



# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

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College of the Arts

*School of Music*

P.O. Box 6850 Fullerton, CA 92834/92831 / T 657-278-3511 / F 657-278-5956

May 26, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

We write this letter in full and unwavering support of California State University, Fullerton's President Framroze Virjee following a misleading article recently published about him in the Los Angeles Times containing inaccurate descriptions of what happened and unsubstantiated claims of wrongdoing. The article references Title IX reports that were and remain uninvestigated, unverified, as well as unvalidated third-party descriptions of interactions which are also inaccurate and incomplete. Throughout the many years we have known President Virjee, he has exhibited model decorum in all settings. He regularly extends himself far beyond his official responsibilities to support students, faculty, and staff in their pursuits. The article referenced his behavior through unsubstantiated accusations against President Virjee that contradict the character of the man we know so well. Fram Virjee is deeply dedicated to Cal State Fullerton's campus community. He publicly expresses his compassion for our students, supports academic achievement, cares for faculty and staff, and embraces the activities that make CSUF unique. Fram and his wife Julie have transformed CSU Fullerton into a place where everyone feels at home, and they help to foster a responsibility to civility and educational achievement. He has been a model leader committed to creating equity and belonging and has created incredible community and growth on our campus in his five years as President.

The language used to describe President Virjee in the recent Los Angeles Times article is decidedly and grossly unrelated to the man we all know and respect. Fram and Julie Virjee are regular patrons of the CSUF College of the Arts. They frequent performances given by our students in Theater, Dance, and Music. They have traveled with our choral students on concert tours, escorted our musical theater students to New York many times and will support our orchestral students in a performance at Carnegie Hall in June 2023. They are present in our arts communities, and indeed across the entire campus, for much more than photo opportunities. Fram and Julie intentionally engage with our students, faculty, staff, stakeholders, and donors. The Virjees are deeply invested in arts events, performances, recitals, and guest lectures. Our students feel significantly more empowered, included, and supported because of Fram and Julie's personal investment in our student's artistry, academic achievement, and their wellness as human beings. We have observed President Virjee's behavior in these many and varied settings and can testify unequivocally that he acts with the highest intentions and integrity around our students and would never offer gestures of affection that were inappropriate, unwanted, or unwarranted.

We stand up in full support of President Fram Virjee and oppose the mischaracterization of events that were printed by the Los Angeles Times. This unsubstantiated attack on his disposition and character is contradictory to the myriad superlative and wholly professional experiences we have personally witnessed and shared with President Virjee over the last five years. We thank him and his wife Julie for their dedication to civility, human connection, and

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educational achievement in the arts during their tenure. We are grateful to them for the years of stalwart support they have shown the students, faculty, and staff in the College of the Arts and across the CSUF campus community.

Sincerely,

Dave Mickey  
Associate Dean, CSUF College of the Arts

Dr. Randall Goldberg  
Director, CSUF School of Music

Dustin Barr, DMA  
Associate Professor, Director of Bands, CSUF School of Music

Prof. Bill Cunliffe  
Professor, Director of Jazz Studies, CSUF School of Music

Prof. Alison Edwards  
Associate Professor, Keyboard Area Coordinator, CSUF School of Music

Prof. Jean Ferrandis  
Associate Professor of Flute, CSUF School of Music

Kimo Furumoto  
Assistant Director, CSUF School of Music  
Director of Orchestral Studies, CSUF School of Music  
Music Director and Conductor, Whittier Regional Symphony Orchestra  
Music Director and Conductor, Huntington Symphony Orchestra

Dr. Robert Istad  
Professor, Director of Choral Studies, CSUF School of Music  
Artistic Director, Pacific Chorale

Dr. Kerry Jennings  
Associate Professor, Director of Opera, CSUF School of Music

Prof. Kim Nason  
Director of Titan Voices, CSUF School of Music

Dr. Christopher Peterson  
Professor, Choral Music Education, CSUF School of Music

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Patricia Prunty  
Professor, Voice, CSUF School of Music

Dr. Ernest Salem  
Professor of Violin, CSUF School of Music

Dr. Ken Walicki  
Professor, Director of Composition and Theory, CSUF School of Music

Rob Watson, DMA  
Professor of Music (piano)  
Pianists In Performance curator  
Performance Science Centre Lab coordinator  
CSUF School of Music

Dr. Gregory Xavier Whitmore  
Assistant Professor, Instrumental Music Education, CSUF School of Music  
Music Director – Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

Rodolfo Zuniga  
Assistant Professor and Co-Director of Jazz Studies, CSUF School of Music

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