Volunteers in Limelight at CSUN Appreciation Event
Longtime CSUN Foundation Board Member John Golisch, Microbiologist Daisy Kuhn Earn Top Volunteer Laurels

Honored Volunteers

- Daniel Anderson ’83, College of Business and Economics
- Patrick Baker ’78, KCSN 88.5 FM
- Damon Clanci ’96, M ’02, Health Administration Alumni Chapter
- Deborah Cours, Master’s in Business Administration Alumni Chapter
- Lisalee Egbert ’91, M ’93, National Center on Deafness Alumni Chapter
- Gevork Gabrelian ’94, Alumni and Friends of the Armenian Studies Program
- Bernice Haber, Oviatt Library
- Marni Hager ’05, College of Engineering and Computer Science
- Ralph Jones ’96, Environmental and Occupational Health Alumni Chapter
- Tahseena Khan ’03, M ’05, Engineering and Computer Science Alumni Chapter
- Mark Lainer, College of Humanities
- Phil Minah ’76, University Advancement
- Harry Murphy ’66, Student Affairs
- Marcy Newman ’94, Education Alumni Chapter
- John Perez ’69, Cred ’69, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Kenn Phillips, Michael D. Eisner College of Education
- Steve Pomerantz ’90, Intercollegiate Athletics
- Carson Schreiber ’66, Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication
- Ronald Sorensen ’68, M ’93, College of Health and Human Development
- Patricia Tabidian M ’98, Recreation Alumni Chapter
- Daisy Kuhn

John Golisch

T he shining lights of Cal State Northridge’s corps of volunteers were applauded at the university’s 2007 Volunteer Service Awards ceremony, held November 1 at The Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills. President Jolene Koester and CSUN Alumni Association Vice President Maria Ramos led the tribute to 24 dedicated volunteers.

Receiving top honors were longtime CSUN Foundation Board member John Golisch ’72, winner of the Dorothea “Granny” Heitz Award, and CSUN biology professor Emerita Daisy Kuhn, the Emeriti Ment Award winner. “Cal State Northridge wants its volunteers to know that their generous work on the university’s behalf truly is valued,” said Alumni Relations Assistant Vice President Gray Mounger.

Their skills, time and spirit are invaluable assets to the university and its mission.”

The Heitz Award for outstanding volunteer leadership recognized Golisch, partner at BDO Seidman, LLP, for his service on the CSUN Foundation Board, which the certified public accountant joined at the invitation of former president James Cleary in 1985, when the board was known as the Cal State Northridge Trust Fund.

A member of the President’s Associates, Golisch earned that group’s Community Leadership Award for his help in securing a $100,000 endowed faculty fellowship gift to the College of Business and Economics from accounting services firm Arthur Andersen & Co. In addition, CSUN’s Alumni Association saluted Golisch with its Distinguished Alumni Award in 1985.

Also a member of the President’s 21st Century Club, the active volunteer has worked on the College of Business and Economics’ Council of Business Advisers, the North Campus Development Committee and key campus search committees.

Alumni Volunteer Awards continued on page 2.

Animation Studio Named for Industry Legend Walter Lantz
Making Their Mark in Red Hot Industry, Students and Grads Follow Path of Animation Trailblazer

Cal State Northridge’s newly named Walter Lantz Animation Studio houses not only the stuff that dreams are made of—whimsy, fantasy and red-eyed pirate penguins—but the creative students who imagine those dreams.

Named in honor of famed animator Walter Lantz, described as the man “responsible for the creation of the first Technicolor cartoon,” the studio in September was dedicated in a ceremony recognizing the Walter Lantz Foundation for its support. As head of his own animation studio, Lantz introduced Woody Woodpecker, Chilly Willy and other iconic cartoon characters.

President Jolene Koester and Animation Studio continued on page 3.

Community Connection

The National Center on Deafness (NCOD) at Cal State Northridge began as a small leadership training program back in the early 1960s, when CSUN was known as San Fernando Valley State College.

Over the years, the deaf and hard of hearing student population grew, as did the contingent of interpreters and other service personnel on campus. Today, the program is the largest of its kind in the western United States, with one of the largest nationwide enrollments of students in a mainstream university environment.

NCOD now serves about 200 students, providing interpreting, note-taking, tutoring, academic advisement, scholarships, social and leadership opportunities and

Community Connection continued on page 3.
Viscom Center’s Approach to Design: Young, Fresh and Green
Center for Visual Communication Students Enter Competition to Design Ford Focus Commercials

 Barely two months old, Cal State Northridge’s Center for Visual Communication (Viscom) is moving directly into the fast lane of art design in the San Fernando Valley.

In fall 2007, Viscom had just opened its doors to clients seeking innovative design concepts when it entered a first-of-its-kind student competition—concepted and directed by Dalley and Associates Advertising of West Hollywood—to create commercials for the launch of the redesigned Ford Focus automobile.

The ad firm had approached CSUN and other regional private and public universities with an intriguing idea: each student would have the opportunity to design commercials for the Southern California launch of the Ford Motor Company’s youth-oriented Focus vehicle. Commercial spot ideas due in April 2008, and the winning concept will be aired during spring 2008 on local and regional television stations.

The project appealed to Viscom managing director Dave Moon and creative director Joe Bautista—even without the added plum of the $25,000 bright red 2008 Ford Focus.

CSUN will receive regardless of the competition’s outcome. Ford also will contribute a $2,500 scholarship fund to the center, Moon said.

Viscom’s young designers accepted the challenge with gusto, devoting long hours to brainstorming and storyboarding. “Ford is reaching out to us for a reason,” said senior Chris O’Neill of Chatsworth, one of the center’s core student members. “It realizes there’s something going on in schools, a fresh, unrestrained school of thought.”

Meanwhile, nearly a dozen other projects from both on and off-campus clients keep the creative sparks flying in the new studio. In approaching each one, the entire Viscom team applies a “green thought process.” For the design of a Los Angeles City Fire Department brush clearance program information brochure, students are asking: Can it have a life after mailing, perhaps as a paper trash can? Can it be a self-mailer?

“We want to be known as the creative agency that is the San Fernando Valley’s sustainability provider,” said Moon.

Money earned from client projects is plowed back into as many scholarships as possible for current students, and for outreach to community college transfer students and high school students, Moon said.

From Mother’s Letters to Soldiers, A Vision of Vietnam
‘Shades of Hope,’ a CSUN Student Film Project, Draws Media Interest

Cal State Northridge senior Brianna Campbell of Palmdale, director, writer and producer of a student film called “Shades of Hope,” did not want to tell the typical war story. Instead, inspired by her mother’s real-life correspondence with more than 30 soldiers during the Vietnam War, she sought to portray the soldiers’ perspectives and emotions.

Already sparking media attention, the story behind “Shades of Hope” was featured in October on the KNBC Channel 4 evening news.

The film was one of five student proposals selected at CSUN each semester to be made into films. Each contributes its own unique vision as the capstone senior project for Department of Cinema and Television Arts (CTVA) film majors.

“Shades of Hope” dramatizes how the home front could be a hostile place for returning veterans during the Vietnam era. Much of Campbell’s short film focuses on the character of Danny, who reenlists after coming back from his first tour only to find that his family refuses to speak to him.

“A lot of people were refreshed to see that people still care,” said Campbell, explaining why many people involved in the making of “Shades of Hope” were veterans or friends of veterans. She also relied on them to ensure accuracy, even putting the cast through a military style boot camp.

A combination of a compelling script, motivated producers and “luck” resulted in a successful fundraising drive to supplement the initial financing for “Shades of Hope.” To get an early start on the project, Campbell and fellow producers Bret Ford and Eric Capella—also CSUN student producers—“took advantage of every resource” provided by film production option head Nate Thomas and other faculty and staff.

“As the project got bigger and bigger, it drove me more and more,” explained Campbell. “So many people started to believe in us, it drove us to not let them down and hopefully live up to what we built with the project.”

Other student film proposals accepted for production include “Tango,” the relationship between father and son through tango music; “Bum Rap,” the story of a lost child found by a homeless person in downtown Los Angeles who then faces accusations from the child’s mother; “Starving,” about high school, and “Armen,” wartime atrocities seen through the eyes of a little boy.

Of the 10 senior films made during the course of the year, four or five will be selected for inclusion in the Senior Film Showcase in May 2008.

Alumni Volunteer Awards…

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Golisch was a friend of the late Dorothea “Granny” Heitz, for whom his award was named. As an older student at what then was San Fernando Valley State College, Heitz formed the celebrated “Granny Girls” spirit squad, the campus’ unofficial ambassadors. She died in summer 2007 after decades as CSUN’s volunteer-in-chief.

Emeriti Merit Award winner Daisy Kuhn’s CSUN career stretched from 1959 to 1992, during which time she taught a range of courses, from general biology and microbiology to graduate courses.

A species of bacterium, Conchiformbus Rubiniaceae, was named in honor of the scientist, who has identified several unusual organisms. Retired since 1992, Kuhn volunteers as an advisor to CSUN pre-med students. In 2002, her volunteer work in the university’s College of Science and Mathematics earned her a Volunteer Service Award, and she received the Distinguished Professor Award in 1980.
Three New Fulbright Grant Winners Pursue Research in Philippines, Norway, Mexico

Cal State Northridge is all over the map this year, with faculty traveling as far asfield as the Philippines, Norway and Mexico to pursue research under the aegis of the globally respected Fulbright grants program, the U.S. State Department’s flagship academic exchange effort administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars.

Asian American Studies professor Enrique de la Cruz is completing a one-semester stint at Leyte Normal University in the central region of the Philippines, leading an advanced research seminar for 10 doctoral students.

A native of the Philippines, de la Cruz originally left his country to attend graduate school in the U.S. The political turmoil resulting from former president Ferdinand Marcos’ declaration of martial law blew away his plan to return to his home. Back in his homeland, de la Cruz is using his Fulbright grant to teach his students how to “refine research presentations, do a pilot study to give them an opportunity to learn first-hand about the social and political changes that Filipinos currently face as a people, and as a nation state.” He will return to CSU in spring 2007.

As a Fulbright senior specialist, music professor Emeritus Daniel Kessner is in Norway for two weeks of teaching, lecturing and performing on the University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, Norway.

Half of an unusual Fulbright husband and wife team, the accomplished composer-conductor-flutist received an award identical to that of his wife, pianist Dolly Eugenio Kessner. Together, the Kessners will work with students, both with compositions and flutists, and she with pianists and chamber musicians.

In addition to lecture presentations on contemporary American concert music, the duo will perform together. “The first event is a flute and piano recital, playing works by American and Latin American composers, which they know very little of in Norway,” said the multilingual Kessners, who was awarded his first Fulbright grant in 2003.

A new CSU faculty member, ethnomusicologist Peter Garcia won one of the relatively new Fulbright-Garcia Robles Fellowships to study the musical pilgrimage associated with the Fiesta de San Francisco, celebrated in Magdalena de Kino, 50 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border.

People make the trek to Magdalena de Kino annually for the week-long festival, arriving from northern Mexico, New Mexico and Texas to visit the statue of Jesus missionary Francisco de Javier, complete their pilgrimage and participate in the fiesta’s dancing, feasting and fairs.

“But the dimension I’m interested in,” said Garcia, “is the musical pilgrimage, the role of the musicians who play dik-welt or town fife, the establishment of the economy surrounding the event, how the musicians are hired, whether they attend for devotional or economic reasons.”

Garcia also is researching the variety of musical genres at the festival, ranging from mariachi and brass bands to Yaqui deer dancing. He will share videos with students in his Chicana/o Studies Department classes when he returns for the spring 2007 session.

This semester, Garcia is professor-in-residence at the University of Sonora in Hermosillo, Mexico. ■

Animation Studio…

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Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication Dean Robert Bucker joined Lantz Foundation trustee Ed Landry and executive director Peggy Jackson in celebrating with other dignitaries the naming of the studio.

Following in Lantz’s footsteps, Northridge animation students and graduates are making their mark in a red hot industry with worldwide revenues now measured in the billions of dollars.

Mary Ann Trujillo, coordinator of Northridge’s animation program in CSU’s Department of Art, is proud of what goes on in the Walter Lantz Animation Studio. “Most of these students have the talent, we’re just giving them proper skills so that they can succeed in the industry,” said Trujillo.

And they do succeed. “Our grads are working in some of the top animation studios in the industry, whether they are working on a movie or television show or in the game industry,” she said.

Animation alumni include Robert Gastaneda, director of animation for Technicolor Interactive, whose work includes the games “Gears of War” and “God of War II” as well as computer animation for the film “The Matrix Reloaded,” Artak Avakyan, cinematic animator for Sony Computer Entertainment America, the games “God of War II” and “True Crime,” Chance Raspberry, character layout artist for Film Roman Studios, “The Simpson Movie,” and Tyree Dillhay, a director and flash animator and development artist currently working on a project for Black Entertainment Television.

“The list could go on and on,” Trujillo said, adding art alumni Vicki Jenson, director of 3D CG features for DreamWorks and also director of “Shark Tale,” and Brian Miller, head of Cartoon Network Studios. Animation professors, many of whom hold full-time positions in the animation industry, burn a lot of midnight oil.

“We do it for the students,” said Mark Farquhar, besides Trujillo the program’s only other full-time professor and a 17-year animation veteran with credits such as “Surf’s Up,” “Beowulf” and “Toy Story 2.”

Students in the program learn the principles of animation through hand-drawn and 2D digital Flash exercises in timing and motion, then take on 3D computer animation with AutoDesk Maya, character design, 3D CG modeling, lighting and animating. In an advanced-level concept development course, they develop individual animation projects which they produce in their senior year.

Some student projects draw a large following on YouTube and other Internet sites, often leading to job offers. “Tyree Dillhay’s” attracted such attention as one of the top five hits on Atomfilms.com.

CSU’s close proximity to the world of entertainment works to the animation program’s advantage, said Trujillo, noting that EA Games, DreamWorks, Pixar, Walt Disney Feature Animation, Cartoon Network and Nickelodeon all have had CSU student interns. ■

Community Connection…

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more, including direct communication classes taught by professors fluent in sign language. The NCOD Library, one of the largest of its kind in the world, is a nationally recognized collection of reference books, media and related publications.

CSU also trains hearing students interested in working with the deaf in fields such as teaching and interpreting, and employs deaf faculty and staff members throughout the campus. The university serves as a regional center for PEPNet West, which provides training and technical assistance to postsecondary institutions to enhance educational opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing students.

Under the California Assistive Technology Exchange grant, Cal State Northridge will manage three programs, an AT Device Loan Program, an AT Loan Reutilization Program (a consumer Web site to sell used equipment) and an AT and Transportation Loan Guarantee Program.

Deaf and hard of hearing students at CSU can take part in a wide variety of social activities, in addition to all the regular campus facilities and events. They may choose to join the Deaf CSUNars, a student organization established in 1980, which fosters cultural, political and social awareness among members, the campus and the community.

The university also offers a range of special events in which they may participate, such as movies, retreats, seasonal events and the Miss Deaf CSUN Pageant. Interpreters are available for all regular university events as well. Another feature unique to our campus is the large number of non-hearing impaired students, faculty and staff who are fluent in sign language and who regularly interact academically and socially with members of our hearing impaired campus community.

To learn more about NCOD, please visit its Web site at http://ncod.csun.edu. Until next time… ■
Cinematheque

Screenings are free and take place in the Alan and Elaine Armer Theater on the first floor of Manzanita Hall at the southwest corner of campus. Seating not guaranteed. For more info, call (818) 677-3152 or see www.cinematheque.csun.edu/tml.html.

The Locket

Directed by John Brah. Speaker: writer/actress Norma Barzman. Tue., Nov. 13, 7 p.m.

The Locket

Directed by John Brah. Speaker: writer/actress Norma Barzman. Tue., Nov. 13, 7 p.m.

‘Aparte’ and ‘Casa tomada’ Launching ‘Voices Against Silence: Documentaries of Social Conscience’

Directed by Mario Handler and Maria Ploti, respectively. Speaker: Scholar Maria-Elena de las Carreras. Wed., Nov. 14, 7 p.m.

Relatos desde el encierro and ‘La sexta seccion’

Directed by Guadalupe Miranda and Alex Riveras, respectively. Speaker: Scholar Maria-Elena de las Carreras. Thu., Nov. 15, 7 p.m.

The Red Shoes

Directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger. Fri., Nov. 16, 2 p.m.

‘Fight Club’

Directed by David Fincher. Speakers: Professors Vincent Coppola, Patrick Nicholson and Donovan Jacobs. Fri., Nov. 16, 7 p.m.

The Children of Ivan Kuzmich and ‘Anatoly Rybakov–The Russian Story’

Directed by Marina Goldovskaya. Speaker: Scholar Maria-Elena de las Carreras. Mon., Nov. 19, 7 p.m.

Harakiri

Directed by Masaki Kibayashi. Mon., Nov. 26, 7 p.m.

Wild Strawberries


The Scarecrow, ‘Cops’ and ‘Seven Changes’


Starship Troopers

Directed by Paul Verhoeven. Speaker: producer Jon Davison. Thu., Dec. 6, 2 p.m.

The General

Directed by Clyde Bruckman and Buster Keaton. Fri., Dec. 7, 2 p.m.

The Constant Gardener


American Guitar Society

Ricardo Iznaola, classical guitarist. Sat., Nov. 17, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall $10–$20

New Directions

Livia Marinescu, faculty advisor. Sun., Nov. 18, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

CSUN University Chorus

Katherine Riddle Baker, conductor. Mon., Nov. 19, 8 p.m. Plaza del Sol Performance Hall

World Music Ensembles

Joel Manley, guest director. Mon., Nov. 26, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

CSUN Master Chorale

Paul Smith, conductor. Tue., Nov. 27, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

NuVeau Arts Ensemble

Gary Pratt, director. Thu., Nov. 29, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Vocal Master Class

Maestro Andrea Mitselis of Long Beach Opera. Fri., Nov. 30, 2 p.m. Music Recital Hall Free

CSUN Guitar Ensemble

Ron Bonczon, director. Fri., Nov. 30, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Guitar Studio Recital

CSUN Wind Ensemble

Lawrence Stoeffel, conductor. Sat., Dec. 1, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

CSUN Vocal Jazz Ensemble ‘Epicenter’

Matt Faller, director. Sun., Dec. 2, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

Discovery Players

Steve Thachuk, director. Sun., Dec. 2, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Media Composition Showcase

Studio Orchestra, Elizabeth Seliders, director. Mon., Dec. 3, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

An Evening of Chamber Music

Julia Heinzen and Dmitry Rachmanov, directors. Wed., Nov. 14, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

CSUN Jazz B Band

Gary Pratt, director. Thu., Nov. 15, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

CSUN Wind Symphony

Lawrence Stoeffel, conductor. Sat., Dec. 17, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

American Steel Drum Band

Steve Fee, director. Thu., Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

Jazz ‘A’ Band

Matt Harris, director. Fri., Dec. 7, 8 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

Northridge Singers

Paul Smith, conductor. Sat., Dec. 8, 8 p.m. and Sun., Dec. 9, 3 p.m. Grand Salon, CSUN

Sponsor: CSUN Family and Consumer Sciences Dept.

Global Childhood Obesity

‘The Global Aspects of Childhood Obesity’

Sponsored by CSUN Family and Consumer Sciences Dept. Tue., Nov. 13, 4:30 p.m. Oviatt Library Presentation Room Free

Sexuality and Judaism in Medieval France

Author Maggie Anto discusses sexuality and sexual ethics in Medieval Jewish men and women. Wed., Nov. 28, 9–10 a.m., Thursday Office Hours: 10 a.m.–12 p.m., Oviatt Library, Grand Salon, CSUN Free

In Search of Traditional Marriage

Richard W. Smith Lecture. Fri., Nov. 30, 2 p.m. Music Recital Hall

CSUN Wind Ensemble

Lawrence Stoeffel, conductor. Sat., Dec. 1, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

CSUN Vocal Jazz Ensemble ‘Epicenter’

Matt Faller, director. Sun., Dec. 2, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

Steel Drum Band

Steve Fee, director. Thu., Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

Jazz ‘A’ Band

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Northridge Singers

Paul Smith, conductor. Sat., Dec. 8, 8 p.m. and Sun., Dec. 9, 3 p.m. Grand Salon, CSUN

Houdini’s Box

Dance theatre work by Jaime Morrison. Fri., Nov. 16, 8 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 17, 2 and 8 p.m.

CSUN Jazz B Band

Gary Pratt, director. Thu., Nov. 29, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Vocal Master Class

Maestro Andrea Mitselis of Long Beach Opera. Fri., Nov. 30, 2 p.m. Music Recital Hall Free

CSUN Guitar Ensemble

Ron Bonczon, director. Fri., Nov. 30, 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall

Guitar Studio Recital

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Northridge Singers

Paul Smith, conductor. Sat., Dec. 8, 8 p.m. and Sun., Dec. 9, 3 p.m. Grand Salon, CSUN

Theatre/Performance

Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal

Wed., Nov. 14, 8 p.m. Plaza del Sol Performance Hall $22–$44

The Second City- Dysfunctional Holiday Revue

Thu., Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m. Plaza del Sol Performance Hall $20–$38

Houdini’s Box

Dance theatre work by Jaime Morrison. Fri., Nov. 16, 8 p.m.

CSUN Wind Ensemble

Lawrence Stoeffel, conductor. Sat., Dec. 1, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

CSUN Vocal Jazz Ensemble ‘Epicenter’

Matt Faller, director. Sun., Dec. 2, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

CSUN Wind Ensemble

Lawrence Stoeffel, conductor. Sat., Dec. 1, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall

CSUN Vocal Jazz Ensemble ‘Epicenter’

Matt Faller, director. Sun., Dec. 2, 3 p.m. Campus Theatre, Nordhoff Hall $32–$75

A Linda Eder Performance

Broadway legend Linda Eder performs both new and signature songs, plus liberal sprinkling of holiday numbers. Sat., Dec. 1, 8 p.m. Sun., Dec. 2, 2 p.m. Plaza del Sol Performance Hall $32–$75