

25 YEARS 1993-2018



CREATIVE CATALYST

A professional development initiative of
The Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts
at UNC School of the Arts

THOMAS S.
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INSTITUTE
FOR THE
ARTS

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Established at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts

TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY

THOMAS S.
KENAN
INSTITUTE
FOR THE

ARTS

BUILDING CREATIVE COMMUNITY





THOMAS S. KENAN, III

25 YEARS

The Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts was established in 1993 to strengthen the arts by initiating and incubating new ideas within the various constituencies and settings of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. By using the extraordinary talents and creative energies of students, faculty, alumni and staff to bring distinction to the University, the Kenan Institute acts as a springboard to the wider creative community. Since its founding, the Kenan Institute for the Arts has received generous and consistent support from the William R. Kenan, Jr. Fund for the Arts. In particular, Frank Hawkins Kenan, who served on the original UNCSCA Foundation Board, was instrumental in founding the Institute, which was named in honor of his son, Thomas S. Kenan, III, in recognition of his long-time association with the school, where he has served on the Foundation Board, Board of Trustees, Board of Visitors, Giannini Society and International Music Program staff.

1993-2018

A CATALYST FOR THE ARTS

The Kenan Institute for the Arts celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, continuing to serve the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA), the arts sector and the Southeast by empowering artists to create, lead and innovate. As a returning alumna of UNCSA, I am especially honored to have led the Kenan Institute since 2013, as well as to have served on its Advisory Board from 2003-2006. To mark our silver anniversary, we offer this photo essay to reflect on the last six years of programming, as well as preview new initiatives that we hope will pave the way to future creative impact.

Serving as a creative catalyst for the University and its stakeholders is central to the Institute's mission. We are dedicated to helping students, faculty and staff incubate their new ideas, launch their entrepreneurial enterprises and embed their creative practices in communities. Over the past six years, our grantmaking to our diverse stakeholders has enhanced UNCSA's curriculum and supported strategic as well as faculty development on campus.

The Kenan Institute has also worked diligently to establish programs that help UNCSA graduates as well as regional artists develop sustainable career pathways. In addition to our highly regarded Fellowships, more than 80 local artists have graduated from our Arts Enterprise Lab, which offers training and coaching for creatives who are in the process of founding or expanding enterprises. We also co-founded and co-funded the Chancellor's Artpreneur Initiative in 2017 to support graduating students and alumni endeavors of the highest merit, artistic excellence or innovative potential.

Fundamental to our work is the belief that artists contribute to making communities more vibrant through their leadership and ideas, as well as their projects. Creative communities are healthier communities, and the Institute has launched numerous programs—including the Creative Community Lab, ArtistCorps at UNCSA, Winston-Salem's Community Innovation Lab, and Happy Hill Arts—to strengthen the positive impact of the arts on neighborhoods and cities.

In 2018 the Kenan Institute for the Arts launched the Creative Catalyst Initiative, a five- year strategic plan to empower the next generation of artist leaders, entrepreneurs and innovators, and to continue to build creative community both on UNCSA's campus and across North Carolina . We believe we can powerfully position UNCSA as an innovative hub for the Southeast's creative economy while also providing extraordinary training and access for diverse artists to achieve their highest potential.

COREY MADDEN,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





CHRYSLIS CHAMBER MUSIC INSTITUTE

Clockwise from left: A UNCSCA Strategic Capacity Grant from the Kenan Institute helped the School of Music establish the Chrysalis Chamber Music Institute; School of Dance Dean Susan Jaffe was awarded a Dean's Innovative Grant to support the Choreographic Institute Development Residency; Faculty Leadership Grants support faculty like percussion professor John Beck (pictured here with UNCSCA students), who received a grant in 2016 to fund his research on the connection between drumming and healing.



UNCSCA SUPPORT

CHOREOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE DEVELOPMENT RESIDENCY





ARTPRENEUR GRANTS



ARTS ENTERPRISE LAB

CAREER PATHWAYS



FELLOWSHIPS

The Kenan Institute's Fellowship Program has evolved to include partnerships with grassroots organizations like SPACE on Ryder Farm (top right), an artist residency program established by UNCSA alumna Emily Simoness, and the Creative Catalyst Fellowships, launched in 2019 (bottom center and bottom left). The Kenan Institute has led the Chancellor's Artpreneur Initiative, which awarded the inaugural Artpreneur Grant recipients in 2018, including two alumni, one faculty member and four graduating students (top left). The Institute's mission also extends beyond the campus boundaries. Since 2015, the Arts Enterprise Lab (center top) has supported the creative endeavors of more than 80 members of the local community.



CREATIVE CATALYST FELLOWS





COMMUNITY INNOVATION LAB

BUILDING CREATIVE COMMUNITY

AND SO WE WALKED



CREATIVE COLLABORATORY



COMMUNITY INNOVATION LAB

Clockwise from bottom right: ArtistCorps places UNCSA students and alumni with local schools and community organizations; performances of *And So We Walked: An Artist's Journey Along the Trail of Tears* and *ARDEO* (funded by a Kenan Creative Collaboratory) include community outreach programming; the Institute was part of the nation's first Community Innovation Lab in 2015; the place-based arts & cultural initiative Happy Hill Arts is a collaboration between the Happy Hill neighborhood, the UNCSA School of Dance and the Kenan Institute.



HAPPY HILL ARTS



ARTISTCORPS



ARTIVATE

CREATIVE CATALYST INITIATIVE



CREATIVE PLACEMAKING



CREATIVE PLACEMAKING

Through its 2018-2022 Creative Catalyst Strategic Plan, the Kenan Institute will continue to invest in the next generation of artist leaders through existing programs, like its creative placemaking initiative (top center) that invites artists to propose unique approaches to complex challenges in their communities, and new ones, including an online certificate program, an expanded fellowship program (bottom center) and a yearly creative summit called Artivate (top left and bottom right).



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