SLU Theatre is proud of the work we’ve done preparing for the uncertainties of next year. We have planned a full season of innovative original programming to replace our traditional theatrical performance schedule. Students with work closely together and with faculty to produce four unique entertainments, from fully produced Shakespearean audio drama to experimental video collage, and live, socially distanced “happenings”. All of our classes will be fully adaptable to online formats, if necessary, and students will gain skills and experiences different from what we have offered before. We are determined to deliver fresh, engaged, and cutting-edge training to our theatre students, along with all the camaraderie and social bonding opportunities traditional theatre affords, should switching to an online or hybrid format become necessary.

Moving forward under the current conditions, we recognize that public performance of music cannot take place, at least in the short term. Regardless, the Music Faculty is committed to creating unique, creative, and safe opportunities for students to perform in streamed and/or pre-recorded recitals and concerts without a live audience.

The COVID-19 pandemic has given the Art History program faculty the opportunity to engage creatively with students, with a positive reassessment of our objectives as instructors and mentors. Our availability to students remains an asset of our program, and will continue to be our focus. SLU has provided us with the technologies we need to connect with students near and far, and faculty have found resources and honed their skills to bring us closer together.

We are excited to move forward as planned with our scheduled courses in the fall. Students in our capstone course, Research Methods, will continue with plans to organize an exhibition in collaboration with the Saint Louis University Museum of Art. Art museums around the world opened their virtual doors this year with innovative ways of presenting their collections, and both of our on-campus museums have plans to be available during the coming year. If we are unable to have a guest speaker on campus, we will host a lecture online, geared toward our university community, with an opportunity to reach a wider audience. The same will apply to our undergraduate symposium, which will be the first to be done in partnership with SLU’s Madrid campus.

Studio Art at Saint Louis University offers a wide variety of introductory courses that count towards the major or minor as well as the Fine Art core requirement. For this fall in particular, the courses have been adjusted to provide hands-on experience both on campus and remotely. Taking advantage of widespread teleconferencing, the faculty will be connecting students with guest artists in a variety of locations, some as far away as Berlin, Germany. This fall, the student exhibit will be on the internet, featured on the Studio Art web page.

Please contact the program director, Amy Bautz, at amy.bautz@slu.edu with questions about Studio Art courses, the Studio Art major or minor, and the Visual Communication minor.

Auditions for the two Fall semester shows take place on August 16 and 17. Each project a fully realized production, whether it’s created remotely from quarantine or rehearsed safely in person on campus! Email produce.theatre@slu.edu after August 11 for more information.