

TITAN REPORT



LEAVING A MARK IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE

Brian Crosby '07, always gravitated toward gritty, street-level comic book characters.

“Maybe I thought if I worked really hard, I could become one,” he muses. In the meantime, the Cal State Fullerton alumnus and self-described “comic book nerd” is working another one of his dream jobs as creative director of Marvel Themed Entertainment, a subsidiary of The Walt Disney Co.

Crosby and his team help bring to dimensional life the 9,000+ character library of Marvel Super Heroes through theme park attractions, museum exhibits, character appearances, traveling experiences, immersive walkthroughs and pop culture comic conventions.

He enrolled in art school at Cal State Fullerton and says the illustration program lived up to its strong reputation, led by supportive faculty mentors with industry experience.

“Coming to Cal State Fullerton was a great decision for me,” he said. “I respected the professors who were actively working in the industry and doing the things that I wanted to do.”

[BIT.LY/CSUF-TITAN-MAG-MARVEL](https://bit.ly/csuf-titan-mag-marvel)



University Earns Seal of Excelencia

Cal State Fullerton was recently awarded the 2021 Seal of Excelencia from Excelencia in Education. The three-year certification recognizes the university’s longstanding commitment to Latinx student success and trendsetting leadership in engaging, enrolling and graduating Latinx students. CSUF is one of only 10 institutions across the nation to have earned the 2021 seal.

“As the No. 3 institution in the nation for conferring baccalaureate degrees to Latinx students, Cal State Fullerton is proud to purvey a college-going culture in which all Titans have equitable opportunities to cross our commencement stage into a brighter future,” said President Fram Virjee. “The Seal of Excelencia not only recognizes this success, but also challenges us to further eradicate systemic inequities and amplify our role as the only CSU Hispanic-Serving Institution in Orange County. We are grateful for this prestigious recognition and applaud all Titans — faculty, staff, students, alumni, and donors — whose work and investments made it possible.”

[BIT.LY/CSUF-EARNS-SEAL-OF-EXCELENCIA](https://bit.ly/csuf-earns-seal-of-excelencia)

9 PROJECTS TRANSFORMING THE CAMPUS

Nationally recognized teaching and student success programs deserve a cutting-edge learning environment. Cal State Fullerton is elevating its infrastructure and technology to ensure students are equipped to lead in the workforce and community. A six-story parking structure, new student housing units, upgraded Visual Arts Complex, and modernized baseball and softball facilities are among the projects planned through 2024.

[TITANMAG.FULLERTON.EDU/TRANSFORMING-CAMPUS](https://titanmag.fullerton.edu/transforming-campus)

CHECK OUT THE FALL/WINTER 2021 ISSUE OF TITAN MAGAZINE AT [TITANMAG.FULLERTON.EDU](https://titanmag.fullerton.edu).

Read inspiring stories of an alumnus who landed a dream job with Marvel Themed Entertainment, a team of researchers fighting wildfires before they start and Titans who achieved historic gold medal wins at the Tokyo Olympics.



Fighting Infernos Before They Start

After ash rained on her car while driving by a wildfire last year, Ankita Mohapatra had an idea—a big idea. As destructive wildfires raged across California and the region, the Cal State Fullerton assistant professor of computer engineering wanted to develop an early detection system to identify areas facing high wildfire risks using “smart” technology.

Student and faculty researchers in the “Engineering Wildfire Mitigation” project are designing a wireless, solar-powered sensor hub that relays information to a central processing station for data analysis and generation of fire alerts. The idea is to use machine learning and artificial intelligence to identify and prevent hot spots.

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TITAN noun | tī-tən
one who stands out for **greatness of achievement**

Titans Reflect on Those Lost, Create Loving Memorial

“Forever in our hearts.” “Wish we could have met one more time.”

“Our thoughts are with families who lost loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

These are just a sampling of the heartfelt messages Cal State Fullerton students, faculty and staff shared during a recent Titans Remember memorial hosted by President Fram Virjee.

Virjee dedicated a newly planted cork oak tree which will feature a memorial plaque honoring those taken during the pandemic.

“Titans, there is no doubt we have endured a crisis,” Virjee said. “But we have come back stronger, and like this tree, we stand as a testament to the enduring strength of our Titan family.”

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