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Middle Tennessee State University

2019 SEMLA Annual Meeting  
University of Mississippi  
October 11, 2019



# ARTS IN THE ATRIUM

## Guerilla Culture in the Library

# LITERATURE

“With no particular agenda and the ability to see the big picture, librarians can assume the role of trusted third party in discussions between and among differing interests for the good of the campus.”

“Librarians can also selectively introduce culture to their user group, for instance, via storytimes for children, readings, curation of gallery space, and many other activities that make them partners in creating a social narrative.”

Harris, Ryan, Alexa Mayo, James Dale Prince, and Mary Joan. “Creating Shared Campus Experiences: The Library as Culture Club.” *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 101, no. 4 (October 2013): 254–56. doi:10.3163/1536-5050.101.4.005.

# LITERATURE

“Academic libraries historically offer space for artistic expression and intellectual freedom, and unlike cafés, museums, and student unions, they simultaneously offer further research and creativity.”

“...librarians are often the logical leaders of such programming, since they have multidisciplinary interests.”

Viator, Van P., Melissa Ursula Dawn Goldsmith, and Anthony J. Fonseca. 2008. “Beats and Bongos: Making the Library the Cultural Center of Academe.” *Louisiana Libraries* 70 (4): 49–53.

<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=lxh&AN=32759515&site=eds-live&scope=site> .

# LITERATURE

“A public library is an educational, cultural resource of your community. Programs should provide quality entertainment and aesthetic pleasure. They should generate positive attitudes, strengthen the library’s standing in the general community, elevate the library’s stature in the community as a whole, and add luster to the image of the library. Library programming is a major responsibility.... You are impresarios—executive producers—stage managers!”

Elsie Lieber, quoted in: Lehrman, Leonard. 1995. “Hear the Music: Concerts in Libraries.” *Wilson Library Bulletin*. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=edsgao&AN=edsgcl.16716796&site=eds-live&scope=site>.

# QUEST FOR STUDENT SUCCESS 2025

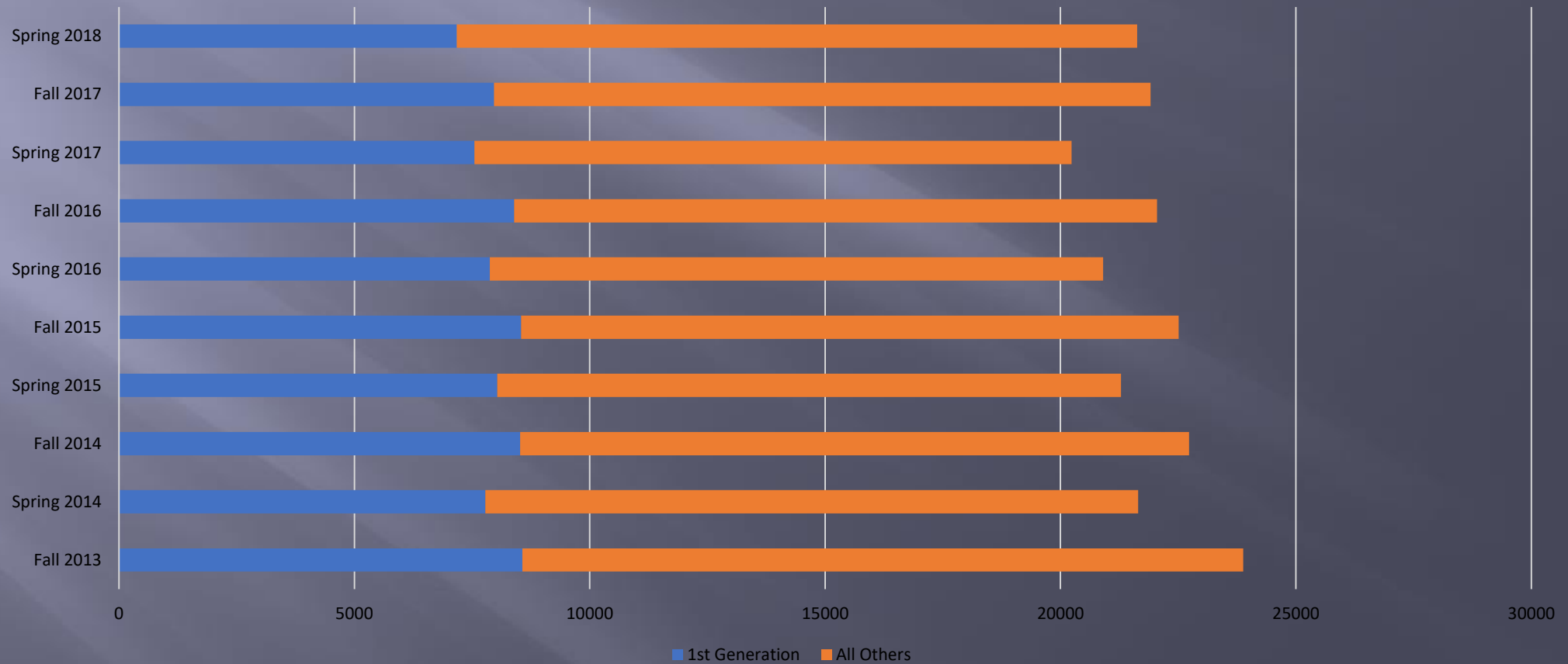
Goal: Middle Tennessee State University will graduate students who are prepared to thrive professionally, committed to life-long learning, and actively engaged as citizens of their communities and the world.

## Strategic Paths:

- Enhance the quality of the academic experience.
- Enhance the quality of the student life experience.
- Build an academic and student support network that facilitates learning.

# MTSU STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

1st Generation Students



# MTSU STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

## 2016-2017 Academic Year

83% commuter students

57% of freshmen live on campus

18,554 undergraduate students  
received financial aid

The Tender Land  
MTSU Opera Theatre  
March 15, 2016



# GUERRILLA CULTURE

Using surprise or  
unexpected or  
unconventional  
techniques to bring the  
arts to our students.



*Environmental Puppets*  
Student Art Exhibit  
April-May 2016



# DEAN'S REQUIREMENTS

- 15 minutes max
- Begin at noon
- Point to a larger event
- Not to occur during the last 2 weeks of classes or during exams



*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*  
MTSU Theatre and Dance  
April 4, 2018

# DEAN'S REQUIREMENTS

- Tuesdays or Wednesdays
- Student or faculty ensembles preferred but visiting artists permissible



Alash Ensemble  
September 30, 2013

# LOGISTICS

## Sound System/Microphones

- Library Technology Services
- Production Services

## Keyboard

- School of Music
- Moving Services

Stephen Wade  
September 24, 2014



# LOGISTICS

## Service Desk Staff

- Retractable stanchions
- Lock doors/block entrances
- Direct traffic

Women's Chorale  
October 10, 2017





### *La Mer*

DANC 4200: Women in Twentieth  
and Twenty-First Century Dance  
March 19, 2015

# PUBLICITY

## Library's External Relations Specialist

- Coordinates the library's calendar
- Social media
- Posters

# OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Adaptive Technology Center
- Flexibility... or lack thereof

Women's Chorale  
October 10, 2017

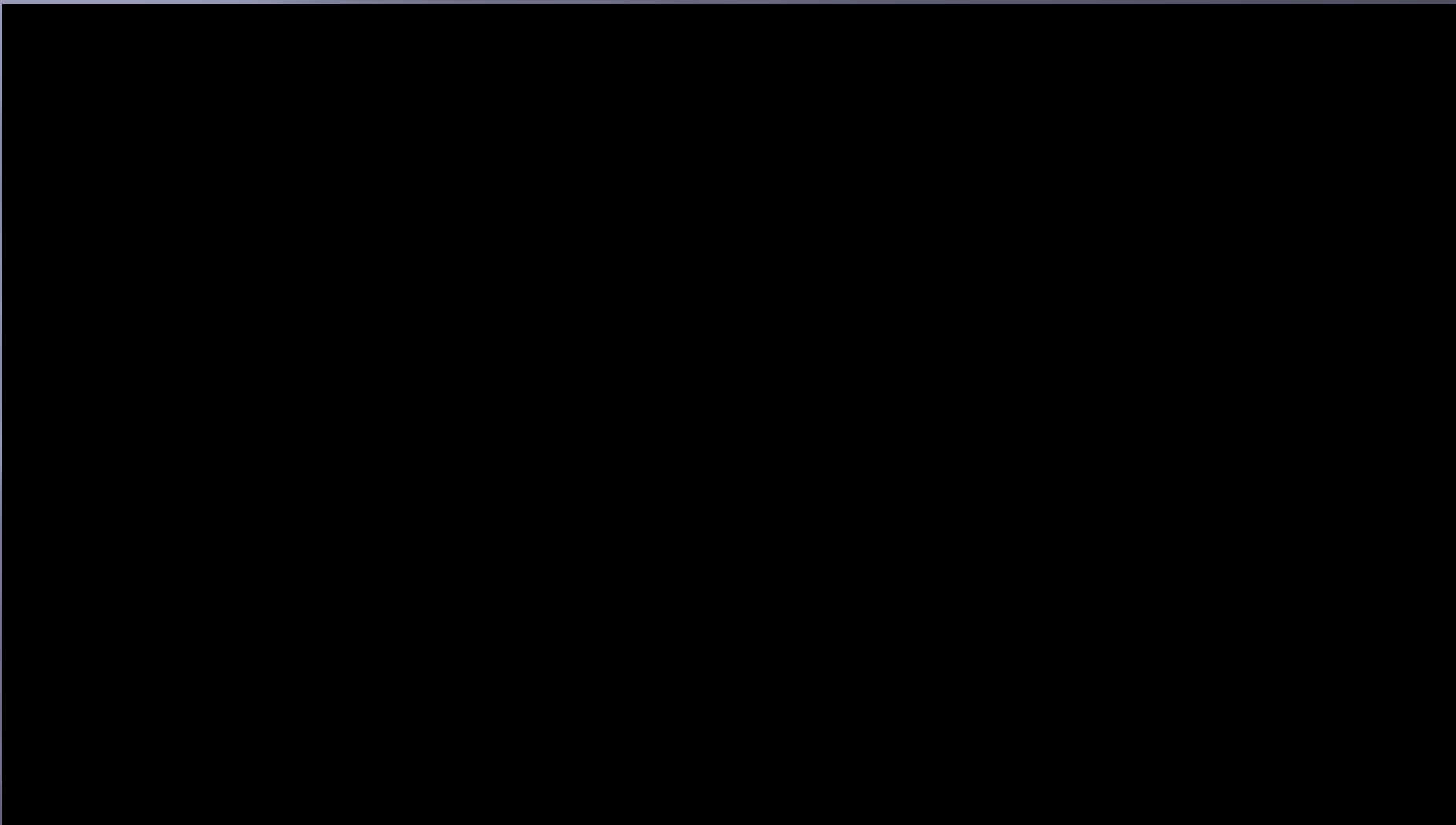


# OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Sound checks
- Student schedules
- Costume changes
- Props
- Backpacks, purses, etc.
- Recital requests
- That one patron...



<https://youtu.be/1w3N5gJE980>



# ARTS IN THE ATRIUM

Video montage created by Alexander Lempin

Videos by Grover Baker and James Brummet



QUESTIONS?