

The Arts at Duke and in the Triangle

The arts are an integral part of the Duke community and the cultural life of North Carolina. Duke offers undergraduate and graduate courses in art history, theater, dance, music, the visual arts, documentary studies, film and video, and offers a wide variety of multidisciplinary arts programs that enrich the campus and community. Seven performance spaces—from the amphitheater at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens to the 1,200-seat Page Auditorium—host internationally renowned musical ensembles, dance companies, touring theatrical productions and pre-Broadway productions.

Throughout the year, the *Chamber Arts Society*, *Broadway at Duke*, *Duke Artist Series*, *On Stage*, *Major Attractions* and other groups present professional performances and new works in theater and dance. In addition, Perkins Library, the John Hope Franklin Center for Interdisciplinary and International Studies, the Center for Documentary Studies and other spaces display rotating visual arts exhibitions. The university also hosts the American Dance Festival and numerous other programs in the arts.

The Nasher at Duke is one of several art museums within the "Triangle" of North Carolina, which includes Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill and small communities in between. The North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh boasts a strong collection of European art; the Ackland Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill holds a vast collection of Asian art and is known for its European painting and sculpture; the North Carolina Central University Art Museum in Durham specializes in African-American and African art; and the Contemporary Art Museum in Raleigh is a "museum without walls."

Triangle residents support many annual arts festivals, including Centerfest and Festival for the Eno in Durham, Artsposure in Raleigh, Apple Chill in Chapel Hill and Clydefest in nearby Pittsboro. For the Durham Art Walk, and monthly Culture Crawl events, local artists open their studios to the public. Artspace, Inc., a visual and performing arts center in downtown Raleigh, features 30 artists working in open-to-the-public studios and presents a variety of exhibitions, lectures and educational activities. The Triangle is also home to several professional theatre companies, including Playmakers Repertory Company in Chapel Hill, Manbites Dog Theater in Durham and the North Carolina Theatre in Raleigh.

Other local cultural offerings include Durham's Museum of Life and Science, with one of the largest butterfly houses in the Southeast; the new amphitheatre at the American Tobacco Historic District in Durham; the annual Full Frame Documentary Film Festival in Durham; the professional Carolina Ballet in Raleigh; the North Carolina Museum of History and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh; the North Carolina Symphony in Raleigh; Long Leaf Opera in Chapel Hill; and Exploris, an interactive children's museum in downtown Raleigh with the area's only IMAX theater.