CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ORANGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON 100 YEARS OF BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

In 2021, the Orange Chamber of Commerce celebrates its 100th anniversary as a leader in the business community. Since its establishment in 1921, the Chamber of Commerce has served as a committed resource and advocate for local businesses, advancing common interests within the community and helping to build a strong local economy.

Chapman University is proud to be a longtime member of the Chamber of Commerce and is a key partner in the Chamber’s mission of enhancing and promoting business interests in the city. Representatives from Chapman have served continuously on the Chamber’s Board of Directors and the university is the presenting sponsor of the annual State of the City event, which is held on the Chapman campus. Alisa Driscoll, vice president of community relations at Chapman, currently sits on the Chamber board and chairs the Leadership Orange program that cultivates future community leaders.

“Chapman is one of our most important supporters,” says Elizabeth Holloman, the Chamber’s executive director. “We really appreciate what they do, not just for us, but also what they bring to the community. It’s so wonderful to have a campus where people are vibrant and involved in the community. They’re so much a part of the woven fabric of Orange. It’s a major part of our lives in a very, very positive way.”

FIGHTING RACISM WITH DATA: A NEIGHBORLY CHAT WITH NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOW MARISA QUEZEDA ’22

Marisa Quezeda ’22 knows the power of data. As a high school student interested in history, she found that what she really wanted to know about was people and communities. Her interest in cultures led her to explore the sociology major at Chapman. “I thought, that’s so cool that you can study how people are interacting with each other and it’s scientific. You can prove things with it. I thought that was really empowering to be able to lead social justice conversations through a sociological perspective.”

Last summer, she had the opportunity to put her coursework into practice in her hometown, where she helped to launch a student-led, anti-racism advocacy group fighting racism in her hometown, Quezada coded hundreds of personal testimonials about racism and has since used that collected data to effect positive changes within the district.

“I was able to present concrete evidence such as ‘this percent of the population said that there was verbal racism from one student to another student,’ and ‘this percent of people said that teachers were being racist to them.’ I met with the deputy superintendent of CUSD and presented all of this data to him and said, ‘This is what’s happening on our campuses.’”

Working with the CUSD Board of Trustees, CUSD Against Racism has since passed a resolution denouncing all acts of racism, intolerance and unlawful discrimination, gotten student representation in the district’s cultural proficiency task force, and galvanized the district to pilot an ethnic studies course, among other local civic action efforts.

Though it was 2020’s national Black Lives Matter movement that first inspired Quezada, she believes that local efforts are more important than ever if lasting social change is going to happen. “I think it has to come from people in our community because that’s who they’re going to listen to. They’re not going to listen to someone completely random, they’re going to listen to a community member, a family member, and that’s why it’s so important to have difficult conversations with a family, because it’s hard and uncomfortable. But having these hard conversations is the only way that we’re going to be able to move the needle forward.”

President Struppa has nominated Quezada to be Chapman’s Newman Civic Fellow for the 2021-22 academic year, an award that recognizes and supports college students who have demonstrated a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country, provides training and resources to further students’ capacities for civic engagement and emphasizes preparation for the long-term work of public problem solving and building equitable communities.

Did You Know?

This fall, all Chapman students will return to campus for full-time, in-person instruction. Move-in for first-year students will take place on Tuesday, August 24; all other students will move in August 26-29. Classes begin Monday, August 30. All families and students will be advised to use university parking lots and structures.

On Tuesday, August 24, we will host an Opening Convocation Ceremony to mark the beginning of the 2021-22 academic year. A short pyrotechnic display will be held at the conclusion of the ceremony at approximately 8 p.m. Please know that we will do everything possible to hold this event with minimal disruption to all.

Need to report a concern?

• Contact Chapman University’s Office of Community Relations at (714) 997-2097 or email neighbors@chapman.edu.
• 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 in-person and virtual events, and neighbors are always welcome. Here are just a few. Find more at the University's online events calendar, Chapman.edu/events. Advance tickets for performing arts events may be purchased online at Chapman.edu/tickets.

Thompson Policy Institute’s 2021 Summit on DisAbility and Inclusion
Wednesday, August 11
9 a.m.–1 p.m. PST

The Summit is TPI’s signature event that brings together current research and community partners to highlight best practices that improve the lives of people with disabilities by supporting inclusivity for all. The presentations during the Summit will appeal to self-advocates, families, educators, teacher education faculty, medical professionals and service providers.

More info: events.chapman.edu/83158

Hilbert Museum
Now Open: Tues–Sat, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
167 N. Atchison Street

Dedicated to the display of California scene and representational art, the permanent collection of the Hilbert Museum is a significant repository of images of the 20th century by California artists, celebrating the unique artistic and cultural development of the Golden State. New exhibits in the Hilbert Museum include California Art Club: 110th Annual Gold Medal Exhibition, Disney Superstars: Mickey, Minnie, Donald and Friends and Dressed to Kill: Fashion in American Illustration. Admission is Free.

More info: hilbertmuseum.com

Pacific Symphony’s Symphony in the Cities
Sunday, August 22, 7 p.m.
Aitken Arts Plaza

Music director Carl St.Clair leads the orchestra on the Aitken Arts Plaza — bring lawn chairs and a picnic and come enjoy a mix of classical, pop and patriotic tunes. Pre-show activities for kids include instrument-making, a drum circle, an interactive conducting tutorial with Maestro St.Clair and a meet-and-greet with musicians. Free, but reservations are required.

More info: muscocenter.org

NEW CAMPUS FACILITIES WILL PRESERVE THE CHARACTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

The new Sandi Simon Center for Dance is taking shape in the circa-1918 Villa Park Orchards Association Packing House, an icon of the Cypress Street Barrio and the region’s citrus-growing heyday.

More than a historical-preservation project, this renovation will make the most of the building’s existing features — spacious interiors, generous natural lighting — and revise them for use by Chapman’s award-winning dance program.

“It’s a storied building,” says Collete Creppell, Chapman’s vice president of Campus Planning and Design, as she describes the new dance center, scheduled for a June 2022 opening. “The way in which we’re approaching the design for this space is to reveal in many ways how rich and layered this site is and the stories of this building, of which dance is the next.”

Lorcan O’Herlihy Architects is creating an immersive experience with a design that preserves the Industrial Vernacular Style architecture of the historic buildings, while adapting the interior to the needs of a top dance program. The center will share a courtyard with The K Residence Hall, an adjacent building that also incorporates the architectural heritage of the original packinghouse.

Most of the project is an interior tenant improvement with minimal impact on the surrounding neighborhood. Work will be performed within limits of City of Orange Municipal Code (OMC). Noise sources associated with construction, repair, remodeling or grading of any real property may take place between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. on any day except for Sunday or a federal holiday, or between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Sunday or a federal holiday.

Currently, the Department of Dance is housed in the Partridge Dance Center, adjacent to the Hilbert Museum on Atchison Street, across from the train station. Plans to expand the museum into the soon-to-be-vacated space are already underway.

Chapman has received a $5 million gift from Ron and Sandi Simon to restore the Villa Park Orchards Association Packing House and transform it into a new home for the university’s award-winning dance program.

More inside!