



## Academy of Visual and Performing Arts At Culver City High School

### AVPA Joins LACMA for Three Events

Contact: Kristine Hatanaka  
Art Department Director  
310-842-4200 x6001  
[kristinehatanaka@ccusd.org](mailto:kristinehatanaka@ccusd.org)

For immediate release:

**Culver City – March 8, 2007** – Over the next few weeks, art students from Culver City High School's Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) will be spending more time than normal at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). Two AVPA students, CCHS senior Unique Campa and CCHS junior Alexa Giffen, have been interns at LACMA since September and have been involved in organizing three free events during the month of March.



First there's "Explore.Learn.Create." This event, sponsored by LACMA and the High School Internship Program is an afternoon for teens to experience the museum as a workplace and an exhibition site. "Explore.Learn.Create" features art workshops, a teen art show, gallery activities, guest speakers and artist demonstrations. Artwork from AVPA students is part of an exhibit for this free event on Saturday, March 17, 2007, from 2-6 pm.

On Monday March 19, 2007, at 10:30 at LACMA, the 15 students involved in the High School Internship Program, including Campa and Giffen from Culver City, will be giving special tours of the museum. Each intern will lead an exploration through the Islamic and Southeast Asian art galleries. They've also organized an art project to allow participants a chance to further explore the concepts they've seen in the museum.

And finally, the interns have helped organize the "After Dark" event. "After Dark" is an evening just for teens which features live performance, DJs, refreshments, guest artists, art making, and the viewing of a special exhibition, "The Modern West: American Landscapes, 1890-1950." "Modern West" features paintings, watercolors, and photographs by some of the most important artists working in America at the time. "After Dark," presented by LACMA and NEXGEN, is a free event for teens, 13 through 17 (18 with valid high school ID), on Saturday, March 31, 2007, from 7-10 pm. Valid school or California ID is required to get in to the event. Parking for the event is free (after 7) in the lot at Wilshire Blvd. and Spaulding Ave.

AVPA's Campa is quite at home at LACMA. She says, "Even after experiencing this amazing program for the past four years, I'm still surprised at all the wonderful new things I find myself being a part of. I've had the great opportunity to be a high school intern for LACMA; being able to plan huge events and offer my peers gallery tours. I'm just so thankful to have been able to experience so many awesome things."



AVPA's co-director and the director of the art department, Kristine Hatanaka, encourages all her students to get involved in museum programs for students. "Being involved in these programs opens these students up to so many experiences. And I can really see the effect it has on their artwork."

**About the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts**

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School has been inspiring and empowering students to build a compassionate, creative community through innovative and challenging arts education since 1996. AVPA enjoys tremendous support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and other area businesses as well as from the Culver City community. For more information about the Academy, go to [avpa.org](http://avpa.org) or contact Tony Spano at 310-842-4200 x6094 or Kristine Hatanaka at 310-842-4200 x6001.

**Photo caption:**

L-R: Alex Giffen and Unique Campa, AVPA's interns at LACMA.

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