

UC SAN DIEGO
THEATRE & DANCE

WINTER NEWSLETTER: WEEK FOUR
DEPARTMENT NEWS



UP NEXT IN THE MANDELL WEISS FORUM
LIFE IS A DREAM

Join UC San Diego this February for Pedro Calderón de la Barca's allegorical drama *Life is a Dream* directed by Joseph Hendel

Previews: February 6 @ 7pm

Show dates: February 8, 9, 15, 16 @ 7:30pm February 9 @ 2pm

[For information and tickets click here](#)

4TH YEAR PhD HONORED BY BOUCHET GRADUATE HONOR SOCIETY

UC San Diego Theatre and Dance PhD Candidate, Kristen Tregar, has been selected by the UC San Diego institutional chapter of the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society to receive an Honorable mention. The selection committee was impressed by Kristen's demonstration of Character, Leadership, Advocacy, and Service central to the Bouchet Graduate Society. In particular they appreciated her dedication to advocacy for students who have been traditionally underrepresented here at UC San Diego and in the larger community.

About the Bouchet Society: "Named for Edward Alexander Bouchet, the first African American doctoral recipient in the United States, the Edward Alexander Bouchet Graduate Honor Society (Bouchet Society) recognizes outstanding scholarly achievement and promotes diversity and excellence in doctoral education and the professoriate."



ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI PLAYWRIGHTS NOMINATED FOR SUSAN SMITH BLACKBURN PRIZE



MFA Playwriting alumni Lauren Yee (left) and Lily Padilla (right) have been nominated as two of the ten finalists for the 41st Annual Susan Smith Blackburn Prize which honors female playwrights from all over the world.

Padilla is in contention with *How to Defend Yourself* which was produced as a part of the Wagner New Play Festival in 2018, right here on UC San Diego's campus and is set to receive its professional premiere at the Humana Festival of New American Plays in March. Lauren Yee's offering *Cambodian Rock Band* premiered last year at Orange County's South Coast Rep in connection with the Pacific Playwrights Festival.

For more information, see [James Hebert's report for the San Diego Union Tribune here](#)



COSTUME DESIGN ALUMNA NOMINATED FOR OVATION AWARD

MFA Costume Design Alumna, Halei Parker received a nomination for a 2018 Ovation Award for her design of Troubadour Theatre Company's production of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

The Ovation Awards are the only peer-judged theatre awards in Los Angeles, created to recognize excellence in theatrical performance, production, and design in the Greater Los Angeles area.

ACTING CLASS OF 2017 ALUMNA STARS AND CO-WRITES SUNDANCE INCLUSION

MFA Acting Alumna Zora Howard received praise from the Hollywood Reporter for her performance in *Premature*. The film, which Howard also co-wrote with Director Rashaad Ernesto Green was selected for the 2019 Sundance Film Festival.

To read the full article, [click here](#)



UC SAN DIEGO ALUMNA ANTICIPATES MAJOR RELEASE IN *HAPPY DEATH DAY 2U*

UC San Diego Graduate, Whitney Anne Adams' costume design will be featured in two films being released in February. *Happy Death Day 2U* set to be release on February 13th and *Piercing*, which releases streaming OnDemand and on iTunes beginning February 1st.

More about *Happy Death Day 2U*: In the sequel to the 2017 hit *Tree Gelbman* once again finds herself trapped in a time loop and must die over and over again to save her friends from a psychotic masked killer.

[Watch the trailer for *Happy Death Day 2U* here](#)

More about *Piercing*: Reed (Christopher Abbott) is going on a business trip. He kisses his wife and infant son goodbye, but in lieu of a suitcase filled with clothes, he's packed a toothbrush and a murder kit. Everything is meticulously planned: check into a hotel and kill an unsuspecting victim. Only then will he rid himself of his devious impulses and continue to be a good husband and father. But Reed gets more than he bargained for with Jackie (Mia Wasikowska), an alluring call girl who arrives at his room. First, they relax and get in the mood, but when there's an unexpected disruption, the balance of control begins to sway back and forth between the two. Is he seeing things? Who's playing whom? Before the night is over, a feverish nightmare will unfold, and Reed and Jackie will seal their bond in blood.

[Watch the trailer for *Piercing* here](#)

UC San Diego

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UC San Diego Theatre & Dance

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