



Virtual Event to Benefit Crafton Students

Countless Crafton Hills College students have had their financial barriers lifted, allowing them to become successful scholars and productive members of society -- all thanks to generous donations to the College's foundation. The foundation is holding its biggest fundraiser of the year live on YouTube, Thursday, May 6 from 4-5 p.m.

The "Light the Way" virtual gala will add funding for the Crafton Hills College Foundation, with 100 percent of proceeds supporting students and programs at the College. The event will be held virtually this year to allow for an unlimited number of guests while ensuring all attendees' safety from COVID-19 exposure. Event organizers request that those who wish to participate in the free event pre-register on the gala website (craftonhills.edu/gala).

CHC President Dr. Kevin Horan said the donations from the annual event have a genuine impact on many students, helping them pursue their educational and career goals.

"I am inspired every day by the intelligence, tenacity and commitment of CHC's students," said Horan. "This year has been extremely challenging, and thanks to the support of our alumni and donors, we have been able to assist and empower students. Donations to the foundation have allowed us to provide emergency assistance, textbooks, tuition, help with transfer applications and so much more. With continued support, we will expand opportunities for students, grow our economy and strengthen our communities."

"We look forward to celebrating virtually with the people and partners that make a difference in the lives of Crafton's students."

to invite an unlimited number of CHC alumni, current students, faculty and staff, community partners and others.

"This past year is a testament to how our community of friends and alumni have come together for the greater good," Riggs said. "The Crafton Hills College gala is our biggest fundraising event of the year, and while we are unable to gather

Gala organizers are accepting donations and sponsorships for the event, including the opportunity to sponsor a student. All those who participate will be entered into a drawing with prizes, including a Memorial Day weekend getaway at an Arizona golf resort and an overnight stay at Casino Morongo.

Director of Institutional Advancement Michelle Riggs said this gala provides the College with a unique opportunity

in person, we look forward to celebrating virtually with the people and partners that make a difference in the lives of Crafton's students."

The "Light the Way" Gala is sponsored by DLR Group, KVCR, SoCalGas, AECOM, P2S Inc, Champion Electric, Kitchell, OmniTrans, Hampton Tedder Electric, Nineteen Six Architects, Westgroup Designs, Epic Engineers, Keenan & Associates, Inland Empire Community Foundation, Snipes-Dye Assoc., Beaver Medical Group, Barich and Associates, SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, Bank of Southern California, Dr. Cheryl Marshall, CASC, the Solis Group, Omega Environmental, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Payroll Vault, and June Yamamoto, Brian Kwong, and Terry Vines.

For more information visit craftonhills.edu/gala.



Crafton Hills College Team Learns to Thwart Danger Lurking in Computer Codes

Shannon Hansen is taking classes at Crafton Hills College, in Yucaipa, to prepare for a career in cyber security. But the 42-year-old mom of two teenage boys does not fit the stereotype of the hoodie clad young hacker.

Just at the beginning of her college journey, Hansen is working towards financial independence in an uncertain world. She lives with her mother, who is fighting stage four ovarian cancer. "I wanted her to know that I would be okay no matter what happens," she said. She also wants to be a role model for her sons.

When her computer professor, Dave Liu, asked for volunteers to compete March 13 in the California Mayors Cyber Cup, an annual academic competition open to students in seventh grade through community college, Hansen was reluctant.

"I was nervous that I would go get my butt beat by a middle schooler," she said.

But she took the risk and signed up with three other Crafton Hills students -- Rosita Moncada, Sarah Wallbrecht and Derek Moore. Together, they took second place among the collegiate competitors. "Most of the team members were surprised by how much we did know," Hansen said.

The California Mayors Cyber Cup boosts hands-on career education by asking competitors to find the flaws in computer code that provide backdoors for hackers. Jobs in the growing field pay well, at least \$25 per hour, and nearly every industry needs people with the right skills to protect essential documents such as bank records and functions like voting machines or to thwart cyber pirates who kidnap medical records and demand ransom.

"This field of cybersecurity is definitely something I want to pursue," Hansen said. "There are so many possibilities and so

many businesses who need cybersecurity, especially now that people are working remotely. Hospitals need to protect patient information, so I think this is going to continue to boom."

Prof. Liu, the team coach, said he is relatively new to Crafton Hills, so this was his first experience recruiting a team for the California Mayors Cyber Cup. Typically, it would be held in person, but the COVID-19 pandemic meant that all the interaction had to be online.

Michele Robinson, director of the Office of Information Security in the California Department of Technology, told competitors that the competition serves a serious purpose. "Your participation in events like these are extremely important to filling the nation's enormous gap in cybersecurity workforce needs," she said. The State of California has invested heavily in career and technical training, organizing the state's community college system in regions to encourage more cooperation. The Inland Empire/Desert Regional Consortium of Strong Workforce – which covers Riverside and San Bernardino counties – partnered with the Moreno Valley Unified School District and the non-profit organization SynED to organize the competition for nearly 200 students.

The week before the March 13th competition featured daily speakers from academia, businesses, the cybersecurity

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industry, and state and local government. "So what does the FBI want?" asked Eric O'Neill, who worked in FBI counterintelligence to help capture one of America's most notorious spies. "Cybersecurity is huge because all counterintelligence has become cybersecurity. Espionage used to be cloak-

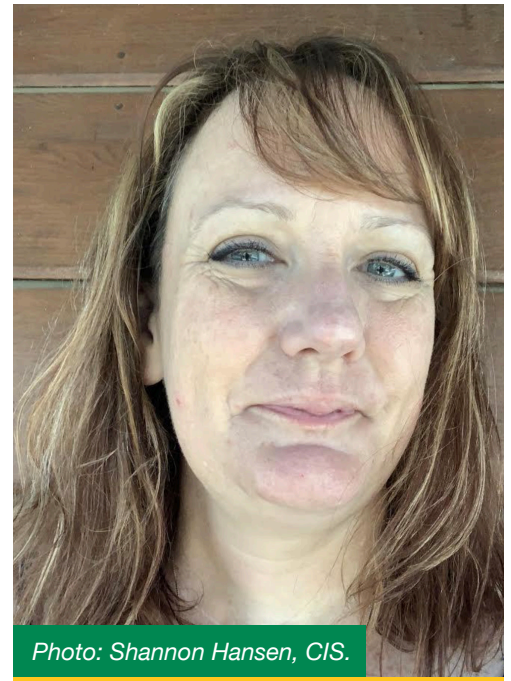


Photo: Shannon Hansen, CIS.

and-dagger, sneaking around and recruiting people in bars. Now it is cyber-attacks from Moscow using spear-phishing to trick you into clicking a link and opening an attachment."

Hansen said the competition tried to mimic the deadlines and the techniques that would allow a computer security analyst to find hidden messages in computer code or print out logs to find the "breach" set up by the contest organizers.

She said Professor Liu was helpful, and the Crafton Hills students worked as a team on the same computer platform, so they could see each other's work. But they could not hear each other, which made things more challenging.

"I'm absolutely proud of them," said Liu. "They had less than three weeks advance notice and it was near spring break. "There was a real chemistry between the students," he said.

Next time, they hope the contest will be in person. "We will be back," Liu said.

Hansen said she will be there too. "This really built my confidence," she said.



Photo: Student receiving hands on EMS experience.

CHC and AMR to Provide Bootcamp for High School Students Interested in Emergency Medicine Careers

A partnership between American Medical Response (AMR) and Crafton Hills College is creating a clear pathway to employment for current high school students who have the interest and compassion needed to be on the front lines of emergency response.

Twenty-five students will be selected to attend a free two-week boot camp this summer where they will be provided with hands-on learning opportunities and an introduction to careers in emergency medicine. The bootcamp is a first step for

students to enter the emergency medical service (EMS) pathway, first becoming emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and then paramedics. The bootcamp also opens doors for additional opportunities, such as paid internships, job placement, and even a way to receive tuition-free education as students advance in the profession.

“We want to get to high school students early and hopefully foster their success through this career path,” said Dave

Molloy, an adjunct professor at Crafton Hills and an operations manager at American Medical Response. “There are required work hours as you move through from EMT training to Paramedic status.” “If they put in the work, we will help them find the job.”

Molloy himself was inspired to go to Crafton Hills to train as an EMT because when he was in high school his father nearly died from a stroke. “A coworker knew CPR and resuscitated him,” Molloy said. “I got 25 more years of time with my father and I wanted to pay back that favor.”

A calling to help people in need is a critical part of the life of the first responder. “The main focus is compassion and kindness and being supportive,” Molloy said.

Molloy and his faculty colleague John Grounds will hold virtual information sessions for students and their families Tuesday, June 8, at 10 a.m. and Wednesday, June 9, at 6 p.m. Register now through Eventbrite to attend one of the information sessions which will cover expectations of the bootcamp as well as how to get started in the EMS pathway with tuition free education, on-the-job training, and employment opportunities. For additional information please contact Veronica Smith at vsmith@craftonhills.edu or Lorena Lopez at lorena.lopez@gmr.net.



Photo: Rick Groff, Mike Strong, Amanda Ward, Mike Alder, and Kevin Horan at live burn exercise.

College Leaders Participate in Live Fire Training

Donning personal protective equipment including SCBA bottles and full turnout gear, CHC President Kevin Horan, Vice President of Administrative Services Mike Strong and Paramedic Program Director Amanda Ward participated in a live burn training with Academy 104 on April 5 at the Ben Clark Training Center. Alongside the cadets, the three officials joined in training exercises that included experiencing a flashover in an enclosed area and using hoses to suppress a car fire.



Photo: Jamie Robards, R.N.

Crafton is a Viable Pathway to a Career in Nursing

This is the first installment of a series profiling Crafton Hills College alumni who have obtained their prerequisite courses for nursing programs and moved on to careers as Registered Nurses (RNs).

Jamie Robards knows hardship well. The Crafton alum was born prematurely, which left him with physical and cognitive disabilities throughout his childhood. His parents left him to be raised by his grandparents. The combination of so many struggles early on left him feeling inadequate, and he struggled in school. Demoralized, Robards dropped out of high school before he was able to earn a diploma.

“I never felt like I belonged at school and that I would never succeed in anything,” Robards said. “I ended up dropping out of high school in my second senior year because I just felt defeated, and I broke my grandmother’s heart.”

He tried a community college in Maryland when he was 23 but was injured in the middle of the semester and required

surgery. After failing to keep up with his classes, he was placed on academic probation.

“I quit school again and was convinced that I was not meant for college,” Robards said. “I had always wanted to work in the medical field, but I didn’t feel smart enough.”

Robards could have easily given up and let the bullies and naysayers he had encountered dominate him. Instead, he chose a different path. He chose Crafton.

“It was my fiancée who pushed me to follow my dreams of becoming a nurse and to re-enroll in college. She had graduated from Crafton, as had many other people that I had become acquainted with. Every one of them suggested I apply to Crafton to obtain my pre-requisites. All of them gave me the same rave reviews about Crafton, stating that it was such an amazing community college and that they wished they could have completed their entire programs there. After hearing all of the wonderful things, I decided to attend.”

He completed his first semester with a 3.5 GPA. After his first semester, Robards was injured again and required yet another surgery. He took two semesters off to recover from his surgery.

“This was my, ‘I told you so’ moment,”

“I now see myself as someone with perseverance, as someone who can do it, and as someone who is resilient through all things.”

Robards said. “Part of me did not want to go back, but my fiancée insisted that I do. Upon returning, I had finally decided that I could do this and was going to give it my all.”

He did it. Over the course of his time at Crafton, Robards had four semesters with a 4.0-grade point average (GPA), one semester with a 3.75 GPA and one with a 3.25 GPA.

Before he could graduate, Robards had to earn his General Education Development

(GED) or a high school diploma. In 2018, he enrolled in the Yucaipa Adult School to do just that. On June 1, 2018, Robards earned his high school diploma. One year later, on May 24, 2019, at the age of 33, he graduated with two associate degrees from Crafton: an Associate of Science in Health Sciences and an Associate of Arts in Social Science. His beloved grandmother died during his last semester, but he knew he had to continue his studies to become the person he had always dreamed he could become.

“I was proud of myself for the first time in my life and it gave me the confidence to continue my education and to move forward with obtaining a BSN [Bachelor of Science in Nursing],” Robards said. “These challenges that I had to overcome have made me see myself as a completely different person. I now see myself as someone with perseverance, as someone who can do it, and as someone who is resilient through all things.”

Nursing is always in high demand in California, according to the California Centers of Excellence (CCE), which studies workforce demand on behalf of the California Community Colleges system. The CCE reported more than 48,900 nursing-related jobs in the Inland Empire and Desert Region in 2016 alone, and employment for these jobs is expected to sustain healthy growth -- the industry is expected to grow 5,725 new jobs each year through 2021. These jobs typically pay well -- the average yearly salary for a registered nurse (RN) in Yucaipa is now between \$61,808 and \$110,207.

Crafton offers prerequisites for an ADN (Associate Degree in Nursing), a BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) and an Entry-Level Nursing (Master of Science) program. Prerequisite courses also prepare students for the nursing school entrance exams, including the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills), the HESI (Health Education Systems, Inc.) and/or the PAX (Pre-Admission Exam) used by various nursing programs nationwide.

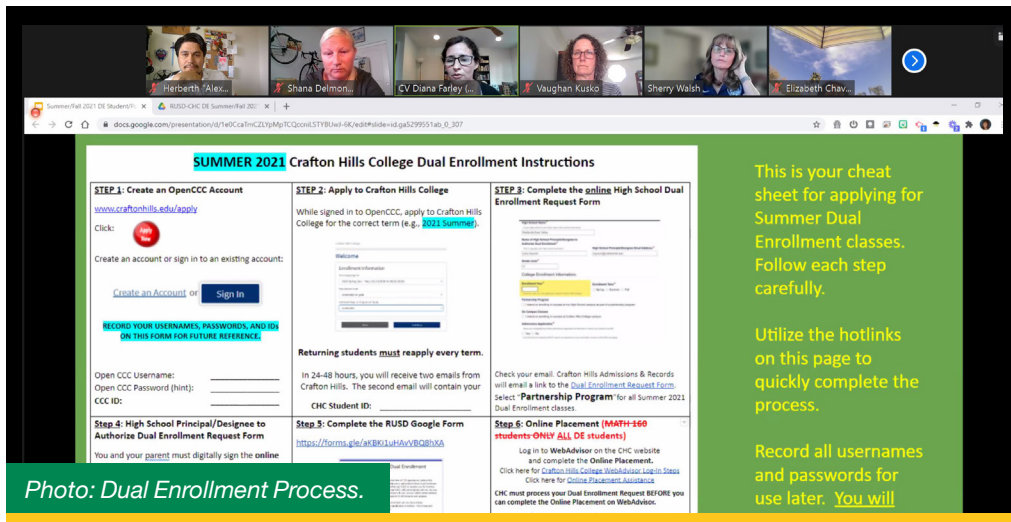


Photo: Dual Enrollment Process.

allows RUSD juniors and seniors to take Crafton Hills College classes on their high school campus with no cost for tuition or textbooks. The credits earned by students will apply as transferrable college credits, with some courses also meeting high school diploma requirements.

To be eligible to participate in the partnership program, students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, permission from a parent or guardian, recommendation from the high school principal or counselor, and a current official high school transcript.

For more information, contact sxayaphanthong@craftonhills.edu.

CHC and RUSD Dual Enrollment Program

On April 7, Crafton Hills College outreach and educational partnerships staff and Redlands Unified School District counselors presented information to students and parents regarding

the upcoming summer and fall dual enrollment offerings. One hundred and sixty attendees received information about the dual enrollment courses available through this partnership, which

Career Center Helps Student Ace Interview

On April 20, Career Center Coordinator Trinette Barrie met with student Bryan Jones to help him prepare for an interview sure to change his life. Two days later Jones notified Barrie that he had been selected as one of only eight students for the highly sought after and very competitive CHC Radiologic Technology program.

regarding the mock interview that you conducted,” Jones said. “I believe that your mock interview, including the accompanying debrief and references, truly helped put me in a much better posture of preparedness for the “real” interview. It is clear to me that you are well suited for the role that you play in

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cultivating successful students, and I am gracious for the opportunity that I had to benefit from the investment of your time, energy, and attention.”

“I want to thank you for your valuable feedback, expertise, professional advice, keen observations, and candid opinions



Photo: Trinette Barrie.

