

epiphany

The community magazine for The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, published by HSPVA Friends
2013-2014



HSPVA Friends underwrites
school-wide Technical Director

Mireille Enos '93 named
2014 Distinguished Alumna

Architects put finishing touches
on downtown campus plans

Dear Students, Parents, Alumni, Teachers, Artists, and Art Patrons,



We are thrilled to share news from HSPVA's 2013-2014 school year with you!

This was a year of collaborations. The vocalists provided music for the Spring Dance Concert, technical theatre students built an extension to the Recital Hall stage for our musicians, and visual artists and creative writers combined their talents to produce illustrated books (page 7). Art areas took part in shared master classes taught by remarkable cross-disciplinary alumni like writer/dancer Mario Alberto Zambrano (Dance '94) and writer/musician/actor Harris Wittels (Theatre '02). Also, we are all working together with HISD and our Gensler architects to plan HSPVA's new state-of-the-art campus.

As we plan for the downtown move, we are committed to continuing this collaborative spirit. After all, HSPVA students need opportunities to focus on their specific craft, and they must also develop profound appreciation for art in all its forms. Our 2014 Distinguished Alumna, actress Mireille Enos (Theatre '93), said it well at the Encore for Excellence Luncheon:

"The tools that our kids are learning at 14 years old in these rooms are the ones that they will need no matter where their road takes them. I still get moved when I think about the richness of my high school experience...because these kids are not only our future artists; they're future parents and teachers and citizens."

With your support, HSPVA Friends provides funding for HSPVA's specialized curriculum and gives art area faculty the resources needed to create innovative new programming. You will see the results on every page of this issue.

Alene Haehl Coggin

Alene Haehl Coggin
Executive Director, HSPVA Friends

Jean Brackendorff

Jean Brackendorff
Board President, HSPVA Friends

Dr. R. Scott Allen

Dr. R. Scott Allen
Principal, HSPVA



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2013-2014

ON THE COVER Shelby Nunn (Dance '15) as Janet in the 2013-2014 All-School Musical, *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Photo by Charles Swan.

Epiphany is published annually by HSPVA Friends and distributed free of charge to alumni, parents and supporters of HSPVA and HSPVA Friends.

The mission of HSPVA Friends, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is to cultivate support and appreciation for The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts locally, nationally, and internationally in order to enhance educational, professional, and artistic opportunities for current and future students of HSPVA.

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CLASS OF 2014 BY THE NUMBERS

\$30,513,338
IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

155
GRADUATES

1ST
IN HISD FOR VALUE OF
SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS
PER STUDENT

2
YOUNGARTS
SEMI-FINALISTS

4
NATIONAL MERIT
FINALISTS

149
TEXAS
SCHOLARS

97
WILL CONTINUE THEIR
ARTISTIC STUDIES AT
THE COLLEGE LEVEL



"Organized Chaos" (above)
Emma Kerr '15



"A lot of my art is about the brain and its different realities. In this piece I thought a lot about the translation from what happens inside the mind to a person's behavior outside – how neurological issues that cause evil can be a product of biological circumstances."

Emma won a 2014 Art Guild Summer Scholarship from HSPVA Friends. She spent two weeks in Washington, D.C. at the Corcoran School of Art's Pre-College Focus on Photojournalism program.

TURNING VISIONS INTO REALITY

HSPVA welcomes Dana Harrell, The Lynne Murray, Sr. Educational Foundation Fellow for Technical Direction

HSPVA Friends has empowered HSPVA to achieve a longtime goal—hiring a school-wide Technical Director.

Due to the distinct needs of each art form, HSPVA requires technical oversight in order to use the many art area spaces on campus to their full potential. Without a school-wide Technical Director, production levels were limited as faculty stretched themselves to execute their exciting ideas. The faculty needed the support of an expert who had the time and resources to turn their visions into reality.

Enter Dana Harrell. A professional Technical Director and Master Carpenter/Rigger, Dana became a part-time consultant for HSPVA in 2011 and immediately enhanced the school's productions. Dana brought more than 20 years of experience to HSPVA, including work with the Alley Theatre and the University of Houston. Seeing her great work, the HSPVA administration knew that Dana was the perfect person to become HSPVA's first school-wide Technical Director.

HSPVA Friends provided the opportunity to hire Dana full-time. Thanks to the generosity of the HSPVA Theatre Guild and The Lynne Murray, Sr. Educational Foundation, HSPVA Friends offsets enough of HSPVA's expenses for the school to allocate a portion of its budget to an additional staff member.

"To underwrite a position that makes such a positive impact on HSPVA's extraordinary educational environment is exactly the kind of thing the Lynn Murray Educational Trust wants to do," said Carolyn Piro Landen, trustee.

Because of Dana, HSPVA faculty can consider more complicated works of art in every discipline. There is now an expert on campus who is fluent not only in rigging safety but in installations of all kinds, including art work and sculptures.

Dana spends most of her day with technical theatre students, holding them to the same high standards expected of a professional production company. "There is no change between what my students are doing here and what I was doing at the Alley," said Dana. "They're learning universal concepts that they'll see from the high-school level to the professional level."

At HSPVA, Dana focuses on the process of stagecraft, rather than the final product, so that students begin to think holistically about their designs. She models her style after the North Carolina School of the Arts, where technical theatre students are taught to start their work with the script in mind.

"I let them make mistakes, learn new ways, and try their own ways," she said. "I find that the kids are constantly *on*, always researching, finding inspiration, asking questions. They see that I'm dedicated to the process and that warrants my high expectations of them."

In addition to teaching a set curriculum, Dana runs an after-school program. From 4:00pm to 6:00pm, students who want to take their technical work to the next level can collaborate and experiment. Dana and her after-school students construct set pieces for the Dance and Music Departments as well as the All-School Musical and Black History Production, facilitating collaborations among art areas.

According to HSPVA Principal Dr. R. Scott Allen, Dana has heightened the quality of events across campus. "She adds magic to sets and production elements. Hiring Ms. Harrell was the way to move our students' level of craft forward."

"Sometimes I have to stop and remind myself that these are high-school kids," said Dana. "I often have students tell me, 'I never knew I was capable of doing something like this.'"



INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL MUSIC

New Harpsichord Expands Early Music Programs

This spring, HSPVA welcomed a harpsichord to its stable of instruments. Widely used in Renaissance and Baroque music until the late 18th century, the harpsichord has had a recent resurgence due to the popularity of using historically accurate performance practices and instruments.

Fresh off the delivery truck, the harpsichord has already become an important part of the HSPVA Music Department. "It is a fantastic instructional tool," said Instrumental Music Department Chair Dr. Hector Aguero. "Not many schools are able to offer the experience of using the harpsichord for authentic accompaniments for period pieces. Our students are very fortunate."

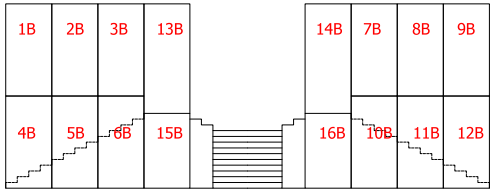
This gift was made possible by generous donors to HSPVA Friends' Bobby Tinterow Music Fund. The Bobby Tinterow Music Fund was established in 2004 to help young musicians at HSPVA. Mr. Tinterow was a great musician himself and frequently brought esteemed musical artists to mentor the young students at HSPVA.

Alumnus Chaya Tinterow (Instrumental Music '75) and Gary Tinterow, Director of the MFAH, attended a dedication concert featuring the new harpsichord on May 19th. The program featured guest artist Sigurd M. Ogaard as well as student vocal and instrumental collaborations highlighting the instrument.



PROGRESSION OF A SET

The Theatre Department's Production of *An Ideal Husband* (April 2014)



1B-12B: 4'x8'
13B-14B: Special Slant
15B-16B: 4'x6'-6"
17B-18B: 4'x9'-6" (Behind 13B-14B)



- STEP 1** Taking cues directly from the script, design teacher Paul Davis painted his vision for the set.
- STEP 2** Thanks to support from the Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation, students now use AutoCAD software to draft 2D and 3D elevations for the set.
- STEP 3** Graeme Campbell ('14) began framing in the scene shop under the guidance of Dana Harrell.
- STEP 4** After students painted the set to replicate Victorian wood styles, the stage was ready for opening night!

THEATRE DEPARTMENT

Avenue Q Duo Wins Tommy Tune Award

Kyle Legacion ('15) and Emily Scott ('15) were named Best Featured Performer(s) for their portrayal of the Bad Idea Bears in HSPVA's production of *Avenue Q School Edition* at the 12th Annual Tommy Tune Awards on April 16th. Theatre Department Chair Cynthia Ogden said the two juniors "made a great pair, working in perfect tandem with their puppets." *Avenue Q School Edition* was also nominated for seven additional Tommy Tune Awards, including Best Musical, Best Actor (Dillon Glass, '14), Best Supporting Actor (Dante Rossi, '15), Best Costume Design (Ethan Cantu, '14), Best Lighting Design (Richard Mendoza, '14), Best Direction (Faculty Member Stephanie Wittels Wachs, Theatre '99), and Best Scenic Design (Faculty Member Paul Davis). Since 2003, the Tommy Tune Awards have recognized student and faculty excellence in high school musical theatre in Houston. For the 2014 awards, 29 Houston-based theatre professionals reviewed 45 Houston-area high school productions.

Kyle Legacion and Emily Scott perform in *Avenue Q School Edition*. Photo by Charles Swan.



DANCE DEPARTMENT

Visiting Choreographers Teach a Variety of Techniques

The HSPVA Dance Department hosted both Nina Watt and Patti Obey in one week residencies. Ms. Watt, from the José Limón Dance Company, taught the Concert Dancers the Limón choreographic work *Psalm* and Patti Obey's residency focused on jazz work.

In addition to the residencies, the Dance Department held 12 master classes in conjunction with the Society for the Performing Arts, including work with the following companies: Jessica Lang Dance, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, Pilobolus, and Alonzo King LINES Ballet.

Dancers Nadia Halim ('15), Mimi Rosepink ('16), Mackenzie Searcy ('15) and London Lane ('15) take part in a master class with Pilobolus.

VOCAL DEPARTMENT

Singers Tour St. Louis

The HSPVA Chorale visited St. Louis, Missouri from November 14th-16th, for a whirlwind tour of performances, master classes, and college visits. Their itinerary included performing Renaissance motets at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis and singing a concert for music students at Webster University. Webster's Director of Choral Activities and Music Education, Dr. Trent Patterson, delivered a special workshop for the HSPVA vocalists, and several Webster voice majors provided demonstrations of their opera repertoire.

HSPVA alumnus Kevin McBeth (Vocal '79) gave the Chorale a tour of the Cathedral Basilica and historic Powell Symphony Hall, home of the St. Louis Symphony. Kevin is the Director of the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON® Chorus as well as the Director of Music at Manchester United Methodist Church, where he leads nearly 500 musicians in 18 ensembles.

HSPVA Chorale performs in the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis



CREATIVE WRITING AND VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENTS

Illustration Collaboration

In a project led by consultant Alexandra Schwenke (Visual Arts '03), creative writing students worked with visual arts students to produce a collaborative illustration.

The project began with creative writers holding a reading of their work. The visual artists then chose a piece that inspired them and produced a storyboard for it. As a pair, each writer and artist held a mini-critique, reviewing what was working and what was not, before producing a final hand-bound book together.

Annie Holmes (Visual Arts '15) said the process was valuable and eye-opening. "It felt like a real example of how the art world would be – collaborating with clients and sharing ideas," she said.

Annie worked with Audrey Griffin (Creative Writing '15). Audrey's writing stood out to Annie because it was off-the-wall. "Her style is beautiful to me. Our styles meld." A page from their book is shown below.



VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Patrick Zapien Wins Scholastic Art & Writing Award

Patrick Zapien ('14) won a national gold medal and a \$10,000 scholarship at the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for his portfolio, MAKING ATTEMPTS AT DIRECT ACTION.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, a 91-year-old competition, is the largest and most prestigious recognition program and source of scholarships for creative teens in the United States. Former winners, as teens, include Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, Sylvia Plath, and John Updike.

Patrick travelled to New York City on June 6th for a winners' celebration at Carnegie Hall. The Empire State Building featured gold lighting that night to commemorate the event.

HSPVA visual artists Cassie O'Sullivan ('14) and Sidney Tennant ('14) won national silver medals for their portfolios.

THE VISION TAKES SHAPE

HISD KEEPS HSPVA ON THE FAST TRACK TO A NEW DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

This year, the HSPVA community witnessed the development of an exciting architectural plan for our future campus!

After voters approved the \$1.89-billion Houston Schools Bond in November 2012, HISD immediately launched preparations for an \$80.1-million HSPVA campus near the downtown Theater District. HSPVA's new site is at 1300 Capitol Street, which is bordered by Caroline, Rusk, and Austin. In April 2013, HISD chose the global architecture firm Gensler for the project.

The HSPVA faculty developed five Guiding Principles (below) to define the school's culture and values, which the architects have used to drive their plans. Gensler Design Director Lester Yuen describes HSPVA's new campus as a "vertical city" and "an incubator for the arts." The five-story design integrates academic classrooms with art area studios and rehearsal spaces. Extra-wide staircases, double-height ceilings, and internal glass features are designed to minimize any feelings of isolation that may come from being on separate floors. Throughout the design process, the architects will continue to consult with HSPVA's art area chairs as well as sound engineers, acousticians and lighting designers to ensure the quality of performance and gallery spaces.

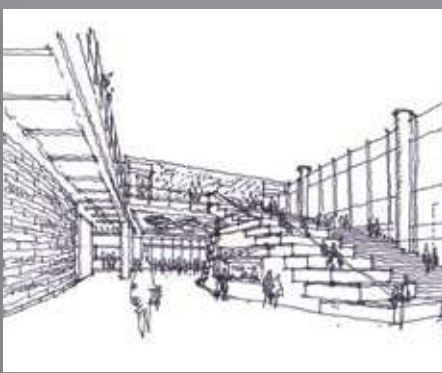
While the school will preserve areas alumni know well—the Commons, for example—it will also contain new spaces, including a mini-theater, a recording studio, and a designated area for the Creative Writing Department. Students and teachers will park on two underground levels.

"I'm impressed by the design," said William Sommer (Instrumental '15) in an interview with HISD on March 27, 2014. "The building looks like it will be more energetic. I like how the space will force students to interact with different art areas and have glass walls to allow them to see into rooms like the dance studio."

Plans are now being finalized. The architects are preparing detailed schematic drawings, and the team is working to define the building's engineering systems. Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2014 with a celebratory groundbreaking ceremony hosted by HSPVA Friends. HISD estimates that the building process will take two and a half years, with the building set to open in August 2017.



In the fall of 2013, HSPVA students, teachers, and members of the school's Project Advisory Team met with the architects for a two-day design charrette (pictured). The mission of the meeting was to develop focused input from the constituents who know HSPVA best.



This illustration by Gensler shows the front lobby from the perspective of someone standing near the front doors and box office. The largest common area is directly ahead. On the left is an entrance to Orchestra Level seating in the Denney Theatre. The double staircase on the right has oversized platforms for socializing or studying.



A computer rendering shows the building from the perspective of a passerby facing the main entrance to the school, at the corner of Rusk and Austin. The enormous structural letters along Rusk will protect a three-lane covered drop-off area for school buses. Above the letters are two-story windows into the dance studios. An outdoor terrace overlooks Austin. Although this rendering is in simple grayscale, the architects will use textures and timeless colors to create visual interest on the exterior.

Renderings are as of May 2014 and subject to change.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR HSPVA

Guiding Principles articulate a school's vision, values, hopes and ideals to the design team. They are used to "test" the decisions that are made throughout the design process, since every element of the building must be created to support the school's vision and values.

1. Learning in the 21st century is collaborative, experiential, and student-centered, using cutting-edge resources while honoring the historic traditions of the fine arts.
2. The supportive environment of trust, safety, and flexibility enhances creativity, independence, self-discipline, and the interpersonal relationships of administrators, staff, and students.
3. HSPVA serves as a beacon of creativity, drawing support from its family, its traditions, and the extended arts community, guiding our students as they go on to contribute responsibly and thoughtfully to creative endeavors in our city and around the world.
4. The student-centered learning environment provides for both communal and personal introspective activities, which facilitate the generating, reflecting, and sharing of ideas and the presentation of student performances and art work, as well as the collaboration between arts, academics and the community.
5. The progressive, process-oriented curriculum and instruction, paired with high expectations, develop students' knowledge and skills preparing them to be creative problem solvers in a competitive artistic and academic world.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CURRENT FACULTY/STUDENTS

Erayl Amacker (Vocal '16), **Cabria Scott** (Vocal '14) and **Paul Cornish** (Instrumental '14) were gold medal winners in the 2014 Houston Area NAACP ACT-SO competition. They represented Houston at the national NAACP convention in Las Vegas in July.

Madelyn LaLonde (Dance '14) and **Lewis McAdow** (Vocal '14) were winners of the 2013 On Your Way talent scholarship program of the Arts Schools Network.

Theatre students were Theatrical Design winners at the Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) State competition. **Ethan Cantu** ('14) won 1st place for costume design and **Sarah Cominsky** ('15) won 2nd place for makeup. The team placed 3rd overall, with special mentions going to **Paris Bezanis** ('16) for set design, **Emily Scott** ('15) for costume design, **Izzy Guerrero** ('14) for marketing, and **Jessica Stevens** ('15) for makeup.

Cabria Scott (Vocal '14), **Shilpa Sadagopan** (Vocal '15), **Paul Cornish** (Instrumental '14), **Jeremy Dorsey** (Instrumental '14), **John Koozin** (Instrumental '14), **Blake Oppen** (Instrumental '14), **Austin Thomas** (Instrumental '14), and **Alex Wheeler** (Instrumental '14), as well as faculty members **Pat Bonner** and **Warren Sneed** (Instrumental '78) were part of a delegation from Houston and Galveston who performed at the "Texas Days in Stavanger" festival in Norway in June.

Jasper Snow (Instrumental '14) won the Houston Symphony League Concerto Competition for viola. **Charles Seo** (Instrumental '14) won the same competition for cello in 2013 and performed Prokofiev's *Sinfonia Concertante* with the Houston Symphony at the 2014 Salute to Educators concert on April 24th.

ALUMNI OF THE 00S

Karl Fenner (Instrumental '00) is the principal bassist in the Colorado Symphony.

Justin Simien (Theatre '01) wrote and directed the dramedy *Dear White People*, which played at Sundance Film Festival and was awarded the Breakthrough Talent Award. In 2013, Justin was honored at the Palm Springs Film Festival as one of *Variety's* 10 Directors to Watch.

Claudia de Vasco (Theatre '01) worked as a dialect coach for Antonio Banderas, Juliette Binoche and Lou Diamond Phillips in *The 33*.

Laura Gutierrez (Dance '05) is the fourth HSPVA dancer to be named to the exclusive "25 to Watch" list in *Dance Magazine*.

Jared Joseph (Theatre '05) was part of the original cast of Broadway musical *Holler if Ya Hear Me*.

Elise Southwick (Visual Arts '06) plays banjo and slide guitar and also provides vocals for bluegrass band The Free Range Ramblers.

Hannah Jones (Theatre '08) played 'Carrie' in Season Three of Disney's *Austin & Ally*.

ALUMNI OF THE 90S

Jamal Cyrus (Visual Arts '91) works at the Contemporary Arts Museum on special educational projects and sponsors their Teen Council. He recently opened the show "Jamal Cyrus: Melizmatik" at Inman Gallery.

Dr. Shondra Huery Hardman (Vocal '92) was named Chief High Schools Officer for HISD.

Ricardo Osmondo Francis (Visual Arts '94) opened solo exhibition *Turn of the Century* at the East End Studio Gallery.

Mark Kelley (Instrumental '98) plays bass with house band The Roots on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*.

Justin Berry (Visual Arts '99) opened *Lorem Ipsum*, an exhibition at Interstate, a gallery in Brooklyn. He also launched i-would.com, an animated graphic novel about the ability to fly.

ALUMNI OF THE 80S

Adam Nelson (Theatre '87) will appear on Season One of *The Reel Deal*, a new reality competition including celebrity-led teams of actors, composers, writers and directors shooting short films.

Michelle DeJean (Dance '88) starred with **Betty Marie Muessig** (Theatre '11) and **Julia Krohn** (Theatre '00) in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* at Miller Outdoor Theatre. HSPVA faculty member **Charles Swan** and student **Marissa Rinchiuso** (Theatre '16) were also involved with the Theatre Under the Stars production.

ALUMNI OF THE 70S

JoDe Romano (Dance '76) conducts Spanish dance and castanet classes in New York City.

Everette Harp (Instrumental '79) headlined Houston's 2014 Trinity Jazz Festival in January. The concert also featured **Chris Walker** (Instrumental '86) and **Mark Simmons** (Instrumental '93).

Save the Date! The HSPVA **Original Campus Reunion** is October 8-11, 2015. Join the HSPVA graduating classes of 1971-1984 for a weekend of happenings in Houston! For more information, check out the OCR website: <http://hspvaocr2015.classquest.com>.

HSPVA Friends Parent Volunteer Groups ART GUILD

Funds raised by the Art Guild covered the cost of art supplies throughout the school year, as well as master classes, administrative support and summer program scholarships for the Visual Arts Department. In September, Art Guild volunteers managed HSPVA's annual Third Coast Week, during which visiting college representatives review students' portfolios. They also hosted the annual Print Show in March, which included an auction of 75 pieces of student art and set a new fundraising record for the Visual Arts Department. **Join us for the 2015 Print Show on April 18th!**

THEATRE GUILD

In the fall, Theatre Guild volunteers managed the Department's Middle School Workshop and also hosted the Greater Houston Area Auditions, which brought representatives from top theatre college programs to HSPVA. In the spring, the Guild coordinated students' trips to both the National Unified Auditions in Chicago and to the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska. This year, Theatre Guild funds provided guest directors and clinicians as well as essential sound equipment for the Black Box Theatre. The 2014 Annual Theatre Guild Gala was a great success, and students delighted guests with their "Anything Goes!" cabaret tribute to the 1930s. **Join us for the 2015 Gala on March 28th!**

CREATIVE WRITING GUILD

The inaugural year of the Creative Writing Guild was a success! The Guild hosted HSPVA's first Creative Writing Middle School Workshop and it sold out, with 170 local middle-school students attending. We are looking forward to the next workshop on **November 15, 2014**.

IN MEMORIAM

Kathleen A. Lobue (Dance '75) 1957-2013

Marlene Denson Bilbo (Vocal '77) 1958-2013

Saul Gonzalez (Instrumental '80) 1961-2013

Christina Slusher McCauley (Instrumental '81) 1963-2014

Christine Elizabeth (Tina) Borja (Media Arts '84) 1966-2014

Nancy Taylor (Former Faculty) 1930-2014

MOVING ON FROM HSPVA

Dr. Richard Robbins, Vocal Music Department

Dr. Hector Aguero, Instrumental Music Department

Mr. Rolland Sanders, Social Studies Department

Dr. Carrie Obenland, Science Department

HSPVA Friends' 8th Annual
Encore for Excellence Luncheon
raises more than \$150,000 for HSPVA

Luncheon Chairs Minnette and Peter Boesel and Jo and Jim Furr filled River Oaks Country Club with more than 400 guests and 50 HSPVA students on January 30th for a record-setting event, raising more than \$150,000 for HSPVA Friends programs.

Emceed by Willow Curry (Visual Arts '14) and Ian Estes (Visual Arts '14), the event included a "Vocal Fanfare" by the Madrigal Singers and an original comedic performance by five pianists. Additional student participation included harpists, a jazz trio and a string quartet, a ballerina-led raffle, and more than 30 pieces of visual art lining the entrance to the ballroom.

Perhaps the most enchanting moment was the keynote speech by HSPVA's 2014 Distinguished Alumna, Mireille Enos (Theatre '93), in which Mireille tied her career success back to her time as an HSPVA student.

The evening before the luncheon, Mireille and her husband, actor Alan Ruck, mingled with guests at the HSPVA Friends Prelude Reception held at One Park Place.



- 1 Event Chairs with the Honoree - Jim Furr, Jo Furr, Mireille Enos, Alan Ruck, Minnette Boesel, Peter Boesel
- 2 Michelle Townsend, Steven Townsend, Patricia Blackwell, Dr. Carsten Westergaard
- 3 Tamara Thompson, Rebecca Thompson (Vocal '09), Lester Yuen, Kimberly Hickson
- 4 Annie Stein (Theatre '99), Marty Stein, Lauren Whitehead, Will Whitehead (Theatre '96)
- 5 Luncheon Emcees Willow Curry (Visual Arts '14) and Ian Estes (Visual Arts '14)
- 6 Andrea Sanchez (Theatre '93), Monika Harris (Theatre '93), Patricia Suarez Cantu (Theatre '93), Mireille Enos, Ryan Smith (Vocal '93), Jenny Franco (Theatre '93)
- 7 HSPVA pianists show off their skills while entertaining guests with their comedic timing.
- 8 Miklos and Starla Fitch (Vocal '84)
- 9 Jim Sands, Lauren McMicken (Vocal '06), Jordan Taylor (Instrumental '05), Chris McClure, Austin Thomas (Vocal '05)
- 10 Margaret Fisher (Visual Arts '15) discusses her art piece with HSPVA Friends Board Treasurer Bob Boblitt.
- 11 Kabir Sondhi (Instrumental '08), Molly Griffin (Vocal '08), Cheryl Boblitt, Janie Enloe (Dance '08)

Photography by David DeHoyos (Media Arts '81)



2014 Distinguished Alumna
MIREILLE ENOS

Immediately following the Luncheon, Mireille visited HSPVA to present a master class for Theatre Department students. The actors were captivated by Mireille's story of perseverance in pursuit of her career, and her emphasis on the importance of hard work and kindness. Now, with Tony, Emmy, and Golden Globe nominations on her résumé, she is on the fast track to becoming Hollywood's next leading lady.

"It has been a long and steady journey – the 24-year making of an overnight success. Whether you're in a 30-seat basement theatre or you're making a \$200-million movie, the work is the same. It's still a group of people showing up with some words to say and trying to figure out the best way to tell a story. It's still hope and teamwork and bravery."

Mireille recently starred in blockbusters *World War Z* and *Sabotage*. In addition to her film work, she has received Golden Globe and Emmy nominations for her lead role on the television series, *The Killing*, as well as a Tony nomination for her role in the 2005 Broadway revival of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*



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THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS 2013-2014 DONORS!

You have helped give HSPVA students an exemplary artistic experience.

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Frank Hood
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We also sincerely thank those donors whose contributions came in after the July 15th print deadline.

YOUR GIFT AT WORK: THE IMPACT OF HSPVA FRIENDS

HSPVA Friends raises and distributes private funds to meet the needs of this unique school and its diverse student body. This year, the Board and staff of HSPVA Friends set ambitious programming goals and—thanks to generous donors and the hard work of our parent volunteer groups—we were able to make a greater impact at HSPVA than ever before.

We also raised additional restricted program reserves, which empower HSPVA's administration and faculty to save for planned curriculum expansions as well as unforeseen opportunities.

Below are highlights of our 2013-2014 program expenditures.

TECHNOLOGY AND INSTRUMENTS \$110,000

HSPVA Friends enhances technology in every art area before the start of the new school year. Among other items, this year HSPVA Friends purchased iPads and software for the Creative Writing and Music Departments, cameras and lenses for the Dance Department's photography course, specialty printers and projectors for the Visual Arts Department, and lights for the Black Box Theatre. HSPVA Friends also provided a harpsichord for the early music ensembles (Page 5).

DAILY CURRICULUM SUPPORT \$95,000

This year, we were able to offset the cost of a full-time Technical Director who has raised production value school-wide (Page 4). In addition, HSPVA Friends supports the array of esteemed guest artists who deliver classes ranging from one-day clinics to semester-long residencies. Private support also enables HSPVA's six art areas to purchase the things they need every day – items and services ranging from piano tuning for Instrumental Music to framing equipment for Visual Arts.

TRAVEL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION \$57,000

At HSPVA, students and faculty travel to numerous workshops, conferences, and competitions. For example, HSPVA Friends helped coordinate the Creative Writing Department's trip to the Texas Book Festival and the Vocal Department's tour of St. Louis, Missouri (Page 7). We also offset the cost of HSPVA teachers' participation in national professional organizations like the Arts Schools Network and the Texas Music Educators Association.

SCHOLARSHIPS \$39,000

HSPVA Friends distributed \$19,000 in summer program scholarships to juniors and nearly \$20,000 in college scholarships for graduating seniors. We were thrilled to offer two new scholarships this year thanks to the generosity of Grant and Kathryn Caterina (Vocal '01) and Principal Dr. R. Scott Allen.

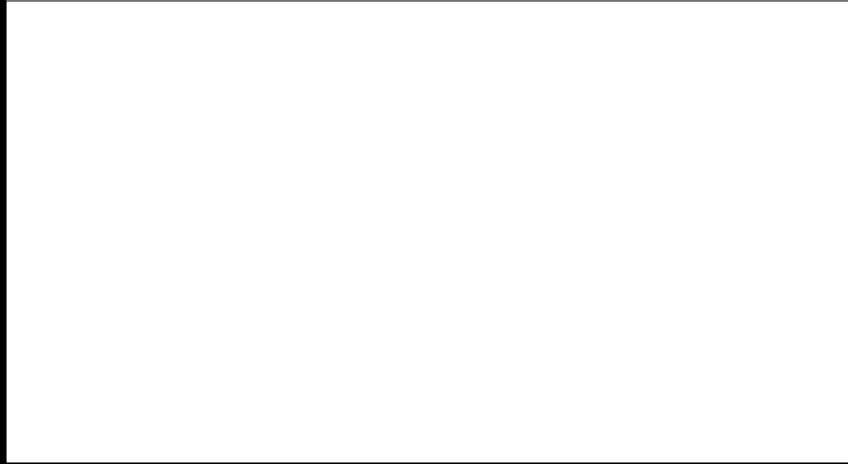
PRODUCTION SUPPORT \$25,000

In addition to art area support, donations to HSPVA Friends provide underwriting for school-wide productions, including this year's All-School Musical, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and Black History Production, *Dreamgirls*. HSPVA Friends also rents external production venues like the Moores Opera House for symphony concerts and The Hobby Center for Senior Awards Night.

CONNECTING TO THE COMMUNITY \$37,000

The HSPVA Friends staff provides marketing and communications support for the school. We correspond with the architects and school district regarding progress on the new downtown campus (Page 8), provide bookkeeping and fundraising support for parent volunteer groups, and connect with professional arts organizations and alumni. We also work with the HSPVA faculty to explore new programs and services. For example, this year HSPVA Friends became the fiscal sponsor for the school's first online ticket sale system.

To support HSPVA Friends, visit www.hspvafriends.org. Thank you!



HSPVA Friends Mission The mission of HSPVA Friends, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is to cultivate support and appreciation for The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts locally, nationally, and internationally in order to enhance educational, professional, and artistic opportunities for current and future students of HSPVA.

Each year, HSPVA Friends provides critical art area support and school-wide programs, as well as college and summer program scholarships. For more information, visit www.hspvafriends.org.

"Powerlines" (above)
Corrin McCullough '15



"This piece explores the themes of connection and isolation. I find power lines very graceful, and I liked the idea that they were connecting through the void. These wide open barren landscapes can also be found within our population and culture."

Corrin spent the summer learning to drive and studying traditional painting methods.