

CELEBRATING THE *Class of 2025!* CHANCELLOR'S MONTHLY REPORT



Dear LACCD Community,

Yesterday, we celebrated an unforgettable milestone as our nine colleges held their 2025 commencement ceremonies, honoring the achievements of thousands of graduates. These powerful events reflected the strength, determination, and dreams of our students—many of whom overcame significant challenges to reach this moment.



Commencement is the heart of our mission. It is a celebration of transformation—for our students, their families, and the communities they represent. From first-generation graduates to returning adults, our students' stories inspire us and affirm the essential role of our colleges in creating access, equity, and opportunity.



In the weeks leading up to commencement, our colleges also hosted a series of affinity celebrations that uplifted and affirmed the identities and lived experiences of our diverse student body. Events like the APIDA Summit, Black Graduation, Lavender Graduation, and Mi Gente brought together students, families, faculty, and staff in meaningful and joyful recognition of community and culture. These celebrations deepen students' sense of belonging and pride, and we are proud to support and sustain them.

We sincerely appreciate all the graduate celebrations committees and their chairs, as well as the colleges and commencement committees, for the countless hours of volunteer work they dedicate to making these events special. Thank you for your continued support and your presence at these important moments.

Together, we are helping our students step boldly into their futures.

With appreciation,

Dr. Alberto J. Román, DPA
 Chancellor
 Los Angeles Community College District

Campus Events & Updates



On May 21, LACC held their Break It To Make It graduation and awards dinner.

On May 22, LACC held a Town Hall to go over the budget and the future of student housing at LACC.

On May 22, LACC's hosted an Animation Showcase highlighting animated projects by students from VAMA.

On May 29, LACC's Pride Hub @ City hosted PRIDE Day with food, live music and swag giveaways, at noon in the Northwest Quad.

On May 29, LACC hosted their CTE Spotlight Awards at the Taglyan Complex at 6pm.

On May 31, LACC partnered with the Hard Rock Café, Ovation Hollywood, Reading Among Ruins, Hugo Soto-Martinez and the Altadena Libraries to host Raise it Up for Youth Literacy NEFT. The event included storytelling, puppet-making, crafts, games and music.

LACC held its Cinema/TV Film Festival on June 4 in the Morgan Freeman Theater from noon to 2pm.

LACC hosted this year's District-wide Lavender Graduation, celebrating the achievements of our LGBTQ+ students. The ceremony was held on June 6 from 4 to 7pm in the Student Union Multi-Purpose Room.

On June 10 at 5pm LACC hosted our 2025 graduation ceremony at the Greek Theatre. Our commencement speaker was John Hope Bryant, Founder of Operation HOPE.





ELAC Student Prisma Santiago Named 2025 Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholar

ELAC is proud to announce that Biology major Prisma Santiago has been named a 2025 Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholar. Santiago is one of only 90 recipients selected nationwide from a competitive pool of more than 1,600 applicants, and the sole recipient from ELAC this year.

The prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship provides up to \$55,000 per year for up to three years to complete a bachelor's degree at an accredited four-year undergraduate institution in the United States. This transformative scholarship serves as last-dollar funding after all institutional aid, significantly easing the financial burden of completing a bachelor's degree.

"We are immensely proud of Prisma's achievement in earning this prestigious national scholarship," said Dr. Monte E. Perez, Interim President of East Los Angeles College. "Her selection as a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar is a testament to her academic excellence, leadership abilities, and dedication to her educational journey. Prisma represents the exceptional talent and determination present throughout our student body."

Santiago, an active participant in both the college's Honors Program and Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS), also serves as Vice President of the Chicanos for Community Medicine club. The Honors Program at ELAC offers priority consideration for admission to prestigious universities, including UCLA, UC Riverside, UC Irvine, and several other notable institutions.

"This scholarship represents a life-changing opportunity that will help me pursue my academic dreams without the burden of financial stress," said Prisma. "I'm grateful to my professors, counselors, and the supportive community at ELAC who have guided me on this journey."



Carolina Caycedo, *The Salute of the Fish* (detail), 2022. Artisanal hand-dyed cast net, embroidered patches, thread, steel, acrylic paint, lead weights.

VPAM and ELAC to Showcase Innovative STEAM Project "We Place Life at the Center" at 2025 AAMG Conference

ELAC and the Vincent Price Art Museum (VPAM) have been selected to present the innovative exhibition "We Place Life at the Center / Situamos la vida en el centro" at the 2025 Association of Academic Museums and Galleries (AAMG) Conference. Curator Joseph Valencia and Anthropology Professor Christine Sepulveda will serve as featured panelists at the conference, themed "Belonging: Storytelling Across Campus and Community," taking place June 24-27, 2025, at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

The presentation will showcase their interdisciplinary collaboration that bridges art, science, and environmental justice. Valencia and Sepulveda co-taught an innovative course that directly connected classroom learning with exhibition development, demonstrating how academic museums can serve as educational laboratories where students engage with urgent global challenges like climate change.

A highlight of their collaboration was a field research trip to the Xochimilco wetlands in Mexico City, where students engaged with local environmental leaders and artists to understand Indigenous approaches to environmental stewardship. This transformative experience empowered students to develop public programs and create a mural that translates complex scientific concepts into accessible community art.

Students actively contributed to the exhibition by designing programs and creating visual art that became integral to the museum experience, providing professional development opportunities while enriching the exhibition with diverse perspectives.

"We Place Life at the Center" stems from the work of Los Angeles-based Colombian artist Carolina Caycedo and represents four years of research across the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean. The exhibition promotes alternative solutions to climate crises rooted in ecofeminist and environmental justice perspectives, featuring 35 artworks by Caycedo alongside 30 works from artists and environmental movements within her network.

The exhibition closed at VPAM in March 2025 and opened at the Museo de Arte Miguel Urrutia in Bogotá, Colombia, where it remains on view through July 21, 2025.



Commencement – June 10

The Big Day Arrived!

Excitement filled the air as we celebrated 600 incredible graduates!

We were honored to welcome Trustee Iino and Vice Chancellor Williams and extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. C.L. Max Nikias, President Emeritus of USC, for delivering an inspiring keynote address.

Go Seahawks! 🎓💙



Celebrations, Scholarships, Dances, and more!

May was the month of Celebration. A total of \$64,753 was granted to students in scholarships or emergency funds during the Spring 2025 semester. From dances to galas to celebrations, our Seahawks were celebrated. Seahawks, you are amazing!



Congratulations to our chefs on their 2nd-place win in the Culinary Cup!



LAHC E-Sports team

Congratulations to the brand new LAHC E-Sports team, led by Professor Nick Garcia, for winning 1st and 2nd place in the first annual Los Angeles Regional Consortia (LARC) SMASH BROS Cup! The students have been practicing and having scrimmages since last Fall. Their hard work and dedication paid off.



Grand Opening of the Seahawk Market!

We are excited to announce the opening of The Seahawk Market, formerly known as the Food Pantry. Providing our students with a market experience is essential. See you at the Seahawk Market! The Seahawk Market is located in Tech 102. Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 am - 4 pm.



LAMC Serves Up Gold at the 5th Annual Culinary Cup

On Friday, May 16, more than 500 students, faculty, sponsors, and community members came together as LAMC hosted the Fifth Annual Culinary Cup. The friendly competition brought together culinary teams from L.A. Harbor College, L.A. Mission College, and L.A. Trade-Technical College, while drawing inspiration from the flavors and traditions of the Caribbean.

Students competed in three categories—savory, pastry, and tablescape—and were judged by a panel of industry professionals. LAMC's competition team swept all three categories, securing the overall win and bringing home the coveted Golden Chef's Hat trophy.

The full-day event also featured chef-led demonstrations, an exhibition and silent auction, and a gourmet lunch prepared by LAMC's award-winning Culinary Arts Department.

This year's event was made possible in part by the generous support of our Platinum Sponsors: Element Consulting, Kroger Foods, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath. Thanks to their contributions, the event raised nearly \$150,000 to benefit LAMC's Culinary Arts program and support students through scholarships.

Among the attendees was L.A. Times columnist Gustavo Arellano, [who captured the spirit of the event in a feature article](#).

Congratulations to all the students and chef-instructors on a job well done! We look forward to next year's competition at L.A. Trade-Tech College.



Hundreds of Future Eagles Flock to Senior Days

On April 23 and 30, we hosted our annual Senior Days, welcoming 448 students and 53 chaperones from 15 local LAUSD and charter high schools.

High School Seniors took part in interactive demonstrations showcasing Mission College's six career and academic pathways, giving them a firsthand look at the programs and opportunities available across the college. Student Services staff provided informative presentations, and guided tours helped familiarize attendees with key campus resources. The event concluded with a student panel, where current students shared their experiences and insights.

The event was a resounding success and highlights Mission College's ongoing high school outreach efforts to grow its College Promise student population.

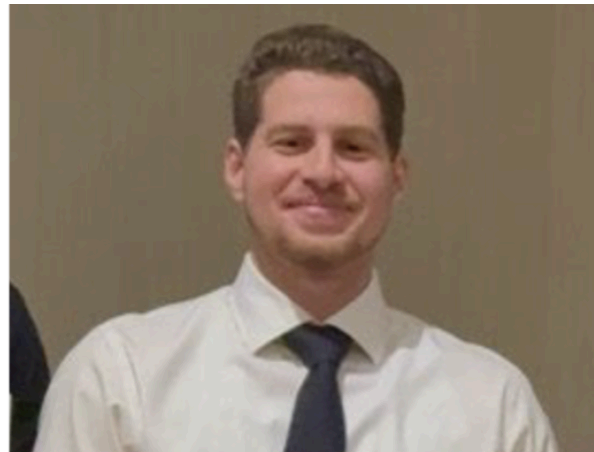


Pacoima Open House Opens Doors to Accessible Education

On Saturday, May 17, LAMC hosted an open house at its Pacoima site, welcoming more than 100 community members and prospective students. The event introduced attendees to the free educational opportunities and support services available at the college's Pacoima location.

Attendees learned about noncredit course offerings and certificate programs, including ESL, GED Preparation, Computer Basics, Civics/Citizenship, and Allied Health certificates such as In-Home Health Services, EKG Technician, and the new Community Health Worker program. They also had the opportunity to connect with Student Services, including DSPS, the Dream Resource Center, Basic Needs, and Admissions & Records.

In addition to bilingual and Spanish presentations, on-site registration and enrollment assistance were available, allowing students to begin enrolling in tuition-free summer and fall classes. The strong turnout and engagement reflect the growing interest in the Pacoima site and the vital role it plays in serving local adult learners and families.



Pierce College Students Win Top Honors at Statewide AGS Convention

Three students from Los Angeles Pierce College's Pi Chapter of Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) earned prestigious statewide scholarships during the 99th Annual AGS Spring Convention in Ontario, California, confirming the talent and dedication of Pierce students.

Ethan Nasser and Ava Kim were each awarded the Kathleen D. Loly Scholarship for their academic excellence. Noor Kalla received the distinguished Ed Walsh Scholarship in recognition of his leadership and service.

Their achievements were among only 37 scholarships awarded statewide this year, totaling \$42,750.

The Pierce delegation also brought home a series of spirited awards, including honors for best depiction of the convention theme, most humorous t-shirt design, and most outrageous name tags. The Pi

Chapter was recognized by the California Community Colleges Board of Trustees for its impactful service with the Brahma Bodega, which combats student food insecurity on campus.

Credit for the chapter's success is shared with a devoted group of faculty advisors—Carman Wimsatt, Lisa Valdez, and Kaycea Campbell—whose mentorship continues to empower student leaders. Additional support from Pierce's Associated Student Organization, the Office of Student Engagement, and college staff illustrates the collaboration that supports student achievement.

Three Brahmas En route to Paris!

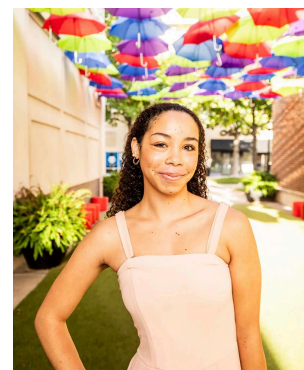
The French section of the Modern Languages Department is delighted to announce that Regina Valenzuela Salazar, Adamary Cantillano, and DaSha Hester-Olivarez have been selected by the Dennis and Anne Beaver Foundation to pursue their study of French in Paris this July. The scholarship will cover airfare, four weeks of courses, accommodation with a French family, and various touristic excursions, such as to Provins (a medieval city), Giverny (Claude Monet's gardens), and a weekend in Alsace, as well as visits to the Louvre, Orsay, Notre-Dame (newly restored), and a night at the Opera (the ballet *The Sleeping Beauty*).

Regina Valenzuela Salazar is a second-year English major. She took French 1 and French 2 at LAPC and is planning to get a minor in French to expand her knowledge of French culture and literature. She enjoys reading and writing, and her biggest inspirations are Bob Dylan and J.D. Salinger. Currently, she is the co-editor of the fiction board for Directions, LAPC's own literary magazine.



Adamary Cantillano is a sophomore and English Literature major who will transfer to UCLA next fall. She's discovered her passion for the humanities, and more specifically in the literature and language of cultures, during her two years at LAPC. She was born into a purely Spanish-speaking family, and English is her second language. Becoming bilingual has helped her be proficient in different aspects of her life and fed an interest in learning more languages; at the top of her list was French because her favorite philosophers are French. As Adamary said, "mastering and learning French was my first glimpse into a deeper understanding of world literature, and now that I've gotten the opportunity to go abroad for it, my understanding of French culture and art will be even wider, further enriching my passion and love for the humanities."

DaSha Hester-Olivarez has taken French 3 and 4 and is currently taking French 10 at Pierce College. She will be obtaining an AA in French at LACC as well as a degree in engineering with the aspiration of becoming an astronautical engineer. She will be transferring to Oklahoma City University in the fall to further her career in dance. DaSha said that "my time at Pierce College has been unfailingly wonderful, and it is a wonderful college to attend."



Bon voyage to Regina, Adamary, and DaSha and thanks to the Dennis and Anne Beaver Foundation for helping Pierce students reach their goals and realize their dreams.



Pierce College Faculty and Administrators Participate in NSF-Sponsored STEM Education Workshop

Three Los Angeles Pierce College faculty and staff members recently participated in the InnovATEBIO Undergraduate Research Strategic Planning Workshop, held in Dallas, Texas. The workshop, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, brought together community college representatives from across the country to discuss strategies for improving STEM education through undergraduate research.

Pierce College was represented by Savannah Senn (Plant Science), Travis Orloff (Chair of Physics), and Wiley Brown (Grants Coordinator). The event focused on integrating research experiences into science

curricula and emphasized skill development in data analysis, the scientific method, and industry collaboration.

“The workshop emphasized practical applications of scientific research and highlighted ways to expand access to hands-on learning,” Senn said.

As part of ongoing efforts at Pierce College, students in the PLNT SC 103 Soils course are currently examining eco-friendly alternatives to plastic row covers, an example of how faculty are incorporating applied research into coursework.

Participation in the workshop supports goals outlined in Pierce College’s Strategic Master Plan, including enhancing student learning outcomes and expanding industry partnerships.



Career Day

For LASC students who are ready to take the next step in their career journey, the LASC Career Fair was a great opportunity to connect with top employers, explore job and internship opportunities, and gain valuable career insights!

On Tuesday, April 29, 2025, in the Little Theatre Quad, students met with recruiters from a variety of industries, learned about job and internship openings, and networked with professionals who helped shape their future. They also enjoyed free lunch and raffles for a chance to win exciting prizes! Whether they were actively job searching or just exploring career options, this event is designed to support student success.



CDC Family Fun

At the end of April, the Child Development Center at Los Angeles Southwest College held a Family Fun Day event that brought together families for a day of fun and engaging activities, which focused on play, learning, and community. The event included outdoor games, a jump house and play gym, educational activities, and opportunities to connect with local resources. Parents had fun participating in sack races and encouraging their children, while employees and student workers created a memorable experience for all.



Nursing Week and Accreditation

LASC Nurse Appreciation Week recognized and honoured the vital role nurses play and the sacrifices they make to ensure public health. The LASC Nursing department invited the entire campus, alumni, and the community to celebrate the future nurses being taught at LASC. On Tuesday, May 6, 2025,

festivities included messages from powerful speakers, a live nursing simulation experience, tours of the state-of-the-art Nursing lab, and much more.

Congratulations are also in order because the LASC Nursing Program's accreditation was commissioned by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) for Fall 2024 - 2029. ACEN is recognized as the accrediting body for all types of nursing education programs by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).



LATTC Foundation Board Co-chair and alumni Victor Reyes, Darrell Brown, Donna Ross Jones, LATTC Foundation Board Co-Chair Bonnie Tseng, LATTC President Dr. Alfred McQuarters

LATTC Foundation Hosts 100th Anniversary Spring Reception and Time Capsule Reveal

It's a busy time of year, filled with year-end celebrations and festivities. For Trade-Tech, celebrations this year are that much fuller with the college's centennial celebrations. On May 14, 2025, the LATTC Foundation hosted the Spring Reception and Time Capsule Reveal event. The celebratory reception, hosted in the college's Culinary Arts Building, was attended by more than 200 supporters, alumni, and college faculty and staff and featured standout sweets and savories prepared by our incredible Culinary Arts pathway. Instructors and students arrived on campus early and worked throughout the day to prepare the evening's stellar presentation of shrimp and pepper sofrito, lamb meatballs, sushi, amongst other dishes, as well as a five-tier cake and custom ice sculpture, all branded for the celebration of LATTC's 100th.

A special element to the evening was the reveal of the time capsule, buried in 1976. Dr. Alfred McQuarters and other members of the college pulled out highlights of the capsule, which included a full *LA Times* newspaper from the date the capsule was buried (a featured headline included, "How Press Handled Watergate Scandal"), Student Handbooks from 1973, and black and white photos of the colleges career and academic pathways.

Read the full event recap in our [latest news post](#), and view photo highlights via [LATTC's Facebook album](#).



Cosmetology Hosts 2nd Annual Barber Battle

On Monday, May 29, LATTC's Cosmetology Pathway hosted the 2nd Annual Barber Battle. 17 barbinging students competed across categories including "Fastest Fade," "Most Creative," "The G.O.A.T.," and "Best Beard Style" with limited time to come up with their best looks. The event welcomed experts from across the industry to serve as guest judges.

Congratulations to all our student participants!



Barbering students compete during the 2nd annual Barber Battle



Left: Industry experts judge looks from the competition; Right: a winning look from evening



LACCD Board President Kelsey Iino; LATTC President Alfred McQuarters, Little Tokyo Service Center Executive Director Erich Nakano; Executive Director of the Center for the Pacific Asian Family, Patima Komolamit; President and CEO of the Chinatown Service Center, Peter Ng

LATTC Celebrates APIDA Heritage Month with Community Panel Discussion

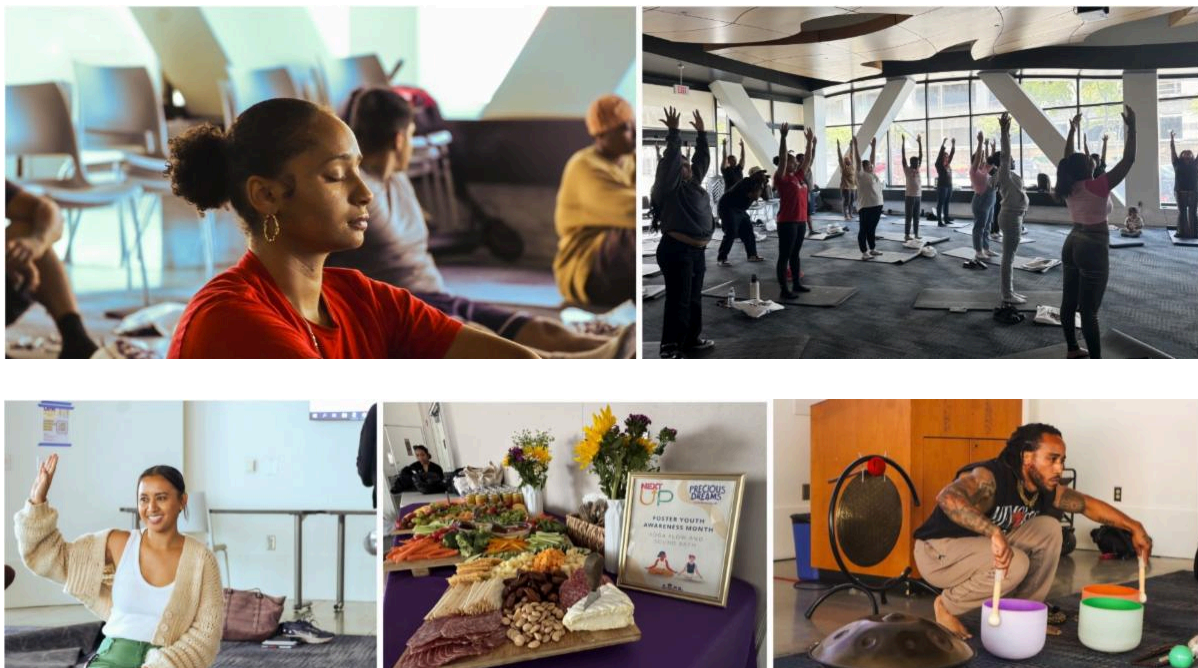
On May 22, LATTC had the honor of welcoming community leaders from the Little Tokyo Service Center, the Center for the Pacific Asian Family, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and the Chinatown Service Center for a special panel discussion. Organized on the occasion of Asian Pacific Islander and Desi American Heritage Month, the event shined a light on these vital organizations and the work they are doing to support the community we share.

Also, earlier in the month, members from LATTC were invited to take part in the annual Little Tokyo Sparkle on May 17. The event brings together community members for a day of service to clean up Little

Tokyo and make it sparkle and shine.



Left: LACCD Board President Kelsey Iino and Dr. Alfred McQuarters at the Little Tokyo Sparkle on May 17; Right: Left: Danica Gadia (second from left), LATTC Business & Civic Engagement Secretary and other volunteers at the clean-up day



LATTC's NextUp Hosts Yoga Session for Restful Respite Amidst a Busy Season

May is Foster Care Awareness Month, marking a time to raise awareness about the needs and challenges faced by children and youth in foster care. In addition to LATTC's [Foster Care and Kinship Education/Guardian Scholars Program](#), the college also hosts [NextUp](#), a supplemental component of EOPS that specifically assists EOPS students who are current or former foster youth by offering support services that are in addition to those provided by EOPS. NextUp supports higher education success and the health and well-being of former foster youth who are enrolled in community college.

On May 13, NextUp welcomed more than 20 students to a Foster Youth and Mental Health Awareness Wellness Event, in collaboration with The Precious Dreams Foundation and Beats by Dre. Students

were led through a guided yoga session and experienced sound healing and journaling. The session was also a time of sharing. When asked, "Where is your safe space?" Answers included places of worship, places where you feel connected to a power higher than yourself, and one participant offered up "NextUp."

LATTC is pleased to host vital programs like NextUp that support our foster youth and provide a space to feel safe and connected.

LATTC in the News!



Last month, *LA Times 404* stopped by LATTC's Sign Graphics program to shine a light on one of the oldest trades at the college, which has been around since the very beginning, 100 years ago. [Check out the post](#), featuring the college's Sign Graphics instructors, Mr. Carlos Aguilar and Mr. Emmanuel Sevilla.



Also, in education news, LATTC's Basic Needs Center was featured in the Community Resources Initiatives May Bulletin. CRI is the Foundation for California Community Colleges, and the newsletter shined a light on mental health resources provided through LATTC's Basic Needs Center on the occasion of Mental Health Awareness Month. The publication spoke with Licensed Clinical Social Worker Erika Smith about providing immediate, on-the-spot emotional support alongside traditional basic needs resources. [Read the full spotlight](#)

Save the Date!

100th Anniversary Community Day
Saturday, June 21, 2025 | 10 am–3 pm

100th Anniversary Fall Gala
Thursday, October 16, 2025





Class of 2025 at LAVC's All-Valley Black Graduation



Graduates at the 2025 Dia de Reconocimiento.

LAVC celebrates Student Success at the Día de Reconocimiento & the All-Valley Black Graduations

LAVC recently hosted two celebrations to honor the academic achievements of Black and Latino graduates. Family, friends, college faculty, and staff gathered to celebrate graduates as they get ready to graduate with their associate's degrees.

The Umoja Black Scholars Program held its annual cultural graduation celebration as the culminating Umoja event of the year. This year marked the first-ever All-Valley Black Graduation that brought together LAVC Umoja Black Scholars and LAUSD Region North graduates. The academic success of Valley's Umoja Black Scholars Program was evident as nearly 30 students received Umoja honors with a 3.0 GPA, with over 15 having a 3.5 GPA or better.

In addition, LAVC hosted its annual Día de Reconocimiento event to celebrate Latino students' academic accomplishments and their educational journey. There was a dinner, entertainment, and the reception of a Mi Comunidad medallion. Graduates also had meaningful, intimate moments to express gratitude to their families and support communities.



Students studying and getting tutoring at the Spring 2025 Late Night Crunch Time for Finals

Helping Student Prep for Finals at LAVC's Late Night Crunch Time

The LAVC Academic Resource Center (ARC), the ASU, and the FRC hosted Crunch Time to give students resources to help prepare for their final examinations. From May 27-29, students were able to come to the ARC Study Lounge to access a dedicated study space, free coffee/snacks, childcare, and tutoring from 6-10 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Farmer Market

Sunday, June 15, 22 and 29 at 1:30 p.m.

Good Times Farmers Market is hosting a [farmer market at LA Valley College](#) every Sunday year-round. There will be fresh produce, live music, food, beverages, baked goods and handcrafted items.



2025



2024



2022

JACK KENT COOKE
FOUNDATION

**UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER
SCHOLARS**

Four JKC Scholars In Four Years

Once again, a student from West Los Angeles College (WLAC) has been selected for the highly competitive Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. This prestigious award provides up to \$55,000 per year to help high-achieving students complete their bachelor's degrees with minimal debt.

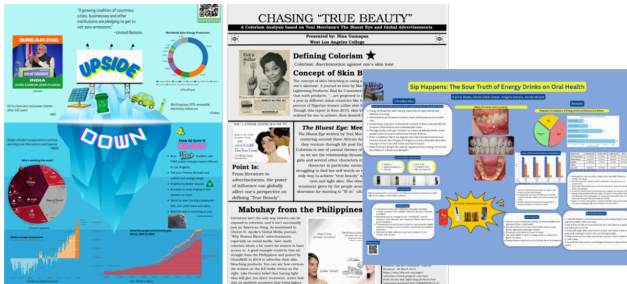
This year's recipient is Charles "Spenser" Wilson, one of just 90 students chosen from a pool of more than 1,600 applicants representing 212 community colleges across 43 states. Wilson is also a member of WLAC's Transfer Honors Program and becomes the fourth student from the program to earn the Cooke Scholarship in the past four years. Two students were awarded in 2024, and another in 2022.

Wilson's path to college was far from traditional. He left high school during his junior year, earned a GED, and worked full-time at a music shop. Initially pursuing a career in audio engineering, he later discovered a passion for healthcare and completed EMT and Phlebotomy training through UCLA's Center for Prehospital Care. In 2022, he enrolled at West to complete general education and pre-nursing coursework. His next step is UCLA, where he will pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

"I always felt like an outcast, and that is the opposite of my experience at West," Wilson shared. "The quality of the professors and coursework I've had, along with the study habits I've developed, make me feel more than ready to succeed at UCLA."

LAUSD Foster Youth Event

In collaboration with WLAC Foster Youth Programs, Climate Center, and Career Center, LAUSD hosted its end-of-the-year Foster Youth Celebration on the WLAC campus. The event recognized all graduating seniors who identify as foster and featured a guest speaker, a scholarship awards ceremony, and a job and resource fair. A number of students in attendance were awarded summer internships with the campus Climate Center, and others were invited to participate in the Climate Center's Fall Fellowship program once they enroll as WLAC students.



15th Annual Poster Showcase & Film Festival

Student knowledge and creativity were on display at the 15th Annual WLAC Poster Showcase held over the course of a week in May. More than 80 students presented academic posters on a wide range of topics—from scurvy prevention and dental health to the

historically narrow definitions of female beauty in America. Faculty judges reviewed the entries and selected winners, who were awarded certificates and gift cards.

This year's event also featured a new addition: a 90-minute screening of student-made short films, most of which were submitted by WLAC's Film / TV Production students. Adding a touch of Hollywood glamour, set-dressing students from the program transformed the Fine Arts Theater with a "red carpet treatment," complete with an actual red carpet, drapes, floral stands, and other cinematic décor.





AAPI Celebration – Hula-Style

Students and employees were entertained by traditional Hawaiian ukulele music and hula performed by Ukulele Master Kamaki Keawe and Nalukai at a luncheon celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The event was cosponsored by the WLAC Asian Pasifika Desi American (APDA) Club and ASO and held in the campus gallery, where the end-of-the-year student art show was on display. Later in May, the campus community gathered to view an art collection donated by Dr. Ernest and Elaine Nagamatsu, which included works by well-known Asian American ceramicists, paintings, and photographs from the Manzanar relocation camp of Japanese Americans during World War II.



Professor Receives Fulbright Specialist Award

Computer Science Professor Kaleab Gorfu received a Fulbright Specialist Program award to complete a project at the Institut National Supérieur de Technologies Industrielles (EX-IUT) in Benin. The project aims to exchange knowledge and establish partnerships benefiting participants, institutions, and communities both in the U.S. and overseas through a variety of educational and training activities within Computer Science and Information

Technology. Gorfu is one of over 400 U.S. citizens who share expertise with host institutions abroad through the Fulbright Specialist Program each year. Recipients of Fulbright Specialist awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement, demonstrated leadership in their field, and their potential to foster long-term cooperation between institutions in the U.S. and abroad.



Foundation Launches Initiative to Raise \$1 Million

The West Los Angeles College Foundation has launched an initiative to raise \$1 million in planned gifts by June 30, 2026. An anonymous donor has already seeded the campaign with a planned gift of \$750,000.

“This devoted champion of education and community has made a remarkable commitment to the future of the College. Their generous gift will create an enduring endowment to provide scholarships,

emergency grants, and vital basic needs support for generations of West students,” said Dr. James M. Limbaugh, WLAC President.

Additionally, the ACM Los Angeles Chapter has donated \$20,000 to the college to support four scholarships for students pursuing degrees in Computer Science and Information Technology. This is in addition to \$30,000 and \$25,000 gifts and grants recently received to support students and programs impacted by the wildfires, the food pantry and scholarships.

District Office Events & Updates



Pride Month is celebrated every June to honor the LGBTQ+ community and commemorate the Stonewall Uprising of June 1969 in New York City.

The protests, sparked by a police raid at the Stonewall Inn, became a turning point in the fight for LGBTQ+ rights in the United States.

The first Pride marches took place in 1970, marking the anniversary of Stonewall. Since then, Pride has grown into a global movement, celebrating visibility, equality, and love—while continuing to advocate for justice and inclusion.

Los Angeles Times



A huge thank you to [@gustavo_arellano](#) for the incredible story in the [Los Angeles Times](#) highlighting the talent, teamwork, and tenacity on display at this year's Culinary Cup at Los Angeles Mission College!

As a proud community college graduate himself, Gustavo captured the heart of what makes our colleges so special: opportunity, transformation, and the chance to start fresh at any age or stage of life. From student-chefs reimagining Caribbean classics to alumni returning to pursue their passion, the Culinary Cup was a celebration of skill and spirit.

We're so grateful for your voice and your visit, Gustavo — and we'll save you a plate next year at [@latradetechcollege!](#)

[Read more...](#)

Celebrating the Class of 2025



2nd Unique Ball: Find Your Family

LACCD, in partnership with Greg Wilson, hosted the 2nd Unique Ball at LA Trade Tech College on Saturday, May 17, 2025. This event celebrated LGBTQIA+ identity, self-expression, and community through the vibrant tradition of ballroom culture. All were welcome and attended!

Rooted in Black and Latinx LGBTQIA+ communities, balls are spaces where participants compete in categories like fashion, voguing, and performance—often while representing their “house,” or chosen family. This year’s ball welcomed 240 attendees, with 27 students competing—double last year’s turnout. The night was filled with bold runway walks, powerful performances, and a joyful sense of belonging. Our students left feeling seen, celebrated, and connected.



BuildLACCD Planned Outreach and Engagement Events

BuildLACCD Hosted Events:

1. [WLAC Diane E. Watson Center](#) Sign Unveiling – June 23, 2025 At WLAC (tentative)
2. Intern Program Lunch - August 8, 2025 At LATTC

CED / INDUSTRY EVENTS:

1. [Latino Chamber Biz Expo 2025](#) – June 11, 2025 Hosted by the LA Latino Chamber of Commerce
2. [CMAA So Cal Gala](#) - June 18, 2025 Hosted by CMAA, LACCD Project Award
3. Contract Connection Lunch and Learn – July 30, 2025 Hosted by: USC



The Human Resources Division is pleased to share the June 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--June-2025.aspx](#)



LACCD Enrollment update



LACCD Enrollment Update

SUMMER 2025 TO SUMMER 2024 COMPARISONS

DAY -14 - RELATIVE TO THE BEGINNING OF INSTRUCTION

Relative Day Comparisons for Day -14, comparing Summer 2025 (Monday, June 2, 2025) to Summer 2024 (Monday, May 27, 2024). Data source: LACCD PS Student Information System.

HEADCOUNT
48,360
118%
40,849

ENROLLMENT
68,509
120%
56,955

SECTION COUNT
2,708
103%
2,639

ENROLLMENT DIVIDED BY SECTION
25.3
117%
21.6

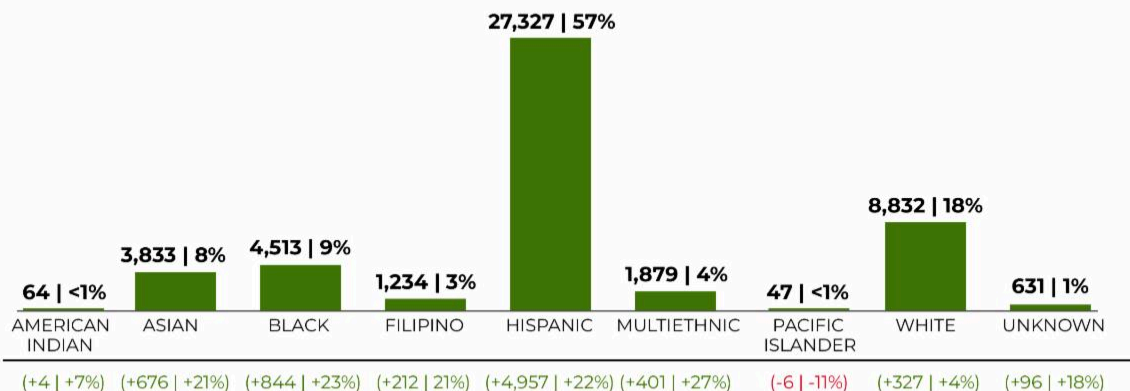
GENDER

	Summer 2025	Change from 2024
FEMALE	28,175 58%	↑ +4,365 +18%
MALE	19,029 39%	↑ +2,923 +18%
NON-BINARY	394 1%	↑ +12 N/A
UNKNOWN	762 2%	↑ +211 N/A

AGE

	Summer 2025	Change from 2024
UNDER 20	16,099 33%	↑ +3,741 +30%
20 - 24	13,363 28%	↑ +1,306 +11%
25 - 34	10,659 22%	↑ +1,301 +14%
35 - 54	6,993 15%	↑ +855 +14%
55 & OVER	1,245 3%	↑ +309 +33%

ETHNICITY



NONCREDIT HEADCOUNT & ENROLLMENT

HEADCOUNT
8,587
109%
7,860

ENROLLMENT
12,701
113%
11,205

CLASS MODALITY & FILL RATE

CLASS MODALITY:	66%	8%	26%
	Remote	Hybrid	In-Person
FILL RATE:	80%	58%	54%

SOURCE: LACCD Office of Institutional Effectiveness

Summer 2025 Enrollment Update:

Comparing Summer 2025 to Summer 2024 as day -14 of the semester, student credit headcount is up by 18% and enrollment is up by 20% Districtwide. Class offerings have increased slightly by 3%, while enrollment per section has increased by 17%. Growth was seen across all age groups, with increases of 11% among students ages 20–24, 14% among those ages 25–34 and 35–54, and 33% among students aged 55 and older. The most substantial growth is among students under age 20, with a 30% increase in headcount. Enrollment has grown across gender lines, with both male and female student populations increasing by 18%. In addition, gains are observed across nearly all racial and ethnic groups, including Asian (+21%), Black (+23%), Filipino (+21%), Hispanic (+22%), Multiethnic (+27%), and White (+4%)

students. Compared to Spring 2024, noncredit enrollment has also grown, with headcount rising by 9% (from 7,860 to 8,587) and total enrollment increasing by 13% (from 11,205 to 12,701). In terms of course modality, 66% of classes are offered remotely, 26% in person, and 8% in a hybrid format. Remote classes have the highest fill rate (80%), followed by hybrid (58%) and in-person classes (54%).

[View the LACCD Summer 2025 Enrollment Update PDF version](#)

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Los Angeles Times

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Beverly Press News

[\\$10 million sexual harassment verdict against California community college district tossed over judge's racial, sexist comments](#)

East Bay Times

[New L.A. community college Chancellor Alberto J. Román pledges 'culture of accountability'](#)

Los Angeles Times

[LABJ Insider: Business Optimism Declines](#)

LA Business Journal

[ELAC Foundation Sets Historic Record with \\$212,819 in Scholarship Awards](#)

LA Post

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Inside Higher Ed

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Los Angeles Daily News

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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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