January at Vassar: Performance, Exhibits, and Events

**Modfest** celebrates its thirteenth year as Vassar College’s annual exploration of arts in the 20th and 21st centuries—a wonderland of offerings across poetry, film, dance, literature, drama, music, and art. This year, events take place from January 28 through February 14.

Vassar Library’s exhibition marking the 150th anniversary of the publication of Lewis Carroll’s Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland lends a theme to several programs, especially the concert of works by Vassar composers Susan Botti, Jonathan Hennessey, and Richard Wilson that will include a reading by the poet Edward Hirsch. Related events highlight Treasures from the Permanent Collection: Fairy Tales, Fantasy, and Nonsense, which brings together thirty-five years of work. He has also curated a Poet’s Glossary, a full compendium of poetic terms, and How to Read a Poem and Fall in Love with Poetry. He will give a workshop about his work, which lends a theme to several programs, especially Alice in Our Times: Fantasy, Surrealism, and Nonsense. Concert: Vassar Jazz Combos is now in software development, particularly with Notion 4, Patrick Litterst ’07, outstanding percussionist while at Vassar, is a part of the series. Besides Vassar students, alumnae/i, faculty, and guest artists, MODFEST 2015 includes as performers students from the Poughkeepsie area schools. All events are free and open to the public.

**Performances and Exhibits at Vassar**

**Festival Venues**
1. Skinner Hall of Music
2. Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center
3. Chicago Hall
4. Main Building
5. Vogelstein Center for Drama and Film
6. Kenyon Hall
7. Ely Hall (Aula)

**January 28 – February 14**

All events are free and open to the public without charge. No reservations are necessary, unless otherwise noted. All seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that all events are subject to change.

People with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Campus Activities at (845) 437-5370.

Directions to the Vassar campus in Poughkeepsie, New York, are available at arts.vassar.edu/directions. For additional information, call (845) 437-5370 or visit arts.vassar.edu.
An exhibition to mark the 150th anniversary of the publication of Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* is on view second semester, beginning February 12, 2015. The Age of Lewis Carroll exhibition, curated by music librarian Arden Wilson, features more than one hundred manuscripts and letters, and is accompanied by the exhibition “Patterns,” followed by a reception in the Art Center atrium. Artist Joyce Kozloff will give the opening lecture “Maps and Patterns,” followed by a reception in the Art Center atrium.

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**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28**

5:30-7:30pm  **A Community Sing**

Led by Dr. Tsuye Barinwell, a member of Sweet Honey in the Rock, the acclaimed all-woman a cappella group. Anyone who wants to sing, even if they don’t read music, will flourish under Dr. Barinwell’s enthusiastic direction. No musical background required. Participants will soon find themselves singing in four-part harmony and raising the roof of Main Building.

Main Building, College Center, James W. Palmer III Gallery

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29**

4:30pm  **Teen Visions**

Opening reception of an exhibit of original artwork, featuring a wide variety of paintings, drawings, mixed media, photography, and sculptures by students ages 11 to 19 of The Art Institute of Mill Street Loft.

Main Building, College Center, James W. Palmer III Gallery

5:00-9:00pm  **Late Night at the Lehman Loeb**

Enjoy extended hours every Thursday evening, when the galleries are open until 9:00pm. Late Night at the Lehman Loeb is made possible by the generous support of the Jane W. Nuhn Charitable Trust.

The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center

6:30pm  **Presentation: Teen Music, Dance, and The Spoken Word**

Features middle and high school students from arts programs in the Mid-Hudson Valley: Mill Street Loft’s LinCub, an outreach program for girls in the Poughkeepsie Middle School; the Vivace ensembles of the Stringendo Orchestra School, the Hudson Valley Academy of Ballet; Main Building, College Center, Villard Room

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 30**

5:30pm  **Exhibition Special Event: Lecture and Reception for XL: Large-Scale Paintings from the Permanent Collection**

Artist Joyce Kozloff will give the opening lecture “Maps and Patterns,” followed by a reception in the Art Center atrium. Joyce Kozloff became an originating figure of the Pattern and Decoration movement, exploring applied and decorative arts, especially visual cultures of the nonwestern world, as source and inspiration.

Taylor Hall, Room 102, and the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center

9:00pm  **Concert: Vassar Jazz Combos**

The student ensembles present a colorful variety of jazz styles. James Ossin, director of the jazz groups.

Main Building, Villard Room, second floor

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31**

11:00am  **Presentation: Creating Music Notation Software**

Patrick Litterst ’07, outstanding percussionist while at Vassar, is now in software development, particularly with Notion 4, a music notation and score playback application of recent acclaim. He will also discuss the impact of software on his own work, which includes continuing his performing career. Co-sponsored by the Career Development Office.

Following the presentation, there will be a lunch with an opportunity to speak with Patrick in room 303 of Skinner Hall.

Skinner Hall of Music, Thelma Hall, fourth floor

4:00pm  **Poetry: Edward Hirsch in conversation with Paul Kane, professor of English**

Edward Hirsch, a MacArthur Fellow, has published nine books of poems, most recently Gabriel: A Poem; a book-length essay, and *The Living Fire: New and Selected Poems*. He is president of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, which brings together thirty-five years of work. He has also published five prose books, among them *A Poet’s Glossary*, a full compendium of poetic terms, and *How to Read a Poem and Fall in Love with Poetry*.

He will give a workshop about his work, which includes continuing his performing career. Co-sponsored by the Career Development Office.

Snow date is Sunday, February 8, at 12 noon. Call (845) 437-5370 for updates.

Taylor Hall, Room 102, and the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center

9:00pm  **Concert: Vassar Jazz Combos**

The student ensembles present a colorful variety of jazz styles. James Ossin, director of the jazz groups.

Main Building, Villard Room, second floor

**Ongoing Exhibits at Vassar during MODFEST**

**Teen Visions 2015**

January 18 through February 14

An exhibition featuring traditional and digital photography, paintings, drawings, and mixed media created by students ages 11 to 19 in the Art Institute of Mill Street Loft in Poughkeepsie.

Main Building, College Center, James W. Palmer III Gallery

**XL: Large-Scale Paintings from the Permanent Collection**

January 30 – March 29, 2015

The 19 larger-than-life canvases in this exhibition are a testamento to the ongoing visual power of mural-sized painting. The 19th larger-than-life canvases in this exhibition are a testament to the ongoing visual power of mural-sized painting.

Main Building, College Center, James W. Palmer III Gallery

**The Age of Alice: Fairy Tales, Fantasy, and Nonsense in Victorian England**

On view second semester, beginning February 12, 2015

An exhibition to mark the 150th anniversary of the publication of Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. Drawing on the Special Collections Library, the show includes nearly 40 works, dating from 1837-1901. In addition to Carroll, authors represented include Dickens, Tennyson, Lewis Carroll, George MacDonald, Christina Rossetti, Frances Hodgson Burnett, Oscar Wilde, Rudyard Kipling, and Edith Nesbit—many of whose writings have influenced today. A catalogue will accompany the exhibition.

Thompson Memorial Library

**Music Library Display: ModFest**

On view second semester, beginning January 28, 2015

The Vassar College Music Library presents a display highlighting ModFest music activities and musicians, curated by Sarah Canino, music librarian. Open daily.

Skinner Hall of Music, first floor

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**MODFEST 2015**

Vassar College is proud to present its thirteenth year as one of the nation’s leading college arts festivals. The 2015 MODFEST begins Saturday, January 31 and runs through Friday, February 6. The performing arts events take place from January 28 through February 14. For additional information, call (845) 437-5370 or visit: arts.vassar.edu.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
11:00am
Open Rehearsals: Mahagonny Ensembles Conducted by Julia Bosco-ell’ 15 and Sam Plotkin ’15. Composers Timothy Takach and Jesse Greenberg 13 coach the student-run contemporary groups in the prepara-
tion of their works. Following the rehearsal, there will be a lunch with an opportunity to speak with the composers in room 303 of Skinner Hall.

8:00pm
Concert by the Vassar Ensembles
The Vassar Ensembles perform works by Pete Hope and Criselda Lacerda. Audience: Drew Metter, performed works by Ingrid Fine and William Schuman; and the Mahagonny Ensembles perform a work by com-
posers Timothy Takach and a premiere by alumnus Jesse Greenberg ’13. Eduardo Navage, Julia Bosco-ell’ 15 and Sam Plotkin ’15, conductors.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8. See January 31.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
7:00pm
Film: Watch Out for the Car (Кармен смотрите за машину)!
A visually stunning example of Rostropovich’s “Thief” cinema. Owing to its depiction of criminal activity, this film, directed by Eldar Ryazanov, was shelved by the authorities at the time of its production but became an instant hit when re-
leased in 1966. With commentary by Rita Safarova, visiting assistant professor of Russian Studies.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11
3:30pm
Presentation: Music, Words, Dance and Images
Dance choreographed by Bella Kas纳税cher 14, chamber music and readings of original prose and poetry by students from the classes of Eduardo Nava
gue, lecturer in music and director of the program in chamber music. Jean Kane, associate professor of English and Michael Joyce, professor of English. A display organized by Zoe Lemelson, assistant professor of German.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
3:00pm
Performance: Melancholy Play
The Philadelphia Society performs a semi-staged reading of Sarah Ruhi’s Melancholy Play. In this contemporary farce, Til-
ly’s melancholy causes people to fall in love with her but one day, when sadness turns to joy, Tilly must help those around her who are negatively affected by her happiness. When her friend Frances puts herself in the position of Tilly’s job to get her back, Shades of Alice? Organized by Madie Oldfield’ 15 and Thomas Lawler ’15. Main Building, Rose Parlor, second floor.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
See January 31.