



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)

Telluride Film Festival: Sunday, September 4 @ 1:30-4pm
Telluride, Colorado

Homecoming Festival, Alumni Awards & Homecoming
Game: October 13 through 15

New York City Alumni & Friends Mixer:
Saturday, December 10
@ 2pm-4:00pm (live)

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



We had a busy spring semester! In February, we held our *What's Next in Your Arts Career* networking event online. We had amazing industry professionals like musician Kenny Rampton along with accomplished CFA alums like Novus Architecture owner and former Board member Dwayne Eshenbaugh. UNLV CFA faculty was accommodating enough to join us too. Networking at its finest!

In March, we held our first philanthropic event online! During *Rebels Raise A Glass IV: Gratitude and Giving* we raised funds for the Barrick Museum of Art, and at the same time we thanked someone who helped or inspired us while we were at UNLV. Thank you to all who attended and graciously gave!

We assisted with the *CFA Hall of Fame* gala in April. A fun and inspiring evening that celebrated our 2021 *Alumna of the Year* Cooper Rust, luminaries like Paul Anka and Dionne Warwick and posthumously honored CFA faculty member and actor Michael Tylo. We love volunteering for this event!

In collaboration with the UNLV Alumni Association in May, we brought you *A Midsummer Night's Dream* dinner theater event with a Summer of Love theme! With psychedelic video and music from 1969 playing, we ate scrumptious food and had a lively photo opportunity with a flowered swing! Then everyone walked down to the Judy Bayley Theatre to enjoy Shakespeare's comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream* that took place during the 1967 Summer of Love. Thank you to the Alumni Association for this chance to collaborate!

Also in May, we volunteered to help with the inaugural CFA graduation ceremony! It was lovely to see graduates with their friends and family and see how excited they were to graduate. Welcome to the Alumni family, graduates! An event we'll look forward to every year now!

Be on the lookout for an email in July about joining our Board of Directors. We'd be delighted to have you!

We hope you have a delightful summer, and we'll see you in the fall!

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:

Greetings to all of you as we complete the 2021-2022 academic year in the College of Fine Arts at UNLV! Our graduation weekend several weeks ago was especially joyous this year – as we had our own college ceremony to complement the traditional university commencement. As part of our May 15 graduation the student speakers, Tristan Osorio, who earned a B.S. in Architecture, and Rose Nordberg, who earned an M.F.A. in Writing for Dramatic Media, shared powerful and insightful words that inspired all of us gathered for the occasion. Our guest keynote speaker, Bill Kramer, Director and President of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Los Angeles, provided meaningful and thoughtful reflections to our graduates about life and navigating the years to come.

Graduation is a valuable time to take stock of what is most important. One imaginative exercise is to place ourselves into the distant future and look back on today's world with hindsight that we conjure up using our best guess or prediction about what kind of society will exist decades from now, and what educational tools and wisdom would have mattered most in the lives of our students, our 2022 graduates and all of our college alumni.

What will bolster the likelihood of success, stunning impact, and personal fulfillment of our global artist citizen graduates? We are fully aware that in the College of Fine Arts we are fashioning an education to prepare students for careers that may not yet even exist. However, through focusing on transferable skills, on creativity, on developing agency and inventiveness, on strong global networking and relationship-building, on an entrepreneurial mindset and most important of all, on respecting each individual's authenticity, we develop, as stated in our mission statement: "visionaries who transform the global community through collaboration, scholarship and innovation." Some of the concrete steps we have taken to foster bold futures for our graduates and alumni are the following: awarding small seed grants on a competitive basis to support particularly interesting projects, hosting a recent interdisciplinary symposium to explore crossing disciplinary boundaries in collaboration, creating the



new Entertainment & Media Research, Development and Education cluster (as one of seven interdisciplinary hubs in the university) to further the integration of film production + business, with a spotlight on research and workforce development, framing the work in the arts as the creation of knowledge (supported by a recently announced \$1 million endowment) and organizing an increased number of alumni mixers throughout the country and the world – both in person and virtually – to offer extensive opportunities for our alumni to network and to build professional networks and thought communities for career advancement.

In the summer of 2023, we are planning a bold international project that will include faculty, students and alumni collaborating in experiential contexts around the world. Stay tuned for more exciting news about how we will leverage the concept of *UNLV Arts Worldwide*, started virtually as a YouTube series during the pandemic, to be a lived experience for many in our educational and creative community, touching lives through artistic engagement at festival settings and in a range of global learning environments.

We have exciting times ahead -- that is for sure -- and we look forward to our continuous sharing regarding all of the many undertakings we are planning for the future. Most of all, we congratulate our students, our new graduates, and our alumni for the rich artistic and scholarly contributions they are making to our world, both in Las Vegas and beyond.

With warmest wishes, *Nancy J. Uscher*

Inaugural Fine Arts Graduation Ceremony - May 15, 2022

This Spring, as the Covid-19 pandemic began to ease the College of Fine Arts revived the 2020 plan to cheer on our graduates in a post-Commencement Fine Arts graduation celebration. Spotlighting our own grads, we invited all candidates from Architecture, Art, Dance, Film, Entertainment Engineering, Music and Theatre to stay an extra day with their families in order to celebrate their amazing accomplishments. With the initial planning, it should have been very simple to do, right? Well, not exactly! When drilling down deep into the details of creating a new ceremony for all seven units, we found that the number of decisions could be as infinite as you want to make them. What to leave in? What to leave out?

As the Spring semester progressed, more than thirty committee meetings provided us with the answers. On Sunday, May 15th, we arrived upon the momentous day of joyous and meaningful tribute to a class of students that not only met the challenges of the pandemic, but far exceeded them. And, as you might expect, design played a large role in our new ceremony. A special offer of thanks to Professor of Graphic Design **Michael Fong** and alumna **Monet Green** for creating the very special graphics displayed on our custom banners, medallions, and the graduation stoles given to each grad that day. Diploma covers, hooding, an outstanding graduation speaker (Bill Kramer of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures), distinguished platform guests, and lots of alumni and staff volunteers all made this very special day a reality.



Comin' in to Los Angeles: A Great April Weekend of Alumni Events

Our two-year absence from the City of Angels officially came to an end on the weekend of April 8th and 9th, 2022. As readers will doubtless know, Southern California contains the largest community of UNLV Fine Arts Alumni outside the State of Nevada. Of course, basic demographics overlook the degree of love and enthusiasm with which our Angeleno alumni have welcomed us since our traveling Fine Arts Alumni & Friends Mixer series began in 2017-18.

The weekend began Downtown on a hot Friday, with our Los Angeles Area Council event at *Le Petit Paris* on Spring. Guest alumni included Hunter Hopewell (Disney), Tom Mahoney (AFI), Writer-Director Jeremy Cloe, and UNLV Film faculty member West McDowell. Alumni and faculty met and conversed and dined with California industry professionals and academic leaders.

On Saturday, we hosted upwards of a hundred Angeleno alumni and guests at Silver Lake's *Edendale*, which has become our de facto L.A. headquarters. The heatwave receded, and the networking, food and merriment were all worth the two-year wait. Adding to the family atmosphere were a group of forty current seniors from the Department of Film who joined in the celebration after spending the day at the new Academy Museum of Motion Pictures (on L.A.'s famed Miracle Mile). We'll be back in 2023.

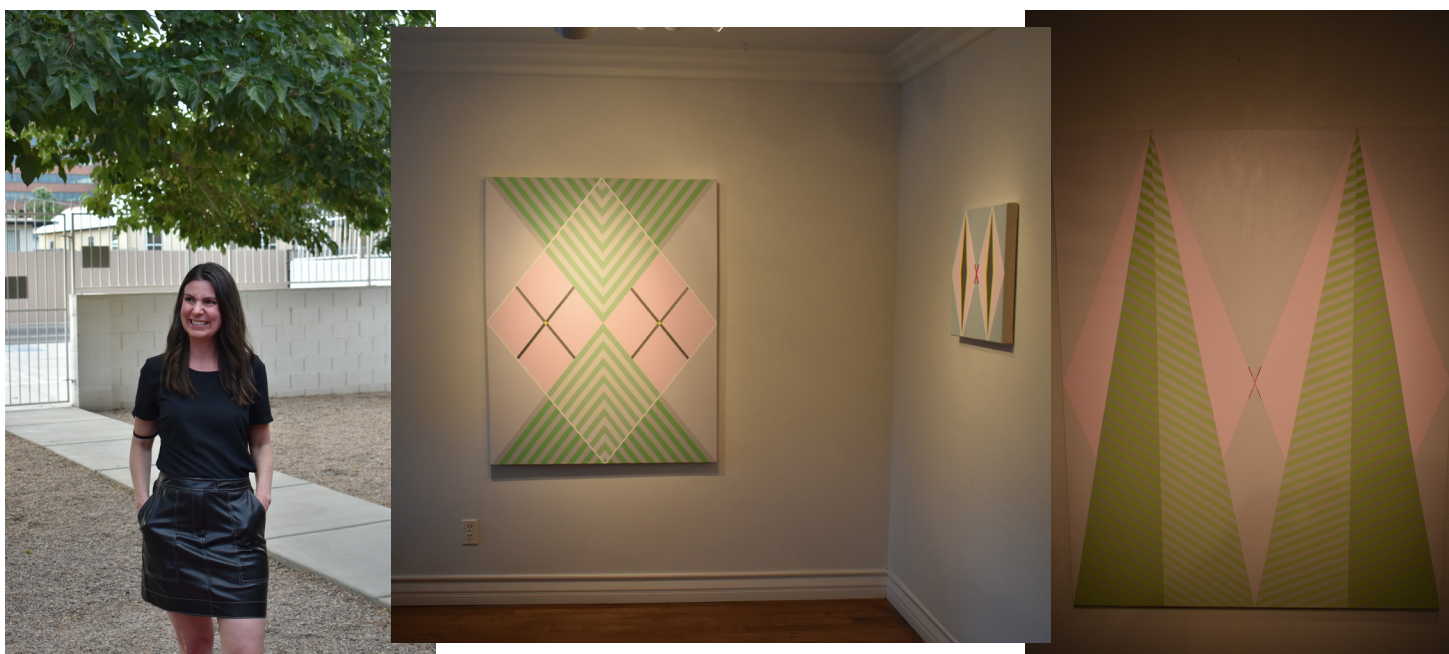


Audrey Barcio '16: A Different View of Vegas Mountains & Valleys

Ultimate gratification for arts institutions of higher learning occurs when established alumni artists return to display their work and accomplishments. During the month of May, we were grateful to have painter and academic Audrey Barcio (MFA Art '16) create a new show specifically for Las Vegas. Courtesy of a May, 2022 residency funded by The Rogers Foundation, the *Peaks x Valleys* exhibition was crafted on site during Audrey's residency, which also offered teaching opportunities and artist talks.

Working specifically with triangles, *Peaks x Valleys* explores the parallel themes of the physical surroundings of Las Vegas and also the perceived relationship between good and bad, plus highs and lows that are an undeniable part of the city's allure. This series of paintings "mobilize aesthetic relationships to manifest spaces of constructive intersection between the structure and order of geometry and the shadow worlds below the surface." According to Barcio: "In Vegas there's always a collaborative exchange between the two." The Luxor, Guardian Angel Cathedral, and the famed La Concha Motel Lobby (now at the Neon Museum) were primary influences in creating this exhibition.

Based in Chicago, Audrey is also a faculty member in Art at Indiana's Ball State University where she spends much of the academic year with partner Phillip. In 2019, Audrey was honored to receive a prestigious Pollock-Krasner grant. In 2021, she was nominated for the Joan Mitchell Fellowship. *Peaks x Valleys* is a terrific showing, and it was great to have Audrey back in Las Vegas.



7J Ranch, The Nature Conservancy and the SoA's Outdoor Classrooms

When thinking of Landscape Architecture, preserving and enhancing natural wildlife habitats might not be the first thing that comes to mind. A recent partnership between the Nature Conservancy and the UNLV School of Architecture (SoA) is indicative of the true value of what the UNLV offers to these students, and to our region. Following a requested partnership with The Nature Conservancy, the SoA sent thirty students (over two semesters) to the 7J Ranch in the Amargosa Valley, just northeast of Beatty, Nevada.

The 7J Ranch site, acquired by the Nature Conservancy, is located southwest of the headwaters of the Amargosa River, flowing southward to the Nevada/California border, then north to Death Valley's Badwater Basin. The river is a bit unique in that it flows both above and below ground for hundreds of miles. It's also the habitat for a single, rare fish species found only in that river (the Amargosa Pupfish). Charged as owners and caretakers of the property, The Nature Conservancy set out to develop a master plan for the 7J that would accommodate both research and art, but also help to sustain business and wildlife preservation efforts in the area.

The Nature Conservancy is known nationally for assuming care of donated or purchased sites critical to ecosystem preservation in local communities. The 7J Ranch project objectives were to bring members of the LAN 386 and LAN 443 classes to the 7J for on site visits in order to assess water resources, erosion potential and wildlife habitats on the expansive 900-acre property. Terrain, hydrology, soil characteristics and climate were all factors they studied. In response, SoA students provided extensive analysis (see visuals, next page), identifying 38 unique characteristics of the site as well as appropriate site locations for dwelling units, outdoor labs, and wildlife observation sites. The students were then assigned to design/build projects for structures and landscaping to be constructed at the 7J Ranch. Faculty members Phil Zawarus and Eric Weber helped facilitate and mentor all of those efforts.

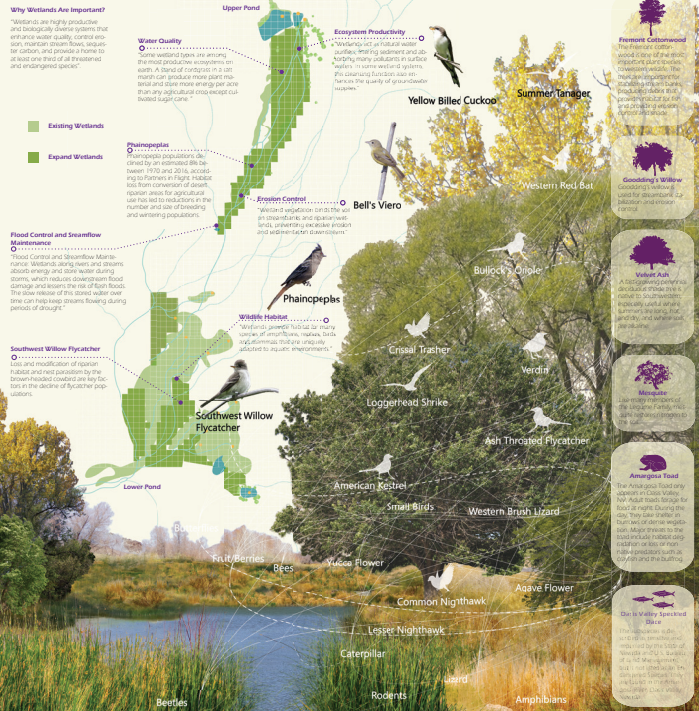
As fortune would have it, the onset of the Covid pandemic quashed the actual design/build phase of the 7J project, however planning is still in the works to make these envisioned structures a reality. The success of the 7J project assured future partnerships, and The Nature Conservancy continues to bring projects to the UNLV School of Architecture. Who says classrooms have to be indoors?



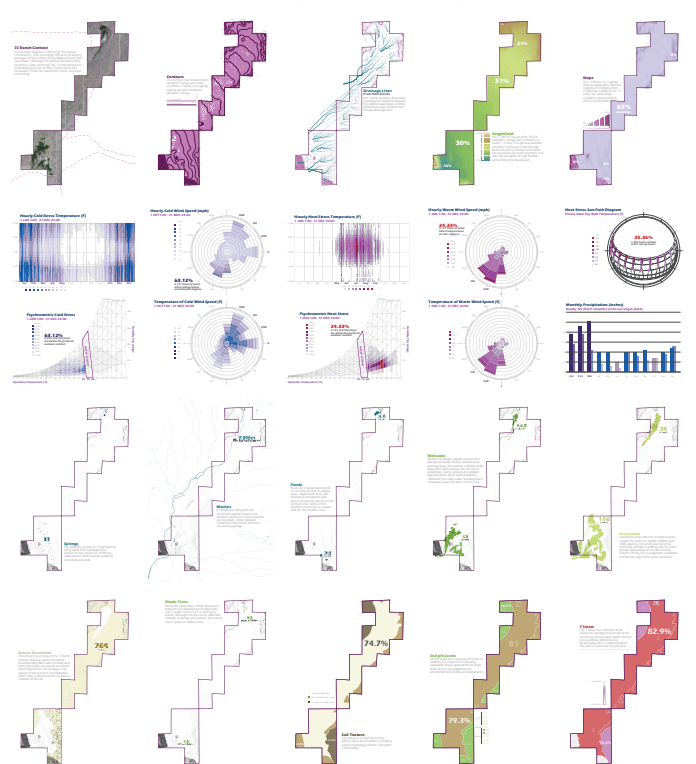


WETLANDS OF 7J RANCH

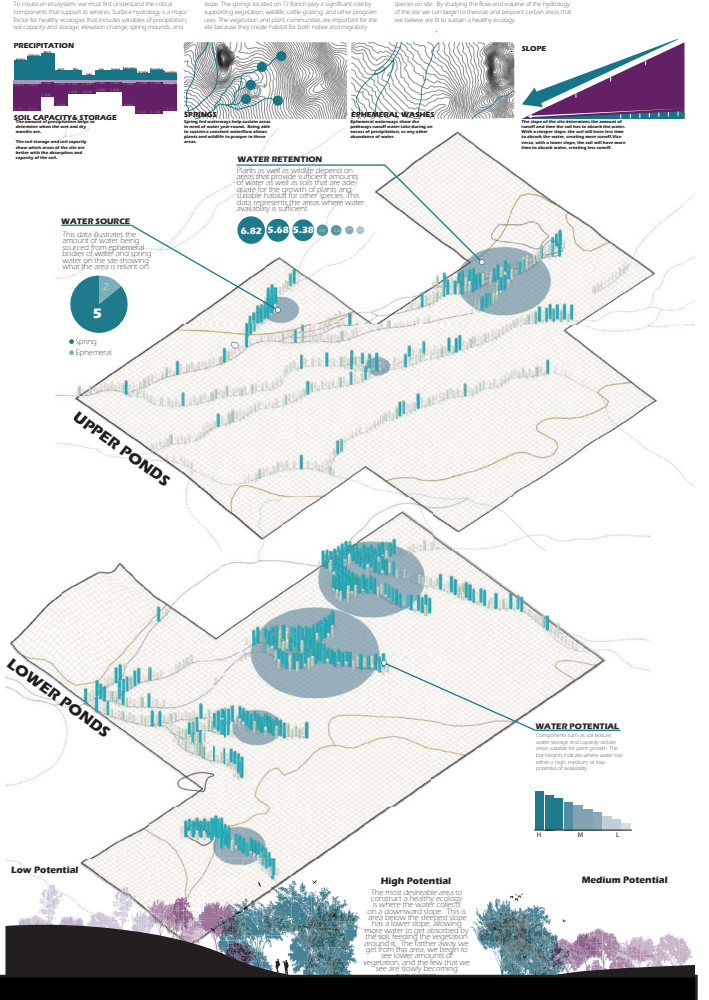
The wetlands of 7J Ranch are the lands that consist of soils that are saturated or seasonally flooded, with water or moisture. These areas play a vital role in the ecosystem, providing habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals. The wetlands of 7J Ranch are located in the heart of the community, and their preservation is a top priority for the local government. The wetlands are home to a variety of rare and endangered species, and their loss would be a significant blow to the local ecosystem. The local government is committed to protecting these wetlands and ensuring that they remain a vital part of the community's natural heritage.



7J RANCH INVENTORY



SURFACE HYDROLOGY



Senior Send-Off '22: A Graduation Fair On Steroids

One of the most fun campus events each year is our graduation-fair-on-steroids, the Senior Send-Off. Soon-to-be Grads are invited to the Richard Tam Alumni Center to swing through a one-stop shop for all of their graduation needs (everything from caps, gowns and hoods to class rings and photo frames). All of those wares they expect when they mark the dates on their calendars. What they don't expect is fun. In essence, Senior Send-Off serves double-duty - as an early graduation party!

The Alumni Association wants these fairs to be memorable occasions. To that end, they provide a live D.J., food and beverage, a complimentary photo step and repeat, plus balloons, balloons and (more) balloons! They cap it all off with a custom t-shirt emblazoned with the current graduation year. Make no mistake, these students are happy, smiling people, and who can blame them. Their lifetime of education is about to culminate in a couple of months, and they can just taste the final outcome - the awarding of their hard-earned degree. Long live UNLV grads, and long live Senior Send-Off!



A New Commencement Paradigm: Graduate College Ceremony Added

We all have fond memories of our own Commencement days, more than likely staged at the Thomas & Mack Center: the sights; the sounds; the crowd; our families; the music; the fanfare, and pyrotechnics. UNLV resumed live, indoor commencement ceremonies in December, 2021 in front of a gigantic, largely-masked audience. The growth of our Commencement crowds has increased commensurate with (if not more than) the number of graduates. You might recall the pandemic necessitated advent of a stand-alone ceremony for the Graduate College at outdoor Sam Boyd Stadium in May, 2021. That led to the idea of a making it permanent.

Fast forward to May, 2022, when our newest graduating class matriculated under a new prototype model: a single Friday Graduate College-specific ceremony, followed by two Saturday Undergraduate ceremonies. The desired result? Faster ceremonies - of course! Averaging 2 hours and twenty minutes in length, each Commencement featured the customary creative mortar board artwork and killer grad footwear. President Whitfield and Provost Heavey presided over all three ceremonies, congratulating every graduate along with Deans from all Colleges. Receiving honorary degrees were longtime Vegas dancer/performer and screen legend **Ann-Margret**, along with Nevada advertising and political guru **Sig Rogich**, formerly a staff member for the George H.W. Bush White House. The excitement was palpable, and it looks as if we'll be keeping the new ceremony as we move forward.



Hall of Fame '22: Rebel Greats Michael Tylo, Dave Loeb, Fawn Douglas, Kenny Rampton & Cooper Rust honored alongside Warwick & Anka!



Photos (Clockwise from Top Left): Cooper Rust; Fawn Douglas & Kenny Rampton; the Michael Tylo Family with Film faculty; Dean Emeritus Jeff Koep with Deans Nancy Uscher & Stowe Shoemaker; Vera Goulet with Dave Loeb; Vocalist Gary Fowler; Dave Loeb; Kenny Rampton & Donny Thompson, Curt Miller and other members of the Las Vegas Jazz Outreach Initiative; Fine Arts Alumni Board Members Anne Silva, R.J. Hersh, Gerry Jones & Stacy Swim. (Center): Artist Justin Favela

UNLV Fine Arts Alumni Data Points

Did you know: UNLV FINE ARTS ALUMNI GEOGRAPHY

Courtesy of Steppingblocks.com

Here's an updated list of the Top Ten U.S. States where UNLV Fine Arts Alumni live, work and play:

1. **Nevada** = 47%
2. **California** = 13.7%
3. **Texas** = 3.3%
4. **New York** = 3.1%
5. **Washington** = 2.4%
6. **Colorado** = 2.2%
7. **Oregon** = 1.7%
8. **Utah** = 1.5%
9. **Arizona** = 1.4%
10. **Florida** = 1.3%

Total = 77.6 % of our Fine Arts Alumni live and work in these ten states.

RebelsGive IV, April 5 & 6: 1,957 minutes of fun & giving back to UNLV

UNLV celebrated its fourth annual #RebelsGive, on April 5th to 6th. #Rebels Give is a great opportunity to show how much UNLV means to alumni, family and friends. It's also a reflection of the profound impact it has had on all of our lives. For this day-and-a-half long campaign organizers emphasize that **no matter the size**, these important cyber gifts make a difference and help to strengthen the future for UNLV and our students. At the end of Day Two, the final tally came to a handsome total of \$331,294.

We can't express enough the extraordinary degree of appreciation for your help furthering all of these important causes and making those 1,957 minutes a success. If you have any questions, need any additional guidance, or have new funding ideas you wish to discuss, please contact Diane Zapach, Senior Director of Development for Fine Arts at diane.zapach@unlv.edu.



Brenden-Mann Makes Cannes a Reality For Six Recent UNLV Film Alumni

What a fantastic opportunity for six recent grads of UNLV Film. The new UNLV Film Alumni Business Program is designed to launch the careers of emerging filmmakers. Generously funded by the Brenden-Mann Foundation, the new program helped to send James Lowery, Tyler Kirkpatrick, Isabelle Link, Taylor Schlobohm, Sophie Den Ridder, and Chris Ramirez to the 75th annual Cannes Film Festival, along with UNLV Film Artistic Director Francisco Menendez. These students were participants of the Marché Du Film at Festival De Cannes, the business entrepreneurship counterpart and a networking tour de force for young film professionals.

Over 12,500 film industry professionals head to Cannes each year in order to present and discover upwards of 4,000 films and projects in development at 33 screening venues. These six recent alumni were each placed with an attending film company such as California Pictures, Grandave Productions, and Voltage Pictures. As Kirkpatrick commented, "We got to see where the current state of auditory and visual composition stands at the best festival in the world." According to Link, "The festival was intense. So much to do, so many people to meet, and so many opportunities for my future." Sitting in on meetings and witnessing serious deal-making has given these budding filmmakers a better grasp on the film industry and all the more to look forward to. Thanks, and so much high praise for Brenden-Mann!



A Mid-Spring Night's Dream: Summer of Love Dinner Theatre

The UNLV Alumni Engagement team (a.k.a. AE) are known for presenting great events that engage Rebel Alumni from every academic unit. The Nevada Conservatory Theatre (NCT) is equally known for producing great theatre. So, why don't they work together to produce a fabulous event? Well, actually - they have, they do, and they are! In the (relatively) recent past, UNLV AE has presented several pre-Theatre dinner events. A recent gap is attributable to the Covid-19 pandemic, but this year favorable conditions existed. AE brought back the NCT dinner theatre event, and paired it with the perfect show - NCT's distinctive new production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

What was different about this NCT production? The artistic choice of Director Melissa Maxwell was to set Shakespeare's comedy in San Francisco during the fabled Summer of 1967, the height of hippiedom most commonly referred to as *The Summer of Love*. That era in pop culture lends itself to infinite artistic possibilities: colorful stage lighting; Sixties rock music; colorful scenic design; psychedelic graphic art; funky period costuming, and more. It was a natural pairing for this much beloved play, and also for the pre-Theatre event.

In pre-planning the dinner theatre event, the UNLV Fine Arts Alumni Chapter asked to team up with AE, and the design vehicles chosen included tie-dye, psychedelic projection, and a custom music playlist featuring everyone from The Jefferson Airplane and Janis Joplin to The Beatles and The Doors. By Dsign, an alumni-owned event design company, brought in rustic furniture, multi-colored florals, and a florid swing for photo ops. NCT Executive Director Norma Saldivar and two grad students were invited to discuss Shakespearean Comedy, the 1960's pop culture explosion, and their production with an informative Power-Point presentation. Aramark UNLV Catering sealed the deal with a great dinner, adult beverages, and pastel-tinged cotton candy desserts. It was a fantastic way to spend the first Friday evening in May.



NCT, PAC & UNLV Dance Announce Fall 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. The UNLV Performing Arts Center (PAC) is pleased to announce its 46th outstanding season for 2022-2023 presenting eight awe-inspiring artists and ensembles. the [UNLV Performing Arts Center](#) website, as well as on the [UNLV Dance](#) and [NCT](#) sites.

UNLV Performing Arts Center 2022-2023 Season

Antonio Rey, flamenco composer and guitar virtuoso - September 9, 2022
Cirque Mechanics: Zephyr - A Whirlwind of Circus - September 24, 2022
Montreal Guitar Trio (MG3) with the California Guitar Trio (CGT) - October 7, 2022
Mariachi Herencia de México: A Very Merry Christmas - December 10, 2022
Mnozil Brass - March 3, 2023
Bokyoung Byun, guitar - March 24, 2023
Emanuel Ax, piano - April 20, 2023
Meng Su, guitar - May 5, 2023

Department of Dance: 2022-2023 Concert Season: "In Bloom"

In Orchestra 5 - October 21-22 - Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall
In Full Bloom - November 17-19 - HFA Dance Studio One (HFA-111)
More Dance - December 9 - *streaming*
Dynamic Gardens - February 24-25 - Judy Bayley Theatre
Spring Forward - April 20-22 - HFA Dance Studio One (HFA-111)
Last Dance - May 5 - *streaming*

Nevada Conservatory Theatre: 2022-2023 Performance Season

The Cherry Orchard

by Anton Chekhov, adapted by Libby Appel
October 7 - 16, 2022
Judy Bayley Theatre

Crumbs From the Table of Joy

by Lynn Nottage
December 9 - 18, 2022
Judy Bayley Theatre

She Kills Monsters

by Qui Nguyen
February 17 - 26, 2023
Black Box Theatre

Violet

Music by Jeanine Tesori
Book and Lyrics by Brian Crawley, and based on a short story by Doris Betts
April 28 - May 7, 2023
Judy Bayley Theatre

UNLV Performing Arts Center 2022-2023 Performance Season



Nevada Conservatory Theatre 2022-2023 Performance Season



UNLV Film Honors Celebration Dinner: So Much Talent On Display!

After a long, challenging Spring semester awards and honors ceremonies provide students and faculty not only with a joyous night away from academics and preparing for finals, but also with a tremendous sense of relief. The UNLV Film Department have taken things a step further, transforming their year-end awards fete in the Student Union Ballroom into a Hollywood-style awards banquet, complete with dinner, a film industry keynote speaker, photo ops, and UNLV Film graduation medallions.

In addition to film critic Elvis Mitchell's moving keynote address, student speakers and award-winners were equally entertaining. Following a moving tribute to retiring professor of screenwriting Sean Clark, each new Film graduate was welcomed to the stage to receive their medallion and shake hands with Chair Heather Addison and the entire Film faculty. An unforgettable evening!



Fine Arts Class Notes

Jess Corrick, *1993 Art*, has been an entrepreneur, coach, and sales professional in the insurance, tax, and telehealth space for 30 years. He also is an art enthusiast who both collects and creates. He and his wife, **Kristl A. Daley**, '93 BSBA - Marketing, enjoy snow and water skiing, traveling, and discovering new places. They live in Kirkland, Washington.

Brent Denison, *2004 Theatre*, recently was afforded the opportunity to return to the college where he began his higher education journey, Manatee Community College in Bradenton, now called State College of Florida. He is the college's new manager of performing arts centers, which includes the Neel Performing Arts Center, Howard Studio Theatre, and the newly opened Studio for the Performing Arts. He's thrilled to be back on the campus where his career path began and now be able to share his experiences in the field with students where he set his career goals to one day manage a Performing Arts Center. He and his partner live in Riverview, Florida.

Erik Swendseid, *2010 Architecture*, is a Senior Architectural Designer with Ed Vance Associates in Las Vegas. Erik is a member of the American Institute of Architects and AIA NCARB's Intern Development Program. Erik is married to **Courtney Swendseid**, *2012 Dance*, a Physical Education and Health Teacher at Eldorado High School. Erik and Courtney are raising a family here in Las Vegas.

Justin B. George, *2004 Film*, is an Executive Director of Production at The Walt Disney Company based in Burbank, California. Previously, Justin was a TNT/TBS Production and Product Manager with Turner Broadcasting in Los Angeles. Justin has also done freelance production and art with companies such as NBC/Universal, Cartoon Network, Sony, Paramount and Touchstone Pictures.

Stephanie Thorpe, *2009 Music*, is a voice faculty member in the Department of Music at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where she teaches classical, musical theatre, and contemporary vocal genres as well as voice-related courses. Thorpe directs a yearly musical production and co-directs the a cappella ensembles, Maverick Fusion and Maverick Vocal Precision, with Dr. Doug Snapp. She is an active member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and has served as an adjudicator for the North Central Regional Chapter, the Minnesota Chapter, the Cal-Western Regional Chapter, and the Las Vegas Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Student Auditions.

Justine Benoit, *2009 EED*, is the UX/UI Design Lead with Big Bear.ai in Columbia, Maryland. Justine works with the VP/Head of Design in identifying skills needed to balance the team's current skill set, interviewing candidates, and onboard-

ing new designers. Previously, she worked for Konami Gaming as a UX/UI designer and for Cirque du Soleil as an automation engineer and technician. Justine lives in Arlington, Virginia.

Robert Welsh, *1985 Theatre*, is a stage carpenter, prop master and Technical Director living in Portland, Oregon. Robert recently has worked for Netflix Animation Studios, IATSE Local 488, and formerly was Technical Director for the Portland Center Stage Company (2003-2010). From 2011 to 2017, Robert worked on the prop crew for the NBC-TV fantasy show *Grimm*.

Samantha Steelman, *2009 Art*, is a political strategist and the co-founder of Triptych Strategies, an enterprise dedicated to *Reimagining Political Culture*. In 2020, She played an important role in the Pete Buttigieg for President campaign. Formerly a program coordinator with Americans for the Arts, Samantha has also been an advisor and strategist with New Blue Interactive and Mayors Against Illegal Guns. After graduating from UNLV, Samantha earned her Masters Degree in Political Management at George Washington University in the nation's capital and now lives in Southern California.

Cierra Pedro, *2012 Art*, is a Graphic Designer with the Clark County Library District. Cierra led the CCLD's re-branding design efforts, collaborating with the Digital Marketing Team. She is also the co-owner of Freeform LV, a Las Vegas-based art, design, and fabrication company. Her previous experience includes Wendoh Media (Social Media) and T3 Media & Print (Graphic Designer).

Chris Mears, *2014 Theatre*, is a Systems Integrator and Project Manager for Barbizon Lighting. Chris now lives and works in the Greater Houston, Texas area. He has also worked previously as a lighting designer, lighting technician, rigger and flyman for many productions including *La Reve* and several other productions at the Wynn Las Vegas and Encore theatres.

Allison McSwain, *2011 Music*, is an Admissions and Financial Aid Counselor at UNLV (since September 2012). Prior to that, she served as a graduate assistant in UNLV's Academic Success Center, working with first-year students transitioning to college. Originally from South Carolina, Allison holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Furman University, a master's in accountancy from Western Carolina University. She is currently pursuing a DMA in trumpet performance at UNLV.

Scott McGee, *2010 Film*, is a Stage Director, Tour Director, and performer with the Missoula Children's Theatre in Missoula, Montana. He tours throughout Montana, the nation, and abroad with the MCT Company. The MCT has brought youth performances, residencies, and education initiatives to thousands of kids in dozens of U.S. cities. In his spare time, Scott enjoys being a sports fan and fantasy sports participant.

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 [Handshake](#), 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 careerservices@unlv.edu.

Handshake is here. It’s a new app that’s a game-changing vehicle for all UNLV grads. Please read this excellent [article](#) from the [UNLV News Center](#) on how [UNLV Career Services](#) can help our alumni during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Handshake

X

UNLV | CAREER SERVICES

UNLV GRADS ARE
 **REBELS
FOREVER**

UNLV.edu/RebelsForever



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 more

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

UNLV | CAREER SERVICES

REBELS FOREVER

Summer At The Barrick! Four Great Spring Exhibitions Until July 23

The Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art is a very cool place to spend a hot summer afternoon. The MBMoA is extending their run of four highly enlightening Spring exhibits until Saturday, July 23rd, when the staff begins the installation period for their new run of Fall 2023 shows. As ever, The Barrick is open for visitation from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays (closed on Sundays and Mondays). And, as always, attending and viewing great artwork at the Barrick Museum of Art is easy. It carries no admission fee, but masks will continue to be required for entry. Here (below) are the current show titles and artists, accompanied by some great opening night photos from the March 25th gala first-night reception.

In the East Gallery - **Kim Stringfellow, Mojave Project** - experimental trans-media project exploring the physical, geological, and cultural landscape of the Mojave Desert.

In the Womxn of Color Arts Festival Center Gallery - **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.

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 Catalyts, Maria Volborth and Mikayla Whitmore.

In the Work Shop Gallery - **Untitled L.A. by Felix Gonzales Torres**, photographer, *in partnership with the Art Bridges Foundation*.



School of Architecture Presents March Career and Internships Fair

In March, the SoA presented a Careers and Internships in Architecture Fair at the Architecture Library. More than a dozen prominent firms with several Architecture alumni participated, including TSK, Gensler, Novus, Klai Juba Wald, Marnell Companies.



Sean Clark Retires: Farewell to One Heckuva Teacher, Artist and Colleague

After nearly a quarter-century of teaching at UNLV, we're bidding adieu to one of our favorite colleagues: Screenwriting professor Sean Clark. Coming from the Midwest, Sean could write anything, but would likely admit that he has a supreme gift for comedy. His considerable talent was obvious and took him on a journey to Southern California. Sean wrote for a ton of top flight television and film projects. That list include classics such as *Evening Shade*, *Coach*, *Early Edition*, *The Commish*, *Northern Exposure*, and more. Following his distinguished career as a screenwriter in Los Angeles, he brought his young family to Las Vegas. Do you know a quicker wit? We don't. Sean, thank you for all of the great years you served us as a professor, mentor, and friend.



Select Upcoming Event Dates - [UNLV Alumni Engagement](#) and the College of Fine Arts:

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

Performing Arts Center (PAC): **Antonio Rey** - Ham Concert Hall (HCH) - September 9 - 7:30 pm
PAC: **Cirque Mechanics - Zephyr - A Whirlwind of Circus** - HCH - September 24 - 7:30pm
School of Music: **UNLV Symphony Orchestra** - Ham Concert Hall - September 28 - 7:30pm
Nevada Conservatory Theatre: **The Cherry Orchard** - Judy Bayley Theatre - October 1-18
School of Music: **UNLV Jazz Ensemble I** (CD Release Concert) - HCH - October 3 - 7:30 pm
School of Music: **UNLV Wind Orchestra** - Ham Concert Hall - October 5 - 7:30pm
PAC: **Montreal Guitar Trio/California Guitar Trio** - HCH - October 7 - 7:30pm
UNLV Alumni Engagement: **Homecoming Festival** - Campus Mall - October 13 - 5:00pm
UNLV Alumni Engagement: **Alumni of the Year Awards** - Student Union - October 14 - 6:00pm
Department of Dance: **In Orchestra** - Ham Concert Hall - October 21, 22 - 7:30pm/2:30pm
School of Music: **UNLV Symphony Orchestra** - Ham Concert Hall - October 26 - 7:30 pm
School of Music: **UNLV Community & New Horizons Bands** - HCH - November 2 - 7:30pm
School of Music: **UNLV Choral Ensembles** - Ham Concert Hall - November 3 - 7:30pm
College of Fine Arts: **ArtWalk** - Campus Mall & Arts Venues - November 4 - 5:00pm
UNLV Opera Theatre: **Roman Fever & The Stronger** - Nov. 9 - Beam Music Center - 7:30pm
UNLV Opera Theatre: **Roman Fever & The Stronger** - Nov. 10 - Beam Music Center - 7:30pm
Department of Dance: **In Full Bloom** - HFA-111 - November 17, 18, 19 - 7:30pm/2:30pm
School of Music: **UNLV Wind Orchestra** - Ham Concert Hall - November 17 - 7:30pm
School of Music: **UNLV Madrigal Festival 1** - Ham Concert Hall - November 18 - 12 Noon
School of Music: **UNLV Madrigal Festival 2** - Ham Concert Hall - November 18 - 7:30pm
School of Music: **UNLV Symphony Orchestra** - Ham Concert Hall - November 22 - 7:30pm
School of Music: **Fall Jazz Festival** - Black Box Theatre - November 28-30 - 7:30pm
UNLV Opera Theatre: **Opera Workshop I Scenes** - Beam Music Center - December 1 - 7:30pm
School of Music: **UNLV Choral Ensembles** - Ham Concert Hall - December 6 - 7:30pm
Department of Dance: **More Dance** (Streaming) - December 9 - 7:30pm
PAC: **Mariachi Herencia de México - A Very Merry Christmas** - December 10 - 7:30pm
Nevada Conservatory Theatre: **Crumbs From the Table of Joy** - JBT - December 9-18

For information call the

Performing Arts Center Box Office (702) 895-ARTS (2787) or visit <http://pac.unlv.edu>

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

2022 College of Fine Arts Alumni Chapter Board

Stacy Swim '98 Theatre (President)

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e-mail: Fineartsalumni@unlv.edu