



ArtsBridge future optimistic

**From its leaders
to scholars,
ArtsBridge faces
the challenging
days ahead
with optimism
and resolve**

Dean Jill Beck is often asked to peer into the future of ArtsBridge America, the pioneering education program she founded in 1996 and continues to champion.

She has two visions of where it could be in a few years. The first is hopeful and bold, with an accelerating number of university and K-12 students learning about the world and themselves through imagination and creativity. "I see us partnering with more universities, more campuses," Beck says, brightening. "I see us having a partner institution in most states as we grow a national network (an ambitious expansion which is reflected in the program's new name, ArtsBridge America) and find all the support we need to keep moving forward."

But the outcome could be different, and she knows it. A statewide budget crisis and funding cuts shadow the entire program. "Of course, there's another scenario. It could spiral down. The universities could eliminate the programs as higher education ceases to feel responsible for the arts in primary and secondary education, or to feel the need to give university students opportunities to learn through service.

That would be disastrous.

"I'm not saying the

the obvious, that the arts give pleasure to youngsters who are eager for self-expression, she believes creativity nurtures problem-solvers and leaders, no matter if they become actors or scientists on their life paths.

"To believe that anyone will be better without imagination is to get it wrong," says Beck. "We have to train the mind to grapple with any issue, any problem. The arts teach you how to perceive, how to re-combine components ... to arrive at a new solution with new methods."

To document this, UCI's da Vinci Research Center for Learning Through the Arts (formerly the Center for Arts Research in Education, or CARE) tests students to see how their thinking evolves when exposed to the arts. The results are fascinating, Beck says, noting it is clear youngsters expand their depth and range of perceptions through imaginative study.

A revealing test called the "Look Again!" survey asks students for opinions on a photo series. Some are familiar and obvious (like a family shot), while others are more abstract and strange (one shows what looks like a natural formation with an icy blue section overlapped by a shadowy yellowish pattern). Students tend to be confused by the non-specific picture and maybe "don't like it" early on, but as their education moves forward, they appreciate the colors, shapes and textures.

"This shows us that they're gaining a wider aesthetic palate," Beck explains. "Their eyes, their minds, are opening up."

It is the insight gathered from that test and other research that Beck and her staff plan to take to policy-makers. In fact, Beck says ArtsBridge and the da Vinci Center have increased their research ten-fold over the past year to document the program's value and potential.

Beck and her staff are confident it will be well-received in coming months. She was heartened by a visit to Washington, D.C. last year when she met with several leaders including conservative Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) who was warm to the ArtsBridge ideal. "He often says that he thinks music has greatly helped him enjoy life," Beck recalls. "That's what we have to inspire in people if we are to find support and continue with our successes."

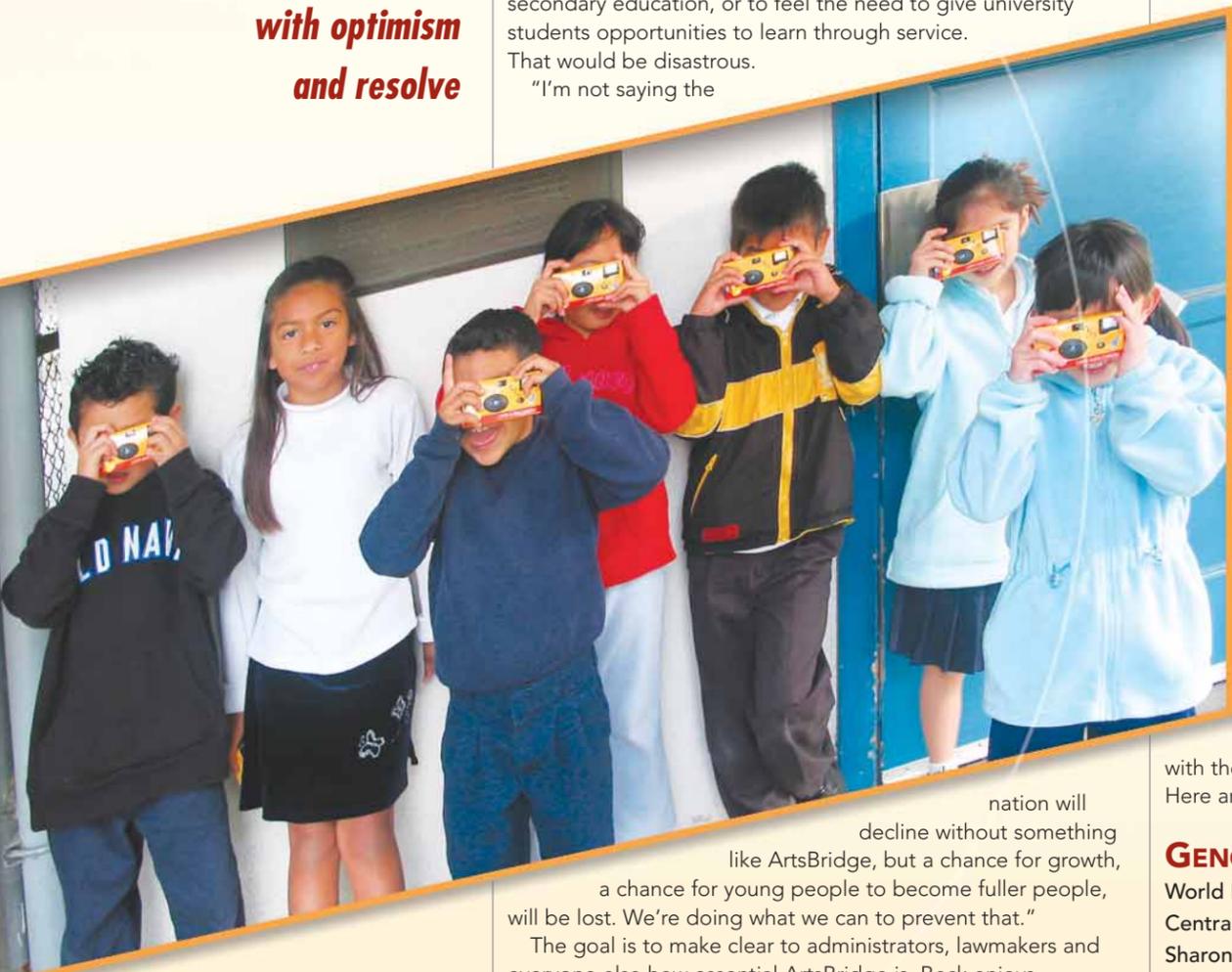
Of course, when it comes to success, perhaps the most persuasive evidence is with the ArtsBridge scholars and their classrooms. Here are a few of their stories:

GENOA McDOWELL

World Dance
Centralia Elementary School, Anaheim
Sharon Osako, host teacher

The playground at Centralia Elementary School is a rush of activity as Genoa McDowell directs 28 fourth graders in a run-through of *Los Concheros*, an Aztec ceremonial dance. The youngsters wear ceremonial headdresses they've fashioned from colored paper and shake soda can rattles filled with pebbles.

Genoa is proud as her charges execute the complicated dance moves with verve and few mistakes. "That was perfect, well done!" shouts Genoa, a senior dance/drama major and three-year veteran of the ArtsBridge program. She is preparing her students to perform *Los Concheros* *continued on page 2*

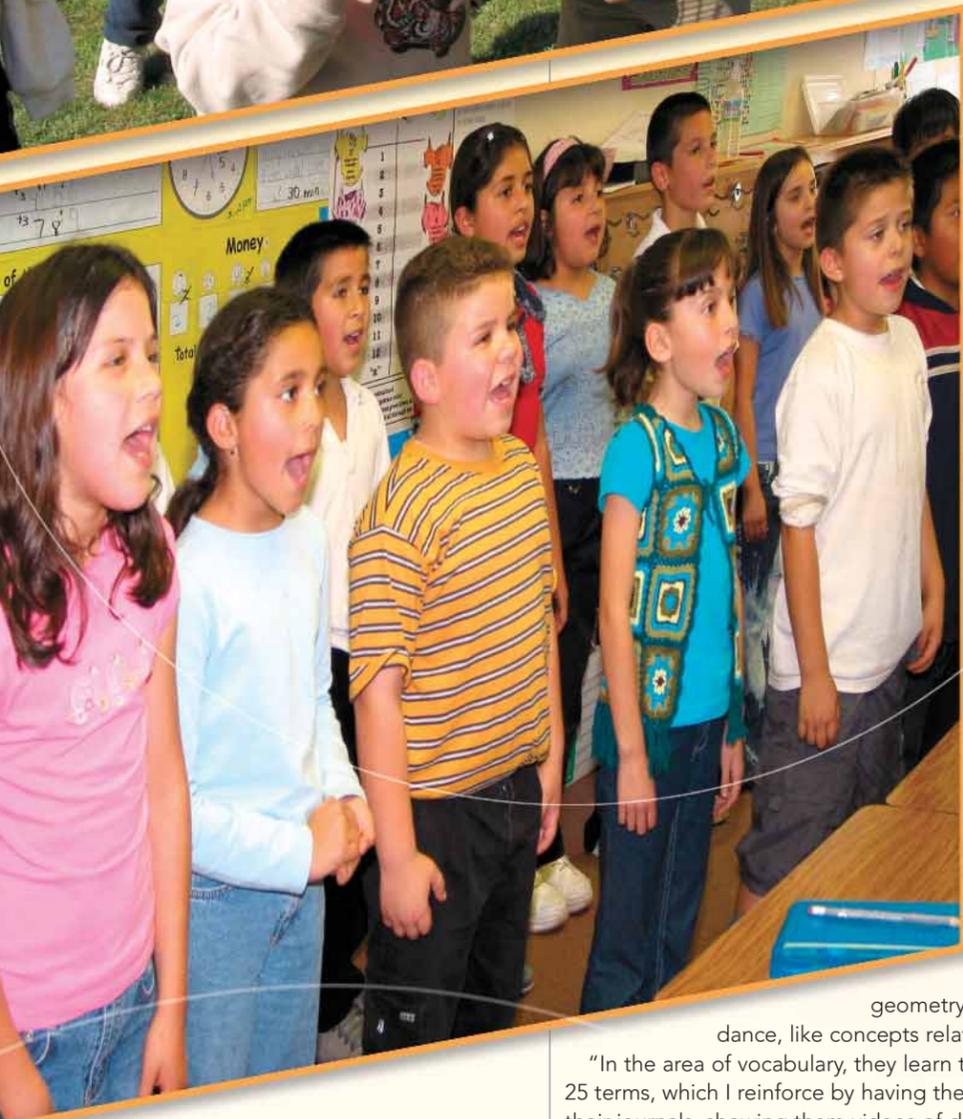


nation will decline without something like ArtsBridge, but a chance for growth, a chance for young people to become fuller people, will be lost. We're doing what we can to prevent that."

The goal is to make clear to administrators, lawmakers and everyone else how essential ArtsBridge is. Beck enjoys explaining how UCI's gifted arts students—and those at the program's 16 affiliate universities across the country—take their expertise and enthusiasm and teach at nearby schools in their disciplines, from dance to music to drama to visual and digital arts. Currently 79 UCI ArtsBridge scholars are completing 146 projects at 44 Orange County schools. Throughout the UC system last year, 601 arts students from campuses including UC Berkeley, Davis, Los Angeles and Riverside, among others, led classes at 228 schools in their area.

Whether talking to U.S. senators or local politicians, Beck emphasizes the need for arts education in K-12 schools. Besides





for ArtsBridge's World Dance Day at UCI June 6 (see ArtsBridge Highlights). "The students are excited because they will get to perform in Aldrich Park on the UCI campus with hundreds of other elementary school children who are learning folk dances from around the world from other ArtsBridge scholars."

Teaching the Aztec dance is only part of Genoa's mission. "The educational objective of all our ArtsBridge projects is multi-layered," she explains. "The students are also learning about the dance's history and cultural background, the relationship of dance to mathematics and

geometry, and the physics of dance, like concepts related to weight and force.

"In the area of vocabulary, they learn the definitions of at least 25 terms, which I reinforce by having them write the words in their journals, showing them videos of different dance styles and demonstrating the terms in dance movement. They've even learned to read and write simple Labanotation [a system of symbolic notation for recording dance steps and movement]. They're absolutely fascinated by the idea that a dance can be re-created by anyone who can read this 'new' language."

Genoa continues, "It excites me to see the class excited about the Aztec culture and wanting to understand how it relates to *Los Concheros*. They're interested in their own heritage and traditions. My goal is to keep them excited and learning from the beginning to the end. And I think I have."

AMBER KANDARIAN

Digital Arts

Golden Hill Elementary School, Fullerton

Huntington Beach Academy of the Arts

Beniy Waisanen and Jeff Hendrix, host teachers



Amber Kandarian is a busy ArtsBridge scholar.

The senior Studio Art major recently participated in the "Imagine Mars Project," an interactive web-cast at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. Hosted by "The Science Guy" Bill Nye and a team of scientists, artists and educators, the program asked school children to use arts, science and technology to come up with clever ways to live on Mars.

Amber's new ArtsBridge classes include working with fourth graders at Golden Hill Elementary on a project designed to study an art form and increase their vocabulary through the use of digital photography. Their work will be part of the exhibition, *Look Again: Digital Photography by ArtsBridge Children*, at UCI's Beall Center for Art and Technology, June 9-13 (see ArtsBridge Highlights).

Amber is also showing eleven dance students from Huntington Beach Academy of the Arts how to use and ultimately apply sophisticated digital technology to an art form like dance. "What I love about this project is that the students are already artists-in-training," Amber says. "It's exciting to introduce them to new technologies and see how it's opening avenues for their expression."

The dance and digital art project uses dance choreography in combination with motion capture (the animation technique of capturing movement in 3D space and organizing the data inside a computer) and 3D Studio Max, software that translates the images into a cohesive whole.

"First the students choreographed a dance and created a story board for it," she says. "We're working in UCI's motion capture studio where they execute the choreography. Sensors are attached to their bodies which record movement information that is sent as data to the computer.

"Then they learn to use the 3D Studio Max program to manipulate and transform [that data in image form] into movement. We're also experimenting with digital photography and learning to manipulate those images in Photoshop. The final product, *Molding Shapes in Space*, will be a multimedia presentation incorporating live performance and digital art."

ANNA LARSEN

Music

Diamond Elementary School,

Santa Ana

Turtle Rock Elementary School, Irvine

Carolyn Hashiba, Nathalie Mireles and

Amber Smith, host teachers



Teaching comes naturally to Anna Larsen, a third-year vocal performance major working at Diamond and Turtle Rock elementary schools. "My mother and both my grandmothers were elementary school teachers," says Anna. In teaching her third grade students language arts and music, Anna blends different disciplines—music, reading and writing—with diverse pedagogical strategies.

"Children process information in different ways," she points out. "Some need to move, especially the little boys, some need to speak, and some need to read. I've put a lot of energy into creating lesson plans that support these learning differences and still get the best results for all the students."

Anna introduces them to music's basics, its terms and notation, and guides them in creating their own songs. "First, I teach the students to understand that music conveys emotion, just like words do. In a recent project they wrote lyrics for already composed melodies. They had to understand rhythms, what a phrase is, and about song structure. We've also taken poems they've written and made them into songs."

For Anna, the high point of ArtsBridge is interacting with the children. "I love seeing them have so much fun, because they really are adorable when they get into their songs," she says, laughing. "They're moving, smiling and delightfully uninhibited. Being an ArtsBridge scholar has given me the opportunity to learn a lot about the commitment and discipline it takes to be a good teacher. It's been a thrill for me to share my passion for music with children who have not experienced it."

Anna hopes to pursue a professional singing career after graduating. But she also sees a teaching credential in her future. "This is something I can see myself doing for the rest of my life."

JASMINE YEP

Social Studies and History

Lowell Elementary School, Santa Ana

Linda Metzger-Campbell, host teacher

"The lion dance is an ancient tradition in China. It's performed at festivities like the Chinese New Year and is believed to bring good luck and happiness," explains Jasmine Yep as she helps her Lowell Elementary fourth graders decorate the lion's head and mane they've made out of a plastic laundry basket and flannel cloth.

She continues, smiling as the makeshift lion takes shape. "Learning the lion dance is fun because one student handles the head and the other plays the body and tail under the cloth attached to the head. It's also instructive because they learn about the art and history behind it and even some kung fu moves."

Jasmine, a senior dance major and third-year ArtsBridge scholar, is teaching the dance as part of the students' study of California history. "I am Chinese-American and grew up in Sacramento where I was very involved in Asian arts and culture. I studied ballet and Chinese classical and folk dance. My parents organized festivals for Chinese New Year, which included traditional dances from Japan, Korea, Laos and Vietnam.

"California's heritage is cross-cultural," she adds. "It is the sum of the history and contributions of many cultures, and I want these children to learn how rich and diverse our heritage is. The majority of the students in my class are Hispanic. Many of them know something about the history of the California missions,





Spring 2003



SHAHRDAD LOTFIPOUR

Health ArtsBridge

"My ArtsBridge experience shaped, directed and focused my life," says Shahrdad, who received a BA degree in drama in 2000 and is now in the PhD program in Neurobiology and Anatomy at UCI.

"I studied drama and biology as an undergraduate and I wanted to find a way to pursue both fields. ArtsBridge gave me that opportunity."

Working in the pediatric unit at UCI's University Children's Hospital, Shahrdad explored the use of drama therapy for treating pain in patients with chronic illnesses, particularly children with cancer.

"The mind has a profound influence on the body's healing process," Shahrdad explains, "and along with advances in medical technology and pharmacology, scientists and psychologists are developing alternative therapies that work in concert with traditional medical protocols to enhance and prolong life. I wanted to learn more about this holistic approach to treating diseases."

"My interaction with the children at the hospital had a positive effect on their physical and mental well being," he continues, "but I realized how little I knew about alternative therapies or drug treatments for pain management. I needed to do lot more research in the field."

Armed with a Fulbright Fellowship, Shahrdad traveled to Australia to work on a master's degree in medical science at the School of Pharmacology in Brisbane. He also volunteered at the Royal Brisbane Children's Hospital where he was introduced to the hospital's broadcasting studio. "They have an absolutely wonderful program there. The children are able to participate in choosing music that they want to listen to and it has a very positive affect on them. I thought it would be great to have something like this for the children at University Children's Hospital."

Shahrdad and Jolene Mona Minakary, a third-year undergraduate economics major at UCI, have received a \$25,000 grant from the Hyundai Corporation to develop, in cooperation with Health ArtsBridge, an in-house radio show at the hospital.

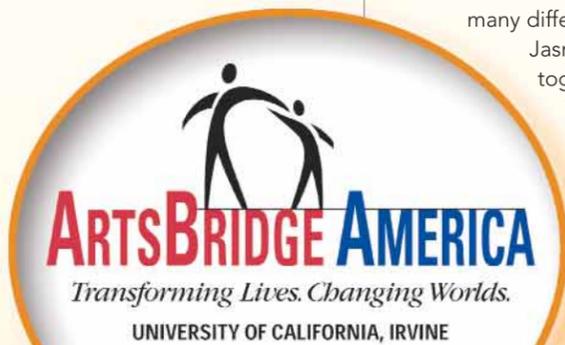
"The children in the pediatric unit will be able to act in radio plays and participate as DJs in the studio," says Shahrdad. "We also envision broadcasting new children's theatre, and educational and interactive programming that will entertain and engage the patients, and help create a more comfortable and healing hospital environment."



which is an important part of their own heritage, but they don't know that the Chinese played a major role in laying the tracks in California for the transcontinental railroad that linked the east and west coasts for the first time in 1869.

"And they're really surprised to learn that many things they are familiar with are Chinese inventions, like gunpowder and matches, kites and rockets, paper and paper money, the decimal system and the game of chess. Now they're beginning to understand that the world they live in is the product of the many different cultures."

Jasmine pauses. The lion's head has come together nicely. "I'm helping them," she says, "learn about and appreciate our rich heritage of diversity."



ARTSBRIDGE HIGHLIGHTS

ArtsBridge America Annual Spring Conference **BUILDING COMPREHENSIVE SUSTAINABILITY: EMERGING STRATEGIES FOR ARTSBRIDGE AMERICA**

May 9-10, Beckman Center,
University of California, Irvine

The conference will address the growing strength of the ArtsBridge America national network of research universities engaged in locally responsive learning through the arts and highlight substantive research demonstrating the impact of the arts on pupils, teachers and university students. Nationally recognized arts education researchers, James Catterall and Robert Horowitz, and researchers from UCI da Vinci Research Center for Learning through the Arts, will present the latest cross-disciplinary research and perspectives on the relationship between the arts and learning. Directors of ArtsBridge America sites in seven states will reflect on their experiences with the growing national ArtsBridge America network, and a program officer from the Federal Department of Education will explore the potential of ArtsBridge in whole-school and education reform. Participants will discuss opportunities for strengthening the network through dissemination to additional states, partnerships with local school districts and the importance of building strong relations with state and federal policymakers.

WORLD DANCE DAY

June 6, hundreds of elementary school children from across Orange County will gather at UCI's Aldrich Park for World Dance Day. Reflecting the rich and diverse heritage of Orange County, the students will perform folk dances from Mexican, Vietnamese, European and Native American cultures. ArtsBridge World Dance scholars provide pupils and teachers with training in the dances, in addition to comprehensive histories and cultural backgrounds. For many students and parents, attending World Dance Day is their first experience on a university campus. The event makes this experience a celebration of the children's achievement and presents higher education as close and accessible for these students and their families.

LOOK AGAIN: DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY BY ARTSBRIDGE CHILDREN

June 9-13, Beall Center for Art and Technology

In its annual installation of art and technology focused on the K-12 community, the Beall Center presents a multimedia exhibition featuring digital photography work by K-12 ArtsBridge students from Orange County schools. Look Again is the culmination of a six-month research project directed by faculty from the UCI da Vinci Research Center for Learning through the Arts

and carried out by ArtsBridge scholars. Through the medium of photography, students learn elements of perception, analysis, expression, and development of vocabulary and concepts. In addition to the exhibition, seminars will be held for K-12 teachers, which will provide practical implementation strategies for new research in arts education and the applications of the arts in general education.

Hours: Mon.-Fri., noon-5 pm, Admission is free.
Information: (949) 824-6206

ARTSBRIDGE MENTOR NAMED NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Janice Gudde Plastino, Professor of Dance and ArtsBridge Mentor, has been named University/College Teacher of the Year for 2002-03 by the National Dance Association. Plastino will present a special ArtsBridge America session for the National Convention of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in Philadelphia, April 3. The session includes instruction in world dance and discussion of ArtsBridge's nationwide program.

Find out more about ArtsBridge America. Visit our website at www.arts.uci.edu/ucartsbridge

ArtsBridge America logo design: Noelle Corporate Communications

Beall Center for Art and Technology

LIFE BY DESIGN: EVERYDAY DIGITAL CULTURE

April 1-20
Opening Reception: Fri., April 11, 6-8 pm
Conference: April 10-12
Organized by UCI graduate students and curated by Jane Hart, the exhibition features works that move beyond the confines of traditional art practices toward topics that arise from "everyday digital culture": those in game, interface, media and transportation design, performance and time-based media, architecture, communication and engineering. The three-day conference features papers, discussions, demonstrations and select screenings by digital arts practitioners. Conference information: (949) 824-1124. Hours: Tues.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm; Thur., 11 am-8 pm. Admission is free. Information: (949) 824-6206

Drama UCI Stage 2

THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE

by Bertolt Brecht
Translated by Eric Bentley
Joshua Hsu, director
Thur.-Sat., April 10-12, 8 pm
Matinee: Sat., April 12, 2 pm
Humanities Hall Little Theatre, \$10/9/8
Brecht's masterpiece is a saga of compassion and justice. A simple servant girl rescues an abandoned child, only to have the natural mother return to claim the baby and its inheritance. Justice is determined when a wily judge sets a test to reveal the true mother's love.



Drama at UCI Mainstage

LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN

by Oscar Wilde
J.R. Sullivan, director
Fri.-Sat., April 18-19, 8 pm
Wed.-Sat., April 23-26, 8 pm
Matinees: Sat., April 19 & Sat., April 26, 2 pm
Claire Trevor Theatre
Fri. & Sat. eve: \$17/15/9
Weeknight & matinee: \$15/14/9
A lord, his wife, her admirer and a mysterious femme fatale converge in Oscar Wilde's delightful satire of late Victorian society's snobbery and duplicity. Surfeit with intrigue and misunderstanding, scandal and hypocrisy, this delicious comedy of manners and masks has sharp things to say about marriage and moral judgments, surface appearances and things not always being what they seem.

DANCE ESCAPE

New works by graduate choreographers
Thur.-Sat., April 24-26, 8 pm
Matinee: Sat., April 26, 2 pm
Winifred Smith Hall, \$11/10/9



UCI Symphony Orchestra

THE NEW ROMANTICISM: BEETHOVEN AND BARBER

Stephen Tucker, conductor
Fri.-Sat., May 2-3, 8 pm
Claire Trevor Theatre
\$12/10/8
Beethoven: Symphony No. 4 in B-flat, Op. 60
Barber: Overture to *School for Scandal*
Britten: Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings, Op. 31

Music Section of Town and Gown presents

HONORS CONCERT

Performed by UCI music scholarship winners
Sun., May 4, 2 pm
Winifred Smith Hall, \$10/10/6
Proceeds support UCI music scholarships.

PHYSICAL GRAFFITI

New works by undergraduate choreographers
Thur.-Sat., May 15-17, 8 pm
Matinee: Sat., May 17, 2 pm
Humanities Hall Little Theatre, \$10/9/8

UCI Chamber Series

LES DEUX AMIS

Richard Savino and John Schneiderman, guitars & lutes
Sat., May 17, 8 pm
Winifred Smith Hall, \$12/10/8
18th- and 19th-century masterworks by Vivaldi, Roncalli, Weiss, Haydn and Mertz



Richard Savino



John Schneiderman

Beall Center for Art and Technology

READING FRANKENSTEIN: AN IMMERSIVE THEATRE EXPERIENCE

Created by Annie Loui, Antoinette LaFarge and Dr. James Fallon
Tues.-Sat., May 27-31, 8 pm
Matinees: Sat., May 31 & Sun., June 1, 2 pm
Admission is free, seating is limited: Call (949) 824-6206 for reservations.
Staged as a work-in-progress last spring, the Beall Center will present a full production of the interactive performance piece, *Reading Frankenstein*. Using layered digital projections, brain imaging and a virtual monster interacting with a live human actor, the production examines the ethical repercussions of scientific research from the monster's point of view.



UCI Opera

OPERA ONE-ACTS

Robin Buck, director
Fri.-Sat., May 30-31, 8 pm
Winifred Smith Hall, \$12/10/8
World Premieres: UCI Professor Bernard Gilmore's *Coffee Date*, a one-act opera for soloists and instrumental ensemble, and UCI graduate composer Jason Barabba's *Identity Crisis*, a one-act opera for soloists, chorus and instrumental ensemble. Performed by UCI students and members of Southland Opera.

Drama at UCI Undergraduate Production

HAIR

Music by Galt MacDermot
Book and Lyrics by Gerome Ragni and James Rado
Keith Fowler, director
Janice Gudde Plastino, choreographer
Dennis Castellano, musical director
Fri.-Sat., May 30-31, 8 pm
Wed.-Sat., June 4-7, 8 pm
Matinees: Sun., June 1 & Sat., June 7, 2 pm
Claire Trevor Theatre
\$15/12/10
Peace, love, freedom and happiness are never out-of-date. Billed as "the American Tribal Love-Rock Musical," *Hair* is the immensely popular show that first flourished in the late 1960s as a counter-cultural response to the horrors of the Vietnam War. Through rich melodies, psychedelic rhythms and vigorous satire, *Hair* transmutes the turmoil and pain of its powerful social themes into a dynamic and life-affirming celebration of the generation of hippies and flower children—the Age of Aquarius! (Contains nudity)

Hair transmutes the turmoil and pain of its powerful social themes into a dynamic and life-affirming celebration of the generation of hippies and flower children—the Age of Aquarius! (Contains nudity)

UCI GOSPEL CHOIR

James Calhoun, conductor
Mon., June 2, 8 pm
Winifred Smith Hall
Free, tickets are required.



UCI Jazz Orchestra

ALL THAT JAZZ

Charles Owens, conductor
Guest Artist: Jazz vocalist Ernie Andrews
Wed., June 4, 8 pm
Irvine Barclay Theatre
\$12/10/8

UCI Symphony Orchestra

ALL BRAHMS

Stephen Tucker, conductor
Guest artist: Marietta Simpson, mezzo-soprano
Fri.-Sat., June 6-7, 8 pm
Pre-Concert Conversation: Fri., June 6, 7 pm
Irvine Barclay Theatre
\$12/10/8
Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80
Alto Rhapsody for Mezzo-Soprano, Orchestra and Chorus, Op. 53
Symphony No. 2 in D, Op. 73



Marietta Simpson

CONCERT CHOIR

Joseph Huszti, conductor
Sat., June 7, 8 pm
Winifred Smith Hall
Free, tickets are required.

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Claire Trevor School of the Arts
Dean Jill Beck
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Production Photographer Philip Channing

TICKET PRICE LEGEND

Prices are listed in this order: General audience/UCI faculty, staff, alumni association members, senior citizens/UCI students & children under 18

Need help or want to add your name to our mailing list? Call the UCI Arts Box Office: (949) 824-2787

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Charge it to Visa or MasterCard (\$3 service charge for phone orders). Credit cards accepted during daytime hours only.

BY MAIL Send your ticket request and check (payable to UC Regents) to:

UCI Arts Box Office
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697-2775

IN PERSON

► UCI Arts Box Office, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, 10 am-3 pm weekdays and one hour before the performance (949) 824-2787.

► Bren Events Center, 10 am-5 pm weekdays (949) 824-5000 (except for IBT events)

► Irvine Barclay Theatre, 10 am-6 pm Mon.-Sat., noon-4 pm, Sun. (949) 854-4646 (for IBT events only)

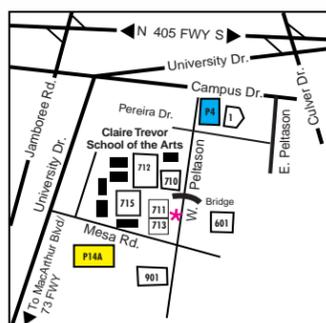
► Ticketmaster outlets (714) 740-2000

► Tickets are available at the door one hour before the performance, subject to availability.

SORRY NO REFUNDS. Dates, times and program information listed are subject to change, cancellation or substitution without notice. Performances start promptly. Latecomers will be seated at a convenient time in the performance. Individuals with disabilities are invited to

call the UCI Arts Box Office for assistance (949) 824-2787.

CONVENIENT PARKING General and handicapped parking are available in structures (P14A) on Mesa Rd. for School of the Arts venues and (P4) for the Irvine Barclay Theatre. Parking is \$5.



Map is not to scale. Full campus map: www.uci.edu/campusmap/

Special Assistance Drop Off: 15 minute temporary parking for patrons who need assistance to venues in the Arts Plaza is located at the bus turnout on West Peltason Dr.

Call UCI Arts Box Office: (949) 824-2787 www.arts.uci.edu

- 1 Irvine Barclay Theatre
- 601 Humanities - Little Theatre
- 710 Winifred Smith Hall
- 711 Claire Trevor Theatre
- 712 Beall Center for Art & Technology, University Art Gallery, CyberA Cafe
- 713 Studio Theatre
- 715 UCI Arts Box Office
- 901 Bren Events Center
- P4 IBT Parking Structure
- P14A Mesa Arts Parking Structure
- * Special Assistance Drop Off