Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communication
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Departments
- Art
- Cinema and Television Arts
- Communication Studies
- Journalism
- Music
- Theatre

LA Close Up
A Degree in the Creative Capital

Career Options
CSUN Alumni

Outstanding Value
Students Outside California

Scholarships

Programs Offered
California State University Entertainment Alliance
At CSUN’s Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication (MCCAMC), we know from experience what our students can do when we give them what they need.

Like small class sizes in buildings fitted with the latest technologies. Or courses taught by faculty with vast industry credentials.

That’s not counting our deep, decades-long connections to the entertainment business, either.

MCCAMC alumni have been behind some of the era’s biggest box-office hits and classics. They’ve entered the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and won GRAMMYS, Emmys and Golden Globes. You’ve seen them on television and in theatres. They are stars and innovators, artists and executives.

And before that...

They were students, just dreaming of that defining moment: the click, the spark, the beginning of big new things.

It’s here, at MCCAMC, where they finally found it. And we invite you, in these coming pages, to discover why.
On the Global Stage

At no point in history has greater access to an audience existed. Anyone, anywhere is now a click away from a conversation nearly four billion strong.

In the pocket of every person from Beijing to Brooklyn is the technology to stream movies, television, video games, news and music at the touch of a button. And as the world scours social media for split-second updates, stories break in real time, exploding virally on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

Translating today’s mountainous information into meaningful art, culture and communication isn’t just rewarding – it’s necessary.

With six departments and more than 30 specializations and options, the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication answers the global call with many distinct opportunities.

Los Angeles is a world center of business, international trade, entertainment, culture, media, technology and education. It leads the world in the creation of motion pictures, television production, video games and recorded music.*
From high-production animated features to hand-drawn comics and sweeping, majestic murals, the Department of Art allows students to pick between many palettes.

The department blends practice, theory and interdisciplinary curriculum into a seamless course of study. On canvases both physical and digital, students craft original works in modern labs and facilities – among them, a sculpture shop, a printmaking lab and several animation classrooms. Finished pieces and other professional works, such as the recent exhibition of Jack Kirby’s comic art, go on display in the CSUN Art Galleries.

A pioneer in graphic design and animation, the department is breaking new ground in modern media technologies, such as augmented reality and gaming. And through partnerships with nearby industry, students can learn the sector from those already in it.

Even before graduation, art students can get a taste of business at the on-campus, student-run creative agency VISCOM (Center for Visual Communication). VISCOM constructs creative visual solutions for on- and off-campus clients. And at Radius 2.0, students join faculty and other creative industry insiders to conduct integrated marketing campaigns, complete with visuals, storytelling and analytics.
The Department of Cinema and Television Arts (CTVA) honors storytelling tradition while embracing modern modes of filmmaking. Here, all visual magic is grounded in the practical realities of film and television production.

That means giving students access to the same state-of-the-art facilities and equipment that they’ll use in the industry, such as sound stages with premium lighting capabilities; high-end editing stations; and top-level digital cameras and sound packages.

It also means intensively training students to write for the screen. This happens, in part, through the writing process, turning dialogue, shots and story into polished, production-ready scripts. The rest comes through the work of others, studying classic, modern and experimental cinema to understand the principles, theories and methods behind successful visual storytelling.

Last year, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association voiced their support for CSUN’s film and television education initiatives with a $2 million gift to the department.

Ranked alongside USC and NYU on The Hollywood Reporter’s Top 25 film schools in the U.S., and listed on Variety’s Top 30 film schools in the World.
In the Department of Communication Studies, students put human interaction under the microscope, using varied lenses to probe modern communication. This includes, to list only a few, social scientific, cultural and rhetorical approaches.

From courses on technological innovations, such as social media and digital rhetoric, to studies of intercultural communication, social influence and civic engagement, the department preps students to effectively and ethically guide the global conversation.

Part of that is building frameworks to understand the many cultural and social contexts of today’s global world. It’s also painting a broad picture of post-degree possibility. The department’s integrated curriculum offers students wide professional discretion.

Communication Studies students go on to careers in human relations, education, media industries, government, performance arts, marketing, public relations and more.

Student Clubs and Organizations
- CSUN Communication Association
- CSUN Performance Ensemble
- Forensics Team/Matador Speech and Debate Team
- NABJ – Students Association of Black Communicators

Ranked in the top fifth of “Best Communication and Media Colleges in California” by Universities.com.
The Department of Journalism is at the center of progress, ebbing with the digital flow to give students the skills to make sense of a shifting global reality.

Reporting in the nation’s second-largest media market, to more than 3.9 million households, journalists in L.A. possess vast editorial reach. And students, looking to tap into that audience, are never far from the latest breaking story.

At MCCAMC, students report real issues – on the world, on people, on subjects that matter. And with access to CSUN’s acclaimed student-run news outlet, The Sundial, or to its nationally recognized, award-winning radio newscast on KCSN, students can broadcast their findings to the Greater Los Angeles area and beyond.

**Student Clubs and Organizations**
- Agency 398
- CSUN Latino Journalists
- El Nuevo Sol
- KCSN News
- Matador News
- NABJ-Student Association of Black Communicators
- On Point
- Pop-Up Newsroom
- Public Relations Student Society of America
- Radio Television Digital News Association
- Scene Magazine
- Society of Professional Journalists
- The Sundial
- Valley View News

KCSN received two Golden Mike Awards from the Radio and Television News Association in 2014, giving the department a total of 63 Golden Mike Awards.
Coming to the Department of Music puts students in the hotbed of industry. Choices just come with the territory.

Like joining CSUN’s award-winning Jazz “A” band, for instance, which brings the department’s distinct sound to the international stage. Or the “B” band, another best-in-class ensemble, in which students repeatedly take top honors — including a recent number one spot at the renowned Reno Jazz Festival.

Competitive as they are, places in these groups, such as the CSUN Symphony or the Guitar Quartet, are only an audition away.

Students can also learn to produce and manage tomorrow’s greatest hits and talent in the department’s B.A. in Music Industry Studies and M.A. in Music Industry Administration. Or, in the much-lauded Music Therapy program, they can use music to heal, rehabilitate and lift the spirits of those with disabilities and special challenges.

The Hollywood Reporter ranks CSUN’s Department of Music among the country’s Top 25 music schools — alongside The Juilliard School and Berklee College of Music.

Student Clubs and Organizations

- African-American Music Association
- Acasola
- Classical Guitar Club
- Collegiate National Association for Music Education
- CSUN Gospel Choir
- Jishin Taiko Ensemble
- Matador Band
- Media Composition Club
- Music Entertainment Student Association
- Music Therapy Association of Northridge
- New Directions Composers Group
- Percussion Club of CSUN
- The Circle
THEATRE

The Department of Theatre encourages students to see a stage in motion. Whether it’s a revival of a timeless classic, or the creation of a new work, live performance takes top billing – along, of course, with a solid understanding of theatre’s long literary and dramatic history.

Ample opportunity exists for theatre students to express their creative talents. Each year, the department stages eight or more full-length productions – dramas, operas and musicals. And its state-of-the-art costume shops, scene shops and lighting design studio make even the most ambitious visions possible.

The department’s top-notch performance spaces include two proscenium theatres – the 400-seat Campus Theatre and the 200-seat Little Theatre – and a flexible black box space, called the Experimental Theatre, located in The Soraya.

Student Clubs and Organizations

- CSUN Theatre Guild
- Improv Club

Ranked among Backstage Magazine’s Top 9 theatre programs for connections to industry; also ranked by Onstage as one of the Top 10 Most Underrated Theatre Programs for 2017 – West Region; seven CSUN students won the 2016 Rima Miller Award for Outstanding Ensemble Work at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.
Los Angeles is a sprawling modern metropolis, filled with sunny shorelines and bustling urban ecosystems. Studios and creative industry heavyweights line the landscape, directing the business of imagination, as tech firms and communications giants color the new media horizon.

The Greater Los Angeles area is home to an array of major studios, including:
- Amazon Studios
- DreamWorks
- HBO
- The Jim Henson Company
- Marvel
- MGM
- NBCUniversal
- Netflix
- Paramount Pictures
- Sony Pictures Studios
- The Walt Disney Studios
- 20th Century Fox
- Warner Bros.

Barring the California sunshine, one icon invariably steals the city’s spotlight: the world-famous Hollywood Sign. In movies and on TV, on postcards and in newsreels, this Tinseltown icon is an enduring reminder of what happens when dreams meet opportunity.

The busy city streets below are like a who’s who of Hollywood architecture. Towering over the 101 freeway is a landmark of the industry’s golden age, the Capitol Records Building. Just a few blocks away is the Dolby Theatre, home of the Academy Awards. And across from that, Grauman’s Chinese Theatre showcases its star-studded footprints.

A few miles over, famed clubs, like the Whiskey A Go Go and the Troubadour, snake up Sunset Boulevard. Inside, patrons get a live look at stages once graced by fabled music superstars – Led Zeppelin, The Doors and Janis Joplin.

Also on Sunset, from its new 92,000-square-foot, five-story headquarters, video streaming giant Netflix broadcasts its exclusive digital content.
At Warner Bros., in Burbank, editors work raw footage into seamless visual magic. And on the Universal Studios backlot tour, visitors see Hollywood smoke and mirrors firsthand – from Alfred Hitchcock’s old office to King Kong in the flesh.

Perched above West L.A., in a clean, modernist complex, is the Getty Center. Housed in its collection are some of humanity’s finest works of art, including Van Gogh’s Irises. The museum’s breathtaking hilltop view spans from Downtown Los Angeles to the Pacific Ocean.

On downtown’s Grand Avenue, in its dazzling $140 million building, the Broad Museum houses the world’s largest collection of postwar and contemporary art. More than 2,000 pieces, collected from artists worldwide, fill the building’s two-story gallery space.

Less than one hundred feet away, the Walt Disney Concert Hall, home of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, bends in ceaseless metallic waves.

And, of course, at CSUN’s stunning performing arts center, The Soraya, visitors can attend countless world-class productions of live theatre, music and dance. The Los Angeles Times recently cited the $125 million, 1,700-seat theatre as “a growing hub for live music, dance, drama and other cultural events.”

These local hotspots, among countless others, are within close reach of CSUN’s Transit Center. On the city’s fleet of clean-air buses, or via the vast subway system, visitors and students have easy public access to the region’s many cultural assets.

The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp. lists Entertainment as the third-largest industry in L.A. County, which, to this day, remains a top region for major studio film production. There are more artists, writers, filmmakers, actors, dancers and musicians living and working in Los Angeles than any other city.*
A DEGREE IN THE CREATIVE CAPITAL

With the fifth-largest economy in the world, California more than lives up to its ‘Golden State’ promise. And L.A. plays no small part in that. Behind the city’s glistening, rosy exterior are some of the planet’s highest per capita earners – both personally and commercially.

The creative economy alone employs more than 640,000 people in L.A. County. That’s one in every eight jobs. It’s no wonder that more writers, artists, filmmakers, actors, dancers and musicians live and work in Los Angeles than in any other city.

Nor is it surprising that much of the burgeoning information sector is positioning itself near the entertainment industry, especially in Santa Monica’s booming tech cluster, “Silicon Beach,” home of social media titan Snapchat.

And better yet, being a CSUN student means being a part of it – all of it. Coming here puts an end to the L.A. myth – to what you’ve seen or heard – and lets you experience the real thing. There is no place better to get a degree than in an environment built on big city excitement and possibility.

The U.S. film industry posted $29 billion in revenues in 2015.

The U.S. recorded music industry remained at $15 billion in 2015.

Video gaming is now a $100 billion industry.

Source: www.selectusa.gov

Career Options

• Actor
• Advertising Copywriter
• Arts Administrator
• Animator
• Art Curator
• Art/Music Teacher
• Author
• Broadcast Journalist
• Cinematographer
• Commercial Artist
• Composer
• Computer Artist
• Concert Promoter
• Costume Designer
• Director
• Editor
• Filmmaker
• Film/TV Executive
• Graphic Designer
• Industrial Designer
• Illustrator
• Lawyer
• Magazine Writer
• Multimedia Developer
• Museum and Gallery Director
• Musician
• Music Publisher
• Music Therapist
• News Reporter
• Online News Producer
• Orchestrator
• Painter
• Photographer/Photojournalist
• Publicist/Public Relations Professional
• Record Producer
• Screenwriter
• Sculptor
• Set Designer
• Sound Designer
• Speech Writer
• Theatre or Film Critic
• TV/Film Producer
• Vocalist
CSUN Alumni

When students graduate from CSUN, they join an extensive network of more than 330,000 alumni – in California, across the nation and around the globe – who thrive on helping Matadors find personal and professional success.

Don Hahn
Producer, Walt Disney

Academy Award-nominated producer and Golden Globe-winner Don Hahn got his degree in Music from CSUN before going on to produce top grossing, big screen hits, including the Lion King, Maleficent and Beauty and the Beast (the original and 2017’s $1 billion+ reboot).

Other Renowned Entertainment Alumni Include

Paula Abdul
Deanne Bray
Joan Chen
Morris Chestnut
Kristen Cloke
Mike Curb
Richard Dreyfuss
Robert Englund
Andy Grammer
Phil Hartman
Bill Imada
Eva Longoria
Cindy Margolis
Cheech Marin
Eva Mendes
Utt Panichkul
Jenny Shimizu
Leland Sklar
Serj Tankian
Jennifer Tisdale
Diane Warren
Larry Wilcox

86 percent of California’s graduates in radio and television broadcasting earned their degree at a CSU*

74 percent of California’s communication bachelor’s degrees are awarded by the CSU*

44 percent of California’s bachelor’s degrees in media, culture and design studies graduated from a CSU*

*The California State University
OUTSTANDING VALUE

By choosing the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication, students receive an exceptional education from a highly respected leading California public university.

With more than 85 post-baccalaureate programs, including doctoral degrees and professional certificates, CSUN is now the fourth largest university in California.

According to the Social Mobility Index, CSUN students go on to graduate at higher rates and earn more as alumni than those from peer institutions.

Through CSUN’s extensive working relationships with studios, networks, production companies, media organizations and technology firms, students gain unique access to internships, job opportunities and other professional work.

The costs to attend CSUN are also moderate in comparison with similar programs from Southern California private universities or the University of California.

Students Outside California

Attending CSUN enables out-of-state and international students to live the L.A. lifestyle as they earn the degree they need. And the best part is, by choosing CSUN, they can do it all from the comfort, safety and prestige of one of the nation’s largest and most respected public universities.

Moreover, since Los Angeles is now ranked the world’s number one student city, CSUN students can rest easy when it comes to what’s out there. Because here, the answer is... Well, everything.

Accompanying the vast local culture is the institutional prowess of CSUN. Being a university of such size, the many resources at our disposal allow us to design programs and services that tap deeply into the student experience. That’s as true for those from another state as it is for those from another country. Because it’s not the “where” that matters to us – it’s the student.

CSUN recently ranked number one among peer institutions for the highest number of international students in the United States, with a total enrollment of more than 3,900. Along with students, the university hosts visiting scholars from institutions in China, India, Korea, Japan, Mexico and more.

CSUN offers a distinct set of services, designed specifically to meet the needs of the international community. These programs include

• Intensive English and University Pathways (IEP)
• Semester at CSUN (SAC)
• English Language and Cultural Experience (ELCE)

In addition to receiving academic and administrative support, international students also gain access to free tutoring and can participate in cultural expeditions that enable them to experience life in Los Angeles more fully.

Scholarships

The college offers a variety of scholarships. Students may apply in study areas such as art, communications, CTVA, journalism and theatre.
Programs Offered

Majors and Options

- **Art**
  - Visual Art

- **Cinema and Television Arts**
  - Electronic Media Management
  - Film Production
  - Media Theory and Criticism
  - Multimedia Production
  - Screenwriting
  - Television Production

- **Communication Studies**
  - Bachelor of Music

- **Journalism**

- **Music**
  - Master of Music
  - Master of Fine Arts
  - Master of Arts
  - Bachelor of Music
  - Bachelor of Arts
  - Breadth Studies
  - Collaborative Piano Performance
  - Composition
  - Composition/Commercial and Media Writing
  - Conducting
  - Jazz Studies
  - Keyboard
  - Music Education
  - Music Industry
  - Music Therapy
  - Percussion
  - Performance
  - Strings
  - Vocal Arts
  - Winds

- **Theatre**

Information subject to change

California State University Entertainment Alliance

The alliance prepares students to serve the creative, business and technical needs of California's multi-billion dollar entertainment industry. CSUEA has educational and career development partnerships and collaborations with leading studios such as DreamWorks Animation, Digital Hollywood, Disney, GRAMMY U, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, the Television Academy Foundation, Universal Music Group and Univision.
MCCAMC Alumni have received, among many other honors, GRAMMYS, Emmys, Golden Globes and inductions into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.