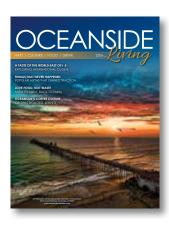


## OCEANSIDE

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## EMPOWERING AND ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO BE INSPIRED BY THE ARTS

By CSUSM and Ria Custodio

The School of Arts in the College of Humanities, Arts, Behavioral & Social Science (CHABSS) at the California State University of San Marcos (CSUSM) is committed to innovative education based on studies in music, theatre, dance studies, visual arts/visual culture, digital and media art. The School of Arts believes in collaboration across disciplines by providing a more expansive arts education. Ms. Kristine Diekman, Professor of Arts and Technology in the School of Arts, is one such faculty member who believes in collaboratively focusing on creating socially responsible media by empowering students to learn about and serve the needs of their community from behind the lens of a video camera.

Professor Diekman joined CSUSM in 1997. She also serves as Director of Video in the Community, and previously served as Program Director, Arts and Technology, and Chair, Visual and Performing Arts Department. Professor Diekman earned her MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in Sculpture and

her Bachelor of Special Studies from Cornell College in Chinese Studies. She graduated Summa Cum Laude and is recipient of the Phi Beta Kappa award.

As a professional media artist with more than 30 years of experience who is dedicated to socially engaged films and videos, Professor Diekman and her colleague were awarded a 2016 W.M. Keck Foundation Undergraduate Education Program grant of \$250,000 for the creation of the American Indian Digital Media and Culture Project, which incorporates American Indian epistemology in digital media projects that serve Southern California tribes and university students. In the same year, Professor Diekman was also awarded the prestigious CSU Wang Family Excellence Award. The Wang Family Excellence Award recognizes and celebrates

four outstanding CSU faculty members and one outstanding staff member who, through extraordinary commitment and dedication, have distinguished themselves by exemplary contributions to the CSU.

Professor Diekman said, "The films that I make with students, other artists and community members are tools that advance our community's self-sufficiency. They are a call to action, a re-imagining of social connections, and a means to create social change. Video in the Community is about listening to and supporting unheard voices, providing a place from which they can speak and be heard."

To learn more about the Arts and Technology program at CSUSM visit the CHABSS School of Arts website at www.csusm.edu/sofa.

