



Pennsylvania College
of Art & Design



Upcoming Events

May 6 Deadline for Graduates and Commencement Volunteers to move out of campus housing

If you have news, an event, or an announcement you'd like to share, please email Jen Kopf, at jkopf@pcad.edu.



Congratulations, Class of 2025!

It was a beautiful day for a Commencement ceremony Friday, as the members of the Class of 2025 crossed the stage to receive their diplomas at the Barshinger Center on the campus of Franklin & Marshall College.

Speakers at the ceremony included acclaimed author [Amy Sarig King](#), who's been celebrated as one of the nation's best writers for young adults. King also was presented with an Honorary Degree. Student speaker was Rylee Hohney, a Photography & Video major.

Medals of Honor: Dr. Barbara K. Altmann and Danene Sorace. Dr. Altmann is the 16th President of Franklin & Marshall College, the first woman to serve in that role. She earned a B.A. in romance languages from University of Alberta, and completed an M.A. and Ph.D. in medieval French language and literature from University of Toronto.

Sorace serves as the 43rd mayor of the City of Lancaster. Elected in 2018 to this position, and the second woman to hold this office, Sorace previously served on the Lancaster City Council, where she chaired the finance committee. She received her bachelor's degree from Albright College, and her master's degree in public policy from Rutgers University.

Distinguished Alumnus Recipient: Mike Witmer '88, Fine Art. A graduate of PCA&D's precursor, The Pennsylvania School of the Arts, Witmer also studied at the Maryland Institute College of Art. He has continued to paint, maintaining his studio practice for nearly four decades and exhibiting his work nationally.

A special honor, Trustee Emerita, was conferred upon Audry K. Carter, a former trustee and trustee chair who most recently served as interim president of the College.

Departmental Awards

- **Animation & Game Art:** Samantha Sidesinger
- **Design Thinking:** Lindsay Salazer
- **Fine Art:** Quinn Knepper
- **Graphic Design:** Aiyana Alvarado
- **Illustration:** Beck Schilling
- **Photography & Video:** Kiri Chhun
- **Liberal Arts:** Laurence Jacoby

PCA&D Honors

Award for Academic Excellence (highest GPA): Bailey Stechman and Elizabeth Gregory

Mary Colleen Heil Vanguard Award: Katherine Hess

Founders' Award for Excellence in Leadership: Beck Schilling

Trustees' Award for Faculty Excellence: Jason Ward

Trustees' Award for Staff Excellence: Rebecca Adey

Stay tuned... we'll be sharing links to all the photos from the big day and a recording of the Commencement livestream!



Award-winning work by Emma Ries, left, and Ryan Gano.

Gano, Ries win Graphic Design honors

Congratulations to **Emma Ries** and **Ryan Gano**, who have been named winners in the 2025 The Real Show Student Design Competition. Both are Class of 2026 Graphic Design majors. Ries is a Gold Award winner for her PSA on banned books, "Freedom", and Gano was recognized as a winner for his PSA design on a healthcare "Monopoly" parody. The contest is sponsored by AIGA DC/Communication Arts Magazine, and presented by George Mason University School of Art.

FACULTY LIFE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Tyler Kline
Benjamin Lowery
Stephanie Manzi
Paul Rider
Aaron Thompson
Leah Limpert Walt
Eric Weeks

2021-2024

New Main Gallery exhibition

Pennsylvania College of Art & Design has welcomed a new Main Gallery exhibition highlighting PCA&D's commitment to educating not only our students but also our faculty in the pursuit of lifelong learning and professional development. The seven exhibiting artists have received grants from the College to attend residencies or courses where work was produced or new skills and techniques were learned. The artwork on view is a result of those experiences, either created at the time or through applying what they learned to new work.

Uwill counseling available through the summer

Feeling a little extra stressed, or interested in finding a way to bring some professional counseling into your life? PCA&D provides students FREE access to 24-7 counseling through Uwill for a wide variety of topics, from short- and long-term support, to crisis

counseling, telehealth for common acute symptoms, and on-demand wellness programming like meditation, mindfulness, nutrition, and yoga. And it's even available for current PCA&D students through summer break.

To schedule teletherapy appointments:

- [Create a profile](#) with Uwill
- Choose a therapist based on your preferences including *availability, issue, gender, language, and ethnicity*.
- Choose a time that fits your schedule with *day, night, and weekend availability*.

If you need any assistance, you can refer to [Uwill FAQ](#), Student [User Guide](#), or reach out directly to **Uwill at support@uwill.com**. **More questions? Contact Student Services, at studentlife@pcad.edu**.

Your web resource: The Student Portal

The College's Student Portal webpage provides links to some of the most-needed information. **You can find [this link to the Student Portal](#) at the very bottom right corner of the homepage at PCAD.edu**.

There, you'll find official College dates, such as holidays; class times; research links; links to academic support and counseling help; and much more.



Pennsylvania College of Art & Design
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