

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LA CROSSE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES PRESENTS

FREEDOM UNBOUND

THE POWER OF THE ARTS

creative
imperatives

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

Featured Guests:

Brendan Kinsella

Sawsan AlSaraf

Sarah Bellamy



SUNDAY - TUESDAY
MARCH 3 - 5, 2019

All Events are Free and Open to the Public

PERFORMANCES
WORKSHOPS
EXHIBITS
OPEN STUDIOS
PRESENTATIONS



WELCOME

From the Festival Director, Joseph Anderson



“Freedom, in any case, is only possible by constantly struggling for it.” *Albert Einstein*
“Freedom is nothing else but a chance to be better.” *Albert Camus*
“Tame birds sing of freedom. Wild birds fly.” *John Lennon*

Welcome back to Creative Imperatives. We are delighted to have you join us for the 2019 festival: FREEDOM UNBOUND - The Power of the Arts. Whether those liberties relate to speech or self, here or abroad, this year’s festival will showcase expressions of freedom in all of its meanings and manifestations.

Our inclusive festival will feature the return of many contributors in Art, Music, and Theatre Arts, plus welcome new events brought to us by colleagues in Global Languages and Cultures, English, Educational Studies, and Political Science and Public Administration, illustrating the connectedness of the Arts and seemingly unrelated disciplines. We are also delighted to welcome an exciting series of guests: visual and multimedia artist Sawsan AISaraf, Sarah Bellamy—Artistic Director of Penumbra Theater Company in St. Paul, Minnesota, pianist Dr. Brendan Kinsella, percussionist and scholar Dr. Marja Kerney, and musicologist Andrea Fowler.

Please join us Sunday, March 3 through Tuesday, March 5 for this year’s series of presentations, discussions, workshops, and performances. This year’s festival promises to challenge, excite, delight and maybe even ignite, but above all, it will set you free!

THANK YOU!

The Creative Imperatives Steering Committee extends a special thank you to the faculty, staff, and students of the departments of Art, Music, and Theatre Arts

We would also like to especially thank the following individuals:

Dr. Kimberly Vogt
Dr. Betsy Morgan
Rebecca Neitzel
Nicole Novak
Diane Sasaki
Sharon Shugrue

Krista Shulka
Stacey Strittmatter
Jacob Speer
Stephanie Speer
Kathy Thoen

Creative Imperatives events are free and open to the public.

The Creative Imperatives festival is possible through the generous support of the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse.



To request disability accommodations, contact the College of Liberal Studies Office at:

608.785.8113
225 Morris Hall
clsdeansoffice@uwlax.edu



WELCOME

From the Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Studies, Dr. Kimberly Vogt

Welcome to Creative Imperatives 2019! This annual festival exemplifies the generative nature of creativity and collaboration. Our students, staff, faculty and guests provide compelling examples of the ways our creative work and scholarship can reflect the human experience, expose people to new modes of expression, and bring us to a greater understanding of one another.

The theme of this year's festival – Freedom Unbound – explores the multifaceted idea of freedom. I encourage you to experience the many perspectives showcased in this year's festival to gain a deeper appreciation of how artistry and expression allow us to celebrate and advocate for these most basic values.



Creative Imperatives Personnel

Festival Director

Joe Anderson Theatre Arts

Festival Coordinator

Laurie Kinckman, Theatre Arts

Steering Committee

Joe Anderson, Theatre Arts

Jonathan Borja, Music

Laurie Kinckman, Theatre Arts

Lisa Lenarz, Art

Student Coordinators

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Emiko Wilks

Graphic Design


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Original CI Logo Design


Susan Schuyler

For more information about the Creative Imperatives festival, event information and updates, guest bios, and more follow us and visit:

 www.uwlax.edu/creative-imperatives

 UW-La Crosse Creative Imperatives

 [uwl_creative_imperatives](https://www.instagram.com/uwl_creative_imperatives)

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ONGOING EVENTS

Art - Exhibition:

All Students Juried Show

Location: UWL Art Gallery, Center for the Arts

UWL students working on any major are invited to submit art for an exhibition that is juried by off-campus art specialists. The art in this year's exhibition was selected from many submissions by Heather Delisle, Associate Lecturer of Art at the University of Wisconsin River Falls and Jon Swanson, Curator at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum, Winona.

Creative Imperatives Gallery

Location: Third Floor Gallery, Center for the Arts

This year's festival show features two collections of work. **Insights into India** features photographs taken by UWL students participating in an intercultural study abroad. *UPDATE: due to unforeseen circumstances, the Cuba Uprooted exhibit has been cancelled. We are fortunate to share an expanded India exhibit with you instead.*

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

7:30 p.m.

Theatre Arts - Discussion:

Sarah Bellamy in Conversation

Location: Toland Theatre, Center for the Arts

Festival Guest Sarah Bellamy

A theatre artist who has dedicated her career to empowering change in the inequities surrounding race and representation, Sarah Bellamy has succeeded her father Lou Bellamy as Artistic Director of Penumbra Theatre Company in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Join us for a conversation about her vision for Penumbra's mission to "illuminate the human condition through the prism of the African American experience" as it approaches the middle of its fourth decade as a powerful and important voice in the theatre community. Sarah will also discuss her personal work on equity, diversity, and inclusion, and the development of leadership programs to help teens learn to practice art for social change.



MONDAY, MARCH 4

8:50-9:45 a.m.

MUSIC - Presentation: Protest Music

Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts

Festival Guest Marja Kerney

Music functions as a cultural tool for change and is an effective way to observe the social climate of any given time. Studying the music of a particular historical period gives a glimpse into the challenges and triumph of its people. While this type of study can include many genres of music, the focus of this talk is on popular music from the 1960s to the present and the historical significance of each song.



8:50-11:20 a.m.

ART - Open Studio: Ceramics

Location: Room 25, Center for the Arts

Randy Reeves

Attend a demonstration of ceramic techniques and get a tour of the UWL ceramics studio. This hands-on event will also give you the chance to work with clay.

9:55-10:50 a.m.

ART - Presentation: Feminist Art [R]evolution

Location: Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall

Lisa Lenarz

Through the narrative of one of the project's participating artists, this session will be a presentation on Ulrike Müller's, *Herstory Inventory: 100 Feminist Drawings by 100 Artists* (2009-2012). Attendees will become familiar with the project, its connection to the Brooklyn Museum and Lesbian Herstory Archives, and how contemporary feminist artworks are continually shaped by the past and present.



9:55-10:50 a.m.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES - Presentation:
Insights into India: A Photographic Exhibition
Location: Third Floor Gallery, Center for the Arts
Ayesha Patnaik

UWL students who participated in an intercultural study abroad program will discuss the collection on display. The images capture moments that encapsulate culture and communication in India as it relates to ideas of identity, core symbols and cultural space. They sought to use the camera lens to provide “insight into deconstructing a scene through special attention to facial expressions, gestures, body language, relationships between people and their animals and surroundings.. in other words tell a story.” (NOTE: Although the presentation is only scheduled for this hour, the collection is on display throughout the festival.)

11:00-11:55 a.m.

ART - Presentation: Kehinde Wiley - Blackness Unbound!
Location: Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall
Richard Breaux and Deborah-Eve Lombard

A dual-perspective presentation that explores artist Kehinde Wiley’s work as a collision of art history, history and popular culture that works to free us from the ways we essentialize black people. Wiley draws on the tradition of classical art masters to create portraits of young black and mixed-race people—the results confront the vocabulary of power to address what is continually ignored.



12:00-12:55 p.m. (new time)

MUSIC - Discussion:
Brendan Kinsella in Conversation
Location: Room 131, Center for the Arts (new location)
Festival Guest Brendan Kinsella

Visiting artist Dr. Brendan Kinsella will present a lecture/demonstration on repertoire for speaking pianist. Covering works from the 19th century to the present day, this lecture details a brief history of performance art and its pertinence to works by Schumann, Schwitters, and Rzewski. The works in question will also be discussed in the context of freedom of expression and identity in today’s social climate, particularly the #MeToo Movement and the subject of gender equality.

12:00-12:55 p.m.

THEATRE ARTS - Performance: Songs of Freedom and Hope: A Musical Theatre Recital
Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts
UWL Musical Theatre Students

Musical theatre expresses freedom in many forms, including a person’s right to choose, oppression and the hope and light that arouses action. From musicals like *Hamilton*, Gershwin’s *Of Thee I Sing*, *Urinetown*, *Ragtime*, *1776*, *South Pacific* and *Bat Boy*, UWL Musical Theatre students will share songs about freedom and hope.

1:10-2:05 p.m.

MUSIC - Open Studio
Brendan Kinsella Piano Master Class
Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts
Festival Guest Brendan Kinsella



Dr. Brendan Kinsella will work with piano students to hone their skills in this open to the public master class.



1:10-2:05 p.m.

**THEATRE ARTS - Presentation:
Freedom from Labels**

Location: Toland Theatre, Center for the Arts
Megan Morey

The fashion industry (i.e., “fashion labels”) generally offers a wide variety of options to individuals wishing to express their identities through apparel. However, for those who work in a setting where specific attire is required for safety, fashion choices are extremely limited; instead of providing an outlet for expression, fashion labels often stifle or even dictate our outward identities when working in these fields. In an effort to break free from these fashion labels and the identity labels they impose on individuals, students and faculty who work in the Theatre Arts department’s Scene Shop will present their designs and creations for new clothing options that allow for both functionality and personal expression. Please join us for a fashion show and discussion of our work.

1:10-2:05 p.m.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE/PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Presentation: Political Theory, Civic Discourse,
and Popular Culture: Toward an Expanded
View of the Public Sphere**

Location: Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall
Tim Dale

This talk will examine the ways in which art and culture provide politically relevant communities of meaning. In particular, the presentation will suggest that a theory of the ‘public sphere’ ought to include art and culture because of their significant contributions to political conversations in society. Additionally, through understanding the richness and diversity of popular culture as an important element within an expanded view of the public sphere, we better understand the political significance of popular culture.

1:10-3:40 p.m.

**ART - Open Studio:
Metalsmithing & Blacksmithing**

Location: Rooms 20 and 23, Center for the Arts
Brad Nichols

The freedom of expression is the starting point for any practicing artist. These personal ideas manifest to objects and images created in the studio. In this open studio, Metalsmithing and Blacksmithing students will demonstrate both non-ferrous metalworking skills and traditional blacksmithing techniques. Students will be available to answer technical questions, discuss creative influences and guide visitors through the two studios.

2:15-3:10 p.m.

**EDUCATIONAL STUDIES - Presentation:
Healing Through Art and Storytelling**

Location: Room 335, Center for the Arts
Mai Chao Duddeck

This interactive presentation will utilize *Gathering Fireflies*, a verse novel with illustrations, as a catalyst for discussion on diversity, inclusion, and equity through art and storytelling. The conversation will aim to encourage dialogue regarding cultures, immigration, hopes and dreams, and what it means to be part of a multicultural community. (NOTE: The session has limited seating and will be repeated on Tuesday at 2:15 p.m.)

2:15-3:10 p.m.

**COMMUNICATION STUDIES - Presentation:
Public Disclosures of Mental Health and the NBA**

Location: Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall
Kate Lavelle

Professional sports often discourage athletes from disclosing mental health issues because of the expectations placed on athletes to ignore anything that might detract from athletic performance. In 2018, several National Basketball Association players publicly disclosed their struggles with anxiety and depression. Historically, athletes have had a number of restrictions about how they are allowed to show emotion and this talk will cover the recent increase of freedom within sport for athletes to be open about the challenges that they face and living with mental illness. This program will include communication and sport analysis of these disclosures as well as encourage audience participation and discussion.

3:00-4:00 p.m.

ART - Workshop: Protesting Through Art

Location: Room 203, Center for the Arts
Ellie DeMuth

This interactive workshop will be led by Art Education student Ellie DeMuth, focusing on the way in which art and artists are affected by society and culture and how art can be harnessed as a means of communicating personal messages that we want others to hear. A brief presentation on the history of protest posters will be paired with a hands-on opportunity for participants to create their own protest poster about societal issues that affect them. Finished posters will be on display for the duration of the festival in the Center for the Arts.

3:00-4:00 p.m.

THEATRE ARTS - Workshop: Rehearsing Freedom

Location: Room 347, Center for the Arts

Jeanne Willcoxon

From Brazilian Augusto Boal's Theatre of the Oppressed to the storytelling circles of Free Southern Theatre's John O'Neal, theatre has given activist artists the tools to imagine and practice freedom not only on the stage but in society. In this on-your-feet workshop, participants learn how theatre provokes, promotes and potentially produces social change.

4:00-5:30 p.m.

ENGLISH - Presentation: Why We Write: UWL's Creative Writers Share Their Voices

Location: Room 116, Center for the Arts

UWL Creative Writing Students

In this session, UWL's Creative Writing minors (and other serious student-writers) reveal why the blank page beckons them. In their own authentic voices, they will explore why creativity matters, where inspiration comes from, and how the process of inventing, shaping, and sharing their poems, stories, and scripts can elevate the soul and make the messy world a brighter place to be. Listen to the primary sources; these student-writers have things to say!

7:30 p.m.

ART - Artist Talk: Sawsan AlSaraf

Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts

Festival Guest Sawsan AlSaraf

My life experiences as an expatriate Iraqi woman have acute pertinence to the work I create. The decision I made to leave my homeland, Iraq, more than a quarter of a century ago, has shaped my lived history, and formulated the unstable and shifting terms that make up my past and present. It is in this dispersed life, which was spent in many geographic landscapes between the Middle East and North America, that I have developed my artwork and nurtured my spiritual path. This Rihla (the Arabic word for journey) leads me to not only analyze my own life stories, each of which is dictated by a specific time and place, but also to be closer and more sensitive towards people who live similarly scattered lives. "Rihla" emphasizes issues of identity, exile, home, displacement, and belonging in the context of "journeys". It adds to the discourse on the complexities of personal and social movements, and their intersections. Moreover, "Rihla" evolved to include liberation, pilgrimage with a focus on abandoned spaces, objects and bodies.



TUESDAY, MARCH 5

9:25-10:50 a.m.

THEATRE ARTS - Presentation: Working with Your Hands: Agency and Competence in the Age of Ikea

Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts

Ben Golden

Theatre designer and amateur furniture maker Ben Golden will discuss the relationship between manual competence and agency. How can learning an art, craft or trade make us into freer, more independent people? What are the consequences of distancing ourselves from the stuff that inhabits our lives?

9:25-10:50 a.m.

GLOBAL CULTURES & LANGUAGES - Presentation: An Activist in Exile

Location: Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall

Orlando Luis Pardo Lazo and Omar Granados

Writer, blogger, photographer, and political activist Orlando Luis Pardo Lazo (OLPL) was censored in Cuba in 2010 due to the political nature of his book *Boring Home*. Now in exile, Pardo Lazo is a political activist and accomplished author with several published fiction books and numerous literary awards. Since 2005, he has taught creative writing in Cuba and the U.S and has been a writer in residence at prestigious institutions such as Brown University, the City of Asylum Pittsburgh program and the City of Reykjavik. His photographic work has been featured in *The New York Times* and recently published in a book entitled *Abandoned Habana* (Restless Books, 2014). In this session, Pardo Lazo will share some of his photographic work and bilingual readings from his literature, highlighting his exploration of themes including freedom of expression, escape, confinement, provocation, rebellion and dissent.



11:00-11:55 a.m.

MUSIC - Presentation: Musical Tricksters

Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts

Festival Guest Andrea Fowler



Music history is full of composers and performers who routinely pushed boundaries, but only a handful have truly challenged our definitions of music and demonstrated freedom of expression through the creative process. Many of these composers came to prominence in the 1970s and 1980s – Laurie Anderson, Julius Eastman, Philip Glass, to name a few. Much of this work would not have been possible without John Cage, the prototypical musical trickster, one of the first composers to experiment through performer agency and freedom of choice. This talk will survey some of these tricksters, how they challenged audiences, and whether their tricks are still successful.

11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

ART - Open Studio: Photography

Camera Not Included

Location: Room 26, WING Technology Center

Linda Levinson

Think you need a camera or at least your cellphone to take a photo? Come discover the world of Photograms, a photography technique that requires only light to capture an image. Break free from your expectations. Participants will learn the tips and tricks, and leave with a creation or two of their own.

11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

ART - Open Studio: Printmaking

Location: Room 335, Center for the Arts

Joel Elgin

You are invited to suspend reason and join the UWL printmakers, who under the influence of the subconscious, will perform magical, mystifying acts of printmaking prowess. Please bring an article of clothing to get it freshly printed with a UWL "Printfool" original artwork. The printmaking studio is also open from 2:15-3:40 pm.

12:00-12:55 p.m.

ALL - Discussion: Pushing the Limits

Location: Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall

Joe Anderson, Jonathan Borja, Lisa Lenarz

The Arts have a long history of pushing the borders of polite society. We invite you to experience a discussion lead by creators of the Visual Arts, Music and Theatre talking about why they are compelled as artists to respond to the world around them in ways that are not always comfortable.

1:10-2:05 p.m.

POLITICAL SCIENCE/PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION -

Presentation: Freedom Bound? Subjecting Outdoor Artistic Expression to Government Restraint

Location: Hall of Nations, Centennial Hall

Jim Szymalak

This session explores the various ways in which local control of signs can raise First Amendment challenges when applied to artwork. It will examine how outdoor artistic expression, such as murals and sidewalk chalking, is often a popular and effective method of freely expressing one's beliefs. And how localities and community groups have also seized upon outdoor art as a conduit to create cultural identity, preserve history, promote economic development, focus revitalization efforts, and encourage and foster community engagement.

1:10-2:05 p.m.

THEATRE ARTS - Presentation:

Lighting Oppression and Illuminating Freedom

Location: Toland Theatre, Center for the Arts

Mandy Kolbe, Sarah Herkert, and Hannah Steele

This session will show how the lighting design of *Urinetown: The Musical* will change the scenery by using angle and color to manipulate the audience to feel oppression and fear while watching the performance.

2:15-3:10 p.m.

EDUCATIONAL STUDIES - Presentation:

Healing Through Art and Storytelling

Location: Room 335, Center for the Arts

Mai Chao Duddeck

This interactive presentation will utilize *Gathering Fireflies*, a verse novel with illustrations, as a catalyst for discussion on diversity, inclusion, and equity through art and storytelling. The conversation will aim to encourage dialogue regarding cultures, immigration, hopes and dreams, and what it means to be part of a multicultural community. (NOTE: The session has limited seating. It also takes place on Monday at 2:15pm.)



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ART - Open Studio: Printmaking

Location: Room 334, Center for the Arts

Joel Elgin

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2:15-3:10 p.m.

THEATRE ARTS - Presentation: Inspiring Political Action Through the Powerful Language of Theater

Location: Toland Theatre, Center for the Arts

Anne Drecktrah

Susan Fox, Diane Breaser, and Anne Drecktrah started The Alternative Truth Project in January of 2017 to do a reading of a political play every month. They wanted to provide a space for people to discuss what was happening in our country and to realize that there were many who felt that something must and could be done. With the goal to bring actors and audience together to talk about relevant events based on each reading, the play series has encouraged the community to keep talking outside of the theater and to become involved in issues that had been featured in that month's reading.

3:00-3:55 p.m.

MUSIC - Presentation: Social Justice Themes in the Choral Music of Jake Runestad

Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts

Christopher Hathaway

This presentation will highlight the evolution of social justice in American music as well as give a timeline of international choral music for social change. The two will then be merged together to reveal how American choral music is now being used for social activism as it never has before. Contemporary Minneapolis based composer, Jake Runestad, has become a leading American advocate for freedom of oppression and social change through his choral compositions, and will be used as the primary example in this presentation.

3:00-3:55 p.m. (CANCELLED)

GLOBAL CULTURES & LANGUAGES -

Presentation: Cuba Uprooted

Location: Third Floor Gallery, Center for the Arts

Omar Granados

Due to unforeseen circumstances this session has been cancelled, along with the companion gallery exhibit. If you are interested in this gallery, be sure to visit the expanded Insights into India exhibit and corresponding presentation on Monday at 9:55 a.m.

4:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES - Public Speaking Competition

Location: Room 1309, Centennial Hall

Mike Tollefson

The Public Speaking Competition promotes and showcases student excellence in public speaking. Six finalists, narrowed down from a pool of over 2,000 students enrolled in CST 110 during Spring and Fall 2018, will present their persuasive speeches to an audience of community members and UWL students, instructors, and staff. This event is organized and supported by the Department of Communication Studies.

7:30 p.m.

MUSIC - Performance:

Brendan Kinsella in Concert

Location: Annett Recital Hall, Center for the Arts

Festival Guest Brendan Kinsella

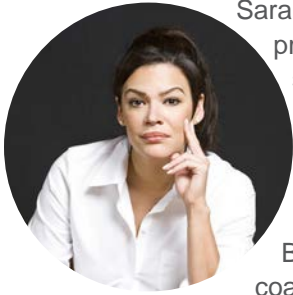


Featuring music ranging from magical to maniacal and hilarious to harrowing, pianist Dr. Brendan Kinsella performs a "one-man band" voice, piano, and multimedia music event. Recited in German, Robert Schumann's *Two Melodramas* evoke the dark mystery of German Romanticism. Kurt Schwitters' raucous, unbelievable *Ursonate* closes the first half. The concert concludes with Frederic Rzewski's epic *De Profundis*, adapted from Oscar Wilde's eponymous essay on persecution, suffering, and redemption.



FESTIVAL GUESTS

SARAH BELLAMY



Sarah Bellamy is Artistic Director for Penumbra Theatre Company. She has designed several programs that engage patrons in critical thinking, dialogue, and action around issues of race and social justice. Select programs include Penumbra's RACE Workshop and the Summer Institute, a leadership development program for teens to practice art for social change. A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, Bellamy also holds an M.A. in the Humanities from the University of Chicago. She has taught at Macalester College, the University of Minnesota, and served as Visiting Professor of Theatre and Culture at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Bellamy is a leading facilitator around issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion and has led coalition building efforts to address inequities in philanthropy and theatre. Her lectures on the power of race and representation have been presented across the country illuminating the ways in which images, narratives, and media influence perception and ultimately shape lives. She serves on the Board of Directors for Theatre Communications Group, The Jerome Foundation, and is a 2015 Bush Fellow.

ANDREA FOWLER



Andrea Fowler is a Ph.D. Candidate in Musicology with a minor in Contemporary American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, completing her dissertation on composer Julius Eastman. She also holds an MM in Musicology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance, an MA in Vocal Performance from Truman State University, and a BS in Music Education from Missouri Western State University. She is a Teaching Assistant at the Mead Witter School of Music, a Program Assistant at the Center for South Asia, and an instructor at the Annual Summer Music Clinic at UW-Madison. In the past year, Andrea has collaborated with Sound Out Loud and Madison Public Philosophy on a series of public outreach concerts as well as presenting a lecture entitled "Beyond the Muse" at the inaugural LunART Women's Music Festival in Madison. In April, she will present at the College Music Society Great Lakes Regional Conference on Julius Eastman. Andrea is a member of the American Musicological Society, Society for American Music, College Music Society, Sigma Alpha Iota, and Pi Kappa Lambda. She has presented her research at national and regional conferences. Areas of research interest include minimalism, American experimental traditions, film music, musical theatre, popular music, and queer of color critique. Between degrees, she maintained a large private voice studio in the Kansas City area while serving as a choral accompanist.

BRENDAN KINSELLA



Described as a “sensitive musician with an ear for color” by the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, pianist Brendan Kinsella’s recent concert engagements have taken him to New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, Dallas, Holland, Italy, and other cities throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. He earned his Bachelor (with honors) and Master of Music degrees at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music as a pupil of Frank Weinstock and in 2008 received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City as a student of Robert Weirich. In master classes, he has performed for artists such as Christopher Elton, Susan Graham, Martin Katz, Ani Kavafian, Anne-Akiko Meyers, Frederic Rzewski, Andre-Michel Schub, Peter Serkin, David Shifrin, Midori, and the Takacs Quartet. He completed his training as a Solo Piano Fellow at the Music Academy of the West, working under the guidance of Jerome Lowenthal, Professor of Piano at the Juilliard School. A noted interpreter of all things dissonant, Kinsella’s all-contemporary recitals featuring the works of living masters and emerging voices have garnered wide acclaim. Of a performance of Rzewski’s *De Profundis* in Montecito, the *Santa Barbara Daily Sound* remarked that “Kinsella’s performance was truly astonishing, as he missed nary a beat nor tripped over any words. The sense of terror, misery, despair, disdain, and righteous anger was palpable, and the essay is ultimately life-affirming if horrifying...I’m glad to have heard it, especially by such a passionate and gifted pianist who clearly believed in his mission.” A dedicated teacher, Kinsella presently serves as Associate Professor of Piano and Piano Area Coordinator at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley, where he teaches applied piano, chamber music, piano pedagogy, and piano literature.

MARJA KERNEY



Dr. Marja Kerney is Artist-in-Residence and part-time Assistant Professor of Percussion Performance at Kennesaw State University. Prior to her appointment at KSU, she was the percussion professor at the Stetson University School of Music. A native of Michigan, Kerney earned her BM from Michigan State University and MM and DMA from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. An avid chamber music performer, she cofounded the piano/percussion quartet P4 as well as the clarinet/percussion duo 421. As a new music collaborator, Kerney has worked with a wide range of composers including Chen Yi, Sydney Hodkinson, Zack Browning, Baljinder Sekhon, and Chad Rehmann. In addition to her extensive contemporary chamber experience, Kerney has performed as a percussionist/timpanist with orchestras including the Kansas City Symphony, Florida Orchestra, and Jacksonville Symphony, and has served as a pit percussionist for musicals including *A Chorus Line*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *9 to 5*, and *Spamalot*. Aside from her appointments at Kennesaw State and Stetson, she has served on the faculties at Bethune-Cookman University and Seminole State College. Kerney is a longtime member of the Percussive Arts Society, currently serving on the University Pedagogy Committee and the Leadership Steering Committee, and formerly as Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida chapter of PAS. In addition to percussion-related education, she has taught courses in music history, aural skills, and protest music, and she remains active as a freelance percussionist and timpanist in the Atlanta area.

SAWSAN ALSARAF



Sawsan AlSaraf (Canadian, b. Iraq) lives and works in Montreal, Canada. AlSaraf has moved between the Middle East and North America since 1977. She holds a BFA in studio art from Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, and an MFA in visual art from Vermont College of Fine Arts. A visual and multimedia artist, AlSaraf draws her references from her life experiences as an expatriate Iraqi woman. AlSaraf’s artwork traverses multiple media, from her acclaimed photo-collage paintings in the “Sufi Path” series, to her experimental films in her “Rihla” series. Her work was exhibited in a 3-woman show alongside her two daughters in the award-winning exhibition “Generation” (Silver Award for Exhibitions in the SEMC 2017) which opened at Telfair Museum (Savannah, GA) in May 2017. AlSaraf’s work has been screened and exhibited in Beijing, Beirut (Beirut Art Centre), Amman (Orfali Gallery), Abu Dhabi, Baghdad, Montreal, Savannah, Georgia, and Vermont. AlSaraf has also given artist talks and lectures at multiple conferences and universities on pilgrimage and diaspora. Her most recent work is a short experimental film titled “Tomorrow you will become a magic ney, I said but you did not hear me”, shot between Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan.



UWL Campus Map

Centennial Hall - C-4

Hall of Nations

Center for the Arts - C-3

Annett Recital Hall
Toland Theater
UWL Art Gallery
Creative Imperatives Gallery

Morris Hall - B-4

Frederick Theater

Wing Technology Center - B-5

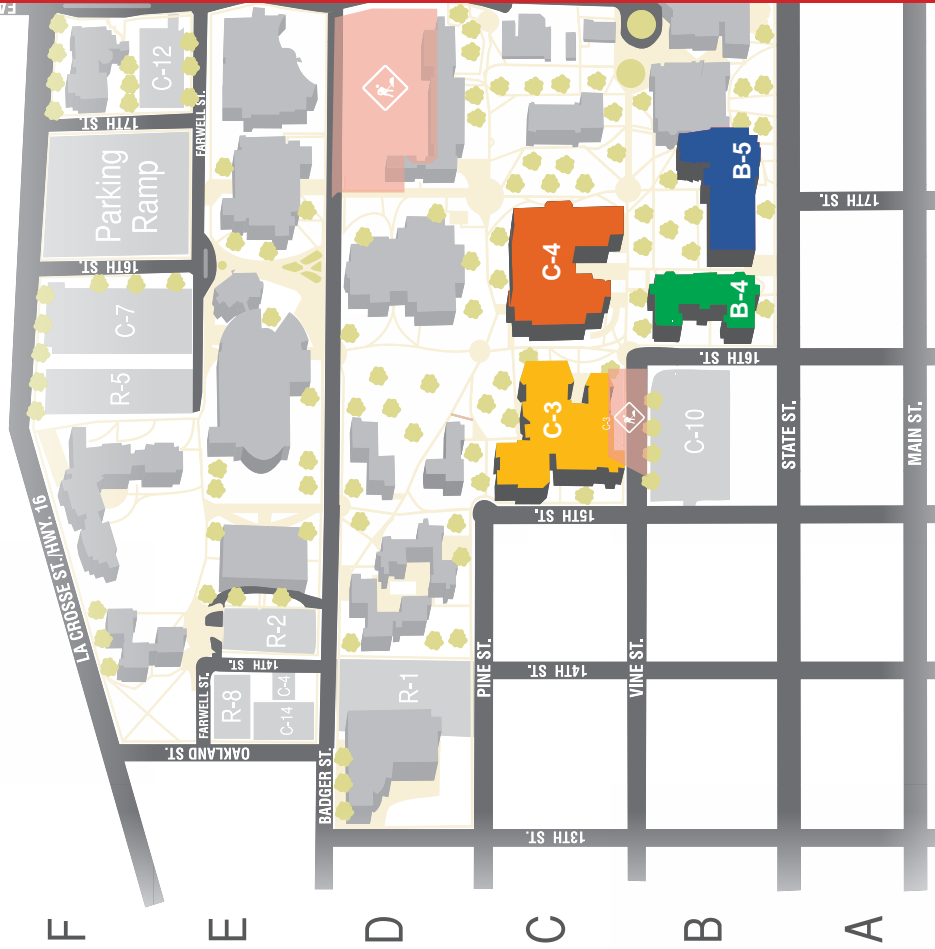
All festival buildings and locations are handicapped accessible.

Two-hour street parking is available 8 am - 6 pm.
UWL parking lots are available after 7pm at no charge.

creative imperatives
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse



NORTH



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