



February 15, 2016

To: The Faculty and Staff  
From: Barry Pearson, Provost

Dear Colleagues:

At Purchase and all SUNY four-year institutions, baccalaureate students are required to fulfill a minimum of 30 credits of general education requirements. Undergraduates must demonstrate knowledge and skills in seven of 10 content categories (American history, the arts, basic communication, foreign language, humanities, mathematics, natural Science, other world civilizations, social science, Western civilization) and competencies in two areas (information management, critical thinking).

In looking at some basic elements of our [core curriculum](#), which satisfies the general education requirements, two things stand out. In all, there is only one required course that specifically addresses writing (College Writing), which most students take in their first year. It is also alarming that we have no dedicated course on oral communication (i.e., “develop proficiency in oral discourse”).

In exploring the options around general education, an institution’s reactions are often polarized—with “coverage” at one end of the continuum and “outcomes” at the other end. To refine this point a little further, consider that critical thinking—a value that should thread itself throughout the curriculum, as should writing and communication—is treated with the same importance as information management.

I hope that we can build on the ideas discussed at the campus forum session held on February 3. As we prepare for our [Middle States](#) Periodic Review, the most pressing need is to improve our accountability through assessment. I look forward to our work on this issue and many others as we engage in more conversations about opportunities in our core curriculum.

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### Darwin Day Lecture This Wednesday: “Alice in Lobster Land”

The School of Natural and Social Sciences is pleased to present this Darwin Day lecture, in celebration of Charles Darwin’s birthday:

**“Alice in Lobster Land: Exploring Our Inner Fish”**

[Jelle Atema](#), PhD

*Professor of Biology, Boston University, and  
Adjunct Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution*

**Wed., February 17, 7–8:30 p.m.**

**Natural Sciences Lecture Hall**

### This Thursday at the Library: Performance Art of Great Speeches

The Library invites all faculty and staff to participate in this [event](#) on **Thursday, February 18, 4–6 p.m.**, in the **Library’s Reading Room** (second floor). Participants will celebrate the beauty and history of African American

rhetoric by performing and responding to great speeches throughout American history. Bring your favorite excerpt or passage or choose from a selection, including speeches by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Fannie Lou Hamer, and others. A special poem honoring the life of Eric Garner will also be read. If you would like to perform, you are encouraged to sign up by posting a comment on the Library's [Facebook](#) event page or by emailing [Emily Carlin](#), the reference, instruction, and outreach librarian. *All are welcome to participate!*

## Conservatory of Dance Presents the Spring BFA Senior Project Concerts

The Conservatory of Dance is thrilled to present the next generation of leading dance artists during their fully produced series of **BFA Senior Project Concerts**, held in the **Dance Theatre Lab** at **8 p.m.** A different program of five seniors is featured each Friday and Saturday through March 12. As the culmination of their training in the conservatory, these students will perform solos or duets by renowned guest choreographers and will present their own original choreography. **Tickets are available** on Fridays, 1:30–4:30 p.m., at the main Conservatory of Dance office, and an hour before the show at the DTL Box Office.

- **Fri.–Sat., February 19–20**  
Larissa Asebedo, Michelle Bay, Maria José Castillo-Aguilar, Caitlin Edwards, and Maiya Redding
- **Fri.–Sat., February 26–27**  
Courtney Barth, Miranda Bradley, Amanda Krische, William Noling, and Corinne Shearer
- **Fri.–Sat., March 4–5**  
Andrea Farley-Shimota, Francesca Martoccio, Emily Orillac, Alden Phillips, and Maya Tacon
- **Fri.–Sat., March 11–12**  
Josephine Haas, Victoria Kress, Natalie Lin Kaiyuan, and Samantha Weiru Lun

## Lift Every Voice: A Celebration of Black History

Don't miss a very special, free event—*Lift Every Voice: A Celebration of Black History*—which is being held next **Wednesday, February 24**, at 7 p.m. in the Performing Art Center's **PepsiCo Theatre**. The evening is a truly collaborative venture featuring contributions from students, faculty, and staff from across the college. The program includes remarks from **Genevieve Hyacinthe** and a remounted excerpt from the Purchase Repertory Theatre's stunning fall production of James Baldwin's incendiary and still timely *Blues for Mr. Charlie* (directed by **A. Dean Irby**), then culminates with the premiere of *The Creation*—a brand new work based on James Weldon Johnson's poem of the same name, in which **Pete Malinverni** and choreographer **Kevin Wynn** join forces, bringing the magic of Soul Voices together with the power and grace of the Purchase Dance Company as they interpret, renew, and transform Johnson's written words into movement and song.

Following the program there will be a reception in the Upper Lobby of the Performing Arts Center, where you will also be able to view *Interpretations*, a new photo exhibit by Conservatory of Dance student **Joy-Marie Thompson**, in which she reimagines classic shots of African American dancers in her own image.

## 2016 Library Survey Now Online

The Library is looking for your feedback! Students, staff, and faculty are invited to take the biannual [2016 Library Survey](#), available online **today** through **March 11**.

This is your chance to tell the Library how you would like your campus library to be and how it can best serve the Purchase community. All survey responses are anonymous. Your suggestions on past surveys have led directly to such improvements as:

- increased Library hours
- institution of quiet zones
- comfortable new seating

- installation of vending machines
- a reorganization of the Library's film collections
- separated music collection for browsing
- hiring of additional staff to maintain library technology
- creation of the Library Technology Assistance Office

## Leaves and Grants: Upcoming Application Deadlines

Please note the upcoming deadlines for the following Purchase College faculty awards:

[Spring 2016 Faculty Support Awards](#): **March 1**

[Spring 2016 Part-Time Teaching Support Awards](#): **March 15**

[2016–18 Fishbein Junior Faculty Research Award in the Liberal Arts](#): **March 31**

### NYS/UUP Joint Programs:

[Fall 2016 Nuala McGann Drescher Leave Program](#): **March 9**

Information on awards and leaves offered through the New York State/United University Professions Joint Labor-Management Committees (JLMC) is available at [nysuup.lmc.ny.gov](http://nysuup.lmc.ny.gov). The Nuala McGann Drescher Leave Program enhances employment opportunities for full-time, term employees who are preparing for permanent or continuing appointments, with preference given to minorities, women, employees with disabilities, or an employee with military status. The types of support available include: payment of employee's regular salary by the campus; salary for a replacement; and other related expenses for research or study with a justification.

## Purchase to Host an Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-thon

**Kim Detterbeck** (art librarian) and **Marie Sciangula** (assistant director of the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center) are co-organizing the third annual [Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-thon](#) on **Saturday, March 5, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.**, in the Library DMZ Labs 1015B and 1015C. In conjunction with **Elizabeth Guffey's** art history course, Design History and Theory: 1750–Today, the Library will be participating in a globally coordinated effort to create and update Wikipedia entries on topics related to art and feminism. *This is an inclusive event, and all are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate.*

The daylong event aims to address the gender imbalance of Wikipedia editors, contributors, and content. Organized around International Women's Day, the Art+Feminism Edit-a-thon was designed to generate coverage of women and the arts on Wikipedia and to encourage female editorship—a response to the well-known and well-documented gender gap; in a [2011 survey](#), the Wikimedia Foundation found that less than 13% of its contributors identify as women. This lack of women's participation has led to an alarming dearth of content about women and art in the world's most popular online research tool and the [seventh most popular website worldwide](#). Art+Feminism's Edit-a-thon seeks to change this gender imbalance by training new Wikipedia editors of all gender identities and with improvements to and the creation of art- and feminism-related Wikipedia entries.

For more information about the Edit-a-thon, visit the [event site](#) on Wikipedia and Art+Feminism's [2015 summary of outcomes](#). More information about Art+Feminism is available at [art.plusfeminism.org](http://art.plusfeminism.org) and [Wikipedia](#).

## SMW Lecture on March 8: “Hope in Times of Environmental Catastrophe”

Everyone is invited to the second lecture in this spring's Science in the Modern World series, presented by the School of Natural and Social Sciences:

[“Hope in Times of Environmental Catastrophe”](#)

[Eben Kirksey](#), PhD

*Visiting Professor of Anthropology, Princeton Environmental Institute, Princeton University*

**Tues., March 8, 7–8:30 p.m.**

**Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre**

## Upcoming Events: February–March

For the most current information on upcoming public events, please refer to the following calendars: [campus](#), [Neuberger Museum](#), [Performing Arts Center](#), or [School of the Arts: Spring 2016 Events](#). (Events and details may be added, changed, or deleted after an issue of *Notes* is prepared.)

*Exhibitions on view:*

### Neuberger Museum of Art:

- [Liza Lou: Color Field and Solid Grey](#) (extended through Feb. 28)
- [After 1965: Art in a Time of Social Unrest](#) (through Mar. 13)
- [The Instant as Image: Moments of Action in Photography from the Permanent Collection](#) (through June 5)
- [Pursuit of Clarity: Adams, Van Dyke, Weston and the Straight Photography Movement](#) (through June 5)

### Richard and Dolly Maass Gallery:

- [Physical Painting](#) (Feb. 16–Mar. 18), **opening reception: Wed., Feb. 17, 4:30 p.m.**

### Passage Gallery:

- [The Riad Project: Detroit Art, Architecture, and Urban Change](#) (through Mar. 16)  
**Opening reception: Thurs., Feb. 25, 4:30 p.m.**  
**Theatre of the Oppressed workshop and panel discussion: Thurs., Mar. 3, 1 p.m.**

**Today!** [Marianne Hirsch: Small Acts: Mobilizing Memory Across Borders](#)

*Burt Sachs Memorial Lecture*

**Mon., Feb. 15, 4:30 p.m.**

Student Services Building, Red Room

[Arts Materials Part I: Handmade—Craft, Material, and Skill in Contemporary Art](#)

*Panel discussion*

**Wed., Feb. 17, 6:30 p.m.**

Neuberger Museum Study

[Purchase Repertory Theatre: Serious Money](#)

**Wed.–Fri., Feb. 17–19, 7:30 p.m.**

**Sat., Feb. 20, 1:30 & 3 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[Purchase Symphony Orchestra](#)

**Fri., Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[BFA Senior Project Dance Concert](#)

**Fri.–Sat., Feb. 19–20, 8 p.m.**

Dance Building, Dance Theatre Lab

[Martha Graham Dance Company](#)

**Sat., Feb. 20, 8 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

[Decoda](#)

**Sun., Feb. 21, 3 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center, Recital Hall

[Meet the White Whale Team](#)

*Open house and reception for faculty and staff*

**Tues., Feb. 23, 4:30 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center, Upper Lobby

[RSVP](#)

[Faculty Colloquium: Mehdi Okasi and Alexis Silver](#)

**Wed., Feb. 24, 4:30 p.m.**

Admissions Building, Buffer

[Visiting Artist Lecture Series: Mary Mattingly](#)

**Wed., Feb. 24, 4:30 p.m.**

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[From Darkroom to Daylight: Film Screening and Book Signing with Harvey Wang](#)

**Wed., Feb. 24, 6 p.m.**

Neuberger Museum Study

[Lift Every Voice: A Celebration of Black History](#)

**Wed., Feb. 24, 7 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana](#)

**Fri., Feb. 26, 8 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

[BFA Senior Project Concert](#)

**Fri.–Sat., Feb. 26–27, 8 p.m.**

Dance Building, Dance Theatre Lab

[The Intergalactic Nemesis: Target Earth](#)

**Sat., Feb. 27, 3 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Zuill Bailey](#)

**Sun., Feb. 28, 3 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center, Recital Hall

**Hannah and Walter Shmerler Master Class: Zuill Bailey**

All ticket holders are invited to stay for a small reception in the Upper Lobby after the concert and then watch a master class with Zuill Bailey and our Conservatory of Music students at 5:30 p.m. in the Recital Hall of the PAC.

[RSVP](#) for the master class.

[Race in/and Cinema: Screening and Conversation with Manohla Dargis and Arthur Jafa](#)

**Sun., Feb. 28, 4:30 p.m.**

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture  
New York City

[Visiting Artist Lecture Series: Sheila Pepe](#)

**Wed., Mar. 2,** 4:30 p.m.

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

**Lauren Cornell and Ed Halter: Art and the Internet in the 21st Century**

*New Media Lecture Series*

**Wed., Mar. 2,** 6:30 p.m.

Neuberger Museum Study

[The Iron Ministry](#)

*Purchase Film Series: Documentary Now!*

**Wed., Mar. 2,** 7 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Sleepy Hollow Jazz Festival](#)

*With the Purchase Jazz Orchestra*

**Fri., Mar. 4,** 7:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Purchase Repertory Theatre: The Caucasian Chalk Circle](#)

**Fri., Mar. 4,** 7:30 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 5,** 1:30 & 7:30 p.m.

**Wed.–Fri., Mar. 9–11,** 7:30 p.m.

**Sat., Mar. 12,** 1:30 & 7:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[BFA Senior Project Concert](#)

**Fri.–Sat., Mar. 4–5,** 8 p.m.

Dance Building, Dance Theatre Lab

[Purchase Latin Jazz Orchestra at Birdland](#)

**Sun., Mar. 6,** 6 p.m.

Birdland Jazz Club, New York City

[Eben Kirksey: Hope in Times of Environmental Catastrophe](#)

*Science in the Modern World Lecture Series*

**Tues., Mar. 8,** 7 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Radical Aesthetics: 24 Frames Per Second](#)

**Wed., Mar. 9,** 4:30 p.m.

Neuberger Museum Study

[Caryl Phillips: A Reading and Conversation](#)

*Durst Distinguished Lecture*

**Thurs., Mar. 10,** 4:30 p.m.

Neuberger Museum Study

[Purchase Opera: The Crucible](#)

**Thurs.–Sat., Mar. 10–12**, 7 p.m.

**Sun., Mar. 13**, 1 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, Recital Hall

[Montana Rep: All My Sons](#)

**Thurs., Mar. 10**, 8 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Eileen Ivers](#)

**Fri., Mar. 11**, 8 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[BFA Senior Project Concert](#)

**Fri.–Sat., Mar. 11–12**, 8 p.m.

Dance Building, Dance Theatre Lab

[National Theatre Live: Les Liaisons Dangereuses](#)

**Sat., Mar. 12**, 2 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Apollo's Fire: Saint John Passion](#)

**Sun., Mar. 13**, 3 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

[Lawrence Joseph: A Reading and Conversation](#)

*Durst Distinguished Lecture*

**Wed., Mar. 16**, 4:30 p.m.

Neuberger Museum Study

[Visiting Artist Lecture Series: Marie Lorenz](#)

**Wed., Mar. 16**, 4:30 p.m.

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[Purchase Percussion Ensemble: The Music of Steve Reich](#)

**Thurs., Mar. 17**, 8 p.m.

Music Building, Recital Hall

[Opera at the Cinema: Tosca](#)

**Sun., Mar. 20**, 2 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, PepsiCo Theatre

[Visiting Artist Lecture Series: Abigail Deville](#)

**Wed., Mar. 30**, 4:30 p.m.

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[Cinema in the Age of Screens: A Conversation with Ken Jacobs and Manohla Dargis](#)

**Thurs., Mar. 31**, 4:30 p.m.

Music Building, Choral Hall