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Return to City**
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SUMMER COURSES

Everything to Know About Summer Sessions

BY ANTHONY FOLSOM

With summer break and the summer semester approaching, students are busy pondering what they will do when the spring semester concludes, and summer begins.

This summer, students will either take extra classes at LACC or take a hiatus from everything school related to relax before the fall term.

If students at LACC worry about their first summer session of classes and how to sign up for them, the collegian has done the leg work for you.

To register for summer classes, navigate to your student portal login page (the SIS one, not Canvas) and select the Manage Classes (Add/Drop) tab on your homepage. Once you are in the portal for selecting classes on the student SIS homepage, navigate to the Class Search and Enroll option on the left options column and select.

Ensure that the top left corner indicates the Summer of 2023. If it shows Spring 2023, click the option to change it and change to Summer 2023, then go to the search bar on the main page and begin searching for classes.

Summer Classes have two sessions, including the first five weeks of summer, beginning June 12 and concluding July 18. The second set of sessions begins July 17 and concludes Aug. 20. Some classes are unavailable in the summer sessions. Make sure to begin enrolling early if you are planning to enroll. Plan accordingly to not only enroll in courses that you need to meet requirements but also enroll in available classes.

The collegian asked students on campus about their summer plans and if they included taking any classes during the summer terms. Some said they were taking classes, and others just wanted to get away for a while.

"I am probably going to work and just get by. No plan to take classes in the summer," said Mike Peterson, a film major at LACC who is in his final term before he transfers.

"I am happy to be able to chill and relax," said Andre Siuziumov, a mechanical engineering major at LACC, "I will likely take a math class in the first five weeks of summer, then chill the other half and relax before fall."

"I might go to Vegas; I have some family there. I might visit; my brother lives there with his daughters," said Sara Fernandez, a music major at LACC.

Whatever your summer plans, have a safe and enjoyable summer.

WRONG NOTE

Music Chair Out of Tune With Free Speech

BY MICHELLE MCCREE

A student reporter for the Collegian reports that a faculty member interfered with his right to cover a concert that honored LACC President Mary Gallagher on May 2 in the Herb Alpert Music Hall.

Editors assigned Collegian reporter Juan Mendoza to cover the concert celebration for the soon-to-be former president.

When Mendoza was assigned the story, he says he was thrilled to set out as a reporter that night on behalf of the Collegian.

After he arrived, Professor Christine Park, the music department chair, greeted him less than warmly.



PHOTO BY JUAN MENDOZA

Collegian reporter-photographer Juan Mendoza prepares for the shot of attendees, as they line up for a concert to honor President Mary Gallagher on Tuesday May 2, in the Herb Alpert Music Hall. The Music Department Chair, Professor Christine Park tells Mendoza to leave the "private" event a short time later.

SEE "FREE SPEECH" PAGE 6

TRANSPARENCY

Crime Reports Raise Questions

BY HENRY LOPEZ

Each edition of the Collegian should include a section for the "Police Wire."

It serves as a report on campus crime or in the vicinity of the college. It also serves another purpose: It makes the college compliant with the Clery Act, which was a monumental court decision brought on by the rape and murder of Lehigh University freshman Jeanne Clery in 1986.

In the aftermath of her death, her parents discovered that Lehigh University was experiencing a spike in crime on campus, according to the Clery Center. They also learned school security had received 181 complaints about Jeanne's dormitory building having doors propped open with boxes.

SEE "JEANNE CLERY" PAGE 6

OBITUARY

PHOTO BY LOUIS WHITE

L.A. City College journalism student Matthew Rodriguez receives a scholarship check from LACC Alumnus Tony Valdez in his position as chairperson of the 8 Ball Foundation on Oct. 1, 2021 in the Collegian Offices.



College Loses Icon with Death of Tony Valdez

BY JESSICA VASQUEZ ARREOLA AND MICHELLE MCCREE

Tony Valdez, an L.A. City College alumnus, who won several Emmy Awards, Golden Mike Awards and L.A. Press Club Awards for broadcast journalism, has died at 78.

Valdez served as president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and had a 35-year stint as an anchor and reporter at Fox 11 news.

Valdez was born in Los Angeles and grew up in East L.A., as a proud Angeleno. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, and he was committed to the cause of student veterans.

Valdez was the union shop

steward at FOX 11 news and chaired the 8 Ball Foundation. The foundation is an organization that helps local journalists in need and grants scholarships to journalism students who attend one of the LACCD colleges.

He never forgot L.A. City College and the Collegian. For years, he would call the Collegian offices and head to the campus with a handful of scholarship checks for journalism students.

"He would call me up and tell me how much money was available and ask me to write up an appraisal of each student's work. Tony would give me the option of awarding the money to one student or dividing it among several," said Professor

SEE "VALDEZ" PAGE 6

END OF THE SEMESTER

PHOTO BY LOUIS WHITE

First Lady Jill Biden congratulates the L.A. City College graduating class of 2020, 2021 and 2022 on June 7, 2022.



Graduation Ceremonies in 2023 Embrace All

BY STEPHANY GARCIA

A diverse community is at the heart of Los Angeles City College where several graduation ceremonies reflect and recognize different groups of students.

The general Spring 2023 Commencement is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 5 p.m., at the Greek Theater. One of the deadlines for students to participate in the ceremony required completing a petition to graduate by April 18. However, students may still take part in the general commencement if they missed the deadline, but their names will not be printed in the program.

The Acting Vice President of Student Services Alen R. Andriassian shared information about the general commencement in an email.

"The college has had an annual commencement ceremony since 1928 (one year after the college started)," the vice president stated. "The keynote speaker for the general commencement ceremony will be

the LACC President, Dr. Mary Gallagher."

LACC also has a Lavender Graduation Celebration that is scheduled for Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 4 p.m. The Lavender ceremony helps attendees to celebrate lesbian, gay, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual student graduates and will be located at Los Angeles Trade Tech College.

"I think it is wonderful for each of these groups to hold ceremonies to support each group," Andriassian said. "There is a valedictorian committee that is in the process of determining the speaker." Candidates for valedictorian were required to hold a 3.92 GPA or higher.

LACC will also host a Black Graduation Celebration, which is scheduled for Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 2 p.m. at the First AME Church of Los Angeles.

"I worked with the Race, Equity, and Social Justice committee to examine our ceremony," Andriassian said. "I wanted to make sure that our students felt that they were represented in

the ceremony, and that it was student centered."

To request tickets for family, friends and staff for the Black Graduation Celebration, you may visit the LACCD-AAOI page.

The Asian or APIDA Graduation Celebration is scheduled for May 27, 2023, at L.A. City College from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is an inaugural event sponsored by the Los Angeles Community College District. Attendees may reply directly to Professor Mickey HONGMJ@lacity-college.edu. Students from all nine campuses in the district are invited with their families and friends.

The second annual Mi Gente Graduation is set for June 3, 2023, at 10 a.m., at L.A. Trade-Tech College. Latino students from all nine colleges are invited to participate as family and friends recognize the success on their educational journeys. The event is not a typical graduation celebration. No caps or gowns are required for this celebration of Latino diversity and culture.

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EDITORIAL

Remember Jeanne Clery

If you read the story on the first page, "Crime Reports Raise Questions About Campus Safety," by Henry Lopez, you know Jeanne Clery was a college student who became a murder victim. Clery was a freshman at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She lived on campus in the Stoughton Hall dormitory.

On April 5, 1986, Clery was asleep in her dormitory room when she woke up because Joseph M. Henry was in the process of robbing her.

Henry murdered the 19-year-old, who planned for a career in communications and was an amateur tennis player, according to the Los Angeles Times. He beat, tortured, sodomized, raped, and strangled the young lady with a promising future ahead of her.

Henry, a 20-year-old sophomore at Lehigh, entered the dormitory building through 3 automatic-locking doors that other students had propped open.

The investigation also revealed that Lehigh University knew of the student practice of leaving the automatic-locking doors propped open.

Howard and Connie Clery, Jeanne's parents, fought to ensure the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) was signed as a federal statute in 1990.

A Clery Act report by the Auditor of the State of California in May 2021 indicates that the legislation "requires all eligible institutions ... to prepare, publish, and distribute annual security reports disclosing specified campus crime statistics"

The act also requires campus police and security departments to keep daily records of all reported crimes. The log must be updated every 48 hours. Every 60 days, colleges and universities must make the daily logs accessible to the public.

According to RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network), the intent of the logs is for transparency of crimes, including sexual violence, at colleges and universities. The records must be detailed, documenting "the nature, date, time, and general location of crimes" within two business days after notification of the incident on campus or adjacent to the campus. Violations of the law can lead to fines of over \$30,000.

Recently the Collegian has been looking into campus safety at LACC since the stabbing death of Delbert Ray Collett on Nov. 7, 2022, in a parking structure on campus. In reviewing the campus' Sheriff Department logs, the Collegian found that LACC violates the Clery Act by failing to provide detailed information about crimes reported to them.



ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL SITAR

The logs merely indicate that an "incident" occurred without any details.

While LACC does not have dormitories on campus, the campus is situated in a high-crime location in East Hollywood. The repercussions of failure to comply with the Clery Act are significant. Students may feel a false sense of security on campus

without accurate logs. Students need to know specific information to take precautions for their safety.

Students, faculty, and staff need to ask for accountability. It is insufficient for the Sheriff's logs to indicate an "incident occurred." An incident can mean a sexual assault or petty theft. An "incident" does not provide us

with the information we need to maintain our safety.

Let's honor Jeanne Clery by demanding that the L.A. Sheriff's Department fully comply with the Clery Act. Not just because federal financial aid is at risk, but to allow students, faculty, and staff to take steps to ensure their safety on and near the campus.

Students Deserve Healthy Food Options

BY MICHELLE MCCREE

The food trucks available at LACC are not vegan or organic.

Sure, the Cub store may have a handful of healthy drinks. Sometimes they have fresh salads for sale. But how cool would it be if food

trucks sold an interesting array of healthy, fresh food choices?

I believe the standard American diet is a bad influence on health and wellness. Some people do not understand the side effects of a poor nutritional diet beyond weight gain. They do not consider the unhealthy oils used on typical hot food trucks.

Students are just hungry and want something to eat. They often need to rush since they cannot afford to leave campus if they forget to bring food.

Evidence supports the effect food has on the brain. No one really considers that fried foods often contribute to inflammation, brain fog, fatigue and more. Top that off with the fact that the average person is not detoxing their body often enough to stay in optimal shape.

"In the brain, an unhealthy diet that is rich in fats and sugars causes inflammation of neurons and inhibits the formation of new neurons," according to an article from kids.frontiersin.org. "This can affect the way the brain

works and contribute to brain disorders like depression. On the other hand, a diet that contains healthy nutrients, such as omega-3 fatty acids, is beneficial for brain health. Such a diet improves the formation of neurons and leads to improved thinking, attention, and memory."

Highly processed foods negatively impact brain health, according to articles I read on Healthline.com.

"A study including 52 people found that a diet high in unhealthy ingredients resulted in lower levels of sugar metabolism in the brain and decreased brain tissue. These factors are thought to be markers for Alzheimer's disease," according to an article on Healthline.com.

And there's more: People who consume higher amounts of trans fats tend to experience an increased risk of Alzheimer's disease, poorer memory, lower brain volume and cognitive decline.

I am glad that LACC does its best to provide free and low-cost food to qualifying students with food vouchers. However, it would be great if they stepped it up in this area. I propose an organic, fresh food eating option on campus that encourages health-conscious folks to avoid risks.

This goal would cost more than the average student can afford, but there must be a way to implement a diet that includes more quality foods. This includes fresh fruit, vegetable smoothies, juices, non-fried food options and more. A poor diet is just as bad as being food insecure.

come together, socialize and engage in meaningful conversations. Whether it is to grab a cup of coffee between classes, meet with a study group or simply unwind with a good book, a café gives people the space to take a break from their busy schedules and connect with others.

Beyond its academic benefits, a café fosters a sense of community on campus. Students and faculty from different departments and disciplines come together and create opportunities for interdisciplinary conversations and collaborations. A café serves as a platform for student-led initiatives such as open-mic nights, poetry readings and art exhibitions, further strengthening the sense of community on campus.

So, with all these benefits, why hasn't Los Angeles City College invested in creating or maintaining a café? Well, I might not have a direct answer for that yet, but what I do know is that they are not prioritizing an essential space for student success.

The absence of a café negatively impacts student engagement and participation in campus life. Since students must constantly leave campus for food or coffee, it is just inconvenient and time-consuming. The amount of time it takes to go off campus and back is unproductive and can be a financial burden.

Even the food currently offered on campus is unhealthy processed food. Students want better-quality food and the space to relax, hang

out and get work done.

Additionally, the income LACC could gain from the campus café could be a source of revenue for the institution. With careful planning and management, a café generates income to reinvest in the campus community, such as funds for student scholarships, campus events and infrastructure improvements.

Finally, a campus café is more than just a place to grab a cup of coffee. It provides a space for academic and intellectual discussions and offers practical benefits like convenient, healthy food and drink options. It is important for every college campus to prioritize the establishment and maintenance of a vibrant and welcoming campus café.

Student Journalist Faces Censorship

BY JUAN MENDOZA



I still cannot believe that Christine Park, Chair of the Music Department, threw me out with my camera from the Herb Alpert Music Hall on May 2.

I was assigned to cover the farewell music concert in honor of President Mary Gallagher of Los Angeles City College. As attendees entered the hall, I was right next to the door, adjusting my camera to take a few pictures and talk to students and faculty about Gallagher's departure. To allow them to share their memories regarding her tenure at LACC. I was there to capture and report the good moments and spirit of the night, filled with harmony performed by student and faculty musicians.

But I received a surprise that totally ruined the night and the special assignment to write about Gallagher's special occasion. Out of the blue, Park appeared right where I was setting up my equipment. With an arrogant, rude attitude

and discourteous behavior, she said, "What are you doing here? You are not allowed. No cameras are permitted. This is a private event." I was shocked, not knowing what to say. I waited for a few seconds before I responded, "I'm from the L.A. Collegian. I'm a student journalist. To which she said, "I don't care. Pack your things and leave." When I asked why, she said, "This is a private event, don't you understand?"

A young man from the audience saw what was happening and came to my rescue. He asked her why I was asked to leave the event. Again, she said, "This is a private event."

I cannot exactly recall what he said to her, but I remember he said it was a public college, and I had the right to be there. When he asked for her name, she replied with an arrogant tone, "I'm Christine Park." She then turned to the media people next to us and said, "Make sure nobody is using a camera. No recordings or photography is allowed." I felt embarrassed and humiliated. As the attendees entered the hall, they looked at me like a stranger, and for the first time, I felt out of place. My introduction to LACC began in the fall of 1992. I was a newcomer to this country. Here at LACC, I

learned all the ins and outs of this country. I have a special place in my heart and exceptionally good feelings about the college.

LACC is a dear institution to me. Park does not represent what this institution means for the thousands of students that passed through those classrooms. The claim of hosting a "private event" does not pass the test of scrutiny of the Los Angeles Community College District policies. She used public resources and facilities.

This is a clear example of press suppression. We should not ignore it. It is a dangerous precedent. We must speak up because this will become the new normal, if we say nothing.

Her hostile and authoritarian attitude proves that people who hold power think they can break the rules and step over other people's rights.

I was just doing my job as a student journalist, and she shut me down at that moment. But in reality, Park didn't shut me down; she censored the entire LACC community.

Park violated the students' First Amendment rights when she did not allow me to report the news of the event. She also violated my rights when she denied me access to a public event on the City's campus.

Why We Need a Campus Café

BY CHELSEA RAMON

College campuses usually bustle with activity. Students rush from class to class. Clubs and organizations hold meetings and events. Professors and staff scurry around to fulfill their duties.

Amidst all this activity, it is essential to have

a place where students and faculty can pause, relax, and recharge. And what better place to do it than a campus café?

From a practical standpoint, a campus café provides a convenient and accessible source of food and drink for students. Rather than having to leave campus or settle for greasy truck food, cafes offer a variety of healthy snacks and light meals, coffee, tea, fresh juices and other beverages.

In addition, a campus café provides a central place to gather where students and faculty can

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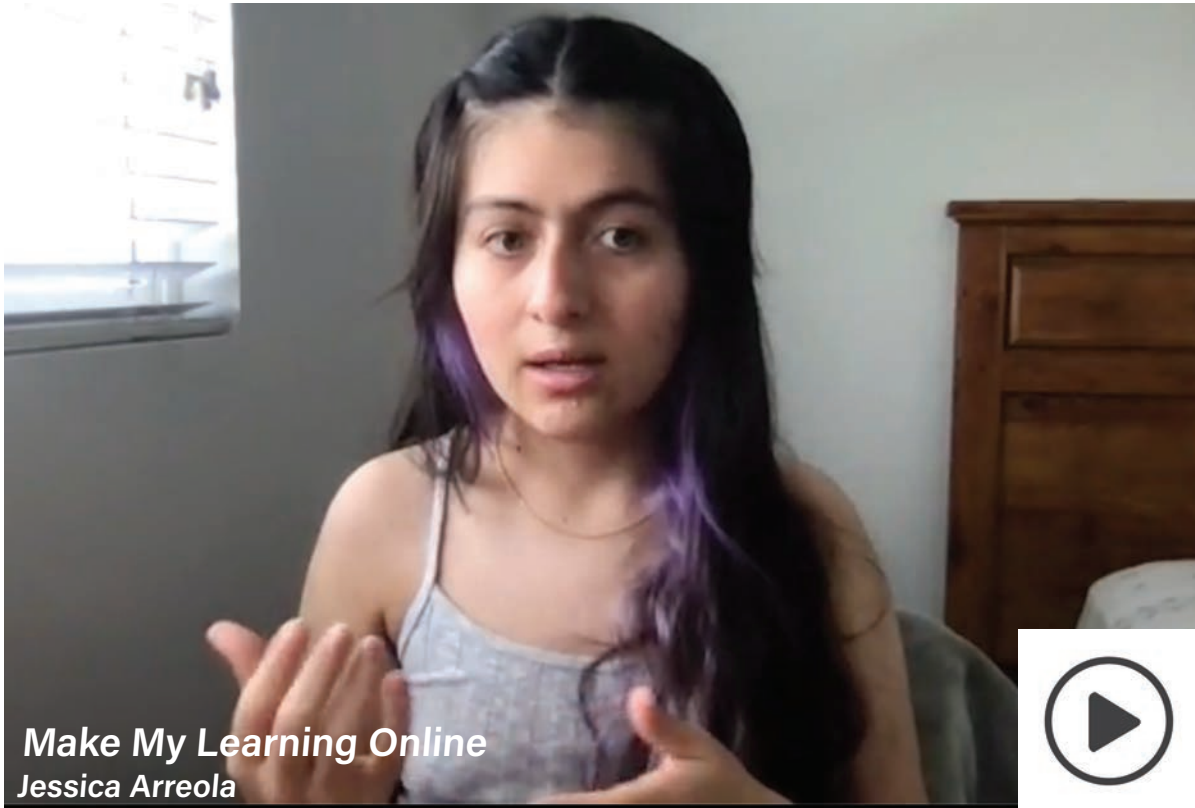
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Leaving Los Angeles? Don't Go
Henry Lopez

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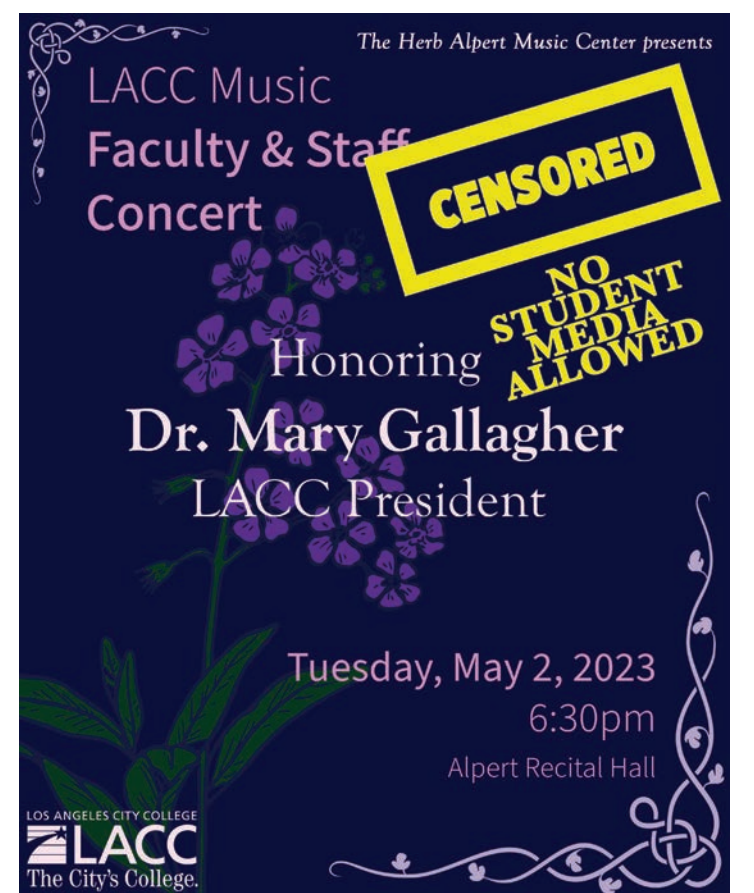
INK STYLE

A VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT.



ILLUSTRATION BY CASSANDRA MUÑOZ

FLAT NOTES



Banned Books Target LGBTQ+, People of Color

BY ALONDRA LEMUS

Banned books have become a subject that continues to bring light to the issue of why there is a specific similarity between the most challenged books. Banning books is nothing new. America has been banning books since colonial times, according to encyclopedia.com. Banning books is something that happens not only in the U.S. but in many countries.



The top three reasons books are challenged include material that is "sexually explicit," has "offensive language," and is "unsuited to any age group." For a book to be banned, it must first be challenged. From the First Amendment Museum website, we learn that challenging a book occurs when there is an attempt to ban a book from school districts, libraries, retailers and

many other sources.

These challenges can go all the way to the Supreme Court for a book to be banned.

Every year, the American Library Association (ALA) releases a list during National Library Week that contains the most challenged books of the previous year.

The ALA indicates that the most challenged books are written about LGBTQIA+ and by authors that are people of color. On April 24, the ALA released the list of the top 13 most challenged books of 2022.

On the list, seven of the 13 books are said to be challenged because they contain LGBTQIA+ content. Some of the books that are challenged are written by award-winning authors, who write about their own personal lives. They wrote stories on real subjects, like finding your identity, physical and mental abuse, and drugs.

At a time when people in the LGBTQIA+ communities are constantly attacked, judged, and misunderstood, why is their literary work being silenced? It is important for there to be books that speak about real-life experiences.

It is easier to speak about one's struggles or questions when someone has already spoken about them. Authors, writers, and creators write out words that many people cannot begin to put into sentences to describe pain and joy. Everyone wants to be seen and heard.

We need to ask deeper questions as to why these specific books are being banned. Are they really a threat to society, or are these books eye-opening to the mind about the reality of life?

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PREVIEW

Curtain to Rise on 'Kinky Boots' This Month

BY ALONDRA LEMUS

The Theater Academy at LACC is putting on just the show to get you dancing in your kinky boots!

The Tony Award-winning musical "Kinky Boots," which also won a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album will run from May 18-20 and May 25-27 at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

The story is based on Charlie Price, a man who inherits his family's shoe factory once his father dies.

At first, Charlie is not at all interested, but he soon is trying to find ways to keep the shoe factory open. On his search, he meets Lola, a drag queen that has forever loved heels since he was a little boy.

Together, they come up with the idea for the famous "Kinky Boots." The musical tells the tale of grief, pain, bullying, humility

and acceptance.

The theme is more important now than ever, with the constant attacks against the LGBTQIA+ community. The musical shows support for a community that allows people to be their authentic selves.

"It is so important during this time," said alumna Mireya Lopez. "People are more accepting in Los Angeles, the musical shows us to be our true self. People have to be more accepting of everything, it is the year 2023 we all need to be more open minded."

"Kinky Boots" is a musical that was inspired by true events. It began as a book by Harvey Fierstein, then later became a movie, and soon after was adapted into a musical with songs written by Cindy Lauper. The Theater Academy's Instagram shows more about the upcoming musical. See @thelacetheatreacademy for more information.



PHOTO BY LOUIS WHITE

Cast members from the upcoming production of "Kinky Boots" prepare to slay! The play opens on May 18, and admission is free.



39th L. Ron Hubbard Awards Reveal Winners

Creative contenders from all over the world attended the annual achievement awards show in Hollywood at the end of April.

BY JUAN MENDOZA

Red carpet fashion, a warm spring day and excited and enthusiastic attendees turned out for the results of an awards show that attracts worldwide talent.

The Taglyan Complex located at Vine and Lexington in Hollywood hosted the black-tie affair on April 28, 2023.

The contest is open to participants worldwide and winners came from different parts of the United States and beyond. South Vietnam, South Korea, China, Costa Rica, Canada, Romania and the United Kingdom were some of the countries that were represented at the gala event.

Family and friends also attended the awards show to support the finalists of the contest of writers and illustrators.

Dao Vi lives in Sylmar but was born in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. He was named the 2023 Illustrator Grand Prize Winner. It carries a \$5,000 grand prize. His family and friends came to the event to show their support and walked the red carpet for a group picture.

"It's been an exciting time. It's been a huge blessing, a huge joy for being here with my family and talented writers," he said. "I'm super happy. It is an amazing time."

Vi illustrated a story by writing winner Samuel Parr entitled, "The Last History."

Costa Rica Takes a Bow
A delegation from Costa Rica led by Ana Elena Rojas Alvarez, the consulate general of Costa Rica in Los Angeles came in support of Jose Sanchez and Christ Arias, both first-time winners of the Illustrator's contest.

"We are so proud to have two Costa Rican winners, illustrators and artists," Consul Rojas Alvarez said. "Their work is incredible."

Sanchez and Arias had the opportunity during the week to be part of the workshops with experts in the fields of illustration and writing.

"[It is] an honor to be here," Arias told the Collegian. "During the week, recognized and legendary illustrators in the fantasy and science fiction field shared with us their experience. And to be considered and be with them, it was an honor."

Sanchez was the second winner from Costa Rica.

"I'm very emotional to be here," he said.

The Costa Rican writers say they were honored to share an experience with recognized writers and illustrators and to represent their country. The winners seemed encouraged at the recognition and expressed pride over their accomplishments.

"It's so great that the consul in Los Angeles came to congratulate them because [it] is a very important moment," said Francisco Sanz Polo, director of friends of the L. Ron Hubbard Foundation.

South Korean Student Breaks Away

Winner Helen Yi is an international student from South Korea who attends college in Saratoga, Fla. She won the illustrator's contest of the night. Yi created illustrations for a story called "Under My Cypresses," by writing winner, Jason Palmatier. The story is set in a metaverse future. A woman who exposes falseness in others must decide what is real to her—the love she lost or the love she may have found. The story was inspired by a child's request to spend real cash on a skin for an in-game avatar. The skin gave no special powers, nor did it open another level of play. It simply changed the avatar's appearance.

Yi appeared ecstatic.

"I Feel great," she said. "I'm so excited about the show, about the gala. [It is] my first time being in Los Angeles and being around so many talented people and artists. As an international student, we don't have many opportunities to be out here. Having this experience is amazing."

The awards show is a magnet for writers, illustrators and other talented

Gia Salazar is an actress-producer known for "Family Men," and Miami Nights" on ABC-TV. She is also a former winner in the writer contest category.

"I'm super excited," Salazar said. "I love coming to show support for my fellow lesbians and artists."

The event concluded with a nod to creativity and the future from Gunhild Jacobs, the executive director of Author Services Inc. She offered a message to all artists.

"Never forget that you are magicians," she said. "It is you who transport the reader or the viewer to farlands and far times and other universes. Lands and times and universes that might not even exist yet. It is through your imagination and postulated realities that we are able to change the world or build a new one."

[Top]
More than 300 attendees gather in Hollywood at the Taglyan Complex for a black-tie gala to recognize the writers and illustrators of the future on April 28, 2023. The L. Ron Hubbard Annual Achievement Awards have honored the work of over 394 artists and writers since its inception.

[Bottom]
PHOTO BY JUAN MENDOZA
Performers from the EM Cirque entertain the attendees during the red carpet of Writers and Illustrators of the future gala event on Apr. 28, 2023, in Hollywood.



Book Event Celebrates Readers, Libraries, Authors

Readers mattered at a two-part event on World Book Day at the Student Union.

BY EDWARD LOCKE

Book lovers had their choice of low-priced novels, mythology, history, and other books at an event on World Book Day organized by the Associated Student Government.

ASG Vice President Nish Goo and Vice President Alexandra Bautista ran the book sales desk with offerings as low as two dollars.

Representatives from the Martin Luther King Jr. Library presented information and flyers to students. Librarians from the Los Feliz Branch and Monica Valencia from the Public Relations Department at Los Angeles Public Libraries came to explain library resources to LACC students.

The Pio Pico-Koreatown Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library, located at 694 South Oxford Ave., offers a variety of special technological services and equipment for creative, entrepreneurial, and educational purposes in its Media Lab. This includes access to Adobe Creative Cloud software programs, iMacs, Makerbot 3D Printers, large format poster printing, Epson Photo scanning and Zoom meeting Rooms.

Speakers from the Ralph Bunche Scholars, the LACC Book Program and the English Department also participated in the two-part event in the Student Union inside the Multipurpose Room on the third floor.

Book Signing Includes Inspiring Story
Published author Jonathan Orozco discussed the support he received from professors at L.A. City College and a challenging path in his autobiography, "Survive to Live: Out of a Vision Came the Truth and Salvation."

First published in 2017, the book describes the transformation of the author from a former member of a Los Angeles gang, born into a squalid slum known as La Limonada in Guatemala. He is now a born-again Christian, a professional musician and successful writer. He reflected on his former gang ties.

"Even though we all make mistakes, the most important thing is to learn from those mistakes," Orozco said. "This book is one that will make you cry and make you laugh." The author's brutal childhood was filled with a mix of motherly love and fatherly abuse. He crossed the Mexican and U.S. borders with his family, and he abandoned his high ideals about an American Dream and became involved in gang life.

Disillusioned by veneer of power, popularity, and security offered by the gang, Orozco finds himself stuck in a vicious cycle of danger, violence, substance abuse, and hopelessness. Finally, through the prayers of his mother, Orozco finds the courage to leave the gang behind and embrace a new future, becoming a musician, worship leader, and motivational speaker.

LACC President Mary Gallagher shared her first impressions on reading through Orozco's book, and Professor Evan Kendall praised the former student's work. Orozco says his teachers motivated him to study hard for success. He has learned to live with a physical disability that requires him to use a wheelchair, and he says he leads a happy life.



1

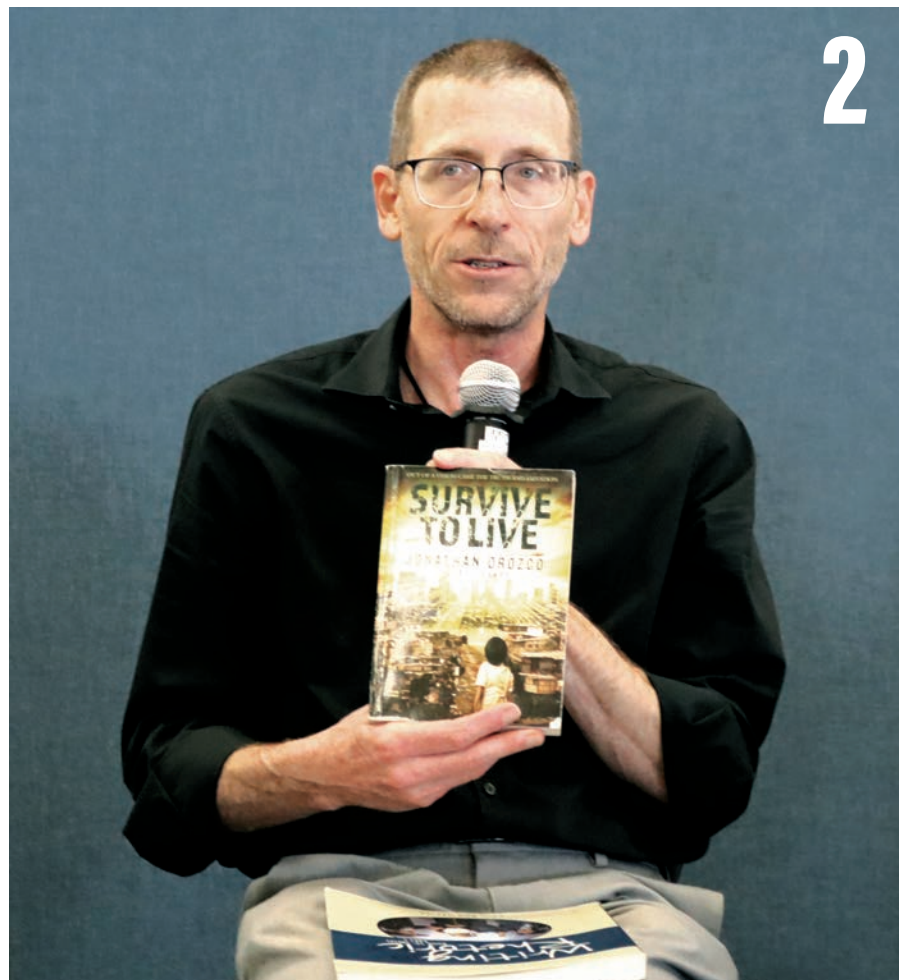
PHOTOS BY EDWARD LOCKE

Photo 1
Los Angeles City College President Mary Gallagher shares her impressions on the work of author Jonathan Orozco at the World Book Day event on April 24, 2023, in the Student Union.

Photo 2
Professor Evan Kendall praises the work and efforts of LACC alumnus and author Jonathan Orozco on World Book Day on April 24, 2023.

Photo 3
Author Jonathan Orozco, an LACC alumnus signs copies of his autobiography, "Survive to Live: Out of a Vision Came the Truth and Salvation," on April 24, 2023, in the Student Union.

Picture 4
Alexandra Bautista, executive of administration of LACC Associated Student Government serves attendees at the book sales desk on April 24, 2023.



2



3



4

FROM "FREE SPEECH" PAGE 1

Music Chair Singles Out Collegian for Censorship

"I was right at the door getting ready with my camera when she [Park] came in, and with an arrogant attitude and a humiliating tone of voice, she said to me, 'What are you doing here? You are not allowed. No cameras are permitted. This is a private event.'"

Mendoza says he told the professor he was a student journalist from the Collegian. However, things continued to escalate.

"I don't care," the professor said, according to Mendoza. "Pack your things and leave."

Mendoza asked why and Park reiterated.

"This is a private event, don't you understand?" she said.

The Collegian contacted Jonathan Gaston, a staff attorney at the Student Press Law Center in Washington, D.C. He says that Park should be questioned moving forward.

"If she is asserting it is a private event, she needs to provide evidence of that," Gaston said. "Now that the event has already passed, if it was indeed public, there may be some First Amendment violations triggered, which we can address going forward."

There was no notification in the two flyers that went out to the campus community about the event being private.

A student who was at the concert overheard the exchange between Mendoza and Park. He defended the reporter's right to cover the concert. He, too, asked the professor why the Collegian reporter had to leave. Professor Park reiterated.

"It is a private event," she said.

The Collegian has learned that the attendee who defended Mendoza's right to be in the Herb Alpert Music Hall takes photos for the college's Instagram page. During the intermission of the May 2 concert, that student was allowed to take pictures. Mendoza did not get that opportunity. He says Park kept him from doing his job.

The Collegian attempted to contact Park by email at 1 p.m. on May 8. However, Park has not yet responded to the attempt to contact her for a comment about the incident with Mendoza.

The Collegian attempted to contact her to allow her to explain why she denied the reporter his First Amendment rights. The Collegian also wanted to ask why she maintains that the concert

was private when an announcement of the event was distributed throughout the campus. In addition, the Collegian wanted to ask her why she singled out and treated this student journalist harshly when another student taking pictures was permitted to remain and take pictures when Park kicked Mendoza out of the concert.

Mendoza was uncomfortable with what happened at the concert, and he left.

"It was an embarrassing and humiliating moment," Mendoza said. "She showed an aggressive attitude like I was doing something illegal or strange when, in fact, I was just doing my job as a student journalist reporting the news for our LACC students."

The Collegian also contacted the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE), a nonprofit that works to defend free speech rights. FIRE has published a yearly list of the colleges with the worst free speech practices since 2011. Lindsie Rank is the student press council member for the Pennsylvania-based organization.

"If they were singling him out because he was a reporter with a camera, then it would be unconstitutional [that they forced him to leave], but if there was a general policy that no one was allowed to have cameras—outside the media team—then it is reasonable," Rank told the Collegian.

Rank says there was no actual reason for Mendoza to be asked to leave such a public event.

"If there was no general rule, but they applied to only him, then it is unconstitutional to make him leave," she said. "When events are public on campus, they shouldn't ban student journalists or have a policy to discriminate because they invited all students."

What was meant to be a simple assignment had turned into a confrontation and exercise in censorship.

"I still cannot believe Dr. Christine Park, Department Chair of the Music Department, threw me out with my camera out of the Herb Alpert Music Hall, claiming that [it] was a private concert and no cameras were allowed," Mendoza said. "While, in fact, there was a team of media inside the hall ... Christine Park stopped me from doing my job."

FROM "JEANNE CLERY" PAGE 1

Reports Fail to Describe Crimes in Detail

The complaints went unreported. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, or the Clery Act, was signed into law in 1990. It requires all colleges and universities that have federal financial aid programs to keep and disclose information about crime.

The Collegian Police Wire reporting has seen a shift in its reporting transparency over the last year.

This was the Police Wire in the March 9, 2022, edition of the Collegian:

"Feb. 9, 2022 - Grand Theft Auto in Parking Lot 3/4; Feb. 10, 2022 - Sex Misdemeanor - Off-campus incident reported to Sheriff's Station; [March] 3, 2022 - Sex Misdemeanor in the North West Quad; [March] 3, 2022 - Hit and Run in Parking Lot 3/4; [March] 4, 2022 - Petty Theft in Parking Lot 3/4."

The Police Wire was full of information with dates and locations informing students of where there might be danger, as required by law.

Compare the Police Wire that was published in the March 22, 2023, edition of the Collegian; "Feb. 7, 2023 - Fire in Sci Tech

Building; Feb. 8, 2023 - Student incident in Jefferson Hall; Feb. 11, 2023 - Disturbance in Parking Lot 4; Feb. 13, 2023 Incident exposure in Sci Tech Building; Feb. 14, 2023 - Student incident in Student Union."

The details have disappeared and been replaced by vague, generic descriptions of incidents on campus. The details have been omitted. Pertinent information that should be reported for the campus to remain Clery Act compliant is missing.

The crime log must mention any murders, sex offenses, robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, acts of arson, arrests, and any hate crimes committed on or around the campus, according to the Clery Center.

Clearly, something has changed between the Police Wire in March 2022 and March 2023. Details are missing either because the campus sheriff does not know this information is required in the crime log or because they want to continue to show the community that everything is safe.

The Collegian emailed the L.A. Sheriff's Department and called for comment on this story. The Collegian emailed on May 3 and

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LACC encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. For disability accommodation requests for this event, please email David Trucero: trucero@lacc.edu or call (323) 953-2267 prior to the event.



FROM JOURNALISM 101
TO THE COLLEGIAN
TO CSUN MIKE CURB COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA

CHART YOUR FUTURE AT LACC...

MARY PARONYAN
MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST
FOX-CBS AFFILIATE
KBAK EYEWITNESS NEWS, BAKERSFIELD

FROM "VALDEZ" PAGE 1



PHOTO BY LOUIS WHITE

Alumnus and legacy news reporter Tony Valdez stands with the staff of the Collegian (Back row in a turquoise shirt) after he hands out scholarship checks and a \$100 bill to each student on Oct. 1, 2021. Staff members of the Collegian benefited from the generosity of Valdez and the 8 Ball Foundation for more than seven years.

Valdez Supported Emerging Journalists with Scholarships

“He knew this city inside and out, forever the journalist in front of and behind the camera. RIP my dear teacher, colleague, friend, mentor, and L.A. news icon.”

-Christine Devine

of Journalism and Collegian newspaper adviser Rhonda Guess. "He handed out each check, and he looked the recipient in the eye and made a personal connection. He brought money to support the students for years before the pandemic and at its height. He was just wonderful."

Fox 11 evening anchor Christine Devine paid tribute to Valdez on Facebook.

"He knew this city inside and out, forever the journalist in front of and behind the camera. RIP my dear teacher, colleague, friend, mentor, and

L.A. news icon," Devine wrote. Valdez worked at Southern California outlets KCET-TV Channel 28, KTLA-TV Channel 5 and La Opinión. Valdez is survived by his son and three grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are pending. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the L.A. Conservancy or 8 Ball Emergency Fund for journalists.

There is also a Tony Valdez Scholarship, which awards a student veteran with an interest in journalism a scholarship through the L.A. City College Foundation.

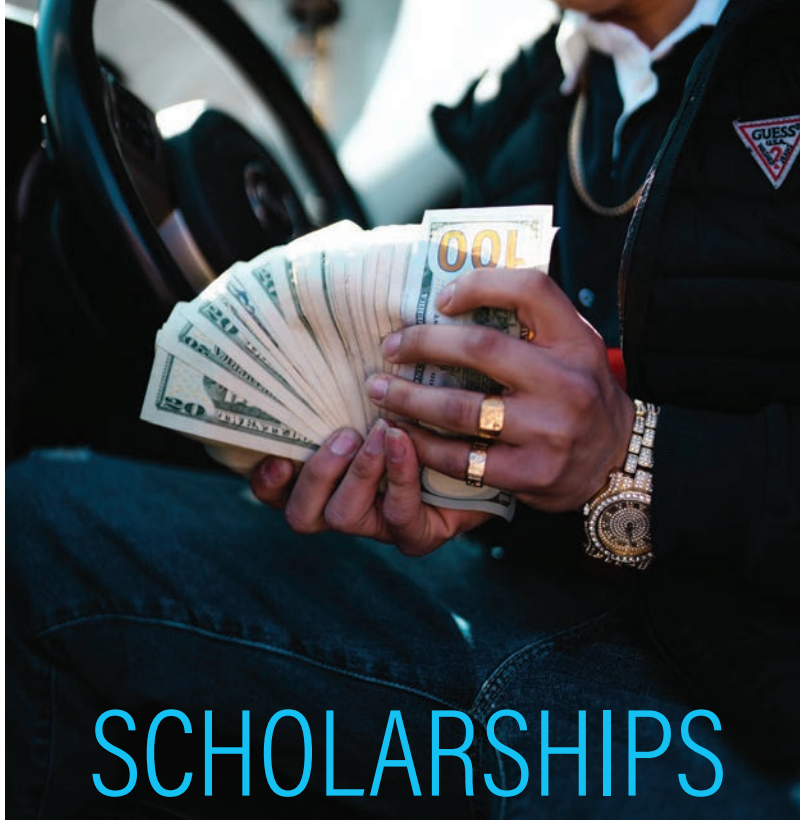


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10 Words or Less Scholarship

A) Anyone who is between the ages of 14-25 who will be attending school in the Fall of 2024.

B) This scholarship is provided by StudentScholarships.org. In order to apply for our scholarship follow these instructions:

1. Go to www.facebook.com/myscholarships and place a comment on any post you see answering the question:

In 10 words or less, tell us why you deserve the \$1,000 scholarship.

2. Before or After writing your Answer you will also need to "Like" our Facebook page. Note we will only read the answers provided from people that have "Liked" our page. <https://studentscholarships.org/easy.php>

"No Essay" Nitro Scholarship

A) A student who is currently enrolled as a high school senior or in an accredited college or university located within the United States;

B) A parent who currently has a child enrolled in an accredited college or university located within the United States;

C) A parent who currently has a child enrolled as a high school senior located within the United States;

D) A student or a parent whose child has graduated from an accredited undergraduate school (a "School") and who is currently paying back a student or parent loan for his/her/child's educational expenses for such School ("Entrant").

USC Mexican-American Alumni Association (USC-MAAA) Scholarship Program

Contact: University of Southern California, Mexican American Programs, Student Union 203, University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90089-4890, (213) 740-4735, Fax: (213) 740-7250 www.usc.edu/maaa; Eligibility: USC undergraduate Mexican American/Hispanic/Latino Students, must apply for financial aid. GPA and major are considered. Available during spring semester, Award: \$500-\$5000; Deadline: May 31

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Contact: Minority Scholarship Program,

1211 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10036, (888) 777-7077 www.aicpa.org; Eligibility: Minority students who are citizens or permanent residents. Full-time undergraduate or graduate student majoring in accounting. For application write to: AICPA Order Department, P.O. Box 2209, Jersey City, NJ 07303-2209, Product #870110 Award: \$ 5,000; Deadline: June 1

Central Intelligence Agency Undergraduate Scholar Program Contact:

Central Intelligence Agency, Attn: Personnel Representative, P.O. Box 12727, Arlington, VA 22209, (800)368-3886, (800) JOBS-CIA, Fax: (703) 613-7873, Eligibility: This program is open to high school seniors who either are a member of an ethnic group or have a disability. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old, achieved 1000 on the SAT or 21 on the ACT, have a high school GPA of at least 2.75, meet the same employment standards as permanent CIA employees, and be able to demonstrate financial need. Applicant must also plan to major in computer science, economics, electrical engineering, foreign area studies, or non-Romance foreign languages. Recipients must be available to work in metropolitan Washington, D.C. for at least 90 calendar days each summer while in college. Award: Interns receive an annual salary and up to \$15,000 a year for tuition, fees, books, and supplies. Summer travel to Washington, D.C. and a housing allowance while there are also provided; Deadline: June 1.

American Dental Hygienists Association, Institute for Oral Health Minority Scholarship

Contact: (514) 486-2700 www.oda.org e-mail: dentist@oda.org Eligibility: Full-time under-represented minorities (Native American, Hispanic, African American, and Asian males) in dental undergraduate hygiene program. Minimum 3.0 GPA. Showing financial need and accredited program. Call to request more information. Award: \$1,500-\$2,000 Deadline: June 1.

Latino Healthcare Professionals Project, The Contact:

California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Blvd. ASFO-16, Long Beach CA 90840-4801 (562) 985-5288 www.csulb.edu e-mail: lhpp@csulb.edu Eligibility: Open to all Latino/a bilingual/bicultural university students with junior standing and focusing on Healthcare. Award: Two years' tuition Deadline: June 3.

Communications Scholarship Fund Contact:

The Directors Office, MALDEF- Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, National Headquarters, 634 South, Los Angeles CA 90014 (213) 629-2512 www.maldef.org Eligibility: MALDEF offers scholarships nation-wide to exceptional students pursuing law or communications degrees. To qualify for the scholarships you must be an exceptional student with financial need willing to serve the Latino/a community. Award: Contact for details Deadline: June 30. Judge Louis Garcia, The; Memorial Scholarship

Judge Louis Garcia, The; Memorial Scholarship Contact:

MALDEF, The Directors Office, National Headquarters, 634 South, Los Angeles CA 90014 www.maldef.org Eligibility: Open to First year Latino/a first year Law students. Award: \$1,000-\$5,000 Deadline: June 30.

MALDEF Law School Scholarship Contact:

Ruth Zunigas, 634 Spring Street, 11th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 629-2512 Fax: (213) 629-0266 www.maldef.org Eligibility: Hispanic graduate student entering the first, sec-

ond, or third year of law school. LSAT scores and community service will be reviewed. Award: Contact for details from \$2,000 to \$6,000 Deadline: June 30.

Helena Rubenstein Endowment Scholarship,

The Contact: MALDEF-Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, The Directors Office, National Headquarters, 634 South, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 629-2512 www.maldef.org Eligibility: Open to first year law students focusing in Law or Communications. Award: \$1,000-\$5,000 Deadline: June 30.

William Randolph Hearst Endowment Scholarship Contact:

The Director's Office, MALDEF, National Headquarters 634 South, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 629-2512 www.maldef.org Eligibility: Open to minority first year law students Award: \$1,000-\$5,000 Deadline: June 30.

The Matt Garcia Memorial Scholarship Contact:

MALDEF, Director's office, National Headquarters, 634 South, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 629-2512 www.maldef.org; Eligibility: Open to first year law students. Award: \$1,000-\$5,000 Deadline: June 30.

Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE) Contact:

P.O. Box 419027, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9027 Phone: (916) 526-8250 Fax: (916) 526-8002 www.csac.ca.gov Eligibility: This program is for college juniors and seniors majoring in Education. This program will forgive up to \$11,000 in loans in return for agreement that the participant teach in a California public school for three years. Students must be nominated by their school to apply for this program. Please contact using the information given above for further details of this program. Award: Up to \$11,000 in loans forgiven Deadline: June 30.

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Swackhamer Peace Essay Contest Contact:

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, PMB 121, 1187 Coast Village Road, Ste. 1, Santa Barbara, CA 93108 (805) 965-3443 Fax: (805) 568-0466 www.wagingpeace.org Eligibility: Applicant must submit an essay and fulfill the requirements of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. Please contact by phone or visit their website using the information above. Award: \$500-\$1,500 Deadline: June.

Adelante! U.S. Education Leadership Fund Contact:

Teresa Vargas, 8415 Datapoint, Suite 400, San Antonio, TX 78229, (210) 692-1971 Fax: (210) 692-1951 e-mail: jan@adelantefund.org Eligibility: University juniors with a GPA of 3.0 and above. Must be eligible for financial aid, pursuing a business degree (or a related field). Must attend a paid Leadership Institute and participate in a business institute. Must provide two letters of recommendation. Award: \$3,000 Deadline: June.

MAGAF Scholarship Contact: Scholarship

Coordinator, 405 North San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, CA 90031 Eligibility: Applicants must have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA and pursuing a degree in a business-related field. College sophomores, juniors, and seniors may apply. Award: Varies Deadline: June. Lena Chang Internship Contact: Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, 1187 Coast Village Road, Suite 123, Santa Barbara, CA 93108 (805) 965-3443 Fax: (805) 568-0466 www.wagingpeace.org e-mail: wagingpeace@napf.org Eligibility: Awards offered to ethnic minorities currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate course work. The selection is based on the applicants' college transcript, 2 letters of recommendation, and an essay (3 pages) on ways to achieve peace in the nuclear age and how they hope to contribute to this end. Award: \$2,500 Deadline: June.

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VOLLEYBALL



PHOTOS BY LOUIS WHITE
Collegiate volleyball returns to Los Angeles City College with Coach George Rodriguez at the helm. He takes a break from teaching the fundamentals and drill instructions to new volleyball students on April 27, 2023 in the gym.

New Volleyball Coach Wants to Ace the Competition

Volleyball returns to the campus for the first time in more than a decade, as a new coach looks for recruits to reclaim LACC's place in intercollegiate volleyball.

BY SOLOMON ENSLEY LEWIS

Coach George Rodriguez is actively recruiting interested students to join Kinesiology 552, a sports conditioning and skills training course for volleyball, where students can develop and strengthen their athletic performance.

The season begins in the fall, so female athletes have enough time to prepare for competition. The class is taught by Head Coach Rodriguez, who has over 25 years of experience developing strong student athletes.

Coach Rodriguez has coached at several prominent schools all around Los Angeles. He was the

Assistant Coach at California State University Los Angeles and Cal Poly Pomona and the head coach at East Los Angeles College, Glendale College and Campbell Hall Episcopal. These are the main schools on his resume. His experience at Campbell Hall lasted for over 17 years, with nine years as the Assistant Coach and eight years as the Head Coach, where the girls' volleyball team won the California Interscholastic Federation Southern (CIF SS) Championship and finished 4th in the state in 2010.

Rodriguez is now the head coach for the women's volleyball team at LACC, where it has been over a decade since the school has competed in intercollegiate volleyball. He has his work cut

out to assemble a team from scratch, but he has a proven record of leading a team to victory.

"My back is to the wall, but I'm not letting that stop me because I'm the type of coach to turn programs around," said Head Coach Rodriguez.

His record of over 55 wins as head coach at ELAC speaks volumes. He dramatically improved ELAC's previous record of 3 wins and 166 losses before Rodriguez arrived.

Commitment and hustle are the main traits Coach Rodriguez wants to find in his student athletes, and he wants them to utilize those characteristics in their studies.

"I treat them as student-athletes; they're students first,"

Rodriguez said. He aims to develop every student in their athletic journey and assist them in obtaining scholarship opportunities to play at another college after their first year with the Cubs.

There are currently 22 students in the Kinesiology 552 class practicing, and Head Coach Rodriguez hopes many more students will join. The class meets Monday, Thursday, and Friday, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Kinesiology North Building, in Room 146. If interested, students may enroll in KIN 552 by emailing Head Coach Rodriguez at RODRIGGA@LACCD.EDU. He invites students interested to contact him by email. He will serve you with his best effort.

BASKETBALL



UCLA Alumnus to Lead Men's Basketball

L.A. City College welcomes a new Men's Head Basketball Coach, Jason Flowers. Photo Courtesy "CSUN Athletic Communications"

BY MATTHEW CAMPOS

As the excitement builds around sports coming back to campus, LACC is thrilled to welcome a new coaching staff for the men's basketball team. More specifically, welcome Coach Jason Flowers as the new head coach.

Flowers is a former basketball player who most recently played for UCLA in the early 2000s. According to Sports Reference, he was a 40% shooter in college from 3-point range. Since then, he has also been coaching for a number of years as a member of many notable college programs' coaching staff in recent years. Flowers first began his coaching career as a volunteer assistant on the UCLA staff from 2001 to 2003. He was then hired as a Women's Assistant Coach for Long Beach State and later UC Riverside.

It was not until 2010 that he would receive his first head coaching position as the head coach of

women's basketball at Cal State Northridge. The Matadors statistic archives show he had great success as the women's basketball coach there, with his squad winning three conference championships in 10 years. He also has the most coaching wins in CSUN history.

He then spent a year at Cal Baptist University as their Player Development Director before landing the head job at LACC. This will be Flowers' first time as the head coach of a men's team at the collegiate level.

Flowers had this to say when asked what to expect for his first season as head coach.

"I am truly humbled to be the leader of the young men who will represent the LACC campus and the great tradition of its basketball program," Flowers said. "We are excited about being a part of the group that is bringing athletics back, and we will work every day to build on the championship standard that is LACC men's basketball. We look forward to being a part of campus during such an exciting time of growth."

Not only is it exciting that sports are coming back, but the expected success will make them reappear on campus in a big way. The best way for LACC to make a mark on the conference as

sports return would be to have immediate success out of the gate. That would help the Cubs stamp their name in the minds of schools that have previously thought nothing of them, and success begins with a great head coach.

When speaking to some of his former colleagues, they had nothing but high praise for his demeanor and authenticity. The Assistant Women's Basketball Coach at CBU, Brittany Chambers, said, "He's authentic and stays true to who he is ... he brought a ton of wisdom on and off the court and was a great mentor to our players."

She mentioned how she has no doubt he will have a great impact on the young men that play for him and have great success on the court. Having a coach that has been a part of such successful and prestigious programs in the past should be something that everyone around campus is extremely fired up about.

His coaching style includes good listening skills and observation of his surrounding situation before taking quick and decisive action. This is conducive to molding good men with high standards and, ultimately, a very disciplined style of basketball that should lead to success.

This coaching style is something he spoke about more in depth in an interview in 2018 with "Women's Hoop World." It was his ninth season as head coach at CSUN. "We just wanted to establish how we were going to do things," Flowers said. "We were looking for a certain kind of work ethic and a certain kind of toughness, and we wanted to establish that

kind of mentality. We worked on how we were going to be a group and come together, and what that looked like and sounded like. We were about addressing the culture and how we wanted to do things."

With nothing but positivity in mind, this next season of men's basketball under Flowers will be monumental in reshaping the LACC athletics program. The excitement is palpable, and everyone is looking forward to seeing the team in action and rooting them on.