The Los Angeles Experience is an exciting travel and learning experience designed for undergraduate and graduate students with career aspirations in Film and Animation, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, and the Business of the Arts. Sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, this opportunity is open to 20 students through application. The program will connect current students with valuable alumni who have careers in TV, film, and the arts through a six-day experience in Los Angeles, California.

The experience will feature valuable visits with alumni working in areas of the arts, tours of production studios, career-oriented meetings, and networking opportunities. Students will also experience the culture of living in Los Angeles and get a feel for life on the West Coast. Career visits may include tours of Warner Brothers, Universal Studios, Paramount, Sony Pictures, and NBC Studios. Museum and site visits may include the County Museum of Art (LACMA), the Getty Center, Mann’s Chinese Theatre, the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and more.

By interacting with alumni from The Ohio State University, students will experience unique opportunities in fields such as:

Film and Animation – Alumni working with current television shows, blockbuster films, and companies like Pixar, Dreamworks, and Disney. Fields including screenwriting, directing, acting, animated shorts, animated full-length features.

Performing Arts: Music, Dance, Theatre – Alumni in the performing arts, production, stage management, and choreography for television, theatre, and film.

Visual Arts – Alumni working as visual artists in painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography, video, and film in venues such as the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and The Getty.

Business of the Arts – Alumni working in the business of the arts, including production, management, and legal services.

Any student interested in participating in this experience must complete an application where preference will be given to students with academic or career goals related to planned site visits. The experience is only open to students in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must be in the good academic standing and costs will be subsidized to make this experience a financial reality.

Student Expense
The LA Experience is largely subsidized by the College of Arts and Sciences. The student contribution towards expenses is $475. Payments can be made by cash, check, or money order and all payments are nonrefundable. Student payments are due by December 12, 2014. The cost of the trip includes: airfare, 5 nights in a hotel with breakfast included, museum entries, studio entries, group meals, and all transportation during planned events.

Timeline
Student Application Deadline: October 30, 2014
Participants notified by: November 7, 2014
Student payments due by: December 12, 2014
Pre-Travel Meetings (3-4): January-March, 2015
The Experience: March 13-19, 2015

Pre-Travel Meetings
Student participants will be expected to attend three or four pre-travel meetings where information about the learning experience will be reviewed. Students will understand their personal and professional goals for this experience, will do research on the studios, alumni, and companies on the itinerary, and will develop ways to bring the information back to campus to share with other students. Similar to study abroad experiences, where students take a course prior to an in-country experience, these meetings will serve as educational and professional preparation for Los Angeles.
Sample Itinerary

Day 1 [Friday, March 13, 2015]
- Morning travel from Columbus, OH to Los Angeles, CA
- Visit the Getty Center, Hollywood Walk of Fame/Chinese Theatre area, and sightseeing activities

Day 2 [Saturday, March 14, 2015]
- Visit the Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Afternoon Warner Brothers Studios Tour
- Evening theater, music, comedy performance

Day 3 [Sunday, March 15, 2015]
- College of Arts & Sciences Admitted Student Recruitment Event
- OSU Alumni Panel
- Evening Alumni Event and Reception at the Jonathan Beach Club

Day 4 [Monday, March 16, 2015]
- Morning visit to Sony Studios
- Small group studio visits
- Group dinner

Day 5 [Tuesday, March 17, 2015]
- Small group visit to Digital Fusion
- Universal Studios

Day 6 [Wednesday, March 18, 2015]
- Visit to Disney Studios
- Small group visit to The Music Center and tour of Disney Hall
- Private tour of the Museum of Contemporary Art
- Group Dinner at hotel
- Late night flight return trip to Columbus, OH

Day 7 [Thursday, March 19, 2015]
- Return to Columbus, OH

How to Apply?
Students can apply online at artsinitiative.osu.edu.
Applications are due by Thursday, October 30 at 5pm.
Students who apply, and are selected, agree to supply the $475 payment, attend the pre-travel meetings, and participate in the experience from March 13-19, 2015.
Contact Ben Fortman at fortman.24@osu.edu with any questions.

A look back at the LA Experience 2013....

Twenty students participated in the inaugural LA Experience trip during the spring of 2013. The trip was an enormous success for both the students and the OSU alumni living in California. Several student participants provided personal career updates and highlights of their experience:

Katie Howard – (Spring 2013 graduate) Currently working as the Assistant Merchandise Manager at Walt Disney World’s Animal Kingdom. “Having the opportunity to visit LA and experience the atmosphere was very motivating as I began to shape my career goals after graduation.”

Trent Rowland – (Current OSU Senior) In addition to performing in multiple on and off campus productions, Trent recently was cast in the film Carol, shot in Cincinnati, directed by Todd Haynes and featuring Rooney Mara and Cate Blanchett. “The trip made me want to make a push to pursue my dream.”

Lew Holder – (Spring 2014 graduate) Currently working in the Video Post-Production Department for the Ohio State Football Program.

Taylor Lee – (Spring 2014 graduate) Currently working with the Wexner Center for the Arts, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, and Columbus Alive. “[Working three jobs] may seem like a lot, but it is all to save money to move to LA. I have set a date that I want to move and I am making it happen!”

Matthew Kolena – (Current OSU Senior) Currently serves of the President of the Ohio Union Activities Board and plans to apply for full time jobs in California after graduation. “It’s a rare chance to learn from individuals who know so much about entertainment and love Ohio State at the same time, so it is definitely a rewarding experience”

Amanda Kline – (Summer 2014 Master of Fine Arts Graduate) Will begin a Visiting Professor of Art position at Otterbein University this fall teaching photography and integrated digital media.

The Los Angeles Experience is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences