



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
FULLERTON

# TITAN REPORT

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## CONCERT UNDER THE STARS CELEBRATES THE WOODSTOCK ERA

Tie-dye T-shirts, long hair and fringed vests made a comeback ... at least for a few hours at this year's Woodstock-themed Concert Under the Stars. Thousands of friends and supporters of Cal State Fullerton enjoyed an evening of hits from the sixties while raising more than \$1.4 million — a record high — for student scholarships and programs.

The program got off to a rollicking start with the university's vocal ensemble, assisted by President Fram Virjee, who launched into a boisterous rendition of "Steal Your Rock-n-Roll."

This was followed by a performance from both the vocal and dance ensembles. From there, the alumni took the stage. Brooke Aston '02 (B.F.A. theatre arts-musical theatre) Marlene Martinez '07 (B.F.A. theatre arts-musical theatre) and Emily Mitchell '00 (B.A. theatre arts), along with the Backline Band, dazzled the crowd with "Be My Baby," "Son of a Preacher Man," "Don't You Want Somebody to Love," "Piece of my Heart" and more.

"There's nothing like being a member of the Titan family," Aston said. "Because of Cal State Fullerton, I was able to reach higher ... and we all know Titans reach higher!"

The finale, featuring a medley of tunes from "Hair," showcased the entire ensemble of student performers who were joined by the CSUF alumni performers.



## STUDENT'S INNOVATION SAVES LIVES DURING HURRICANE DORIAN

Titan Bryan Ruef may have been sitting in class at Cal State Fullerton, but his mind was on Hurricane Dorian and the devastation it left in the Bahamas. The senior in computer science is the founder of 10-8 Systems, a cloud-based dispatch system built for managing emergencies.

First responder organizations Florida Search and Rescue, and Crowd Emergency Disaster Response Digital Corps worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the Bahamas, using 10-8 Systems in their search and rescue operation.

So far, more than 500 people affected by Dorian were rescued or saved with the help of this software.

"We had 300 people trapped in a church when the roof collapsed," says Ruef. "We had a man and his baby stuck in a manhole, and they were able to get them onto a helicopter and into a hospital in Miami. As depressing as it was to see all these calls for rescue in the Bahamas, it was a really good feeling knowing we did something to help."

The software enables a dispatcher to quickly identify the exact GPS location of the caller. Rescue calls from multiple agencies can be put into one universal queue and response status can be tracked. And the system is cloud-based and accessible on cell phones, tablets or computers.

Since the company's inception in January, 10-8 Systems has handled more than 27,000 incidents in 1,200 cities in 41 states.

## ANTHROPOLOGIST HONORED FOR PLANTING URBAN AGRICULTURE RESEARCH PROGRAM

When Sara Johnson joined Cal State Fullerton's Division of Anthropology nearly 20 years ago, she dreamed of a program that would give students opportunities to conduct research while also improving local food systems.

Her dream came to fruition in 2011 when she founded the Urban Agriculture Community-based Research Experience (U-ACRE), an award-winning program that involves student research focused on food insecurity, nutritional sufficiency, environmental justice and sustainable agriculture.

In recognition of her efforts, the professor of anthropology has been named a 2019 recipient of the California State University's Faculty Innovation and Leadership Awards. The award acknowledges CSU faculty members who have demonstrated leadership to improve student success and outcomes in courses with traditionally low success rates or persistent equity gaps.



Approximately 300 service-learning students and 50 stipend-supported fellows have participated in U-ACRE to date, working with K-12 schools, and nonprofit and community organizations to identify specific problems and actively contribute to designing and conducting research.



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## Did You Know?

Earlier this year, *Hispanic Outlook on Education* ranked Cal State Fullerton second on the magazine's Top Communication and Journalism Programs and fifth in California and 14th in the nation in its January-February 2019 listing of top 25 universities for Hispanic enrollment in engineering.