

Susan E. Picinich

Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication

Susan has been the Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication at Towson University since June 2011. Prior to her appointment at Towson, she was Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern Maine and previously Associate Dean and Professor of Theatre there, for a total of 24 years in Maine.

In 2009 Susan was a Fulbright scholar in Bulgaria, teaching at the National Academy of Theatre and Film Arts in Sofia. She has researched arts education in Canada, France, and Eastern Europe, comparing it to higher education practices in the United States.

Susan currently serves on the Board of the Maryland Film Industry Coalition, and is also an Advisory Trustee for Maine State Music Theatre and Portland Stage Company where she chaired the Artistic Committee.



As a Professor of Theatre, Susan has taught Costume History and Design as well as other theatrical design and technical courses. She has also worked as a professional costume designer. Her most recent project was to design costumes for Halpern & Johnson at Portland Stage Company in spring 2011. She has regularly designed for Maine State Music Theatre in Brunswick, Maine, and North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Massachusetts. She has also designed at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia and built costumes for Manhattan Theatre Club and Barbara Matera's Studio in New York City. Susan has worked on film costumes for Signs of Life in 1989, an American Playhouse Production, and she also had minor assignments on the 1995 remake of Sabrina and the 1996 film The Juror.

A native of New York State, Susan holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Michigan. From the State University of New York at Albany, she has a Master of Arts in Theatre History as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and French. She currently resides in Towson with her husband Stanley Max, who teaches mathematics at Towson University.

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