



College of Fine Arts Alumni Chapter

President's Message by Stacy Swim '98

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Upcoming UNLV Fine Arts Alumni & Friends Mixers: (all times Pacific)

[Fine Arts Careers - Virtual Mixer II](#) - Feb. 25 - 2-5 pm

Rebels At Lunch Concert - Mar. 31 - Noon

Los Angeles: Virtual Mixer - April 25, 2021 - 5 pm

Rebels, Raise A Glass II: Pre-Theatre Mixer - Fall

Welcome to the Spring 2021 College of Fine Arts Alumni Newsletter!

We hope you had a safe and relaxing holiday season. If you have lost family members or friends due to Covid-19, please know our thoughts, prayers and love are with you.



As we are in the midst of unprecedented times, last semester looked different for us. We held our first Zoom *Rebels Raise A Glass! Happy Hour* in November! It was a success with alums from all over the United States and one international alum saying they had fun chatting, drinking, relaxing, answering trivia questions and winning three Target gift cards and UNLV merchandise! Once we can go back to in-person events, we will work on incorporating an online portion.

This semester will still look different for us. First, we will be expanding our [What's Next In Your Arts Career?](#) event. In the past this event was for current CFA students to have one-on-one time with CFA alums and local industry professionals. This semester we are opening this event up to all CFA alums to network as the pandemic has hit our industry hard. We will still invite current students, so that they have a chance to ask questions and network as well. This will take place via Zoom on *Thursday, February 25th* from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. PST, so you will be receiving an email invite soon.

We are hoping to bring you *Rebels At Lunch*, our collaboration with the School of Music to give the students a chance to perform in a relaxed setting, online this semester. As we will not be able to provide lunch, we will be randomly raffling off 3 \$10 Subway gift cards! Save the date of Wednesday, March 31st at Noon and watch for more information.

We will be bringing you an online question and answer event with the director of Nevada Conservatory Theatre's *Little Shop of Horrors* in the Fall. After the Q&A portion, we will turn the event into our *Rebels Raise A Glass! Happy Hour*. Details are still to be arranged, so be on the lookout for that invite!

Lastly, I would like to welcome three new Board members that joined us for the next two years: Heather Harper (Dance '08), Robert Hersh (Architecture '09 & '11) and Anthony Marentic (Music '95 & '00). Thank you so much for joining us! Thank you all for taking the time to read our newsletter and supporting your fellow CFA alums, the College of Fine Arts, the UNLV Alumni Association, and UNLV!

With Rebel Pride, Stacy Swim '98 Theatre

To Our Alumni: A Letter from Fine Arts Dean Nancy J. Uscher

Dear College of Fine Arts Alumni Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to welcome our community back for the Spring 2021 semester! It is a very unusual time in our world. Many of us have been deeply affected by the terrible losses of family and friends from the devastation of the pandemic. Our country is on the cusp of a leadership transition and a new administration in Washington, D.C. We are concerned about safety, both regarding Covid-19 and the recent violence in our nation's capital. Yet there is the hope of vaccination and of life gradually returning to a new normal over the next year, or perhaps a bit longer. The values of social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusivity are foremost on our minds as educators and citizens of UNLV and the global community.

The College of Fine Arts has much to celebrate as we begin spring semester. We have new partnerships, exciting performances, productions and exhibitions, research forums, visiting artist projects and all kinds of events taking place over the next few months. We are introducing the second season of [#UNLV Arts Worldwide](#) over the college's YouTube channel in February. As always, we continue to think innovatively and boldly about artmaking and how to provide a stellar and distinctive education for our students. We have just launched a *Maverick Ideas Fund* for the college. Our Hall of Fame will take place on April 13th and will include many special and deserving honorees.

Much of our work this semester will take place as it did in the fall, with a mix of on-line and in-person instruction in classes, laboratories, and studios. It is likely that our May 2021 graduation, like the fall, will take place remotely, still observing the guidance of our public health professionals.

While the transition to a fully vibrant campus life experience will take time, the arts will continue to bring us together. Our role and responsibility in connecting UNLV to community is enormous and joyous. Right alongside athletics and other kinds of engagement, the College of Fine Arts and our activities are a critical "front door" for the university. The college is an engine of creativity for UNLV. I could not be prouder to be Dean of this amazing college. Thank you for all that you do! Yes, there will be challenges, and there always are, but together we can truly make an imprint on society. We can enhance lives and make a huge and profound difference in how people see possibility in the world.



The four major pillars of the Fine Arts Strategic Plan:

1) **Research in the Arts**, with the consideration of *four themes*:

Social Justice and the Arts - Diversity and Inclusion - Intersectionality - Catalyzing Change - Youth Engagement

Human and Environmental Health - Work-Life Balance - Injury Prevention - Adaptive Aging - Embracing Sustainability

Impact and Innovation - Experience Design - New Modes of Creativity - Social Media Influences

Art as Industry - Evolving Business Models - Entrepreneurialism - Capital Investment - Digital Networking and Distribution - Public Relations and Communications Strategies

2) **Governance**

3) **Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity**

4) **Careers in the Arts, focusing on how we help students design their lives as part of their education at UNLV**

Our five-year Strategic Plan is a living, breathing document created by a team consisting of dozens of CFA faculty and staff from all eight of our academic and administrative units. The plan chronicles our progress as well as mapping out hundreds of specific directives outlined by this group.

The College of Fine Arts, a creative nexus anchored within the vibrant and diverse culture of Las Vegas, boldly launches visionaries who transform the global community through collaboration, scholarship and innovation.

UNLV Fine Arts and Las Vegas Philharmonic Form Partnership

Despite the roadblocks against large-scale live performances, the Las Vegas Philharmonic has been extremely active during the Covid-19 pandemic. Employing web tools plus audio and video recordings, the Philharmonic has maintained patron access to recorded music performances, artist interviews, articles, and chamber music programs via their *LV Phil At Home* on demand programs. Throughout their history, the UNLV College of Fine Arts has played a critical role in the orchestra's development, hosting the LVP's first twelve performance seasons and providing principal musician support with dozens of UNLV faculty and student instrumentalists. 2021 brings the announcement of a new bond between UNLV Fine Arts and the Las Vegas Philharmonic.

The Jeri S. and Richard T. Crawford UNLV College of Fine Arts/Las Vegas Philharmonic Partnership is a collaboration that will support the following: a Doctor of Musical Arts Graduate Assistantship; paid student internships; support for the Classical Music Festival in Austria; and support for the Dean's Leadership Circle. This partnership will bring UNLV School of Music students increased opportunities to become a part of Nevada's most accomplished orchestra, as well as provide them tremendous new avenues for learning and professional development. Support for the Dean's Leadership Circle will give Dean Uscher much needed ability to enhance initiatives to benefit both School of Music students and their faculty.

According to Dean Uscher, "The UNLV College of Fine Arts and the School of Music are thrilled to participate over the next five years in a historic partnership with the Las Vegas Philharmonic. This project will greatly benefit UNLV students and pave the way for an exciting collaboration between these two educational and cultural organizations. Moreover, I believe this rich and mutually beneficial alliance may well serve as a powerful 21st century model for other cities looking to enrich the lives of their citizens."

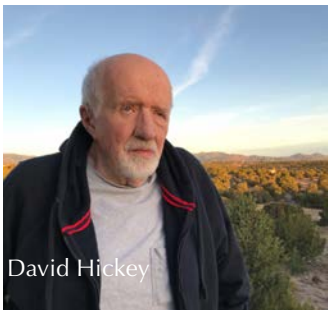
Las Vegas Philharmonic Board of Trustees Chair Jeri Crawford remarked, "With several of our esteemed musicians on faculty at UNLV's College of Fine Arts, the orchestra is primed to play a pivotal and enriching role in the future of the school's music programs through funding student scholarships and internships, real-world mentoring, performance opportunities, and so much more."

Las Vegas Philharmonic Music Director and Principal Conductor Donato Cabrera with the musicians of the Las Vegas Philharmonic



CFA Hall of Fame Adds Hollywood Icon Ann-Margaret to 2021 Roster

The College of Fine Arts is proud to announce the addition of Hollywood legend **Ann-Margaret** to the 2020-21 Fine Arts Hall of Fame class. Born in Sweden (as Ann-Margaret Olsson) she went on to star in more than 80 Hollywood films and television shows and was twice nominated for an Oscar (*Carnal Knowledge*, *Tommy*). She appeared in such classic titles as *Bye Bye Birdie*, *State Fair*, *Viva Las Vegas*, *The Cincinnati Kid*, *Any Given Sunday*, *Newsies*, and *Grumpy Old Men*. This year's Hall of Fame class also includes 2019 and 2020 UNLV Fine Arts Alumnus of the Year winners **Giovanna Sardelli** (Theatre '87) and **Atsushi "Sush" Machida** (Art '02). While the scheduled 2020 Fine Arts Hall of Fame Induction was canceled due to the pandemic, the College of Fine Arts hopes to gain permission to hold an outdoor ceremony (Valerie Pida Plaza) on **April 13, 2021**, with limited-attendance and social distancing. Check back with the [Fine Arts Hall of Fame website](#) for updates.



David Hickey



Brian Newman



Candy Schneider



Carrot Top



Justin Favela



Giovanna Sardelli



Sush Machida



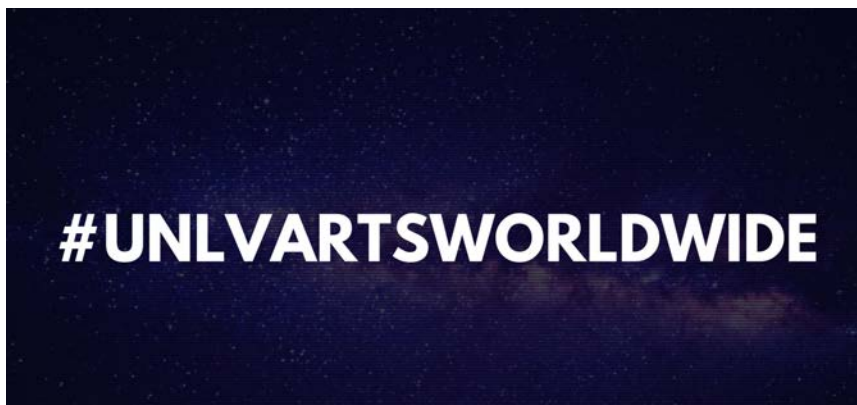
Mac King

Most Spring '20 Live UNLV Fine Arts Events To Remain Online

As the nation considers how to schedule public events and reopen venues for Fall 2021, UNLV and the Nevada System of Higher Education have opted to remain on the side of caution. Health advisories pertaining to the [Covid-19 Pandemic](#) indicate that events with large audiences will, most likely, remain impractical until Phase 4 of re-opening the University, City, and State. Many public theatrical and music venues have considered the limit for audience capacity to be a maximum of between 15%-25%. From a financial standpoint, this reality will likely render it impractical, or impossible to present events which rely on ticket revenue. While it may prove possible for certain events to be presented online, other events traditionally featured on our season calendars will necessarily be postponed until the State of Nevada announces Re-opening Phase 4 for NSHE agencies.

#UNLV Arts Worldwide Season One Archive Available - 22 Episodes

In the wake of the almost universal Spring 2020 pandemic closures, the College of Fine Arts launched an ambitious virtual outreach initiative based on its Strategic Planning. #UNLVArtsWorldwide premiered via the College of Fine Arts' YouTube Channel on April 13th, 2020 and quickly became an excellent vehicle for maintaining our means of connecting with the public and promoting the value of the arts. As you can see from looking at the titles, in addition to dozens of featured performances, the twenty-two episodes of #UNLVArtsWorldwide covered all kinds of subject matter related to the arts. If you want to learn how many areas of our lives the arts touch, just check out this very broad list of episode titles, covering everything from business and research to health and social change. The best news? Even as Season Two is preparing to debut, every episode of Season One is still available for viewing at https://www.youtube.com/c/UNLVCollegeofFineArts?sub_confirmation=1



Episode 1 - **Art as Meaning**

Episode 2 - **Beauty as Meaning**

Episode 3 - **Health and Wellness**

Episode 4 - **Innovation, Creativity, and Meaning**

Episode 5 - **Collaboration**

Episode 6 - **Global and International Meaning Part I**

Episode 7 - **Global and International Meaning Part II**

Episode 8 - **Risk**

Episode 9 - **Art as Conversation**

Episode 10 - **Art as a Response to Social Change**

Episode 11 - **The Language of Performance**

Episode 12 - **The Business of the Arts**

Episode 13 - **Art and Interdisciplinary Knowledge**

Episode 14 - **Art and Global Research**

Episode 15 - **Online Learning for the 21st Century**

Episode 16 - **International Alumni Spotlight**

Episode 17 - **Paving the Way for the Future: A Season of Change**

Episode 18 - **UNLV Jazz and Commercial Music**

Episode 19 - **Artist Spotlight: Tim Bavington**

Episode 20 - **Mary Anne Carter - National Endowment for the Arts**

Episode 21 - **Spotlight: Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art**

Episode 22 - **21st Century Careers for Artists and Architects: A Toolkit for the Future**

Barrick Museum of Art to feature 7 different exhibitions as of February 1

Large undertakings are nothing new for Executive Director **Alisha Kerlin** and the hard-working staff at the [UNLV Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art](#). You might think that the median days of the Covid-19 pandemic would not lead to uber-ambitious exhibitions in a space where viewings are limited to very small pre-reserved parties. Well, that supposition wouldn't be correct, so, as they say, "not so fast!"

At present, the Barrick Museum is showing a total of seven different exhibitions by eight artists - perhaps the most diverse group of artists the Barrick has assembled to date. That's right! Eight artists now on display through March 19th, with the 2/1/21 opening of UNLV Art faculty **Tiffany Lin's** *Proof*, an interactive installation which is also a part of the *Womxn of Color Arts Festival*.

Additional featured exhibitions are: **Chase McCurdy's** *Threads in Time*; **Gig Dipio's** *Rebuilders*; **Kyla Hansen + Krystal Ramirez's** *This is the Place; This Must Be the Place!*; **Brent Holmes' Behold A Pale Horse**; **Lance Smith's** *In the Interest of Action*; and the **Gulch Collective's** *Future Relics*. The Barrick Museum staff has literally jammed great art into every conceivable corner of their four primary spaces (the East, West, Center, and Workshop Galleries). So, be sure to visit the Barrick this Spring. Don't miss this truly grand art assemblage! Here's [the free reservations link](#) to schedule your next visit.



Graphic Design and Media's *Bloom* Capstone Project Exhibition

16 graduating seniors in the UNLV Graphic Design and Media program and their faculty were faced with a real dilemma in the Fall: *how to get their work in front of the public during a rising pandemic?* In normal times the group would be presenting their capstone projects to a group of 250 industry professionals. This time around, pandemic conditions wouldn't permit that. Galleries and museum spaces weren't available for showcasing. So, rather ingeniously, they came up with an alternative. Why not use the glass lobby walls of the Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall as display windows? As a result, their projects were enlarged and affixed, and an outdoor gallery visible to all passers by was created! Here are some of the views from *The Flashlight*.



Above: The Capstone Exhibition, December 2020

College of Fine Arts Fun Facts

Updated - list of top **College of Fine Arts** alumni majors:

- 1) Art (includes Graphic Design)
- 2) Architecture (includes Landscape and Interior Architecture)
- 3) Music
- 4) Film
- 5) Theatre
- 6) Dance
- 7) Entertainment Engineering & Design

NCT, UNLV Dance & PAC all announce Spring '21 Seasons

The three largest live events presenting units in the College of Fine Arts are delighted to announce public performance mini-seasons during the Spring 2021 semester. All of the following presentations will be of a virtual nature, either produced as live stream events and filmed and edited, or live with limited audience capacities. Some events will be free for public viewing online and others will require tickets and/or registration to view. Access details will be made available through the [UNLV Performing Arts Center](#) Internet site and the [UNLV Dance](#) and [NCT](#) sites.

Department of Dance: A Season of Change

Now is the Time

Friday, February 26th at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 27th at 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 27th at 7:30 p.m.

Judy Bayley Theatre

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Thursday, April 22 to Saturday, April 24th at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 25th at 2:30 p.m.

Alta Ham Fine Arts Dance Studio One

Last Dance

Friday, May 7

Nevada Conservatory Theatre

***The Human Comedy* by Thom Babies (World Premiere)**

February 20-27

Filmed and Streaming

bobrauschenbergamerica

Based on the script by Charles L. Mee

March 12-28

Filmed and Streaming

Little Shop of Horrors

Book and lyrics by Howard Ashman

Music by Alan Menken

Postponed until Fall 2021

Performing Arts Center - Live from the UNLV PAC

Ricardo Cobo (a *Conversation*) - February 5 - 6 p.m.

Michael Root (DMA Concert) - February 8 - 5:30 p.m.

Ricardo Cobo, Guitar (a *Live Benefit Concert*) - February 12 - 7:30 p.m.

Xiangsheng "Johnson" Qu, Piano - February 19 - 7:30 p.m.

Coco Layne Rigbye, Songstress, *Live from the PAC* - April 2 - 7:30 p.m.

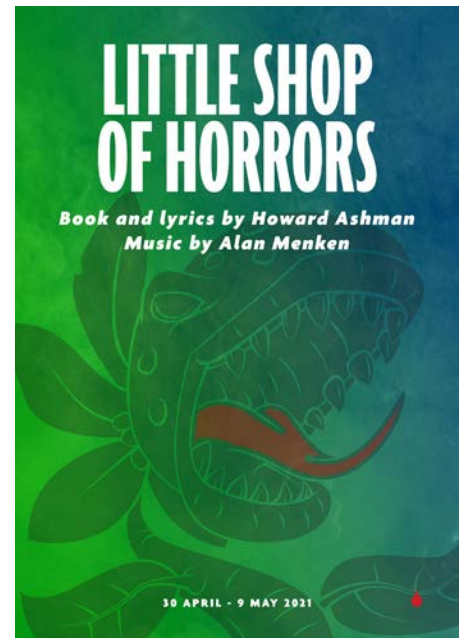
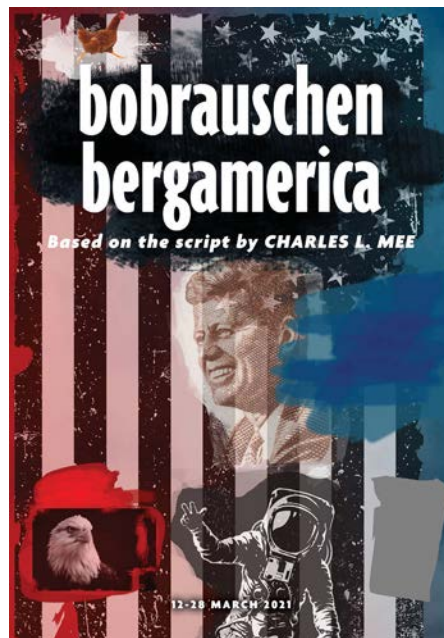
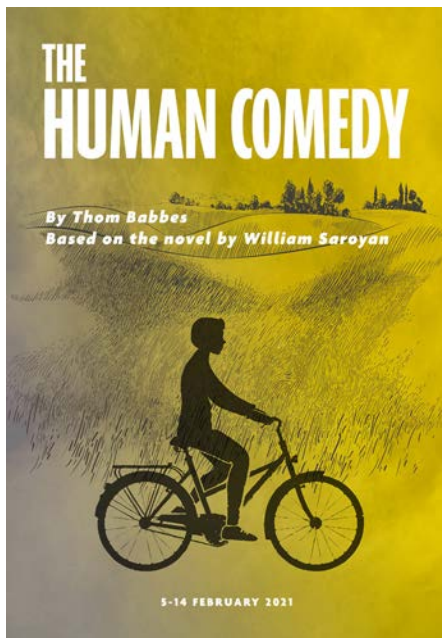
UNLV Honors Jazz Trio - April 16 - 7:30 p.m.

Kyle Khembunjong, Guitar - April 30 - 7:30 p.m.

Now Is The Time (Feb. 26/27)

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow (April 22-25)

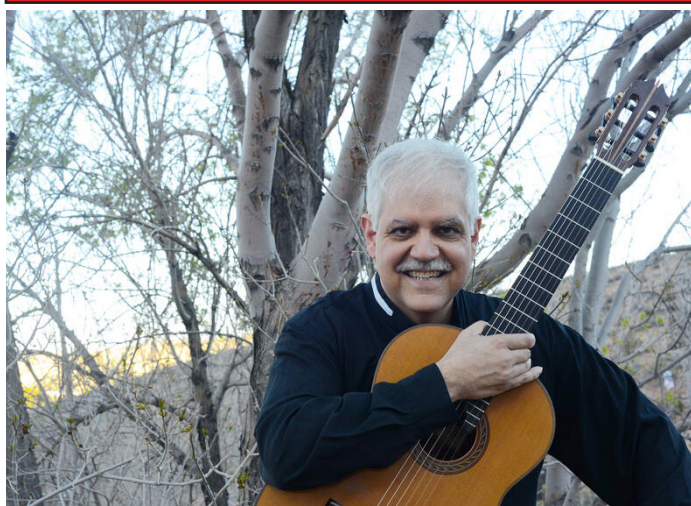
Last Dance (May 7)



Feb. 20-27

March 12-28

Fall 2021



Ricardo Cobo (Feb. 5 & 12)

Coco Lane Rigbye (April 2)

UNLV Career Services Promotes “Handshake” Job Search Platform

In this time of profound unemployment and business uncertainty, our newest graduates and our alumni need the best tools and support in order to determine their next (and in many cases, first) career moves. UNLV’s Office of Career Services is pushing forward with their new online service that will supercharge the process of bringing our Alumni, Juniors and Seniors together with a universe of eager employers.

Handshake is a high-level online career exploration and recruiting platform already in use at some of America’s top colleges and universities (Stanford University, Carnegie Mellon University, Morehouse College, Michigan State University). Handshake successfully connects hundreds of national employers with educated employment seekers. Here is a description of Handshake, and how you will be able to access this great new UNLV Career Services tool:

“More than ever before, job searching is moving online. In today’s marketplace, it’s necessary to have the best tools available. That’s why UNLV is rolling out [Handshake](#), one of the leading online employment portals on the web (no actual handshakes required!).”

Employers seeking to hire UNLV talent have been registering in Handshake since last June. You can get access through the link below. For more information about Handshake or how you can benefit from it, please contact careerservices@unlv.edu.

Handshake is here. It’s a new app is a game-changing vehicle for all UNLV grads. Please read this excellent [article](#) from the [UNLV News Center](#) on how [UNLV Career Services](#) can help our alumni during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Handshake

X

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UNLV GRADS ARE

 **REBELS FOREVER**

UNLV.edu/RebelsForever



Welcome to

Handshake

*It Just Got Easier for **Rebels** to Get Hired*

Step 1: Activate Your Student Account

Getting set up on Handshake as a student is easy! Our system will automatically upload your student information to initially set up your student account. Once your student information is uploaded to the system, you will receive a notification via an email to your RebelMail account.

Step 2: Complete Your Profile

Having a complete and accurate student profile is essential to be able to effectively use Handshake. As you fill out your profile fields, you'll see your completion percentage increase. Most services on Handshake require at least a 75% completion rate.

Step 3: Discover Jobs

Handshake is the largest database for employers looking to hire college students. More than 500 positions are posted to the site every week representing part-time jobs, full-time employment, internships, and more from a wide variety of industries, disciplines, and fields. If you're looking for a job, your first stop should always be Handshake.

Step 4: Request an Appointment

All Career Services appointments will now be booked directly through Handshake. Appointments can be requested for resume/cover letter assistance, job search support, mock interviewing, general career development questions, and more. When you request an appointment, please provide details on what services you would like to cover.

- From the Handshake front page, click on "Career Center."
- Follow the prompts for to book your appointment.
- In most cases, you'll have the option to speak to someone in-person, by phone, or by Google Meet.

FAQs

1. Do I need to create a student account? No! Please do not complete the process to sign up for a new student account. By uploading your student data directly into the Handshake system, it eliminates the need for supplemental registration.

2. What will I use this system for? Handshake is your one-stop-shop for everything related to career development, career programming, your job search, and more.

- Booking appointments with career services professionals
- Viewing programming available for you to develop your career knowledge
- Accessing the programming available for your job search, like career fairs, on-campus interviews, and more

3. What other benefits are available? Handshake has a network of thousands of schools, tens of thousands of employers, and millions of students and alumni. These active users are posting information about the companies for which they worked, and allow for networking and for you to ask questions directly to employers and employees!

For more information about Handshake or general questions, please contact Career Services at careerservices@unlv.edu

UNLV | CAREER SERVICES

REBELS FOREVER

Robert Hersh ('09 & '11): UNLV Medical Education Building Architect

Through the decades, our campus has long benefited from the work of our incredibly talented Architecture alumni. Dozens of them continue to work at any number of local firms. Several campus projects, such as the Student Union, Hospitality Hall, the Harter Classroom Building Complex, and Bigelow Health Sciences were designed here in Las Vegas by firms such as KGA, Carpenter-Seller-Del Gatto, and many others who have laudably hired multiple UNLV grads. As a result, the design work of numerous UNLV alumni is visible on the campus. Not the least among these great local architectural firms is Tate Snyder Kimsey (TSK).

TSK were the project architects for our Student Union, the UNLV School of Medicine Shadow Lane clinic renovations, and now the School of Medicine's exciting new Medical Education Building. Currently under construction, this exciting facility is planned (in terms of sustainability) to achieve a LEED Silver designation. UNLV Architecture alums **Mike Purtill**, **Mili Turnbull**, **Hugo Garcia**, **Dara Wachowiak**, and **George Babaktis** have all worked on this transformational project. The project architect for the building is Fine Arts Alumni Board member **Robert (R.J.) Hersh**, a 2009 and 2011 graduate of the UNLV SoA. Recently, R.J. shared with us some of the exciting features of this important new building, the UNLV School of Medicine's first new facility:

"The Medical Education Building represents a new era for medicine in the Las Vegas Valley. The building is a 125,000 g.s.f. five-story building organized around strong circulation spines which help to connect students to the exterior and orient them to location in the building, and the major building functions: Training, Learning, Community and Service. This "superfloor" of training spaces is unique in medical education and will serve to distinguish the UNLV School of Medicine. The P-shaped superfloor is envisioned to be a concrete podium supporting the 4-story tower above and the massing of the building is oriented to maximize daylight and minimize direct solar gains with the integration of deep overhangs, brise soleil, and strategic glazing placement. These panels also evoke the windswept sculpting of the walls at nearby Red Rock Canyon." Wow! Fantastic work, R.J. and team.



Virtual Southern Nevada Career Fair: March 10-12, 2021

UNLV Career Services Spring 2021 Southern Nevada Virtual Career Fair will be held over three days in a segmented “one-stop” format. The SNCF will follow a collaborative model, which allows for both alumni and current students to fully participate. The first day, Wednesday, March 10, will be Community Impact Day (nonprofits, government and education entities). The second day, Thursday, March 11, will touch on “All Industries.” The final day, Friday, March 12, will cover all STEM-related employers and organizations. All three days of the virtual fair will begin at 11:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m.

This year’s virtual job fair will host dozens of businesses seeking part time, full time and internship positions, as well as new career opportunities. If you are looking to hire please contact Alejandro Chacon, UNLV Career Services for assistance in registering your company or organization for the Career Fair. Employers will have the opportunity to meet with students and Alumni in group and one-on-one sessions.

All alumni and students are welcome to participate, and should bring along their resumes and “dress for success.” [Registration](#) for alumni and students will open February 22, 2021, and you can register using UNLV’s “Handshake” platform. If you have any questions concerning the job fair, please email Alejandro at alejandro.chacon@unlv.edu.

Virtual
Spring 2021

  **SOUTHERN NEVADA**
  **CAREER FAIR**

The Virtual Career Fair will be
held over three days:
March 10: Community Impact Day
March 11: All Industries
March 12: STEM Day

To learn more and register, visit
linktr.ee/SNCFSpring2021

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SERVICES

 **REBELS
FOREVER**

UNLV Dance Performs Outdoor Concert During Pandemic

In October, the students and faculty of the UNLV Department of Dance performed in an outstanding virtual concert, *Forward Motion*. Obviously, audiences for that full-length event were viewing online via the UNLV Dance YouTube Channel. However, it was their fervent desire to also extend their performance to a live audience. Thus, plans for an October 13th in-person, double-viewing outdoor performance began.

Entitled *Icarus*, the two late-morning shows were presented on the Performing Arts Center steps and surrounding the Lee Pascal Rose Garden, Northernmost end of the East Mall. Health protocols were in effect and dancers, faculty, staff and audience members wore protective masks and maintained social distance. The atmosphere was typical gorgeous Las Vegas fall weather in a campus setting. Members of the campus community and delighted guests all seemed quite relieved to be in an outdoor setting, and in the proximity of others. Following the event, Dance Chair Louis Kavouras and cast members were interviewed by the local media.

Following the performances UNLV dancers posed with a logo banner for the State of Nevada's music video "Home Means Nevada," which was commissioned as a replacement the annual Nevada Statehood Day Parade in Carson City on October 31st.



AIA Las Vegas and UNLV SoA Plan Free Architecture Lecture Series

The UNLV School of Architecture's longstanding tradition offering lecture presentations by national and international figures from the world of Architecture continues this Spring. With assistance from AIA Las Vegas, the SoA will present an impressive series of four virtual lectures featuring top-flight professionals who are transforming building throughout the world. Each lecture is free and open to students, faculty, UNLV alumni and the general public via an online registration process (see *links below*).

FREE ARCHITECTURE LECTURE SERIES — SPRING 2021

The AIA Nevada Chapter and [AIA Las Vegas Chapter](#), together with the UNLV School of Architecture, cordially invite you to participate in four online lectures by internationally leading design firms. Each online lecture will be via Zoom with a 50-minute presentation, followed by Q/A session. The focus of the lecture series is on **Civic Places — Public Buildings and Infrastructure**. Internationally recognized design firms will present recent award winning public buildings and civic spaces, and explore for us the questions: *What is the role of public space in times when the civic becomes increasingly privatized? What is the notion of the "public" today? How are typologies, like the library or museum, changing? What does it mean to design public space and buildings in a post-pandemic world?*

Snøhetta Speaker: **Michelle Delk**, Partner, Snøhetta New York, www.snohetta.com **Friday, February 26th**, from **1pm to 2:30pm** - [Registration link](#)



Zaha Hadid Architects Speaker: **Ludovico Lombardi**, ZHA London, www.zaha-hadid.com **Friday, March 26th**, from **1pm to 2:30pm** - [Registration link](#)



Renzo Piano Building Workshop Speaker: **Daniel Hammerman**, RPBW New York, www.rpbw.com **Friday, April 16th**, from **1pm to 2:30pm** - [Registration link](#)



Transsolar Speaker: **Prof. Thomas Auer**, Transsolar Munich / TUM, www.transsolar.com **Friday, April 23rd**, from **1pm to 2:30pm** - [Registration link](#)



Moderation: The series is curated by Dr. Steffen Lehmann, Assoc. AIA, UNLV Professor of Architecture and Director of the Urban Futures Lab

There is no fee but you must register through AIA LV to receive the link to attend.

This lecture program is registered for 1 AIA CE Credit each.



UNLV Fine Arts Alumni Data Points (courtesy of SteppingBlocks.com)

Top Fine Arts Alumni Employers:

1. Clark County School District
2. MGM Resorts International
3. Caesar's Entertainment
4. College of Southern Nevada
5. City of Las Vegas
6. City of Henderson
7. Blue Heron Architects
8. Clark County, Nevada
9. Wynn Las Vegas
10. Bergman, Walls Associates Architects

Average Fine Arts Alumni Age/Sex:

36 Years
Female: 49%
Male: 51%

UNLV Fine Arts Alumni Residing in Nevada: 52.5%

Residing In:

Clark County: 97%

Washoe County: 2%

Carson City, Nye County, Lincoln County, Elko County, White Pine County, Lander County: 1%

UNLV Fine Arts Alumni Residences Within Clark County:

Las Vegas (incl. Summerlin/Spring Valley/Paradise etc...): 87%

Henderson: 9%

North Las Vegas: 2.5%

Boulder City, Mesquite, Overton/Moapa, Jean: 1.5%

53 Fine Arts Alumni Seed Grant Applications Received

In response to our second annual request for application submissions, the College of Fine Arts is proud to announce that a total of fifty-three applications were received for *2020-21 Fine Arts Alumni Seed Grants*. Dean Uscher wishes to thank all of the Fine Arts alumni applicants for their participation. The creative and entrepreneurial spirit demonstrated in all of the submitted projects confirms that the UNLV College of Fine Arts has alumni who are not only creative, but also driven to contribute to the arts well past their graduation dates.

The review committee, consisting of UNLV Fine Arts faculty, staff, and our Alumni Chapter President, has been formed and all project entries are currently being reviewed. Once the review process has been completed, ten Fine Arts Alumni Seed grants will be awarded. The successful applicants will be notified by e-mail and postal letters in late February or early March of this year.

Fine Arts Class Notes

Clemente Cicoria, 2003 *Architecture*, **Drew Gregory**, 2003 *Architecture* and **Zak Ostrowski** 2007 *Architecture*, received a Design Excellence Award from AIA Nevada for one of their projects, entitled *min/MAX*. The trio are principals at PUNCH Architecture. Cicoria is located in Las Vegas, while Gregory works and resides in Denver, Colorado. Ostrowski works and resides in Los Angeles, California.

Matthew Burns, 2000, 2003 *Architecture*, is currently a Senior Project Manager and Senior Vice-President with EV&A Architects. This year Matthew became a Nevada licensed architect. He is highly accomplished in the preparation and production of EV&A's construction documentation, with over 15 years of experience in commercial, hospitality, healthcare and industrial projects. He manages all aspects of the architectural process from schematic design to construction administration.

Ginevra Wilson, 1996 *Art*, is a retired Media Production Specialist and Image Color Retouching Manager living in Edgewater, New Jersey. During her career, Ginevra worked for national publications such as *Rolling Stone*. At one point in time, Ginevra had four billboard designs displayed in Times Square.

Tom Bruner, 2007 *Music*, is a self-employed composer, arranger, and conductor with more than 40 years experience in the field. A skilled guitarist, Tom was a member of the U.S. Air Force jazz band *The Falconaires*. As a musician, he did soundtrack work for dozens of TV shows, including *Hawaii Five-O* and *The Bob Newhart Show*. His music direction credits for television include the *Academy of Country Music Awards* and the *Golden Globe Awards*.

Phil Thompson, 2002 *Architecture*, recently was recruited to take over as the architectural manager for the western region of American Homes 4 Rent / AMH Development. In this role, he is responsible for management of resources and schedules for the design, development, and maintenance of documents related to AH4R's architectural projects within AMH Development's ground-up, build-to-rent single family residential communities. He oversees projects in Seattle; Boise, Idaho; Salt Lake City; Denver; Phoenix; San Antonio; and Las Vegas. He has more than 25 years' experience in architecture & development, capital markets and banking, and strategic project, personnel, and organizational management. Before his private sector career, he served seven years in the U.S. Navy submarine service and was honorably discharged with a service-connected disability after serving aboard two different Los Angeles-class nuclear attack submarines and with the deep submergence unit rescue team. He also volunteers with a number of community organizations.

Victoria Norby Lindemann, 1990 *Theatre*, is an English teacher at the Advanced Technologies Academy, a Las Vegas magnet high school. She also is pursuing a Ph.D. with a literacy emphasis from UNLV's College of Education.

David Engler, 2002 *Theatre*, recently took the position of assistant general manager at the Hyatt Place Jacksonville in Florida. This was a transfer from Huntsville, Alabama, within his management company, LBA Hospitality.

Dave Cornoyer, 2003 *Landscape Architecture*, was named forward planning manager for the Las Vegas Division of the Lennar Corporation in 2018. He oversees land use entitlements, site planning, and government relations for Lennar, which is the largest home builder by volume in both Southern Nevada and the United States.

Phillip Harris, 2018 *Music*, is now a published author. His first book is *Songs and Spirituals: The Life and Music of Jacqueline Hairston*. He also provided the foreword for Hairston's new anthology (with the same title) through Classical Vocal Reprints. Harris, a singer (baritone), teacher, church musician, and music scholar, performed Hairston's music at New York City's *Lincoln Center* in a June, 2019 concert honoring prolific spiritual arrangers. His debut CD, *Phillip Harris in Recital* with Damien Sneed, is available on all major digital streaming and downloading outlets. He lives and works in the Oakland/ San Francisco area.

Montana Black, 1990 *Art*, is an accomplished visual artist and graphic designer living and working in Las Vegas. Her permanent ten-piece installation *Angels Unveiled* is on view at University Medical Center's main lobby. As a result of her submissions in the Regional Transportation Center's *The Bus Stops Here* juried competition, Montana was one of four artists awarded a place on several RTC bus stop shelters in 2009 and 2010.

Thomas Mahoney, 2006 *Film*, is an independent producer living in Los Angeles. *Wild Indian*, his most recent co-production credit, is an official selection in the U.S. Dramatic Competition at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival. Other notable production credits include *Karma*, *The Girl in Photographs*, and *Anarchy Parlor*. Thomas is an alumnus of the American Film Institute, where he currently serves as Senior Manager of Thesis Production. He's also a member of the Producers Guild of America.

Mike Purtill, 1997 *Architecture*, is a Principal and Vice-President at Tate-Snyder-Kimsey Architects, one of Las Vegas' top firms. His expertise is in the design and project management of sustainable buildings. Mike is affiliated with the American Institute of Architects and the U.S. Green Building Council.

UNLV's New Mentoring Platform: [Rebels Forward](#) - You Can Do It!

College can be a difficult journey for even the best of students. A quality arts education requires being part of a learning community in order to achieve a truly comprehensive education. The disciplines and professional fields our students aspire to become part of have been pursued for decades, or even centuries. Completely new experiences in those fields will surface occasionally, but, by and large, our previous grads in the creative and working worlds have seen and been through most of what those professions have thrown at them.

In higher education, it is rare for students to succeed entirely on their own. Any successful education, particularly in the arts, demands a degree of one-on-one interaction with individuals who have "been there, and done that." Mentors, professionals, and alumni have walked the same paths on which our students want to tread. They have the knowledge and experience that future graduates will need to achieve that academic success. You, our incredible UNLV Fine Arts alumni, possess both the depth of experience and the proven track records - demonstrating that you know how to interact with and help our current students flourish.

Our students need mentors such as yourselves. Every one of us can recollect at least one individual who made a major difference in our academic lives: A professor, a visiting artist, a guest lecturer, internship supervisor, or other visiting professional. Our faculty are amazing, and they've done incredible things in their own professional lives. However, the "Lion's Share", of their focus has to be on their daily and annual activities at the University. That's one reason why both faculty and students look to professional sources outside their institutions for the "current, real world" learning that's so invaluable for a maturing career prospect.

Until now, it has been up to the individual student or faculty member to make these crucial connections. The announcement of the new [Rebels Forward](#) mentoring platform curated by UNLV Career Services has changed all that, bringing with it an awesome new way to connect our proud and willing alumni professionals with those who look to someday join them as colleagues.

Mentoring a student - sharing your breadth of experience with a student - isn't time-intensive, and it's easy to connect with someone for whom you can make a difference. *Rebels Forward*, by *Chronus*, developer of award-winning mentoring software, makes it simple. In fact, it's not unlike other people-matching software. You establish an account with a login and password, and feed your data into an online form. *Rebels Forward* uses cutting-edge algorithms to find the right mentee student for your profile, and then helps keep track of your meetings and contact dates and times.

One thing is certain: bonding with and helping a current UNLV student is highly rewarding, and mentors say they also enjoy the element of re-experiencing an element of campus life. They tend to see and identify their younger selves when interacting with a mentee, bringing them back to earlier experiences they enjoyed and cherish.

We need valued Rebel alumni to step up to mentor UNLV Fine Arts students. Please sign up and pay forward some of what your mentors gave you. Here is the link to the [Rebels Forward FAQ](#), with a link to sign up. Do it today!





REBELS FORWARD

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

An impactful way to support professional development for Rebels.

Rebels Forward is a brand-new mentorship program designed to provide a longer-term relationship between UNLV students and industry professionals. The online system provides checkpoints, easy-to-follow guides, and step-by-step resources to grow the relationship into an effective and meaningful mentorship.

Assist a UNLV mentee in....

- Developing their feedback & critical thinking skills
- Becoming a professional in your industry or field
- Establishing a network for support in their future career
- Exploring career opportunities available to them
- Accessing resources for on-going growth and development

Volunteering as a mentor will allow you to...

- Support future professionals in your industry field
- Develop your leadership skills
- Strengthen your communication skills
- Give back in a meaningful and high-impact way

For questions, please contact Alejandro Chacon, Assistant Director of Experiential Learning, Mentorship, & Operations at alejandro.chacon@unlv.edu

To sign up as a mentor:
<https://bit.ly/RebelsForward2020>

Registration opens on July 27

Mentors will be matched with a mentee in August 2020.

UNLV | CAREER
SERVICES

Reflections on Our Time in History - A Message from Dean Nancy Uscher

We are living in tumultuous times. Each day thousands of people are marching proudly in the streets of cities and towns, big and small, urban and rural. The crowds are growing. We have come together to turn our grief and heartache for George Floyd and other victims of unspeakable violence and senseless cruelty into an overwhelming outpouring of the human spirit to guide the change that is coming. Even while we worry and wonder if the protests will fuel a new wave of the pandemic, there is such forceful momentum to speak out against injustice that people are willing to take this medical risk.

We are witnessing a culture that will no longer tolerate anyone being mistreated for any reason. All of us are showing up – a cross-section of society – to underscore the importance of decency. Our protesters, to a large extent peaceful and hopeful, are saying they have seen enough! Enough brutality, enough excuses, enough denial, enough unfairness, enough unconscious bias, enough bullying, enough eschewing accountability. Our communities want action -- now. They want concrete evidence they are being heard. There are strong voices calling for support for social change, funding for our underrepresented communities, deep respect for every human being, new public safety systems, making sure that those in law enforcement are trained and educated to live by the same moral values that all sectors of society will require of themselves in the days, months and years to come. We are looking for sustainable progress.

It is a time to show deep empathy and to be in touch with our own fragility. It is a time of immense learning. Each of us has an opportunity to contribute to the positive energy that will propel our communities to a better place. The esteemed psychiatrist, writer and Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl said: “what matters...is not the meaning of life in general but rather the specific meaning of a person’s life at a given moment.” This quote has great resonance, for it inspires each of us to make meaning of this remarkable moment in history.

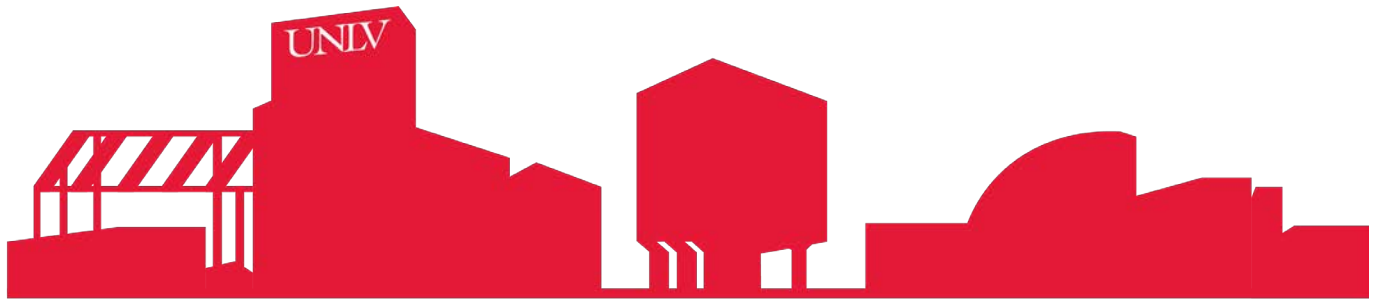
Be a Part of UNLV's Third Annual #RebelsGive, March 2 & 3

In 2018, UNLV launched a new and innovative hybrid fundraising initiative. The inaugural **#RebelsGive** days of giving proved once and for all that a virtual fundraising platform could be paired with live events to achieve unprecedented results. That strategy returned in a successful 2019 encore, but took a strategic pause during the eleven months of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Today, both Nevada and the nation appear to be moving toward better days. Accordingly, **#RebelsGive** is returning for a third time.

On **Tuesday, March 2** and **Wednesday, March 3**, UNLV will roll out an updated virtual campaign, **#RebelsGive 2021**. As with both of the previous online fund drives, **#RebelsGive 2021** will encompass **1,957 minutes** of pledges, challenges, and matches for more than a hundred different University programs and projects, as well as alumni board initiatives. You'll easily be able to find the individual initiatives that you are most passionate about and contribute whatever you can afford to make those plans a reality for more than 30,000 current UNLV students and countless future Rebels.

In addition, you can help make a difference by becoming a **#Rebel Ambassador**. This designation will allow you to make your presence felt on social media platforms. You can share your optimism about UNLV via targeted posts and issue challenges to your fellow alumni, friends, and members of your extended family. You can sign up to become a **#Rebel Ambassador** via this [link](#).

The **#RebelsGive** website channels potential donors to their desired projects with 30 buttons that will navigate the user to basic areas of the University (i.e. College of Fine Arts, Alumni Association, Honors College, Student Affairs, etc.). Visit the [site](#) today and plan to be a part of **#RebelsGive 2021**.



REBELS GIVE

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

As the 81st Nevada Legislature Ramps Up, Become A Rebel Advocate

Like all forms of public education, Higher Ed is dependent on funding from basic primary sources: contributed funding, grant funding, and government spending. Although today's funding models are beginning to look quite different from those of decades past, public higher ed institutions still rely heavily on monies from state governments. Despite the fact that new and renovated buildings and other capital improvements are dependent on donors, without the initial legislative seed dollars for donor matching most of these projects would be dead on arrival. In addition, both new and renewed programs mostly rely on state funding for personnel and operating expense funding. In short, without legislative support, the future of UNLV is weakened severely.

Here's how you can help your university to advance and grow in the ways you think it should. **Become a Rebel Advocate**. This great program seeks to inspire our alumni to communicate their desires to our legislators and other officials in order to advance the interests of the school we all love. Here's the [link to sign up for Rebel Advocates](#) and make your voice heard.

Select Upcoming Event Dates - [UNLV Alumni Engagement](#) and the College of Fine Arts:

(Please note: listed events are subject to change in terms of both timing and event platform)

- Barrick Museum: **Seven Exhibitions** - through March 18 - by Reservation Only
Performing Arts Center: **Ricardo Cobo: A Conversation** - Virtual Discussion - Feb. 5 - 6pm
School of Music: **Michael Root DMA Recital** - Cyber - February 8 - 5:30pm
Performing Arts Center: **Ricardo Cobo, Guitar** - Cyber - February 12 - 6pm
Alumni Engagement: **Rebel Recharge Lecture: Relationship Building** - Cyber - Feb. 19 - Noon
Performing Arts Center: **Xiangheng "Johnson" Qu, Piano** - Cyber - February 19 - 7:30pm
Nevada Conservatory Theatre: **The Human Comedy** - Streaming - Feb. 20-27
School of Architecture/AIA: **Snøhetta's Michelle Delk** - Cyber - February 26 - 1pm
Department of Dance: **Now Is the Time** - YouTube - February 26/27 - 7:30pm/2:30pm
Alumni Engagement: **#RebelsGive** - Cyber - March 2-3
UNLV Career Services: **Southern Nevada Career Fair** - Cyber - March 10-11-12
School of Music: **UNLV Percussion Ensemble in "Marimba"** - March 13 - 7:30pm
Alumni Engagement: **Rebel Recharge Lecture - Dr. Chris Heavey** - Cyber - March 19 - Noon
School of Architecture/AIA: **Zaha Hadid - Ludovico Lombardi** - Cyber - March 26 - 1pm
Performing Arts Center: **Coco Lane Rigbye, vocalist** - April 2 - 7:30pm
Nevada Conservatory Theatre: **bobrauschenbergamerica** - Streaming - April 10-17
College of Fine Arts: **Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony** - April 13, 2021 - Pida Plaza
School of Architecture/AIA: **Renzo Piano Building Workshop** - Cyber - April 16 - 1pm
Alumni Engagement: **Senior Send-Off 101 Webinar** - Zoom Virtual - March 15 - 28
Alumni Engagement: **Senior Send-Off T-Shirt Pickup** - Cyber - March 24 - 10am-4pm
Alumni Engagement: **Rebel Recharge Lecture - Dr. Tony Terrell** - Cyber - April 16 - Noon
Performing Arts Center: **UNLV Honors Jazz Trio** - April 16 - 7:30pm
Department of Dance: **Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow** - YouTube - April 22-25 - 7:30pm/2:30pm
School of Architecture/AIA: **Transsolar** - Prof. Thomas Auer - Cyber - April 23 - 1pm
Performing Arts Center: **Kyle Khembunjong, Guitar** - Cyber - April 30 - 7:30pm
Department of Dance: **Last Dance** - YouTube - May 7 - 7:30 pm

For information call the

Performing Arts Center Box Office (702) 895-ARTS (2787)

or visit <http://pac.unlv.edu>

For Athletics information call the

Thomas & Mack Center Box Office (702) 739-FANS (3267)

or visit <http://www.unlvtickets.com>

2021 College of Fine Arts Alumni Chapter Board

Stacy Swim '98 Theatre (President)

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Sarah Snodgrass '06 Architecture / Marie-Joe Tabet '08 Dance

e-mail: Fineartsalumni@unlv.edu