Dear Friends,

Summers at CCA often appear quiet, but behind the scenes it’s a hotbed of activity. On the Oakland campus, the AI Cafe has been completely remodelled, a brand-new digital lab has been installed in the Photography building, and Nahl Hall has had major upgrades. In San Francisco you’ll find two new “smart” classrooms and new locations for several studios. In addition, we have invested heavily in new technology on both campuses to ensure that our facilities are the best they can be to serve our students.

ENGAGE at CCA: Making a Difference

ENGAGE at CCA, a unique, project-based learning initiative, continues to make a difference for our students and the greater Bay Area. Since its inception, more than 600 students have participated. These courses connect students with outside professionals and community partner organizations to create solutions for specific issues. Past courses have been dedicated to creating ceramic nesting modules for endangered birds, writing with prisoners at San Quentin, and working with visually impaired artists on an installation of light-based art. This year’s ENGAGE students are among many other projects designing welcoming, inclusive spaces for several studios. In addition, we have invested heavily in new technology on both campuses to ensure that our facilities are the best they can be to serve our students.

Sustainability

As you may have heard, the college recently purchased the two-and-a-half acre empty lot adjacent to the San Francisco campus. Things appear quiet there, too, but we have been very busy working with the city on zoning, land use, and environmental issues—key steps that must be taken before we can develop the property.

Trustee Arthur Gensler, founder of the global architecture and design firm Gensler, is leading the trustee committee dedicated to this project. And this fall the Architecture Program will host two studio courses addressing future uses of the property.

The new IMPACT Social Entrepreneurship Awards competition launched this spring. The program awards up to $10,000 to interdisciplinary teams of CCA students who propose specific, socially innovative projects. The three winning teams used their grants this summer to implement ambitious projects in Oakland at Skyline High School, in Bhopal, India, and in rural eastern Kenya. Look for an in-depth feature story on their experiences in Glance magazine and on CCA’s website this fall.

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CCA Named a Top Green College

On Earth Day 2011 (April 21), the Princeton Review–named CCA one of the greenest colleges in the United States, acknowledging our long-standing commitment to sustainability, from waste management solutions to our long-standing commitment to sustainability, from waste management solutions to proactive environmental planning to building design. Sustainability is also an essential value of our curriculum. The Ecological Theory and Practice (ETAP) courses and events, for instance, focus on environmentalism, ecology, and sustainability.

Strong Enrollment

Despite the economic challenges of the past three years, enrollment at CCA continues to be very strong. This fall we welcome our first cohort of students in the new Interaction Design Program. They will be learning to create innovative design experiences in realms ranging from computers and mobile devices to games and social networks. We are also pleased about our largest yet international student body, which now represents 15 percent of our total enrollment and reflects excellent progress in the “internationalization” of our community. We continue to expand our partnerships in China, especially with the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in Beijing. We’re expecting six more transfer students from CCA this fall, and Furniture faculty member Chris Loomis will be teaching in Beijing as part of our new exchange program. The presidents of two prominent Chinese art schools, Lusen Academy of Fine Arts and China Academy of Art, will visit CCA in September and October.

New Tenure-Track Faculty

Joining the Printmaking faculty is Michelle Murillo, whose prints and installations explore memory and place in relation to personal history and identity. Anne Shea joins the Writing and Literature faculty; she has extensive expertise in composition, rhetoric, critical theory, and American literature and visual art of the 20th and 21st centuries.

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Writing Artists

In Fine Arts we welcome Chitra Divakar, who is originally from Osaka and now lives in Berlin; she creates monumental installations conveying themes of childhood, remembrance, and anxiety. Ishmael Reed, an internationally renowned novelist, poet, playwright, and essayist, joins Writing; he has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. Kristina Lee Podesva, an artist, writer, and curator, and the editor of the contemporary art and culture publication Filthy, comes to Visual Studies. Judith Baca continues for a second year in Architecture.

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Fashion Design seniors Patricia Lucia Arroyo and Johnny Paul Vera were offered prestigious internships with Nicole Miller; Arroyo was also honored with the *Surface* magazine Emerging Talent Award. A video submission by Film students Ted Hayden and Chun-Ping 
"Sunday" Wang was awarded the grand prize in the national Vote Again 2010 Video Contest. Alumni Jay Nelson (Painting/Drawing 2004) and Rachel Kaye (Painting/Drawing 2004), together with one of Nelson's experimental vehicle-sculptures, were featured on the cover of *ReadyMade* magazine. Desirée Holman (Sculpture 1999) presented her second solo museum show as part of the acclaimed MATRIX series at the Berkeley Art Museum.

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

Sincerely,

Wattis Institute Exhibitions: Painting Between the Lines and More American Photographs

In Painting Between the Lines, the Wattis Institute continues its investigation of the relationship between literature and art by commissioning 14 contemporary artists to create artworks based on descriptions of paintings in well-known novels. For More American Photographs, 12 contemporary photographers were commissioned to travel the United States, documenting its land and people in the spirit of the Farm Security Administration photographers: the results will be presented alongside vintage FSA images. The exhibitions are on view October 4–December 17. I hope to see you at the opening reception on October 6.

Help Us Meet Our $100,000 Craft Scholarship Challenge

CCA has received a challenge to increase scholarships for deserving students in Ceramics, Glass, Jewelry/Metal Arts, Textiles, and Furniture. If we raise $100,000 in new gifts for craft scholarships, an anonymous donor will match it with another $100,000. Please help us take advantage of this opportunity by making a tax-deductible donation today. You may give online at cca.edu/give or by calling 510.594.3787. Every dollar you donate to craft scholarships will secure an additional dollar, providing critical assistance to promising craft students.

Stephan Beal  
President