

## Titan Alum Rubén Carbajal Joins 'Hamilton' National Tour

Meet the latest graduate of King's College.... Oops! Make that Cal State Fullerton. Titan alum Rubén Carbajal '15 (B.F.A. theatre arts-musical theatre) just landed a plum role in the national touring company of the Broadway smash hit "Hamilton."

In the show, which recently opened in San Francisco and will then head to Los Angeles, Carbajal plays the dual roles of John Laurens (one of Hamilton's best friends) during the first half of the play, and then Philip Hamilton (the son of Alexander Hamilton) during the second half. In fact, when we first "meet" Philip, he introduces himself with the line: "Meet the latest graduate of King's College."

"I came to CSUF with such an open mind and I wanted to learn as much as possible," Carbajal said. "I just absorbed the information given to me. My professors in the B.F.A. program definitely had the greatest impact on me. These professors all helped to prepare me for what I am going through now, which is the biggest job I've booked. They do a great job of not only prepping the performer, but also preparing the mind of the performer."



## UNIVERSITY RECEIVES RECORD NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

As Cal State Fullerton moved up the ranks as a top "national university," so has demand for admission as the region's high school graduates and community college transfer students make their university selections. For fall 2017, CSUF received nearly 70,000 applications for admission from prospective students — an all-time high.

The University received 45,394 applications for fall from entering freshmen and 24,545 applications from community college and other upper-division transfer students — for a total of 69,939 applications, a nearly 3 percent increase over fall 2016, according to the Office of Admissions. Last fall, CSUF had a record enrollment of 40,235 students, the highest enrollment in the 23-campus California State University system.

A number of factors contribute to CSUF's desirability among prospective students, including top-sought programs in business, nursing and kinesiology. Moreover, CSUF offers a depth and breadth of educational programs with tuition fees well below the national average — while being recognized as a top institution in the West for students graduating with the least debt. Last fall's *U.S. News & World Report* ranking also heralded Cal State Fullerton as a top "national university." The campus previously had been included in the much narrower "regional universities" category.



## TRAINING WOMEN TO BE LEADERS

Cal State Fullerton is one of four campuses nationwide to participate in the BOLD Women's Leadership Network, an initiative led by female university presidents who have demonstrated a commitment to collaboration, innovation, diversity and inclusion.

The goal of the program is to support and engage 10 female students at junior class level by providing scholarships, mentoring and retreats to help them develop leadership skills, and transform themselves and their communities in the process.

The University's first class of "BOLD scholars" will each receive a \$25,000 scholarship for the next two years to cover the cost of tuition fees, as well as room and board. This coming fall, incoming community college students who will be starting their junior year at Cal State Fullerton will make up the second cohort.

The BOLD Women's Leadership Network is funded by the Pussycat Foundation, a private foundation established by Helen Gurley Brown, the longtime editor of *Cosmopolitan* magazine. Upon graduation, each woman will be eligible to apply for a "Helen Gurley Brown Fellowship" to fund employment at an organization that embodies BOLD's values.



## CSUF PRESIDENT RECEIVES DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Cal State Fullerton President Mildred García is this year's recipient of the American Council on Education's Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award.

The award is named in honor of Wilson, senior scholar emeritus at ACE and founding director of the Council's Office of Minority Concerns (now part of ACE Leadership), and is presented annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions and demonstrated sustained commitment to diversity in higher education.

"Mildred García is a leader who fully embodies the essence of this award with passion, integrity and commitment to ensuring inclusion for all students on a national and local level," said ACE President Molly Corbett Broad. "Her ability to work across boundaries and within diverse communities demonstrates the kind of leadership necessary in the 21st century."





## HOW DISNEY INSPIRED THE CAREERS OF THREE CSUF FACULTY MEMBERS

Professor of Communications **Andi Stein**'s research has taken her to all 12 Disney theme parks, where she continues to interview experts and fans from around the world. She is the author of several books, including "Why We Love Disney: The Power of the Disney Brand." She also developed a graduate-level class called "Deconstructing Disney," which examines the influence that Walt Disney and the Walt Disney Co. have had on entertainment and communication.

"We have really great discussions in the classroom between dedicated Disney fans and people who look at Disney with a very critical lens," said Stein. "My job as a teacher is to facilitate those discussions."

**David Marley** '98 (M.A. history), history and honors program lecturer, used the skills he learned during his master's program at CSUF to write the first oral history

of a specific Disney attraction, "Skipper Stories: True Tales From Disneyland's Jungle Cruise." "Cal State Fullerton has a fantastic oral history program," said Marley. "It's where I learned how to interview people and transcribe their stories."

Marley currently is working on two more volumes of "Skipper Stories."

When **Wendy Grieb** '12 (M.F.A. art-illustration) began working as an animation storyboard artist for Walt Disney TV Animation, she had to quickly make the transition from hand-drawn to digital animation. During her 16 years as a Disney artist, Grieb worked on such shows as "Phineas and Ferb," "Lilo and Stitch," "The Emperor's New School" and "Elena of Avalor."

As an assistant professor of art at CSUF, Grieb shares her real-world experience and passion for animation, storyboarding and character design with students.



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## Did You Know?

- Cal State Fullerton has more than 276,000 graduates as of August 2016.
- There are more than 4,100 full-and part-time faculty and staff members employed by the University.
- The average age of a CSUF student is 23 years.
- Students from 90 nations attend classes at Cal State Fullerton. Of more than 40,000 students enrolled last fall, 3,269 were international students.

