Mark Your Calendars

Through Dec. 15  Registration for Spring 2012
Dec. 15  Spring Tuition Payment Deadline
Dec. 18  Student Housing Program Closes for the Holiday Break
Dec. 20–Jan. 2  Administrative Offices and Campus Closed for Holiday Break
Jan. 8  Student Housing Program Reopens at Playa Del Oro
Jan. 11  New Student Orientation and English Placement Exam for New Students
Jan. 12  New Student Registration
Jan. 17  Classes Begin

Spotlights

2011 Otis Report on the Creative Economy of the Los Angeles Region
On November 9 at Zipper Hall, Colburn School, several hundred guests gathered for the release of the Otis Report on the Creative Economy of the L.A. Region, commissioned from the LAEDC. Chief Economist Nancy Sidhu presented this year’s data and a projection of employment through 2015. James Canales, president and CEO of the James Irvine Foundation; Russell Goldsmith, Chairman and CEO of City National Bank and the Founding Chair of the Los Angeles Coalition for the Economy and Jobs; and Joan Weinstein, Deputy Director of The Getty Foundation, participated in a discussion on investing in our creative capital following Dr. Sidhu’s presentation.

This year’s event was sponsored by The James Irvine Foundation, the Department of Cultural Affairs of the City of Los Angeles, Mattel, The Getty Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts, Nike, Sony Pictures, City National Bank, California Community Foundation, Boeing, and Carol Anderson by Invitation (CAbi). Visit www.otis.edu/econreport

Digital Media Chair Harry Mott Interview

*Animation Career Review* 10/13/2011 (excerpt)

**HM:** When you have studio co-owners and co-founders, or the heads of animation, the art directors, the chief modelers, and so on as the teachers it can only lead to a greater experience for the students. These are the people who worked their way up to the jobs and careers our students are aiming for. It is a grand experience and our teachers are enthusiastic while also practical both in experience and expectations. As they expect the best, they get the best, both in students and the work they create, and they love working with the students.

Many of our students are hired while they are still in school since the teachers can easily see their quality and their creativity. It is a hard balance between working and still going to school, but they make it work and that makes them all the better when graduation comes around.

FASHION DESIGN STUDENTS EXHIBIT WORK

*Considered at Hurley Thru Dec. 15th*

*Considered*, an exhibition of eco-friendly fashion design student projects, is on display at Hurley’s H Space Gallery in Costa Mesa through Dec. 15 (below). For the project with Nike Hurley, students (left) used the Nike Considered Index Tool, which analyzes the entire lifespan of a product. They focused on recycling and reusing, sustainable materials and methods, and creating apparel that becomes heirloom.
Home for the Holidays: What to Expect When College Students Come Home to Visit

The holidays are here and college students are coming back home! Some parents have enjoyed holiday visits with their college students, and for other parents, these holidays will be a new experience. Many families look forward to long visits with their young scholars after being apart for nearly four months. During this time apart, new changes also come into play. Changes can include disregard for old house rules, the feeling that they are now adults and are fully independent, and feeling distant after the long period apart. Parents should be prepared for these transformations. Advice to parents: be flexible, be prepared for mixed results, and communicate effectively!

Tips on surviving the holidays with your college student:

1. First and foremost, recognize that things may different.
2. Be prepared for them wanting to visit old friends. Parents should try and understand that their college student has been away from everyone for four months.
3. Expect your daily routine to be disrupted.
4. Encourage your child to be a courteous house guest (e.g., not tying up the phone lines, not taking over the family car, computer, or television, etc.).
5. Do not be alarmed if your student sleeps more than usual the first few days. Most likely, they will be recovering from midterms or final exams.
6. Give each other advance warning of significant changes. This goes both ways as each should inform the other of important changes (e.g., parents turning the student’s bedroom into an office or the student getting a tattoo or piercing) before the student comes home so it is not a big surprise.
7. Try to make a calendar or at least inform your child of family events beforehand.
8. Last but certainly not least, show them you are happy to see them and have fun!

Crystal Saidi, M.A.
Otis College Student Counseling Services

A New Mural for Student Affairs Office

A new mural in Otis’ student lounge (right) was painted by Troy James Agena, a.k.a. Tiki Jay ('08 Product Design). The 2011–12 Student Government Association chose Troy's design which reflects aspects of all majors offered at Otis.
Exploring Creativity with International Visitors
On October 8 Otis’ Digital Media and Continuing Education departments hosted approximately 180 Japanese multimedia students (below) from an assortment of Jikei Com colleges in Japan, who came to Otis to learn about the American approach to creativity and problem solving. This inter-department collaboration resulted in a collection of workshops that focused on: connections between brain function and creativity through drawing; expressing emotion through body movement; brainstorming and developing great ideas with ease; and making a habit of creativity. Throughout the day, Digital Media students participated as ambassadors for their Japanese counterparts. The day finished with panel discussions with industry experts from Sony and Rhythm and Hues, and a reception. The day could not have been possible without the aligned partnership between the Digital Media and Continuing Education departments, support of the Facilities, AV, and Purchasing departments, and an incredible team of Otis Digital Media students.

New Continuing Education Offerings
With the Spring 2012 Semester, CE is launching a new certificate program and offering several new innovative courses. Offered in collaboration with Otis’ ACT (Artists, Community and Teaching) Program, the Art Education Certificate Program has two tracks: a Teacher Credential Preparation Track, designed to prepare students who hold a BA, BFA, MA, or MFA in fine art, design, or media art for positions as art teachers in K–12 public, or private schools; and the Teaching Artist Track, designed to prepare students for positions such as teaching artists in K–12 public or private schools, museum education departments, community arts centers, correctional facilities, therapeutic arts programs, etc. Other new courses include “The Art of Kite Building” with Tom Van Sant (57) and “Urban Noir: Night Photography at the Santa Monica Pier” with Helen K. Garber.

FASHION DESIGN STUDENTS EXHIBIT WORK
“For the Cure” Gala
Sketches (below) by fashion design students were displayed as Susan G. Komen Los Angeles County hosted its first annual “Designs for the Cure” Gala. Celebrity fashion designer and Otis Fashion Design Mentor David Meister was honored for his achievements in promoting confidence and self-esteem in the modern woman, as well as his contributions to the cause of breast cancer awareness.

Institutional Advancement News
Patrons Circle Visits Seattle
As a benefit of membership in the Patrons Circle, Otis’ leadership level support program, a small group of donors trekked to Seattle in mid October to experience a three-day art and design tour. The guided expedition took them to the far corner of Washington State to visit the Pilchuck Glass School, to sprawling downtown Seattle to visit the Seattle Art Museum, to a private tour of glass artist Dale Chihuly’s studio. On Saturday February 11, in “Art’s a Trip,” Patrons Circle members will explore Los Angeles’ Metro Art scene.
Doin’ it in Public: Feminism and Art at the Woman’s Building, opened at the Ben Maltz Gallery on Oct. 1 and has been consistently featured in media attention on the exhibitions in the Getty-sponsored Pacific Standard Time: Art In L.A. 1945–1980 initiative. At the Hammer Museum this summer, Liberal Arts and Sciences Chair Debra Ballard was invited to present Otis’ curricular connections to college and university educators. Read student blogs from some of these courses at https://blogs.otis.edu/otispst/

Among the mentions of the Maltz exhibition in newspapers, magazines, and the blogosphere:

“Doin’ It in Public: Feminism and Art at the Woman’s Building” at the Otis College of Art and Design, for instance, would probably be an amen-corner jumble were it not for the time, womanpower and scrutiny the gallery was able to give to wall upon wall, and vitrine upon vitrine, of primary source material from the mid-’70s salad days of the women’s movement in the Los Angeles art world. —Peter Plagens, “Laying Claim to its Place in the Sun,” Wall Street Journal, 10/9

Thus, the exhibit on women’s narratives at Otis College of Art and Design is not simply a showcase of artwork, but a series that ranges from symposiums to spoken word.

—Sherin Wing “LA’s Powerful Past,” MetropolisMag.com: Point of View 10/14

Show of Shows Across the Pacific: (one among) A Dozen Shows You Won’t Want to Miss —Scott Timberg, Los Angeles Magazine October issue.

“Which one of the PST shows are you most looking forward to? I’m very excited for the Doin it in Public show. Aside from the great title, it reveals the largely forgotten history of an amazing artist space that was a center for socially engaged practice.” —Sue Bell Yank, Writer, and Asst. Dir. of Academic Programs, Hammer Museum. —Alexis Johnson, “The Radar: Art,” Angeleno Magazine, October issue.

...celebrating and remembering two decades of feminist art as gathered around the Woman’s Building will be remembered as one of PST’s successes. —Jeannie R. Lee, Artscene, November issue.

...the feminist arts movement transformed the national arts scene, engaging the arts in struggles to challenge the mistreatment of women in society. Sculpture, performance art, graphics, poetry and photography were taught, mentored and produced in the women-run space. American art would never be the same.” —Vivian Rothstein, “Building the Future,” The Frying Pan, 11/2
Otis & PST
As former LACMA curator Lynn Zelevansky stated, “since the 1920s, the (art) schools have been the glue that has held the Los Angeles art world together.” Otis’ presence in the PST shows extends throughout the region, with work by faculty members and alumni.

18th Street Arts Complex Santa Monica
Collaboration Labs: Southern California Artists and the Artist Space Movement
Current Faculty: Suzanne Lacy
Alumni: Leslie Labowitz-Starus ('72 MFA), Exhibit curated by Alex Donis ('94 MFA)

American Museum of Ceramic Art Pomona
Common Ground: Ceramics in Southern California 1945-1975
Former Faculty: Robert Glover, Peter Voulkos
Alumni: Billy Al Bengston ('56), Michael Frimkess ('57), John Mason ('57), Kenneth Price ('57), Paul Soldner ('58)

Barnsdall Art Center Hollywood
Civic Virtue
Former Faculty: Matsumi Kanemitsu, Betye Saar, Charles White, Emerson Woelffer Alumni: John Altoon ('49), Billy Al Bengston ('57), Corita (Sister Mary Corita Kent), David Hammons ('72), Ulysses Jenkins ('79 MFA), John Mason ('57), Patssi Valdez ('85)

California African American Museum Los Angeles
Places of Validation, Art, and Progression
Former Faculty: Betye Saar, Charles White
Alumni: David Hammons ('72), Alonzo Davis ('73 MFA), Marion Epting ('69 MFA), Ron Griffin ('72 MFA), Stanley C. Wilson ('71 MFA)

Craft and Folk Art Museum Los Angeles
The Alchemy of June Schwarz: Enamel Vessels from the Forrest L. Merrill Collection
Alumna: Exhibition curated by Jo Lauria ('90 MFA)

Fowler Museum at UCLA Los Angeles
Mapping Another L.A.: The Chicano Art Movement
Alumni: ASCO, Los Four: Patssi Valdez ('85)

Getty Research Institute Los Angeles

Getty Museum Los Angeles
Current and Former Faculty: Suzanne Lacy, Peter Voulkos
Alumni: Carlos Almaraz ('74), John Altoon ('49), John Mason ('57), Ken Price ('57), Billy Al Bengston ('56), Norman Zammit ('61), John Baldessari ('58), Leslie Labowitz-Starus ('72 MFA), Robert Irwin ('50)

Hammer Museum at UCLA Los Angeles
Now Dig This! Art and Black Los Angeles 1960–1980
Former Faculty: Sheila Levrant de Bretteville, Betye Saar, Charles White Alumni: John Altoon ('49), Alonzo Davis ('73 MFA), David Hammons ('72), Ulysses Jenkins ('79 MFA), Tyrus Wong ('32)

Japanese American National Museum Los Angeles
Drawing the Line: Japanese American Art, Design, and Activism in Post-War Los Angeles
Alumnus: Bruce Yonemoto ('79 MFA)

LACMA Los Angeles
Asco: Elite of the Obscure, A Retrospective, 1972-1987
Alumna: ASCO Los Four (Patssi Valdez '85)

LACE (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions) Hollywood
Current and Former Faculty: Jerri Allyn, Ulysses Jenkins, Suzanne Lacy Alumni: Leslie Labowitz-Starus ('72 MFA), John White ('69 MFA)

LACMA Los Angeles
Asco: Elite of the Obscure, A Retrospective, 1972-1987
Alumna: ASCO Los Four (Patssi Valdez '85)

Laguna Art Museum Laguna Beach
Alumni: Robert Irwin ('50), John Mason ('57)

MOCA Los Angeles
Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974–1981
Current and Former Faculty: Carole Caroompas, Lowell Darling, Suzanne Lacy, John M. White Alumni: Masami Teraoka ('68 MFA), John White ('69 MFA), Bas Jan Ader ('55), Carlos Almaraz ('74 MFA), John Baldessari ('58), Billy Al Bengston ('56), David Hammons ('72), Jeffrey Vallance ('81 MFA), Bruce Yonemoto ('79 MFA), ASCO: Patssi Valdez ('85)
**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego** San Diego  
*Phenomenal: California Light, Space, Surface*  
**Alumnus:** Robert Irwin ('50)

**Museum of Latin American Art** Long Beach  
*MEX/LA: “Mexican” Modernism(s) in Los Angeles, 1930–1985*  
**Alumni:** Carlos Almaraz ('74), Roberto Gil de Montes ('74)

**Natural History Museum of L.A.** Los Angeles  
*Artistic Evolution: Southern California Artists at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 1945–1963*  
**Former Faculty:** Rico Lebrun, Betye Saar  
**Alumni:** John Altoon ('49), John Baldessari ('58), Billy Al Bengston ('56), Robert Irwin ('50)

**Norton Simon Museum** Pasadena  
*Proof: The Rise of Printmaking in Southern California*  
**Former Faculty:** Charles White, Peter Voulkos, Emerson Woelffer, Joseph Mugnaini  
**Alumni:** John Altoon ('49), Ken Price ('57), Norman Zammitt ('61), John Baldessari ('58), Billy Al Bengston ('56), Paul Landacre ('26), Ken Price ('57), Corita (Sister Mary Corita Kent)

**Orange County Museum of Art** Newport Beach  
*State of Mind: New California Art Circa 1970*  
**Alumnus:** Bruce Yonemoto ('79 MFA)

**Otis Ben Maltz Gallery** Los Angeles  
*Doin’ it in Public: Feminism and Art at the Woman’s Building*  
**Current and Former Faculty:** Jerri Allyn, Suzanne Lacy, Sheila Levant de Bretteville, Sue Maberry, Betye Saar  
**Alumni:** Diane Gamboa ('84), Leslie Labowitz-Starus ('72 MFA), May Sun ('79), Patssi Valdez ('85)

**Pacific Asia Museum** Pasadena  
*46 N. Los Robles: A History of the Pasadena Art Museum*  
**Former Faculty:** Peter Voulkos, Emerson Woelffer  
**Alumni:** John Altoon ('49), Robert Irwin ('50), John Mason ('57), Ken Price ('57)

**Palm Springs Museum of Art** Palm Springs  
**Alumnus:** John Baldessari ('58)
Meg Linton, Director of Galleries and Exhibitions, was elected Chair of the LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce for 2012-13.

Scott Grieger wrote the introduction to the exhibition catalogue for Gajin Fujita ('97)'s solo show, Made in L.A. at LA Louver, Venice.

"I take no credit for what Gajin has become; it was all there to begin with. I just feel proud about what has happened to Gajin since he left undergraduate school. It is a nice feeling for a professor to see one of his charges to go out and make a name for himself. I loved working with Gajin from the first day I saw him. He is a real sweetheart. And he's a very fine artist as well."
—Scott Grieger

Chair Meg Cranston and alumnae Sara Hunsucker ('02) and Fay Ray ('02) were included in The Feminine Canvas – 2011, Beacon Arts Building, an exhibition focused on contemporary gender and body issues.

Siri Kaur's photographs are featured in a solo exhibition, Know Me for the First Time, at Blythe Project, Culver City, through Dec. 17.

Rob Spruijt ('01) aka Gershom has his first solo show at Lora Schlesinger East Gallery, Santa Monica through Dec 3. Tulipomania (right) is a series of paintings that both pay homage to his Dutch heritage and to the Dutch Golden Age of Painting.

Rebecca Chamlee ('85)'s letterpress printed broadsides Fire and Ice, Dreams of Flight and Christmas 1956 were included in the NEIU Letterpress Exhibition at the Ronald Williams Library at Northeastern Illinois University. Her letterpress printed, hand bound book Further Apocrypha was selected as the 2011 winner of the Tampa Book Arts Studio Letterpress Excellence Award, and My Partial Tongue was selected for BiblioTech, the 2012 College Book Arts Association's Juried Members Exhibition in San Francisco.

Ben Ehrenreich published his second novel, Ether, with City Lights Publishers in San Francisco. He is currently teaching a fiction workshop.

Lewis MacAdams' Dear Oxygen: New and Selected Poems, 1966-2011 has just appeared from the University of New Orleans Press. MacAdams offers a seminar on urban nature writing this spring.

Dennis Phillips' Navigation: Selected Poems, 1985-2010 has been released by our own Otis Books/Seismicity Editions, as part of the new Chroma Series, featuring works by core faculty. Phillips is currently teaching a seminar on the Homeric epics.

Chair Paul Vangelisti will be the keynote speaker at this year’s annual ALTA (American Literary Translators Association) conference in Kansas City. “Assassins in Love: Poets as Translators,” will offer an overview of his forty-year career of engagement in these treacherous tasks.

Fashion historian Eddie Bledsoe was interviewed by the Biography Channel for segments on Coco Chanel, Halston, and Diane von Furstenberg.

Todd A. Erlandson and Lara Hoad collaborated with Deborah Sussman of Sussman/Prejza and Company, Inc. and typographer Andrew Byrom on the design of the exhibition Eames Designs: The Guest Host Relationship, at the A+D Museum.

Yael Samuel presented her paper “Reclaiming Women’s Bodies: Wangeci Mutu and the Aesthetics of Violence” at the Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences, made possible by an Otis Faculty Development Grant. She also edited Newton Harrison and Helen Mayer Harrison’s Greenhouse Britain, published by Edition Jacob Samuel, 2011.

Andrew Davis received an award from the Theatre and Drama Society for his book America’s Longest Run: A History of the Walnut Street Theatre as the best book on Theatre and/or Performance published in 2010. He received an Otis faculty development grant to travel to Chicago to receive his award.

Faculty, Staff & Alumni News

Perri Chasin and Mentor Faculty member Judy Arthur were honored to have Ed Carter, Documentary Curator of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and acclaimed film writer/director David Leaf speak in their classes.

Tiff Graham showed HAUSBOT, a video installation, in May at the Joshua Tree Music Festival. In November, Paso Pacifico and RuckusRoots presented Trap Attack!, an interactive video installation at their fundraiser for jaguar conservation in Nicaragua.

Melissa Clark’s nonfiction piece, “Rachael Ray Saved My Life” will be included in the anthology The Dish: Making The Food That Makes Your Family from Shambhala Publications.

Michele McFaull, Executive Committee member of the Jonathan Arts Foundation, speaks frequently on their California Plein Air Art Collection. As a member of the Southern California Art Historians Association, she spoke at The CAA Conference last February, introducing their on-line journal.

Leena Pendharker’s screenplay, “A Day With Dandekar” was awarded the All Access grant, which provides funds for film project development from the Tribeca Film Institute.

Joan Takayama-Ogawa spoke about her work in a lecture entitled “Japanese Inspired, American Fired” at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pasadena.

Dr. Heather Joseph Witham was a guest judge on the Food Network Challenge: “Halloween Ghost Story Cakes,” aired nationally during the week of October 23. She also was the guest on “Residual Hauntings,” a radio program called Revived, to discuss the history of Halloween. Students from her “Modern Mysticism and the Afterlife” class created an altar at the Dia de los Muertos, Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

Marsha Hopkins edited and contributed to a booklet that highlights the history of the black churches in Los Angeles. These profiles are part of an exhibition at Azusa Pacific University.

Kristen Bashaw, Adam Leubke, Lindsay Valentin, and Graduate Writing students Stephen Hotchkiss and Amy Nielsen contributed to the fall issue of Defy Magazine, which included a feature on Graduate Writing faculty member Lewis MacAdams.

In conjunction with the Getty’s Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A., 1945-1980, Western Project presented a solo show of work by Fine Arts faculty member Carole Caroompas, Uncle Lenny: Right as Wrong/Wrong as Right, Oct 1 – Nov 12. The seven layered drawings and three paintings were based on the life of comedian Lenny Bruce, as well as themes of deception and truth (right).

Unicorn Being a Jerk, by Cole Moss (’11), was recently published by HarperCollins’ subsidiary It! Books. The book signing party, held at Melt-down Comics in November, featured a screening of “The F*** Was That: A Unicorn Documentary,” a short film developed with fellow Otis alumnus, Andrew Rivera (’11).

Admissions News

Open House

On November 12, the Admissions Office hosted its annual open house. Almost 200 prospective students and their families came to Otis. Activities included self-guided tours, portfolios reviews, workshops, and a chance to meet with faculty from all departments.

Alumni Relations News

Otis in San Francisco

Alumni Relations hosted its annual event for Bay Area alumni in San Francisco on November 7 at Silverman Gallery owned by alumna Jessica Silverman (’05 Fine Arts). Alumni from a wide variety of majors and representing classes ranging from 1958 to 2011 attended the event. While in the Bay Area, Laura Daroca, Director of Alumni Relations, visited with Margarita Portney and Labin Novakov (’07 Fashion Design) at Old Navy and Derek Thompson (’94 Communication Arts) at Pixar.

Below: Margarita Portney with some of her toddler boy’s designs for Old Navy