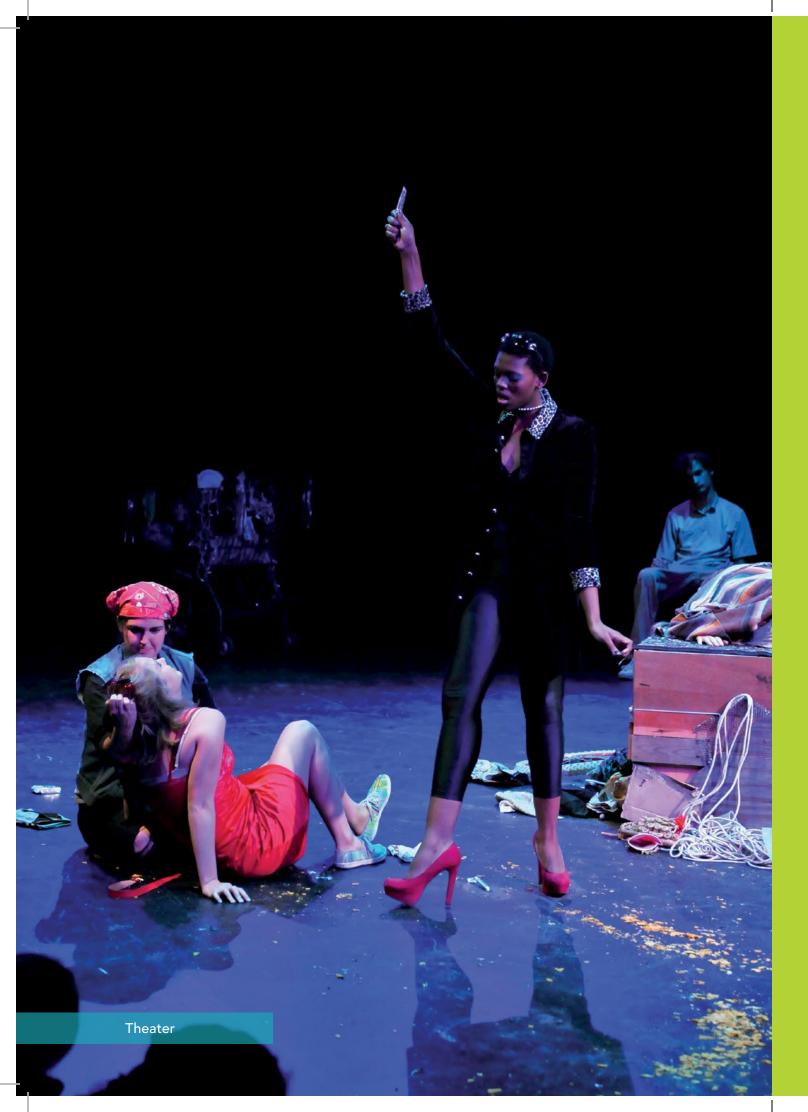


California State Summer School
Arts Foundation
Annual Report 2016–2017







# Note from Executive Director Heidi Kershaw

This year, the California State Summer School for the Arts (CSSSA) Director, Michael Fields, and I frequently discussed the concept that the life of an artist is a life devoted to courage. Artists are charged with evoking from others the hard-to-reach emotions that are often times buried. To take on this responsibility, they must welcome emotions within themselves. They must be open to taking risks, to failing, to allowing themselves to grow and learning from their experiences. It is through this process that true creativity is inspired and artists are born.

CSSSA's focus on process provides young artists with the foundation to be lifelong creatives. We hear from our alum that it is transformative, accepting, and a place where many have "met their tribe." The methods that students learn at CSSSA are applicable across the board in other facets of their lives because the ability to self-inspire is a forever skill.

It is an honor and a pleasure to lead the California State Summer School Arts Foundation (CSSSAF) in the efforts to support and sustain CSSSA by providing critical funding and alumni programs. Empowering young artists and setting them on a pathway to attain lifelong artistic fulfillment is a unique position and one that I take very seriously. Thanks to my incredibly hard-working staff, visionary board, and inspired alum, together we are able to courageously drive our mission forward.

Heidi Kershaw

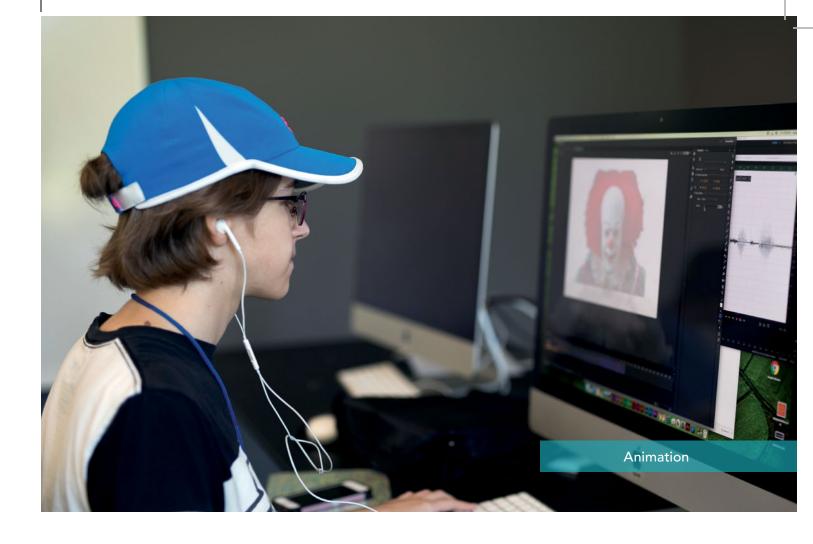
### WHO WE ARE

The California State Summer School for the Arts (CSSSA) is a cutting-edge and immersive four-week program for talented and motivated high school students in the arts, held on the California Institute of the Arts campus each summer. The school provides education in seven artistic disciplines: Animation, Creative Writing, Dance, Film, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts. CSSSA is an agency of the State of California, founded through enabling legislation in 1986.

The CSSSA Foundation was incorporated alongside the school as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit to raise a diverse array of private sector funds and ensure no qualified student is denied access to the program due to financial circumstances. The Foundation is committed to supporting students at CSSSA and in their pursuits after the program. CSSSA and the CSSSA Foundation have worked together for the past 31 years to train more than 16,000 artists from all 58 counties in California, as well as students from across the country and around the world.

# CSSSA's objectives are threefold:

- To enable artistically gifted students, broadly reflective of the state's diversity, to receive intensive pre-college multidisciplinary arts training
- To strengthen California's creative economy by training the next generation of artists and arts professionals
- To foster long-term organizational stability through a model public/private partnership



### WHAT WE DO

To ensure that all students have equal access to CSSSA and to equip alumni for long-term success, the CSSSA Foundation facilitates the following programs:

### Low-Income Scholarship Fund:

The Foundation guarantees that any admitted student who qualifies for a low-income scholarship will receive financial aid accordingly.

# Outreach and Diversity Initiatives:

One of our critical objectives is to ensure equitable access for all students. We work with schools and community programs throughout the state, with focus on underserved areas, to encourage talented students to apply for CSSSA.

### **Guest Artist Residencies:**

Every year, cutting-edge guest artists lead master classes and workshops at CSSSA, challenging students to engage with unfamiliar perspectives and influence their communities through their art.

### **Bridge to College:**

The Foundation administers college scholarship support to CSSSA students, provides college resources, and develops and maintains partnerships with arts colleges and universities.

#### Alumni Network:

To help foster alumni connections and continue the sense of community students find at CSSSA, the Foundation facilitates alumni networking opportunities.

### **Endowment:**

The Foundation maintains and develops a permanent endowment fund for the School in order to create a lasting legacy of support.

CSSSA FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2016–17 5

"The arts are a vital part of the culture and life of this country and are essential to a complete education. Decades of research and experience show that a high-quality arts education may play an important part in achieving a range of educational objectives, including graduating students who are college or workforce ready."

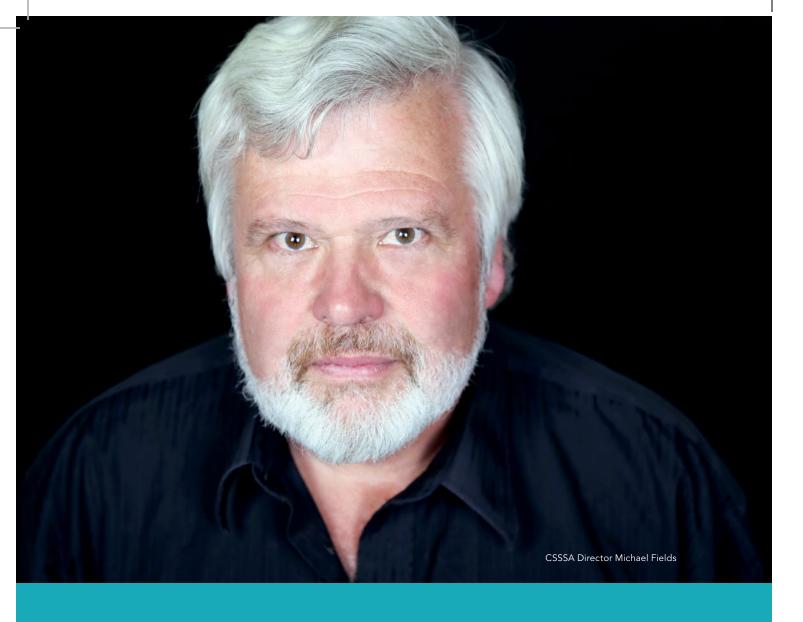
— 2017 OTIS REPORT ON THE CREATIVE ECON

# WHY IT MATTERS

The arts are a crucial piece of California's economy, and arts education plays a significant role in students' development and positive educational outcomes. CSSSA and the CSSSA Foundation are committed to ensuring that all students have equal access to CSSSA, to giving young artists an incomparable training experience, and to equipping alumni for educational and career success.

- California's creative industries generated \$406.5 billion and 1.6 million jobs in 2015 (Otis Report)
- Only 26% of California students have access to all 4 arts disciplines (Music, Theater, Dance, Visual Arts) required by California's education code (Arts Education Data Project)
- 1 in 8 of all private wage and salary jobs in Los Angeles County in 2015 were in the creative industries (Otis Report)
- Nobel Laureates are significantly more likely to engage in arts and crafts hobbies than the overall population (Journal of Psychology of Science and Technology)





"It is said that creativity is the mastery of skills and information put in the service of dreams. CSSSA is a singular chance to dream big. CSSSA is a professional training program taught by professional, working artists. CSSSA is an experience that is intended to wake and shake you up, provoke you to wonder, to see new vistas, offer new visions, new questions, new imaginings for this art and in your lives."

- MICHAEL FIELDS, EXCERPTED FROM CSSSA OPENING DAY, 2017

## **2016-2017 YEAR IN REVIEW**

### THE CSSSA EXPERIENCE

Every summer for the past 31 years, highly talented, passionate students from all over the state of California have come together to experience the power and possibility of CSSSA, held on the California Institute of the Arts campus in Valencia. Whether they become practicing artists, join the entertainment industry, or work in business, arts nonprofits, or other areas, CSSSA students are creative thinkers, well prepared for the competitive workplace of the 21st century.

### **OUR 2017 STUDENTS**

- CSSSA artists represented 51 out of 58 counties in California
- —21 out-of-state students came from 10 states and 9 countries
- 149 students received full or partial CSSSA tuition scholarships
- 23 students were awarded partial college scholarships ranging from \$2,500 to \$40,000

### **2017 STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS**



# **30 YEARS OF SUCCESS**

Every year since 1987, Professor David M. Harrington has surveyed students at the conclusion of the CSSSA program. 2017 session data will be released next year. CSSSA students in 2016 completed the CSSSA Student Opinionnaire on CSSSA's 30th summer program with the following results:

# STUDENT REPORT RESULTS

99%
reported that they wo

reported that they would Definitely (83%) or Probably (16%) recommend CSSSA to a qualified friend next year

92% described the overall program as Excellent (59%)

or Very Good (33%)

87%
reported that attending
CSSSA increased their
knowledge of themselves
as people

96% orted that CSSSA helpe

reported that CSSSA helped them think about their educations and careers

89%
reported that attending CSSSA increased the pleasure they derived from their artistic work

86%
reported increased ability
to think of new and creative
artistic ideas

94% reported that they became aware of

new perspectives at CSSSA

87%
reported that their technical artistic skills improved

82% reported an increased tendency to take their artistic work seriously





### **CSSSA FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS**

We moved — online and in real life! The CSSSA Foundation office is now located in Playa Vista, on the westside of Los Angeles, in a hub of entertainment and technology headquarters. We also launched our new website, which includes streamlined resources for college applicants and alumni.

### **Fund Development**

- \$184,625 awarded in scholarships for California students to attend CSSSA in 2017
- \$45,172 provided in support for guest artists
- \$320,000 provided for college scholarships and support via the Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarships for Emerging Young Artists

### **New Individual Donors**

- 33 new individual donors, a 94% increase from 2015
- 55% of donors are alumni or parents

### **New Foundation Donors**

- Californians Dedicated to Education Foundation (Support for Low-Income Scholarships)
- Dwight Stuart Youth Fund (Pledged support for a Los Angeles-based Regional Outreach Coordinator)
- Crescent Porter Hale Foundation (Support for General Operating)

The CSSSA Foundation's permanent endowment enjoyed steady growth, ensuring access and equity for California students to attend CSSSA for years to come.

#### Giving Tuesda

On November 29, 2016, the CSSSA Foundation participated in the global day of giving with its first-ever Giving Tuesday campaign. The campaign reached out to the CSSSA community on Facebook, Twitter, and via email. To raise awareness and drive fundraising, the Foundation created short clips of CSSSA student animation from that summer's session and posted them throughout the day to incentivize giving. CSSSA Director Michael Fields even added a special message to the final video.

### Results

- \$15.378 raised
- Facebook likes increased by 51%
- 43% of donors were first-time donors

The CSSSA
Foundation achieved
137% of its
fundraising goal
for FY2017

# **OUTREACH**

The CSSSA Foundation started a Diversity and Outreach Fund to support new Regional Outreach Coordinators. During the 2017 application season, the CSSSA Foundation deployed these Coordinators to underrepresented sectors of California to raise awareness of CSSSA. The Coordinators spent months working with schools and students in underserved areas to guide them and encourage them through the application process.

Coordinators in the Bay Area and the Central Valley led application and audition workshops with interested students and educators. The Foundation also conducted outreach visits to Los Angeles County schools and programs.

++ Recruited at 26 high schools and California College
Track locations ++ Led "How to Audition in Front of a
Camera" workshops to help applicants with the audition
portion of the application ++ Developed printed collateral
materials in English and Spanish for applicants and
educators ++ CSSSA received the most applications in
its history, increasing by 12% from 2016 ++ Bay Area
applications increased by 22% ++ 36% of Central Valley
students were accepted, higher than the state average
++ Students from 39 different counties received CSSSA
tuition scholarships

CSSSA FOUNDATION



# THE GUEST ARTIST PROGRAM

The Guest Artist Program brings professional, cutting-edge artists to the school from around the world for residencies, master classes, and discussions with the students. The 2017 session included guest artists from Zimbabwe, Puerto Rico, and Denmark.

Guest Artists are integrated into CSSSA's overarching curriculum and are expected to take advantage of the interdisciplinary environment of the school, demonstrating for students how genre and discipline boundaries can be crossed to create provocative work.

In honor of Rob Jaffe, the beloved CSSSA Director, a special fund was created to support Guest Artists in perpetuity. The Rob Jaffe Memorial Fund helps ensure that this unique program continues to bring today's most innovative and accomplished artists to CSSSA. This year, the Foundation received many gifts in memory of Evelyn Jaffe, mother of Rob and longtime CSSSA supporter. We are honored to be able to remember Rob, Evelyn, and the incredible legacy of the entire Jaffe family through our Guest Artist Program.

The guest artist experience in one word:

fantastic
home rewarding
reuniting positive
stoked humbling
heartwarming fulfilling
moving

# **2017 GUEST ARTISTS**

Animation

Amy Lockhart Miwa Matreyek Clyde Petersen

Gary Schwartz

**Creative Writing** 

Brian Evenson Emma Kemp Douglas Kearney Jay Lizo

Kristen Tracy

Interdisciplinary

Sonja Bruzauskas

Music

Sam Adams David Arnay Kevin Fitz-Gerald Nicole Mitchell David Powell

Dance

Gregory Dawson/ dawsondancesf

Theater

Sue Hamilton Kaneza Schaal Dell'Arte

**Visual Arts** 

Teresa Cole Fabian Debora Jamillah James

Marit Benthe Norheim

and Claus Orntoft

Debra Scacco

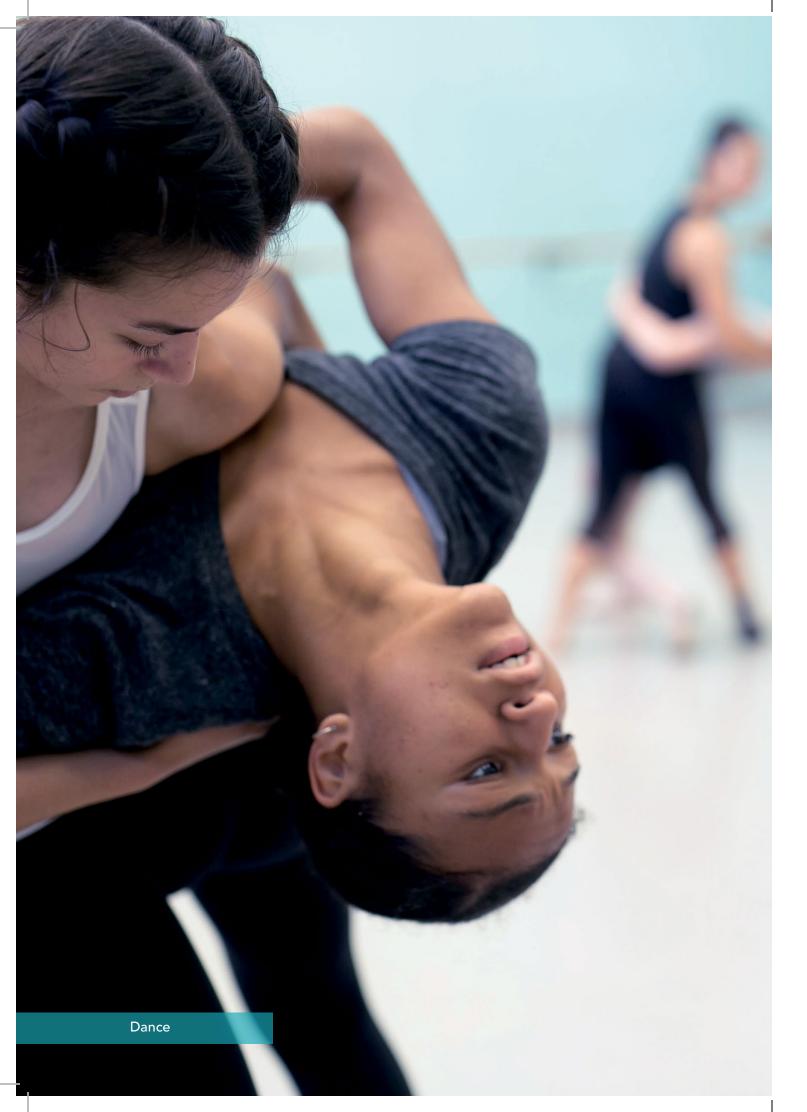
Film

Andrew Ahn Jenee LaMarque Carl McLaughlin Jose Santos Angel Williams

"My favorite moment of being at CSSSA was the moment when the students saw the fruit of their work as a whole — unified into one installation, but still with respect to each personal expression in the exhibition space. A result that they clearly did not expect."

— MARIT BENTHE NORHEIM





### CSSSA FOUNDATION BRIDGE TO COLLEGE

The Bridge to College initiative of the CSSSA Foundation provides support for CSSSA alumni as they navigate the path to college via scholarships, one-on-one financial aid and college counseling, and access to effective application strategies. With the generous support of our foundation partners and private donors, we look to extend the CSSSA experience into a lifetime of meaningful engagement.

### 2016-17 Program Highlights

- Our new membership in the National Association for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC) provides up-to-date tools and resources for college applicants
- Our new certified college counselor works one-on-one with scholarship winners
- We participated with 36 schools and organizations in the 2017 CSSSA College Fair

The CSSSA Foundation currently partners with the following institutions across the country in offering substantial, multi-year, renewable scholarships to select CSSSA alumni.

# **COLLEGE PARTNERS**

Art Center College of Design





**BENNINGTON COLLEGE** 











**CALARTS** 





# HERB ALPERT FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EMERGING YOUNG ARTISTS

The CSSSA Foundation is proud to be the exclusive partner of the Herb Alpert Foundation Scholarships for Emerging Young Artists, a major funding program for college-level artists. Each year, 21 CSSSA students receive awards ranging from a one-time scholarship of \$2,500 to a four-year scholarship totaling \$40,000. The Herb Alpert EYA scholars are able to use these funds to cover tuition and educational expenses at any accredited college or university they choose to attend. The students are also supported with a financial aid counselor and online resources to maximize the use of funds at their college of choice.



Aidan Samp (top); Cohan Lin (bottom)

# Emerging Young Artist Spotlight Aidan Samp, Music

"My time at CSSSA was an unforgettable and eyeopening experience. I was able to learn and play new and interesting kinds of music and collaborate with likeminded musicians in and out of class...The teachers I had were inspiring in their passion, creativity and inclusiveness. My time at CSSSA solidified my drive to study music in college, and helped me look at music in different ways. I am forever grateful for everything CSSSA is and stands for."

# Emerging Young Artist Spotlight Cohan Lin, Animation

"Through the resources provided by CSSSA and the imagination and experience of my teachers and peers, I learned more about myself than I have ever found elsewhere. I realized a hunger to pursue filmmaking that I have never felt before... This program was a turning point in my life and gave me the spark I needed to pursue an art education and career with everything I have."

### MEL SWOPE PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

CSSSA has awarded the Mel Swope Performing Arts Scholarship since 2014. This \$10,000 college scholarship honors Mel Swope, a Founding Director Emeritus of the CSSSA Foundation Board. It is presented annually to one outstanding Music, Theater, or Dance student at CSSSA who demonstrates excellence in the Performing Arts.

# CAL PRITNER THEATER SCHOLARSHIP

The Cal Pritner Theater Scholarship has been awarded since 2014 and honors the legacy of longtime Theater faculty member Cal Pritner, who brought his love of Shakespeare to CSSSA Theater students for nearly 20 years. This \$10,000 college scholarship is awarded to one exemplary Theater student each year.

# 2017 Mel Swope Performing Arts Scholarship Recipient

### **Aurora Gooch**

"Every social and structural aspect, every instructor, every exercise was impactful and smart. I learned mountains about humanity, self-love (with growth and constructive criticism in mind), humility, the limits to my physical and mental strength; and of course, how to be a good actor. I am endlessly in debt to this program, its brilliant instructors and what it gave me. Receiving [this] scholarship made me realize I have the potential to pursue this art, which I can say confidently is the most important thing that could have happened to me as I step into adulthood. To put it simply, CSSSA is the best."

# 2017 Cal Pritner Theater Scholarship Recipient

### **Erick Valenzuela**

"To me CSSSA was an eye-opening opportunity to what becoming an actor truly means. Within the four weeks I was there I was able to get a taste of the different ways an actor can prepare themselves for their craft. At CSSSA, I learned different techniques that I can utilize to be able to bring a character to life. Furthermore, CSSSA taught me lessons that will serve me on a daily basis to be successful in life."



Aurora Gooch (left); Erick Valenzuela (right)

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### **ALUMNI IN THE ARTS**

Over 16,000 students have attended CSSSA in its 31 years. We are proud to celebrate their successes and share their accomplishments.

### **Max Vernon**

# Creative Writing, 2003

wrote the book, music, and lyrics for *The View UpStairs*, an off-Broadway musical that premiered in February. "The music makes you want to hear more from Vernon."

— Los Angeles Times

### Larisa Bryski

### Music, 1987

launched Girls Rock
Sacramento, a weeklong
summer program that
helps girls build self-esteem
through music education,
collaboration, empowerment, and a community of
peers and mentors.

### **David Merino**

### Theater, 2012

made his professional debut in the 20th anniversary tour of the musical *Rent*, in which he starred as Angel. "This is his first professional show, but he'll go far."

### — Chicago Tribune

### **Erick Debono**

### Dance, 2014

is currently pursuing a
BFA in Dance at Adelphi
University, where he recently
had the opportunity to
share his choreography at
the American College Dance
Association. "It was moving
to hear that I touched people
with my work," he said.

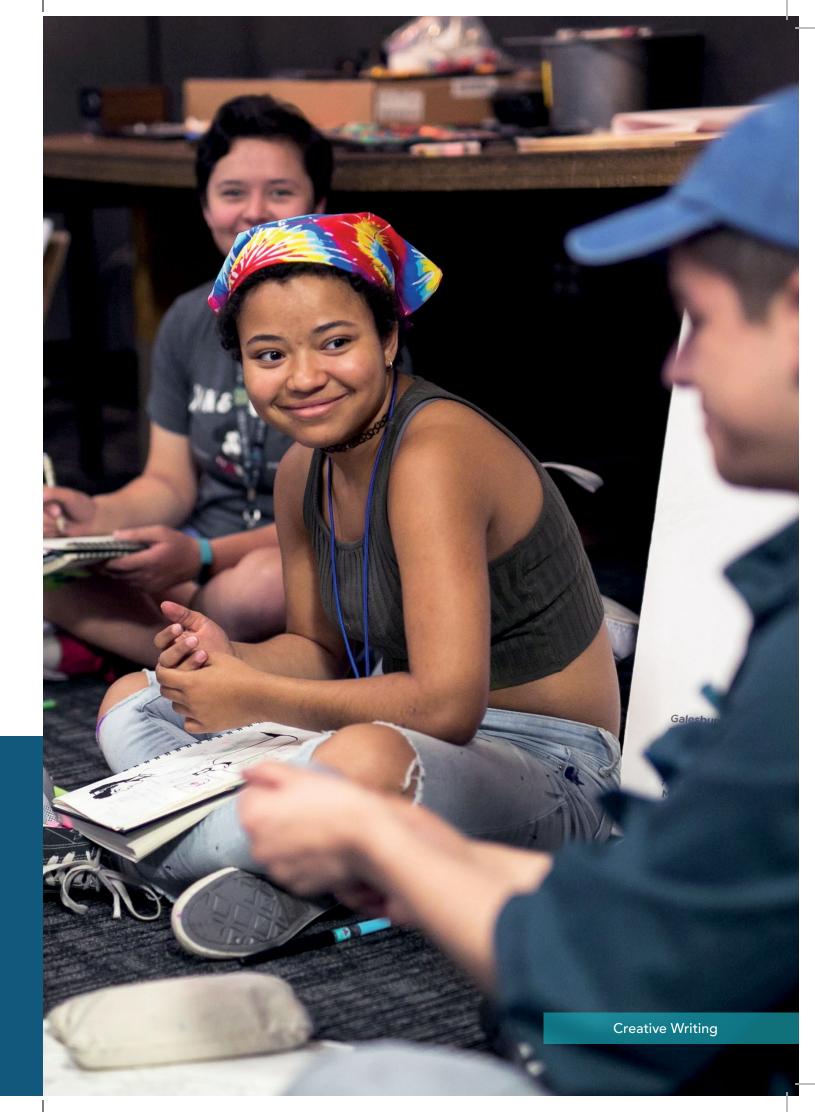
# **Morgan Parker**

# Creative Writing, 2005

released her second book, There Are Things More Beautiful Than Beyoncé, a collection of original poetry critically acclaimed in Time's "Best Paperbacks of 2017."

"There are many well-known artists who have gone to CSSSA, but for every name you know, there are literally thousands of CSSSA grads who make a life in this art and put art into their lives. They talk about CSSSA as the place where it started for real, where they understood what is truly possible."

— MICHAEL FIELDS



### **CSSSA LEADERSHIP**

The California State Summer School for the Arts is a state agency governed by the Board of Trustees, appointed by the Governor, State Legislature, State Board of Education, California Arts Council, State University Board of Trustees, Regents of the University of California, and the California State Summer School Arts Foundation. The CSSSA Foundation Board of Directors, appointed by the CSSSA Board of Trustees, governs the Foundation. Several CSSSA Trustees also serve as Foundation Directors. CSSSA recently created an Advisory Board to serve as ambassadors for the organization.

### **CSSSA Board of Trustees**

Melissa Draper, *Chair*Lucy Larson, *Vice Chair*Phoebe Beasley
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Adrienne Go Lilia Gonzales-Chavez Diane Levine Janice Pober Vicki Reynolds Laura Romero Martha Ryan

Niki Sandoval
Teri Schwartz
Margita Thompson
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# CSSSA Foundation Board of Directors

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## WELCOMING NEW TRUSTEES



**Laura C. Romero**, Ph.D. currently serves as founding President & CEO of her consulting firm, Brillante Strategies, where she advises organizations on education, mentoring, public-private partnerships, government & community relations, and strategic planning.

Prior to Brillante Strategies, Laura C. Romero worked at Los Angeles Universal Preschool focusing on corporate relations. She spent 10 years at UCLA, including in the Office of Government & Community Relations, the Higher Education Research Institute's Cooperative Institutional Research Program, and the Extramural Programs and Opportunities Center.

Before UCLA, Laura worked as Acting Director of Public Affairs at Univision Los Angeles and National Mentoring Coordinator of the award-winning Communities In Schools, Inc./Univision Mentoring Initiative. She received her bachelor, master and doctoral degrees from UCLA, and was appointed to the CSSSA Board of Trustees by the California Senate Rules Committee in July 2017.



**Teri Schwartz** is the Dean of the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television (UCLA TFT), where she has launched an exciting new vision and long-range strategic plan that re-imagines entertainment and performing arts education as an interdisciplinary enterprise grounded in humanistic storytelling, social impact, technology and innovation, and global diversity.

Dean Schwartz created a program for new scholarships to give access and opportunity to the most talented and diverse array of students from around the world. She also launched the Skoll Center for Social Impact. Her passion to cultivate talent in meaningful ways is a driving force in her work.

Prior to joining UCLA TFT, Dean Schwartz served from 2003 to 2009 as the founding dean of the Loyola Marymount University School of Film and Television. She is an award-winning feature film producer whose works have garnered nominations for Academy, Golden Globe, Emmy, Grammy, MTV, and CLIO awards. She is the 2015 recipient of the CayFilm Cayman International Film Festival's inaugural award for Outstanding Achievement in Film Producing. She received the 2013 American Spirit Award from the Caucus for Producers, Writers & Directors for her Special Achievement in Educating New Filmmakers, and she was honored as Variety's 2012 Media Mentor of the Year. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Master's in Film from the University of London. She was appointed to the CSSSA Board of Trustees by the UC Regents in July 2017.

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### WELCOMING NEW FOUNDATION DIRECTORS



Mike Cannone is a Senior Portfolio Manager at Westmount Asset Management. He has over 16 years of experience in the financial services and investment management industry. Prior to joining Westmount, he served as Assistant Vice President at Bernstein Global Wealth Management in Los Angeles, CA, where he advised high-net-worth individuals and families, small-to-medium-size businesses, and nonprofit groups on a wide range of financial planning and investment matters. Prior to Bernstein, Mike worked in the Fund Financial Services division of Vanguard in Philadelphia, PA.

He earned a BSBA from Georgetown University, majoring in both Finance and Business Management. Mike received his MBA from The Anderson School of Management at UCLA, with a focus in Finance and International Studies.

Mike is a board member of Venice Arts and the Founder and former President of the Emerging Leaders Board of Covenant House California. Both organizations serve disadvantaged children in Los Angeles. He is also an active member of both the Georgetown University and the UCLA - Anderson School of Management alumni networks in Los Angeles.



**Chris Heijnen** is a partner at Parrasch Heijnen Gallery, a contemporary art gallery in Los Angeles, which he founded with Franklin Parrasch in 2016. The gallery offers innovative exhibitions and a robust schedule of new and emerging artists contributing to the growing landscape of art in Los Angeles. Chris previously was the liaison in Los Angeles for Parrasch's New York gallery.

Chris served as the Cambodia and Vietnam Country Director for a U.S.-based student travel company, and he was also an ArtsBridge Scholar, teaching arts and creative education in low-performing Sacramento city schools.

He received his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Davis and a Master of Fine Arts from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University.



Josh Love is an associate at the law firm Reed Smith, where he represents the interests of songwriters, producers, and artists — from baby bands to superstar acts, as well as record labels, music publishers, and global media companies. Josh is particularly interested in the intersection of art and technology, as well as in emerging talent and creative trends in the Pop and Electronic genres. He regularly lectures on these topics at the UCLA Extension Music Business program, and at various conferences around the world.

Josh received his undergraduate education at Indiana University, graduating with distinction with degrees in Political Science and Communication & Culture. He pursued his legal education at the University of Southern California, focusing his studies on entertainment law and business transactions.



**Steve Nissen** is Senior Vice President of Legal & Government Affairs at NBCUniversal, one of the world's largest media companies. He is current Board Chair of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, and past Chair of FilmLA, Central City Association and L.A. BioMed. He also serves on the Board of the L.A. Police Foundation and Metro YMCA.

Prior to joining NBCUniversal, Nissen worked in the private sector as a partner in the national law firm of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, public sector as CEO of the California State Bar and Staff Director/senior adviser with Governor Gray Davis, and nonprofit sector as President of Public Counsel Law Center, which he built into the largest pro bono law firm in the United States.

Mr. Nissen received his undergraduate degree from Stanford University and his law degree from U.C. Berkeley at the Boalt Hall School of Law. His wife, Lynn Alvarez, consults for charitable foundations. The oldest of their three sons attended CSSSA in 2013.

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# SCHOOL AND FOUNDATION STAFF

### **CSSSA 2017 Department Chairs**

Melissa Bouwman — Animation
Hilary Darling — Creative Writing
Sylvia Palmer — Dance
Frederick Thornton — Film
Jose Soto — Music
BJ Dodge — Theater
Shari Bond — Visual Arts

Rob Jaffe Joan Newberg

### **CSSSA Staff**

Michael Fields, *Director*Katrina Dolenga, *Deputy Director*Michele Cobarrubio Garcia, *Creative Program Engineer*Ricci Hidalgo, *Administrative Coordinator* 

### **CSSSA Foundation Staff**

Heidi Kershaw, Executive Director Emily Nye, Development and Communications Manager Juliana Zovak, Grants Manager

# THANK YOU TO OUR FOUNDERS FOR CREATING A ONE-OF-A-KIND LEGACY IN ARTS EDUCATION

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Donna Miller Casey
Susan Dolgen
Hon. John Garamendi
Wendy Howard Goldberg
Stanley Grinstein
Janice Pober
Alan Sieroty
Mel Swope
Roselyne Swig
Gayle Surabian

"I love CSSSA because I see the difference it makes in so many lives, and how it changes lives, enriches lives, and gives people hope."

— WENDY HOWARD GOLDBERG

### **FISCAL YEAR 2017 FUNDERS AND DONORS**

We are grateful to all our generous supporters who make our programs possible.

The CSSSA Foundation especially thanks the Herb Alpert Foundation for their multi-year commitment to provide over \$300,000 each year for college scholarships in each artistic discipline.



### **GOVERNMENT AND FOUNDATION PARTNERS**





















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Kurt Peterson

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