

# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

## Music, Theatre and Dance



**JULY 2017 – Volume 55**

News and updates from Music, Theatre and Dance

Information on upcoming performances on the [MTD homepage](#)

**Don't miss out on updates from Music, Theatre and Dance!**

Add [mtd@oakland.edu](mailto:mtd@oakland.edu) to your contact list to ensure our emails reach your primary mailbox





## Working in the Arts: MTD Alumni News, July 2017

**S Alex Ruthmann** (MM '02; PhD '06) was recently promoted to the post of Director of Music Education at New York University's Steinhardt School where he is associate professor of Music Education and Music Technology. In his role as director of the NYU Music Experience Design Lab, he recently collaborated with the New York Philharmonic's digital, archival and education departments to design and launch a series of interactive musical "Variation Playground" apps to accompany the Philharmonic's famous Young People's Concerts. Apps for works by Britten, Mendelssohn and Dvorak are currently available on the [Design Lab's website](#). Another app on the site, *GroovePizza*, was nominated for the inaugural 2017 *Technical Excellence & Creativity (TEC) Award* by the National Association of Music Merchants at their annual conference in Los Angeles.

[Read more](#)

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## Music, Theatre and Dance News: July 2017





Our popular study abroad program, Classical Theatre Study in Greece (THA 482), is in full swing, with eight students spending two and a half weeks on the island of Hydra where they are experiencing Greek life, while at the same time taking classes and rehearsing the play *Electra* in a new version written by Professor **Karen Sheridan**, based on works by Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides.

They presented the play at the island's amphitheater, and again on the island of Spetses, before spending their final ten days touring Greece's ancient sites. Their final destination will be Athens, with time to see the Acropolis, before flying home. There will be performances of *Electra* in Varner Studio Theatre on September 8, 9, and 10.

[Read more](#)

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### OU Wind Symphony Receives Prestigious Performance Invitations



The Wind Symphony is Oakland University's premier wind band. Its undergraduate and graduate student musicians are selected annually through competitive audition. Under the direction of **Dr. Gregory Cunningham**, director of bands, the Wind Symphony always maintains an active concert schedule both on and off campus, but next year will bring particularly exciting opportunities.

"The exceptional work done on a daily basis by the students of the Oakland University wind, brass and percussion areas has been recognized," said Dr Cunningham, "both from within the state of Michigan and beyond, with the receipt of two prestigious performance invitations in early 2018."

[Read more](#)

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**Our Season 17-18 Brochure will be available in September**

**Oakland University  
Music, Theatre and Dance**

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