

ICE Annual Report FY20

I. OVERVIEW

Mission

Ideas for Creative Exploration (ICE) is a catalyst for innovative, interdisciplinary creative projects, advanced research and critical discourse in the arts, and for creative applications of technologies, concepts, and practices found across disciplines. It is a collaborative network of faculty, students, and community members from all disciplines of the visual and performing arts in addition to other disciplines in the humanities and sciences. ICE enables all stages of creative activity, from concept and team formation through production, documentation, and dissemination of research.

Support

In FY20 ICE received support from the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and the Graduate School. Throughout its history, ICE has been supported by the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Lamar Dodd School of Art, Department of Dance, Department of English, Department of Theatre and Film Studies, Hugh Hodgson School of Music, the Georgia Museum of Art, and the generous support of many volunteers, businesses, and individuals.

Governance

David Saltz is the Executive Director and Mark Callahan is the Artistic Director of ICE.

The Advisory Board consists of the Artistic Director and thirteen members appointed by the Executive Director for a three-year renewable term. The Advisory Board shall include one student representative.

The following Advisory Board members served in FY20:

Chris Cuomo (Women's Studies and Philosophy)
Lauren Fancher (Athens community)
Connie Frigo (Music)
Chris Garvin (Art)
David T Gay (Mathematics)
Moon Jung Jang (Art)
Anthony Marotta (Theatre and Film Studies)
Jed Rasula (English)
Bala Sarasvati (Dance)
Peter Van Zandt Lane (Music)
Meredith Welch-Devine (The Graduate School)
Andrew Zawacki (English)
Phil Brankin (Student Representative)

The following faculty served on the Graduate Research Assistantships Ad Hoc Committee:

Marla Carlson (Theatre and Film Studies)
Adrian Childs (Music)
Isabelle Wallace (Art)
Meredith Welch-Devine (The Graduate School)

See **Appendix A** for the ICE Bylaws.

Graduate Assistantships in Interdisciplinary Arts Research

Graduate School Assistantships in Interdisciplinary Arts Research foster expanded research activity at UGA and serve as a beacon to the most innovative graduate candidates in the arts. Three assistantships per year are awarded to students entering programs in Art, Music, and Theatre and Film Studies. Assistantship recipients receive two years of funding from the Graduate School, followed by a third year of funding from the appropriate home department in the form of a Departmental Assistantship.

Graduate assistants in their second year are Alex McClay (Art), Kelly Catlin (Music), and Phil Brankin (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants in their first year Annie Simpson (Art), Elizabeth Boyce (Music), and Brandon LaReau (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants starting in August 2020 are Rachel Seburn (Art), Bryan Wysocki (Music), and Meg Grey (Theatre and Film Studies).

In FY20 an ad hoc committee was formed to provide guidance for the Graduate Assistantships in Interdisciplinary Arts Research program. The committee includes graduate coordinators from Art, Music, and Theatre and Film Studies, and Meredith Welch-Devine. The committee focused on improving communication with departments to increase recruitment potential and to better recognize the accomplishments of the Graduate Research Assistants.

See **Appendix B** for a report of Graduate Assistant activities.

Partnerships

The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts is a showcase for faculty innovation and achievement. It facilitates intellectual exchange with the University and the public by the encouragement of interdisciplinary activity, which extends to the sciences and other orders of knowledge. The mission of the Willson Center is to promote research and creativity in the humanities and arts. It supports faculty through research grants, lectures, symposia, publications, visiting scholars, visiting artists, collaborative instruction, public conferences, exhibitions, and performances. It is committed to academic excellence and public impact.

Idea Lab is a UGA student organization committed to providing an open, interdisciplinary platform for engagement with topics in arts.

The Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR) is an interdisciplinary research and training unit that focuses on environmental conservation and sustainability.

The Office of Sustainability coordinates, communicates, and advances sustainability initiatives at UGA in the areas of teaching, research, service and outreach, student engagement, and campus operations.

UGA is a partner of the Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru), an alliance committed to transforming research universities to ensure the greatest possible institutional support for arts-integrative research, curricula, programs and creative practice between the arts, sciences, and other disciplines. It is committed to supporting the growing body of high-quality scholarly and creative production most attainable when disciplines are free to experiment within and across their boundaries.

II. PROJECTS and EVENTS

Idea Lab Conversation Series

In FY20 ICE continued a series of public events focusing on topics related to creativity, interdisciplinary collaboration, and research in the arts.

Funding Creativity
September 6, 2019

Do you ever wonder where all the money is going in the arts? ICE Graduate Research Assistants Phil Brankin, Kelly Catlin, and Alex McClay presented research on trends in support, recently funded projects, and insight into what grantmaking organizations look for based their study of the National Endowment for the Arts, Creative Capital, and the MAP Fund.

CREATE Athens with Erin Barger
November 15, 2019

What is the role of the arts in Athens community development? Erin Barger, Project Manager of Envision Athens, presented information about the CREATE Athens action group. CREATE Athens recently produced a report about the impact of arts and culture in Athens in three key areas: economic development, education, and civic engagement. Erin Barger entered the role of Project Manager for Envision Athens after serving as a citizen representative on the Steering Committee for this movement in 2017.

Arts + Food
Friday, January 31, 2020

What is the role of the arts in addressing local and global issues of food production, access, and waste? ICE Graduate Research Assistant Elizabeth Boyle led a conversation about artists projects and the new Foodshed UGA initiative. Foodshed is a project of the Sustainable Food Systems Initiative, Office of Service-Learning, and the Office of Sustainability in collaboration with valued campus and community partners to enhance the social infrastructure at UGA, engage the campus as a living laboratory, and support experiential learning, research, and public service and outreach to promote food security and sustainable food systems at UGA and in the communities we serve.

The Under Presents
February 28, 2020

A participatory exploration of the intersection of live cabaret, drag, puppetry, motion capture, time travel, and virtual reality. *The Under Presents* is a collaboration between Oculus, Piehole (experimental theatre company) and TenderClaws (immersive storytelling collective). Participants used Oculus headgear and experienced this ambitious undertaking of immersive performance art as a virtual reality experience.

Unsettling "Monument"
Cancelled due to COVID-19

ICE Graduate Research Assistant Annie Simpson created a presentation about artists challenging the status-quo of what a monument "ought to be." What is the necessity of speculative fiction, strategies of resistance, and counter-narrative in public space?

Arts Research, Material Reuse, and Makerspace Waste
Cancelled due to COVID-19

A presentation by Abigail West, UGA alumna and creative waste reduction specialist, based on field research and meetings with UGA makerspace coordinators.

Artist as Leader

October 29-30, 2019

ICE hosted Corey Madden, Executive Director of the Kenan Institute for the Arts, for a series of artist leadership events including a seminar for faculty and administrators, graduate workshop, public lecture, and consulting on programming and partnerships. Corey Madden is an award-winning writer and director and a faculty member at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. At the Kenan Institute for the Arts Madden directs strategic initiatives that creatively blend the arts, enterprise, and innovative practice to positively impact the lives and careers of artists. Three programmatic themes — Creative Leaders, Creative Campus, and Creative Community — feature programs and projects that provide training and access for artists to develop and achieve their highest potential. Madden produces the interview series, “The Artist as Leader,” and teaches a course of the same name.

Ad•Verse Fest

March 6-7, 2020

Ad•Verse Fest was a two-day festival showcasing solo and duo performers who blur the line between the musical, visual, and performative arts. Produced by former ICE Graduate Research Assistant AC Carter, the festival received support from Ideas for Creative Exploration, a grant from the Athens Area Arts Council, the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, Lamar Dodd School of Art, Flagpole Magazine, and in-kind support from multiple businesses. Events were hosted by ATHICA and Caledonia Lounge. For more information visit: www.adversefest.space.

Performers:

Dynasty Handbag
LEYA
Wizard Apprentice
Bustié
Stacian
Romantic Thriller
Mischa Lively
Breathers
Mischa Lively and Mannequin Lover
The Queendom
Breathers
Saadia Rais
Peachy
Secret Friends
Diatom Deli
KAELIN
Thank You Please
Josey (F.L.E.D.)
Bacon Grease
Buddy Crime
John Kiran Fernandes
Ivy Hollivana
Home Body
N/A Dance Party with Essential Oil and Jhenetics

Ecopoetics Reading and Publication

Postponed due to COVID-19

ECHO: a collection of eco-poetic works features nine works from writers Brenda Hillman, Ben Rutherford, Paul Cunningham, Holly Haworth, Connor Fisher, Genevieve Arlie, and Aviva Kasowski. The book was designed and printed by ICE Graduate Research Assistant Alex McClay and bound in an edition of 70. There will be both a deluxe edition of 20 books bound with a hard cover and a standard edition of 50 books bound with a paper cover. The release of the book was planned to coincide with Brenda Hillman's visit to UGA.

Brenda Hillman was born in Tucson, Arizona and has been an active part of the Bay Area literary community since 1975. She has published chapbooks with Penumbra Press, a+bend press, EmPress, A Minus Press, and Albion Books and is the author of ten full-length collections from Wesleyan University Press, the most recent of which are *Practical Water* (2009), winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Award, *Seasonal Works with Letters on Fire* (2013), which received the International Griffin Poetry Prize for 2014 and the Northern California Book Award, and *Extra Hidden Life, among the Days* (2018). Brenda Hillman event supported by the Helen S. Lanier Chair of the Department of English at UGA.

Idea Lab Mini Grant Program

The Idea Lab student organization partners with ICE to facilitate a mini grant program modeled after the ICE Project Grant program. Idea Lab members create a call for proposals, communications plan, public information sessions, selection committee, and budget strategy. Projects are selected based on their creative merit, extent of collaborative and interdisciplinary activity, and feasibility.

Exploring Research as Craft was selected as a presentation for the 2019 a2ru national conference hosted by the University of Kansas. The November 7-9 event featured discussions, white papers, posters, exhibitions, performances, and workshops around the theme of *Knowledges: Artistic Practice as Method*.

Project leaders Cydney Seigerman (Integrative Conservation and Anthropology) and Alden DiCamillo (Lamar Dodd School of Art) initiated their research through the Idea Lab Mini Grant program and worked with ICE Graduate Research Assistant Alex McClay to facilitate production of an innovative three-part workshop series designed to promote cross-disciplinary communication by conceptualizing research and practice as craft. Workshop participants included graduate students from art, anthropology, ecology, English, forestry, microbiology, and landscape architecture.

Exploring Research as Craft was also featured in the Special Inaugural Edition of *Ground Works* created for the a2ru 2019 conference. This new journal is a peer-reviewed platform founded by a2ru in collaboration with Carnegie Mellon University for exemplars in integrative arts research.

a2ru Emerging Creatives Student Summit

Four UGA students were selected to participate in the a2ru 2020 Emerging Creatives Student Summit, *RISE UP! Risk Something Real*, at the University of Cincinnati. The a2ru Emerging Creatives Student Summits bring together students who have an interest in the arts, crossing disciplinary boundaries, and developing collaborative projects. Each year, approximately 120 undergraduate and graduate students attend the summit from a2ru partner universities across the country, along with 20-30 administrators, faculty, and staff. These summits have a strong project-based component with activities such as panel discussions with special guests, keynote speakers, site visits or field trips, performances and exhibitions, networking opportunities, and skill-building experiences built in throughout. One of the collaborative projects developed during the summit by students from UGA and the University of Wisconsin was awarded a \$5,400 Beasley Broun grant.

Unsolved: Math + Design

Moon Jung Jang (Art) and David T Gay (Mathematics) received a UGA Creative Teaching Award for their innovative work in design and mathematics. Jang and Gay began their collaboration with the support of ICE, producing a 2017 workshop called *Unsolved: Math+Design* and a Math Outreach Design Lab and exhibition.

Arts + Environment

ICE plays a leadership role in arts + environment initiatives at UGA with key partners the Center for Integrated Conservation Research (CICR), and the Office of Sustainability. In FY20 ICE coordinated team meetings, workshop design, and two site visits from Dance Exchange as part of an Innovations in Graduate Education grant from the National Science Foundation for *Enhancing Imaginative and Collaborative STEM Capacity through Creative Inquiry*. The project will bring together a diverse group of graduate students from STEM and arts disciplines to address issues in the local watershed using creativity-based training methods from the arts. This project will investigate the impact of targeted creativity training on the ability of STEM students to frame problems in new ways and help diverse teams solve complex problems. If successful, widespread adoption of these methods will contribute to equipping STEM graduates across the country with communication and collaboration skills and ultimately increase creative and innovative solutions to complex global environmental challenges.

COVID-19 Response

ICE partnered with the Willson Center to support *Shelter Projects*. The micro-fellowship program invited graduate students and community-based artists and practitioners in the creation of shareable reflections on their experience of the current pandemic through the arts and humanities. Co-sponsors included the Graduate School, the UGA Arts Council, the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, and Flagpole magazine.

ICE contributed to the design and selection process of the *Earth Day 2020 (Art) Challenge* hosted by the Office of Sustainability. The competition and online exhibition invited artists to share connects with and appreciation the earth, people, or other living creatures to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. Co-sponsors included the Athens Area Arts Council, Flagpole Magazine, Center for Integrative Conservation Research, Georgia Museum of Art, Odum School of Ecology, Sustainability Certificate Program, and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts.

ICE Graduate Research Assistant Alex McClay created an online digital version of *ECHO: a collection of eco-poetic works* in collaboration with participating artists who contributed home recordings of readings of their work.

APPENDIX A: ICE BYLAWS

Executive Director

The Executive Director is responsible for the budget and overall direction of ICE. The Executive Director is appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The Executive Director reports to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Artistic Director

The Artistic Director is responsible for the daily operation of ICE. The Artistic Director is appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The Artistic Director reports to the Executive Director of ICE.

Advisory Board

Membership of the Advisory Board consists of the Artistic Director and thirteen members appointed by the Executive Director for a three-year renewable term. The Advisory Board shall include one student representative. The Advisory Board gives counsel to the Executive Director on ICE's goals, policies, and procedures. The Advisory Board shall convene at least once each academic year. The Executive Director or any member of the Advisory Board may convene a meeting of the board at any time with at least one week of prior notice. A simple majority of the Advisory Board constitutes a quorum.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee consists of five members of the Advisory Board appointed by the Executive Director for a one-year renewable term. The committee should represent a diversity of perspectives and academic disciplines inside and beyond the arts, and might include faculty of any rank, staff, students, and community members. The Steering Committee gives counsel to the Executive Director and Artistic Director on ICE-sponsored programs, activities, and operations, and makes recommendations to the Executive Director, Artistic Director, and the Advisory Board regarding ICE's policies and procedures. The Steering Committee shall convene at least twice a year, in the Fall and Spring semester.

Ad Hoc Committees

The Executive Director shall create ad hoc committees to address specific issues and initiatives as necessary. Members of these committees are appointed by the Director for a term of up to three years, eligible for renewal. The chair of each committee will provide a report to the Advisory Board at least once a year.

Amendment Procedures

The Bylaws may be amended by a vote of nine members of the Advisory Board. Amendments to the Bylaws must be submitted to Board members at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which the vote is taken. The ballot may be taken by mail if all members are not present at the designated meeting.

APPENDIX B:

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS RESEARCH

Background

Graduate students have been at the heart of Ideas for Creative Exploration (ICE) from its inception in 1999. The ICE Project Grant program, a competitive support structure for collaborative research, established a track record of projects initiated by or involving significant contributions from graduate students. Graduate students in the arts are a driving force behind the development of interdisciplinary creative research at UGA, and in 2008 their ongoing participation led to the creation of a special research assistantship administered by ICE.

Graduate School Assistantships in Interdisciplinary Arts Research foster expanded research activity at UGA and serve as a beacon to the most innovative graduate candidates in the arts. Three assistantships per year are awarded to students entering programs in Art, Music, and Theatre and Film Studies. Assistantship recipients receive two years of funding from the Graduate School, followed by a third year of funding from the appropriate home department in the form of a Departmental Assistantship.

Selection Process

Graduate applicants are invited to submit an additional statement with their application materials to be considered for the assistantships. Each one-page statement contains a description of the applicant's research interests and any previous experience in interdisciplinary or collaborative environments.

Graduate Coordinators in Art, Music, and Theatre and Film Studies submit up to five nominees each for the assistantships. A five-member selection committee reviews the nominations and ranks them within each department. Nominees are considered based on their potential to conduct research in accordance with the ICE mission to generate innovative, truly interdisciplinary creative projects and critical discourse in the arts.

The FY20 selection committee included the following members:

Judy Milton, Assistant Dean, Graduate School
David Saltz, Executive Director, ICE
Marla Carlson, Graduate Coordinator, Theatre and Film Studies
Adrian Childs, Graduate Coordinator, Music
Isabelle Wallace, Graduate Coordinator, Art

Research Support Structure

The graduate assistantship awards require a sixteen-hour per week work commitment. During the first two years of study, recipients develop creative research under the auspices of ICE. Assistantship duties include the student's own collaborative work across disciplines and facilitating projects and proposals with faculty, students, and community members. Individual departments assign duties during additional years of study.

Current Graduate Assistants

Graduate assistants in their second year are Alex McClay (Art), Kelly Catlin (Music), and Phil Brankin (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants in their first year Annie Simpson (Art), Elizabeth Boyce (Music), and Brandon LaReau (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants starting in August 2020 are Rachel Seburn (Art), Bryan Wysocki (Music), and Meg Grey (Theatre and Film Studies).

Contributions to Interdisciplinary Arts Research

Graduate assistants play an integral role in providing administrative support to ICE, facilitating interdisciplinary events that make research in the arts available to the UGA and Athens communities, participating in faculty-led projects, and creating self-initiated projects.

ICE graduate research assistants worked collectively on the following projects and tasks:

- Administration of Idea Lab, a UGA student organization committed to providing an open, interdisciplinary platform for engagement with topics in arts.
- Administration of the Idea Lab Mini Grants program, including development of criteria, call for proposals, public information sessions, formation of selection committee, and administration of awards.
- Arts funding research. Review local, national, and international funding sources for research in the arts, expansion of ICE Internet resources for those seeking funding, study reports of organizations and projects that receive funding nationally, alerting individual faculty of potential funding opportunities.
- Assistance with publicity for ICE events (press releases, campus flyers, and departmental announcements).
- Planning, facilitation, and logistical support for the Idea Lab Conversation Series public events.
- Content development for ICE Announcements and social media outlets.
- ICE project digital archive (2000-present). Ongoing database management of documentation materials from ICE-supported projects. Organization of archival materials, video capture and rendering, creation of document files to navigate archive, research equipment and software needs for maintenance of archive.
- Orientation for new ICE graduate research assistants, including technical demonstration of ICE office equipment (media software, HD video and sound production).
- Participation in a graduate artist leadership workshop with Corey Madden, Executive Director of the Kenan Institute for the Arts.

ICE graduate research assistants worked individually and collaboratively on the following projects and tasks:

- Phil Brankin, Kelly Catlin, and Alex McClay produced the Idea Lab Conversation *Funding Creativity*.
- Phil Brankin, Kelly Catlin, and Alex McClay collaborated on a guide for ICE Graduate Research Assistants to create personal career portfolios.
- Elizabeth Boyce produced the Idea Lab Conversation *Arts+Food*.
- Phil Brankin produced the Idea Lab Conversation *The Under Presents*.
- Annie Simpson produced the Idea Lab Conversation *Unsettling "Monument"* [cancelled due to COVID-19].
- Kelly Catlin served as a student representative on the UGA Arts Council.
- Alex McClay served as a liaison and participant in the *Research as Craft* project.
- Phil Brankin collaborated with archivists and researchers from UGA's Special Collections Library, choreographers and performers from Spelman College, educators from Common Good

Atlanta, professors and directors from UGA and Morehouse College and incarcerated collaborators for the production of *[The Georgia Incarceration Performance Project]* presents: *By Our Hands*. The project received an honorable mention for Outstanding Public History Project by the National Council on Public History.

- Phil Brankin served as student representative on the ICE Advisory Board.
- Kelly Catlin founded and produced *Millennium*, a multimedia pop/orchestral fusion ensemble. The ensemble performed in downtown Athens, the ACES Career Day event, and in the Dancz Center for New Music. Catlin interviewed and selected students for roles of Video Content Creator, Social Media Manager, Music Librarian, Operations Officer, and Recruitment Assistant.
- Phil Brankin and Annie Simpson served as stage managers for *Ad•Verse Fest*.
- Elizabeth Boyce participated in monthly committee meetings for Foodshed UGA, a project of the Sustainable Food Systems Initiative, Office of Service-Learning, and the Office of Sustainability in collaboration with campus and community partners.
- Kelly Catlin and Elizabeth Boyce collaborated on a video performance featured in the *Earth Day 2020 (Art) Challenge* online exhibition.
- Kelly Catlin performed at the Integrative Conservation Conference “Conservation and the Arts: UGA Researcher-Composer Collaborations” event.
- Alex McClay produced *ECHO: a collection of eco-poetic works* featuring nine works from writers Brenda Hillman, Ben Rutherford, Paul Cunningham, Holly Haworth, Connor Fisher, Genevieve Arlie, and Aviva Kasowski. She designed, printed, and bound a deluxe edition of 20 and a standard edition of 50 books bound with a paper cover. In response to COVID-19 she created an online digital version in collaboration with participating artists who contributed home recordings of readings of their work.
- Alex McClay and Annie Simpson received a2ru Travel Grants to support participation in the a2ru Emerging Creatives Student Summit.
- Alex McClay attended the a2ru national conference in support of the *Exploring Research as Craft* presentation.
- Alex McClay co-facilitated a workshop at the Integrative Conservation.
- Alex McClay wrote and published *A Book for Cooperation* as a resource for Ideas for Creative Exploration.
- Kelly Catlin served as a *Spotlight on the Arts* volunteer for multiple events.
- Alex McClay collaborated with creative writer Sam Regal on *Turbulent Femme || toward a radical future*, a publication and exhibition in the Dodd Galleries.
- Kelly Catlin conducted preliminary research on arts entrepreneurship and university innovation districts.
- Alex McClay and Kelly Catlin participated in the 4’33” research communication competition during UGA Spotlight on the Arts and received Honorable Mention awards.
- Alex McClay and Phil Brankin participated in the UGA Three Minute Thesis competition.
- Alex McClay collaborated with students in Art and Political Science to develop the digital publication *Cynosure Volume II: See You//See Me*.

- Elizabeth Boyce facilitated the establishment of an Athens chapter of If Music Be the Food, a national volunteer organization for food benefit concerts.
- Brandon LaReau participated in a workshop prototype supported by the National Science Foundation.
- Brandon LaReau conducted preliminary research on arts and veteran issues.
- Annie Simpson conducted preliminary research on social change through the arts.
- Annie Simpson and student collaborators at UGA and the University of Wisconsin were awarded a Beasley Broun grant for their project “Strange Boat” (\$5,400). This inter-disciplinary project engages tactical public history, speculative fiction, and collective poetics to re-imagine the Savannah River adjacent to the US Department of Energy’s Savannah River Nuclear Site.

Individual Accomplishments

- Alex McClay and Phil Brankin received Graduate Research awards from the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts.
- Alex McClay was featured in *Reflection and Refraction: Portals Through Time* at the Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation in Watkinsville, Georgia.
- Alex McClay was featured in *Golden Hour* at the Dodd Galleries at UGA.
- Alex McClay was featured in *Fine Contemporary Craft* at ArtSpace in Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Alex McClay was featured in *Hello Neighbor*, an exhibition and performance of interactive work produced by Vurv Collective in Austin, Texas.
- Alex McClay was selected for participation in *ArtFields* in Lake City, South Carolina. [cancelled due to COVID-19].
- Alex McClay was selected for *Black Mountain College {Re}happening* in Black Mountain, North Carolina [cancelled due to COVID-19].
- Alex McClay was selected for *Fresh Blood Show* in Atlanta [cancelled due to COVID-19].
- Alex McClay was selected for *Fresh Works* at Cabarrus Art Council in Cabarrus, North Carolina [postponed due to COVID-19].
- Kelly Catlin was selected to be in the first cohort of UGA’s Innovation Bootcamp for faculty and doctoral/post-doc students. She worked closely with Innovation Gateway faculty and local entrepreneurs to learn commercialization techniques, develop innovative business practices for Millennium.
- Kelly Catlin served on the Student Composers’ Association Leadership Team.
- Kelly Catlin’s composition, *Presence for Four Violas*, was performed on a recording for the American Viola Society Viola Ensemble Competition preliminary recordings.
- Kelly Catlin was commissioned by flutist Norman Menzales, Principal Flutist with the Great Falls Symphony and Fort Collins Symphony, to write a piece for flute and fixed media. The piece will be performed at the 2021 National Flute Association Convention in Washington, D.C.
- Phil Brankin acted as Media Designer for the production *She Kills Monsters*.

- Phil Brankin co-facilitated a performance workshop with incarcerated students hosted by Common Good Atlanta.
- Phil Brankin was a presenter at the 2020 *Art and Education for Social Justice Symposium*.
- Phil Brankin worked as Projections/Media Coordinator on the production *Vanity Fair*.
- Elizabeth Boyce volunteered at UGarden and Foodbank NEGA.
- Elizabeth Boyce advanced to the third stage of application for the Philanthropic Educational Organization's Scholar Award [review in progress].
- Elizabeth Boyce co-founded the UGA Viola Ensemble, which won a place in the Collegiate Ensemble Division of the American Viola Society competition.
- Elizabeth Boyce participated a Bach recording project for the Hugh from Home series.
- Brandon LaReau received a Richmond Theatre Critic's Circle Award.
- Brandon LaReau presented a paper, "The Costume as Character: A Critical Exploration of Lynn Nottage's Use of Textiles in Intimate Apparel," at the MidAmerica Theatre Conference in Chicago.
- Brandon LaReau has a book review published in a forthcoming edition of the New England Theatre Journal.
- Brandon LaReau received a Sylvia Pannell Travel Grant to support the presentation of work in progress.
- Annie Simpson's work as a 2019 National Fellow with Monument Lab will be in part of a Shaping the Past, a partnership between Monument Lab, the Goethe-Institut, and the Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung (German Federal Agency for Civic Education).

Outcomes Assessment

"I worked with Alden DiCamillo and Cydney Seigerman as producer and project coordinator last year for their project *Exploring Research as Craft*. This year, I encouraged them to apply to the a2ru National Conference in Lawrence, KS and they were accepted to present. I was able to attend the conference with them as support. This experience taught me to follow through with my work and to really take advantage of the opportunities provided by Ideas for Creative Exploration, the Willson Center, and Lamar Dodd School of Art." [Alex McClay]

"Working on *ECHO: a collection of eco-poetic works* has been a challenging growth experience. Although I have experience publishing fine press books, I did not have experience publishing with significant funding for a project, printing such a large edition size, and working with creative writers to publish their works. Challenges included time management, communication with the writers, editing, and changes in the project due to Covid-19. However, I learned so much and was impressed with my ability to organize and create such a large publication, handle ordering materials on a budget, and work collaboratively on a deadline. I feel like this project has given me insight into the nature of publishing in the real world, which will inevitably guide my future career and research agendas." [Alex McClay]

"My research on Innovation Districts across the country has given me the opportunity to create a plan for future university arts entrepreneurship programs. It allowed me to explore cutting-edge entrepreneurship education models which I

can carry into my work as a future university educator. Based on the trends and practices I've observed, I am prepared to develop a comprehensive interdisciplinary entrepreneurship program that educates artists and musicians to become successful businesspeople." [Kelly Catlin]

"Working with faculty and students in other disciplines has encouraged me think on a broader scale about arts leadership and arts research. While working as a Graduate Student Representative on the UGA Arts Council, I was given the opportunity to shape the conversation about which specific arts events on campus to highlight. These conversations opened my eyes to unseen questions of funding and visibility and perceived value. I better understand the organizational mechanisms needed in order to foster communication between heads of arts departments and achieve important administrative goals." [Kelly Catlin]

"Ideas for Creative Exploration made my acceptance into the first cohort of UGA's Innovation Bootcamp this semester possible. This program allowed contact with Terry College of Business faculty and local entrepreneurs. I also worked closely in group settings alongside faculty from the Grady College of Journalism, the Department of Physics and Astronomy, the Division of Biological Sciences in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. This diversity allowed for innovative perspectives and mentoring that sets my experience at UGA apart from others'." [Kelly Catlin]

"I spent this semester focused on major projects that I was luckily able to see through before the extenuating circumstances of the pandemic. The third phase of my cross-institutional, devised theatre piece [*The Georgia Incarceration Performance Project*] Presents: *By Our Hands* culminated in a production in Atlanta at Spelman College. I used my time as dramaturg to research the artist's role in performing the archive and community engagement with marginalized populations. I presented my research in my first conference talk at the *Arts & Education for Social Justice Symposium*." [Phil Brankin]

"*She Kills Monsters* marked the first production in which I was working in a design capacity, let alone the lead designer. This level of responsibility enabled me to take on a leadership role in order to achieve the ambitious goals of the production. What started off as a small aspect of the show that would include media was quickly expanded to complex projections happening through the entire performance. In order to achieve this, I formed and led a team in delegation and careful management of tasks. The final outcome was better than I could have imagined." [Phil Brankin]

"*By Our Hands* was less uncharted territory in terms of the tasks I was undertaking in a literary capacity for the production, but the sheer scale and cross-institutional aspect was a new challenge that required another strong level of discipline and dedication. Again, I consciously expanded my role and input into the production and my work became integral to the overall mission of the production. I formed important, meaningful bonds with a number of colleagues with the promise of future collaborations by the time our work had concluded for the semester. The subject matter and process of the production has moved me closer towards a dissertation topic." [Phil Brankin]

"Through the ICE assistantship, I have been pushed to explore all possibilities by attending events, applying for grants and scholarships, and meeting new people. Through navigating these areas outside of my comfort zone, I have honed a new set of skills. One of these skills that has become enhanced through my first semester with ICE is my ability to confidently network with individuals at events, articulately, while maintaining my essence as a person. Another skill which I have been practicing this semester is grant/scholarship proposal writing. I applied for

the Campus Sustainability Grant and the Philanthropic Educational Organization Scholar Award, both of which I would not have applied for without the motivation from my ICE assistantship." [Elizabeth Boyce]

"I have taken on greater responsibility in my specific field of research which aims to identify intersections of my two greatest passions: food and art. In late January, I hosted an Idea Lab conversation on the topic of food and the arts. The event consisted of a presentation of projects which I felt best reflected current research being done on the intersection of these topics. After the presentation, the attendants and I discussed the need for more of this kind of research and how we, as creative thinkers, might be able to bring this forward thinking to Athens." [Elizabeth Boyce]

"This global pandemic has forced so many of us out of our normal lives, some of us prospering with this newfound free time and others of us feeling alone and uninspired. In retrospect, I feel as though the past year has prepared me for dealing with this challenge that we all now face. Mark Callahan, the Artistic Director for Ideas for Creative Exploration, is constantly asking us to reframe our concerns with the world around us into thoughtful research questions. Take the example of a situation with which we are all too familiar: sheltering in place. With this order came such a vast array of problems for performing artists—how can I continue my career without live performance? A lot of musicians have been forced to sign up for unemployment benefits, as sources of performance income have all suddenly dried up. The current climate begs the question about what the future of live music will be. Since we don't know when things will be back to "normal," it has left me and many others thinking, "How can we maintain a future for live music in this climate?" Musicians have responded to this question by digitally collaborating via video recordings to create the sense of normalcy and togetherness." [Elizabeth Boyce]

"The Ideas for Creative Exploration assistantship has heightened my sense of belonging to the local community of artists. It allows for more opportunities to network and bounce ideas off other creative thinkers. More than anything, however, the time I have spent in this assistantship has led me to feel a greater responsibility for the future of the arts and fellow artists around me. As a creative thinker, it is up to me and my peers to fight to have our voices heard and to advocate for so many around us who haven't been given the privilege and opportunity that comes with being an Ideas for Creative Exploration research assistant." [Elizabeth Boyce]

"The ICE Assistantship has allowed me to learn, grow, and create with freedom and support. The weekly meetings with other people in similar situations such as mine allow me to learn how to work as an individual and as a group. I particularly enjoyed the shared task of hosting the meetings and working from an agenda. ICE has taught me how to work better with people with contrasting personalities, and as a result, my interdisciplinary collaboration skills have dramatically improved. ICE is constantly showing me new and inventive ways to solve age-old problems, and will no doubt have a dramatic impact on my future as an educator, administrator, and creative." [Brandon LaReau]

"ICE has had a profound impact on my success this semester. In addition to the friendships and connections I have made, I have been able to operate with complete confidence and agency as I look for ways to incorporate arts research into other disciplines. As my career goals and personal interests point towards academic administration, understanding the scope and inner workings of a major federal grant have provided me with invaluable experience that I can take forward with me throughout my career. ICE has allowed me to take an honest

assessment of my leadership competencies and recognize what skills need to be more carefully developed and what skills are currently useful. By having the opportunities to work with people from many different disciplines, I am able to become a more well-rounded and fully realized leader, creative, and human."
[Brandon LaReau]

"The Ideas for Creative Exploration Graduate Research Assistantship has allowed me, over the past year, to really dig into a rigorous research practice that I doubt would have been possible with a departmental assistantship. I've expanded my grant-writing skills, interpersonal networking skills, and project managing abilities. As a result, my studio practice has benefitted and been made more sustainable from both grant awards and a "research as craft" approach. The Ideas for Creative Exploration cohort provides a unique opportunity to engage in with other students completing serious artistic research outside of material-based studio explorations. Not to mention, the assistantship has encouraged me to engage with communities in Athens, outside of the art school and the University."
[Annie Simpson]

"Through the Ideas for Creative Exploration Graduate Research Assistantship, I've learned that development of soft-skills and inter-personal relationships are integral to an interdisciplinary research practice. Working collaboratively has given me a deep appreciation for iterative process and an understanding that when working with others, process is more important than outcome. I enjoy our weekly meetings as they offer a chance for intimate vulnerability within the cohort where we can look to each other for advice, affirmations, or constructive critique to keep projects and research on a cultural vanguard." [Annie Simpson]