

ACADEMY NOTES

MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026

Today's Newsletter Is Sponsored By **Ludus!**



TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

NEW
BALLET
ENSEMBLE
& SCHOOL

PERFORMANCE

New Ballet Ensemble

Peter and the Wolf

Monday, July 13 at 11:30 AM

MTSU Tucker Theatre

The performance of Peter and the Wolf by New Ballet Ensemble and School is made possible by a generous gift from Jeanette and Bill Watkins.



MUSER Eli Yamin

Monday, July 13 at 1:20 PM

Tucker Theatre

The appearance of Eli Yamin is made possible by a generous gift from the Country Music Association Foundation.

ACADEMY NEWS

TODAY'S SPECIAL EVENTS

We encourage you to attend today's after-hour special events on and off campus. Attendance at these events is optional.

TAA ART EXHIBITION OPENING, ARTIST TALK, AND RECEPTION: Participants please join us today from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM in the Todd Art Gallery in Todd Hall for the exhibition opening, artist talk at 5:15 PM, and reception for *My View: Midwest Memories* by Gregory Steele. Refreshments will be served.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MIXER: All TAA Summer Institute participants are invited to the Monday Night Mixer at Main Event (1510 Greshampark Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129)! Come and go as you please beginning at 6:00 PM. Food, drinks, bowling, & more are available for purchase!

ACADEMY REMINDERS

LUNCH TODAY: All Arts Leadership and Administration, Upper Middle/Secondary Theatre, and Upper Middle/Secondary Music participants will be served lunch in the James Union Building Dining Hall. All other participants will be served lunch in the McCallie Dining Hall in the Keathley University Center.

BRAVO BANQUET SEATING – SIGN UP BY 9:45 AM TUESDAY: Sign up for table seating for Wednesday evening's Bravo Banquet and Performance is available using the QR code on the next page (code is TAA2026). The TAA Office staff will be available outside the McCallie dining hall during lunch on Monday to assist you with this process. This program will allow us to carefully plan tables for all participants and the many guests who will be present on Wednesday evening to support the Academy. ***It's important that all TAA participants sign up no later than 9:45 AM on Tuesday!***

TAA SILENT AND ONLINE AUCTION: Thanks to all of you who brought items for the Silent Auction. Bidding begins on Tuesday during lunch in the **Keathley University Center** and concludes on Thursday. The online auction is open to anyone with internet access and is up and running now. Highest bidders will claim their auction winnings on Thursday at 5:15 PM at the Ice Cream Social in the MTSU Student Union. This event is exclusively for bidding winners, all participants who donated to the auction, and Alumni members. The auction is sponsored by the Thane Smith and the Tennessee Arts Academy Foundation Board, a non-profit organization whose mission is to support the goals of the Academy.

PHOTOS AVAILABLE: TAA invites participants each day during lunch to have a photograph made of yourself or with colleagues from your TAA content area, your school, and/or your district. A TAA photographer will be available Monday - Wednesday in a specially designated area of the McCallie Dining Hall. Photos taken on one day will be posted the following day on the TAA website in the TAA photo gallery and on TAA social media sites.

TAA's MONDAY MUSER: After lunch, participants will gather in the Tucker Theatre for a time of thoughtful inspiration and introspection. TAA is excited to welcome jazz and blues educator, pianist, and composer, Eli Yamin, as the Monday Muser. Read his bio in the TAA Summer Institute program book, and get excited!

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: Join the TAA Mentorship program on the app! The focus of the TAA Mentorship Program is to connect new and young educators with successful, experienced teachers. The program matches teachers in the same arts discipline area, allowing the mentoring teacher the ability to provide resources, classroom management techniques, advice, and lesson plan assistance throughout the year.

COMING ATTRACTIONS



Gregory Steele - Soaring on
Thermals, 2017
Oil on board, 22 x 28 in.

ART EXHIBITIONS TAA PARTICIPANT PREVIEW

Tuesday, July 15

See Your Schedule For Your Time Slot!

MTSU Todd Art Gallery

TAA Summer Institute participants will visit *My View: Midwest Memories; Best of the Best Student Art Exhibition; Connections: Tennessee Art Education Association Member Exhibition; STARS: and State of Tennessee Art Review and Showcase.*

NYC SWEEPSTAKES!

Win an **all-expense paid weekend trip for two** to NYC including airfare, hotel, dinner, and a Broadway show of your choice.

Purchase your tickets at the
TAA Office Table
through Friday morning.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
NEWSLETTER SPONSOR:**



RECAP: OVERTURE & RECEPTION CELEBRATION



FROM SUNDAY NIGHT'S OPENING REMARKS

"The greatest constant between 1986 and 2026 is not a building, a program, or an institution. It is the alive, thinking, caring, heart-throbbing, artistic teacher who opens up a world of discovery every day for his or her students." - Frank Bluestein

"The arts remain one of the few places where students learn not merely how to make a living, but how to make a beautiful, creative and fulfilling life." - Frank Bluestein

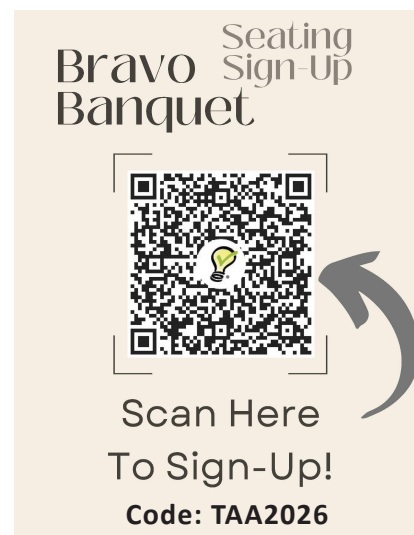
ACADEMY WEEK SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM: TAA's instagram is @TNArtsAcademy. Follow us and be sure to tag us in all your posts this week with #TAA2026.

FACEBOOK: TAA has an active Facebook presence. Have you liked us yet? Visit our page at Facebook.com/TennesseeArtsAcademy! Let us know how you're enjoying the 2026 TAA Summer Institute by leaving a comment!

YAPP: The TAA Summer Institute app has a social feed! Be sure to share pictures and comments with your fellow participants!

**USE THE QR CODE BELOW
TO SIGN UP FOR BRAVO
BANQUET SEATING**



**THANK YOU TO TODAY'S
INTERMEZZO SPONSOR
CONCORD THEATRICALS**

Want to put on a show?
Concord Theatricals
is here to help.

Check out our guide to K-12
theatrical licensing, show
selection and more!

concordtheatricals.com/K12-licensing

concord
theatricals
concordtheatricals.com
[@concordshows](https://twitter.com/concordshows)

**LET'S MAKE
THEATRE HAPPEN.**