



MetroArts Celebrates a Decade of Showcasing Detroit's Top Performing and Creative Talent

**Tenth season of Wayne State's student-produced series debuts on Detroit Public Television
July 6**

DETROIT (June 16, 2021) – The 10th season of [MetroArts Detroit](#), produced at Wayne State University, will air on Detroit Public Television, WTVS TV (56.1), Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., starting July 6, 2021.

The new season of *MetroArts Detroit* includes nine shows produced with Wayne State student crew members at the 5057 Midtown studio, a cooperative venture among Wayne State University's College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts' Department of Communication and Detroit Public Television.

Now in its 10th season, the show brings awareness to up-and-coming talents while also supporting established artists who have worked in the metro Detroit area as advocates and community leaders. Each show is comprised of three segments, with guests who discuss their current work and their future endeavors. Depending on the discipline, the artists either perform or showcase their creative works. This season's host is Wayne State student Miranda Bryant. The producers are Kim Piper-Aiken and Gary Cendrowski.

"It has been such a great experience for me to work with and train hundreds of media production and broadcast journalism students who have worked on *MetroArts* the past 10 years," said Piper-Aiken, senior lecturer and journalism area head. "I have also had the pleasure of interacting with hundreds of amazing artists, musicians, dancers and other guests in the Detroit area, and I would like to thank them all for making the show possible."

"Detroit is blessed with an abundance of wonderful performers and artists, and at Detroit Public TV, we are delighted to partner with Wayne State on *MetroArts* to showcase this great talent," said Rich Homberg, president and CEO of Detroit Public TV. "Wayne State is an important cultural resource itself, not only as an incubator of the arts but also in its training of communications and broadcast students. This long-running show gives them an opportunity to hone their craft and build a career."

MetroArts features artists from the metro Detroit area who represent the disciplines of visual, performing and communication arts. The first show will include musical jazz clarinetist/musician Dave Bennett, along with the work of filmmaker Harley Wallen and fine artist Luzhen Qiu. As

the program celebrates its 10th season, it will feature an encore performance from singer-songwriter Sky Covington, who appeared in the first season.

Musical guests in later shows include singer-songwriter Esequiel, rocker Pat Smillie, reggae band HWT, R&B artist Presto Baker, award-winning jazz fusion ensemble Musique Noire, pop singer Raye Williams and folk duo Athens Creek. Viewers will also enjoy work from body adornment artist Nneka Jackson and the artistic creations of Tylonn J. Sawyer, Dennis Loren, Cheryl Marie Freeman, Jacob Nordin, John Cundy, Zuri Dean and Brach Tiller.

The show will highlight dance from Shu Wang, Cheryl Angelelli and Tamerlan Gadirov, and Thee Plastic Dollz. Additionally, this season will showcase fashion designer Rachna Chandra, special effects artist Dan Phillips and performance poet Bayan Founas. *MetroArts* will also revisit some favorite actors and sculptors from the past decade.

“Even though we filmed season 10 in the midst of a pandemic, we were still able to get a wide variety of talents on the show,” said Department of Communication M.A. candidate and season 10 host Miranda Bryant. “I couldn’t have asked for a better crew. We went in every week with our fingers crossed because we never knew when we would have another shutdown. It was a constant roller coaster, but we kept a positive attitude always! However, when we had the green light to film, we made sure we followed all protocols to ensure the safety of the crew and our special guests.

“I learned so much from interviewing the musical artists, dancers, painters, sculptors and more from the metro Detroit area,” Bryant continued. “I can’t wait for our viewers to hear about the journey of our guests and the effects the pandemic had on them. It’s definitely going to be a season to remember.”

Season lineup:

- Episode 1001: Guests include filmmaker Harley Wallen, fine artist Luzhen Qiu and jazz clarinetist/musician Dave Bennett
- Episode 1002: Guests include Chinese American dancer Shu Wang, body adornment artist Nneka Jackson and singer-songwriter Sky Covington
- Episode 1003: Guests include artist Tylonn J. Sawyer, some favorite actors from the first nine seasons and singer-songwriter Esequiel
- Episode 1004: Guests include para dance professionals Cheryl Angelelli and Tamerlan Gadirov, graphic artist Dennis Loren, and Pat Smillie and his band
- Episode 1005: Guests include hip-hop dance troupe Thee Plastic Dollz, some favorite sculptors from the first nine seasons and reggae band HWT
- Episode 1006: Guests include R&B artist Presto Baker, costume designer Cheryl Marie Freeman and performance poet Bayan Founas
- Episode 1007: Guests include automotive design sculptor John Cundy, glass artist Jacob Nordin and pop singer-songwriter Raye Williams

- Episode 1008: Guests include special effects artist Dan Phillips, artist Zuri Dean and jazz fusion ensemble Musique Noire
- Episode 1009: Guests include folk duo Athens Creek, fine artist Brach Tiller, and fashion designer Rachna Chandra and her models

Visit metroartsdetroit.com for additional guest information.

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About CFPCA

Established in 1986, the [College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts](#) (CFPCA) educates the next generation of visual artists, musicians, communication professionals, designers, art historians, art managers, actors and dancers. The college offers 17 undergraduate programs, 10 graduate programs and three graduate certificates through its departments: the [James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History](#), the [Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance](#), and the departments of [communication](#) and [music](#). The music and theatre/dance departments are nationally accredited, as are individual programs in communication and art and art history.