



9.12.23

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All times listed in Central Time

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

Updating Your Faculty Profiles on the MCAD Website

Please go to [MCAD Website's Faculty page](#) and take a close look at your faculty profile. If your name is not linked, then Webmaster does not have enough information to create a profile. If you need to create a profile, or need to change/add information on your profile, please use this [form](#) to communicate that with the Webmaster.

Walker Art Center Free Admission for Students, Faculty, and Staff

Students, faculty and staff are able to visit the Walker Art Center free of charge September 2023 through August 2024 with presentation of MCAD student or staff IDs. Please contact Academic Affairs if you have any questions or would like to organize a class visit.

[MCAD Faculty & Staff Book Club Selection for November 2023](#)

[Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland](#) by Patrick Radden Keefe.

Join the discussion on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

If you are not already on the list to receive a calendar invite and Zoom link for future discussions and you would be interested to join our November 8 2023 book discussion please [register here](#) by November 1. You may also use this form to signal your interest in joining future discussions. This is a new, highly anticipated novel.

Book Club Coordinator: MA Creative Leadership Director and Faculty Member, Diane Ragdale.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

- [Flu Clinic](#)
 - Tuesday, September 12, 3:15-6:15 p.m., Emeritus
- **Spring Semester 2023 Incomplete Work Due to Faculty**
 - Friday, September 22
- **Community Conversation**
 - Wednesday, September 27, 12:15-1:30 p.m., Auditorium 150
 - Faculty are encouraged to bring their students

On view:

- [Young, Gifted, and Black](#)
 - Monday, August 28–Saturday, November 4, Concourse Gallery
- [Excursion: Visual and Sonic Galaxy](#)
 - Monday, August 28–Saturday, November 4, Main Gallery
- [Latent Luna: Temporary and Fleeting](#)
 - Closes today, Tuesday, September 12 at 1:00 p.m., Main Building, 3rd floor, Alcove 3b

RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

[Eyebeam Sounds the Call to Address our Global Tech Emergency in their Democracy Machine Fellowship](#)

In this digital-first fellowship cycle beginning February 15, 2024, through August 15, 2024, Eyebeam calls on artists to bring their innate mental, spiritual, and physical aspects of what it means to be human into play with technology to affirm humanity's role as creators, not spectators, of a collective techno-future.

Selected artists participating in this six-month program will receive a \$20,000 stipend and work in fellowship to support the development and implementation of their projects. Eyebeam will select five non-New York-based artists from anywhere in the world and five NYC-based artists for this fellowship. The fellowship will run from February 15, 2024, through August 15, 2024. The program will provide the same level of support and opportunity regardless of location through Eyebeam's implementation of a digital-first approach. For more details of the Fellowship, please see this [link](#). The application deadline is Sunday, October 1st.

[Applications Open for Upstream Artist Fellows](#)

Upstream, supported by [Springboard for the Arts](#), seeks 12 Minnesota artists, creatives, and/or culture bearers to work on their own projects that demonstrate love and care for the places they live. The Upstream Artist Fellows will document and share their process of creating (through pictures, video, and/or written reflection) – highlighting what inspires them, the creation of the work, and how they make decisions. Through social media and other communication platforms, Upstream will utilize the artists' process documentation and stories for the A Care for Place campaign. All work will remain the property of the artists

and will be licensed for Upstream to use and share during the life of Upstream's campaign (estimated 5 years). Each artist will receive \$4,000, which includes their artist stipend and any project materials.

There will be an informational session on Wednesday, September 12 at 5:30 p.m. (this will be recorded). [Register here](#). The deadline to [apply](#) is Wednesday, September 25, at midnight.

2023 Midway Contemporary Art Visual Arts Fund Online Application Open Now through September 23

In 2023 the Visual Arts Fund will award \$60,000 (six \$10,000 grants) to artist-organized projects in the Twin Cities metro region. The VAF supports the development of projects and initiatives that engage the public with visual art happening outside of established arts venues. Many artists currently produce exhibitions and installations in temporary spaces, start new publications, and organize visual arts focused events without the support of an institution or commercial gallery; the VAF will help them develop these activities into more ambitious projects and promote them to a wider audience.

Grants will provide the time and resources artists need to fully realize a wide array of innovative and diverse projects. Proposals must name a lead organizer, but can include any number of artists as collaborators; individuals or groups may apply.

The 2023 Visual Arts Fund grant application will open online on September 1st. Submissions are due September 23th by 5:00 pm CDT. For more information and eligibility guidelines, please visit: midwayart.org/vaf-info

Continuing Education Teaching Opportunities

Interested in additional teaching opportunities? MCAD's Continuing Education program welcomes applications and course proposals for teaching youth and adults, both in person and online, on a range of topics throughout the year. Email continuing_education@mcad.edu for more information.

Resources from Student Counseling and Wellness Services

The MCAD Student Counseling and Wellness Service provides assistance with the developmental, situational, and adjustment concerns common to many undergraduate and graduate students, as well as with mental health issues students may struggle with. As faculty, you often come into contact with students on a regular basis and thus are in an excellent position to help point students to resources that MCAD provides. Your attention and support as a faculty member will often be enough, but at other times a student may benefit from more specific professional help that is beyond the scope of your role. In these cases, students should be referred to the services provided by the MCAD Counseling and Wellness Staff.

For more information on the [Counseling and Wellness office](#), [referral process](#), mental health [responses](#), and resources, visit the office's [Intranet](#) page in addition to some useful faculty-specific resources.

Chronicle of Higher Education article: [Neurodivergent Students Need Flexibility, Not Our Frustration](#)

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

[Howard Quednau's Exhibition "Shepherds & Charlatans"](#)

Howard Quednau (Chair of Fine Arts) has an exhibition titled "Shepherds & Charlatans" at the Phipps Center for the Arts, in Hudson, Wisconsin. The Exhibition runs from Friday, September 15 through Sunday, October 29. The opening reception is on Friday, September 15th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

[Jessica M. Dandona Publishes Article in Journal "Mortality"](#)

Jessica M. Dandona (Professor, Liberal Arts) has published an article, "The foetus in the museum: personhood, pregnancy, and anatomical preparations, 1880–1900," in the peer-reviewed journal *Mortality*.

[Erik Brandt's Challenge with AI Featured on Local News](#)

Erik Brandt was recently featured on KMSP Fox 9 News about the proliferation of AI tools like ChatGPT in the classroom.

Alongside professors at Hamline University and University of Minnesota, Brandt was featured in a segment that discussed the use of AI tools at MCAD. Brandt gave an analogy echoing [Ben Moren's work of artificially generated forest ecosystems](#), and showed to the Fox 9 news staff AI-generated books generated by staff members.

"We're trying to help you develop a voice, and therefore we need evidence of your voice through your work," says Brandt. "And so therefore, if you are generating work that is not your own and claiming it's your own, that... is a no-go zone."

MCAD syllabi prohibit the student use of AI, unless the professor makes an exception.

ACADEMIC CABINET AND CURRICULUM MEETINGS

Curriculum 8-30-23

We began with a check-in around the room. The remaining department leaders presented their goals for the year including the MA in Graphics and Web Design, the MA in Sustainable Design and Continuing Education. Jim Howley, Director of Accreditation and Assessment, reminded department leaders that he will be reaching out to schedule a time to connect regarding assessment plans for the year and also to learn more about each program. All department leaders were reminded of the course planning for Spring 24 and that new course change/retirement submissions are due September 11. This was a shortened meeting.

Cabinet 9-6-23

We began with a check-in around the room. Melissa Rands presented on the Ten-Day Stats. Our total Full-time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment in fall 2023 is 768.54. We continue to be in enrollment recovery from the pandemic low of fall 2021, but we are just under 3% down from our peak enrollment in fall 2018. Our fall 2022 to fall 2023 first-year retention rate was 82% - up 7% year-over-year and 10% since the fall of 2019. Student interest in minors has been growing, with 171 minor enrollments in fall 2023 (note students can declare more than one minor). The largest minor enrollments are in Creative Writing (49), Teaching Artist (36), and Art History (21). Our percentage of Pell eligible and first-generation students continues to increase and is at 42.2% and 27.2% respectively for fall 2023. Animation remains the largest major at the college with 90 students and Illustration follows with 75 majors. We had a discussion of collaborative work departments are undertaking with Admissions to promote programs and increase enrollments. The importance of collective and collaborative support in the promotion of all programs when talking with current students was emphasized.

We reviewed the Academic Year Appointments for Adjunct faculty language from the CBA and discussed pathways for a clear process to be put into place for implementation this spring for the 2024-2025 academic year. A draft of a process is being created and will be brought back to Cabinet for approval and then shared with faculty before the end of the semester.

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Have something to contribute? [Submit content for Faculty Focus](#)
Refer to the [archive](#) of Faculty Focus
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