



The University of Texas at Austin  
College of Fine Arts

**Fine Arts Advisory Council Meeting Agenda**  
**Friday, October 14, 2022**  
**The University of Texas Club, President's Room**

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**THEME: Arts Communities and Arts Economies**

- 8:30am      Breakfast & Conversation
- 9:00am      Welcome
- Dean's Remarks
- Round Table Discussion: Strategic Planning
- BREAK
- Remarks and Q&A with UT Provost Sharon Wood
- Student Performance: Butler Opera Center
- Faculty Presentations: Community Partnerships
- 12:00pm     LUNCH
- Development Report
- 1:15pm      Tour of the Visual Arts Center



Fine Arts Advisory Council  
2022 Fall Meeting  
Speaker Bios

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**SONDRA LOMAX**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**

Sondra Lomax was appointed head of External Relations and Development for the College of Fine Arts in 2004 after several years as a dance faculty member and administrator in UT's Department of Theatre and Dance. She began her development work in the mid-1990s with an emphasis on major gifts fundraising. Under her leadership, the College of Fine Arts has greatly expanded its development operations, and for the current capital campaign, the college already has raised over \$141 million in six years. She holds an M.F.A. degree from York University (Toronto), wrote for the *Austin American-Statesman* newspaper and as a national critic for *Dance Magazine* for 18 years. Before her academic career, she danced professionally for eight years with ballet companies in the United States and Canada, including *Les Grands Ballets Canadiens* (Montreal).

**CAROLINE SCHUPBACH**

**ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR**

Caroline Schupbach is an alumna of the University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in American Studies and a minor in Museum Studies. She is a member of ArtPace San Antonio and supports the Ballet Conservatory of South Texas, the Southwest School of Art, the San Antonio Museum of Art, and the Tobin Center for Performing Arts. She has served on the Fine Arts Advisory Council since 2015 and is the current Council Chair. She and her family established the *Caroline and Robert Schupbach Family Scholarship* for the Texas Challenge program in 2020.



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**RAMÓN H. RIVERA-SERVERA  
DEAN**

Ramón H. Rivera-Servera is an ethnographer by training and profession, who holds research and teaching specialties across the visual and performing arts. Born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico, he received a Ph.D. in Performance as Public Practice from the UT-Austin Department of Theatre and Dance in 2003 as the first graduate of the program. For over 20 years, he has been an interdisciplinary scholar in the arts with a focus on creative ethnography, new work development in performance, and Black and Latinx arts and cultures in North America and the Caribbean. His writings and research explore transformational changes in the arts and creative communities, especially around issues of equity and inclusion.

In addition to his Ph.D. from UT-Austin, he earned his MA degree in Theatre Studies at City University of New York, and a BA degree in Art History: Visual and Cultural Studies from the University of Rochester. Before accepting the dean's position at UT-Austin, he taught for 18 years at Northwestern University, holding teaching and administrative appointments in the Departments of Theatre and Performance Studies, including as chair of the Department of Performance Studies.



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**SHARON L. WOOD**

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST**

Sharon L. Wood began serving as UT's executive vice president and provost on July 19, 2021. As the university's chief academic officer, she leads strategic planning for the university's academic mission, and ensures academic programs are world-class and aligned with the university's commitment to diversity and equity. These responsibilities include leading academic programs and initiatives across the university's 18 colleges and schools, which serve more than 51,000 students and support more than 3,000 teaching and research faculty. In addition, Wood oversees UT Austin's libraries and museums, archival collections, research centers, and academic support units.

Previously, Wood served as the dean of the Cockrell School of Engineering UT Austin since September 2014. Prior to her appointment as dean, Wood served as the chair of the school's Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering for five years, and for one year, she was director of the Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory, one of the nation's leading research centers in the large-scale study of the behavior of bridges, buildings and structural components. She joined the Cockrell School faculty in 1996 and holds the Cockrell Family Chair in Engineering #14.

Wood began her academic career at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she served on the faculty for 10 years. She received her bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Virginia and her master's degree and doctorate in civil engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



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**NATHAN LANGFITT**

**DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICES**

Nathan Langfitt has worked in student affairs and career services at both the University of Texas at Austin and Indiana University Bloomington, where he was on the senior staff of career development initiatives that focused on creating equity in career services. He has worked with college students as both a career counselor and mental health counselor, and has a passion for helping students in the arts chart a pathway forward that is reflective of their personal values and goals. Before his work in higher education, Langfitt served as a K-12 music teacher in the Austin Independent School District, a youth symphony conductor, an arts education administrator, and a classical music radio announcer. He is still an active freelance musician, and loves being a part of the Central Texas arts community. He is the author of a chapter in the forthcoming edited volume *Sound Pedagogy: Radical Care as Social Justice in Post-Secondary Music*. He is also completing his doctorate in higher education and student affairs at Indiana University Bloomington.

**KATIE DAWSON**

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, CO-HEAD OF DRAMA AND THEATRE FOR YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES/UTEACH THEATRE**

Katie Dawson uses the arts to increase equity and access in educational contexts. She received the Distinguished Book Award (for *The Reflexive Teaching Artist: Collective Wisdom from the Drama/Theatre Field*), the Creative Drama Award and the Winifred Ward Scholar Award from the American Alliance of Theatre and Education. Her second book *Drama-Based Pedagogy: Activating Learning Across the Curriculum* was published in 2018. Dawson is a Provost's Teaching Fellow at UT where she received the 2015 College of Fine Arts Distinguished Teaching Award, the 2018 College of Fine Arts Distinguished Research Award and the 2013 Regents Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award. Dawson is an internationally recognized consultant in creative learning and teaching artist practice. She publishes, speaks and facilitates workshops locally and globally, including ongoing partnerships in Australia, Asia and Eastern Europe with university and government partners. Dawson recently completed a two-year fractional appointment at the University of South Australia in pedagogical innovation. Prior to academia, Dawson worked as teacher, museum theatre educator, youth theatre director and actor.



**ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

What inspired you to get involved with the College of Fine Arts?

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What motivates you to stay engaged with the college?

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What aspirations do you have for the future of the college?

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*Your feedback is greatly appreciated! If you would like to share your written answers with the Dean's Office, please return this page with your comments to the check-in table.*



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Student Performance: Butler Opera Center

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Selections from the Butler Opera Center Shakespeare Gala  
October 19 – 21, McCullough Theatre

Giuseppe Verdi.....“Sul fil d'un soffio etesio” from *Falstaff*  
Hayan Kim, Soprano

Charles Gounod.....“Dieu! quel frisson court dans me veines?”  
“Amour ranime mon courage” from *Romeo et Juliette*  
Lili Juyeon Yoo, Soprano

Giuseppe Verdi..... “Credo in un Dio crudel” from *Otello*  
Jake Skipworth, Baritone

Ana Moiseeva, Piano  
Andrey Ivanov, Piano

**Garnett Bruce**  
**Resident Stage Director, Butler Opera Center**

Known especially for his large-scale work of opera’s most well-known productions, Bruce has created stagings of *Turandot*, *Carmen*, *Tosca*, *Aida*, *Pagliacci*, and *La bohème* that have been seen coast to coast. Bruce's body of work includes directing at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, and his European opera debut staging *Turandot* for the *Teatro di San Carlo* in Naples. From 2008 to 2011 he was at Opera Omaha, where he led a cycle of the Mozart-Da Ponte operas. He began directing for the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University in 2004, receiving a faculty appointment in 2006. Bruce regularly participated at the Aspen Music Festival and School from 1993 to 2019. Recently, Bruce became Artistic Advisor to Opera San Antonio. Born in Washington, D.C., Bruce was a choirboy at Washington National Cathedral and holds

degrees in English and Drama from Tufts University. After internships with Harold Prince and Leonard Bernstein in the early 1990s, he joined the staffs of the Santa Fe Opera, Washington National Opera, The Dallas Opera, and Opera Colorado. This summer, he stages *Don Giovanni* at Ravinia with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

**Hayan Kim**, a soprano from South Korea, recently performed Sophie (*Werther*) with Korea National Opera and Adina (*L'elisir d'amore*), Frasquita (*Carmen*) with Butler Opera Center. She is studying for her DMA at the University of Texas at Austin. She will perform Giulietta from *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* and Nannetta from *Falstaff* this October and Olympia from *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* in 2023. She was an apprentice artist at The Santa Fe Opera covering Despina (*Così fan tutte*) and Jano Jenůfa. Hayan graduated with her Professional Studies and Master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music and holds a Bachelor's degree from the Korea National University of Arts. Previous credits include Gilda (*Rigoletto*) with Garden State Opera, Crobyle (*Thaïs*) with Maryland Lyric Opera, Servilia (*La Clemenza di Tito*) and Sabina (*Hadrian*) with the Aspen Music Festival, Konstanze (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), Dew Fairy (*Hansel and Gretel*) for the Manhattan School of Music and Adina (*L'elisir d'amore*), Musetta (*La Bohème*), and Despina (*Così fan tutte*) for companies in Korea. Concert credits include Soprano Soloist in Haydn's *Die schöpfung* and *Harmoniemesse* and Händel's *Messiah*. Hayan was chosen as the finalist for the *Concurso de Canto Tenor Vinas*, the Metropolitan Opera National Council Eastern Region and Marcella Sembrich International Voice Competition. Ms. Kim has received awards and recognitions from the Opera Index Competition, Berliner International Music Competition, East Coast International Competition, Verismo Competition and also been awarded the AOC Fellowship, in honor of Renée Fleming in Aspen Music Festival.

Based in Austin Texas, South Korean soprano **Lili Juyeon Yoo** is pursuing her DMA in Opera Performance at University of Texas at Austin. During the 2021-22 season, Ms. Yoo performed the role of Bubikopf from *Der Kaiser von Atlantis* and Micaëla from *Carmen* at the Butler Opera Center. Ms. Yoo earned her Master of Music and Performer Diploma from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music where she performed the role of Zerlina from *Don Giovanni* and Cleopatra from *Giulio Cesare*. She was trained as a young artist at the Aspen Music Festival, Prague Summer Nights and Songfest. She earned her Bachelor's degree at Seoul National University.

**Jake Skipworth** most recently performed with Chautauqua Opera as Chris the citizen in *The Mother of Us All*. He has also performed with Sarasota Opera, St. Pete Opera, Tallahassee Bach Parley, Chautauqua Opera, Butler Opera Center, Opera Kansas, Wichita Grand Opera, Heartland Opera Theatre, and the Kent Philharmonic Orchestra.

Roles include Scarpia and Sacristan in *Tosca*, Silvio in *Pagliacci*, Rigoletto and Monterone in *Rigoletto*, Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly*, Filiberto in *Il Signor Bruschino*, Fiorello in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Moralès in *Carmen*, Haly in *L'italiana in Algeri*, Commissioner in *La Traviata*, Schaunard in *La Bohème*, Zuniga in *Carmen*, Baron Grog in *The Grand Duchess*, Rucker Lattimore in *Cold Sassy Tree*, Leporello in *Don Giovanni*, Frank in *Die Fledermaus*, Elder Ott in *Susannah*, Don Alfonso in *Così Fan Tutte*, Marco in *Gianni Schicchi*, and King Melchior in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. He completed his Master of Music in Opera Performance at Wichita State University, and Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at Oakland University. Jake is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Music Arts in Opera Performance from the University of Texas at Austin.

**Ana Moiseeva** is a DMA student in Opera Coaching. She came to the USA in August 2019 from Georgia to pursue her dream of becoming an opera coach. Before coming to the US, she was an accomplished accompanist performing in her native country and throughout Europe. In 2017, Ana was recognized as the best choir accompanist of Georgia. She fell in love with opera as a child, when upon hearing Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. *Don Giovanni*, by a turn of fate, was the first opera she worked on at Butler Opera Center as an opera coach, 25 years after seeing it for the first time.

**Andrey Ivanov** is a Brazilian pianist and conductor currently pursuing his Master in Opera Coaching at UT-Austin in the class of Prof. Dr. Tamara Sanikidze and Maestro Douglas Kinney Frost. He graduated from Sao Paulo State University in Brazil with a Bachelor in Conducting, where he studied with Abel Rocha and Lutero Rodrigues. Ivanov had the opportunity to study and work with many renowned artists, such as Ligia Amadio, Naomi Munakata, Andre dos Santos, and the pianists Fernando Tomimura and Prof. Dr. Martha Thomas. He worked as pianist in productions of *La Bohème*, *The Magic Flute*, *Carmen*, *Il Mondo della Luna*, *La Voix Humaine*, among others at the *Theatro Sao Pedro* and *Teatro Bradesco* in Sao Paulo. He also worked as assistant conductor at the production of Yoshi Oida's opera version of *Das Lied von der Erde* at the SescPinheiros.



## Fine Arts Advisory Council Fall 2022 Meeting Development Report

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### Sondra Lomax

Executive Director and Assistant Dean for Development

As we move into the new academic year with less threat from COVID-19, the College of Fine Arts continues to raise the bar on excellence in 21<sup>st</sup> century arts education. To make this possible, we have increased momentum in our fundraising operation with a boost from the public launch of the UT-wide “What Starts Here” capital campaign in March 2022 and with important help from members of our Advisory Council.

For academic year 2021-2022, the College of Fine Arts received **over \$44.8 million** in gifts and pledges. This accomplishment is the result of dedicated efforts by Advisory Council members, chairs and directors, development staff, alumni, and friends. To each of you, I extend my heartfelt thanks on behalf of the College of Fine Arts and its students.

Most of this \$44.8 million is restricted, meaning that funds are designated to specific endowments or purposes. Some are planned gifts that will provide us with transformational funding in the future. But all of these gifts share a common bond: they help the college in its pursuit of excellence so that we can continue to provide the best arts education and creative research opportunities for our students.

Last year’s success was a milestone, heralding the second-largest fundraising total in the history of the college. The largest fundraising year was over \$55 million in 2008 with the generous naming gift for the music school by Ernest and Sarah Butler.

This year’s fundraising is off to a great start: Since September 1, 2022, the college has raised over **\$14.9 million!** Our goal for this fiscal year is \$15 million, and we are well on our way to exceeding that goal. With your help, we will make it another banner year!

One of our top fundraising priorities remains student support across the college, whether it be undergraduate scholarships, graduate student fellowships, or internship funds. Our goal is to make COFA financially accessible for the brightest students in Texas and beyond, so that our students can enjoy the best educational opportunities available and graduate with the least amount of student loan debt.

**Texas Challenge Scholarships**, which offer dollar-to-dollar matches from the university, are a smart investment, as you can double the value and impact of your gift while supporting the neediest students. Texas Challenge Scholarships are still available to fund at the \$100,000 minimum until the end of this calendar year. **Beginning in January 2023, the minimum investment rises to \$125,000.** My thanks to all the Parents Council and Advisory Council members who have created Texas Challenge Scholarships to benefit low-income students. We can still use more!

Another important matching funds opportunity will support **Landmarks**, the university's public art program. For those of you who attended the Doty Awards last year, you heard about the Still Water Foundation challenge match. If Landmarks can raise \$2 million in endowment funds by December 31, 2022, the foundation will invest an additional \$2 million for the Landmarks endowment.

Endowment investments can support student internships, art conservation, publications, educational outreach, and general operations. **We have raised over \$1.35 million towards the \$2 million challenge goal, and we are striving to complete the remaining \$650,000 before the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.** If you have been considering a contribution to Landmarks, now is the time! Your gift of any size can help us to unlock this \$2 million opportunity from the Still Water Foundation. Thank you for your support!

As we continue to build and sustain COFA, we are moving aggressively with our fundraising initiatives across the college. Each gift to the College has the potential to help transform lives, whether it enables a student to view great works of art, study with renowned musicians, or create a role in a theatrical production. And please remember, every gift counts, no matter the size!

To achieve our goals, our hope is that each and every Advisory Council member will find a project with which to become involved, and that you will work with the dean and me, and with our chairs, directors, faculty and staff, to keep the College of Fine Arts at the forefront of arts programs nationally. With your help, we will succeed!

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me, or members of my staff, if we can assist with questions or projects. And once again, thank you for your support of the College of Fine Arts!

## COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

### **FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022**

Total Raised for COFA:	\$44,898,385
Student Support:	\$20,508,439
Faculty Support:	\$161,096
Program Support:	\$21,487,749
Facilities Support:	\$2,741,101

**New Endowments Created: 11**

**COFA'S ENDOWMENT TOTALS = \$214 MILLION**

Number of Endowments:	508
Student Support:	330
Faculty Support:	80
Program Support:	98

**"WHAT STARTS HERE" CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS: \$143.5 MILLION  
(2016 TO PRESENT)**

**2022-2023 YEAR-TO-DATE FUNDRAISING TOTAL: \$14.9 MILLION**



## COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS FAST FACTS

- Nickname: COFA
- Established: 1938
- Student enrollment: 2,100
- Faculty: 271
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 8:1
- Performance Venues: 10
- Student Galleries: 4
- Concerts per year: 600+

## What are the fundraising priorities?

The college's top fundraising priorities for 2022-2023 are:

- **Innovation in Research and Creative Practice**
- **College-to-Career success initiatives**
- **Facilities upgrades**

## DEPARTMENTAL PRIORITIES

- **Department of Art and Art History:**  
Research and Travel Support for Students and Faculty / Studio MFA  
Professional Practices Seminar
- **Butler School of Music:**  
Facilities Renovation / Student Scholarships / Diversity, Equity & Inclusion  
Initiatives
- **Department of Theatre and Dance:**  
New Works: Production, Research and Partnerships / Career Development  
Opportunities / Student Scholarships
- **School of Design and Creative Technologies:**  
Endowed Faculty Support / Student Scholarships / Facilities and Equipment
- **Landmarks Public Art Program:**  
Student Internships / Public Programs / Conservation
- **Texas Performing Arts:**  
Student Ticket Fund / Programming Support / Bass Concert Hall Plaza  
Renovation



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## ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

### Department of Art and Art History

- Chair: Susan Rather
- One of the largest and most diverse art departments in the U.S.
- Three divisions: Art History, Studio Art, and Art Education
- The Visual Arts Center (VAC) is a premier gallery space to exhibit art created by visiting artists, students, faculty and alumni

### Butler School of Music

- Interim Director: Jeff Hellmer
- Home to ensembles ranging in size and genre from the Longhorn Band to Mariachi Paredes, from the UT Symphony Orchestra to jazz combos
- Hosts over 600 concerts and events annually in Bates Recital Hall, Jessen Auditorium, and two lecture-recital halls
- With an enrollment of more than 600, the Butler School supports a student-to-faculty ratio of 7 to 1.
- The Butler School has more than 1,000 instruments in its inventory, including six organs, over 220 pianos, five harpsicords and a fortepiano.

### School of Design and Creative Technologies

- Assistant Dean: Doreen Lorenzo
- Three divisions: Design, Arts and Entertainment Technologies, and the Center for Integrated Design
- Current enrollment is 600 in the undergraduate degree programs and is expected to grow to between 800 and 900. Two new graduate programs were added in 2020, the MFA in Design and the MA in Design for Health.
- Working with other COFA academic departments and programs to renovate and create additional classroom, lab, and design space.

### Department of Theatre and Dance

- Interim Chair: Megan Alrutz
- First university theatre program in Texas (1938)
- One of the largest theatre and dance departments in the country, with four divisions: Theatre, Dance, Performance Studies, and Design/Technology
- Home to the Lab Theatre, B. Iden Payne Theatre, and Oscar Brockett Theatre
- The David Mark Cohen New Works Festival is a student-run, department-wide celebration of new plays, choreography, and performance art.



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## PROGRAMS

### Texas Performing Arts (TPA)

- Director: Bob Bursey
- Presents more than 145 performances every year, including Broadway shows, with a combined audience of nearly 285,000
- Four hundred volunteers provide more than 20,000 hours of service annually for an estimated value of \$500,000
- The most prolific commissioner among its peers of new music by the country's best-known composers
- TPA runs the most robust student engagement program of its peers, with approximately 100 student employees and more than 14,000 student tickets (\$10 each) sold annually.

### Landmarks

- Director: Andrée Bober
- One of the most important university public art programs in the country
- Works are purchased through construction and renovation projects, but Landmarks must raise funds to maintain and preserve those works
- A UT committee of arts professionals vets the artists, with final approval by the college receiving the work.
- Provides hands-on experience for student volunteers in preservation and education



### FUNDRAISING

- If you are able – donate personally! In addition to your dues, **give to your area of passion in the college.**
- Host meetings or small dinners so fellow arts patrons in your community can meet the dean and learn about the college.
- Share information about prospective donors, including individuals, corporations, and foundations.
- Partner with us to solicit donations from other sources.

### ADVISING THE DEAN

- Share observations, feedback, and recommendations with the dean.
- Report on how the college is perceived in your community.
- Tell us what we do well and what might be improved.
- Request a meeting with the dean any time you have questions or would like an update on the college.

### ADVOCACY

#### In your communities ...

- Learn all you can about our outstanding programs so you can share information about the college
- **Introduce and involve friends, family, colleagues, and UT alumni with the college.** Invite them to shows, performances, and special events.
- Talk about why you are a member of the Fine Arts Advisory Council and what it means to you.

#### In your schools ...

- Connect our Admissions staff with schools and teachers who offer exceptional training in the arts
- Host regional events for newly accepted students and their parents
- Contact parents of admitted students to share your experience of the college

#### In leadership circles ...

- Help make the University of Texas administration aware of the importance of the college. **The arts are a vital part of a well-rounded university education.**
- Cultivate the interest and involvement of members of the Texas Legislature and other state officials who support the university, arts, and arts education.
- Facilitate visits with government or community leaders.

## TERMS

- **Active members** may serve up to two, three-year terms. Once the first term is complete, the member will be invited to complete a second term if they are in good standing with their attendance and dues.
- After serving two terms as an active member, members will be invited to become a **Sustaining member** if they are in good standing.
- The dean may invite **Honorary members** to serve at his discretion.

## ANNUAL DUES

Members are asked to pay \$1,500 in annual dues each term year, with \$300 to help offset costs associated with the Council, and a tax-deductible \$1,200 contribution to The Doty Society.

## MEETINGS

The Council meets twice annually, in the fall and the spring.

