





James J. Elam, internationally renowned theater scholar, award-winning teacher, and leader in undergraduate education, is Occidental College's 16th president.

Having taken office in July 2020 in the midst of a global pandemic, Elam successfully guided Occidental through exceptional economic and educational challenges to a return to in-person activities. Over the last two years, he has immersed himself in the life of the College, always with an eye to its future. Vigorously championing the Oxy Campaign For Good, Elam has been instrumental in building its momentum and in developing transformative initiatives such as the Equity and Justice Agenda in service of the College's mission.

Elam came to Occidental from Stanford University, where he served as vice provost for undergraduate education for a decade and was responsible for nearly all policies and programs relating to the university's 7,200 undergraduate students. He helped lead a major rethinking of Stanford's undergraduate curriculum as well as a separate effort to create a new vision for the university's student residences. In addition to his role as vice provost for undergraduate education, since 2017 Elam served simultaneously as Stanford's first vice president for the arts, overseeing Bing Concert Hall, the Cantor Art Museum and all other non-departmental programs, and as senior vice provost for education, responsible for the Haas Center for Public Service and other student-facing programs.

Having grown up in the turbulent era of court-ordered school desegregation in Boston, Elam also is a leader on issues of diversity and inclusion. Among his many efforts at Stanford, he created the Institute for Diversity in the Arts, initiated a summer bridge program for first-year students from under-resourced high schools, and designed a program to increase the number of students of color pursuing graduate degrees in STEM fields.

A graduate of Harvard College, Elam earned his doctorate in the dramatic arts at UC Berkeley. He is the author and co-editor of seven books, including the award-winning *Past as Present in the Drama of August Wilson* (University of Michigan Press, 2006), and dozens of journal articles and book chapters. He was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as well as the College of Fellows of the American Theatre. The Association for Theatre in Higher Education awarded him its highest recognition, the Distinguished Scholar Award, and he is the recipient of the Career Achievement Award from the American Society for Theatre Research. At Stanford, where he joined the faculty in 1990, he was awarded six different teaching awards.

In addition to his scholarly work, Elam has directed professionally for more than 25 years, including *Tod, the Boy, Tod* by Talvin Wilks for the Oakland Ensemble Company, and *Blues for an Alabama Sky* by Pearl Cleague for Theaterworks in Palo Alto, winner of Drama-Logue Awards for Best Production, Best Design, Best Ensemble Cast, and Best Direction. He also has directed several of August Wilson's plays, including *Radio Golf*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *Two Trains Running*, and *Fences*.

His wife, Michele Elam, is the William Robertson Coe Professor in the Humanities at Stanford and an associate director of the Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence. Their daughter Claire Patterson, a 2016 Stanford graduate, lives and works in Los Angeles.

*Anthony Chase*  
Anthony Chase  
Professor of Diplomacy and World Affairs

Sara H. El-Amine '07 H'18  
Head of Public Engagement and Public Policy, Lyft  
Co-chair, Occidental College Obama Scholarship Advisory Council

*Brass Quintet*  
Brass Quintet  
David Costello, *trumpet*; Dillon McIntyre, *trombone*; Danielle Ondarza, *horn*;  
David Pittel, *trumpet*; and Doug Tornquist\*, *tuba*

*Wendy F. Sternberg*  
Wendy F. Sternberg+  
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College

Rob Flot P'21+  
Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

*David T. Carreon Bradley*  
David T. Carreon Bradley

Bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
'Til now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,

Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God,  
True to our native land.

*Often referred to as "The Black National Anthem," "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was a hymn written as a poem by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900. His brother, John Rosamond Johnson, composed the music for the lyrics.*

#### Guests

Fett, Sha

Sharla M. Fett  
Professor of History and Faculty Council Chair

Findell, Ellie

Ellie Findell '23  
President, Associated Students of Occidental College

Goo, Tiffany

Tiffany Goo Wright  
Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Enrollment

Nguyen, Tuan

Tuan Ngo '07  
President, Occidental College Alumni Board of Governors

Johnson, Bob

Bob L. Johnson '77  
Entertainment Attorney and Civic Activist

Shockley, Brenda

Brenda Shockley '68 H'17  
Deputy Mayor of Economic Opportunity and Chief Equity Officer for the City of Los Angeles

*M a P i a*

"I Know Where I've Been" from *Hairspray*

Music by Marc Shaiman; Lyrics by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman

Performed by Lencia Kebede '16

Musicians: Alan Geier\*, *piano*; Sheldon Reed, *drums*; Jonathan Richards\*,



See dR be De g



In keeping with the theme of President Harry J. Elam, Jr.'s Inauguration—*New Harmonies*—music is an integral part of the ceremony, with contributions from Oxy's music community.

At Elam's request, singer/actor Lencia Kebede '16 will reprise her show-stopping rendition of "I Know Where I've Been," from Oxy's 2013 production of *Hairspray*, with vocal support from the Occidental Glee Club. She'll also join the Oxy Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, and Glee Club for a performance of "Li Every Voice and Sing."

Since November, Orchestra members Leslie Garcia '24 and Chester Cahill '24 have been working on a special arrangement of "Li Every Voice and Sing" for the combined forces of the three groups, says Chris Kim, Oxy's director of instrumental activities. All 42 members of the Symphony, along with members of the Jazz Band and Glee Club, will be part of the performance, joined by members of Oxy's applied music faculty and a number of Eagle Rock High School students.

"Li Every Voice and Sing" (written by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900, with music by his brother, J. Rosamond) "is a significant part of American history," says Désirée LaVertu, director of choral and vocal activities. "Because of the story it tells, we felt it was an appropriate selection for the inauguration of Oxy's second African American president."

The ceremony also will include an original composition by Associate Professor Adam Schoenberg for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano. "'Alone/Together' is about the journey that most people around the globe endured when the world shut down in March 2020. The pandemic brought with it a collective sense of loneliness, loss, community, and ultimately hope that most of us experienced during this time. That year also marked President Elam's arrival to Occidental College. One can only imagine how challenging it must have been to begin such an important tenure alone, as our campus was closed to the public with everyone teaching and learning remotely. Our once-bustling grounds suddenly felt like a ghost town. After all, it's the students, faculty, administration, and staff that bring Oxy's exceptional and vibrant community to life.

"'Alone/Together' is meant to capture this moment of solitude, as it begins with a nostalgic

  
Woody Studenmund, Head Marshal  
Laurence De Rycke Professor of Economics

*E. Salvador Fernandez P'16*  
Salvador Fernandez P'16, Marshal  
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professor of Spanish and French Studies

*Ba T a Pa P*

Arts, Letters, Humanities  
Economics  
Education  
Fine Arts  
Law  
Library Science

*White*  
*Copper*  
*Light Blue*  
*Brown*  
*Purple*  
*Lemon*

Medicine  
Music  
Philosophy

## *S , D , a*

Hanna Adler '23  
Biology major/Orientation Team

Priya Ahmad '22  
Politics major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Antonio Andrade '22  
Kinesiology major/Baseball

Cara Bekas '22  
Kinesiology major/Lacrosse

Julia Carrigan '25  
Undeclared/Associated Students of Occidental College

Adam Cole '24  
Undeclared/Associated Students of Occidental College

Sarah Cook '24  
Media Arts and Culture major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Cindy Dong '22  
Media Arts and Culture major/Women's Swimming and Diving

Emily Driscoll '22  
Cognitive Science major/Women's Swimming and Diving

Liz Frissell '22  
Philosophy and Cognitive Science major/Orientation Team

Melekete Gebremichale '22  
Diplomacy and World Affairs major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Henry Grady '22  
Economics major/Men's Water Polo

James Henderson '22  
Biochemistry major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Tye Hernandez '23  
Politics and Economics major/Men's Soccer

Clarissa Kiyomura '22  
Biochemistry major/Women's Basketball

Kel Kline '24  
Diplomacy and World Affairs and Urban and Environmental Policy major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Abigail Lavold '22  
Chemistry major/Women's Water Polo

Neython Lec Streitz '22  
Computer Science major/Men's Soccer

Sela Moretti-Hitchcock '22  
Philosophy major/Orientation Team

Jason Park '22  
Politics major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Jenna Sanders '23  
Psychology major/Occidental Hillel

Kenya Sterns '22  
Diplomacy and World Affairs major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Lucy Stevenson '22  
Politics major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Ku Tulua '22  
Psychology major/Women's Basketball and Track and Field

Drew Vecellio '22  
Politics major/Associated Students of Occidental College

Allison Wilson '22  
Media Arts and Culture major/Orientation Team

## *S , S a,*

Charlie Cardillo  
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

David T. Carreon Bradley  
Vice President for Equity and Justice

Rob Flot P'21  
Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

Amos Himmelstein  
Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Nora Kahn  
General Counsel

Maricela L. Martinez  
Interim Vice President of Enrollment

Marsha Kay Schnirring  
Secretary of the College

Marty Sharkey  
Vice President for Communications and Institutional Initiatives

Priya Sridharan  
Chief of Staff



*C a U v D a*

1636 Harvard University  
Ariela Gross  
Alumna and Fellow, Harvard Radcliffe Institute

1749 Washington and Lee University  
Justin S. Walker  
Alumnus

1773 Dickinson College  
Tighe Coneys  
Alumnus

1781 Washington and Jefferson College  
Isaac Ebersole  
Alumnus

1787

1918 Otis College of Art and Design  
Charles Hirschhorn  
President

1929 Los Angeles City College  
Mary Gallagher  
President

1949 California State University, Long Beach  
Loren Brodhead '59  
Alumnus

1965

Jacob Mackey  
Assistant Professor of Comparative Studies in Literature and Culture

Viviana MacManus '03  
Assistant Professor of Spanish and French Studies

Martha Matsuoka '83  
Associate Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy

Jeremy Miller  
Adjunct Associate Professor of Mathematics

Jesse Mora  
Assistant Professor of Economics

Clair Morrissey  
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Gretchen North  
John W. McMenamain Endowed Chair in Biology

Jennifer Piscopo  
Associate Professor of Politics

Roberta Pollock P'17  
Professor of Biology and Biochemistry

Alexandra Puerto  
Associate Professor of History

Timothy Rainone  
Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Marcella Raney '01  
Associate Professor of Kinesiology

Robert Sanchez  
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Michael Shelton  
Professor of Spanish and French Studies; Cognitive Science

Lisa Sousa  
Professor of History

Eileen Spain  
Carl F. Braun Professor of Chemistry

Kristi Upson-Saia  
David B. and Mary H. Gamble Professor in Religion

Kevin Williams  
Assistant Professor of Economics

Jason Wong  
Assistant Professor of Economics

Meimei Zhang  
Assistant Professor of Comparative Studies in Literature and Culture/Chinese

*C, , , , L a*

Derek Steinorth  
Principal, Eagle Rock Junior/Senior High School

Jamie Tijerina  
President, Highland Park Heritage Trust

*A , , , a Pa , D . a*

Peggy Sanchis Waters '49  
Linda Larson Ashley '66  
Charles Allen Ashley '67  
Charles McClintock '68  
Marilyn Robertson '70  
Brenda Barham Hill '71 P'03  
Sharon Emanuelli '73  
William Johnson '75  
Paul Waters '77  
Gail Schulman Ginell '79  
Pete Hanson '82 P'11 P'14  
Raymond Yen '82  
Shawn Hanson '83 P'11 P'14  
Grace Sheldon-Williams '83  
Greg Dalton '86  
Judy Lam '87  
Leslie Scott '87  
Helen Shafran '87  
Lucia Choi-Dalton '89  
Julie Dixon Golzalez '89  
Dave Poetzinger '89  
Janet McIntyre '96  
Talia Robinson '97  
Erika Nuno '00  
Jackie Provost '02  
Kevin Adler '07  
Andrea Cova-Bernal '08  
Robin Hamilton '08  
Jake Stevens '08  
Richard Reyes '12  
Nicholas Young '12



*O , , a G C* 

Kailee Browning '22  
Christina Carrera '22  
Jules Caspole '22  
Willa Caspole '24  
Ava Chenok '22  
Paulson Cheung '24  
Pierre Cozic '24  
So a Delgado '23  
Alana Duvall '23  
Jackson Eddy '22  
Areli Fernandez Orozco '24  
Ethan Ferrall '22  
Silas Godlee-Campbell '22  
Anna Gray '22  
Hayden Jennings '25  
Eduardo Liz '22  
Ben Metcalf '23  
Charlotte de Mita '25  
Louis Nguyen '22  
Hil Kang Oglesby '22  
Kate Reinhard '25  
Laurie Park Roberge '25  
David Rothman '22  
omas Sliskovich '22  
Anna Soot '22  
Crystal Stewart '22  
Sarah Sturdevant '24  
Ellie Taylor '24  
Michell  
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*I a . . . a s , C . . .*

*I a . . . a s , P . . . T a*

Amy Reyes, *Chair*  
Debbie Afar '10  
Ranjana Kulkarni  
Suzy LaCroix  
Michelle McMichael  
Leanne Sappington

*I a . . . a s , L a . . . C . . .*

Charlie Cardillo  
David Carreon Bradley  
Rob Flot P'21  
Amos Himmelstein  
Maricela Martinez  
Marsha Schnirring  
Marty Sharkey  
Priya Sridharan  
Wendy Sternberg

*I a . . . a s , P a . . . C . . .*

Amy Reyes, *Chair*  
Kristi Allen  
Chris Arguedas  
Dana Brandsey '02  
David Caldwell  
Laura Crescenzo

