



BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT



Photo: CHC Foundation Director Leslie Wessels (center) with scholarship recipients (L to R) Charles Munyah, Christian Pantoja, Julia Avila and Michelle Risorto.

Crafton Hills College Foundation Puts Spotlight on Students, Donors at Special Afternoon Reception

The Crafton Hills College Foundation held its annual Scholarship Luncheon on Aug 5, to the delight of dozens in attendance.

Held in the historic Crafton Hall, the lively, yearly event is planned as a way for donors to meet the students impacted by their generosity, sometimes for the first time since the awards were announced.

"This is one of my favorite events of the year because it highlights our supporters and our students," said Donna Ferracone, scholarship chair of the nonprofit. "Each year, we have found this event to be very meaningful for all who attend."

"For students, it's an opportunity to understand the story behind their scholarships and meet those individuals who have invested in them," she continued. "For our sponsors, it's a chance to connect with the students who are benefitting and share the meaning and purpose associated with their philanthropic support."

Among the donors who contributed to a myriad of awards were San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Kiwanis Club of Yucaipa Valley and Southern California Edison. Award amounts varied, but each will have an impact on student success because monies provided could help cover tuition costs, book fees and unexpected life expenses.

Take Jose Aaron Rosales, for example. It was during the COVID-19 pandemic that his interest in pursuing a medical degree was sparked and, in the Fall, he'll transfer to Harvard to make his dreams a reality. His scholarship from Edison will help cover expenses for Rosales and his family to make the trek back East, he shared during the event.

Angellie Cristobal, too, spoke about the impact the scholarships she received will have on her educational journey as she readies to transfer to a four-year university to pursue a degree in education while raising a young daughter. But it was her

story that captured the hearts of those in attendance because not only is Cristobal a returning college student, but she found more than education at the Yucaipa-based college - she found a second family.

"Crafton Hills College turned out to be much more than a school to me - it became my home, somewhere where I truly felt like I belonged," she said. "I may be transferring to a four-year university, but my roots will always be planted at Crafton."

Other event highlights included a slideshow presentation of each student scholar that played throughout the reception, remarks from current and former Crafton leaders, including past San Bernardino Community College District Chancellor Dr. Donald Averill, who thanked attendees that contribute to the Foundation's efforts, whether financially or through volunteering.

"These scholarships symbolize our community's faith in our students and in their future contribution to our community and to our world," said Dr. Phong Nguyen, president of the Foundation, to close out the luncheon. "Thank you to all of our donors and sponsors for supporting our students so that they can pursue their dreams."

Overall, more than \$280,000 in scholarships were awarded this year. Organizers hope to give even more next year. To contribute to the nonprofit's goals and mission, contact the Director of Institutional Advancement Michelle Riggs by email at mriggs@craftonhills.edu or by phone at 909-389-3391.

Since its founding, the CHC Foundation has set out to enhance educational excellence by promoting gifts to support and enhance quality education at the Yucaipa-based community college. Gifts include providing financial assistance to students in need, opportunities for field trips and research conferences, as well as equipment needed for training and programs.



Photo: Ryker greets students on their first day.

Fall 2022 Semester Begins at CHC

CHC welcomed 5,000 students on August 18 as instruction resumed for the fall semester.

The college is offering over 800 classes this semester with additional late-start and short-term sections beginning on Aug 29, Sep 12, and Oct 17. About 54% of the

classes are being taught in person while 46% are either fully or partially online.

Welcome centers were set up across campus staffed by employees to help students find their classes and answer questions during the first week of the semester. A registration assistance center

Crafton Hills College Receives Economic Opportunity Grant from Bank of America

The Bank of America (B of A) Foundation has awarded a \$10,000 grant to the Crafton Hills College (CHC) Foundation to help support the College's efforts to generate economic opportunities for area residents by providing employment paths. According to CHC's Director of Institutional Advancement Michelle Riggs, these funds will support students in first-responder programs. Riggs stated, "By helping pay for testing, state credentialing, and background check fees for students that cannot afford to do so, Bank of America is strengthening our community."

CHC's Training First Responders project provides financial support for students actively pursuing certificates in the Crafton Hills College Public Safety and Allied Health Programs. Hundreds of students complete a rigorous course load each academic

year to earn degrees or certificates that will allow them to serve as paramedics, emergency medical technicians, firefighters, respiratory therapists, and radiologic technicians. These certificate programs are direct pathways for our students to serve the community with many of our graduates going on to work in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

"We are proud that many of our students graduate and make an immediate impact on the community we serve, but we are also aware that many students cannot afford the various fees they must pay to become licensed or certified in these professions," stated Riggs. "Support from the B of A Foundation will help alleviate the financial hardships that students would otherwise face. By providing funding for students, we will be directly impacting the

(RAC) was set up in the Student Senate conference room to provide students with in-person registration help to find and register for Fall courses all week. A counselor was available to answer counseling specific questions while CHC's Outreach team provided hands on assistance with CCCApply application support, assistance on navigating WebAdvisor, help finding open classes, course registration support, and assistance on how to use an add code.

The Career Center hosted a mini-hiring event in the campus quad on Monday and Tuesday where students were able to visit employers and apply for jobs.

The LifeStream bloodmobile was also in the quad on Tuesday and was able to collect 20 pints, the highest collection amount in a year! The blood bank was in extreme need of blood donations with two active burn victims and only one unit of blood to supply. The burn victims require daily transfusions so a significant portion of the donations collected on campus will be used to support them. Way to go Roadrunners!



Photo: CHC Paramedic student practicing skills for testing.

flow of able bodied first responders into the workforce in these understaffed fields."

This Bank of America Foundation grant is one of 32 grants to regional organizations including Big Brothers Big Sisters, Feeding America San Bernardino, Child Advocates of San Bernardino, Foothill Family Shelter, and Goodwill Industries of Southern California.



Photo: SBCCD Police, Sheriff's Departments from Yucaipa and Rancho Cucamonga, CHC Safety Committee members, and student/staff volunteers from CHC and YHS.

SBCCD Police Department Conduct Active Shooter Training Drill at CHC

The San Bernardino Community College District Police Department (SBCCD PD) conducted an active shooter training drill on August 3 in CHC's Crafton Hall.

This exercise was conducted to practice the tactical response of police officers and dispatchers. Personnel from the SBCCD PD and the San Bernardino County

Sheriff's Department Yucaipa and Rancho Cucamonga stations participated.

In addition, there were over 30 volunteers, including students and staff from CHC and students from the Yucaipa High School Law and Public Safety Academy.

The Behavioral Intervention Team from

CHC addressed the volunteers following the drill to provide an overview of the mental health services and other support available to students at the College. The team stressed the importance of filing a report if they notice others who may be exhibiting concerning behavior before it rises to a crisis level.

SBCCD Police Chief Al Jackson echoed the sentiments with a reminder that it is important for students to act on their gut feeling, and if they see something, to say something. Jackson stressed the importance of students intervening by filing a report with the College if they see concerning social media posts or changes in behaviors to prevent such behavior from escalating.

Although the training was intended for responding agencies, volunteers were also briefed on steps to take to survive an active shooter situation. Volunteers were instructed to run and hide, leave belongings behind, to call 9-1-1 when safe to do so and listen to instructions from law enforcement officers arriving on scene.

For additional resources and information regarding this topic, please visit <https://sbccd.edu/district-services/police-department/crime-prevention/index.php>



Photo: Ryker with students on a campus tour.

Roadrunner Rally

Over 300 new students and their families attended the annual Roadrunner Rally on August 3 in the Crafton Center.

Everyone who attended received a free t-shirt, thanks to CHC's partnership with OmniTrans and the CHC Foundation. Students and their parents were given campus tours, attended information sessions, visited tables to get additional information about the programs and services on campus, picked up their books and student IDs, enjoyed sandwiches, and posed for photos with Ryker, the College mascot.



Photo: CHC Paramedic Class 97.

Crafton Hills College's Paramedic Class 97 Celebrates its 'Family' at Grad Ceremony

If you were to look up the word “family” in the dictionary, you’ll most likely find photos of Crafton Hills College students, faculty and staff.

Included in the bunch would be CHC’s Paramedic Class #97, a tight-knit group of paramedic students who were celebrated during a lively graduation ceremony on Friday, Aug 19, in the Finkelstein Performing Arts Center.

Not only were personal awards gifted to students by Class President Juan Fernandez and program heads, but one familiar face was included in the celebration: Custodian Richard Lopez.

“Every day we’d show up for class and not only did he take time to learn each of our names, but this man would ask how our day was,” explained Grad Gustavo Loza. “We’d walk out with the worst attitudes, but he’d stop and ask us how we were doing.”

Traditionally, paramedic graduates present the Yucaipa-based college with a special commemorative item to hang within program walls, but Class #97 switched things up by gifting a new podium embossed with each graduate’s name. Included in the list was Lopez’s, the class’s unofficial cheerleader.

“Besides having a great heart, (Lopez) is such a hard worker and we wanted to recognize him,” Loza explained.

This small token of appreciation touched everyone in attendance, including Lopez who thanked all involved. But that was just one standout moment that took place during the more than an hour-long ceremony.

“The success of this program hinges on the students we select for this program.”

The term “family” was thrown around multiple times as remarks were made throughout the event. During his remarks, Guest Speaker William Dye, a fellow program grad and engineer with the Redlands Fire Department, and CHC adjunct faculty member gave props to each student’s family members, friends and CHC faculty and staff who served as their “rocks” while going through the eighteen-month program. Being invited by the class to serve as keynote speaker at the event felt like returning home, Dye said.

“The reason why I’m here today is because of this institution. This is an awesome place,” he continued. “I want you guys to realize this is a chapter of your lives that is coming to a close, but tomorrow starts a new one, and this journey is the most fun you’re about to have.”

Other program highlights included an impressive rendition of “Reflection” from Disney’s *Mulan* by Medical Director Dr. Phong Nguyen but with a twist, this time reflecting life as a paramedic student spending long hours studying and eating on a budget. The awarding of the pins was also a welcome component to the event, with program coordinators inviting family and friends to “pin” their respective graduates. Each student also received a scholarship to help pay for licensure and testing, courtesy of Nicholas Campos through the Crafton Hills College Foundation.

Individual awards were also awarded to several students and were as follows:

- The Clinical and Cardiology awards – James Lowry
- The Pharmacology Award – Brooklyn Hendrickson
- The Field Award – AJ Nolan
- The Assessment Award – Skylar Antoncew
- The Theory Award – Austin Matula
- The Medical Director Award – Gustavo Loza and James Mathias

Antoncew and Rodolfo Vargas each received a scholarship from The Beaver Medical Foundation, continuing a tradition of giving on campus. Nguyen reminded the grads that when they are able to pay it forward, that they consider supporting future paramedic students philanthropically as they were supported tonight.

“This is a very successful program, but I will say this: as good as the faculty are, as good as the administrative team is, and as good as the resources allocated are... the success of this program hinges on the students we select for this program,” said Dan Word, CHC’s dean of education and human development. “Congratulations.”

To learn more about Crafton’s Paramedic Program, visit craftonhills.edu/paramedic



Photo: "Infinite Possibilities #11" - 3ft x 3ft acrylic painting.



Photo: "in my dream i forgave myself" - 28 inches x 30 inches x 6 inches mixed-media sculpture.

Renée Azenaro Exhibitions, Artist Talk, and Publications 2022

CHC Fine Arts Professor and Faculty Chair Renée Azenaro has been busy outside of the classroom. She was recently featured at various exhibitions throughout southern California, was a presenter for an Artist Talk session and has also appeared in a publication.

Azenaro stated that the importance of exhibiting artwork as a practicing, professional artist is more than exposure to gallerists, curators, peers, and art professionals; but it is also bringing the life of the artwork to others outside of the studio environment, where gallery visitors bring their own thoughts, observations and questions about the artwork.

The relationship between the viewer and the art is an important one which imbues the art experience with new insights and perspectives.

"As an educator and professional artist, it is important to maintain a studio work ethic and professional presence in the artworld so that I may bring current knowledge of my discipline directly into the studio classroom. Sharing of process and professionalism with my students helps to make art come alive and relevant in their lives, simultaneously broadening their understanding and making connections beyond the classroom," stated Azenaro.

Types of Exhibitions:

Juried Art Exhibitions are competitions in which artists submit artwork images which may be selected for a particular art exhibit and are selected by a juror – a juror may view thousands of submissions and select only a handful for an exhibition. Invitational Exhibits are when the curator of the exhibit is familiar with the artist's body of work and invites the artist to participate

in a particular exhibition. Both types may include a feature for Artist Talk where the artists can answer questions from attendees.

Azenaro's 2022 Featured Juried Art Exhibitions:

"Women in Art" Las Lagunas Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA

"What's Next" Women Artists Address the Future, Burbank, CA

"What's Next" Artist Talk

"Festering" a mixed-media painting was selected for Dream House, a color printed zine of artworks by artists influenced by, and responding to, the 50th anniversary of Womanhouse.

Azenaro's 2022 Invitational Exhibition:

"NOW" Group exhibit at the Bendix Building, DTLA



Photo: CHC student lounge. in Roadrunner Café.

Student Lounge in Crafton's Roadrunner Café

On Friday, August 19, the Crafton Roadrunner Café was transformed into a student lounge with soft seating in clusters and a variety of bar height and standard table options.

These renovations have created a great place on campus for students to have a meal or snack, study, and hang out before, after, and between classes.

The project was discussed last year at the student senate meetings and ultimately approved by the 21-22 student senate.

The new furniture was funded by the Office of Student Life using student activity fees as the need for such as space was identified as something that students would enjoy and benefit from while spending time on campus.



Photo: New employees at in-service. Back row: Willie Blackmon, Andrew Guevara, George Zein, Brenden Lazzar. Front row: Ola Sabawi, Sharon Zerbel, Jillian Robertson, Cynthia Lemus, and Sandra Ruiz.

In-Service Day Welcomes CHC Faculty and Staff Back to Campus

An all-day faculty and staff in-service was held Aug 10. Dr. Kevin Horan welcomed all employees and introduced new and promoted employees. Horan noted the 54% decline in in-person enrollments between fall 2018 and fall 2021 and the overall 21% decline in total student enrollments.

Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Research, and Planning, Dr. Giovanni Sosa reviewed

data specific to disproportionately impacted students with regards to success and equity. At CHC, the number of degrees and certificates awarded between 2018-19 and 2021-22 has increased 13%, and the number of students transferring to a CSU increased 14% overall. In comparison to 2018-19, the gap for success of African American students declined by 10% but the success gap for Hispanic students more than doubled. Horan emphasized that

everyone plays a role in student success and asked attendees to identify at least one goal each employee had to continue the momentum of closing equity gaps.

Newly promoted manager:
Anthony White, Technology Director

New faculty members:
Jillian Robertson, Math
Andrew Guevara, English
George Zein, Sign Language
Sandra Ruiz, CIS

New classified employees:
Jazmin Navarro, Child Development Center Assistant
Cynthia Lemus, Academic Support Specialist
Ola Sabawi, Senior Research Analyst
Lilibeth Medina, Administrative Coordinator for Student Services
Sharon Zerbel, Administrative Coordinator for the Office of Instruction
Brenden Lazzar, Grounds

Interim appointments:
Heather Stephens, Interim Director of Child Development
Belinda Navarette, Interim Coordinator Outreach
Ali Raventos, Interim Admissions and Records Specialist
Maria Davila, Interim Admissions and Records Technician



Photo: Keynote Speaker, Sefa Aina.

Meet Your Village Keynote Address on In-Service Day

Keynote Speaker, Sefa Aina, Associate Dean and Director of the Asian American Resource Center at Pomona College provided a message of inclusion themed, "Meet Your Village." Aina immigrated to the United States from Samoa and shared his personal struggles of an upbringing in a non-traditional household creating what he referred to as a marginalized identity.

"There's always this sort of duality of what happens inside of the house and what happens outside of the house," Aina stated. He stressed the importance of embracing our culture. "We have to stop looking at the communities we come from in ways

that don't honor the many privileges that are there."

He posed the question, "How are we allowing our students to bring their full selves into the classroom?" Stressing the importance of celebrating our identities and passing traditions through generations.

Aina captured the audience's attention with humor and a soft-spoken demeanor using Samoan proverbs then translating them into English. His closing message was of hope. "We have to maintain our belief in a better tomorrow."



Photo: CHC Foundation Directors Wynona Duvall, Dr. Phong Nguyen, and Donna Ferracone, '22 Edison Scholarship recipient Jose Rosales, Edison representative Aileen Flores and CHC President Dr. Kevin Horan.

contributors in Southern California. The Edison Scholars program is funded entirely by Edison International investors, not from customers' utility bill payments.

According to CHC's Director of Institutional Advancement Michelle Riggs, many CHC students overcome tremendous challenges to pursue a higher education. Riggs stated, "All too often, they are forced to abandon their education because of economic hardship. Most of our students attend classes and study while working, caring for dependents, and juggling personal, academic, and financial challenges."

"Each year, the Crafton Hills College Foundation awards over \$280,000 in scholarships. The scholarships are a great help, but the need is greater. The additional funds for Fire and STEM scholarships will allow the Foundation to continue to make awards this year, encouraging our students to pursue their educational dreams and making it easier for them to focus on their studies," Riggs concluded.

\$25,000 will support scholarships for Crafton students pursuing degrees in STEM fields such as computer science, environmental science, chemical engineering, applied physics, and statistics and \$25,000 will support students in the College's Fire Academy helping them with required state testing and licensing fees.

CHC Foundation Receives \$50,000 from Edison to Support STEM and Fire Student Scholarships

Grant funding received from Edison will support Crafton Hills College Students pursuing studies in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields and cadets in the College's Fire Academy program.

Edison's grant program is designed to help minority, low-income and under-represented students in Southern California

pay for college studies in STEM and public safety & emergency preparedness fields, helping them develop skills and knowledge they need to thrive in the workforce of the future.

For more than 135 years, Edison International has partnered with local communities to build a better tomorrow and is one of the largest corporate charitable



Photo: Future CHC Performing Arts Center.

Plans for New Performing Arts Center Approved

The District has received approval from the State Department of Finance to proceed with plans to build a new performing arts center (PAC).

The District may now proceed to bid and schedule construction, which should begin by year's end. This new facility will provide a state-of-the-art venue for performances by CHC's theatre and music programs as well as rehearsal and storage space. This addition to the campus will significantly enhance the creative arts of the College and strengthen its performing arts programs.

This new building will replace the outdated Finkelstein Performing Arts Center, which was constructed 43 years ago and the naming rights will transfer to the new space.

A ground breaking ceremony is scheduled for December 2 to celebrate the new facility and the opportunities it will provide in the future.

