College of Communication and Fine Arts
Inclusive Excellence

College Programming and Activity by College or Division in CFA:

- The new director of The Laband Art Gallery, Karen Rapp, initiated the 2017-2018 season with an exclusive retrospective exhibition of Chicana artist Carolyn Castano. This exhibit was featured in the L.A. Times “must see” section

- **Art History** professor, Melody Ro-Dari and Art History student Alexandra Henry traveled to China in summer 2017 to experience and study the famous Silk Road. The two joined 40 international students and scholars. Professor and student are examples of inclusive excellence from two underrepresented ethnic groups at LMU. The support for this venture was exclusively through the CFA Dean’s Office as an exploration of a potential Study Abroad excursion for CFA and LMU Students.

- The **Art and Art History Department** featured a range of guest speakers in the Kaliedo/LA series. Speakers are from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. Offering professional insight were artist **Jose Lozano**, and human rights activist and publisher **Elias Wondimu**

- **Communication Studies** faculty **Shaun Anderson** published an article, *To Kneel or Not to Kneel* that addressed protest activity in the NFL. Anderson, who is an African-American male, researched why athletes decided to bring international attention to police brutality against African-American people.

- **Dance** professor, **Rosalynde Leblanc Loo**, is in the final stages of a documentary that examines the AIDS crisis through the acclaimed piece, “D-Man in the Waters”, choreographed by the Bill T. Jones/Arne Zane Dance Company, of which Leblanc Loo danced for many years

- The **Music Department** continues its course offerings of African Drumming and World Music, and featured international guest pianist **Andrew Yang**.

- For the fall 2017 semester, **The Thomas P. Kelly Student Art Gallery** featured an exhibit by African-American female photographer, Angela Francis called *Looking for Zora*; a collection that highlighted the complexity and beauty of Black women. The student art gallery showcased works by ethnically and culturally diverse student artists in a display titled *Home*. This exhibit celebrated multimedia approaches in the expression of diversity. **Studio Arts** majors were featured in the gallery

- **The Department of Theatre** established the 2017-2018 Season as the “Year of the Woman” – acknowledging the under representation of women playwrights on the
national landscape, including our own Pulitzer Prize Winning playwright, Beth Henley

- **Leon Wiebers**, Department of Theatre, hosted guests from South Korea during the exhibition titled *Han-Bok*. Through lectures, demonstrations and interactive lessons, guests illustrated the political and cultural histories of this national dress, and referenced its impact on today’s fashion industry. In relation to an on-going collaboration with the L.A.-based Korea Foundation, this is one of a series of performances and public lectures on Korean culture held at LMU and sponsored through the Department of Theatre and the College of Communication and Fine Arts.

**LGBTQ:**
- CFA presents *Equally Divine: The Real Story of the Mona Lisa*, spring 2018, a public performance using theatre and live musical accompaniment that addresses issues of gender fluidity represented through artistic form.

**Social Justice:** Themes of race and representation
- CFA collaborated with BCLA and SFTV to present *Justice on Film*; a look at racism’s impact in the criminal justice system and in society.

- CFA hosted, in conjunction with the California Lawyers for the Arts and the William James Association, the “Arts in Corrections Conference”, June 27-29, 2017. The conference focused on the power of art and artistic expression in California-based prisons and offered lectures and art classes with master artists who have demonstrated successful outcomes in a variety of media, working in correctional and reentry settings

**Demographic Data:**

**College Leadership:**
The Dean of the College is an African American male
The Assistant Dean is an African American female

**Staff of Color: African American, Black**
Additionally, there are two African American employees in the Dean’s office (Budget Officer and Administrative Specialist). Of the ten staff members associated with the CFA Dean’s office (includes IT staff and the Dean’s leadership team), four are African American.

There are two African American staff members/employees in the college departments (One Administrative Coordinator for the Departments of Art and Art History, and One Administrative Coordinator in the Department of Dance)