



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

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CPVA Valedictorian Reflects on Opportunities at SUU

Written by Ashley H Pollock

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Southern Utah University's College of Performing and Visual Arts is proud to announce Ashlee Shipp Lieske as their 2018 Valedictorian. Lieske has dedicated her time to the Department of Music studying voice and choral education, and will earn her degree in Music Education.

Originally from Katy, Texas, Lieske came to Cedar City as a young high school student to audition for the Department of Music and was impressed by the professors. She said, "They were so welcoming and helpful. It felt like I would be comfortable here and would be able to get the assistance I would need to succeed."

She has been a member of the Women's Choir (Luminosa) at SUU as well as the Opus Chamber Choir. She studied voice for 12 years and currently studies under Professor Carol Ann Modesitt. Lieske has performed in many recitals and two operas and was in the chorus in *Dido and Aeneas* by Henry Purcell and she played the role of "Monica" in *The Medium* by Gian Carlo Menotti.

Of her time at SUU, Lieske said, "All of my fondest memories revolve around the Music Department. I've enjoyed the performances I've been in as well as many of the classes I've taken. The highlight of my time here is probably Dr. Ipson's Music History classes."

Lieske completed her student teaching at Cedar High School and taught elementary school in Thailand. Her plans for the future include working as a substitute teacher in Iron County, working as a teacher abroad for a few years before settling down in the United States, and working as a choir director.

As her parting advice to students attending SUU and those preparing for college life, Lieske offers, "Go to class, don't procrastinate, and always ask for help."

The College of Performing and Visual Arts offers their congratulations and best wishes in her future endeavors. We are honored to have such a talented and dedicated student represent the college in the music profession.

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The College of Performing and Visual Arts (CPVA) at Southern Utah University comprises 26 academic programs including liberal arts (BA/BS) and professional (BFA, BM) degrees in art, design, dance, music and theatre. It offers graduate programs in the fields of arts administration,

music education, and music technology. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 600 majors in the College. CPVA presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year and is affiliated with the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the Center for Shakespeare Studies. Southern Utah University is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Art & Design (NASAD), National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD), and the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

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