

Newsletter Date  
Volume 1, Issue 2



Los Angeles County High School for the Arts

## Principal's Message

A famed teacher was once asked about what he would teach to his class in the upcoming school year, he remarked: "I don't know what I'll teach; I haven't met the students yet!" Although we have established two school-wide goals—one around WASC and one around systems of operations—it would be presumptuous of me, after but a month, to present my "vision" for Arts High. As the newest member of the community, my first priority as principal is to listen to and learn from the Arts High Community. What are on the minds of our students, our parents, faculty, staff, our educational and arts partners? What are our hopes and passions, fears and frustration? I have been so impressed and inspired by the conversations that I have had with students and parents as we've talked informally about Arts High about topics ranging from programs of study to college readiness to community service.

In some ways our most valuable voices may be those of the student body. Our students bring such an amazing energy to the school; we need only to look at the student leadership class, the newly formed *Square Pegs*, and many others whose passion has propelled them to great heights. We need to create space for us to listen to these important voices. To this end, we will be holding town-hall style meetings in order to hear from our students; I have asked the newly formed Parent Council to host a forum for a conversation with our parents. The same will be done with many of our cultural, arts, and education partners including alumni. I will also shadow several of our students--yes, from 8 until 4--in order to "live" a day in the life of our students. In many ways, leadership stems not only from what is said and done, but also by what is lived and learned.

*George Simpson*

### Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>  
1:20 – 2:15 p.m.  
Townhall Meeting: Music Students

September 19 – 21st  
Monterey Jazz Festival

Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>  
3:15 – 4:00 p.m.  
Townhall Meeting: Dance Students

Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>  
JOSTENS at ArtsHigh:Seniors,2008  
taking orders for Cap & Gown,  
Rings and Grad Announcements

**Save The Date**  
Wednesday, October 1st  
Senior Parent Night  
"College Application Process"  
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>  
Junior Parent Night  
"Preparing for Senior Year"  
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

## Important Announcements

### SPECIAL THANKS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Thank you to all for the tremendous success of the Back to School Night. There was a real spirit of enthusiasm and anticipation that infused the evening and I would like to thank all those—students, parents and families, faculty and staff—that made the evening so special.

**PVA COLLEGE FAIRS** The Performing and Visual Arts (PVA) College Fairs are designed for students interested in pursuing undergraduate and graduate study in the areas of music, dance, theater, visual arts, graphic design, and other related disciplines. Held each fall, attendees learn about:

- Educational opportunities
- Admission and financial aid
- Portfolio days
- Audition and entrance requirements

And much more!

Attend the local PVA College Fair at **UCLA on Saturday, October 4, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**, and meet with representatives from colleges, universities, conservatories, festivals and other educational institutions with specialized programs in the visual and performing arts.