



April 2019



Transfer Students Attend UCLA Field Trip



Thirteen Crafton Hills students attended UCLA's annual STOMP conference during spring break. They participated in workshops designed to increase their likelihood to be admitted at UCLA and other UC campuses.

Additional events included a ceremonial blessing, keynote speakers, a resource fair and campus tours. Students were surveyed after the event and asked the impact this event had on their decision to apply to this campus. Based on the survey results, all but one of the students who completed the survey indicated it had "A significant impact."

While students participated in their own workshops, the counselors and chaperones had a different itinerary which included a general admission presentation and speakers from the college of engineering and teacher education. Thanks to CHC University Transfer Coordinator Mariana Moreno, who arranged and attended the trip.

Crafton had the honor of hosting time trials for the RBC on Friday, March 13. It was a beautiful, although windy, day and a true pleasure to bring community members to the campus. We hope to host again next year.



This is Crafton.

Ernesto Rivera: From Migrant Worker to Master's Degree

Ernesto Rivera is proud of his past.

From the harvest fields of central California to becoming a counselor at Crafton Hills College, the 36-year-old Beaumont resident and father of three looks fondly at his past when it comes to helping Roadrunners forge a path to higher education.

"I think it's a surprise when I mention it," he said by phone. "I'm not ashamed of it at all." As a child, Rivera and his family spent six months out of the year living in Calexico, California where his parents worked as migrant workers, a job he'd later take on. Along with a strong work ethic, Rivera's parents encouraged their children – he is the oldest sibling of three – to get an education. It did not matter what degree their children would pursue, they saw the value in education, Rivera explained.



A first generation-college student, Rivera pursued his bachelor's at the University of California, Riverside, where he planned to become a teacher. But his experience working for Upper Bound, an on-campus program promoting higher education with an emphasis on working with first-generation college students like himself, changed all that.

From that experience, Rivera would shift gears to counseling and would go on to obtain a master's in counseling from the University of Redlands and entered the field. He ended up taking a year off from counseling to work as a contractor alongside his father before applying for a gig at Crafton. In Jan. of 2013, Rivera was officially hired as a STEM – Science, Technology, Education and Math – Counselor at CHC and remains an integral part of the counseling department at the college.

"The one thing that intrigued me at Crafton was, it was a small college. I refer to it as 'The Little Engine That Could' because I saw so much potential," he said. "We have an awesome counseling department here and I figured I could have a much bigger impact by coming to a college like this."

That impact includes working with all populations of students through one-on-one interactions, looking into different ways to reach students both on- and-off campus - such as online counseling, and partnering with Crafton's "awesome transfer center" and Veterans Resource Center to ensure all student needs are met.

"We do a lot of things – a lot for a little college," said Rivera, who is now the college's faculty co-chair for the counseling department, adding although the students he works with come from varied backgrounds, all have one similar trait in common – balancing a busy schedule.

And when it comes to sharing that reality with them, Rivera does not hold back. "I let them know that there are other students with similar struggles and they're not the only ones who have work and study, but what they need to do is figure out what's going to come first," he said. "Although there are a lot of academic-related questions we are asked, a lot of our success has to do with the personal counseling that goes on. The hook may be academics, but we are here for students to share their fears and help them find a solution."

This is Crafton.

Sam Maybrier: Theatre Alum Broadens View of Shakespeare

A former Roadrunner is on their way to travel abroad to study Shakespeare.

Sam Maybrier was recently accepted into the master's scholar and performance study program of the famous playwright's works at The Shakespeare Institute at the University of Birmingham in Stratford Upon Avon, the birthplace of Shakespeare.

"Through this program I get to gain access and resources at The Shakespeare (Birthplace) Trust and the Royal Shakespeare Company," the 25-year-old Mentone resident said. "The plan is to continue my studies in theater practice and continue my research and analysis of his works, while bringing my fresh ideas to the theater there."

Maybrier's path abroad was created at Crafton. Although the plan was to obtain a bachelor's in creative writing at first, Maybrier soon discovered a passion for the theater and began taking courses in the study, later staging productions under the guidance of Tom Bryant, the faculty chair of the fine arts.

Maybrier knew there was more to be done and started exploring ways to present Shakespeare's works with modern times by swapping gender-specific roles to staging scenes in different settings, such as a gay club in an adaptation of *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.

After spending three years at Crafton, Maybrier started attending the University of Redlands, and it was at U of R where Maybrier was able to create their own major through the Johnston Center for Integrative Studies, which allows students to design a course study that best suits their educational needs and professional objectives.

Maybrier's focus – "Shakesqueer: Marginalized Identity in Text, Composition and Adaptation." "I had always liked Shakespeare," Maybrier said, "but once I got into the acting more at Crafton and started taking more classes taught by Tom Bryant, I discovered acting was a fantastic form of expression, and Shakespeare itself is so universal that it tells everyone's stories but takes it a bit further and to places where marginalized identity can be explored through classical works."

When looking back at their Shakespeare studies as a Roadrunner and beyond, Maybrier knows what to look for. "I look for the parallels. While I was a student at Crafton I auditioned and got the role of 'Hamlet'. I identify as non-binary and played the role as a transman," said the 2018 U of R grad. "The Crafton theatre department allows us the time to explore our creative potential."

Moving forward, Maybrier knows there's a lot more out there and is eager to see where the future leads. This may include staying abroad to work with the Royal Shakespeare Company or returning home to work on productions in the state. Either way, Maybrier is ready for what's ahead. "It is a bit frustrating that we know so little about (Shakespeare's) biography," they continued. "But it is widely accepted that Shakespeare himself was bisexual and a lot of that comes through his works and how we are able to understand his multiple points of view. He would have probably worked on more in his time if it had been an option."



MARCH HAPPENINGS



Clockwise from top left: AVID students from COPE Middle School visit campus, 2019 Grad Fair, CHC v Southwestern swim meet, Day of Advocacy, media panel for 200 SBCUSD students attending the Restorative Youth Justice Conference hosted at Crafton.



Mark your calendar!

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| Sat., April 13 | Fire Academy Alumni
11th Annual Golf
Tournament, 10:30 a.m.
@ Tukwet Canyon |
| Wed., April 24 | 7th annual SBVC v CHC
Poetry Slam, 7 p.m. @
SBVC |
| Sat., April 27 | Annual Women in Fire
Service Seminar, 9 a.m.
@ PSAH |
| Sat., May 11 | 100th Fire Academy
Graduation, 4 p.m. @ PSAH |
| Fri., May 17 | VIP Reception
5 p.m. @ PAC
Scholars Convocation
6 p.m. @ PAC |
| Fri., May 24 | Grad Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.
Commencement, 6 p.m.
@ Quad |

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