

Cultural Events of Distinction



“I’ve been both influenced and impressed by the monks themselves. Their concentration and personality and the way they interact with people are pretty inspirational.”

Patrick Robbins
SU Junior

Cultural Points of Distinction Include:

- Of the 10 speakers thus far in the “One Person Can Make A Difference” lecture series, eight have either won or been nominated for the **Nobel Peace Prize**.
- SU’s Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art was named by *USA Today* one of **10 great places** to see American folk art.
- SU’s Public Radio Delmarva—NPR affiliates WSCL 89.5 & WSDL 90.7—won three Chesapeake Associated Press **Broadcasters Association awards** for three consecutive years.

Cultural Opportunities To Enlighten

The arts can entertain; they also can shape people’s lives. During the college years such inspirational events are often experienced outside the classroom. That’s why Salisbury University is broadening students’ horizons with its new Cultural Laureate Program, designed to honor students who involve themselves in the arts and attend SU’s amazing cultural offerings. Here are just a sample of the great opportunities from which they could choose.



SU hosted a variety of diverse performers as part of its “East Meets West” cultural events series. Jigu! Thunder Drums of China (above), the world-renowned drumming troupe shared its art, which is deeply rooted in Chinese folk traditions. The Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company celebrated the diversity of ideas shaped by the immigrant experience and bridged the gap of understanding between East and West.

Visitors watched in awe as 11 Tibetan monks from the Drepung Loseling Monastery in

India created an intricate sand mandala, which they believe brings purification and healing. Throughout the week, the monks meditated and prayed for world peace as they built the mandala—and over 1,000 people visited to watch their progress.

Master photographer Richard Newman, who has chronicled life and art throughout the United States, showcased his work in the exhibit “Richard Newman: A 12-Year Diary in Photographs.” His instillation was part of the University Galleries’ “American Master Photographer” series that highlighted SU’s collection of photographs from such prominent artists as Ansel Adams and Yousuf Karsh.

The University also supports artists close to home, including SU’s own Salisbury Symphony Orchestra (below), a partnership of students and dedicated community members. The SSO kicked off its season with children’s classics *Peter and the Wolf* and *The Toy Symphony*, welcoming audiences of all ages to enjoy the arts.



SU in the Spotlight

Salisbury University’s theatre program received national notice as SU alumna Jennifer Hope Wills stepped into the spotlight, earning the lead role of Christine Daaé in *The Phantom of the Opera* at New York City’s Majestic Theatre. The musical is the longest-running show in Broadway’s history. Dr. Paul T. Pfeiffer, director of theatre at SU, said of Wills, “I have always known that Jennifer had a bright future and I am so pleased with her success.”

Pfeiffer himself received national recognition this year as his play *Joseph Andrews*, adapted from the novel by Henry Fielding, was highlighted in *Playbill*, the monthly publication distributed at Broadway shows. *Joseph Andrews*, which premiered in SU’s Black Box Theatre, was billed as “epic and fast paced.”



International Notables Flock To SU

Salisbury University recognizes the importance of providing its students and the community the opportunity to interact with national and world leaders to enhance the educational experience and enlighten all those involved. Because of this, SU brings a variety of speakers to campus each semester. With lecture series ranging in focus from peacemaking to civic responsibility to renowned educators, SU is a meeting ground for many great minds.



Welcoming World Leaders

Since 2001, SU's Center for Conflict Resolution has hosted the "One Person Can Make a Difference" lecture series, providing a unique opportunity to spend an evening with individuals who have walked off the pages of world history. F.W. de Klerk (above), former president of South Africa, spoke at SU to mark the 15th anniversary of the center. De Klerk, 1993 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, delivered his speech, "Leadership and Making a Difference," to a standing-room-only audience.

Ibrahim Agboola Gambari (top center), the UN's under-secretary-general for political affairs, provided an insider's view of the United Nations and its worldwide peace efforts. He shared his thoughts on "Promoting Peace Amidst Demanding Conflicts" to a packed audience. "Professor Gambari is arguably in an elite group of people who are world authorities on UN peacekeeping missions and international conflict," said Dr. Brian Polkinghorn, executive director of the SU Center for Conflict Resolution.



Environmental Responsibility

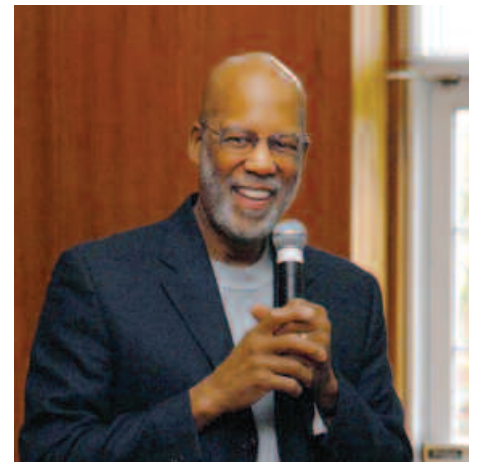
SU paid tribute to one of Maryland's most venerable leaders as U.S. Senator Paul S. Sarbanes (below) received an honorary Doctor of Laws during the school's 81st year Winter Commencement. In 2002, Senator Sarbanes established the Paul S. Sarbanes Lecture Series through SU's Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement. The purpose of the series is to annually bring to the University distinguished public figures to discuss issues of civic concern.

The 2007 lecturer for the series was Maryland Senator Ben Cardin, Sarbanes's successor in the U.S. Senate. Sarbanes himself introduced Cardin, who spoke on "Global Warming and its Unique Impact on Maryland." Cardin talked about the federal government's need to become a leader in green technology. He called on the attendees to begin an "Apollo-like" change in order to stop global warming, as Maryland's location puts it in great danger of flooding and erosion.



Going Beyond The Da Vinci Code

Dr. Bulent Atalay, professor of physics at University of Mary Washington, spoke at SU about the significance of Da Vinci paintings and the synthesis of science and art. In his 2004 book *Math and the Mona Lisa: The Art and Science of Leonardo da Vinci*, Atalay explores connections between art, science and the natural world, as exemplified by Da Vinci's life and work. His engaging lecture challenged students to bridge the cultural divide that prevails in this age of specialization and to foster creativity among the disciplines.



Awareness And Diversity

Civil rights issues of the past and present came alive for SU students when Dr. Terrence Roberts (above), one of the Little Rock Nine and the official desegregation consultant for the Little Rock School District, reflected on the state of diversity in schools today versus five decades ago. In 1957, nine African-American students in Little Rock, AR, changed the world. Known historically as the "Little Rock Nine," they were the first African-American students admitted to the newly integrated Central High School, despite efforts by the Arkansas National Guard to keep them out. U.S. Army troops were deployed to ensure their safety during those first tumultuous days. Roberts visit was part of the E. Pauline Riall Lecture Series that brings to the University outstanding national lecturers in the field of education.