Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2012-2013 Academic Year

COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS
Dean: Dr. Timothy Blair

Art: Professor John Baker, Chair

Dr. Heather Sharpe, Department of Art
- Dr. Sharpe has a multi-faceted presence in the Art Community here at West Chester University. She provides early guidelines and an example for student learning for the Foundation year students, creating a learning template for students that affects all four years. She also works within the art department faculty to help bridge the student-professor gap. Her teaching style is innovative, providing accurate and engaging information for imperative preliminary artistic eras. But she also manages to explain the complex social nuances of different historical periods through metaphors to contemporary society. In addition, Heather Sharpe uses a multi-media teaching style. She provides videos, documentaries, images, and books to her classes, giving students a well-rounded education. Heather Sharpe also provides alternative learning settings, giving out creative assessments that engage the student and provide alternative and in-depth learning. Dr. Sharpe encourages students to attend a variety of department functions including visiting artist lectures, and then discusses the work and topics with the visitors. She offers informative office hours and is more then willing to provide additional information and support. Dr. Sharpe deserves to be recognized as an outstanding faculty member because of her multi-faceted and detailed academic service to the professors and students of the West Chester University Art Department.

Professor Sarah Kate Stewart, Department of Art
- Professor Stewart has an amazing presence in the art community here at West Chester University. Her teaching style in the Foundation year courses has affected several years of students, advancing their work in class and in her popular office hours. Someone who thinks about the entire image of a program, Professor Stewart runs the WCU Art Department Facebook page, participates in frequent student critiques, and can be seen helping and functioning in all areas of art department life. Professor Stewart provides interesting, in-depth, and informative lectures. She uses each class to relate individual’s work to contemporary artists, give students examples, and push students to try new mediums and styles. She is approachable for extra help and her office hours provide students who are not even member of her class with opportunities for aid. Professor Stewart deserves to be recognized as an outstanding faculty member because of her continual influential service to the professors and students of the West Chester University Art Department.

Professor Donna Usher, Department of Art
- Professor Usher is not only a brilliant artist, but also a brilliant teacher. She motivates her students to excel in their own medias and outlets for creativity. She is gives engaging and thought-provoking insight on art history and contemporary art. Her students are truly fortunate to have her as a professor.

Theatre and Dance: Dr. Harvey Rovine, Chair

Professor Kathryn Nocero-MacMillan, Department of Theatre and Dance
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- Professor Nocero-MacMillan is passionate about teaching students, works one-on-one with students, helps students realize abilities they didn’t know they had, and is very personable, relatable, and down-to-earth.

Dr. Harvey Rovine, Department of Theatre and Dance
- As a member of the Honors Leadership Class, I feel as though Dr. Rovine is sometimes under-appreciated as one of our two professors. He is quiet, but does a lot of work that goes unnoticed. He chooses and analyzes great films for the class, grades many of our papers, and does a lot of behind-the-scenes work. I think he is highly deserving of this recognition as an outstanding faculty member!
- Dr. Rovine is a witty and intelligent teacher, who gives worthwhile feedback on performance and work. He uses his talent for dry humor to engage the class and keeps his students motivated to achieve their full potential. He is truly an example of excellence in his field. This is why he deserves to be recognized.

School of Music
Applied Music: Dr. Chris Hanning, Chair

Dr. Ovidiu Marinescu, Department of Applied Music
- Dr. Ovidiu Marinescu is a very skilled musician. He has conducted and played cello around the world. More than this, though, he is an extremely kind and compassionate man who believes in his students and their passions. He is an excellent communicator and teacher.

Dr. Andrew Yozviak, Department of Applied Music
- Dr. Yozviak is a true leader. He knows the high level of achievement that his ensembles can reach and he always pushes them towards excellence. Also, he makes every effort to get to know his students personally. I have enjoyed him as a professor.

Music Education: Dr. Bryan Burton, Chair

Dr. Mark Gregory Martin, Department of Music Education
- Dr. Martin has only been here for a few years but he has already left a lasting effect on the music program. He constantly pushes his students to perform at a greater level of excellence. While he pushes his students to take that next step, he always manages to make his students smile and laugh. Dr. Martin has helped me grow as a musician, performer and leader.

Dr. Bradley Olesen, Music Education (Swope Music Building 328)
- Although I don’t have Dr. Olesen for a class this semester, I can advocate that he certainly deserves this recognition once more. To my luck (and his despair), he is my advisor this year, and he put in a substantial amount of extra time into helping me choose what courses would be beneficial not only to graduate, but to do what I personally dream of doing someday. What’s more, he always has his door open, giving an ear to any questions, problems, or general chatter a student may want to discuss. Because of these reasons, I can attest that Dr. Olesen is one of (if not the) hardest working professors I’ve come across at West Chester, and has taught what it means to be a truly outstanding educator and person.

Music Theory, History and Composition: Dr. Robert Maggio, Chair

Dr. Austin Gross, Department of Music Theory, History and Composition
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- Dr. Gross deserves recognition because of how he cares for his students and his subject. Music theory can be an incredibly dull and boring topic, especially at eight in the morning, but Dr. Gross makes the class incredibly enjoyable because of his humor and knowledge on the subject. Specifically, this knowledge does something that so many other teachers forget to do: tell us why we should care. This results in a modern twist on information that has been around for hundreds of years and gives the students a use for it in their own professional lives. Dr. Gross structures the class with so much thought that the topics are well-paced and very easy to follow. Furthermore, he is extremely fair in his grading and never ceases to offer help outside the classroom. Dr. Gross is an extremely nice, professional and fun individual who deserves recognition of his actions.