

AHA!

Arts & Humanities Alive!

ARTS &
HUMANITIES

SCHOOL OF
MAJORS
THAT
MATTER

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

NEWSLETTER

School of Arts & Humanities
California State University, Bakersfield

Summer 2021
VOL. 4, ISSUE 2



ROBERT FRAKES, Ph.D.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Turning the Corner

We finished another strange and challenging year with the Pandemic continuing to do its disruptive best. But it feels like we may have turned the corner. A growing number of people are getting vaccinations, and the positivity rate is declining (in California, anyway). Even with this obvious challenge, the 2020/2021 Academic Year proved to be a successful year in the School of Arts & Humanities at CSUB. A large number of students (over 1,000!) pursue majors in the programs in our School. We had great art exhibitions and 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 Live Virtual Ceremony. CSUB held six commencement ceremonies to try to give both the 2020 and 2021 graduates an opportunity to be recognized and to celebrate their achievements in a difficult time. We are planning on making the Fall of 2021 a transition semester, with many classes having some kind of on-campus component and we are hopeful for a fully on-campus Spring semester.

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

INSIDE AHA!

AH HIGHLIGHTS

HONORS CONVOCATION

EXCELLENCE AWARDS

AH INSTITUTES

EAC NEWS

ALUMNI BUZZ

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PHONE:
661.654.2221

EMAIL:
ARTSHUMANITIES@CSUB.EDU

CSUBAHA.COM

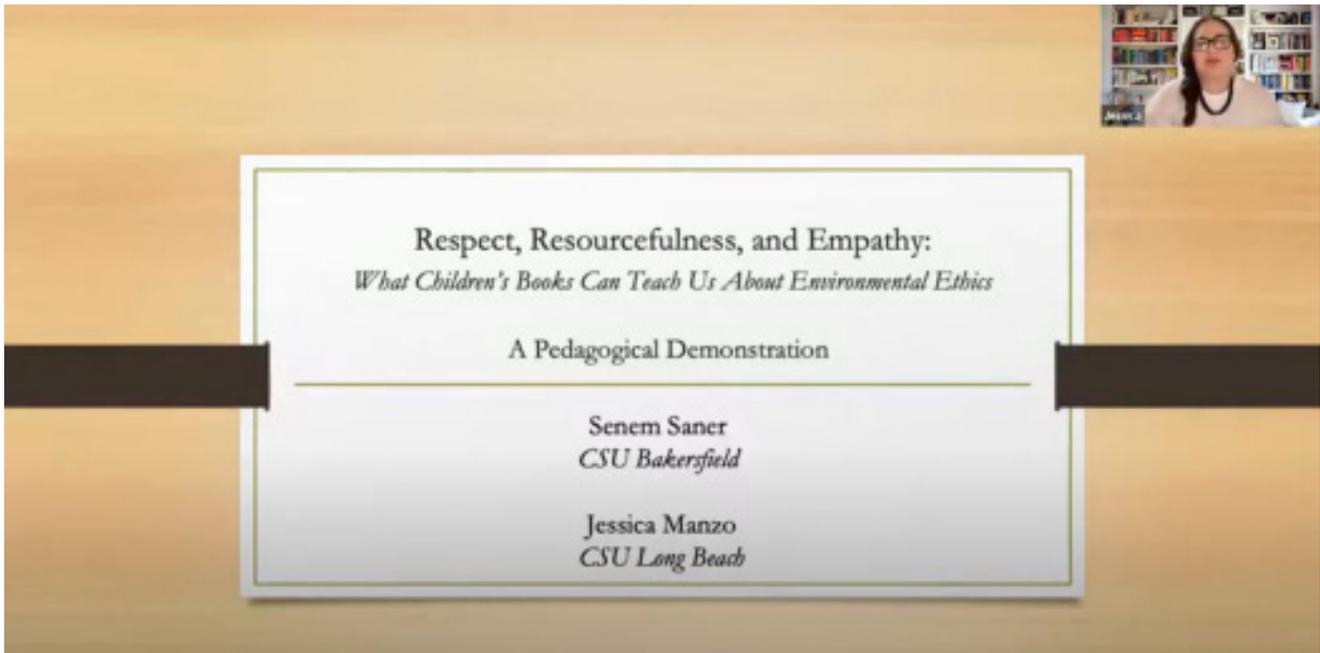
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AH HIGHLIGHTS



Philosophy professor **Senem Saner** and Philosophy graduate student **Jessica Manzo** from CSU Long Beach presented their Philosophy for Children (P4C) program *Respect, Resourcefulness, and Empathy: What Children's Books Can Teach Us About Environmental Ethics* during the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics conference held in February 2021. The presentation shared environmental ethics prompts that have been used in their program in Bakersfield, CA.

Philosophy for Children is a public service and community engagement program, aimed at introducing philosophical discussion and critical thinking to children while providing a service learning and practical training opportunity for CSUB students. Children, ages 7-11, participate in open-ended group discussions, in public settings, such as elementary school classrooms and public libraries, facilitated by CSUB philosophy faculty and students.

Watch the presentation on the P4C at CSUB Channel via YouTube
Watch here: <https://youtu.be/YSTH8LZzp9o>



The Alpha Chi National Convention was held on April 8th-10th, 2021, and the chapter's Research Collaborative Project Team won First Prize of \$5,000. The team was composed of Carson Vollmer, Kinesiology major, Jennifer Hart, Psychology major and **Elizabeth Wood, English major**. Their project title was *The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to mental healthcare*.

Also during the convention, **Hunter Selbach**, a Music major performed an original piece called "Sure Never Till My Latest Breath: A Composition's Story".

Philosophy professor, **Jackie Kegley** was elected Secretary-Treasurer of Region VII and as a member of the National Board for Alpha Chi.

Read More News about School of Arts & Humanities at
CSUBAHA.com

2021 Honors Convocation Awards

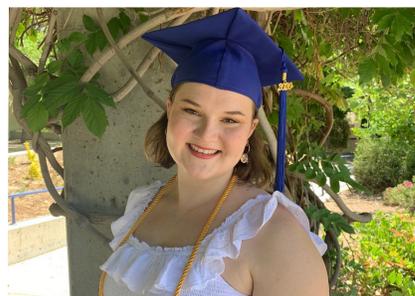
AH held a virtual Honors Convocation this spring with a speech by CSUB President Lynnette Zelezny and AH Dean Bob Frakes celebrating our students' academic achievements.



Kenneth Jacobs
Master of Arts in
History

**Congratulations to the
Outstanding M.A. and B.A.
Graduates of the School of
Arts & Humanities!**

**Kenneth Jacobs and Madelynne
Heiss have been named the
overall Outstanding M.A. and
B.A. students of the School of
Arts Humanities.**



Madelynne Heiss
Bachelor of Arts in
Music

Departmental Outstanding M.A. Graduates

Congratulations to our 2021 Outstanding M.A. Graduates!

These exceptional students were nominated for this award by the faculty in each department and chosen by the Chairs Council of the School of Arts & Humanities.



Alicia Chavez
Master of Arts in English



Kenneth Jacobs
Master of Arts in
History



Alondra Moreno
Master of Arts in Spanish



Izua Banuelos
Art & Art History

Departmental Outstanding B.A. Graduates
Congratulations to our 2021 Outstanding
B.A. Graduates!

These exceptional students were
nominated for this award by the faculty in
each department and chosen by the Chairs
Council of the School of Arts &
Humanities.



Nesrine Annan
Communications



Grace VanKirk
English



Ana Noemi Ramirez
History



Rebecca St Croix
Martinez
Interdisciplinary
Studies



Gabriela Martin Del
Campo
Modern Languages &
Literatures



Madelynne Heiss
Music



James Alexander
Philosophy



Cameron Jackson
Religious Studies



Michael Grant
Theatre

Departmental Awards of Excellence & Dean's A

Congratulations to the
awardees of the 2021 Departmental Awards of Excellence and Dean's Awards.

These exceptional students were nominated for their respective award by faculty in each
department and chosen by the Chairs Council and Dean of the
School of Arts & Humanities.



Kayla Hinkle
Clio Award in History



Brittany Johnson
Charles Kegley Award
in Philosophy &
Religious Studies



Erica Zamora
The George Award in Art (2021)



Rosa Rascon
Li'i Pearl Award in English



Drew Upton
The George Award in Art (2020)

Awards



Nestor "Danny" Martinez
Outstanding Media Arts Project



Chelsea Geronimo
Outstanding Visual Arts Project



Jimmie Taliaferro
Outstanding Performing Arts Project



James Alexander
Outstanding Undergraduate Paper

Bat Ami "Tammy" Gordin
Outstanding Graduate Paper

AWARD HIGHLIGHTS

Our award winners sent in photos of themselves holding their awards.



Michael Grant
Outstanding B.A. in
Theatre



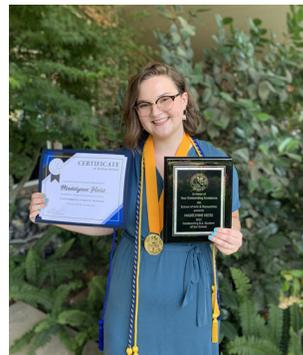
Kayla Hinkle
Clio Award in History



Alondra Moreno
Outstanding M.A. in
Spanish



James Alexander
Outstanding
Undergraduate Paper



Madelynne Heiss
Outstanding B.A. in
Music



Izua Banelos
Outstanding B.A. in
Art & Art History



Kenneth Jacobs
Outstanding M.A. in
History

Learn more about
our students at
CSUBAHA.com

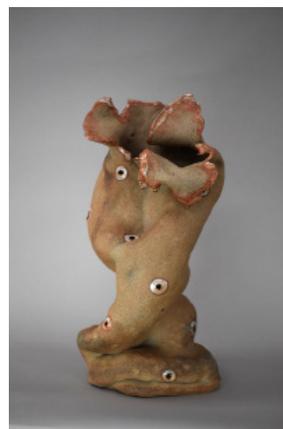
Congratulations to our amazing students who have worked hard during their academic career. The School of Arts & Humanities wishes you the best of luck in your professional careers.

Congratulations to Art student **Erica Zamora** for being awarded The George Award in 2021.

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.

By using ceramics, Zamora hand builds ambiguous forms or vessels as a stand in for the body with the intention to explore the many different feelings a person may go through. Zamora’s work presents the feeling of being in an unwanted space, physically or mentally, not knowing where you are, or want to be, or simply being exactly where you want to be. Each piece is never identical due to the process, flexibility, wetness, and also the type of clay. This gives Zamora the opportunity to manipulate the shape and form of each sculpture in order to express each feeling or situation uniquely. As she works on each piece, she also allows gravity to take some control over the form of the sculpture to enhance the singularity of her sculptures. Zamora aims for each piece to be unique unlike any other just as humans are: one of one.

Zamora states “throughout my body of work, I primarily stick to neutral, organic like colored glazes in order to keep a tight relation between myself being a brown woman, my pieces, the material, and earth itself. When the works are successful, the colors tied together with these unique moments throughout the surfaces, provide me relief-tranquility over chaos, good over bad, like an oasis of peace.”



AH INSTITUTES



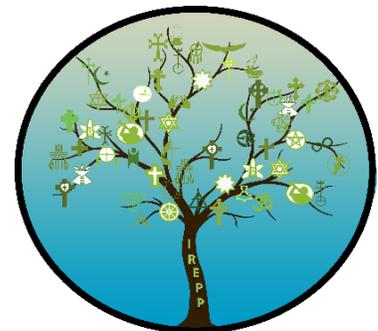
Public History
Institute

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. PHI events are generally free and open to the public, often focusing on agricultural, labor, oil, and cultural history, as well as important national events and the experience and effects of these events locally.

Learn more about our institutes at
CSUBAHA.com

We end this year with the debut of a new Religious Holiday calendar thanks in large part to the efforts of Religious Studies professor **Joseph Florez** and Religious Studies Outstanding Graduate **Cameron Jackson** who worked in partnership with the office of Equity, Inclusion, and Compliance. We are happy to offer this resource for faculty as an inclusive planning tool as they create their course assignment calendar. In addition to the dates and “commonly used accommodations,” the calendar provides a great resource for our community to learn a bit more about our wonderful, religiously diverse world. Imagine the opportunities to learn about one another – and to celebrate! Visit the Holiday Calendar at <https://bit.ly/36ZfbCw>

The **Institute for Religion, Education, and Public Policy** would like to host a series of educational celebrations throughout the next year. Our aspirational mission is to promote justice and peace in a religiously diverse world. Providing occasions for people to gather, share stories, and take joy in each other’s happiness is one small way we contribute to bringing those aspirations into reality. We are looking for sponsors of this series of informal drop-in gatherings celebrating religious diversity. Contact Institute Director Liora Gubkin at lgubkin@csub.edu to make your contribution in support of our mission.



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 & Humanities!

The Friends of Arts & Humanities — AH Friends — is an extension of the Executive Advisory Council for the School of A&H. 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 brand-new, 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 A&H 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 & Humanities at CSUB.

Learn more at AHfriends.org.
or email us at
AHfriends@CSUB.edu

ALUMNI BUZZ



Shelby Parker
2015 CSUB Alumna

Shelby Parker graduated with a B.A. in Communications with an emphasis in Journalism. She is the speciality publications editor for *Bakersfield Life*, a monthly published magazine focusing on lifestyle and community in Bakersfield, CA.

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 two graduates from the Arts & Humanities programs.

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



Priscilla Huerta
2019 CSUB Alumna

Priscilla Huerta graduated with a B.A. in Religious Studies and went on to earn a Masters of Education in School Counseling from USC in May 2021. She is currently working as a high school counselor in the Central Valley.

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

Contribute to the success of Arts & 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.

Mail to:
CSUB Foundation
9001 Stockdale Highway, 19 AW
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