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RYMAN ARTS SETS 108 LOCAL STUDENTS ON THE PATH TO COLLEGE

- **96 percent of Ryman Arts' students graduating high school this year are college bound.**

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, (May 22, 2013) – In 2012, only 66.2 percent of U.S. high school graduates were enrolled in colleges or universities, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That percentage rises substantially when high school students have access to college-level training and support at no cost, according to Diane Brigham, Executive Director of nonprofit arts education program, [Ryman Arts](#).

In June 2013, more than 100 local students from Orange County, Los Angeles and the Inland Empire who completed the Ryman Arts program in Southern California will be graduating high school and going on to local and national colleges, according to Brigham.

“These are outstanding statistics, and they speak to the talent and intelligence of our students, as well as the strength of our rigorous arts program,” she says.

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The Ryman Arts program, which is conducted in 12-week sessions in both Spring and Fall semesters, provides high school students with foundational artistic skills, while also equipping them with the tools and resources necessary to plan for a career in the arts.

“A major component of the Ryman Arts program is our college prep, through which we prepare our students for higher education,” notes Brigham. “College is especially important in the lives of young artists, and we are committed to helping our students work toward this worthy goal.”

Ryman Arts classes are currently held on two separate college campus, including California State University, Fullerton and the Otis College of Art and Design. The program offers students professional-level art instruction in a college environment.

In addition to rigorous drawing and painting classes taught by professional artists, students explore career paths, share their work in the local community, and are inspired to build the skills, discipline and confidence for college and beyond, notes Brigham.

“Ryman Arts graduates are poised to succeed and ultimately add their talents to the vibrant creative economy of Southern California,” she says. “We plan to continue to increase this number, as new students join our program in both Orange County and Los Angeles,”

The 2013 local high school graduates who have completed the Ryman Arts program and will begin college in the Fall include:

From the City of Alhambra:

Jessica Phung – California State University, Long Beach
Alison Chen – University of California, Riverside
Sandy Vuong – University of California, Santa Barbara

From the City of Anaheim:

Jamie Ang Lee – California State University, Fullerton
Matthew Low – California State University, Fullerton
Trey Reza – Golden West College



From the City of Arcadia:

Kristen Chang – Art Center College of Design
Janessa Lynn – California Institute of the Arts
Yvonne Lee – College of Creative Studies, UCSB
Erica Young – University of California, Berkeley

From the City of Bellflower:

Quinton Bates – Cerritos College

From the City of Burbank:

Henry Miskaryan – University of Southern California

From the City of Camarillo:

Alyssa Guevara – Moorpark College

From the City of Canyon Country:

Casey Buckhoff – College of the Canyons

From the City of Corona:

Tiffany Wei – California Institute of the Arts
Kristine Cao – University of California, Riverside

From the City of Covina:

Moleka Oei – Citrus College

From the City of Culver City:

Simone Miller – California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Michelle Bac – California State University, Northridge
Mikey Barreto – Loyola Marymount University
Ariana Figueroa – University of California, Irvine
Maddy Leist – University of Southern California

From the City of Diamond Bar:

Tania Botello – California State University, Fullerton
Gi-Ling Lo – Chapman University

From the City of Garden Grove:

Jasmine Nguyen – California State University, Fullerton

From the City of Gardena:

Wesley Gilmore – Santa Monica College

From the City of Glendale:

Dado Cabaravdic – Art Center College of Design
Anto Tavitian – California State University, Northridge
Josephine Rivera – Glendale Community College

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From the City of Granada Hills:

Alia Spring – California State University, Northridge

From the City of Hawthorne:

Adriana Henriquez – University of California, Davis

From the City of Inglewood:

Austin Summerfield – California State University, East Bay

Rosalie Lopez – California State University, Northridge

From the City of Irvine:

Aaron Epstein – Irvine Valley College

Sang Yoon – Rice University

From the City of La Canada:

Jason Fujikuni – Rhode Island School of Design

From the City of La Crescenta:

Flora Kim – Art Center College of Design

From the City of Lake Forest:

Angelli Barrientos – School of Visual Arts

From the City of Lawndale:

Diana Manriquez – California State University, East Bay

From the City of Lennox:

Elsa Fraire – University of California, Los Angeles

From the City of Long Beach:

Jazz Boatman – California State University, Long Beach

From the City of Los Angeles:

Molly Bremner – Bard College

Atalya Boytner – Bennington College

Johanna Trejo – California Institute of the Arts

Martha Fernandez-Grijalva – California State University, Long Beach

Kevin Cruz – Cornell University

Stephanie Varela – Los Angeles City College

Natasha Carovska – Otis College of Art and Design

Erick Villegas – Otis College of Art and Design

Jessica Meyer – Pasadena City College

Bobbie Cervantes – San Jose State University

Christian Arand – Santa Monica College

Fabian Pablo – Santa Monica College

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Paola Suarez – Santa Monica College
Chloe Wong – School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Jasmine Vergara – University of California, Davis
Audrey Min – University of California, Los Angeles
Aaron Estrada – University of California, Los Angeles
Emma Wood – University of Southern California
Kate Johannesen – Virginia Commonwealth University
Janel Gonzalez – Whittier College

From the City of Lynwood:

Karen Ramirez – California State University, Long Beach

From the City of Monterey Park:

Ingrid Allen – Ringling College of Art and Design

From the City of Newbury Park:

Lily Wang – University of California, San Diego

From the City of Northridge:

Joann Kim – California Institute of the Arts

From the City of Orange:

Cecilia Garcia – Chapman University
Jaden Andrea – Rhode Island School of Design

From the City of Pacific Palisades:

Amy Dickey – California State University, Channel Islands

From the City of Pasadena:

Kirsten Hellwig – Boston University
Danielle Gomez – Rhode Island School of Design
Ella Young – Washington University, St. Louis

From the City of Pico Rivera:

Steven Posada – California State University, Fullerton
Noelle Gonzalez – The National Holistic Institute

From the City of Porter Ranch:

Frances Noland – Woodbury University

From the City of Rancho Palo Verdes:

April Lee – School of the Art Institute of Chicago

From the City of Redondo Beach:

Eva Pace – Art Center College of Design
Bronwyn Mundell – Yukon School of Visual Arts

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From the City of Rolling Hills Estates:

Jon David Leslie – San Jose State University

From the City of San Gabriel:

Nathaniel Wu – Parsons the New School for Design

Katherine Yao – University of California, Berkeley

From the City of Santa Ana:

Mimi Nguyen – California State University, Fullerton

From the City of Santa Monica:

Olivia FitzGerald Harewood – Barnard College

Austin Conrad – California College of the Arts

Alison Guh – Dartmouth College

Michaela Maxwell – Middlebury College

Isabella FitzGerald Harewood – Wesleyan University

From the City of Sherman Oaks:

Sophia DiMatteo – University of California, Santa Cruz

From the City of South Pasadena:

Sang Oh – Santa Monica College

Tiffany Diep – University of California, San Diego

From the City of Stanton:

V Vireak – North Idaho Junior College

From the City of Temple City:

Tiffany Wang – Dartmouth College

Pauline Chen – Rice University

Catherine Tsai – University of California, Irvine

From the City of Thousand Oaks:

Emily Guerra – California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Jazmin Clarito – California State University, Northridge

From the City of Torrance:

Eric Baisa – El Camino College

Caroline Chiou – University of Southern California

From the City of West Hills:

Mason Heinold – Otis College of Art and Design

Mia Gilbert – Art Center College of Design

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From the City of Westlake Village:

Nicholas Dody – San Jose State University

From the City of Whittier:

Brianna Mercier – California Lutheran University

Marisa Ortega – Laguna College of Art and Design

Frankie Ortega – Laguna College of Art and Design

From the City of Wilmington:

Viviana Vela – University of California, San Diego

Ryman Arts is focused on providing education to the most talented students in Southern California, regardless of their economic situation, and is offered tuition-free. With a limited number of spots available, however, admission is competitive and is based solely on merit.

The next application deadline for the program is June 7, 2013. Students hoping to attend the Fall 2013 Ryman Arts semester at either location may download an application at www.rymanarts.org.

Since its inception in 1990, Ryman Arts has engaged over 4,500 Southern California teens in its core 18-month studio program. This vibrant community of culturally diverse teens comes from over 130 neighborhoods across the region.

Ryman Arts also spearheads the public drawing initiative, *The Big Draw LA*, to engage the community in participatory drawing activities every October. In its two decades, Ryman Arts has evolved into a national model for transforming the lives and futures of young artists. A non-profit organization, Ryman Arts is funded by individuals, foundations, corporate supporters, and government agencies including the National Endowment for the Arts. More information is available at www.rymanarts.org or 213-629-2787.

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