ANNUAL CONCERT UNDER THE STARS HIGHLIGHTS STUDENT PERFORMANCES AND RAISES FUNDS

About 4,000 friends and supporters of Cal State Fullerton gathered on campus Saturday night for the University’s annual Concert Under the Stars.

Songs such as “Begin the Beguine,” “It’s De-Lovely,” “It Don’t Mean a Thing,” and “He’ll Make It Alright” focused on jazz, swing, gospel and show tunes. Later in the evening, guests enjoyed “city specific” pieces such as “New York, New York,” “Chicago,” “Viva Las Vegas,” and “Do You Know the Way to San Jose?” The evening ended with a fireworks extravaganza following the singing of “America the Beautiful.”

The event grossed more than $1 million, which will be used for student scholarships and student programs.

FACULTY-STUDENT ENGINEERING RESEARCH TO AID STROKE PATIENTS

Inside Cal State Fullerton’s Human Interactive Robotics (HIR) Lab, mechanical engineering faculty member Nina Robson and her students are working on novel research to help patients suffering from limb mobility, due to strokes, birth defects or accidents.

The project, led by Robson, is a collaboration between CSUF, Texas A&M University and Idaho State University, and is funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

The main goal of the research is to develop a cost-effective wearable device, similar to robotic glasses which could be used by post-stroke patients at home.

“It creates a virtual-reality environment to help rehabilitate the patients with upper-limb limitations,” said Robson, assistant professor of mechanical engineering and director of the HIR Lab. “The system will allow the user to perceive the prosthetic or rehabilitation device as part of their upper limb, ‘tricking’ the patient to think of the affected limb as healthy.”

ENTERING A WORLD OF MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE

Illustrations from CSUF alumnus Kevin Costner’s book “Explorers Guild: Volume One: A Passage to Shambhala” debuted at Cal State Fullerton’s Nicholas and Lee Begovich Gallery. The exhibit continues through Dec. 15.

“The Explorers Guild: Rick Ross and Explorations in Graphic Fiction” features Ross’ illustrations for the first installment of “The Explorers Guild,” co-authored by Costner ’78 (B.A. business administration-marketing) and Jon Baird. The series brings back early 20th-century adventure fiction with a clandestine group of globetrotters who travel to remote locations to discover mysteries hiding beyond the known world.

The Begovich Gallery is located at 800 North State College Blvd., Fullerton, 92831. It is open noon-4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and noon-4 p.m. Saturdays.

OVER 40,000 STUDENTS REGISTERED

As students headed to their classrooms at the start of the fall semester, they set a CSUF record for the number registered — over 40,000. The official enrollment tally will be known after October’s census.

About 1,950 students are now living on campus.
GUARDIAN SCHOLARS BEGIN NEW EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY

Cal State Fullerton welcomed 14 former foster youth to the campus as this year’s class of incoming Guardian Scholars. The Guardian Scholars program awards former foster youth a full scholarship to the University and provides additional assistance to help them succeed in their educational endeavors. The program is a working partnership between the private sector and public agencies.

CSUF NOW NO. 2 IN BACHELOR’S DEGREES AWARDED TO HISPANICS

Cal State Fullerton is once again among the top institutions conferring degrees to underrepresented students. The University is No. 1 in California and No. 2 in the nation for bachelor’s degrees awarded to Hispanics, according to the Aug. 25 issue of Diverse: Issues in Higher Education. The University also is No. 6 in the nation for bachelor’s degrees awarded to underrepresented students, and No. 14 for the number of bachelor’s degrees awarded to Asian Americans.

NEW CLASS OF PRESIDENT’S SCHOLARS BEGINS THE SCHOOL YEAR

Nineteen new President’s Scholars recently joined Cal State Fullerton’s student body. As President’s Scholars, they hold the most prestigious status the University accords to incoming students.

The President’s Scholars program was launched in 1979 as a comprehensive and rigorous program for high-achieving high school seniors; later, the program was extended to include military veterans entering from community college. The program offers outstanding experiences and opportunities in academics, leadership, service and mentorship. About 400 scholars have graduated from the merit-based program.

In addition to students, scores of new faculty members arrived at Cal State Fullerton for the fall semester. Half of the newcomers are women; 33 percent are Asian; 10 percent are Latino, and nine percent are African American.

For this fiscal year, tuition accounts for 49.3 percent of the University revenue. The state allocation makes up 43.9 percent, other fees make up 3.2 percent, and non-resident fees account for 3.5 percent. The total operating budget for the campus is $390.25 million.

Of these funds, 72.3 percent are allocated to salaries and benefits, 12.9 percent to tuition discounts, and 14.7 percent to other operating costs.