The Fine and Performing Arts at UNI

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Facilities

Department of Art
https://uni.edu/art/

Kamerick Art Building

The Kamerick Art Building, which houses the Department of Art and the UNI Gallery of Art, was completed in 1985. The design of the building is based on an elegant modular plan and has won several architectural awards. The 67,000 square foot interior is divided into studios, classrooms, a lecture hall, visual resource center and offices. There is a state of the art computer lab and each studio area is well equipped with specialized tools for each artistic medium. The building has a beautiful courtyard adjacent to a striking glass atrium and serves as an anchor to the main east-west campus promenade.

UNI Gallery of Art and UNI Permanent Art Collection
https://gallery.uni.edu

The UNI Gallery of Art is the exhibition and performance venue of the UNI Department of Art and serves as a vital cultural resource for the campus and the region. A yearly roster of diverse programming supports departmental curriculum as well as the university’s goal to create and maintain an inclusive educational environment that prepares students to thrive in a diverse, global environment.

With a season of nine major exhibitions and supplementary public events like lectures and performances, the Gallery features some of the most outstanding artwork, innovative artists, and exciting speakers in contemporary art. Gallery programming stresses the cultivation of contemporary artists and scholars with diverse backgrounds, training, and art practices. The principal objective is to create crossover attendees and introduce to our viewers artists intersecting disciplinary, aesthetic, and cultural boundaries.

Another objective is to create bonds across disciplines and partner with other arts, culture, and education organizations. Recent efforts have resulted in campus-wide and cross-community events funded by major grants from the Iowa Arts Council, Humanities Iowa, and the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation.

Educational employment opportunities are also offered to UNI students interested in careers in arts administration and museum studies. The Gallery’s student staff gains valuable experience in museum and gallery management through Work Study, Cooperative Education internship, and volunteer opportunities.

The Gallery houses most of the UNI Permanent Art Collection in a specialized storage and research facility. Among the nearly 3,000 objects in the Collection are art objects by prominent artists such as Berenice Abbott, Josef Albers, Romare Bearden, George Grosz, Philip Guston, Pablo Picasso, Rembrandt, Jaune Quick-To-See Smith and Jerry Uelsmann. This collection is complemented by numerous public art works, particularly projects funded by the Iowa Art in Public Buildings Program, and includes works by such noted artists as Fletcher Benton, Dale Chihuly, Gary Kelley, Ray King, and Dennis Oppenheim.

Gallery and Art Collection tours may be booked by appointment. For additional information visit https://gallery.uni.edu.

Art Computer Lab

The Computer Lab is located on the second floor of Kamerick Art Building, adjacent to the Graphic Design Studios. Students and faculty in the Department of Art have access to an impressive array of state of the art computer and software for working with typography and layout, digital photography, animation and video editing.

Department of Communication Studies
https://commstudies.uni.edu/

Lang Hall

The UNI Interpreters Theatre serves as both a teaching studio for performance studies classes and as a performance/rehearsal space for public performances. The 90-seat flexible black-box style studio is equipped with full light and sound support.
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Department of Kinesiology
www.uni.edu/coe/departments/school-health-physical-education-leisure-services/overview/facilities-and-locations

The nationally award winning Wellness/Recreation Center houses the Department of Kinesiology and is the home of the dance program. Opened in 1997 the building includes the dance studio, additional movement spaces, seminar rooms and classrooms, research labs and faculty and administrative offices necessary for dance classes, dance rehearsals and the dance curricula. Additional facilities used for performances include Lang Hall, Russell Hall, Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center on campus and the Oster-Regent Theatre in downtown Cedar Falls.

School of Music
Russell Hall and Gallagher Bluedorn
https://music.uni.edu

Russell Hall has been the home of the School of Music since 1962. Completely renovated and expanded in 2008, the building contains a 400-seat auditorium, jazz and chamber music rehearsal halls, recording facilities, a music technology lab, several music education classrooms, office space for music faculty and staff, and over 35 practice rooms. In spring of 2000, the School of Music expanded into the Gallagher Bluedorn, creating additional space for School of Music students, faculty, ensembles, and concert events. For more information visit music.uni.edu.

Department of Theatre
https://theatre.uni.edu/

The Strayer-Wood Theatre

Constructed in 1978, the Strayer-Wood Theatre was the first theatre built in Iowa with public funds, acknowledging the state’s responsibility to serve the campus and the community through the arts. The building features two fully-equipped theatre spaces: a 500-seat convertible thrust/proscenium theatre and a black box (see The Bertha Martin Theatre below) as well as support spaces, an alternative performance space, classrooms and offices for the Department of Theatre and Theatre UNI. The university’s student-performed plays and musicals occur in the Strayer-Wood.

The Bertha Martin Theatre

A part of the Strayer-Wood complex, the Bertha Martin Theatre is a 125-seat flexible black-box style theatre with full light and sound support. Used primarily for public performances of plays and musicals, the theatre is also in heavy use as a rehearsal and training space for theatre classes. It was equipped and partially funded with a bequest from the students of Bertha Martin, the founder of the theatre program at the university.

Programs
www.gbpac.org

Each season, Gallagher Bluedorn brings a variety of performances to the Cedar Valley. With a pedigree of great Broadway musicals, standup comedy, classical music and more, Gallagher Bluedorn provides an educational and entertaining outlet for families and students of all ages.

Department of Art
https://art.uni.edu

Visiting Lecturers Series

Each year the Department of Art hosts a number of prominent artists, designers, art educators, art historians, and critics who present public lectures and teach studio workshops. Students have the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with many art world luminaries as they learn about career opportunities, contemporary trends, and critical issues within the fields of art, design and art education.

Student Exhibition Opportunities

Art students are encouraged to exhibit their work in a variety of gallery spaces. The UNI Gallery of Art hosts the Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition each spring as well as Vertigo A-Go-Go, a yearly evening of student performance art. Students also mount exhibitions in the Dean’s Triangle, located in the Communication Arts Center and the student-run In-Use Gallery on the second floor of the Kamerick Art Building.

Department of Communication Studies
https://commstudies.uni.edu/

UNI Interpreters Theatre

Is a co-curricular program in the Department of Communication Studies that involves students from all across campus. In this performance group, smaller-scale productions based on social and cultural issues, oral histories, and traditional performances of literature are created and performed. Some of the subjects covered in the past include social justice issues, environmental issues, eating disorders, autism, children’s literature, rural farm families, and purity balls. Students do not need to have prior performance experience to participate. For further information, contact Dr. Danielle McGeough in the Department of Communication Studies at 319-273-6985.

School of Music
https://music.uni.edu

Undergraduate Programs

The School of Music at UNI enrolls approximately 350 students in various degree programs. These students participate in a wide array of course offerings including music education, music theory, music history, performing ensembles, and applied lessons. Undergraduate course programs include the core curriculum (Liberal Arts Core) plus courses specific to the selected major in music. These degree programs range from 120-149 credit hours for completion.

Majors in Music:
• Bachelor of Arts (six tracks): General Studies, Jazz Studies, String Pedagogy, Performing Arts Management, Music History, and Music Technology;
• Bachelor of Music in Performance;
• Bachelor of Music in Composition-Theory;
• Bachelor of Music in Music Education (three specializations).

Minors in Music:
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• Music;
• Jazz Studies.

Graduate Programs
The UNI School of Music awards graduate degrees (Master of Arts and Master of Music) with seven areas of concentration. Each degree requires a minimum of 30 semester hours in graduate-level courses for degree completion.

Majors in Music:
• Master of Arts;
• Master of Music in Performance (three specializations);
• Master of Music in Composition-Theory;
• Master of Music in Music Education (on-campus program);
• Master of Music in Music Education (off-campus program);
• Master of Music in Music History;
• Master of Music in Conducting;
• Master of Music in Jazz Pedagogy;
• Master of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy;
• Artist Diploma I and II program certificates.

Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center
www.gbpac.org

Artists Series
Over 30 internationally-acclaimed artists are presented each season in UNI’s Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. From Broadway to baroque to the blues, the center hosts performances as well as educational residencies, allowing UNI students to interact with world stars.

Department of Theatre
https://theatre.uni.edu/

In addition to a full curriculum of theatre classes, the Department of Theatre offers a full range of productions throughout the year. It normally produces drama, musicals, theatre for young audiences, and original or experimental work.

Theatre UNI
The production arm of the Department of Theatre, Theatre UNI produces a fully mounted 4-6 show season of work featuring student performers and technicians.

Sturgis Youth Theatre
This program seeks to provide theatre education classes to and in the community, and produce high quality theatre by and for young audiences off-campus.

Student Participation and Organizations in the Arts
www.gbpac.org

Gallagher Bluedorn offers numerous internships and job opportunities, including event management and stagehand positions, as well as roles in marketing and education. For more information call 319-273-3660.

Department of Communication Studies
https://commstudies.uni.edu/

UNI Performance Studies Program
All university students and staff are invited to attend public performances in the UNI Interpreters Theatre, free of charge. Participation in productions is open to all UNI students and community members. Auditions are held at various times throughout the academic year. Those interested in back stage work such as scenery, lighting, costumes, and props, are also needed for technical support. For further information, contact Dr. Danielle McGeough in the Department of Communication Studies at 319-273-6985.

Department of Kinesiology
www.uni.edu/dance

Dance classes and the dance performing groups are housed in the Department of Kinesiology. Students receive academic credit for participating in the performing groups.

International Dance Theatre
This dance company is the student-based performing group of the UNI Folk and Ballroom Dancers. It performs a varied repertoire of multicultural and ballroom dances from around the world, including the United States. It is open to all interested UNI students, faculty and staff and is governed by elected student officers. The company presents two formal stage concerts a year. In addition, it presents numerous road shows and mini-concerts each year. The group is also available for school residencies which can include assembly performances as well as workshops for multicultural dance for all grade levels.

Orchesis Dance Company
This dance company is comprised of students interested in pursuing the choreography, performance, and production of ballet, jazz, modern, and tap styles of dance. Members are selected through auditions held toward the end of fall and spring semesters. It is governed by elected student officers. Orchesis presents two formal stage concerts a year. The company is also available for performances, clinics, and classes for the community.

School of Music
https://music.uni.edu

Many music organizations and ensembles are open to all students by audition or application. Participation by non-music majors is encouraged. Credit is available to all who participate. Among the groups offered are:

• VOCAL
  Concert Chorale, UNI Opera Ensemble, UNI Singers, Varsity Men’s Glee Club, Women’s Chorus, and Cantorei;
• INSTRUMENTAL
  Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Bands I, II, III, Panther Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Symphony Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble;
• SPECIALTY GROUPS
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Horn Choir, Jazz Combos, Northern Iowa Flute Choir, Percussion Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Taiko Drum Ensemble, String Chamber Music, UNITUBA Ensemble, West African Drum Ensemble, and others. For additional information visit https://music.uni.edu.

Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center
www.gbpac.org

The GBPAC offers numerous internships and job opportunities, including event management, stagehands, marketing, and education. For more information call 319-273-3660.

Department of Theatre
https://theatre.uni.edu/

All university students and staff are invited to attend the productions in the Strayer-Wood and Bertha Martin Theatres. Tickets are free for UNI students. Theatre productions are often used in university classes as experiential learning opportunities.

All productions by Theatre UNI are open to participation by any enrolled UNI student. Auditions are held early in the semester or at times publicized on the Theatre website https://theatre.uni.edu and in the campus press. Students interested in non-performance participation can make a contribution in scenery and properties construction, costume and wardrobe, makeup and hair, lights and audio production, front of house, and stage management by contacting the Theatre office 319-273-6386 or the production’s director.

UNISTA

The UNI Student Theatre Association is housed within the Department of Theatre and is composed of any students involved in theatrical production on campus; they need not be theatre majors or minors. It functions as an independent production organization that produces several small budget plays or musicals each year in the Strayer-Wood Theatre or other venues around the campus on an application basis.

Alpha Psi Omega

A National Honorary Fraternity for students participating in theatre at UNI. This organization performs service projects around the community and hosts an annual awards and honors banquet commemorating the previous year’s season.

USITT

UNI’s USITT Student Chapter is dedicated to providing opportunities to technical theatre students to learn, discuss, and hone their skills as young artists, technicians and managers. We offer a community to technical theatre students and help provide assistance to students who wish to attend the national USITT conference each year. This conference presents students with workshops, portfolio reviews and networking opportunities with theatre professionals.

Community Participation and Organizations in the Arts
www.gbpac.org

Friends of the Gallagher Bluedorn membership provides support for programming and educational opportunities, including the Kaleidoscope series.

GBPAC Advisory Board:
Gallagher Bluedorn is comprised of an advisory board consisting of community representatives, including UNI students and faculty.

Department of Art
https://art.uni.edu

The Department of Art promotes the arts not only on the UNI campus but also in the greater Cedar Valley. The department sponsors joint exhibitions with local arts organizations such as the Hearst Center for the Arts in Cedar Falls and the Waterloo Center for the Arts. Faculty members within the Department of Art actively exhibit their work locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. Many curate and organize exhibitions of works by other artists for galleries within the community. Faculty members are also active participants on boards, committees, and panels for local, state, and national arts organizations.

Department of Kinesiology
https://coe.uni.edu/kahhs/dance

Participation in the dance performing groups is open to UNI faculty, staff and local community members as well as UNI students. The companies are available for performances, workshops and assembly programs for local and statewide groups.

They collaborate with the Artists Series program of the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts to host visiting dance artists for master classes and informal gatherings.

The dance faculty members are actively engaged in state, regional, and national level professional organizations and art organizations. They regularly attend conferences and they encourage and assist students in attending these as well.

School of Music
https://music.uni.edu

UNI Suzuki Program

The UNI Suzuki School, founded in 1976, offers individual and group lessons in violin, viola, cello, flute, harp, and guitar (based on the Suzuki philosophy) to approximately 200 northeast Iowa students, ranging from ages 3 to 18, to adults. In addition, the school includes several levels of theory classes, small ensemble sessions, and participation with visiting artists to the university community. The school provides annual individual/group recitals and outreach performance opportunities. It also sponsors an advanced violin performance group Fiddlesticks, the Northern Iowa Junior Orchestra (area string students in grades 6-8), and the Northern Iowa Youth Orchestra (area string students in grades 9-12). The school is also part of a collaborative effort with the Center City for the Arts in Waterloo to bring quality violin instruction to students in the urban neighborhood. This project is called Music Works and provides year-round scholarships and instruments to these youths. There are opportunities for UNI students to teach and observe.

UNI Community Music School

The UNI Community Music School, founded in 2006, offers private lessons for beginning, intermediate, and advanced students, and outreach teaching opportunities for UNI School of Music students.
Instruction is individually designed to meet each student’s needs and is offered in cooperation with the public/private/parochial school programs. During each semester, students participate in an informal Performance Class/Recitals where they share their music with other students, family, and friends. The Northern Iowa Children’s Choir (NICC) was formed in January of 1997 in order to provide an additional choral experience for the students in the Cedar Valley area, to offer opportunities for the music education majors at UNI to work with children in a choral setting, and to serve as a model for teaching, conducting, and management for all UNI students. The members of NICC represent approximately 30 different schools and range in age from those entering grade four to those completing grade eight. These students have been accepted into the choir through audition. The UNI New Horizons Band was started January of 1999 to give an opportunity for those 50 years of age or older to take group lessons and play in band. This includes beginners, those who may have previously played or those who currently play a band instrument. There are opportunities for UNI students to be involved in teaching group lessons to members.

For more information visit https://music.uni.edu.

Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center
www.gbpac.org

Friends of the Gallagher Bluedorn offers the opportunity to support programming and educational programs with membership in the organization.

GBPAC Advisory Board. The GBPAC is made up of an advisory board consisting of representatives from the community, UNI students, and faculty.

Department of Theatre
https://theatre.uni.edu/

Friends of Theatre UNI
UNI’s oldest community support organization and one of the nation’s first community support organizations for an academic theatre program, was founded in 1978 as a way for the local community to recognize and support the contributions made by the theatre and its programs. It has supported visiting artists, scholarships, and theatre trips to London, Minneapolis, and Chicago. Over the years, it has provided volunteers, works of art for the theatres, and generous hospitality to the theatre’s patrons.