

Mise en Scène

Summer Edition

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We want to hear from you!

Are you a graduate of the Theatre and Dance Department? A current Dance student? A freshman just starting the Technology and Design major? If the answer to any of these questions is yes then we want you! To continue publishing our quarterly newsletter we need your stories. Send us updates on what you've done since graduating, give us information on your upcoming productions at a new theatre or tell us all about your accomplishments and adventures at CSUEB!

The benefits from being included in this newsletter include free press, networking and recognition. Not only do you get the kind of recognition you deserve, but your stories of success and accomplishment help to lift our departments profile on campus. You are helping to bring awareness on how dynamic and great our program and people are!

If you want to be part of this opportunity please send your informative bio and photograph to any of the following email address:

alejandra.wahl2@csueastbay.edu

courtney.flores@csueastbay.edu

sierra.dee@csueastbay.edu

Our 2016-2017 Season

Cymbeline

Written by William Shakespeare
Directed by Marc Jacobs

November 11-12 &
18-19 @ 7:30 PM
November 20
@ 2 PM

University Theatre

ICE/ICE-X

Produced and Choreographed
by Nina Haft & Eric Kupers

December 2
@ 7:30 PM
December 5
@ 2 PM
December 5
@ 7:30 PM

PE 140

CSU Ferguson

Directed by A. Fajlan

December 9-10
@ 7:30 PM
December 11
@ 2 PM

Studio Theatre

Cabaret

Music & Lyrics by Kander & Ebb

Directed by Darryl V. Jones
Choreographed by Laura Ellis
Musical Direction by Sierra Dee

March 3-4 &
10-11 @ 7:30 PM
March 12 @ 2 PM

University Theatre

Dance Concert

Produced by Nina Haft

April 28-29 &
May 5-6 @ 7:30 PM
May 7 @ 2 PM

Studio Theatre

Performance Fusion

Program A:
May 26 & 27
@ 7:30 PM
Program B:
June 2-3 @ 7:30 PM
June 4 @ 2 PM

University Theatre

2016-2017 Scholarship Winners

Jerardo Larois

Winner of the Carol Channing and Harry Kulijian Arts and Education Scholarship



I come from a low income family and we have endured many hardships but despite all the hard times we fought for a better life. I had a difficult childhood, we moved around a lot and my grades as well as relationships suffered because of it. I was always interested in the arts; school was just never a priority for me or any of the adults in my life. I can't remember any of the kids my age being told education was important at the time. Even so, later on, through the help of professors, peers, family and my own perseverance I have made a tremendous change in my life through education and continue to do

so here at East Bay. Attending East Bay is helping me grow as an artist and as a person as well as allowing me to make the connections necessary to start my career. In the time I've been here I have been consistently placed on the Dean's List for my academic achievements. I've also been fortunate enough to be recognized for my artistic talent and selected to participate in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. KCACTF is a national theatre festival in which college theatre students from all over the country get to display their talents in front of their peers and compete for the opportunity to gain a scholarship for acting. I was able to attend in February 2015 and it was the most amazing experience of my life. I have never felt like I belonged anywhere as much as I did at that festival. There was so much I learned, experienced, and expressed. It was the most rewarding feeling in the world to be able to share my passion with hundreds of other.

My love for acting in the theatre brought me back to school after a period of soul-searching and that was my top priority when looking for a university to attend. I chose East Bay because the theatre program offered several options in theatre including a focus in acting. That and the professors, students, clubs, and organizations on campus had a great attitude and were always willing to lend a helping hand and show me the way to succeed while attending this university. I will never forget where I came from, just like I will never forget the events and the people who helped me get to where I am today. I know what it's like to come from nothing and make my way up. With that in mind I know that I'm not done climbing and I know that I will do what it takes to succeed here at East Bay and build my career out in the real world.

2016-2017 Scholarship Winners

Mariah Kuhn

Winner of the Leonard Libresco Award for Academic Excellence in Theatre and Dance and The CSUEB Friends of the Arts Theatre and Dance Student Artist of Merit Award

All of my life, I have been privileged. I have had food, shelter, clothes, and a loving and supportive family. I always dreamed of growing up and going to college, and here I am; I am living my dream. However, I know that there are a lot of people in the world, in America, who don't even get to finish high school. I feel that it is my social responsibility, and my pleasure, to use the knowledge that I gain at CSU East Bay in order to improve society. I went to a small arts school in a very old, small town. I had the chance to learn how to sing, dance, act, play instruments, and excel academically. While I maintained a good grade point average, I received



something of so much more value. I gained a family: the teachers, my peers, and the staff. They helped me become who I am and without them I might not be where I am today. I believe that education should be a fundamental right because of the social experiences and the worldly knowledge that you are given.

The road that led me to my education at Cal State East Bay was full of challenges, both internal and external. I have already learned more about myself from the variety of classes to the people I have met. I plan on taking courses that will challenge me, but that I enjoy. I hope to use whatever I learn in my daily life. I hope to inspire other people to discover who they are and find their inner voice. I believe that the performing arts are such a powerful way to express oneself and have helped save many people's lives. I have studied performing artists who have brought change and awareness to social justice issues, such as Rhodessa Jones, Eve Ensler, and Anna Deavere Smith. Because of my passion for social awareness, after graduating I plan on working with people who can benefit from the arts. I would love to teach people the rich and deep language, the positive and liberating experience, and the family that theatre holds and creates. I believe that we are all connected and that each thought, action, and relationship affects our world. Nothing lasts forever, except when we choose to receive and give love.

2016-2017 Scholarship Winners

Jossue Gallardo

Co - Winner of the Stage Technology and Design Scholarship



Being from a low middle class family with parents that were only able to get a elementary education back in Mexico my life hasn't been as awful as it could sound. Both my parents worked hard, at times even working two jobs to maintain a roof over our heads and food in our bellies. My parents wanted to make sure that I worked hard so that I could strive further than they had. I remember when my mom told me "Although your father and I can't make changes in our lives anymore we will love you and support you in any life choice you wish to follow, because your achievements are also ours." Ever since then I worked hard so that I could not only make my parents proud but also to achieve something that my parents always wanted. What led me to go to Cal State East Bay was not just the chance to grow up without my parents, but also the chance to experience a new culture, a new environment to grow in. I wanted to expand my theater

opportunities to one of the biggest theatre areas in California. Being a drama student I have participated in many shows, as an actor, dancer and crew member. With this I have come to see what I love about theater and what I struggle with, but the struggles are what make it challenging. I have discovered that I enjoy stage management and although it is a demanding job, I honestly love every second of being behind the scenes calling a show, from the first rehearsal to the opening and closing of the production. Having been in many productions while in school, I have gotten the experience of the professional theatre life. I hope that after I graduate from East Bay that I will be given the chance to manage a theater and apply what I learned to become part of a great community.

2016-2017 Scholarship Winners

Sandy Young -Cellilo

Co - Winner of the Stage Technology and Design Scholarship

Since 2010, I've been interested in costumes and painting. I started out in middle school with my mom's old sewing machine and her guiding eye, and from there I picked up drawing, painting, and other art forms. By high-school, I had my own machine, and was sewing my own projects all on my own. I knew that I loved sewing and visual arts, yet, throughout most of my life I've done theatre. In elementary school I'd perform in dance, and from there I did acting and singing. Initially when I applied to college, I came in only as a musical theatre student. However, after about a year of study, I found that costume design was a passion of mine that I loved more than enough to want to do it for the rest of my life. It's because of this that I am now a student majoring in theatre with both a design and performance option. Though painting and costuming was

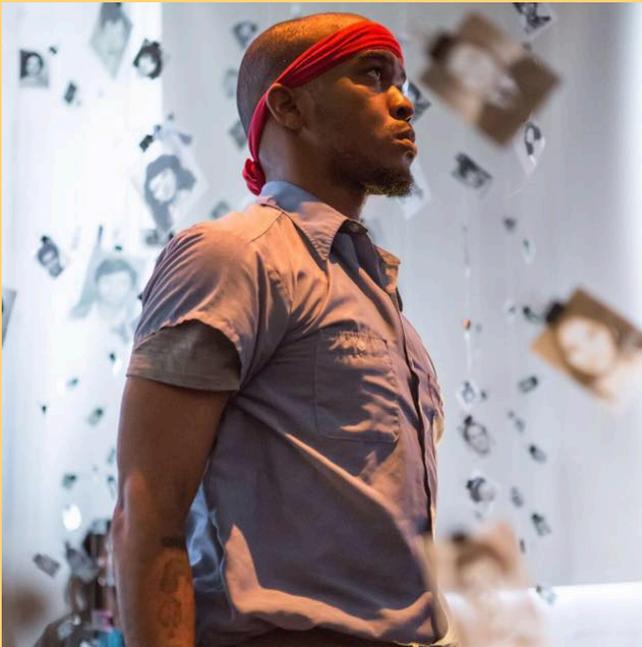


originally only a passion that I had fun doing outside on my own time, (or in art classes not required for graduation) coming to East Bay and working in the theatre here has helped me to see that I want to continue these art forms that I love so much into my professional life. I've already designed multiple shows on campus, and have performed in multiple shows as well – even helping as assistant stage manager. This being so, I've managed to see a performance from many different perspectives. Even if I only go into either design or performance after college, I know the skill set I've developed at Cal State East Bay will assist me immensely.

2016-2017 Scholarship Winners

Noah James

Winner of the Dance Scholarship and Co-Winner of The Department of Theatre and Dance Scholarship



My journey at East Bay began Fall Quarter of 2008. My decision to go to Cal State East Bay was heavily influenced by my Uncle Don. I was intimidated by college, and was unsure how successful I'd be as a result of living with Sickle Cell Disease. Uncle Don encouraged me to go to college and promised to help pay for my tuition and books. During freshmen year my uncle Don died of lung cancer. While the family was dealing with such a hard loss we found out my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. These things were all difficult to handle while learning to live with a disability and trying to adjust to the college lifestyle. Overwhelmed by all of those obstacles I spent the majority of the following years grieving, healing and recovering. I never lost the compelling desire for higher education because I knew Uncle

Don would not want me to give up. After a long process, I was able to graduate from Heald College in 2013 with an A.S. in Business Administration. There were times when I had to be admitted in the hospital, but I still managed to graduate as member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

I've since worked with successful companies like Anne Bluethenthal & Dancers, Push DanceCompany, Dimensions Dance Theatre and Lines Ballet. Going forward, I aspire to complete my Bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts with a minor in Business, own a studio/gallery, start a Non Profit Organization to help advocate for youth with Sickle Cell Disease and apply to a Master's Program in Teaching. My goal is to let my academic courses refine who I am as an artist. I am interested in using dance to tell stories about Sickle Cell and address and explore the issues that the community faces as a result of living with the disease.

I have chosen to continue my education at CSU East Bay because I value the professional relationships I've established and I love the Theatre Arts curriculum. I've grown to value my self-worth and dreams to achieve my goals despite the challenging disability of Sickle Cell Anemia. I am fully equipped and ready to continue trailblazing for other young adults who may have a similar struggle. Being a first generation college student is not easy but I believe it is achievable when people are willing to share their stories and inspire people toward success. I study in hopes of one day becoming a professor and pivotal leader in the community so that I can do for others what my uncle has done for me.

2016-2017 Scholarship Winners

Eleanor Grace Ortega

Co-Winner of The Department of Theatre and Dance Scholarship

Growing up in a low-income area of East Los Angeles there were never many opportunities to grow as an artist in theatre. My junior year of high school, our school was going to do Titanic: A New Musical. I'd been preparing all summer and was honored to be cast. Over the course of the next four months, going to rehearsals and doing the show reinforced why I love theatre. I developed close relationships with the cast, developed as an actress, I grew out of my shell and I found people I could be myself with. I was no longer the girl in the wheelchair who was an outcast. I became part of a big family that took care of me and accepted me as I am; wheelchair and all. It was then and there I knew that I had to do theatre for a living. I didn't know how that would happen; I just knew it had to. When I entered the theatre department here at CSU East Bay I found another family that accepted me. My professors gave me the opportunity to perform in three shows here at the university. This past fall I was given the opportunity to stage manage our fall main stage show. I didn't know how that would work with me being in a wheelchair, with the help of my professors and my assistants it was a show that I was proud to work on. From there on, I was nominated by my director to compete at the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival in stage management on the national level. I ended up getting a meritorious achievement award at the festival and that gave me a clear vision that I wanted to be on the production side of theatre. I want to be the one to help bring an idea to life on stage on a technical level. I am grateful to my tech professors for giving me an opportunity to figure out how my wheelchair and theatre could go together and work for me.



After I finish here at East Bay I plan to continue my education and go onto graduate school, to study stage management or theatre management. In the future I want to open up my own theatre company for people of all abilities. I have had wonderful educators throughout high school and my time here at East Bay who gave me a chance to challenge them and myself in trying to do theatre, performing and backstage, while in a wheelchair. I want to be able to give that same opportunity to others -- with a focus on children and teenagers-- to do what they love.

Checking In



From Cal State to Hollywood

April Rodriguez
2005, Theatre and Dance

To an outsider, the leap from running the sound board in undergrad to film archivist for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences might not make much sense. However, this may be because my path to date has been very dynamic. Since leaving Cal State Hayward I've worked and traveled all over the world, most notably for the Library of Congress, Pixar, Beach Blanket Babylon, and Berkeley Sound Artists. I remember the theatre and dance program as an intimate one; in fact I still keep in touch with professors, staff, and my cohort. At Cal State I had numerous opportunities to be involved in shows and there were plenty of times I found myself in fight or flight situations, times where you either stepped up to boldly create or you played it safe. Putting ourselves out there we all took risks because the college stage is the place to make your mistakes and grow to be a better artist. The performing arts are highly collaborative businesses. Not everyone realizes the transferrable skills inherent with being an artist such as time management, budgeting, multi-tasking, or experience with technology and a demanding work environment. Coupled with the training at Cal State to approach everything with purpose, I've come away with a foundation to succeed in the field. Currently, my job as a film archivist involves meticulously inspecting film and cataloging my findings. Most likely I will be the only one to handle the film for the next several years so like a performance I've got to be perfect with my one chance for inspection. Additionally, being that there is more film than hours to inspect it, it becomes crucial for me to stay motivated. This is achievable because I believe in the importance of preserving our cultural heritage via the arts. Nearly 10 years later what I've gained from the CSUH Theatre and Dance department still propels me to succeed, no matter my path.



Featured Faculty



Richard Olmsted: This spring, I'm designing the set for Aurora Theatre Company's production of Athol Fugard's *"Master Harold"...and the Boys*, an autobiographical play that takes place in 1950 at St. George's Park Tearoom in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Fugard's parents ran the tearoom in the 40s and 50s, and the play centers on the relationship between 15 year old Hally (Fugard), with Sam and Willie, the two black waiters at the tearoom, capturing a personal moment within the history of South Africa's apartheid era. The production is directed by Timothy Near, with lighting design by Kurt Landisman and costumes designed by Victoria Livingston-Hall. The cast features L. Peter Callender, Adrian Roberts and Andrew Humann. The challenge for the design is to capture the

details of a very specific time, place and fitting the set into the quirky and intimate Aurora space.

Department Information

Special Thanks to these creative organizations and artists who collaborate with our department in multiple, invaluable ways

African and African American Performing Arts Coalition

AXIS Dance Company

Dandelion Dancetheater

Friends of the Arts

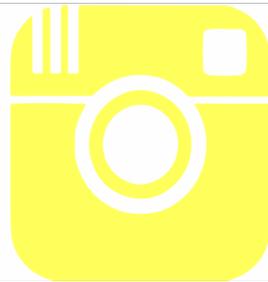
Impact Theatre

Nina Haft and Company

Shawl-Anderson Dance Center

The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre

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We are always seeking volunteer ushers for shows. If you are interested please call the Theatre and Dance office at 510.885.3118

Attention Alumni
Please fill out our catch up survey on our Theatre and Dance Alumni Page

BOX OFFICE INFO

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Online Ticket Purchase: www.csueastbaytickets.com

On Campus Ticket Purchase: Hayward Campus Pioneer Bookstore