The Claire Trevor School of the Arts (CTSA) has proven itself to be a national leader in training future generations of artists and scholars who go on to inspire audiences in theatres, galleries and concert halls – as well as in entertainment and technology-related venues throughout the world.

Claire Trevor School of the Arts alumni impact the world every day – from Broadway stages and Hollywood recording studios, to European art galleries, and international dance companies. Our alumni are reshaping art in America and throughout the world.

Our vision is to re-imagine creativity for the twenty-first century through interdisciplinary research spanning current and emergent artforms.

As UCI’s creative laboratory, the Claire Trevor School of the Arts explores and presents the arts as the essence of human experience and expression, through art forms ranging from the most traditional to the radically new. Our international and distinguished faculty work across a wide variety of art forms and forge interdisciplinary partnerships with others across the campus. Our nationally ranked programs in art, dance, drama, and music begin with training but culminate in original invention.

No. 9
Best Colleges for Drama & Theater Arts in California
- College Factual, 2020

No. 20
Drama school for an M.F.A. in Acting
- The Hollywood Reporter, 2018

No. 28
Best Colleges for Performing Arts in America
- Niche 2019 Best Colleges
CTSA delivers a superb developmental experience, combining superlative artistic training with a top-ranked liberal arts education. It is home to the departments of Art, Dance, Drama, and Music, in addition to a program in Arts and Humanities.

Undergraduate and graduate degree courses include extensive studio, workshop and performance experiences; theoretical and historical studies; and arts and technology practices. Our Drama Department has a Top 10 Ph.D. program in the country, run jointly with UC San Diego.

CTSA’s Contemporary Arts Center provides 59,000 square feet of technology-driven instructional & research spaces including a multimedia performance space, a motion capture studio, and the Meyer Sound Studio.

Enrollment (fall 2021)
Undergraduates 870
Graduate 133
Total 1,003

Applications (fall 2021)
Freshman/Transfers 3,630
Graduate 470
Total 4,100

Degrees Awarded (Sept. 2021)
Bachelor of Arts 230
Bachelor of Fine Arts 58
Master of Fine Arts 41
PhD. 2
Total 331

Tuition & Fees (2021-2022)
Undergraduate
California residents $15,738
Nonresidents $45,492
Graduates
California residents $18,037
Nonresidents $33,139

Claire Trevor School of the Arts is home to the New Swan Shakespeare Festival, the only Shakespeare festival in Orange County that brings whimsical, intimate productions in a moveable mini-Elizabethan theater to the campus each summer. Students enrolled in CTSA drama programs work alongside professional actors and production managers to gain a one-of-a-kind career experience.