



MUSIC | THEATRE | DANCE

Program

Special Thanks

Bob Allison for our pre-dinner entertainment

6:00 Cash Bar

7:00 Dinner

Awards and Performances

Hosts: Lynnae Lehfelddt and Michael A. Mitchell

Producers: David Gram and Fred Love

Tribute to Carol Halsted

Sponsors

Oakland University Alumni Association

Oakland University Credit Union

Supporter

Nancy Jamieson Valassis

Patrons

Maggie and Bob Allesee • Harry Carlson

Jean Parker • Steve and Georgia Roberts

George and Betty Seifert • Jackie and Bob Wiggins

Donors

Craig Chamberlain • Pamela and Daniel Grantham

Manjit Gill • Kerro Knox 3 • Ann Nicholson • Dr John H. White

Awardee Sponsors

Michael and Carolyn Gillespie • Phyllis Relyea • Karen Sheridan

Special Thanks

Evola Music

The MaTilDa Committee

Maggie Allesee • Caitlyn Bramble • Harry Carlson • Kelly Conway • Gillian Ellis • Manjit Gill • Maggie Hinckley

Kerro Knox 3 • Jean Parker • Pat Judd • Lori Posey • Karen Sheridan • Jason Strong • Carly Uhrig

Nancy Jamieson Valassis • Jackie Wiggins

Alumni and Community Honorees



Bibianne Yu



Cheryl Ogonowski

Distinguished Community Service Award:

Bibianne Yu *sponsored by Oakland University Alumni Association*

Bibianne Yu just stepped down as director of Oakland University's Music Preparatory Division, a position in which she served for fourteen years. She has also been a lecturer of keyboard techniques and an applied piano instructor at Oakland. Bibianne obtained her Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Ottawa (Canada) and received a Master of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy at Oakland, where she was the recipient of the Distinguished Musicianship Award (1999), the Jennifer Scott Memorial Award in Piano Pedagogy (1999), the Joyce Adelson Memorial Award in Piano Ensemble (2000), and an Oakland University Administrative Professional Award (2012). She is an active adjudicator, soloist and chamber musician, and has presented many workshops and master classes to piano teachers' organizations.

Alumni Achievement Award in Music:

Cheryl Ogonowski *sponsored by Oakland University Alumni Association*

Cheryl Ogonowski earned her Masters Degree in Music Education from Oakland University, and has taught music classes at all levels from Pre-K through college. She has held positions teaching Band, Vocal Music, General Music, Beginning Theory and Performing Experiences for Children. Her most recent service is in the Rochester Community Schools, teaching K-5 General Music while also serving as the district's K-12 Music Program Coordinator. Her passion for sharing with colleagues has motivated her to serve as a Cooperating Teacher for many OU students, provide presentations at a variety of conferences and workshops, publish research in the Michigan Music Educator publication, and open her classroom to educators from Hong Kong, New Zealand, China, Greece and Poland. She continues to seek new ways to enable students to grow through musical experiences in the classroom, and embraces opportunities to share with them in the process.

Alumni Achievement Award in Theatre:

Kenneth Jones *sponsored by Oakland University Alumni Association*

Kenneth Jones is a playwright, librettist and lyricist. His play *Alabama Story* was a 2016 nominee for the Steinberg/American Theatre Critics Association New Play Award and a 2014 Finalist in the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwrights Conference. It had its world premiere by Pioneer Theatre Company in Salt Lake City in 2015, and by spring 2018 will have been seen in at least ten cities around the country. His play *Two Henrys*, a Semi-Finalist in the O'Neill NPC, was seen in Pioneer's 2016 Play-By-Play series. A revised version played a 12-performance developmental production at the Co-Op of Pacific Resident Theatre in Venice,

Alumni and Community Honorees



Kenneth Jones



Carol Halsted

CA. A further revision had a February 2017 staged reading by Hudson Stage Company in Westchester, NY. His serious comedy *Hollywood, Nebraska* was seen in the 2016 NewTACTics Festival Off-Broadway and will get a developmental production by Wyoming Theater Festival in summer 2017. His new play, a work-in-progress called *Circa 1976*, was inspired by the Oakland County Child Murders of 1976-77. His musicals include *It Happened One Christmas*, co-conceived with Karen Azenberg (Pioneer Theatre 2015); the satiric Christmas revue *Naughty/Nice*, co-conceived with composer Gerald Stockstill (published by stagerights.com); and *Voice of the City*, with composer Elaine Chelton (developed by Off-Broadway's York Theatre Company and Ohio's Human Race Theatre Company). In a past life, he was an arts writer at *The Detroit News* (1989-1998), including four seasons as chief theater critic/reporter. His byline of "John Kennet" appeared in *The Oakland Press* for more than 13 years. In 1998, he moved to New York City, where he worked for 15 years as a reporter and editor for Playbill.com while also pursuing dramatic writing opportunities. He is now a full-time dramatist. He was raised in Southfield and Beverly Hills, MI, graduating from Groves High School and later Oakland University's College of Arts and Sciences with a bachelor's degree in communications. His plays have been produced or developed by Off-Broadway's TACT/The Actors Company Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Peninsula Players, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre, Florida Studio Theatre, Clarence Brown Theatre and other companies. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild. He writes about his own plays and advocates for other playwrights, new plays and theatre makers at his website ByKennethJones.com. He is indebted to retired professor-director Yolanda Fleischer, his OU theater history teacher, who helped light the spark and raise the curtain on a career.

Carol Halsted 1940-2017

Carol Halsted is Director of Dance at the Detroit Opera House and retired Professor of Dance and Chair of the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. Dr. Halsted received her Doctorate from Wayne State University and had been on the faculty at Oakland for 31 years. She has been President of the American College Dance Festival Association, Michigan Dance Teacher of the Year, Editor of the *Detroit Dance News*, grant reviewer for the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, recipient of the Oakland University Faculty Recognition Award, the Wayne State Alumni Arts Achievement Award, Michigan Dance Council Lifetime Achievement Award, American College Dance Festival Award for Outstanding Service and founding Board Member of the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble. The Carol Halsted Dance Photography Collection has toured various museums around the country including the Detroit Institute of Arts, The Akron Art Museum and the St. Petersburg Museum of Art. Since 2002, she has been Director of Dance at the Detroit Opera House and in this position is responsible for planning major dance seasons as well as community outreach programs (i.e. the Ailey Revelations Project), special events, Nutcracker activities, master classes, dance film series and pre and post concert talks.

Student Honorees



John Andersen



Brian Baylor



Timothy A. Brown

John Andersen

Outstanding Student in Chamber Music

John Andersen started playing euphonium in his freshman year of high school. Graduating in 2015 from Dakota High School, John continued to follow his passion for music by enrolling at Oakland University for music education and performance. John is an active member of the Oakland University Brass Band, Symphonic Band, and the Golden Grizzlies Athletic Band. In 2016 John took part in forming Tubas Ignis, a tuba quartet that has had many public performances and a second place victory in the 2016 National Brass Band Association chamber music competition. Also this past year John reached out to an up and coming composer in the brass band world, to have a piece commissioned specifically for Tubas Ignis. John hopes to continue to develop his passion for music during his remaining years at Oakland.

In addition to receiving first prize in the Oakland University Chamber Music Competition, Tubas Ignis has been the second place winners of the North American Brass Band Association's Brass Ensemble Competition for two consecutive years. The piece they performed this year was written specifically for them by Matthew Murchison and was premiered at the competition this past March. The quartet earned the money for the commissioning project by performing a recital and clinics at Dakota High School and doing a "Tubas of Terror" fund raising concert on campus. Kenneth Kroesche, Associate Professor of Music.

Brian Baylor

Pat and Mercedes Nicosia Meadow Brook Estate Award

Brian Baylor grew up listening to his mother narrate folk tales at bedtime, writing stories, playing in school skits, and singing in his church choir. So after taking his first drama class in middle school, he knew a life in performance was for him. Brian continued to foster his love for theatre and music by busying himself with numerous stage plays, concerts, forensic festivals, and musicals. He was also blessed to have been nominated to travel to New York City and attend the 2013 National High School Musical Theatre Awards. Brian is now set to graduate from Oakland University with a BFA in Musical Theatre, and is planning to relocate to New York and begin the next phase of his life! Brian feels very honored to receive the Meadow Brook Estate Award, and he is eternally grateful for his friends, family, and the faculty at OU, all of whom inspire him every day.

As a freshman, Brian hit the ground running as the First Voice in Dylan Thomas' Under Milk Wood and he hasn't taken a rest since. During his four years he played such diverse roles as: Memphis in The Life, Torvald in A Doll's House, Ogun in The Brothers Size and most recently as Lenny in Rumors. As a student he is hardworking and passionate about his craft. He is highly respected by his peers and faculty alike and we are all confident that Brian will have a very bright, very successful future. Lynnae Lehfeldt, Associate Professor of Theatre.

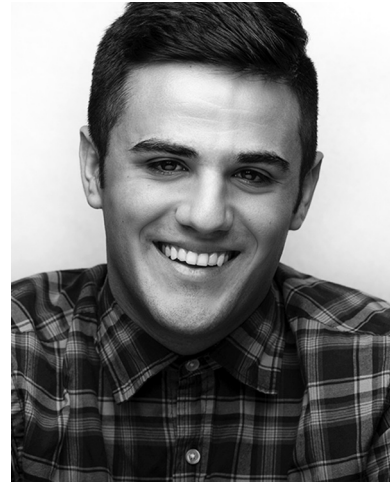
Timothy A. Brown

Outstanding Student Service Award: Music

Tenor Timothy Brown hails from Detroit, MI. A graduate of Brother Rice High School, he will graduate in May 2017 with a Bachelors of Music - Vocal Performance. He has performed leading roles with OU Opera in productions of *The Pirates of Penzance* (Frederic, 2015), *Die Fledermaus* (Alfred, 2016) and *The Magic Flute* (Monastatos, 2017), and supporting roles in *L'incoronazione di Poppea* (2013) and *Gianni Schicchi* (2012). In 2016, he received an Encouragement Award from the



Becky Ciccone



Joey Fontana

Metropolitan Opera National Council, the first prize in The Elizabeth Gardner Voice Competition and won the Oakland Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition. He received awards from The National Association of Teachers of Singing (2012, 2013), the Royal Oak Musicales (2013) and the Classical Singer Magazine Competition (2012). He sings with the Oakland Chorale, the Oakland Symphony Chorus and the Oakchordz. Beyond the music department he has held leadership positions within University Housing, University Student Congress, Student Program Board, Student Activities Funding Board, First Year Advising Center, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and the Residence Hall Association. He is thrilled to receive the Outstanding Student Service Award. After graduation, he will pursue a career in opera performance.

Tim Brown is a fixture of the Music, Theatre and Dance community, and Oakland in general. His easy going nature and quick wit have endeared him to faculty and students across multiple disciplines. But his big personality hides his drive and remarkable organizational skills. Tim, who is the only singer to have been featured in five operas at Oakland, has taken the Opera Club to unthought of heights. They have travelled across the country to see productions, and have received awards from Oakland for fundraising. Tim is more than just a fun guy to be around, he is a serious, driven individual with a bright future ahead. Drake Dantzler, Associate Professor of Music.

Becky Ciccone

Maggie Allesee Choreography Award

Becky Ciccone began dancing at the age of three and began dancing competitively at the age of nine. She trained at many studios in Southeastern Michigan and is experienced in a variety of styles. In her time working towards her BFA, she has choreographed several pieces, one of which was performed at the 2017 ACDA informal concert. Two other works were choreographed for Oakland Dance Theater. As a member of Oakland Dance Theater, she has worked with choreographers such as Lizzie Leopold and the Leopold Group, Stephanie Pizzo, Rebecca McLindon Blanchard, and Kristi Faulkner.

Becky surprised the dance faculty with her talent and ability to choreograph dances that are inventive and distinguished. It's rare that young choreographers display such a unique talent to create works that are thought-provoking, original, and in a style of their own. Becky possesses that ability and the dance faculty is extremely proud to have nurtured that talent. We're highly confident that Becky will carve her own path in the dance world, and we look forward to following her success. Gregory Patterson, Associate Professor of Dance.

Joey Fontana

Outstanding Student Service Award: Theatre

His birth name is Joseph Paul Fontana, but Joey is the name he will forever take on. He was born and raised in Sterling Heights, Michigan, into a very big, traditional Italian family. Being that his parents are both serious about their faith, he grew up in a Catholic school for 12 years. Starting out playing sports for 7 years, he soon realized that his passion fell in the theatre. He then developed a love for dance. Joey then joined a dance studio and became a competitive dancer. After graduating high school, he began to teach at the same studio he grew up in, and started choreographing, along with pursuing a degree in Musical Theatre here at Oakland University. He loves teaching dance, meeting new people, learning new things, and establishing relationships with people. He would like to thank all of his professors for everything they have taught him, and the department for this awesome award!

Joey's career at Oakland has been prolific. He has performed the roles of Robespierre in The Scarlet Pimpernel, Arpad in She Loves Me, Fred in Oklahoma, and most recently Paul in A Chorus Line. He has also created beautiful choreography for The Scarlet Pimpernel, Assassins, and The Theory of Relativity. Joey has brought joy to the halls of Varner over the last four years and he will be deeply missed. We are excited for what lays ahead of him. Lynnae Lehfeldt, Associate Professor of Theatre.



Halla Hillborn



Colin Holstein



Gabriel Jamison

Halla Hillborn

Outstanding Student in Instrumental Music

Halla began taking private violin lessons when she was just six years old. During high school, Halla became more involved in music and played in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Civic Youth Ensembles program. After high school, Halla chose to attend Oakland University to pursue a degree in Violin Performance and Music Education. While at Oakland, she was a member of the Oakland Symphony Orchestra, Oakland Chamber Orchestra, as well as chamber groups and jazz combos. Since graduating in December, Halla has begun a busy performing and teaching career, teaching violin lessons to students of all ages and performing with the violin group, NUCLASSICA. She is incredibly honored to have received this award and would like to thank the music faculty for all of their support and instruction. Halla would also like to thank her family for their constant faith and support of her musical career.

Halla has been a joy to teach and a bright spot in my day for the last four years. She is a leader in my studio, a role she fulfills with grace, skill and humor. Her commitment and excellent work ethic make her a favorite of the entire MTD faculty. It has been a pleasure watching Halla challenge herself and develop into a performer with commanding technical and artistic skills. As she begins her professional career, I have no doubt that she will successfully inspire her students to love music and work hard, as she has done herself. Elizabeth Rowin, Instructor, Violin.

Colin Holstein

Outstanding Student in Chamber Music

Colin Holstein is a freshman at Oakland University, and is studying to receive a bachelors in Music Education and Music Performance. Colin participates in many ensembles at Oakland: Brass Band, Wind Symphony, Oakland Symphony Orchestra, Golden Grizzlies Band, and his tuba quartet: Tubas Ignis. Colin was a Semi-Finalist at the International Tuba and Euphonium Conference's Young Solo Artist Competition in the summer of 2016. He also came in second place in the North American Brass Band Association's youth brass soloist at the 2016 championships. In the summer of 2015, Colin marched a summer of Drum Corps International with Legends Drum and Bugle Corps. Throughout high school, Colin was a member of the MSBOA All-State Band for two consecutive years. Colin is most excited to be performing "Undertow," a piece he and his other quartet members commissioned, in the North American Brass Band Association's Small Ensemble Competition.

In addition to receiving first prize in the Oakland University Chamber Music Competition, Tubas Ignis has been the second place winners of the North American Brass Band Association's Brass Ensemble Competition for two consecutive years. The piece they performed this year was written specifically for them by Matthew Murchison and was premiered at the competition this past March. The quartet earned the money for the commissioning project by performing a recital and clinics at Dakota High School and doing a "Tubas of Terror" fund raising concert on campus. Kenneth Kroesche, Associate Professor of Music.

Gabriel Jamison

Gittlen Achievement Award in Acting

Gabriel Jamison has been acting since he was 12 years old. In his first role, he had to rescue his sister from a magical dream land run by her dolls. Ever since then he has been in love with acting. Gabriel is a BFA Acting major at Oakland University. During his time at Oakland University he has been in several productions; his most recent role was as Glenn Cooper in *Rumors*. Gabriel will graduate at the end of April. Afterwards he plans on moving out west to L.A. to pursue his acting career. He is honored to have been given this award, and he wants to thank all the theatre program faculty for helping him through his four years at OU. He also wants to thank his family for their continued support and love.

It has been a great pleasure watching Gabe grow into a talented mature actor over the past four years. Mr. Jamison has become a mainstay on our mainstage performing roles ranging from a leading man politician, to a gun-wielding psychopath, to a farcical pathological liar.



Jessica Julian



Ian Lester

Furthermore, his passion for his craft extends off the stage where he also enjoys the “backstage vibe.” Between working on a character and growing that fabulous beard, Gabe can always be seen helping hang lights or in any way he can. The faculty wishes him the best as he begins a new and exciting chapter of his life! Anthony Guest, Associate Professor of Theatre.

Jessica Julian

Outstanding Student in Instrumental Music

Jessica Julian is a senior at Oakland University, pursuing a double major in classical guitar performance and music education. Jessica studied classical guitar privately with Bret Hoag. She has participated in many ensembles at Oakland University such as Guitar Ensemble, jazz combos, University Chorus, and chamber music. In addition, Jessica has played in master classes for Anton Baranov, Roberto Fabbri, and Celino Romero. Jessica performed her senior recital in December 2016, playing works by LGBT+ composers and performers. It was a ‘pay what you wish’ recital to benefit Oakland’s Gender and Sexuality Center, which raised \$300. Jessica is currently student teaching at Meadowbrook Elementary School in Rochester and continues to enjoy performance, education, and LGBT activism.

Jessica is one of the hardest-working students I have ever had the privilege of teaching. In her time at OU, she has blossomed into a fantastic musician and teacher. She is an excellent guitarist who has gone above and beyond her degree requirements by performing two solo recitals and a great deal of chamber music. But in addition to being a dedicated musician, she is extraordinarily service-minded; despite her busy schedule, Jessica has been a volunteer organizer for Guitars Not Guns, and has used her performance skills to raise money for at-risk LGBT youth through the campus Gay-Straight Alliance. Wherever her musical career takes her, her future will be shaped not only by her dedication and work ethic, but also her sincere sense of kindness and grace. Bret Hoag, Special Lecturer, Guitar.

Ian Lester

Outstanding Student in Chamber Music • Outstanding Student in Composition

Ian Lester will be graduating in August with a B.M. in Euphonium Performance. During his time as a music major at Oakland, under the tutelage of Dr. Kenneth Kroesche, Ian was named a national finalist for the 2014 M.T.N.A. Senior Brass Solo Competition in Anaheim, California, and in 2015 was a finalist for the Oakland University Orchestral Concerto Competition. Ian has enjoyed a successful chamber music experience, winning the 2014 and 2017 Oakland University Distinguished Student in Chamber Music award, along with receiving Second Place winner in the Adult Chamber Music Competition at the 2016 North American Brass Band Championships in Fort Wayne, Indiana with his tuba quartet “Tubas Ignis.” Ian is also an avid composer, studying with Terry Herald for the past three years. In December, 2016 Ian’s composition “Hades: God of the Underworld” won the Pershing’s Own U.S. Army Band Composition Competition. Ian is ecstatic to be receiving both these 2017 awards and would like to thank Dr. Kroesche and Terry Herald for their constant support and wisdom.

In addition to receiving first prize in the Oakland University Chamber Music Competition, Tubas Ignis has been the second place winners of the North American Brass Band Association’s Brass Ensemble Competition for two consecutive years. The piece they performed this year was written specifically for them by Matthew Murchison and was premiered at the competition this past March. The quartet earned the money for the commissioning project by performing a recital and clinics at Dakota High School and doing a “Tubas of Terror” fund raising concert on campus. Kenneth Kroesche, Associate Professor of Music.

Ian is the most dedicated and prolific composer to ever study with me. He has written an astonishing array of ensemble and solo works, from symphonic band, and brass band, to saxophone quartets, brass quartets, and sonatas for solo brass and woodwinds instruments with piano accompaniments. I was immensely proud of Ian winning the 2017 U.S. Army Band Tuba-Euphonium Composition Competition, with his piece, “Hades God of the Underworld.” I have often thought that Ian pursues composing in the same way many of his peers pursue video gaming, but to a much more rewarding end! Terry Herald, Instructor, Composition.



Karen Li



Kelsey Millerschinn



Noelle Millis

Karen Li

Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Piano Performance

A native of Hong Kong, Karen Li is a senior at Oakland University majoring in piano performance and linguistics, and pursuing a Spanish minor. Karen began her piano studies when she was six. She is currently studying in the studio of Dr. Rebecca Happel. In summer 2014 Karen studied in Argentina where she took classes in Spanish and studied piano with Irma Bjorkman. She organized the Spanish-inspired themed piano departmental recital - "Música con sabor" - to share her experience through music in March 2015. Karen was the winner of the Oakland University Chamber Orchestra Annual Keyboard Concerto Competition in March 2016. After graduating in April 2017, Karen will join Teach for America, and she will teach elementary school in San Antonio, Texas. Aside from providing quality education to underprivileged children, Karen hopes to bring music into her regular instructions so that more children can benefit from music.

Karen Li has the happy dilemma of deciding how to combine her many talents into one career. In addition to her piano and linguistics studies, she teaches piano privately, tutors, and has even taken on some conducting lately. And she is most definitely a leader! Karen has always impressed me by the way she is able to maximize her efforts. For example, when selecting repertoire for the year, she challenged herself to learn some difficult works required for the Licentiate of Trinity College of London, a certification which is recognized internationally. Her peers and professors respect her leadership and preparedness, and she has been a wonderful mentor to younger students just coming into the program. I will certainly miss her, but I know she will rise to the top of whatever field she enters, which will no doubt include piano. Rebecca Happel, Instructor, Piano.

Kelsey Millerschinn

Outstanding Student in Music Education

Kelsey Millerschinn began taking piano lessons at age 5, igniting her passion for music. As she continued throughout school, she explored her love for music through every avenue available, expressing her art through choral performance and theater. Once she enrolled at Oakland University, she met peers who would inspire her and become her musical family through the Oakland Chorale. Kelsey teaches piano and vocal lessons at Grand Blanc Music and Expressions Music Academy, sharing her love of music and helping her students develop their own musical interests. Since graduating from Oakland in December 2016, Kelsey has accepted a teaching position at Schroeder Elementary School in the Troy School District. Kelsey hopes to guide students through new musical experiences, using multiple teaching methods carefully selected to meet unique student needs, so that each pupil has the tools at their disposal to discover their musical self.

Kelsey Millerschinn has demonstrated excellence throughout her college career as a music education major with her overall musicianship and sophisticated understanding of curriculum and classroom pedagogy. Throughout her music education coursework, Kelsey was a leader in creative and innovative lesson planning with a keen sense of students' interests and abilities. Kelsey is a strong teacher and has demonstrated her ability to create a thriving music classroom community. We look forward to her continued success. Deborah Vanderlinde, Associate Professor of Music.

Noelle Millis

Distinguished Dance Student

Noelle Millis has been dancing her way through life and loving every second of it since her very first dance class at the age of two. Since arriving at Oakland, she has had the privilege of working with artists such as Mario Bermudez Gil, Catherine Coury, Stephanie Batten Bland, Rodney Brown, Lizzie and the Leopold Group, and her professors. She will graduate this April with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Dance and plans to pursue a performance career in which she hopes to dabble in



Alexis Moore



Rachel Pawson

both the concert and commercial dance worlds. She is extremely honored to be receiving the Distinguished Dance Student Award and can't thank her professors enough, not only for nominating her for this award, but for everything they have done for her.

Noelle Millis has been an extraordinary student during her years at Oakland. Her hard work and persistence have contributed to the beautiful dancer she has become. Noelle has taken advantage of every opportunity presented to her, and looks forward to exploring and expanding her career in the future. Gregory Patterson, Associate Professor of Dance.

Alexis Moore

Outstanding Student Service Award: Dance

Alexis Moore, originally from Bay City, Michigan, is a senior at Oakland University. She will graduate in April with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. Alexis minored in Public Relations and Management. Prior to Oakland University, Alexis earned three National gymnastics titles and was an Academic All-American gymnastics team member at Western Michigan University. She is passionate about working with and inspiring the next generation of dancers and gymnasts. Upon graduation, Alexis plans to become a dance competition director while lending a hand at her family's nationally ranked dance and gymnastics program, Bay Valley Academy.

Alexis, an Honors College student, has been a prime example of a dance student who is disciplined, self-motivated, and talented. Not only is Alexis an exceptional mover, but often she has been the "glue" that keeps the dance program running smoothly. She is the Freshman Officer for the dance program, which involves her keeping the freshman class informed about program events, educating the freshman about the dance program policies, and serving as the contact person to field any and all questions about the dance program. In addition to maintaining an impressive GPA, Alexis has served in this role flawlessly. The dance faculty truly values the type of student Alexis has been, and only hopes we're able to replace her. Gregory Patterson, Associate Professor of Dance.

Rachel Pawson

Outstanding Dance Performance

Rachel Pawson hails from Alma, MI where she began her training at DuHadway Dance Dimensions at the age of three. After graduating in 2013 she started at Oakland University where she became a member of their Repertory Dance Company. Rachel is now an apprentice for Eisenhower Dance and she has been working with the company for the past two years. She has had the opportunity to study abroad in Berlin, Germany, where she studied Dance for three weeks. This summer she will be traveling with Eisenhower Dance to perform in both Israel and Poland. Rachel is now a senior at Oakland University where she is graduating with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance.

For the past two years Rachel has been an apprentice with Eisenhower Dance. She has toured with the company both nationally and internationally and will be traveling with Eisenhower to Israel this summer. There's no doubt from the dance faculty that Rachel is ready to join any company she auditions for, the question is, where does she want to continue her career? New York, California, Seattle, Chicago, we believe she has that choice. We can't wait to see where dance takes her, and we're proud to have Rachel representing the strength of Oakland's dance program. Gregory Patterson, Associate Professor of Dance.

Alyssa Primeau

Distinguished Musicianship Award

Alyssa Primeau is pursuing a double major in Flute Performance and Instrumental Music Education. She currently studies with Sharon Sparrow of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Alyssa has had the pleasure of performing for flutists



Alyssa Primeau



Katie Reid

Marina Piccinini, Bonita Boyd, Judith Mendenhall, and Robert Aitken, among others. In 2014, Alyssa was a finalist of the 18th Annual David Daniels Young Artists Concerto Competition, and in 2016 the finalist for the Oakland University Band Concerto Competition. She has performed with the Oakland University Wind Symphony, the Oakland Symphony Orchestra, and the Detroit Symphony Youth Orchestra. As an educator, Alyssa enjoys teaching privately, as well as in large ensembles. Directly following her high school graduation, she began working as a woodwind tech for competitive high school marching bands in the Metro Detroit area, and continues to do so. Alyssa is looking forward to student teaching this September, and plans to pursue a masters degree in Flute Performance following graduation. In the future, Alyssa hopes to pursue orchestral performance as a career, while also continuing to incorporate music education into her daily life.

A quiet, yet tenacious leader within the instrumental area, Alyssa Primeau is a superb model of what an music major should strive to be, and has served as a primary catalyst for the continued maturation of the culture within the music area. Tireless in her work ethic, Alyssa has distinguished herself on many levels in the Music Education and Performance curriculum.

She has won both the Oakland Symphony and Oakland University Band Concerto competitions, with the performances on each occasion being exceptionally prepared, poised and musically compelling. She is a tremendous student in all coursework, holding herself to the highest standard in all facets of musicianship and academic achievement. Alyssa is also a model MTD citizen, having already won the MaTilda for Outstanding Service to the department for her leadership as head librarian for the OU Band Department. She continues to serve in many different ways when help is needed. She has been the Principal/Coprincipal Flutist of the OU Wind Symphony, and a member of the Oakland Symphony Orchestra as a flutist and piccolo player. Her accomplishments stretch beyond the walls of OU, with multiple masterclass performances with some of the world's most regarded flute performers and pedagogues throughout the United States, and membership in the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra. But perhaps one of her most remarkable traits is that she is one of the most sincere, humble, generous and caring students with whom I have had the privilege of working in my 30 years of teaching. Gregory Cunningham, Professor of Music.

Katie Reid

Outstanding Dance Performance

Katie Reid's passion for dance has been growing since the age of two and led her to Oakland University's dance program, where she is currently a member of the Repertory Company. The dance program at Oakland has afforded her the opportunity to work with talented choreographers, whose expertise helped support her in various professional performance opportunities, including dancing in a commercial for Ford Motor Company. After her first year at Oakland, Katie was fortunate enough to become a Radio City Rockette performing in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular in Nashville, Tennessee. Katie has grown as a person, a dancer, and a performer under the guidance of her dedicated professors at Oakland and will now accept the challenge of continuing her professional dance career. Katie will graduate this year with a Bachelor of Arts degree in dance and a minor in psychology. She will then make her move to New York City to pursue her dream of dancing on Broadway. Katie is honored to be receiving the Outstanding Dance Performance Award and is grateful for all she has experienced at Oakland University.

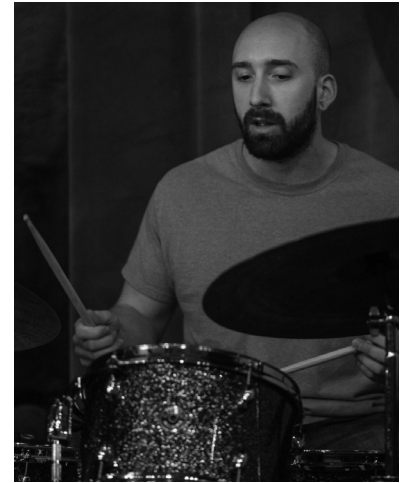
Although Katie Reid came to Oakland's dance program with raw talent, she has matured into an intelligent, smart, beautiful performer. During her tenure at Oakland, Katie auditioned and was selected to perform with the Rockettes. That alone speaks to how talented she is. Katie has proven herself to be one of the best performers our program has seen. We are very proud, and convinced that she will have a very successful career in dance. Gregory Patterson, Associate Professor of Dance.



Stefanie Sambrano



Robert Schneeweis



Zollie Schut

Stefanie Sambrano

Gittlen Achievement Award in Musical Theatre

Stefanie Sambrano's love for theatre began in her middle school days in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and she followed theatre every year after that. After high school, Stefanie toured a year with Macomb's show choir "The Macomers" before joining Oakland's stage. While at Oakland University, Stefanie has dived into many stage productions as well as hair and makeup design opportunities. Stefanie's most recent role at Oakland was Bernarda in *The House of Bernarda Alba*. After graduation, Stefanie plans to move to New York City to fulfill her dreams in acting. She would like to thank the faculty of the MTD department for always instilling her with positivity and support. Many thanks and endless love to her friends and family for their never ending support as well.

Stefanie has run gamut from the Blue Fairy in The Adventures of Pinocchio to the lovable prostitute Chichi in The Life during her career at OU. Other notable roles include Dora Strang in Equus, Bernarda in The House of Bernarda Alba, and Mrs. Pinkerton in Pinkalicious. In addition to performing, Stefanie's work has extended into hair and makeup design for She Loves Me and Rumors. Stefanie's talent and warm personality will serve her well in her professional life. We wish her all the best in her new adventures. Lynnae Lehfeldt, Associate Professor of Theatre.

Robert Schneeweis

Outstanding Graduate Student in Piano Performance

Bob Schneeweis, originally from the Twin Cities, MN, has been an active pianist, composer/arranger, and teacher for the past two decades. He is currently working toward a masters degree in piano performance at Oakland University. Prior to moving to Detroit in 2009, Bob worked foremost as pianist, composer/arranger, and music director for the popular Minneapolis-based Latin orchestra Salsabrosa, as well as writing for and performing with the much-lauded Atlantis Quartet (then Quintet). He also collaborated with a wide array of other groups, from hip hop and electronic music, to free improvisation and experimental music. In the Detroit area, Bob is active as a jazz pianist, and has also recently developed and performed several collaborations of original music and choreography with the More Dances dance ensemble, and performed in a series of concerts showcasing his original piano work in the classical genre. He currently also maintains his own piano studio, teaching both jazz and classical piano performance, as well as composition, improvisation, and theory. In 2017, Bob was a winner of the 2017 Oakland Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition, performing the first movement of Ravel's *Piano Concerto in G*.

Over the past two years, I have had the immense pleasure of working with Bob Schneeweis, who is a superb example of dedication, discipline and determination. With more experience in jazz piano, Bob came into the program hoping to improve his pianistic skills while furthering his jazz studies. Since then, he has received the highest markings in juries and all piano-related courses. In addition, he was the 2017 Oakland Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition winner, performing the first movement of Ravel's Concerto in G Major. He is truly an excellent representative of the graduate program and the piano area. Tian Tian, Assistant Professor of Music.

Zollie Schut

Outstanding Student in Jazz

Zollie Schut will be graduating this summer with a BM in instrumental performance and also completing a minor in jazz studies. As an undergraduate at OU he has been involved in many different ensembles, including various world music, orchestral, and jazz ensembles. He has been fortunate to have worked with many jazz and world music guest artists like Joe Locke, Etienne Charles, Mike Dease, Haruna Walusimbi, Paschal Younge, and others. Zollie is also an aspiring arranger and



Jared Seymour



Krystal Smoger

has had arrangements played by the OU World Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Combos, and Big Band. Outside of OU he teaches private drum lessons and performs with different jazz combos in the Detroit Metro area. After graduation Zollie intends to pursue a Masters degree in jazz studies and eventually become a music professor. He is honored to receive this award and is thankful for all the faculty at OU who have helped him immensely in growing as a musician.

Zollie Schut is an ideal student. He has a huge curiosity about music, and demonstrates marked improvement every time I hear him play. Zollie is great role model for younger musicians, and I know he'll take his dedication to learning and drive to become a better musician everywhere his future travels take him. It's truly been an honor working with him. Miles Brown, Assistant Professor of Music.

Jared Seymour

Outstanding Student in Music Education

Jared Seymour received a degree in Music Education in December of 2016. During his time at Oakland, Jared performed in award winning ensembles such as the Oakland University Brass Band, and Bluecoats Drum and Bugle Corps. Jared has spent countless hours instructing, educating, and inspiring band programs in Southeast Michigan. Many of those programs received high awards, such as Ferndale High School's victories in the 2015 and 2016 marching band state championships. Jared also served as the president of the Sigma Nu chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, a music fraternity he helped charter on campus, aimed at advancing music at OU and across America. Currently Jared resides in the Bay Area of California where he works as the new elementary instrumental music teacher of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District. During his summers, Jared instructs the Jersey Surf Drum and Bugle Corps as a Visual Caption Head. Jared would like to thank Oakland for shaping him into the educator he is now, and for always pushing him to aim for the highest quality in music.

Jared Seymour has already demonstrated tremendous success as a music educator. In the classroom, he fosters an energized learning environment that engages all students in music making. One characteristic that sets Jared apart is his continual desire to learn and grow as a music educator. In addition to highly successful teaching in his degree program, Jared served on the marching band staff at Ferndale, Lake Orion, and Lamphere High Schools. Having been a marching member of the Bluecoats and Glassmen Drum & Bugle Corps, Jared now serves as Visual Caption Head for the Jersey Surf Drum & Bugle Corps. Upon completing his student teaching Jared was offered several teaching positions and is currently teaching in Concord, CA. Joseph Shively, Associate Professor of Music.

Krystal Smoger

Gittlen Achievement Award in Theatre Design and Technology

Krystal Smoger is on her third year of working towards a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology. She has been involved in numerous productions during her time at Oakland. Some of Krystal's most recent projects include working as the scenic designer for *The House of Bernarda Alba* and as a costume design assistant for *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. In addition to her involvement in Oakland productions, Krystal often acts as an assistant to faculty and alumni on freelance designs and installations. She is honored to be receiving the Gittlen Achievement Award in Theatre Design & Technology, and would like to thank the theatre faculty for their constant support and encouragement.

Krystal has proven herself to be a determined student, gifted designer and an insightful storyteller. Krystal demonstrated her mature vision and theatrical sophistication as a Scenic Designer for The House of Bernarda Alba, and her design was recognized for its excellence this year at the American College Theatre Festival. She has been a valued collaborator as an assistant scenic designer on Oklahoma! and Faust(US), and an assistant costume designer on The Scarlet Pimpernel. She has been a dedicated staff member in both the costume shop and scene shop for three years. In all of this, perhaps her greatest gift is her sense of humility and the way she pairs her extraordinary work with wit and warmth. Jeremy Barnett, Assistant Professor of Theatre.



Jessica Stasik



Emily Stoddard



Jacob Surzyn

Jessica Stasik

MTD Award (for commitment to the interdisciplinary nature of the department)

Jessica Stasik is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Music Education with her instrumental focus on flute. Jessica is also an avid photographer and is receiving the MTD Award for her commitment to capturing Music, Theatre and Dance photos and videos. Jessica took photos of her flute colleagues and created posters for studio recitals. People saw her work and word spread about her skills in photography. Students began calling on her to take headshots and the OU Music, Theatre and Dance marketing office asked Jessica to work for them as a photographer and manager of the MTD Instagram page. Jessica has captured moments for band concerts, special events like the MaTilDa awards, theatre productions, and more. This past school year Jessica helped create videos for chorale, dance, and the senior showcase for fundraising purposes. The key to Jessica's success in performing arts photography is her understanding and background in music. Jessica is honored to be receiving the MTD award, and would like to thank every faculty member, student, and friend who supported her passion for photography. She also wants to thank her mother and husband for their constant love and support for both of her passions, music and photography.

Jessica has been an invaluable part of the Music, Theatre and Dance marketing team for the past two years. Her knowledge of the performing arts has allowed her to capture MTD's moments with an innate style and insight not possessed by the average photographer. Her creativity gave way to many beautiful moments these past couple of years – a movie-type trailer and mannequin challenge for The House of Bernarda Alba, striking publicity photos for Die Fledermaus and Faust(US), as well as an inspired series of photographs for our Instagram page called The People of Varner Hall. Her love of MTD is alive in the photos, and her work will continue to showcase the Music, Theatre and Dance students for many years to come. Carly Uhrig, Marketing Manager.

Emily Stoddard

Gittlen Theatre Award

Emily is a sophomore in the Theater Design and Technology program. She grew up in a theatrically and artistically thriving environment, which ignited her passion for the arts at a young age. Through a love for performance and visual arts, Emily took to theater to explore her design abilities. All the responsibilities and challenges that came her way at Oakland University have shaped her and will continue to guide her throughout her theater career. She is thankful for her professors who have faith in her abilities and for family and friends who support her and walk with her along her journey. She is incredibly honored to receive this award.

Emily Stoddard came to Oakland University already having formidable artistic talent, and since then has developed her skills in theatre properties, costume construction, painting and design. Emily is a natural leader both in the classroom and in production. A team builder of the finest kind, she leads by example. She is committed to her work, loyal to her fellow students, and possesses infectious positivity, all of which make her a role model and respected member of the OU theatre community. Jeremy Barnett, Assistant Professor of Theatre.

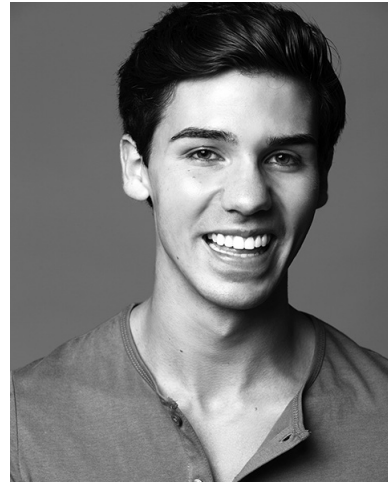
Jacob Surzyn

Outstanding Student in Voice Performance

Jake Surzyn, a senior Vocal Performance major, is an active performer at Oakland University. He portrayed Papageno in the 2017 performances of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* in both English and German, Frank in Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* in 2016, Samuel in the 2015 performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance*, and Soldati II in Monteverdi's *L'Incoronazione di Poppea* in 2014. He has also performed in several scenes in the Opera Workshops, including scenes from Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (Figaro), Mozart's *Così fan tutte* (Don Alfonso), Rossini's *La Cenerentola* (Dandini), and Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* (Count Almaviva). Jake placed 1st at NATS in the Senior Men's division in 2016 and the Sophomore Men's division in 2014.



Brandon Thibault



Ian Turnwald

He competed in the Harold Haugh Light Opera competition, advancing to the final round in 2016.

Jacob Surzyn's easy baritone has graced many areas of Oakland's stages. He has been seen in many operas, including this year's star turn as Papageno in The Magic Flute. Jake was also a member of Chorale and the Oakchordz. But Jake has also actively engaged outside our musical community, winning the Michigan NATS competition twice, and being named a finalist in the Harold Haugh competition as a Junior. This last award was particularly remarkable, as all of the other finalists were either professional singers or Masters level students. Jake's warm demeanor and bright personality will be missed next year at Varner. Drake Dantzler, Associate Professor of Music.

Brandon Thibault

Outstanding Student in Chamber Music

Brandon Thibault is a tuba performance major studying with Dr. Kenneth Kroesche at Oakland University. In his second year in the program, Brandon sits principal tuba for the Wind Symphony, Brass Band, and Oakland Symphony Orchestra. In Fall 2015, he founded the Tubas Ignis quartet, which won the Oakland University Chamber Music Competition, and earned second place in the North American Brass Band Association's chamber music competition. Brandon would like to thank the music staff and faculty for their continued support.

In addition to receiving first prize in the Oakland University Chamber Music Competition, Tubas Ignis has been the second place winners of the North American Brass Band Association's Brass Ensemble Competition for two consecutive years. The piece they performed this year was written specifically for them by Matthew Murchison and was premiered at the competition this past March. The quartet earned the money for the commissioning project by performing a recital and clinics at Dakota High School and doing a "Tubas of Terror" fund raising concert on campus. Kenneth Kroesche, Associate Professor of Music.

Ian Turnwald

Gittlen Achievement Award in Musical Theatre

From a young age, Ian Turnwald, has been drawn to the stage. It began with devised pieces which were directed, choreographed, and costumed by his older sister Kaylee. Perhaps the most memorable show from this period was when Ian debuted "Grandfather Warlock" on July 4 in his grandma's backyard. Adorned in a heavy (and keep it mind it was July) black fur coat borrowed from his grandmother, Ian captivated the entire audience...of six people in lawn chairs. Then Ian participated in elementary school concerts, middle school productions, community theatre productions, high school productions, college productions, and professional productions and concerts. And guess what? Those people in lawn chairs have (gotten better seating) been there to see him all along the way! Originally considering attending college for athletics: while on a run one day "Rainbow High" from *Evita* came on (this song was one of the favorites of Ian's late mother, Kendra Kay Turnwald). And that's all she wrote! Ian is set to graduate with a BFA in Musical Theatre this April and he couldn't be more excited to begin the next step of his adventure. Ian would like to thank his family for their endless love and support.

Ian began his career at Oakland University with the daunting task of understudying all the male roles in Under Milk Wood. He has gone on to perform such diverse roles as: Alan in Equus, Percy in The Scarlet Pimpernel, Ivan in Die Fledermaus and most recently, as Greg in A Chorus Line. Ian is a passionate artist and person. As a student he has been an absolute joy to know and to teach. I am confident he will accomplish much. Lynnae Lehfeltdt, Associate Professor of Theatre.

2017 Matilda Award Honorees

Alumni Achievement Award in Music
Cheryl Ogonowski

Sponsored by Oakland University Alumni Association

Alumni Achievement Award in Theatre
Kenneth Jones

Sponsored by Oakland University Alumni Association

Distinguished Community Service Award
Bibianne Yu

Sponsored by Oakland University Alumni Association

Distinguished Musicianship Award
Alyssa Primeau

Outstanding Student in Voice Performance
Jacob Surzyn

Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Piano Performance
Karen Li

Outstanding Graduate Student in Piano Performance
Robert Schneeweis

Outstanding Student in Instrumental Performance
Halla Hillborn • Jessica Julian

Outstanding Student in Composition
Ian Lester

Outstanding Student in Music Education
Kelsey Millerschin • Jared Seymour

Outstanding Student in Jazz
Zollie Schut

Outstanding Student in Chamber Music
Tubas Ignis: John Andersen, Colin Holstein, Ian Lester, Brandon Thibault

Gittlen Theatre Award
Emily Stoddard

Gittlen Achievement Award in Acting
Gabriel Jamison

Gittlen Achievement Award in Theatre Design & Technology
Krystal Smoger

Gittlen Achievement Award in Musical Theatre
Stefanie Sambrano • Ian Turnwald

Pat and Mercedes Nicosia Meadow Brook Estate Award
Brian Baylor

Distinguished Dance Student Award
Noelle Millis

Maggie Allesee Choreography Award
Becky Ciccone

Outstanding Dance Performance
Rachel Pawson • Katie Reid

Outstanding Student Service Award - Music
Timothy A. Brown

Outstanding Student Service Award - Theatre
Joey Fontana

Outstanding Student Service Award - Dance
Alexis Moore

MTD Award
Jessica Stasik

George W. Hynd, President

James P. Lentini, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Kevin J. Corcoran, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Jackie Wiggins, Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Deborah J. VanderLinde, Music Program Director

Karen Sheridan, Theatre Program Director

Gregory Patterson, Dance Program Director

Faculty and Staff

Kerstin Allvin, Harp
Angela Austin, Dance
Jeremy Barnett, Assistant Professor, Scenic Design
Joseph Beck, Technical Director
Samantha Beresford, Accompanist
Debra Bernstein-Siegel, Dance
Amanda Blaikie, Flute
Barbara Bland, Voice
Kathy Boersma, Production Coordinator
Don Brewer, Musical Theatre
Miles Brown, Assistant Professor, Jazz
Regina Carter, Artist-in-Residence
Rick Carver, Theatre
Jennifer Catallo, Music Education
Mary Pratt Cooney, Theatre
Rebecca Crimmins, Dance
Gregory Cunningham, Professor, Conducting & Instrumental Music
Dennis Curry, Carillon
David Daniels, Professor Emeritus, Music
Alta Dantzler, Voice
Drake Dantzler, Associate Professor, Opera
Nadine DeLeury, Cello
Diane Demata, Music Prep Bookkeeper
David Denniston, French Horn
Shirleen DiFonzo, Costume Shop Assistant
Edith Diggory, Voice
Sean Dobbins, Jazz Percussion
John Dovaras, Professor Emeritus, Music
Kitty Dubin, Playwriting
Michael Duncan, Sound Design
Stephen Eisenhard, Voice
Gillian Ellis, Communications Associate
Laurie Eisenhower, Professor Emerita, Dance
Robert Facko, Professor Emeritus, Music
Jaime Finn, Office Assistant
Jenna Fiorini, Production Office Assistant
Patrick Fitzgibbon, World Music
Nina Flanagan, Music Education Internship Supervisor
Benjamin Fuhrman, Music
Dana Gamarra, Stage Management
Manjit Gill, Budget Manager
Michael Gillespie, Professor Emeritus, Theatre
Milica Govich, Acting for the Camera
Anthony Guest, Associate Professor, Acting
Beth Guest, Theatre
Scott Gwinnell, Jazz Piano
John Hall, Guitar

Rebecca Happel, Piano
Jennifer Harge, Dance
Phill Harmer, Stage Combat
Jeffrey Heisler, Assistant Professor, Saxophone
Megan Herald, Asst. Production Coordinator
Terry Herald, Technical Coordinator
Alissa Hetzner, Accompanist & Vocal Coach
Christy Heussner, Costume Shop Assistant
Adeline Hirschfeld-Medalia, Professor Emerita, Theatre
Bret Hoag, Guitar
Melissa Hoag, Associate Professor, Music Theory
Marvin Holladay, Professor Emeritus, Music
Jake Hooker, Theatre
Sam Jeyasigham, World Music
Thayer Jonutz, Associate Professor, Dance
Lois Kaarre, Music Keyboard Techniques
Vladimir Kalmsky, Accompanist
Elizabeth Kattner, Assistant Professor, Dance
Lesley Kay, Dance
David Kidger, Associate Professor, Musicology
Mark Kieme, Jazz Saxophone
Melanie King, Dance
Kerro Knox 3, Associate Professor, Lighting Design
Christa Koerner, Costume Shop Supervisor
Roman Kosarev, Viola
Kenneth Kroesche, Associate Professor, Low Brass
Lynnae Lehfeldt, Associate Professor, Acting & Stage Voice
Amanda Lehman, Dance
James Lentini, Professor, Composition
Mike List, Accompanist
Leslie Littell, Costume Design
Fred Love, Associate Professor, Musical Theatre
Shanda Lowery-Sachs, DSO Affiliate, Viola
Roberta Lucas, Dance
Alan MacNair, Chamber Orchestra
Muriel Mader, Administrative Assistant
Thomas Mahard, Theatre
Melissa Maloney, Voice
Sherri Martilla, OSO Orchestra Manager
Daniel Maslanka, Percussion
Michael McCabe, Accompanist
Elizabeth Medvinsky, Interim Music Prep Director
Cat Menzies, Musical Theatre
Stephanie Michaels, Voice
Timothy Michling, Oboe
Zelijko (Bill) Milicevic, String Pedagogy
Michael Mitchell, Professor, Choral Music

Christopher Napier, Trumpet
Rudolf Ozolins, Accompanist
Gregory Patterson, Associate Professor, Dance
Jessica Payette, Associate Professor, Musicology
Stephanie Pizzo, Dance
Chad Raso, Assistant Technical Director
Jamie Reed, Musical Theatre
Elizabeth Rowin, Violin
John Rutherford, Jazz Trombone
Amanda Sabelhaus, Accompanist
Paul Schauert, World Music
Marcus Schoon, DSO Affiliate, Bassoon
Cal Schwartz, Costume Shop Assistant
Karen Sheridan, Professor, Acting & Directing
Michael Shimmin, Accompanist
Joseph Shively, Associate Professor, Music Education
Victoria Shively, Music Theory & Music History
Gordon Simmons, Trumpet
Michele Soroka, Music Theory
Sharon Sparrow, DSO Affiliate, Flute
Anthony Stanco, Jazz Trumpet
Deneen Stapleton, Outreach Coordinator
Julie Steinmayer, Accompanist
George Stoffan, Associate Professor, Clarinet
Mark Stone, Associate Professor, World Music & Percussion
Kristen Tait, Music
Jeremy David Tarrant, Organ
Christina Tasco, Dance
Tian Tian, Assistant Professor, Piano
Carly Uhrig, Marketing Manager
Deborah VanderLinde, Associate Professor, Music Education
Flavio Varani, Professor Emeritus, Piano
Nadine Washington, Voice
John-Paul White, Professor, Voice
Phyllis White, Music
Jackie Wiggins, Distinguished Professor, Music Education
Alison Woerner, Assistant Professor, Dance
Spiros Xydias, Music
I-Chen Yeh, Piano
Eun Young Yoo, Accompanist
Bibianne Yu, Music Preparatory Director
Jocelyn Zelasko, Music
Alexandra Zetye, Accompanist
Jeffrey Zook, DSO Affiliate, Flute
Tatyana Zut, Accompanist
Stanley Zydek, Accompanist

Past Honorees

Music Awards

Distinguished Musicianship Award

- 1974 Daniel Bartoletta • David Douglass • Allen Regveiro
- 1975 Harry Davis • Patti Dell • Alayne Rever
- 1977 Louise Angermeier • Clifford Wilkins
- 1978 Deanna Perich • Robert Burns
- 1979 Thomas Stoneman • Mark Gottlieb
- 1980 Anthony Becker • Ronald DeRoo • Loni Pryce
- 1981 Anthony Becker • Shirley Muench
- 1982 Kerstin Allvin • Thomas Conner • Phyllis Wolfe
- 1983 Rob R. James • Dennis J. Rivard • Doris M. Williams
- 1984 Karen L. McConnachie • Regina Carter Karl Schmidt
- 1985 Theresa Mack
- 1986 Theresa Mack • David Acherman • April McNeeley • Scott Jussila
- 1987 Scott Peterson • Leslie Willis • Melissa Wolff
- 1988 Tim Smith
- 1989 Laura Furman Dreilich
- 1990 Joel Frederiksen • William Harris
- 1991 Annette Kline • Kathy Zuziak • Judith Teasdale
- 1992 Jennifer Moore
- 1993 Suzanne Rozmary
- 1994 Lori Cleland • Jin Sook Hong • Mariko Kohri
- 1995 Janice Hauxwell
- 1996 James Simonson
- 1997 Angella Jones
- 1998 Angelina Pashmakova • Amy Smith
- 1999 Bibianne Yu • Angel Starkey-Tuomi
- 2000 Gretchen Busam
- 2001 Cáitlín Burke
- 2002 Heather A. Yanke
- 2003 Jacquelyn Wagner
- 2004 Christopher Holt
- 2005 Dan Walshaw
- 2006 Robert Benton
- 2007 Amy Blevins
- 2008 Christopher Napier
- 2009 Nick Adragna - Undergraduate
Michelle Soroka - Graduate
- 2010 Ari Hajek
- 2011 Alex Carter
- 2012 Megan Trehwellam
- 2013 Erik Dewar
- 2014 Stephanie Perlaki
- 2015 James Long
- 2016 Michaela Judkins

Outstanding Student in Piano Performance

- 1992 Jee Mee Kim
- 1993 Mariko Kohri • Matthew Ball
- 1994 Cintia Macedo
- 1995 Phyllis Bengry • Jennifer Roberts
- 1996 Ayako Okamura • Angella Jones
- 1997 Mika Seraku
- 1998 Andrew Cheng
- 1999 Jacqueline Bess
- 2000 Angella Jones

- 2001 Wong Kyung Shin
- 2002 Kevin Nadolski
- 2003 Kevin Nadolski
- 2005 Paul Abdullah
- 2006 Ronaldo Rolim
- 2007 Sarah Young
- 2008 Sunkyeung Hong
- 2009 Jordan Brett
- 2010 Christopher Brent
- 2011 Alexandra Zetye
- 2012 Lanjiabao Ge
- 2013 Joseph Walters
- 2014 Alexander Kopitz
- 2015 Hannah Bossner
- 2016 Rhys Burgess

Outstanding Student in Voice Performance

- 1992 Barbara Bland • Tami Petty
- 1993 Jin Sook Hong • Lori Cleland
- 1994 Hye Kyung Yoon
- 1995 Hye Kyung Yoon
- 1996 Amy Smith
- 1997 Cassia Celaya-Montgomery
- 1998 Cáitlín Burke
- 1999 Lisa Agazzi
- 2000 William Petty
- 2001 Gretchen Busam
- 2002 Jacquelyn Wagner
- 2003 Heather A. Yanke
- 2004 Krysty Swann
- 2005 Amy Blevins
- 2006 Christina Gurne
- 2007 Aida de la Cruz • Melissa Maloney -
- 2008 Ashley Bahri • Tara Sievers
- 2009 Ramsey Katynski
- 2010 Caitlyn Byrne
- 2011 Natalie Cochran
- 2012 Suzanne Grogan • Jacob Skipworth
- 2013 Contantine Novotny
- 2014 Ann Toomey • Samantha Wood
- 2015 Allison Verner
- 2016 Mark Hosseini

Chamber Music Award

- 2003 Sarah Baldrige • Alex Ruthmann
Yevgenya Derian
- 2004 Laurie Burns
- 2005 Jesse Calcat
- 2006 Stephanie Esposito
- 2007 Paul Abdullah
- 2008 Meadow Brook Brass Quintet: Nicholas Adragna • Alex Carter • Andrew Eden
Jackie Mayville • Christopher Napier
- 2009 Marcie Fischer
- 2010 Trio Con Brio: Jordan Brett • Britney Brewster • Megan Trehwella
Percussion Pops: Corey Anderson
Richard Case • Matthew Dudek • John Fitzgerald • Gerald Fournier • Jesse Gibbs • Ari Hajek • Nicholas Kish
Kyle Kobe • David Mety • Jeremy Otto
Tiffany Palmer • Stephanie Perlaki
- 2012 Annette Brewer • Trevor Critchett
Matthew Eastwood • Daniel Turchyn
- 2013 Mark Chandler • Curtis Godzisz • Kyle Marker • Lauren Wilson

- 2014 Tubas D'Amore: Annette Brewer • Ian Lester • James Long • Graham Roesse
- 2015 We Three and She: John Hallman • Morgan McGivern • Calvin Retz • Jason Rodriguez
- 2016 Flex Quartet: Paige Grindler • John Hallman • Garret Klauss • Calvin Retz

Jennifer Scott Memorial Award

- 1980 Diane Grzesiak
- 1981 Jill Simmons
- 1982 Doris Williams
- 1983 Karen McConachie
- 1984 Elena Mack
- 1985 Beatrice Garshott
- 1986 Phyllis Ferriolo
- 1987 Theresa Mack
- 1988 Diane Walsh
- 1989 Usa Kiatrongcharoen
- 1991 Dianne Walsh
- 1992 Janice Lindow
- 1993 Mino Suganuma
- 1994 Marie Powers
- 1995 Angella Jones
- 1996 Regina Augustiniak
- 1997 Cáitlín Burke
- 1998 Cáitlín Burke
- 1999 Bibianne Yu
- 2000 Jacqueline Bess
- 2001 Jan Flynn
- 2002 Jacqueline Bess
- 2004 Shannon Conlan
- 2005 Sara Young
- 2006 Michele Little
- 2007 Pam Klueck
- 2008 Marilyn Burns
- 2011 Man Ling Kwok
- 2012 Stephen Komer
- 2014 Alexander Zetye
- 2015 Alexander Kopitz
- 2016 Joshua Kolpak

Outstanding Student in Music Education

- 1988 Anita Carlson
- 1990 Anthony Berdych
- 1992 Bert Van Dyke
- 1993 Lori Cleland
- 1994 Richard Brown
- 1995 Wesley Knoch • Brett Carroll
- 1996 Susan Harden • Beth Lasky
- 1997 Gary Ashton
- 1998 Karen Haggerty • Jennifer Kincer-Catallo
- 1999 Patrick O'Sullivan • Angel Starkey-Tuomi
- 2000 Don Chrisholm • Natalie LaFave
- 2001 Deborah Blair • Kathy Zuziak
- 2002 Renee Sadowski • Ben Baldwin
- 2003 Jonathan Lunneberg
- 2004 Scarlett Brady
- 2005 Elizabeth Davis
- 2006 Gwyn Kubiak • Michael Medvinsky
- 2007 Shannon Calihan • Jeff Rimer
- 2008 Chelsea Rhodes
- 2009 Katherine Fox
- 2010 Anthony Case • Amber McComber

2011 Domonique Barnes • Meghan Tappen
 2012 Benjamin Clark • Vivian Ellsworth
 2013 Bridget Dennis • Lea Lalla
 2014 David Mety • Stephanie Perlaki
 2015 Joshua Bobek • Jackie Gubow
 2016 Maria Suvak • Alexander Walker

Outstanding Student in Instrumental Performance

1992 Judith Teasdle
 1993 Jennifer Moore
 1994 Barbara LeClair
 1995 Cheryl McGuire
 1996 Kristie McElhaney
 1997 Michael Edwards
 1998 Donald J. Chisholm
 2000 Caroline Wray
 2001 Ben Baldwin
 2002 Sarah Miller
 2003 Robert Benton
 2004 James Balkenhol
 2005 Eric Cates
 2006 Ray Sarver
 2007 Chris Napier • Stephanie Esposito -
 2008 Katherine Fox • Jennifer Shinska
 2009 Andrew Eden • Eric Oleksiak • Justin Velic
 2010 Melanie Boose • Bethany Kruger
 2011 Matthew Eastwood
 2012 Julianne Holmes • Daniel Turchyn
 2013 Stacey Jamison
 2014 Isaac Boehnlein • Lauren Wilson
 2015 Heather Neuenschwander • Lucas Perzyk • Alyssa Primeau
 2016 Renee Kuczeski

Outstanding Student in Composition

1992 Steve Sylvester
 1993 Richard Brown
 1995 Terry Ross
 1997 Henry Feinberg
 1999 James Shaw
 2000 Patricia Gibbons
 2002 Christopher Holt
 2003 Ryan McKee
 2004 Oliver Thompson
 2005 Russell Gillespie
 2006 Daniel Walshaw
 2007 John Drabecki
 2010 Raed George
 2015 Renee Kuczeski

Outstanding Student in Jazz

2003 Joseph Augugliaro
 2004 Carly Ketchman
 2005 Trisha Shandor
 2006 Geoff Brouhard • Jonathan Mann
 2008 Dakotah Cooper • Jennifer Shinska
 2009 Ari Hajek • Ashley Robbins
 2010 Zhelinrentice Scott
 2011 Quincy Stewart
 2012 Mark Johnson
 2013 Matthew D. Dufresne
 2014 Joshua Nuss
 2015 Nicholas Voisich
 2016 David Johnson

Joyce Adelson Piano Ensemble Award

2011 Man Ling Kwok • Kimberley Maes
 2012 Danish Ali • Lanjiabao Ge • Piaras Kent
 2014 Nicole Szarama • Kimberly Szarama

2015 Hannah Bossner & Rhys Burgess
 2016 Nicole Szarama • Kimberly Szarama
Sacred Music Award
 1992 Shari Fiore
Early Music Award
 1992 Sonja Becker

Theatre Awards

Gittlen Award in Theatre

1986 Jerold Rathgeb • Patricia Sutherland
 1987 Tammy Machowicz • Christopher Olsztyn
 1988 Rick Carver
 1989 Gregory Scott Piasecki
 1990 Lynda Pringle • Tracey Wade
 1991 Corey Skaggs
 1992 Joe Bailey • Allen Verscheure
 1993 Jennifer Lester
 1994 Guy Klender
 1995 Kerri Dettmer
 1996 Jacqueline Duncan
 1997 Sean Mitchell • Allison Schubert
 1998 Krystal Kennel
 1999 Aldrin Arche
 2000 Jennifer Price
 2001 Jessica Elwart
 2002 Joshua Polley
 2003 Catherine Lutz
 2004 Aaron Hill
 2005 Meghan Trudell
 2006 Brooke Baker
 2007 Josh Rotarius
 2008 Katie Nabors
 2009 Eileen Rozycki
 2010 Allison Kochanski
 2011 Jeffery Block
 2012 Samuel Rohloff
 2013 Laura Gist
 2014 Jason Maracani
 2015 Britney Spindler
 2016 Billy Robinson

Gittlen Achievement Award in Acting

1984 Heidi L. Guthrie
 1985 Mary E. Rychlewski
 1986 William O'Connor
 1987 Lisa Uguccione
 1988 Christopher Olsztyn
 1989 Markest Tate
 1991 Deidre Ward
 1992 Angel Maclean
 1995 Stacey Szulanczyk
 1998 Alison Schubert
 1999 Matthew Hammond
 2002 Travis Walter
 2004 Ashley Bogert
 2005 Steve O'Brien
 2006 John Wencel
 2007 Reggie Rose
 2008 Greg Anderson
 2009 Adrienne Podjun
 2010 Brett Radke
 2011 David Meese
 2012 Lauren Knox
 2013 Anna Wyatt
 2014 Rachel Hull
 2015 Pablo Calzada Munoz
 2016 Sarah McEneaney

Gittlen Achievement Award in Musical Theatre

1993 Corey Skaggs
 1994 Corey Skaggs
 1996 John Michael Norman • Allison Schubert
 1997 Gerald Kelel
 1998 Meaghan Hurley
 1999 Kimshelley Garner
 2000 Caitlin Burke • Emily Wilson
 2001 Emily Wilson
 2002 Joey Bybee
 2004 Phill Harmer
 2005 Tony Edgerton
 2006 Katie C. Pierce
 2007 Ben Lynch • Alicia Psciuk
 2008 Christopher Rozanski
 2009 Alex Pedica
 2010 Erin Edgerton
 2011 Domonique Evans
 2012 Allie McCaw
 2013 Sam Rohloff
 2014 Lindsay Maron • Melissa Perry
 2015 Jillian Hoffman • Jacléne Wilk
 2016 Mitchell Aiello

Gittlen Achievement Award in Theatre

Design & Technology

1990 Jody Anderson
 1996 Brian Dambacher
 1999 Sarah Rosa
 2000 Krystal Kennel
 2001 Jennifer Price
 2003 Cindy Lim
 2005 Jamie Clausius
 2006 Jessica Pence
 2007 Krista Palumbo
 2008 Peggy Montgomery
 2009 Mary Gietzen
 2010 Robert Glowacki • Andrew Wilhelm
 2011 Gina Smothers
 2012 Jeffrey Block
 2013 Christopher J. Neville
 2014 Daniel Robinson
 2015 Chris O'Meara
 2016 Kyle Blasius

Special Gittlen Achievement Award in Playwriting

2009 Anetria Cole & Franco Vitella

The Patrick & Mercedes Nicosia

Meadow Brook Estate Award

1984 Paul Ritchie
 1985 Melissa Wolff
 1986 Rose Taylor
 1987 Jonathon Irvine
 1988 Gina Beaver
 1989 Shawn Ryskamp
 1990 Dawn M. Hamblin
 1991 Amy Gore
 1992 Jennifer Kincer
 1993 Michele Hillen
 1994 Brett Carroll
 1995 Paul Moran
 1996 Philip Metzler
 1997 Melodie Hartley
 2001 Amanda Materne
 2002 Heather A. Yanke
 2003 Heather A. Yanke

2006 Kara Kimmer
 2007 Maxwell Bolton
 2008 Leah Darany
 2009 Katie Hardy • Alexandra Zorn
 2010 Nicholas Smith • Mallory Stehle
 2011 Emily Sorensen
 2012 Lauren Keen
 2013 David Vogel • Jake Wood
 2014 Kiel Lerch
 2015 Devin Price
 2016 Olivia Griffin

Dance Awards

Maggie Allesee Choreography Award

2000 Melanie King
 2001 Mary Beth Frechette
 2002 Kristen Berger
 2003 Angela Repp
 2004 Lily Sloan
 2005 Alexis DeCapua • Alexandra Toth
 2006 Marcie Tolbert
 2007 Sarah Keesling
 2008 Justine Detloff
 2009 Meghan Curlett
 2010 Teresa Pachniak
 2011 Kristen Manor
 2012 Catherine MacMaster
 2013 AJ Sharp • Taylor Thompson
 2014 Lisa Johns
 2015 Priscilla Bakic
 2016 Bianca Brengman • Tess Keesling

Distinguished Dance Student Award

2005 Marcus Iliescu
 2006 Deana Deratany
 2008 Amber Czisny
 2010 Meghann Fletcher-Hazelton
 2011 Melissa Moffit
 2012 Meghan Sullivan
 2013 Andrew Dettloff
 2014 Amber Klaus
 2015 Brett Wotherspoon
 2016 Ashley Moffit

Jacob Decker Dance Award

1988 Hope MacPherson
 1989 Laura Goniwiecka
 1990 Stephanie Garrisi
 1992 Lidia DiCicco
 1993 Jodilyn Reneaud
 1994 Sarah Brown
 1995 Florence Marossey
 1996 Megan Sutherland
 1997 Heather Lobbestael
 1998 Danna McJames
 2000 Angela Frabotta
 2001 Melanie Hamper
 2002 Jennifer Miller
 2003 Mary Bischoff
 2004 Rodney Brown
 2005 Angela Gary • Heather Lawrence
 2006 Andrea Sherman
 2007 Heather Chojnowski • Terra Koehler
 2008 Kathaleen Moylan • Charity Newton
 2009 Jonathan Cassar • Courtney Johnson
 2010 Elizabeth Kreutziger

Outstanding Dance Performance

2011 Justine Gagne • Madeline Metzger
 2012 Lindsay Chirio • Vivian Costello

2014 Francesca Garippa
 2015 Mariah Chandler • Karin Spencer
 2016 Meghan Schook

Departmental Awards

Outstanding Student Service Award

1997 Kristopher Libstaff (M)
 1998 Natalie LaFave (M) • Christopher Nobels (T)
 1999 Daniel Kondas (T) • Andrea Smith (T)
 Donald Chisholm (M)
 2000 Jessica Elwart (T) • Jennifer Engel (M)
 Susie Karloff (M)
 2001 Jacqueline Rhodes (M) • Cassandra Svacha (T) Corrie Beth Shotwell (T)
 2002 Caroline Cates (M) • Holly Lloyd (T)
 2003 Heidi Marie Brown (T) • Trish Shandor (M)
 2004 Rebecca Krystyniak (M) • Catherine Lutz (T)
 2005 Rob Arbaugh (T) • Katherine Fox (M)
 2006 Kathy Boersma (T) • Shannon Busse (D)
 Laura Lach (M)
 2007 Katy Ploch (D) • Rebecca Slater (D)
 Michele Little (M) • Allison Hunt (T)
 2008 Robyn Morawski (D) • Tennesa Harmon (M) • Andrew Wilhelm (T)
 2009 Caitlyn Byrne (M) • Ttari Hellmer (T)
 Samantha Bingham (D)
 2010 Trevor Critchett (M) • Ciarra Forsyth (D)
 Kathryn Kiovunen (D) • Actors 'n' Techies (T) (Ashley Rozanski • David Meese Abigail Alexander • Mallory Stehle Emily Sorensen)
 2011 Lindsay Terrell (M) • Krystin Becker (T)
 2012 Stephanie Perlaki (M) • Christopher Neville (T)
 2013 Sarah Hannigan (M) • Rachel Hull (T) • Alexandra Plaskey (D)
 2014 Isaac Boehnlein (M) • Benjamin Deman (T)
 2015 Alexander Walker (M) • Stacey Fleming (T) • Chelsea Nabozny (D)
 2016 Alyssa Primeau (M) • Jake Daley (T) • Andrea Chesure (D)

Outstanding Contribution in Student

Relations & Diversity

2005 Rodney Brown

MTD Award for Commitment to the

Interdisciplinary Nature of the Department

2005 Salathiel Palland
 2006 Blair Mellow
 2007 Katherine Fox
 2008 Bobby Glowacki
 2009 Katie Nabors
 2010 Mark Johnson
 2012 Jeffrey Block
 2013 Ashley Ault
 2014 Matthew Wagner
 2015 Daniel Robinson
 2016 Jason Maracani • Chris O'Meara

Alumni Achievement in Music

1997 Gayelynn McKinney
 1998 David Pfeiffer
 1999 Cliff Wilkins
 2000 Karen Newman
 2001 Phyllis Wolfe White
 2002 Catherine Rollin
 2003 Joel Frederiksen
 2004 Regina Carter
 2005 Lori Cleland

2006 Thomas Bacon
 2008 Walt Szymanski
 2010 Jacquelyn Wagner
 2011 Barbara Bland
 2013 David Douglass • Ellen Hargis
 2014 Kerstin Allvin
 2015 Cáitlín Burke
 2016 Rob James

Alumni Achievement Award in Theatre

1997 Lavinia Moyer
 1998 Linda Gehringer
 1999 William Ward
 2000 Pat Roan-Judd
 2001 Steve Blackwood
 2002 Lisa Jesswein
 2003 John L. Roman
 2004 Mary Rychlewski
 2005 Darien Martus
 2006 John Morris
 2007 Jayne Houdyshell
 2008 Jack O'Reilly
 2009 Curtis Armstrong
 2010 Rob McCabe
 2011 Joe Bailey
 2012 Brian Dambacher
 2013 Richard Riehle
 2014 Esau Pritchett
 2015 Cáitlín Burke
 2016 Jen Price Fick

Alumni Achievement Award in Dance

1997 Ann Parsley
 1999 Roberta Lucas
 2000 Cathy Roe
 2002 Carol Halsted
 2003 Carol Jennings-Roggensack
 2009 Stephanie Pizzo
 2010 Florie D'Annunzio
 2011 Melanie King
 2012 Mary Bischoff Devitt
 2013 Rodney A. Brown
 2014 Denise Caston
 2015 Jenefer Ardell Miller
 2016 Laurie Eisenhower

Distinguished Community Service Award

1997 Mr. and Mrs. Handleman
 1998 Irving and Audrey Rose
 1999 Patrick and Mercedes Nicosia
 2000 Maggie Allesee
 2001 Elizabeth & George Seifert
 2002 Stanley Hollingsworth
 2003 Doris Travis
 2004 James Evola
 2005 Matilda R. Wilson Fund
 2006 David Teeple
 2007 Steve Stolaruk
 2008 Nancy Valassis • Gary Ed Mach
 2009 Jan Albright
 2010 Michael A. Glass
 2011 Dan McDougall • Shelly Tocco
 2013 Judd Family Endowed Arts & Humanities Fund
 2014 Stephen Wogaman
 2015 Michael Gillespie
 2016 David DiChiera

The MaTilDa Awards

The Joyce Adelson Piano Ensemble Award

The Joyce Adelson Piano Ensemble Award commemorates the life and teaching of one of the department's most revered former piano faculty. Along with her twin sister Joanna, Joyce Adelson enjoyed a career as an internationally recognized duo pianist. Joyce Adelson influenced many young musicians. "I think everybody loved Joyce," said former department chair David Daniels. "She was a warm-hearted and lovely person, and a terrific musician."

The Jennifer Scott Memorial Award

The Jennifer Scott Memorial Award, is named in honor of Jennifer Scott, who was a piano student at OU in 1980, when she was involved in a fatal car accident. Her parents, William and Jean Scott, established the award and continue to support it. Their purpose was to honor a student who best exemplified Jennifer's qualities of scholarship, musicianship and willingness to serve others.

The Gittlen Awards

Four Gittlen Awards are offered: one for achievement in Acting, one for Theatre Design and Technology, one for Musical Theatre, and one for Theatre. This last general award goes to a student who is not a senior. Alex and Ruth Gittlen were the parents of Professor Emerita Adeline Hirschfeld-Medalia. In 1972, Adeline became the first female chair of a department at OU, the Department of Speech Communication, but she continued to work for the development of a true theatre program, and the Gittlen Endowment was established specifically to support theatre in an academic setting. Adeline wrote, "When I learned [my parents] were closing out [their] endowment, I asked that the remaining funds be given to Oakland to be used to support the emerging Theater program. Getting news about the awards is always welcome."

Pat and Mercedes Nicosia Meadow Brook Estate Award

Pat Nicosia worked at OU for 31 years and retired as director of budget and financial planning. He and his wife Mercedes love musical theatre and supported the activities of the musical theatre students for many years. In setting up their award, their aim was to continue that support in perpetuity.

The Maggie Allesee Choreography Award

The Maggie Allesee Choreography Award bears the name of one of Michigan's most extraordinary philanthropists. Maggie Allesee serves the Michigan community in many roles and donates her time to many organizations. She is one of OU's truest friends. Her strong support of the dance program manifests itself not only in this MaTilDa award, but in summer scholarships for dance students to travel and study. She also serves on the board of Eisenhower Dance and on the board of visitors for the OU School of Nursing. Her lifelong record of service and giving is exemplary. In May 2011, in recognition of her generosity and commitment, the university gave an honorary degree to Maggie Allesee.

The OUAA Alumni Achievement Awards

The Alumni Awards are sponsored by the Oakland University Alumni Association. The OUAA connects alumni and friends with the university community. Membership in the Alumni Association is available to all OU graduates. Through the Alumni Association, alumni maintain an active role in programs that support OU and build relationships that benefit both students and the university. Each year OUAA proudly presents the Arts at OU series, which is designed to engage alumni and community members through the arts at Oakland University.

Congratulations

2017 MaTilDa Award Winners

Cheryl Ogonowski MM '98

Alumni Achievement in Music

Kenneth Jones CAS '86

Alumni Achievement in Theatre

Bibianne Yu MM '02

Distinguished Community Service Award

The OUAA salutes all student awardees

