



Academic Unit Highlight

April 2016

College of Visual and Performing Arts

The College of Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) brings a diverse and exciting schedule of **nearly 100 performances, concerts, and exhibitions** each year to the IPFW campus and the northeast Indiana region. Offering Indiana University degrees in the arts and music and a Purdue degree in theatre, the college is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre, the National Association of Schools of Music, and the American Music Therapy Association.

Nearly 100 dedicated faculty teach, conduct, and direct more than 700 students in the Departments of Fine Arts, Music, Theatre, and Visual Communication and Design. “Members of the VPA faculty,” explained John O’Connell, dean of VPA, “are known internationally for their exciting creative endeavors, performances, research projects, published materials, and scholarly pursuits.”

Students in the **Department of Fine Arts** receive individualized attention from faculty who are represented by major art galleries in New York and Chicago and continue to practice professionally. A Bachelor of Fine Arts with concentrations in ceramics, drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and metalsmithing is offered, along with the B.A. in art education and fine arts. Fine arts students enjoy outstanding facilities, visiting artists teaching the newest techniques, and the exciting study abroad program each summer.

Housed in the beautiful Rhinehart Music Center, the **Department of Music** has an outstanding resident music faculty comprised of artist-teachers and scholars, including Philharmonic mentors who are members of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic. The department offers Bachelor of Music degrees in music education and music performance and Bachelor of Science degrees in music therapy and music and an outside field, which can include the music technology program offered in partnership with Sweetwater.

The **Department of Theatre** presents classic and contemporary plays, comedies, and musicals each season that provide students with a considerable amount of performance and design experiences. The comprehensive B.A. degree program, with concentrations in musical theatre, acting, directing, and design technology, teaches graduates all aspects of theatre and prepares them to work in the industry right after graduation or for further studies toward an M.F.A.

The **Department of Visual Communication and Design** embraces the field of electronic arts and includes concentrations in graphic design, imaging and photography, and modeling and animation. The department provides opportunities for career internship experiences and culminates in a juried B.F.A. exhibition adjudicated by regional jurors working in the industry.

