The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture museum will continue its legacy of preserving and promoting the work of one of Michigan’s greatest sculptors through the hiring of Megan C. McAdow as the organization’s next director. An active member of the Michigan museums community, McAdow succeeds Marilyn Wheaton who retired in December after serving 12 years as director.

With nearly 20 years of experience in the museum field, McAdow was enthusiastically appointed by Donald Bachand, SVSU president, following a national search. The search committee was led by the museum’s board of advisors chair, Konnie Gill. “While we had several strong candidates for this position, Megan absolutely stood out,” Gill said. “The Board is confident in Megan’s abilities, considering her past achievements. We all look forward to working with Megan in the years to come.”

As director, McAdow will oversee operations, exhibitions and education programs in addition to preservation and access to the permanent collection that includes nearly 200 sculptures in the museum’s main gallery, 26 on campus and in the Joann and Donald Petersen Sculpture Garden and the museum’s archives that contain Fredericks’ personal papers and photographs.

“I am honored to continue the great work at the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum and partner with the university and the museum’s board of advisors to bring exciting exhibitions and programming to the region and local community,” McAdow said. “I have spent my entire career promoting arts and culture and I will bring the same energy, passion and commitment to my new role as director. I look forward to sharing the work, life and legacy of Marshall Fredericks with new and existing audiences.”

McAdow’s museum experience includes eight years as director of collections and exhibitions at Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores and nearly three years in the collections department at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Most recently, as director of collections and education at Applewood Estate in Flint, McAdow provided strategic vision and leadership around increasing access to the historic Mott estate including opening the house for public tours and developing exhibits throughout the estate. McAdow also worked closely with community partners on programs and events that drew tens of thousands of participants annually.

“I’m looking forward to building relationships and collaborating with organizations and community members in the Great Lakes Bay Region, as well as the university — its faculty, staff and students,” McAdow said. “The possibilities for partnerships are endless.”

Born and raised in the small town of Oxford, Michigan, McAdow became interested in art and museums beginning at a young age. McAdow’s father was a college professor who often brought his family with him to academic conferences, including Europe, where his daughter was inspired by the continent’s iconic artwork in some of the world’s oldest museums.

“I was lucky to have such amazing exposure to tremendous art and architecture growing up. My love for preserving and sharing art and our cultural heritage continues to grow,” McAdow states. McAdow received her bachelor’s degree from Oakland University. She completed her master’s degree at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She is a Michigan Museums Association board member and also serves on the board of the Michigan Alliance for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage.

McAdow recalls seeing Fredericks’ works on display throughout the many stages of her life living in Michigan. She adored his sculpture The Lion and Mouse that she would see when visiting Eastland Center as a child with her grandparents. Her favorite Fredericks work, The Thinker, is displayed at Cranbrook, where she attended high school.

“Marshall Fredericks has been in my life for a long time,” she said. Now McAdow — who lives in Flint with her husband, Walter — is looking forward to sharing Fredericks’ art with others unfamiliar with it. “His work is so approachable,” she said. “There are so many great opportunities to engage and excite people of all ages in art through his sculptures.”

And, through the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum’s rotating exhibitions, McAdow said she can also introduce guests to other important and emerging artists.
Teaching was in the genes for Aneesha Gogineni, who grew up watching her father work as a high school teacher and principal. Gogineni continues the family tradition now as an assistant professor of mechanical engineering, where she enjoys engaging SVSU and high school students in STEM studies.

Among her many educational pursuits is her participation in SVSU programs that invite area high school girls on campus to utilize the university’s STEM–geared state-of-the–art research laboratories and resources. She has teamed with other faculty and staff — including Rajani Muraleedharan, associate professor of electrical & computer engineering, and Helen Raica Klotz, Writing Center director — on such initiatives.

“It’s important to provide hands-on tools to students and get them interested in STEM at a young age,” Gogineni said. “We have to motivate them.”

The attraction to math and sciences at a young age is what inspired Gogineni to pursue mechanical engineering as a college student. She received both a master’s degree and a Ph.D. in the discipline at Wichita State University in 2011 and 2015, respectively.

She arrived at SVSU in 2016, and immediately was impressed with the number of research opportunities available at the university, especially for undergraduate students.

“Undergraduates rarely get opportunities to work on research projects,” she said. “This is very important for their education and career.”

Gogineni utilizes those resources for her undergraduate students. She is overseeing a research project involving testing air quality and HVAC systems using funds from SVSU’s Faculty Research Grant as well as Undergraduate Research Grant. Her students are measuring the levels of carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and air flow rates in a number of educational facilities. They have collected samples in SVSU’s Pioneer Hall and Doan Science East buildings as well as the Saginaw Career Complex and Carrollton Public Schools facilities.

The project is aimed both at providing research experience for students as well as collecting potentially valuable environmental data from the partnering educational institutions. Gogineni said she is applying for more grants and hopes to expand the project over time.

The opportunity has afforded her valuable one-on-one time with students, which is a luxury she enjoys at SVSU.

“Where I worked before, we had 90 students in a class,” she said. “I like to be able to focus more on each student. At SVSU, faculty can increase interaction with individual students and work with them in understanding their difficulties on the subject topics.”

With each interaction with her students, she is reminded of that teacher’s spirit she seemed to inherit.
It’s not often Andy Sharrow finds himself front and center in the spotlight. Usually, he’s the one responsible for casting the light on others.

But SVSU’s event & theatre technology specialist said he was pleasantly surprised recently when he learned he was named the January Staff Member of the Month. For much of his experience at SVSU, after all, he has worked behind the scenes. His role managing the audio and visual technology — used for campus events ranging from concerts to commencement — many times goes unrecognized by audiences captivated by the result of his hard work rather than by the source of it.

Sharrow does not mind the lack of attention as long as he knows his behind-the-scenes team — which includes one other full-time staff member and seven student employees — continues to perform its job well, he said. His approach to the work dates back to his days as a Bay City Central High School student operating lightboard and soundboard equipment for the school’s theatre productions.

He continued in that role when he enrolled at SVSU as an undergraduate in 2003. Even then, despite the behind-the-scenes nature of the work, Sharrow earned praise for his dedication and skill. After programming computer-animated graphics used during an SVSU production of “A Christmas Carol,” a review from The Saginaw News noted how his work seemed “almost like another character” in the play.

“It’s a big thing when a reviewer notes your work like that,” he said.

Sharrow graduated in 2008 with a bachelor’s degree in theatre. He worked in technology at both The Dow Event Center as well as Horizons Conference Center before SVSU hired the alumnus in 2012 in the role he maintains to this day.

“It’s the variety of work I enjoy most about my job,” he said. “I was working on the Great Lakes Bay Regional Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration one day, then a health care conference on another day. In a few days, I’ll be helping out with an event about support animals.”

Once any particular event is under way, Sharrow’s work sometimes consists entirely of standing by and making sure the production runs smoothly. As a result, he often becomes an audience member to musical performances in genres he would not typically favor and professional seminars in subjects he does not follow.

“It can be educational and entertaining,” Sharrow said of his work. “Listening to a musical performance — there are definitely worse ways to spend an evening.”

Sharrow said one of the favorite elements of his job involves forming relationships with the university’s faculty, staff and students.

“We’ve worked hard on building bridges to other departments, because we work with so many of them,” he said. “It’s a great job.”
Professional Profile

- **Amy Cook**, assistant director of the English Language Program, and **Jennifer Majorana**, senior ESL specialist, presented “Developing ESL Courses for Graduate Students” at the English USA Conference Jan. 17 in San Francisco.

- **Julie Foss**, associate professor of Modern Foreign Languages, presented the workshop “Differentiating Product, Content, and Process to Support All Language Learners” Dec. 13 at the Less Commonly Taught Languages Partnership’s Professional Development Series at Michigan State University. The LCTL Partnership is a cross-university initiative in the Big 10 Academic Alliance focused on promoting best practices in proficiency-oriented instruction of less commonly taught languages.


Keough also presented a paper titled “Creating HydroSocial Territories in Niamey, Niger: A Neighborhood-level Approach” in December 2018 at the African Studies Association annual conference in Atlanta. This paper was co-authored with Hadiara Yayé Saidou, assistant professor of geography at Abdou Moumouni University in Niamey, Niger.

- **Sandun Kuruppu**, assistant professor of electrical & computer engineering, and SVSU alumnus Alexander Shibliski published a paper titled “Clock Variation Impact on Digital Filter Performance” at the IEEE UEMCON 2018 held at Colombia University, New York.

- **Khandaker Abir Rahman**, associate professor of computer science, presented a paper titled “Movement Pattern Based Authentication for Smart Mobile Devices” at the 17th IEEE International Conference on Machine Learning and Applications, Dec. 17-20 in Orlando. Rahman also chaired one session at the conference.

- **Anne Tapp**, professor of education, and **Joseph Jaksa**, professor of criminal justice, presented a paper titled “Cyber Ethics and Education: The Role of Teachers in Today’s Digital World” Jan. 7 at the 17th annual Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu.

- **Mamie Thorns**, special assistant to the president for diversity programs, with **Maureen Muchimba**, assistant professor of health sciences, and **Joseph Ofori-Dankwa**, Harvey Randall Wickes Chair in International Studies, presented “Courageous Conversations: Fostering Diversity and Inclusivity Using Cultural Competence Dialogues” at the Leadership in Higher Education Conference, November 2018 in Minneapolis; and “Courageous Conversations: Lessons from Saginaw Valley State University’s Cultural Competency Dialogues” at the Equity Within the Classroom Conference, March 2018 at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield.


New Cardinals


Condolences

- To **Karen Carroll**, buyer, whose mother-in-law, Frances Carroll, passed away Jan. 11.

- To **Dan Fodrocy**, assistant football coach, whose mother, Patricia Joy Fodrocy, passed away Jan. 11.

- To **Geoffery Haney**, collection manager, whose mother, Shiela Diane Lopeman, passed away Jan. 11.

- To **Steve McPherson**, controller, whose father-in-law, Roger John Baumbach, passed away Jan. 19.

Briefly Speaking

- The nomination period for SVSU’s annual All-University Awards is now open. The annual awards banquet gives staff and faculty an opportunity to celebrate members of the Cardinal family and recognize their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to the university and community at large. The application period closes Feb. 15. Nominations can be submitted online at the following link: svsu.edu/awards/alluniversityawards

The Interior is published on the last Tuesday of each month for faculty and staff at SVSU. University departments sponsoring activities or events listed in the Interior will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities when contacted at least three days in advance.

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Noon on Wednesday before the publication date  
Please email submissions to: jjboehm@svsu.edu