

Jefferson 
College

PACE

PERFORMING ARTS *and*
CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

2025-26 SEASON

Dedication transcends mere passion;

it is the unyielding commitment to mastering a craft that often speaks louder than the spoken word. It is unwavering patience and repetition. It is embracing change in all its forms to pursue authenticity and create something for all to enjoy.

It is devotion.

Through this endless devotion to our craft, the fine arts at Jefferson College have remained dedicated to bringing the people of our community mesmerizing music performances, enchanting art displays, and creative theatre productions – all while the Fine Arts building is under renovation. The renovation continues in 2025 but so will our dedication to you, our community. We will return to our wonderful Fine Arts Theatre in the spring of 2026 dedicated to a continuation of outstanding programming.

TICKETS



ONLINE

jeffcopace.ludus.com

(Advance tickets available online only.)

AT THE DOOR (CASH ONLY)

Available before the show until sold out.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 636-481-3369 or boxoffice@jeffco.edu

Thanks to our proud PACE sponsor:



**ENTERPRISE
BANK & TRUST®**

MEMBER FDIC



You Can Become a Patron of the Arts!

Donate to the Jefferson College Fine Arts Programs online through the Jefferson College Foundation: <https://bit.ly/JC-PACE>

VISITING ARTISTS



MO
CM

Missouri Chamber Music Festival

SEPTEMBER 7

3 PM • FINE ARTS CHOIR ROOM

For 15 seasons, the Missouri Chamber Music Festival has excited audiences in the St. Louis region with dazzling performances of innovative programs. Festival Director Nina Ferrigno, piano, is joined by Nathan Lowry, Sixto Franco, and Davin Rubicz for a special concert highlighting these powerhouse pieces of chamber music!

Kaija Saariaho, *Cloud Trio*

Caroline Shaw, *Thousandth Orange*

Gabriel Faure, *Piano Quartet No. 1 in C minor, Op. 15*

Nathan Lowry, violin

Sixto Franco, viola

Davin Rubicz, cello

Nina Ferrigno, piano

SPRING JAZZ SHOWCASE *featuring* **Reggie Thomas and Mardra Thomas**

MARCH 12

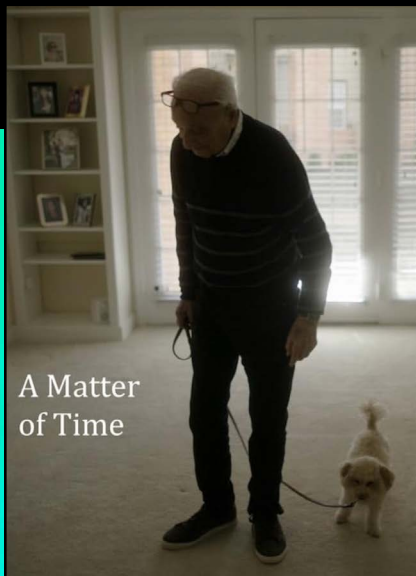
7:30 PM • FINE ARTS THEATRE

REGGIE THOMAS recently retired as Director of the renowned Jazz Studies Program at Northern Illinois University. He previously served as Professor of Jazz Piano at Michigan State University and spent two decades on the music faculty at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. He now performs as pianist for the legendary Count Basie Orchestra and appears regularly in jazz festivals and venues around the world. His recording credits include several projects

as leader and co-leader, notably *Matters of the Heart* with his wife, vocalist Mardra. An active jazz educator, Thomas serves as a juror for South Africa's Unisa International Piano Competition and the American Pianists Association. He coaches for the NYO Jazz Orchestra at Carnegie Hall and teaches in their Summer Music Educators Workshops. He has also worked with Jazz at Lincoln Center's Essentially Ellington Program and the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz. Thomas has directed All-State Jazz Ensembles and taught at summer jazz programs nationally and internationally. He is a recipient of the Excellence in the Arts award from the Greater St. Louis Arts and Education Council and was named Best Jazz Artist by the *Riverfront Times*.

MARDRA THOMAS's singing and acting career launched after opening for Dizzy Gillespie's 70th birthday celebration. For more than two decades, she has been the featured vocalist with the Birch Creek Academy Jazz Orchestra and performs with The Legendary Chicago Jazz Orchestra. She also tours with groups like Trio Nexus and The Reggie Thomas Ensemble, recording albums such as *Fade to Blue* and *Matters of the Heart*. She has performed at major jazz festivals, including Jazz at Lincoln Center's Essentially Ellington Festival and the North Sea Jazz Festival. As an actor, Mardra has starred in productions such as *Having Our Say*, *Crowns*, *Front Porch Society*, and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, the latter earning her a nomination for Chicago's "Best Leading Actress Lena Horne Award." She continues to perform on theater, concert, and club stages nationwide.





FILM SCREENING “A Matter of Time”

APRIL 14

7 PM • FINE ARTS THEATRE

A Matter of Time is an award-winning short documentary shot in St. Louis over the course of 18 months that focuses on the journey of two senior citizens. Exploring the issues of housing, loneliness, ageism, and senior living, the film celebrates the everyday senior for the warrior that they are, and makes the viewer question what they will do when aging comes for them. It's only a matter of time...

The film running time is 30 minutes, followed by a Q&A session with the film's director **Brendan Brandt** and composer **Joel Vanderheyden**.

Grammy-nominated Trombonist/Composer **Alan Ferber Nonet**

APRIL 16

7:30 PM • FINE ARTS THEATRE

Multiple Grammy-nominated trombonist and composer Alan Ferber, hailed as “one of the jazz world’s premier composers and arrangers for larger groups” (All About Jazz-NY), was named 2022’s Rising Star trombonist by *DownBeat* magazine. He has released nine albums as a bandleader, most recently *Up High, Down Low* with his celebrated Alan Ferber Nonet on Sunnyside Records. For this show, Ferber will perform music from that album with an all-star group featuring top players from St. Louis and both coasts.

From 2020-2022, Ferber lived in St. Louis’s Compton Heights neighborhood, where he deepened local musical ties while the pandemic halted touring. That period inspired new work with area musicians including Bob Deboo (bass), Adam Maness (piano), Vince Varvel (guitar), and saxophonists Joel Vanderheyden, Chris Cheek, and Bennett Wood – all of whom will join him April 16 at Jefferson College. Though Ferber and Cheek have since returned east, this reunion is made even more special by the addition of Ferber’s identical twin, L.A.-based drummer Mark Ferber. They’ll perform music created during Ferber’s St. Louis years, along with new material.



Open Mic Poetry Night

MARCH 26

7 PM • FINE ARTS THEATRE

This open mic poetry event is free and open to everyone! Please bring poems that will take two minutes or less to read. Please send an email in advance that includes your name and what you plan to read: tboehme@jeffco.edu. Note: some of the poetry may involve adult language and concepts and may not be suitable for children.

ART

Faculty Art Exhibition

Sept 22 – Oct 23 • Administration Building Lobby

Visiting Artist: Emily Denlinger

November 3 – 28 • Administration Building Lobby

Emily Denlinger is a 2D and time-based collage artist, voting rights advocate, and art professor. Denlinger has worked as Area Head and Professor of Photography & New Media at Southeast Missouri State University since 2009. Originally from Ohio, she received a BFA in 2D Art with a Concentration in Photography from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. She went on study at Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, Maryland, where she earned a MFA in Photography and Digital Imaging. Denlinger's artwork has been exhibited and collected internationally.

Associate of Fine Arts (AFA) Exhibition

March 2 – 27

Fine Arts Gallery

High School Art Show

March 30 – April 10

Fine Arts Gallery

Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition

April 28 – June 26

Fine Arts Gallery



48 Hour Film Festival

Make a short film in 48 hours. Anyone can enter.

Kick-off: March 13

Films Due: March 15

Screening: April 24

Cash Prizes!

THEATRE

Directed by
Dr. Rebecca Ellison

ONE ACTS TO RULE THEM ALL



FALL PLAY

"One Acts to Rule Them All"

OCTOBER 10–12

FRIDAY & SATURDAY @ 7 PM

SUNDAY @ 2 PM

Library – 1st Floor

FREE ADMISSION

"One Acts to Rule Them All" is a collection of one act plays and monologues exploring relationships, family, love, and all the things that make us fallible humans.

The MIRACLE WORKER



SPRING PLAY

"The Miracle Worker"

FEBRUARY 26–28, MARCH 1

THURSDAY @ 10 AM

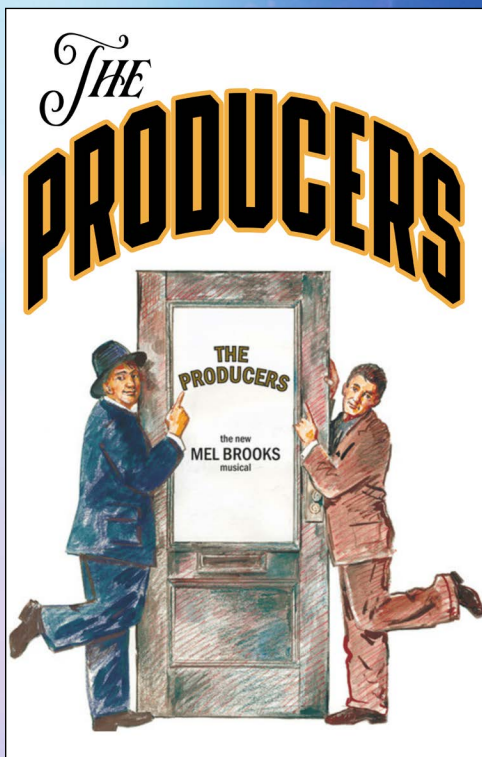
FRIDAY & SATURDAY @ 7 PM

SUNDAY @ 2 PM

Fine Arts Theatre

\$5 GENERAL ADMISSION • \$2 STUDENTS/SENIORS/MATINEES

This Tony Award-winning play is the story of Annie Sullivan and her student, Helen Keller, who lost her sight and hearing at the age of 19 months. With compassion, humor and dramatic tension, *The Miracle Worker* explores the volatile relationship between a lonely teacher and her headstrong charge. Trapped in a secret, silent world, unable to communicate, young Helen is violent and spoiled, treated by her family as subhuman. Only Annie sees a mind and spirit waiting to be rescued from Helen's dark, tortured silence. After scenes of intense physical and emotional struggle, Helen's breakthrough finally arrives with the utterance of a single, glorious word: "water."



SUMMER MUSICAL "The Producers"

JUNE 19–21 and 26–28

FRIDAY & SATURDAY @ 7 PM

SUNDAY @ 2 PM

Fine Arts Theatre

\$10 GENERAL ADMISSION • \$5 STUDENTS/SENIORS/MATINEES

The plot is simple: a down-on-his-luck Broadway producer and his mild-mannered accountant come up with a scheme to produce the most notorious flop in history, thereby bilking their backers (all "little old ladies") out of millions of dollars. Only one thing goes awry: the show is a smash hit! The antics of Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom as they maneuver their way fecklessly through finding a show (the gloriously offensive "Springtime for Hitler"), hiring a director, raising the money and finally going to prison for their misdeeds is a lesson in broad comic construction. At the core of the insanely funny adventure is a poignant emotional journey of two very different men who become friends.

Please Note: Plays may contain adult language & situations.

Jefferson College offers live dramatic productions each year, ranging from Shakespeare to murder mysteries to musicals. Students and community members are welcome to audition for plays based on details found in the audition announcements. Volunteers are also welcome to support the theatre productions by assisting in set construction and technical work.



Celebration of Creative Works

APRIL 28 @ 2:30–5 PM • FINE ARTS THEATRE

Jefferson College students and employees gather to read poems, short stories...and who knows what else? Readers at this event have been published in *Controlled Chaos*, a literature and arts journal produced each year by the Jefferson College Writing Club. Copies of the journal will be available to purchase at the event.

Free and open to everyone!

MUSIC

CHOIR

October 7

Choral Benefit Concert

7 PM • Rickman Auditorium

Combined choir concert with Windsor, Fox, Seckman, and Festus High Schools to benefit a local food pantry. (Suggested donation of \$5 per adult or two canned goods)

October 12

Fall Choral Concert *"The Earth Adorned"*

4:30 PM • Hillsboro Baptist Church

December 6

Ye Olde Madrigal Feaste

7 PM • Student Center – Café • Tickets \$40

Jefferson College Chamber Singers & Instrumental Chamber Ensembles perform an evening of Madrigal & Renaissance music, with a side of wassail, coffee, dinner & traditional English desserts.

December 7

Winter Choral Concert *"Celebrate!"*

3:30 PM • Windsor High School Auditorium

May 9

Spring Choral Concert *"Dance!"*

3 PM • Fine Arts Theatre

JAZZ

October 28

Jazz Ensemble

7 PM • Jefferson R-7 High School

March 12

Spring Jazz Showcase featuring Reggie Thomas and Mardra Thomas

7:30 PM • Fine Arts Theatre

April 16

Jazz Ensemble opening for Visiting Artist **Alan Ferber Nonet**

7:30 PM • Fine Arts Theatre

WIND ENSEMBLE

November 6

Wind Ensemble Concert @ Seckmann High School

December

Wind Ensemble Concert @ Windsor High School (Date TBA)

May 5

Wind Ensemble Concert

7:30 PM • Fine Arts Theatre

Visit the PACE webpage for the most current information, or email eoverton@jeffco.edu.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT INAUGURAL CONCERT *featuring* **Jefferson College Choirs, Wind Ensemble & Jazz Combos**

March 8 @ 3 PM • Fine Arts Theatre

Join our music department as we celebrate our first performance in our newly renovated Fine Arts building! We are very excited to share this space with our music audience! Come hear some grand works with all three choirs and wind ensemble combined! Enjoy some lobby entertainment by our jazz department, and take a tour of our new rehearsal space!

Greater St. Louis Honor Band November 8

Touhill Performing Arts Center (St. Louis)

Woodwind Day/ Brass Day April 18

Fine Arts Building

Jazz Ensemble

The Jazz Program at Jefferson College covers the history of jazz and provides performance opportunities in big band and small combo formats, focusing on works by influential jazz composers and bandleaders. It also explores contemporary jazz and student/community compositions. Guest artists and clinicians frequently collaborate with the ensembles. The program is open to both students and community members.

Choir

The Community Chorale is a large, mixed chorus for community members, high school, and college students, performing a range of music and open to all. The Concert Chorale is a large, mixed chorus for Jefferson College students, also performing varied music and open to all enrolled students. The Chamber Choir is a small, select ensemble of Concert Chorale members, performing diverse music with placement by audition.

Wind Ensemble

The Wind Ensemble at Jefferson College performs top-quality wind literature, including both core and contemporary works. It plays twice each semester in the Jefferson College Theatre and participates in community events. The ensemble includes music majors, non-majors, high school students, and adults from Jefferson County. The Music Department also offers chamber ensemble opportunities.



For the most current information visit
www.jeffco.edu/PACE

AMERICA 250

1776
2026



WORDS AND STORIES OF A NATION

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the American Semiquincentennial, Jefferson College Library will host a series of presentations and exhibits that explore our stories and shed light on scenes from our past.

Poetry, literature, the law, education, film, theater, and art will all feature in our explorations. Stop by throughout the year to check out materials, attend a program, or view displays and exhibits.

Missouri Freedom Suits

An Exhibit from Missouri State Archives

August-December • Jefferson College Library, First Floor

This traveling exhibit, created by Supervising Archivist Bill Glankler from the Missouri State Archives, explores the history of freedom seekers who had the courage to challenge their owners and the slavery system by going to court and suing for their freedom. Some of these suits were brought to the courts decades before the well-known cases of Dred Scott and his wife Harriet. One of these early cases, the first on record, was settled after decades in the courts by a jury in Herculaneum, Missouri and original court documents will be on display in the Library's Jefferson County History Center.

“What the Constitution Means to Me”

A play written by Heidi Schreck and performed by Dr. Rebecca Ellison

Winner of the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best American Play & Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize

September 17 @ 6 PM • Jefferson College Library, First Floor

Direct from Broadway, playwright Heidi Schreck's boundary-breaking play breathes new life into our Constitution and imagines how it will shape the next generation of Americans.

Limited seating, tickets required (\$5 each)

Missouri Freedom Suits

A Lunch & Learn Presentation by Archivist Bill Glankler

September 24, Noon-1:30 PM • Jefferson College Library, First Floor

Bring your lunch and join us to learn more about the exhibit and this fascinating topic.

Missouri Freedom Suits: A Path to Freedom for the Enslaved Friday Speaker Series Presentation

October 17 @ 11:45 AM • Student Center, Viking Room

Bill Glankler introduces the audience to freedom suits by explaining their legal background and placing them within the context of slavery in Missouri and in St. Louis, as well as within the larger historical and national context. Several stories from the suits themselves will reinforce the humanity of the enslaved persons suing for their freedom. Mr. Glankler will also briefly describe the creation of the exhibit and what he hoped to accomplish with it. **Limited seating, tickets required (\$10, see page 11).**

Learn More! 636-481-3166 / 636-481-3167 • www.jeffco.edu/library

American Horror & Hauntings

Panel Presentation by Tim Boehme, Taylor Humphreys, Olivia Lackey & Zach Quick

October 30 @ 2 PM • Jefferson College Library, First Floor

Our panelists will offer insights into the history of horror in America, Missouri's haunted locations, Vincent Price and early Hollywood horror films, and the 2024 instant horror classic, **Strange Darling**. How scared should you be? More than usual.

Native Americans and their Role in Missouri History

A Presentation by English Professor Chris Otto

November 6, 2-3 PM • Jefferson College Library, First Floor

Celebrate Native American History Month and learn about the rich and often overlooked history of Native American tribes in Missouri, how their world changed with the arrival of European settlers and U.S. expansion, and how their stories continue to shape Missouri's identity in powerful ways.

The Hour of Trial and Destiny: Black Agency and the Founding of Missouri's First Freedmen's Schools

A Presentation by Associate Professor Joe Thurman

February 26, 2-3 PM • Jefferson College Library, First Floor

This presentation will examine the legal, political, social, and economic factors behind the founding of Missouri's first Black schools during the Reconstruction Era, with particular emphasis placed upon the influence of Black agency in that process.

America 250 and Poetry

Readings by Jefferson College Writing Club Members, Faculty & Staff

April 9, 2-3:30 PM • Jefferson College Library, First Floor

Celebrate National Poetry Month and the power of poetry to capture our emotions, our stories, and scenes from our lives. Join us for an afternoon of refreshments and a look at 250 years of enduring poetry from American authors.

Friday Speaker Series

Jefferson College's Friday Speaker Series is open to the public and offers community members the chance to engage with a new topic each month. Admission is \$10/person and includes a buffet lunch with beverages and dessert. Registration is required and is taken on a monthly basis.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| September 19 | Mercy Hospital Jefferson Community Update |
| October 17 | Missouri Freedom Suits: A Path to Freedom for the Enslaved |
| November 21 | Blacksmithing – Making Metal Move |
| December 12 | Holiday Choral Performance |



Check online for the Fall Speaker Schedule and more information about the series!
Information on the spring session will be released in January.

www.jeffco.edu/friday-speaker-series



August-December	Library: <i>Missouri Freedom Suits Exhibit*</i>
September 7	Visiting Artist: Missouri Chamber Music Festival*
September 17	Library: Play Performance of "What the Constitution Means to Me"
September 19	Friday Speaker Series: <i>Mercy Hospital Jefferson Community Update</i>
Sept 22-Oct 23	Faculty Art Exhibition*
September 24	Library: Lunch & Learn – <i>Missouri Freedom Suits</i>
October 7	Choral Benefit Concert
October 10-12	Fall Play "One Acts to Rule Them All"*
October 12	Fall Choral Concert – <i>The Earth Adorned*</i>
October 17	Friday Speaker Series: <i>Missouri Freedom Suits</i>
October 28	Jazz Ensemble*
October 30	Library: <i>American Horror & Hauntings: A Panel Presentation*</i>
Nov 3-28	Visiting Artist: Emily Denlinger*
November 6	Wind Ensemble Concert*
November 6	Library: <i>Native Americans and their Role in Missouri History*</i>
November 8	Greater St. Louis Honor Band*
November 21	Friday Speaker Series: <i>Blacksmithing – Making Metal Move</i>
December 6	Ye Olde Madrigal Feaste
December 7	Winter Choral Concert – <i>Celebrate!*</i>
December 12	Friday Speaker Series: Holiday Choral Performance
February 26-28 & March 1	Spring Play "The Miracle Worker"
February 26	Library: <i>The Hour of Trial & Destiny: Black Agency & the Founding of Missouri's First Freedmen's Schools*</i>
March 2-27	Associate of Fine Arts (AFA) Art Exhibition*
March 8	Inaugural Music Concert – featuring Choirs, Wind Ensemble & Jazz Combos*
March 12	Visiting Artist: Spring Jazz Showcase featuring Reggie & Mardra Thomas
March 13	48 Hour Film Festival Kick-off*
March 26	Open Mic Poetry Night*
March 30 – April 10	High School Art Show*
April 9	Library: <i>America 250 and Poetry*</i>
April 14	Visiting Artist: "A Matter of Time" Film Screening
April 16	Visiting Artist: Alan Ferber Nonet
April 18	Woodwind & Brass Day
April 24	48 Hour Film Fest Screening*
April 28	Celebration of Creative Works*
April 28-June 26	Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition*
May 5	Wind Ensemble Concert*
May 9	Spring Choral Concert – <i>Dance!*</i>
June 19-21, 26-28	Summer Musical "The Producers"

*FREE Events



jeffco.edu/pace