

### Alumni Link

January 2009

News and Information for CSUDH Alumni and Friends



## **CSU Dominguez Hills Hosts Inauguration Viewing Celebration**

Community members on and off-campus, as well as local and state elected officials, came together to watch the Oath of Office Ceremony for President Barack Obama at CSU Dominguez Hills on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 from 7 to 10 a.m. in the University Theatre. With over 600 people attending, the theatre was filled to its capacity and additional viewing areas were set up in the Claudia Hampton Lecture Hall, Loker Student Union and CSUDH Sports Bar.

After the inauguration, a panel of experts led by CSUDH political science professor Hamoud Salhi discussed with the audience their reactions to President Obama's speech and next steps for the country. The event was co-sponsored by CSU Dominguez Hills Associated Students Inc., Academic Senate, Office of Government and Community Relations with support from Carson Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Gipson, and BP.

# The Watts Mural Project: Art Students and Alumni Bring Beauty and Hope to Health Center

On a Saturday morning last month, students and alumni from CSU Dominguez Hills arrived at the Watts Health Center (WHC) to deliver two large hand-painted murals. For nearly a year, the group volunteered their time and talents to create "A Day at the Beach" and "Bridge of Life," which were respectively installed in the pediatrics and obstetrics and gynecological areas of the community clinic.



#### CSU Dominguez Hills Announces New Vice President for University Advancement

Mildred García, president of CSU Dominguez Hills, has announced the selection of Greg Saks as the university's new vice president for university advancement. Saks had served as the interim vice president since September of 2007. He took up his new post on January 1, 2009.

Saks arrived at CSUDH in April of 2006 as the Associate Vice President of Development. Through his leadership over the last two years, the university has established a strong base for support with a 77% increase in new philanthropic support, 76% increase in total donors and 100% increase in alumni donors. Prior to CSU Dominguez Hills, Mr. Saks was the Executive Director of Development and Director of Alumni and Parent Relations at Pitzer College, and held various positions at Cal Poly Pomona and Baylor University.

#### Alumni Connection: Check Out the Beta Version of Online Alumni Community

The new CSUDH online alumni community, Alumni Connection, offers a place for alumni The paintings depict the local community with characters and scenery that are designed to inspire patients and their families. Professor of art Gilah Yelin Hirsch spearheaded the project in collaboration with Patricia Brown, WHC's facility patient services representative.

Mural artists included Diana Adams, Nicole Adams, Chris Avery, Maria Bjorkhdahl, Edith Asker Chipman, Sonya Edmonds, Gearhart, Abdallah Ibrahim, Mai Iwase, Andre Jackson, Phyllis Quinn, Cordella and Larry Raymond, Dennis Sylvester, Louise Wain and Andrew Wokabi.

All materials were donated by outside vendors: The Home Depot, Pearl Artist and Craft Company, Golden Artist Colors, Vargas Specialties and Jones Lumber Company, Lowe's Home Improvement, and Watts Health Center.

A <u>video clip</u> about the project by CSUDH staff producer Mario Congreve is available online at YouTube.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Carson-Dominguez Hills Symphony Orchestra Concert/ Family Pops Concert, Sat, Feb 7, 8pm, University Theatre

The Rod Butler Memorial Scholarship Concert, Sat, Mar 28, 8pm, University Theatre

Visit <u>www.csudh.edu</u> for more information.

from all corners of the globe to come together and connect with each other as well as with the university.

Take a look around the site and let us know what you think. You will need your campus ID number to register as a member of the community. If you need assistance, please email Alumni Relations.

#### Did You Know?

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