



**COLLEGE OF  
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**  

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**SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY**

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## **SUU Hosts Annual Percussion Festival**

Written by Ashley H Pollock

**Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah:** SUU Department of Music hosts their Annual Percussion Festival on Saturday, April 15, 2017, beginning with a workshop at 2 p.m. and culminating with a concert that evening at 7:30 p.m. given by the Percussion Ensemble featuring Dr. Lynn Vartan and special guest artist Michael Burritt. All events will take place at the Music Building Thorley Recital Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

Burritt currently teaches at the esteemed Eastman Conservatory of Music as Professor of Percussion. He is in high demand as a performer and has played all over the world. Burritt not only performs on the marimba; he has also composed concertos, solo and chamber works for the marimba and percussion.

Dr. Lynn Vartan, Director of Percussion at SUU, said, "Michael and I will be premiering a new piece he wrote for us to perform. The piece, *(Sweet Dreams) and Time Machines*, honors his former Dean, Doug Lowry, at the Eastman Conservatory. Doug was also my Associate Dean and conductor at USC. Doug passed away in 2013 and was an inspiration to both of us."

Students in the Percussion Ensemble has been working throughout this semester to prepare for this final concert of the year. They will perform their spring repertoire. Michael Burritt will perform a few solo pieces throughout the evening.

The goal of the SUU Percussion Ensemble is to perform historically significant works for percussion, contemporary percussion literature, novelty percussion and traditional non-western percussion music. The ensemble is comprised of both music majors and non-majors and welcomes students with a variety of levels of experience. Several performance opportunities are available to members of the Percussion Ensemble throughout the year.

For more information about the percussion program at SUU, please visit [www.suu.edu/pva/music/percussion](http://www.suu.edu/pva/music/percussion).

### **About the College of Performing and Visual Arts**

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, and Dance. The College also offers programs in Theatre Arts, graduate programs in Arts Administration and Music, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor

of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Music Education and Master of Music in Music Technology graduate degrees. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring nearly 600 majors in the College. Over 1,100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival and SUU's Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit [www.suu.edu/pva](http://www.suu.edu/pva).

### **For Calendar Editors: SUU Hosts Annual Percussion Festival**

- What:** SUU Department of Music hosts their Annual Percussion Festival on Saturday, April 15, 2017, beginning with a workshop at 2 p.m. and culminating with a concert that evening at 7:30 p.m. given by the Percussion Ensemble featuring Dr. Lynn Vartan and special guest artist Michael Burritt. All events will take place at the Music Building Thorley Recital Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.
- Who:** SUU Percussion Ensemble, Dr. Lynn Vartan, and special guest artist Michael Burritt.
- When:** Saturday, April 15, 2017
- Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- Where:** Thorley Recital Hall, Music Building, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah
- Tickets:** Admission is free and open to the public
- Info:** For more information about the percussion program at SUU, please visit [www.suu.edu/pva/music/percussion](http://www.suu.edu/pva/music/percussion).

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