Cultural Opportunities

Otis A. Singletary Center for the Arts
As part of the College of Fine Arts, the Singletary Center for the Arts is essential to the UK School of Music. The Center presents and hosts artistic, cultural and educational events for the University community, Lexington community and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Named on April 16, 1987 for the retiring eighth President of the University, Otis A. Singletary, the Center has become a major cultural resource for the Commonwealth. From its opening on November 1, 1979, the Center has accomplished Dr. Singletary’s wish to provide a succession of brilliant performances in our Concert and Recital Halls, which constitute impressive evidence of the University of Kentucky’s continuing commitment to the arts. Hosting an average of 400 events annually, the Singletary Center has served over 3.7 million patrons in its history. The Center provides professional, full-service venues for the creation, practical application and dissemination of artistic, cultural and educational expressions by international, national, regional, university, and student performers, artists, and speakers. For more information see https://finearts.uky.edu/singletary-center.

Singletary Signature Series
The Singletary Center for the Arts at the College of Fine Arts presents and hosts artistic, cultural, and educational events for the University community, Lexington community, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Singletary Signature Series offers audiences the highest standards of artistic excellence usually found in major metropolitan art centers. Each year, the series features national and international acts ranging from jazz to rock, dance to opera, and classical to modern. Past performers include Trombone Shorty, Béla Fleck, Joshua Bell, Savion Glover, Mark O’Connor, the B-52s, Chris Isaak, Izhak Perlman, Boyz II Men, Wynton Marsalis and Emmylou Harris.

Don’t miss the opportunity to see some of the world’s best performers right here on UK’s campus. For more information about the Singletary Signature Series and other concerts at the Singletary Center, call 859-257-4929; or visit the website at: www.singletarycenter.com.

Theatre and Dance
The UK Department of Theatre and Dance at the College of Fine Arts produces a dynamic variety of performances each season, inspired by its dedication to artistic excellence and professionalism. Housed in the historic Guignol Theatre on Rose Street, season repertoire features innovative reinvention of classics, original work developed by students and faculty, and new plays by emerging voices in the American Theatre. Additionally, the department presents an annual dance concert featuring dance majors and minors and a musical theatre production featuring exceptional students in the Musical Theatre Certificate. All performances are open to the Lexington as well as the UK campus community. For more information on auditions and other theatre activities, visit: https://finearts.uky.edu/theatre-dance.

UK School of Music Concerts
The School of Music at the College of Fine Arts presents a variety of recitals and concerts throughout the year by faculty, students and guest artists. Student ensembles include University Chorale, University Choristers, Men’s Chorus, Women’s Choir, Symphony Orchestra, UK Philharmonia, Wind Symphony, Symphony Band, Concert Band, Wildcat Marching Band, three Jazz Ensembles, Percussion Ensemble, Opera Theatre, and acoustic vocal groups Paws and Listen and the AcoUstiKats.

All performances are open to the public. For a complete listing, visit: https://finearts.uky.edu/music.

Chamber Music Society of Central Kentucky
The Chamber Music Society of Central Kentucky offers a series of concerts featuring outstanding chamber music ensembles of national and international reputation. Most performances are held on campus at the Singletary Center for the Arts. Tickets are available individually or by subscription. For ticket information, call 859-257-4929.

Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra
The Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra performs regularly in the Concert Hall of the Singletary Center for the Arts. The orchestra plays a varied repertoire and features outstanding guest soloists at each concert. Tickets are available individually or by subscription. For ticket information, call 859-233-4226.

Bolivar Art Gallery
The Bolivar Art Gallery, located in the Art and Visual Studies Building, offers an exciting range of exhibitions of student work including B.A., B.S. and B.F.A. senior exhibitions, which are held near the end of every semester. The gallery also features the work of its nationally-recognized faculty as well as prominent visiting artists. The visiting artist exhibitions are often accompanied by artists’ discussions of their work. All exhibitions and related events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit the School of Art and Visual Studies site at the College of Fine Arts at: https://finearts.uky.edu/art.

Fine Arts Institute
The Fine Arts Institute offers evening and weekend studio art classes for adults throughout the year. These non-credit-bearing courses regularly include ceramics, woodworking, metalsmithing, and painting. See https://finearts.uky.edu/art for information about class schedules and course fees.

Martin Luther King Center
Established on the University of Kentucky campus in 1987 as the Martin Luther King Center, this much-visited campus venue has been a vital resource, providing year-round programs and activities that have focused on the importance of cultural awareness and cross-cultural understanding. The center offers a relaxed and affirming atmosphere that enhances the recruitment and retention of students from diverse backgrounds. Entering its fourth decade of operation, the center has evolved into an education resource facility where all students, as well as faculty and staff of the university can engage each other through cross-cultural exploration and intellectual exchange.

Increasingly, research has shown a vitally positive link between intercultural engagement and student success. As a result, the King Center has sharpened its focus on diversity education and increased its support of the academic enterprise. In addition to cultural/educational programs consisting of lectures, concerts, artistic performances, film/video screenings and workshops, faculty involvement in the center has increased through the establishment of the Scholar-in-Residence (SiR).
Cultural Opportunities

During his/her two-year assignment, the faculty SiR helps to situate many center programs and activities within the academic/intellectual realm, and engages students, faculty and staff in meaningful exploration and intellectual discourse. Check the King Center website for programs and scheduling details at: www.uky.edu/mlkc.

Mission

The Martin Luther King Center seeks to empower University of Kentucky students from all communities to improve their college experience by increasing access to academic, civic leadership, and cultural exchange opportunities. The center assists in the cultivation of events on campus which promote diversity awareness, cultural pride, and collaborative efforts between recognized student organizations of seemingly distinct interests. We seek to provide a culture of civic dialogue and a campus-wide “brave space” for students to develop their cultural identity without fear of harassment and with the support of others striving to do the same.

Cultural Competencies

The MLK Professional staff believes the center, and all of the learning experiences provided through it, gives students unique opportunities to learn about themselves, create their identities, discover and cultivate their talents, and develop and practice the skills necessary to be positive and productive leaders and citizens after they graduate from the University of Kentucky. We are a laboratory for experiential learning. As we bring our mission to life in the years ahead, we align the centers initiatives with four cultural competencies that we believe are necessary for creating better leaders, better communities, and stronger programming. Through our learning laboratory, we strive to empower students too.

1. Develop an appreciation for inclusion through self-awareness and consciousness of social and global issues (Awareness)
   • Fostering constructive discussions regarding issues relating to differences, identity, prejudice, and bias.
   • Initiate opportunities for creative expression of diverse perspectives.

2. Encourage the cultivation of civic responsibility and well-being through interpersonal interaction & communication (Attitude)
   • Through interactive activities, facilitated dialogues, service, and collaborations across the academic spectrum.
   • By nurturing the holistic development of University of Kentucky students, faculty, staff and community members.

3. Extend knowledge that challenges perspectives, promotes reflection, and stimulates application of pluralistic behavior (Knowledge)

4. Prepare students to lead in a global society and inspire social change (Skill/Action)

Art Museum at the University of Kentucky

The University of Kentucky Art Museum is an encyclopedic museum that promotes the understanding and appreciation of visual art from a range of cultures and historical periods. We present significant temporary exhibitions, lectures, and educational programs throughout the year, and selections from our permanent collection of more than 4,800 works are always on view. This includes paintings, sculptures, drawings, photographs, and functional objects by some of the world’s most renowned artists, including Ansel Adams, Milton Avery, Romare Bearden, Alexander Calder, Albrecht Dürer, Louise Nevelson, Pablo Picasso, Robert Rauschenberg, Louis Comfort Tiffany, and Andy Warhol.

The Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. Prearranged group and class tours led by Museum volunteers or staff are encouraged. The Museum offers students training opportunities for work-study and internships as well as a Museum Studies course in partnership with the College of Fine Arts. For more information, visit our website at: https://finearts.uky.edu/Art-Museum. The Art Museum, located in the Singletary Center for the Arts at the corner of Rose Street and Euclid Avenue, is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday; and noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free. The Museum is closed on Mondays.

William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology

The William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology is the major curation facility for archaeological collections in the state. The Museum was founded in 1931 by William S. Webb, and houses many unique collections recovered from archaeological excavations all across the Commonwealth. Every year we welcome researchers from all parts of the world who come to study, photograph and interpret the material remains representing 12,000 years of Native American life in Kentucky, and the last 200 years or so of the Commonwealth. The museum library contains approximately 11,500 volumes on Kentucky prehistorical and historical archaeology. Researchers are welcome to apply to the Museum for collections access.