



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BAKERSFIELD
School of Arts and Humanities

AHA!

Arts and Humanities Alive!

NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2023 VOL. 6, ISSUE 1

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Summer 2023



ROBERT FRAKES, Ph.D.

The 2022/2023 Academic Year was a successful year for the School of Arts & Humanities at CSUB. A large number of students pursue majors in the programs in our School and we were able to build the number of classes with on-campus components over the course of the year. We had great art exhibitions as well as music and theatre performances. Arts & Humanities students had successful Undergraduate Research presentations. Students were invited to join honor societies in their disciplines and an impressive group of seniors won awards at the Arts & Humanities Honors Ceremony (which was, as always, a great event).

The new Media Arts Center is on track to open for Fall of 2023. This renovated building will offer state of the art facilities for photography and printmaking for the Art & Art History Department and for an array of areas for the Communications Department. These will include sound booths for the recording of broadcasts and podcasts, a Media Lab with a curved green wall and lighting rig, and a room for the Runner Media Group (for the Runner Newspaper and for Public Relations). The building will also have an art gallery.

I thank our community partners who made generous donations to support the students in the School of Arts & Humanities. Their donations help support our student research grants. And, of course, I thank the faculty, students, and staff for all their work during a challenging, but successful year.

I wish everyone a great summer!

INSIDE AHA!

AH HIGHLIGHTS

FACULTY NEWS

AH INSTITUTES

EAC NEWS

ALUMNI BUZZ

AH HIGHLIGHTS



Jagdeep Raina
Beautiful Zameen
March 16- April 29, 2023

Opening reception March 16, 4-8 pm
4-5:30 pm screening of *Narmada: A Valley Rises*
5:30-6 pm conversation with Jagdeep Raina and Jhani Randhawa
6-8 pm gallery reception



Say Hello When You See Me
Jagdeep Raina

Todd Madigan Gallery presented a solo exhibition of the work of artist **Jagdeep Raina** during the Spring 2023 semester.

Beautiful Zameen is a series of works that explores the Green Revolution in Punjab. The drawings and embroidery in *Beautiful Zameen*, which means beautiful land, have emerged from Raina's archival research, including a collaborative study of the playwright Satinder Chohan's photography of the Green Revolution. Raina's works depict farmers, agricultural land, and hands that hold crops and photographs, fusing his research with an ancestral material practice.

Visit the [Todd Madigan Gallery](http://ToddMadiganGallery.com) webpage for more information.

Visit our Home Page for more Event Information
csub.edu/ah

The School of Arts and Humanities showcased their first two Humanities Labs!

The School of Arts and Humanities created the Humanities Lab as a venue for sharing research, methods, and resources to promote scholarly engagement among faculty, graduate students, and advanced undergraduates.



Humanities Lab

Dr. Kate Mulry

October 13, 2022

"Women, Science, and Archival Erasures in 17th Century Jamaica"

For the inaugural Humanities Lab, **Dr. Kate Mulry** (Associate Professor of History) presented her research on "Women, Science, and Archival Erasures in 17th Century Jamaica" to faculty and students on October 13, 2022. This research was the result of her work researching archives in England during her sabbatical leave.



On March 16, 2023, during the second Humanities Lab, **Dr. Steve Frye** of the CSUB English Department gave a talk on "An Unknown Tongue: God, Complexity, and the Limits of Secular Epistemology in Cormac McCarthy's *The Passenger and Stella Maris*."

The talk was followed by comments from an interdisciplinary panel composed of **Dr. Fran Fairbairn** (Philosophy), **Dr. Javier Trigos-Arrieta** (Mathematics), and **Dr. Jon Young** (Religious Studies). The comments of the panel, were moderated by **Dr. Steve Gamboa** (Interim Associate Dean).

AH HIGHLIGHTS

Theatre faculty professors **Mendy McMasters** and **Kamala Boeck** went with our CSUB theatre students to the Region 8 KC/American College Theatre Festival in February. Students competed in the Irene Ryan acting competition, participated in workshops focusing on all areas of theatre, attended productions from colleges and universities around our region, and made lasting connections with other theatre students and professionals.

CSUB Theatre students, Jan Mateo Tugab and Molly Jiron along with their scene partners Charlotte Smith and Maya Blackstone, made it to the Semifinal round of the Irene Ryan acting competition.



Pictured L-R: Charlotte Smith, Chom Wisuthimarkul, Gabriel Abboud, Bradley Ross, Michael Hendrix, Gissela Zelaya, Brizna Fregoso, Maya Blackstone, Jan Mateo Tugab, Vanessa Beltran, Mendy McMasters, Molly Jiron.

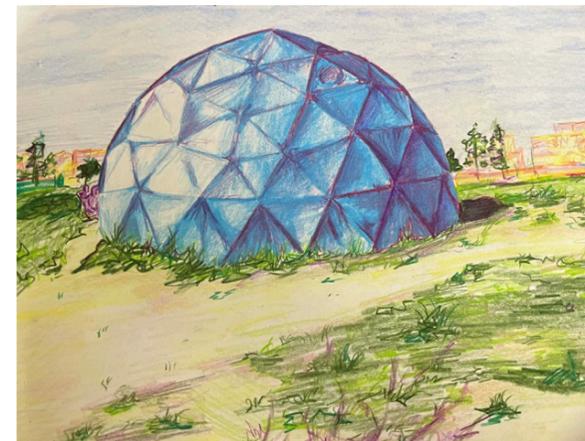


Vanessa Beltran
Theatre Major

Theatre Major **Vanessa Beltran** has been recognized as a National ASPIRE Arts Leadership Fellow. In April Vanessa traveled to Washington DC to participate in a week-long fellowship, as part of the annual national convening of the American College Theater Festival at the Kennedy Center in DC.

The conference included workshops and discussions designed and led by professionals from LORT (League of Resident Theatres) institutions in partnership with staff from the Kennedy Center and the American College Theatre Festival Regional Chairs.

Vanessa also won The John Cauble Emerging Producer/Leader Award. An award of \$5000 is given to two individuals each year as part of the National Awards Ceremony.



A beautiful drawing of the Art Dome by **Alexandra Biternas**. Alexandra is a Human Biology and Art Minor student who created this piece in Professor Drew Dominick's ART 1009 class during the 2023 Spring semester.

2023 AH HONORS CONVOCATION

The School of Arts and Humanities held their 2023 Honors Convocation on May 2, 2023, in the Walter Stiern Library, Dezember Reading Room with opening remarks from CSUB Provost **Vernon Harper** and a keynote address by CSUB History alumna and 2022 Rising Runner **Alyson Moss**.



L-R: Dean Bob Frakes, Alyson Moss (Keynote Speaker), and Provost Vernon Harper.



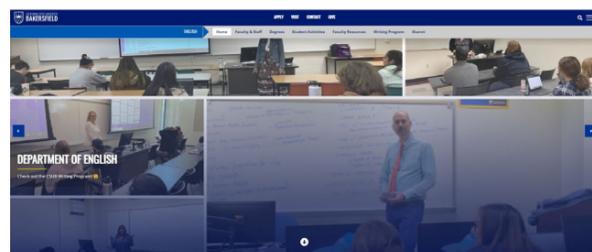
AH HIGHLIGHTS



2023 CSUB Runner Day welcomed students and family members to CSUB and introduced them to the academic opportunities in the School of Arts and Humanities.



Administrative Support Coordinators (L-R) **Angela Beardsley** (English Composition) and **Tamar Anthony** (Philosophy & Religious Studies) attended the Bakersfield 2023 Women's Business Conference in April.



Visit the New English Department Page at [CSUB.edu/english](https://www.csub.edu/english)

Congratulations to Art student **Angel Garcia** for being awarded The George Award in 2023.

This year's guest adjudicator, Victor Gonzales, selected Angel Garcia's work *Battleground* as the outstanding work of the Senior Exhibition. Angel's work was selected from among 21 art majors' work exhibited in the Graduating Senior Exhibition at the Bakersfield Museum of Art.

Honorable mentions goes to **Jodie Riley** and **Davis Meza**.

George Ketterl was a much loved founding member of the CSUB Art faculty and a prominent artist. George vowed never to retire and when he passed in 2010, he was still a member of the faculty. In his honor "The George Award" was created. The George is given each year to an art major selected from among the students who are showing in the Senior Exhibition by an impartial guest adjudicator.



Angel Garcia
Battleground
2023 The George Award



AH HIGHLIGHTS

Transfer Convening at Porterville College

School of Arts and Humanities academic advisors and professors attended the Transfer Convening at Porterville College. They assisted students to make a transition to a four-year university a success!



L-R back row: Janine Cornelison, Joel Haney, Steve Gamboa, Doug Dodd, and Maria Palaiologou.
L-R front row: Adriana Sixtos and Jackie Kegley.

HUMANITIES AND LETTERS
1st Place – Zachary Powell (Graduate)*
(History)
 Faculty Mentor –Dr. Kate Mulry
 Project Title – *Behind the Science of Conservation: Muir's Similarities and Differences to Contemporaries*
1st Place – Gabriel Moore (Undergraduate)*
(History)
 Faculty Mentor –Dr. John Chen
 Project Title – *Two Chinatowns With Only an Alley Left*

2023 CSUB Research Competition Winners

CREATIVE ARTS AND DESIGN
1st Place – Vanessa Beltran (Undergraduate)*
(Theatre)
 Faculty Mentor – Mendy McMasters
 Project Title – *When I Was Your Age*

Congratulations to our hardworking students who competed in the annual CSUB 2023 Research Competition.

Need information about transferring to CSUB?
 Contact the AH Student Center at
ARTS.HUMANITIES@CSUB.EDU



Back row L-R: Ernesto Leon, Julisa Muñoz, Jocelynn Landon, and Brianna Fay
 Front row L-R: Jennifer Serrano Ramirez, Kiara Zabala, Haydee Barahona, and Yarely Coronado



Back row L-R: Nicholas Castillo, Brianna Fay, Jennifer Serrano Ramirez, Ernesto Leon, and Jocelynn Landon
 Front row L-R: Haydee Barahona, Kiara Zabala, Yarely Coronado, and Julisa Muñoz

The staff of the student news organization The Runner, has received top honors for innovation at the annual California College Media Association Excellence in Student Media Awards. The ceremony was held in San Francisco on March 11, 2023, as part of the Associated Collegiate Press National College Media Conference, where The Runner also received national awards for their website and newspaper.

The Runner received the first-place award in General Innovation for their strategies in reaching new audiences via vertical video storytelling on social media platforms.

The Runner also won second place for Best Website in the ACP's national Best in Show contest, as well as 10th place for Best Newspaper for four-year universities with less than 15,000 student population. They also placed 9th overall for the People's Choice award.

In the CCMA contest, two Runner staff members also received individual awards in the category for four-year universities with less than 15,000 population: **Alea Gaona** won second place for Feaure Photo and **Frankie Nadal** won third place for Headline Portfolio.

The Runner is an academic lab under the Department of Communications at CSUB, which offers three emphases in journalism, public relations and digital media.

AH HIGHLIGHTS



Student Art Exhibitions

February 2023

Midnight Zone: Blend of Galaxy and Ocean

Co-Curated by Participating Artists
Geodesic Art Dome

Featuring artworks from Lizett Sandoval, Sarah O'Leary, Rica Kagawa, Raya Gutierrez, and Leilani Garcia.



Sea of Delusion (2021)

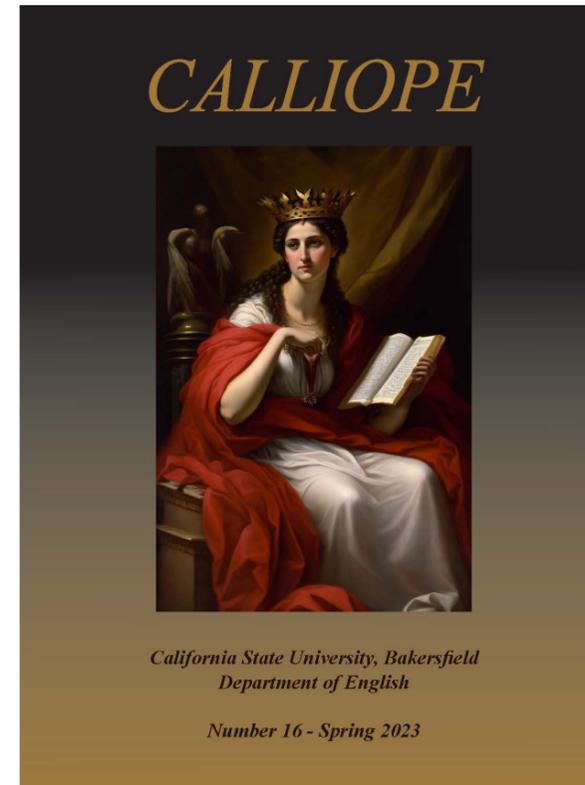
18" x 24"

Acrylic on Canvas
Lizett V. Sandoval



March 1, 2023, brought unexpected weather to our campus with some hail at the Humanities Complex (HOB) area.

Photos courtesy of **Analia Rodriguez**
(English Department Administrative Support Coordinator)



CALLIOPE



California State University, Bakersfield
Department of English

Number 16 - Spring 2023

At the end of the spring semester, the English Department announced the publication of the sixteenth issue of *Calliope*, the annual journal that features some of the best work in literary theory, criticism, film, and culture produced by undergraduates and graduates in the program.

This issue includes twelve essays examining a wide range of literature from William Shakespeare and Mary Shelley to Zadie Smith and Ernesto Quiñonez. The task of designing it from beginning to end fell squarely and solely on **Brooke Grimes**, who took charge of almost everything from designing the call for papers and managing submissions to laying the issue on Adobe InDesign and helping edit the essays.

The issue can be accessed through the [English Homepage](#).

The History Department's Field Trip Committee Professors **Doug Dodd**, **Kate Mulry**, and **Miriam Vivian** organized and participated in a department field trip for history students on Saturday, April 29, 2023.

This regional trip included stops at four different sites along Hwy. 58: the César Chávez National Monument in Keene; the viewing platform for the Tehachapi Loop; the Tehachapi Depot Museum; and Kohlen's Country Bakery.



History Department Field Trip

AH HIGHLIGHTS



L-R: Perla Aguilar Cevallos, Brenda Pérez, Sindy Argueta Díaz, Armando Flores Partida, Eugenia Ambriz, Liz Juárez, and Dr. Anthony Nuño.



L-R: Dr. Steve Gamboa, Guadalupe Mendívil, Jeslie Rendón García, Yajaira García Gómez, Jennifer Morales, Liz Juárez, Dr. Anthony Nuño, and Dean Robert Frakes.

Dr. Anthony Nuño and the undergraduate and graduate students from Modern Languages and Literatures organized a Literary and Cultural Student Symposium on 4-17-2023. The title of the Student Symposium was: "Recovering our historical voices: Malinche and Emperor Moctezuma." At this Literary event, undergraduate and graduate students from the B.A. and M.A. in Spanish, presented their research to celebrate the historical figures of Malinche and Emperor Moctezuma. These important historical figures lived at the time when Tenochtitlán was the largest and most advanced metropolis in the Américas. Students invited their parents, friends and relatives to this Literary and Cultural Event at CSUB.

Learn More at csub.edu/modlang

CSUB alumnus **Kris Tiner** was inducted into the 2023 Alumni Hall of Fame. In 2001, he earned his BA in Music with an emphasis on trumpet performance. Tiner is an internationally recognized trumpet player, composer, and educator for over 20 years.

He is currently a professor of Music and Chair of the Performing Arts Department at Bakersfield College.



CSUB History professor **Dr. Kate Luce Mulry** presented her research titled "An Empire Transformed: Remolding Bodies and Landscapes in the Restoration Atlantic" during the Spring 2023 History Forum on Friday, March 24, 2023.

CSUB Philosophy professor **Dr. Nate Olson** presented "Including Rural Populations in Health Care Research" during the Spring 2023 Philosophy and Religious Studies Colloquia Series on Friday, March 24, 2023.



READ MORE NEWS ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES AT [CSUB.edu/ah](https://csub.edu/ah)



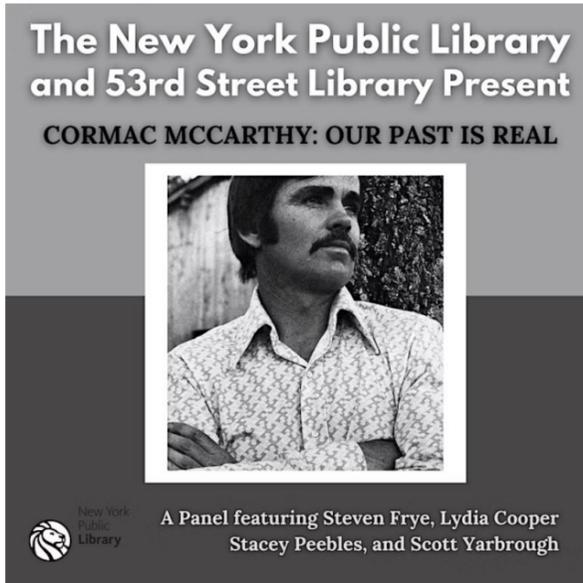
The Public History Institute (PHI) presented a new lecture series on April 21, 2023, The Fight for Civil Rights: Contesting Discrimination in the American West.

History professor **Dr. Kiran Garcha**, focused on the impetus for the creation of the Black Panther Movement in her engaging talk, "Living for the City: The Black Panther Party's War on Poverty in Oakland and Beyond."

FACULTY NEWS



Steve Frye, Ph.D. English Department



On November 29, 2022, English professor **Dr. Steve Frye** served as the moderator during an online retrospective of author Cormac McCarthy which was hosted by the New York City Library. Frye was joined by several leading Cormac McCarthy scholars to discuss the author's impact and how the new publications advance and challenge the author's established historiography.

Frye is the author and editor of five books, three on Cormac McCarthy, one on Larry McMurtry, and another on the literature of the American West, all published by Cambridge University Press and University of South Carolina Press. His volume *Ungessed Kinships: Literary Naturalism and the Geography of Hope in Cormac McCarthy* was released in April of 2023 from University of Alabama Press.

READ MORE NEWS ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES AT [CSUB.edu/ah](https://www.csuoh.edu/ah)

The Fulcrum in Los Angeles, CA presented *Pictures, Unfixed*, an exhibition from November 19, 2022 to January 8, 2023, of new photographs by Art professor **Phil Chang**.

Chang's work included landscapes, appropriated imagery, portraits, and computer screenshots and were created by making a contact print from an 8 x 10 inch negative that is laid on top of expired Kodak Kodabrome II RC paper. Instead of developing the prints in darkroom chemistry that "fixes" the images into place on paper, these photographs are only exposed to light and then left "unfixed" in their frames. This allows the images to slowly disappear over time. Each photograph is presented under Optium acrylic and each frame has a removable backing that allows for replenishing the photographs as the imagery disappears during the exhibition.

Chang received his MFA from The California Institute of the Arts and his BA from the University of California, Irvine. His academic appointments include California State University, Bakersfield, the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts at Bard College, Otis College of Art & Design, and the University of California, Los Angeles.



Logo
Unfixed silver gelatin print
2021



Street
Unfixed silver gelatin print
2021

AH INSTITUTES

PUBLIC HISTORY INSTITUTE

Conceived in 2008 as an institute within the School of Arts and Humanities, the **Public History Institute** (PHI) seeks to collect, explore, preserve, and promote the history of our region, namely Bakersfield, Kern County, and the Southern San Joaquin Valley, through projects and programs intended to engage the campus and community. Of particular importance is our support of oral history projects, undertaken mainly by the Historical Research Center of the Walter Stiern Library, under the direction of archivist **Chris Livingston, M.A.** These have included a focus on the oral histories of Dust Bowl-era migrants, members of the CSUB community, and African Americans in our region.

INSTITUTE FOR BASQUE STUDIES

The mission of the Institute for Basque Studies is to promote multidisciplinary scholarship and collaboration that examines social, cultural, historical, economic, and political aspects of Basque communities in the Diaspora and the Basque Country. Institute activities will explore definitions and cultivations of Basque identity through the study of art, image, values, and other cultural expressions through offering enrichment programs for students and special publics, and sponsoring lectures, symposia, and other events related to Basque identity.

INSTITUTE FOR RELIGION, EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC POLICY

The Institute for Religion, Education, and Public Policy continues to live into its mission to promote justice and peace in a religiously-diverse world. Since its founding in 2011, the Institute has conducted trainings for faculty, staff, and students on religious and worldview pluralism, hosted numerous public dialogues, and supported student programming. Dr. Joseph Florez, Katy Hanson, and Dr. Jonathan Young serve as the Faculty Advisory Committee.

EAC NEWS & INFORMATION

CHRIS BENHAM

Benham is a graphic designer and illustrator born and raised in Bakersfield, CA.

JIM DAMIAN

Damian is a Kern County entrepreneur and is the founder and CEO of Stria.

ROBERT FRAKES, Ph.D.

Dean, CSUB School of Arts & Humanities.

AMANDA FRANK

Frank is a Bakersfield native and serves as the Director of Community Relations at Dignity Health.

NATALIE GREEN

Green owns NYFotography with a commitment to her community and the growth of downtown Bakersfield.

ANDREA HANSEN

Hansen was born and raised in Bakersfield, CA. and is currently the President of Kern Dance Alliance and a Fox Theater Board Member.

DAVID MILAZZO

Milazzo is a proud Bakersfield native and founded his business, Macroscopic.

HEATH NIEMEYER

Director of Development, CSUB University Advancement.

JON SAMPSON

Sampson is a Bakersfield native and CSUB alumnus, with Wells Fargo Advisors.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

David Milazzo
Founder and Principal
MACROSCOPIC



Greetings from the newest organization supporting the CSU, Bakersfield School of Arts and Humanities!

The Friends of Arts and Humanities — AH Friends — is an extension of the Executive Advisory Council for the School of Arts and Humanities. Our board is delighted to introduce you to the premier method to stay connected with the outstanding programs and student work making a positive impact on campus and in our community.

AH Friends is a membership-based organization with a host of member benefits. In addition to gaining early information about upcoming programs and events, members receive special invitations and complimentary tickets. Some membership levels even deliver exclusive access to unique experiences with faculty and students of the CSUB AH programs. And every membership delivers valuable impact to the students of our university.

We invite you to join AH Friends and experience a deeper connection to the pursuits underlying the human experience. Your membership greatly contributes to our students' success in discovering and defining the future of the arts and humanities.

Visit AHfriends.org or email us at AHfriends@CSUB.edu to learn more about how you can help the Friends of Arts and Humanities at CSUB.

ALUMNI BUZZ



Citlalli Luna
2022 CSUB Alumna



Citlalli Luna graduated with a BA in English Literature and has been accepted to Loyola Marymount University's (LMU) English Literature Graduate program for fall.

Luna has been offered a two year Teaching Fellowship and an academic Graduate Scholarship while attending LMU. Her focus will be on Indigenous and Postcolonial Literature along with Critical Race Theory.

Luna wrote "I know that without the professors at CSUB, I definitely wouldn't be where I am now."

CSUB creates champions of all types. CSUB alumni have gone on to be CEOs of companies, celebrities, musicians, journalists, professional athletes, politicians, scientists, and the list goes on. On this page you'll find notable alumni and their achievements, but there are countless more. Each issue we will feature our graduates from the Arts and Humanities programs.

Do you know alumni whose work should be recognized here?
Contact us at
rstcroixmartinez@csub.edu

SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY TO THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Contribute to the success of Arts and Humanities at CSUB by donating to the school's Foundation account!

Donations are tax deductible and help support programs and activities. You can contribute [online](#) or by going to CSUBAHA.com to find the link "Support Arts & Humanities" on the right-hand side of the page. To contribute by check, please make your check out to "CSUB Foundation" and write "A&H Fund" on the memo line of the check.

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Bakersfield, CA 93311-1022