean John Slepian, faculty and students set the wheels in motion and the concept of NWSA's first ever online exhibition was born. With just three weeks till showtime, the graduating visual arts college seniors quickly gathered their outlines to present their work. While some were able to offer their concepts via online mock-ups for review, others took the route of deconstructing and reconstructing the physical work in new locations. Students utilized software such as Photoshop to present the concepts which would eventually become the body and soul of the BFA Exhibition.

**THIS ONLINE BFA EXHIBITION SHOWS THE
RESILIENCE OF ARTISTS IN A TIME OF ADVERSITY.
IT ENCOURAGES THEM TO HAVE FAITH IN THEIR
VISION TO KEEP CREATING AGAINST ALL ODDS.**

"With the input of the students and under the guidance of dean Slepian, we agreed that the BFA Exhibition needed to be much more than a standard website. The virtual platform was to present the viewer with an experience comparable to a physical show and would lure guests back, at their leisure, to continue exploring the work," – Alisa Pitchenik Charles (Faculty: Art + Technology)

The resulting site showcased much more than the intended artwork - it included work done while in quarantine, student documentaries, bios, statements and other information found in an exhibition catalogue. In addition, some of the work was designed to be presented in an online gallery, allowing students to place their final project in a virtual environment. The show opening reception entailed a Zoom reception where graduates, faculty, administrators, friends and family virtually gathered to view and celebrate the work.

VISUAL ARTS FACULTY

The NWSA visual arts faculty have earned their degrees from some of the world's most recognized universities in the nation. They are also practicing artists whose work has been exhibited nationally and around the globe in renowned museums and galleries, and are part of private collections. This extensively diverse background allows the faculty to actively share different artistic views with their students while encouraging them to formulate and execute their own artistic vision.



Tim Gibbons of Charlie McDonald Photography




O. GUSTAVO PLASCENCIA
dean of visual arts

ALISA PITCHENIK-CHARLES
art + technology

ARAMIS O'REILLY
drawing & painting

DONALD LAMBERT
sculpture



Florida Contemporary

Maria Martinez-Cañas

“Transitioning my darkroom classes to online teaching was somewhat difficult, but it gave me the possibility of re-thinking assignments – finding creative ways to make our students feel the magic of the medium of Photography without stepping inside a darkroom – to understand the iconic presence of light in the creation of a photographic image. Photography is a perfect visual medium for the times we are going through, as it helps us document our sense of isolation and separation, creating a visual history of our present.” – Maria Martinez-Cañas

JENNY GIFFORD
drawing

MARIA MARTINEZ-CAÑAS
photography

NABILA SANTA-CRISTO
3D design, drawing

ROSARIO MARTINEZ-CAÑAS
graphic design

Please visit our website at nwsa.mdc.edu for the full list of Visual Arts adjunct faculty.

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CONTESSA BRYANT, Ed.D.
High School Principal

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DANIEL ANDAI, D.M.A.
Dean of Music

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Dean of Theater

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JUAN PIÑERA
Manager of Information Technology

MAGGIE RODRIGUEZ, Ed.D.
High School Assistant Principal



New World School of the Arts was created by the Florida Legislature as a center of excellence in the performing and visual arts. It is an educational partnership between Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami Dade College, and University of Florida. NWSA opened its doors in 1986 to welcome its first high school students and just one year later, in 1987, NWSA welcomed its first college class.

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NWSA.MDC.EDU

General info. & College: **305.237.3135**

High School: **305.237.3605**

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Jan. 1, 2019 - Dec. 31, 2019

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Faye A. Phillips Endowment
Fernando Boan Memorial Endowment
First Generation Scholarship Fund*
Florida Blue*
Florida Blue Student Development Scholarship



Florida Theatrical Association*
Frances Wolfson Endowed Scholarship Fund
Fredric Snitzer Scholarship Endowment
George Abbott Scholarship Endowment
GoodFen Scholarship Fund
Goodman Scholarship*
Guerra Family Scholarship Endowment Fund
Hearst Foundation Education Fund*
Helen C. Margolin Arts Fund
HSBC in the Community
Irene Wyroba Scholarship
Irma Schwartz Papai Memorial Fund
Israel "Cachao" Lopez Scholarship Fund
Jae Sweeny-Lardner Memorial Visual Arts Scholarship
James Sinquefeld Scholarship Endowment
Jay W. Jensen, John W. and Thelma S. Jensen Endowed
Scholarship Fund
John B. Ross Memorial
John S. and James L. Knight Endowment
Julio Iglesias Endowed Music Scholarship
Key 88 Program and Scholarship Fund
Knight Foundation Endowed Scholarships
Kramer Memorial Endowment Scholarship
Laurie Horn Scholarship Fund*
Leone H. Pelton Memorial Endowment Scholarship
Levi Strauss Endowed Scholarship
Lewis Dorfman Scholarship
Lisa Sheryl Barth Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Lydia and Burton Harrison Scholarship Fund
Marcia Simon Kaplan Scholarship
Marion Fyfe Memorial Scholarship, Theatre
Martha Quevedo Endowed Scholarship for the Arts
Miami Herald / Knight-Ridder, Inc. Scholarship
Miami Salon Group Endowed Scholarship
Michael Pergakis Scholarship Endowment Fund

Mildred Pallas Levenson Dance Endowed Scholarship
Fund
Mrs. Morgan P. Gilbert Endowed Scholarship
Morris Family Foundation Fine Arts Scholarship
National Endowment for the Arts
North Dade Medical Foundation Student Support Fund
NWSA eFollett Scholarship
Patricia Olalde Endowment
Peacock Foundation, Inc. Endowed Scholarship Fund
Presser Foundation*
Rafael and Kimberly De Acha Scholarship Fund*
Richard Kirkham and Robert Houseman Scholarship
Endowment
Richard and Rhoda Klein Endowment Scholarship
Richard H. Simons Charitable Trust Fund
Robert Blood Family Endowment
Robert Brenner Memorial Theater Scholarship
Robert McCabe Scholarship
Rod Hildebrant and Matthew Meehan Fine Arts
Scholarship Fund
Ronni Bogaev Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Rotary Foundation of South Miami, Inc.
Ruth Nelson Kraft Award Foundation
Ryder System Endowment Scholarship
Ryder System / Margaret Pelton Endowment
Selma Alexander Music Scholarship*
Shirley Brooks Brent Endowed Memorial Scholarship
Stacey Mancuso and Tom Wyroba Scholarship Fund
Surdna Foundation*
Tarell Alvin McCraney Audition Fund*
Thomas D. Moore Scholarship*
Tom Apple Endowment
Tommy Tune Scholarship Account
William and Tina Rosenberg Foundation Scholarship
William H. Martin Memorial Endowment Scholarship
Fund

(*non-endowed)



Margin of Excellence

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Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

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Dr. Moses and Beatrice Goodman Fund
HSBC Bank, USA
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Ruth Nelson Kraft Awards Foundation

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Rising Stars

2020

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YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Students at New World School of the Arts rely on the steadfast commitment of our supporter and the generous financial support of our community to help them achieve their artistic career dreams. From the dedicated faculty who train our students, to the professional staff and administration, and from the committed boards and partnership leaders who are the backbone of our school to the arts enthusiasts who support the work our students present each year, it takes a village for NWSA to excel as a world-class arts education institution. It is now more vital than ever to continue receiving support from foundations, corporations, alumni and friends like you to maintain our position as leaders in the performing and visual arts. With a plethora of fundraising initiatives to choose from, no donation is too small nor contribution too broad. Together we can ensure that the NWSA mission that began more than three decades ago will continue to make a difference in the lives of our community's young aspiring artists. To contribute: 305.237.3502 or Online: nwsa.mdc.edu/donate-to-nwsa.

LEGACY SOCIETY

The Legacy Society was conceived by former New World School of the Arts Foundation Board member, Lydia and her husband Burt Harrison along with New World School of the Arts Foundation Board Chair, Dennis Edwards. This fundraising initiative enables supporters to include NWSA in their estate planning to augment scholarships. Options for gift-giving include: Will - Outright bequest, Testamentary Trust, Life insurance, Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust, Charitable Lead Trust, Bequest in the Will of the surviving spouse.

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Carmen Bishopric*
Dennis Edwards & Mark Steinberg
Lydia & Burt Harrison*
Ralph Lutrin & Alfred Allan Lewis
Patrick M. O'Connell
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Mark A. Trowbridge

*NWSA founding members

NWSA

NAME
a-Seat

New World School of the Arts' retrofitted dance studios state-of-the-art Telescopic Platform Seating offers another opportunity for supporters to be part of the New World School of the Arts legacy. This new flexible seating decreases the time that it takes to convert our studios from rehearsal to performance spaces, and offers our audiences comfortable and safe seating. Now you and your loved ones can have a presence in our dance studios while supporting our students with a contribution towards the purchase of a Name-a-Seat plaque to be proudly displayed on the new updated seats. Please contact the Dance division for information.





"Many students at New World School of the Arts are hardworking, brilliant creatives who come from diverse backgrounds. When we receive NWSA scholarships it greatly reinforces our confidence in our hard work and all of the projects and skills we are strengthening. I was able to completely focus and explore opportunities that I wouldn't have been able to without the financial support the school provided. The scholarships allow us to fund our education and our creative practices, which positively impacts our family and our community."

– Christine Cortes (Visual Arts, 2020)





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