Welcome to CSM’s fall semester. The beginning of a new academic year is always an exciting time. With the return of students to campus, the college takes on a vibrant energy. I anticipate it will be a busy semester as we are offering a full complement of courses this fall.

In this issue of the Schedule of Classes, we are celebrating our arts and music programs. CSM has a long, rich tradition of excellence in these programs which have inspired students to launch careers as well as discover or reconnect with a creative passion. In the area of music, we are extremely proud to feature one of our alumni, Christian Tumanlan, the co-founder of the Pacific Mambo Orchestra, who received a Grammy Award this year for his band’s self-titled debut album.

The article, “Students Express Their Creativity at CSM,” presents an overview of the creative arts programs at CSM. It focuses on breadth of program offerings and the varied opportunities for students pursuing transfer, careers or lifelong learning. Students are inspired by the creative process, by their professors and by one another. The arts and music at CSM attracts students of all ages—with diverse life experiences and interests—who are in various stages of their educational journey. We find that when students in the creative arts work side-by-side in studios and labs, something magical happens.

Our arts and music programs are led by faculty members who are exemplary educators as well as professional artists, musicians and designers. To illustrate this “blending of careers,” we feature an interview with Professor of Music Michael Galisatus. Mike talks about his 30+ years as a music educator and his “other career” as a professional musician. His professional appearances range from performing with some of the greatest jazz artists to conducting on the stage of Boston Symphony Hall.

The college has modernized the arts curriculum with the addition of our digital media program—graphic design, web design, broadcasting, audio and video production and web production—where students apply theory to real-life experiences. To highlight this program, our “Student Success Story” introduces Mario Ayalà, a graduate in broadcasting and electronic media, who has launched a successful career as a commercial television producer.

Finally, in our standing feature, “CSM in Your Community,” find out how CSM’s art programs are developing a growing presence in the community. This article describes how students and faculty are involved in art internships, partnerships, exhibitions and class projects that become part of the fabric of the community.

I am inspired by the talent on our campus and I hope you will be too. Whether you want to create, design, perform, listen, launch a career or participate in lifelong learning, I hope that you make CSM a part of your educational journey.

Michael Claire, CSM President