



Dr. Alberto J. Román Recommended as Interim Chancellor for The Los Angeles Community College District

<u>The long-time educator is currently the East LA College President and will succeed Dr. Francisco</u> <u>C. Rodriguez as Interim Chancellor</u>



The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) Board of Trustees is recommending Dr. Alberto J. Román, current President at East Los Angeles College (ELAC), for a one-year appointment as the Interim Chancellor. If approved, Dr. Román will step into the role on November 7, 2024, following the planned retirement of LACCD's current Chancellor, Dr. Francisco C. Rodriguez, who served in this capacity for more than 10 years.

"I have dedicated my career to public education, driven by a commitment to transforming communities and advancing social mobility through equitable educational access," said incoming Interim Chancellor Dr. Alberto J. Román. "I am excited to expand these efforts on behalf of LACCD's diverse community of students, faculty, and staff. LACCD embodies the very best of Los Angeles, with its rich diversity and boundless potential. I am honored to take on this role and look forward to working collaboratively to ensure everyone has the support and resources needed to thrive within our campus communities."

"As I embark on my next chapter, I pass the leadership mantle to Dr. Alberto J. Román, who shares my deep commitment to equity

and opening doors of opportunity for students from all backgrounds," said current LACCD Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D. "Dr. Román is a proven leader, widely respected for his collaborative and innovative approach. I am confident in his ability to drive our mission forward and foster success for every student seeking growth and advancement."

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am thrilled to welcome Dr. Alberto J. Román as LACCD's Interim Chancellor," said LACCD Board President Nichelle Henderson. "We are confident Dr. Román will

continue championing the values of inclusion and opportunity, as he has done at ELAC and which define our District. I look forward to partnering on initiatives benefiting our entire LACCD community."

"Dr. Alberto J. Román's appointment as Interim Chancellor marks the next chapter in LACCD's story, and as a leader who has a unique understanding of the voice of our students, he will be instrumental in strengthening our District during this critical time," said LACCD Board Vice President Kelsey lino. "The Board is looking forward to continuing efforts aimed at bolstering student success through resources and opportunities across all nine of LACCD's campuses."

Dr. Alberto J. Román brings over 24 years of education experience, ranging from classified employee and faculty positions to serving as Director of Human Resources and Assistant Superintendent. Additionally, Dr. Román formerly served as Vice President for Southwestern Community College and as Vice Chancellor of Human Resources at LACCD.

Dr. Román is deeply committed to transforming communities and increasing social mobility through equitable educational access and student success. Identifying as an immigrant and a first-generation college graduate, Dr. Román is uniquely connected to the shared experiences of many in LACCD's community. He believes colleges must unify at all levels to increase educational access and advance equity through rigorous academic programs and targeted student support services that meet the varying needs of students.

Dr. Román earned both his doctorate and master's degrees in Public Administration from the University of La Verne. He also earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside.

During this transition, Dr. Monte E. Perez will serve as the Interim President at East Los Angeles College. His contract will also be on the November 6, 2024, board agenda with a start date of November 7, 2024. With a decade of prior experience as President at Los Angeles Mission College, Dr. Perez brings an excellent understanding of LACCD's mission, a strong emphasis on student success, and a collaborative working style. Dr. Perez is also from the Eastside and is a graduate of Garfield High School. Dr. Perez will work closely with faculty, staff, and students at ELAC, and will provide the leadership and continued momentum necessary to advance key student- and campus-focused initiatives at ELAC, and outreach to the community.

## District Office Events & Updates



Office of Human Resources



The Total Wellness Program encourages you to join us for Walktober Wellness Challenge to get back in the groove and start to move!

Walking for 30 minutes a day or more on most days of the week is a great way to ease joint pain, boost your immune system, and improve or maintain your overall health.

Read more information on this event and how to register.



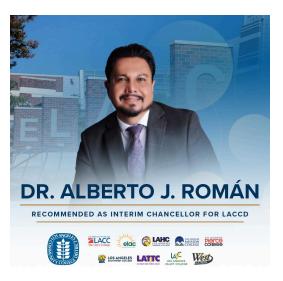
Office of Communications & Marketing



Join us as we reflect on Chancellor Rodriguez's remarkable journey and the legacy he leaves behind.



After a decade of transformative leadership, Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., concludes his tenure as Chancellor of LACCD on November 2, 2024.



LACCD Board of Trustees is recommending Dr. Alberto J. Román, current President at East Los Angeles College (ELAC), for a oneyear appointment as the Interim Chancellor.



## LACCD Recipients of the LARAEC Innovation and Collaboration Awards

On October 19th, the Los Angeles Regional Adult Education Consortium (LARAEC) Experience was held at the Sheraton Universal Hotel. This annual event provides a fantastic platform to celebrate the incredible achievements happening in our noncredit and adult education programs. One of the highlights of the day was the presentation of the LARAEC Innovation and Collaboration Awards. These awards recognized dedicated faculty and staff who went above and beyond to implement innovative programs and collaborative efforts that made a significant impact. The following inspiring programs and contributions were recognized at this year's event:

**LA City College** was honored for its Business Enterprise Incubator, which empowered undocumented entrepreneurs by integrating entrepreneurship education with essential support. This initiative helped undocumented students launch businesses to achieve their educational goals. Congratulations to

Michelle Segura Joof, Alexus Medina, Carolina Yernazian, Luis Quiroz, Gerson Cortes Palacios, and Valeria Diaz.

**Los Angeles Valley College** received recognition for the "Community Health Worker Training to Employment" program. This collaboration between the Adult Education Department and Workforce Development enhanced enrollment and employment outcomes for students in the Community Health Worker noncredit program. Congratulations to Irene Mah y Busch, Victoria Santiago, Alejandra Sosa Lopez, Linda Lopez, Maryel Giron, and Hasmik Kirkosyan.

**West LA College** held its first annual Conferencia De Liderazgo, attracting nearly 100 attendees. This Spanish-language event, produced by the Adult Education Program and the CA Center for Climate Change Education, aimed to empower learners. Participants received a Certification of Completion in 21st Century Employability Skills: Resilience and Self-Awareness. Congratulations to Iliana Limas, Imelda Perez, Maritza Medina, Emily Cobar, Jo Tavares, and Marilyn Chavez.

**Los Angeles City College** also organized a Student Success Conference to inform students about noncredit programs, transitioning to credit, and campus services. The three-day event facilitated interaction with program coordinators, offering a welcoming environment both in-person and via Zoom. Congratulations to Angelica Ramirez, Raquel Michelle-Jackson, Sandra Pena, and Marine Balayan.







#### LA Pierce College – Academic East Building Groundbreaking

On October 11, 2024, Los Angeles Pierce College hosted a groundbreaking ceremony or the Academic East Building. Speakers at the event included Congressman Brad Sherman, LAPC President Aracely Aguiar, Board President Nichelle Henderson, Trustee David Vela, and Interim Chief Facilities Executive Leigh Sata. The new Academic East Building is a 54,000 square foot building that will be a state-of-the-art facility, specifically designed to house the College's Math, Computer Science, and Psychology departments. The Academic East Building will complement the heart of the campus, creating a gateway to the northeast portion and serving as a symbol of innovation and forward thinking.

The Academic East Building is funded by Measure CC and will be completed in Spring of 2027.





# LA Pierce College- Child Development Academic Facility

On October 29, 2024, Los Angeles Pierce College celebrated the completion of the wood framing of the Child Development Academic Facility. After six months of construction, Suffolk Construction reached this important milestone, giving shape to the future home of the Child Development and Early Childhood Education Program. Crews of laborers, field surveyors, operating engineers, sheet metal workers, carpenters, electricians, iron workers, plumbers and cement masons, have work, collectively, almost 11,000 hours to make this 100% electric, Net Zero Energy a reality. The approximately 11,000 square foot project consists of three buildings centered around a courtyard designed to enable indoor and outdoor learning, working and teaching environments.

The Child Development Academic Facility is funded by Measure CC and will open in 2026.





# LACCD Enrollment Update

Fall 2024 TO Fall 2023 COMPARISONS

DAY 70 - RELATIVE TO THE BEGINNING OF INSTRUCTION

Relative Day Comparisons for Day 70, comparing Fall 2024 (Monday, November 4, 2024) to Fall 2023 (Monday, November 6, 2023). Data source: LACCD PS Student Information System.

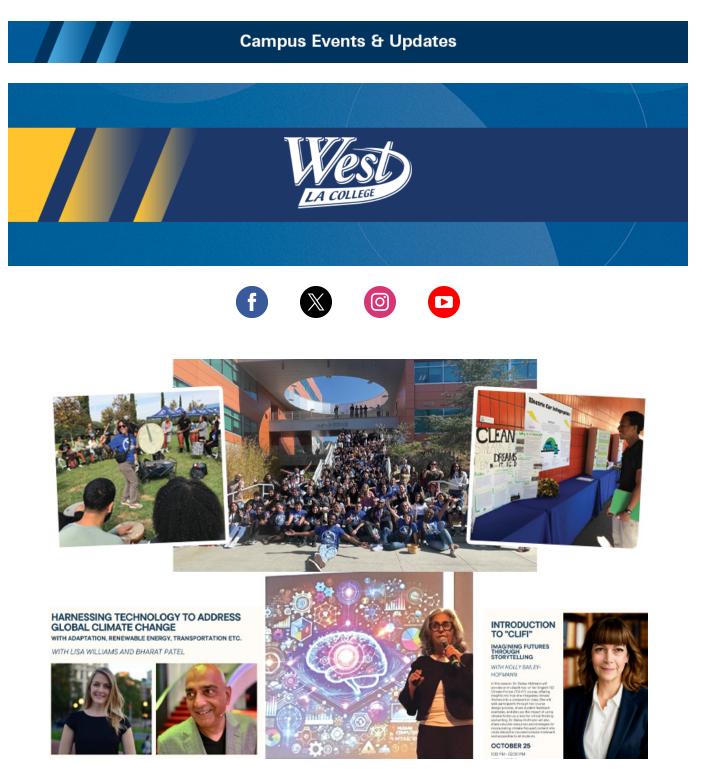


# Fall 2024 Enrollment Update:

Comparing Fall 2024 to Fall 2023 as day 70 of the semester, districtwide, student credit headcount is up by 4% and enrollment is 7% higher while class offerings are down by 1% and enrollment per section is up by 8%. Increases in younger students are observed (+9% increase for the under age 20 group and +5% for the 20-24 age group) as well as declines for older age groups (-2% for the 25-34 age group and -9% for the 35-54 age group), likely due to more effective identity verification screening in Fall 2024 as compared with Fall 2023. Additionally, increases are observed for Asian students (+6%), Hispanic students (+5%), and White students (+2%) while there is a decline in Unknown students (-8%). A 14% increase in full-time students is also observed, together with a small decline for part-time students. There is also a decline in first-time students (-10%), together with increases in returning students

(+19%) and concurrent high school students (+19%). Noncredit headcount and enrollment both increased by 10% (15,588 to 17,120 for headcount and 28,036 to 30,978 for enrollment). 47% of classes are being taught remotely, 46% are in-person, and 7% are hybrid. Remote classes have the highest fill rate (80%) followed by hybrid (78%) and in-person classes (56%).

#### View the LACCD Fall 2024 Enrollment Update PDF version



## 2nd Annual Climate Action Palooza - Climate Center News

The Center for Climate Change Education at West held its 2nd Annual Climate Action Palooza on October 24, 25 & 26.

• Day 1 was "Reclaiming Our Tomorrow," where 300 high school students displayed posters and 3D models presenting their innovative solutions for climate-resilient communities.

- Day 2 was the Climate Innovation Professional Conference featuring workshops led by thought and industry leaders, and educators including Lisa Williams and Bharat Patel, LACCD's Sustainability & Utility Program Manager and Head of Sustainability for Build LACCD. WLAC Professor Holly Bailey-Hofmann discussed "Cli-fi," a form of fiction literature that features a changed or changing climate. LATTC Professor Marcela Oliva provided a keynote address on architecture and environmental design.
- On the final day, West welcomed students and community members to a Circular Communities Fair. Circular Communities seek to create community spaces for gardening, making, reusing, sharing and repairing, and increasing opportunities for residents to regularly interact. In addition to information on how to achieve circular communities, visitors participated in a drum circle, swapped clothing and costumes, and enjoyed food and music.

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan who helped launch the Climate Center, Culver City Mayor Yasmine-Imani McMorrin, and representatives of Mayor Karen Bass and Sydney Kai Kamlager-Dove were among the elected who provided greetings.



## More Climate Center News

**20 Paid Student Internships:** Building on the success of its summer internship program, the Climate Center has partnered with the California Youth Leadership Corps to launch the Climate Action & Environmental Justice Fellowship. This program has placed 29 WLAC students in a nine-month paid fellowship that includes climate change education and hands-on experience with community-based organizations. The program aims to build leadership and advocacy skills among marginalized youth, focusing on racial and economic justice. Community-based organizations will mentor the students, providing work-based learning opportunities.

**Professor Selected for State Chancellor's Fellowship Program:** California Community Colleges Chancellor Sonya Christian recently announced five fellows will take part in the inaugural Chancellor's Climate Fellows Program – a two-year commitment for faculty and staff to support statewide climate-related work with Chancellor Christian and the Chancellor's Office. WLAC's Professor Holly Bailey-Hofmann was one of the five selected.

# LAUSD Principals Learn About the LA Promise Program and Dual Enrollment Through LACCD

West Los Angeles College hosted a professional development day on October 16 for the 60 principals of LAUSD Option Schools and the 9 LACCD campuses. Participants learned about community college programs for the students they serve, including the benefits of dual enrollment while their students are completing high school. After a morning session that highlighted LA College Promise, FAFSA/CADA workshops, and student support programs offered at the nine colleges, principals met in breakout rooms with representatives from their designated LACCD campus to plan dual enrollment offerings and discuss ways to further their partnerships.

## President Limbaugh Interviewed on EdUp Experience Podcast

College President James M. Limbaugh was interviewed by Dr. Joe Sallustio on the EdUp Experience podcast. On **Episode 961**: Transforming Urban Education - Dr. James Limbaugh addressed questions such as How is West Los Angeles College innovating its community college model for today's students? What strategies is the college employing to address climate change education? How is the college balancing workforce development with transfer preparation? Sallustio, the podcast host, is co-author of "Commencement: The Beginning of a New Era in Higher Education."



# Career Center Recognized by Building Skills Partnership (BSP)

West will receive a Leadership Award at the November BSP Scholarship Gala for "impactful work and support of Building Skills Partnership throughout the years." The award recognizes "organizations or individuals who demonstrate leadership in advancing innovative programs or partnerships to impact property service workers. We deeply appreciate your support, leadership, and partnership in ensuring BSP continues to meet the needs of airport workers. Your commitment to providing opportunities to airport workers to access career mobility through our programs is invaluable, and we are truly grateful for your collaboration."





## **3rd Annual Flag Raising for National Coming Out Day**

On October 10, students, faculty, and staff gathered at the campus flagpole for the Rainbow Pride Center's 3rd annual National Coming Out Day flag raising. The keynote speaker was LAVC alumnus Kevin Perez, co-founder of Somos Familia Valley. There was also food, music and a community resource fair.



# LAVC College Fair

The LAVC Career / Transfer Center held its annual College Fair on October 16 to give LAVC students an opportunity to meet with representatives from CSU, UC, private, and out-of-state universities. Students got information on the available academic programs, asked questions and learned how to apply.



# Dia de Los Muertos Celebration at the Unity Center

The LAVC Unity Center hosted a Celebration of Life on October 28 for students, faculty and staff to remember the loved ones they have lost. There was a Dia de Los Muertos Altar (Day of the Dead), food and a mariachi performance.

# **Upcoming Events**

#### First-Generation College Celebration

Thursday, November 7 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

The **<u>First-Generation College Celebration</u>** where we will recognize and celebrate the contributions and experiences of first-generation students and personnel at LA Valley College.

#### Homecoming Pregame Tailgate & Game

Saturday, November 9 from 3-8:30 p.m.

Students, community, alumni, faculty and staff are invited to come back to Valley! Come show your Monarch pride before the big game at our <u>Homecoming Pregame Tailgate</u> with food (\$10 suggested donation), music, games, giveaways and plenty of school spirit. Plus, free admission to the <u>homecoming game versus Santa Monica College</u>.

#### Farmers Market

Sundays, November 10, 17 and 24 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Good Times Farmers Market is hosting a <u>farmer market at LA Valley College</u> every Sunday yearround. Come purchase fresh produce, food, beverages, baked goods and handcrafted items.

#### Monarch Market's Weekly Food Distribution

Wednesdays, November 13, 20, and 27 at 11 a.m. The LAVC Basic Needs Center, in collaboration with Student Lunch Box, offers a weekly <u>Monarch</u> <u>Market food distribution</u> every Wednesday. Students and community members in need are invited to drop by to pick up nutritious produce.





# LATTC Raises the Pride Flag and Rolls Out a Campus Celebration for Its New Pride Center

On October 10, Trade-Tech celebrated the opening of its first Pride Center. Called "Bucky's Pride Center," after the college's mascot, the center's opening celebration coincided with the week of National Coming Out Day and featured a full afternoon of celebration, resources, and community.

The event began with the raising of the Pride flag outside Bucky's Pride Center. The program continued at the Culinary Arts Plaza with remarks from President McQuarters; Vice President of Student Services, Dr. Henan Joof; and Dean of Student Services, Dr. Ralph Davis, followed by special performances by celebrated drag artists. Concluding remarks were provided by LACCD Trustee David Vela.



Bucky's Pride Center features computer stations free printing a lounge area for students to socialize, and resources for mental health and wellness, sexual education, financial assistance, four-year university pride centers, and more. LATTC is proud to host this space, which meets a college priority to ensure that all students feel a sense of belonging and community so they can achieve academic and personal success.

The opening received coverage in the <u>LA Daily News</u>. View the <u>full event album</u> on the college's Facebook page.

Bucky's Pride Center (D4-323) is open to students during the following hours: Mondays and Wednesdays: 10 am–4 pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10 am–4 pm



# LATTC Dream Resource Center Hosts 2nd Annual Empowerment Luncheon

On October 17, LATTC's Dream Resource Center hosted its 2nd Annual Empowerment Luncheon, supporting its undocumented, AB540, and dreamer students in pursuit of their higher education.



The event, hosted during the <u>8th Annual California Community Colleges' Undocumented Student</u> <u>Action Week</u>, began with welcome remarks from Dean of Student Services, Maggie Cordero, followed by a taco and enchilada lunch. LATTC's Culinary Arts students also staffed an impressive dessert station which served fresh made-to-order crepes, chocolate chip cookies, and red velvet mini cupcakes.



The program continued with remarks from President McQuarters and LACCD Trustees Nichelle Henderson and Dr. Gabriel Buelna. Guests also heard from Christopher Yik, former LATTC graduate intern and counselor LA City College and El Camino College and Darling Duron, a current LATTC student and dreamer scholarship recipient.





## LATTC Serves as Host Location for 11th Annual Think STEAM Expo

On October 4, LATTC served as the host location for the 11th Annual Think STEAM Expo. The event brought together nearly 2,000 registered guests from local high schools for educational experiences in science, technology, engineering, arts, aviation, agriculture, aerospace, and math with workshops, live demos, music, food, and scholarships. LATTC was invited to participate in interactive booths highlighting the college's various pathways and services. This provided a key opportunity to connect with high school students, particularly those who are interested in the STEAM fields.



Repujado Art and Gallery Exhibit

The LASC Cultural Heritage & the Arts Collective (CHA) held two Hispanic Heritage Month art workshops where students and employees explored the traditional art of metal embossing, known as

"repujado." Participants learned how to create intricate, raised designs on thin sheets of aluminum metal, and creations were displayed on the gallery wall as part of the "Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together" LASC Gallery Exhibition.



#### Loteria

Los Angeles Southwest College's Dream Resource Center hosted events for "Undocumented Student Action Week" (USAW) on Oct. 14th-18th. During this week of action, they highlighted our commitment to undocumented students, united allies, and created a strong network of support, resources, and community.

Highlights from the week included an USAW Advocacy Kiosk, Undocu-Ally Training for employees, ITIN Taxes workshop for the community and the Loteria Game for students and Employees



Halloween Spooktacular

LASC's Arts & Humanities Department and Associated Student Organization presented the 2nd Annual Halloween Spooktacular. On Saturday, October 26 from 3 – 5:30 families from the community, LASC students, and employees gathered at the LASC Little Theatre for art activities, games, storytelling, and a haunted backstage theatre tour. The event was a great success thanks to the faculty and student volunteers.







#### Pierce College Biotech Students Shine in Washington, D.C.

Los Angeles Pierce College (LAPC) recently had the exciting opportunity to send a team of students and faculty to Washington, D.C., for an educational experience with a national impact.

Led by Professor Aaron Kamajaya, the group included four students, a faculty colleague, and an industry partner. All travel was funded by a grant supporting workforce development in biotechnology, making this journey possible.

A highlight of the trip was a private tour of the U.S. Capitol building, hosted by Congressman Brad Sherman's office, where students got a unique look inside the Capitol and discussed the biotechnology industry with the congressman's senior policy staff. This engaging conversation focused on expanding biotech career pathways and training programs in our region, showcasing Pierce's commitment to workforce development in this growing field.

The Pierce team led a "Spotlight on Undergraduate Research" panel, where they presented groundbreaking research projects that underscore the college's dedication to hands-on learning and real-world career prep. To cap it off, two Pierce students also shared their first peer-reviewed publication, a collaboration through Pierce's ASPIRE program with a local high school partner—a milestone for our students and for Pierce College's biotech program.

#### **Construction Begins on Pierce College Academic East Building**

Los Angeles Pierce College recently celebrated the start of construction on the new 56,000-square-foot Academic East Building. With the addition of 60kW of rooftop solar PVs, this all-electric classroom



facility will move the campus one step closer to reaching net zero by 2040. The future building will house the Pierce College Math, Psychology and Computer Science Departments.

Regional leaders and the college community celebrated the future home of the Computer Science & Information Technology, Mathematics, and Psychology departments. The groundbreaking ceremony highlighted its role in advancing LACCD's Clean Energy and Sustainability goals. Academic East Building is designed to address the western San Fernando Valley's micro-climate with punched windows to take advantage of natural light and minimize solar heat gain. The central courtyard adds

outdoor shaded study areas to reduce the heat island effect. The project includes a 3,800-square-foot bio-filtration planter surrounded by a tree grove with drip irrigation, which will reduce water use by 50%, and an efficient building utility management system.

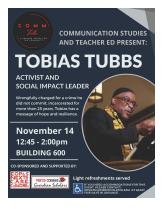
"The investment in our students starts with providing world-class facilities that give them the tools needed for a 21st century education," said Aracely Aguiar, President of Los Angeles Pierce College. "For over 75 years, Pierce College has raised the bar for our students and the new Academic East building continues the trend of improving how we teach, learn and nurture student success."



## Cultivating Careers in Water Efficiency

Pierce part-time Professor Jonathan Ebrahimpour is bringing hands-on learning in plant science to Venice High School students through a dual enrollment class that connects academic theory with real-world applications. Recently certified as a Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL), Ebrahimpour is passing on essential skills in sustainable water management to young minds. Not only does this benefit students at Venice High, but with Pierce

College now established as a QWEL certifying agent, students across the region can gain practical expertise in eco-friendly landscaping. For those interested in pursuing certification, PLNT SC 828, the Sustainable Water Management class planned for Fall 2025, promises to deepen students' impact on sustainable landscapes.



## **Communication Studies and Teacher Ed Present:**

Tobias Tubbs, Activist and Social Impact Leader.

Wrongfully charged for a crime he did not commit, and incarcerated for more than 25 years, Tobias has a message of hope and resilience.

November 14 12:45 - 2:00 pm BUILDING 600

# LOS ANGELES Mission College





# Mission College WorkSource Center Opens Doors to New Job Opportunities

On Monday, October 7th, Los Angeles Mission College was joined by City Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez (CD-7) and county partners to announce the opening of their new WorkSource Center, located in the heart of the college's main campus.

The creation of this WorkSource Center in the Northeast San Fernando Valley provides the local community with at-reach employment services and will

increase access to the surrounding communities of Sylmar, San Fernando, Pacoima, and Panorama City.

Goodwill Southern California serves as the WorkSource provider and will provide student and community members with access to job training, resume building, employment referrals, career guidance, and additional support services.

Job seekers will have access to the skills needed to equip themselves to succeed in their career, whether that is beginning a new career, advancing in their current career path, or transitioning into a new industry.



# LAMC Sparks BioscienceLA Week, Connecting Students with the Future of Biotech

On Tuesday, October 15th, Los Angeles Mission College kicked off BioscienceLA Week, a four-day, county-wide celebration of the collective progress in advancing the bioscience ecosystem in Los Angeles.

LAMC College President Armida Ornelas, Ph.D., and

Biotechnology Program Director Chander Arora, Ph.D., served as guest speakers, addressing nearly 300 college and high school students. STEM Dean Farisa Morales and Life Science Chair Stephen Brown also led discussion panels focusing on how to launch a successful career in Bioscience.



#### **Facilities Appreciation Luncheon**

L.A. Mission College celebrated National Custodians Day on Wednesday, October 2nd, by hosting a luncheon in honor of our entire Maintenance & Operations staff. College faculty, staff, and administrators expressed their appreciation through in-person speeches and tribute videos.



# LAMC Leaders Recognized at Valley Luchadores Awards Ceremony

Los Angeles Mission College was honored by Congressman Tony Cárdenas (CA-29) at his final Valley Luchadores Awards Ceremony on Thursday, October 3rd.

College President Armida Ornelas, Ph.D., was recognized for nearly 30 years of advocating for educational equity and increasing access to higher education for underrepresented communities in the San Fernando Valley and beyond.

LAMC Foundation Board Member Bobby Arias was honored alongside William "Blinky" Rodriguez for their decades-long commitment to gang intervention and reentry support through Champions in Service.





# LAHC Gala Recap

The Gala was an evening of celebration, connection and anticipation for the bright future ahead for Harbor College. A total of 200 guests joined the celebration. It was great to connect with former Seahawks, current Seahawks, the campus community and the community at large. The baton has been passed on to the next generation that will lead Harbor for the next 75 years. Harbor will continue the work of educating the hearts and minds of the community. Thank you to our sponsors and the committee that put the fantastic event together. We were honored to have Trustee Henderson, Trustee lino and Kelly King join us at the event.



**<u>Puppies!</u>** Thank you to Harbor's ASO for bringing puppies on campus to ease the stress on students entering mid-terms. The puppies were a hit!

## **STEM Transfer University Panel**

We strive to keep our Seahawks informed of all the opportunities they have available. It can be daunting for students as they prepare to transfer to their university of choice. The STEM TCAP is hosting a STEM Transfer Admissions Panel on **Tuesday, November 12th from 1-3 pm** in the **ASO Conference Room**.

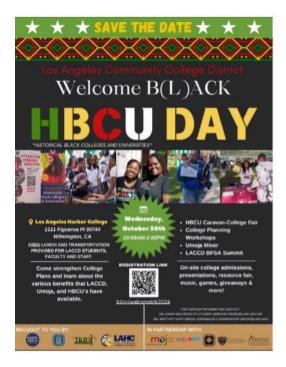
CSU Long Beach, UC Irvine, USC, and Charles Drew University will be joining us and sharing important information and tips on the admission process for their school. This is a great opportunity for STEM students, as well as anyone else interested, to learn more about these schools, the admission process, and how to be a competitive applicant.





# Pop-Up Food Pantry

Students at times struggle with basic needs. Harbor Essentials serves our Seahawks throughout the week with the food pantry. Thursday, October 24, Harbor hosted a drive-thru giveaway that served 210 students and families. Thank you Hollywood Food Coalition, Athens Services, and RecycleLA for your partnership.



# Welcome B(L)ack HBCU Day

The highly anticipated day is finally here! On October 30, Harbor College hosted about 1,000 students and faculty interested in hearing more about Historically Black Colleges and Universities. They learned about college plans and the various benefits



# Culinary Students get a Cultural Experience!

On Tuesday, October 29, Harbor, in collaboration with <u>KCCLA X</u> hosted a Korean Food Cooking Competition – Flavors that LACCD, Umoja, and HBCUs have available. The event had on-site admissions, presentations, a resource fair, music, games, giveaways, and more! of Korea. Students explored the flavors of Korea and engaged in competition with other culinary students.





# Congratulations to the Women's Cross Country Team!

The men and women competed in the SCC Championship. <u>Sherlyn Gomez placed 1st in the women's race</u> <u>- individual conference champion; Keona Mataalii placed 7th;</u> The women placed 3rd overall and the men placed 5th overall. Both teams qualify for the Southern CAL Championships in two weeks at Chaffey College. Winning the race is fantastic, finishing the race is LIFE-CHANGING.



Nick, on the team, came in at the end, but he was not alone. The Harbor team ran the last part of the race with him and ran by his side till the end. The sportsmanship spirit was contagious, and several others joined. It was an amazing sight to see. Go Seahawks! The conference did an excellent write-up on Sherlyn -"LAHC's Sherlyn Gomez is South Coast Conference Women's Cross Country Champ." We got you!





# East Los Angeles College Announces Groundbreaking Bachelor's Degree in Respiratory Therapy

ELAC is proud to announce that through the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) application process, the State of California Board of Governors has approved ELAC's first-ever baccalaureate degree—Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy (BSRT). ELAC has also received substantive change approval for the BSRT from the Accrediting Commission for

Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). This historic milestone marks the first bachelor's degree offered in ELAC's over 75-year history, signaling a new era of advanced education opportunities for respiratory care professionals.

"An ELAC bachelor's degree in respiratory therapy will not only open doors to advanced career opportunities, specialization, and higher salary potential, it will also prepare students for the everchanging healthcare landscape by equipping them with critical thinking, problem-solving, and leadership skills to deliver evidence-based care that will make a real difference in patients' lives," said Respiratory Therapy Chair Michael Haines.

The BSRT program at ELAC is designed to meet the evolving needs of working respiratory therapists while providing a pathway for career advancement:

- **Flexible Online Format:** The program is entirely online, allowing students to balance their studies with professional commitments. While on-campus learning opportunities are available, the core curriculum is accessible remotely.
- **Career Advancement:** Graduates with a BSRT degree will be well-positioned for higher-level roles in management and education within the respiratory care field.
- **Customizable Pacing:** The 18-month program offers flexibility, enabling students to progress at a comfortable pace that suits their individual needs.
- Working Professional-Friendly Faculty: Asynchronous courses cater to working RTs, with ample faculty support available through office hours, ZOOM sessions, or in-person meetings.
- Workplace-Centered Curriculum: The program's student-focused approach integrates coursework with real-world applications in students' current work environments.
- Evidence-Based Practice: Courses emphasize evidence-based medicine and research, enhancing students' understanding of patient case management.
- Affordable Education: The program's cost-effective structure makes it accessible for ASRT holders to pursue their BSRT, opening doors to career growth.
- **Seamless Transition:** ELAC ASRT graduates who pass their credentialing exams are granted automatic acceptance into the BSRT program, facilitating a smooth educational progression.

#### **Program Requirements and Outcomes**

Applicants must already hold Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credentials and an Associate's Degree in Respiratory Therapy to enroll in the BSRT. While the program does not lead to additional certifications, it significantly enhances the qualifications and expertise of practicing respiratory therapists.

"This groundbreaking Bachelor's degree in Respiratory Therapy marks a pivotal moment in East Los Angeles College's history. By offering our first-ever bachelor's program, we're not only elevating our academic offerings but also empowering our students and working professionals to reach new heights in their education and careers. We're proud to be leaders in advancing respiratory care education and providing our community with enhanced opportunities for professional growth and success," said ELAC President Alberto J. Román.

The introduction of the BSRT program is expected to dramatically increase the number of ELAC respiratory therapy students, further solidifying ELAC's position as a leader in respiratory care education.

For more information about the Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy program at East Los Angeles College, please visit contact **<u>BSRT@ELAC.edu</u>** or call 323-265-8813.



# ELAC Hosts Social Justice Town Hall Titled Mendez et al. V. Westminster et al: Paving the Path to Educational Justice and Racial Equality

On October 17, 2024, East Los Angeles College hosted a vibrant and well-attended symposium commemorating the landmark Mendez v. Westminster case. The event, titled "Mendez et al. v. Westminster et al: Paving the Path to Educational Justice and Racial Equality," drew a diverse crowd of students, scholars, and community members to the S2 Recital Hall.

The symposium kicked off with a powerful panel discussion featuring former students of the "Mexican" schools and plaintiffs involved in the original lawsuit. Their firsthand accounts provided a poignant reminder of the segregation that once plagued California's education system. Scholars and researchers joined the conversation, offering insights into the case's far-reaching implications for social justice and racial equality.

A highlight of the event was the screening of a clip from a new documentary about the Mendez case. Catherine Murphy, creative director of Maestra Productions, shared her perspective on the film's production and its significance in preserving this crucial piece of civil rights history.

Dr. Daniel G. Solorzano, a distinguished professor from UCLA and Director of the Center for Critical Race Studies in Education, delivered a compelling keynote address. His speech emphasized the enduring impact of Mendez v. Westminster on educational policy and civil rights legislation.

The symposium provided a comprehensive overview of the 1947 class action lawsuit that successfully ended de jure segregation in California schools. Speakers highlighted how the case laid crucial groundwork for the later Brown v. Board of Education decision, which desegregated schools nationwide.

The symposium not only commemorated a pivotal moment in civil rights history but also served as an educational platform. It aligned with recent California legislation mandating the inclusion of the Mendez v. Westminster case in history and social science curricula across the state. As the event concluded, participants left with a deeper understanding of this often-overlooked chapter in American history. The Mendez v. Westminster symposium stood as a testament to the power of community engagement and the ongoing struggle for educational equity and racial justice.





# LACC Hosted Inaugural LGBTQ+N Literary Festival

LACC hosted the inaugural LGBTQ+Ñ Festival, the first-ever literary festival dedicated to bringing together Spanish and Latin American writers who explore and celebrate sexual diversity in their works. This pioneering event marks a cultural milestone in the world of Spanish-language literature and LGBTQ+ representation. The LGBTQ+Ñ Festival, from October 3-14, 2024, and on October 3 and 4 at LACC, created a dynamic platform for creative expression, dialogue, and cultural exchange around the experiences and perspectives of the LGBTQ+ community. Media coverage included KABC-TV. KNBC-TV and Telemundo. View media clips at https://muckrack.com/broadcast/savedcli ps/view/iHKnymjj60.

# LACCD Hangul Day Anniversary Recognition

October 9th was proclaimed as Hangul Day by the Los Angeles City Council in 2023. The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) will recognize the 1st anniversary as its Los Angeles City College (LACC) has the largest and the most accessible Korean Program in the U.S. To celebrate the college's partnership with Sejong City, the de facto capital of the Republic of Korea, Andrew Lee and John Lee were awarded certificates of recognition for their efforts to elevate Korean language and cultural education during the LACCD October board meeting.

## LACC Foundation Gala

On October 23, LACC held its Foundation Annual Gala at the Skirball Cultural Center. The event celebrated caregivers in Public Health Science, Radiologic Technology and Nursing. Comedian Ken Jeong received the Rodney Respect Award.



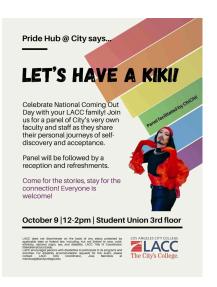
# Seminar on Trans-National Strategies in Erasing Black Ableism

On October 22, 24, and 26 LACC, in partnership with UCLA, Faith Without Borders, Beloved Community Coalition, Soul & Strategy Center and Poor Magazine hosted the first annual seminar on Trans-National Strategies in Erasing Black Ableism. The events included lectures, panel discussions, spoken word presentations, and discussions on homefulness, disabilities and Krip-Hop Advocacy.



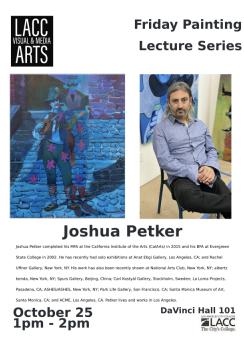
## **Understanding Money Classes**

On October 21 and 28, LACC hosted free Understanding Money classes. Topics included staying out of debt, building savings, investing and financial planning.



# **National Coming Out Day**

LACC celebrated National Coming Out Day on October 9 with a panel discussion featuring LACC faculty and staff sharing their



personal journeys of self-discovery and acceptance.

# LACC Visual & Media Arts Painting Lecture Series

LACC's VAMA hosted painter Joshua Petker on October 25 for their Friday Painting Lecture Series.

#### LACC Hosts Datathon

LACC hosted a Datathon competition on Saturday, November 2. Students were able to compete in challenges and participate in valuable networking.

#### LACC Hosts Vote Center

LACC hosted a voting center on November 2-4 from 10 am to 7 pm and November 5 from 7 am to 8 pm in the Student Union Multipurpose Room.

#### In The News

Taste of Soul Sponsor LACCD Offers New Baccalaureate Degree Programs LA Sentinel

<u>Serving Black Students: The Urgency of All Money In on Black Serving Institutions</u> LA Sentinel

<u>SSU celebrates success of transfer students and pathways programs</u> Sonoma State University News

<u>College and Career Pathway Program Offers a Different Path for Justice-Involved Youth</u> The San Fernando Valley Sun

L.A. County Probation Department Launches College, Career Pathway Program SCV News

<u>New streamlined sign-up process makes transferring to ASU even easier</u> ASU News

<u>Funding roundup</u> Community College Daily

<u>Coming soon — Live results: LA Community College District Board of Trustees</u> LAist

Your guide to the L.A. Community College District Board of Trustees election Los Angeles Times

Newsom veto blocks bachelor's path for City College nursing students The Channels

<u>California climate initiative could unlock new opportunities for community college students</u> EdSource

Positive Partnership: Creating Internships for Community College Students Inside Higher Ed

#### **Dual Enrollment Courses Linked To College Success, Finds New Report** Forbes

Raw sewage and bursting pipes: Why California community colleges are asking voters for repairs

Cal Matters

Endorsement: Yes on Proposition 2 to repair California's many dilapidated schools Los Angeles Times

OUT OF THE BOX SHOWCASE Set for LACC Theatre Academy Next Month Broadway World

Ken Jeong Set for Award Named for Comedy Icon Rodney Dangerfield at Los Angeles City **College Gala** 

The Hollywood Reporter

Years in the making, an art class at East LA College gives students path into Getty's massive SoCal project

LAist

Los Angeles Agencies Launch Initiative to Offer Education Over Criminal Records for Youths Hoodline

Los Angeles County DA Gascón Collaborates in College and Career Pathway Program Offering a Second Chance for Justice-Involved Youths Sierra Sun Times

LA Mission College Opens New WorkSource Center to Connect Community with Job **Opportunities** The San Fernando Valley Sun

Pierce College breaks ground on 56,000-square-foot expansion Urbanize LA

Los Angeles Trade-Technical College opens new "Bucky's Pride Center" for LGBTQ+ students Los Angeles Daily News

2nd Annual Climate Action Palooza at West LA College Culver City Observer

West LA College – Climate Action Palooza Culver City Crossroads



# 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.

Members of the LACCD Board | Nichelle Henderson, President | Kelsey K. lino, Ed.D., Vice President | Sara Hernandez, J.D., Second Vice President | Gabriel Buelna, Ph.D. | Andra Hoffman | David Vela | Steven F. Veres | Ambyr C. Baham, Student Trustee

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