

# neighbor to neighbor

COMMUNITY NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF ORANGE

## ORANGE EMPLOYERS HONORED AT UNIVERSITY ADDRESS



*President Daniele Struppa thanked employers for continuing to "Think Chapman First" when it comes to filling their hiring needs.*

In his annual State of the University address on Feb. 28, Chapman University President Daniele C. Struppa recognized the institution's Top Employers for 2025. This award honors organizations that have demonstrated a sustained commitment to hiring the university's graduates.

"We are very grateful for all the organizations that you see listed here that trust us to provide them with strong partners for their work," said Struppa, noting that employers are the real customers of the university.

Local employers such as the Orange Unified School District and City of Orange were honored at the event, along with major companies like RiteAid and DreamWorks Animation and institutions such as NASA Jet Propulsion Lab.

Employers consistently praised the Chapman students and alumni for their career readiness.

"It's clear that Chapman is committed to developing students with the knowledge and skills to truly thrive at our organization," said Jenna Arkin, chief innovation officer at ECOS. "We are proud to see our Chapman alumni numbers grow here at ECOS!"

Dana Heyde, a partner at the law firm Cottle Keen Lopiccolo & Heyde in the City of Orange, has been overwhelmingly impressed with the caliber of Chapman students, employees and externs. "They are dedicated, driven and professional. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Chapman University in this way."

Chapman alumni and students continue to make an impact in local and regional organizations. Darrell Johnson, chief executive officer of the Orange County Transit Authority, said "We take pride in fostering a workplace that values innovation, collaboration and growth. This recognition reflects our commitment to supporting talented individuals who contribute to Orange County's transportation future. We deeply value our partnership with Chapman University and look forward to continuing to provide meaningful opportunities for their exceptional students and alumni."

The Top Employers initiative encourages organizations to "Think Chapman First" when seeking new talent, reinforcing the university's role in providing high-quality candidates ready to excel in their careers. Learn more about recruiting Chapman talent: visit [chapman.edu/employer-partners](https://chapman.edu/employer-partners).

## COULD YOUR LAP DOG MAKE A GREAT POLICE DOG?

People have long held the belief that the shape of a dog's nose and skull makes some breeds better than others at scent-detection work. Due to their long snouts, German shepherds, Labradors and Belgian malinois have been considered optimal breeds for drug sniffing, bite work and bomb detection.

But does the shape of a dog's skull and nose really impact its ability to perform certain scent-related tasks? A team of researchers at Chapman University decided to investigate this theory.

The team studied a series of skulls from museum collections across the country but could not differentiate between dogs that have been bred for scent work and those that are bred for other tasks simply by looking at the skulls' shape.

"This means that Chihuahuas and pugs are just as good at scent work as German shepherds and

bloodhounds," said assistant professor Lindsay Waldrop, co-lead on the project.

Their findings raise the question: if Chihuahuas and pugs are just as good at scent-related work, why does the police force continue to employ German shepherds and similar breeds for bomb and drug detection?

"Certain breeds are employed based on their personality and what motivates them," postgraduate fellow Nicholas Hebdon said. "German shepherds are extremely motivated to work. Greyhounds only care about running. Pugs just want their heads to be scratched."

Dog selection is also partially informed by their historic associations and appearance. Waldrop hopes the research leads police training programs and the TSA to consider other breeds outside of those that have been traditionally selected. "For example, springer spaniels are



*Lindsay Waldrop (pictured) is part of a team of researchers who are challenging the common beliefs behind police and military dog selection.*

easier public facing dogs that don't bite and have great scent-detection skills," she said.

Do you want to learn more about the latest research from Chapman? Read the new issue of *Chapman Forward* at [news.chapman.edu/forward](https://news.chapman.edu/forward).

### Did You Know?

Chapman will mark the end of the 2024-25 academic year on May 23-25. All families and students will be advised to use university parking lots and structures during commencement ceremonies and move out. We will do everything possible to minimize disruptions.

On May 23, a short pyrotechnic display will be held at the conclusion of the University Commencement Ceremony for approximately three minutes between 8:45 and 9 p.m. As always, you are more than welcome to join us in the Aitken Arts Plaza for this celebration of our graduating seniors.



### Need to be in touch?

- Contact Chapman University's Office of Community Relations at **(714) 289-2097** or email [neighbors@chapman.edu](mailto:neighbors@chapman.edu) to engage and provide feedback.
- To report a disturbance that needs urgent attention, please call City of Orange PD dispatch at **(714) 744-7444**.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us for these engaging events at Chapman.

There are many terrific Chapman University events that neighbors are welcome to attend. Here are just a few. Find more at the university's online events calendar, [events.chapman.edu](https://events.chapman.edu). Advance tickets for performing arts events may be purchased online at [tickets.chapman.edu](https://tickets.chapman.edu).

An Evening of Holocaust Remembrance

April 22, 7 p.m.  
Fish Interfaith Center

The Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education, in partnership with the Philharmonic Society of Orange County, presents an Evening of Holocaust Remembrance. Join us for this special event featuring musical tributes and lighting of the Candles of Remembrance with Chayim Frenkel, remarks from Executive Director and CEO of The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research Jonathan Brent, and a special performance by Niv Ashkenazi, performed on a Holocaust-era Violin of Hope. An informal reception will follow the program. **Free to attend.**

Spring Opera: Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

April 25, 7:30 p.m.  
Musco Center for the Arts

Step into a wonderland like never before as the award-winning Opera Chapman brings Will Todd's whimsical opera to life! Follow Alice down the rabbit hole into a topsy-turvy world of tyrannical tarts, delirious tea parties and unforgettable melodies. With Todd's vibrant, jazz-infused score and a cast of beloved characters—including the Mad Hatter, the Queen of Hearts and a particularly mischievous cat—this operatic adventure is a feast for the senses. Don't be late for this spellbinding adventure, or it's off with your head!  
**General public: \$20**

Disney Classics of the 1950s and '60s

Through May 31  
Hilbert Museum of California Art

Selected from the deep archives of the Hilbert Museum's animation collection, this exhibition spotlights original art by Disney artists from such films as Peter Pan, Cinderella, Alice in Wonderland, Lady and the Tramp, Sleeping Beauty, One Hundred and One Dalmatians, Mary Poppins, The Jungle Book and more. Curated by Hilbert Museum director Mary Platt, the exhibition features concept art and illustrations by such iconic Disney artists as Eyvind Earle, Mary Blair, Joe Rinaldi, Ken Anderson, Bill Justice and Walt Peregoy.  
**Admission is free with reservation.**  
[hilbertmuseum.org](https://hilbertmuseum.org)



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Find more news at  
[NeighborsofChapman.com](https://NeighborsofChapman.com)

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS

Summer learning opportunities at Chapman University offer high school students a chance to expand their knowledge, develop new skills and experience college life firsthand. Whether aiming to strengthen college applications or simply explore a passion, these summer experiences provide an enriching and inspiring way to make the most of the break while learning in a dynamic environment.

OVERNIGHT MUSIC CAMPS

Our College of Performing Arts offers week-long, overnight summer camp options for those entering grades 9-12. You'll get to build new skills and learn what it's like to be a musician in college and professional settings.

- Overnight Instrumental Music Camp  
July 6-12
- Overnight Vocal Music Camp  
June 22-28

DANCE CAMP—JULY 7-25

Backhausdance Summer Intensive provides high-caliber training programs for aspiring and experienced artists ages 12 to professional.

PHARMACY SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM—JULY 7-25

Designed to give participants an edge when applying to college, the program provides hands-on experience with unique exposure to research methods, lab equipment and technology that real pharmaceutical scientists use.

SUMMER ENGINEERING ACADEMY—VARIOUS DATES IN JULY

Day-long workshops in the Fowler School of Engineering's state-of-the-art makerspace offer students a chance to learn about electronics, design and fabrication, game design and more.



REGISTRATION FOR MOST PROGRAMS BEGINS IN APRIL.

Visit [chapman.edu/summercamps](https://chapman.edu/summercamps) for more information.

More inside!