

Dear CTSA Students, Families, and Friends,

Let me be the first to welcome you to the most exciting, provocative, *creative* place at UCI—the Claire Trevor School of the Arts. 2017-18 is going to be a unique and engaging year, full of opportunities to develop and deepen your talents, enhance your skills, and broaden your knowledge of the arts and their vital place in culture. The Trevor School has always been a distinctive, vibrant part of the UCI campus, and of the regional, national, and international arts scene, at the cutting edge of arts production, scholarship, and research. As always, we' ll be building on that well-earned reputation this year, with your creative participation.

I hope the summer has been refreshing and fruitful. And I hope that if you were in the area you had the chance to come to the New Swan Shakespeare Theatre' s sixth season of Shakespeare under the stars in Aldrich Park; its productions of *the Taming of the Shrew* and *The Tempest* set new standards for our highly-praised professional company. At the Irvine Barclay Theatre, Dance faculty member Molly Lynch again presented the National Choreographic Institute, bringing choreographers and dancers from across the country for a unique, intensive dance experience. The Trevor School and the Beall Center for Art + Technology expanded our summer workshops, camps, and academies to new levels of outreach, new projects and presentations, and record numbers of area participants. Our summer CADE program, in conjunction with Cal State Fullerton and Chapman University, again provided an immersion in London theatre.

And now the academic year begins again. This year, as usual, your greatest challenge will be to try to take advantage of everything you want to see and hear in the School; I hope you' ll experience at least one event from each department. In early November we' ll welcome you to the Trevor School Open House, when the entire School comes alive with music, dance, drama, and art. There' ll be food trucks, bands, family-friendly activities, performances, and much more. For more Open House information, visit the CTSA website.

In the upcoming 2017-18 season, CTSA will present nearly 300 events covering the performance and exhibition spectrum, including:

- *Art*: As part of the Getty' s Pacific Standard Time exhibition, we will present *Aztlán to Magulandia: The Journey of Chicano Artist Gilbert 'Magu' Luján* in the University Art Gallery and the Contemporary Art Center Gallery, accompanied by discussions and panel presentations. Our three CTSA galleries will be presenting diverse exhibitions of professional and student art, including exhibitions curated by faculty members Rhea Anastas, Juli Carson, and Allyson Unzicker. As part of The Art of Performance in Irvine series, Art professors Ulysses Jenkins and Deborah Oliver will host *Tohubohu!* By the Extreme Theatre Ensemble.
- *Dance*: the Dance department' s three main dance concerts begin with "New Slate," presenting new work by our MFA choreographers, in the fall; "Dance Visions," our faculty-choreographed presentation, takes place in February in the Irvine Barclay Theatre, and "Physical Graffiti," with top undergraduate choreography, is mounted in the spring.
- *Drama*: the Drama season' s theme this year is "The Business of Politics/The Politics of Business," exploring the contemporary American cultural dilemma of greed and prevarication. Drama' s mainstage productions will range from the musical *Chess* to provocative glimpses into contemporary American culture (*Intimate Apparel*, *She*, *American Idiot*) to Shakespeare (*The Lear Project*).

- *Music*: In addition to its three orchestra concerts in the Barclay, Music will present an almost overwhelming number of concert presentations ranging from classical music to jazz, from chamber music to electronic and computer composition, throughout the year.
- *21C*: A new series of experimental performances will be inaugurated this year, within the framework of CTSA' s new Institute for 21st Century Creativity, directed by faculty member John Crawford. *Living in the Tempest*, a year-long exploration of Shakespeare' s late play, will culminate in a multi-location installation in the Barclay as part of CTSA' s "Celebrate the Arts" in May, 2018. Other productions throughout the year in the xMPL and elsewhere will be part of this new endeavor.
- The Beall Center for Art + Technology, in conjunction with the xMPL, will be offering its amazing mix of art and science, ranging from *Drawn from a Score* in the fall to *It Passes Like a Thought* in the new year.

It' s never been a better time to immerse yourself in the arts, as a learner and a doer. This year you' ll have many, many chances to do both. We thank you in advance for your wonderful creative energy, and eagerly look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Barker', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Stephen Barker, Ph.D.

Dean, Claire Trevor School of the Arts