SCF: At the Intersection of Technology and Humanities

“It’s in Apple’s DNA that technology alone is not enough . . . It’s technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the result that makes our hearts sing.” – Steve Jobs

The proclamation by Steve Jobs, legendary co-founder of Apple Inc.’s revolutionary products, is manifested in State College of Florida’s Department of Art, Design, Humanities (ADH).

“Students don’t have to choose between liberal arts and technology. Our professors view Art, Design, Humanities as the intersection of these disciplines. This is where creative thinkers come to prepare for today’s competitive workforce and to learn applications that will serve them well wherever their futures lead,” said Drew Webster, ADH department chair and professor.

Pioneering Art Professor Pam Stewart, who expanded course offerings since coming to SCF in 1958, is credited for her vision in an age of advanced technology.

Under the leadership of Program Manager Sherri Hill, the A.S. in Graphic Design Technology Degree Program has coordinated internships for students who gained on-the-job training experience at Bryan Gordon Design, Grapevine Communications, Habitat for Humanity, Mercedes Medical and Michael Saunders & Company. Two students’ internships led to jobs at Champ Sports.

Student Amber Canterbury’s photography experience at SCF, combined with an internship at SRQ Magazine, prepared her for a four-year institution and helped her land a job at Smashbox Studio, a fashion photography studio in Los Angeles.

The Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree, with emphases in studio arts, film and humanities, including religion, philosophy and art history, provides a strong foundation for students transferring to universities or leading schools.

Last spring, SCF art students received more than $100,000 in portfolio scholarships to attend the most prestigious art schools in the country, including Savannah College of Art and Design, Ringling College of Art and Design (RCAD), School of Visual Arts, Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, Rochester Institute of Technology, and several Florida universities.

Jamie Tracy, SCF assistant professor and program manager of studio arts, initiated a new A.A. to B.F.A. SCF graduates of the A.A. degree with an emphasis in studio arts can articulate into Ringling College of Art and Design’s Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fine Arts Degree Program. The program is designed for graduates interested in teaching, exhibiting art or becoming professional artists.

Film Program Manager Del Jacobs prepares students to become artists, journalists and communicators who use the latest technology to produce narrative and documentary films. Jacobs regularly exposes them to professionals in the field through participation in the annual Sarasota Film Festival (SFF).

SCF student Amanda DiMase, who featured a short film at the 2012 SFF, joined other students this fall at the Austin Film Festival where they attended a Q-and-A, led by actress Julia Stiles, after the showing of “Silver Linings Playbook.” An added bonus was meeting actor James Franco. The students’ experience was documented in “SCF Film: The Classroom and Beyond.”

SCF students’ success is a testament to the value of a well-rounded liberal arts education that fosters their creativity, making them strong contributors to the modern workforce.

Free Upcoming Events at SCF Fine Art Gallery

Jan. 10 - Feb. 20
"Tracking the Credit Crisis: A Timeline.
Financial Literacy Fair and Awards Reception featuring contest winners 5-7:30 p.m., Feb. 15.

Feb. 28 - April 3
“Petrichor” exhibition by Swoon. Artist talk/opening reception 5-8 p.m., Feb. 28.

April 12 - May 1
Student Art Exhibition. Opening reception 6-8 p.m., April 12.

scf.edu/calendar
Fine Art Gallery: 941-752-5225

scf.edu/ADH

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