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## County Contributes \$2 Million to Performing Arts Center

*University, Music Center Officials Agree to Explore Unique Arts Partnerships for Valley*

Seeking to expand arts opportunities in the Valley, county Board of Supervisors Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky in June announced a \$2 million county contribution for the new Performing Arts Center at Cal State Northridge, part of a unique new initiative to explore arts partnerships between the university and the county's Music Center.

During a June 14 ceremony at the northwest corner of Nordhoff Street and Lindley Avenue, the site of the future center, Yaroslavsky presented a symbolic \$2 million check to President Jolene Koester. The contribution is one of the largest yet for CSUN's 1,700-seat, \$100 million performing arts center project, due to begin construction this year and to be completed by late 2009.

During the same ceremony, officials from Cal State Northridge and the county-owned Music Center, based in downtown Los Angeles, also signed a formal agreement to begin exploring joint programming and other collaborations. The goal is to expand arts opportunities in the underserved Valley region that is now home to 2 million people.

Preliminary discussions have already commenced between Cal State Northridge and the Music Center and two of its resident companies—the



Photo by Lee Choo

From left, county Board of Supervisors Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky; President Jolene Koester; David Fleming, Imagine the Arts fundraising campaign vice chair; and John Emerson, chair of the Music Center's Board of Directors, announce the county's \$2 million contribution to the new performing arts center at CSUN.

Center Theatre Group and the Los Angeles Opera—regarding future presentations on the Northridge campus.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky, who represents most of the Valley, said he was proud to unveil "this unprecedented partnership between the county

and Cal State Northridge to enrich the performing arts experience for the people of the San Fernando Valley.

"Thanks to the collaborative participation of the Music Center and its resident companies, I am confident this will become an outstanding

cultural amenity for the Valley, the Music Center and arts lovers in general," he said.

One of the three largest performing arts centers in the nation, the county Music Center draws about 1.3 million people annually to performances at its four major downtown venues. Upon its opening, the publicly operated Performing Arts Center at CSUN will be the largest arts venue in the San Fernando Valley and adjoining valleys.

"This financial support from Supervisor Yaroslavsky and the county of Los Angeles is a powerful endorsement for our Performing Arts Center project," said President Koester. "And, through our new alliance with the Music Center, we now have the potential to bring even greater arts opportunities to the university and the region."

CSUN Vice President for University Advancement Vance Peterson said the university is looking to finalize its private fundraising for the center through the Imagine the Arts campaign.

About two-thirds of the \$100 million needed for the project has been committed thus far by public and private entities. The remaining portion must be raised from private sources—individuals and organizations that care about the arts and the \$2 Million to Arts Center *continued on page 2.*

## CSUN's First Freshman Convocation is Set for September 6

*Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Will Deliver Keynote on 'Our Environmental Destiny'*

All the pomp and circumstance associated with a familiar ritual of higher education—commencement—soon will attach to an altogether new Cal State Northridge tradition: the Freshman Convocation.

The CSUN banners will unfurl and ceremonial horns will punctuate the festivities as President Jolene Koester leads the welcome to first-year students at the university's inaugural Freshman Convocation, set for 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6 on the Oviatt Library lawn. The entire campus community is invited to attend.

"We want our new freshmen to feel welcome, to know that they are important to us and that we are glad they are joining our academic community," said Vice President for Student Affairs Terry Piper. "This convocation lets us 'roll out the red carpet, putting the spotlight on them and the reason they have come to the university."

Freshmen will hear a keynote address on "Our Environmental Destiny" by internationally recognized environmental activist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., who will

discuss the important role the environment plays in our work, health and American identity.

They also will hear a peer-to-peer talk by biology graduate student

Jessica Beach, recipient of CSUN's highest honor for a graduating senior: the 2007 Wolfson Scholar award. The high-achieving Beach will share her Freshman Convocation *continued on page 3.*



Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

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# Top Merit Honor Goes to Graduate Studies' Hedy Carpenter

*Collaboration on Fuel Cell Plant Earns CSUN's Team Award for More than 100 Employees*

A key university administrator who has earned the respect of her peers during 18 years of commitment to Cal State Northridge, Graduate Studies' Hedy Carpenter in June was presented with The CSUN Presidential Award.

Carpenter, associate director for Graduate Programs in Graduate Studies, Research and International Programs, received the university's top merit honor at the June 5 Staff Service and Excellence Recognition Event. Organized by the Office of Human Resources, the event is an annual tribute to staff and administrators for dedicated service and extraordinary contributions.

Citing the honoree's high standards, work ethic and record of achievement, President Jolene Koester described Carpenter as "someone who obtains results," and noted that all of the programs on Carpenter's crowded agenda have benefited from her involvement.

In addition to her day-to-day responsibilities, Carpenter has coordinated the Annual Thesis Support, Graduate Equity, Forgivable Loan and Distinguished Visiting Speakers programs, as well as the CSUN Student Research Symposium. She also coaches and coordinates the CSUN student team for the CSU Statewide Research Competition.

Carpenter's support and counsel to students in the California Pre-Doctoral Program this year led to the highest number of applications by CSUN students to date—a total of 46. The program identifies students with high potential for success in doctoral programs.

Assistant Vice President for Human Resources Robert Foldesi singled out head softball coach Barbara Jordan and assistant coach Roni Sparrey for a "fearless act of courage and compassion." The two remained with a severely injured woman until help came after a horrific traffic accident north of Fresno, witnessed during a May 2007 team road trip.

Tom Brown, CSUN's executive director for facilities management, was applauded as a winner of the California State University Wang Family Excellence Award for his energetic support of student learning, evident



(Top) President Jolene Koester congratulates CSUN Presidential Award winner Hedy Carpenter. (Bottom) From left, 2007 Merit Award winners: Marguerite Roblin, Bev Palmberg, Yvonne Carrillo, Nancy Davidson, Leslie Gillman, Karen Mariglia, and Linda Gray. Not pictured: Mayra Franco, Linda Gharakhanian, Judith Friedman.

in his involvement of students during the installation of CSUN's \$3.5 million fuel cell power plant.

## Team Awards

The power plant was the project that brought together the winners of the event's \$1,000 Team Award, representing the collaborative effort of Physical Plant Management, College of Engineering faculty and students, Environmental Health and Safety, and the Biology Department.

In support of energy conservation, the team of 100-plus members and engineering students developed and installed the unique, one-megawatt

fuel cell power plant, which recycles plant emissions for academic research and enhanced CSUN's reputation as a leader in "green campus," sustainable energy systems.

A second Team Award, including a \$500 check to the winners, went to the directors of the Student Services Center/Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) Satellite "for their commitment to a learning-centered environment." For three years, the team has worked to enhance student retention and graduation success, creating a communication network between colleges and the Advising Resource Center/EOP.

## Merit Awards

Merit Awards recognized employees for sustained excellence in work performance, contributions to productivity and new cost-saving processes. Recipients—accompanied by a partial list of accomplishments—were Yvonne Carrillo (*Tseng College*), for streamlining record keeping, instructor contract and grade tracking/distribution systems at the Los Angeles Learning Academy; Mayra Franco (*Eisner College of Education*), for critical help in developing the college's credential progress report; and Nancy Davidson and Marguerite Roblin (*University Library*), for "countless hours" spent training student assistants and volunteering for efforts such as new faculty orientation and disaster training.

Also receiving Merit Awards were Linda Gray (*Music*), for management of budget and advising the chair on payroll and the department's large number of scholarship awards; Linda Gharakhanian (*Biology*), for re-organizing and improving the efficiency of her department's staff, and nurturing up to 50 teaching and graduate assistants; and Leslie Gillman (*Academic Resources and Planning*), for helping with development of a Web-based event system, the installation of the USU lecture hall mural, and the upgrade of more than 40 classrooms.

Other Merit Award winners were Bev Palmberg (*Tseng College*), for creating and updating Solar documentation and training, and for critical changes to the Intensive English program; Judith Friedman (*Psychology*), for sacrificing many evenings and weekends in order to help faculty and students design and run experiments; and Karen Mariglia (*Athletics*), for the creation of correspondence used by coaches for outreach and recruitment of prospects, and by administrators to identify and honor student-athletes.

## Service Awards

Of the many Service Awards presented, Sally Brenneman (*University Library*) was the sole recipient of the 40-Year Service Award, and Fred Joseph (*Receiving/Campus Store*) and Diana Voigt (*Human Resources*) each received recognition for 35 years of service at CSUN. ■

## \$2 Million to Arts Center...

*continued from page 1.*

quality of life in the Valley.

"The new Performing Arts Center will be the cultural and architectural jewel for the Valley region," Peterson said. "There are several exciting gift and naming opportunities available for donors who want to create a lasting legacy and provide leadership for this transformational project."

Participating in the ceremony were John Emerson, chair of the Music Center's Board of Directors; Howard Sherman, the Music Center's vice president for operations; Laura Zucker, executive director of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission; Ralph Hoskins, the new executive director

*"Thanks to the collaborative participation of the Music Center and its resident companies, I am confident this will become an outstanding cultural amenity for the Valley, the Music Center and arts lovers in general."*

—Zev Yaroslavsky

County Board of Supervisors Chairman

for the university's Performing Arts Center, and attorney/Valley leader David Fleming, vice chair of the university's Imagine the Arts fund-

raising campaign for the center.

Under the joint agreement, the university and the Music Center committed to begin discussions about

future collaborations. One example could include joint programming, where either Music Center events or touring performances could be staged at Cal State Northridge. Music Center officials said they were particularly interested in using the partnership to expand their dance, theatre, music, and children's program offerings.

Another area of potential collaboration is in arts education. CSUN has committed to major arts education and K-12 outreach efforts in the new center. The Music Center, meanwhile, has its own Education Division with activities that include a professional development program for teachers. ■

# FYI

**For Your Information** publishes announcements of events, public meetings, notices, classes and deadlines. Submission deadline is noon on Monday, one week before the next issue.

The deadline for the September 4 issue is Monday, August 27. We strive to include all items submitted by deadline occurring until the next issue. Submit future items by e-mailing them to [pubinfo@csun.edu](mailto:pubinfo@csun.edu), sending

them to mail drop 8242 or faxing them to (818) 677-4909. E-mail is the preferred method of submitting.

Note: *fmi*-means for more information. ■

## Events

Tuesday, August 21

### President's Convocation

The campus community is invited to attend the President's Annual Convocation to launch the academic year. The event, on the Oviatt Library lawn, begins with the traditional "welcome back" reception at 8:30 a.m., followed by the 9 a.m. convocation address by President Jolene Koester.

## Public Meetings

### USU Board

Meets 1 p.m.  
Mon., Aug. 20  
Flintridge Room, USU

### Personnel Planning and Review Committee

Meets 2-5 p.m.  
Wed., Sept. 5  
University Hall 277

## Notices

### Deepest Sympathy

The Physical Plant Management Department offers deepest condolences to the family and friends of Henry Castro (*PPM*), who passed away in June.

Physical Plant Management's sincere sympathy is offered to James Sutton (*PPM*) and family on the passing of his mother-in-law in May.

The sympathies of PPM and the campus are extended to Sergio Terrazas (*PPM*) and family on the passing of his father in July.

### Faculty Promotions

President Jolene Koester announces the following faculty promotions, effective August 20.

#### To Professor:

Kim Abeles (*Art*)  
Larry Baresi (*Biology*)  
Sheila Grant (*Psychology*)  
Barbara Gross (*Marketing*)  
Eric Kelson (*Chemistry*)  
Beth Lasky (*Special Education*)  
Robert Lingard (*Computer Science*)  
Allen Martin (*Family and Consumer Sciences*)  
John Roscigno (*Music*)  
Victor Shaw (*Sociology*)  
Dong-ning Sheng (*Physics and Astronomy*)  
Michael Summers (*Biology*)  
Bruce Zucker (*Business Law*)

#### To Associate Professor:

Christina Ayala-Alcantar (*Chicana/o Studies*)  
José Luis Benavides (*Journalism*)  
John Binkley (*Theatre*)  
Dorothy Clark (*English*)  
Vicentiu Covrig (*Finance, Real Estate and Insurance*)  
Nazaret Dermendjian (*Computer Science*)  
Paula Dimarco (*Art*)  
Owen Doonan (*Art*)  
Claudia Fajardo-Lira (*Family and Consumer Sciences*)  
Maria Garcia-Acevedo (*Political Science*)  
Charles Hatfield (*English*)  
Tom Hogen-Esch (*Political Science*)  
Richard Kernochan (*Management*)  
Tina Kiesler (*Marketing*)  
Lesley Krane (*Art*)  
Gang Lu (*Physics and Astronomy*)  
Antonio Machado (*Environmental and Occupational Health*)

Carolyn Maeder (*Educational Psychology and Counseling*)  
Liviú Marinescu (*Music*)  
Robert McIlhenny (*Computer Science*)  
Jheem Medh (*Chemistry*)  
Rheem Medh (*Biology*)  
Breny Mendoza (*Women's Studies*)  
Theresa Montano (*Chicana/o Studies*)  
J'aime Morrison (*Theatre*)  
John Noga (*Computer Science*)  
Virginia Oberholzer Vandergon (*Biology*)  
Roberta Orona-Cordova (*Chicana/o Studies*)  
Laleh Razani (*Psychology*)  
David Russell (*Finance, Real Estate and Insurance*)  
Ahmad Sarfaraz (*Manufacturing Systems Engineering and Management*)  
Eunai Shrake (*Asian American Studies*)  
Katharine Stevenson (*Mathematics*)  
Steven Thachuk (*Music*)  
Franck Vigneron (*Marketing*)  
Christina Von Mayrhauser (*Anthropology*)  
Ivor Weiner (*Special Education*)

### Biology of Cancer Classes

As a public service, the Biology Department, the Center for Cancer and Developmental Biology and the College of Science and Mathematics welcome students, faculty, staff and community members to sit in on the fall 2007 Biology of Cancer course (Biology 285)—free of charge. The class features experts speaking on cancer epidemiology, radiation, breast and skin cancers and pathology. Registered students have seating priority. Classes meet Mondays from 6-7:40 p.m., starting Aug. 27, Eucalyptus Hall, room 2132. *fmi*-Steve Oppenheimer, x3336.

### Acting Department Chairs

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Harry Hellenbrand has announced the reappointment of

finance, real estate and insurance professor Donald Bleich as acting chair of the Department of Finance, Real Estate and Insurance, effective August 20, for a one-year term ending at the conclusion of the 2007-08 academic year.

The provost has announced the appointment of music professor Ric Alviso as acting chair of the Music Department, effective August 20, for a one-year term ending at the conclusion of the 2007-08 academic year.

## Deadlines

### Volunteer Service Award Nominations

Nominations are open for the 2007 Volunteer Service Award, the Dorothea "Granny" Heitz Award for Outstanding Volunteer Leadership and the Emeriti Merit Award. Deadlines for submitting nominations for the awards, to be presented Nov. 16 on campus: Tue., Aug. 21, Heitz Award; Fri., Aug. 31, Emeriti Merit Award; and Fri., Aug. 31, Volunteer Service Award. Submit nominations to the Alumni Relations Office at [www.csun alumni.com](http://www.csun alumni.com); click on "News and Notes." *fmi*-Cheryl McMillan, x4938 or [cheryl.mcmillan@csun.edu](mailto:cheryl.mcmillan@csun.edu).

### Speakers Application Deadline

Applications are available for the 2007-08 Distinguished Visiting Speakers Program, designed to bring well known speakers to CSUN. Visit [www.csun.edu/graduatestudies/](http://www.csun.edu/graduatestudies/) for applications. Go to Programs and Events and click on programs for faculty. Application deadline: Thu., Sept. 13. *fmi*-Hedy Carpenter, x2138. ■

## Freshman Convocation...

*continued from page 1.*

thoughts on what it takes to succeed in college.

Convocation organizers said the new event will give President Koester—who already welcomes freshmen in orientation sessions—the opportunity to formally welcome the new students to CSUN life. It also will help introduce themes freshmen will discuss in and out of class, such as those that emerge in Tim O'Brien's "The Things They Carried," a collection of stories about a Vietnam War platoon that is required reading for freshmen this year.

Incoming freshmen have been invited to assemble in Matador Square, Northridge's traditional Free Speech area. From the square, they will march in a procession down Matador Walk to the Oviatt Lawn. President Koester, accompanied by University Library Dean Susan Curzon bearing the symbolic mace, will lead the procession in full academic regalia, along with formally robed members of the platform party: the vice presidents of all university divisions, deans and associate deans of each college, and all department chairs.

"With this convocation, we want



Orientation leader, with incoming freshmen in tow, points out features of the campus that will be the new students' academic home for the next few years.

to create for our freshmen students a symbolic journey," said Tom Piernik, director of Student Development and International Programs. "By design, they will begin that journey in the campus' free speech area, initiating what we hope will be their continuing campus dialogue about issues.

"The presence of the complete academic regalia—from robes to mace—is more typical of the end of the student's academic journey," said Piernik. "This will give them a chance to experience the academic ritual in a new way." He said many institutions are reporting that freshman convo-

cations create a powerful bonding effect among incoming freshmen, an effect campus convocation organizers hope to achieve at CSUN as well.

A reception on the Oviatt Library patio will follow the convocation, after which the Oscar-winning documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" will be screened on the Oviatt Lawn for all members of the CSUN community.

Members of the faculty/staff/student committee that worked for two years in preparation for the event include: Christopher Aston, Hilda Garcia and Tom Piernik (*Student Development and International Programs*), Frankie Augustin (*Science and Math Advisement*), Nicholas Dungey (*Political Science*), Nagi El Naga (*Electrical and Computer Engineering*), Melissa Giles (*Residential Life*), Karen Kearns (*Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication*), Brian McConville, James Sutton and Steve Thomas (*Physical Plant Management*), Kevin Mojaradi-Stenke (*Associated Students Marketing*), Janet Pinneau (*Athletics*), Maureen Rubin (*Undergraduate Studies*), Cheryl Spector (*English*), and student Juana Zamora. ■

# In Brief

## Degree as Good as Gold for 72-Year-Old



With one son a surgeon, the other a clinical psychologist and a daughter who is a busy physical therapist, Audrey Gold got to thinking. "In order to be able to talk to them," said the 72-year-old grandmother, "I needed to have things to talk about."

A believer in lifelong learning who never was big on "card playing and the ladies-who-lunch-bunch," the Theatre Department secretary decided to expand her mind in college. At the College of Humanities commencement in May, all three accomplished children—along with friends, relatives and television news cameras—turned out for the occasion.

Gold's plan to fortify her knowledge base included a liberal studies major, a minor in anthropology and a concentration in Jewish studies. "I chose liberal studies because of its broad spectrum," she said. "I've always been interested in anthropology because it's the study of humankind, culture, religions, the arts and various societies. And I'm Jewish, so I'm always looking to expand my knowledge in that area."

It was a quest that actually had begun 45 years ago, when Gold attended Indiana University extension courses in sociology and psychology. The birth of her children and the illness of her husband, however, slowed her progress considerably.

Gold never lost the spark. Back in California and working full time with small "boutique" literary agencies, she attended evening classes at Pierce College and earned an associate of arts degree. "Once I got here," she said of her enrollment at CSUN, where she began working eight years ago, "what an opportunity!"

Her Theatre Department family was as supportive as her real one. "It was quite a juggling act, finding time to study," she admitted, "but the department chairs have encouraged me in this."

Her reward? "The knowledge," she replied. "It isn't that I was going toward a career goal. I was doing it for the broadening of horizons, and it really was. At my age, you would think I know it all, but I never will."

## Pirates! Villainy! Treasure! History Lecture Reveals All!



From Stevenson's Long John Silver to J.M. Barrie's Captain Hook—not to mention the notorious Jack Sparrow—the public's fascination with pirates shows no sign of petering out. Cal State

Northridge's Center for the Study of Atlantic History in September will add fuel to the fire with the inaugural event of its annual speaker series.

Fact will be separated from swash-buckling fiction with a presentation by award-winning historian and author Marcus Rediker, author of "Villains of All Nations: Atlantic Pirates in the Golden Age."

Rediker's lecture, "Pirates in the Atlantic World: The Real Pirates of the Caribbean," will provide a look at the lives of real pirates of the Caribbean at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, in the Whitsett Room, Sierra Hall. It will be free and open to the public.

The internationally recognized speaker is a University of Pittsburgh history professor and the author of five books and numerous articles on maritime and labor history-related topics.

"The true history of pirates is that these were real men and women with their own agendas, not simply

## 'Granny' Heitz, A CSUN Legend



Dorothea "Granny" Heitz, a Cal State Northridge alumna and one of its most spirited supporters, died August 11 at the age of 93. CSUN's Outstanding Volunteer Leadership Award—the university's highest recognition for alumni volunteer service—is named in her honor. No memorial service is planned at this time; a celebration of Heitz' eventful life was held in July. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Dorothea "Granny" Heitz Legacy Scholarship, payable to CSUN Alumni Association, re: Granny Legacy Scholarship and mailed to the Office of Alumni Relations, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA. 91330-8385.

robbers, murderers and villains," said Christopher Magra, director of the center. "Oftentimes, these people were fighting for what they believed was a just cause; righting some injustice they felt had occurred."

For more information on the event, sponsored by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the History Department, call (818) 677-3566.

## In with the New: Arbor Court Ready to Serve Campus

The Exchange, the bungalow-style food spot once tucked into the area known to campus as The Arbor, is no more.

In its place, a bright and modern new combination convenience store and grill called The Arbor Court will open its doors to campus customers at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22.

President Jolene Koester and Tom McCarron, executive director and

president of The University Corporation and the North Campus-University Park Development Corporation, led pre-opening festivities this week.

"We're pleased to finally provide this part of campus with a wider variety of food options and an attractive courtyard with over 400 seats," said McCarron.

Located just west of Jacaranda Hall above Jacaranda Walk, the new court will feature the campus' fourth Freudian Sip coffee house, fresh salads made to order, pizza, burgers, sandwiches, a full line of convenience store items and a variety of beverages.

Regular operating hours for the new facility, completed just 14 months after the old Exchange closed its doors, will be 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, Mondays through Thursdays, and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays.

For more information, call Mike Lennon at (818) 677-3552. ■

# Calendar

The A.S. Ticket Office in the University Student Union sells tickets to many events on campus, except for some held by outside groups. The Ticket Office is open from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Mon.–Fri. For prices not given, call (818) 677-2488. **To park on campus for performances, athletic events, lectures and other activities, guests must purchase a \$5 parking permit.**

## Art and Exhibits

For gallery info, call (818) 677-2156. Main gallery hours: Mon. through Sat. 12-4 p.m. and Thursdays noon–8 p.m. Admission is free unless specified. For library exhibits, call (818) 677-2285.

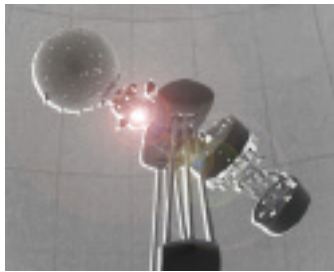


### ▲ EDGE: Faculty and Emeriti Exhibition

Cross-generational exhibition showcases 36 CSUN emeriti and full-time studio faculty artists. Photography, graphic design, painting, sculpture, video, textiles and mixed media. Runs through Sept. 22. Reception: Sat., Sept. 8, 5-7 p.m. Gallery talk: Mon., Sept. 10, 10 a.m. Main Art Gallery



▲ **Lessons of the 1960s**  
Exhibit ties in with CSUN's Freshman Common Reading Program book selection, "The Things They Carried," stories about a Vietnam War platoon. Presents sociological, cultural, educational lessons of the 1960s. Features photos from Senator Robert F. Kennedy's 1968 visit to campus. (Environmentalist Robert F. Kennedy Jr. addresses Freshman Convocation Sept. 6.) Runs through October 7. Oviatt Library Lobby



▲ **Bianchi Planetarium**  
For ticket info, (818) 677-2488 or visit [www.csun.edu/physics/planetarium](http://www.csun.edu/physics/planetarium). Telescope viewing follows second show.

"Summer Sky Show" and "Hubble Vision: A Fascinating Tour of the Cosmos-from Earth's Orbit" Fri., Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.

## Athletics (home games):



▲ **Men's Soccer**  
8/31 Detroit 4 p.m.

**Women's Soccer**  
8/26 USC (scrimmage) 4 p.m.

# @CSUN

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