

Dear Incoming Drama Majors,

We are excited that you have chosen UCI's Department of Drama for your undergraduate education! Established in 1965, this Department of Excellence maintains a strong commitment to conservatory-style practical training combined with the comprehensive education offered by a Research One university. Our alumni go on to represent us in a variety of arenas, distinguishing themselves on Broadway, in national tours, in films and television productions, as designers, performers, managers, and story tellers.

Your time here offers a chance to learn, create, and share your discoveries. I recommend that you embrace every opportunity, and co-design a college experience that speaks to your individual needs, enthusiasms, and development. I encourage you to attend the Mega Auditions (Monday, September 19 to Wednesday, September 21) for the Main Stage season. In addition to these performing opportunities, you may choose to be involved in "Director Classroom Projects" (smaller productions which are student-directed), as well as improv groups, and/or classroom acting companies. If you don't find a project that speaks to you, you may choose to explore the different drama clubs which include Black Door Theatre Company, Brown Bag Theatre Company, Brick Theatre Company, and Theatre Woks.

We look forward to learning about you and are committed to ensuring that each student feels heard and understood. As we are facing challenging and uncertain times, it is of utmost importance to us that everyone has a seat at the table, and a voice in the community conversation. The practice of creative exploration often inspires emotional responses in artists and audiences alike, and we strive to ensure that students are provided with the necessary tools to work through transformative experiences in an inclusive and supportive environment. Creating and maintaining this open and brave space is the work of all of us: faculty, students, and staff.

The best way to keep informed and updated on all Drama Department activities is to check the drama callboard (located next to the Cyber Café) and the UCI Drama website at <https://drama.arts.uci.edu>. If you want an overview of the current drama season, check out last spring's drama townhall meeting which is posted on the drama website. In this town hall meeting, all the show directors are introduced and share their vision for each production. If you have any questions, please contact the drama department office at (949) 824-6614.



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On behalf of the dedicated faculty and staff colleagues, I welcome you to UCI Drama community, and look forward to embarking on this journey together. You are part of a lineage of artists and thinkers who are creating a richer, exciting, and more inclusive worldview. I look forward to getting to know each of you.

Sincerely,



Don Hill Chair,
Department of Drama



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