

SCHOLARSHIPS

“The impact of scholarship support goes far beyond helping a student offset the burden of student debt. It allows us to attract and retain students from around the world so they can come to USC SDA and share their talent and creativity. It provides access to an education and experience that would not otherwise be possible. And most importantly, it creates a lasting impact in the vibrancy of our beloved school and community.”

Sergio Ramirez, Ed.D.
Assistant Dean, Admissions & Student Services

Over the past two decades, the caliber of the School of Dramatic Arts’ student body has increased exponentially, fueling our prestige and improving our national reputation. Part of making sure this trend of growth continues is by ensuring that the School has the ability to secure top student talent, as well as expand tuition assistance at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Currently, the School of Dramatic Arts offers approximately a dozen partial undergraduate scholarships to incoming students each year. More access to scholarship funding will allow the School to not only increase the number of students who receive financial assistance, but also to enhance support at a much more competitive level per student. It is our goal that over the course of our campaign, we can triple the number of undergraduate scholarships that we are able to offer every year and that we can double the funding pool for undergraduate scholarships overall.

At the graduate level, we aim to increase tuition assistance to 75 percent for all incoming students. Currently, most students receive 50 percent. With competitor programs offering 100 percent scholarships to their graduate-level students, our goal to reach 75 percent tuition-assistance per student will be critical to our ability to compete with these programs stride-for-stride in attracting the best students.

Accordingly, the School of Dramatic Arts’ principal funding priority is to expand its scholarship endowment from the current \$5 million to \$25 million. This commitment will solidify the School’s position as the premier program in the nation. Through meaningful financial investment in our greatest asset — the students — we will exemplify our resolve to attract top-tier students, so that the School excels as one of the country’s best for years to come.



We invite donors to think about the specific educational programs they would like to support — such as acting, design, dramatic writing, stage management, or a contribution to the general scholarship pool. Additionally, creating a named endowed fund allows donors, who are looking for a long-term commitment to student development, a unique opportunity to leave a legacy that will not only significantly impact the students but also the future growth and prominence of our School.



Select giving opportunities include:

ANNUAL

<i>Provides an “incentive” scholarship for one student</i>	\$5,000
<i>Provides a partial undergraduate or graduate fellowship</i>	\$20,000
<i>Provides a partial undergraduate or graduate fellowship for multiple students</i>	\$50,000

ENDOWMENT*

<i>Provides a partial undergraduate named scholarship or graduate fellowship</i>	\$100,000
<i>Provides a full undergraduate named scholarship or a full graduate student fellowship</i>	\$1 Million
<i>Fully funds the MFA graduate fellowship needs now and into the future</i>	\$15 Million

* Pledges payable over five years



“Struggling to pay for college independently, the \$2,500 annual scholarship the School of Dramatic Arts graciously offered me has helped cover fees and payments like the required basic meal plan that was not covered by my financial aid. Without this award, I would not have been able to attend the University of Southern California and its dramatic arts school, which was by far my first choice.”

Lea Branyan
Student