



Photo: Fire Academy Graduates.

101st Fire Academy Graduation

The Crafton Hills College Fire Academy's 101st class graduation took place on Saturday, December 7th. The ceremony for the 30 cadets incorporated a bagpipe procession, presentation of certificates, and skills demonstrations, including rappelling, live-burn, and vehicle extrication. Eight of the cadets in this academy are military veterans, and three of the cadets are female. Dan Word, Dean of Career Education and Human Development, served as the keynote speaker. He shared with the audience and graduates lessons learned throughout his career.

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Holiday Reception

On Wednesday, December 11th, in place of the annual luncheon, College President Kevin Horan hosted a holiday reception. The cost savings allowed the Foundation to provide gift cards to help students and their families through the holidays. Thanks to the generous donations received from our employees at Crafton, we were able to provide 20 of our students identified through the EOPS program with \$50 Target gift cards this holiday season. The two-hour open house reception included appetizers, friendly conversations, and fun photos while the Crafton roadrunner made the rounds, spreading some holiday cheer.





Photo: Donated engines to train future CHCFA cadets.

Two Fire Engines for the CHC Fire Academy

In a cooperative effort between the Fontana Fire Protection District in the City of Fontana and the San Bernardino County Fire Department, the Crafton Hills College Fire Academy received two donated engines on December 10th. Fontana Mayor

Warren, Council Member Roberts, and Council Member Sandoval were in attendance at the John B. Roberts Fire Station 71 to present the engines to CHC Fire Academy Fire Chief Mike Alder. Generosity and support from local fire agencies

and our community strengthen the Crafton Hills College Fire Academy, and we are extremely grateful.

We look forward to using these engines to train future CHCFA cadets.



Study Abroad with Professor DiPonio

Selected by the American Institute for Foreign Study Program, English Professor, Gwendolyn Di-

Ponio will be heading to Rome this fall to teach creative writing and intermediate composition.

The theme of lessons, course materials, and excursions will be the Italian culture and locations where students are staying and visiting. DiPonio will have students keep a journal of their experience throughout the 90-day program.

DiPonio is looking forward to sharing a lifelong memories with her students and hopes to inspire Crafton students who may think that they could never afford an opportunity like this. She offered, "there are many ways to raise funds for a semester abroad. I encourage students to seek out information

about how to join me on this adventure!"

When asked about the inspiration to apply for this opportunity, DiPonio explained, "My husband's family was born near Rome. We are excited to show our children his roots!" She continued, "I have always wanted to teach abroad, but it was [the opportunity to visit] Rome that inspired me to apply. I believe they chose me because I reflected a

"I encourage students to seek out information about how to join me on this adventure!"

passion for sharing Italy with the students through reading and writing. The texts I will choose will be related to the areas we visit and stay."



Photo: CHC Honors Students

Honors Research Conference

Crafton Hills College hosted the Honors Student Research Conference on December 5th with 18 CHC students presenting their research. Research included a wide range of topics, including Bitcoin, Python, and The Beatles, to name

a few. The Bitcoin presentation focused on its current value in US dollars. The second presentation touched on the Python processing system and how jobs are becoming automated with robots. Another speaker presented a historical perspective about civil rights in the 1960s and how Beatles' songs helped people find hope and courage in a time of inequality. A pan-

el of three women shared their stories of how volunteering has helped shape and bring meaning to their lives. More students presented fact drawn research and used analytics. It is exciting to see such bright young minds encouraging open conversation on topics that will shape our future.



Photo: Fall Semester Studio Art Exhibition.

Student Art Show

The Student Art Exhibition at CHC featured the artworks of students enrolled in fall studio art classes. The art represented the courses offered this semester, with each student showing techniques from sculpture, three-dimensional design, two-dimensional design, drawing, life drawing, painting, and special projects classes. Exhibited artworks included carved soapstone and plaster sculptures, plaster relief wall art, architectural models, wearable clothing made of plastic food wrap, drawings, paintings and designs. The gallery exhibits are curated and organized

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Photo: Sabrina Bruni, Fire Tech and Kinesiology student at Crafton Hills College.

Sabrina Bruni

When Crafton Hills College student Sabrina Bruni was two-years-old, the house next door caught on fire. The neighbors watched the firefighters work on the scene, and Sabrina remembers seeing the firefighters return to the engines when they had done their work. One of the firefighters removed her helmet on the rig, and Sabrina saw a woman! Sabrina looked at her mom and said, “I want to do that!” She told her mom she wanted to be a “Fire fire.” Ever since that day, Sabrina has been inspired to be a firefighter and rescue medic.

After graduating from Citrus Valley High School in Redlands, Sabrina began attending Crafton, determined to reach her goal. She was forced to take a break after two semesters because of financial difficulties. She spent a year working at Baker’s Drive-Thru to earn the funds

that allowed her to continue her path to her goal at Crafton. Not having a support system at home, Sabrina is grateful to retired EMT faculty member Gary Reece for taking her under his wing and encouraging her to apply for a scholarship. Sabrina handwrote her scholarship application, not expecting to be a recipient. To her surprise, she received the Charles J.C. Kean Memorial Scholarship, which enabled her to pursue her dream at Crafton. She is currently enrolled in a Fire Tech class as well as a Kinesiology class to prepare her for the physical rigors of the CHC Fire Academy.

Obstacles and seemingly insurmountable challenges are not stopping Sabrina, because she doesn’t

own a computer, she spends time using computers at the College. Sabrina also assists her family and her girlfriend with expenses. She is working for an Orange County ambulance company as many hours as she can. Sabrina’s girlfriend is also an EMT, and whom she met through work.

Her struggles continue. While working a call at the Honda Center in Anaheim, her girlfriend fell on the ice while retrieving an equipment bag and suffered a concussion. The resulting MRI revealed a colloid cyst in her brain. The couple is now making payments for the needed treatments to avoid further complications.

Women are in the minority in the CHC Fire Academy. “That makes me want to work harder,” said Sabrina. “I want to take women under my wing. We can support each

“We can support each other without judgment and work on our flaws.”

other without judgment and work on our flaws.” Sabrina wants the women at the CHC Fire Academy to work together and not be competitive with each other.

“I’m not here to be better than you, I’m here to be better for myself;” Sabrina said. When asked how she handles the difficulties of being teased for being in the minority, Sabrina replied, “I stopped caring because I started loving myself.”

Student Art Show continued..

by department chair Renée Azenaro. Department tech, Mike Bedoya, assists in the installation and care of the gallery throughout the

exhibitions. During the reception for the artists on December 11th, family and friends of the student artists viewed the art students cre-

ated during the fall semester in a professionally organized exhibition space, culminating in a creative community experience.



Yucaipa Christmas Parade

Crafton Hills College participated in the Yucaipa Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 13th. Thank you to our college president, student club members and faculty advisors for representing Crafton in the Community.



Redlands Christmas Parade

The Crafton Hills College Associated Students were all set to participate in the Redlands Christmas Parade. The CHC Art Department, along with the student Art Club, magically transformed the wheelchair of Dr. Ericka Paddock, the CHC Director of Student Life, into a fully decorated sleigh, including lights! Unfortunately, the parade was canceled due to rain.



Photo: Emergency Medical Technician Graduates

EMT Graduation

A siren signified the beginning of the Emergency Medical Technician Program Completion Ceremony on December 18th at Crafton Hills College. The performing arts theater was overflowing with over 400 friends and family members cheering on the 78 graduates.

Program Director Laurie Green provided a welcome and introductions. She explained the rigor and difficulty of the 16-week program and expressed her appreciation to the preceptors from American Medical Response and Cal Fire, who provided field opportunities for Crafton students. Each of the four cohorts provided comments.

The first of the class speakers, Cristian Serrano, thanked the audience

on behalf of his class for being their support system and specifically thanked his mom, saying, "All that I was, all that I am, and all that I will become, I owe to her. So thank you, I love you, Mom." A second class speaker, Jonathan Castaneda, expressed his appreciation to his classmates for the study groups, commenting, "As a class, we bonded and became a family; I will never forget the knowledge and memories I've made this semester."

The event concluded with comments by faculty members, recognition of each graduate, and an announcement that eleven of the students have already passed the National Registry exam and are ready to be certified in California to work as emergency medical technicians.



EOPS Holiday Celebration

On Dec. 20th, the Crafton Hills College Psychology Club hosted a Holiday Celebration for our EOPS students and their children under the age of 14. The club provided crafts, face-paint, food, holiday cheer, and two toys for each child.



Photo: (Clockwise) 1) Justine Galvan with her recognition certificate from the City of Hesperia City Council. 2) Justine Galvan shakes hands with the man she resuscitated during a 911 cardiac arrest call. 3) The San Bernardino County Fire emblem lapel pin.



Justine Galvan

Justine Galvan is a current student in the Crafton Hills College Paramedic Program. She is serving her internship with San Bernardino County Fire. A few weeks ago she was part of the team that responded to a 911 call for a man who was in cardiac arrest (not breathing with no pulse). Using the tools and knowledge she had gained from the CHC Paramedic Program, Jus-

tine was able to revive the man.

At a recent council meeting, Justine and her preceptors were recognized by the Hesperia City Council and ICEMA (Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency -- the local governing authority that oversees emergency medical services in the inland area). Justine was also able to meet and shake hands with the man she revived.

“Although Justine’s actions that day are the same actions that every student performs in their duties, the opportunity to shake the hand of the person she saved is extremely special,” said Amanda Ward, CHC Professor and Field Coordinator for the CHC paramedic program.

Well done, Justine. You make us proud.



Music Performances

The fall 2019 music performances included a Choir Concert, Jazz Band Concert, Songwriters and Electronic Music Event, and Performance and Composition Recital. Student-led performances were enjoyed throughout December by faculty, staff, students, retirees, and community members. Great job to our talented music students!



Photo: 41st Respiratory Care Graduating Class.

Respiratory Care

The 41st Respiratory Care Class graduated from Crafton Hills College on December 19th. Due to the power outage at the college, the ceremony was held at the Yucaipa Performing Arts Center. Over 300 attendees packed the venue to support the thirty-two graduates on stage.

Dean of Career Education and Human Development Dan Word welcomed the crowd. He congratulated the students who are now able to provide care for the thousands of people who suffer from breathing problems.

Medical Director Dr. Roger Seheult applauded the Crafton Hills College program for being the most decorated Sputum Bowl champions in the country, adding that our graduates are part of an esteemed group and well respected in the

field. The Sputum Bowl is a knowledge competition for respiratory care students.

Program Director Michael Sheahan explained the difficulty of content and requirements for the program. He said that a usual course load for a full-time student would be 12-15 units but that students in this program take up to 29.5 units per semester. He thanked the students for their dedication and acknowledged their skills as they move into the field. “You are no longer students; you are now colleagues and friends,” Sheahan said.

Class speaker, Andrew Sanders, who was chosen by his classmates to provide a message on their behalf, explained that most

people take breathing for granted. “We don’t think about breathing until we can’t,” said Sanders. He encouraged his class to be useful, compassionate, and nurture your patients.

The ceremony concluded with special awards given for the Lambda Beta Society to Michelle Fletes,

“You are no longer students; you are now colleagues and friends.”

Laura Kinkey, Jesus McDowell, and Peter Dabour. Certificates were presented to Anthony Pratt (for Outstanding Clinical Performance) and to Laura Kinkey (for Outstanding Academic Performance).



Lysistrata

The Crafton Hills College Theatre Department presented *Lysistrata*, Directed by Andrew Gilchrist, on December 13th, 14th, and 15th in the Finkelstein Performing Arts Center. The cast did a great job bringing this comedy to life, with Hannah Barnes starring as the formidable Lysistrata. Audiences enjoyed a futuristic spin on the old classic in which a band of resolute women conspire to put an end to the Peloponnesian War by forcing the men to negotiate for peace. Replete with laser guns and staged on what looked to be a *Tron*-inspired set, this incarnation of *Lysistrata* will be remembered for quite some time. Great job cast and crew on a successful show!



101st Fire Academy Graduation continued..

There were two class speakers, Jose Panuco and Denice Lopez, who served as Association Leaders during the academy and were in charge of fundraising efforts that helped raise over \$5,000 to cover costs of the certifications. The ca-

dets unveiled the Academy 101 plaque, featuring their academy motto, "Together As One," which will hang in the back of the classroom until the next academy graduates.

Upcoming Dates:

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| Jan 10 | In-Service Day Crafton Hall 8 a.m. |
| Jan 13 | First Day of Classes Spring 2020 |
| Jan 17 | Paramedic Graduation PAC 6 p.m. |
| Jan 20 | MLK Day Campus Closed |
| Feb 7 | Lincoln's Birthday Campus Closed |

