CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY supports vaccination outreach efforts

As students prepared to resume full time, in-person instruction at Chapman this fall, campus administrators confirmed that, as of September 2, 89% of the total population accessing campus facilities (students, faculty and staff) had confirmed their vaccinations for the COVID-19 virus. Current university guidelines require vaccination or twice-weekly COVID-19 testing, a precaution made to safeguard not only the Chapman community, but our neighbors in Orange as well.

Chapman University’s health science programs have been actively involved in COVID-19 vaccination outreach efforts throughout Orange County. As soon as vaccinations became available, faculty and students began volunteering at hospitals, pharmacies and other venues offering vaccinations.

“As vaccine eligibility expanded, we started volunteering at the County’s mass vaccination sites at Disneyland and the Anaheim Convention Center. We have had over 100 faculty and students volunteer in the community to give COVID-19 vaccines,” said Jeff Goad, Pharm.D, MPH, professor and chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice at Chapman University School of Pharmacy, in a recent Q&A in the Orange County Business Journal. Goad served on the state committee that helped plan the vaccine rollout statewide.

Dr. Karl Hess, Pharm.D, associate professor in Chapman’s School of Pharmacy and director of Community Pharmacy Practice Innovations, participated in one such local vaccination effort: pop-up vaccination sites in communities that are experiencing lower vaccination rates and more limited vaccine access.

“These events are literally in people’s front yards and parking lots . . . so they can get the help and information that they need,” said Hess.

Even with the vaccinations widely available to all adults and children as young as 12, Hess notes that these pop-up events are essential for getting both resource-strapped and vaccine-hesitant individuals to opt in.

“What has really worked well is having people in these neighborhoods stay at the booth and talk to their neighbors – their opinion goes further than a city authority or me in my white coat. It’s more effective from a neighbor’s perspective, from a community leader,” Hess says, adding, “that is the biggest impact we can make – finding partnerships and working with the city to find these people. Everyone should be getting vaccinated.”

Connie Benson has been a supporter of Chapman University for a long time. Since graduating from Chapman in 1993, she has been active in the university’s alumni association, including serving for a term as president, has been a member of President’s Advisory Committee and currently serves as a Special Advisor to President Struppa.

But now her relationship with Chapman has taken on a new dimension: as a neighbor. Three years ago, Benson, who practices law in Santa Ana, moved to Old Towne Orange. She has been actively involved in the community ever since, including a recent appointment to the Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) committee for the City of Orange.

With students returning to campus this fall after more than a year of remote learning, Benson knew it was a great opportunity to help bridge the distance between students and residents in her neighborhood. Benson has joined an outreach team that includes student leaders, law enforcement, elected officials and representatives from Chapman’s Office of Community Relations. The goal is to encourage students to be good neighbors and foster mutual respect within the community.

“I have Chapman students living around me and I haven’t had any problems with them at all,” she says, though she has heard complaints from other residents in the Chapman neighborhood about “those darn Chapman students.” And she understands. “As a person who owns a home here, who works for a living, I wouldn’t appreciate an all-night party, either.”

“I just want to talk to them, not in an accusatory way, just as an alumni to current student, homeowner to renter, and bring that perspective to them,” she says. “We can thrive together, but one bad apple can spoil it for everyone around here.”

“We’re not all college students, and we can’t all keep that schedule,” she adds. “It’s different than living in the dorms, surrounded only by your peers. But it’s important for the reputation of the university, as an Alumni that’s important to me.”

STUDENTS, COMMUNITY UNITE TO PROMOTE GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE

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YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us for these engaging events at Chapman

Tartuffe
Oct. 7–9 & 14–16, 7:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. (Saturday)
Walmar Theatre
Through brilliantly created characters, this timeless, charming and clever play by Molière explores true hypocrisy within 17th-century French society. Join us for an evening filled with rhythm, rhyme and wit as we aim to excavate the false piety that remains in our own society using the theatrical traditions of the Comedy of Manners. General Public: $20.

Kishi Bashi in Concert
Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m.
Musco Center for the Arts
The highly anticipated concert return of Kishi Bashi will feature the virtuoso violinist, composer and singer accompanied by a string trio, electric banjo player Mike "Tall Tall Trees" Savino, and a 18-piece side-by-side string ensemble comprised of professional musicians and Chapman string students. Tickets range from $38-$63.

A Conversation with Father Gregory Boyle:
Faith That Does Justice
Nov. 12, 5 p.m
Musco Center for the Arts
Father Boyle founded Homeboy Industries, one of the world’s largest gang-rehab and re-entry programs. In recognition of his work, he will receive an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Chapman University. He will reflect on the claim that the crucial struggle of our time is the struggle not just for faith, but also for justice. Tickets: $25

CHAPMAN FILM SCHOOL RISES TO NO. 4 IN PRESTIGIOUS HOLLYWOOD REPORTER RANKINGS

Chapman University’s Dodge College of Film and Media Arts has been named the fourth best film school in the nation by The Hollywood Reporter. It’s Dodge’s highest-ever national ranking in The Hollywood Reporter’s highly anticipated annual rankings, released Aug. 11. Chapman moved up two places to No. 4 out of 25 schools featured.

The Hollywood Reporter cited Dodge’s emphasis on diversity in faculty hiring and in establishing a mentorship program for underrepresented high school students. Additionally, Chapman was applauded for its investment in a full-time COVID officer and $750,000 in COVID-19 protections.

Alumnus Carlos López Estrada ’12, director of “Blindspotting” and co-director of the Disney animated feature “Raya and the Last Dragon,” says in the Reporter article that his “closest collaborators are still the peeps that I made my first film projects with more than 10 years ago.”

Chapman’s leap of two places in the rankings “is a remarkable achievement for a film school that’s only 25 years old,” said Stephen Galloway, dean of Dodge College. “None of this would be possible without the most extraordinary faculty and staff I’ve ever known, along with an exceptionally generous group of donors and — of course — the best students on the planet!”

Find more news at NeighborofChapman.com