

2018 Dickson Awardee: Cecil Lytle

Cecil Lytle is a world-renowned classical and jazz pianist, former professor and chair of the UC San Diego Department of Music, and former provost of UC San Diego's Thurgood Marshall College. Cecil has made great contributions to the university's undergraduate and graduate programs, to his area of



scholarship, to programs that he very strongly values, and to the general campus welfare. His “Jazz in Paris” class – part of the Global Seminars program – is one of the most innovative undergraduate courses offered at UCSD, as it provides a unique look at America's cultural and racial history and her place in the world thru the lens of Jazz, America's most famous export.

He continues to mentor and develop graduate students in the Music Department, to make novel contributions to musical performance and written scholarship. He has been an active supporter of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus – serving as co-chair for the Symphony 2017-2018 Gala and as lead guest artist in its season opener. The founding father of the Preuss School, he presents an annual public concert that funds the Lytle Endowed Scholarship, which supports Preuss who attend UCSD and enroll in Thurgood Marshall College. He also played a key role working with parents, teachers and the community to establish Gompers Preparatory Academy, located in the Chollas View neighborhood of San Diego.

Most recently he has served as Vice Chairman of a group planning the UCSD Intergenerational Senior Center. With his profound accomplishments and character, in 2015, seven years after his retirement, he was awarded the UCSD Revelle Medal – one of the most respected awards that the university can award.