FALL 2021: SEMESTER IN REVIEW

Pop-ups, performances, new murals, a re-opened Morrison Art Studio, and more! It's been a wonderful whirlwind of activity and an absolute joy to be back in person, making art with the Carolina community. Thank you for an inspired semester!

IN THIS ISSUE

PROGRAMS
Morrison Art Studio
Short Story UNC
Public Art

POP UPS
First Fridays
Fall Arts Pop Up
Poetry Fox

SUPPORT
SAI Grant Projects
New Fellowship
...and more!
MORRISON ART STUDIO
A PLACE TO CREATE AND FOSTER WELLNESS

The Studio started the semester off strong with a notebook design event that inspired students to learn the art of journaling and make their own school supplies for the new semester. Next up? A partnership with Carolina Housing! The Studio threw a Sophomore Block Party to introduce the space to the class of 2024, who didn’t get to experience the Studio in-person last year.

With a special focus on wellness and mental health this semester, the Studio collaborated with Healthy Heels to host a Sleep Jeopardy event which gave students a chance to learn about the intersection & importance of sleep & art.

In October and November, the Studio focused on seasonal programming with various Pumpkin Painting activities and a special Paint Your Gratitude event, where students had the opportunity to paint what they were grateful for this year. Students painted their own canvases featuring everything from matcha cakes to cats!

To finish off the semester, Morrison Art Studio gave away coloring books and colored pencils to help students de-stress. This giveaway was a collaboration with Carolina Performing Arts and featured Holiday UNC-themed coloring books created by UNC alumna, Dara Burg.

"The relaxed atmosphere provided space for conversations & connections to be formed, while the art provided a fun activity for the best and worst artists among us! Some made decorations for their dorms while others just had fun and took some time to relax and enjoy the company"

-CPALS REFLECTION ON PRIVATE EVENT AT MORRISON ART STUDIO

1408 PARTICIPANTS USED THE STUDIO THIS SEMESTER, A 50% GROWTH FROM FALL 2019!
The big news for Short Story UNC this semester was that they hosted their very first writers’ residency! Their selected residents this fall were UNC students Grace Stroup, Youna Fradin, and Katie Leonard, who were invited to use the summer to write material specifically for the residency. Each author wrote about a dozen stories each, which were featured on the machine at Epilogue, a local bookstore on Franklin Street.

To celebrate these three residents further, Short Story UNC hosted a public reading at Epilogue at the beginning of October where Stroup, Fradin, and Leonard had a chance to perform their material.

In addition to the residency, Short Story UNC also held a fall contest on the theme of “Being in-Between.” They received over 60 submissions and recently announced three winners in fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry. Those winners are Camryn Anthony ("Meanwhile in Purgatory," CNF), Cynthia Liu ("Tomorrow, Maybe," Fiction), and Sadie Allen ("Fruitless Labor," Poetry). Their work will be added to the dispensers, and they have been awarded prizes in the form of gift cards from local businesses. Short Story UNC will also publish runner-ups from the “Being in-Between” contest.

I want a reader to feel seen and inspired after reading a piece of my writing. Though I’m a writer, I’m a reader first. My favorite authors are those who communicate the world in a way that I’ve often felt but couldn’t quite convey.

—YOUNA FRADIN
SHORT STORY UNC RESIDENT

Oh, what a joy it is, to find ourselves hugging tightly to what the world / thinks it ripped away forever.

“A JOY” BY KATIE LEONARD
SHORT STORY UNC RESIDENT
As a biomedical engineering student, UNC alum Caroline Greiner ’21 spent countless hours studying and taking classes in the drab basement of Phillips, which got her thinking: what could she do to help brighten up the space, improve students’ moods, and show off the creative side of engineering? The solution to all three questions was a little splash of color.

"I wanted to help create something that brightened up the Phillips basement...I also wanted the mural to be a creative representation of the often technical concepts of math, physics, and BME to remind students that creativity and engineering go hand-in-hand."

With guidance from the selection committee, local artist, Max Dowdle, created a geometric repeating pattern interlaced with biomedical engineering, physics & astronomy, and math iconography that are instantly recognizable.

This arts x science collaboration resulted in a colorful masterpiece titled "THINK!" This mural and the other pieces of public art on campus can be found on Arts Everywhere’s newly created public art map.

“I HOPE THIS MURAL WILL BRING COLOR AND LIFE TO THOSE WHO ENCOUNTER IT, ESPECIALLY STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN IN HOURS-LONG LABS IN THE BASEMENT!”
- CAROLINE GREINER (’21)

- DR. DEVIN HUBBARD, BME PROFESSOR
In Spring 2021, Arts Everywhere teamed up with UNC Research to brighten up the wall in their new offices in downtown Chapel Hill. The idea was to create a mural in celebration of the many facets of UNC Research and reflect the life-changing work researchers do at UNC under the strategic priorities of the research enterprise, its global and local impact, and connections back to main campus.

The selection committee chose local artist, Britt Flood who designed and installed the mural in Fall 2021, bringing UNC Research’s vision to life.

Flood combined her aesthetic with UNC Research’s strategic priorities by centering the piece around a double helix intertwined with hands. The intersection of the double helix overlaid over the hands is an ode to Michelangelo’s ‘Creation of Adam’ and according to Flood, "best combined UNC Research’s goals for the piece and allowed my gestural style to come through."

This mural and the other pieces of public art on campus can be found on Arts Everywhere’s newly created public art map which you can find on our website!
FIRST FRIDAYS
RETURN TO LIVE PERFORMANCES

Created in Fall 2019 by Arts Everywhere and the UNC Department of Music, First Fridays is a concert series that features pop-up performances by different student and chamber ensembles on the first Friday of each month. These informal concerts allow students, faculty, staff, & community members to come & go as they listen to live music of all genres & configurations.

This year’s theme celebrates the sights and sounds of Carolina by showcasing a wide variety of different genres and styles of music. The season kicked off with the UNC Harp Ensemble, who performed live outside of Hill Hall. The Harp Ensemble was one of the first groups who were canceled last year due to the pandemic so it was nice to come full circle by opening our First Fridays season - our first live performance since March 2020 - with this group!

October featured Charanga Carolina, the only university-based Cuban Charanga ensemble in the state of North Carolina! This group of 22 musicians performed a varied program featuring works by Orquesta Aragón, Freddie Hubbard, Cal Tjader, and Ray Bryant.

Finally, we were excited to close the semester with the UNC Chamber Singers who caroled on the steps of Hill Hall. We also provided candy canes and holiday coloring books in collaboration with Carolina Performing Arts!
POP UP EVENTS

FALL ARTS POP UP AND POETRY FOX

To make up for FallFest being canceled due to inclement weather in August, Arts Everywhere partnered with the Carolina Union Activities Board to set up arts activities in the Davis Library courtyard on Sept. 16 and 17 as a way to introduce the initiative to campus.

“This was our way of promoting the arts organizations on campus to Carolina students,” said Kathryn Wagner. “Pop-ups like this are one of many ways in which we try to provide students with a moment of creativity and enjoyment as they go about their day.”

Activities at the two-day pop-up event included tie-dyeing, bracelet making, and giveaways. Other UNC arts organizations and departments such as Ackland Art Museum, Department of Music, and Kenan Theatre Company also had representatives at the event to talk to students about their work and offerings.

As the semester wrapped up, Arts Everywhere invited local artist, and Triangle favorite, the Poetry Fox for a special lunch-time pop-up in Porthole Alley. Students, staff, faculty, and community members were able to give the Poetry Fox a word which he then turned into a custom poem for each individual.

“I think my knowledge can be limited by just being STEM, so I’m open to listening to and looking at different parts of arts, especially just through going to the popup and other things they have planned.”

MICHELLE LI (‘24)
BIOLOGY MAJOR,
FALL ARTS POP UP PARTICIPANT

548+ students stopped by the fall arts pop ups in September

42 people received a custom poem from the Poetry Fox in December
The student arts innovation grant gave me the inspiration and resources I needed to mobilize the dream team so that I could share the vision.

-AHDEREAM SMITH, SAI GRANT WINNER

Regardless of whether audience members were able to experience Make It Make Sense in person or virtually, Smith hoped that the takeaway message would be the same. "The human experience is complex and it’s okay to be grieving and present to gratitude. It doesn’t have to be one or the other." She says the goal of the experience was "to curate a communal space to pause, reflect and let go so that we can begin the healing process and move forward."
INTIMATE DISTANCE
STUDENT ARTS INNOVATION GRANT

As a music major and Kenan scholar at the Department of Music, Matt Svec (’23) participates in many of the music ensembles offered through the department, but also creates musical opportunities for himself and his peers.

The idea for Intimate Distance began by way of conversations with student Julia Holoman (’23), the mezzo-soprano on this project. The pair decided to incorporate a string quartet and assembled their team of musicians and composers, to “put a “modern and unique spin on a musical warhorse of Greek mythology.”

Telling the story of Orpheus was an obvious choice for Svec as many renditions have interpreted the story as a symbol of the power and strength of music. In addition to the symbolism behind this myth, Svec felt that the subject matter was very apropos to today’s world: “this story from antiquity confronts feelings of isolation, loneliness, and distance, yet it is still relevant to the pandemic today.”

"IT HAS BEEN A UNIQUE AND INFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE TO BRING A BRAND NEW PIECE OF MUSIC TO LIFE, AND THIS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE IF NOT FOR ARTS EVERYWHERE’S SUPPORT."

~MATT SVEC, UNC ’23
SAI GRANT WINNER

Final bow for Intimate Distance performance
GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Arts Everywhere was thrilled to introduce fourth-year doctoral student Kelli Smith-Biwer as the inaugural recipient of our Graduate Fellowship in Music Technology.

This new fellowship is designed to give graduate students in musicology the opportunity to develop creative, scholarly, & pedagogical skills in the area of music technology while serving the campus & broader communities. Drawing on the resources of the Beat Lab and the Video Presentation Studio, the fellow orient, supports, & collaborates with students, faculty, and staff as well as community artists as they engage with the studios.

This semester, Smith-Biwer hosted a series of workshops with PlayPlay (an internationally known DJ with NC roots), Suzi Analogue (producer, songwriter, and founder of Never Normal Records), & Dustin Ragland (Ableton certified educator). Every workshop was filled to capacity!

In addition, Smith-Biwer made improvements to the Beat Lab by purchasing new equipment, setting up a rental system and creating a new website.

Along with graduate student colleague, Mike Levine, Smith-Biwer has also organized a regularly meeting Electronic Music Club that gets together once a week to jam, learn about equipment, & share new projects. The club is preparing to perform at both formal and informal events in the spring semester.

“I HOPE TO FOSTER A DIVERSE COMMUNITY OF STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO CONTINUE TO MEET, COLLABORATE, AND EXPERIMENT AFTER I LEAVE THE PROGRAM”
KELLI SMITH-BIWER
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY FELLOW
PROJECTS SUPPORTED IN FALL 2021

Africa Fest
(The African Studies Center)

Atmospheric Memory docent program
(Carolina Performing Arts)

Being and Belonging exhibit
(FedEx Global Education Center)

Halloween Festival
(American Studies Student Association)

Harvest Moon Festival
(Edible Campus)

Housing Selection campaign
(Carolina Housing)

Intimate Distance
(Matt Svec, SAI Grant)

Make It Make Sense
(AhDream Smith, SAI Grant)

National First Generation College Student Day
(First-Generation Student Association)

Placemakers
(Carolina Performing Arts Creative Futures Undergraduate Liaisons)

Senior Carnival
(Carolina Class of 2022 Senior Marshalls)