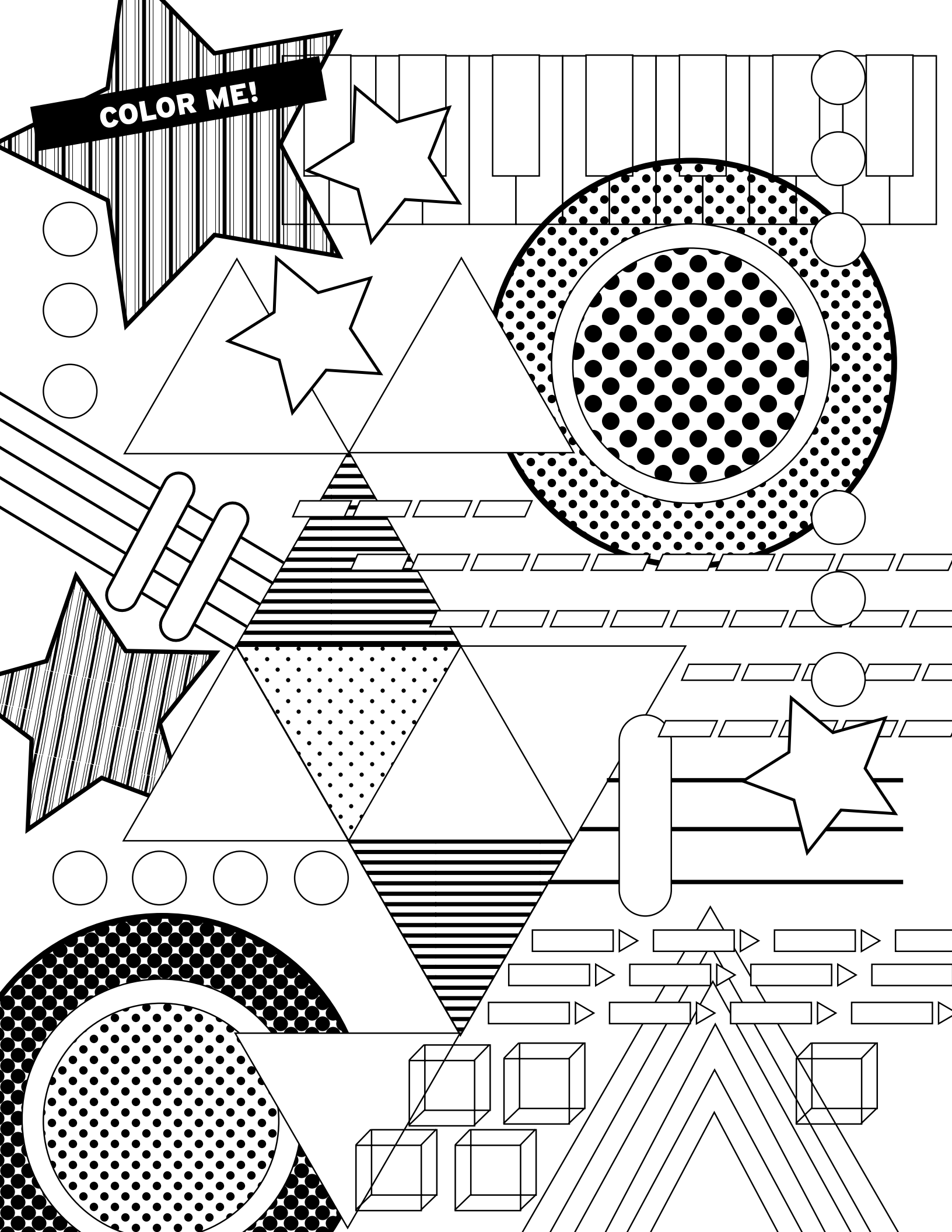




DESIGN THINKING

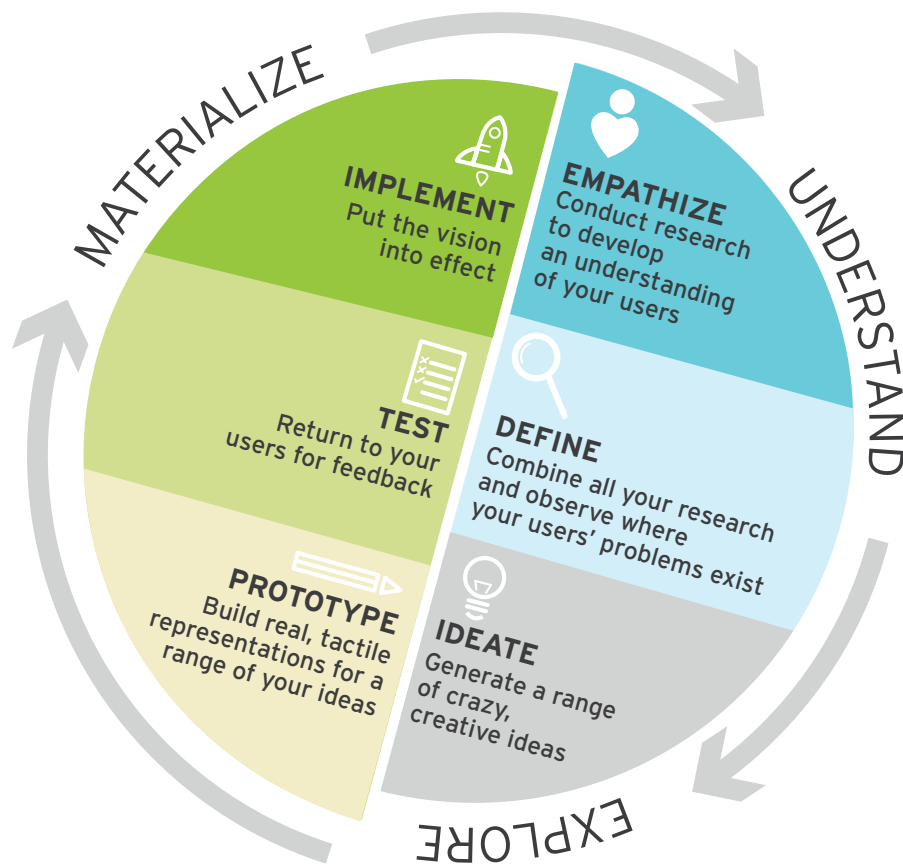
A PATHWAY
TO INNOVATION
IN THE ARTS



COLOR ME!

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DESIGN THINKING

A PATHWAY FOR INNOVATION IN THE ARTS

2018 TENNESSEE ARTS & ARTS EDUCATION CONFERENCE

JUNE 19-21, 2018

The conference will bring together arts administrators, educators and artists for a full two days of learning and sharing around the theme of Design Thinking, an approach that can be used in all industries to consider and resolve a variety of issues. Professional development will include best practices, strategies in arts management and education, lesson demonstrations, collaborative work, networking and more.

PRESENTED BY



HOSTED BY



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

All times are CST. Session locations are noted in the following complete schedule.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Conference/Dorm Check-in
3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Pre-Conferences

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Check-in/Networking/Continental Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Sparkplug Sessions
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Coffee Break
9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Design Thinking Sessions
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch/Mindbender Plenary: Natalie Nixon, PhD
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Design Thinking Part I
2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Snack Break
2:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.	Sparkplug Sessions REPEAT
3:50 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.	Arts Experiences
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Reception at Customs House Museum

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	Birds of a Feather/Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Mindbender Plenary: Dan Goods
10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Coffee Break
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Design Thinking Part II
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Boxed Lunch/Teaching Artist Showcase
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Design Thinking Sessions REPEAT
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Snack Break
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Sparkplugs/Arts Experiences
3:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	End Remarks/Door Prizes

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

3:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Conference/Dorm Check-in

Art+Design entrance near 101

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

PRE-CONFERENCES

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Selections From The Permanent Collection:
A Walking Tour with Gallery Director Michael Dickens**

Art+Design 101

Discover and learn about Austin Peay's art collection located throughout campus, including the Art+Design gallery.

3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Teaching Artist Workshop

Art+Design 102

Presented by Dr. Brad Foust, Allison Swanger, Cherri Coleman, Dr. Jennifer Snyder, Amanda Galbraith and facilitated by Meredith Callis

This pre-conference is geared toward professional artists on the Tennessee Arts Commission's Teaching Artist Roster and new artists interested in applying to the Roster. The workshop will include information on how to collaborate with teachers and schools; provide training on the new TN Fine Arts Standards which begins implementation in the 2018-2019 school year; an introduction to developing lesson plans to best communicate your offerings; and a Q&A session on the Student Ticket Subsidy grant program. An informal gathering at a local Clarksville restaurant will follow.

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

A Conversation on Capitalization and Community

Morgan University Center (MUC) 103BC

Presented by Rebecca Thomas in association with Grantmakers in the Arts

To survive and thrive in today's fluid environment, cultural organizations must develop the finances that support their continuous stability and adaptation. Yet flawed planning, communications and funding norms often undermine long-term financial health. In this workshop, we help arts leaders understand the elements of financial sustainability and how to start planning for their organizations' long-term health. Defining capitalization as "the resources an organization needs to fulfill its mission over time," Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA) began offering Conversations on Capitalization and Community in 2010 as part of its national effort to address the under-capitalized tendency of the nonprofit arts field. GIA has led these workshops for funders and nonprofits in more than 15 communities. The session will offer knowledge and perspective on what it takes to build viable and resilient business models and balance sheets, in the service of artistic vitality. It is designed for organizations that want to strengthen their financial planning and decision-making skills, and learn to better communicate with supporters about financial priorities and needs. Recommended for executive directors, senior finance professionals and board members.

Specific workshop topics include:

- Defining capitalization as a best management practice
- Business implications of facilities, endowments and growth
- Elements of financial sustainability: surpluses, reserves and transition capital
- Obstacles to long-term financial health
- Planning for sustainability: setting and communicating appropriate capitalization goals

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Laying a Foundation: Defining Arts Integration

Trahern 401

This pre-conference is required for teachers from Arts360 Schools.

Presenter: Dr. Janice Crews

Explore the definition and key concepts of Arts Integration as defined by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and discover why Arts Integration is a relevant and powerful approach to teaching for educators of all disciplines. This session is geared towards K - 12 educators and school administrators, but all are welcome.

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Emerging Leaders: Arts Nonprofit Leadership Essentials

Art+Design 107

Presenters: Jill McMillan and Alandis Brassel

Come meet emerging arts leaders from across the state and get a bird's-eye view of what it takes to lead an arts nonprofit organization. The Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville staff will lead a presentation about nonprofit nuts-and-bolts and answer questions about organizational management, board governance, and legal issues. Afterward, you'll learn how to tell your organization's story during an interactive advocacy exercise and mixer.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Networking Breakfast & Conference Check-in

Art+Design entrance near 101

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

SPARKPLUG SESSIONS

Jumpstart your professional development or spark interest in a variety of topics. Learn practical skills and tools needed for daily work in arts management and education.

These Sparkplug Sessions are repeated on Wednesday, June 20th from 2:40 - 3:40 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

For the Love of Your Program: Spicing Up Evaluations

Art+Design 109

Presenters: Laurie Melnik and Dr. Lee Harris

Fall in love with program evaluation and discover ways to spice up program impact through this interactive session. Participants will be guided through a backward design process based on their program's "love story" and walk away with practical evaluation strategies. All backgrounds and experiences welcome!

The Basics of Designing Accessible Programs

MUC 305

Presenters: Sandra Hahn, Deanne M. Collins, EdD, JP Williams and facilitated by Kim Johnson

Have you ever wondered how to make your arts program more accessible for those who have hearing and/or visual challenges? Do you want to make your physical location more accessible? Presenters who have differing abilities will offer ideas on how art programs can be more accessible and enjoyable for everyone.

Presenters: Benjamin Smith and Langston Wilkins, PhD

Urban Folk will offer an in-depth examination of folklife in urban settings, with suggestions on how organizations can feature such traditions in their programmatic activities. This session will include commentary from Ben Smith, founder and director of Southern Word, a Nashville-based organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Spoken Word poetry.

Tax Reform and Your Nonprofit: Ask a CPA

Trahern 420B

Presenter: Lisa Mays Millman, CPA

How might the new tax law changes affect your organization? Get an overview of the key provisions that could affect nonprofits and bring your questions for an experienced CPA whose practice specializes in working with nonprofits, including tax compliance, grant compliance, bookkeeping, organizational structure, strategic planning and fraud detection and prevention.

Experience an Arts Integrated Learning Unit, Part I

Trahern 401

Part II of this session will occur on June 20th from 2:40 - 3:40 p.m. Attendance for both Part I and Part II is encouraged but not required.

Presenter: Dr. Janice Crews

In this session, participants will dissect a multi-lesson learning unit that mutually satisfies curriculum standards in the areas of visual art, music, literature, and social studies by using the fundamentals of arts integration. This session is geared towards K-12 educators and administrators, but all are welcome.

Improv for Everyone

Trahern 202

This session repeats on June 20th from 2:40 - 3:40 p.m., from 3:50 - 4:50 p.m., and on June 21st from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Presenter: Talon Beeson

This workshop is designed to remind attendees that we all use basic improv skills in our everyday lives. Using techniques from Viola Spolin and Keith Johnstone, participants will play in the world of "following the follower" to become more nimble in conversation, business dealings and personal interaction. This is an "on your feet" workshop, allowing the attendees to work and play in the moment, without restraint.

Drawing Mandalas: Math Meets Art

Art+Design 106

Presenter: Bailey Earith

In this arts integration lesson demonstration, learn to create beautiful complex designs with this easy step-by-step process. Reinforces ruler skills, compass skills, and graphing. This is a fun and effective lesson.

How to Build Creative Placemaking Momentum, Excitement, and Engagement by Using Small Scale Experiments to Test Ideas

Art+Design 102

Presenters: Tamara Gatchell and Tabitha Kapic

In 2016, Thrive Regional Partnership introduced Thriving Communities, a unique community development program that helps cities and towns to create art and cultural asset-based strategies to spark vibrancy and growth. The session will showcase how Design Thinking methods can empower communities to broaden their perspective about what is possible and then rapidly test

ideas to build momentum, excitement and engagement. We will examine how each community applied the Design Thinking approach and then practice one Design Thinking method for rapid prototyping and testing. Successful case studies from the 2016 Thriving Communities program will serve as inspiration for the participants. One community's small test to "turn a vacant lot into a pop-up performance space" was thrown together in a matter of days, drew 300 people, and built such excitement and momentum that it led to a one-million-dollar investment in a permanent park for outdoor performances. Through a quick Design Thinking exercise, participants will experience rapid experimentation techniques that allow for simple, efficient and affordable exploration of ideas that can be applied in their own creative placemaking work.

Unpacking the New Tennessee Fine Arts Standards

Art+Design 111

Presenters: Dr. Brad Foust and Amanda Galbraith

In August 2018, all fine arts teachers in Tennessee will begin teaching with new academic standards in music, visual arts, dance, theatre, and media arts. Join Dr. Brad Foust and Amanda Galbraith, two members of the Tennessee Fine Arts Standards Writing and Review Committee, to learn more about the standards. Participants will engage in hands-on activities that show how the standards promote the construction of learning and understanding in arts classrooms and how the new standards will inform the work of teaching artists across the state.

Expanding and Contracting Your Story for TV, Social Media, and Real Life: the PSA, the Pitch, the Episode, the Series

Art+Design 206

Presenter: Trish Crist

Many nonprofits struggle with the amount of information to share based on the setting. Some know this is a problem—some don't. An Executive Director recently told me that she can never decide how much detail to get into about her organization, joking, "Is it the business card or the Annual Report?" My answer: Neither. Join us for this interactive session and explore expanding or contracting your organization's story to fit everything from a 30-second PSA to a 30-minute TV series ... and everything from a 30-second encounter to a 30-minute conversation, even if a TV camera isn't involved.

9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Coffee Break

Art+Design First Floor Hall

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

DESIGN THINKING SESSIONS

Sparkplug-inspired sessions with a Design Thinking emphasis.

These Design Thinking Sessions are repeated on Thursday, June 21st from 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Building Your Creative Resume

Art+Design 111

Presenter: R.L. Gibson

Is your creative resume getting you where you want to go? How do you choose which shows to pursue? Are online galleries worth your time? As a working artist, R.L. Gibson offers two decades of experience as a juror, gallerist and arts administrator in addition to her current position as the Editor of artandartdeadlines.com. Join us to learn how to choose a strategy and build the resume you need to get where you want to go. This 45-minute seminar will be followed by a Q&A session.



More than Traditional Arts & Crafts: How to Design Creative Arts Programs to Engage Seniors in Lifelong Learning and Healthy Outcomes

MUC 305

Presenters: Sonya Maize-Abrams, Sarah Martin McConnell, Jennifer Roberts and facilitated by Kim Johnson

With the U.S. and State of Tennessee experiencing a surge of growth in its older population, seniors are looking for creative ways to stay connected, active, and engaged for a lifetime through the arts. This workshop will explore the success stories and lessons learned from creative aging staff who have implemented innovative programs for seniors.

**Linear vs. Non-Linear Thinking
or How to Tell your Story so that People Notice**

Art+Design 206

Presenter: Leslie Haines

You may have an amazing product but if you can't connect with your audience in a memorable way, your message can easily get passed over. Learn how to improve your conceptual thinking skills, overcome creative road blocks, and hone in on messaging that matters. Through the use of visual examples and engaging exercises this session will teach you how to make the most of the creative process. You'll leave inspired with helpful techniques that you can apply to your next marketing challenge.

Reaching Your Community: Fieldwork Methods for Arts and Culture Organizations

Art+Design 208

Presenters: Liza Blair, Jeff Kollath, and Dr. Bradley Hanson

Cultural fieldwork—spending time with, observing, interviewing and documenting members of your organization's immediate community—is a valuable and uniquely effective method for developing authentic engagement, empathy, and programming. This panel will present strategies and skills from two arts and culture organizations—Stax Museum of American Soul Music and the Creative Discovery Museum—that have recently made community-based fieldwork part of their strategic design.

Creative Solutions in Arts Management

Art+Design 104

Presenter: Dr. Janice Crews

This course examines the creative solutions of successful arts administrators while exploring fundamentals such as arts advocacy, programming, marketing, audience development, advancement, and financial management. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences in arts management and analyze varying business models. Geared towards arts administrators working in organizations with public arts programs and/or arts education programs.

Partnering for Invested Success!

Art+Design 204

Presenters: Bridgett Massengill and Kathleen Nolte

Is funding holding you back from starting an arts movement in your town? Are you a small community with limited resources? Learn about a collaborative approach between a regionally sized nonprofit and a philanthropic foundation that partnered together around common goals to fund the beginnings of an arts and culture movement in eight small-sized cities and towns across a 16-county region. Learn how seed funding was used to catalyze additional funders to step forward in rural towns.

Train the Trainer. Think Like a Designer: A Session for Educators

Art+Design 102

Presenter: Mary Kim

During this one-hour workshop, participants will be guided by a Design Thinking expert to learn how to facilitate a creative Design Thinking session, Redesign the Backpack, for students. The session aims to equip the participants with the design thinking methodology in a short-duration of time while encouraging creative confidence and skills for defining insights, brainstorming, and prototyping for students.

Presenter: Dr. Eric Branscome

In this session, participants will engage in arts-based music lessons that teach, reinforce and assess elementary music concepts and skills through art activities and projects. Participants will be provided with sample lessons and templates for various activities.

Outcomes-Based Program Development

Art+Design 109

Presenters: Shannon Ford and Laurie Melnik

After the show is over, what results can you claim? How do those results square with what you sought to achieve in the first place? What change, big or small, is your program making in people's lives? Explore how starting with where you want to end up in program planning can improve the journey to getting there. This session will explore methods and resources for outcomes-based program development.

Think Fast! Lesson Plans Pitched in 20x20 Format

Art+Design 103

Presenters: Jennie Harriman, Ryan Gothrup, Joe Thordarson, Valerie Houston joined by Natasha Gladney and facilitated by Meredith Callis

In these fast-paced presentations, you will hear lesson plan ideas pitched by teaching artists in the Pecha Kucha format—20 slides, with 20 seconds per slide. This fun challenge provides a wonderful opportunity for those in attendance to learn a wide range of content in a short amount of time.

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

MindBenders Plenary Presentation **Morgan University Center (MUC) Ballroom** **Natalie W. Nixon, PhD, Design Strategist and Hybrid Thinker**

Natalie Nixon will discuss the basic tenets of design thinking and highlight its relevance to jazz improvisation - a great framework to use for adding value to the ways people work, and organizations are designed. Top of mind in this talk will be highlights about why the arts are such a significant lens for the future of work and the culture of learning that we promote in our institutions.

This plenary presentation includes a performance by jazz musician Connye Florance honoring African-American Music Appreciation Month as well as a plated lunch.

Defining Divas by Connye Florance

Black Divas—African American Female Vocalists—for nearly a century have been defining and redefining the style and flavor of the music of America. From blues to jazz to Broadway to movie scores, the color and soul of African American Artistry have brought brilliance to American Popular Music. The feel and flare of Lady Day, the easy lilt of Ella Fitzgerald, the emotional flow of Dinah Washington: Where would the Great American Songbook be without them and a host of others, from Bessie Smith to Aretha Franklin? I sing in celebration of the contributions made by the beautiful black Defining Divas of song.

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

DIGGING DEEPER WITH DESIGN THINKING: PART I

In partnership with Bridge Innovate

MUC 303, 305, 306-308, 310-312

Presenters: Natalie W. Nixon, PhD, Tamara Gatchell, Tabitha Kapic and Mary Kim

Led by Design Thinking experts, all conference participants will attend training in the Design Thinking process during Part I. This session will be followed by Part II on June 21st where participants will explore real-world application of the Design Thinking process with their colleagues.



2:30 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Snack break

Art+Design First Floor Hall

2:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

REPEAT SPARKPLUG SESSIONS

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3:50 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

ARTS EXPERIENCES

Learn new arts skills and knowledge and complete a finished art work.

Improv for Everyone

Trahern 202

This session repeats on June 20th from 8:30 - 9:30, 2:40 - 3:40 p.m., and on June 21st from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Presenter: Talon Beeson

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Virtual Reality Art

Art+Design 206

This session repeats on June 21st from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Presenter: Scott Raymond

Have you ever wanted to walk through a painting? This will be an introduction to virtual reality painting with Tilt Brush on the Oculus Rift VR system. Participants will have a chance to paint in the virtual volume and experience this emerging medium.

Foam Sculpture: Make a Critter

Art+Design 106

Presenter: Bailey Earith

Learn to create a critter out of foam. This easy technique generates impressive results. Can be used for science or English class.

Let's Throw Down: Wheel Throwing Techniques

Trahern 101

Presenter: Lindsey Bassett

Local potter Lindsey Bassett will demonstrate basic wheel throwing techniques, sharing tips and tools to fellow artists and newcomers alike. She will also demonstrate more advanced surface design techniques that can be achieved straight off the wheel.

Traditional Tennessee Square Dance

Trahern 402

Presenters: Louis Frazor and Daniel Rothwell

Join Louis Frazor and Daniel Rothwell for a traditional Middle Tennessee-style square dance. Frazor, a square dance caller for over 42 years, has recently taken Rothwell on as an apprentice as part of the Tennessee Arts Commission's Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program. The two will lead participants through several basic square dance sets, with the lively accompaniment of old time stringband music. Come revisit and experience what was once one of the most popular social pastimes across the South.

The Art of Letterpress

Art+Design 104

This session repeats on June 21st from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Presenter: Jana Gilbert

In this session, participants will learn the basics of the art of letterpress. Using the Gold Smith wooden type collection at APSU, each individual will be able to ink, and pull their very own print to take with them. Participants should leave with a basic understanding of how type is set, and how prints are made.

Presenter: Megan Cundiff

This session is an introduction into different styles of jazz dance including theatrical jazz, contemporary jazz, street jazz, Fosse style and jazz technique.

A Picture is Worth A Thousand Words (Give or Take a Few)

Art+Design 109

Presenter: Stephanie McCarley Dugger

The reader is necessary for a poem to matter; without bringing our own experience to a text, we miss it's potential. The same can be said for art. In this session, we will consider a work of art then respond to it by writing a poem that reflects how our own unique experiences influence our interpretation of the work.

Imagination in Pieces

Art+Design 107

This session repeats on June 21st from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Presenter: Wayne Brezinka

"Each of us is an artist of our days; the greater our integrity and awareness, the more original and creative our time will become." - John O'Donahue. Nashville-based artist Wayne Brezinka will be leading a unique exercise in mixed media. Join us as we investigate the physical qualities of art through objects both common and unexpected. Come with a willing attitude to experiment and learn by doing.

Ukulele for Beginners

Art+Design 103

Presenter: René Villarreal

Attendees will learn the four beginning chords on the ukulele and play, with the presenter, the song "Let it Be" by the Beatles.



TN4ARTS
TENNESSEANS FOR THE ARTS

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Conference Reception

Join Tennesseans For The Arts and the Clarksville-Montgomery County Arts & Heritage Development Council for an evening of hors d'oeuvres, drinks and music by the **Cumberland Winds Jazz Combo**.

The reception takes place at the Customs House Museum and Cultural Center located at 200 South 2nd Street in Clarksville. Shuttles, located outside the Art+Design building, are available from the APSU campus to the reception. Dinner is on your own following the reception.



THURSDAY, JUNE 21

8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER BREAKFAST

Peer-to-Peer loosely facilitated conversations. Join your peer group to discuss topics relevant to your work in arts management and education. Peer groups include:

Executive Directors/Board Members facilitated by Anne B. Pope	MUC 306
Teachers/Teaching Artists facilitated by Ann Brown and Meredith Callis	MUC 303
Folklife facilitated by Dr. Bradley Hanson and Dr. Langston Wilkins	MUC 312
Development Directors facilitated by Carol White	MUC 305
Local Arts Agencies facilitated by Shannon Ford	MUC 305
Individual Artists facilitated by Lee Baird	MUC 308
Emerging Leaders facilitated by Kim Johnson	MUC 310
Marketing/Communications Directors facilitated by Suzanne Lynch	MUC 308
Centers of Art Learning facilitated by Krishna Adams	MUC 312

9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

MindBenders Plenary Presentation

Morgan University Center (MUC)

Dan Goods, Visual Strategist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Dan Goods is passionate about creating experiences where people are reminded of the gift and privilege of being alive. Come hear about his unconventional route to working at NASA, his process, and his new endeavor, the Museum of Awe.

This plenary presentation includes a performance by the Nashville Ballet.

Emergence choreographed by Gerald Watson

Featuring Imani Sailors, Nashville Ballet Company Apprentice and Addison Goodwin, NB2 Artist.

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Coffee break

MUC 314

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

DIGGING DEEPER WITH DESIGN THINKING: PART II

In partnership with Bridge Innovate

MUC 303, 305, 306-308, 310-312

Presenters: Dan Goods, Tamara Gatchell, Tabitha Kapic and Mary Kim

Led by Design Thinking experts, all conference participants will explore real-world application of the Design Thinking process with their colleagues during Part II. This session will be preceded by Part I on June 20th where participants will attend introductory training in Design Thinking.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Teaching Artist Showcase & Lunch

MUC Ballroom

Learn about the work of six professional teaching artists from throughout Tennessee while you enjoy lunch in the University Center Ballroom. These short presentations will include musical performances, theatrical reenactments, poetry recitations and more.

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

REPEAT DESIGN THINKING SESSIONS

Sparkplug-inspired sessions with a Design Thinking emphasis.

These Design Thinking Sessions are repeated on Wednesday, June 20th from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. unless otherwise noted.



Building Your Creative Resume

Art+Design 111

Presenter: R.L. Gibson

Is your creative resume getting you where you want to go? How do you choose which shows to pursue? Are online galleries worth your time? As a working artist, R.L. Gibson offers two decades of experience as a juror, gallerist and arts administrator in addition to her current position as the Editor of artandartdeadlines.com. Join us to learn how to choose a strategy and build the resume you need to get where you want to go. This 45-minute seminar will be followed by a Q&A session.

More than Traditional Arts & Crafts: How to Design Creative Arts Programs to Engage Seniors in Lifelong Learning and Healthy Outcomes

MUC 305

Presenters: Sonya Maize-Abrams, Sarah Martin McConnell and Jennifer Roberts

With the U.S. and State of Tennessee experiencing a surge of growth in its older population, seniors are looking for creative ways to stay connected, active and engaged for a lifetime through the arts. This workshop will explore the success stories and lessons learned from creative aging staff who have implemented innovative programs for seniors.

Linear vs. Non-Linear Thinking or How to Tell your Story so that People Notice

Art+Design 206

Presenter: Leslie Haines

You may have an amazing product but if you can't connect with your audience in a memorable way, your message can easily get passed over. Learn how to improve your conceptual thinking skills, overcome creative road blocks, and hone in on messaging that matters. Through the use of visual examples and engaging exercises this session will teach you how to make the most of the creative process. You'll leave inspired with helpful techniques that you can apply to your next marketing challenge.

Reaching Your Community: Fieldwork Methods for Arts and Culture Organizations

Art+Design 208

Presenters: Liza Blair, Jeff Kollath, and Dr. Bradley Hanson

Cultural fieldwork—spending time with, observing, interviewing and documenting members of your organization's immediate community—is a valuable and uniquely effective method for developing authentic engagement, empathy, and programming. This panel will present strategies and skills from two arts and culture organizations, Stax Museum of American Soul Music and the Creative Discovery Museum, that have recently made community-based fieldwork part of their strategic design.

Creative Solutions in Arts Management

Art+Design 104

Presenter: Dr. Janice Crews

This course examines the creative solutions of successful arts administrators while exploring fundamentals such as arts advocacy, programming, marketing, audience development, advancement, and financial management. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences in arts management and analyze varying business models. Geared towards arts administrators working in organizations with public arts programs and/or arts education programs.

Partnering for Invested \$uccess!

Art+Design 204

Presenters: Bridgett Massengill and Kathleen Nolte

Is funding holding you back from starting an arts movement in your town? Are you a small community with limited resources? Learn about a collaborative approach between a regionally-sized nonprofit and a philanthropic foundation that partnered together around common goals to fund the beginnings of an arts and culture movement in eight small-sized cities and towns across a 16-county region. Learn how seed funding was used to catalyze additional funders to step forward in rural towns.

Train the Trainer. Think Like a Designer: A Session for Educators

Art+Design 102

Presenter: Mary Kim

During this one-hour workshop, participants will be guided by a Design Thinking expert to learn how to facilitate a creative Design Thinking session, Redesign the Backpack, for students. The session aims to equip the participants with the design thinking methodology in a short-duration of time while encouraging creative confidence and skills for defining insights, brainstorming, and prototyping for students.

Visual Arts in Elementary Music

Art+Design 106

Presenter: Dr. Eric Branscome

In this session, participants will engage in arts-based music lessons that teach, reinforce and assess elementary music concepts and skills through art activities and projects. Participants will be provided with sample lessons and templates for various activities.

Outcomes-Based Program Development

Art+Design 109

Presenters: Shannon Ford and Laurie Melnik

After the show is over, what results can you claim? How do those results square with what you sought to achieve in the first place? What change, big or small, is your program making in people's lives? Explore how starting with where you want to end up in program planning can improve the journey to getting there. This session will explore methods and resources for outcomes-based program development.

Think Fast! Lesson Plans Pitched in 20x20 Format

Art+Design 103

Presenters: Ayana Clemmons joined by Cameron Williams, Joshua Batenhorst, Elam McKnight and Meredith Callis (facilitator)

In these fast-paced presentations, you will hear lesson plan ideas pitched by teaching artists in the Pecha Kucha format—20 slides, with 20 seconds per slide. This fun challenge provides a wonderful opportunity for those in attendance to learn a wide range of content in a short amount of time.

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

SPARKPLUG SESSIONS & ARTS EXPERIENCES

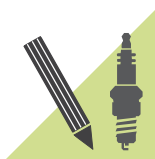
Learn practical skills and tools needed for daily work in arts management and education or participate in select arts experiences to close out your conference experience.

Applying for and Managing Grants with the Tennessee Arts Commission

Art+Design 111

Presenter: Lee Baird

In this informal session, we will discuss the process of applying for Tennessee Arts Commission grants including navigating the online grant system as well as what makes a successful application.



Topics will include budgets, outcomes, and evaluation. It will also be an opportunity for current and future grantees to ask any questions they might have regarding the Commission's activities, processes and programs.

MAAP: What in the World is It and Why Do I Need to Know?

Art+Design 109

Presenters: Krishna Adams and Brenda Stein

Discover the engaging ways the Tennessee Arts Commission is promoting and encouraging mentorship in craft traditions and how to get involved. The Master Artist Apprentice Program (MAAP) is a cooperative partnership of the Tennessee Arts Commission and Tennessee Craft. The mission of this collaboration is to encourage and invest in the continuation, advancement and creation of craft in Tennessee by recognizing the role of the master craft artist and apprentice relationship as a way to preserve the state's cultural heritage. This partnership provides Tennessee craft artists with relevant and alternative educational experiences, promotes and facilitates fine craft as a viable career path for Tennessee artists, fosters deliberate mentoring, facilitates professional development of emerging Tennessee craft artists, increases the pool of Tennessee craft artists and provides Tennessee craft artists with alternative means of professional funding.

Navigating Tennessee's New Music Standards

Art+Design 106

Presenter: Dr. Eric Branscome

This session will compare and contrast the current music standards with the new standards set to take place in the 2018 academic year. The session will include key concepts, new vocabulary and tools for communicating the new strategies to campus-level administrators.

Artist Building, not Blocked

Art+Design 102

Presenter: R.L. Gibson

Can't produce because you're stuck in a cycle of procrastination? Deadlines looming? How do you break out of your creative rut? As a working artist, R.L. Gibson offers two decades of experience as a juror, gallerist and arts administrator in addition to her current position as the Editor of ArtandArtdeadlines.com. Join us to learn 10 tips and techniques for clearing the fog and finding focus with projects that inspire without pressure. This 45-minute seminar will be followed by a Q&A session.

Improv for Everyone

Trahern 202

This session repeats on June 20th from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., 2:40 - 3:40 p.m., and 3:50 - 4:50 p.m.

Presenter: Talon Beeson

This workshop is designed to remind attendees that we all use basic improv skills in our everyday lives. Using techniques from Viola Spolin and Keith Johnstone, participants will play in the world of "following the follower" to become more nimble in conversation, business dealings and personal interaction. This is an "on your feet" workshop, allowing the attendees to work and play in the moment, without restraint.

Virtual Reality Art

Art+Design 206

This session repeats on June 20th from 3:50 - 4:50 p.m.

Presenter: Scott Raymond

Have you ever wanted to walk through a painting? This will be an introduction to virtual reality painting with Tilt Brush on the Oculus Rift VR system. Participants will have a chance to paint in the virtual volume and experience this emerging medium.

The Art of Letterpress

Art+Design 104

This session repeats on June 20th from 3:50 - 4:50 p.m.

Presenter: Jana Gilbert

In this session, participants will learn the basics of the art of letterpress. Using the Gold Smith wooden type collection at APSU, each individual will be able to ink, and pull their very own print to take with them. Participants should leave with a basic understanding of how type is set, and how prints are made.

Imagination in Pieces

Art+Design 107

Presenter: Wayne Brezinka

"Each of us is an artist of our days; the greater our integrity and awareness, the more original and creative our time will become." -John O'Donahue. Nashville-based artist Wayne Brezinka will be leading a unique exercise in mixed media. Join us as we investigate the physical qualities of art through objects both common and unexpected. Come with a willing attitude to experiment and learn by doing.

Close Out Grant Paperwork

Art+Design 204

Presenters: TN Arts Commission Staff

This session is for conference attendees who were awarded Special Opportunities Grants to participate in the conference and need assistance closing out their grants.

Traditional Buck Dancing

Art+Design 103

Presenter: Thomas Maupin

Join legendary Tennessee buck dancer Thomas Maupin as he takes beginners step-by-step through his award-winning dance style. A 2017 recipient of the NEA National Heritage Fellowship and a winner of over 60 first place awards in contests across the region, Thomas Maupin is widely considered one of the United States' most gifted practitioners of flatfoot buck dancing. A percussive dance similar to, but older than, tap dance and clogging, buck dancing can be enjoyed by dancers at all ages and skill levels. Join Thomas on your feet, or simply watch and enjoy a master folk artist at work.

The Arts and TN Military Communities

Trahern Auditorium 220

Presenters: Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder, Anne B. Pope, Matt Brown, Linda Parris-Bailey and facilitated by Hal Partlow

A substantial body of research has established that arts engagement yields physical, cognitive and emotional benefits—such as efficacious recovery from injury and illness, healthy aging, and improved interpersonal relationships and outlook on life. There is growing recognition that the arts can play a particularly powerful role in efforts supporting active-duty service members, reservists, veterans, their families and other members of the military community.

Following the leadership of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Military Healing Arts Partnership, this session will discuss what organizations are currently doing in their communities for Tennessee's military, reservists, veterans, & their families, and what initiatives are being taken by the Tennessee Arts Commission to foster the growth of arts programming in this area.

3:45 - 4:15 p.m.

END REMARKS WITH DOOR PRIZES

Trahern Auditorium 220

Join all conference attendees for closing remarks and a drawing for door prizes – we have great stuff! You must be present to participate in the drawing for door prizes.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Wednesday, June 20, 11:00 a.m., Mindbenders Plenary



Natalie Nixon, PhD

Natalie W. Nixon, PhD is a design strategist and a hybrid thinker. At Figure 8 Thinking, LLC she helps organizations accelerate innovation and growth by developing meaningful strategy through design thinking and ethnographic research. She applies her diverse background in service design, anthropology and fashion, to help clients with culture transformation, leadership development, ideation sessions and envisioning labs.

Natalie is a Fellow at the Paris d.School and a lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania in social innovation and design for social impact and a Senior Advisor at Econsult Solutions. She is the Founding Director of the Strategic Design MBA program at Philadelphia University where she was a professor in design strategy and fashion management.

Natalie earned her BA (Honors: Cum Laude) from Vassar College with a double major in Anthropology and Africana Studies; an MS in Global Textile Marketing from Philadelphia University (USA), Shenkar College (Israel) & Reutlingen University (Germany); and a PhD in Design Management from the University of Westminster, London.

Wednesday, June 20 and Thursday, June 21

Bridge Innovate



Bridge Innovate use business transformation, management consulting, and design thinking techniques to solve complex challenges. A global network of business strategists, consultants and leaders, we work alongside your team to create defining moments for your organization.



Tamara Gatchell is a Principal with Bridge Innovate® and serves as Research and Technology Leader. Her experience in design thinking is broad having completed certification with IDEO's design thinking methodology through ExperiencePoint and serving as design thinking coach on numerous design thinking transformations. From leading design thinking Hackathons to design coaching for economic growth, Tamara has a proven consulting and innovation track record.

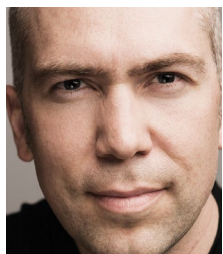


Tabitha Kacic serves Bridge Innovate® in Strategy and Organizational Development. Internationally, she has worked with the U.S. Commerce Department, American Embassy in London, and served as President of Medair United States, supporting the Swiss-based humanitarian organization. In the United States, she has helped for profit and nonprofit organizations refine their strategic visions, while powerfully fulfilling their missions.



Mary Kim serves as the director of Bright Spark™, Bridge Innovate's social impact initiative to ignite creative confidence within students and educators. Mary also oversees Innovation for Good®, a new corporate responsibility program, as well as provides design advisory for Bridge Innovate clients.

Thursday, June 21, 11:00 a.m., Mindbenders Plenary



Dan Goods

Dan Goods is passionate about creating experiences where people are reminded of the gift and privilege of being alive.

During the day he runs The Studio at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a team developing creative ways of communicating and working to transform complex concepts into meaningful stories that can be universally understood. After hours he works on creative projects around the world. Currently he is collaborating with others on new public art pieces in San Diego and San Francisco and is developing the "Museum of Awe" with David Delgado and Ivan Amato. An experience of art, science, theater and surprise.

In 2002 Goods graduated valedictorian from Art Center College of Design. Recently he was selected as "One of the most interesting people in Los Angeles". He lives in Altadena, CA with his wife and three kids.

GUEST ARTISTS

Wednesday, June 20, 11:00 a.m., Mindbenders Plenary



Connie Florance

The scope of Connie's career has included most every facet of the industry; studio, stage, television and film. She has sung jingles for Van Camps Food and Major League Baseball, hosted a PBS Literacy Link educational series produced by KET; been the voice of the "WB" on a number of Warner Brothers jingles across the country, and has even sung country ... as a background vocalist on the Elton John/Tammy Wynette duet "What a Woman Needs." Her film, theater and television credits include the feature film, *The Client*, *Proud Heart*, starring Lorrie Morgan; and the role of Ramona in the 2000 independent film festival favorite, *Existo*. Connie has toured nationally with Columbia Artists and vocalist Jennifer Holliday; as featured vocalist with Modern Jazz Tuba Project; with the Nashville Jazz

Orchestra; and with her own award-winning trio of musicians. She has shared the stage with numerous notables, including Steinway artist Beegie Adair; Grammy award-winner Randy Brecker; and vocalist and grammy-award winning songwriter Benita Hill. Connie is a vocal performance instructor at Nashville Jazz Workshop and is enjoying the success of her one-woman show, *Jazz Rhapsody*. Connie enjoys working as an actress, but admits it is singing which truly keeps her world in check.

Wednesday, June 20, 5:30 p.m., Reception at Customs House Museum



The Cumberland Winds Jazz Combo

The Cumberland Winds Jazz Combo consists of professionals who perform throughout the region. From the Rivers and Spires Festival to private functions, the Jazz Combo has reached a broad audience of young and old alike. They perform jazz standards from the '30s to the present day that include Latin jazz, popular songs, bossa nova, be-bop, swing, including some music from the pop charts and movie soundtracks.

Thursday, June 21, 11:00 a.m., Mindbenders Plenary



Nashville Ballet

Since its founding in 1986, Nashville Ballet has grown to become the largest professional ballet company in Tennessee, presenting a varied repertoire of classical ballet and contemporary works by noted choreographers.

The performance is choreographed by Gerald Watson, who studied at the Boston Conservatory and graduated in 2012 with a BFA in contemporary dance. In 2012, Mr. Watson joined Nashville Ballet's NB2 and was promoted to company apprentice in 2014. Watson was promoted to company member in 2016 and helped create Nashville Ballet's Young Men's Scholarship Program. He

has also been a guest artist with Commonwealth Ballet Company, BalletRox Urban Nutcracker and The Diva Day Foundation.

PRESENTERS

Lindsey Bassett is a ceramic artist based out of Clarksville, Tennessee. She graduated from APSU in May of 2017 with a BFA in Studio Arts, and currently teaches ceramic classes through the Community School for the Arts and independently through The Pottery Room in Clarksville. She specializes in thrown forms and surface design.

Josh Batenhorst is the Chief Operating Officer of Bright Star Touring Theatre, a company dedicated to entertaining, engaging and educating young audiences. Bright Star provides over 2000 performances per year all around the world – from Seattle, Washington, to Moscow, Russia! Josh has been a professional theatre artist since graduating with honors from Southwestern University in 2001. He holds an MBA from Wake Forest and is a Teaching Fellow with the internationally recognized arts integration program, A+ Schools of NC.

Talon Beeson is an Assistant Professor of Acting & Directing at Austin Peay State University. Degrees: BFA Musical Theatre - Shenandoah Conservatory. MFA Acting - DePaul. Theatre: Lexington Children's Theatre, SSMT, *Psyched: A New Musical - Original Cast*, *Hell in a Handbag Chicago* among others. Film/TV: *Tell Her No*, *Black Sunshine*, *It Was Good* and many more. VO: *Suspense!* (3X Peabody Nominated,) *Divorce Court* (Emmy Nomination,) *Red Lobster*, *Johnsonville* and as an actor/director for many video games/TV shows. Recently he was nominated for a SOVAS award for the audio book, *Wonder*. His book *Starting Your Career in Voice-Overs* is available everywhere. He can be reached at talonbeeson.com or talonfb@gmail.com.

Liza Blair is a folklorist working in Chattanooga, Tennessee and is the Arts Manager for the Creative Discovery Museum, a position she has held for the past twelve years. She is responsible for creating lessons and experiences for youth and adults; writing exhibit content; developing arts programming; establishing relationships among artists, artist communities and Chattanooga's diverse ethnic communities; and presenting annual cultural events. She has facilitated and designed folklife events and festivals; worked with regional groups developing exhibitions and implementing cultural tourism projects; created photo documentation materials for marketing purposes and websites; and implemented oral history projects.

Dr. Eric Branscome is Associate Professor of Music and Music Department chair at Austin Peay State University. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music education, and supervises music student teachers. Dr. Branscome also directs Camp Granada, a summer music day camp for elementary students. Dr. Branscome is the author of *Camp Granada: An Elementary Music Camp Curriculum* (Rowman and Littlefield), *Music Career Advising: A Guide for Students, Parents, and Teachers* (Rowman & Littlefield), *Essential Listening Activities*, *Essential Rhythm Activities*, and *Music Board Game Workshop* (Alfred Publications). His other publications and research interests include elementary curriculum development, music teacher education and music career advising.

Alandis Brassel, Program Director of the Arts & Business Council, loves helping artists turn creative ideas into viable businesses. He comes to the Council from the Office of Congressman Jim Cooper, where he served as counsel and advised on intellectual property and music industry policy. Alandis received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School and graduated from Hampton University with a B.S. in Music Engineering Technology and from New York University with an M.A. in Music Business. He is admitted to the bar of Tennessee. Prior to law school, Alandis owned and operated Go Forth Music, where he managed projects for artists and provided audio engineering services for clients including Bloomberg Television, the Charlie Rose show, Island Def Jam, and Timbaland.

Wayne Brezinka is an award-winning artist and illustrator hailing from Nashville, Tennessee. He works with paper, paint, found and repurposed items, telling stories through image with strong and intelligent conceptual solutions. As a contributing artist to publications including *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *POLITICO Europe*, Deloitte University Press and *The Tampa Bay Times*, his work has been recognized by the Society of Illustrators, *Communications Arts*, *Print Magazine* and 3x3. For more insight on Wayne and his work, or to commission or discuss a project in detail, visit waynebrezinka.com.

Matthew Brown, PhD, is a writer and educator based in Nashville. In 2009, he founded Writer Corps, a community literacy project that helps veterans develop their stories of service and share them with peers and the public at large. Writer Corps produces a literary journal, *DMZ*, which is circulated in veterans groups, libraries and universities. Chapters of Writer Corps and related community literacy programs based on its original model operate throughout the U.S. and Middle East. Writer Corps was featured recently on the nationally-televised public television series *Veterans Coming Home* as a program that helps veterans find community and a renewed sense of purpose through prose and poetry. Matthew currently teaches writing and literature at Middle Tennessee State University and is the author of the forthcoming book *Thou Art That* published by Cherry Grove Collections.

Ayana Clemmons is a dancer, southern freedom fighter, and Full Circle Teaching artist living in Chattanooga, TN. She is a member of Concerned Citizens for Justice, working with community leaders and activists across the global South to dismantle white supremacy, patriarchy, capitalism, and police brutality. Ayana is a proud black female of the south and is on the path towards freedom, liberation, and cultural healing. She believes in the power of the arts and strives to transform the education system for all marginalized folks through integration work.

Cherri Coleman, of Fairy Godmother Productions, has been supporting the dreams of young artists and educators for more than 30 years. Choreographer, storyteller, creativity coach and curriculum writer, Cherri has produced and directed more than 150 student-led dance and storytelling performances, interpreted art through story for the Frist Center for the Visual Arts and coached young performers for careers on Broadway, in film and music.

Deanne Collins, Ed.D. works as a freelance artist presenting performances, residencies, workshops and original plays for educational and cultural organizations. Dr. Collins enjoys residencies with Borderless Arts (formerly VSA Tennessee) in playwriting, dance, theatre, STEM and STEAM programs. Deanne has traveled throughout the United States as one of the original Dance Movement specialists for the National Endowment for the Arts, Artist-in-Schools Program and has presented for and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC "Events for Teachers." Deanne's education includes a B.F.A. from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, a Master's and Doctorate from Peabody College at Vanderbilt University. While Assistant Professor of Speech and Theater at Lane College in Jackson, TN, she developed the curriculum for a degree in Theater. She has written several plays including *Scathe*, an Historical Outdoor Drama, *Ledbetter's Family Reunion: From Belle Meade to Buck Snort*, *The Nutcracker Story at Rippavilla*, and *The Window: Expressions of Anne Frank*.

Dr. Janice Crews is an oboist, music educator, and arts administrator from Athens, Georgia. She has taught at the elementary, middle, high school, and college levels and has lead over 50 professional learning workshops for K-12 educators. Janice was previously on the faculty of University of West Georgia and directed educational programs with both the Atlanta Symphony and Charleston Symphony Orchestras. Currently, Janice is the Director of the Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts and the Community School of the Arts at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee. Janice holds degrees from The University of Georgia (BME, MM) and Louisiana State University (DMA).

Trish Crist, presently the CEO of NECAT (Nashville Education, Community, and Arts Television), loves to see a good story told well – either succinctly or in detail, as fits the situation at hand. Prior to joining NECAT in 2013, Trish was Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations for The Nature Conservancy, and before that she was part of the original team that rolled out Dolly Parton's Imagination Library statewide for Governor Phil Bredesen through the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation. She loves to take a big story and whittle it into the tastiest, most compelling sentence possible.

Megan Cundiff is a rising Junior at Austin Peay State University who is double majoring in Dance and Health and Human Performance with a licensure to teach. The majority of her training began at the technical studio of Arts in Motion in Kingston, TN. Megan was accepted into Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts at MTSU, and trained in classes in Nashville and at New York City's Broadway Dance Center. Megan started teaching dance classes at 15 years old and she is currently teaching ballet and tap at a nonprofit dance studio in Clarksville and ballet and jazz at Austin Peay through the Community School for the Arts.

Michael Dickins is an interdisciplinary artist that works in visual imagery and sound, both layered with original and appropriated images and sounds with a focus on social and political commentary. His work has been exhibited throughout the Southeastern U.S. as well as Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Denver, Houston, San Diego, Portland, Augusta (Maine), Istanbul and Berlin. He has twice been a featured artist at both {Re}Happening at Black Mountain College and ArtFields. Michael earned an MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College and a BFA from Georgia Southern University. He is currently the Director of Galleries at Austin Peay State University, where he oversees curation and programming for The New Gallery and the university's permanent art collection. He lives and works in Clarksville, Tennessee.

Stephanie McCarley Dugger is the author of *Either Way, You're Done* (Sundress Publications, 2017). Her chapbook *Sterling* (Paper Nautilus, 2015) was co-winner of the 2014 Vella Chapbook contest. Her work has appeared in *The Boiler Journal*, *Gulf Stream*, *Heron Tree*, *Meridian*, *The Southeast Review*, *Spoon River Poetry Review*, and other journals. She is an assistant professor at Austin Peay State University and is Assistant Poetry Editor for Zone 3 Press.

Bailey Earith is a mixed media fiber artist and teaching artist in Maryville, TN. She offers artist-in-residencies to K-12 students through the STS grant. Using her Occupational Therapy skills, she specializes in teaching academics through art to children with disabilities. She has art work in collections around the world. She has been published extensively in magazines and books for her innovative work in the studio and as an artist-in-residence. She is proud to be a Borderless Arts and Tennessee Arts Commission artist roster member and is associated with the Knoxville Arts & Culture Alliance. See more at BaileyFiberArt.com.

Dr. Brad Foust is the District Fine Arts Specialist for Bartlett City Schools in Bartlett, Tennessee and is an online instructor of music for Southern New Hampshire University. He holds degrees in music education, music performance, and education administration. Dr. Foust has worked as a teacher and administrator for over 20 years, and from 2009-2013, was the Project Director for the Shelby County Schools Arts Infusion Project, a U.S. Department of Education grant program. He has presented at workshops and conferences across the country, and he is currently researching arts integration evaluation techniques.

Louis Frazor, of Shelbyville, Tennessee, is a second generation square dance caller, having learned the tradition from his father, Herman Douglas Frazor. Louis acquired the skills by closely listening, dancing, and imitating. He first called a dance at age 18, at Riverwood Riding Academy in Englewood, TN, when he was forced to fill in for his father, who had lost his voice. Since then, he has called dances for 42 years, mostly on Saturday nights, at venues including the VFWs in Gallatin and Hendersonville, Pleasantview Community Center, the Carver Fun Center in Lebanon, TN, Cherry Tree Orchard in Rutherford County, TN, and the West End Roller Rink on Highway 70. As he explains plainly, "I've called here, there, and everywhere."

Amanda Galbraith is an art educator with Bartlett City Schools as was a 2017-18 SCORE Educator Fellow. She has served on the TDOE subject matter expert committee, two standards revision committees, and numerous curriculum development teams. Amanda is the director of the Arts Leadership, Administration, and Assessment track at the Tennessee Arts Academy, a member of the Tennessee Art Education Association, the secretary of the Bartlett Arts Council, and a frequent presenter at local, state, and national conferences.

R.L. Gibson (Rachel) works as both an illustrator & xerographer with work in galleries from New York to Los Angeles along with commissioned pieces, including book illustration. After years of working, almost exclusively, as a xerographer, Rachel is currently exploring work that combines xerography with traditional media including illustration & painting. Rachel offers two decades of experience as a juror, gallerist and arts administrator (performing and visual arts, both for-profit and nonprofit) in addition to her current position as the Editor of artandartdeadlines.com, a quirky, food-themed art site offering FREE resources to artists. While Rachel calls east Tennessee home, she spends more than half the year on the road performing and speaking throughout the U.S.

Jana Gilbert is a graphic designer and printmaker living in Clarksville, TN. Gilbert received a Bachelor's degree in Visual Communications from Austin Peay State University. Since graduation Gilbert has shown her prints in galleries such as the Turnip Green Gallery and the L Gallery at the Arcade in Nashville. Most recently Gilbert had a solo show at the FrameMaker showcasing her newest body of work, *The Greyin*

Clarksville. Gilbert currently works as the Print Shop Supervisor at APSU and continues her work with letterpress and relief printing.

Dr. Many-Bears Grinder is the Commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Veterans Services. She is the first woman to serve the State of Tennessee in this capacity. In order to accept the appointment, Grinder retired from the Tennessee Army National Guard as a Colonel with more than 35 years of service. The Operation Enduring Freedom combat veteran served in Afghanistan as the Head of Secretariat for the International Police Coordination Board. Dr. Grinder holds a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College and a Master's Degree in Human Resource Development from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Public Service from Maryville College in 2016 and was inducted into the Fort Benning Hall of Fame in 2004. Her military awards include the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal.

Ryan Gothrup has been an educator of glassblowing for over 18 years. From youth starting at the age of ten years-old to the elderly and students with learning differences, he has taught glassblowing to a wide variety of students. After receiving his MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University, he spent six years teaching at the college level and for the past seven years he has been using his mobile glass trailer to educate on location.

Sandra "Sam" Hahn is a graduate of Oklahoma City University. She has proudly been a part of the Cumberland County Playhouse in Crossville, TN for the past 22 years and is currently the Technical/Concert Producer as well as the Accessibility Advocate. Accessibility is an important mission and passion for Sam since she has watched her spouse who is deaf frequently encounter barriers to fully enjoying the arts.

Leslie Haines joined Middle Tennessee State University in 2013 to teach Visual Communication where she has received tenure. Previously, Leslie served 12 years as chair of Graphic Design programs at The Art Institute of Tennessee-Nashville and Watkins College of Art & Design. Leslie runs her own graphic design business and her work has been honored by the American Advertising Federation, University College Designers Association, Printing Industry Association of the South, *HOW Magazine* and other publications. Haines has an MFA in Graphic Design from Marywood University and an MA in Advertising Design from Syracuse University.

Dr. Lee Harris serves as Coordinator of Music Education. He joined the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) faculty in 1995, initially as Music Director for the Southeast Center for Education in the Arts. Prior to this appointment, he taught choral and general music in Arkansas, Tennessee and Texas. Lee holds a Master Class certificate in Orff Schulwerk and Kodály certification. In 2000, he established the Kodály Institute at UTC (KIUTC), a professional development program for music teachers from across the United States and Canada. In 2005, KIUTC was endorsed by the Organization of American Kodály Educators.

Jennie Harriman is an art educator and author who works with children to build confidence through woodworking. She knows from experience that woodworking fosters trust, respect, and creativity. Jennie shares her love of woodworking in preschools, homeschool and after-school programs, community centers, intergenerational programs, school residencies, and with students with special needs. Jennie has trained adults at the NAEYC Conference and Laurapalooza (Laura Ingalls Wilder Conference). She holds an MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts and an MA in Early Childhood Education and has been teaching for twenty-five years. Jennie made the book, *Hammer, Saw, Drill* with forty preschoolers. Visit artwithjennie.com.

Valerie Houston is a singer, actress, playwright and composer from Memphis, TN. Valerie has worked with Blues City Cultural Center for the past four years, as well as Hattiloo Theatre and Playhouse on the Square. Believing that the music and theatre should be used to increase love, humanity and knowledge within society, she performs her written theatrical presentation of the life of Madam C.J. Walker, America's first female and African-American millionaire. In a script filled with adversity and victories, Valerie captures Madam's true spirit of perseverance and entrepreneurship of resembled in today's youth. Valerie uses her gifts of storytelling, singing and acting to present to Tennessee students an American story filled with challenges prevailed.

Jeff Kollath has been the Executive Director of the Stax Museum of American Soul Music since 2015. He previously worked as Director of Museum Experience at the Milwaukee County Historical Society in Madison, Wisconsin and as the public humanities manager for the Center for Humanities at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He holds a Bachelor's degree in History and a Master's in Public History.

Sarah Martin McConnell is the Founder and Executive Director of Music for Seniors, which is now celebrating 10 years of connecting area musicians with older adults for live and interactive music programs (outreach, public concerts and instruction). Sarah received her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas and her Master's in Social Work from the University of Tennessee. A professional musician, singer and songwriter since 1976, and twice featured as a "New Folk Artist at the Kerrville Folk Festival" in Texas, her accomplishments include solo performer as well as lead vocalist with various jazz and pop bands across the U.S. and as vocalist and on-camera talent for national radio and TV commercials.

Dr. Sonya R. Maize-Abrams is a Board Certified Holistic Health Practitioner through the American Association of Drugless Practitioners who brings over 29 years of experience in the encouragement and uplifting of others. Dr. Abrams has published five books, *After Deployment*, *Encourage*, *30 The Journal*, *My Daddy and Me Coloring Book* and *Dear God*. Dr. Abrams is also a Certified Life Coach "Accountability Partner", Certified Mentor by the Memphis Grizzly Foundation, Certified Suicide Prevention Trainer by Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network, Certified Family Support Specialist, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, Certified Peer Counselor and Certified teacher with NAMI. She also holds a diploma in Psychology, Mental Health Studies, Insomnia Practitioner, and Improve Your Memory.

Bridgett Massengill serves as the President and CEO of the Thrive Regional Partnership, working to ignite and sustain a vision of responsible and inspired growth across the tristate Chattanooga region. Leveraging two decades of transformative work in various roles including a legislative budget analysis specialist to the Tennessee General Assembly, the executive director of a downtown development authority in northeast Tennessee, and a former contractor through the National Main Street Center to the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development's Main Street Program, she enjoys being a catalyst for grass-roots driven approaches to community revitalization and growth.

Thomas Maupin is a 2017 recipient of the NEA National Heritage Fellowship and a winner of over 60 first place awards in contests across the region. He is widely considered Tennessee's most gifted practitioner of flatfoot buck dancing. Buck dancing is a percussive dance similar to, but older than, tap dance and clogging. Its roots go back to an early American melding of Scots-Irish step dance with African-American dance and rhythm. He learned the basics of this improvisational dance form as a child and continued to hone his skills throughout his life.

Elam McKnight is a singer/songwriter from West Tennessee firmly based in the roots of his region. Elam's 7 albums have all received critical accolades and radio airplay worldwide with one receiving the Best Blues Song award in the 7th Annual Independent Music Awards. Elam has toured America, Europe and shared the stage with many legendary performers including Jonny Lang, Little Milton, BB King, and many others. Elam is a licensed educator with 24 years of educational experience. Currently he is a Middle School Social Studies teacher and continually makes music an integral part of his classroom.

Jill McMillan is a lifelong arts enthusiast and serves the cultural sector as the Executive Director of the Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville. As Director, Jill fulfills the Arts & Business Council's artist-centric mission to cultivate Nashville's creative community through direct support services and key educational opportunities; and is an advocate for artists at the local, state, and national levels. Jill earned her Bachelor's in Integrated Marketing Communication from Pepperdine University, taught with Teach for America in Phoenix, and has previously worked with various cultural organizations including ArtsBoston, Broadway In Boston, and the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston.

Laurie Melnik is the Executive Director of the Southeast Center for Education in the Arts (SCEA) at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC). Laurie has been the principal investigator on multiple projects including investigating visual art and theatre praxis in medical curriculum and creating an arts-

based learning lab professional development model. She has an M.F.A. in Theatre with a concentration in Theatre for Young Audiences from the University of Central Florida and an M.P.A. in Nonprofit Management from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Ms. Melnik is also on the Tennessee Arts Commission teaching artist roster.

Lisa Mays Millman, CPA serves as President of Millman CPA Strategic Solutions, PC, founded in 2005 with a specialty in accounting for nonprofit organizations. Lisa served six years on the Tennessee State Board of Accountancy and on several NASBA committees. Her past community roles have included serving as the V.P. of Finance and Treasurer for the Junior League of Nashville, board member for the White House Chamber of Commerce and All About Women and President and co-chair of the PTO at her childrens' schools. In 2005, she was appointed as the first female Alderman of the City of White House.

Kathleen Nolte is the program officer for arts and culture with the Lyndhurst Foundation. Based in Chattanooga, Kathleen also appreciates visiting outlying communities to discover artistic and creative interventions in rural settings. Prior to Lyndhurst, Kathleen founded the Cherokee County Arts Council and also managed a grant from the NC Rural Economic Development Center, Small Towns, a community-driven process to build on existing assets to increase vibrancy and economic opportunity for the Town of Murphy, NC. Kathleen has B.A. degrees in Spanish and Political Science and a M.A. in Conflict Transformation, with many years' experience working in nonprofit organizations.

Linda Parris-Bailey is the Executive/Artistic Director of the Knoxville, TN-based Carpetbag Theatre Inc., a professional, multigenerational ensemble company dedicated to the production of new works. She is the primary Playwright in residence and the recipient of the 2015 Doris Duke Artist Award in Theater. Her story-based plays with music are focused on themes of transformation and empowerment. Her current work, *Speed Killed My Cousin* (2012), presents the story of a young, African-American female veteran of the Iraq War, and her struggle with Moral Injury, Post Traumatic Stress disorder and Military Sexual Trauma. *Between a Ballad and a Blues* (2008), her ode to Appalachian renaissance man Howard "Louie Blueie" Armstrong, was developed with support from the NPN Creation Fund (2007) and the Arts Presenters Ensemble Theatre Collaborations (2006). She is a founding member of Alternate ROOTS and Senior Advisor to the International Women Playwrights Conference.

Scott Raymond spent eight years at DreamWorks Animation, first as a crowds artist and then as an animator. He has worked in feature and tv animation, live-action visual effects, gaming, web series, theme parks, and commercials that were the winner of several National ADDY awards for animation. Currently Scott is in his third year as Assistant Professor of Animation at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN. He continues to freelance as an animator while building a new animation program at the University.

Jennifer Roberts has been active in the Memphis Senior Community for over 10 years. She is the former Senior Adult Coordinator at the Memphis Jewish Community Center and serves on Creative Aging's Board of Directors (currently as the Vice President/President-Elect.) Jennifer also serves on the Memphis Jewish Home and Rehab Board of Directors (rehabilitation center and nursing home) Jennifer has served on many boards and volunteer committees that focus on enhancing the lives of seniors in Memphis and Shelby County. A former Registered Dental Hygienist, Jennifer also serves as a liaison between seniors and dental offices.

Benjamin Smith, Executive Director of Southern Word. Southern Word offers creative solutions for youth to build literacy and presentation skills, reconnect to their education and to their lives, and act as leaders in the improvement of their communities. It has been recognized as one of the leading spoken word youth development and education organizations in the nation and is understood to be the largest such organization in the Southeast.

Dr. Jennifer Snyder received a BFA in Textiles and a MAEd in Art Education from the University of Georgia and an EdD in Art Education from Florida State University. She has worked in K-12 art classrooms in Brunswick, Georgia prior to working at Austin Peay. Jennifer has worked in the Department of Art+Design at Austin Peay State University since 2005 and is currently a tenured Associate Professor

of Art. Jennifer has given presentations at the International Society for Education through Art (INSEA), the National Art Education Association (NAEA) and Southeast College Art Conference (SECAC) on topics ranging from hiring practices in higher education to edTPA. Most recently she has been working on the integration of STEM theory in the art classroom.

Brenda Stein studied at the Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village in Colorado, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, the Appalachian Center for Crafts in Smithville, and at the University of Wisconsin. Visit her website at brendastein.com.

Allison Swanger is an elementary art teacher, wife, and mom of 3, that lives and teaches in Bartlett, TN. She graduated from the University of Memphis in 2008, and has taught middle and elementary school art ever since. She has spent a majority of her career working at Art Integrated schools, and has a passion for working with teachers to make learning tangible and fun for all students.

Rebecca Thomas helps cultural nonprofits and supporters think creatively about how to balance artistic aspirations with business realities. She assists arts leaders in making choices that build organizational health and resiliency. She collaborates with grantmakers to design and implement programs that align capital to organizational needs. Rebecca speaks and writes about the relationship between nonprofit finances and mission success, and she advocates for improvements in the way money flows to the sector. Formerly, as Vice President at Nonprofit Finance Fund, Rebecca led the organization's national strategy to serve the arts. She directed programs that combined flexible capital with advice to help organizations make change supportive of long-term sustainability. Earlier in her career, Rebecca was Senior Economics Correspondent for Smartmoney.com. She serves on the board of DataArts and as an advisor to Lark Play Development Center and the National Center for Arts Research.

Joe Thordarson is the founder of the Memphis Comic and Fantasy Convention, the host of Geek Tank Radio on 101.9 Kiss FM, and the author of 2 childrens books called "Robots Vampires and Satellites" and "Commander Currency, Revenge of the Extortioner". In 2010 Joe created Geek 101, an annual field trip at the MCFC designed to foster the arts with students grades 4 to 8. During the rest of the school year Joe travels to schools throughout Tennessee hosting a workshop called "Storytelling in Comics and Film". Joe lives in Memphis Tennessee.

Cameron 'C-Grimey' Williams is a southern Hip-Hop artist, urban culture curator, Holmberg Art Leadership Institute alumnus and Full Circle teaching artist. Using his experiences of growing up in the inner city, his love for art, and compassion for the community he is working tirelessly to bring arts integration to all who need it.

JP Williams is a Nashville-based performing songwriter signed to publisher Major Bob Music. JP has performed everywhere from the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. and colleges throughout the Northeast U.S. to pubs in Ireland on assignment for *Budget Travel Magazine*. Along the way, he's opened for Charlie Daniels, Ricky Skaggs and Randy Travis, to name a few. He has a music degree from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Last year, he was a featured performer on the Grand Ole Opry and currently has a single on the radio that he co-wrote with an artist by the name of Jimmie Allen called Best Shot.

René Villarreal is a music educator and classical guitarist from Vicenza, Italy. He's pursuing Bachelor of Music in Education and Performance from Austin Peay State University. René began his classical guitar studies with Dr. Stanley Yates, attending with a Performance scholarship. Recent performances include Solos, Duo, quartet, and quintet, and octet performances, APSU Guitar Ensemble Concert, and APSU Guitar Fest along with being apart of the Governor's Own Marching Band for four years as a member of the drumline. In addition to teaching and performing, René is an active Ukulele instructor under the Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts for the Homeschool Music program that APSU hosts.

TENNESSEE ARTS COMMISSION STAFF

Anne B. Pope, Executive Director

Anne B. Pope was named Executive Director of the Tennessee Arts Commission in May 2012. Pope previously served as the Vice President of STEM Education at the Oak Ridge National Lab; Federal Co-Chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission where she led an asset-based economic development initiative that helped create jobs by maximizing arts and cultural assets throughout Appalachia; Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance; and Executive Director of the Tennessee Film, Entertainment, and Music Commission.

In the private sector, Pope practiced law at Webster, Chamberlin and Bean in Washington, D.C., and served as President/CEO for the Parks-Belk Company, a department store chain in northeast Tennessee. A graduate of Vanderbilt University and the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University, Pope is admitted to practice law in Tennessee and the District of Columbia. Pope grew up in Kingsport, TN.

Hal Partlow, Associate Director of Grants

Hal Partlow provides leadership for all arts grant programs and oversees all internal agency functions related to grants.

Prior to his current position, he served for seven years as Director of Performing Arts for the Commission. Two of the special projects he managed for the Commission include the Governor's Arts Awards and the publication of Historic Tennessee Stages, an architectural and cultural survey of the state's historic performance spaces.

He is a veteran of the United States Army, and received his B.A. from St. Lawrence University in Canton. In addition, he has completed M.A. course work at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN. Prior to joining the Tennessee Arts Commission, Hal worked twenty years as a professional actor and stage director.

Carol White, Associate Director of Operations

Carol White is responsible for the supervision of Tennessee Arts Commission's budget, procurement, accounting, human resources, and day-to-day operations. She oversees all internal non-grant functions, assuring that all human and financial resources are moving towards agency goals.

She received her B.A. in Political Science from Vanderbilt University and her Master's in Public Affairs from Princeton University. Prior to her current position, she was the executive director of the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration Shared Services Solutions division, which included five years working with the Tennessee Arts Commission. In addition, she previously was director of the Tennessee State Planning Office, founding director of Volunteer Tennessee and worked on the 1996 Tennessee Bicentennial Arts Festival, as well as the Tennessee Treasures museum exhibit. She is also a former member of the Tennessee Civil Service Commission.

Currently, she is a Tennessee Promise Mentor for the Nashville School of the Arts and a member of the Nashville Committee for the Princeton Prize in Race Relations; the Truman Scholarship Southeast review panel; the Tennessee Government Executive Institute; and Tennesseans for the Arts.

Suzanne Lynch, Director of Marketing and Development

Suzanne Lynch joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in November of 2013. Her position includes agency brand development, Specialty License Plate Program promotions and agency communications.

Prior to joining the Tennessee Arts Commission, Suzanne was the creative manager for Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee. Before moving to Nashville in 2011, she was the creative director for her own business, Message Brand Advertising, in Ithaca, New York. During those early start-up years she was also an assistant professor in the Integrated Marketing Communications Degree Program at the Park School of Communications, Ithaca College. Previously, Suzanne was an art director for several advertising agencies in New York City and worked on national accounts such as Verizon Wireless and Duncan Hines.

She has a B.F.A. in Graphic Design from Ball State University and a M.A. in Advertising Design from Syracuse University.

Krishna Adams, Director of Visual Arts, Craft, Media, and Design

Krishna Adams brings professional curatorial, programming, and development knowledge to the Tennessee Arts Commission. She spent the past 17 years at the Knoxville Museum of Art cultivating relationships with local, regional, and national artists, educators, and museum professionals.

She holds a Master's in Information Science from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville as well as a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Studio Art from Middle Tennessee State University. Her extensive experience in the visual arts ensures that the Commission will continue to produce engaging and relevant exhibitions in its gallery as well as provide broad-based support for a wide variety of visual arts, craft, media and design in Tennessee.

Lee Baird, Grants Analyst/Director of Literary Arts

Lee Baird joined the Commission staff in June 2005. He received his Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1995 and worked in the wireless communications industry before joining the Commission.

As Grants Analyst, he supervises the agency's sub-recipient grant monitoring and serves as a liaison to grantees to ensure compliance with all contract requirements. He also assists in managing the eGrant application system and the PEARL grant database. In addition, he administers the Literary Arts Program for the Commission, which includes managing grants for literary organizations and individual writers and coordinating special literary projects.

Ann Brown, Director of Arts Education

Ann Talbott Brown, Director of Arts Education, joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in 2009. She manages seven grant categories, two arts integration programs, a statewide arts education conference, Poetry Out Loud, and the Teaching Artist Roster. She has served as a panelist or reviewer for the National Endowment for the Arts, National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards, and Kentucky Arts Council.

Before joining the Commission, Brown worked with the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra, Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Willamette Valley Music Festival, Southern Illinois Music Festival, and university arts programs in Oregon and Illinois. Before that, she served as a licensed K-12 music educator and oboe instructor. Her interests are in supporting state arts leaders to improve policy and practice and increasing opportunities for educators and students through professional development and grants.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Southern Illinois University and a Master's degree in Arts Administration with a certification in Nonprofit Management from the University of Oregon.

Meredith Callis, Arts Education Special Projects Coordinator

Meredith Callis joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in October 2017. She has worked in Arts Education for six years, teaching under various education grants and developing arts integration resources for students across Hamilton County. While in Chattanooga, Meredith also worked as an Educator under Usher Raymond's Nancy Lakey Community Education Fund, which provides art lessons and supplies to Hamilton County public schools. She specializes in collaborating with public school faculties to implement effective arts integration and sustainable creative programs within the classrooms.

Previously Meredith worked at the Children's Art Centre in Boston, MA, America's first and oldest public fine arts museum designed exclusively for children. There, she designed arts lessons along with guided trips and museum experiences for the students of the Boston's historic United South End Settlements. Meredith holds a Bachelor's degree in Child and Family Development with an emphasis in Art Education from the University of Tennessee. She is also a 2016 graduate of the Holmberg Institute, a program designed by ArtsBuild in Chattanooga to develop emerging arts leaders as arts advocates.

Mike Chambers, Information Technology Director

Mike Chambers has the role of managing all the computer appliances, software licenses, and Apple technology utilized by the Tennessee Arts Commission. In his position, he oversees network security, ensures software licensing compliance, and creates code for the online grant system.

Mike is Microsoft certified and a member of the ITMA (Information Technology Management

Association). He holds four Bachelor's degrees—in Computer Science, General Business, Statistics, and Finances, and has completed Master's work at Tennessee Technological University. Prior to his current position, he worked as a manager in the state Department of Children's Services and the Department of Finance. In addition, Chambers previously ran his own business, and worked for companies such as BlueCross BlueShield, Semantic, and SCB Computer Technology.

Shannon Ford, Director of Community Arts Development

Shannon Ford works with government agencies and nonprofits to strengthen the arts' presence, impact and public value in communities statewide. He administers grants to local arts agencies, presenters, multi-disciplinary arts centers, and arts service organizations. He also works to strengthen small, emerging, and volunteer-driven arts organizations statewide through the Arts Build Communities program in collaboration with 13 designated agencies.

Prior to joining the Commission, he was employed by the Ohio Arts Council for nine years, most recently as an Arts Learning Program Coordinator. He obtained his B.A. in Communication and Art from Trinity University and completed coursework towards a Master's in Arts Policy and Administration at The Ohio State University.

Bradley Hanson, Ph.D., Director of Folklife

Dr. Bradley Hanson joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in January 2015. An ethnomusicologist and folklorist, he previously worked as a cultural interpreter for the Tennessee State Parks and the Friends of the Cumberland Trail. As part of the Cumberland Trail Music and Heritage project, his efforts included field research, archival management, interpretive writing, and record and radio production centered on regional culture and folklife.

He has also collaborated on programming, preservation, and documentary projects with Humanities Tennessee, Campbell Cultural Coalition, Jubilee Community Arts and the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound. In 2011, he was given the Blanton Owen Fund Award from the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to support his fieldwork with bluegrass, country and gospel musicians in East Tennessee.

He graduated from Brown University with a Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology in May 2014. His dissertation, *Tuned Our Way: Music, Memory, and Heritage in East Tennessee*, is currently being revised for publication by the University of Illinois Press.

Kim Johnson, Director of Arts Access

Kim Johnson joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in September 2015. Her position includes ensuring access to the arts for underserved communities, Title VI coordination and compliance, and increased arts opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Prior to joining the Tennessee Arts Commission, Johnson worked as Director of Programs for the National Museum of African American Music and as Vice President of Programs at the Scarritt-Bennett Center, both nonprofit organizations located in Nashville where she developed programs for people in the community. At the Scarritt-Bennett Center, Johnson helped co-lead the award-winning multicultural festival, Celebration of Cultures, (now called Celebrate Nashville). She has extensive nonprofit experience that spans over 25 years and before moving to Nashville, she worked at the United Way of Greater Cincinnati in allocations management and outcomes-based evaluations development. After graduate school, Johnson also spent two years as a college professor at Eastern Kentucky University.

Johnson has a B.S. in Healthcare Administration from the University of South Alabama and a Masters in Public Administration from Eastern Kentucky University.

Michelle McEwen, Accounting Technician II

Michelle McEwen has been with the Tennessee Arts Commission since 2007. She is responsible for accounts payable, grant contracts, the inventory equipment, and procurement. She received her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Lane College, where she graduated magna cum laude.

Previously, she worked as an accounting technician for the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. She has also worked as a tax preparer, data entry clerk, and check processor at organizations such

as the Nashville Career Advancement Center and American Standard. Currently she is pursuing a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

Vickie McPherson, Arts Program Administrative Assistant

Vickie McPherson is an Administrative Assistant for the Arts Programs. She has been with the Tennessee Arts Commission for five and a half years and has been a state employee of Tennessee for more than ten years.

Her role is to support the arts program directors with grant processing and programming, mainly through researching organizations and categorizing grants. She also manages human resources transactions for the Commission. Her previous position was with the state Human Resources Department. Prior to that, she handled accounting for UPS and the Mid-State Automotive.

Jared Morrison, Director of Performing Arts

Jared Morrison began his tenure as Performing Arts Director at the Tennessee Arts Commission in January 2014. For the past 15 years, he has held marketing, development and artistic administration positions at many respected arts institutions, including the Nashville and Chicago symphony orchestras, Spivey Hall, Sarasota Opera and Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Morrison holds a B.M. in Vocal Performance from Shorter College, a M.M. in Arts Administration from Florida State University, and is a former OPERA America Fellow. In addition to his work with the Commission, he is an active vocal soloist and choral musician.

Diane Williams, Director of Grants Management

Diane Williams has been with the Tennessee Arts Commission since 2003. In her role, she oversees grant contracts from start to finish and works with grantees to ensure that proper filing and budgetary protocols are being followed. She also conducts pre-audits of grant payment requests and maintains a detailed record of all submitted and approved grants.

In addition to her work with the Commission, Williams is a longtime member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for which she served previously as president, treasurer, and financial secretary. She is also a board member and former treasurer of the Fortitude Foundation. Prior to her current position, Williams worked in the banking industry for 28 years, starting her career at First American Bank. She received her B.S. from Tennessee State University.

Langston Collin Wilkins, Ph.D., Traditional Arts Specialist

Dr. Langston Collin Wilkins joined the Tennessee Arts Commission in November 2017. Prior to joining the commission, he worked as a program officer for Humanities Tennessee where he was primarily responsible for youth-oriented programs. Langston was a Laura Bolton Junior Fellow in the Department of Folklore & Ethnomusicology at Indiana University where he engaged in research and generated programming related to African American music. In addition, he served as a fellow for the Folklife and Traditional Arts Program of the Houston Arts Alliance and the Houston Museum of African American Culture where he conducted field work and produced public programs that centered on the traditional arts of Houston's African Diasporic communities. Langston also co-founded the Houston Slab Parade & Family Festival, art car culture that emerged within Houston, Texas' African American community.

Langston holds a BA in English from the University of Texas at Austin. He holds Master of Arts degrees in both African American Studies and Ethnomusicology from Indiana University. He received his PhD in Ethnomusicology from Indiana University in July 2016.

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Conference Contact Information

Call or text during conference hours

TN Arts Staff: 615.425.6108

Accessibility Transportation: 615.636.3642

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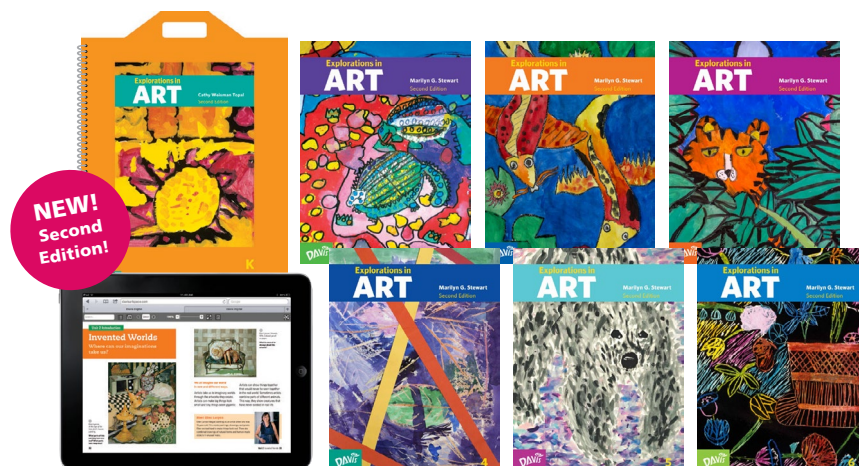


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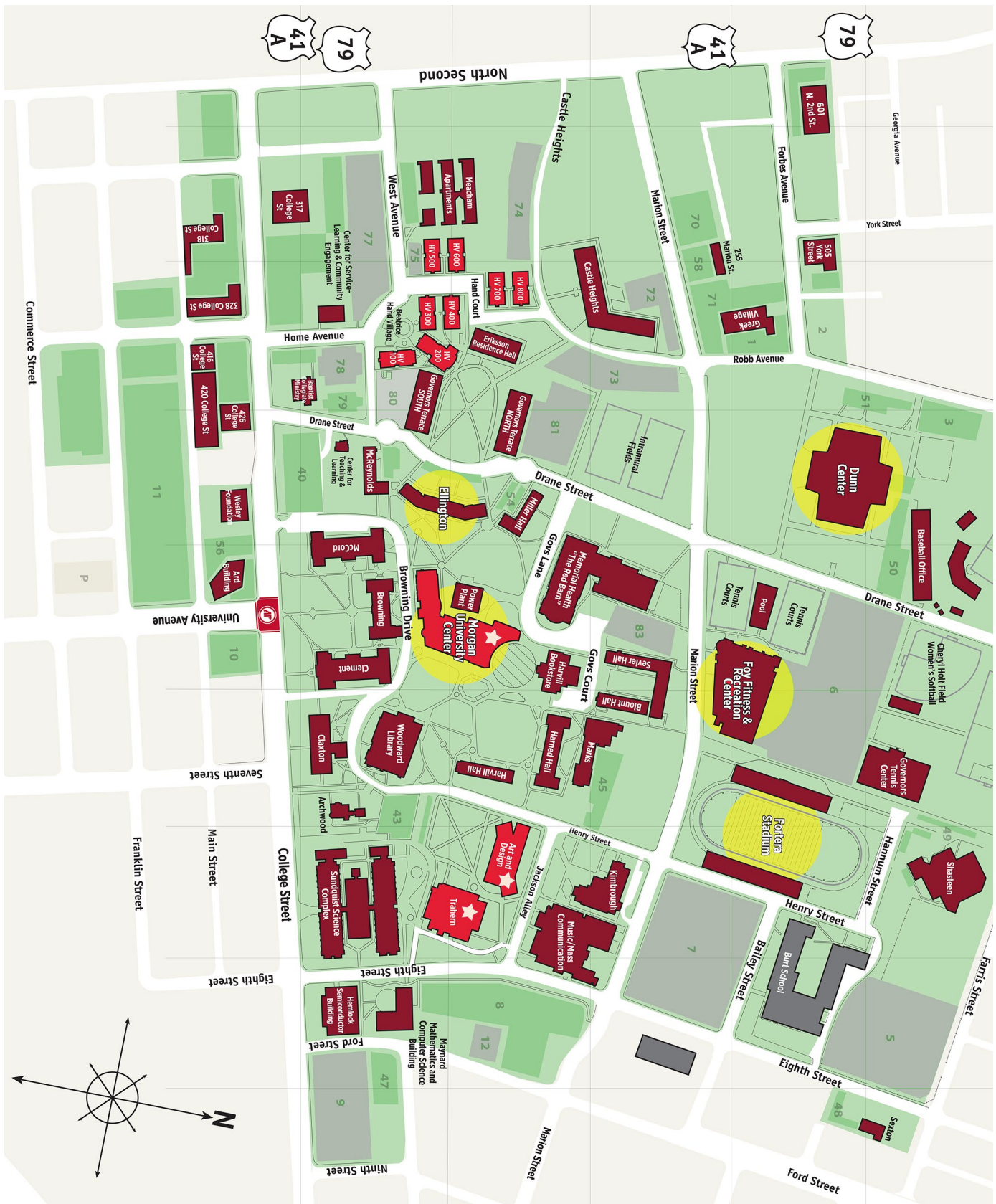
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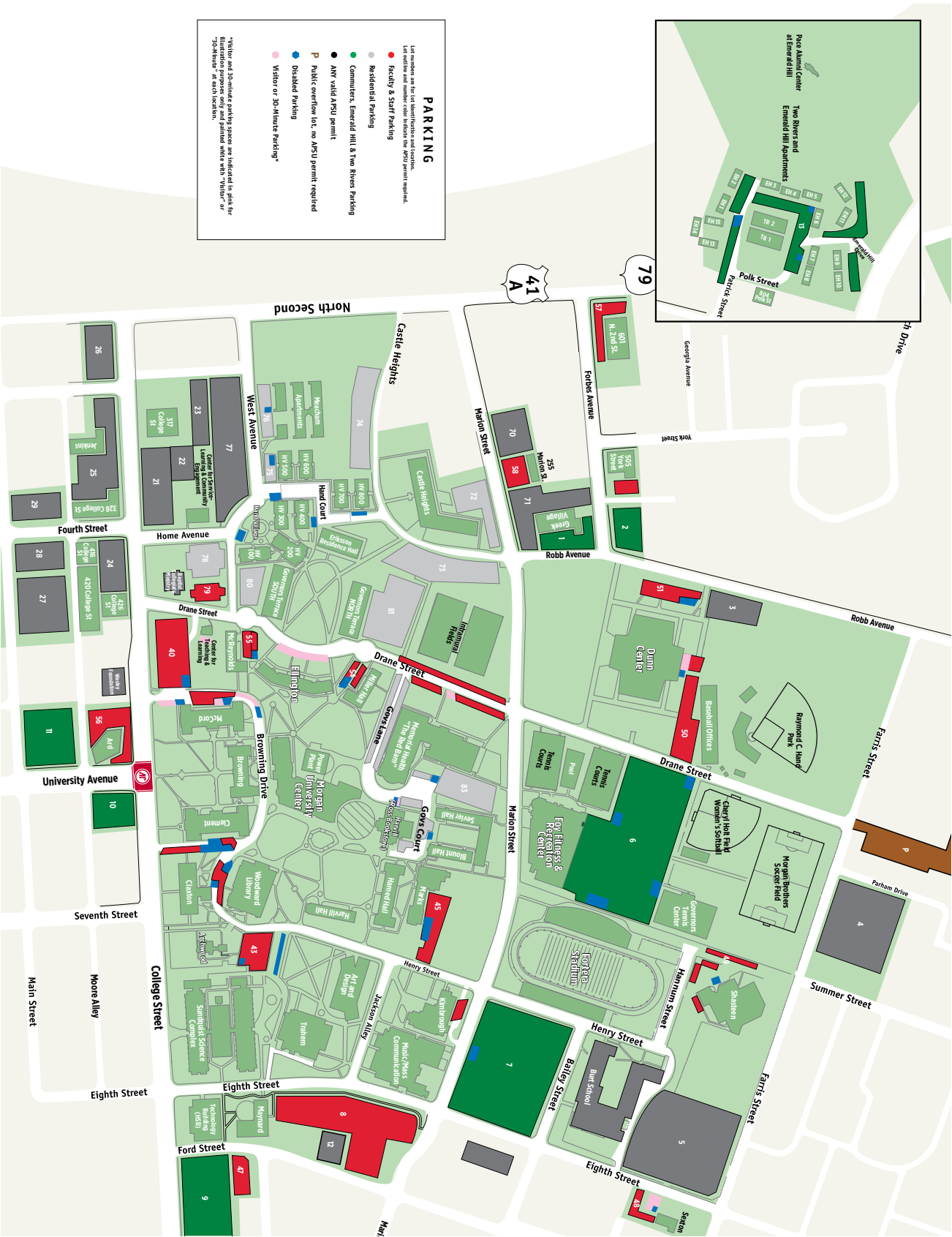
Conference buildings include Morgan University Center (MUC), Trahern and Art+Design (marked in red with a star on map).



PARKING MAP

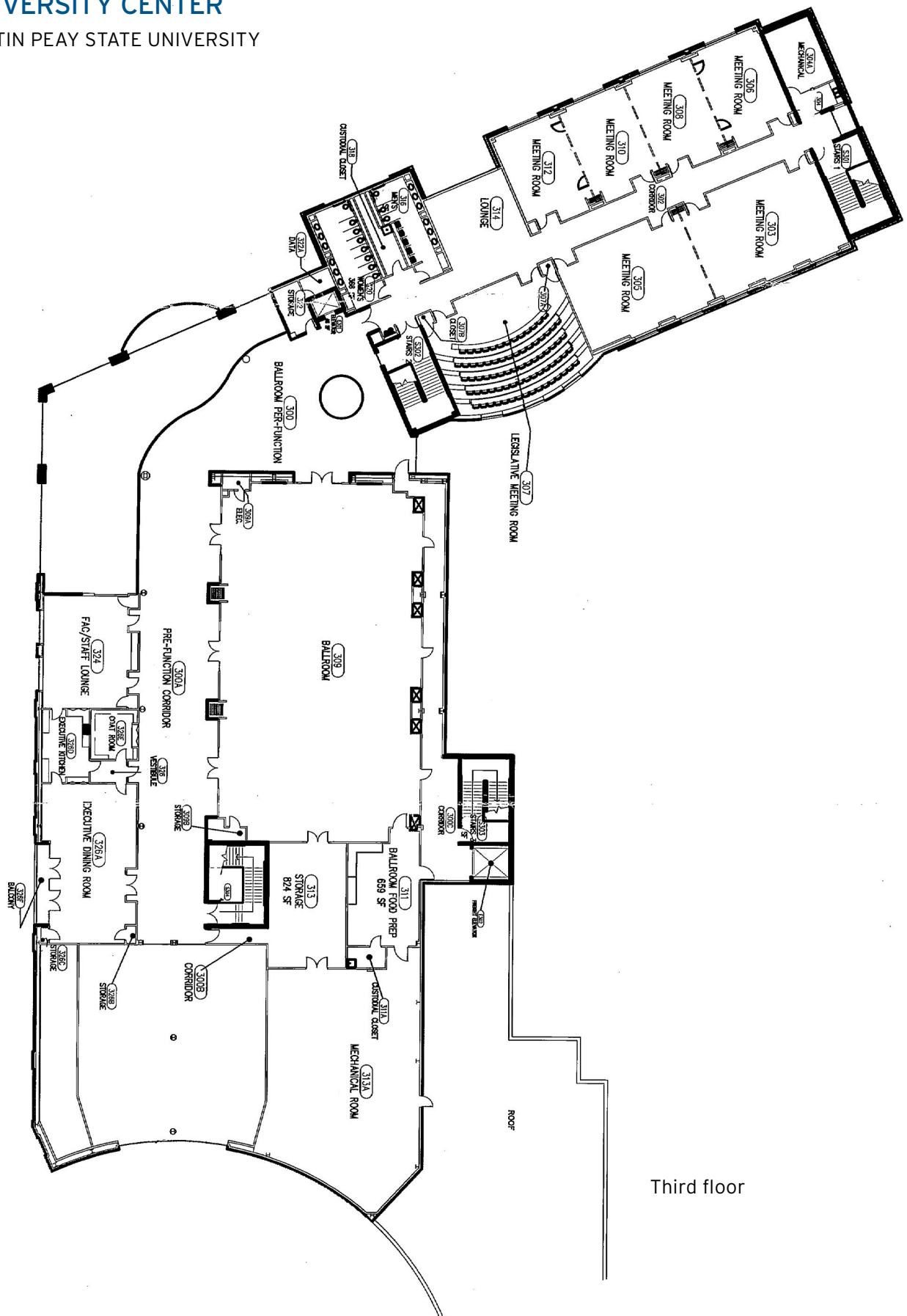
AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Conference attendees can park in any green, black, or silver parking lot on APSU campus (marked in grey on map). ADA accessible parking, fire lanes, and reserved parking are enforced 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



UNIVERSITY CENTER

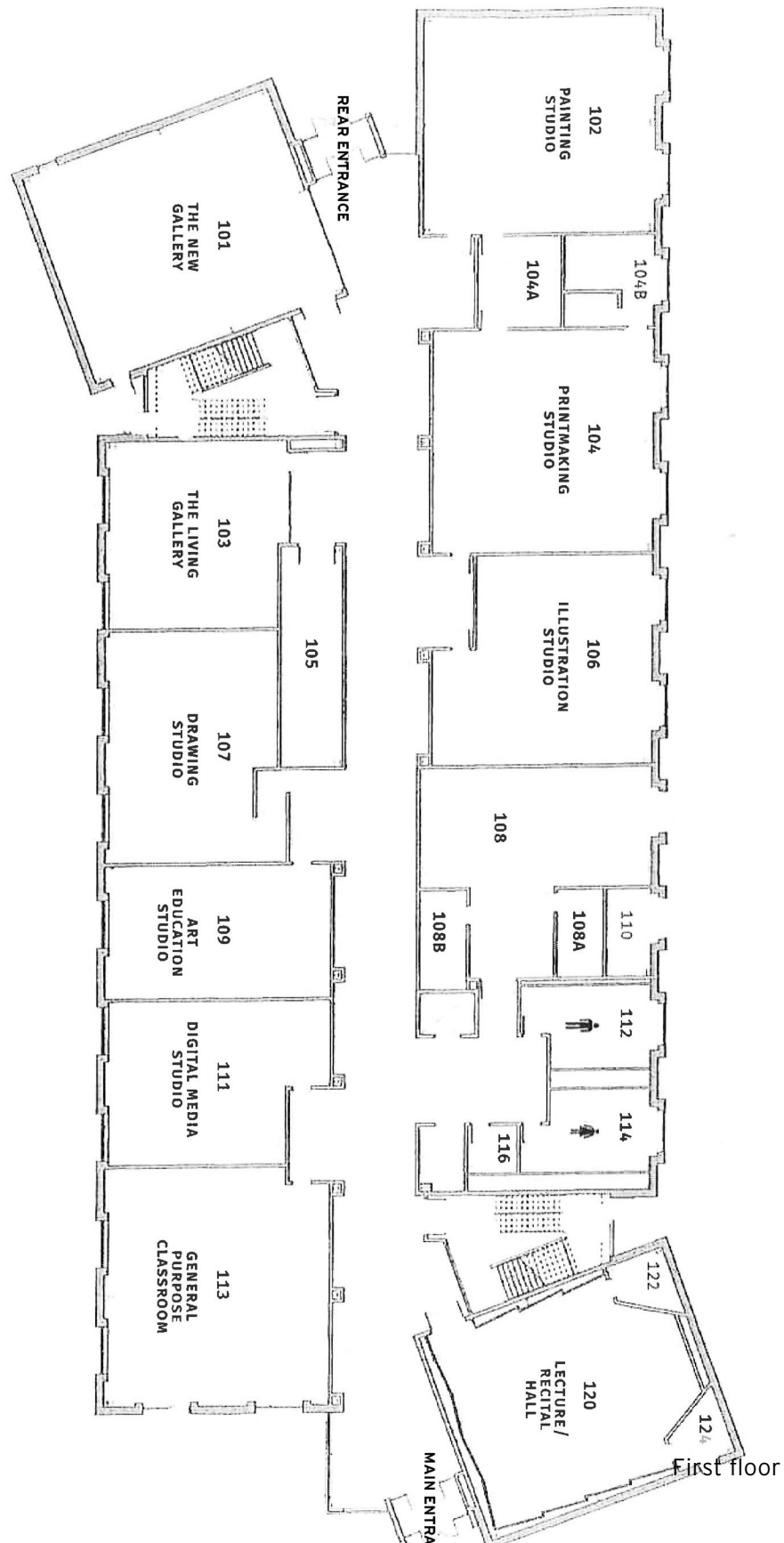
AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY



Third floor

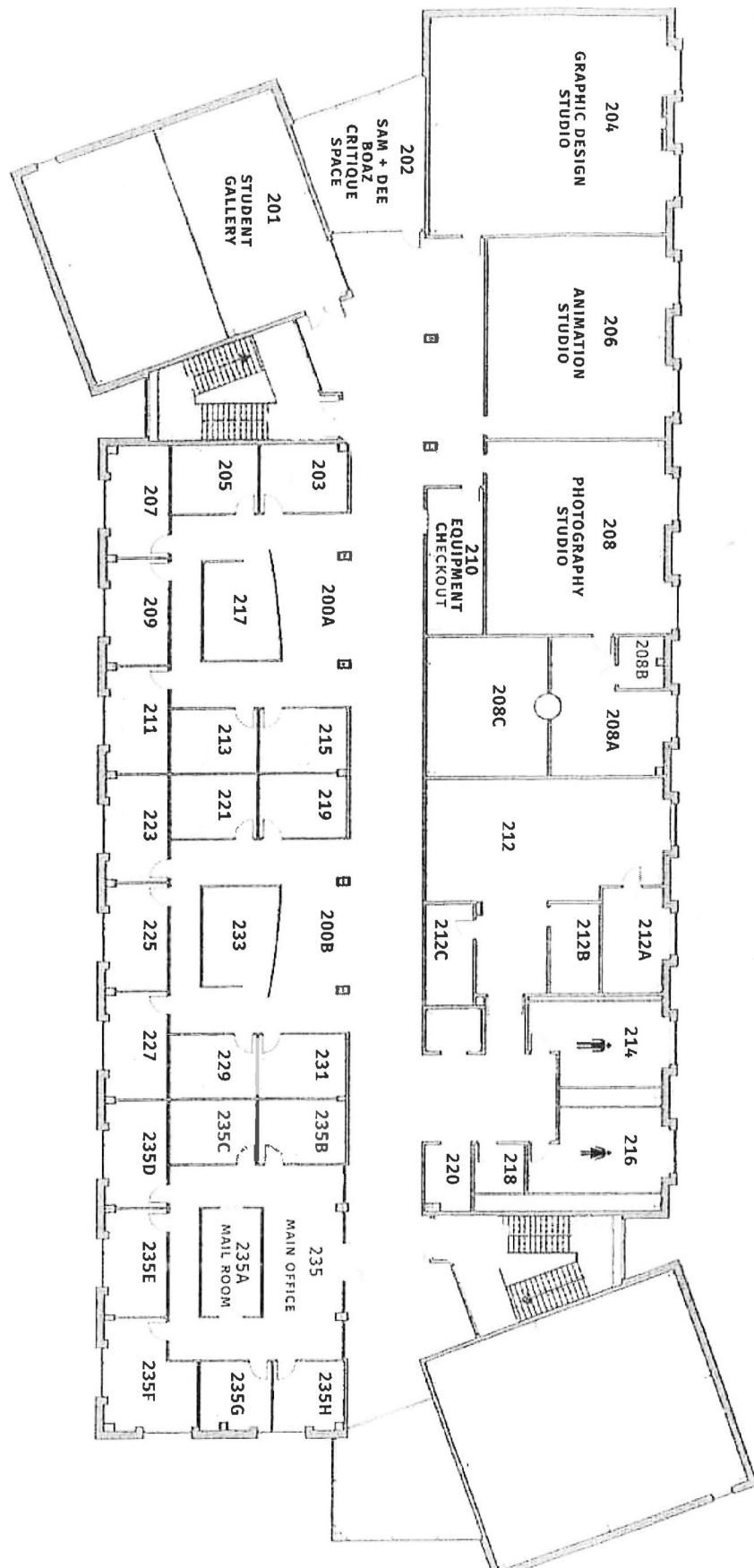
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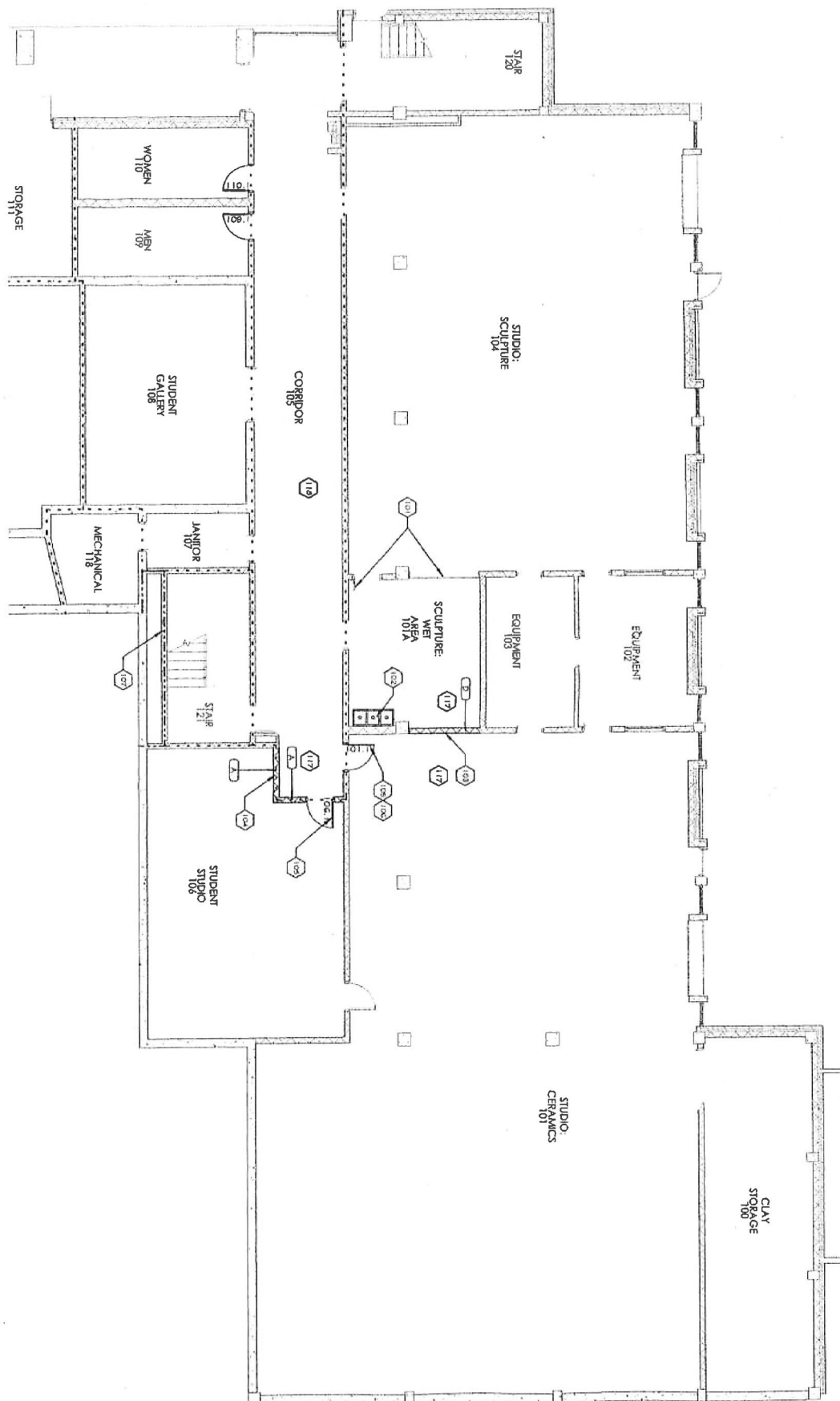


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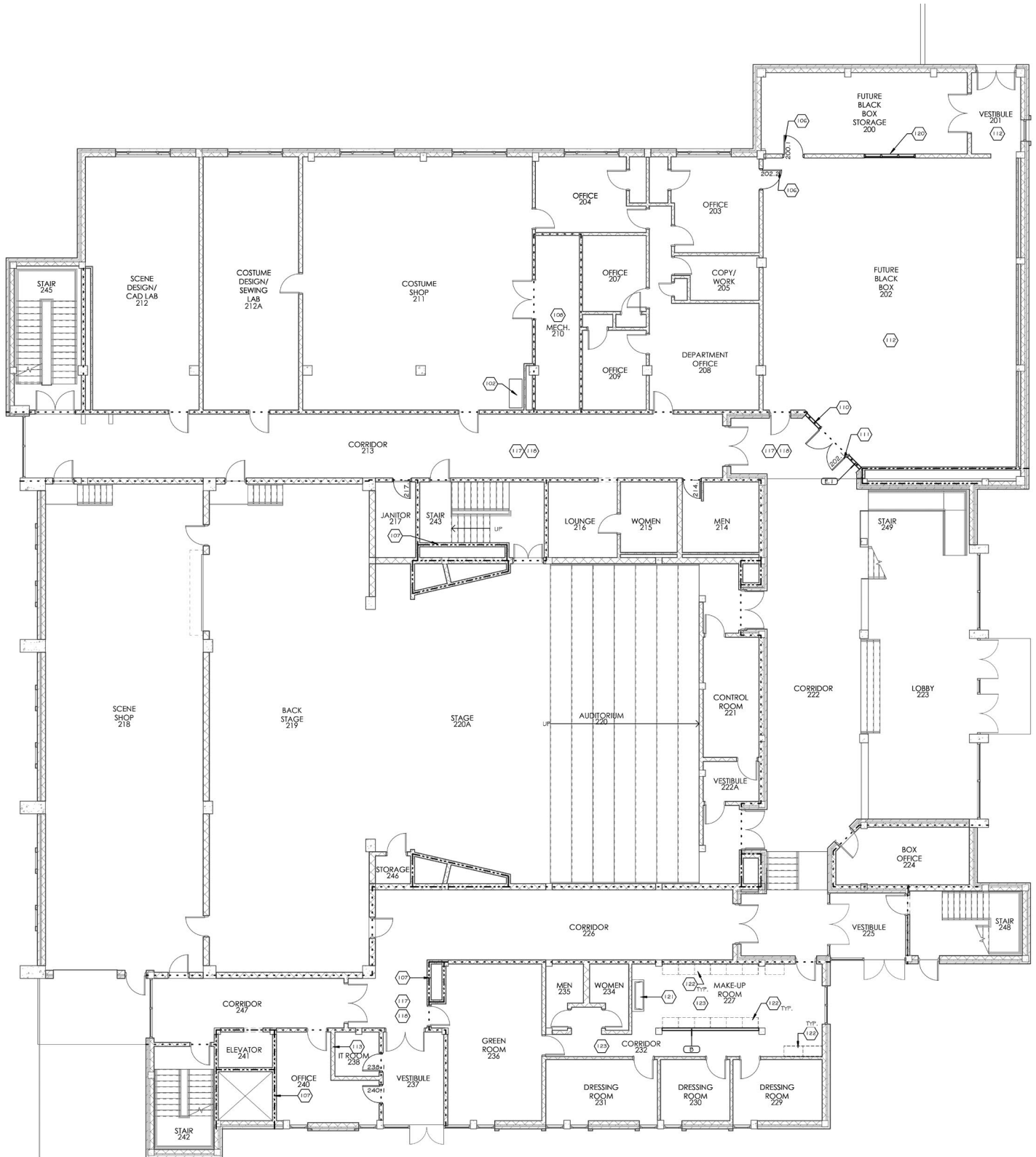
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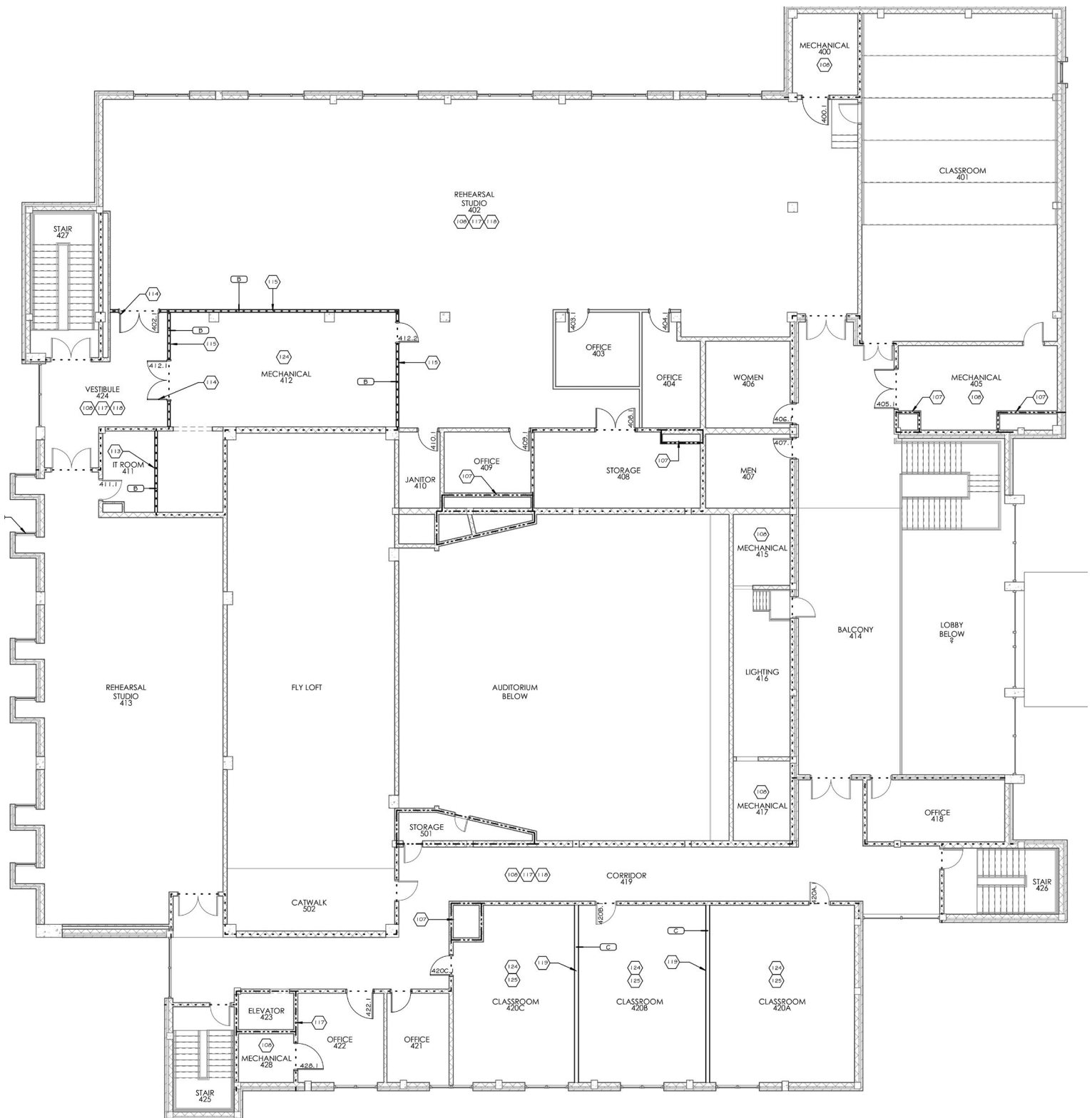
Second floor



First floor



Second floor



Fourth floor

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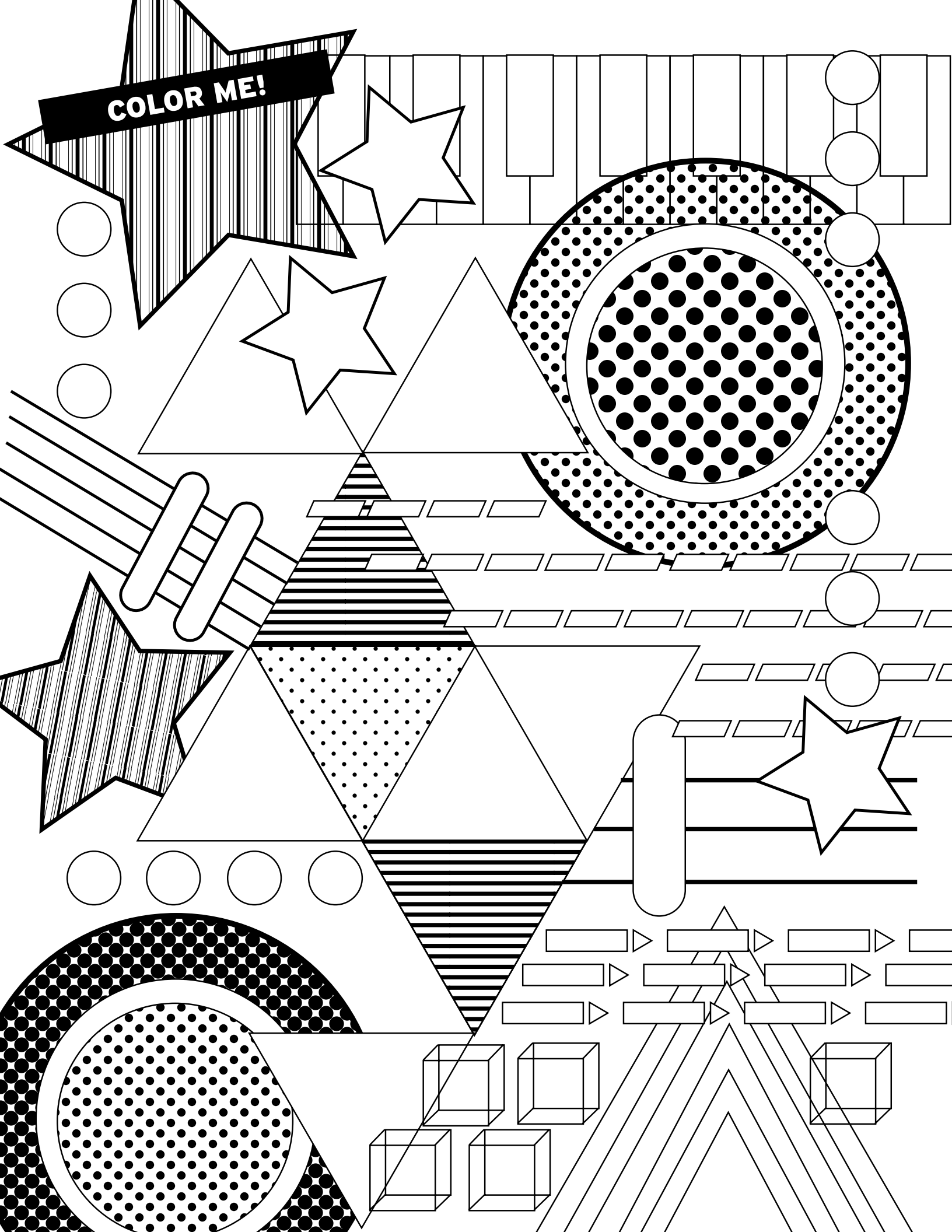


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