



# College of Visual & Performing Arts

Dr. W. R. Coleman, Dean  
Presentation to the  
ASU Board of Trustees

June 25, 2021

# Vision for the College of Visual & Performing Arts

The College of Visual & Performing Arts' mission is to prepare artists, professionals, & educators for the 21st century. Students are trained & mentored through empowering artistic experiences. The COVPA seeks to be a pre-eminent provider of education in the arts by celebrating diverse artistic traditions, acknowledging student creativity, and recognizing the significance of African/African-American culture. The COVPA consists of 3 departments: Music, Theatre & Dance, and Visual Arts.

- ▶ Recruitment of the Best & Brightest students in the Arts
- ▶ Retention of All Students
- ▶ Resource Increase through Granting
- ▶ Rewarding Excellence in Every Area
- ▶ Reclaiming Relationships with Alumni & Supporters

# Grants & Scholarly Activities :

- Each department in the College currently has active grant submissions totaling \$150,000. This is a 90% increase in grant applications.
- The Department of Visual Arts was recently awarded a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to complete a historical mural on the campus.
- Dr. Coleman, dean of the College, is currently working with a local ministry to create an original play and documentary on the COVID pandemic, vaccine hesitancy, and the impact of the virus on minority communities, particularly the African American community. The project has been funded through a grant from the Alabama Department of Health totaling \$205,000. The COVPA will be integral to the process.
- Dr. Michael Zelenak, associate professor & coordinator of the Music Education Program, will be a featured writer in a textbook due out in the fall.
- Ms. Lindsay Benton, assistant professor of Dance, has been chosen to serve on a grant review board for the National Endowment for the Arts.

# Notable Accomplishments of the College

- ▶ Establishing a formal MOU between Alabama State University & Alabama Shakespeare Festival to provide internships for students in Technical Theatre
- ▶ Grant Submissions Increase
- ▶ Maintaining completion rates through the pandemic
- ▶ Hosting 23 Virtual Master Classes, Workshops, and Performances during 2020-2021 Season

# Student Achievements

- Music major **Janet Lagah-Bona** received a full scholarship from Bard College's Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts, totaling \$94,000 which will cover her entire tuition for both years of graduate study at Longy. She will begin her studies toward a Master of Fine Arts in Music this fall.
- Theatre Arts major **Jada Campbell** received a full scholarship from Texas Tech University School of Theatre & Dance in Lubbock, Texas, which will cover her studies for 3 years as she pursues a Master of Fine Arts in Playwriting.
- Dance major **Jordan Pope** has been accepted into the Master of Fine Arts Program in Dance at the University of Alabama. She has received an assistantship which will cover her tuition and provide an opportunity for her to also teach undergraduates in dance beginning this fall.
- Visual Arts major **Jamie Harris** has received an unprecedented full scholarship (\$124,000) to pursue her Master of Fine Arts degree at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA) in Philadelphia.

# What's Next for COVPA

- ▶ **Returning to Live Performances**
- ▶ Strategic Curriculum Review
- ▶ **Preparation for Accreditation Visits**
  - ▶ Theatre – 5<sup>th</sup> Year Visit (2022-2023)
  - ▶ Art – Preparing Visit Response
  - ▶ Music – Accreditation Confirmed for 10 Years
  - ▶ Dance – Preparing for a self-study and proposal to pursue accreditation
- ▶ **Continues focus on the 5 Rs (Recruitment, Retention, Resources, Reward, Reclamation)**

# Questions