

Summer 6-6-2014

Expressions, Summer 2014 Mailer

San Jose State University, College of the Humanities and the Arts

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Recommended Citation

San Jose State University, College of the Humanities and the Arts. "Expressions, Summer 2014 Mailer" *Expressions (College of Humanities and the Arts)* (2014).

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SJSU | COLLEGE OF
HUMANITIES AND THE ARTS

EXPRESSIONS

Summer Newsletter 2014



SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY



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EXPRESSIONS

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2014

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IT'S A

DEAN'S LIFE

For the past two years, I have been privileged to call San José State University's College of Humanities and the Arts home. The tremendous opportunities for humanities and arts collaboration lured me away from California State University, Long Beach, and I have never looked back.

In the College of Humanities and the Arts, we offer unique educational opportunities that include high-quality majors, intense general education sequences in Humanities Honors and American Studies, study abroad programs, and internships. Our professors are wholly committed teacher-scholars whose creative and scholarly activity nourishes their work with students. In the last year alone, our faculty published more than fifteen books, performed and exhibited the world over, directed plays on and off

campus, and all the while pushed our students to succeed.

Our College sponsors more than 350 concerts, performances, and exhibits annually. Moreover, the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies, the Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies, the Center for Literary Arts, the Center for Comparative Philosophy, and the Center on Ethics also contribute to the intellectual and cultural life of the university and the surrounding community.

Our priorities for the College are simple: we aim to enhance support for our students and our programs, improve the visibility of Humanities and the Arts, and raise our profile as a community of educators committed to preparing global citizens. Our Senior Director of Development,

KATHLEEN BRADY, has worked diligently to advance those priorities with supporters who include alumni and friends of the College.

To continue to work toward these strategic goals, we have identified four areas of support that we ask our friends and donors to consider:

1. **Global Humanities and Arts**
2. **Dean's Leadership Circle**
3. **Humanities and Arts Excellence**
4. **Student Success and Scholarships**

As with all of our newsletters, this edition of *Expressions* has been created in collaboration with our Student Communications and Marketing Team. *Expressions* highlights the talents of our students, faculty, and staff and the generosity of donors who have made many of our accomplishments possible. To stay

abreast of our happenings, please see the last page of this publication to learn how to receive our e-version of *Expressions* during the academic year.

Thank you for being among those who have stepped forward to support humanities and arts education at SJSU. With your continued help, our students will be part of the most highly educated and globally knowledgeable generation ever to walk the planet. Your support makes their—and our—success possible.

Gratefully yours,

Dean, College of Humanities and the Arts



Photo Credit: Carlin Truong

▲ Choraliers European Tour



▲ Russian Camera Obscura Dress Tent by Professor Robin Lasser



▲ Professor Yasue Yanai



▲ Professor Pablo Furman

GLOBAL HUMANITIES AND ARTS

The College of Humanities and the Arts is committed to preparing today's students to be tomorrow's entrepreneurs, educators, leaders, problem solvers, and creators. With generous donor support, the College funded twelve innovative Global Humanities and Arts projects in 2013-14.

This initiative promotes interdisciplinary, integrated teaching and learning focused on global cultures past and present. The grant supported our Choraliers European Tour, which took 30 SJSU music majors to England and France for packed public performances. Professor **YASUE YANAI** (World Languages and Literatures) trained her colleagues in the use of Collaborative Online International Learning, a technology-assisted project that connects students across the globe. The School of Music and Dance sponsored a contemporary music concert featuring Associate Dean **WILLIAM STREET** and Professor **PABLO FURMAN**. We also supported Professor **ROBIN LASSER**'s international photography project.

A workshop on "Teaching Iran in a Global Context" and an exhibit of Spanish art titled "Singular Spaces" also were made possible by the grant.

These are among the twelve projects that impacted more than 2,000 students this year thanks to Susan, Edward, and Kerstin Johnson's generous three-year pledge. Susan (BA '68, English) and daughter Kerstin (MA '08, Education) are stalwart supporters of SJSU, and the entire Johnson family is deeply committed to education. Longer-term investment in global engagement initiatives also comes from generous college supporter Bill McGee, whose family has deep ties with our College. With the Johnsons, McGees, and others who support our goal to educate compassionate, informed global citizens, we hope to make **Global Humanities and Arts** a permanent part of the College's educational mission.



POWERING THE ARTS THROUGH THE DEAN'S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the publication of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, and the College of Humanities and the Arts has become a cultural powerhouse for celebrations of this iconic American novel.

Spring 2014 saw the performance of Frank Galati's stage adaptation of the novel in the University Theatre, a performance of Ricky Ian Gordon's opera based on the Steinbeck classic, a book talk by faculty author Susan Shillinglaw, a reception in the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies, and an exhibit of book jackets of the novel selected

from worldwide publications of *Grapes*. SJSU students and faculty participated in a read-a-thon of the entire novel as well.

These events were made possible by supporters of the College and the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies. The *Grapes of Wrath* collaborative initiative touched more than 1,500 people, exposing students and community members alike to Steinbeck's lessons about empathy, migration, prejudice, and poverty.

As a Dean, it is vitally important to have discretionary funds that provide seed money to encourage development and execution of such important and impactful collaborations. I am grateful to those who contributed to the **DEAN'S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE** in the past two years.



▲ *The Grapes of Wrath* opera, SJSU



▲ *The Grapes of Wrath* opera, SJSU



◀ *The Grapes of Wrath* opera (far left)
The Grapes of Wrath play (middle and right)





Photo Credits: Bunny Torres

HUMANITIES AND ARTS EXCELLENCE TAKES US TO THE GRAMMYS

Professor **AARON LINGTON** brought worldwide attention to the School of Music and Dance this past January when his band, Pacific Mambo Orchestra, won a Grammy for Best Tropical Album. Beating out renowned Latin artists Marc Anthony and Carlos Vives, Pacific Mambo Orchestra was the come-from-behind winner as the only independent entry in the category.

Our Jazz Studies Bachelor of Music program offers students an opportunity to develop their skills as performers and composers. Students also get to play with some of the best jazz artists in the Bay Area. Throughout the School of Music and Dance, faculty work diligently

with students to provide a high-quality arts experience in a university setting. Just as we are proud to have a Grammy winner in the College, so we also are tremendously proud of our students' accomplishments and continually are seeking additional funds for student scholarships to recruit top-notch, deserving students into the visual and performing arts as well as into our humanities programs.

By supporting our drive to build an **endowment for Humanities and Arts Excellence**, alumni and friends can make it possible for students to reach for the stars and dream of someday winning a Grammy—or Tony, Obie, Oscar, or Pulitzer—themselves!



▲ Professor Aaron Lington and his award-winning Pacific Mambo Orchestra album (top)



STUDENT SUCCESS

All of our majors offer high-touch, hands-on instruction. Our faculty and staff work hard to ensure that students have the very best experience possible within and outside the classroom. Some of our unique programs that go the extra mile to create opportunities for students to succeed at SJSU include:

- **Animation/Illustration:** Our Animation/Illustration program in the Department of Design is #10 in the West, according to Animation Career Review.
- **English and Humanities Programs ROI:** Affordable Colleges Online declared our English and Humanities programs #8 in the country for return on investment (ROI).
- **Humanities Honors:** The Humanities Honors program provides a unique opportunity for students to study general education courses in cohort. This fall we are adding a third year program for transfer students.



▲ Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*

- **Simple Limb Initiative:** Industrial Design students have designed prosthetic limbs that can be created in-country for victims of landmines worldwide. Read more at www.simplelimb.com.
- **Spartan Film Studios:** This unique film program gives students the chance to create shorts and feature-length films from start to finish.
- **Steinbeck Award:** On September 10, **KHALED HOSSEINI**, author of *The Kite Runner*, will receive the Steinbeck Award. Past award winners, who speak with students and the community, include Bruce Springsteen, Ken Burns, and Rachel Maddow.



◀ Spartan Film Studios: on the set of summer film *Space Nuns*



▲ Animation/Illustration feet study



▶ Illustrations by Lauren Jensen featured in Animation/Illustration BFA 2014 Show at Works gallery



▲ Simple Limb Initiative: below knee prosthesis designed by Daniela Aviña (left) and Brad Trumbo (right)



▼ Industrial Designers: Manuel Perez, Corey Higham, Ryan Donida, Daniela Aviña, Trevor Kinoshita, Mario Quehl





▲ **Stretch English**

- **Stretch English:** This new version of freshman composition gives students the opportunity to take charge of their writing development and study with the same instructor and peers for a year so they can become better college-level writers.
- **Student Communications and Marketing Team:** Our promotional materials, including this publication, are created by a student internship team that includes students majoring throughout the College.

HOW WILL YOU DEVELOP YOUR WRITING SKILLS AT SJSU?

ways to Satisfy GE Area A2, Writing



◀ **Student Communications and Marketing Team:** Natalie Panchenko, Lucy Yamakawa Cox, Jennifer San Filippo, Jessica Weiller, Justin Walker, Aditya Shah, Duy Nguyen, Kelsey Sutherland, Jesus Hernandez, Maxwell Gregory (not pictured)

▼ **Scholarship Reception:** Samantha Crain, Professor Bonnie Cox

To flesh out our commitment to experiential learning and student success, the College of Humanities and the Arts has two important priorities:

- **Scholarships:** Create a study-abroad scholarship endowment so all students seeking to study abroad can apply for financial support from the College.
- **Success Center and Internship Lab:** Build a Student Success Center and Internship Lab to serve students seeking advising, career counseling, and internships.

These and other priorities provide naming opportunities for donors who would like to help us continue to prioritize student success by endowing **student scholarships** and a fund for **Humanities and Arts Excellence**.



▼ **Scholarship Reception:** Jonathan Hsu, Donn Burch, Andrew Hill



PLEASE
JOIN US

for our Third Annual Student Showcase!

Humanities & Arts

October 10, 2014

1-4pm
Student Union Ballroom

Free and open to the public.
Light snacks will be served.

Showcase

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

To learn more about the College and how you can support our educational efforts, please contact:

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To make a gift in support of the College of Humanities and the Arts, you can give securely online:

www.sjsu.edu/giving/support/colleges/coha

You also can make checks payable to the "Tower Foundation of SJSU" and mail to **KATHLEEN BRADY**, Senior Director of Development, San José State University, One Washington Square, San José, CA 95192-0257.

To receive our *Expressions* e-newsletter during the academic year, send an e-mail with your contact information to humanities-arts@sjsu.edu or visit blogs.sjsu.edu/humanities-arts and click "subscribe."

UPCOMING EVENTS

See more events at sjsu.edu/humanitiesandarts/Calendar

* Free tickets available for SJSU Students at the Associated Students Office.



SEP

15 MON
Nancy Morejón
Cuban Poetry Reading

17 WED
John Sampen & Co.

19-21
The 48 Hour Play Festival

25 THU
Dr. K. Adduci Faculty Recital

OCT

3 FRI
Wuthering Heights

7 TUE
Jazz Orchestra

9 THU
Wind Ensemble

10 FRI
H&A Student Showcase
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Student Union Ballroom

15 WED
Symphony Orchestra

16 THU
Symphonic Band
Maggie Nelson
Literary Reading

17 FRI
Spirits & Demons
Choir Concert
Campbell United
Methodist

22 WED
Music Major for a Day
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

24 FRI
David Shields
Literary Reading

29 WED
Tracy K. Smith
Literary Reading

NOV

1 SAT
UDT "In the Rough"
2:30 pm & 7:00 pm

5 WED
Saxophone Ensemble
Writer William
Gordon Talk

6 THU
Saxophone Ensemble

7 FRI
Percussion Ensemble

12 WED
Ru Freeman
Literary Reading

14 FRI
Collegium Concert

14-15 & 18-22
Marat/Sade

18 TUE
Jazz Combo

19 WED
International Week:
Lunch Time Talk Series

20 THU
Brass Ensemble

21 FRI
Concerto Competition
3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Marion Cilker
Arts Conference

22 SAT
sjDANCEco's
Choreo Project
2:30 pm & 7:00 pm

24 MON
Men's & Women's
Glee Clubs Concert

25 TUE
Jazz Combo

DEC

1 MON
Jazz Big Band

3 WED
Latin Jazz Ensemble
Steinbeck Fellows
Literary Reading

4 THU
Wind Ensemble

5 FRI
Symphony Orchestra
Kaucher-Mitchell
Storytelling Event
University Theatre

6 SAT
Home for the
Holidays Choir Concert
Mission Santa Clara

7 SUN
Images in Dance
2:30 pm

8 MON
Symphonic Band

9 TUE
Voice Fundamentals
Recital Concert Free

10 WED
Jazz Orchestra
Choreography II
Final Projects
WSQ 204

12 FRI
Opera Workshop

18 THU
SJSU Film Festival
Camera 3 Cinemas

FEB

13 FRI
sjDANCEco's Presents

14 SAT
sjDANCEco's Presents

23-28
Cinequest Film Festival

26 THU
Prof. Chianakas
& Friends
Donation Only

27 FRI
sjDANCEco
Choreo Project

28 SAT
sjDANCEco
Choreo Project
2:30 pm

MAR

1-8
Cinequest
Film Festival

2 MON
Dr. M. Adduci
Faculty Recital

9 MON
Jazz Orchestra

9-15
Foreign Language Week

12 THU
Wind Ensemble

14 SAT
Choir & Orchestra
Mozart's Requiem Concert

18 WED
Latin Jazz Ensemble

19 THU
Symphonic Band

20 FRI
Percussion Ensemble

APR

2 THU
Guitar Ensemble

4 SAT
Clarinet Studio
Recital
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Music Room 150

9 THU
Saxophone Ensemble

17 FRI
Opera Theater
Performance
San José Women's Club

18 SAT
Opera Theater
Performance
San José Women's Club

19 SUN
Opera Theater
Performance
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
San José Woman's Club

21 TUE
MEWE Concert

22 WED
Jazz Combo

24 FRI
Wind Ensemble at
Honors Convocation
Event Center

28 TUE
Brass Ensemble

29 WED
Jazz Combo

MAY

1 FRI
Portfolio Concert

2 SAT
Choir Faure's
Requiem Concert
St. Joseph's
Cathedral

4 MON
Men's & Women's
Glee Clubs Concert

5 TUE
Symphony Orchestra

6 WED
Jazz Combo

7 THU
Wind Ensemble

8 FRI
Collegium Concert

9 SAT
Student Concert
2:30 pm & 7:00 pm

11 MON
Symphonic Band

12 TUE
Jazz Orchestra

13 WED
Latin Jazz Ensemble

21 THU
SJSU Student
Film Festival
Camera 3 Cinemas

Music
All concerts begin at 7:30 pm in the Music Concert Hall unless indicated otherwise. The Listening Hour is every Tues. and Thurs., 12:30-1:15 pm, in the Music Concert Hall.

Dance
All performances begin at 7:00 pm in Concert Hall unless indicated otherwise.

Television-Radio-Film/Theatre Arts
All performances begin at 7:00 pm in the Hal Todd Studio Theatre unless indicated otherwise.

Humanities & Arts
Please see website for more event details.

SJSU

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