



## UMS-WRIGHT 2013 ARTS HALL OF FAME

Thursday, February 7, 2013

### INDUCTEES

Communication Arts/Broadcast - *Bradley Scott Handwerker '99*

Literary Arts/Publications - *Walter Frye Gaillard, Jr. '64*

Performing Arts - *Eugenia Barney Lanaux '73*

Visual Arts - *Jacqueline Alford Ward '96*

Honorary - *Linda Dees Pereira*

# Bradley Handwerger

graduated from UMS-Wright in 1999 where he was a member of the Cadet Staff, Key Club, Honor Council, Mu Alpha Theta, and Quill and Scroll. He also played on the varsity football and soccer teams. He was a recipient of the H. Taylor Morrisette Memorial Scholarship and the William S. Pape Award. Upon graduation from UMS-Wright, Handwerger attended the University of Georgia. While there, he was a staff writer and sports editor for the student newspaper, *The Red and Black*. He was also a member of the Pandora yearbook staff. He graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism with a focus on newspapers.

Handwerger moved back to Mobile in the summer of 2003 to begin his journalism career at the *Mobile Press Register* where he served as a staff writer. In 2004, he moved to Decatur to write for *The Decatur Daily* as the Auburn beat writer. For the past five years, he has been the Saints/Hornets beat writer at WWWLTV.com, the website for New Orleans' CBS affiliate. Covering the New Orleans Saints on a full-time basis, he writes stories about the players and season trends, as well as columns on aspects of the team, leadership, and the NFL in general. He had the opportunity to cover the 2010 Super Bowl in which the Saints won their first and, to this point, only NFL title. When he is not writing about sports, he is scouting the city for features to cover and helps to maintain the website and social media sites. Throughout his career, he has covered one Super Bowl, seven Sugar Bowls, two BCS title games, one Cotton Bowl, one Capital One Bowl, four Southeastern Conference championship games, the NBA playoffs, a U.S. vs. Guatemala World Cup qualifying match, and a really interesting drug bust as an intern at the *Mobile Press Register*.

Handwerger shares UMS-Wright taught him “how to talk with people, and how to communicate with them. I was always treated like an adult and because of that, I always knew how to handle myself around people. As a reporter, this helps tremendously!”

Handwerger resides in New Orleans. His civic activities include volunteering at Ochsner Hospital in the Physical Therapy Department and working with Greenlight NOLA trying to outfit houses with free, energy efficient lighting.

# Frye Gaillard

graduated from UMS in 1964. While at UMS, he was President of the Student Council and a member of the Honor Council, National Honor Society, High School Press Association, Key Club, and Yearbook Staff, as well as the JV basketball team. He also helped the debate team win a state championship. After graduating from UMS, he attended Vanderbilt University where he received a Bachelor of Arts in History. Gaillard wrote for the student newspaper, *The Hustler*, all four years of college and served as news editor. He was also chairman of the student-run Impact Symposium and helped bring speakers such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Senator Robert Kennedy, author William Buckley, Senator Barry Goldwater, and others to campus.

He returned to Mobile in 1968 to begin his journalism career as a staff writer for the *Press Register*. He wrote about the Civil Rights Movement as it unfolded across the South and continued his work at the *Associated Press and Race Relations Reporter* in Nashville. In 1972, he moved to Charlotte to work for *The Charlotte Observer* where he served as a reporter, opinion writer, and Southern Editor. While there, he covered the integration of North Carolina city schools by busing, Elvis Presley's funeral, former President Jimmy Carter, and the Praise the Lord network led by Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker. In 1990, Gaillard became a freelance writer. He has written more than twenty books of non-fiction, two of which have been adapted as documentary films. His topics, to a great extent, have been on southern race relations, politics, and culture. His award winning books include *Cradle of Freedom; If I Were a Carpenter: Twenty Years of Habitat for Humanity; The Dream Long Deferred: the Landmark Struggle for Desegregation in Charlotte, North Carolina; and Watermelon Wine: the Spirit of Country Music*. His book, *In the Path of the Storms*, has been adapted as a documentary film by the Alabama Center for Public Television. This past fall, his most recent book, *The Books That Mattered: A Reader's Memoir*, was released. Gaillard has co-written songs for three Nashville-produced CDs – *Southern Girl* in 2009, *Southern Wind* in 2010, and *One Good Reason* in 2011 with singer-songwriter Kathryn Scheldt. He is now working on a fourth CD with UMS-Wright Arts Hall of Fame member Rick Hirsch.

Gaillard has received the Lillian Smith Award and the Alabama Library Association Book of the Year Award for the book *Cradle of Freedom* and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund Humanitarian Award. His book, *With Music and Justice for All: Some Southerners and Their Passions*, has twice been a featured selection of the Progressive Book Club. In 2011, he was inducted into the Vanderbilt Student Media Hall of Fame. Most recently, he was awarded the 2012 Clarence Cason Award for Non-Fiction Writing from the University of Alabama. His by-line has appeared in publications such as *Parade*, *The Washington Post*, *Oxford American*, *Saturday Review*, *Us* magazine, *Sojourners*, *The Progressive*, *Alabama Heritage*, *The Americana Gazette*, and *The Journal of American History*.

Gaillard moved back to the Mobile area in 2005 with his wife Nancy, who teaches in the College of Education at the University of South Alabama. Gaillard is now a writer in residence at the University of South Alabama.

**Gina** graduated from Julius T. Wright (JTW) in 1973 where she was a member of the Chorus, Drama Club, French Club, Cheerleading Squad, Pep Club, and the track team. **Lanaux** After graduating from JTW, Barney attended Rollins College and graduated in 1977 from State University of New York, Brockport. She graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and Interdisciplinary Arts for Children.

Lanaux moved to Fairhope to begin her dance career and danced as a soloist with Alabama Dance Theater (now known as Mobile Ballet) for several years. In 1978, she founded the Creative Outlet Dance Center, which has been in business for thirty plus years with an enrollment of 400 students. She is a founding member of the Arts Resource Team, which was fundamental in bringing the Arts in Education to the Fairhope Public Schools. With this group, she taught workshops to both teachers and students that explored concepts in history, science, math, and literature using dance, drama, music, and art as teaching tools. She also conducted similar workshops for The Junior League of Mobile, Saenger Performing Arts Summer Camp, Bayside Academy, Baldwin County Library System, and the Boys and Girls Club. She helped form Children's Dance Theatre, a non - profit that performs original literature-based dance concerts for school children. Lanaux has choreographed various productions for Children's Dance Theater, Theater 98, South Baldwin Theater, Story Theater Company, Fairhope High School Color Guard, and Jubilee Fish Theater.

Lanaux was appointed to serve on the Alabama State Council Grants Panel. She is a former member of Fairhope Educational Enrichment Foundations "Phantasy of the Arts" Fundraising for Arts in Education and is on the committee for design and fundraising for a planned Fairhope Center of the Arts. She produced shows for the "Phantasy of the Arts" fundraiser for FEEF. She also has volunteered for the Eastern Shore Arts Center, the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce, and the Fairhope Public Library Foundation. She currently serves on the board of the Colony Center of the Performing Arts.

Lanaux shares that her French teacher at JTW introduced her to Modern Dance during a mini-semester. She was able to perform at the new UMS theater and it was a life changing experience. Lanaux comes from a long line of GPS, UMS, and Wright graduates beginning with her grandfather Oscar Barney '08 and parents Mary and William Barney '30. Lanaux resides in Fairhope with her husband, Martin and has two daughters, Julia and Mary.

**Jackie Ward** graduated from UMS-Wright in 1996. She was a member of the International Thespian Troupe, Varsity Soccer Team, National Honor Society, and Mu Alpha Teta. She was a recipient of the Visual Arts Award, an Alumni Spirit Award, and the Captain's Award for soccer. She also painted backdrops for the theater guild and was the set designer for *My Fair Lady*. From UMS-Wright, Ward went on to Birmingham-Southern College where she graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Bachelor of Science in Business. While at Birmingham-Southern, she received the Lloyd G. Sloane Award and was a member of Mortar Board and Omicron Delta Kappa. She continued her education at Auburn University, Montgomery and received her Master's in Business Administration.

Ward began her career in banking as an analyst and then commercial lender for Aliant Bank. She then worked as a private banker for Colonial and then Regions. In 2008, she shifted her focus to her photography business, Jacqueline Ward Images Photography. Her sessions include, but also go beyond, engagements, weddings, children, and families. Locally, she shoots commercially for Alys Beach, Seaside, WaterColor, and the South Walton TDC. Ward has been listed in numerous national and regional publications and has been commissioned to document events internationally. As far as publications go, she has been featured in *Style Me Pretty*, *The Knot*, *Garden & Gun*, *Coastal Living*, *Southern Living*, *Emerald Coast Magazine*, *SPORT Magazine*, and *30A Review*. She has traveled everywhere from San Francisco to New York City to the Grand Caymans shooting mostly commercial work. Ward has met many celebrities through her work, a number of those for promotional work or for different cultural and community events. In the past few years, she has shot celebrities Morgan Freeman, The Bangles, The Indigo Girls, Matthew Sweet, Sam Bush, John Driskoll Hopkins, John Oates, Shawn Mullins, John Currence, Martha Foose, and Emeril Lagasse. She was recently awarded a 2012 Bride's Choice for photography, which is an award for the top 5% in each wedding vendor category.

Ward shares her talents with the community as well. She teaches photography at Northwest Florida State College. She has volunteered for the Children's Hospital, Lion's Club, Junior League of Mobile, Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep as a photographer, and Seaside Neighborhood School as a mentor and soccer coach. She is on the board of Auburn University Women's Philanthropy, Kid One Transport, and Bay Elementary PTO. She is also on the finance committee of Point Washington United Methodist Church. Ward, her husband, Britt, and their children, Ellis, Carter, and Rigby, reside in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida.

**Linda Pereira** enjoyed a distinguished career at both UMS and UMS-Wright from 1978-1996 as an outstanding teacher and department chairperson. She was the Chairperson of the Fine Arts Department from 1980-1996, and, during this time, Pereira laid the foundation for the Arts Department that the UMS-Wright community enjoys and respects so much today. Pereira was a shining example of what an educator should be. Her primary concern was always the wellbeing of her students while her second concern was the colleagues with whom she worked. Only a totally unselfish and dedicated educator would have taken on so many academic and co-curricular assignments which demanded so much time and energy; however, this was typical of her unwavering commitment to her students. Not only did she teach a variety of grade levels, but she also coordinated all assembly programs, sponsored *The Mind's Eye* and *The Crimson and Grey*, and supervised the school's Career Day and its Homecoming Court.

Even with all her other contributions to UMS-Wright, one enduring achievement most clearly identifies Pereira. That achievement is the outstanding Theater Department at UMS-Wright. While the entire Arts Department bears her thumbprint, the school's theater program of today would not exist without her influence. While directing all male casts at UMS, she was responsible for outstanding productions such as *Stalag 17*. At UMS-Wright, her first coed production, which was a huge success, was the inspired selection *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*. Until her departure in 1996, she skillfully directed one memorable stage production after another and adeptly managed both the students and the professional educators involved in the Arts at UMS-Wright.

Pereira worked as an adjunct instructor on the collegiate level while also teaching at UMS-Wright. In 1996, she accepted a full time position at the University of South Alabama as Assistant Athletic Director for Academics. She was given the opportunity to teach part time while she was able to positively influence the lives of the university's student-athletes.

While at UMS-Wright, Pereira was joined by her daughter Johanna, who was an active participant in the school's band and theater programs. Johanna graduated in the UMS-Wright class of 1993. Like her mother, she made a positive contribution to UMS-Wright and still is a source of many happy memories. Johanna passed away on December 23, 2010, but she lives on in the lives of her two sons who provide Pereira with ongoing joy.

Pereira has enriched the lives of all the people she has taught, worked with, or known. She continues to teach as an adjunct instructor at USA and spends much of her time as an active member of St. Dominic's Catholic Church. We want to thank her for all her accomplishments, professional and personal and congratulate her for her selection to the UMS-Wright Arts Hall of Fame.

## ARTS HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

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- 2008 ~ *Howard M. Fortney*
- 2009 ~ *H. Ainsley McNeely* '78
- 2009 ~ *Fred Dowling Baldwin* '66
- 2010 ~ *Nicholas H. Holmes, III* '70
- 2011 ~ *Eugenia Cameron Foster* '62
- 2011 ~ *Howard "Spud" Schramm* '60
- 2012 ~ *Cammie East Cowan* '63
- 2012 ~ *M. Richard Hirsch* '64
- 2012 ~ *Julie Hall Friedman* '77
- 2012 ~ *Ellen J. Goldberg* '97



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