



OPENING NIGHTS

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UNIVERSITY

MICHAEL ROSATO

SPRING 2020-21

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Florida State University's four-year graduation rate of 72 percent places FSU among the Top 10 public universities in the country and is the best in the state of Florida.



GLOBAL REACH

FSU's commitment to increasing the number of students studying abroad was honored with a 2019 Seal of Excellence from the Institute of International Education. The award specifically recognized FSU's extraordinary global-engagement network.



FSU FRESHMEN FLOURISH

Florida State's freshman retention rate is 93 percent, meaning more freshmen than ever are returning for their second year. That places FSU among the Top 20 public universities in the nation for freshman retention!



WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

FSU researchers received a record level of funding from federal, state and private sources in the 2019 fiscal year, bringing \$233.6 million to the university to support investigations into areas such as health sciences, high energy physics and marine biology.



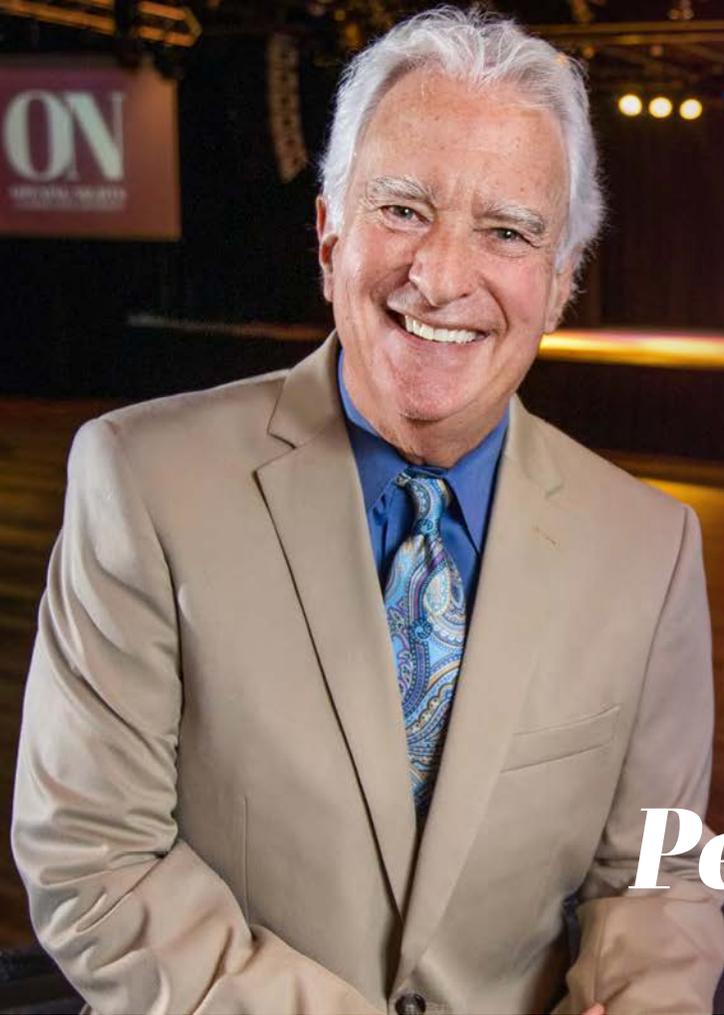
THE WORD IS OUT

Prospective students are taking notice of FSU's preeminence. We received a record-breaking 60,555 first-time freshman applications for the 2019 summer and fall semesters.



AN OUTSTANDING VALUE

Florida State is ranked No. 9 in the nation among public universities that offer high-quality education at an affordable price, according to Kiplinger's annual list of Best Values in Public Colleges.



Spring into Great Performances

Our spring performances continue with world-renowned muralist and Florida State University alumnus Michael Rosato, who is the Chain of Parks Art Festival Presenting Artist. Michael's keynote address is done in partnership with Chain of Parks and Lori and Kelly Dozier and serves to kick off the Chain of Parts Art Festival weekend.

Michael Rosato's artistic style is self-described as representational realism. He has been commissioned to complete a number of murals across the country with highlights including the Oklahoma City National Memorial, the Texas Motor Speedway and the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History.

During his address, Michael will discuss the transformative power of public arts and how murals and the arts are an incredibly powerful tool for storytelling. He will talk about art as a catalyst for transformation in communities and individuals.

The evening also includes a Q&A moderated by the Director of the Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts, Preston McLane. Questions for the event can be submitted in advance of the performance on our website.

Our next event is the Edwin McCain Trio on May 2. Edwin McCain is an American singer-songwriter and guitarist. His songs "I'll Be" and "I Could Not Ask for More" were radio top-40 hits and credited as two of the greatest love songs of all time. Edwin and his trio will perform an intimate evening of indie rock music with emotional lyrics that tap into universal feelings.

Thank you for joining us this season. We couldn't do what we do without your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Blachly".

Michael Blachly
Director, Opening Nights at Florida State University



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UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

APRIL

15 **Michael Rosato: Chain of Parks**
Art Festival Presenting Artist
spoken word, visual arts

MAY

2 **Edwin McCain Trio**
singer-songwriter, indie rock

8 **Matthew Whitaker**
jazz, instrumental

27 **Old Salt Union**
bluegrass

JUNE

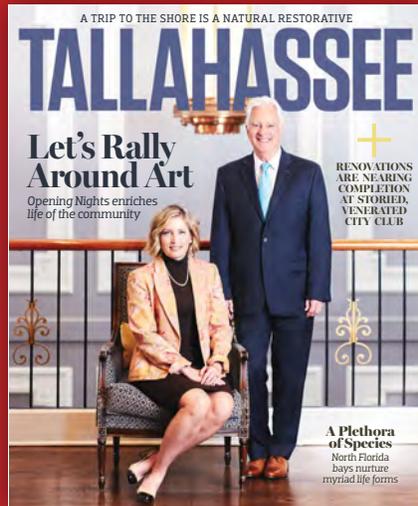
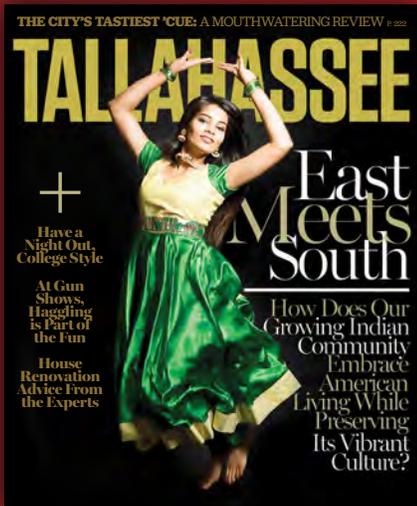
10 **Veronica Swift**
jazz, vocal

17 **An Evening with Billy Dean**
country, singer-songwriter

Cover: Harriet Tubman mural by Michael Rosato

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Michael Rosato - April 15, 2021

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**6:30 PM - KEYNOTE
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7:15 PM - Q&A

LOCATION

The Moon

GENRE

*spoken word,
visual arts*



Michael Rosato

Chain of Parks Art Festival

Presenting Artist

*This evening is moderated by Director of the Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts
Preston McLane.*

Michael will discuss the transformative power of public arts and how murals and the arts are an incredibly powerful tool for storytelling. Michael will talk about how art can transform communities and individuals using his murals, such as “Take My Hand” which received international acclaim, as examples.

Michael Rosato specializes in designing and painting large-scale murals for public and private spaces. Mr. Rosato has been commissioned to create artworks for display in museum exhibits, corporate headquarters, retail spaces, restaurants, sports arenas, outdoor venues and private residences. His recent mural of abolitionist and conductor on the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman, has received international acclaim.

Continued on pg. 21



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Michael Rosato's mural "Reflections" highlighting Cambridge, Maryland's rich African-American history, culture and heritage.

Michael Rosato

Continued from pg. 17

Mr. Rosato describes his style as representational realism and he enjoys telling vivid and often emotional stories through his work. His murals can be seen in venues across the country, including the Oklahoma City National Memorial in Oklahoma City; Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth; the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC; the Headquarters of Bacardi in San Juan, Puerto Rico; Globe Life Park, home to the Texas Rangers, in Arlington; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Museum in Cape Charles, Virginia; the Chesapeake Country Mural Trail in Dorchester County, Maryland; the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia; and the Harriet Tubman Mural at the

Harriet Tubman Museum in Cambridge, Maryland. His studio is located in Cambridge, Maryland.

PRESTON MCLANE

Preston McLane is the Director of the Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts. Prior to coming to Florida State, he lived in Moscow, Russia, where he received his Master of Arts from Lomonosov Moscow State University with a thesis on the emergence of synthetic realism in early Soviet easel painting. In addition to his academic pursuits, Preston has worked for more than a decade as an attorney, both in private practice and in government, focusing on environmental law and regulatory issues. Preston previously served as a curatorial fellow at the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, the Appleton Museum of Art and the New Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow. ■



Preston McLane, tonight's moderator, is the Director of the FSU Museum of Fine Arts.

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JUNE 17





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