of Art, Art History, and Design held its 2012 and 2013 Undergraduate Exhibition, Master of Fine Arts Exhibition and Graphic Design Exhibition in March and April at the Kresge Art Center. The department also hosted a fun and interactive Open Studio night for the community.

The 2012 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition featured creative research work by MSU graduate students Jon Anthony – painting; Yareth Fernandez – painting; Tomo Kobayashi – ceramics; April Matthews – painting; and Jacob Varty – printmaking. An opening reception was held Friday, April 13.

The 2012 BFA in Graphic Design Exhibition was held April 23 – May 4 in the Kresge Art Center. Students graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a concentration in graphic design presented their creative research in this group exhibition that saw 22 designers exhibit their work, including Austin Ashley, Erin Banner, Jonathan Biggs, Justin Crawford, Katherine Dike, Erin Dowdall, Kelly Drummond, Emma Enness, David Gaeser, Lydia Grove, Jessica Halfyard, Carly Huizenga, Jessica Knedgen, Lindsey Lapari, Shuo Li, Corey McGhee, Amy Memering, Kristen Miller, Cassie Nealis, Nick Perles, Sarah Sherman, and Monica Stolar. Cassie Nealis and Nick Perles were employed as student graphic designers for the College of Arts & Letters during 2011 and 2012.

“Our types of events allow our students to showcase their work, and, at the same time, involve the greater MSU and East Lansing-area community in what we do within our department.”

The evening of Thursday, April 12, saw Open Studio Tours in Kresge Art Center. Hosted by department graduate students, this event invited the public inside the walls of studios in the Department of Art, Art History, and Design. Attendees were encouraged to walk through studios and speak with student artists; view demos offered by ceramics, sculpture, and printmaking; and see graduate and undergraduate student work on display. They could also screen print their own shirt for a nominal fee.

“These types of events allow our students to showcase their work, and, at the same time, involve the greater MSU and East Lansing-area community in what we do within our department,” says Tom Berding, chair of the Department of Art, Art History, and Design. “They’re a win-win for everyone involved.”

Top: Jackie Alson works on her painting, “Pangea,” painted in triptychs; medium consisting of acrylic, tempera and oil paint, during Open Studio 2012. Jackie has a BFA from MSU and graduated as an art education major with an art history minor in May 2012. Her concentration was in painting and ceramics. She placed 1st Place Best in Show at MSU’s undergraduate exhibit, is actively involved in art festivals across the country, and has work displayed and sold at various galleries.