



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·

President's Report to the Governing Board April 18, 2017

Cuyamaca College Shines in National Collegiate Landscape Competition

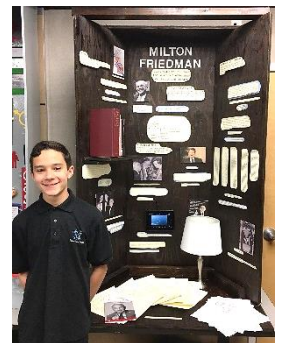
Students from Cuyamaca College's Ornamental Horticulture program finished among the top of the class during the school's inaugural foray at the National Collegiate Landscape Competition – a March 15-18 event involving some of the leading universities in the country. The National Collegiate Landscape Competition, sponsored by the National Association of Landscape Professionals, includes a tournament and networking opportunities for students enrolled in landscape and horticulture programs at colleges and universities across the country. More than 750 students from 61 colleges and universities took part in the event, held this year at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, with competitors coming from such schools as Michigan State, Colorado State and Virginia Tech universities. Cuyamaca College was among the smallest colleges and universities that took part. The National Collegiate Landscape Competition included 29 different categories, ranging from Arboriculture Techniques to Wood Construction, with judging conducted by industry professionals. Cuyamaca College student Alexandra Trofimov finished second out of 44 competitors in the Exterior Landscape Design contest, and teammates Tyler Shannon and Neiva Martinez finished a close second out of 42 competitors in the Irrigation Assembly contest. Shannon and Brittany Etnyre finished third out of 15 competitors in the Irrigation Troubleshooting competition. Casey Woodall came in fifth in the Business Management competition; Trofimov finished in fifth place in the 3D Exterior Landscape Design contest; and Kaitly Bevenour came in sixth place in the Plant Problem Diagnosis competition.



San Diego Center for Economic Education at Cuyamaca College participates in San Diego County History Day



On Saturday, February 25, SDCEE Advisory Board Members Rohn Trieglaff, Scott McGann, and Giff Asimos judged the economic concepts of student entries. Cash awards were given to students who did the best job presenting and articulating the economic connections in their projects. Four cash awards of from \$100 to \$150 were given to students who did the best job articulating the economic principles in their projects. Pictures of winning entries and descriptions of the projects (which included the economic connections of each) are posted on the SDCEE website: [http://ceesandiego.org/2017/03/history-day-](http://ceesandiego.org/2017/03/history-day-2017/)



[2017/](http://ceesandiego.org/2017/03/history-day-2017/). San Diego County History Day is part of a highly regarded national academic program designed to make history come alive for elementary, middle school and high school students. Students choose historical topics related to a yearly theme and conduct extensive research analyzing the historical significance of their topic. Cash awards were made possible through funding by the Fusenot Foundation.

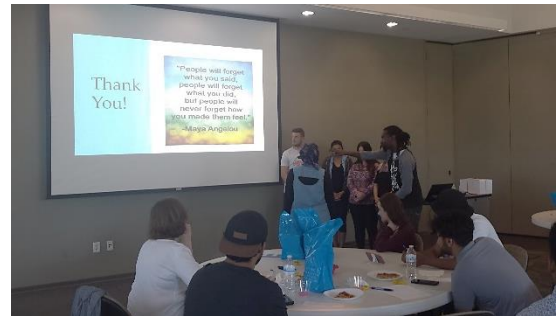
John and Suanne Roueche Excellence Award Winners

Two faculty members from Cuyamaca College were recently awarded the John and Suanne Roueche Excellence Award from the League for Innovation in the Community College, an international consortium of community colleges and their districts, and 160 corporate partners. Recipients are honored at special events at the League's Innovations conference each spring. Math instructor **Terrie Nichols**' teaching innovations since her hiring in 1995 have set many remedial students on an accelerated path to successfully complete college-level math. The state awarded the college a \$1.5 million Basic Skills Student Outcomes Transformation Grant a year ago, the result of a grant-writing effort led by Terrie. She was also instrumental in the award of a nearly \$2.6 million grant to Cuyamaca College funded through the U.S. Department of Education's Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program. Also recognized was English instructor **Lauren Halsted**. Hired as an adjunct faculty member in 2005, English instructor Lauren Halsted became full-time in 2008, melding teaching with service on numerous committees. Like Nichols in the math department, Halsted has been at the forefront of Cuyamaca's accelerated learning initiatives since 2011. Her doctoral research, which showed that students were frustrated with traditional approaches to developmental education, sparked her interest in accelerated learning. Over the years, she has helped shepherd English acceleration by writing curricula, teaching the new classes, and leading training efforts in the English department. Other winners from our District included Grossmont College art history professor Marion de Koning, and Administration of Justice instructor Shaun Donelson and the district's director of Campus and Parking Services Nicole Conklin.



Student Services Student Hourly Training

On April 7, Cuyamaca College held its first Student Services Student Hourly Training. The event was a successful one, and was attended by over 35 people. The afternoon included lunch, courtesy of the Vice President of Student Services, a professional development component facilitated by District PD Specialist Priscilla Leyva, in which student staff engaged in training on providing "*Above and Beyond Customer Service*," and presentations by content experts from each department. The idea behind the event was to provide a forum for student workers to meet and ask questions, to provide them with more comprehensive training on the different areas within student services, and to acknowledge the critical role that they play as our front line staff. President Julianna Barnes was able to address the group, sharing her story of starting her career in education as a student worker. She provided encouragement and appreciation for the amazing work that our students do, both in the classroom, and as staff in our offices. We hope to be able to continue to offer this training, with changing areas of focus based on feedback from our students, once or twice per year moving forward.



Griffin-Coyote Connection

For the past two months Cuyamaca College's Counseling and Outreach departments have been making their presence known at five local high schools and Foothills Adult School to implement a new and improved "Griffin-Coyote Connection" program to guide students through successful matriculation into our district. As of now, 674 students have signed up and started the process to begin taking classes either during the Summer or Fall 2017 semester.

Counseling Department Develops Marketing Strategies

The Counseling department has implemented new marketing strategies in efforts to increase the number of graduate applicants and encouraging students to participate in the commencement ceremony. In an effort to provide more availability for students, counseling appointments have been made available for students to meet with a counselor and to apply for graduation and/or check the status on the completion of their degree. Plans are also underway to increase our marketing to students to come and meet with a counselor to develop their comprehensive educational plan (CEP). Workshops were held for Pathway Academy students on probation to educate them on how to implement strategies for success. Counseling staff are currently working with the SSSP counselor at Grossmont College to ensure that, as a district, we are effectively communicating with students on probation or dismissal. Counseling is also coordinating with Financial Aid to build a joint financial aid appeal/counseling class (.5 units) for students who are not meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress. Our goal is to offer this class starting Fall 2017.

Guided Student Pathways Initiative

President Barnes was notified that Cuyamaca College is one of only 20 colleges selected to participate in the California Guided Pathways Initiative. It was a very competitive process but reviewers from the Foundation for California Community Colleges noted that they “were impressed by the depth and quality of [our] institutional efforts to date!” This is a true honor for Cuyamaca and our participation aligns nicely with our innovative spirit and our drive to strengthen our success and equity efforts. They are looking to us to serve as a model for the rest of the state (and nation, in fact). President Barnes gives special thanks to Senior Dean Brianna Hays for her hard work in developing the application in close consultation with all, and to the interview team, Brianna, and faculty members Tammi Marshall and Paul Carmona, who illuminated all of the wonderful efforts currently underway at the college.

Library Display: Spring into the Library here at Cuyamaca College

In honor of the 24th Annual Spring Garden Festival at Cuyamaca College on April 29, the library display is featuring a variety of gardening books with a focus on xeriscape landscaping as well as gardening to attract the birds and butterflies which add to the beauty of the season.



Upcoming Events

A complete list of college activities can be found on our website, www.cuyamaca.edu

Transfer Fair

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Spring Garden Festival and Butterfly Festival

Saturday, April 29, 2017

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Activities at the College, the Water Conservation Garden and the Heritage of the Americas Museum

Free admission and free parking



Concert Series

Cuyamaca College Theatre

For more information, call 619-660-4627 • www.cuyamaca.edu/performingarts

Sunday, April 30	Paul O'Dette & Ronn McFarland Virtuoso lute duets from Italy and England Presented by the San Diego Early Music Society	3:00 p.m. \$10 per person
Saturday, May 6	Coyote Music Festival Local popular music	Free Grand Lawn
Tuesday, May 9	Cuyamaca College Concert Band Directed by James Sepulvado	7:30 p.m.
Friday, May 12	Cuyamaca College Rock, Pop & Soul Ensemble Performing <i>Synchronicity</i> by The Police	7:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 18	Cuyamaca College Choir Directed by Paul Infantino	7:30 p.m.
Monday, May 22	Zimbeat Music from Africa	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 23	Cuyamaca College Concert Band With Grossmont College Concert Band	7:30 p.m.



Spring 2017 Career Workshops

Career Workshops are free for students, faculty, staff, and the community at large. Workshops are held in the Career Center, room A-221.

Friday, May 5	<i>“Keys to Mastering the Interview & Job Search Techniques”</i>	10:00-11:00 a.m.
Monday, May 22	<i>“Build & Update a Better Resume”</i>	1:00-2:00 p.m.

Standing Together: Open Forum Series

The Office of Student Affairs & Engagement, Health & Wellness Center, EOPS, United Dreamers, and the Associated Student Government are sponsoring a series of forums. On Tuesday, March 16, the “Standing Together” series kicked off with a conversation to support unity, illuminating the experiences of our undocumented and immigrant students. The last session will take place on Thursday, May 11, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm with a discussion on religion.

