

# College of Fine Arts Alumni Chapter

# President's Message by Stacy Swim '98

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### **Upcoming UNLV Fine Arts Alumni & Friends Mixers:**

(all times Pacific)

What's Next in Your Arts Career?: Thursday, February 24, 2022 @ 3pm-5pm

Rebels, Raise A Glass IV: Wednesday, March 16 @ 5pm (virtual, St. Patrick's Day theme)

Los Angeles Alumni & Friends Mixer: Saturday, April 9 @ 5pm-7:30pm (live)

A Midsummer Night's Dream Dinner Theatre: April 30 @ 6pm

Welcome to the Spring 2022 College of Fine Arts Alumni Newsletter!



We hope you are having a healthy and happy start to the new year.

In October, we brought you a Halloween version of our Zoom Rebels Raise A Glass III. It was so much fun choosing the best looking Halloween beverage, watching everyone run around trying to find Halloween scavenger hunt items and correctly answer Halloween trivia questions!

In December, we had our first person event since February 2020! It was wonderful to gather again with CFA alums and friends to celebrate the opening of Nevada Conservatory Theatre's *The Little Shop of Horrors* and the *AH'-WAH-NEE'* exhibit inside the Donna Beam Gallery. We had a lively time with food, drinks, and mingling!

Also back in person and in December was the *New York Alumni & Friends Mixer*. Thank you to those who attended our events, and if you couldn't we'll catch you next time!

Our annual spring semester networking event What's Next In Your Arts Career? will occur online on Thursday, February 24th. The event is for any CFA alum and current CFA students to network, ask questions and discuss their CFA discipline. More info to come!

For the first time we will hold a philanthropic event during our Zoom *Rebels Raise A Class IV* in thanks for someone who helped/inspired you while you were at UNLV (can be someone UNLV, or not) and in anticipation of UNLV's philanthropic event #*RebelsGive* on April 5-6 to help us raise funds for the Barrick Museum of Art. This event will take place on Wednesday, March 16th, so look for more information soon. look for more information soon.

After last year's smaller CFA Hall of Fame gala event, we hope to attend this year's gala on April 5th and help celebrate our 2021 Alumna of the Year Cooper Rust! Nominations for this year's Alumnus/a of the Year are now open, so if you know a worthy CFA alum, nominate that person today! https://unlv.co1.qual-tries.com/fc/f/wort/CV/V/SPATE

Hopefully, we will be in person for our *Los Angeles Alumni & Friends Mixer* at Edendale on Saturday, April 9th. Stay tuned for more info!

Lastly, we will be collaborating with the UNLV Alumni Association to bring you *A Midsummer Night's Dream Dinner Theatr*e! Have dinner and drinks and then enjoy NCT's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Judy Bayley Theatre, all for a small fee. More info to follow!

I want to welcome new Board of Directors member Donny Thompson (Music '90) and new non-voting members Jed Olson (Art '83) and Sarah Snodgrass (Architecture/Art '10). Thanks for joining us! Plus, Robert Hersh (Architecture '09 & '11) moves from Director to Vice-President/President-Elect.

With Rebel pride, Stacy Swim '98 Theatre

# To Our Alumni: A Letter from Fine Arts Dean Nancy J. Uscher

Dear College of Fine Arts Alumni Colleagues:

I am very pleased to welcome you all back for the Spring 2022 semester! We have exciting plans for the months ahead: performances, exhibitions, making work, and creating new ways of looking at the world within all of the college's disciplines, celebrating the vibrant life of the college, and preparing students for graduation and their lives beyond UNLV.

A few highlights of the forthcoming semester include our Hall of Fame gala event on April 5, alumni gatherings - both virtual on January 25 and in-person in Los Angeles on April 9, new programming of cultural events for the students living in the recently inaugurated College of Fine Arts floor in Tonopah Residence Hall, and the first in-person College of Fine Arts graduation in many years on May 15 at 2 p.m. in Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. Each of the disciplines in the College of Fine Arts has moved forward with distinction over the past year and we will continue to build on these impressive successes. We have also come together to create work across disciplines, focusing on interdisciplinary research, distinctive collaborations, and art-making that is particularly innovative and original.

The college has engaged in a number of rich community partnerships. We are starting to make progress, in early stages of discussion, regarding an inspiring future UNLV College of Fine Arts building, now in its pre-design phase.

As fulfilling and busy as our lives will be over the next months, we do recognize that we are still dealing with the pandemic. Indeed, with the Omicron variant of COVID omnipresent in our lives at the moment, this time may seem reminiscent of the earliest days of the pandemic. However, the situation now is actually quite different. In our current circumstances, both vaccines and treatment strategies for those who become infected will often (and hopefully) provide protection against severe illness. Through these uncertain times, which can be uncomfortable for many of us, I believe that faculty, staff and students have gained resilience, and a kind of fortitude and perseverance we may not even have known that we had. We are, in fact, deter-



mined to continue to offer our students a spectacular education. Nothing – including COVID -- will deter us from this goal! We have so much to be proud of and grateful for, and I am honored to work with each and every one of our colleagues in the College of Fine Arts.

I wish each of you a very happy, safe and especially meaningful new year and semester,

Nancy J. Uscher

### The four major pillars of the Fine Arts Strategic Plan:

1) **Research in the Arts**, with the consideration of *four themes*:

**Social Justice and the Arts** - Diversity and Inclusion - Intersectionality - Catalyzing Change - Youth Engagement

**Human and Environmental Health** - Work-Life Balance - Injury Prevention - Adaptive Aging - Embracing Sustainability

*Impact and Innovation* - Experience Design - New Modes of Creativity - Social Media Influences

**Art as Industry** - Evolving Business Models - Entrepreneurialism - Capital Investment - Digital Networking and Distribution - Public Relations and Communications Strategies

- 2) Governance
- 3) Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity
- 4) Careers in the Arts, focusing on how we help students

# EED Alumna Emily Black: Her First Macy's Thanksgiving Parade

As the Covid-19 Pandemic virtually killed touring entertainment and shows on the Las Vegas Strip, Entertainment Engineering & Design alumna Emily Black ('12) had a difficult decision to make. Furloughed for months from her job as a touring and resident shows lead design engineer with the Vegas firm SGPS/Showrig, she was forced to look elsewhere in order to make her living. Where could she find something as cool as designing automation and concert rigging for major stars like Aerosmith, Drake, Shania Twain and Santana? New York - of course! In her new job, Emily designs for an entirely different category of entertainment legends: Macy's, Disney and...who else but Snoopy!

Emily and husband Jake said farewell to Las Vegas in January of 2021, landing in Saddlebrook, New Jersey. Why Saddlebrook? It's about 15 minutes away from the Macy's Design Studios and her amazing new gig as Senior Manager of Engineering for the Thanksgiving Day Parade, and other really cool projects. A long and challenging year for Emily to be sure! Every colorful, incredible float we see has to be built, disassembled, trucked, and re-assembled in Manhattan for the big holiday event, and Emily engineers them specifically for their journey. Talk about landing on your feet, Emily!



## Annual Alumni Awards: Cooper Rust, Guy Fieri & The Cake Boss!

Like most live events in Calendar 2020, the previous installment of the annual UNLV Alumni Awards was transposed into a virtual production. The results were mostly excellent, however it only served to whet our appetites for the real thing. Luckily, the Fall 2021 event protocols allowed for the 2021 Alumni of the Year Awards to be produced in traditional form, and the Student Union Ballroom was packed with happy, mask-wearing dinner guests. There were a litany of stunning alumni achievements to honor, and the outstanding UNLV Alumni Engagement staff kept everything moving at an efficient pace.

The evening took on something of a celebrity feel, with Hospitality Alumnus of the Year honoree Guy Fieri ('90), his son Hunter ('19) and guests like *Cake Boss* Buddy Valastro and son, Buddy Jr. There were other deeply profound and touching moments, including a posthumous award from the College of Nursing honoring a previously healthy nurse alumnus who died of Covid-19.

Naturally, our focus was on Cooper Rust, the College of Fine Arts 2021 Alumna of the Year. Her story is an extraordinary tribute to the tenacious mindset of our CFA alumni. Of course, most alumni don't travel 9,427 miles across the globe to pursue their dream career, but Julia "Cooper" Rust did exactly that. She earned a pair of undergraduate degrees (*Dance & History '13*) at UNLV and subsequently added a Post-Graduate Teaching Certification from London's Royal Academy of Dance. Her next decision was entirely outside of the dance career paradigm. After spending a summer teaching Math and English at an orphanage in Nairobi, Kenya, her discovery that Nairobi offered no ballet opportunities for students. Cooper, through her work, has changed all of that.

For good measure, we're happy to let you know that nominations are now open for the College of Fine Arts 2022 Alumni of the Year Award via the UNLV Alumni Engagement website.



# The Flashlight Turns 40!

For many UNLV Fine Arts Alumni, the iconic Claes Oldenburg *Flashlight* sculpture is synonymous with the College of Fine Arts and performing arts at UNLV. In commemoration of it's fortieth year on the plaza between the Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall and Judy Bayley Theatre the CFA staged a fitting tribute to our Universities' most famous work of public art.

The commemoration was the culmination of Artwalk '21. On hand for the celebration were Dr. Keith Whitfield, UNLV President, Fine Arts Dean Nancy J. Uscher, Vice-Dean Janis McKay, Associate Dean Tod Fitzpatrick, and Artwalk patron and co-presenter Susan M. Houston.

After a new Diego Vega fanfare and tributes in honor of *The Flashlight* and its history, a spectacular theatrical lighting display by Professor Brackley Frayer and MFA student Catherine Pratt engulfed the massive work. Long live!



# Murals, Murals! UNLV Artists Give Meaning to Ordinary Walls

Increasingly, UNLV artists are making their mark on Las Vegas - one wall at a time! Every cringe worthy, dull cinder block wall in the Las Vegas Valley should beware! Artists like Eric Vozzola, MFA candidate Lyssa Park, and Brian Martinez (upper right) are creating stunning beauty from the some of the most bland and publicly visible canvasses in town and on campus. Vozzola's blazing mural work can be seen on walls in both Downtown Las Vegas and at events haven Area 15 (top left). Park recently unveiled an inspiring work entitled *Star Studies* at the UNLV Graduate College headquarters (below left). They are now joined by a local artist, Ellie Rush, winner of a 4-year UNLV scholarship as winner of a workplace art competition sponsored by the CFA and Cosmopolitan Resort Las Vegas (below right). Congratulations to Ms. Rush, and thanks to everyone in Las Vegas providing dull walls for transformation!



### A UNLV Fine Arts New York State of Mind - December 10 & 11

The Covid-19 era necessitated the transition to virtual events, and the College of Fine Arts has had success in converting local and regional events to platforms like Cisco WebEx and Zoom. Still, there remains the feeling that something is missing when we can't be gather in the same venue. The human connection feels more genuine when we're eye to eye with our alumni. That's why we were so thrilled to be back in New York City for our College of Fine Arts Alumni & Friends and New York City Council events.

Attended by select faculty and administrators, the Friday evening New York Council event panel featured Yale Dean of Art Kym Pinder and Columbia University Dean of Arts Carol Becker. Many salient points were made and taken with respect to the future of arts education and new ways to provide students with what they need for success in today's world. On Saturday afternoon, we were welcomed back to Manhattan by a highly spirited group of UNLV Fine Arts alumni. With UNLV gifts, holiday decorations, and great Italian food and spirits by Tarallucci e Vino, it was a joyous and loving afternoon we will long remember and treasure.



# Winter Commencement: Back Indoors for December '21

Yes, each of us remembers our own euphoric Commencement day in the Thomas & Mack Center, home of our Runnin' Rebels. The sight and sounds of the crowd, our families, the music plus the all of the fanfare and pyrotechnics. The ecstatic feeling of being together at The Mack for the live UNLV Commencement experience was something we couldn't quite inject into virtual ceremonies. And while the University took a major step back in May 2021 with four live ceremonies at the (now mothballed) Sam Boyd Stadium, those events felt different with distancing measures and a 40,000-seat outdoor venue, all in the hot May desert weather.

Luckily, our December 2021 graduating class was able to matriculate under a less restrictive set of pandemic guidelines. Resultingly, on Tuesday, December 14th we were all back together inside the T&M in front of a capacity crowd. This may have been the wildest audience yet! There was a definite sense of letting it all out after eighteen months of varying degrees of seclusion and crowd avoidance. Yes, masks were mandatory with limited exceptions for the onstage walk and a photo portrait stop, but the bottom line was that our students weren't going to let anything put a damper on their big day.

Per normal, creative mortar board artwork and high fashion footwear were the order of the day. President Whitfield and the Deans greeted every student and the UNLV School of Music provided live processionals, National Anthem, and our UNLV Alma Mater.



# Pair of UNLV Alumni Architects Win Highest Nevada Honors

# Dwayne Eshenbaugh: Nevada AIA Silver Medal for Novus Founder

Perhaps the highest compliment paid to 2021 Nevada AIA Silver Medal winner Dwayne Eshenbaugh (Architecture '95) is the acknowledgment of the way he continually re-invests in the next generation of fellow School of Architecture Alumni. Dwayne is the founder and principal of Las Vegas' Novus Architecture. According to colleague John Klai (himself a Vegas legend): Dwayne has led AIA Las Vegas as 2019 President and served as 2020 AIA Nevada President. In these capacities, as a member of our chapters' boards and in his extensive involvement with the School of Architecture — his alma mater — Dwayne advocates for our collective future. His service has touched economic disparity; equity, diversity and inclusion; climate change; homelessness; affordable housing; mentorship and emerging leadership." Wow! He's the personification of the dedicated, reciprocating alumnus.

The AIA Jury Chair commented, "Dwayne Eshenbaugh is everything that a Silver Medal Award winner should be. A true professional that has remained humble and kept a perspective of what is important in our profession and life. With strengths and achievements in so many areas of critical importance to our society – for our communities and those that live within them – Dwayne is a true role model for us all." Need we say more? Robust congratulations to you, Dwayne!







# Cecilia Schafler: NVASLA Silver Award to LAGE Founder

Staying involved with your alma mater can be difficult for a successful professional like Cecilia Schafler, but you wouldn't know it was any trouble at all by the way she's given back to the UNLV School of Architecture. Cecilia is the founder of the highly successful Henderson landscape architecture firm LAGE. Her voluminous design projects can be seen all over Clark County and, most appropriately, the Nevada Society of Landscape Architects have now honored her with their highest honor, The NVASLA Silver Award.

Having herself been mentored by prominent local landscape architect Jack Zunino, Cecilia has long been determined to "pay it forward" by supporting the next generation of Rebel architects. She co-teaches UNLV's 3rd-Year Landscape Architecture Studio and has also been involved in UNLV's Nature Conservancy project. Brava, and congratulations to you Cecilia!







### **UNLV Fine Arts Alumni Data Points**

### Did you know:

The Arts & Culture Sector Represents 4.5% of the Nation's GDP & 5.1 Million Jobs. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector is a \$878 billion industry, representing 4.5% of the nation's GDP - a larger share of the economy than construction or education services.

# NEVADA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 5.5% OF STATE'S GDP & 40,911 JOBS

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes \$8.7 billion to Nevada's economy, representing 5.5% of the state's GDP- a larger share than some other industries in the state.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2017

### **BONUS FACT:**

In 2017, NV arts & culture jobs generated \$1.5 billion in total compensation.

## #RebelsGive - April 5 & 6: 1,957 minutes of giving back to UNLV

I his year, UNLV will celebrate its fourth annual giving day, #RebelsGive, on April 5-6. #Rebels Give is a chance to show how much UNLV means to us and the impact it has had on our lives. Throughout the 1,957 minutes, UNLV will gather to celebrate by giving back and paying it forward. Every gift, **no matter the size**, makes a difference and strengthens UNLV. We greatly appreciate your help furthering important causes and making these 1,957 minutes a success. If you have any questions or need any additional guidance, please contact Diane Zapach, Senior Director of Development for Fine Arts at diane.zapach@unlv.edu.





# Spring '22 at The Barrick! Four Great Exhibitions

The Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art indeed is the gift that keeps on giving and will have a great deal more in store for audiences this spring. In addition to the show currently on display (Seeing/Seen - closing on Saturday, February 26th), the first of four incredible new exhibitions will open on Friday, February 25th. The remaining three will open on Friday, March 25th with a gala opening reception to take place that evening from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. As always, attending and viewing great artwork at the Barrick Museum of Art costs nothing, but masks will continue to be required for entry. Here are the Spring '22 show titles and artists:

Work Shop Gallery, Feb. 25th to Dec. 17th - **Untitled L.A. by Felix Gonzales Torres**, photographer. *In partnership with the Art Bridges Foundation* 

Womxn of Color Arts Festival Center Gallery, Mar. 25th to July 23rd - **Still Motion** by photographer/videographer **Ana Mendieta** and photographer **Laura Aguilar**, also featuring additional works by Chloe Bernardo, Natalie Delgado, Yacine Tilala Fall, Maureen Gruben, Fay Ku, Quindo Miller, Jung Min, Cara Romero, Nanda Sharif-pour, and more.

East Gallery, Mar. 25th to July 23rd - **Kim Stringfellow, Mojave Project** - experimental trans-media project exploring the physical, geological, and cultural landscape of the Mojave Desert.

Mar. 25th to July 23rd - **Spirit of the Land**, a love letter to the plants, animals, geology, history, and people around Spirit Mountain at the southernmost tip of Nevada. Works by Adriana Chavez, Jym Davis, Natalie Delgado, Fawn Douglas, Justin Favela, Paula Jacoby Garrett, Nancy Good, Brent Holmes, Julian Kilker, Douglas McCulloh, Quindo Miller, Christopher Reitmaier, Checko Salgado, Lance L. Smith, United Catalysts, Maria Volborth and Mikayla Whitmore.



# Alec Bart (Music '21), Broadway Conductor and Accordion Master

While studying for his Jazz Piano Masters with the UNLV School of Music, Alec Bart took a touring associate conductor/2nd pianist job with the National Tour of the Broadway musical 42nd Street. Previously, Alec had been a regular "sub" on the Las Vegas Strip, stepping in as conductor for shows like Jersey Boys, Rock of Ages, and Mamma Mia. Out on the road, Alec learned that a touring musician very often has time to kill. To fill that time, he picked up an inexpensive accordion and began teaching himself to play it. Little did he know the "squeeze box" would be a game-changer in his career.

What Alec wasn't aware of was the number of musical scores that require a pianist that can also perform on accordion! There aren't a great deal of accordion masters out there who can also conduct a Broadway show. The National Tour of *Cabaret* required an associate conductor to play second piano and double on accordion, and Alec seized that opportunity, purchased an elite model accordion (120 buttons!), and hit the road again. Becoming highly proficient on this difficult instrument, Alec then got his "foot in the door" subbing on Broadway for the show *Natasha*, *Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* (based on Tolstoy's *War and Peace*).

After moving to New York City for *Comet*, new and exciting opportunities gradually came his way. After a multi-month subbing gig with *A Bronx Tale*, he landed the ultimate opportunity to conduct the massive hit show *Book of Mormon* on Broadway. Between shows, Alec also played accordion for the Yiddish Revival of *Fiddler On The Roof*, which ran for a year Off-Broadway. The moral of Alec's story? Versatility can be an essential element to success in the performing arts.



Kinetic Actions (February 25/26)

5 6 7 8 (April 21-23)

Last Dance (May 6)







Nevada Conservatory Theatre



The Beaux Stratagem
by George Farquhar
adapted by Thornton Wilder

and Ken Ludwig

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare

April 29 - May 8, 2022

# **NCT & UNLV Dance Announce Spring 2022 Performance Seasons**

The academic live-production units within the College of Fine Arts are delighted to announce their public performance seasons for the Spring 2022 semester. While these seasons signal a return to live, in-person performances, UNLV Dance will also continue to live stream events, either filmed/edited or streamed live. Live audience capacities are expected to be 100%. Details on live ticketing information and viewing access will be made available on the <a href="UNLV Performing Arts Center">UNLV Performing Arts Center</a> website, as well as on the <a href="UNLV Dance">UNLV Dance</a> and <a href="NCT">NCT</a> sites.

### Department of Dance: ABC's of Dance Season

**Kinetic Actions** (Live and Streaming)

Friday, February 25 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, February 26 @ 2:30 pm Saturday, February 26 @ 7:30 pm Judy Bayley Theatre

5 6 7 8 (Live and Streaming, April 26)

Thursday, April 21 @ 7:30 pm Friday, April 22 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, April 23 @ 2:30 pm Saturday, April 23 @ 7:30 pm Alta Ham Fine Arts Dance Studio One (HFA-111)

**Last Dance** (Streaming only)

Friday, May 6 @ 7:30 pm through Friday, May 13th at 7:30 p.m.

### **Nevada Conservatory Theatre: Spring 2022 Performance Season**

### The Beaux' Strategem

by George Farquhar, adapted by Thornton Wilder & Ken Ludwig Friday, February 11 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, February 12 @ 7:30 pm Sunday, February 13 @ 2:00 pm Friday, February 18 @ 7:30 pm Saturday, February 19 @ 7:30 pm Sunday, February 20 @ 2:00 pm Judy Bayley Theatre

### A Midsummer Night's Dream

by William Shakespeare
Friday, April 29 @ 7:30 pm
Saturday, April 30 @ 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 1 @ 2:00 pm
Friday, May 6 @ 7:30 pm
Saturday, May 7 @ 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 8 @ 2:00 pm
Judy Bayley Theatre

# Homecoming '21 - An Unequivocal Fall Blast!

After a nearly 18-month hiatus from live events on campus everyone could fell the energy and excitement leading up to the 2021 Homecoming Festival. On Wednesday, October 20, the as-expected crowd of four thousand were clearly as jazzed as we were, ready to experience the parade, exhibits, individual College booths, food, beverages, and more. The Fine Arts Alumni Chapter borrowed the pinata art technique of Justin Favela (Art '13) in decorating Dean Nancy Uscher's golf cart. She rode it proudly along with Vice Dean Janis McKay, tossing out candy to the kids. We can't wait until Fall 2021 - let's do it again!



# UNLV Spring Career Fairs: March 8-10 & May 3 (all live)

It's becoming increasingly clear that a staggering number of workers are exploring, or making career changes. UNLV's next Career Fair (March 8, 9, 10) creates a robust opportunity for UNLV to connect students and alumni with a large number of local, national, and global companies.

The event is a key step for all UNLV students and alumni looking for internship and career employment opportunities in an open, yet streamlined format. These campus collaborative events maximize the career fair model, allowing employers to connect with students and alumni from the widest variety of disciplines and fields. Targeted industry zones and venues allow employers to reach the most diverse as well as targeted audiences.

Here are the links and info. to register via Handshake:

https://unlv.joinhandshake.com/login https://unlv.joinhandshake.com/

https://unlv.joinhandshake.com/career\_fairs/24926?ref=events-search

Location: **Richard Tam Alumni Center Grand Ballroom** 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89154



### **Schedule:**

UNLV Career Fairs - Spring 2021 Tuesday, March 8, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm PDT Wednesday, March 9, 10:00 am - 2:30 pm PDT Thursday, March 10, 10:00 am - 2:30 pm PDT

### **Virtual Career Fair:**

Tuesday, May 3, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm PDT

### For Live events at the PAC and School of Music Masks Are Still a Must!

**T** his Fall, as live events continue to resume nationally, many in-person College of Fine Arts events will return to UNLV's stages, to include *Nevada Conservatory Theatre* performances, *UNLV School of Music* concerts, and *UNLV Dance* events. Other performances and ceremonies are expected to announce as the semester progresses. The Performing Arts Center has **important advice** and **basic protocol** for guests planning to attend campus events, to include the following:

- a) Please **screen yourself** for Covid-19 symptoms using the **CDC Self-Checker** (here's the <u>online link</u>). If you're experiencing symptoms, please stay home and call the box office for ticket options.
- b) Please bring your mask with you, as attendees are required to wear masks at all times while inside the venue.
- c) Once you arrive: **Parking is available** in the 6-story garage adjacent to the venues; please **show your ticket to the usher**, who will **scan the barcode/QR code** printed on the ticket.
- d) During the entire performance, please keep your mask on, fully covering your nose and mouth.
- e) Thank you, and enjoy the performance!

### UNLV Fine Arts Hall of Fame - Back for '22

UNLV's signature springtime event will be back again in '22. This year's date? Tuesday, April 5th. The time? 5pm to 8pm. The venue? UNLV Student Ballroom. The roster of inductees? Soon to be announced! We promise you that this year's honorees will be as dynamic, deserving, and star-studded - as it always is!

For this year's event, we'll be back upstairs in the 2nd Floor Ballroom. You might recall we did our best to stage the event outdoors on the Pida Plaza, but 35 mph gusts forced the event inside to the South Corridor. Check back soon at https://www.unlv.edu/finearts/hall-of-fame for this year's inductees and ticket links.



Ann-Margaret, President Whitfield, and Dean Nancy Uscher at the 2021 CFA Hall of Fame.

# UNLV Career Services Promotes "Handshake" Job Search Platform

In this time of profound unemployment and business uncertainty, our newest graduates and our alumni need the best tools and support in order to determine their next (and in many cases, first) career moves. UNLV's Office of Career Services is pushing forward with their new online service that will supercharge the process of bringing our Alumni, Juniors and Seniors together with a universe of eager employers.

**Handshake** is a high-level online career exploration and recruiting platform already in use at some of America's top colleges and universities (Stanford University, Carnegie Mellon University, Morehouse College, Michigan State University). Handshake successfully connects hundreds of national employers with educated employment seekers. Here is a description of Handshake, and how you will be able to access this great new UNLV Career Services tool:

"More than ever before, job searching is moving online. In today's marketplace, it's necessary to have the best tools available. That's why UNLV is rolling out <a href="Handshake">Handshake</a>, one of the leading online employment portals on the web (no actual handshakes required!)."

Employers seeking to hire UNLV talent have been registering in Handshake since last June. You can get access through the link below. For more information about Handshake or how you can benefit from it, please contact <u>careerservices@unlv.edu</u>.

Handshake is here. It's a new app that's a game-changing vehicle for all UNLV grads. Please read this excellent <u>article</u> from the <u>UNLV News Center</u> on how <u>UNLV Career Services</u> can help our alumni during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

# Handshake x UNIV CAREER SERVICES



### **Fine Arts Class Notes**

**Edwin Linares**, 2011 Architecture, is an Architectural Designer and Draftsman with TDM Architects in Los Angeles. Previously a drafting consultant with Flewelling & Moody (Pasadena, CA), Edwin works on many institutional and educational projects throughout the greater Los Angeles area. Edwin also worked on the MGM Resorts City Center Project in Las Vegas, most notably the Vdara Hotel and Casino.

**Katie Anania**, 2006 Art, is an Assistant Professor of Art History at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, specializing in American modern and contemporary art. Katie has written two books and also founded the Bay Area Society for Art & Activism in 2014. She has penned articles for art publications such as *Slate*, Artform, and The Brooklyn Rail. Previously, Katie was a Wallace Fellow at Villa I Tatti, the Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, and a postdoctoral fellow at the Drawing Institute at the Morgan Library & Museum in New York City. Katie received her Ph.D in Art History from the University of Texas.

**Brent Denison**, 2004 Theatre, manages the Performing Arts Center at the State College of Florida main campus in Bradenton, Florida where he earned his first degree prior to coming to UNLV. Brent enjoys being closer to family and is happily taking advantage of living in the Sunshine State, enjoying local fairs and outdoor events. He now has annual passes to all of Florida's famed themes parks. Brent was formerly with The Straz Center for the Arts in Tampa.

**Ian J. Anderson**, 2008 Film, is also a graduate of the American Film Institute. Although his emphasis was in producing, an area in which he has won multiple awards, Ian has made his mark in Los Angeles working in the art department. His television credits include *The Mentalist, American Housewife*, and *Castle*. In off-hours Ian continues to make independent films.

Chris Chapman, 1998 Music, is the Director of Bands at Central Michigan University. Previously, Chris was the Director of Bands at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. Chris is a member of the American Bandmasters Association, residing in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan with spouse Robyn Lemon Chapman, 1998 Music, the former Assistant Director of Bands at Oregon State. Robyn is also noteworthy as co-lyricist of the UNLV Alma Mater.

Westin Conahan, 2013 Architecture, lives in New York City where he is a Project Manager and Designer for Designer Pages Data, Inc. His primary mission is to offer a specification software platform for Interior Designers in order to facilitate quick build out specification packages. During his time at UNLV, Westin was a part of the 2013 Solar Decathlon team that won first and second place category awards. Westin is heavily invested in web technologies that will advance the

profession of architecture and interior design.

**Krystal Ramirez**, 2009 Art, is a visual artist and photographer, currently working on her MFA degree in Art Practice at Stanford University. Her recent exhibitions include *This is The Place*, *This Must Be the Place* (Barrick Museum of Art), *Whose Diversity?* (Minnesota Center for Book Arts) and *I Want to See* (Clark County Government Center).

**Robert Bonora**, 1992 Music, is the Fine Arts Chair and head of Percussion Studies at the College of Southern Nevada, and a longtime member of the Las Vegas Philharmonic. Bob also has a lengthy track record of performing on the Las Vegas Strip with a varied list of popular entertainers such as Harry Connick. Jr., Luciano Pavarotti, Debbie Reynolds, Wayne Newton, Alicia Keys, Penn and Teller, and Lyle Lovett. Bob's Broadway show credits include Mamma Mia, Avenue Q, and The Full Monty. In his "spare time" he enjoys performing with his very own steel drum band, Panacea.

**Brent Felipe**, 2015 Landscape Architecture, is Project Coordinator for J.W. Zunino Landscape Architecture in Las Vegas. Formerly with GreenCare Design and a researcher for the Downtown Design Center, Brent recently assisted with the UNLV Labyrinth Design Project (October 2021).

Constanza Castro, Domenica Castro and Stephanie Perez, all 2013 Film, have films being showcased at this year's Sundance Film Festival (virtual). We Are Here by 271 Films (owned and founded by the Castros) is a short film that reflects on national politics and the meaning of citizenship in our country. The Castros created and also co-directed their film.

Landon Baker, 2018, 2020 Architecture, Marco Davis, 2005, 2009 Architecture, Ryan Perdue, 2017 Architecture, Pornpavee Mungrueangsakul, 2015 Architecture, and Sheryl Gordon, 2018 Architecture are the newest UNLV School of Architecture alumni to earn certification from the Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design. Congratulations to each of these fine alumni!

**Hayley Flora**, 2017 Dance, is a Group Sales Account Executive with MSG Sports & Entertainment in New York City. While at UNLV, Hayley was a dual major in Dance and Hospitality. She previously worked in Sales for Encore Event Technologies in the Greater New York area, and part-time as a Brand Representative for Lime Crime.

Alex Hayashi, 2011 Music, is a Lecturer of Oboe at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. After earning his Bachelors degree at UNLV, Alex attended the University of Michigan, earning both Masters and Doctorate. Alex recorded Japonica, a CD of oboe and piano works. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Alex has performed with numerous orchestras, including the Detroit Symphony, the Las Vegas Philharmonic, and in Europe.

### Welcome to



### It Just Got Easier for Rebels to Get Hired

### **Step 1: Activate Your Student Account**

Getting set up on Handshake as a student is easy! Our system will automatically upload your student information to initially set up your student account. Once your student information is uploaded to the system, you will receive a notification via an email to your RebelMail account.

### **Step 2: Complete Your Profile**

Having a complete and accurate student profile is essential to be able to effectively use Handshake. As you fill out your profile fields, you'll see your completion percentage increase. Most services on Handshake require at least a 75% completion rate.

### **Step 3: Discover Jobs**

Handshake is the largest database for employers looking to hire college students. More than 500 positions are posted to the site every week representing part-time jobs, full-time employment, internships, and more from a wide variety of industries, disciplines, and fields. If you're looking for a job, your first stop should always be Handshake.

### Step 4: Request an Appointment

All Career Services appointments will now be booked directly through Handshake. Appointments can be requested for resume/cover letter assistance, job search support, mock interviewing, general career development questions, and more. When you request an appointment, please provide details on what services you would like to cover.

- · From the Handshake front page, click on "Career Center."
- · Follow the prompts for to book your appointment.
- In most cases, you'll have the option to speak to someone in-person, by phone, or by Google Meet.

### **FAQs**

- 1. Do I need to create a student account? No! Please do not complete the process to sign up for a new student account. By uploading your student data directly into the Handshake system, it eliminates the need for supplemental registration.
- 2. What will I use this system for? Handshake is your one-stop-shop for everything related to career development, career programming, your job search, and more.
  - Booking appointments with career services professionals
  - Viewing programming available for you to develop your career knowledge
  - Accessing the programming available for your job search, like career fairs, on-campus interviews, and

3. What other benefits are available? Handshake has a network of thousands of schools, tens of thousands of employers, and millions of students and alumni. These active users are posting information about the companies for which they worked, and allow for networking and for you to ask questions directly to employers and employees!

For more information about Handshake or general questions, please contact Career Services at careerservices@unlv.edu





# School of Architecture Presents Trio of Spring '22 Keynote Lectures

The UNLV School of Architecture is proud to announce their free series of three Spring '22 Architecture Lectures. They're all set for 10:00 a.m. and all virtual. Here are the speaker names, dates and registration links:

Thursday, February 10th - Carlo Ratti, MIT

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_Z8q6XCHITOyyH-fZlGJdkw

Thursday, March 10th - Winy Maas, MVRDV

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_Yx-m4Go1TymsO1ofTwjebw

Thursday, April 7th – Philipp Meuser, Berlin

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_8bWQpv04RWWlekkhkKdFTw

# Contemporary Urbanism: Architecture and Public Space: changing



### Carlo Ratti, MIT

02/10 Thursday, February 10 at 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. (PT)

Born 1971 in Italy.

Dr. Carlo Ratti is an Italian architect, engineer, inventor, educator and activist. He is a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he directs the Senseable City Lab, a research group that explores how new technologies are changing the way we understand, design and ultimately live in cities.

www.carloratti.com and www.senseable.mit.edu

Moderation: The lectures are curated by Dr. Steffen Lehmann, Assoc. AIA, UNLV Professor of Architecture and Director of the Urban Futures Lab

Please register through the AIA Las Vegas chapter links

https://www.aialasvegas.org

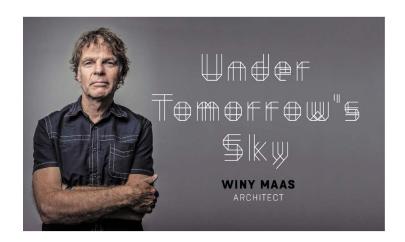
There is no fee but you must register through AIA LV to receive the link to attend Please submit any questions to: admin@aianevada.org







# Contemporary Urbanism: Under Tomorrow's Sky



Winy Maas, MVRDV

03/10
Thursday, March 10 at 10 a.m.

Born 1959 in the Netherlands.

Prof. Winy Maas is a Dutch architect, landscape architect, professor and urbanist. In 1993, together with Jacob van Rijs and Nathalie de Vries, he set up MVRDV in Rotterdam. He is professor at The Why Factory, a research institute for the future city he founded in 2008 and which is part of the Faculty of Architecture of the Delft University of Technology.

www.mvrdv.nl

Moderation: The lectures are curated by Dr. Steffen Lehmann, Assoc. AIA, UNLV Professor of Architecture and Director of the Urban Futures Lab

Please register through the AIA Las Vegas chapter links

# March 4th! Celebrating Student Success: A Concert For Ken Hanlon

The UNLV School of Music and the University as a whole lost a true champion of music and higher education when Ken Hanlon passed away in 2018. A founder of what has today become an enviable music school, Ken served UNLV for 50 years. In addition to multiple terms as Chair of Music, Ken was a key administrative and budget strategist in the Office of the Provost for nearly a decade at a critical period for the growth of the institution.

Ken's moving memorial tribute, held on campus in December, 2018, reminded all present how important and influential this man was. Of equal importance, it was eminently clear that his mentoring of literally thousands of UNLV Music alumni made an enormous difference in a multitude of lives and careers.

It's now fitting that the School of Music, the CFA, and the Hanlon family are working together to present a tribute concert in Ken's memory. On **Friday, March 4th** we invite anyone who knew or loved Ken to join us for this *free gala event* at Ham Concert Hall (7:30 p.m.), conducted by friend and colleague Virko Baley. More details to follow, but there will be opportunities for alumni to honor Ken's memory and share stories. **And...wear your Baltimore Orioles gear!** 





# Select Upcoming Event Dates - <u>UNLV Alumni Engagement</u> and the College of Fine Arts:

(Please note: listed events are subject to change in terms of both timing and event platform)

UNLV Chamber Music Society: **Opus 1** - Beam Music Center - February 3 - 7:30pm School of Architecture Lecture: **Carlo Ratti, MIT** - February 10 - 10am Nevada Conservatory Theatre: The **Beaux' Stratagem** - Judy Bayley Theatre - Feb. 11-13/18-20 Performing Arts Center: **Johan Smith**, Guitar - Ham Concert Hall - February 11 - 7:30pm School of Music: **UNLV Symphony Orchestra** - February 16 - 7:30pm School of Music: **UNLY Wind Orchestra** - Ham Concert Hall - February 24 - 7:30pm Department of Dance: **Kinetic Languages** - Judy Bayley Theatre - Feb. 25, 26 - 7:30pm/2:30pm School of Music: UNLV Choral Ensembles - Alumni Amphitheater - Feb. 25 - 7:30 p.m. School of Music: **UNLV Jazz Ensemble I** - February 27 - Ham Concert Hall - 7:30pm School of Music: UNLV Chamber Orchestra - Beam Music Center - March 1 - 7:30pm School of Music: **UNLV Symphonic Winds** - Ham Concert Hall - March 2 -7:30pm UNLV Chamber Music Society: **Telegraph Quartet** - Beam Music Center - March 3 - 7:30pm School of Music: **Side by Side - A Concert Tribute to Ken Hanlon** - March 4 - 7:30 p.m. School of Architecture Lecture: **Winy Maas, MVRDV** - March 10 - 10am UNLV Opera: La Canterina & Der Schauspieldirektor - JBT - March 10-12 - 7:30pm School of Music: UNLV Symphony Orchestra - Ham Concert Hall - March 27 - 7:30pm College of Fine Arts: **Fine Arts Hall of Fame Induction** - Student Union - April 5 - 5:30pm School of Architecture Lecture: **Philipp Meuser, Berlin** - April 7 - 10am UNLV Chamber Music Society: **Babajanyan** - Beam Music Center - April 12 - 7:30pm Performing Arts Center: **The Romeros Quartet** - Ham Concert Hall - April 13 - 7:30pm School of Music: UNLV Wind Orchestra - Ham Concert Hall - November 18 - 7:30pm Department of Dance: 5 6 7 8 - HFA-111 - April 21-23 & 26 - 7:30pm School of Music: UNLV Community & New Horizons Bands - HCH - April 27 - 7:30pm School of Music: **Spring Jazz Festival** - Black Box Theatre - April 25-27 - 7:30pm School of Music: **UNLV Choral Ensembles Home Concert** - April 29 - 7:30pm Department of Dance: Last Dance - HFA-111 - May 6 (Virtual) - 7:30pm Nevada Conservatory Theatre: **A Midsummer Night's Dream** - JBT - April 29 - May 8 School of Music: UNLV Symphony Orchestra - Ham Concert Hall - May 8 - 3:00pm

For information call the **Performing Arts Center Box Office (702) 895-ARTS (2787)** or visit <a href="http://pac.unlv.edu">http://pac.unlv.edu</a>

For Athletics information call the **Thomas & Mack Center Box Office** (702) 739-FANS (3267) or visit <a href="http://www.unlvtickets.com">http://www.unlvtickets.com</a>

### 2022 College of Fine Arts Alumni Chapter Board

Stacy Swim '98 Theatre (President)

Robert (R.J.) Hersh '09 '11 Architecture (Vice-President)

Gerald Jones '96 Dance (Past President)

Anne Silva '83 Theatre (Treasurer)

Nancy Matheny '04 Theatre (Secretary)

Lisa Jablonski '98 Music / Heather Harper '08 Dance

Anthony Marentic '95 Music / Donny Thompson '90 Music / Jed Olson '83 Art

Marie-Joe Tabet '08 Dance / Tim Anderson '04 Film

e-mail: Fineartsalumni@unlv.edu