



The only student-designed and student-built entry in the world-famous Tournament of Roses Parade, the Cal Poly Rose Float showcases the talent and skill of Cal Poly students.

For 75 years, teams from Cal Poly Pomona (CPP) and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (SLO) have worked together to create award-winning floats. The first, in 1949, featured a giant rocking horse and won the Award of Merit. More than 60 awards have followed, and the team has earned a reputation for innovation. The 2024 float, an underwater rock 'n' roll party of giant manta rays and electric eels, will be 55 feet long, 16 feet wide and 23 feet tall.

Building fantastic floats while being separated by 200 miles takes coordination, communication and commitment. Students learn to implement a wide range of skills, such as project management, problem-solving on the fly and adapting to unexpected challenges. The experience epitomizes the learn-by-doing ethos of the Cal Poly campuses, providing an incredible and unique career-readiness program for students of all backgrounds and majors.



## FACTS AND FIGURES

**75**  
YEARS OF COLLABORATION

**1,200**  
DECO WEEK VOLUNTEERS (DEC. 26-31)

**175+**  
STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

**29**  
ACADEMIC MAJORS REPRESENTED  
ON THE 2023-24 TEAM

**61**  
ROSE FLOAT AWARDS

**60,000**  
FLOWERS ON THE FLOAT

**56.5 million**  
TV VIEWERS WORLDWIDE





The Don E. Miller and Ron Simons Rose Float Lab and Design Complex opened at CPP in 2021 and provides 14,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor workspace.

## ALUMNI

The Rose Float Alumni Association Chapter has 100+ members dedicated to elevating the student experience by providing resources and mentorship.

**CAL POLY ROSE FLOAT'S SUCCESS IS DUE TO STUDENTS' HARD WORK AND THE SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS. THE MAJORITY OF FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE ROSE FLOAT IS PROVIDED THROUGH GIFTS. LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN GIVE TO THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM.**

## INNOVATION BEYOND TROPHIES

In 2024, student designers will introduce a **NEW ANIMATION SYSTEM** for the 75th anniversary float. Over the decades, students have inaugurated several innovations in design, mechanical systems and animation to the Rose Parade. We were the first to use:

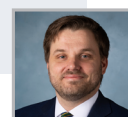
- HYDRAULICS FOR ANIMATION (1968)
- COMPUTER-CONTROLLED ANIMATION (1978)
- FIBER OPTICS (1998)

Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo are part of the 23-campus California State University system, the largest public university system in the nation.

## CONTACT US



**CARY KHATAB**  
DIRECTOR  
kkhatab@cpp.edu



**SAM MOORE**  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT  
samoore@cpp.edu

GIVE

