Music, art, dance, theater: It’s all at Sac State this spring

**Cabaret**, a *Saturday Night Live* band member and the second annual U-Nite soiree at the Crocker Art Museum are coming up during Sacramento State’s spring season of performances, exhibits and lectures. And that’s just a taste of what to expect between now and the end of May.

Tickets for all events are available through Sacramento State’s Ticket Office, [www.csus.edu/sfsc/ticketoffice/](http://www.csus.edu/sfsc/ticketoffice/), or (916) 278-4323. For media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

**U-Nite/Festival of the Arts**

The main event of the spring is the annual Festival of the Arts, which again begins with U-Nite (short for “University Night Out”) at the Crocker Art Museum.

U-Nite will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday, April 11, and feature artworks, dance, and music by Sacramento State faculty throughout the museum. The crowd is free to wander about, enjoying the special exhibits and performances while taking in the Crocker’s collections. Last year’s inaugural U-Nite drew a crowd of 1,800.

This season’s Festival of the Arts begins immediately afterward, on April 12, and consists of six days of theater, dance, music, design and fine art.

**Music**

**New Millennium Series**

This year’s installment of the noted series will help the music world say goodbye to one of the great string ensembles, the Tokyo String Quartet, and pay tribute to Professor Emeritus Deborah Pittman, the clarinetist who has been a shining light for the University’s Music Department and been a driving force in the city’s artistic scene.

First up is the Axiom Brass Quintet, winner of the 2008 International Chamber Brass and 2010 Fischoff Chamber Music competitions. This exciting young ensemble will perform works of Monteverdi, Bach and Astor Piazzolla. They’ll take the stage Wednesday, Jan. 30
Violist Kim Kashkashian, with pianist Lydia Artymiw, will perform Sunday, March 17. Kashkashian has been praised by the San Francisco Chronicle and played with major orchestras in New York, Berlin, London and many other cities. Artymiw has been called “a compelling musical personality” by the New York Times. The two will perform Stravinsky's “Pulcinella Suite” and more.

The annual Faculty and Friends Gala on Friday, April 12, will pay tribute to Pittman, who holds degrees in music performance from Brooklyn College Conservatory and played with the Sacramento Symphony from 1981 to 1990. The program includes works by Beethoven, Mahler and Steve Reich’s “New York Counterpoint,” a work for 11 clarinets. Sacramento’s Citywater ensemble will premiere a work written by Professor Stephen Blumberg.

The Tokyo String Quartet is making its last tour after 43 seasons. On Friday, April 19, it will perform Mozart, Schubert and “Farewell,” a new work written specifically for their final tour.

All performances are at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall. Tickets are $20 general, $10 for seniors and $5 for students for the Jan. 30 and April 12 concerts; $30, $20 and $10 for the March 17 performance; and $40, $20 and $10 for the April 19 concert.

Piano Series

The University’s Piano Series continues into the Spring Semester with a performance by Ning An at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, in the Music Recital Hall. The recital will feature works by Bach, Chopin, Messiaen and Piazzola. An has appeared with the London Symphony Orchestra, the Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Taipei Symphony.

An’s performance is part of Sacramento State’s annual Piano Festival, which includes the Valencia Young Pianist Competition. The competition’s finalists will present a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25.

Jeremy Denk performs at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 10. He has soloed with orchestras that include the Atlanta, Dallas, St. Louis and San Francisco symphonies and the London Philharmonia. Reviewers frequently comment on the freshness and originality of his interpretations.

All concerts are in the Music Recital Hall. Tickets for the An and Denk concerts are $20 general admission and $15 for students and seniors.

World Music series

Two concerts will bring the music of India to Sacramento State as part of the World Music series.
Bamboo flute artist Shantala Subramanyam performs at 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24, with violinist Akkarai Sornalatha, and Sai Giridhar on mridangam. Subramanyam has toured extensively across South India, the United States and Europe.

Classical Indian vocalist Sikkil Gurucharan performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 27. He has held concerts throughout the world, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Singapore and the Middle East, and is among the foremost young performing musicians of Carnatic music.

Both concerts are in the Music Recital Hall. Tickets are $15 general, $12 for seniors and $8 for students.

**Guest artists**

Talented guest artists, including a Sac State alumnus, continue to put the University on their lists of tour stops.

Saturday Night Live trombonist, conch shell player and Sac State alumnus Steve Turre joins the University’s Jazz Ensembles in concert at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 17. Turre has toured with Ray Charles, Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Hancock and many more artists. His performances on the conch shell have led to a musical following and the formation of the group Sanctified Shells.

The SWARMIUS Duo is a fusion of hip-hop, house-lounge-techno meets modern classical music. Saxophonist Todd Rewoldt is a former skateboard champ and punk bassist, while electronics artist Joseph Martin Waters’ music juxtaposes hip-hop and Beethoven. The concert is at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Soprano Jennifer Trost will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 9, with John Cozza on the piano. Currently with the faculty at the Penn State School of Music, Trost had a long career as an opera singer, performing for 10 years at the Bavarian State Opera in Munich and making guest appearances at major opera houses in Germany and the United States.

Bassoonist Scott Pool takes the stage at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 2. A professor at the University of Texas, Arlington, Pool has performed concerts and recitals throughout North and South America and Europe and has been featured on National Public Radio.

All concerts are in the Music Recital Hall. Tickets are $10 general, $7 seniors and $5 for students.
Faculty recitals

Some of the Music Department’s faculty also will display their talents this spring.

Flautist Laurel Zucker performs at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 5. She is regularly heard worldwide on classical radio and has performed at venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and Alice Tully Hall.

Professor Robin Fisher, soprano, will perform a faculty recital at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 14 with guest artist Elvia Puccinelli. The program includes works from the American art song repertoire for voice and piano. Fisher has received critical acclaim for performances in cities such Prague, Czech Republic; Vienna, Austria; and Paris, as well as Sacramento. Puccinelli, on faculty at the University of North Texas, is in demand for her expertise in vocal and instrumental chamber music.

Daniel Kennedy, professor of percussion, holds his recital at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 15. Kennedy has been a founding member of several contemporary music ensembles, including the California E.A.R. Unit and the Talujon Percussion Quartet. A virtuoso at a wide range of percussion instruments, Kennedy has an extensive list of recordings and has been featured as a soloist for the California Arts Council Touring Program.

All concerts are in the Music Recital Hall. Tickets are $10 general, $7 seniors and $5 for students.

Student groups

Whether it’s classical or jazz, Sacramento State’s student groups have become regional favorites and received accolades from across the country.

First up is the Student Scholarship Winners Recital, a free concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16. The concert is sponsored by the Saturday Club.

The Symphonic Wind ensemble performs at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20.

Sierra College joins the University’s Concert Band at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 13.

Sac State’s three choirs perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at Sacred Heart Church, 39th and J streets.

The Symphony Orchestra holds a concert at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 19.

The Jazz Ensembles, invited to the Monterey Jazz Next Generation Festival several years running, perform at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 21.

The Symphonic Wind Ensemble returns to the stage at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10.

Sacramento State’s Opera Theatre presents three one-act comedies at 8 p.m. May 3 and 4. Offerings are Bucci’s “Sweet Betsy from Pike,” Barber’s “A Hand of Bridge,” and Barab’s “A Game of Chance.”
Enjoy more jazz with the University’s Vocal Jazz Ensembles and special guests, Vertical Voices. The University’s ensembles are multiple winners of *Downbeat* magazine’s best college group award. The concert is at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 5.

The Jazz Ensembles perform again, this time at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 9.

The spring concert of the University’s three choirs will be held at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at Sacred Heart Church, 39th and J streets.

An evening of all concerts will be presented by the University’s baroque ensemble, Camerata Capistrano, at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 12, in Capistrano Hall Room 151. The concert includes guest bassoonist Professor David Wells.

The Symphony Orchestra will perform at 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 14.

Two groups combine their talents when the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Concert Band perform at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 15.

Some very young performers take the stage for the annual free String Project concert at 7 p.m. Monday, May 20. The young people, from the fourth grade on up, are taught the violin, viola, cello, or bass by Sacramento State music students.

All concerts, except where noted, are in the Music Recital Hall with tickets priced at $10 general admission, $7 for seniors and $5 for students.

For more information on the Music Department, visit [www.csus.edu/music](http://www.csus.edu/music) or call (916) 278-5191.

**Theatre & Dance**

**Performances**

Sacramento/Black Art of Dance literally kicks off the Theatre and Dance season with *New Beginnings*, its latest contemporary dance concert. The concert will be directed by Professor and S/BAD founder Linda Goodrich, who is in her 23rd year of teaching at Sacramento State. It runs Feb. 28-March 3 and March 6-10 in Solano Hall Dancespace.

*Women of Juarez* is a powerful docudrama about a mother searching for her missing daughter in the border city of Juarez, Mexico, where hundreds of women have been found murdered. It runs March 14-17 and 20-24 in Playwrights’ Theatre. Professor Emeritus Manuel J. Pickett returns to guest direct the production, an unapologetically political play that indict city authorities who may have been linked to the killers.
Pay a visit to the Kit Kat Klub with *Cabaret*, playing in the University Theatre, April 10-14 and 17-21. The production is directed by Professor Ed Brazo, who is celebrating his 10th year at Sacramento State. Winner of eight Tony awards, the musical turns the spotlight on 1920s Berlin and the rise of Nazi Germany. It was Brazo’s first production at Sac State.

A smorgasbord of dance awaits in Solano Hall Dancespace on April 13 and 14 with performances at 1 and 7 p.m. each day of “Sacramento Dance Sampler.” Directed by Professor Lorelei Bayne, the concert serves up a variety of dance pieces and styles from the region’s professional dance troupes.

Sac State’s theater students take charge of the productions with the presentation of “One Acts,” a series of one-act plays directed by students. The plays run April 30-May 11 in the Studio Theatre.

The season concludes with the “Senior Dance Concert.” Graduating dance students put their finals on stage, each of them creating, casting, choreographing and staging an individual number. Directed by Professor Philip Flickinger, the concert runs May 9-12 and 15-19 in Solano Hall Dancespace.

Tickets for *Cabaret* range from $7 to $15. Sacramento Dance Sampler tickets are $10. All other performances range from $5 to $12.

**Special events**

The department’s acting students will participate in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Irene Ryan Acting Scholarships, and this time the regional competitions are in Sacramento at American River College, Feb. 18-22. The Theatre and Dance Department has submitted last semester’s plays *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf* and *Robin Hood* for consideration. Two students from each production also will compete for scholarships. Winners will go on to the national competition in April.

Sacramento State will host the Ailey Legacy College Residency, Feb. 21-23. Two former principal dancers from the prestigious New York dance company will conduct the three days of lectures, discussions and dance instruction. Many of the sessions will be open to the public.

Faculty and selected student dancers will head to Scottsdale College in Arizona, March 13-16 for the American College Dance Festival Association. If selected there, they will be invited to perform at the Kennedy Center in Washington.

For more information on the Theatre and Dance season, visit [www.csus.edu/dram](http://www.csus.edu/dram) or call (916) 278-6368.
Art and Design
Library Gallery

“Three Sisters Bound to the Elements” features works by Hong, Bo and Ling Zhang, Feb. 1-May 24. The free exhibition features works based on the three elements of water, earth and wood and their interconnectiveness. A reception will be held 4-5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1, and include a talk by the artists. Hong Zhang will also give a talk, “Middle Kingdom Meets Middle America,” at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 7, in the gallery.

The “Transparency” exhibit is a collection of photos made by first-time photography students in the Nicaraguan fishing village of Padre Ramos, and young women in India who were formerly forced into lives of abuse and sex-slavery and now use photography to capture their environment in honest and sensitive ways. Curated by Ethan Flanagan, the exhibit runs Feb. 12-March 16 with a reception at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16, in the Library Gallery Annex.

Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

The Friends of the University Library’s Author Lecture Series continues in the Library Gallery with author Gerald Haslam discussing his book In Thought and Action: The Enigmatic Life of S.I. Hayakawa, at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13. Author Chuck McFadden will discuss his book Trailblazer: A Biography of Jerry Brown at 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 17. Both talks are free.

Art Department

Exhibitions, special events, lectures and group discussions will be presented throughout the semester.

It starts with the 2013 Student Awards Show, Feb. 11-Feb. 28 in the Else Gallery A reception and awards presentation will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21.

“Bodies of Water,” an exhibit by Sylvia Sensiper, will run April 2-25 in the Else Gallery. A reception with music and dance performance will be held at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 12. A UC Davis researcher and artist, Sensiper teaches courses on Buddhism and produced a video on Tibet and Tibetan Buddhism.

A dual presentation includes Cornell University Professor Ella Diaz lecturing about Sacramento’s well-known art group the Royal Chicano Air Force, immediately followed by an art history panel discussion on university art collection management. It runs 1-5 p.m., including reception, Saturday, April 13, in the Library Gallery Annex. Diaz
teaches Latina/o and Chicana/o literatures and visual cultures. The panel discussion features Robin Bernhard and Rachel Teagle from UCD’s Nelson Gallery, Irene Lugo from Sacramento City College, and Catherine Sullivan from the Janet Turner Print Collection at Chico State.

Staci Gem Scheiwiller’s lecture “Reframing the Rise of Modernism in Iran” will look at 19th century Iranian photography at 7 p.m. Monday, April 29, in Kadema Hall Room 145. Scheiwiller is a professor of contemporary and modern art history at CSU, Stanislaus. She focuses on issues of modernity and modernism in Iran.

Student works will be presented throughout the semester in the Witt Gallery.

The season concludes with the annual Art Ball on Friday, May 17, featuring student works in a wide range of media exhibited at various locations throughout the campus.

Else and Witt gallery hours are noon-4:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday. For more information on the University Library Gallery, call (916) 278-4189. Information on the Art Department is available at www.al.csus.edu/art or call (916) 278-6166.

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