



Office for the Arts at Harvard

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PRESS RELEASE

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Office for the Arts Announces 2016 Arts Prize Winners

PRIZES BESTOWED ON ELEVEN HARVARD STUDENTS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

(Cambridge, MA)— The Office for the Arts at Harvard (OFA) and the Council on the Arts at Harvard, a standing committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, are pleased to announce the recipients of the annual undergraduate arts prizes for 2016.

The awards, presented to over 130 undergraduates for the past 34 years, recognize outstanding accomplishments in the arts undertaken during a student's time at Harvard. Council on the Arts members at the time of selection were: **Diana Sorensen** (Chair), James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages and of Comparative Literature and Dean of Arts and Humanities; **Diane Borger**, Executive Producer of the American Repertory Theater; **Federico Cortese**, Senior Lecturer on Music, Conductor of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra; **S. Allen Counter**, Director, Harvard Foundation; **Deborah Foster**, Senior Lecturer in Folklore and Mythology; **Jorie Graham**, Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory; **Christopher Hasty**, Walter W. Naumburg Professor of Music; **Jill Johnson**, Dance Director, OFA Dance Program, Senior Lecturer on Music; **Ruth Stella Lingford**, Professor of the Practice of Animation, Film Study Center Fellow; **Cathleen McCormick**, Director of Programs, Office for the Arts; **Jack Megan**, Director, Office for the Arts; **Diane Paulus**, Artistic Director, American Repertory Theater; **Matt Saunders**, Associate Professor of Visual and Environmental Studies; **Elaine Scarry**, Walter M. Cabot Professor of Aesthetics and the General Theory of Value and Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows; and **Marcus Stern**, Associate Director, American Repertory Theater/MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training.

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Alistair Debling '16, recipient of the Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts. The prize recognizes outstanding artistic talent and achievement in the composition or performance of music, drama, dance, or the visual arts. This prize honors the sum of a student's artistic activities at Harvard.

A resident of Adams House concentrating in Visual and Environmental Studies (VES), **Alistair Debling** is awarded this prize in recognition of his exceptional work as an actor, theatrical and musical director, and visual artist. Debling has performed in six undergraduate productions at Harvard, including *pool (no water)* and *Eurydice*. Debling has also directed several theatrical productions at Harvard – including *Mother Courage and Her Children* and two devised works, *FLIES* and *FEED* – all of which have emphasized collaboration and ensemble work. Debling has employed his various artistic skills to further these productions: he served as videographer and projectionist for *FLIES* and composed original music for *Mother Courage*. Professional acting credits include Bristol Old Vic Studio and National Theatre of Great Britain (*I Would Not*) and Bristol Colston Hall (*Coram Boy*). He has also worked as a director at the Bristol Old Vic Studio (*Wodwo*) and as a Musical Director at the Bristol Old Vic Studio (*Jason and Medea, The Rising, Shifting Voices*), Emmett Robinson Theatre College of Charleston (*Dancing at Lughnasa*), and the National Theatre of Great Britain (*The Grandfathers*). Debling's senior thesis project, an installation that combines two- and three-dimensional art, video, and film to explore drone warfare, will be part of the VES 2016 Studio Thesis Exhibition at the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts beginning April 29.

William Orman '16 and Renee Zhan '16, recipients of the Council Prize in Visual Arts. The prize recognizes outstanding work in the field of visual arts.

A resident of Kirkland House concentrating in Visual and Environmental Studies/Studio Art track with a secondary in History, **William "Billy" Orman** is awarded this prize for his work in sculpture, installation and performance. Orman works with an eclectic array of media, creating sculpture, bricolage, and sound installations, including public art installations for the ARTS FIRST festival; *Veneer* (2014) and *Path, Replaced* (2015). Orman has also worked as a technician on several theatrical productions at Harvard: serving as technical director for the Harvard Early Music Society's *Dido and Aeneas, Acis and Galatea*, and *Alexander's Feast*, and as lighting designer for the student-written production *#Queers*.

A resident of Leverett House concentrating in Visual and Environmental Studies, Film/Animation track, **Renee Zhan** is awarded this prize for her work in animation. Zhan's animation work includes the short films *Sex Ed* (2015), *Pidge* (2014), *Fish Juice* (2014) and *Emotion Juice* (2013). She received a 2014 Artist Development Fellowship to study at the Gobelins International Summer School for character animation in Paris. Her films have been screened at the Telluride Film Festival, Melbourne International Animation Festival and Athens Animefest. An illustrator and art editor for *The Harvard Lampoon*, Zhan has also set designed for Harvard theater productions (*Is He Dead?* and *The Motherf**cker with the Hat*), and was poster artist for two Hasty Pudding Theatrical shows (HPT165 & 166). After graduation, she plans to pursue a career in animation.

Olivia Miller '16, recipient of the Radcliffe Doris Cohen Levi Prize. The prize recognizes a Harvard college student who combines talent and energy with outstanding enthusiasm for musical theater at Harvard and honors the memory of Doris Cohen Levi, Radcliffe '35.

A resident of Cabot House concentrating in English, **Olivia Miller** is awarded this prize for her work in musical theater productions as an actress and operatic performer. Miller has performed in over a dozen theatrical productions at Harvard. Notable musical theater roles include Beth in *Little Women*, April in *Company*, Trix in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and Squeaky Fromme in *Assassins*. Miller has also been featured in several operatic productions, including *Hansel and Gretel*, *Cendrillon* (Naomie), *The Mikado* (Yum Yum), and most recently in *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Josephine). She has also performed at regional theaters including The Stoneham Theatre (*The Rimers of Eldritch*, *My Fair Lady*) and the North Shore Music Theatre (*Tarzan*). Miller will be attending Brown University/Trinity Repertory Theater's MFA acting program in the fall.

Garrett Allen '16, recipient of the Louise Donovan Award. The award recognizes a Harvard student who has done outstanding work behind the scenes in the arts (e.g., as a producer, accompanist, set designer, or mentor and leader in the undergraduate arts world).

A resident of Mather House concentrating in Psychology with a secondary field of Theater, Dance and Media, **Garrett Allen** is awarded the Louise Donovan Award for his work as a theatrical technician, director, and mentor. Allen has worked on more than 20 undergraduate theatrical productions at Harvard in various capacities, including as a producer and assistant producer (*Little Murders*, *The Pillowman*, *Fault, FLIES*), stage manager (*Is He Dead?*, *pool (no water)*, *Julie Cooper: Genesis Prayer*), lighting designer (*Endgame*, *Julie Cooper: Genesis Prayer*, *Raised in Captivity*, *The Thing About Air Travel*), assistant director (*OSCAR at the Crown...*, *Assassins*, *Julie Cooper: Genesis Prayer*), and director (*Stranger*, *The Pitchfork Disney*). Allen's upcoming directorial project *The Wonderful World of Dissocia* can be seen on the Loeb Mainstage April 22-30. He also served as the Technical Liaison of the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club (2014-15). Allen has also worked as an artistic intern at several professional theaters, including the American Repertory Theater, The New Victory Theater, and the Soho Repertory Theater. A 2016 Artist Development Fellowship recipient, Allen plans to pursue a career in directing.

Tessa Markewich '16, recipient of the Suzanne Farrell Dance Prize. Named for the acclaimed dancer and former prima ballerina of New York City Ballet, the prize recognizes a Harvard undergraduate who has demonstrated outstanding artistry in the field of dance.

A resident of Dunster House concentrating in History and Literature, **Tessa Markewich** has performed extensively with Harvard Dance Project, Harvard Ballet Company, Harvard-Radcliffe Modern Dance Company (HRMDC) and CityStep. She has participated in over 15 performances including the Harvard Art Museums Student Opening, *LOOK UP* with the Harvard Dance Program, and various HRMDC shows including *Tempo*, *Mosaic*, *On the Run* and *Counterpoint*. In addition to performing, Markewich served as a Co-Producer for the ARTS FIRST festival's DanceFest, organizing and coordinating over twenty different student groups for the dance performance fair at the Science Center Plaza.

Magdalene Zier '16, recipient of the Robert E. Levi Prize. This prize acknowledges a Harvard College senior who has demonstrated outstanding arts management skills over the course of an undergraduate career. The recipient's dedication, organizational talent and creative problem solving, as well as ability to nurture artistry, have been critical factors in the success of one or more arts organizations and/or projects. The award honors the memory of Robert E. Levi, Harvard College class of 1933 and Harvard Business School, MBA, 1935.

A resident of Quincy House concentrating in History and Literature with a secondary in African American Studies, **Magdalene Zier** has produced, stage managed and costume designed for over 14 Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club (HRDC) productions in every major theatrical space on campus. She has also served on the Executive Board of the HRDC as Loeb Ex Coordinator (2013-14) and President (2014-15). Zier was a Program Intern for the American Theatre Wing (2014), assisting with administration of the annual SpringboardNYC program for young artists and interned at the Gate Theatre in London as part of the Harvard-Cambridge Fellowship Work Placement Program (summer 2015).

Alexander Beyer '17 and Joshuah Campbell '16, recipients of the Robert Levin Prize In Musical Performance. This prize has been established to recognize an extraordinarily gifted undergraduate musician, preferably of the senior class. The award honors Robert Levin '68, Professor Emeritus and former Dwight P. Robinson Jr. Professor of the Department of Music at Harvard University.

A resident of Winthrop House enrolled in the Harvard/New England Conservatory (NEC) joint five-year AB/MM program concentrating in Mathematics, pianist **Alexander Beyer** has appeared as guest soloist with the Milwaukee, Charlotte, Hartford, Irish National, New Haven, Waterbury, and Bridgeport Symphony orchestras among others. He has recently performed in the Irish National Concert Hall, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Paul Hall, Stamford Palace Theater, Weill Recital Hall, the New World Center and Woolsey Hall. As a winner of the NEC Piano Honors Competition he made his Jordan Hall debut in 2014. This past fall he performed Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 with the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra in Sanders Theatre. At the 2015 U.S. Chopin Competition he received Sixth Prize, and was the recipient of the Third Prize, as well as the Beethoven and Orchestra special awards at the 2015 Dublin International Piano Competition. Beyer has studied with Yoshie Akimoto, Dr. Matti Raekallio, and Melvin Chen. He currently studies with Russell Sherman and Wha Kyung Byun at NEC.

A resident of Pforzheimer House jointly concentrating in Music and Romance Languages and Literatures (French and Francophone Studies), vocalist **Joshuah Campbell** has performed with VoxJazz, the Harvard Krokodiloes and the Hasty Pudding Theatricals. He has also been featured in a number of theatrical productions at Harvard, including *Dreamgirls* (Jimmy Early), *Songs for a New World* (Man 1), *Mother Courage and Her Children* (Soloist/Ensemble), and *A Raisin in the Sun* (George Murchison). Campbell recently completed a performance-based senior thesis project concerning Black American musicians in Paris, under the advising of Professors Alice Jardine and Vijay Iyer.

Max McGillivray '16, recipient of the Jonathan Levy Award. This prize recognizes the most promising undergraduate actor at the College.

A resident of Dunster House concentrating in Visual and Environmental Studies with a secondary in History, **Max McGillivray** is a four-year cast member of the Hasty Pudding Theatricals who most recently performed in the inaugural production of the Theater, Dance and Media concentration, *The Man Who*. A proctor (film) for the Freshman Arts Program, McGillivray has appeared in a number of Harvard Radcliffe Dramatic Club productions in various venues, including the Loeb Mainstage (2013 Visiting Director's Project *Antigonick*) and Loeb Experimental Theater (*Macbeth* and *Closer*). He has also directed for the stage several times; notable directing credits include *Daisy* in the Loeb Experimental Theater and *Red*, the first undergraduate production performed in the newly renovated Harvard Art Museums.

Trevor Mullin '17, recipient of the Alan Symonds Award. The Alan Symonds Award, administered by the Office for the Arts and given by the Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan Players (HRG&SP) in honor of Alan Symonds '69-'76, HRG&SP alumnus and former Technical Director for Harvard College Theatre, recognizes outstanding work in technical theater and commitment to mentoring fellow student technicians.

A resident of Mather House concentrating in Government, **Trevor Mullin** has been involved as technical director or set designer for over 12 productions with the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club, Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan Players, and The Hyperion Shakespeare Company. Mullin recently served as producer for HRG&SP's 60th anniversary production of *H.M.S. Pinafore* at Agassiz Theatre. His most recent set design work can be seen in the upcoming Adams Pool Theater production of Walt McGough's *Chalk*.

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The Office for the Arts at Harvard (OFA) supports student engagement in the arts and integrates the arts into University life. Through its programs and services, the OFA teaches and mentors, fosters student art making, connects students to accomplished artists, commissions new work, and partners with local, national, and international constituencies. By supporting the development of students as artists and cultural stewards, the OFA works to enrich society and shape communities in which the arts are a vital part of life. For more information about the OFA, call 617.495.8676, or visit www.ofa.fas.harvard.edu.