

# Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts

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**Paul Steger**, dean

**Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts website** (external to catalog)

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## **Mission Statement**

The mission for the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts at Webster University is to provide students the artistic training, preparation and scholarship necessary to achieve excellence in the arts as professionals. The faculty of the Leigh Gerdine College of Fine Arts is composed of working professional artists and scholars who share a passion for teaching and who hold the belief that in a diverse and technologically advancing world, the arts serve as an expression of our culture's deeper value. The College's dedication to continuing its longstanding tradition as a center for quality creative expression, combined with the University's continuing commitment as a home of significant professional arts organizations, create the rich artistic, academic and cultural atmosphere necessary to assure the success of our students in reaching their goals.

This Mission Statement clearly reflects the spirit and atmosphere that permeates the creative atmosphere of the college. The demands placed on students are enormous. In order to succeed, the faculty expect students to be highly disciplined; to be completely focused on the challenges that will be placed in front

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- Exhibits of professional works throughout the year in the Cecille R. Hunt Gallery and Arcade Contemporary Art Projects
- Internships at area art institutions
- Study at any of Webster University's international campuses
- Annual summer intensive studio trip to Vienna
- Regular international study trips to Florence and elsewhere

## Scholarships

A limited number of talent scholarships are available to qualified students.

- Talent-based scholarships based upon review of entrance portfolio
- ArtMart Scholarship (*for students in their senior year*)
- Leon Hicks Scholarship (*for students in their senior year*)
- Marilynne Bradley Art Education Scholarship (*special consideration given to art education students*)
- Natalie Probst Scholarship in Art
- Notion Graphic Design Scholarship (*special consideration given to graphic design students*)
- Sister Gabriel Mary Hoare Scholarship (*special consideration given to art education students*)
- Other scholarships also available

## Special Requirements

Entering students seeking a BA in art, a BFA in art with an emphasis in illustration, a BFA in art with a studio emphasis or a BFA in graphic design must present a portfolio for initial acceptance into the art program. The portfolio is reviewed as a condition of the admission process, by one or more faculty of the Department of Art, Design and Art History.

Courses completed with a grade of D do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.

## Transfer Students

Transfer students seeking a BA in art with an emphasis in studio art must take 15 or more studio credit hours at Webster University.

Transfer students seeking a BA in art history and criticism must take a minimum of 12 art history credit hours and 6 studio credit hours at Webster University.

Transfer students seeking a bachelor of fine arts (BFA) must take at least 24 studio credit hours.

Transfer students seeking a BFA in art with a studio emphasis in drawing must take a minimum of 15 credit hours in drawing at Webster University.

Transfer students should expect to complete the departmental requirements in a minimum of two academic years.

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## Sargent Conservatory of Theatre Arts

Gad Guterman, chair

### Majors and Degrees

- Acting (BFA)
- Costume Construction (BFA)
- Costume Design (BFA)
- Directing (BA)
- Lighting Design (BFA)
- Musical Theatre (BFA)

- Scene Design (BFA)
- Scene Painting (BFA)
- Sound Design (BFA)
- Stage Management (BFA)
- Technical Direction (BFA)
- Wig and Makeup Design (BFA)

### Minors

- Theatre

### Statement of Purpose

We train our future colleagues to become visionaries, creators, and leaders in the next generation of theatre professionals.

### Educational Goals

Sargent Conservatory students will:

- Realize the potential of their imagination.
- Demonstrate a holistic, integrated working process that is grounded in theatrical practice.
- Develop and hone skills within their area of expertise.
- Create theatre through participating in collaborative ensembles, both in the classroom and in production.
- Experience theatre production by reading, watching, and doing, in both professional and academic environments.
- Cultivate a process that is actively antiracist, fully inclusive, and that strives for equity at all times.
- Prepare to work professionally and contribute to the evolving field of theatre.

### Student Assessment

Webster University's Sargent Conservatory of Theatre Arts offers a sequential, selective and intensive program for training artists. All students are accepted into the program by interview or audition and are enrolled in a particular sequence. Through a carefully monitored grading system using feedback from faculty, students are regularly advised of their progress and status within the Conservatory. Learning outcomes are measured via coursework, semester auditions, interviews and/or portfolio reviews from which students receive individual faculty feedback.

### Special Study Opportunities

One of the distinguishing elements of Webster's Sargent Conservatory of Theatre Arts is its integrated association with professional performing organizations, two of which are located on campus: The Repertory Theatre St. Louis and the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. Webster also enjoys a one-of-a-kind association with a professional musical theatre, The Muny, and a partnership with St. Louis Shakespeare Festival as well as Variety Theatre and Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre. These outstanding performing institutions offer exciting productions, nationally and internationally recognized theatre artists and special opportunities for specific projects.

The Conservatory produces a season of six to eight theatrical productions, including one to three directing capstones. Additionally, it collaborates annually on an opera studio with the Department of Music and on three dance concerts with the Department of Dance. The productions are mounted and designed by students, using each of three performance spaces. A sequence of weekly one-act plays called E.T.s (Every Tuesday) is part of the directing and actor training programs. Further performance and production opportunities are possible when projects of special merit are proposed.



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- Submission of résumé.
- Performance of approximately three minutes of choreography.
- Participation in a ballet and modern technique class.

There are no limitations on the degree of intensity with which dance work can be pursued. In the second semester of the second year the dance major, assisted by their advisor, prepares a written proposal of specific goals in their intended major. It may be presented in terms of career goals, such as teaching, performing; as a declaration of intended choreographic accomplishments; or as an approach to the study of dance with personal learning goals. The entire dance faculty will evaluate the individual's realistic ability to accomplish those goals.

In the first semester of the final year, the dance major has an exit interview with dance faculty, assessing accomplishments thus far and focusing on individual goals for the major's final year, as well as post graduation.

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## Department of Music

Carla Colletti, chair

### Majors and Degrees

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programs have a time set aside for study in Vienna, with no required courses during that time at the home campus.

The University supports a number of performing groups including Aurelia, Chamber Singers, Chorale, Jazz Singers, Webster

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## **Music Library Holdings**

Books, periodicals, scores, records, compact discs and videos as recommended for music libraries by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) are conveniently housed in the Emerson Library. In addition, the library subscribes to a number of significant online, music-related resources.