**Mission:**

- The Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (SNAAP) investigates the educational experiences and career paths of art graduates nationally.
- SNAAP provides the findings to educators, policy makers, and philanthropic organizations to improve arts training, inform cultural policy, and support artists.
For faculty and administrators, SNAAP results can help:

- Inform, develop, and reform curriculum
- Compare CCA to similar institutions
- Strengthen alumni engagement and support
- Address student and alumni career needs
- Clarify what students learned and how it has been used in both arts and non-arts contexts
- Enhance recruitment, public relations, marketing, strategic planning, and development efforts
- Provide evidence for the value of an arts education
What kinds of questions are asked?

- Satisfaction with curricular and co-curricular experiences
- Current and past education and employment
- Skills acquired at the institution and their importance in the workplace
- Relevance of arts education to work and further education
- Turning points, obstacles, critical relationships, and opportunities
- Support and resources needed after graduation
- Types of art practiced and how often
- Arts engagement with the local community
- Income and support, student debt, and other financial issues
Who is surveyed and how?

- All USU arts alumni, both undergraduate and graduate
- Graduates who majored in Art, Music, Theatre, ID, Dance
- Online questionnaire; both Likert scale and open-ended questions
Response Rates

- Average National Response Rate: 17%
- CCA Response Rate: 15% (322 responses out of 2144 active email addresses)
- Categories do not line up exactly with our majors, but the distribution appears to mirror the current size of the departments
Comparison Group 1

Identified as “current peers” such as the University of California—Davis and West Virginia University’s College of Creative Arts
In some cases, “aspirational peers” such as Arizona State, Indiana University, UT-Austin, and others where some programs are where we may want to be in the future.
A Few Highlights
89% of alumni reported that they were satisfied or very satisfied with opportunities to perform, exhibit, or present their work.

- Peers: 76%, 81%
- All: 80%
50% of alumni expressed a sense of belonging and attachment (43%, 35%, 41%)

93% of alumni were very satisfied or satisfied with the quality of instructors (89%, 90%, 91%)

81% of our alumni report working with a faculty member on a project (65%, 67%, 66%)
Graduate Degrees

- 10% of our alumni went on to complete an MFA
  - Peers: 8%, 6%
  - All: 8%

- 3% of our alumni went on to complete a DMA
  - Peers: 2%, 1%
  - All: <1%
Areas to Grow

How much did USU help you acquire:

> Business Skills
  - Some or very much: 25% (19%, 22%, 24%)
  - 83% report that this skill has been very important in the workplace

> Entrepreneurial Skills
  - Some or very much: 26% (20%, 25%, 25%)
  - 73% report that this skill has been important following graduation
51% of our alumni completed their degrees “in the recommended time”

- Peers: 57%, 53%
- All: 67%
81% of our alumni had completed their degrees within 2 semesters of the recommended time

- Peers: 89%, 88%
- All: 90%
65% of our alumni report that they were satisfied or very satisfied with academic advising (peers, 53%)

41% reported that they were dissatisfied with career advising (peers, 59%)

We’re ahead of our peers, but not where our students need us to be
Placement

- 70% of our alumni found work within a year following graduation (75%, 76%, 77%)
- 17% of our alumni attended graduate school (13%, 14%, 11%)
- 57% report their first job was closely related to their major (42%, 50%, 46%)
Current Work

- 38% report current work as an arts teacher
  - (24%, 28%, 22%)

- 19% report current work in arts management
  - (14%, 16%, 15%)

- 57% report current work as a practicing artist
  - (49%, 48%, 53%)
Overall experience in the arts at USU

- Excellent: 54% (50%, 52%, 51%)
- Good: 42% (43%, 40%, 40%)
- Fair: 4% (6%, 7%, 7%)
- Poor: 0% (1% in all three groups)
77% definitely would or probably would attend again

- Peers: 75%, 77%
- All: 75%
Questions/Comments/Discussion