

What's new and what's next: VPA is announcing a new director of the Setnor School of Music, presenting a retrospective of one of its renowned faculty painters, ranked no. 15 for film schools in a national magazine, starring in a new horror film, and giving back to industrial and interaction design students.

VPA MOMENTUM

August 2011

1_Top stories



VPA appoints Patrick Jones new Setnor School of Music director_ Jones, a conductor and scholar, is responsible for the creative and academic leadership and vision of the Setnor School, including oversight of administration, artistic planning and marketing; strategic direction, governance and curricular processes; recruitment of new faculty, staff, and students; and faculty development and mentoring. He is also a professor of music. [Read more.](#)



New ‘Araca Project’ initiative fosters emerging theater artists’ entrepreneurial spirit_ The Araca Project, a new initiative of the Department of Drama and the Araca Group, one of New York City’s leading entertainment production and merchandising companies, gives selected theater artists the opportunity to take on the full artistic and fiscal responsibilities of producing their work off-Broadway. Open to SU alumni and participants in VPA’s New York City Tepper Semester between the classes of ’07 and ’11, the Araca Project includes a two week “Producing Intensive” culminating in performances of selected projects, which begin September 8 at the American Theatre of Actors in New York City.

[Read more.](#) *Image: a rehearsal for Araca Project production Pluck the Day*

Summer abroad program explores Italian film studies, restoration in Bologna_ Students of Syracuse University Abroad’s new summer program, Italian Film Studies and Restoration in Bologna, spent five weeks immersed in one of Italy’s most vibrant cultural cities learning about classic cinema and attending sessions on film restoration. The students also experienced Il Cinema Ritrovato, one of the world’s most famous classic film festivals, and engaged in independent research activities at the archives of the famous Cineteca di Bologna. [Read more.](#)

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2_Happenings



**SUArt Galleries, XL Projects to present
'Drawn to Paint: The Art of Jerome Witkin'**

_This retrospective exhibition by the longtime professor of painting in the Department of Art will be on view at two partnering venues: SUArt Galleries (September 8-October 23) and VPA's XL Projects (September 7-October 16). The exhibition consists of 70 works, including drawings, paintings, and sketchbooks, and marks the first time Witkin has allowed his drawings to be displayed beside their finished works. [Read more.](#)
Image: Bride-Noir, 2011, graphite and charcoal on paper, 80 3/4 x 45 1/8 inches; courtesy Jack Rutberg Fine Arts, Los Angeles

Roger DeMuth, John Thompson exhibit work at SU's Palitz Gallery in New York City_ *The Illustrator's Journey* runs August 15-September 29 and features recent work by DeMuth and Thompson, both longtime members of the Department of Art's illustration program. A reception for alumni and the public will be held on Wednesday, September 14, from 6-8 p.m. [Read more.](#)

Find our complete events listings at vpa.syr.edu/calendar.

3_Take note



Syracuse University and the **film program** in the Department of Transmedia were ranked no. 15 by [The Hollywood Reporter](#) in its "25 Best Film Schools" article in the August 5 issue.

Ann Clarke, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, was a juror for *The Art-*

Quilt Experience: An International Juried Art-Quilt Exhibition at Stone Quarry Art Park and Cazenovia College Art Gallery in Cazenovia, N.Y.

Dusty Herbig, assistant professor of printmaking in the Department of Art, was named a 2011 fellow in printmaking/drawing/book arts as part of the New York State Council on the Arts' Artist Fellowship Program by the New York Foundation for the Arts. He will receive a \$7,000 unrestricted cash grant.



Cas Holman, assistant professor of industrial and interaction design in the Department of Design, recently introduced her [Workyard Kit](#) for Children. Designed as a custom play feature for the High Line on Manhattan's West Side, the Workyard Kit is a collection of wooden planks, wheels, pulleys, "wingbolts," and rope that allows children to follow their curiosity while playing.

Sarah McCoubrey, professor of foundation and painting in the Departments of Art and Foundation, has work featured in two group exhibitions: *Beyond the Horizon* (through September 21) at Deutsche Bank 60 Wall Street Gallery in New York City and *Contemporary Art Exhibition* (through September 15) at Boscobel Gallery in Garrison, N.Y.

Caroline Stinson, part-time instructor of cello in the Setnor School of Music, recently released her first solo CD, *Lines*, on Albany Records. *Lines* includes the music of Bloch, Sessions, Harbison, Lutoslawski, Stucky, Weesner, Boulanger, and Carter, as well as the world premiere recording of *Le Nom (Upperline)* by the Setnor School's own **Andrew Waggoner**, associate professor of composition. Listen to excerpts [here](#).

Sam Van Aken, associate professor of sculpture in the Department of Art, was named a 2011 finalist in crafts/sculpture as part of the New York State Council on the Arts' Artist Fellowship Program by the New York Foundation for the Arts. This fall, as part of SU's efforts to give back to the community in remembrance of 9/11, Van Aken's *The Tree of 40 Fruits* will be installed on the Kenneth A. Shaw Quad. It will grow more than 40 types of fruit and transform the site it is planted in by sparking dialogue across differences.

Read more faculty and student news and notes [here](#).

4__For alumni



Alumni spotlight: Nick Fondulis '05 and Andy Ridings '07_Fondulis and Ridings, both alumni of the Department of Drama's acting program, spent their summer in Rochester, New York, working on the horror movie *The Shells*, director/writer Max Finneran's first feature film. Fondulis and Ridings worked with current SU students Will Utley '12 (VPA) and Harrison Crown '12 (Newhouse), who were part of the crew. [Read more.](#)



Meet Traci Washburn, new VPA director of alumni affairs_Washburn, who joined the college's Office of Advancement staff in May, is responsible for coordinating the relationship between VPA and its alumni through programs and events at SU and around the U.S. She most recently served as the assistant director of The Cortland Fund at SUNY Cortland and also worked at SU's School of Education and College of Law. [Read more.](#)

Join us!

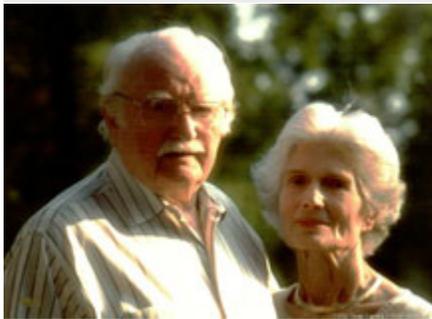
- _September 8: [Araca Project reception](#), New York City
 - _September 9-11: [Senior Alumni Weekend](#), Syracuse. Features September 9 talk "Preparing Students for the Changing Role of Orchestral Musicians in the 21st Century" with the Setnor School of Music's Patrick Jones and Daniel Hege.
 - _September 14: Reception for [The Illustrator's Journey](#), New York City
 - _October 1: [Doug Soyars Memorial Concert](#), New York City
 - _November 10-13: [Orange Central](#) (Homecoming + Reunion) 2011, Syracuse
 - _November 18: [Communication and rhetorical studies alumni reception](#) at National Communication Association national convention, New Orleans
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Visit the [alumni section](#) of the VPA web site to find many features, including our class notes and Marketplace (your virtual shop in which to promote products designed and/or created by you and where you are encouraged to patronize alumni-owned businesses across our network). Join VPA alumni on [Facebook](#) as well as [LinkedIn](#).

Help us go green by sharing this e-mail with fellow alumni who don't receive our e-mails.

If they fill out our [online form](#), they will receive future issues of Momentum, alumni event e-vites, and other college information of interest.

5_Giving back

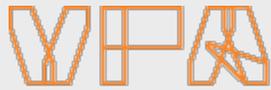


Philip H. Stevens Award honors CNY industrial designer_ The College of Visual and Performing Arts has established the Philip H. Stevens Award in the Department of Design's industrial and interaction design program (IID), which honors Stevens '51, an industrial designer and president of Philip Stevens Associates Ltd. in Skaneateles, New York. Stevens made a generous gift of \$100,000 to the program with his wife, Margueritte (both pictured at left). "For the past 15 years, Phil has worked with our students to develop a wide range of challenging projects," says Don Carr, associate professor of IID. "His understanding of professional practice, coupled with his strong desire to explore the boundaries of design, has had a profound impact on our students." [Read more.](#)

Don't miss out on your chance to give VPA a vibrant future. Visit our [secure, online giving site](#) or learn about more ways you can [get involved](#) and give back to the college.

Momentum is published by the VPA Office of Communications under the leadership of Dean Ann Clarke. Send comments to Erica Blust, Director of Communications and Media Relations, at esblust@syr.edu. For more information about the college, visit our web site at vpa.syr.edu.

The College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University is committed to the education of cultural leaders who will engage and inspire audiences through performance, visual art, design, scholarship, and commentary. We provide the tools for self-discovery and risk-taking in an environment that thrives on critical thought and action.



COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS