



LISA SMITH WENGLER
CENTER FOR THE

arts

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

2018-2019

Year in Review

Dear friends,

We had a memorable year at the Lisa Smith Wengler Center for the Arts in 2018–2019, and I'm thrilled to share a few highlights with you, the people who made it possible.

We pride ourselves in offering something for everyone. I'm particularly pleased at the wide range of performances we presented last season, including legendary singer and actor Sheena Easton, spectacular sensations Cirque Mechanics, and the mesmerizing troupe Jessica Lang Dance in their final performance in California. Artists such as Ailey II and Jazzy Ash and the Leaping Lizards captivated and delighted both public audiences and students in our ARTSReach program. The Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art had a successful year filled with interesting, diverse work that engaged and excited our community, most notably an exclusive Richard Diebenkorn exhibition.

I will always remember how humbling it was to stand in the Smothers Theatre lobby just a few short weeks after the devastating Woolsey Fire and see our neighbors smile and greet each other after weeks of evacuation. Ukulele virtuosi Jake Shimabukuro welcomed us home and wished us aloha—and we all needed it. During our darkest days, we need a place to gather, to find joy, and to be inspired. I am honored that for many of you, the Center for the Arts is that place.

Your contributions this year provided live performances and museum exhibitions for thousands of people, including schoolchildren from Los Angeles and Ventura Counties who might not otherwise have access to the arts. On behalf of our staff, our students, and all those we serve—thank you!

Sincerely,
Rebecca Carson

Our mission

The mission of the Lisa Smith Wengler Center for the Arts at Pepperdine University is to present an innovative, unique, entertaining, and diverse program of exceptional performances and museum exhibitions and thus:

1. Enhance the educational experience at the University for all students and to provide a professional laboratory to train students in the arts
2. Foster artistic excellence and creativity
3. Connect Pepperdine University and the richly varied communities of Los Angeles and surrounding communities

Center for the Arts Staff

Rebecca Carson, Managing Director
Rick Aglietti, Technical Director
Monica Chapon, Museum Assistant/Arts Education Coordinator
Valeri Estrada, Events Coordinator/Administrative Assistant
Tyler Flynn, Marketing and Publicity Manager
Tyler Gabbard, Box Office and Patron Communications Manager
Nathan Grater, Production Manager

Danielle Lobello, Director of Production
R.J. Morgan, Events Coordinator/Administrative Assistant
Stewart O'Rourke, Scene Shop Foreman
Alicia Patterson, Parking Competition Production Manager
Paul Vacchiano, Theatre Operations Manager
Michael Zakian, Museum Director



48,018 patrons served in 2018–2019

4,485 artists, technicians, and onstage participants

34,135 attendees to performances in Smothers Theatre, Lindhurst Theatre, and Raitt Recital Hall

13,863 attendees to the Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art

5,905 Pepperdine University students attending performances, exhibitions, and master classes

4,718 ARTSReach performance attendees

\$2,550 worth of tickets donated to 30 deserving nonprofit organizations benefiting arts, education, the local community, and various friends of Pepperdine

1,106 zip codes served

Pacifico Dance Company
performing on April 14, 2019



Year in review



August 28–December 2

The *50 Years of Pop Art* exhibition attracts 4,600 visitors to the Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art.

September 22

Center for the Arts opens its season with a special double billing performance by Grammy Award-winning songwriter Jimmy Webb and singer Ashley Campbell, a Pepperdine alumna and daughter of country music legend Glen Campbell. *(Pictured at left)*



September 30

Center for the Arts hosts its first family performance of the season, Childplay's *Tomás and the Library Lady*, along with Family Art Day activities. The Childsplay company performs two ARTSReach shows for L.A. county schoolchildren the following day.

November 27

Center for the Arts hosts its annual Holiday Boutique at Sherwood Country Club. The attendees contribute \$6,645 to help fund the ARTSReach community outreach program.



November 30

Acclaimed jazz singer Nicole Henry helps get Malibu into the spirit of season with her heartwarming renditions of holiday classics. *(Pictured at left)*

December 1–2

Ukulele virtuosi Jake Shimabukuro brings his exciting and innovative sound to the Smothers stage. This concert marks Shimabukuro's fourth time performing at Pepperdine. *(Pictured at left)*



You are a top-rate venue. We consistently enjoy you
Thanks for all you do to bring
—Kirk, Surv

highlights

December 13

Center for the Arts hosts the Malibu High School Choir Concert in Smothers Theatre following the Woolsey Fire.

January 29

Current Broadway actors entertain patrons with renditions of the best songs from New York City theatre in their production of *On Broadway*.

(Cast pictured with Ellen and Doug Weitman at top right)

March 2

Jazzy Ash and the Leaping Lizards help kids celebrate the music and culture of New Orleans at Family Arts Fest, a day which features art activities, food trucks, face painting, museum tours, and more.

(Magician Stephen Bailey entertains children at right)

April 9

Pepperdine President Andy Benton hosts his final President's Circle Luncheon as Pepperdine University's seventh president. *(Pictured at right)*

April 14

Los Angeles-based Pacifico Dance Company presents a colorful flavor of Mexican culture, history, and diversity with its unique blend of modern and traditional dances. *(Pictured at bottom right)*

May 28–June 1

Center for the Arts hosts the fifth quadrennial Parkening International Guitar Competition. After three days of intense competition, Andrea Roberto of Italy takes the Gold Medal while performing with the Young Musicians Foundation Debut Orchestra. The Gold Medal is presented by famed movie producer Frank Marshall.

(Pictured on cover)



our shows and feel you a real asset to our community.
g us fabulous entertainment!
vey Response

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Students meet Broadway actors Alan H. Green and Jessica Hendy during a master class
(left to right: Kathryn Semple, Audrey McKee, Alden Bettencourt)

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Barbara Garrett
Karen Orefice
Diane Reilly
Ellen Weitman
Lisa Smith Wengler

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON EVENT COMMITTEE

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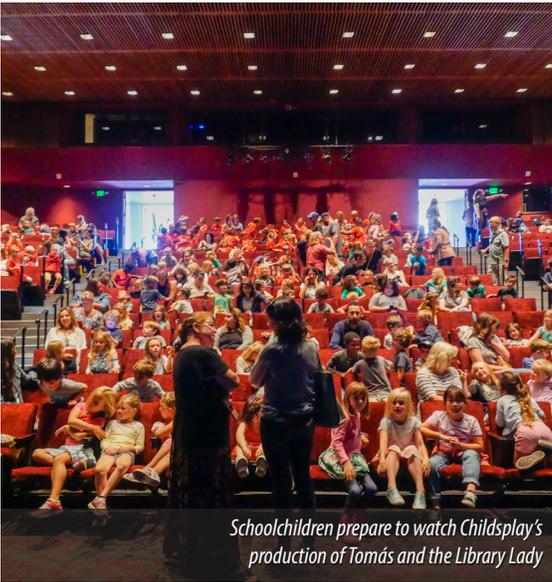
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guitarsalon.com

* In memoriam

This list includes donors to the Center for the Arts at the \$100 level and above from 8/1/2018 -7/31/2019. Please contact our office at 310.506.4594 with any errors or omissions. Thank you!



Center for the Arts Student Workers

Box Office, Usher, and Front of House Staff

Hilario Acuna	Steele Helbock	Jonathan Pryde
Citlalli Araiza	Marysol Hermanson de Estrada	Darianna Pujols
Noah Archibald	Daniel Iturri Calvo	Mackenna Radunz
Mary Buffaloe	Allyson Kim	Shaynee Ramasawmy
Keanna Byrnes	Timmy Kyaw	Kelsey Ramos
Kaitlin Callahan	Ivy Leroux	Jordyn Regier
Andy Castelan	Passion Lord	Emily Reichert
Maria Chavez Mendoza	Anne Manganiello	Nicole Renfroe
Casey Chong	Kennedy Mcgee	Madeleine Riddle
Madeline Colella	Audrey Mckee	Andie Round
Caitlin Crawley	Kaelin Mendez	Soni Rusagara
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Emily Ferris	Julia Pankow	Mackenzie Whitehouse
Christine Galyean	Samantha Petersen	Indiana Wilson
Moriah Hall	Aidan Picadio	Jacob Windham
Savannah Harvey	George Preston	Grace Wood

ARTSReach 2018–2019: Schools Served

Actor's Fund Looking Ahead
 Bethany Christian School
 Blanche Reynolds Elementary
 Bridges Charter School
 Calvary Christian School
 Canyon Charter Elementary
 Capistrano Ave Elementary
 Conejo Valley Homeschoolers
 DaVinci Connect
 Davis Middle School
 Freemont Academy
 Haynes Charter
 Kingsley Elementary
 Lassen Elementary
 Looking Ahead: The Actors Fund
 Marvin Ave
 McKinley Elementary- Compton
 McKinley Elementary- Santa Monica
 MUPU Elementary
 NEW Academy Canoga Park
 North Hollywood High School
 Open Classroom
 Our Lady of Malibu
 PUC Milagro
 Riverside Drive
 RJ Frank Middle School
 SMASH
 Thurgood Marshall
 Webster Elementary
 Westport Heights

Center for the Arts Technicians

Noah Archibald	Christopher Jerabek	Maryann Shilo
Logan Brady	Danecia Kearney	Bailey Soudelier
Natalie Chan	Alannah Lasiter	Kaori-Mei Stephens
Melinda Colbert	Gabrielle Mathys	Sydney Swearingin
Zachary Coleman	Emily Mcnutt	James Tatsch
Caitlin Crawley	Gabrielle Meacham	Maanav Tekwani
Elissa Croslin	Daniela Montoya	Nathaniel Thompson
Alden Dodd-Bettencourt	Wesley Morrissey	Aidan Turner
Sara Eakman	Robert Munn	Garren Weiss
David Fraley	Katelyn Pi	Kaytlin Withers
Bonnie Graham	George Preston	Zhaobang Wu
Yilin Gu	Alexis Raymond	Kyle Wurtz
Andrew Hernandez	Andrew Segovia	Huiyi Xue
Emma Inglehart	Kathryn Semple	
	Derek Seo	

Attendants in the Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art

Maria Fernanda Alvarez Portilla	Izabela Garcia-Arce	Lydia Parker
Jessica Brown	Joshua Gunara	Jordan St.Germain
Julia Campbell	Sara Head	Taya Stewart
Angelina Diaz	Evan Henderson	Marita Zerbe
Marijean Ethington	Emily Knight	Jeremiah Zerbe
Qianmian Gai	Daniel Lee	
	Aubree Ouellette	

Center for the Arts Photographers

Kira Brown
 Kaelin Mendez
 Caitlin Roark
 Ruiman Yang

Center for the Arts Administrative Office

Lauren Jennerjohn
 R.J. Morgan

What our patrons are saying

Reviews and Comments, 2018–2019 Season

JIMMY WEBB & ASHLEY CAMPBELL, SEPTEMBER 22

"Jimmy Webb and Ashley Campbell were amazing! Loved the stories and beautiful music."

—Diane Adams, Facebook

"Jimmy's storytelling was like... listening to a neighborhood celebrity tell tales about the old days in show business. And Ashley Campbell was icing on the cake!"

—Nanci and John Iannone, Email

FEI-FEI, PIANO MASTER CLASS, SEPTEMBER 24

"Fei-Fei was really wonderful—she gave the perfect commentary for all three pieces and gave me a fresh renewal of energy to keep practicing."

—David Fraley, Pepperdine Student

SAMMY MILLER AND THE CONGREGATION, SEPTEMBER 27

"The Congregation members are equally engaging as they are talented. I never realized how much I can enjoy a jazz show!"

—Ali Corsi, Pepperdine Graphic

THE LONE BELLOW, OCTOBER 4

"The energy of Lone Bellow was amazing!"

—Anonymous Patron

MICHAEL FEINSTEIN, OCTOBER 7

"Michael Feinstein is a first-rate performer, making the audience laugh with his anecdotes about some of the famous old songwriters."

—Denise Melle, CFA Patron

"Jazz is incredibly pleasant and easy to listen to. Feinstein was very good at connecting with each audience member and holding their attention throughout the entire show."

—Caitlin Crawley, Pepperdine Graphic

WE BANJO 3, OCTOBER 19

"The show was a wonderful example of Irish folk music. The band was very interactive during the show and spent time talking to all patrons that wished to speak with them. I felt valued as a guest by the band."

—Bonny Oliver, CFA Patron

JAKE SHIMABUKURO, DECEMBER 1–2

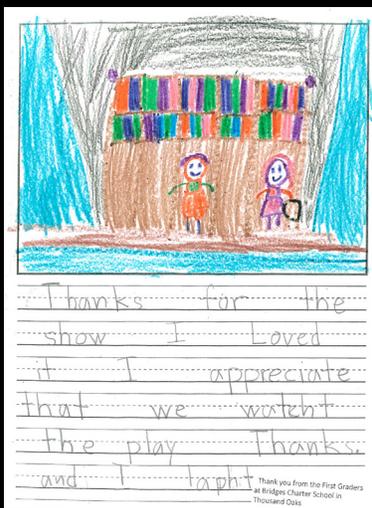
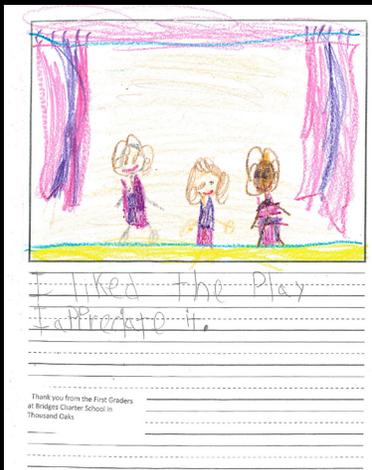
"Jake Shimabukuro has reinvented the ukulele—no one else in the world plays the instrument with anything that approaches his skill and artistry. Smothers Theatre is an intimate space with excellent acoustics, so the whole experience was a joy!"

—Stephen DeCordova, Goldstar

JOHN SEBASTIAN, JANUARY 10

"An incredible performer doing some of the greatest songs ever written, which happen to be his own. Wonderful stories as well."

—Rick Neighbor, CFA Patron



Scene Shop Foreman Stewart O'Rourke gives patrons a backstage tour during Family Arts Fest on March 2, 2019

JEFFREY OSBORNE, JANUARY 12

"Smothers Theatre is very nice and intimate. Jeffrey Osborne is fantastic! His band and back-up singers were great. He also signed souvenirs and took photos after the show!"

—Darlene Jefferson, Goldstar

"Jeffrey Osborne is my favorite R&B singer of all time! Warm, personable, genuine and his voice is impeccable!"

—Rockin Robin, Goldstar

JAZZY ASH AND THE LEAPING LIZARDS, MARCH 2

"Jazzy Ash and the Leaping Lizards are very talented with lots of energy. They appealed to kids of all ages, parents, and even grand-parents (my husband and I had a blast)!"

—Anonymous Patron

PACIFICO DANCE COMPANY, APRIL 14

"Pacifco Dance Company was a beautiful experience. The colors, music, and the style were beyond my expectations."

—Anonymous Patron

GENERAL FEEDBACK

"Just a note of thanks to the people at the box office. They've always been so helpful, and seem genuinely interested in making everything work out... and don't seem to get tired of answering questions!"

—Anonymous Patron

"Pepperdine has one of the finest venues in SoCal. You offer the best in entertainment."

—Anonymous Patron

Lisa Smith Wengler Center for the Arts
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