Art Center Timeline

Tink Adams, 1955–2004 (75.25). Photography by Geoffrey Fulton

7th Street campus, ca. 1945. (2004.26.1). Photographer unknown

Ansel Adams, ca. 1942. (2004.25.261). Photographer unknown

3rd Street campus, ca. 1950. (2004.26.14). Photographer unknown

Japan visit, 1956/1240 of Lance Pritchard (2004.10.1). Photographer unknown

Jennifer MacMillan and students with Rosebud car models, 1963 (2004.25.275). Photography by Geoffrey Fulton

Don Kubly, ca. 1971. (2004.25.82). Photography by Jon Lindstrom

Great Day In The Afternoon, 1974

Groundbreaking for Pasadena campus, 1974. (2004.26.19.5). Photographer unknown

Pasadena campus, 1976. (2004.26.19.7.1). Photographer unknown

James Lemont Fogg Memorial Library, 1978. Gift of Doug Baldwin (PM.97.1979) (2004.88). Photography by Doug Baldwin

David Brown, 1989. (2004.25.110). Photography by Steven A. Heller

Art Center's Europe, c. 1986. (2004.27.1.1). Photography by Steven A. Heller

Richard Koshalek, 2001. Photography by Steven A. Heller

South Campus, 2004. Photography by Steven A. Heller

Lorne M. Buchman, 2010. Photography by Yuko Matsushita

1930
October 6: Art Center School opens at 2544 W. 7th Street, Los Angeles
Founded by Edward "Tink" Adams, Art Center's 1st President
Programs: Advertising, Illustration, Painting

1931
Photography program begins

1932
Board of Regents established
Industrial Design program begins

1940-43
Ansel Adams teaches in the Photography Department

1946
Art Center moves to 5353 W. 3rd Street, Los Angeles

1955
Full accreditation granted by Western College Association [later Western Association of Schools and Colleges]

1956
Fall: Art Center was invited by the Japanese government to visit Japan and teach workshops and report on Industrial Design in Japan

1960
Alumni Association established and incorporated as "Society of Art Center Alumni"

1963
Don Kubly (ADVT '49) begins to work at Art Center as Assistant to the Director
Accreditation from National Association of Schools of Art and Design

1965
Name changes to Art Center College of Design, and officially uses the orange dot as its logo

1969
Don Kubly becomes Art Center's 2nd President
Environmental Studies program begins

1973
Film Department established

1974
November 15: Groundbreaking for Pasadena campus, called "Great Day"

1976
January 15: Dedication of Pasadena campus, designed by Craig Ellwood Associates, located at 1700 Lida Street, Pasadena
February: Classes start at new campus
May 28: First graduation ceremony held at Pasadena Campus

1978
February 7: James Lemont Fogg Library dedicated

1980
October 10–12: Art Center celebrates 50th Anniversary, called "The Big Weekend"

1981
Board of Regents becomes Board of Trustees
December 1: Tink Adams dies at the age of 83

1982
Alumni group becomes "Art Center College of Design Alumni Association," and is no longer independent from the college

1985
December: David R. Brown becomes Art Center's 3rd President

1986
Spring: Advertising and Graphics/Packaging become separate departments
Art Center acquires Archetype Press
New Art Center logotype created, without dot
October: Art Center (Europe) opens
November: Trustee Alyce Williamson establishes Art Center One-Hundred

1990
Computer Graphics department established
The dot was re-established

1991
Product and Transportation Design become separate departments
May: South wing completed (GM Digital Media Lab and LA Times Auditorium)

1992
Alyce de Roulet Williamson Gallery opens
Environmental Design established as a department

1996
Art Center (Europe) closes at the end of the Spring term

1999
September: Richard Koshalek becomes Art Center's 4th president

2001
November: Sinclaire Pavilion, designed by Hodgetts + Fung, completed

2003
April: Art Center Archives established

2004
May 16: Dedication and Open House for South Campus, designed by Daly Genik, located at 950 South Raymond, Pasadena

2008
Entertainment Design major added
October: Frank Ellsworth begins role of Interim President

2009
October: Lorne M. Buchman becomes Art Center's 5th president

2010
Art Center celebrates 80th anniversary
Fall: Designmatters concentration announced

1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020