

32nd Session of the California State Summer School for the Arts (CSSSA) Seeks Teen Artists, Writers and Performers

Summer 2018 Applications Must be Completed on or before February 28, 2018

For 32 years, the California State Summer School for the Arts has sought the most talented high school-aged visual, literary, media and performing artists in California. The teenagers who are selected are designated California Arts Scholars and attend one of the country's premier summer arts programs on the campus of the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, this year from **July 7 - August 3, 2018**.

Over its history, CSSSA has provided its exemplary four-week summer arts program to more than 17,000 talented high school students. Instruction is offered in the fields of Animation, Film/Video, Creative Writing, Dance, Music, Theater, and the Visual Arts. For the 520 high school students accepted each year, CSSSA represents a unique opportunity to spend four weeks studying and working with professional artists, writers and performers of national stature. The talented teenagers who successfully complete the program are eligible to receive three units of California State University course credit.

CSSSA provides the highest quality professional artistic training to the most deserving teenagers regardless of their economic situations. More than 30 percent of our students receive financial aid. CSSSA expects to equal or surpass that record in 2018. No student who has the drive and talent to succeed in the application process will be denied admission, solely on the basis of inability to pay.

California students are charged a comprehensive fee of \$1,850 to cover room, board and tuition for the four-week 2018 summer session. Students from outside of California must pay a comprehensive fee of \$5,700.

CSSSA is also able to help some of its students with college aid through the distribution of Herb Alpert Scholarships for Emerging Young Artists. An agreement between CSSSA and the Herb Alpert Foundation, which has committed \$1.6 million in funds for this project, means that 21 students each year are designated Scholarship recipients. The scholarships are awarded every summer to three students in each of seven categories: Animation, Film, Writing, Dance, Music, Theater, and the Visual Arts. In 2018 in each category, one outstanding student will receive \$40,000 to be awarded over the course of four years, and two students will receive single-year awards of \$2,500.

Alumni of the program include animators **Adrian Molina**, co-director of Pixar's *Coco*; **Bobby Podesta**, Pixar animator for *Toy Story 2 and 3*, *A Bug's Life*, *Finding Nemo*, *The Incredibles*, *Finding Dory*, and *Cars 3*; **Alex Hirsch**, creator of Disney's *Gravity Falls*; **Pendleton Ward**, creator of Cartoon Network's *Adventure Time*; **Michael Herrera**, Story Artist at Walt Disney Animation Studios; **Bryan Caselli** supervising producer on the future Amazon original series *Costume Quest*, produced at Frederator Studios; actors **Zac Efron**, breakout star of the *High School Musical* films, *Neighbors* and *Neighbors 2*, *Baywatch*, and *Me and Orson Welles*; Golden Globe recipient **James Franco**, featured in the *Spiderman* movie series, *Milk*, *127 Hours*, *Why Him?* and *The Disaster Artist*; **Dave Franco**, performed in *Neighbors* and *Neighbors 2*, *The Lego Movie*, and *The Disaster Artist*; singer and stage actress **Teal Wicks**, best known for her performances as Elphaba in the Broadway, San Francisco, and Los Angeles productions of the musical *Wicked*; singer and actress **Katharine McPhee**, currently featured on CBS series *Scorpion*; and actress **Kirsten Vangsness**, seen as Penelope Garcia on the CBS series *Criminal Minds*.

Applications to CSSSA for the summer 2018 program are submitted on-line and are due on or before February 28, 2018 by 6:00PM PST. To learn more about CSSSA or to apply on-line, visit www.csssa.ca.gov, or contact the Sacramento headquarters at comments@csssa.org or (916)229-5160.

