Position Specification

Kent State University
Dean, College of the Arts
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Kent State University invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the College of the Arts. Reporting to the Senior Vice President and Provost, the Dean of the College of the Arts will provide vision and leadership to elevate the College’s academic and research excellence and advance its reputation. With approximately 120 full-time faculty, 100 part-time faculty, and 2,700 students, the College of the Arts is home to the Kent State University Museum and four schools: the School of Art; Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising, commonly called the School of Fashion; Hugh A. Glauser School of Music; and the School of Theatre and Dance. The College has the strong support of Kent State University’s senior administration, who wish to invest even more in the College at a time when many other universities are scaling back the arts.

Kent State University

Kent State University is the largest public multi-campus system in Northeast Ohio, with campuses serving nine local communities and a population of more than 36,000 students, 5,700 full-and part-time faculty and staff members, and 257,000 alumni worldwide.

The University’s Kent Campus has a student body of nearly 27,000 and a thriving residential population of more than 6,300. Its seven regional campuses—Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Salem, Geauga, Stark, Trumbull, and Tuscarawas—draw full- and part-time students, now totaling more than 10,000, from across Northeast Ohio. Kent State has one of the largest regional systems in the nation, offering programs from information technology and nursing to arts and humanities. The University’s wealth of intellectual, physical, and cultural resources makes it a whole that has a far greater impact than the sum of its parts. As one university with multiple campuses, Kent State serves as an economic driver and regional cornerstone in communities throughout Northeast Ohio.

Outside of Ohio, located in the heart of New York City’s Garment District, the Kent State Fashion School’s NYC Studio offers a unique academic experience to further students’ studies in fashion design, fashion merchandising, and fashion media. The University offers more than 200 global education opportunities at its campuses in Florence, Italy, and Geneva, Switzerland; centers in China and India; as well as partnerships with 60 institutes and universities across the globe from Colombia to Vietnam and Germany to Kenya, and all students, including those on regional campuses, have the opportunity to participate. The Kent Campus is a global education destination in its own right, serving as home to 1,558 international students hailing from 98 countries.

Kent State is proud of its outstanding faculty, staff, and students, collaborative culture, exceptional academic and research orientation, and strong commitment to engagement; academic excellence; and diversity, equity and inclusion. The University offers 160 associate and bachelor’s degree programs and 165 graduate degree programs. Academic programs are organized into 11 colleges: Aeronautics and Engineering; Applied and Technical Studies; Architecture and Environmental Design; Arts and Sciences; the Arts; Business Administration; Communication and Information; Education, Health and Human Services; Nursing; Podiatric Medicine; and Public Health.

According to the 2020 edition of Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report, Kent State is the only Northeast Ohio institution among the top 100 national public universities, and it holds a coveted spot in the first-tier list of Best National Universities. In addition, the University is hailed by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching among the nation’s top 76 public high-research universities. Kent State was also ranked 13th in the country to make this year’s list of “America’s Best Employers for
Diversity” by Forbes. As an engine for economic, cultural, and workforce development, Kent State generates more than $1 billion annually in added income to the Northeast Ohio economy.

Committed to the creation and nurturing of a diverse community of individuals through inclusive excellence, the University strives for a culturally diverse student body, faculty, and staff that reflect the multicultural nature of Ohio, the nation, and the world. The Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion was created in 2009 with a mission to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion across all eight Kent State campuses.

Kent State University is accredited without reservation by the Higher Learning Commission.

The College of the Arts
The study and celebration of the arts has been central to Kent State University. Long before art, dance, music, fashion, and theatre were ever housed within the same College, the arts were a significant part of Kent State University’s identity and history. Coursework and extracurricular activities in art, dance, music, and theatre were present at Kent State soon after its founding in 1910 and—rounded out by the later addition of fashion studies—have grown into a powerhouse fixture of the University.

The College of the Arts, previously known as the College of Fine and Professional Arts, was founded in 2006 and is comprised of the School of Art, the School of Fashion, the Hugh A. Glauser School of Music, the School of Theatre and Dance, and the Kent State University Museum. The College is also the home of the noteworthy Kent/Blossom Arts summer programs—including the Kent Blossom Music Festival, Porthouse Theatre, and the Kent/Blossom Art Intensives.

With more than 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students and more than 15,000 alumni, the College of the Arts is a center of professional and artistic excellence with a mission to empower global leaders who ignite creativity, inspire discovery, and transform all lives through the arts. Students experience a curriculum of specialized arts courses within a liberal arts foundation that place emphasis on professional practice and career preparedness. Learning takes place not only in the traditional classroom, but also on stage and backstage, in numerous design labs and shops, in studios, galleries, and beyond. Experts in their fields, faculty and staff are professional artists, actors, designers, educators, managers, merchandisers, musicians, researchers, and technicians whose work is recognized nationally and internationally.

Facilities
The footprint of the College of the Arts at Kent State University is extensive, with facilities in five Kent Campus buildings as well as a presence on multiple regional campuses. The College of the Arts offices are located in Cartwright Hall, a building which houses the 800+ seat university auditorium.

The School of Art is housed in the Center for the Visual Arts (CVA), a 127,000 square-foot state-of-the-art, LEED-certified building that opened in 2016. The CVA contains art education and art history classrooms and lecture halls; a glass shop; a wood shop; dedicated studios for ceramics, painting, drawing, jewelry/metals/enameling, print media and photography, textiles, and sculpture; and an outdoor workspace.
The School of Fashion and the Kent State University Museum are located in Rockwell Hall, a renovated and restored 1927 Beaux Arts-style building that originally served as the university library. Rockwell Hall contains specialized facilities for fashion students including the TechStyleLAB, the KnitLAB, a 4,000+ title Fashion Library, and an array of studios and classrooms with dedicated sewing and design space and facilities that meet the highest museum standards to house one of the largest fashion- and design-focused collections in the United States.

The Hugh A. Glauser School of Music and the School of Theatre and Dance are housed together in the Center for the Performing Arts, and the units share the specialized resources provided by the Performing Arts Library, located on the bottom level.

The School of Music inhabits the Music wing of the Center for the Performing Arts, which contains classrooms, rehearsal spaces for the School’s various bands and ensembles, faculty studios, practice rooms for student use, and Ludwig Recital Hall, where most student and faculty recitals and ensemble performances are held.

The School of Theatre and Dance is housed in the Center for the Performing Arts’ Roe Green Center, a 70,000+ square-foot wing that was renovated and partially newly constructed in 2010. The Roe Green Center houses 3 theatre spaces used for theatre and dance performances: Erdmann-Zucchero Theatre (flexible 150+ seat black box), E. Turner Stump Theatre (500 seat proscenium), and Wright-Curtis Theatre (190+ seat arena/thrust). The dance program utilizes a suite that includes a lobby, 3 large dance studios, and locker room facilities for students and faculty. In addition to traditional classroom space, the Roe Green Center includes acting studios, costume shop, costume technology lab, dressing rooms, lighting lab, makeup classroom, props lab, sound studio, scenery lab, scene shop, and a welding lab.
The College of the Arts also manages the 130+ acre Porthouse Theatre campus located in nearby Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Next door to the Cleveland Orchestra-owned Blossom Music Center, the Porthouse Theatre complex includes the Porthouse Theatre pavilion, a 500-seat outdoor, covered thrust style theatre; the Thornbury and Hackett picnic pavilions; the Reed pavilion which houses restrooms and the concession stand; and the box office building.

The School of Art
Kent State University’s School of Art is one of Ohio’s top schools in visual art, offering undergraduate and graduate degrees in Art Education, Art History, and Studio Art. The program offers a wide array of studio disciplines, technology and design tools, new state-of-the-art facilities, a world-class faculty, access to research libraries and museums, and many opportunities for students to enrich their experience. The School of Art offers the largest variety of Studio Art disciplines of any public university in the state of Ohio: Ceramics, Drawing, Glass, Jewelry/Metals/Enameling, Painting, Print Media and Photography, Sculpture and Expanded Media, and Textiles. The school offers the only M.F.A. in Studio Art in Northeast Ohio. *U.S. News & World Report ranks fine arts at Kent State 110th in the U.S.*

The School of Art offers B.A. and M.A. degrees in Art Education with the option of a 100% online or hybrid M.A. degree; B.A. and M.A. degrees in Art History; and B.A., B.F.A., M.A., and M.F.A. degrees in Studio Art.

The School of Art is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

The Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising
At the Kent State University School of Fashion, fashion design and merchandising majors have the chance to showcase their talent and innovation in real-world settings. This energized atmosphere has earned the school a consistent ranking among the best fashion programs nationally and globally. The renowned fashion news source, *Fashionista*, includes Kent State’s School of Fashion among the top 25 fashion schools in the world. The publication no longer assigns a numerical ranking to each school; however, in 2018, the School of Fashion was ranked #5 in the U.S. and #15 in the world. The School’s unique resources include the TechStyleLAB, equipped with an array of digital design and production technologies, and a dedicated fashion library with nearly 4,000 print and multimedia titles. The School of Fashion shares its Rockwell Hall home with the closely linked Kent State University Museum, which houses one of the largest fashion- and design-focused collections in the country.
Beyond the Kent campus, students hone their professional skills through immersive industry internships and expand their creative worldviews through study-away options in New York, Florence, Paris, London, Germany, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Los Angeles. The Kent State School of Fashion offers the most study away opportunities of any fashion school in the country and is the only U.S. fashion school that requires all undergraduates to complete both an approved internship and study-away experience prior to graduation.

The School of Fashion offers B.A. and B.F.A. degrees in Fashion Design, a B.S. in Fashion Merchandising, and the Master of Fashion Industry Studies degree. Students are also able to enroll in a combined Bachelor of Science in Fashion Merchandising/Master of Business Administration program.

The School of Fashion is an Ohio Center of Excellence as designated by the state Board of Regents and is a member institution of the Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA), International Foundation of Fashion Technology Institutes (IFFTI), and National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

**The Hugh A. Glauser School of Music**

For over 100 years, the School of Music has nurtured the next generation of music educators, performing artists, and scholars. The School of Music offers some of the most comprehensive and innovative degree programs in the country, with an emphasis on experiential learning, quality scholarship, and immersive technical training. Students enrolled in Kent State’s music programs can expect a warm and supportive environment where fostering professional growth and personal development is a priority. Graduates have gone on to have successful careers in music education, music performance, scholarly research, and higher education and administration. During the summer, the School of Music hosts the Kent Blossom Music Festival in cooperation with The Cleveland Orchestra (with which the School has collaborated for 53 years) and Blossom Music Center.

The School of Music offers B.A. degrees in General Music and Jazz Studies; B.M. degrees in Music Education, Instrumental Performance, Piano Performance, Voice Performance, and Composition; M.M. degrees in Conducting, Music Education (online), and Performance; M.A. degrees in Composition, Ethnomusicology, and Theory; and Ph.D. degrees in Music Education and Music Theory-Composition. The School also offers a B.A. degree in Contemporary Popular Music, and a B.S. degree in Music Technology is also available on the Stark Campus.

**The School of Theatre and Dance**

The School of Theatre and Dance encourages students to discover their potential, make bold choices, and recognize their ability to define success on their terms. Students who enter the Roe Green Center for the School of Theatre and Dance are embraced for who they are and surrounded by a community that supports their individual potential. Dedicated to creative excellence, the School of Theatre and Dance provides opportunities that challenge students to develop their meaningful purpose.
Comprehensive theatre and dance programs are rooted in a professional model that utilizes a combination of classroom learning and hands-on production experiences, providing multiple opportunities per year for students in all areas. The School of Theatre and Dance’s mainstage season generally consists of 7 productions: 2 plays, 2 musicals, and 3 dance concerts. In addition to the mainstage season, the Black Box Series offers opportunities for student-produced, directed, and written works. Dance students have the opportunity to join the Kent Dance Ensemble, Kent State University’s pre-professional dance company, and senior Musical Theatre students participate in Musical Theatre Showcase in New York City.

The School of Theatre and Dance is also the home of Porthouse Theatre, Kent State University’s summer Equity theatre.

The School of Theatre and Dance offers B.A. degrees in Dance Studies and Theatre Studies; B.F.A. degrees in Dance Performance, Design Technology and Production, and Musical Theatre; and M.F.A. degrees in Acting for the Returning Professional and Design Technology and Production. Both the Design Technology Program and the Musical Theatre Program are ranked among the top 30 in the U.S. by OnStage Blog.

The School of Theatre and Dance is a member of URTA and is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD) and the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

**The Kent State University Museum**

The Kent State Museum contains important collections of fashion and decorative arts. Its eight galleries feature changing exhibitions of work by many of the world’s great artists and designers. Closely linked to the School of Fashion, the Museum provides students with first-hand experience with historic and contemporary fashions as well as costumes representing many of the world’s cultures. An extensive collection of American glass, fine furniture, textiles, paintings, and other decorative arts combine to give context to the study of design.

The Museum serves both the University and the community through exhibitions, public programs, and research appointments in the collections.

Opened to the public in October 1985, the Kent State University Museum was founded with an initial contribution from New York dress manufacturers Jerry Silverman and Shannon Rodgers. Their gift included 4,000 costumes and accessories, nearly 1,000 pieces of decorative art, and a 5,000-volume reference library. In the 1960s, Shannon Rodgers began collecting what is now considered one of the finest period costume collections in the United States, today totaling more than 40,000 pieces. The Tarter/Miller collection of some 10,000 pieces of glass formed the second major gift to the Museum. Together with the other decorative arts collected by Rodgers and Silverman, the Museum holds one of the most comprehensive teaching collections of fashionable design from the 18th century to the present.
Kent Blossom Music Festival
The Kent Blossom Music Festival is an advanced training institute for professional music training operated by Kent State University in cooperation with The Cleveland Orchestra and Blossom Music Center, presenting public performances by distinguished artist faculty and talented young musicians. The festival is regarded as one of the premier centers for professional music training for young artists in the United States. Founded in 1968, the festival continues its now half-century legacy of helping to launch the careers of young artists, with alumni holding positions of prominence in many of the world’s finest orchestras, chamber ensembles, and educational institutions. Over 2,300 alumni have shared the Blossom experience since 1968 and propelled many into major artistic positions, including 20 current members of The Cleveland Orchestra and 17 in the Atlanta Symphony, in addition to the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, and Philadelphia Orchestra as well as the Emerson, Miami, Borromeo, Ariana, Grancino and Euclid Quartets, just to mention a few.

Porthouse Theatre
Since its founding in 1968, Porthouse Theatre has entertained scores of Northeast Ohio audiences and provided training opportunities for countless developing theatre artists. Every summer, more than 20,000 guests enjoy the Porthouse experience, picnicking with friends and family on the surrounding grounds or in one of the pavilions before enjoying a professional production in the comfortable 500 seat covered outdoor theatre. Porthouse Theatre is a staple in the Northeast Ohio arts community, and patrons return year after year.

Porthouse Theatre provides a unique training opportunity for actors, designers, technicians, and managers, working in the context of a professional producing theatre. They work side by side with established professionals to refine their skills and talents. The summer season generally contains three musical productions staged between June and August. Rehearsals and the construction of costumes and scenery take place at the School of Theatre and Dance on Kent State’s Kent campus prior to tech week, when activity shifts to the Porthouse Theatre complex in Cuyahoga Falls. Porthouse employs more than 100 artists in training each summer and operates on a Tier II URTA Equity contract.

Kent Blossom Art Intensives
Kent Blossom Art Intensives (KBAI) are a series of two-week studio art intensives conducted each summer since 1968 at Kent State University. Similar to an artist residency, participants create a self-directed body of artwork under the guidance of resident School of Art faculty and talented visual artists from around the country. These studio intensives offer in-depth discussions, professional mentorships, and unforgettable experiences to all that participate.
Each course is specific to one medium, and the offerings change annually. KBAI provides students and individual artists with two weeks of focused learning, experimentation, and creation under the guidance of experienced artists from around the country. Students may continue their explorations of the medium most familiar to them; experienced artists are equally encouraged to discover new modes of creating. KBAI is proud to invite an outstanding roster of visiting artists to complement the instructional insights of its resident faculty. Visiting artists also present public talks on their work, giving KBAI participants and the greater public an opportunity to learn more about contemporary issues and ideas in the visual arts.

**Dean, College of the Arts**

**Key Priorities (not in rank order):**

- Provide bold vision and leadership for the College to advance its national and international reputation;
- Engage key stakeholders in a robust strategic planning process;
- Recruit and retain the best faculty and enhance their career development;
- Increase undergraduate and graduate enrollments;
- Enhance the cultural and ethnic diversity of faculty, staff, and students and ensure an equitable, inclusive environment for all;
- Further enable and promote research productivity and creative practice;
- Develop the financial resources of the College, especially through fundraising and the creation of revenue-generating programs; and
- Foster interdisciplinary opportunities within the College and across the University.

**Specific Responsibilities:**

**Visionary Leadership:** Establish a vision to ensure that the College of the Arts is viewed as a progressive and innovative leader among colleges of arts. Provide leadership in establishing the College’s strategic objectives and develop and manage all resources essential to the achievement of these objectives. Work with faculty, academic leadership, and University leadership in pursuit of broader institutional goals.

**Academic Oversight:** Recruit and retain top faculty who will attain high standards of excellence and enhance the cultural and ethnic diversity of the College and University. Evaluate faculty for reappointment, tenure, and promotion. Strengthen excellence in programs, curriculum, and classroom teaching. Support, enhance, and promote faculty research and creative practice.

**External Relations:** Lead the development and implementation of strategies to build strong relationships with a wide range of stakeholders, partners, and collaborators. Articulate, communicate, and advocate the College’s vision to external constituencies. Represent the College through active participation at external events. Cultivate and solicit individual donors, foundations, and corporations.

**Financial Management:** Ensure a strong financial future for the College. Manage the financial resources of the College through an effective annual operating budget and long-term financial plan. Oversee College-wide resource acquisition and utilization.
The next Dean will exemplify the following:

**Visionary Leadership:** An established record of strong, collaborative, and forward-looking leadership in academia or a professional setting. Demonstrated leader connected to the arts who has full appreciation for the full range of disciplines represented in the College. The capacity to formulate and articulate a shared vision to persuade a wide range of audiences of its value and to engage others in its implementation. A commitment to shared governance is essential. Strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Ability to recruit outstanding new faculty as well as retain the College’s strongest faculty. Ability to motivate and inspire others to strive continuously for academic excellence. Strong commitment to interdisciplinary education.

**Administrative Management Experience:** Experience developing and implementing innovative strategic plans. Demonstrated record of establishing performance measures, monitoring results, and evaluating impact.

**Focus on Students:** Genuine understanding of the teaching mission and the importance of providing students with the highest quality educational experience. Commitment to undergraduate and graduate education. Must understand and value the importance of a diverse student body.

**Financial Management Experience:** A distinguished record of operational leadership demonstrating excellence, growth, and financial effectiveness. Demonstrated experience in fiscal management.

**Fundraising Ability:** Demonstrated success in strengthening philanthropic support from individuals, foundations, and corporations or a genuine appetite to engage in such fundraising.

**Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** Demonstrated record of a commitment to embracing, advocating, and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion.

**Personal Qualities:** The highest standards of personal and academic integrity and ethical and professional conduct. Strong interpersonal, oral, and written communication skills with a focus on openness and transparency. Global mindset. Innovative and creative problem-solver with a willingness to take risks. Ability to foster a collegial and respectful work and educational environment.

**Academic Qualifications:** The preferred candidate will hold a terminal degree from an accredited institution in one of the disciplines represented in the College and should possess credentials appropriate for appointment as a full professor with tenure in one of the four schools.
Kent State University Leadership

President Todd Diacon
An internationally renowned historian of Brazil, Dr. Todd Diacon became Kent State University's 13th president in July 2019. A tireless advocate for student success, President Diacon has more than 30 years of experience in higher education leadership. His commitment to college affordability and access has resulted in nationally recognized initiatives to boost student retention, graduation rates and academic achievement.

President Diacon joined Kent State as provost in 2012 and has been at the forefront of expanding Kent State's international presence, has led the charge to recruit and promote more diverse faculty, and has helped the University attract world-renowned leaders in the fields of aviation, engineering, brain health, liquid crystals, and peace and conflict studies.

Dr. Diacon came to Kent State from the University of Massachusetts Amherst where he served as deputy chancellor and professor of history. Previously, he spent 21 years at the University of Tennessee Knoxville, serving as a tenured professor of history, department head, director of the Latin American studies program, and vice provost. He specializes in agrarian history and the history of central state power in Brazil. One of his books, *Stringing Together a Nation*, won the Warren Dean Prize for the best book published on the history of Brazil. Dr. Diacon has also authored publications on student success and on the administration of higher education.

Senior Vice President and Provost Melody Tankersley
Dr. Melody Tankersley was appointed senior vice president and provost, effective November 2020, after having served in the interim role since 2019. She previously served as senior associate provost and dean for graduate studies. Dr. Tankersley is a Professor in the College of Education, Health and Human Services. Her academic expertise is in the development and treatment of emotional and behavioral disorders of children and youth. Her research focus is on identifying and implementing evidence-based practices in schools and homes to prevent and respond to children’s behavioral disorders. Dr. Tankersley has secured approximately $2 million of funding and published over 100 books, chapters, and articles on her areas of focus. Her work has been recognized internationally—most recently she was awarded the James M. Kauffman Publication Award for a scholarly work that results in knowledge leading to exemplary practice.

Dr. Tankersley has led the University's student-ready college initiative, worked to increase student retention and improved recruitment efforts and the admissions process for graduate students. During the onset of the pandemic in March, she oversaw the University’s effort to convert more than 9,000 courses to remote instruction. Within the region, she has been a driving force in expanding institutional collaborations and community outreach, most notably with Akron Public Schools.

The City of Kent
Over the last decade, the city of Kent has experienced dramatic revitalization as a result of a $106 million public and private investment. Kent State University officials, city administrators, the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority (PARTA), and its partners have collaborated to make the city of Kent an excellent place to live, work, study, and visit. The downtown Kent redevelopment project, which earned the 2012 Best Project Award from the Ohio Economic Development Association, includes:
The Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center, which opened in 2013. The hotel has 94 guestrooms, and the conference center can accommodate up to 300 people;

- PARTA’s Kent Central Gateway Multimodal Facility, which accommodates buses, pedestrians, bicycles, and cars;
- Acorn Alley and Acorn Alley II, a retail office space development;
- College Town Kent, a 185,000 square-foot, pedestrian-friendly development offering convenient and high-quality retail, dining, residential, and office options; and
- The Kent State University Esplanade that strengthens ties between the University and the city by establishing a physical link and providing students, faculty, and staff a safe pathway to visit, enjoy, and patronize downtown Kent and its businesses.

Cultural elements in Kent include various arts, environmental, and entertainment events during the year as well as the Kent State University Museum, which focuses on the history of fashion design and decorative arts in the U.S. and around the world. The Kent Stage, located downtown, is a performance venue for a variety of arts performances in music and theater. It hosts 90 concerts, four theatrical performances, and four film festivals or movie premieres per year. In addition, the City of Kent operates nearly 20 parks and preserves, the largest of which is the 56-acre Fred Fuller Park, along the Cuyahoga River. Haymaker Farmers Market is held year-round in Kent and is one of many weekly markets in communities surrounding the university.

The city of Kent is just 20 minutes from Akron, home of more than 20,000 businesses, including the headquarters of two Fortune 500 companies. Northeast Ohio is home to some of the world’s leading liquid crystal and polymer research programs and companies and is internationally recognized as the “Polymer Center of the Americas.” The Akron Art Museum, the World Golf Championship Bridgestone Invitational, and the All-American Soap Box Derby are all located in the city of Akron.

Kent is less than an hour from Cleveland, situated on the southern shore of Lake Erie, which is the second largest city in Ohio and the largest media market in the state. Cleveland is home to many beautiful parks. The Cleveland Metroparks won the prestigious 2016 National Gold Medal Award for excellence in Park and Recreation Management and includes the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, that contains one of the largest collections of primates in North America. In addition, the Cleveland Metroparks manages six lakefront parks that provide public access to Lake Erie. With 33,000 protected acres and 2.2 million visits each year, the Cuyahoga Valley National Park is located less than 30 minutes from campus and provides connectivity on the Towpath Trail all the way to Cleveland. Cleveland’s professional sports teams include the Cleveland Browns (National Football League), the Cleveland Indians (Major League Baseball), the Cleveland Cavaliers (National Basketball Association), and the Lake Erie Monsters (American Hockey League).

For those who enjoy the performing arts, Cleveland is home to Playhouse Square Center, the second largest performing arts center in the United States behind New York’s Lincoln Center. Playhouse Square includes five theaters within what is known as the Cleveland Theater District, with such resident performing arts companies as Cleveland Play House, Opera Cleveland, and the Great Lakes Theater Festival. The center hosts various Broadway musicals, special concerts, speaking engagements, and other events throughout the year. Cleveland is also home to the Cleveland Orchestra, widely considered one of the finest orchestras in the world. It is one of the “Big Five” major orchestras in the United States.
Five miles east of downtown Cleveland is University Circle, a 550-acre concentration of cultural, educational, and medical institutions, including the Cleveland Botanical Garden, Case Western Reserve University, University Hospitals, the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History (now third largest in the country), and the Western Reserve Historical Society. The Greater Cleveland Aquarium is located near downtown, and the I.M. Pei-designed Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is located on the Lake Erie waterfront. Cleveland also boasts the Great Lakes Science Center, boating, fishing, swimming, and other waterfront recreation.

Cleveland is now recognized as an eatery destination. The national food press—including publications Gourmet, Food & Wine and Esquire—has heaped praise on several Cleveland spots including “best new restaurant,” “best steakhouse,” “best farm-to-table programs,” and “great new neighborhood eateries.” In 2008, the Chicago Tribune ran a feature article in its “Travel” section proclaiming Cleveland as America’s “hot new dining city.” Nightlife in Cleveland is also very vibrant, offering exciting hotspots like the Warehouse District, East 4th Street District, and the Tremont District.

Northeast Ohio is home to world-class healthcare, including the Cleveland Clinic that is ranked nationally in 14 adult specialties and 10 pediatric specialties by U.S. News and World Report. Other nationally ranked facilities include University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Fairview Hospital, Akron Children’s Hospital, and the Cleveland Clinic Akron General Medical Center.

**Nomination and Application Process**

Inquiries, nominations, and applications are invited. Interested candidates should confidentially submit—in electronic format (Adobe PDF files preferred)—a curriculum vitae and letter of interest to KSU.Arts@russellreynolds.com.

For fullest consideration, materials should be received as soon as possible and preferably by March 15.

Kent State University is an equal access, equal opportunity, affirmative action employer that is fully committed to achieving a diverse faculty and staff.

**Contact**

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