



News and updates from Music, Theatre and Dance

OAKLAND
UNIVERSITY

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Regina Carter

Working In The Arts: Alumni News

"Sometimes people forget that you can make a decent living being a musician. You might not be a millionaire, but you'll be happy. And by playing music, you'll make other people happy." So said OU alumna and world-renowned jazz violinist **Regina Carter** when interviewed by Paul Freeman of the *San Jose Mercury News*, before her recent concert at Stanford.

OU Music, Theatre and Dance welcomes all students to benefit from the enrichment provided by our arts classes, but our primary focus is on preparing our majors for their professional careers, whether it be in education or, like Regina, in performance. Our goal is to transform students' passion into creative and professional expertise. Here is some recent alumni news that shows just how well-equipped our graduates are with the tools, technique and understandings they need to thrive in their chosen fields.

[Read more.](#)



Professor Michael A. Mitchell

Michael A. Mitchell: A Life In Music

According to his own account, **Dr. Michael A. Mitchell**, professor of music and director of OU's choral activities, is a very lucky man. Throughout his life, *good fortune has shined down on him*; he has *been in the right place at the right time*; and he has had many *an incredible stroke of luck*. Anyone who knows Dr. Mitchell also knows that this is very far from the whole story of his success, but in the one area in which we have no control over our own destiny, the family into which we are born, Dr. Mitchell was undoubtedly lucky.

His parents, **Gary and Joan Mitchell**, always nurtured and supported his musical interests and ambitions. Mike's first musical memories are of singing with his mother, who was a theatre major in college. "I sang always, ever. I sang as long as I can remember. I sat in my mother's lap and sang before I could talk. When I was a kid we listened to records all day and sang songs . . . all sorts of little children's songs and folk songs, and whatever she was a fan of at the time. Dylan, Joni Mitchell. I can distinctly remember that I loved singing along with the soundtrack to the musical "Oklahoma!"

[Read more.](#)

July News



Theatre students on the Greek island of Hydra

Our theatre students have left for their study abroad, Classical Theatre in Greece. Watch out for their travel photos which we are posting to Facebook, and when the fall semester starts, join us in Varner Studio Theatre to see *Iphigenia*, based on Euripides' *Iphigenia at Aulis*, in a new version by **Karen Sheridan**. Performances will be from September 11 to September 13.

Meanwhile, our dance students are recently returned from their study abroad trip to Berlin. We hope you saw some of their photos on our [Facebook page](#). If not, you can catch them in our [Dancers in Berlin](#) album. The climax of their trip was a performance at the Uferstudios for Contemporary Dance, which was covered by TV.Berlin for the program Berlin Tanz. Polish off your German and see interviews with our students and faculty, as well as glimpses of the performance, in [this YouTube clip](#). (Starting at 7:50.) And you can see some of those dances at the OU dance program's annual fall concert from December 3 to December 5.

[Read more.](#)

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Upcoming Events

**We're working
on our website.
Our online calendar
should be fully updated
by late August.**

FEED

9/4 - 9/6/2015

**OU Jazz Band @ The Detroit
Jazz Festival
9/5/2015**

Iphigenia

9/11 - 9/13/2015

**Alta Dantzier,
faculty voice recital
9/12/2015**

**against the sunset...
9/18/2015**

**Black and Gold
9/19/2015**

**Angela Cheng
Chamber Music Society
of Detroit at OU
9/20/2015**

**Jeffrey Heisler, faculty
saxophone recital
9/23/2015**

**Pat & Emilia
9/25/2015**

**Oakland Symphony
Orchestra
10/4/2015**

**OU Chamber Orchestra
10/6/2015**

**Oklahoma!
10/8 - 10/18/2015**

**Our Season 2015-2016
Performance Brochure will be
available in late August.
A Z-mag publication
of the brochure will be
available on the
Music, Theatre and Dance
homepage.
Or you can ask to be added
to the mailing list.**

