

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The UC Irvine Design Program is proud to announce a forthcoming new curricula for MFA students in Scenic, Costume, Lighting, and Sound Design. It is scheduled to apply to students beginning their training in Fall 2012.

“The new curricula is many years in the making, and it reflects the faculty’s continued dedication to creating a challenging and contemporary program of study for our graduate students,” says Associate Head of Design Vincent Olivieri. Olivieri adds that only new students will study under the new curricula; current students will continue under the old program.

Changes to the coursework are large and small, including the addition of a year-long foundations-of-design-aesthetics class for first-year students, a business of design course for third-year students, an electronics ‘guts’ class for lighting and sound designers, and a special topic study in Theme Park Design for all students. The changes will enable students to explore new areas in part by increasing faculty teaching efficiency; Olivieri notes that “UC Irvine will continue to offer an exceptional education, combining challenging coursework with in-depth mentorship to craft a new generation of theatrical & entertainment designers.”

Confirmation of the new curricula is pending approval by the UC Irvine Faculty Senate, and full details will be available pending that approval.

### **ABOUT UC IRVINE DRAMA DESIGN PROGRAM**

The UC Irvine Drama Design Program is housed within the Drama Department at the Claire Trevor School of the Arts on the main campus at the University of California, Irvine. The program offers MFA degrees in four design disciplines and is taught by a faculty with experience in all aspects of the theatrical & entertainment design industries.

### **CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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