

**From:** Presidents Office <presidents-office@cca.edu>  
**Date:** Wed Nov 09 2016 14:06:10 GMT-0800 (Pacific Standard Time)  
**Subject:** [Staff-I] Thoughts on the Election

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Dear CCA Community,

One of the most contentious presidential elections in recent history has concluded. For many, the election stirred negative feelings: alienation, fear, pain, and vulnerability. Today, you may be wondering how the outcome will impact you and the world we live in.

The results of the election have shown us that our nation is more deeply divided than we thought, and that is distressing to acknowledge. But as American citizens we need to continue to believe in our democracy. And for democracy to function and endure, our participation is required—not just on Election Day, but every single day. Each of us must do all we can to advance the causes and values that we believe in.

At CCA, we will continue to strive to build an inclusive community where people of all races and religions, immigrants, LGBT people, and people with disabilities have a voice and are respected. We are artists and makers—problem-solvers, by nature—who work together in a culture of critique. This way of learning and living builds our courage and confidence, but more importantly, allows us to gain empathy and an appreciation of diverse views and opinions. We need these compassionate qualities now more than ever.

The Students of Color Coalition has organized an event on Macky Lawn today from 3 to 4 p.m. I applaud this effort and I encourage you all to take part and show your support. I hope in the future that there will be many more opportunities for the CCA community to gather. On a day like today, we need to remind ourselves that we are stronger together.

Sincerely,

Stephen Beal

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