WELCOME TO THE SDSU COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES AND FINE ARTS!

PSFA is a vibrant creative and cultural community, and home to some of America’s most prestigious programs in communication, criminal justice, hospitality and tourism management, public administration, media, performance, creative industry, and visual art.

Each of the seven schools, 43 majors, and 18 centers and institutes in PSFA offers innovative curriculum and cutting-edge research. All have earned the respect of their professional networks across the country and around the world.

PSFA is also home to ROTC for three branches of the military: Army, Navy/Marines, and Air Force, and the College proudly supports veteran, active duty, reserve, National Guard, and military dependent students.

Since taking on the role of Interim Dean in March 2022, I have been struck by the boundless creativity and innovation in our College. We are a unique synthesis of many interests, all centering on student development, excellence for the common good, and core values of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Life-changing student experiences begin in PSFA. We have over 40 student clubs and organizations in the college, with our students involved in a myriad of activities such as the Aztec Marching Band, SDSU Forensics, Study Abroad, Musical Theatre, as well as research, scholarly, and creative activities.

PSFA has experienced incredible growth this past year with the construction of the new SDSU Performing Arts District. With significant support from several generous donors and the State of California, we have been able to move from a kernel of an idea to a state-of-the-art training facility for creatives across campus. Construction will be completed in 2023.

In addition, the coming months will include the development of new partnerships and opportunities with SDSU Mission Valley and its public arts and Innovation District.

Both of these projects will elevate the student experience by being catalysts for undergraduate and graduate student transitions from classroom to career.

We think of our College as a multi-faceted jewel or a kaleidoscope. By being together in our differences, we create something unique and beautiful.

HEATHER E. CANARY, PHD
Interim Dean,
College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts
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The School of Art and Design is a creative learning community in which students develop their practice as artists, designers, and art historians who work in and across media while enhancing their visual, material, and conceptual thinking within the context of the School’s commitments to social and environmental justice and innovative entrepreneurship, as well as its location near the US-Mexico Border and on the Pacific Rim.

prominent alumni:

RACHEL SMITH
Founder of Design to Combat Covid-19

TANYA AGUÍNIGA
Artist whose work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including at the Smithsonian American Art Museum

MAJORS OFFERED

Art
Integrated Design
Interior Architecture
Art History

Annual Student Art and Design Exhibition Brings Honors and Cash Awards

Since 1999, the SDSU School of Art and Design Student Award Exhibition has demonstrated the University’s support of artistic excellence and diversity in student artwork. The annual exhibition features a juried collection of upper-division and graduate student artwork.

In addition to the honor of being selected to participate in the show, the Student Award Exhibition also offers students opportunities to win cash awards, a solo gallery exhibition, and the opportunity to have their work included in the University’s permanent collection.

“I was so honored to have been recognized,” said Jury Award winner and MFA alumna, Sepideh Shamloufard. “My student exhibition award was not just about the validation of my work, it was a celebration of what I have done with the help and support of my mentors, faculty, and family. I think this award inspired me to represent a better version of myself.”
Campus Murals Improve Facilities, Support Diversity

The School of Art and Design is home to a number of stunning murals. Two, in particular, by alumni artists Sabrina Davidson and Avia Ramm support the School’s diversity alongside faculty and visiting artist murals that do the same.

“We rarely see people of color represented in arts curricula (especially women of color) and I wanted to change that,” said Davidson. “It’s nice that the School listened to us when we wanted to say something through our murals. I really appreciate them listening and I hope that will happen in other departments as well.”

“I’m excited for it to start a dialogue,” said Ramm. “People can’t forget Black lives will always matter, so our hope is it reminds people to keep educating themselves and to read about Black history.”

Our students have access to the most exciting tech available through our in-house fabrication lab: FLAB. This technology ranges from laser cutters to 3D printers, a CNC router, and more to support coursework, cross-disciplinary research and personal projects.

Our galleries provide the opportunity for students, faculty and guest artists to exhibit their artwork.

UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY
FLOR Y CANTO GALLERY
EVERETT G. JACKSON GALLERY
INSTALLATION GALLERY
The School of Communication envisions sustained excellence in advancing communication scholarship, promoting social justice, fostering relationships, and enhancing the public good. We enact this vision through inspired teaching, innovative collaborative research, and impactful community engagement.

School of Communication
Connecting Classrooms to Careers Through Internships

The SDSU School of Communication knows internships are essential for students to fine-tune skills and increase their confidence before graduation. To encourage internships, the school offers course credit for participating.

“My internship has not only taught me about marketing, but has given me immense organizational skills in regards to staying on top of emails and staying connected with people,” said student Hailey Wedel. “It has definitely prepared me for my professional career after I graduate.”

Internship Coordinator Chuck Goehring says, “Communication can be applicable to countless professions. In my opinion, a communication internship provides the best insight into what the future may hold once they graduate.”

Aztec Forensics is our competitive speech and debate team with a reputation for training skilled public speakers and debaters at no cost. Students can receive course credit, qualify for scholarships, and participate in leadership opportunities.
Aztec Forensics Boosts National Ranking

Aztec Forensics, the competitive speech and debate team in the School of Communication recently increased their national ranking from 18th to 11th in the country.

“We are very fortunate to have coaches who are former national champions,” teammate Matthew Hitomi says. “Our coaches are really helpful and willing to help us grow in the direction that we want to.”

“These are people who are extremely good at what they do, and they also care a lot about our students,” said Director of Forensics, Ashley Nuckels Cuevas. “The fact that SDSU Forensics has such an amazing administrative support is a reason why we’ve been able to achieve these ranks.”

The Aztec Invitational Forensics competition occurs annually in the spring semester. The tournament brings in over 30 universities and community colleges with over 2,000 students competing.

The SDSU School of Communication was named the 2019 Outstanding Master’s Program by the National Communication Association’s Master’s Education Section.
Hospitality and Tourism Management SCREAM program supports world wide student travel

HTM and SCREAM (Students Creating Ride, Entertainment Attractions and Memories) faculty work diligently to guarantee that SDSU is included in the important global connection and conversation that occurs at events like Expo 2020.

“HTM truly believes that experiences and networking are equally, if not more important than what we learn from a textbook,” shares SCREAM President Jano Paredes. “These experiences and skills are what will truly benefit us as we transition from the classroom to the field, so it is important to push these experiences even during a pandemic.”
Students study abroad at essentially no cost

CSU Hospitality Alliance Announces Headquarters at SDSU

The SDSU School of Hospitality and Tourism Management was declared the headquarters for the CSU Hospitality Alliance, a coalition that builds connections and careers for HTM students across 15 schools in the CSU System.

The alliance has become a pathway for students from campus to career, creating vital connections across the country. With a large network of industry connections, job fairs, and webinars, students have a unique opportunity to develop their skills.

“Being a part of the CSU Hospitality & Tourism Alliance is such a great opportunity for our outreach, our collaborations with our CSU colleagues and especially for our students,” says lead administrator Corrine Youngholm.
We’re Still Here: How the Screening Circle Amplified LGBTQ+ Voices

For many traditionally-marginalized communities, lack of media representation is a common experience. Through the Screening Circle, the School of JMS amplifies underrepresented groups and creates conversations around social issues.

Students and faculty filled the Tula Community Center to engage in conversations about the LGBTQ+ community and unleash their inner drag queen or king. Three local drag queens performed following the screening of the Temecula-based episode of HBO’s “We’re Here.”

“Our goal is to empower students to understand their roles as storytellers in the media,” says JMS director Temple Northup. “By engaging in these tough conversations we can create safe and inclusive spaces where we can all be catalysts for change.”
Students have access to the latest in software and hardware so that they are fully prepared to enter the workforce with the knowledge and expertise needed to excel. From cameras to analytic tools, our students understand the media in all ways—from creating messages to analyzing their impact.

Our students truly get to use San Diego as a living laboratory for their education. From covering stories as interns for the Union-Tribune to launching campaigns for local clients, they get real world experience while they are still students in the school.

The Ronald T. Thornton Endowed Internship Scholarship Assists Aspiring Broadcast Journalists

After retiring from a long and fruitful career in broadcast journalism, Ronald T. Thornton came home to San Diego wondering which direction the next phase of his life would take him. That path ultimately led him back to where it all started: San Diego State University.

He credits his experience at SDSU with giving him the foundation to excel and seize opportunities both big and small—a foundation that he hopes to pass to the next generation. The Ronald T. Thornton Endowed Internship will provide $2,500 annually to support aspiring broadcast journalists at SDSU.

“What SDSU has become since my time there heavily influenced my decision. I was so proud to see that growth,” said Thornton. “When I retired, I asked myself what my next step would be and it just clicked—this is what you do. You help the next generation accomplish what you were able to.”
The mission of San Diego State University’s School of Music and Dance is to provide the highest quality education for performers, choreographers, educators, researchers, and those who may be in fields related to music and dance.

The School of Music and Dance Hosts Electronic Music Marathon

The annual SDSU Electronic Music Marathon examines the convergence of music, visual art, technology, and data analysis. A fully immersive music event, the four-hour marathon features the work of SDSU's electronic music makers paired with student-designed light shows and visual projections.

"Technology is our creative medium; we use laptops and software to explore the limits of acoustics and discover interesting new sounds to inform our compositions," said marathon organizer and music professor Chris Warren. "We’ve teamed up with the data scientists in the Fowler College of Business, led by big data expert Dr. Aaron Elkins, to dive deep into the feature extraction tools that can offer new avenues of analysis of our creative works."

MAJORS OFFERED

BFA in
• Dance

BA in
• Dance
• Music

BM in
• Music Education
• Performance
• Global Composition
• Professional Studies
• Music
• Recording Technology
• & Audio Design
• Music Entrepreneurship & Business
• Jazz Studies

MM in
• Performance
• Conducting
• Jazz Studies
• Composition
The School of Music and Dance produces over 150 performances, recitals, masterclasses, and workshops every year.

SDSU’s Imperial Valley Campus and Mesa Campus Unite for Music Festival

SDSU Mesa Campus and the SDSU Imperial Valley Campus came together to celebrate music and dance with a two-day fall 2021 festival. Over 200 student performers making up the SDSU Choirs, Wind Symphony, and Symphony Orchestra traveled to the Imperial Valley campus to take part in a campus collaboration which included classical, gospel, choral, folklorico, and dance.

Third year music education student Kayla Apon-te plays first chair trombone in the SDSU Wind Symphony, and she says she “hopes the event will allow Imperial Valley students to feel encouraged to pursue goals like playing in amazing groups like the Wind Symphony.”

Graduate music program first started in 1907
School of Public Affairs

Researches Beach Access in Encinitas

After implementing pedestrian and bicycle counting infrastructure in San Diego County, the SDSU School of Public Affairs was contacted by the City of Encinitas to update their beach access tracking system. The project will track both walking and cycling path access along the coastline.

The research team will implement and analyze Eco-Counter technology to develop and protect coastline access in the north county city, supplying data to the Department of Infrastructure and Sustainability.

The School of Public Affairs develops innovative leaders who champion public service values including diversity, equity, ethics, and accountability, to support the well-being of communities through educational opportunities within and outside the classroom in a multicultural bi-national region.

MAJORS OFFERED

- BA in Public Administration
- BS in Criminal Justice
- Master of City Planning
- Master of Criminal Justice and Criminology
- Master of Public Administration

Our degree programs connect students with high quality employment opportunities in local, regional, state, and federal government.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SCHOOL
Team awarded Rapid Response Grant to research the state of San Diego’s Public Restrooms

The SDSU Rapid Response Program has granted funding to investigator Megan Welsh of the School of Public Affairs to research the public restroom crisis in San Diego County. The project is supported by a team from three schools, all working to find solutions to the longstanding lack of sufficient and sustained public restrooms.

“Our research provides us with a strong foundation for addressing this social need, vindicating for this change to follow, and shifting the power dynamic that lies within the success of educating and swaying minds to adopt this similar awareness,” said student researcher Adriana Rios. “Ultimately, our hope is that our research will impact the community by bringing attention to, and justification for, more adequate, fair, and equal access to sanitation and hygiene.”

Our students get access multiple alumni scholarships, in addition to opportunities for collaborative research with faculty.
New Musical Initiative Breathes Life into World Premieres

The School of Theatre, Television, and Film prioritizes the creation of new stories for the stage through the New Musical Theatre Initiative. Over a two-year incubator process, the MFA Musical Theatre Program brings entirely new theatrical works from workshop to world premiere.

Out of 163 submissions in 2022, *In a Sunshine State*, by writers T.C. Lind, Derek Gregor, and Phoebe Kreutz was chosen. It captures the untold LGBTQ history of 1950’s Florida.

“We only wish that *In a Sunshine State* were not so relevant for our times,” says music director Robert Meffe, “this piece was unanimously chosen by our selection committee for its powerful themes, thoughtful story, and well-crafted music and lyrics.”

Advanced and graduate Film Production students are granted access to Studio C, which stands as a “shell” equipped with 300 amps of electrical power and a scene dock with a variety of flats used to create sets.
School of Theatre, Television, and Film preserves the Alicia Annas Historical Costume Collection

The Alicia Annas Historic Costume Collection, housed in the School of Theatre, Television, and Film, comprises over 1,000 historical garments and costume accessories dating back as far as the 1860s. Due to a lack of resources, work on the collection was halted for over 15 years. Now through the commitment of Head of Costume Design and Technology professor Denitsa Bliznakova, and Costume Shop Manager Teri Tavares, the collection functions as a source of hands-on study and primary research for costume faculty, students, and staff.

The Alicia Annas Historic Costume Collection is an impressive reserve. “This collection is an invaluable resource for the study of historical costumes,” said Bliznakova. “It is in my purview now to make it available to not only our SDSU students but to national costume organizations as well.”

prominent alumni:

KATHLEEN KENNEDY
Film producer known for *E.T.*, *Schindler’s List*, and the *Jurassic Park* franchise, among many others. Current president of Lucasfilm, and the branch manager of the *Star Wars* franchise.

DESTIN DANIEL CRETTON
Writer and director whose credits include *Short Term 12*, *I am Not a Hipster*, *The Glass Castle*, and *Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*.

DARLA ANDERSON
Noted Pixar producer. Her production credits include *A Bug’s Life*, *Cars*, *Monsters, Inc.*, *Toy Story 3*, and the Pixar film *Coco.*
The Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) Program recruits, retains, develops, and commissions future leaders as officers into the Regular Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard. We pride ourselves on quality leadership training, offered by Active Duty Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers from all three Army components, Contractors and Department of the Army Civilians, with multiple years of experience in various branches and skills.

100% of our commissioning Cadets enter the Active Duty Army, Army National Guard or US Army Reserve as Second Lieutenants after graduation.

The Air Force Reserve Officers’ Training Corps Program Recruits, develops and commissions the best leaders for the Department of the Air Force; building a legacy of honor and forging leaders to deliver.

Students are commissioned into the United States Air Force or United States Space Force.

NROTC San Diego is the premiere NROTC program in the nation. The purpose of the program is to educate and train qualified young men and women for service as commissioned officers in the Navy’s unrestricted line and the Marine Corps.

Students participate in drills, physical training, and professional development events.

students across 12 San Diego area colleges and universities.

Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and civilian staff members.

students

faculty members

Active Duty and Civilian staff members.

200

8

247

16

LEARN MORE ABOUT ROTC
SDSU Army ROTC Ranger Challenge Team Advances to West Point

In 2022, SDSU’s Army ROTC Ranger Challenge Team tied for first place in the Eighth Brigade Viking Ranger Challenge at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington. The team of nine students competed against The University of Hawaii and The University of Montana to advance to the Sandhurst Military Skills Competition at West Point.

“Out of 273 Army ROTC programs across the US, only 16 advance to Sandhurst,” said team co-captain, Cadet Johnathan Hallmark. “Earning a spot to represent San Diego State at the Sandhurst Military Skills Competition at West Point is a great honor.”

The battalion prioritizes sportsmanship and dedicates themselves to team collaboration every step of the way.

Mentor Program supports Navy ROTC Students

The Navy ROTC program matches first year students with experienced upperclassmen to support them throughout their time in NROTC and college life.

Mentorship Program Coordinator and Supply Officer LSC(SW) Gregory Garcia shares that this program is significant “in order to prepare our Midshipmen for service in the Navy and Marine Corps. A mentor’s advice and guidance helps develop and prepare their mentee for growth.”
The PARC is a learning center with two study spaces and free school supplies, food, charging outlets and face-to-face and virtual tutoring and learning coaching for PSFA students.

PSFA Academic Resource Center Open for all Students

PARC offers free learning coaching, tutoring, food and kitchen areas, school supplies, charging outlets, workshops, and drop-in advising for career, study abroad, academic requirements, and assistant dean support.

The PARC serves all students at SDSU, including graduate students and cross-registered community college students.

“Learning how-to-learn is necessary for university-level courses, even after earning your high school diploma, GED or Associate’s degree,” says PSFA Learning Coach Rebecca Tedesco. “The PARC is here to help you do that, as well as develop strategies to achieve your goals at SDSU.”

The Centers and Institutes of PSFA

Center for Communication, Health, and the Public Good
Center for Hospitality and Tourism Research
Center for Science and Media
Center for the Study of Media and Performance
Center for the Study of Women in Television & Film
Center for Surf Research
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Volunteer and Mentorship Center
Glen M. Broom Center for Professional Development in Public Relations
Institute for the Arts, Humanities, and Social Justice
Institute for Dialogue and Social Justice
Institute for Innovative Governance
Institute for Leisure and Tourism Management
Institute for Meetings and Events
Prison Arts Collective
Sycuan Institute on Tribal Gaming
The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation Student Center for Professional Development
The Production Center for Documentary and Drama
Arts Alive SDSU is dedicated to providing opportunities for students, faculty, and staff at San Diego State University to engage in the arts as an integral part of a comprehensive education that promotes creative research, interdisciplinary collaboration, professional innovation, and personal enrichment on campus and in the community.

Semi-annual Arts Alive SDSU Discovery Series enables coaction across media and disciplines

The Arts Alive SDSU Discovery Series features the work of SDSU students and explores current social themes through interdisciplinary media and perspectives. The Discovery Series includes theater and musical theater, visual art, film, dance, and music projects, alongside wrap-around critical discussion panels by SDSU students, faculty, and special guests.

The Discovery Series captures how the arts intersect with the humanities and sciences to create an enriching interdisciplinary experience for SDSU students.

The Arts Alive SDSU Interdisciplinary Teaching Program offers students the chance to explore a topic from multiple perspectives.

The Discovery Series provides opportunities to explore sociopolitical issues through the lens of the creative arts, providing an interdisciplinary forum for discussion with selected arts events.

Arts Alive SDSU offers an average of 10-12 student assistant or internship opportunities each semester in a variety of fields including photography, videography, and social media/marketing.
New Performing Arts District Transforms Campus

Conceived in 2019 as a plan to renovate the SDSU Mainstage theater in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the SDSU Performing Arts District has grown into an entire reimagining of performing arts facilities at SDSU.

More than $37 million from the State of California is funding improvements to the Mainstage that will make it accessible for all populations. A Conrad Prebys Foundation gift funded a new second stage theater, The Prebys Stage, for student productions. The new Prebys Stage will include the latest lighting and sound technology.

These contributions, as well as private philanthropic support through the On To A New Stage fundraising campaign, will secure the creative hub of SDSU’s performing arts.

According to Niyi Coker, Director of the School of Theatre, Television, and Film, the Performing Arts District will make SDSU highly competitive in attracting new performing arts students and preparing them to be industry-ready.

Construction on the SDSU Performing Arts District is due to be completed early in 2023.

Attracting talented students and guest artists, SDSU has trained and launched numerous successful careers on Broadway, in the TV and film industries, and in academia.

Performances Annually

1,407

Performing Arts Students at SDSU

300+

Performances Annually
# Take A Seat Campaign

SDSU performing arts invites you to take part in an exciting opportunity to support its new Performing Arts District in a meaningful way by participating in the Take A Seat campaign. Take A Seat in the spotlight and enjoy having your name, a sentiment, anniversary date, or the name of another person you wish to honor laser-engraved on an elegant nameplate placed on one of the theater seats.

Your sponsorship will support performances, students, faculty, and the greatest needs of the SDSU performing arts program.

For more information about supporting the Performing Arts District, please contact:

**Adrienne Vargas**  
*avargas4@sdsu.edu, 619-594-4562*

**Mary Darling**  
*m darling@sdsu.edu, 619-594-8299*

**Elise Moersch**  
*emoersch@sdsu.edu, 619-594-9640*

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## Naming Opportunities Still Available

- **$7.5M** Main Stage Theatre
- **$1.5M** Main Stage Auditorium
- **$1.5M** Main Stage Foyer

## Technology/ Back Stage

- **$500K** Sound Design Studio
- **$150K** Main Stage Green Room
- **$100K** Main Stage Lounges (2)
- **$100K** Main Stage Dressing Room
- **$100K** Main Stage Orchestra Pit
- **$75K** Box Office
- **$50K** Main Stage Sound Booth
- **$50k** Dressing Rooms (4)

## Benches

- **$50K** Third Stage Benches (5)
- **$60K** Prebys Stage Loggias (2)

## Outdoor Spaces

- **$1.5M** Performing Arts Walk
- **$100K** Courtyard

## Reserve Your Seat Today

- **$2,000** Producers’ Circle/Main Stage A-J
- **$1,800** Directors’ Circle/Main Stage Row L-S
PSFA donors support our students' academic pursuits and careers through scholarships, research opportunities, annual donations, in-kind donations, and planned giving.

To learn more about how you can impact the future of SDSU with your giving, contact Elise S. Moersch Ed D at emoersch@sdsu.edu.

Number of Donors
726

Cash Gifts
$1,241,078

Gifts in Kind
$146,836

New Pledges
$500,235

Estate Intentions
$5,651,194

Pledge Payments
$2,074,599

Total PSFA Giving
$9,613,942

PSFA trains global citizens, compassionate leaders, and ethical innovators

SDSU President
Adela de la Torre