

DLC

DEAN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

OCTOBER 2012

MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE

DEAN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL 2012-2013

- Gianna Drake-Kerrison, Co-Chair
- Demetrio "Dee" Kerrison, Co-Chair
- Joan Beall
- Madonna Billauer
- Kalyani Gopal
- Tinnie Grewal
- Mahtab Jafari
- Vivian McCluney
- Darrellynn Meillich
- Timothy J. Molnar, CFP®
- Sheila Peterson
- Jonathan Pink
- Nambi Seshadri
- Janice Smith
- Richard Stein
- Ken Tokita, MD
- Sandy Tokita

IN MEMORIAM

This spring saw the passing of dedicated arts supporter **Winifred Wig Smith**, who died in Newport Beach at the age of 95. Winifred and her late husband, Robert, were committed supporters of the Claire Trevor School of the Arts, and their generosity made possible the complete renovation of the School's concert hall, which was subsequently named Winifred Smith Hall. In 2004, the couple was awarded the UCI Medal, the university's highest honor.

A fine musician whose study of the cello began at age seven, Winnie became interested in UC Irvine's music programs when they were inaugurated in 1965. She was a faithful member of the cello section in our first orchestra, under the Maestro Mehli Meta, and into her final years could be seen regularly at departmental concerts and recitals.

Winifred Smith was beloved by many. She was a gracious and modest woman whose generosity, humane spirit, and love for music touched the lives of countless students, faculty members, and the community at large for decades. She will be greatly missed.

We also mourn the passing of enthusiastic arts patron and valued Dean's Leadership Councilmember **Victor Klein**. A trained and talented artist himself, Victor and his wife, Barbara, have given to CTSA in numerous ways over the years. In addition to his generous financial support, Victor contributed many innovative and wise ideas to help guide the School's vision, and even created beautiful original works that graced our program covers and other collateral materials.

A native of Philadelphia, Victor moved with Barbara to California in 1986, where he opened the West Coast branch of Grey Advertising. The Kleins settled in Newport Beach and soon became involved in the Jewish community. Victor helped to establish Heritage Pointe, a Mission Viejo residence for Jewish senior citizens. He served as organization's president for three years, was a board member and also served as staff writer for its quarterly publication.

In addition to his love for the arts, Victor's passions included travel, bike riding, tennis, bridge, his many friends and, most of all, his family. We are grateful for his many contributions and feel his loss profoundly.

RECENT EVENTS

This summer saw the inaugural season of the **New Swan Shakespeare Festival**, performed under the stars in our newly built, outdoor mini-Elizabethan theater. After two exciting gala evenings to kick off the season, the troupe of actors performed *The Comedy of Errors* and *The Merchant of Venice* to enthusiastic sold-out audiences. Due to the theater's circular shape and intimate seating, every patron felt a part of the action, and standing ovations were a regular



result! We thank the Microsemi Corporation and all of our generous supporters who helped this vision come to life.

Scholars from around the world converged on our campus in July for **Derrida Today 3**, the third annual conference inspired by the journal of the same name, dedicated to the writings and philosophy of Jacques Derrida. The School was honored to host this international event, which was spearheaded by **Associate Dean Stephen Barker**.



Two of America's most prestigious contemporary dance companies, **Hubbard Street Dance Chicago** and **Alonzo King LINES Ballet**, were in residence at CTSA this summer, offering two week-long intensive dance workshops. Enrollees worked with directors and company dancers in technique, repertoire, improvisation and discussions. The work created during this



period by artistic director Alonzo King was presented to the public at informal showings in the Claire Trevor Theatre. The work will be finalized over

the next several months before it premieres in Berkeley and Los Angeles in 2013.

For eight weeks in July and August, 45 high school students danced, acted, directed, sculpted and sang their way through 10 two-week intensives in the **CTSA 2012 Summer Academies for the Arts**. Each intensive was designed to challenge participants with university-level curriculum, giving them a glimpse of what life would be like as an Art, Dance, Drama or Music major at



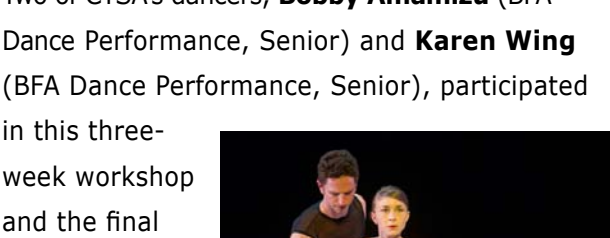
UC Irvine. Working with alumni, current graduate and undergraduate students, and faculty, attendees received one-on-one instruction tailored to increase their knowledge and technique in each chosen discipline.

After working in charcoal, ink, plaster and found-work, **Art** students mounted their own exhibition. **Dance** scholars worked in many diverse styles from contemporary and modern to jazz, tap and hip-hop.



Those in the **Digital Art** academy (or more correctly, **Digital Filmmaking**) developed videos from storyboards, worked on production and post-production tasks, and took their project to final screening. Half of our **Drama** scholars joined the New Swan Shakespeare Festival and apprenticed in costume, sound, and lighting, while the other half tested their acting chops in Improv, Shakespeare, Singing, Movement and Monologue classes. Some **Music** scholars developed a musical iPad app, while others learned to sight sing, and still others received chamber music coaching. All academies were a great success, and we look forward to growing the program next summer!

The National Choreographers Initiative, helmed by Dance **Professor Molly Lynch** as its artistic director, had a very successful season in July. The program is a laboratory for developing new choreographic works utilizing 16 professional dancers and four outstanding choreographers selected from a national search. Two of CTSA's dancers, **Bobby Amamizu** (BFA Dance Performance, Senior) and **Karen Wing** (BFA Dance Performance, Senior), participated in this three-week workshop and the final showing of these new works at the Irvine Barclay Theatre.



Congrats to Molly for her hard work, which resulted in enthusiastic and sold-out audiences!

CTSA's inaugural class of the newly conceptualized **Artists in Residence Independent Study Program in Studio Art** began on September 10. **John Deakers**, a Huntington Beach painter, and **Valerie Henderson**, a San Diego photographer, will be working over the next nine months with Dean Lewis and Professor Juli Carson on self-directed art projects.

Finally, the **Dean's Leadership Council** would like to welcome its four newest members: **Dr. Ken** and **Sandy Tokita**, **Kalyani Gopal** and **Nambi Seshadri**. We are excited to add their fresh

ideas and insights to the mix. The DLC gathered in September for its annual retreat to discuss CTSA's vision and strategies for the year ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join CTSA in celebrating "Arts Month" in **November!** Among many special events, please be sure to save the date of **November 9** for a **school-wide Open House**. There will be live performances, food, music, and lots of celebration in the name of art!

FACULTY ACCOLADES

We are pleased to welcome three new faculty members, joining us for the first time this fall: **Jane Page, Assistant Professor, Drama** is a professional director whose work is well-known across the United States and abroad. Last summer, she was in Edinburgh for the International Fringe Festival with *The Great Goddess of Bazaar*, an Ovation Award-winning show that she developed in Denver. Her work has been seen across the country at theatres including the Virginia Stage Company, the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the Cleveland Playhouse, Studio Arena Theatre, and the GeVa Theatre. Jane fervently believes that theatre is a vital and inspiring art form that works most effectively outside the institutional building, thriving when it is out and about in the community. Her first production at CTSA, the all-undergraduate musical *Dames at Sea*, was lauded by audiences, faculty, staff, and the students with whom she worked.

Joel Veenstra, Drama, graduated from CTSA with an MFA in stage management in the spring of 2011. Prior to attending UCI, he spent eight years working in film, television and theatre across the country. He served as story editor for Alcon Entertainment in Los Angeles, and in 2001 he created his own production company, Veenstra Enterprises. Since graduating, he has stage managed three Equity shows and served as the production manager for the nationally acclaimed Cornerstone Theatre Company. Joel will bring the latest in technology to the graduate stage management program in addition to a strong teaching background in Improvisational Theatre.

Andrew Palermo, Assistant Professor, Drama, joins the musical theatre faculty as a choreographer. He maintains a schedule of direction and choreography for stage and screen, with stage credits that include *Kristin Chenoweth at Carnegie Hall*; *The Frank Loesser Songbook with New York Philharmonic* (Lincoln Center); *The Mikado* (Carnegie Hall); and leading theatrical companies. In addition, Mr. Palermo is the Artistic Director and Co-Founder (along with actor Taya Diggs) of dre.dance, a contemporary dance company. His performance credits include the original Broadway companies of *Wicked*; *The Annie Get Your Gun* revival with Bernadette Peters; *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*; and the national and international tours of *West Side Story*. Andrew will have a major impact on the BFA Music Theatre Program and will provide cutting edge movement along with the great traditions of the American musical stage.

We congratulate **Drama Professor Bryan Reynolds** on being named the Chancellor's Professor in Drama. Reynolds' research spans several disciplines, including critical theory, history, performance studies, social semiotics, philosophy, cognitive neuroscience, and dramatic literature. We congratulate him on this distinguished honor.

Congratulations to **Drama's Vice Chair** and stage management guru **Don Hill** for once again being voted CTSA's Outstanding Professor of the Year (he also received it in 2009). This honor was bestowed by Drama's senior class of 2012.

Kudos to Music **Assistant Professor Nicole Mitchell**, who was named Flutist of the Year at the 2012 JJA Jazz Awards.

Music **Professor Robin Buck** was featured in Long Beach Opera's *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*. The LA Times noted that "three singers are LBO regulars, and they are all excellent... Baritone Robin Buck is an elegant and musically eloquent Dr. P."

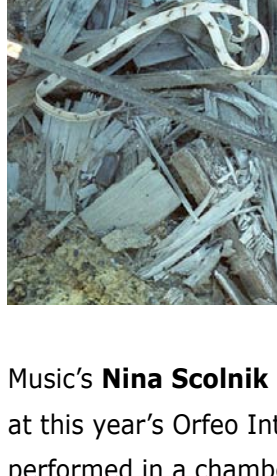
Dance **Associate Professor Jodie Gates** traveled to Prague in August to stage a ballet for The National Theatre, before returning to direct the Hubbard/LINES Residency here at CTSA and her acclaimed Laguna Dance Festival in September. She was also featured in a podcast, discussing her experience as a female choreographer:

<http://soundcloud.com/sheri-m-candler/podcast-28-jodie-gates>

Drama's **Dennis Castellano** just closed a production of *The Music Man* starring Shirley Jones at the Sacramento Music Circus. He served as the musical director/conductor and Ms. Jones played Mrs. Paroo, while her son, Patrick Cassidy, played the leading role of Harold Hill.



Art **Professor Kevin Appel** presented an installation of new paintings at Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects in Culver City. In this work, Kevin broaches new territory in exploring the tenuous relationship between the modes of photography, painting, and architecture and the incongruities that are produced at their collision.



Music's **Nina Scolnik** was once again featured at this year's Orfeo International Festival and performed in a chamber music concert with members of the Boston Symphony.

Art **Professor Simon Penny** was featured at Screen from Barcelona Interactive Visions. His work aims to analyze the role of interactivity in relation to video and, therefore, the possibilities and reasons for the existence of interactive video. While video is essentially a pre-recorded image, the more interesting interaction, as an artistic proposal, is that one that can find the right balance between predictability and randomness.

STUDENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Shruti Drama's graduate and undergraduate students provided much-needed assistance at this year's Tony Awards Viewing Party held in June in Los Angeles. Headed by Drama **Vice Chair Don Hill**, the crew worked from set-up to break-down for this annual event that raises money for the Actors Fund. This year's event honored Jason Alexander of *Seinfeld* fame.

The following Drama students received Honors in Stage Management for spring 2012: **Ashley Henley, Annie Jenkins, and Stephanie Sinfef**. We congratulate these rising seniors.

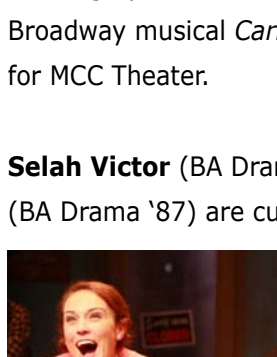
ON STAGE

Jenifer Foote (BA Drama '00) returned to Broadway this fall in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Earlier this summer she toured in the revival of *Follies*, performing a piece from that show live on the Tony Awards telecast.

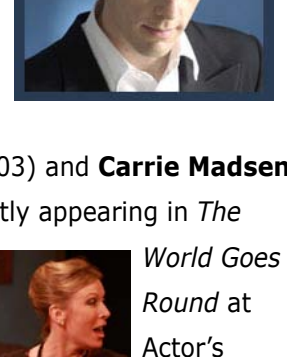


Nancy Lam (Dance and Music Theatre '01) and **Jasmine Ejan** (Dance and Music Theatre '01), were both featured in *Miss Saigon* at The La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.

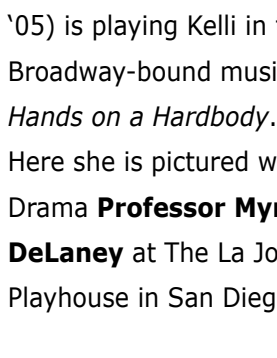
Allegiance — A New American Musical, which charts the lives of Japanese Americans who were placed in concentration camps on U.S. soil during World War II, began previews at San Diego's Old Globe Theatre in September. The production features **Kurt Norby** (BA Drama '04) and choreography by our new **Assistant Professor Andrew Palermo**.



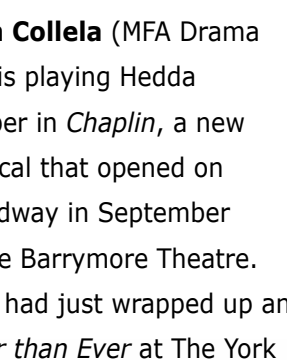
Matt Williams (Dance and Music Theatre '00) choreographed the Off-Broadway musical *Carrie* for MCC Theater.



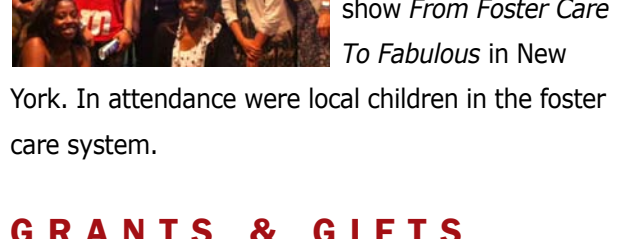
Selah Victor (BA Drama '03) and **Carrie Madsen** (BA Drama '07) are currently appearing in *The World Goes Round* at Actor's Co-op in Hollywood.



Allison Case (BA Drama '05) is playing Kelli in the Broadway-bound musical *Hands on a Hardbody*. Here she is pictured with Drama **Professor Myrona DeLaney** at The La Jolla Playhouse in San Diego.



Jenn Collela (MFA Drama '02) is playing Hedda Hopper in *Chaplin*, a new musical that opened on Broadway in September at the Barrymore Theatre. Jenn had just wrapped up an Off-Broadway run of *Closer than Ever* at The York Theatre Company.



Patrick Burns (BA Drama '09) recently presented his one-man show *From Foster Care To Fabulous* in New York. In attendance were local children in the foster care system.

GRANTS & GIFTS

The **Beall Center for Art + Technology** received a \$10,000 grant from The Boeing Company to sponsor scholarships for three students in the CTSA Digital Arts minor. Pictured are the Beall's **Samantha Younghans-Haug**, student recipient **Raja Fesheh**, **Dean Joe Lewis**, and Boeing's Sharon Maines. (Not pictured is **Donald Dreyer**, the third scholarship recipient).



Music **Professor Chris Dobrian** was successful in obtaining a DECADE grant to promote diversity in graduate education, which will be used to support a symposium in March entitled *New Directions in Graduate Music Programs*. The event will bring together artists, faculty, and graduate students for a weekend of panels, talks, concerts, and presentations.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Professor David Trend has assumed the chair for the newly renamed **Department of Art**. David previously was chair of the Studio Art Department in 1997, after serving as dean of Creative Arts at De Anza College in Cupertino, Calif., where he developed multimedia partnerships with schools and corporations in Silicon Valley. During the past 15 years he has been a frequent consultant for foundations, state arts and humanities councils, as well as the National Endowment for the Arts. His teaching draws connections among the fields of cultural studies, critical pedagogy, and media analysis.

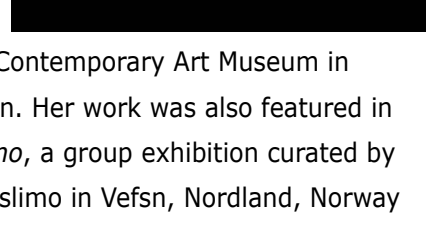
ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Kagiso Alicia Paynter (MFA Acting '11) appeared as Bianca in CBS's *Criminal Minds* in an episode called "Profiling 101."

Congratulations to **Amy Quanbeck** (BFA Cum Laude, Dance Performance '12), who received the inaugural Chancellor's Award of Distinction from the Claire Trevor School of the Arts. This award recognizes graduating seniors who have shown exemplary character by devoting their time and talents to benefit the campus community through research, leadership or service. Amy was recently selected to join the ensemble for the national tour of *Wicked*.

Mark Tomasic (MFA Dance '11) is in his first year as full-time faculty in the Department of Dance at Santa Monica College.

Jenny Yurshansky (MFA Studio Art '10) recently had a solo exhibition in *united states*, a series of projects that approached both the nature of the United States as a country and "united states" as the alliance of separate forms, entities, or conditions of being.



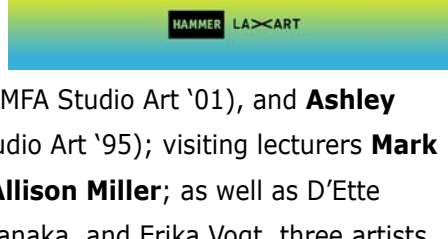
united states appeared at The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, Conn. Her work was also featured in *Odor Water Limo*, a group exhibition curated by Trygve Luktavasslimo in Vefsn, Nordland, Norway

The *Mobile Pinhole Project*, a children's art organization founded last year by **Jonas Nina Becker** (MFA Studio Art '10), engages Los Angeles youth in hands-on, day-long photography workshops using the VanCam, a van retrofitted into a giant pinhole camera. The *Mobile Pinhole Project* was recently featured on KCRW Radio's *All Things Considered*.

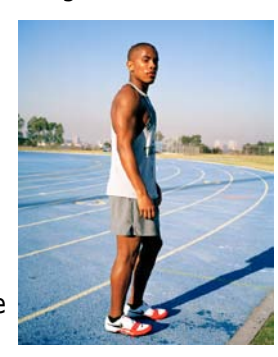


Andrew Printer's (MFA Studio Art '10) project *The Quilt Conversation* took place over 10 weeks as part of the San Diego Museum of Art's Summer Salon Series. *The Quilt Conversation* was selected as part of the museum's 2012 Summer Salon titled *Beyond the Banner*, which was informed by the *Pastrana Tapestries*.

The Hammer Museum recently announced the 60 Los Angeles-based artists chosen to participate in its first biennial *Made in LA*, who are also eligible for the \$100,000 Mohn Prize. A number of CTSA-affiliated artists are included in the biennial, including alumni **Mimi Lauter** (MFA Studio Art '10), **Mario Ybarra, Jr.** (MFA Studio Art '01), and **Ashley Hunt** (BA Studio Art '95); visiting lecturers **Mark Hagen** and **Allison Miller**; as well as D'Este Nogle, Koki Tanaka, and Erika Vogt, three artists who had solo exhibitions in CTSA's Room Gallery.



Jeff Sheng (MFA Studio Art '07) presented his project *Fearless*, a photography series about openly gay high school and college team athletes, as part of Pride House 2012 at the London Olympic Games. The 10-minute video exhibition included photographs of more than 100 athletes as a digital slide show with the artist's voiceover narration.



Flora Kao (MFA Studio Art) currently has a solo exhibition, *Lines of Desire*, at the Pacific Design Center in Los Angeles. Through repetitive actions like sewing, crocheting, and the obsessive layering of source material, Kao's installation and painting hovers at the edge of restraint and collapse, appearing to come together and fall apart simultaneously.

Tracey Bonner (MFA Dance '09) recently accepted a position as director of education for Dance at Colorado Mesa University.

Geoffrey Going (BA Drama '99) was recently featured as Troy on in the CBS daytime drama "The Young and the Restless."

Independent filmmaker **Selah Victor** (BA Drama '03) has launched a fundraising campaign using the new online crowdfunding website Indiegogo for her event project "Trainers," a comedy web series about a band of misfit personal trainers.

Pei-San (Kaw) Brown (BA Dance & Biology, '94) is in her eighth season as director of education for Ballet Austin.

Andrew Dawson Heringer (BA Drama '07) and his band Milo Greene made their network debut on *The David Letterman Show*.

Ken Gonzales-Day (MFA Studio Art '95), **Matt Lipps** (MFA Studio Art '04) and **Carrie Yury** (MFA Studio Art '06) were featured in LACMA's exhibit *Figure and Form in Contemporary Photography*.

Rob Salas (MFA Directing '11), the founder and artistic director of the Davis Shakespeare Ensemble, scored a major hit with his production of Shakespeare's *Henry V*, which ran over the summer at the UC Davis Arboretum.

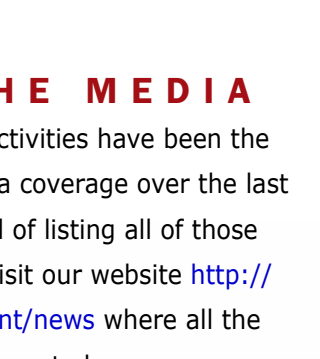


Kristine Thompson (MFA Studio Art '07) has accepted the position of assistant professor in the Photography Department at Louisiana State University's School of Art.

Gabi Strong (MFA Studio Art '08) was featured in *Knowledge* at Mount Wilson Observatory over the summer. The exhibit assembled a constellation of more than 30 contemporary Los Angeles artists whose work extended from the nexus of ideas embodied by the Observatory itself, and engaged the public in a unique opportunity to experience Mount Wilson Observatory through the lens of contemporary art.

Desiree Unsworth (BA Dance & Biological Science '11) and **Allyson Blackstone** (BFA Dance Performance & Chemistry '12) recently received Student Research Awards from the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science for projects that they will present at the IADMS annual conference in Singapore next October.

Gina Osterloh (MFA Studio Art '07) was honored with a residency at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE) this year. Her accompanying solo exhibition, *Group Dynamics and Improper Light*, was featured on KCET with Sharon Mizota.



CTSA IN THE MEDIA

CTSA, our events and activities have been the focus of extensive media coverage over the last several months. Instead of listing all of those here, we invite you to visit our website <http://www.arts.uci.edu/content/news> where all the news articles have been posted.