Greetings My Fellow Alumnus,

My name is Gerry Jones and I’m the new president of the UNLV College of Fine Arts Alumni Chapter. I would like to be the first to welcome you to read our first newsletter. We, the chapter board members, decided that we needed to keep our alumnus in touch with what is going on at UNLV. As a board, we would love your support as a member of the College of Fine Arts Chapter [http://www.unlvalumni.org/membership](http://www.unlvalumni.org/membership), but we feel it’s more important to remain connected to each and every college alumnus through the newsletter.

The board is represented and supported by each department and school within the College of Fine Arts; architecture, art, dance film, music, and theatre. I would like to start our initial newsletter with a little introduction about me. I attended UNLV from 1990 to 1996. I started out as a pre-med Chemistry major and stumbled in to the world of dance. I decided to minor in Dance initially, but changed to a dual major in Chemistry and Dance. I was nicknamed the ‘dancing chemist’ after spending a semester in chemistry labs practicing tap with my tap shoes. I never saw myself developing in to a professional dancer, but it has provided me with the skills of determination and practice, and in time one can be successful and enjoy the art of Dance!

I am now a Physician Assistant here in Las Vegas and continue to support the arts and giving back to my community and school. I have served on the board for 4 years and really enjoy staying connected to fellow alumnus and faculty. Next year will be 20 years since I graduated and many of the faculty is still teaching and inspiring new students. For me, that speaks a lot for UNLV and the College of Fine Arts. I am looking forward to a great year as your president!
DEPARTMENT OF ART ALUMNI NEWS by Louisa McDonald, Chair, Department of Art

There have been many new developments in the Department of Art over the last few years, most recently the appointments of internationally recognized artist, Tim Bavington (MFA 1999), a 2014 Nevada Entertainer/Artist Hall of Fame inductee, as the Lenahan Saltman, Thomas and Mack Professor, and Jessica Starkey (MFA 2005) as Faculty in Residence.

Other Art MFA graduates that are currently serving as adjunct instructors include Scott Grow, John Stoelting, Adam Morey, Cynthia Sullivan, Lolita Develay, Abraham Abebe, Sean Slattery, and Jenessa Kenway; and BFA graduates Orlando Montenegro-Cruz and Elizabeth Blau. Art grads Tamara Scronce (MFA 1997) and Rebekah Bogard (MFA 2003) are members of the art faculty.

UNLV Art graduates in leadership positions in the visual arts in Las Vegas include Danielle Kelly (MFA 2007), Executive Director of the Neon Museum, Nancy Deaner (MFA 1991), Manager of the Office of Cultural Affairs and member of the City of Las Vegas Arts Commission, and Michael Ogilvie (MFA 2005), Public Arts Cultural Specialist for Clark County.

Sherin Guirguis (MFA 2001) is included in an official collateral exhibition concurrent with the 56th Venice Biennial, which opened in May. Nationally recognized Las Vegas-based grad Justin Favela (BFA 2010) has the honor of having his art chosen to represent Nevada in the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, which opened last year in Bentonville, AR. Another remarkable graduate, Korre Heggen, who received a BA in Art with a concentration in Graphic Design in 2008, was part of the visual effects team that received an Oscar for Best Visual Effects in 2013 for their work on The Life of Pi. Art students like Korre will be interested to know that a new Art degree, a BS in Graphic Design & Media, enrolled its first students in Fall 2014.

The Alumni Chapter Needs Your Help!!

We want to keep you informed of all the incredible things that our alumni are doing!

Please email us at fineartsalumni@unlv.edu with any news that you would like to share, anything from gallery openings to career highlights.

DEAN JEFFREY KOEP STEPPING DOWN AS DEAN OF COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Dean Koep has been dean of the College of Fine Arts for 20 years, and has decided that the time was right for him to return to the Theatre faculty and will be doing so effective January 1, 2016.

The Provost announced that an interim Dean will be named prior to July 1st, and a national search for the Dean position will commence in the fall.
Congratulations to
JOE ALDRIDGE ’79,
2014 COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR!!

Joe received his Master of Arts in Theatre in 1979 and has not only been an extraordinary contributor in his field of technical theatre, but has also been a valued member of the UNLV faculty. He is currently an associate professor and director of the Entertainment Engineering & Design program at UNLV.

To submit a nomination for our future Alumnus Of The Year please go to http://www.unlvalumni.org/alumni/awards to complete the form and submit your nomination to fineartsalumni@unlv.edu (self-nominations are welcome).

MARJORIE BARRICK MUSEUM EXHIBITION OPENING by Anne Silva

On Friday, June 19, I stopped by the Marjorie Barrick Museum for the “Recent Acquisitions” and “The Dorothy & Herbert Vogel Collection” opening reception. I just love this space: it’s the university’s first gymnasium basketball court and they’ve kept the original hardwood flooring, including the old Wolfy-looking mascot.

The reception was fabulous: cucumber water, wine and light hors d’oeuvres: perfect for a hot summer evening. The art was fantastic. The Vogel Collection is a donation of 50 works donated by the couple in coordination with the National Gallery of Art. It’s known as the 50 x 50, as 50 works were donated to facilities in all 50 states. “Recent Acquisitions” focuses on contemporary artists with strong ties to Nevada. I recognized many local artists and it was great to touch base with them.

The opportunity we are afforded to speak directly with artists, teachers and staff constantly amazes me. I chatted with Jerry Schefcik (director of UNLV Galleries), Dr. Jeff Koep (Dean, College of Fine Arts), Robert Beckman (Artist), Wendy Kveck (Artist), Shawn Hummel (Artist), and Dr. Louis McDonald (Chair, Department of Art). It’s fascinating to be able to hold a conversation with an artist about their work, their process, their concerns for the community and the place art holds in it. It was like my own personal “First Friday.”

If you get a postcard to attend one of these events, do yourself a favor and go! The exhibition will be open through September 19, 2015. The museum is open Mon-Fri 9-5 and Sat 12-5. They have cool “Art Bar” and you can stop and create something. I always see people with their kids enjoying this feature. It’s a charming place to swing by for that refreshing dash of culture you may need this summer.

Special thanks to Alisha Kerlin, Collections Manager and Office Manager, and Aurore Giguet, Program Director.
UPCOMING EVENTS

For a full listing of events at the Performing Arts Center venues, go to:
http://www.unlv.edu/pac/calendar/all

For a full listing of events at the Marjorie Barrick Museum, go to:
http://www.unlv.edu/barrickmuseum/events

**ART**
- Basin & Range Exhibit
- Donna Beam Gallery
- Closes September 5
- Dorothy & Hubert Vogel Collection
- Barrick Museum
- Closes September 19

**MUSIC**
- Raise The Roof – Wind Orchestra
- Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
- October 1
- Fall Concert – Community Concert and New Horizons Band
- Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
- November 4

**THEATRE**
- ACE – NCT fundraiser
- Judy Bayley Theatre
- August 22-23
- Water By The Spoonful
- Alta Ham Fine Arts
- Black Box Theatre
- September 18-23

**DANCE**
- UNLV Dance Choreographies
- Alta Ham Fine Arts
- Dance Studio One
- November 19 - 21
- The President’s Concert
- Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
- November 19