

May 7, 2025

Dear LACCD Community,

As we celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (AANHPI) Heritage Month, I want to take a moment to recognize the importance of honoring the rich cultural diversity that makes our District so vibrant. APIDA Month is a time to reflect on the unique histories, contributions, and voices of the Asian, Pasifika, and Desi American communities—many of whom are part of our student body, faculty, staff, and leadership.

Last week, the inspiring APDA+ Student Summit & Scholar Recognition took place, where we honored the achievements and stories of our students. It was a powerful reminder of how vital these affinity-based celebrations are in affirming identity and belonging across our colleges.

We are proud to continue this momentum with several other cultural graduation celebrations, including our:

- Black Graduate Celebration on May 22 at Southwest College at 3:00 pm
- Lavender Graduate Celebration on June 6 at City College at 4:00 pm
- Mi Gente Graduate Celebration on June 7 at ELAC at 4:00 pm

These gatherings represent more than milestones—they are a testament to the resilience, brilliance, and community spirit of our students.

And the celebration doesn't stop there! On May 16, Los Angeles Mission College will host this year's Culinary Cup, where students from Mission, Harbor, and Trade Tech will compete in a showcase of talent, creativity, and teamwork. It's shaping up to be a month full of joy, pride, and shared success—all leading up to our District-wide commencements on June 10.

I encourage all of you to attend these events, support our students, and take part in the vibrant culture that defines LACCD.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Warmly,

Dr. Alberto J. Román, DPA

Interim Chancellor

Los Angeles Community College District

Campus Events & Updates











Earth Day Roots and Resilience

At the West Earth Day event, attendees celebrated the 2nd anniversary of the campus CA Center for Climate Change Education, checked on the progress of the newly planted campus microforest, and held a resource fair for Rising Scholars (re-entry students).

In addition to food, music, garden tours and art activities, the event highlighted the intersections between climate change and environmental concerns, and the experiences of currently and formerly incarcerated people. Negative effects of environmental damage and climate change typically disproportionately impact lower-income communities. In turn, justice-impacted people are disproportionately from low-income backgrounds. The experience of being incarcerated is often being separated from spending time in nature. The increased frequency of heat waves turns concrete jails and prisons into ovens. On the other side, there is the contribution that incarcerated individuals make to firefighting in California. According to CalMatters, about 800 incarcerated firefighters joined the battle against recent fires in Southern California. 'Over 1,800 incarcerated firefighters live year-round in minimum-security conservation camps, also known as 'fire camps,' located across 25 counties in California.' Additionally, there are the healing aspects of being in nature, which many Rising Scholars are learning to embrace. With the help of Rising Scholars, in partnership with the Climate Center, formerly incarcerated students are thriving at West, securing Climate Center-sponsored internships, and connecting to resources which is providing a rejuvenating spring.



Campus Pride

Students, faculty and staff from varied backgrounds gathered to recognize Campus Pride month. Activities included supportive remarks from College President James M. Limbaugh; students sharing personal experiences; information about the LGBTQ+ & Allies Club; and food, music and games.



Student Service Program Growth & Awards

EOP&S has grown to a record high participation for the college and is now serving nearly 950 students. This milestone reflects the college's growing ability to meet the needs of historically underserved students by providing comprehensive support—including counseling, textbook assistance, and priority registration.

West welcomes a Umoja program to campus. Umoja will provide culturally responsive support, mentorship, and learning experiences tailored to the needs of Black and African American students.

Upward Bound Director Brittany Wilson was recently honored as one of the 2025 Women of Impact in Culver City. This recognition reflects her exceptional commitment to helping students navigate the college experience and access dual enrollment opportunities.



Aviation Tech Soars Again at AMC

The six-student West Aviation Maintenance team placed 4th out of 50 college teams and in the top third among all teams (college, professional, military) at the recent Aerospace Maintenance Competition held in Atlanta. Students Hugo Hernandez and Brianna Mendoza distinguished themselves by earning the AMC Professionalism Award for Students. The AMC events and judges are sponsored by professional airlines such as FedEx, United Airlines, American Airlines, and aircraft manufacturers such as Boeing. Thus, participants are given the unique opportunity of networking as well as demonstrating their talent to potential employers and recruiters overseeing the event.

Foundation

The West Los Angeles College Foundation recently secured two generous gifts totaling \$50,000. The Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges awarded West a \$30,000 grant aimed at addressing emergency needs resulting from the devastating destruction caused by the January 2025 wildfires. A portion of the funds will go toward reimbursing the cost of services and goods provided to students in response to the wildfires. The donation will also help replenish critical resources for the WLAC Basic Needs Program, including restocking the campus Food Pantry. The second gift of \$25,000 was from an anonymous donor to support WLAC students through scholarships for need-based and/or academic achievement.



Presidents' Speaker Series

Faculty and staff are gathering in person and via Zoom to hear from their colleagues who have recently attained their doctoral degrees or have other in-progress or recently completed research projects. So far, Dr. Anthony Cuomo, Professor of Communications Studies, has presented on "The Relationship between advancing racial equity and implementing Guided Pathways at CA Community Colleges." Dr. Holly Bailey-Hofmann, Professor of English, discussed "Promoting sustainability and climate literacy in community colleges." Also speaking this Spring will be:

- Dr. Joanne Grey, Director of the Child Development Center, on "The green schoolyard project at the Child Development Center."
- Dr. Angeles Abraham, Dean of Student Services, on "EOPS Program Student: Identifying effective supportive services for marginalized community college students," and
- Dr. Jo Tavares-Reager, Director of the CA Center for Climate Change Studies, on "The effects of ships' air emissions on marine phytoplankton, and the broad implications for climate"...view schedule













LAVC Speech & Debate Team earns National Medals at Phi Rho Pi Forensic Tournament

Students on the LAVC Speech & Debate Team brought home four prestigious awards at the 2025 Phi Rho Pi National Forensics Competition that was held in Norfolk, Virginia, last month. The following students received awards:

- Pedram Malekahmadi won Valley's first-ever Gold medal in Lincoln-Douglas debate, earning the 1-seed after prelims and going undefeated throughout the tournament.
- Emily Merino earned a Bronze medal in Prose Interpretation, the most-entered interpretation event at the tournament.
- Arpi Danielyan earned a Bronze medal in IPDA (International Public Debate Association) in only her second time doing the event.
- Amna Shah capped off a successful season by earning a Bronze medal in IPDA.

Phi Rho Pi hosts the national forensics tournament for junior colleges. LAVC's Speech and Debate Team has participated in the competition since the 1970s, and many of its team members have earned top awards over the years, including the team being the tournament champions in 1999, 2008 and 2009.

LAVC Ranked as #2 Real Estate Program in the State

The California Community College Real Estate Education Center has recognized LA Valley College's Real Estate Program as one of the Top 20 Real Estate Programs by Enrollment for Fall 2024. The program is in the #2 spot for the second year in a row out of the 116 California Community Colleges.

The program's success is due to the efforts of Professor Kendrick Kim and Business Administration Chair Dr. Kevin Sanford.

The California Community Colleges Real Estate Education Center is funded by the Real Estate Education Endowment at the Foundation for California Community Colleges and the California Community Colleges' Chancellor's Office.

Professor Kevin Briancesco named 2025 Educator of the Year by the Cheer Choice Awards



LAVC Professor of Communication Studies Kevin Briancesco won the Educator of the Year award at the 2025 Cheer Choice Awards. Kevin was singled out for his outstanding work as a social media content creator in @thespeechprof on Instagram and @speechprof on TikTok.

The Education Award honors influencers who are teachers in their field, who educate and inform their audience on various subjects, ranging from academics

to life skills, using their platform to foster learning, growth, and positive change.

The annual Cheer Choice Awards, hosted by the nonprofit Spread the Cheer USA, honors positive creators on social media who are making an impact utilizing their platforms.

Upcoming Events

Free Wednesday Concert: Music for Moving

Wednesday, May 7 at 1:30 p.m.

Come watch performances of popular and jazz pieces incorporating a variety of dance rhythms. This free <u>Music for Moving concert</u> features LAVC Faculty members Steve Goomas and Christian Coulter, with special guest artists.

Monarch Enrollment Day

Thursday, May 8 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Get help and enroll in person at our **Monarch Enrollment Day**! Stop by in-person to see Admissions, Counseling and Financial Aid and get enrolled for Summer/Fall 2025!

LAVC Internship & Summer Job Fair

Thursday, May 8 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Looking for a summer job or internship? Come to our <u>Internship & Summer Job Fair</u> to connect with employers from a wide range of industries. Explore exciting job and internship opportunities for the summer.

Valley Dances 2025

Thursday-Saturday, May 8, 9 and 10 at 7:30 pm

Join us for <u>Valley Dances 2025</u> for an evening of new and original dance works in a variety of styles, featuring faculty, student, and guest choreographers. This year's show features styles including modern/contemporary, burlesque, Hip-Hop, street styles, Latin, ballet, and more!

Take Action Mental Health Fair

Monday, May 12 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

The LA County Department of Mental Health is hosting a <u>Take Action event</u> at LAVC featuring a mental health resource fair and wellness celebration.

Free Wednesday Concert: What is Good Music (Part 1)

Wednesday, May 14 at 1:30 p.m.

This What is Good Music (Part 1) concert features performances of "favorite pieces" by LAVC Faculty members. Free admission.

The Wedding Singer: The Musical Comedy

Friday-Saturday, May 15, 16, 17, 22, 23 & 24 at 8:15 p.m. &

Sunday, May 18 at 2:30 p.m.

The LAVC Theater & Dance Department presents its spring production of <u>The Wedding Singer</u>, a Tony Award-nominated musical, at the Theater 68 Complex's Emerson Theatre in North Hollywood.

Applied/Faculty Mentor Concert

Saturday, May 17 from 7 p.m.

Applied music students who are completing the program will present a **final recital**, including performances in collaboration with music faculty.

College Choir & Chamber Singers Concert

Sunday, May 18 at 7 p.m.

The Chamber Singers and College Choir, under the direction of Prof. Glenn Carlos, will present a captivating concert of classical masterpieces and contemporary gems.

Opening Reception for the 2025 Art Student Invitational Exhibit

Wednesday, May 21 from 12-2 p.m.

The LAVC Art Gallery is hosting an <u>opening reception of the 2025 Art Student Invitational</u>. Exhibiting student artists were selected by Art Department faculty, and their works demonstrate the conceptual breadth and technical skills students develop in the department and our programs. The exhibition features pieces in ceramics, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography, and graphic design.

Free Wednesday Concert: What is Good Music (Part 2)

Wednesday, May 21 at 1:30 p.m.

This What is Good Music (Part 2) concert features performances of "favorite pieces" by LAVC Faculty members. Free admission.

Free Wednesday Concert: What is Good Music (Part 3)

Wednesday, May 28 at 1:30 p.m.

This What is Good Music (Part 3) concert features performances of "favorite pieces" by LAVC Faculty members. Free admission.

Wind Ensemble Concert

Monday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Embark on a musical odyssey with the Los Angeles Valley College Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Lori Musicant Kozubek. Immerse yourself in the rich diversity of musical expression across different eras and styles as we present an array of pieces, from revered classical compositions to cutting-edge contemporary works!















A 1948 Chevy Fleetline Lowrider Goes on View at the Dodgers' Opening Day: LATTC ATM Students Lend a Hand

Earlier this Spring, LATTC Advance Transportation & Manufacturing students were able to work on a special lowrider project that would be prepped and primed for Opening Day at Dodger Stadium.

"Every little bit of it is a step-by-step process: from the pinstriping, to masking the tape, to the color combination—when everything comes together, that's what makes it custom...that's what creates its beauty and the art of it," said ATM student Brenda Oh. "I had a great experience, and it was an opportunity to see how it's all done."

Read the full story at the college's **news post**.



Two LATTC Students Win CCCSFAAA Scholarship for Region VI

Two LATTC students have been awarded the statewide California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association (CCCSFAAA) scholarship for Region IV. The Association selects two students in each region for the \$500 award and LATTC was proud to receive both student scholarships for Region VI. Darinka Galvan-Flores and Tiffany Carter are incredibly deserving and fully invested in their student

journeys at LATTC. Darinka is the president of LATTC's MECHA Club and Tiffany, in our Culinary Arts pathway, recently won the gold medal for Customer Service at this month's SkillsUSA competition. In addition to the SkillsUSA national competition in June, she's also prepping for the LACCD Culinary Cup competition on May 16 (tickets to the event are still available!). We congratulate these students!



LATTC Medals in Multiple Categories at Statewide SkillsUSA Competition

On April 10–13, LATTC students attended the 2025 SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference in Ontario, California. SkillsUSA is one of the largest hands-on workforce development events, showcasing the state's most highly skilled career and technical education students. Over 4,000 state champions competed across 120 skilled and leadership competitions. This year, 10 LATTC students medaled in Culinary Arts, Baking, Plumbing, Customer Service, and Job Demonstration. Cecilia Flores (Culinary Arts), Brianna Del Torro (Baking), Richard Fernandez (Plumbing), Tiffany Carter (Customer Service), and Nataniel Amos (Job Demonstration) will head to the SkillsUSA National Competition held June 23–27 in Atlanta.

Culinary Arts

- 1st Cecilia Flores
- 3rd Rodolfo Cervantes

Baking

- 1st Brianna Del Torro
- 2nd Bernadita Alegria
- 3rd Erica Hernandez

Plumbina

- 1st Richard Fernandez
- · 2nd Kevin Crawford
- 3rd Matthew Simpson

Customer Service

1st Tiffany Carter

Job Demonstration

1st Nathanial Amos

Upcoming Events



LATTC Offers Super Saturday Enrollment Assistance Days

LATTC presents its Super Saturday Spring Series, bringing enrollment and service assistance to prospective and continuing students. Attendees can receive assistance with enrollment and applications, counseling sessions, assistance navigating the student portal, and getting a student ID.

Join us for the following Saturdays:

- Saturday, May 17, 2025 8 am-12 pm
- Saturday, June 7, 2025 8 am-12 pm

Save the Date!

Barber BattleMonday, May 19, 2025 | 4:30–8:30 pm

Spring Gold Thimble Fashion Show Friday, May 30, 2025 | 7 pm

















Art Exhibition with Dr. Rachel Hastings

LASC welcomed back Doc the Documentarian (also recognized as Dr. Rachel N. Hastings), whose work has interrogated the personal, social, cultural, and digital transformations she, her students, and colleagues have lived through. Doc has curated spaces where she has led critical conversations centered on culture and performance as a vehicle for creating transformative experiences for her communities. Dr. Hastings conducted a workshop for her solo exhibition on Saturday, April 5th, that

taught communication skills, how to create cultural arts experiences, and design digital pedagogical programs to elevate the voices of others.







Maxine Waters

Students, employees, and the community gathered in the LASC Little Theatre on Tuesday, April 22nd, for a free Town Hall event featuring Congresswoman Maxine Waters. Topics covered during the two-hour event included housing, higher education, inflation costs, and more. LASC President Dr. Anthony Culpepper introduced the Congresswoman to a full theatre of faculty, staff, foundation members, and local community members.







55 Years of EOPS

Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) celebrated its 55th anniversary, marking a significant milestone in its mission to support students facing educational, social, economic, and/or language disadvantages. LASC students and employees learned about the history of EOPS and how to register for Summer and Fall 2025 courses during the Priority Registration period.













Pierce College Named Top Five in Country as a Caring Campus

Los Angeles Pierce College has been officially recognized as a Certified Bronze-level Caring Campus by the Institute for Evidence-Based Change (IEBC). This honor was awarded to just five colleges nationwide in the inaugural certification cycle. Pierce is the only college in the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) and one of only three colleges in California to earn this distinction, highlighting the college's strong commitment to building a culture of care that promotes student success.

The Caring Campus initiative directly benefits students by fostering stronger, more personal connections across campus. Through small but impactful behaviors, such as greeting students warmly, following up with support referrals, and creating a welcoming environment, faculty and staff help students feel valued and supported. Initiatives like the Caring Campus Halloween celebration, peer engagement activities, and incorporating Caring Campus practices into everyday student interactions have helped make the campus more inclusive and supportive.

As part of this recognition, Pierce College will receive a digital badge and a plaque, which will be formally presented at the Caring Campus National Conference in November. This Bronze certification, valid for three years, affirms the college's deep dedication to student engagement and well-being, with continued plans to expand Caring Campus activities and reach even more students.



Celebrate AAPI Heritage at the 4th Annual Valley Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Festival

Los Angeles Pierce College is proud to host the <u>4th Annual Valley Asian Pacific Islander (API)</u> <u>Cultural Festival</u> on Saturday, May 10, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Victory Boulevard campus.

Presented by the West Valley-Warner Center Chamber of Commerce Community Benefit Foundation, this free, family-friendly event honors the rich and diverse cultures of Asia and the Pacific Islands. Attendees will experience a vibrant celebration featuring live traditional performances, including hula, Bollywood, Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean, and Indian dances, as well as martial arts demonstrations and the thrilling Lion Dance.

Visitors can browse cultural exhibits, shop for crafts and unique gifts, and enjoy an array of authentic Asian cuisines offered by local vendors. The festival will also feature children's activities, community

raffles, and the exciting "Most Beautiful Cultural Décor Award" contest.

Whether you come for the performances, the food, the shopping, or the community spirit, the Valley API Cultural Festival is a wonderful way to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month with family and friends.

We invite all students, staff, faculty, and community members to join us for this joyful day of cultural pride and connection!









Pierce College Hosts Multicultural and Earth Day Events

On Wednesday, April 23, 2025, Los Angeles Pierce College held two campus-wide events: Multicultural Day and the Pierce Earth Day Bash. Multicultural Day, organized by the LAPC Diversity Committee, featured a series of faculty-led sessions exploring topics such as ancestry in literature and film, cultural perspectives in education and psychology, and historical survival through health challenges. A keynote performance by *Sisters of the One Drum* took place in the Great Hall.

At the same time, the Earth Day Bash promoted campus sustainability. Sponsored by ASO, Guided Pathways, and the California Center for Climate Change Education, the event included a campus cleanup, seed bomb workshop, vegan food, electric vehicle displays, and gift card giveaways.

Both events offered students opportunities to engage with cultural awareness and environmental responsibility in a single day of coordinated programming.













LAMC Hosts Inaugural Rising Scholars Symposium

On Friday, April 25, Los Angeles Mission College (LAMC) hosted the inaugural Rising Scholars Symposium, with over 200 LACCD students, faculty, and staff in attendance.

Keynote speaker Fabian Alomar, drawing on his own experiences with the justice system, reminded the crowd that "Your past does not cancel your future." His powerful message set the tone for a day of meaningful connection and dialogue.

The crowd heard from city and county representatives, a panel of justice-involved students who shared their experiences and explored a resource fair showcasing the support services available across our campuses and communities. Together, we celebrated the progress we've made—and the important work that still lies ahead—in creating pathways to success for our Rising Scholars.



LAMC Theatre Arts Presents: Frankenstein

Beginning Friday, May 16, Los Angeles Mission College (LAMC) Theatre Arts will present *Frankenstein*, an original adaptation of Mary Shelley's classic novel, as its spring theater production.

In *Frankenstein*, Victor becomes obsessed with the intersection of science and spirituality, assembling a human being from parts and bringing it to life. His experiment succeeds, but upon seeing the grotesque being that he has birthed, he abandons his creation, hoping to never encounter it again.

Frankenstein will be presented from May 16th through the 25th, in the LAMC Arts, Media & Performance (AMP) Theater. Tickets range from \$10–\$25 and are now on sale through lamission.edu/frankenstein.

Women's Basketball Welcomes New Head Coach

The Los Angeles Mission College Athletics Department recently named Victoria "Vicky" Oganyan as Head Coach of the Women's Basketball team.



Coach Oganyan joins LAMC after 21 seasons as head coach of the girls' basketball team at John Burroughs High School (JBHS) in Burbank, where she led her teams to seven Pacific League titles and earned more than 400 career wins.

In addition to her coaching success, Oganyan is an experienced educator who has taught anatomy and biology at JBHS and, in 2018, made headlines when she joined the Glendale College women's

basketball team as a player, fulfilling a lifelong dream of playing collegiate basketball.

She now steps in to lead the Women's Basketball program into its second season, building on the foundation set during the team's 10-18 inaugural year.



Tickets are still available for the Culinary Cup

On Friday, May 16, Los Angeles Mission College will once again host the Culinary Cup—this year inspired by the vibrant flavors of the Caribbean. The event showcases the talents of chef instructors and culinary students from L.A. Mission College, L.A. Harbor College, and L.A. Trade-Tech College.

Tickets are still on sale! Please visit <u>culinarycup2025.eventbrite.com</u> and purchase your tickets today!











Ending the Season on a High Note

Congratulations to <u>Yvette Ramirez #17/Pitcher</u> - ALL SCC 1st Team; <u>Evelyn Iniguez #9/3B</u> All SCC 2nd Team; Destiny Magallon #77 / SS – SCC Honorable Mention; <u>Jaedin Martinez #30 / UTL</u> – SCC Honorable Mention; <u>Natalia Soto #24 / Catcher</u> – SCC Honorable Mention. Congratulations to <u>Sherlyn Gomez</u> for winning the 10K and for earning the title of Conference Champ also in Track and Field.

The Harbor College Foundation will be hosting the 18th Annual Seahawk Golf Classic on Friday, June 20, 2025. It was a sold-out event last year, so purchase your ticket early. Grab a foursome and we'll see you on Friday, June 20, 2025. It was a sold-out event last year, so purchase your ticket



early. Grab a foursome and we'll see you on the golf course. A large portion of the funds raised help provide scholarships to students.

Harbor Presents: Professional Academic Speaker Series ~ May 7, 2025 at 1 pm in the Student Union Multi-Purpose Room. Dr. Mindy Chen will be presenting ~ "From Experience to Leadership: A Journey in Higher Education." Dr. Chen is the Director of the Dolores Huerta Labor Institute and Adjunct Assistant Professor of the Labor Center at LATTC.



Join us for LACCD MESA Hackathon – Friday, May 9-10 at LA City College - We are proud to present this first time ever event for LACCD. The event is open to all LACCD students, and it is set to be an unforgettable evening of workshops, programming, teamwork, food, and side quests. Teams will form, and this overnight event will culminate in hundreds of dollars in prizes! For more information on how to join, visit https://www.hackmesa.com/



<u>Pathways to Playful Learning – Tuesday,</u> <u>May 13, 2025 – LAHC NEA Quad 1 pm to 2</u> pm

If you are interested in teaching, want to work with children, or are interested in learning about early education, join us! This interactive workshop will be hosted by Marco Marano, Child Development Faculty, and will allow participants to learn and engage with sensory play and curriculum. Registration link:

https://forms.office.com/r/Cs3xwpMNT7

<u>Take Action</u> – LA County Department of Mental Health is hosting the "Take Action" event at Harbor College – May 14, 2025, at 11 am in the SSA, NEA, SU and LLRC Quad areas. Over 70+ vendors and community partners will be on campus to provide resources and fun activities for our LAHC Students and community. Free food provided.

Take Action for Mental Health Insta

Contact: DMH at ADA@dmh.lacounty.gov





ASO brings you Friends for Finals: Puppy Snuggles ~ Monday, May 19, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm in the SSA Quad. Who can resist puppies? We will close out the Spring semester with PUPPIES! They were a hit last semester, so they are back by popular demand.



MESA: SOFI Stadium Tour ~ Wednesday, May 28, 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm – Join the MESA for a STEM Panel and tour SOFI Stadium. Transportation and lunch are provided for Harbor Students. To RSVP, please click HERE or scan the QR code.

Celebration and Registration Events:

Every Wednesday through June 13 the Welcome Center is open to assist students in registering for Summer and Fall Classes

- May 1, 2025 Harbor College Foundation Scholarship Celebration @ Harbor 4 pm
- May 6, 2026 Honors Transfer Program Celebration
- May 8, 2025 President's Distinguished Cord Presentation @ Harbor 4 pm
- May 9, 2025 MESA STEMtacular Celebration @ Harbor 1:30 pm
- May 9, 2025 UMOJA Celebration @ Harbor 5 pm
- May 15, 2025 EOPS Banquet
- May 20, 2025 CalWorks Student Recognition Gala @ Harbor College 5 pm
- May 22, 2025 College Promise Medal & Veterans Presentation @ Harbor 12:30 pm
- May 19, 2025 Dean and President's Honor Celebration @ Harbor College 4 pm

- May 27, 2025 Puente Graduate Celebration @ Harbor 5 pm
- May 29, 2025 Dreamers Dine and Dance Celebration @ Harbor 5:30 pm
- May 29, 2025 DSPS Graduate Celebration @ Harbor 11 am













Racial Equity & Social Justice Town Hall: Love Letters

East Los Angeles College proudly hosted another impactful Racial Equity & Social Justice Town Hall on April 28th, 2025, titled "Love Letters: Finding Freedom Through the Act of Letter Writing." This powerful event explored how love letters, art, poetry, and education serve as transformative forces that empower formerly-incarcerated individuals to reclaim their freedom and pursue justice in their communities.

The town hall centered around artist Fabian Debora's compelling series of presidential-style portraits featuring formerly-incarcerated women and men who are making significant differences in their communities after release. Through each portrait and accompanying "love letter," Debora invited attendees to understand the profound humanity maintained through the simple act of writing letters to loved ones from behind bars. The series beautifully illustrated how this fundamental connection helps prisoners remain rooted in their humanity and sustain hope amid challenging circumstances.

The event began with a thought-provoking town hall discussion in the S2 Recital Hall from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm, followed by a celebration, art walk, and artist talk at the Vincent Price Art Museum from 1:30 pm to 2:00 pm. Faculty, staff, and students who attended experienced a moving exploration of resilience, transformation, and the power of human connection through artistic expression.



Second Annual Sisterhood Expo Celebrates Women's Entrepreneurship

On April 17th, ELAC successfully hosted its second annual Sisterhood Expo, a vibrant celebration of women's entrepreneurship and community empowerment. Sponsored by the ELAC and LACCD Foundations, this dynamic event featured a lively marketplace showcasing women-owned businesses specializing in art, music, fashion, food, and various services, creating valuable visibility for local female entrepreneurs.

The expo was honored by the presence of distinguished guests, including LACCD Interim Chancellor Alberto J. Roman, Congresswoman Judy Chu, California State Senator Shasha Renee Perez, and LACCD Board Member Kelsey lino, all of whom delivered remarks expressing their support for women in business and entrepreneurship. Their participation highlighted the institutional commitment to fostering diverse economic development within our community.

Attendees enjoyed live music performances and delicious food while participating in specialized workshops covering various business and marketing topics designed to help women entrepreneurs strengthen their skills and expand their businesses. The successful event underscored ELAC's dedication to supporting women's economic advancement and building networks that empower female business owners throughout our community.













On April 14, Congresswoman Laura Friedman (CA-30) hosted an in-person Town Hall at LACC. More than 300 attended the event, which discussed protecting Social Security, Medicaid, veterans' healthcare, and family services. The event was also televised on C-SPAN.

On April 21-23, LACC held Black Student Success Week events, including The Black Hour Webinar: The Rise of Black Serving Institutions; HBCU Tour Presentation, The Black Hour Webinar: Power Moves, Equipping Black Talent for Tomorrow's Workforce, and The History of Hip Hop.

On April 22, Hilda Solis donated a check to Cubby's Closet, LACC's resource for students on campus where they can choose a free outfit monthly.

LACC will host their Dean's Tea on May 13 from noon to ,2 pm honoring LACC's Dean's Scholars students.

The LACC Foundation will host a screening of "SEPARATED" with Jacob Soboroff on May 15 at 5 pm in the Morgan Freeman Theatre.

LACC will host this year's District-wide Lavender Graduation, where we will be celebrating the achievements of our LGBTQ+ students. The ceremony is scheduled for June 6 from 4 to 7 pm in the Student Union Multi-Purpose Room.

On June 10 at 5pm LACC will host our 2025 graduation ceremony at the Greek Theatre. Our commencement speaker is John Hope Byrant, Founder of Operation HOPE.

District Office Events & Updates



Los Angeles Times







The absolute highlight of our week was the incredible <u>Los Angeles Times</u> front page profile of <u>Los Angeles City College</u> student and BOOST participant Adriana Orea.

We're thrilled to see how our BOOST program is changing lives, and inspired by the determination of **Los Angeles Community College District** students like Adriana.

Read more: https://lnkd.in/eMwN74nK





View PDF version

Affinity Graduation Celebrations!

Register Now

All Events Are Open to All

Black Graduate Celebration
Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 3 pm
Los Angeles Southwest College
Register for Black Graduate Event

Lavender Graduate Celebration
Friday, June 6, 2025 at 4 pm
Los Angeles City College
Register for Lavender Graduate Event

Mi Gente Graduate Celebration Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 4 pm East Los Angeles College Register for Mi Gente Graduate Event



Tickets are still available for the Culinary Cup

On Friday, May 16, Los Angeles Mission College will once again host the Culinary Cup—this year inspired by the vibrant flavors of the Caribbean. The event showcases the talents of chef instructors and culinary students from L.A. Mission College, L.A. Harbor College, and L.A. Trade-Tech College.

Tickets are still on sale! Please visit <u>culinarycup2025.eventbrite.com</u> and purchase your tickets today!



This is a busy season across all levels of government, with activity in full swing. At the federal level, six of our nine colleges have taken major steps by applying for Congressional Community Project Funding and Directed Spending Grants—totaling an impressive \$29.7 million. These proposals cover a range of priorities, including workforce development, land acquisition, student basic needs, and facilities renovation. If awarded, these funds could significantly strengthen our campuses and expand support for our students.

We are also closely tracking recent Executive Orders from the Administration that may affect students and higher education institutions. On March 18, the District convened a Student Protection Taskforce Meeting to brief stakeholders on developments related to federal higher education policy—particularly in response to the Trump Administration's ongoing proposals.

At the state level, LACCD's five sponsored legislative bills are progressing well. Each has passed its first policy committee, and four of the five have now moved to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. AB 648 (Zbur), which addresses student housing, has advanced to a third reading and awaits consideration on the Assembly Floor—a promising milestone in our legislative efforts.

Locally, the District has begun engaging with LA28 organizers as we develop a strategy for greater participation in the upcoming 2028 Olympic Games and other major sporting events coming to Los Angeles.

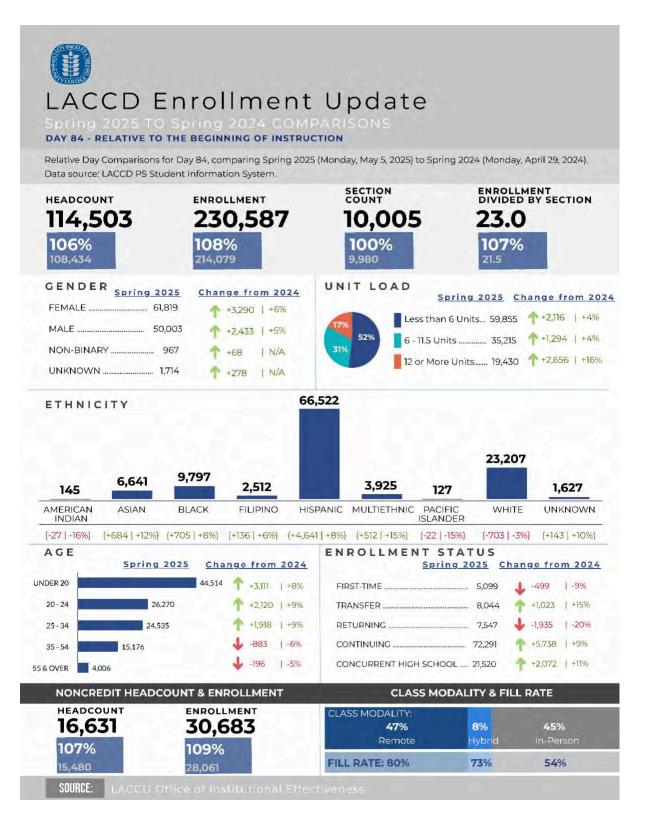




The Human Resources Division is pleased to share the May edition of our HR Newsletter. Launched in January 2025, this newsletter was created to celebrate and inform the District's greatest asset—our employees.

HR-Newsletter--May-2025.aspx





Spring 2025 Enrollment Update:

Comparing Spring 2025 to Spring 2024 as day 84 of the semester, student credit headcount is up by 6% and enrollment is up by 8% Districtwide. Class offerings remain unchanged, while enrollment per section has increased by 7%. Growth is evident among younger students, with an increase for those under age 20 (+8%), 20–24 (+9%), and 25–34 (+9%). In contrast, enrollment for older students has declined (-6% for the 35-54 age group and -5% for the 55+ age group). Additionally, increases are observed by race and ethnicity for Asian (+12%), Black (+8%), and Hispanic (+8%) students, while White students show a decline (-3%). Compared to Spring 2024, a 9% increase in continuing students is observed, along with an 11% increase in concurrent high school students and 15% increase in transfer students. In contrast,

first-time students and returning students have shown declines (-9% and -20%, respectively). An increase in full-time students is also observed (+16%), along with increases in students who are attending less than full time (+4% for both the Under 6 Units and 6-11.5 Units groups). Noncredit enrollment has also grown, with headcount rising by 7% (from 15,480 to 16,631) and total enrollment increasing by 9% (from 28,061 to 30,683). In terms of course modality, 47% of classes are offered remotely, 45% in person, and 8% in a hybrid format. Remote classes have the highest fill rate (80%), followed by hybrid (73%) and in-person classes (54%).

View the LACCD Spring 2025 Enrollment Update PDF version

LACCD In the News

LA Community College District gives students \$1,000 to provide stability

EdSource

L.A. Community College Students Get \$1,000 Monthly in Pilot Program to Ease Financial Strain

NBC Palm Springs

Roggin Report April 29, 2025

NBC Palm Springs

Can \$1,000 a month help more students land nursing careers? An L.A. pilot effort says yes

Los Angeles Times

Can \$1,000 a month help more students land nursing careers? A pilot effort says yes

The Brunswick News

LA Program Gives Students \$1,000 a Month to 'Boost' Healthcare Careers

Philanthropy News Digest

Massive art show brings together work from LA's college students

LAist

Fake student aid: California colleges detect more fraudsters stealing millions

CalMatters

<u>Appeals court reverses \$10 million sexual harassment verdict against LA community college</u>

district

Courthouse News Service

L.A. Community Colleges and CSUs Partner to Fill Nursing Shortages

Inside HigherEd

New Voices: The 2025 District Wide Student Art Biennial

PBS SoCal

LAMC Hosts 19th Annual Conference for Association of Raza Educators

San Fernando Valley Sun

Veteran Congresswoman Grace Napolitano to Receive Honorary Doctorate

Cal Poly Pomona

PBS SoCal's LOCAL HEROES Program Dedicated to Those Making a Difference In Communities
Across Southern California Now Ca...

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Inside California Education WEST LA College dental hygienist

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About the Los Angeles Community College District

LACCD (www.laccd.edu) is the nation's largest community college district, educating about 250,000 students annually at its nine colleges that serve the residents of more than 36 cities and communities from 900 square miles of Los Angeles County. Since 1969, the District has been providing an important learning pathway for students seeking transfer to four-year colleges or universities while also offering two-year degrees and certificated training programs to Southern California's diverse workforce in many specialized trades and professions.

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