



THE AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF DRAMATIC ARTS

April 29, 2024

To our Academy community,

With heavy hearts, we are sharing with you that The American Academy of Dramatic Arts is announcing the difficult decision to close our branch campus in Los Angeles, effective in the 2025-2026 school year. **Classes and all operations will continue in Los Angeles as normal through the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year.**

We know that this news will be a shock for many, and we understand it will have an immense impact on our colleagues, students, alumni, and broader community. While it is difficult news, the decision was made entirely with the long-term strength and stability of the Academy in mind.

The Board of Trustees made this decision after painstaking consideration, recognizing that the landscape of higher education has meaningfully changed since the pandemic. Enrollments are down across the country and national birthrate calculations and other key data show that colleges, especially smaller institutions, must adapt to changing conditions.

After a thorough evaluation of our enrollment and financial forecasts, the Board of Trustees determined that closing our LA branch is the only path forward that will ensure the Academy will endure and truly thrive.

We are committed to facilitating a transition that will be supportive for all who will be affected. Initial details follow:

- Current first-year students will complete their second year and graduate in LA with no interruption.
- For Fall 2024, incoming students will have the option to complete their first year in LA and transfer to NY for their second year.
- Summer programs will run as normal in LA through August 2024.

The Academy has excelled as the longest running actor training program in the English-speaking world because of its ability to adapt to change, find new ways to build on its legacy, and remain at the forefront of actor training.

Returning to a single campus model will allow the Academy to consolidate resources and focus on investing in its programs and infrastructure in a manner that advances our mission and creates new opportunities to optimally serve our students for generations to come.

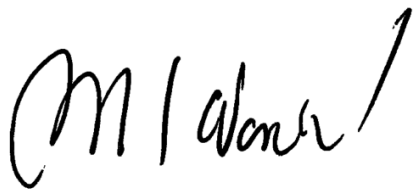
The hallowed ground of our Hollywood campus, and previously our Pasadena campus, will always remain vital to the Academy's history. And the faculty and staff who dedicated themselves to the success of the LA campus over a span of five decades will have an enduring legacy. We are grateful for the capable and compassionate souls who have guided the work and contributed mightily to the legacy of the LA campus.

As we enter the 140th year since the Academy's founding in New York, we acknowledge the important history of the LA campus -- its monumental contributions to the Academy and the entertainment industry and its transformative work impacting thousands of students.

We'll be sharing additional information as we have it throughout this transition. For now, more information is available on our dedicated resource page at aada.edu/announcements.

Most importantly, we will continue to deliver on our promise of providing exceptional education to our students while honoring the legacy of the LA campus and all who have contributed to its vibrant culture and important work.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Wankel
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



Susan Zech
President