

Meet the Herb Alpert Emerging Young Artists Scholarships In the words of their CSSSA teachers

ANIMATION



Top Student - **Dustin Whitley**, Lake Elsinore, CA

We watched Dustin in amazement as piles of beautiful drawings bloomed from his hand. He is swift at translating his imagination to something we can all see. He also has an unusually comprehensive sense of a film. Faculty called him “wise beyond his years” for his instincts on timing, pacing, efficiency, style and strategy. There is a delicate quality in the lines that he draws that underscores the great emotional depth and sensitivity he communicates with his work. Dustin is passionate, hard working, inquisitive, and open-minded.



Gabrielle “Gabby” Delforge, Saratoga, CA

Gabby has a very original artistic voice and an incredible sense of design and color. She is always engaged in class and actively working to incorporate elements from her coursework at CSSSA to push her work further. Her final project at CSSSA felt remarkably serene and effortless despite its required brevity. Her carefully considered creative choices and pre-production experiments quietly resonate frame-by-frame in a way that is fresh and uniquely her own.



Kathryn Li, San Jose, CA

Kathryn Li has a really strong independent artistic voice. She has a quiet power. Her final film was gently nuanced and timeless. She explored dynamic staging and composition in addition to creating sound design that perfectly complimented the technique she was working in. Kathryn is very passionate about animation and went out of her way to seek out feedback and eager to grow as an artist.

CREATIVE WRITING



Top Student - **Ingrid Audette**, Nevada City, CA

Ingrid Audette tackled prose, poetry, dramatic writing, and creative nonfiction with intelligence, talent, and a profound sensitivity to the texture of life. Ingrid Audette's prose is both dark and hopeful. This paradox is characteristic of the nuanced way she handles themes as varied as family, school, and hometowns. And while her prose is elegant and technical, it is also filled with raw power and image.



Kira Kamrath, Forestville, CA

Kira Kamrath's work is characterized by ranging sentences full of concrete images. She creates emotion through these sentences the way a tailor shapes clothes, and she deals with everything from day-to-day teenage life to the comedy and tragedy of love. In workshop, Kira acts as an astute and interested listener, and is able to help her fellow students' work shine. Her intelligence and delicate approach allowed her to learn a great deal this summer, approaching each writing assignment with rigor and care.



Luna Garcia, Los Angeles, CA

Luna Garcia has a big, brash voice and carries a powerful inborn rhythm. Over the course of the month, Luna honed that power, arriving at new levels of subtlety and thematic range. Even in her rare moments of uncertainty, Luna Garcia is a passionate, eager, and dedicated presence in the classroom. She makes insightful connections in her work and with her classmates when discussing writing. Her natural gifts with language are matched by her determination, making her a joy to have at the table.

DANCE



Top Student - **Hector Jaime**, Calexico, CA

Hector Jaime made an extraordinary transformation while at CSSSA. His discipline and respect for others, and the working process was absolutely admirable, considering that Hector has had a limited technical history in dance education. Hector's ability to stay positive is a quality that will serve him well in the professional world. He is a tireless hard worker who absorbs all the information given to him. He demonstrated leadership and an unselfish need to help others, a beautiful attribute of humility.



Nathan Jauregui, Fair Oaks, CA

Nathan has worked very diligently and accomplished much in the month at CSSSA. He demonstrated that he can solve problems, work well with others, and has a drive that will benefit him as he moves forward in life and dance. He has impressed his teachers with his hard work and innate qualities.



Sydney Rae Leong, San Francisco, CA

Sydney has worked very well in the CSSSA Dance program. She practices on her own and comes back with the material needed, she helps others gladly, and has the drive and determination that will do her well in life and in dance.

FILM/VIDEO



Top Student - **Olivia Werby**, Piedmont, CA

Olivia is a filmmaker who possesses equal measures of both talent and criticality. She is recognized by each of the faculty as being a hard worker, focused student, and bold risk-taker. She, more than any of our students, has taken advantage of our processed-based program in order to expand her artistic abilities. On top of all this, she remained an inspiration to her peers, setting the bar for the whole class. She has exhibited interest in continuing to pursue her artistic career.



Gabrielle Gorman, Los Angeles, CA

Gabrielle has demonstrated that she has the ability to transfer her unique personality and vision onto the screen. Not only was she a great individual artist, but she also took the time to help her peers complete their projects.



Alisha Syed, San Francisco, CA

Alisha fully embraced the CSSSA opportunity and was able to hone her artistic and technical skills and show significant growth. She really found her voice as an artist by channeling her passion into filmmaking.

MUSIC



Top Student - **Victor Hernandez**, Palmdale, CA

Victor's talent is incredible. Simply put, he can accomplish everything and anything he wants. He is always open to collaboration and won the respect of his peers and teachers. Victor has taken advantage of every opportunity to grow while at CSSSA and it shows.



Gabriel Seymour, Sierra Madre, CA

Gabriel is a true professional hungry to learn everything and anything. His teachers and peers see a drive in him second to none. As a fellow student put it, "Sometimes, I'm not sure if Gabriel is a student or a teacher". His humble attitude and undeniable talent during the 2015 summer session make him an easy choice for this honor.



David Semon, Encino, CA

David is talented, respectful, and an example of what a committed student should be. His ambition to become a composer has driven him to prepare like a true professional. He will be attending Humboldt State University in the fall.

THEATER



Top Student - **Grace Dolezal-Ng, Alameda, CA**

Grace Dolezal-Ng is a multi-talented theater student. She sings, she moves like a dream, she is a leader, and consumes herself in every aspect of the work. She is an actor of courage, generosity, and good taste; who is as gracious a person as her name would suggest. She is also resilient, and lifts the quality of the work all around her, in every setting. She received the unanimous support of the theater faculty for this award, for we all recognize her particular gifts as a performing artist of the highest degree.



Anthony Ahn Doan, San Jose, CA

Anthony Ahn Doan has been a remarkable member of the theater community this summer. His sense of play in physical comedy, and musical theater workshop, as well as in acting studio, and every other class in which he participates, has been a revelation for those who teach him. He plans to pursue a career in acting, after attending a four-year liberal arts college, and a graduate program in performance. We have great expectations for his continued growth and success in school, and in his future artistic life.



Roman Sanchez, Brawley, CA

Roman Sanchez is a returning student in the CSSSA theater program. He is compassionate and focused, and implemented the skills and training he picked up at CSSSA and other programs. He is an imaginative and bold risk-taker as an actor, and is a humble-but-confident leader in his studio. He hopes to run his own theater, and youth programs, and we believe that he will do just that.

VISUAL ARTS



Top Student - **Valor Aguilar**, Walnut, CA

Valor Aguilar is a very gifted, inventive and ambitious young artist. In the studio she is very serious, focused, consistent, and sensitive. She thinks independently and is thorough in her analysis. She is also not afraid to take direction and challenge herself. Her ability to handle the paint was exceptional and her paintings were consistently wonderful. She stood out while being critiqued by offering insightful feedback and distilling criticism. She is humble, kind and helpful to her peers, and displays a leadership quality in the classroom.



Ceylene Hebron, Los Angeles, CA

Ceylene is a very smart, talented and hard working digital artist. During her time at CSSSA she consistently displayed an extremely positive attitude and openness to new ideas, willing to experiment with the materials and different ways to create work. A large artwork she created reflected her interest in art history as well as the studio arts.



Michelle Li, San Ramon, CA

Michelle was a great student at CSSSA, passionate about art and dedicated to improving her craft and technique. She grasped the abilities to communicate visually with various mediums, uniting both her conceptual and technical understanding of the materials. She was very vocal in class and always had insightful and thoughtful things to add to the discussion. She is kind and easy to work with and showed a lot of motivation and excitement about her artwork. With her commitment and dedication, we have no doubt that Michelle will use this scholarship to the fullest.