

# The Muskingum Mosaic

October 2024

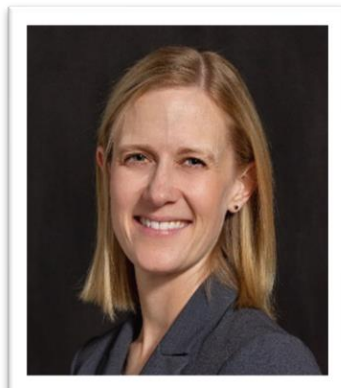


## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As we move into the heart of the fall semester, the arts at Muskingum are in full swing. From the Spirit Band cheering on the football team to art and music students traveling for enriching experiences in Cleveland and Cincinnati to first-year theatre students presenting the first production of the year, the energy and creativity on campus in the arts are inspiring. This momentum has been made possible in part thanks to generous donations, which continue to support exciting opportunities for our students. We are deeply grateful for this support, which enriches our programs and allows our students to explore new artistic horizons. Looking ahead, we are preparing for several standout events, providing invaluable learning experiences and showcasing the vibrant arts education we offer at Muskingum. This week, we're gearing up for Homecoming. In the music department, this includes the annual Collage Concert, Alumni Band, and Alumni Choir. Meanwhile, the Palmer Gallery will host Connection and Harmony, an exhibition featuring works by indigenous artists Jim Yellowhawk and Elmer Yazzie, and the theatre department will host an upcoming information session for three exciting trips planned for 2025. We hope you'll join us for many of our upcoming events and help celebrate the important work happening across campus. As always, feel free to reach out with your thoughts or to learn more about ways to stay involved. Thank you for being a part of our Muskingum arts family!

With warm regards,

Dr. Erin Bauer  
Chair of Art and Music  
Associate Professor of Musicology



**MUSKINGUM**  
UNIVERSITY

## Magenta 2024 **HOMECOMING**

A weekend full of reconnecting and reminiscing with friends at Muskingum... what could be better?! We hope you will join us for the 102nd Magenta Homecoming celebration this weekend, Oct. 18-20!

**COLLAGE  
CONCERT**  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

As part of Muskingum's Homecoming festivities, join us for the annual Collage Concert on Friday, October 18, at 8 pm in Brown Chapel. This signature event showcases our talented students and faculty through a dynamic mix of performances, including the Wind Ensemble's powerful rendition of Critical Mass, the Concert Choir's moving Shall We Gather at the River, and Muskie Rocks' energizing Uptown Funk. The concert, free and open to the public, is a wonderful opportunity to experience firsthand the vibrant musical community at Muskingum, and to celebrate the continued excellence of the arts on campus. Free and open to the public.

We hope to see you there!



# CONNECTION AND HARMONY:

Contemporary Lakota-Iroquois  
and Diné Perspectives

Featuring works by  
**Jim Yellowhawk and  
Elmer Yazzie**

## Opening Reception

October 16<sup>th</sup> | 3 -5 pm  
Louis O. Palmer Gallery

## Exhibit Hours

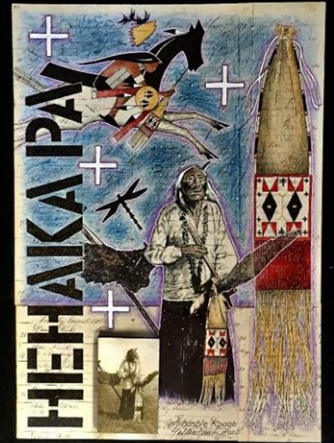
Every Mon. & Wed. | 3 -5 pm  
Special Homecoming Hours  
Friday: 10 am - 12 pm & 2 - 5 pm,  
Saturday: 10 am - 3 pm

## Special Performances

Jim Yellowhawk traditional dance  
Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> | 7 pm | Thompson Theater

Elmer Yazzie Painting Demonstration  
Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> | 1 - 2:30 pm

Exhibit Closes November 6th



## CONNECTION AND HARMONY: CONTEMPORARY LAKOTA-IROQUOIS AND DINÉ PERSPECTIVES

This month, The Louis O. Palmer Gallery will host an exhibition of works by indigenous artists Jim Yellowhawk of South Dakota and Elmer Yazzie of New Mexico, curated by Prof. Morgan Free. Please join us for an opening reception on Wednesday, October 16, from 3-5 pm. Following this reception, the exhibit will have open hours every Monday and Wednesday from 3-5 pm through November 6. The exhibit will also be open for special hours during Homecoming weekend: Friday, October 18, from 10-12 pm and 2-5 pm and Saturday, October 19, from 10-3 pm. In addition, Yellowhawk will perform a traditional dance in the Thompson Theater of Caldwell Hall on Thursday, October 17, at 7 pm, and Yazzie will present a painting demonstration on Wednesday, October 30, at 1 pm. All are free and open to the public. We hope to see you at the exhibit and at many of these corresponding events!

Special thanks to Dr. Sudha Srikrishen Saksena for her generous funding of this event! Dr. Saksena holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Indiana University. She joined the Muskingum faculty in 1968 with her husband, Dr. Vishnu P. Saksena. Vishnu was a member of the biology faculty for over 32 years. Sudha established the Anthropology curriculum at Muskingum. She remains deeply interested in promoting awareness and understanding of Native American cultures/tribes.

Thanks also to the Office of Cultural Engagement and Inclusion, the Special Events Committee, the Art Department, the Office of Advancement, Sue and Ken Hasseler, and Prof. Meri Linn McCollum for their support of this event!

# SOUTHEASTERN OHIO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Celebrate the 50th Anniversary Season of the Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra (SEOSO) with an unforgettable opening concert featuring Puddles Pity Party, the 7-foot-tall "sad clown" known for his stunning voice reminiscent of Tom Jones and Freddie Mercury. Join us on Sunday, October 20, at 7 pm at Secrest Auditorium in Zanesville for this unique blend of music and cabaret. Get your tickets at: Tickets are available at [www.seoso.org](http://www.seoso.org).



ROYAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

seoso  
southeastern ohio symphony orchestra

OCT. 20 7 p.m.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Puddles Pity Party



MUSKINGUM UNIVERSITY  
**THEATRE**  
Presents  
**Anna, Mitya, and  
Lady Cheesecake  
Sparkleskirt**

Don't miss our first production of the year! Anna, Mitya, and Lady Cheesecake Sparkleskirt is an immersive theatre experience based on Anton Chekhov's Lady with the Little Dog. October 24-26 at 8 pm and October 27 at 2 pm in Brown Chapel. Tickets are free with a Muskie ID and \$5 for others. You can purchase tickets online at: <https://www.muskingum.edu/academics/theatre/p/roduction-tickets>.

## THEATRE TRIPS!

The theatre department has three incredible trips planned for 2025: in January, the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in Pittsburgh, in March, the United States Institute for Theatre Technology in Columbus, and in August, the Stratford Festival in Ontario, Canada. All trips are open to all students, regardless of major. Find out more (and eat pizza!) at an information session in the Thompson Theatre on Wednesday, October 16, at 5 pm.





# CLARINET CHOIR

Since 1985, Mary Schlacks has been an essential part of Muskingum's music department, inspiring students with her passion for clarinet performance. In addition to private lessons, she directs the Clarinet Choir, a dedicated group that explores a variety of repertoires and grows together as an ensemble. Under Mary's thoughtful guidance, students not only improve their skills but also enjoy the collaborative experience of making music. Her commitment to her students continues to enrich the music program and foster a love of learning and performance.



## EUNJI BAIK PIANO RECITAL



Join us on **Friday, October 25, at 12 pm in Brown Chapel** for a special performance by Eunji Baik, Muskingum's collaborative pianist. Ms. Baik will present a preview of her upcoming recital program as she pursues her doctorate in Piano at The Ohio State University. With over a decade of experience working with vocalists, instrumentalists, and choirs, including serving as an accompanist and lecturer in South Korea, her performance promises to showcase her exceptional skill and artistry. Don't miss this exciting musical event! Free and open to the public.

# YOUTHFEST!

*Save the dates!* Choral YouthFest will be on Saturday, November 9, and Instrumental YouthFest will be on Saturday, November 16. These annual day-long events welcome regional high school musicians for a schedule of clinics, workshops, masterclasses, rehearsals, and combined performances. Directed by Dr. Daniel Strychacz (choir) and Dr. David Turrill (band), they offer valuable learning and performance opportunities. For more information or to nominate students, contact [dstrycha@muskingum.edu](mailto:dstrycha@muskingum.edu) or [dturrill@muskingum.edu](mailto:dturrill@muskingum.edu).

# M #1

Muskingum University  
Ranked 1st in Ohio for  
Best Value and Social  
Mobility

Muskingum University is proud to be recognized as a top performer in the U.S. News & World Report 2025 rankings for the Regional Midwest. For the second year in a row, Muskingum ranked 1st among Ohio universities in both Best Value Schools and Social Mobility, placing 8th and 7th overall in the Midwest region, respectively. This recognition highlights Muskingum's ongoing commitment to supporting students from diverse backgrounds and helping them achieve academic and professional success. We are excited to continue providing exceptional opportunities for our students to grow and thrive!



# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



Art students traveled to Cleveland to experience the Cleveland Art Museum. As one student explained, "I used to think museums were just about looking at things, but this visit showed me how art can make you think and feel differently . . . It made me realize that art is more about expressing ideas than making something perfect."



Music students traveled to Cincinnati to attend a concert by The President's Own Marine Band.



Concert Choir had a great time at the choir retreat!

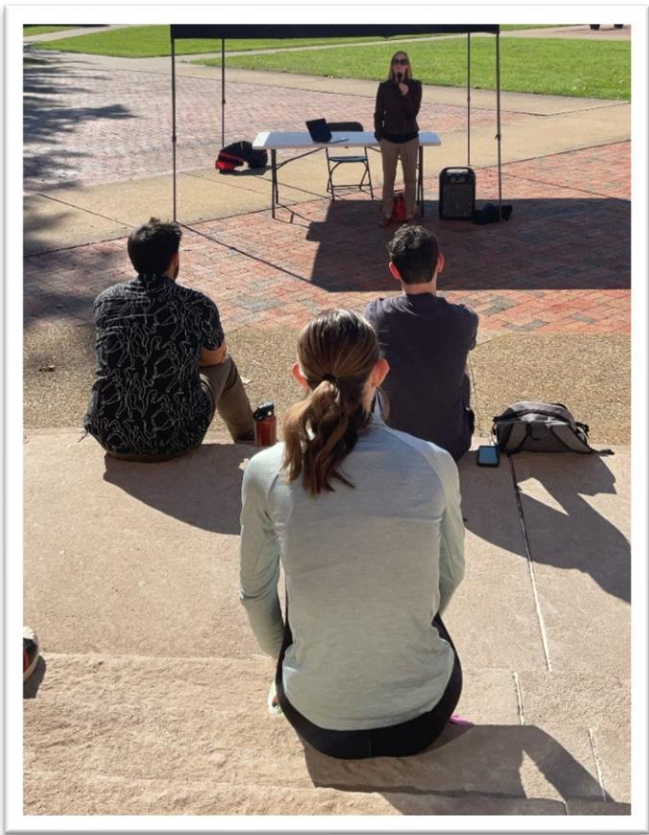


Music faculty wore green "You Good?" shirts to promote mental health awareness and self-care for our students.



The Muskie Spirit Band has been busy cheering on the Muskingum football team!

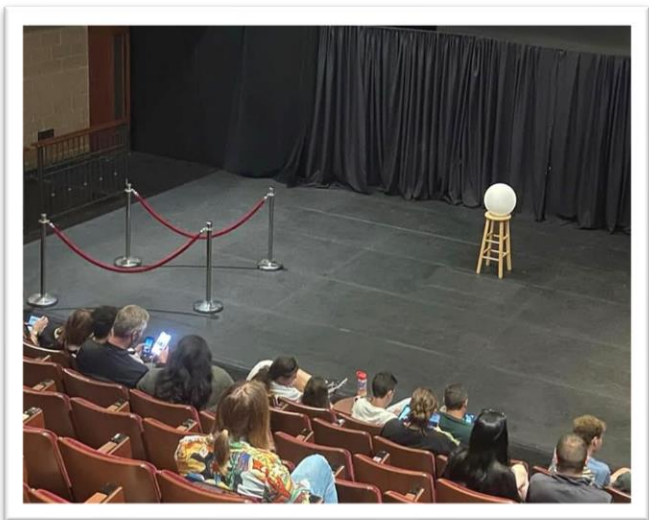




Dr. Bauer spoke about her book, *Flaco's Legacy*, as part of Hispanic Heritage Month.



Music alumna Allison Sommers ('18) talked with students about her role as Education Operations and Contracts Manager with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra.



First year theatre students presented the first production of the year: "The Orb"!



Music students enjoyed the fall department BBQ!

# PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Thinking about attending Muskingum University? We'd love to have you join us! In the arts, we offer inspiring facilities, a contemporary and diverse curriculum, and a welcoming community that meets you where you are and provides opportunities to participate in our programs across the entire campus community. We also offer scholarships for all levels of participation. Learn more online and schedule a time to visit campus and experience our close-knit community for yourself!





# SPRING ARTS COURSES

Current students: don't miss your opportunity to take interesting and exciting classes in the arts next semester!

In theatre, consider general education courses like Design I (THEA 265), History of Film (THEA 350; online), or American Musical Theatre History and Structure (THEA 360; online).

In art and design, consider general education courses like Drawing I (ART 112), Ceramics I (ART 121), Introduction to Digital Arts (ART 161; online), or Art History I (ART 350; online).

In music, consider general education courses like History of Popular Music (MUSC 110), Music and Ideas (MUSC 121), Black American Music (MUSC 207; online), Excursions in World Music (MUSC 310), or Music and Religion (MUSC 314).

We also offer a range of lessons and ensembles that are open to students from across the university! In particular, Wind Ensemble (MUSC 161), Concert Choir (MUSC 162), Musical Theatre Ensemble (MUSC 164), Steel Drum Band (MUSC 170), String Ensemble (MUSC 171), and Muskie Rocks (MUSC 172).

## Theatre 360: American Musical Theatre: History and Structure



**OPEN TO ALL MAJORS:** An exploration of the development and history of the American musical and its impact on theatre in the United States and abroad. Students will study the evolution of the art-form in order to understand the structure of musical script, and will be given the opportunity to start developing their own musical. This class is fully online so you can work when you want throughout the week!

Online: Asynchronous      Gen Ed Category 13

## Theatre 265: Design I



**OPEN TO ALL MAJORS:** The class will focus on interpreting theatrical works through visual research, storytelling, and communication, as well as the initial tools used in each area of design to create and explain these stories. Students will be given hands on experience in all areas of design and will be given the tools needed to choose an area of focus for a final project in Scenic, Costume, or Lighting Design.

9:30 Tuesday/Thursday      Gen Ed Category 9

## HOMECOMING ALUMNI BAND!



Calling all band alumni! Dust off your instruments and join us for the Homecoming Alumni Band on Saturday, October 19. Rehearsal will take place at 3:30 pm in Walter Hall 127, followed by dinner and the 7 pm Homecoming football game. This is a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with fellow band members, relive your Muskingum band days, and add to the Homecoming spirit! For more details or to sign up, contact Dr. David Turrill (dturrill@muskingum.edu). Don't miss the chance to be part of this Muskie tradition!

## HOMECOMING ALUMNI CHOIR!



Calling all choir alumni! Reconnect with fellow Muskies and make music once again by joining the Homecoming Alumni Choir. Rehearsal will take place on Sunday, October 20, at 9:15 am in Brown Chapel, followed by a special Student/Alumni Chapel Service at 10 am This is a wonderful opportunity to share your love of singing, catch up with friends, and be part of a meaningful Homecoming tradition. We look forward to welcoming you back and hearing your voices!

# MUSKINGUM COMMUNITY RELAXATION AND ART THERAPY EXPERIENCE

Join art and psychology alumna and Emerging Alumni Award recipient, Sarah Gotschall '17 for some time to take a breath, connect, and reflect. Stop by and stay a while to create art, learn mindfulness techniques, and share in the connections of past and present Muskies. Art supplies, activities, and resources will be provided.



Date: October 18

Time: 1-3 pm

Location: Quad

*(Steele Center Atrium if inclement weather)*



## ALUMNI UPDATES

Calling all arts alumni! We'd love to hear what you've been up to since leaving Muskingum. Send a brief update to [music@muskingum.edu](mailto:music@muskingum.edu) for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

Did you participate in theatre at Muskingum? All majors, minors, or participants of Muskingum Theatre are invited to take this short survey to let us know what you are up to these days:

<https://forms.office.com/r/cZYkww08K4>.

## FOLLOW US!

### Facebook

- Music at Muskingum
- Art at Muskingum
- Muskingum University Theatre



### Instagram

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- @muskingumart
- @muskietheatre



**Jeffrey Reed '70 (Political Science):** Retired in 2019 as Dean of the Business School at Marian University in Wisconsin. While at Muskingum, participated in a number of music classes and ensembles. As Dr. Reed explains, "My interest in music has been an avocation throughout my life. . . . Music has provided the opportunity for some peak experiences," including performing with the Washington National Symphony at Constitution Hall, performing Beethoven's Missa Solumnis under the direction of Robert Shaw, and touring with the Marian University Chamber Singers in Bavaria and Austria. Dr. Reed's advice to students: "Be aware of opportunities and say yes whenever possible— the next opportunity may change your life. . . . Saying yes provided me the opportunity to work for Xerox Corporation developing new products, to serve as a District Governor for Rotary in southeast Wisconsin, to sing under the direction of Robert Shaw."

**Steven Spangler '07 (Music Education):** Currently the lead orchestra director for Bexley City Schools. Also teaches AP Music Theory and directs the Bexley Middle School Jazz Band. As Steven explains, "In my senior year of high school, I began to think more intently about what type of learner I am. I thought about the distractions that large universities, in large cities come with. . . . The list of pros for Muskingum significantly outweighed any of the cons. Some examples include a smaller student-to-professor ratio. The fact that professors not only want you to succeed, they will make time for you when you need help or guidance. Muskingum also gave me the impression that everyone there felt and acted as if it were "home" instead of just being at school."