



University Friends Circle

2026-2027 Programs

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Kick-off Luncheon: UC Merced Arts 2026/27

Season Updates

Collin Lewis

Art Director, Office of the Chancellor

Undergraduate & Graduate Student Life Update

Dr. Tonantzin Oseguera

Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

UC Merced – California Room

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Language Comprehension across the Lifespan:

Predicting What Comes Next

Dr. Rachel Ryskin

Asst. Professor, Cognitive & Information Sciences

MCOE Mondo | 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 8, 2026

Holiday Social

Vista Cellars | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Tues. & Wed., December 8 & 9, 2026

Snacks for Scholars

UCM Campus | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

**Hot and Wild: Fossil Fuels Are Creating a Hotter,
More Flammable California**

Dr. LeRoy Westerling

Professor and Department Chair, Management of
Complex Systems

MCOE – Mondo | 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 2, 2026

**Making Sense of Other People: Psychological
Reasoning in Early Childhood**

Dr. Rose Scott

Professor, Psychological Sciences

MCOE Mondo | 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2, 2026

Project Nexus: Lessons Learned

Dr. Brandi McKuin

Asst. Project Scientist, Electrical Engineering

MCOE Mondo | 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 6, 2026

>> INTERCAMPUS EVENT <<

UC Merced: The Next 25 Years

Dr. Betsy Dumont

Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

UC Merced's Children's Opera

Jenni Samuelson

Continuing Lecturer in Music

UC Merced – California Room

11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

April Luncheon followed by a selection of tours,
talks, and demonstrations on campus.

Tuesday, May 4, 2026

UFC Student Leadership & Community Service

Award Presentations and Annual Meeting

UC Merced California Room | 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Wed. & Thurs., May 5 & 6, 2026

Snacks for Scholars

UCM Campus | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Friendscircle.ucmerced.edu