

College of Arts & Letters

HOMECOMING EVENTS – 2014

Thursday, October 16, 2014

1. Master Class with COAL Alumna

- a. Living the Dream - Composing and Publishing Music – PSU Theatre, Thursday, October 16, 2014 4-5 p.m.

Susan LaBarr, Composer -- Music Alum (BM 2004; MM 2007)



[Susan LaBarr](#) is an active, published composer, with works in print through Santa Barbara Music Company and Morningstar Music. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Master of Music in Music Theory at Missouri State University.

In 2011, Susan won the *Opus Award* for her compositions *Two Songs of Love Lost: Forever Gone* and *At Dawn of Day*. This award is selected by members of the Missouri Choral Directors Association. In 2012, Susan served as Composer-in-Residence for the [Chattanooga Girls Choir](#) (TN).

More recently, Susan served as the [Missouri Composer Laureate, 2012 and 2013](#), a position selected by the organization *Verses and Voices*, and chaired by Missouri First Lady, Georganne Nixon. She also works as Editor of Walton Music (susanlabarrmusic.com).

Location:

Plaster Student Union

1110 E. Madison St.
Springfield, MO 65897

Free parking available in Bear Park North, 754 E. Elm St., adjacent to Juanita K Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts.

Friday, October 17, 2014

1. Brick City Tours

Date, Time and Location: October 17, 2014 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Alumni, students, family and friends are invited to tour Brick City during Homecoming 2014. The urban oasis of creativity that juxtaposes concrete and conjecture and serves as the home of the Art & Design Department has space for classrooms, studio workshops and a gallery.



Location:

[Brick City](#)

215 W Mill St

Springfield, MO 65897

417-837-2330

2. Master Classes and Workshops with COAL Alumni:

a. Master Class in Video Game Development – Plaster Student Union Theatre, 12:20-1:40

Matt Raithel, Studio Director, Graphite Lab (St. Louis) - Electronic Arts Alum (2004)



[Matt Raithel](#) will return to Missouri State University on October 17th to talk about life in the video game industry and to take part in the College of Arts & Letters Homecoming activities.

He and his team at **Graphite Lab** in St. Louis, produced the mobile game app, [My Little Pony Party of One](#), which reached **#1 ranking in 73 countries by selling over one million downloads in one week** (August 3-10). The game was animated primarily by another MSU alum, **Matt Stevens** (BFA Animation '09), under the direction of **Matt Raithel** (EA Animation '04.)

Matt has worked in the gaming industry since 2004 when he joined [Black Lantern Studios](#) in Springfield, MO. He served as an Art Director, Director of Art and Design, Vice President of Operations, and Studio President at Black Lantern before becoming the Studio Director at Graphite Lab in St. Louis.

At [Graphite Lab](#), Matt leads a team of artists, programmers and designers to develop outstanding educational and entertainment products for kids. Focused on raising the bar for quality kid's mobile games and apps, his team is developing critically acclaimed experiences for kids by connecting curriculum and creativity in more meaningful ways.

Graphite Lab's game portfolio includes global brands such as My Little Pony, Play-Doh, Sesame Street, Dora the Explorer, Ben 10 and Zhu Zhu Pets built for platforms such as XBOX 360, Wii, DS, iPhone and Android devices.

b. Master Class in Contemporary Dance – Art Annex/Annex 5 – 12:20-1:40 pm

Darrell Hyche II, Modern American Dance Company (MADCO - St. Louis) – Dance Alum (2013)



[Darrell Hyche](#) II will return to Missouri State University on October 17th to conduct a master class in contemporary dance and to participate in the College of Arts & Letters Homecoming activities.

Darrell received his BFA in [Dance Performance](#) and BS in Psychology from Missouri State University in 2013. He was a member of the touring performance group, the Inertia Dance Company, under the direction of Ruth Barnes and Darryl Clark.

Mr. Hyche has performed with the Springfield Ballet and the Ashleyliane Dance Company. As a scholarship student at the American Dance Festival, he has worked with Brenda Daniels, Elizabeth Corbett, Sherone Price and T. Lang. He has also been in repertory works by William Forsythe, Nicholas Leichter and Merce Cunningham.

This will be Darrell's first season with [MADCO](#), under company director, Stacy West. In 2007, MADCO was invited to become the Professional Dance Company in Residence at the prestigious Blanche M. [Touhill Performing Arts Center](#) on the campus of University of Missouri St. Louis. The Touhill is the home for the company's daily activities including rehearsals, internship programs and its concert season.

Location:

Art Annex
1045 E Grand St
Springfield, MO 65897

c. COAL Alumni Panel: "Preparing for that First Professional Job or How I Survived the Biggest Professional Mistake I ever Made!" – PSU Theatre, 1:50 – 2:50 p.m.

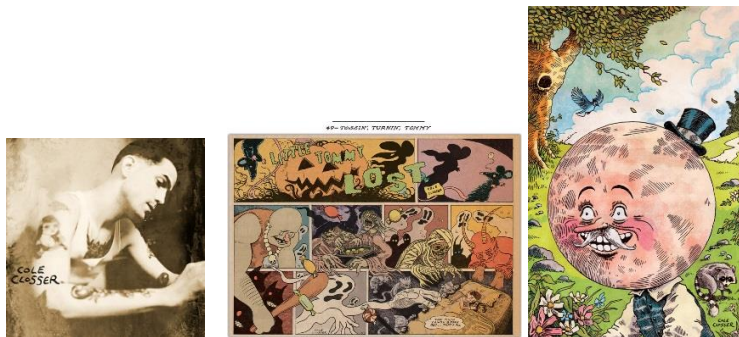
A conversation with Matt Raitchel, Darrell Hyche II, and Monte Kuklenski, hosted by Interim Associate Dean Mark Biggs. 1:50-2:50 p



[Monte Kuklenski](#) is among a group of MSU theatre and dance graduates who have gone on to do great things. His big break came in 1984 when he was the production/stage manager for the opening and closing ceremonies of the L.A. Olympics. Then, in 1988, "I got a call from an old friend who was working for a new, tiny network called Fox." He interviewed for a studio operations position, got it, and his role grew as the fledgling network flourished. Now, he oversees the building and operating of Fox broadcast centers around the country as Senior Vice President of Staging Services and Facilities for FOX Network Engineering and Operations.

d. Graphic Novels and Modern Storytelling – PSU Theatre, 3-4:00 p.m.

Cole Closser, artist, author and illustrator, Art & Design alum (2011)



[Cole Closser](#) is a Missouri cartoonist and illustrator of comics and graphic novels. He is a graduate of the BFA in Art Printmaking and Drawing programs at Missouri State University and the MFA program at [The Center for Cartoon Studies](#) in White River Junction, Vermont.

Cole will discuss the creation and publication of his graphic novel "*Little Tommy Lost*" which was featured in [Juxtapoz](#) magazine (August 2013) and named one of the ten best graphic novels of 2013 by [A.V. Club](#) (the Onion).

Cole will also be attending the COAL Wine and Cheese Alumni Reception in the Student Exhibition Center (5-6 p.m.) where his work is on display.

3. MSU Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony – PSU 3rd Floor, 4:15 p.m.

Come celebrate as COAL’s own **Dr. Donal Stanton, Professor Emeritus of the Communication Department** is added to the MSU Wall of Fame.

The **Wall of Fame**, located outside the ballroom in the Plaster Student Union (3rd floor), is where the university recognizes and honors employees who have excelled at Missouri State and significantly contributed to the success and positive collegiate experience of students.

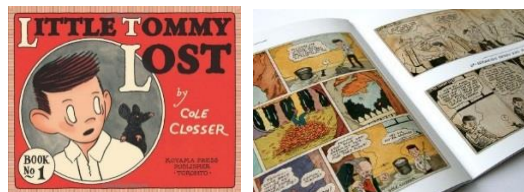
This year’s inductees include Linda Johnson, Marty Marty, John McAlear, Dr. George Swales, and Dr. Donal Stanton. Don created the socio-political communication major in the College of Arts & Letters at Missouri State. He used his passion for rhetoric and the political process to improve the life of the campus and community at large, and led generations of Bears to become great debaters.

4. COAL Wine and Cheese Alumni Reception – Missouri State University [Student Exhibition Center](#), 5-6 p.m.

The College will host a reception for Arts & Letters alumni in the Student Exhibition Center from **5-6 p.m. on Friday, October 17th**. All alumni are invited to attend this wine and cheese reception prior to the “Distinguished Bears” Alumni Dinner which will take place at the University Plaza Convention Center, 333 S. John Q. Hammons Pkwy.

An exhibition by Art & Design alum, Cole Closser, will be featured at the SEC. The show includes cartoons and drawings from his graphic novel, **Little Tommy Lost**, which was named one of the ten best graphic novels of 2013 by the A.V. Club (the *Onion*).

“Reminiscent of the newspaper strips and lushly illustrated Sunday comics of the early twentieth century, Cole Closser’s work is steeped in cartooning history, but filled with an unparalleled sense of the new.” Amazon.com



Location:

Missouri State University Student Exhibition Center (SEC)
838 E. Walnut St.
Springfield, MO 65804

Parking available in Bear Park North garage, just west of the Juanita K Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts. Or University Plaza Convention Center if you plan to attend the Alumni Dinner.

5. Missouri State University “[Distinguished Bears](#)” Alumni Dinner and Awards Ceremony – 6 p.m. University Plaza Convention Center

[Missouri State University alumni](#) and friends are invited to pay tribute to an exemplary group of Bears for their notable successes. Alumni and former faculty will be honored for their dedication, professional achievements and loyalty to Missouri State.

The evening will include a social hour, dinner and entertainment by Missouri State musicians and performers.

For further information please contact the [Office of Alumni Relations](#) at 417-836-5654.

Time and Location:

University Plaza Convention Center

333 S. John Q. Hammons Pkwy

Social time: 6 p.m. - Dinner: 6:45 p.m.

Saturday, October 18, 2014:

1. Missouri State University Homecoming Parade – 9 a.m.

Missouri State University’s Homecoming Parade will start at St. Louis St. and John Q Hammons Parkway and move south through the heart of campus to end at Grand St.

2. Maroon & White Men and Women’s Basketball Scrimmage – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. McDonald Basketball Arena



Let the good time roar at MSU’s 2014 Homecoming! Come enjoy a preview of MSU Basketball while supporting the College of Arts & Letters!

In a wonderful collaboration between Missouri State University’s Athletics and Academics, the basketball Bears and Lady Bears will host a Maroon and White Scrimmage on October 18th, with the proceeds from the scrimmages going to support the new College of Arts & Letters *Master Class Series*.

The \$5 ticket price paid by adults (children and students get in free) will support COAL’s 2014-15 *Master Class Series* designed to bring successful MSU Arts & Letters alumni back to campus to interact with students and the community. The Maroon & White Scrimmage will help underwrite the College of Arts & Letters 2014-15 Master Class Series.

You can attend both scrimmages for the price of one ticket. And both **teams will conduct an autograph session.** Posters and schedule cards will also be available.

Advanced Ticket Sales:

Maroon and White Scrimmage tickets may be obtained **online** through the COAL CASHnet storefront <https://commerce.cashnet.com/COAL?itemcode=COAL-HMTKT>.

Tickets may be purchased **in person** in Craig Hall, Rm. 106 between 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. M-F. *Temporary parking available on Grand St. just south of Craig Hall for those wanting to pick up tickets in advance. For additional information, phone: 417-836-5247.*

Tickets will also be available **at McDonald Arena** on Saturday, October 18th, starting at 8:30 a.m.

Parking for the scrimmage is free and open to the public. Park in Bear Park South (Grand and Holland Ave). Parking directions available online at <http://map.missouristate.edu/#!q=map>.

Location:

McDonald Arena

850 S Kings Ave
Springfield, MO 65897

3. College of Arts & Letters Homecoming Tent – Bearfest Village, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The College of Arts & Letters will host a tent at Bearfest Village on the MSU midway (between Carrington Hall and Meyer Library) directly in front of Plaster Sports Complex. We'll be serving lunch and would love to have all of our alumni drop by to reconnect with old friends and to meet our current students and faculty.

So stop by for a bite to eat and the chance to say hello!

Location:

MSU Bearfest Village – on the lawn between Carrington Hall and Meyer Library

4. Missouri State University Homecoming Football Game – Plaster Sports Complex, 2 p.m.



Cheer the Bears to victory when they defend the Missouri State gridiron against the South Dakota Coyotes! Have a roaring good time at the inaugural Homecoming game on the new turf and see the newly constructed student section.

During halftime, enjoy a performance by the Pride Marching Band and coronation of the homecoming king and queen.

Single tickets to the football game are \$12-22, and you can purchase them [online](#), at a Missouri State University [box office](#) or by calling 888-476-7849. For more information, visit the [Missouri State Bears website](#).