



# VERGE

THE E-NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS

October 2018



## UArts Weekend a Big Success

A heartfelt thank you to all those alumni, students, family members, faculty and staff who took part in UArts Weekend and helped make it such a resounding success.

Starting with UArts Day for students on Friday, Oct. 5, 1,300 UArts community members attended the day's closing celebration and block party, with 382

first-year students participating in the Great Race, completing a total of 1,678 Great Race Challenges across the city. 602 Upper-class students attended Inside Out Sessions, a series of seminars, workshops and other activities.

On Saturday and Sunday, families and alumni took part in a wide range of events. President David Yager made an announcement about many exciting initiatives being launched at UArts as part of our first comprehensive fundraising campaign to bring the University to a new level of excellence, "Uniquely UArts, the Campaign for Creative Capital." Check your inbox next week for full details.

Some UArts Weekend highlights:

- 540 family members took part in UArts Weekend, along with 105 alumni
- We had a record turnout at the family BBQ, with more than 200 people participating
- 31 students were inducted into the National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Many families took part in the gallery crawl across campus, organized by Student Affairs and the College of Art, Media & Design
- For the seventh year, UArts students performed to packed crowds on the Broad and Chestnut Streets stage at the Midtown Village Fall Festival
- For the first time, UArts set up booths at the festival, with audience members making string art, alumni selling jewelry, and strong sales of UArts merchandise
- Several hundred students, family members, alumni, faculty and staff took part in a revival of the UArts tradition of the Big Shot in Solmssen Court

Again, thanks to all who took part in UArts Weekend.



## Dorrance Hamilton Gallery Dedicated

On Thursday, September 20, the University of the Arts dedicated the Dorrance Hamilton Gallery in Hamilton Hall in a reception and ceremony honoring the late UArts trustee and benefactor. The event was attended by more than a dozen members of the Hamilton family, with remarks offered by President and CEO David Yager, UArts Trustee Brian Effron, and Nat Hamilton BFA '07 (Photography) (pictured, right), a UArts alumnus and trustee, and also the grandson of Dorrance Hamilton. Performances by students from UArts' School of Music included a rendition of "Fly Me to the Moon" by Jonathan Williams '18 (Vocal Performance).

Dorrance Hamilton was a member of the UArts trustees for more than 30 years, and served as board chair. Her \$25 million gift in 2006 is the largest in the history of the school. It was also announced at the gallery event that the Philadelphia Music Alliance will honor Mrs. Hamilton with its first Humanitarian Award for her many contributions to the region's music-related institutions. A ceremony to

install a plaque on the Broad Street "Walk of Fame" is being planned.



## Alum Agency wins Silver at 2018 Ad Age Awards

Brownstein Group, founded by alum Bernie Brownstein DIPL '15 (Advertising Design), won Silver at the 2018 Ad Age 'Small Agency of the Year' Awards, naming the Philadelphia shop as one of the top two agencies in the country with 75-150 employees. Each year, Ad Age (the leading global publication for the advertising and marketing community) honors small, independent agencies that are producing innovative and exciting work. Brownstein Group was recognized as a small agency of the year for its work on behalf of clients like IKEA, Comcast Xfinity, Wawa, Western Union and LEGOLAND Discovery Center.

The Brownstein Group edged hundreds of other agencies from across the United States, and was specifically noted for its ability to generate superior

client return on investment. Brownstein Group is the longest-running independent marketing communications agency in Philadelphia. The firm has also been named one of Ad Age's Best Places to Work and a Fortune Top 100 Best Places to Work for Women.



## First Executive Director of Philadelphia Art Alliance at UArts Named

The University of the Arts has named Marina McDougall Vella the founding executive director of the Philadelphia Art Alliance at the University of the Arts. McDougall Vella served most recently as the founding director of the Center for Art & Inquiry in San Francisco, a research and development laboratory for the arts within the larger learning laboratory of the Exploratorium. She was also the first curator of art and design at the California College of the Arts' Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts; and a founding collaborator of the Studio for

Urban Projects.



## UArts Alumni and Faculty Nominated for **Barrymore Awards** for Philadelphia Theater

Congratulations to more than a dozen UArts alumni, faculty and staff who are nominated for 2018 Barrymore Awards, the highest honor in Philadelphia theater. The awards are given annually by Theatre Philadelphia, an organization dedicated to bringing together and celebrating Philadelphia's diverse and growing theater community.

The 2018 Barrymores will be handed out on Monday, Nov. 5. You can view the full list of [UArts nominees here](#).



The University of the Arts, 320 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [connect@uarts.edu](mailto:connect@uarts.edu) in collaboration with



[Try it free today](#)