

# Scholarships see private competition

Programs still remain popular

BY MARY KATHERINE AYERS  
STAFF WRITER

While merit scholarships at UNC still retain strong offer acceptance rates, they face increasing competition from private universities.

Charles Lovelace, the executive director of the Morehead-Cain Scholars Program, said the scholarship had a 73 percent yield for this fall's incoming freshman class, with 85 offers and 62 acceptances.

The average draw over the last 10 years is around 80 percent.

Lovelace said the foundation hoped for 65 acceptances, and wants to up that number to 75 per class.

Lovelace said UNC fared better than most other programs around the country in terms of yield.

"It was a competitive year for everybody," he said. "Schools are becoming more aggressive in their financial aid policies."

Marjorie Strickland, the assistant director for external relations for the Robertson Scholars Program, said the program has had one of its strongest yields ever — 70 percent for the incoming class, with 27 offers and 19 acceptances. The yield for last year's incoming class was 48 percent.

Tony Brown, the president of the Robertson program, said the increase was due to Strickland's recruiting efforts. Over the past year, the program sent Robertson graduates to high schools around the country to garner interest.

"It was very effective," Brown said. "This is the first time we have ever done that."

Lovelace said there is little real competition between the two scholarships, since a student cannot apply to both.

"I feel they're complimentary in many ways, they help us recruit here," he said. "It's attractive to prospective students to see other opportunities here."

Of those students who did turn down the Morehead-Cain scholarship, Lovelace said three-fourths went to Harvard, Princeton, Yale or Stanford.

Because those schools generally have lower admission rates than UNC, they could be seen as more prestigious, increasing the likelihood that a student accepted to one of those select schools would choose it over others.

Adding to this competition is newly-increased financial aid for these students, making the offer

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from expensive private schools comparable with the price of UNC.

Bill Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aid to students at Harvard University, said the college wanted to be more affordable in order to be more accessible to students everywhere.

"We're after the best people in the world, and we're certainly after the best people in North Carolina," Fitzsimmons said.

He said that many people don't even think of applying to private schools such as Harvard because they have more affordable public universities in their own state.

With Harvard's new financial aid program, Fitzsimmons said over 90 percent of the U.S. population could go to Harvard for the same or less than it would cost to go to a flagship state university.

Despite the struggle with other schools, Lovelace said the Morehead-Cain scholarship is becoming more internally competitive as the program expands to consider more students.

In February 2007, the Gordon and Mary Cain Foundation announced that it would give \$100 million to the John Motley Morehead Foundation, making it the Morehead-Cain Foundation.

The Cain grant allowed the Morehead Foundation to re-establish the percentage of Morehead-Cain Scholars in the freshman class to its previous levels, Lovelace said. He added that as UNC's freshman classes had grown, the foundation had not kept its ratio consistent.

Lovelace said that although the number of Morehead scholars is increasing, the program is continuing to place a heavy emphasis on keeping the education the same.

While Strickland said the Robertson program hopes that strong yields will continue, Brown said the program isn't for everybody.

"I don't worry too much about yield," he said. "I want people to come into this program and have it be instrumental to their educational development in college."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

# Durham to host dance festival

Will highlight modern style

BY BENNETT CAMPBELL  
SENIOR WRITER

Durham often is referred to as the "City of Medicine."

But each June and July, the city right down Tobacco Road might as well be called the "City of Dance."

That's because every summer, Duke University's Page Auditorium and Reynolds Industries Theater play host to the American Dance Festival.

Now celebrating its 75th year, and in its third week of summer, ADF is set to feature world-renowned modern dance theater Pilobolus this weekend.

The group will present a world premiere performance as well as a dance choreographed by former member Martha Clarke.

But the festival doesn't stop there. It continues until July 19, featuring works from world-famous dance groups such as Compagnie Maguy Marin, Martha Graham Dance Company, Battleworks and Doug Varone and Dancers, which was just in Chapel Hill recently for the Long Leaf Opera Festival.

Here's a more in-depth look at what ADF is bringing to North Carolina during the rest of the summer:

## June 19-21

World Premiere & Other Works  
Pilobolus

Pilobolus, a Connecticut-based modern dance troupe, wowed audiences at ADF last summer. The group is set to return this weekend with two brand new works, titled "Razor: Mirror" and "Lanterna Magica," along with special help from Basil Twist, a New York puppeteer.

## June 24-25

"Umwelt"

Compagnie Maguy Marin  
This French group made its debut at ADF 25 years ago and is returning to perform this unique show, a presentation of everyday movements stylistically performed in front of an arrangement of mirrors.



Fang-Yi Sheu performs in "Spectre-1914," a work choreographed by the Martha Graham Dance Company. The group will return to the American Dance Festival from June 26-28 at Duke University's Page Auditorium.

## June 26-28

"Concerto Six Twenty-Two"  
Lar Lubovitch Dance Company  
New York City-based choreographer Lar Lubovitch has composed works for ballet and Broadway.

"Concerto Six Twenty-Two," though, stands as one of his most famous. The piece, composed more than 20 years ago, is arranged to Mozart's "Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra."

## June 30-July 2

"Ella, Promenade & Reel Time"  
Battleworks  
Robert Battle and his nine-person dance troupe will present another ADF-commissioned world premiere. The company also will present "Ella," a one-person tribute to famous singer Ella Fitzgerald.

## Later this summer

Shows continue until July 19. Visit [americandancefestival.org](http://americandancefestival.org) for a calendar of showtimes and locations for this weekend's and other performances, as well as more upcoming events this summer.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

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