# Crafton Hills College





#### Photo: Fire Academy Cadet Raul Madrid (center) with his uncle and 4-year old nephew Easton.

#### 105th Fire Academy Celebration

With the motto "Won't back down," the 30 cadets from CHC Fire Academy 105 showed that they had the grit and determination to make it through the College's premier 18-week program and meet the State Fire Marshal's Basic Skills requirements for Firefighter 1 & 2 Certifications.

A small private celebration with just the cadets and a handful of instructors and administrators was held on Friday, December 17. Chief Mike Alder praised the graduating cadets declaring, "Academy 105, you guys were an incredible academy. This will go down as one of the best academies we've ever had.''

Alder went on to discuss how the group came together as a team and each individual showed heart, making them an academy that stands out as an example of what the fire service needs in their workforce.

Alder offered the graduates advice while expressing pride in the program faculty. "Emulate these 25 instructors. They are second to none. We are here for one reason and one reason only and that is the passion for the fire service," shared Alder.

Scholarships were presented to four students including a newly endowed scholarship from Theresa Wallin, who attended to present the inaugural award. Wallin expressed that she chose to fund this scholarship because of the benefit her son received as a cadet graduating from Academy 101. The cadet selected to receive this award, Trenton Cooper, was chosen because of his dedication to giving back to the community.

#### Friends Luncheon

The CHC Foundation hosted the 9th Annual Friends of Crafton Hills College Luncheon on December 3. The event, held in the Public Safety Allied Health Building, provided an opportunity for the nonprofit to update attendees on how donations are used to support programs and students.

Over 75 community members enjoyed lunch while learning more about the College's signature Fire Academy program, hearing from Fire Chief Mike Alder and current cadet James Jarboe. College President, Dr. Kevin Horan, also gave an overview of the successes and challenges over the past few years, campus updates, and an overview of upcoming construction projects.

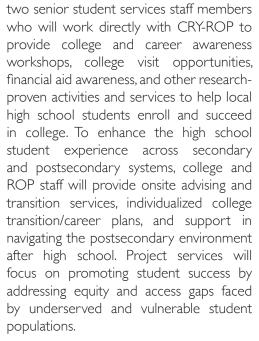




Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa Regional Occupational Program (CRY-ROP) and Crafton Hills College Receive Funding to create a pipeline from High School to Community College Career Technical Education Pathways.

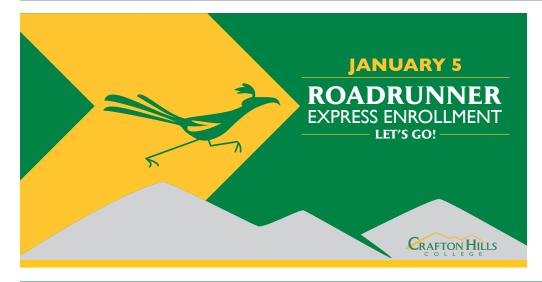
Crafton Hills College will receive funding from the California Community College Strong Workforce project to expand and strengthen its role partnering with the Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa Regional Occupation Program (CRY-ROP). The award is from the Strong Workforce's "Building Bridges from High School to Community College" project and will be used to provide area high school students with the opportunity to learn about the benefits of attending community college and completing career and technical education (CTE) certificates or degrees.

This project will develop a studentcentered transition model to increase enrollment and completion rates of students in established CTE pathways that begin at one of CHC's partner high schools and end with program completion at the College. State funding will be used to add



CRY-ROP Superintendent Tracie Zerpoli states, "We are pleased to formalize our partnership with Crafton Hills College to work side by side to benefit all CTE students. With the addition of the Student Services Technician positions, students will plan their future and make a seamless transition to college and career. We are grateful for this opportunity."

"Crafton Hills College is extremely excited about this partnership. This funding will help us continue to build on our track record of leading the Inland Empire in transfers to four-year universities and promote some of our highly sought-after career and technical education programs," claimed Dean of Student Equity and Success, Dr. Ivan Peña.



## CHC to Host Express Enrollment Event

The Student Services team at Crafton Hills College has put every aspect of the enrollment process into a single, easy, oneday online session. The virtual event will be held January 5, when students will be scheduled to receive help through the entire 6-step enrollment and class selection process, including meeting with counselors, securing financial aid, and registering for courses so that they are ready to begin classes on January 18.



# Holiday Party Brings Cheer to Children of CHC CARE/CalWORKS/EOPS Students

On December 20, the CHC Psychology Club hosted a holiday celebration for the CARE/CalWORKS and EOPS students and their families, complete with food, crafts, gifts, and a visit from Santa. There were over 80 attendees and a dozen volunteers, including two alumni who are in graduate school and came to help with the event.

Dr. Diane Pfahler, club advisor and psychology professor, said that the students had collected enough gifts that each child would receive two wrapped gifts and then get to pick one of the unwrapped toys from under the tree. Donations from students, faculty, staff, and alumni made this year's event a huge success. A student of Dr. Pfahler's from over 20 years ago who saw the event on social media reached out with a donation to support this generous tradition.

beanies, and other swag.





Photo: Assemblymember James Ramos.

## Native American Heritage Month Closing Ceremony

On November 29, Assemblymember James Ramos, a member of the Serrano/Cahuilla tribe and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, hosted a virtual closing ceremony in celebration of Native American History Month at Crafton Hills College.

Ramos began the event with traditional songs he learned as a child from tribal elders Ernest Siva and Robert Levi. Ramos shared with the group that California's first people did not use drums, as most people mistakenly believe, but gourd rattles.

Ramos spoke of the importance in handing down traditional songs and stories. "What sets us apart is our culture," declared Ramos. He conveyed that it is the voices of his ancestors that help him tell the true story of their contributions. "It's important for our community to know that the tribes dug the ditches that brought water to the area. That water was used for agriculture," Ramos recalls.

Teaching American Indian culture is always on the forefront of Ramos' agenda as he explained a bill he recently introduced in the California Assembly (AB 1554) calling for the teaching of Native American history and culture in K-12 education to increase knowledge about the state's tribes and their impacts on California. This passion is not new. In fact, for the past fifteen years, Ramos has partnered with Crafton Hills College to host the Wa'at event, where third and fourth-graders from the local school districts come to the college to see the native dress and hear the songs of Native Americans.

He shared the beliefs his grandmother instilled in him throughout his life, stating that there are "three components they can't take away from you - culture, spirituality, education." Ramos is dedicated to breaking down stereotypes and misconceptions and instead focusing on the true impact of the Native American people in our history. Ramos spoke of barriers to success stemming from poverty and inadequate education. These topics are especially important in our area as California has more tribes and the highest number of Native Americans of any other state.

Ramos spoke about his other priorities as an elected official which include mental health resources, services for veterans, repatriation, and addressing Native American unsolved crimes.

Ramos ended his presentation reminding Crafton attendees that it is important that we speak up for everyone and become ambassadors for California's first people.



# CHC Holiday Toy Drive and Wrapping Party Supports EOPS Student's

Each year, the CHC Psychology Club provides gifts and hosts a celebration for our CARE/CalWORKs students.

This year, the College helped to expand their efforts and provide additional gifts for the children and siblings of the 250 EOPS students. CHC employees purchased gifts for children ages one month through 14

On December 8, volunteers gathered for a wrapping party. A hot cocoa bar and cookies brought holiday cheer as the group gathered to wrap the donated gifts.



Photo: New Finkelstein Performing Art Center.

#### New Finkelstein Performing Arts Center Design Wins Award

Crafton Hills College is set to break ground on the construction of the new Finkelstein Performing Arts Center, scheduled to open in 2024. The building will house instructional spaces for music, theater, and dance programs. It will also provide an improved venue for campus performances and other CHC events. The projected \$41 million cost of the building will be funded through a voterapproved bond measure and statematching funds.

The modern, multifunctional, 24,000 square foot performing arts venue will be located where the old gym was demolished last year and will replace the existing Finkelstein Performing Arts Center. The new building will include a 270- seat main theater, a smaller blackbox theater, dressing rooms, a green room, offices, a scene shop, a costume shop, as well as music recital rooms and a recording studio.

With a design that uses indoor and outdoor teaching and learning spaces, the project is already being recognized for its green building efficiencies and sustainable building operations. Shaded patios, specially designed and placed windows, and solar panels will increase energy efficiency while the drought-tolerant landscaping and electric car charging stations will help reach carbon neutrality.

The project received a sustainable innovation award of honor in energy/ operational carbon by the Los Angeles chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council. The College was recognized at the 11th Annual Green Gala at Union Station in Los Angeles on Wednesday, Dec. 8.

Timothy Focht, Ricky Granado, Jocelyn Garzou, Cassandra Gonzales, Stephanie Gysler, Samantha Johnson, Tom Lam, Jacob Laube, Carissa Lopez, Phillip Marino, Alyssa Ordaz, Jennifer Oreiro, Lorraina Saavedra, and Bianca So.

Daniel Rojas, Clinical Director for the Respiratory Care Program, presented the clinical award recognizing Philip Moreno for his outstanding clinical performance. Rojas stated that Moreno demonstrated tremendous dedication and commitment to making the most of every shift he was a part of.

Sheahan presented the academic award to Cassaundra Gonzales, who showed exemplary performance. Gonzales was chosen by the four primary faculty members as a student who stands out. Sheahan ended the program congratulating the graduates, stating, "We can't wait to be working side by side with you."



#### Respiratory Care Class of 2021 Virtual Graduation

The Crafton Hills Respiratory Care 2021 Graduation Ceremony premiered on YouTube Dec 16. Program Director Dr. Michael Sheahan welcomed the graduates and their families to the celebration.

Dr. Roger Seheult, Medical Director for the Respiratory Care Program, encouraged the graduates, ensuring them that they have the skills they need to do the job. "Your training, your professors, your teachers, the camaraderie that you've gotten here at Crafton Hills College will serve you well now, in the future, and for the rest of your life," shared Seheult.

The 17 graduates celebrated were Jennifer Aguilar, Laurel Arnold, Rebeca Corona,





#### Remembering Catherine Hendrickson

On December 9, the CHC Academic Senate hosted a celebration in memory of Catherine Hendrickson. Hendrickson served as a librarian from September 2004 until her retirement in June 2020. A plaque honoring Hendrickson, who passed away in May 2021, was recently installed in the library.

The event provided an opportunity for

colleagues to share their memories. "She was a super amazing woman with fireball

### "She was an amazing advocate to all of our students."

energy! I always get a smile on my face when I think of her shaking her stuff in those belly dance bras... and then ripping it off. ha-ha!! Best laugh ever," shared Colleen Hinds. "She was an amazing advocate to all of our students. Always thinking of things to make their academic pathways easier. Loved how she was always thinking outside the box. Innovative and caring! The world will miss her."

#### Honor's Institute Fall Research Conference

One of the key components of Crafton's College Honors Institute is supporting student research. Many of our Honors classes require students to expand existing research projects already included in the course or create new ones. At the end of each semester, the Honors Institute hosts a CHC Student Research Conference where students can showcase their research. It is open to ALL students on campus, not just Honors students.

On Friday, November 11, 2021, eleven students presented their research at the Fall Research Conference. The conference was held via Zoom, and students presented virtually in two breakout sessions, each session moderated by two Honors students. Topics varied widely and included using mindfulness to reduce psychological detriments of social media usage, the potential of gamification on litter cleanup, origins and stereotypes of the American cowboy, and Homo Neanderthalensis and early artistic expression, among others.

Each student prepared a 12-minute PowerPoint highlighting the key aspects of their work. After sharing the slides, they responded to questions from audience members. Moderators kept the session on schedule and helped facilitate the questions.

Six of the students who presented at this conference will be applying to the Honors Transfer Council of California Student If we allow algorithms and A.I. to dictate how we should interact online, then all we're doing is confining our identity to software.

Photo: Student research project.

Research Conference hosted by UC Irvine on March 26th.



### Sustainability Tour

A group of University of Southern California students toured CHC's environmentally responsible and resource-efficient campus learning about LEED-certified projects on November 23. Facilities Director Larry Cook spoke to the group about Crafton's commitment to sustainability from design through construction, operation, and maintenance.











#### Fall Student Art Exhibition

From November 29 through December 10, the CHC Art Gallery featured the artwork of students enrolled in fall studio art classes, including sculpture, design, drawing, and painting.

