

UC SAN DIEGO THEATRE & DANCE

SPRING NEWSLETTER: WEEK TWO DEPARTMENT NEWS

MFA ACTING COHORT PREPARES FOR UPCOMING NEW YORK SHOWCASE



On April 8th the 2019 UC San Diego MFA Acting class presented their final showcase in Los Angeles' Garry Marshall Theatre and will now head to New York for a final showcase at The Peter Jay Sharp Theater on April 23rd.

If you are in the New York area be sure to support (Top row, from left to right) Janet Omalolu Fiki, Hannah Finn, Nicole Javier, and (Bottom row, from left to right) Allyn Anthony Moriyon, Max Singer, and Danielle E.B. Wineman as they continue in their professional careers.

For more information about the New York showcase, [click here](#).



FACULTY LEADERSHIP IN THE NEWS



DEPARTMENT CHAIR CELEBRATES THE RELEASE OF TWO NEW BOOKS THIS SPRING

Department Chair and Playwriting Faculty Allan Havis has two new books being released this April: the first (as editor) is a new anthology of plays focused on American political theatre entitled *American Political Plays in the Age of Terrorism* from Bloomsbury/Methuen Drama - London, while the second, *Albert Down a Wormhole*, is a sequel to his Young Adult book *Albert the Astronomer*.

For More information about *American Political Plays in the Age of Terrorism*, [click here](#).

To secure your copy of *Albert Down a Wormhole*, [click here](#).

HEAD OF GRADUATE DESIGN AND DESIGN FACULTY ROBERT BRILL AWARDED CHANCELLOR'S ASSOCIATES FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Professor Robert Brill will be honored at the 45th annual Chancellor's Associates Faculty Excellence Awards for Excellence in the Performing and Visual Arts on April 18th.

"For these awards, faculty members are nominated by their academic peers in recognition of their exemplary contributions to the university."

"These talented scholars are blazing entirely new ways of thinking, inspiring new generations of students through research and redefining how learning happens in the classroom," said Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla.

For the full story, [click here](#).



IN OTHER DEVELOPING NEWS



UC SAN DIEGO PROFESSOR WINS FOR BEST DIRECTION AT LOS ANGELES DRAMA CRITICS CIRCLE AWARDS

MFA Alumna and Acting Faculty Jennifer Chang was selected as one of two recipients for direction for *Vietgone* at East West players at the at the 50th annual LA Drama Critics Circle Awards.

For a complete list of winners, [click here](#).

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES NEW PROGRAM TO COMMISSION WORKS FROM MFA PLAYWRIGHTS

The La Jolla Playhouse has announced a partnership with UC San Diego to commission new works from graduates of the UC San Diego Theatre and Dance Department's MFA in Playwriting program.

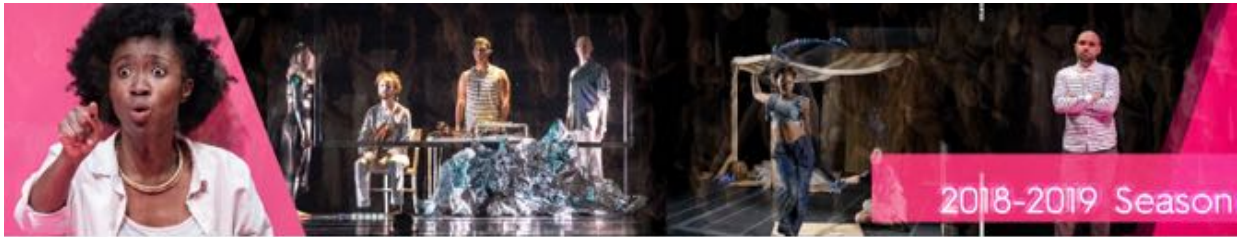
In a statement La Jolla Playhouse Artistic Director, Chirstopher Ashley said "This new program strengthens the great bond between UC San Diego and the Playhouse, and guarantees that each MFA playwriting graduate will continue to have a relationship with us as they enter the professional world."

The first two commissioned playwrights will be Steph Del Rosso (Right) and Ava Geyer (Left).

For the full story, [click here](#).



BE SURE TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS FOR
THE WAGNER NEW PLAY FESTIVAL IN THE JACOBS
THEATRE DISTRICT



Save the date for the annual Wagner New Play Festival, happening throughout the Jacobs Theatre Districts
April 30 - May 18.

Come out and experience these bold new visions from our MFA Playwriting students.

MONSTER

by Ava Geyer

in the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre

Director: Joseph Hendel

SHAME SPIRAL

by Ali Viterbi

in the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre

Director: Natalie Robicheaux

THE GRADIENT

by Steph Del Rosso

in the Theodore and Adele Shank Theatre

Director: Steph Del Rosso

THE JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTHLY

by Mara Nelson-Greenberg

in the Theodore and Adele Shank Theatre

Director: Carla Harting

DUCHESS! DUCHESS! DUCHESS!

by Vivian Barnes

in the Arthur Wagner Theatre

Director: Juliana Kleist-Mendez

A reading of ***INCENDIARY***

by Dave Harris

in the Arthur Wagner Theatre

For more information about the Festival or to reserve your tickets, [click here](#)

ALUMNI NEWS

LAUREN YEE RECEIVES OUTSTANDING NEW PLAY AWARD FROM LA DRAMA CRITICS CIRCLE

MFA playwriting Alumna Lauren Yee received the Ted Schmitt Award for outstanding new play at the 50th Annual Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards for *Cambodian Rock Band* at South Coast Rep.

For a full list of the other winners, [click here](#).



MFA STAGE MANAGEMENT ALUMNA TAKES THE REINS FOR PRODUCTION AT THE PUBLIC THEATER'S FREE SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

Alumna Kamra Jacobs will serve as Production Stage Manager for the Public Theater's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* in the Delacorte Theater in Central Park from May 21 - June 23 2019.

"Continuing the work of its visionary founder, Joseph Papp, The Public Theater is dedicated to developing an American theater that is accessible and relevant to all people. Creating theater for one of the largest and most diverse audience bases in New York City for nearly 60 years, today The Public engages audiences in a variety of venues – beginning with Free Shakespeare in the Park."

For information about how to get tickets for this free annual tradition, [click here](#).

LIGHTING DESIGN ALUMNUS RECEIVES LA DRAMA CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD FOR PROJECTION DESIGN

MFA Lighting Design Alumnus Jason H. Thompson received a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for CGI/Projection Design for the East West Players production of *Vietgone* at the 50th Annual ceremony on Monday April 8th.

For a full list of winners, [click here](#).



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