

SDSU

Arts Alive

2024-2025



THE DISCOVERY SERIES

Delve into critical issues that complement your studies with dynamic discussions through the Arts Alive Discovery Series. Open to the public, this series presents a collection of artist talks, lectures, and expert panel conversations, each focusing on a different meaningful point of intersection between the arts, humanities, and sciences.

The 2024-2025 season features current social, political, and cultural themes, sparking meaningful conversations. These events are designed for all attendees to gain fresh perspectives beyond their area of study and challenge themselves with thought-provoking discussions, all while networking with professors, guest artists, and fellow students.

The Discovery Series is an exciting opportunity to discover new interests and ignite your enthusiasm for interdisciplinary connection. Make the most of your college experience by fully engaging in campus life, and see how the arts and thoughtful dialogue can transform your world!

BLACK BY DESIGN (SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN)

The Black by Design Symposium is a thought-provoking exploration into the diverse landscape of graphic design through the lens of African American heritage and creativity. This one-day event will highlight the significant contributions of Black designers, address sociopolitical and cultural issues inherent in design practices, and foster meaningful dialogue. The collaborative conversations in this event aim to ideate and drive positive change for the future of the design industry.

BORDER STORIES (SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN)

Border Stories is a panel discussion on the impact of family separation due to parental deportation, coinciding with San Diego and Tijuana's designation as the World Design Capital in 2024 and the SDSU RE:BORDER conference. Featuring individuals who have lived this experience and facilitators who have supported them, the discussion will center on Yolanda Varona Palacios's children's book *La Luciérnaga y Sus Estrellas Fugaces*, published by SDSU Press.

Images (top to bottom): 1. Arts Alive Artist-in-resident Kimi Takesue and Prof. Mary Posatko 2. Prof. Dani Bedau in conversation with James Martinez Salem, Jessie Field, and *Ziggy Stardust and Me* author James Brandon 3. Prof. Kerianne Quick in conversation with the Xingaderas Artist Collective.



REALITY VS ILLUSION: TELLING TRUTH FROM FICTION IN MEDIA (SCHOOL OF THEATRE, TELEVISION, AND FILM)

The post-show panel discussion will explore the challenge of distinguishing truth from fiction in media, following a performance of *Pirandello's Six Characters in Search of an Author*. The modernist masterpiece questions the instability of individual perception that, timed for post-November 2024 election discussion of disinformation, will examine how perception of truth is shaped. This free panel will feature faculty from SDSU Departments of Sociology, Journalism, and Philosophy.

HAMLET (SCHOOL OF THEATRE, TELEVISION, AND FILM)

The April 2025 SDSU performance of *Hamlet* features a majority female-identifying cast, inspiring a compelling focus on identity and trauma response. This interdisciplinary post-show conversation will explore themes of mental health and feminism by exploring personal and societal traumas in *Hamlet* from psychological perspectives, delving into the protagonist's fragmented psyche and the complex world of the play.

UNIVERSITY DANCE COMPANY (SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE)

As part of their annual University Dance Company performance, SDSU dance majors will perform *ESTELA*, choreographed by Tijuana-based dance artist Briseida López Inzunza. Following the performance, SDSU Department of Dance faculty, López-Inzunza, and Professor Victoria González-Rivera will discuss Latin American women's fight for justice and its parallels to US women's rights. This free event offers a unique exploration of activism through dance.

CULTURAL DIMENSIONS OF MEDIA (SCHOOL OF THEATRE, TELEVISION, AND FILM)

Exploring how San Diego is depicted or generalized in Hollywood films, this event aims to uncover a counterhistory of local cinema. Featuring a student-curated set of independent films, including those by Latino, Black, Asian American, and Indigenous filmmakers with diverse perspectives of the region. Juxtaposed with mainstream/traditional images, this event illustrates the gap between San Diego as a brand and as a home.

RENT (SCHOOL OF THEATRE, TELEVISION, AND FILM)

This interdisciplinary panel conversation uses a contemporary lens to explore *RENT*'s themes of addiction, LGBTQ+ rights, and loss. With prestigious guest artists and faculty panelists from the SDSU Departments of Theatre and Public Health, the panel will focus on the intersection of race, HIV/AIDS and addiction. This free panel will take place in the weeks leading up to the SDSU production of *RENT*.

THE INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE TEACHING PROGRAM (ICT)

The ICT program recruits two faculty members from different academic areas to collaborate on a new course. The collaboration between two academic fields gives students the chance to see that material through an interdisciplinary lens.

Since the ICT Program launched in 2015, there have been 15 unique courses taught by 30 faculty members from 5 colleges, with an enrollment of over 1100 students.

In the 2024-2025 academic year, two ICT courses will be offered:

Building the Future: Pioneering Sustainable Cities and Empowering Resilient Communities

- James Brown, School of Art and Design
- Dr. Gloria Faraone, Civil, Construction, Environmental Engineering Department

Performance Anxiety: Psychological Science in Service of the Arts

- Sonya Schumann, School of Music and Dance
- Dr. V. Robin Weersing, Department of Psychology

Engaging Climate Justice through Vessel Making

- Ashley Kim, School of Art and Design
- Dr. Christine Knott, Department of Women's Studies

ARTS ALIVE CERTIFICATE

Open to all majors, the Arts Alive Certificate is a recognition of those students who adopt an interdisciplinary approach to their study of the arts, humanities, and sciences. It offers ways for students to explore a variety of sociopolitical and cultural issues through the visual and performing arts.

Students must accrue a total of 75 points to be awarded the certificate. Attendance at each Arts Alive event earns 15 points, and enrolling in an Arts Alive course or completing an internship with Arts Alive earns 50 points per semester.

Students can enroll on the Arts Alive SDSU website.

artsalive.sdsu.edu

SDSU

Arts Alive

A campus initiative to support arts-centric research and project development.