

**What's new and what's next: VPA is ranked No. 4 in the nation for interior design, exploring snow, winning prizes in a vocal competition, and building a successful ceramic tableware and tile business.**

# VPA MOMENTUM TUM

December 2010

## 1\_Top stories



**Interior design program ranked No. 4 in nation by DesignIntelligence**\_The 2011 DesignIntelligence report “America’s Best Architecture & Design Schools” ranks programs from the perspective of leading practitioners. Located in the college’s Department of Design, the undergraduate interior design program moved up six spots from its 2010 ranking of No. 10. [Read more.](#)

**COLAB announces reorganization, new research appointments**\_Syracuse University’s collaborative design laboratory, now housed in VPA’s Department of Design, has announced the creation of COLAB Design Faculty Fellows. Don Carr, associate professor of industrial and interaction design; Cas Holman, assistant professor of industrial and interaction design; and Ruth Westervelt, assistant professor of environmental and interior design have been designated the inaugural Design Faculty Fellows and will bring their expertise and specific research activities into COLAB to

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enhance the laboratory's research and creative activities. [Read more.](#)

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**Students beautify park with public art project on Connective Corridor**\_ School of Art and Design faculty members Mary Giehl and Anne Cofer recently led their students in the development and installation of fibers projects for Syracuse's Forman Park. Titled "Elements of Syracuse," the works were based on the history of the city, including the park's former role as a roaming ground for neighborhood livestock and the infamous Syracuse winters. [Read more.](#)

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**VPA mourns passing of three former faculty members**\_ Violinist [Murray Bernthal](#) '32 '35, a professor emeritus of music and director of Syracuse's Famous Artists Broadway Theater Series, died on December 9 at age 99. [Helen Boatwright](#), a celebrated soprano and central figure in the history of the Setnor School of Music, died on December 1 at age 94. [Arthur LeGacy](#), a professor emeritus of history who also taught film, died on November 3 at age 77.

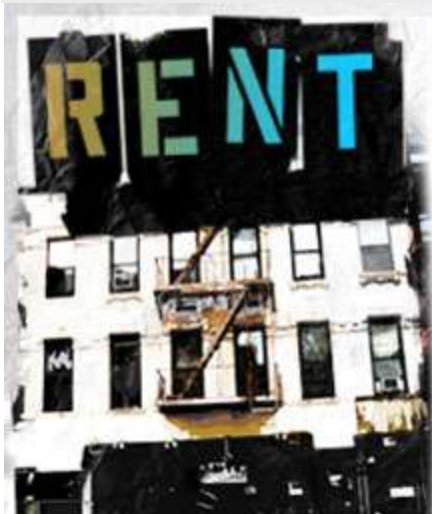
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Visit [vpa.syr.edu/newsroom](http://vpa.syr.edu/newsroom) for more news stories.

## 2\_Happenings



**'Snow' exhibition at XL Projects explores traditional, nontraditional interpretations**\_ Curated by Yvonne Buchanan, assistant professor of illustration in the School of Art and Design's Department of Art, the exhibition's theme was inspired by *Bliz-aard Ball Sale*, a 1983 New York City performance piece by artist David Hammons. The show is up through Sunday, January 23 with a reception on Thursday, January 20 from 6-8 p.m. [Read more.](#)



**Department of Drama, Syracuse Stage to co-present the award-winning 'Rent' Jan. 18-Feb. 13** Jonathan Larson's Broadway phenomenon ignites the stage with passion and energy. One year—525,600 minutes—in the lives of seven young friends from Alphabet City brings love, loss, tragedy, and triumph in a whirl of non-stop music. Directed and choreographed by Anthony Salatino, associate professor of musical theater in the Department of Drama. [Read more](#) or [buy tickets](#).

Find our complete events listings at [vpa.syr.edu/calendar](http://vpa.syr.edu/calendar). Watch live performances of Setnor School of Music concerts in Setnor Auditorium [here](#).

## 3\_Take note

Five voice students from the Setnor School of Music participated in the recent 34th annual Civic Morning Musicals Vocal Competition in Syracuse. Two were prize winners: **Gabriel Traub '11** (studio of **Patti Thompson**) won second place in the younger category (ages 17-21) and received the Opera Club of Syracuse Prize. **David Artz '11** (studio of **Jon English**) won the Ernst Bacon Prize for the best performance of an American song. Other participants were **Jill Brenner '11** (studio of **Janet Brown**) and **Sierra Fox '11** and **Darcy Traunsteiner '11** (studio of Jon English).

**Richard Buttny**, professor of communication and rhetorical studies in the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies, recently published the journal article "Citizen participation, metadiscourse and accountability: A public hearing on a zoning change for Wal-Mart" in the *Journal of Communication*, 60, 636-659. He also co-authored the chapter "The UMass rebellion: Studying the coordinated management of meaning and constructing a rules theory" (pp. 335-365) with J.W. Lannamann in W. Leeds-Hurwitz's (Ed.) *Social history of language and social interaction research: People, places, ideas*, Cresskill, N.J.: Hampton Press.

**Felix E. Cochren**, associate professor of theater design and technology in the Department of Drama, recently designed scenery for Jackie Alexander's play *Brothers from the Bottom* for the Billie Holiday Theatre in Brooklyn, N.Y. The production runs through December 19.

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**Elisa Macedo Dekaney**, associate professor of music education in the Setnor School of Music, co-authored the new book *Travel On and On: Interdisciplinary Lessons on the Music of World Cultures* (Rowan & Littlefield and MENC, 2010) with Deborah Alane Cunningham.

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**Elizabeth Fowler**, assistant professor of history of art in the School of Art and Design's Department of Foundation, presented the paper "Personifying Japan: Kitaro Shirayamadani and American Japonism, 1885-1904" at the ArtsAsia Festival at the University of Kentucky on November 11. The topic of the symposium was "The Continuing Influence of Japan on American Studio Ceramics."

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**Cas Holman**, assistant professor of industrial and interaction design in the School of Art and Design's Department of Design, had Geemo (pictured), the toy she designed and manufactures, featured in Eric Chan's new book *1,000 Product Designs* (Rockport Publishers).

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**James Haywood Rolling Jr.**, associate professor of art education in the School of Art and Design's Department of Art, was elected to the editorial board of *Studies in Art Education*, the National Art Education Association's premier research journal.

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**Tom Sherman**, professor of art video in the School of Art and Design's Department of Transmedia, is having his text "[The Nine Lives of Video Art](#)" (PDF) translated into Hungarian and co-published by C3 Center for Culture & Communication and the Hungarian University of Fine Arts, Budapest, Hungary, for use in media arts curricula in all Hungarian universities and colleges. He will give the keynote address and nine of his video works will be featured in *Feed-Back: Video by Artists*, a comprehensive exhibition and screening series at the University of Richmond (Virginia) January 11-March 18, 2011.

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The college's visiting artists and speakers in November included scholar **Ariella Azoulay**; **Claribel Caraballo '98** of BMG's Rights Administration Division (music publishing); media artist **Jax Deluca**; artist and actor **Anne DeSalvo**; artist and art educator **Julia Marshall**; ceramist **Kristen Morgin**; actor and performer **Julia Murney '90** (pictured); artist and critic **William Powhida '98**; Vector Management and Vector Recordings co-president and partner **Jack Rovner**; multimedia artist **Jennifer Schmidt**; filmmaker **Andrew Shapter**; sculptural knitter **Adrienne Sloane**;

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and Platform One Entertainment founder **Jeff Sodikoff**.

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

## 4\_ For alumni



**Alumni spotlight: Catherine Bailey '89**  
Catherine has spent the past seven years skillfully building the business of [Heath Ceramics](#), one of California's last remaining, mid-century-era manufacturers of handcrafted dinnerware and tile. [Read more](#).

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### Upcoming alumni events

\_January 28: A Setnor Sampler: Music from the Setnor School, reception to follow, New York City. [Learn more](#).

\_February 10: Alumni reception in conjunction with the College Art Association Conference, New York City. Details will be posted on our [calendar](#) when available.

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### Career resources

\_Just in time for the holidays: We're pleased to announce the new [VPA Alumni Marketplace](#), a virtual shop in which to promote products designed and/or created by you. It also encourages you to patronize VPA alumni-owned businesses across our network. To have your web site listed on the Marketplace, e-mail Susan Tooley at [sktooley@syr.edu](mailto:sktooley@syr.edu).

\_New [job postings](#) are available in the career resources section of our web site as well as the new career strategies document [Success Strategies for VPA Alumni](#) (PDF).

\_Many alumni from all life stages are looking for an employment connection. We do not share your information with these alumni without permission, but if we forward their profiles to you via an e-mail or LinkedIn correspondence, please consider them if you know of any opportunities in their fields. Give back with an internship, mentoring position, or a company introduction. Keep the VPA community strong and constant! Contact Sue Tooley at 315-443-4728 or [sktooley@syr.edu](mailto:sktooley@syr.edu) with any questions.

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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.



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