Every Radford student studying within the College of Visual and Performing Arts has an individual story about who they are and what this university means to them.
Dance has been a core aspect of my identity since I was a very young boy. At Radford, I can build on my studio and competition experience and fine-tune my craft under the watchful eye of amazing faculty. I’m finding the community is also a powerful teacher as I lean on my classmates and gain inspiration from their feedback and encouragement.

**Attending Radford would not be possible without the generous scholarship support I receive. Donors make learning and engaging in this community of artists and scholars a reality for me. I am motivated to apply myself even harder in the classroom and studio because of the gift given.”**

Onajae Edmund  
Dance and Theatre  
Class of 2025  

Recipient of Pegeen H. & David L. Albig Dance Scholarship
Radford University attracts and develops exceptional talent, brought together in an environment that encourages artistic excellence and supports the development of the whole student. The College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) is home to over 600 students; more than 80 committed faculty and staff working together to support the five academic departments; and our art museum. The generous donor community that supports this college through the CVPA Arts Society reinforces the commitment to excellence. Formed over 30 years ago, the Arts Society continues to provide over 100 scholarships for artists across all of our disciplines each year. In addition to scholarship support, our donors help student artists participate in college touring ensembles, study abroad opportunities, professional conferences and guest artist residencies.

In the pages that follow, we invite you to meet some of our current scholarship recipients and hear about their Radford experience in their own words.
Scholarship support gave me the ability to have funding for my ongoing fieldwork in photography and push my limits in the form of innovative art projects. As an artist, I have an interest in the organic qualities of light. My thesis work has enabled me to explore painting and writing with light, exhibiting my art with intimate lightboxes and large print work on transparency film displayed with plexiglass in the form of sculptures.

_The caliber of the equipment and resources within the photography department attracted me to study at Radford, but the community of students and faculty who I work alongside, coupled with generous donor support, enables me to flourish here._"
Kayla Sadd
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Interior Design, Class of 2023

Recipient of Morris N. & Marie M. Baldwin Endowed Presidential Scholarship and Dr. Susan Barnard Scholarship for Interior Design
My goal with interior design is to gain a skill set that is not only geared towards “building beautification” but is centered around the idea of making people feel comfortable. This seems to be a common goal within the interior design department. Professors in the department encourage us to get comfortable with our daily tasks, whether by offering advice and pro-level tips or by setting aside in-class time to work on drafting floor plans and concept ideas.

**Receiving scholarship support enables me to focus on sharpening my skills with the intention of using them to improve the lives of others in our society. Scholarships serve as motivation as well as reassurance that our work is valued.**

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to be a student at Radford and am committed to enhancing our environments by masterfully designing spaces that are specially tailored to the individual, both in and out of the home.”
Recipient of The Honorable James C. Turk and Barbara D. Turk Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship Award

Jaylaysia Irizarry
Bachelor of Fine Arts,
Dance, Class of 2023
At Radford, I have found a family that both nurtures and challenges me as a dancer. My peers spur me on and celebrate our mutual accomplishments. Class sizes allow for faculty to interact with students in meaningful and personal ways. They are clearly committed to our professional success. Radford enables me to pursue a degree while advancing the integrity of my dancing technique, allowing me to dream of a career within a dance company and beyond.

This commitment to dance as a profession was evident from my first campus visit. I knew I wanted to be a part of this community. Scholarships made that dream a reality for me.

Receiving scholarship support has been fuel to this ballerina’s fire – I engage more deeply with my classes and my community. I am forever grateful and deeply proud to be here at Radford.”
K. Shaly Farmer
Bachelor of Science,
Theatre, Class of 2022
Recipient of Nancy Necessary Pridemore Scholarship
With a deeply personal commitment to expanding access to the arts in Appalachia, there was nowhere else for me to pursue my degree but Radford. Studying here has provided me the training to excel both onstage as an actor and backstage with the technical foundation to build on in lighting and stage design. Our faculty are committed artists themselves and so personable. They work together to execute a carefully laid-out curriculum that is very hands-on.

As a scholarship recipient, I know I am also able to continue to pursue my future dreams without being as deeply saddled by educational debt.

I intend to make sure that families growing up in Appalachia have as much access to the arts as those who live in more urban areas. Radford has equipped me with both the knowledge and the practice to believe this dream is possible.”
Matt Rhoten
Bachelor of Music in Music Education, Class of 2022

Recipient of Jill Lobach Graybeal Endowed Scholarship
At Radford, I benefit from personalized attention and a commitment to collaborative learning. The education faculty are deeply committed to our success in the classroom and the music faculty are preparing us to be skilled practitioners. I’m so grateful for this powerful combination and the classmates that inspire me.

Scholarships kept me here at Radford and enable me to envision a long career in education. I want to pursue an advanced degree in conducting and make instrumental music come alive for students.

"The preparation I have received here and the scholarship support truly are the foundation upon which I will build my success."
The Radford University Arts Society is an annual giving society that recognizes and celebrates our most loyal College of Visual and Performing Arts supporters. For more than 30 years, the Arts Society has supported creativity, award-winning talent, student and faculty performances, community outreach and student scholarship. Make your Arts Society gift today to join this esteemed group of loyal arts supporters! Your gift of any amount to any department, scholarship or initiative within CVPA earns you recognition in our Arts Society. Members of the Arts Society are recognized for their prior year’s cumulative giving to CVPA (between July 1 and June 30). To be recognized as a member of the Arts Society in 2022–2023, please make your Arts Society gift to CVPA today!

Thank you to the donor community that supports our students and their artistic expression.

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