GD Program Ranked #1 in CA

This February, Chapman’s Graphic Design Program was ranked first for the best graphic design colleges in California for 2018. The award reads as follows, ‘Chapman University offers 1 Graphic Design Degree program. It’s a medium sized private university in a mid sized city. In 2015, 29 students graduated in the study area of Graphic Design with students earning 29 Bachelor’s degrees. For more information, visit https://www.universities.com/find/california/best/graphic-design_degrees.

Interview with Associate Dean, Eric Chimenti

by Samantha Guillet, BFA GD ’21

SAM: Why does Chapman deserve #1?

ERIC: I think that Claudine and myself and most of our part-timers who have worked for us for 5+ years, we have highly professional and highly committed people who come semester after semester and do way more than ad-junks that have to do it at other schools and get paid the same or less. That’s another distinction about our program-most other schools do not do that. They may have one portfolio day at the end, we are the ones who say ‘have you passed your classes but can you pass a wholistic review’. The research methods, the process folders, the professional practice in every class, that’s what I think makes us #1 and shows parents and students… we do that better than other places. We make students have an internship and we make them do these things because believe in its importance. ... Interview cont. on page 2

Alum Becomes an Author

Nicole Santo writes lettering book, By Hand

Nicole Santo, class of ’11, recently wrote her own book called By Hand about the art of modern lettering. The book provides an inspirational jumping-off point for readers who want to incorporate lettering into a slower, more intentional lifestyle. By Hand brings the beauty of lettering beyond the page, through 30 distinct projects, from watercolor place cards to cozy pillows. The book is available for order on Amazon starting April 17th of this year.
Interview with Associate Dean, Eric Chimenti continued...

SAM: Has Chapman had a Graphic Design major offered since they first opened?
ERIC: Chapman did not have graphic design program until 1992, at which point it was when a lot of universities were starting to have official graphic design programs, even though the discipline existed long before that, it was seen by many universities as kind of a cash cow. It was coming out of the commercial arts, something you would take at a trade school or a tech school. When I started here, the graphic design program was lacking and dated. I came in as a professional, not intending to teach full time. The year after I started here, the graphic design program was an official program. We were able to expand the program from 63 units to 78 units to match the national standard for what a true BFA would be. We also only hire people who are currently working in the field: we do not hire “has-beens,” we do not hire people who used to do it, we put the best people in the best classes to best suit our students.

SAM: What background do you and other graphic design professors have with art and design?
ERIC: A lot and varied. For me, my bachelors degree is in graphic design, my masters degree is in illustration. For Claudine, her bachelors degree is in graphic design her bachelors degree is in info design. For Andy, his bachelors degree is actually in English and he’s working on getting his MFA in design. But he’s done design professionally for 25-30 years and he almost has a PhD in English Literature.

SAM: How are the classes here for the major/minor different compared to other schools in CA with GD programs?
ERIC: We are the only graphic design program that makes our students take a research methods class. We are one of the only programs that makes our students embed certain research methods into their process. We are one of the only programs, that I know of, that makes our students do process folders like we do. Our students now have the reputation in the industry of being some of the most articulate and thoughtful defenders of their work. They are making more than just eye candy. When they solve a visual problem, they understand what they were solving, who they were solving for, and why they solved the problem. Those are the things that differentiate us as a program.

SAM: When did you find out that Chapman’s program was ranked #1?
ERIC: We didn’t put in for it, we weren’t in any kind of ranking. No one called me and said, ‘would you like to be included? We need to look at your program.’ All I know is that when Claudine looked at the measurements and the metrics, it was legit and we are #1 in CA, but what we were really ranked on was that we are the university where the students get what they pay for. As a parent, you want to get what you pay for. At Chapman, as #1, you get what you pay for. Through this ranking, we deliver. To me that is the best kind of #1. I had no direct involvement in that, I had all kinds of involvement working to make the program great. And when we’re not #1 anymore or however that changes, I’m just going to keep doing what I’m doing. Because I’ve always been interested in making a program that’s great. I love art and design. I want to help students who also love art and design to be really good at that thing so that they can go and do that and have a happy and fulfilled life doing the thing that they love.

SAM: Changes for the future in the program?
ERIC: Every year we have our portfolio review…ask what do you think needs, where are our students lacking, what do you think needs to happen. It also starts form the great part-timers we have teaching with us, when they come in and say we are really seeing in the industry this and we are being pushed by our clients to do this, it would be really great is we started to teach the students this so they’re ready for it when they get out. We make changes based on that, but that has nothing to do with the #1 ranking.
Meet the New Freshmen
Welcome the class of 2021 boys

ELON GROBEY
Newberg, OR
Elon first heard about Chapman through a family member and fell in love with the campus during his visit. Elon was especially interested in the graphic design program because of its outstanding reputation. After he graduates, Elon wants to work anywhere that he is able to creatively use his skills in design.

KYLE KAWAKAMI
Belmont, CA
Kyle chose Chapman because he loved the appeal of going to school in southern California. He knew that Chapman had an up and coming and reputable graphic design program. He would like to use his BFA in graphic design to work as a graphic designer at a large company in Southern California.

CHRISTIAN LEDEZMA
Hacienda Heights, CA
Christian chose Chapman because he enjoys the environment of the school. He especially feels that all of the professors are dedicated to seeing each of their students succeed. After he graduates, Christian hopes to eventually become an art director or continue into the field of industrial design.

MICHAEL STARBUCK
Ojai, CA
Michael chose Chapman because of the vibe of the campus and its great graphic design program. Michael is unsure of his goals for after he graduates, but wants to pursue a career in design.

"Destinations", our annual portfolio review, is where professionals from various creative industries give back to schools and the community by providing helpful and critical feedback to the next generation of designers and entrepreneurs. The event attracts graphic designs students from colleges all over Orange County due to its connection opportunities and the skills it teaches beyond what is taught in the classroom. The OC Portfolio Review is designed to help students be able to confidently and clearly present their portfolio during a job interview as well as provide opportunities for students to expand their network of professionals, opening up many design opportunities and channels for professional feedback. Beyond that, it is a way for professionals in the surrounding area to get a feel for the talent in their surrounding area and for faculty to get an outside perspective on how their students are progressing.

AIGA Portfolio Review
Theme: Destinations

2018 REVIEWER HIGHLIGHTS
Marvel Themed Entertainment
Sonnyside Up
Tinder, Inc
Type-Ed
Hurley

AIGA
LOGO
INFOGRAPHIC

SOME SKILLS THE PORTFOLIO REVIEW OFFERS TO STUDENTS:
• How to talk to a client during a job interview
• How to present their work in a clear and concise manner
• How to take feedback and use it to better themselves and their designs
• How to recognize client needs

WEBSITE
INFOGRAPHIC
LOGO
SOME SKILLS THE PORTFOLIO REVIEW OFFERS TO STUDENTS:
Zines for Anastamos
GD 100 Book Arts and Lettering

Anastamos Interdisciplinary Journal is a modern interdisciplinary journal. Each issue focuses on a single topic with diverse perspectives on the human experience, weaving together creative, scientific, philosophical, historical, and social perspectives on common shifting themes. Through innovative publication they aim to set a defining example for scholars and professionals crossing the boundaries of their fields. They challenge and advocate for the distribution of material nurturing cross-disciplinary dialogue and debate that is personal and curiously human. Anastamos is on their third publication with a theme of Dis/Order. In latest issue includes a compilation of poems written by present and past Chapman students. For each poem there will be one zine made and inserted into the book. Graduate Programs Coordinator, Allison DeVries, put the students in GD 100 on the job. Using their knowledge in magic books, the students designed a unique zine specific to the poem of their choosing. 10 finalists were chosen based on a class vote and sent to Anastamos to have the finals chosen.

Mercedes-Benz Classics Finalist
Genevieve Geller ‘20 designs winning poster

Each year, the graphic design students here at Chapman have an opportunity to design a poster for the Mercedes-Benz Classics Center. This year, Chapman University’s Genevieve Geller and her design was chosen. She writes...

“This poster was created for a design competition put on by the Mercedes-Benz Classics Center in Irvine, California. The goal of this design was to portray the classic Mercedes-Benz 280SL in a way that prompts emotional reactions such as nostalgia and joy.”

For more of Genevieve’s work, visit https://www.behance.net/gelle10816a8
Sophomore Portfolio Proficiency Show
Theme: Adobe Icons

This past March, the class of 2020 took on the task of developing their portfolio for a proficiency review. This show is for the graphic design professors to see how the graphic design students are developing and improving as a designer. The theme of the show, as shown below, is Adobe Icons. Each student was given an individualized recreation of an adobe program using a color of their choice and their initials. The theme allows the show to be cohesive in a gallery setting as well as promoting the students as individuals through their displayed initials. When the portfolios were displayed, each of them was placed beneath a 2’ x 2’ initial poster, which were created and printed by Sophomores Kaelyn Lustig and Genevieve Geller, who were also featured in the show. Each portfolio contains 5 pieces done in class. This includes work done in typography, GD 200, and GD 300. The reception was held on March 27th and remained open to the public for the remainder of the week.

Junior Portfolio Proficiency Show
Theme: Design Crimes

This past April, the class of 2019 graphic design students are back for round two with the junior portfolio proficiency show. The theme of the show was Design Crimes. Above each portfolio is a picture of the designer holding a board with their most egregious design faux paux. The juniors are required to include 10 of their best pieces in their portfolio from classes during the year. The show debuted on April 2nd and remained open to the public until April 6th. Some of their projects include designs for the LA Olympics, ad design for famous retail companies, product design for various companies, as well as campus related projects.
Alum Pursues Stylist Career

Jessica Meister, 2008 alum works as a wardrobe stylist in LA

Jessica comes from a background working with prestigious companies in the fashion industry including Bergdorf Goodman, Saks Fifth Avenue, Teen Vogue and Tommy Hilfiger. Jessica combines her love of children and a fabulous imagination in her styling work. Specializing in Children’s Fashion, Jessica is a premier Wardrobe Stylist based out of Los Angeles, CA. For about 5 years now, Jessica has been assisting and working with celebrity stylists and their clients, editorials with editors for major magazines from NYC, and advertising campaigns in Los Angeles and Mexico. Jessica says that her experience in graphic design often comes in handy. She writes, “stylists constantly want assistants who have experience with Adobe Creative Suite, especially Photoshop”. Jessica uses Adobe programs for making mood boards and conceptualizing wardrobe for clients. For more information about Jessica Meister and her work, visit https://www.jessicameister.com/.
Kathleen Kaiser’s GD 300 class was given the assignment of creating a prototype for the rebranding of the Prowl Magazine. Each of the 4 groups worked to create a new brand identity for the magazine as well as website design. The students were required to pitch their finalized ideas as a group through a presentation format that included a logo, color and type, front and back covers, spreads, and a website design. Next, the students used their rebranding guidelines to generate a magazine prototype. Ian Craddock, student at Chapman, was the lead of the project. All of the prototypes were then shown to Maggie Mayer, the Prowl magazine editor to have one chosen for the theme of the next issue of Prowl.

**BOLD**

- Genevieve Geller
- Aimee Bowen
- Taylor Taradash
- Ivy Zhou
- Enya Zhu

**FLEX**

- Mackenzie Cathcart
- Ashley Lynch
- Audrey Barthold
- Sarah Lehman
- Kaelyn Lustig

**VERSATILE**

- Jaycie Frank
- Jennifer Hernandez
- Mark Schneider
- Sydney Smith
- Maddy Toth
- Cassandra Taylor

**CLEAN**

- Alexandra Mogelvang
- Sally Fuller
- Beau Barker
- Sasha Coughlin
- Shalina Malik
- Yuxuan Wu
Full Time Professor Update

**TEACHING** – Professor Chimenti oversaw two independent study students and about 10 internships. He also spent his time prepping and recruiting for GD 308 Sustainable Design London. More on that class in the Fall issue.

**SERVICE** – Eric was the advisor to 56 majors and minors in the graphic design program since Professor Jaenichen returned from sabbatical. He also continued to oversee the Ideation lab. The lab employed 18 students and worked on as many as 20 different jobs a week. Professor Chimenti also continues as Associate Dean for Wilkinson College fulfilling many administrative duties.

**CREATIVE/SCHOLARLY** – Professor Chimenti finished working on the Spring 2018 conference for the American Ethnological Society and the Society for Visual Anthropology. He continued the work he does for Successful Innovations in VA. He also designed another Research Brief for the Center for Demographics and Policy.

**TEACHING** – This spring, Professor Jaenichen taught GD 203 Color and GD 303 Information Design.

**SERVICE** – Professor Jaenichen’s university service for this semester includes Diversity Leadership Award Committee as well as Faculty speaker for the first Lavender Graduation.

**CREATIVE/SCHOLARLY** – Professor Jaenichen received funding to host a week-long work in the specialized area of Design for Emergency Management.

Design for emergency management is an emerging field, the goal of which is to explore academic and practice based systemic approaches for evidence-based design in the specialized area of visual communication for emergency planning and disaster risk reduction. To date, official collaborations in this area of visual and human-centered design, public communication, and emergency planning have been nonexistent. This workshop will bridge the gap between the scientific information provided and the subsequent intended action at the recipient’s end. Most often this recipient is the general public, for which it has been established that fact-based communication, which has not been properly studied, is not necessarily effective.

The workshop will be led by 5 international design leaders from the Design Network of Emergency Management (DNEM), 7 experts as invited participants, and students. The workshop will explore a participatory approach in creating visual communication standards and improving quality of information before, during, and after emergency events while building enduring collaborations between government, practitioners, and academia.

Due to the recent wildfire, professor Jaenichen has been hired by local and state authorities to improve their wildfire evacuation maps.

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**ERIC CHIMENTI**
Associate Dean, Wilkinson College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Chapman University
Current – Chapman University, AIGA, EMC illustration & design
Education – Savannah College of Art and Design

**CLAUDINE JAENICHEN**
Associate Professor and Design Consultant
Current – International Institute of Information Design, Chapman University
Education – California Institute of the Arts
TEACHING - This past fall, Professor Shalat taught GD202 (interactivity and web design), as well as GD103 (Visualization and Rendering). During the semester, GD202 students worked to develop a user experience and interface with Prof. Michael Fahey’s advanced computer engineering students. The so-called LOCA Site design allowed our design students to consider how the intended users of a site interact and function through a data-driven site developed and made functional by the engineering students. It was a great success, and both Professor Fahey and Professor Shalat look forward to developing more real world cross-discipline projects in the next year.

SERVICE - Shalat was the advisor to 46 majors and minor in the graphic design program. He also helped coordinate the VTLS speaker. He serves on multiple department sub committees.

CREATIVE/SCHOLARLY - While continuing on finishing a terminal degree (MFA) at SCAD online, Professor Shalat developed a short video presentation and paper on Branding and Bias, focusing on the New York Metropolitan Museum’s recent logo and branding redesign. The paper was accepted for presentation at Design Thinking and Practice in Barcelona in the spring.

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TEACHING - Professor Zawislak teaches Motion Design (GD 406) which is essentially animation for Graphic Designers. It’s a bit of a catch-all term these days, and it’s continually expanding. It’s not quite graphic design, nor is it video editing, special effects or character animation. It’s a crossover of all those disciplines. Any time you see an animated logo or moving graphics on screen, that’s motion design.

SERVICE - Professor Zawislak enjoys most about the class is that it opens up a world to our graphic design students that they otherwise would not have been aware of. It forces them to think beyond print and beyond 2 dimensions as well. It’s a tricky discipline, since it requires some understanding of the basic principles of animation and timing, which is something many of these students never considered in their other work. Admittedly it’s not for everyone, and some students will be put off by the huge technical hurdles necessary to make Adobe After Effects do what they need it to do. But for those who stick it out and overcome the steep learning curve, they’re rewarded with a great new skill for their résumé, and even new portfolio pieces.

CREATIVE/SCHOLARLY - Outside of Chapman, Professor Zawislak runs his own Motion Graphics business full time under the studio name JZ Motion, Inc. He does a broad range of work for all kinds of clients. He has done promotional animations for big names like 3M and Panasonic, but he also really enjoys his 1 on 1 clients that simply want to promote their new Kickstarter with some flashy animation. Zawislak provides high level studio animation at a fraction of the cost, because he is a solo operation with low overhead. Some of his work includes Youtube intros, logo animation, investor decks, conference intros, Kickstarter promos, 3D product demos, explainer videos, etc. You can see his work on his site: www.jzmotion.com

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TEACHING - Patch teaches ART 122, Objects in Space, and has been for the past two years. Patch leads art students through various sculptural projects that help to teach artistic understanding.

SERVICE - Patch uses his position as professor to change the way students are thinking about and approaching art. Art is a life choice and in his position, Patch is able to guide students and their approach to their careers in art. Teaching is simply an extension of his practice.

CREATIVE/SCHOLARLY - After scrounging for studio space for years, Patch is constructing a 720 square ft. personal studio in his yard in Duarte, CA. He feels lucky to be able to build his own studio in such a conducive space like home. Patch hopes to have completed his studio and started a new series by this December.

As an artist, Patch’s practice is about process and material transformation where philosophical underpinnings reference absurdist prospective. Patch sold his piece There is Only One Way to Rule The Kingdom. Never Stop. to the 21c in Kentucky and is displayed in their permanent collection.
Graphic Design Alumni
Updates of what our alumni have been up to

JORDAN KAINALU PATAO, BFA in GD ’17
Graphic Designer at Electric Feel Management

SOPHIE LERNER, BFA in GD ’16
Freelance Designer in Seattle

SPENCER WIERVILLE, BFA in GD ’16
Graphic Designer at 51 Minds Entertainment

RACHAEL MORELLO, BFA in GD ’12
Art Director at Idea Farmer

SHERRY ALWAY, BFA in GD ’14
Freelance Designer

GRIFFAN FAIR, BFA in GD ’17
Portfolio Manager/Sales Manager at Toyota; Apparel Designer at CMNTY

MADISON SWINTER, BFA in GD ’15
Marketing Designer at Live Urban Real Estate

CHARLOTTE SPERLING, BFA in GD ’15
Product Designer at Yahoo

ANDREW LE, BFA in GD ’15
Communications Graphic Designer at Nike

RYAN MICK, BFA in GD ’13
Senior Product Manager at Tinder, Inc.

DIANA GOLDBERG, BFA in GD ’14
Visual Designer at Enlisted Design

SHERYL ALWAY, BFA in GD ’14
Associate Producer at R/GA

SAM SWENOR, BFA in GD ’17
Junior Designer at Troika

ROGER DUMAS, BFA in GD ’13
Digital Designer at OSHIN Studio

DIANA GOLDBERG, BFA in GD ’14
Visual Designer at Enlisted Design

SHERRY ALWAY, BFA in GD ’14
Freelance Designer

GRIFFAN FAIR, BFA in GD ’17
Portfolio Manager/Sales Manager at Toyota; Apparel Designer at CMNTY

MADISON SWINTER, BFA in GD ’15
Marketing Designer at Live Urban Real Estate

CHARLOTTE SPERLING, BFA in GD ’15
Product Designer at Yahoo

KELSEY CHAPMAN, BFA in GD ’10
Digital Marketing Manager at Yellowstone Club

RACHEL BECKER, BFA in GD ’14
Graphic Designer at Shambhala Mountain Center

MANEESH SIDHU, BFA in GD ’12
Graphic Designer at Hulu

SUSANNA DAVIDOV, BFA in GD ’13
Founder of the Vault Diamonds

SAM SWENOR, BFA in GD ’17
Junior Designer at Troika

ROGER DUMAS, BFA in GD ’13
Digital Designer at OSHIN Studio

DIANA GOLDBERG, BFA in GD ’14
Visual Designer at Enlisted Design

SHERRY ALWAY, BFA in GD ’14
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Marketing Designer at Live Urban Real Estate

CHARLOTTE SPERLING, BFA in GD ’15
Product Designer at Yahoo

KELSEY CHAPMAN, BFA in GD ’10
Digital Marketing Manager at Yellowstone Club

For complete information check out our website: http://www.chapman.edu/wilkinson/art/graphic-design/graphic-design-alumni.aspx

GD USA Award
Summer Woodward’s design

Summer Woodward recently received an award from Graphic Design USA for her packaging artwork. She is a Junior Copywriter for Munchkin Inc., a global provider for baby and child products. After graduating from Chapman University with a Graphic Design BFA, Woodward practiced freelance work and represented companies like Locale and SOAP Communication. Her award-winning brand design and other work has been featured in retail stores like Target, Walmart, and Babies ‘R’ Us. Graphic Design USA granted Woodward and her team the American Package Design Award for their branding design for Munchkin Inc. in 2018. Below are two of Summer’s packaging designs that she helped produce. To see more of Summer’s work, visit https://www.behance.net/summerwdesign.

American Advertising Gold
Gino Bellasen awarded

Alumni Gino Bellasen was awarded gold at The American Advertising Award for his artwork for NGHTMRE, an American DJ and trap producer based in Los Angeles. The American Advertising Awards, formerly the ADDYs, is the advertising industry’s largest and most representative competition, attracting over 40,000 entries every year in local AAF Club (Ad Club) competitions. The mission of the American Advertising Awards competition is to recognize and reward the creative spirit of excellence in the art of advertising. Gino’s artwork was used for NGHMRE’s album ‘nightmre part ii’ and for some of his singles.
Catalyst
Staff and Alums Publish Magazine Together

Today, LPA is nationally known for providing business analytics, big data, information management, data warehousing, and financial performance management solutions. With over 200 clients, LPA offers consulting, systems integration and software expertise to clients ranging from multi-billion dollar Fortune 500 companies to mid-market firms with fewer than 50 employees. This innovative magazine was produced by Ron Leland, LPA’s Creative Director, and two Chapman Alums, Mike Gembarski ’13 and Malanie Wells ’15. Ron Leland has connections with Chapman University’s graphic design program and cocreated the annual London trip alongside Eric Chimenti. This publication is produced to connect with clients and show. Gembarski and Wells were hired by LPA to work with Ron Leland on the latest publication of Catalyst.

Alum Becomes an Author continued...

Nicole Santo has experience in teaching students in hand lettering and design as well as maintaining graphic design clients for the past 3 years. Before writing her book, Nicole worked for a kids clothing company. She did everything for them, especially including design. Soon after, she realized that she needed to utilize her hand skills. Nicole started to be inspired by the lettering she had been seeing on Tumblr. Her love of quotes and watercolor made lettering a perfect fit and became an outlet for her. Nicole started writing her book at the beginning of 2017. She had no intention of writing a book, but was inspired along the way by her students to publish a book for them. On the 6th of May, Nicole Santo held a book event for a live podcast interview and Q & A. Nicole says, “I’m super open about the fact that this book, the one that I’m holding in my hands, wasn’t on my radar to write. Join me as I share how it happened, the lessons I’ve learned, and how I truly see hand-lettering as a part of everyones story.” For more information and to purchase By Hand, visit http://www.nicolemiyuki.com.
Graphic Design Internships

Amenity Services
AshleyTerk.com
AWP Printing
Cryo Innovations
Freedom Writers Foundation
Green and Green Talent Group
Hope International University
Instant Industries
Los Angeles Travel Magazine
New York Minute Magazine
sieu
Sugar Paper Studio
Quest
Z supply, LLC
26 Seconds Documentary

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Become a contributing member and build your network
AIGA is the American Institute for Graphic Artists. It is the leading association for visual designers, identity designers, environmental designers, information designers, editorial designers, package designers, motion graphic designers, interaction designers, customer experience designers, strategic designers, and more. Its members are empowered through information, education, recognition, and advocacy. AIGA offers students the inside track to mentors and collaborators. AIGA student groups get students involved in the design community, help them build their own communities, and develop leadership skills. AIGA memberships let students gain national exposure by creating the chance to post their resumes and portfolios online. A contributor (basic) membership is only $50 a year.

Join or find out more at http://orangecounty.aiga.org/membership/