



Respiratory Care Program Director Serves on CAL-MAT Assignment in El Centro

CHC's Respiratory Care Program Director Michael Sheahan volunteered his services on a CAL-MAT assignment in El Centro, CA earlier this month.

CAL-MAT (California Medical Assistance Team) units are comprised of trained professionals from medical, technical, administrative, and other specialized services for rapid field medical response in times of disaster. Sheahan worked in a respiratory therapy capacity in direct patient care with COVID patients throughout his two-week deployment.

The Imperial County Public Health Department reports that El Centro and the surrounding Imperial Valley are severely impacted with positive COVID-19 cases, adding that one out of every 7 people in the county has tested positive. The department says that over the past week, their county has averaged 118 new cases and 4.3 new deaths per day. The number of confirmed infections is currently doubling every 139.5 days.

Sheahan was contacted by a friend who was working with CAL-MAT in Imperial Valley at an alternative care site (field hospital). "He let me know that they were shorthanded



Photo: Michael Sheahan.

and needed some help. So, I offered to come down and help," Sheahan stated.

With overwhelmed health care facilities and extremely sick residents, skilled volunteers are critical to the hard-hit community, and the caliber of volunteers was tremendous according to Sheahan. "I was working side by side with a great team of doctors, RT's, PT's, nurses, medics, and EMT's, all of whom volunteered to help with the cause. The team was absolutely amazing!"

Sheahan expanded, "The patient care that was delivered exceeds anything I've ever experienced and at the level that we teach



our students should be provided."

Sheahan served in patient care and leadership role throughout his deployment and was also asked to work in an educational capacity at times due to his educational background. "The experience renewed my faith in what we do as educators and practitioners," Sheahan recalled. "I would have extended my deployment but was unable to do so due to my responsibilities at Crafton. I would suggest it to anyone looking to see the positive side of what we do in this crazy time! It was one of the most awesome clinical experiences of my life," concluded Sheahan.



Academic Senate Places Memorial Table on Campus for Frank Madrid

Frank Madrid served at Crafton Hills College as an instructor of mathematics and faculty chair of the Multimedia & Information Technology Department. He was only 33 years old when he unexpectedly succumbed to thyroid disease complications in May of 2020.

A loving husband, friend, brother, son, and beloved colleague, Frank was very passionate

about teaching and supporting the arts. He was a favorite among students. The memorial table was purchased by CHC Faculty through the Academic Senate and placed outside of the Central Complex building close to the classrooms and office space that Frank occupied during his tenure at Crafton.



Photo: Monique Ware.

Monique Ware Selected to Receive a Full Tuition Scholarship.

Crafton Hills College regional job developer Monique Ware received the California Community College Life Changer Scholarship. This full-tuition scholarship from National University

will allow Ware to begin her master's degree studies in a social emotional learning program in the fall. Ware, who was notified in December that she was selected, said that she was in disbelief that she was a finalist and eventually chosen as the recipient. Ware explained that her first response was "Bless the LORD... Praise GOD!" Ware continued, "My face hurt from smiling. This was a scholarship for only ONE community college employee, and I am the recipient... what a blessing."

"Ware decided that she would not be overtaken by circumstances in her life."

Ware credits a great support system and letters of recommendation from colleagues Kirsten Colvey, Brandi Mello, Mariana Moreno and Jimmy Grabow for this opportunity. "Greatness is at Crafton Hills College, and we shine," continued Ware.

Ware has spent her entire career helping others and believes that her mission is to help people gain the necessary tools to overcome barriers. A dedicated wife,

mother of eight, and grandmother of three, Ware volunteers as an advocate for victims of human sex trafficking and domestic violence.

Growing up, Ware faced many challenges. With both parents battling addiction, she and her siblings found themselves moving from apartment to apartment or staying with family or friends between bouts of

homelessness, food insecurity, and lack of structure. Ware credits the solid foundation she gained when her family relocated to San Bernardino to a group of amazing "sisterfriends" and their parents, who provided the support she needed.

Ware recalls that she was told that she did not need to be a product of her environment and that she could make a conscious decision to choose what she wanted out of life. Ware decided that she would not be overtaken by circumstances in her life.



Photo: Paul Jacques.

Playwright Competition

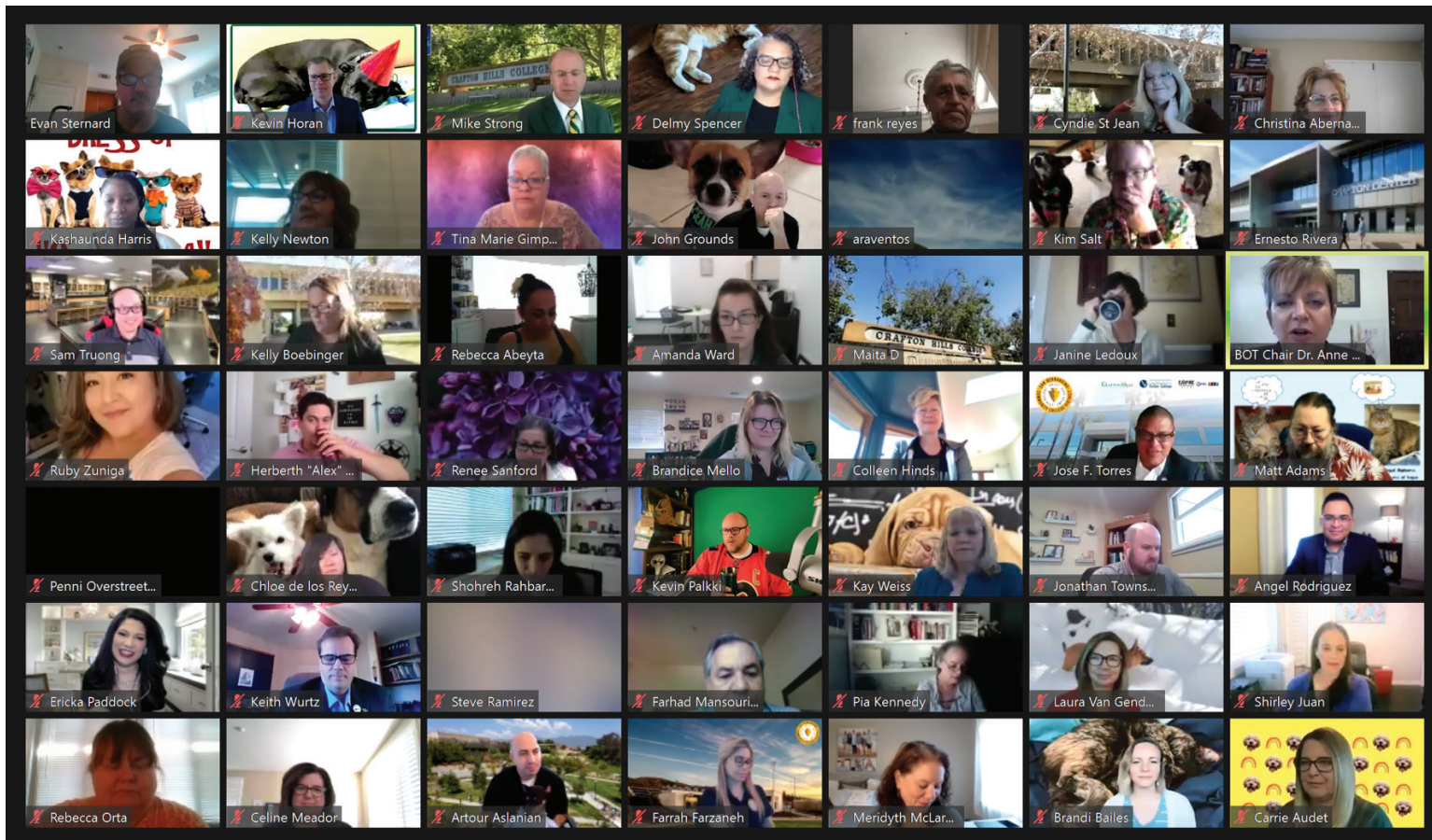
Crafton Hills College is seeking submissions for the second annual New Works Festival themed, Never Tell Me the Odds. Playwrights are encouraged to submit 10-minute or one-act plays featuring underdogs, uphill battles, the

struggle to find a place in the world or similar themes.

There will be two judged divisions: collegiate and professional, each with first, second and third prizes awarded.

The entry fee is \$10 per submission, and there is no limit on the number of submissions. Ten-minute play scripts should be 6-10 pages in length; longer one-act scripts should be 16-22 pages and not exceed that number.

Submissions should be submitted online at www.craftonhills.edu/newworks by March 7 with performances May 6-9. Interested playwrights may choose to participate in a playwright discussion session on one of the evenings when their play is performed. You do not need to be a student at the College to submit a play. Crafton Hills College is solely responsible for the casting and production of all accepted works. For additional information, contact CHC Theatre Professor Paul Jacques.



All College Employee Meeting Kicks Off Spring 2021 Semester.

On Thursday, January 14, Crafton Hills College welcomed back faculty for the Spring 2021 semester at an in-service meeting held via Zoom. An informal 30-minute meet-and-greet session allowed for staff and faculty to connect while sharing stories and photos of their animal companions in celebration of the “bring your pet to work day” theme.

College President Dr. Kevin Horan welcomed the group of over 150 and provided an update on questions that he had received regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, which will be available to employees during the State’s Phase 1B, Tier 1 distribution plan. He assured the group that the vaccine will not be mandatory and will be free to employees. Horan also noted that the Chancellor’s cabinet is following County and State guidelines in determining when general on-campus instruction and services will resume, perhaps in summer or fall 2021. A decision is expected by mid-March.

Horan then shared a newspaper clipping highlighting the CHC employee donations

of food for the Redlands Community Hospital staff working in the COVID unit, ICU, and emergency room, stating that the group raised close to \$1,000 to provide lunches for 90 hospital employees.

Horan then encouraged everyone to participate in the One Book One College program and specifically take advantage of the guest speaker opportunity, which will virtually bring to campus Oscar Vazquez, one of the four undocumented students featured in the best selling book *Spare Parts*, on March 3.

Vice President of Administrative Services Mike Strong provided an update on the campus projects related to Bond Measure CC followed by a presentation from Dr. Gio Sosa, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Research & Planning. Sosa shared preliminary findings of a web-user study completed in December that will inform improvements to the website and online tools used to support learning and services.

Next, the team from the most recent USC Alliance e-convening session presented information on the importance of teaching about race and incorporating race education into the classroom, which provided a segway to the keynote speaker, Dr. Jeff Duncan-Andrade, who spoke about racial justice and equity.

Dr. Duncan-Andrade, an author and professor of Latina/o studies and race and resistance studies at San Francisco State University, discussed the need for greater equity in our educational system to overcome traditions that favor the white majority and create impediments for many minority students. He focused on the importance of understanding the history and evolution of the educational system as a way to improve our schools. Duncan-Andrade left the virtual audience with ideas on how we can incorporate equitable practices to meet the needs of students both individually and as an institution.



Photo: Herberth "Alex" Jaco speaks about Crafton at community college event.

Introducción al Colegio Comunitario

On Jan 21, the Mexican consulate in San Bernardino invited Herberth "Alex" Jaco, CHC Sr. Student Services Tech with Outreach and Educational Partnerships, to participate in a Facebook live event, to provide information about community college to our Spanish speaking community. It was entitled "Ventanilla de Orientación Educativa, San Bernardino."

Alex's presentation, "Introducción al Colegio Comunitario" (Introduction to Community College), offered an overview of the community college system in California and showcased Crafton Hills College as an example. Attendees learned the benefits of attending community colleges and obtaining a college education. Jaco reviewed the steps to enroll at CHC and provided an overview of financial aid and other student support services. The audience had an opportunity to ask questions during the presentation, and the session was recorded and made accessible on Facebook.



Daisy Bates
First Lady of Little Rock

Black History Month 2021

The CHC Black History Month Planning Committee has organized virtual activities each Wednesday at noon through the month of February to celebrate the achievements of African Americans and recognize their central role in U.S. history.

The Black History Month 2021 theme, "Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity," explores the African diaspora and the spread of Black families across the United States.

Crafton's activities will begin on February 3 with the viewing and discussion of a documentary on Daisy Bates, an American civil rights activist, publisher, journalist, and lecturer who played a leading role in the Little Rock Integration Crisis of 1957. Attendees will have the opportunity to watch the documentary and discuss the impact of desegregation in education and how her legacy lives on today.

On February 17, a screening of the documentary film, "Back to Natural", will explore universal aspects of the Black experience and the new Natural Hair movement, highlighting issues of hair, politics, and racial identity in Black communities. Following the screening, the committee will host a discussion to explore how race, identity, and hair are all related.

Additional activities include a lecture entitled Profiles of African Americans in the Arts and a presentation by CSUSB theatre professor Kathy Ervin. All events are open to the entire campus community, and registration links are available through the campus calendar at www.craftonhills.edu.

