

Transformative Learning Spaces – College of Arts and Communication

The College of Arts and Communication graduates over 275 students every year. Our students practice the fine art of speech-making in Heide Hall, polish their on-air techniques at the Conover Television Studio housed within the Andersen Library, fire clay sculptures in the foundry, practice their percussion skills in the Light Recital Hall in the Greenhill Center of the Arts, and apply visual arts theory to gaming development in McGraw Hall. Ours is a relatively small college that has made a big imprint in the region. Daily, students are exposed to big ideas about art, music, theatre and dance, art and design and the coming together of all of these in digital environments. The impact of our programs on students reverberates across campus.



UW-Whitewater students Katherine Stull, left, and Andrew Condon demonstrate the interactive game they created based on the writings of Edgar Allen Poe at the MAGD Expo. Stull said the students worked about 14 weeks on the game, which could be used in schools at the middle school level to supplement a unit on Poe.

To best prepare the college for the next 150 years of excellence, we will complement our high-quality programs with investments in infrastructure to create transformative learning spaces for students. A new foundry for our sculpture students; retrofitted practice rooms to reduce sound bleed from one room to another; an expansion of music's primary rehearsal space to allow our popular ensembles to grow; a dedicated site for the storage, retrieval, and cataloging of theatrical costumes — these are the areas our staff and faculty have ranked high on their wish lists to better serve our students.

Although the college replaces outdated or damaged equipment on a regular basis, the 1970s footprint of the Greenhill Center for the Arts belies the university's reputation as a regional leader for the study of the arts and communication. *(continued)*



Assistant professor Rachel Wood coaches Haley-Marie Asher after her performance of "Senza mamma" by Puccini. A commitment to a consistent practice schedule is essential for performance majors to become professionals. UW-Whitewater seeks to create an environment where musicians can focus on their craft.



Students dance at the masked ball in UW-Whitewater Theatre/Dance's 2014 production of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet". An archived costume collection will be an interactive teaching tool and a resource for productions.

A contemporary rehearsal facility will ensure students perform in a state-of-the-art space that is acoustically appropriate for their needs. Professional-quality practice rooms create an intimate learning environment for students to perfect their craft. An archived costume collection is a treasure trove of teaching instruments that support costume design, construction and production.

Graduates of our programs often describe their experiences as life-changing. The attainment of a "best value" degree from UW-Whitewater's College of Arts and Communication is an indicator of a student's hard work and perseverance as they met the standards of excellence required of them by our outstanding faculty. Upgraded facilities and investment in our capital projects will catapult our successful programs to the higher level our students deserve. A gift to support the College of Arts and Communication's Transformative Learning Spaces capital campaign ensures transformational educational experiences at UW-Whitewater are still a tradition 150 years from now.