



Dear NOCCA Students, Parents, and Families,

It is with joy and excitement that I write you in anticipation of the 2018-2019 school year. Welcome to NOCCA's 45th year of success. Whether it is your first year or you are ready to celebrate your senior year here at NOCCA, we welcome you to a place made better with your positive energy and focused presence.

NOCCA is many things to many people. For some of you, it is the place you have dreamed of being for years and years. For some, it is the next logical step. For some, it is the place you feel most yourself. For some, it is the way you choose to learn. For some, it is a place that supports you in being exactly who you are or who you are becoming. For some, it is all of that and more. All of you have demonstrated the greatness and desire in the arts that deserves the training available here at NOCCA. This is a partnership that demands exceptional efforts from you to bring your talents to their full potential.

There are many things to be excited about next year. There will be some faces spending more time on campus as we will welcome the first cohort of current half-day students who will also be moving into the Academic Studio as 11th and 12th graders. We will also be meeting a completely new group of first time to NOCCA students in the arts. We are excited to welcome and celebrate these firsts for next year.

The graduation and celebration of a senior class is always bittersweet. There was much to celebrate about the class of 2018. In many ways, they leave behind some big shoes to fill. The reality is that there is also a benefit to having the canopy of that group gone in that now there is more light for each of you who are returning or coming to NOCCA. More space to grow and expand. Another year of training that you can build upon. Who is going to be the one who embraces the DNA this year, who will edit Umbra, who will get the leads, who will jump up their consistency, who will see it in a whole new way, who will put it back out into the world in a voice that is solely their own, or who will take those vital steps of confidence in being who they are becoming. We are excited to see what version of possibility and growth each of you brings to campus next year. No matter where you are coming from we want to support you and your growth through all that NOCCA has to offer you.

Summer is my least favorite time of the year. NOCCA is lessor without students. It is just buildings and budgets. You the students bring purpose to this place. You make it what it is.

The Unicorn Ranch awaits your presence.

In service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KW", written in a cursive style.

Kyle Wedberg