

July 15, 2008

Dear New UArts Family Member:

Welcome to the UArts community! As the Dean of Students for the University, I am keenly interested in helping new students and their families make the transition to UArts as smooth as possible. With that in mind, UArts is hosting an optional **Family Orientation** on Friday, August 29 from 10 am to 4 pm. Topics covered during Family Orientation will include "Academic Life of the Student-Artist," "UArts Money Matters" and "Life Outside the Studio & Classroom," among others. We have also built in time for participants to ask questions, meet our staff and take advantage of lunchtime dining spots in our neighborhood.

### **Where and When to Go**

UArts' Family Orientation will take place in Levitt Auditorium at Gershman Hall, on the corner of Pine and Broad Streets from 10 am to 4 pm on Friday, August 29th. A break for lunch is scheduled from 12:30 pm to 2 pm.

### **Accommodations**

If you are interested in staying over in the Philadelphia area before and/or after Family Orientation, I encourage you to visit [www.onebigcampus.com](http://www.onebigcampus.com) for information about local hotel options. Two hotels in Center City, the Embassy Suites Hotel on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway (215-561-1776) and the Latham Hotel on 17th Street (877-528-4261) are within walking distance and offer exclusive "Campus Visit" rates. Keep in mind that the University will not be able to accommodate family members overnight in University housing.

### **Parking**

There are several independent parking lots in the UArts neighborhood that charge from \$8-12 per day:

- Spruce between 13<sup>th</sup> and Broad Street
- Pine between 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets
- 15<sup>th</sup> Street at Sansom Street
- 15<sup>th</sup> Street between Walnut and Locust Streets
- 15<sup>th</sup> Street between Locust and Spruce Streets
- Locust Street between 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Broad Street
- Under the Kimmel Center between Spruce and Pine on Broad Street

Bear in mind that Family Orientation is not suitable for small children, is free of charge and is limited to two family members per student. Also, new UArts students will be participating in their own orientation program during Family Orientation and will not be participating in family sessions. If you have any questions about Family Orientation, please feel free to call Student Affairs at 215-717-6617.

UArts considers family members to be partners in our students' growth into full-fledged artists, scholars and adults. We hope you can join us for Family Orientation to enhance that vital partnership.

Sincerely,

Dr. R. Alan Leffers  
Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Students