

[Skip to Content](#)
Cal Poly



[News](#)

Search Cal Poly News



California Polytechnic State University

November 1, 2001

Contact: Scott Oakley or Peter Wilt
(805) 756-7111

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly Theatre and Dance Department Hires Alumna as First Costume Designer

SAN LUIS OBIPSO -- Kira Franz-Knight, who earned a bachelor's degree in history from Cal Poly in 1994, has returned to campus -- this time as a costume designer and teacher in the Theatre and Dance Department. "To put it simply, I love this school," said Franz-Knight, the Theatre and Dance Department's first full-time costume designer.

Her first assignment as designer is for the department's upcoming production of Molière's classic comedy "The Miser," which will play at 8 p.m. Nov. 8-10 and Nov. 15-17 in the Cal Poly Theatre.

"The costumes reflect the fashion of the late 17th to 18th century, but will have a funky, modern appeal," Franz-Knight said.

After graduating from Cal Poly, Franz-Knight earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in costume design from the University of Washington in 1998.

Her career in costume design actually began as a child, she explained, when she enjoyed sketching things she read about in books, using her creative talents to interpret what she saw in her mind.

It was not until she began her senior year at Cal Poly that she realized how much she was fascinated by design.

"I was taking an introduction-to-Shakespeare class and sketched costumes for the plays we put on as part of the class," Franz-Knight said.

English Professor Patricia Troxel liked her work so much that she asked her to design costumes for a show she was working on.

"I was totally hooked," Franz-Knight said.

In addition to her new position at Cal Poly, Franz-Knight will continue her professional costume design business.

-30-

(NOTE TO EDITORS: For a photo of Kira Franz-Knight, please call Jo Ann Lloyd at 756-1511 or e-mail jlloyd@calpoly.edu.)

- 30 -

[CP Home](#) • [CP Find It](#) [Get Adobe Reader](#) • [Microsoft Viewers](#)

[Events](#) • [Recent Releases](#) • [Cal Poly Magazine](#) •
[Cal Poly Update E-newsletter](#) • [Contact Public Affairs](#) • [Alumni](#) • [Giving](#) • [Athletics](#)

Cal Poly Public Affairs

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

805.756.7266

polynews@calpoly.edu