

Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs

The mission of Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs is to connect MIT students to the arts through new and existing student programs and the Artist-in-Residence Program. The student programs managed by Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs are the Freshman Arts Seminar Advising Program, the Promoting the Arts through Design seminar, the Graduate Arts Forum, Art Representatives, Arts Scholars, the annual Student Mural Competition, and the Student Art Association. The Artist-in-Residence Program brings both renowned and emerging artists to campus for periods ranging from three days to a semester. Designed to complement courses and advance cross-disciplinary work, these residencies offer insights into different cultures and different ways of looking at familiar problems.

Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs Sponsorship

In addition to Institute support from the provost, Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs received support from the Council for the Arts at MIT, the William L. Abramowitz Fund, the Ida Ely Rubin Artists-in-Residence Fund, and the Alan H. Katzenstein Memorial Fund.

Student Programs

Freshman Arts Seminar Advising Program

The Freshman Arts Seminar Advising Program (FASAP) completed its eighth full year with three seminar sections led by visiting lecturer Kate Delaney (Literature), professor Michael Fischer (Anthropology and Science, Technology, and Society), and associate professor Keeril Makan (Music and Theater Arts). The FASAP participants met weekly for presentations and discussions by arts faculty and for breakout advising sessions to discuss issues related to academics and academic support, extracurricular activities, and adjusting to college life. Students also benefited from arts excursions and events on campus and in the Boston area.

Mandatory events in the fall highlighted theater, dance, film, visual arts, literature, and music. These events included a rock opera piece, *Remember Me*, by the Parsons Dance Company with the East Village Opera Company at the Cutler Majestic Theater; August Wilson's *Fences*, directed by 1997 McDermott Award recipient Kenny Leon; the opening of the List Visual Arts Center's exhibit *Tobias Putrih & MOS: Without Out*; a reading by Filipina writer Merlinda Bobis from her novel *The Solemn Lantern Maker*; a screening of Katzenstein artist-in-residence Cary Fukunaga's *Sin Nombre* (recipient of the Directing Award and Excellence in Cinematography Award at Sundance); and an opera production of *Carmen* at the Boston Lyric Opera.

Students attended at least two workshops each, including a "Flash Fiction" writing workshop with Albert Liao '02 (physics and physical biology), a Senegalese drumming workshop with FASAP alumni Balaji Mani '10 (civil and environmental engineering) and Dorian Dargan '11 (urban studies and planning and economics), a theater movement workshop with associate professor Jay Scheib (Music and Theater Arts), a collaging

workshop with associate advisor Rashida Callendar '11 (chemistry), a glassblowing demonstration with members of the MIT Glass Lab, and an a capella workshop with associate advisor Cyril Lan '11 (electrical engineering and computer science) and his a capella group, Syncopasian.

Students also had the opportunity to attend a wide variety of optional events, including a performance by folk/indie group A Hawk and a Hacksaw; a daylong excursion to Salem, MA, to visit the Peabody Essex Museum; the 2009 Honk! Festival in Cambridge; a fall MITSO (MIT Symphony Orchestra) concert following conductor Adam Boyles' lecture; a reading by Orhan Pamuk (2006 Nobel Laureate for Literature); a performance by poet/musician Lenelle Moise titled *Womb-Words, Thirsting*; the Berlin Philharmonic's performance at Symphony Hall (with conductor Sir Simon Rattle); the Broadway musical *Avenue Q*; the premiere of FASAP advisor Keeril Makan's piece for the International Contemporary Ensemble Quartet; and a performance by New Zealand dance troupe Black Grace.



FASAP field trip to Salem to visit the Peabody Essex Museum. At lunch, left to right, are Christy Swartz '13, Mei Zuo '13, Kim Brummell '13, and associate advisor Rashida Callender '11 (chemistry).

Promoting the Arts through Design

Promoting the Arts through Design (PATD) continued in its fifth year during the spring term. The class, a Public Service Design Seminar in the arts through the Edgerton Center, was created to involve undergraduates in the local art scene by cultivating their skills in design to support an arts organization.

This year, PATD followed the example of the 2009 class and chose an internal client, the MIT Student Art Association. PATD was coled by two graduate students, TC Ong (chemistry) and Alexander Reben (media arts and sciences). The students worked with the Student Art Association to produce a promotional video for distribution on the web and on DVD, with the intention of increasing awareness among students as well as potential donors. The class learned concepts of documentary video production and editing techniques using Final Cut Pro and worked collaboratively to construct a compelling narrative and build project management skills. Students worked individually and collaborated through the stages of preproduction, production, and peer and client critique. Class time was spent with the instructors and guest lecturers learning hands-on production and editing, learning about publicity and resource development, and holding planning meetings and video shoots. Readings for the class included practical guides to preproduction and directing and standards of fair use. The students premiered their film for the client on April 28, 2010. The video can be viewed online at <http://vimeo.com/11305828>.

Arts Scholars

The Arts Scholars Program was created in 1998 to offer MIT undergraduates and master's degree candidates an interdisciplinary community of student artists at MIT. The program works to nurture and challenge MIT students who wish for more interaction with fellow student and faculty artists and more exposure to the rich artistic resources of the Boston area. It is open to rising sophomores, juniors, seniors, and master's-level graduate students regardless of major. This year, the 12th year of the program, 33 students participated.

Arts Scholars Program participants were exposed to cutting-edge work being done in writing, theater, music, dance, film, and visual art. Outings included Damian Ortega's exhibit *Do It Yourself* at the Boston Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), Boston Ballet's *Giselle*, a performance by computer and mash-up musician Girl Talk at the Boston House of Blues, the Berlin Philharmonic performance at Symphony Hall (Sir Simon Rattle, conductor), a meeting with Katzenstein artist-in-residence Cary Fukunaga, the American Repertory Theater's performance of *Sleep No More*, a performance by New Zealand dance troupe Black Grace, a premiere of senior lecturer Charles Shadle's (Music and Theater) piece for MITSO, a workshop in professor Alan Brody's (Music and Theater Arts) playwriting seminar, a weekend trip to New York City to see associate professor Jay Scheib's (Music and Theater Arts) *Bellona: Destroyer of Cities* and to attend a film at the New Directors/New Films festival, a Holga photography workshop led by Student Art Association instructor Suzi Camarata, and a tour of the MIT Museum's exhibition *Gestural Engineering* with artist Arthur Ganson, former MIT artist-in-residence.

Art Representatives

The Art Representatives (Art Reps) form a network of arts ambassadors in every dorm, living group, and academic department. Dinners were held at the beginning of each term to provide the Art Reps with an opportunity to meet, discuss the program, and learn about upcoming events and opportunities. Communication with the Art Reps was maintained through a weekly email calendar of upcoming arts events at MIT, which they then forwarded to their constituencies. The Art Reps also distributed materials related to this year's residencies by Cary Fukunaga and Gustavo Dudamel. Beginning in 2009, Art Reps mailings were distributed over the summer through a resident advisor (RA) arts mailing list targeting students working and studying at MIT over the summer.

Student Origami Exhibit

The Student Origami Exhibit was passed over to the Origami Club for implementation during the 2009–2010 academic year.

Graduate Arts Forum

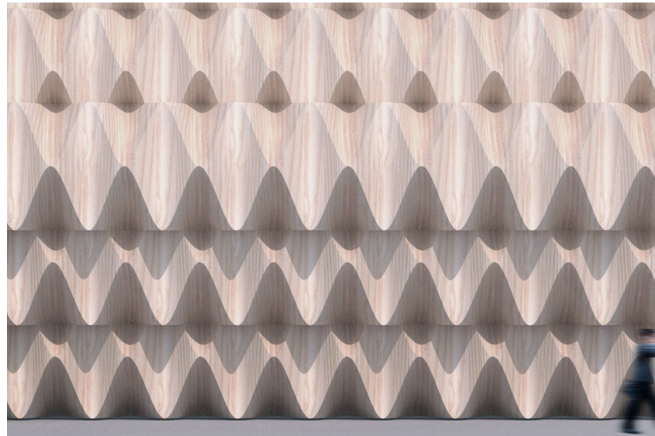
This was the seventh year for the Graduate Arts Forum, which is aimed at building an interdisciplinary community of graduate students who create art as part of their graduate studies or independently. The forums provide graduate students with experience presenting their work as well as an opportunity to see what their peers are creating. Additionally, the forums may serve as a springboard for opportunities to collaborate. Each forum is moderated by a professor or visiting artist and consists of

short presentations by two to three graduate students. Students in the Department of Architecture; History, Theory, and Criticism of Architecture and Art program (HTC); Program in Media Arts and Sciences; Science, Technology, and Society Program; Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory; and Program in Art, Culture and Technology (ACT) were targeted as presenters.

This year's forums were "Artists-in-Residence/Why?" with presenters Rya Conrad-Bradshaw (Sloan School of Management) and Nikolas Vicario (HTC) and moderator Mary Sherman (former artist-in-residence) (October 23, 2009); "Intertwining Nature," with presenters Peter Schmitt (Media Arts and Sciences), David Robert (Media Arts and Sciences), and Sarah Witt (Visual Arts Program) and moderator Jay Silver (Media Arts and Sciences) (November 18, 2009); "Interactivity: The Digital Daze," with presenters Ian Wojtowicz (Visual Arts Program) and Skylar Tibbits (Architecture) and moderator Mark Feldemeier (Media Arts and Sciences) (February 25, 2010); "Movement, Gesture, and Dance," with presenters Suelin Chen (Materials Science and Engineering), Elly Jessop (Media Arts and Sciences), and Elizabeth McVay Greene (Sloan) and moderator Rya Conrad-Bradshaw (Sloan) (March 3, 2010); "Femmes on Feminism: Contemporary Practice in the 21st Century," with presenters Amanda Moore (ACT), Sarah Nusser (Urban Studies and Planning), and Jess Wheelock (ACT) and moderator Joan Jonas, Visual Arts Program professor (May 11, 2010).

Student Mural Competition

The seventh annual Student Mural Competition was held in March 2010. The winning submission was *Mural Origami*, a computer rendering created by master of architecture candidate Otto (Chun Lun) Ng. According to Ng, "*Mural Origami* . . . is an aggregative configuration of shell figures created by means of timber sheet folding [that] speaks to Frank Gehry's sculptural surfaces in the Stata Center."



Mural Origami, the winning entry in the 2010 Mural Competition by Otto Ng, a graduate student in architecture.

The panel of judges consisted of representatives from four departments within the Stata Center: professor Dimitri Bertsekas (Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems), Lianne Scott (staffer, Campus Activities Complex), Jennifer Purdy (staffer, Department of Linguistics and Philosophy), and Katrina Panovich (graduate student in the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory).

Student Art Association

The Student Art Association (SAA) is a suite of three studios that provide space for hands-on exploration of the visual arts, photography, and ceramics. Offering more than 70 student-focused extra-academic classes during the fall, spring, summer, and

Independent Activities Period (IAP), SAA serves approximately 500 MIT community members each year. SAA offers 24-hour access to students enrolled in ceramics, photography, drawing, painting, and open studios. SAA has partnered with several community and campus organizations this year in the spirit of collaboration and in hopes of broadening the association's reach.

Wiesner Student Art Gallery

The Wiesner Student Gallery is now reserved for a show each month until graduation 2011. The shows range in terms of media and format from photography to installation and from solo shows to group exhibitions of student art award recipients.

Artist-in-Residence Program

The MIT Artist-in-Residence Program provides MIT students with opportunities to interact with nationally and internationally recognized artists through master classes, lectures/demonstrations, performances, and workshops. By providing students with opportunities for direct involvement with diverse artists and artistic practices, the program encourages creative thinking and personal expression and promotes cultural affirmation through the arts. It also enriches curricular innovation and promotes interdepartmental collaboration.

In support of the mission to bring internationally recognized artists to MIT, Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs maintained the contacts previously established with many artists and arts organizations in South Africa, Cuba, Brazil, Japan, Taiwan, the Nordic countries, Australia, and New Zealand. In January, a team consisting of student coordinator Rebecca Millson '09 (urban studies and planning) and director Michèle Oshima traveled to the Pacific Northwest on a two-week arts scouting mission. The purpose of the trip was to become familiar with the arts scenes in San Francisco; Portland, OR; Seattle, WA; and Vancouver, British Columbia.

MIT alumni were pivotal at each destination and were wonderful guides. In preparation for a future residency at MIT, the team met with media artist Aaron Koblin in San Francisco. Rebecca Motola-Barnes '08 (biology) and Saul Griffith SM



Alumni gathering at Saul Griffith's warehouse office, Other Lab, in San Francisco hosted by Rebecca Motola-Barnes '08 (biology) and Griffith SM '01, PhD '04 (media arts and sciences).



Saul Griffith SM '01, PhD '04 (media arts and sciences), and Jonathan Bachrach (former Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory researcher and longtime Office of the Arts collaborator), both principals in Other Lab.

'01, PhD '04 (media arts and sciences), cohosted a large alumni gathering at Saul's warehouse office, Other Lab, in San Francisco.

Media artist Hasan Elahi met with the staff after he presented at Portland State University. Student coordinator Millson noted that Elahi documented the meeting to share with Homeland Security as part of his art project *Tracking Transience* (<http://trackingtransience.net/>).



Media artist Hasan Elahi with student coordinator Rebecca Millson '09 (urban studies and planning).

In preparation for a future residency at MIT, the team attended the premiere of *Le Dragon Bleu* in Vancouver and met with its director, cowriter, and star Robert Lepage. Candis Callison SM '02 (comparative media studies), PhD '10 (Doctoral Program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society), and James Dai SM '04 (media arts and sciences) were essential in Vancouver.



In New York City: Laura Nichols '05 (mechanical engineering), SM '07 (media arts and sciences), professor Joan Jonas, Michèle Oshima, Visual Arts Program director and professor Ute Meta Bauer, and former coordinator Christina Chestnut '06 (mechanical engineering and music).

In an arts scouting trip to New York City, the staff and alumni caught up with professor Joan Jonas (Visual Arts Program) before seeing her installations at Yvon Lambert, Museum of Modern Art, and Location One.



Posttheater dinner with (left to right) former Council for the Arts member Patrick Wang '98 (economics), Michèle Oshima, Council for the Arts member Damon Suden '99 (mathematics and political science), Council for the Arts member Carol Choi '98 (electrical engineering and computer science), MEng '99 (electrical engineering and computer science), former coordinator Irene Brisson '05 (architecture), Zach Nataf G (comparative media studies), current coordinator Rebecca Millson '09 (urban studies and planning), and former coordinator Dora Kelle '03 (architecture).

During the same trip, the staff dined with Council for the Arts members and alumni, including two former coordinators, after seeing a production of *The Pride* by Alexi Kay Campbell at the Lucille Lortel Theater.

Named Residencies

William L. Abramowitz Artist-in-Residence Program

The 2009–2010 William L. Abramowitz Program brought Berlin-based Argentine choreographer and dancer Constanza Macras to campus. In addition to delivering a public talk in March as part of the Visual Arts Program lecture series “The Theatrical / The Performative / The Transformative,” moderated by Theater Arts professor Jay Scheib, Macras visited many classes, led a master dance class, and explored many labs. Macras was accompanied by her partner, visual artist Manuel Osterholt, and their son Kostas.



Abramowitz choreographer Constanza Macras; her son Kostas; her partner, visual artist Manuel Osterholt; and director Michèle Oshima in the Office of the Arts.

Macras and Osterholt are creating new work involving parallel universes. In preparation for this project, they met with physics professors Edward Farhi, Alan Guth, and Robert Jaffe and with the Media Arts and Sciences group Camera Culture. Macras led students in Leonard Cruz’s class 21M.675 Dance Theory and Composition, Jay Scheib’s 21M.600 Introduction to Acting, and Joan Jonas’ 4.360 Performance Workshop through physical workshops. Also, Macras was aided in her preparation for a six-week residency in Johannesburg, South Africa, through materials and connections provided by Michèle Oshima. Through former artist-in-residence Abderrahmane Sissako, Ethiopian emerging filmmaker Zelalem Woldemariam visited campus and met with Nasruddin Nazerali ’05 (physics), SM ’07 (civil and environmental engineering), G (earth, atmospheric, and planetary sciences), and alumnus Andrew “Zoz” Brooks PhD ’07 (electrical engineering and computer science).

Alan Katzenstein Artist-in-Residence Program

The 2009–2010 Katzenstein residency was held by filmmaker Cary Fukunaga. The Lecture Series Committee (LSC) hosted the public screening of Fukunaga’s feature film *Sin Nombre* followed by a question and answer session. Juan Ybarra ’12 (materials science and engineering) introduced the evening. Fukunaga visited the following classes: 21M.A12 Freshman Arts Seminar Advising Program, 21M.611 Foundations of Theater Practice, and 21F.731 Creation of a Continent: Representations of Hispanic America, 1492-1898, in Literature and Film. He was the guest of honor at a dinner hosted by La Casa with professors Junot Diaz (Writing and Humanistic Studies) and John Ochsendorf (Architecture) in attendance. Having signed on to direct a film adaptation of *Jane Eyre*, Fukunaga met with literature professors Ruth Perry and Shankar Raman. In preparation for another future film project, Fukunaga visited the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies. Fukunaga also had a meal with the Hapa Club and met with Institute

Professor Noam Chomsky (Linguistics). In addition, Fukunaga discussed narrative with Music and Theater Arts section head and professor Janet Sonenberg and storytelling with professor Cynthia Breazeal (Media Arts and Sciences).

This summer at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, former Katzenstein artist-in-residence Jewlia Eisenberg realized her artistic vision for the Bows Project with the collaboration of Michael Ramage SM '06 (architecture).



Michael Ramage, holding a form for the smaller dome of the Bows Project, with former Katzenstein artist-in-residence Jewlia Eisenberg.



Former Katzenstein artist-in-residence Jewlia Eisenberg poses in front of the Bows Project installation at the Yerba Buena Center with Robin Ivester '02 (materials sciences and engineering).

Ida Ely Rubin Artist-in-Residence Program

Although no 2009–2010 Rubin residency was implemented, filmmaker Michel Gondry, former Rubin artist-in-residence, returned to campus twice. During his visit over IAP, LSC held a sneak preview of his documentary *The Thorn in the Heart* followed by a question and answer session. Juan Ybarra '12 (materials science and engineering) introduced the event. Gondry was accompanied by singer/composer Mia Doi Todd, and the two gave a concert in the Coffeehouse free to MIT students. Additionally, Gondry was accompanied by the creative team for another upcoming project with Bjork. They met with several graduate student and alumni researchers working on audio and visual innovation. The two will continue to collaborate with Mark Feldmeier '96 (mechanical engineering), SM '03 (media arts and sciences), PhD '09 (media arts and sciences); Andy Cavortata SM '10 (media arts and sciences); and Noah Feehan SM '10 (media arts and sciences). During Gondry's second visit to campus this school year, he continued a project with Institute Professor Noam Chomsky (Linguistics). John Gianvito SM '81 (architecture), Gabriele Urbonaite (daughter of ACT professor Gediminas Urbonas), Rachel Valdez '10 (biology), and Shan Wang '11 (management and comparative media studies) assisted.

Eugene McDermott Program

The McDermott residency was run through the office of the director of Arts Initiatives.

Staffing News

The position of program coordinator has been filled by a recent graduate of MIT on a one-year contract. Rebecca Millson '09 (urban studies and planning) joined Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs in July 2009. Due to the impending reorganization and general Institute budget cuts, no replacement for Millson was hired upon the completion of her term. SAA coordinator Sam Magee continued to manage his team at SAA, consisting of Ceramics Studio head Darrell Finnegan, Photography Studio head Thery Mislick, and 2D|3D Project Studio head Matthew Mazzotta SM '09 (Visual Arts Program).

Student staff members Rachel Valdez '10 (biology), Paula Te '11 (mechanical engineering), Tarick Walton '11 (urban studies and planning and civil and environmental engineering), Shan Wang '11 (management and comparative media studies), Leah Brunetto '12 (architecture), Juan Ybarra '12 (materials science and engineering), Samantha Earl G (architecture and urban studies and planning), and Rya Conrad-Bradshaw G (management) were invaluable to the success of Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs. Student staff members Biyeun Buczyk '10 (physics), Tiffany Yee '10 (physical biology), Monica Gallegos '11 (electrical engineering and computer science), Leah Brunetto '12 (architecture), and Andrew Kalenderian '12 (electrical engineering and computer science) made up the equally essential SAA team.

Michèle Oshima

Director

More information about Student and Artist-in-Residence Programs can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/spair/>.