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MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT-PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays Vikings!

I must tell you that every single one of you have earned a restful winter break. Because this the Fall of 2019 will go down in history as being one of our busiest, most successful, and most pivotal in recent memory.

Our achievements keep getting bigger and brighter because we are working together for a common goal – which is getting our students to achieve their educational goal by earning a degree or certificate.

If you haven’t heard about this yet, we’ve really made incredible progress regarding completion. LBCC was the most improved among all California community college districts in the number of certificates awarded. The college moved into the 29th spot statewide, up from the 68th ranked spot. LBCC was the second most improved among all California community college districts in the total number of awards, including degrees and certificates. And LBCC was the eighth most improved among all California community college districts in the total number of degrees awarded. It reminds me that I have one job when it comes to serving as the Superintendent-President of Long Beach Community College District – it is to do all that I can to ensure that we get as many of our students as possible to our Commencement Ceremony. And that is exactly what we are doing, together, at Long Beach City College!

In essence, it’s the gift of education that we give not just to our students, but to their families and our community. We are changing lives by providing that valuable piece of paper that our students worked so hard for. No receipt needed, no need for an exchange policy, because we all know it’s the perfect fit.

Wishing all of you a joyous holiday season filled with laughter and reflection. We have much to be proud, and much to celebrate!

WWW.LBCC.EDU/REDEMPTION
DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS CELEBRATION
BRINGS COMUNIDAD BACK INTO COMMUNITY COLLEGE!
More than 300 community members, students, faculty, and staff attended Long Beach City College's first Dia De Los Muertos celebration the evening of Nov. 8 in the P Building Quad at the Liberal Arts Campus.

The evening served as a closing ceremony for LBCC’s Latinx Heritage Month that included cultural performances, poetry reading, and food. The night’s emcees, Veronica Alvarez and Esteban Alfaro, engaged the audience in a bilingual program adding to the richness of the experience.

LBCC Departments competed in an ofrendas contest, creating beautiful altars to honor colleagues, family members, and friends who have passed. Congratulations to “Nuestros Antepasados” (EOPS & DSPS) which received the highest number of community votes for their ofrenda creation.
Nearly 125 community members and supporters attended the Long Beach City College’s 2019 Alumni Hall of Fame event on Nov. 6 at The Grand Long Beach Events Center.

This year’s honorees are: Long Beach City Assistant Treasurer Fidel Aguayo; Executive Director of Khmer Parent Association Chan Hopson; retired municipal chief executive officer Roger Kemp; Lakewood City Community Services Manager Chuck Martucci; and author and historian Edwina Romero.

Established in 1972, the Hall of Fame recognizes former LBCC students who have made outstanding contributions to their chosen fields and communities. The 2019 honorees will join past honorees who have attended Long Beach City College, from former Mayor Beverly O’Neill and actor John Amos, to comedian Paul Rodriguez and philanthropist Naomi Rainey-Pierson, and many others.
Several Long Beach City College employees attended the first Viking Pathways Retreat on Nov. 15. This half-day retreat explored what the Viking Pathways meant for LBCC students, faculty and staff. Attendees learned how Viking Pathways provides a framework for student to navigate the community college process and succeed in their goals.
The DESTINO: Developing Engaging STEM Through Innovative New Opportunities group met for the first time on Nov. 25 with a kick-off meeting. Thanks to a $3 million federal Title V grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Long Beach City College will work to improve student success and equitable student outcomes for Latinx and low-income students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields through the DESTINO program.
The popular Long Beach Reads One Book program has been revitalized by the Long Beach City College Foundation and Long Beach City College (LBCC) after a six-year hiatus. The New York Times Bestselling graphic novel “They Called Us Enemy” by actor, author and social justice activist George Takei was selected to kick-off the reactivation of Long Beach Reads One Book. The months-long program will conclude with a huge community event with Takei at LBCC.

“Long Beach City College is thrilled to be part of the renaissance of Long Beach Reads One Book,” said Long Beach Community College District Board of Trustees President Vivian Malauulu. “Speaking as a parent and an educator, I think having this citywide reading homework assignment will definitely enrich our children and our residents. Not only by promoting literacy and all of its wonderful benefits, but to start an important discussion together as a community of the lessons we have learned from our government’s past mistakes.”

Founded in 2002, Long Beach Reads One Book is a community-focused cultural project designed to bring people together, foster community, and to raise the enjoyment of literacy by encouraging everyone in Long Beach to read the same book at the same time. The Long Beach Public
Library Foundation organized this annual citywide effort until 2013.

“Long Beach City College is proud to be part of the movement to bring Long Beach Reads One Book back,” said LBCCD Superintendent-President Dr. Reagan Romali. “Participating in this wonderful citywide effort is a unique way to promote education in our community.”

“They Called Us Enemy” is a graphic memoir recounting Takei’s childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II and his firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the joys of childhood and the terrors of growing up under legalized racism, his mother’s hard choices, his father’s faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future.

“Ours is a people’s democracy with the capacity to do extraordinary good but we are also fallible human beings. There are still a shocking number of people who are unaware of the time during World War II when the U.S. Government robbed their own citizens of due process and wrongly locked families behind barbed wire because they were of Japanese descent,” said Takei. “It greatly concerns me as I listen to the political rhetoric from some of our government officials today and realize that we still have not learned the lessons history taught us. I’m proud that we can use my graphic memoir as a way to engage and educate a huge number of people about the atrocities that our own government made so we never repeat the mistakes of the past.”

Over the next few months, residents are encouraged to read “They Called Us Enemy.” Takei’s book is available for purchase at Gatsby Books in Long Beach, major retail and online bookstores, and at both LBCC Viking Bookstores at the Liberal Arts Campus and Pacific Coast Campus. LBCC students can also borrow the book from the LBCC Libraries at both campuses where a limited number of books will also be available.

The return of Long Beach Reads One Book will close with a community book event with Takei at Long Beach City College on March 19, 2020.

“This is a great opportunity to bring back a beloved program, and to have George Takei present is an honor,” said LBCC Foundation Executive Director Paul Kaminski. “The Long Beach City College Foundation and Long Beach City College are thrilled to bring this community-building event back to Long Beach.”

Citywide “one book” programs began in Seattle in 1998 followed by Chicago in 2000. Long Beach is credited as the third major U.S. city to establish such a program. The first book chosen for the Long Beach project was “Tuesdays with Morrie” by Mitch Albom. The author came to Long Beach for a book discussion that was held at LBCC with more than 500 attendees, including many high school and college students.
Dozens of faculty, staff and managers attended Superintendent-President Reagan Romali’s Holiday Open House on Dec. 3 at the Liberal Arts Campus. Colleagues mingled while enjoying refreshments and holiday photo booth. LBCC Performing Arts Student Ensembles also performed holiday favorites. Attendees also donate several non-perishable food and hygiene items for the Viking Vault to help Long Beach City College students in need.
Long Beach City College was the recipient of some holiday giving recently. Nikkei/Mabuhay Credit Union, CalCom Federal Credit Union and Mattel teamed up to donate 100 blankets, and more than 100 care packages that included a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and other hygiene products. These items will be provided to LBCC students in need.
Long Beach City College joined the crowd in North Long Beach to honor all those who have served the United States in war or peace during the City of Long Beach's annual Veterans Day parade. Long Beach Community College District Board of Trustees Vice President Uduak-Joe Ntuk, Trustee Dr. Virginia Baxter and Ole the Viking represented LBCC and rode along the parade route.
Representing LBCC at this year’s Belmont Shore Parade were members of the Board of Trustees including President Vivian Malauulu, Vice President Uduak-Joe Ntuk, Dr. Ginny Baxter and Doug Otto. They were joined by members of the ASB Cabinet, President’s Ambassadors, Skye Angulo and the LBCC Carolers, Cheer Squad, staff from Facilities and Communications, families of the Board, and Ole the Viking.
More than 75 Long Beach City College employees participated in the Wellness Committee’s Walk It Off event that took place on Nov. 6 and Nov. 7.

Participants were entered into an opportunity drawing to win prizes. Congratulations to Brian Harvey from Mail Services for winning a bicycle. Congratulations to Becca Shewmake, James Wan, Mildreth Martinez and Susan Fintland who also participated and won a blood pressure monitor.

Thank you to all the employees that participated! Keep an eye out for the Wellness Committee’s next walking event in the New Year which will include a second bicycle and other goodies as prizes.
RADIO/TV’S BOB HERSH IS A HIT AS PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY

Long Beach City College Radio & Television Professor Bob Hersh was recently selected to serve as “Principal for a Day” at the ABC Unified School District’s Tracy High School.

Aside from his teaching duties, Hersh is also a highly acclaimed, multi-Emmy Award winner for his past work with shows like “Battle of the Network Stars” and “The Geraldo Rivera Show.”

After a breakfast ceremony at the Cerritos Sheraton hotel, Hersh and Tracy High School Principal Ricardo Brown joined Tracy’s KTHS TV Broadcast class, where Hersh shared some inspiring stories and information. Many of them embraced the chance to hold one of Hersh’s golden statues while learning about the real world of broadcast television.

“Students were psyched to hold the Emmy,” Hersh said. “They all took individual selfies on their phones.”

Hersh, who started teaching part-time at LBCC nearly 20 years ago, is looking forward to LBCC’s broadcast program partnering with Tracy High School in the near future. The idea stemmed from the High School Counselor’s Breakfast LBCC hosted in early 2019.

“I really want to give kudos to those who put that breakfast together because it started the conversation to partner with Tracy High School,” Hersh added. “Now the students are planning to come to LBCC for a field trip before the holidays!”

For more information on LBCC’s Radio & Television program, visit www.LBCC.edu/program-radio-and-television.
Long Beach City College is kicking off its internal process of comprehensive review for accreditation! Every seven years, the College goes through a process of self-evaluation and peer review to ensure that the College provides quality programs and services to students. This is an opportunity for self-reflection, improvement, and celebration.

Maintaining the College’s accreditation status with the Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges is critically important to the College, as it affects our ability to provide financial aid and our students’ ability to transfer their courses to other institutions. Within the larger community, it informs prospective students, employers, and the public, that LBCC programs offer quality educational opportunities that produce skilled and effective employees.

The accreditation process requires full campus engagement with input and collaboration across constituency groups in order to ensure that the College is providing LBCC students with the best educational experience possible. The College is currently establishing a committee structure for this internal self-evaluation to provide opportunities for broad participation in this process in a collegial and meaningful way.

Dr. Heather Van Volkinburg is LBCC’s Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer. Jennifer Holmgren is LBCC’s Director of Planning. If you have any questions regarding accreditation, please contact Heather at (562) 938-4623 or hvanvolkinburg@LBCC.edu or Jennifer at (562) 938-4454 or jholmgren@LBCC.edu.
NOW - DEC. 21
deLINEations - an exhibition of forty drawings
Building K Gallery, Liberal Arts Campus
Visit LBCC.edu/Calendar for gallery hours.

DEC. 13
FALL VOCAL JAZZ CONCERT
7:30 P.M.
Gerald R. Daniel Recital Hall, CSULB

DEC. 14
CHORAL CONCERT: JOHN RUTTER’S GLORIA
AND OTHER CHORAL FAVORITES
2 P.M.
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church

For more events and information, visit www.LBCC.edu/calendar.

Be Social with LBCC!
Connect with Long Beach City College and check out our latest videos, campus activities and upcoming events on our social media platforms!

LongBeachCityCollege  LBCityCollege  @LBCityCollege  @LBCityCollege
VIEW US IN ACTION!
WATCH THIS MONTH’S VIDEOS

REDEMPTION: Ep. 3 - Turning of the Tides

2019 Latinx Heritage Month

2019 Día De Los Muertos Event

SUBSCRIBE FOR MORE VIDEOS
an exhibition of 40 drawings

Jane Bauman – Barbara Berk
Justin Bua – Jessica Cualte – Chris Chinn
Chris Diaz – James Griffith – Ron Linden
Peter Liashkov – Jillian Liwag – Dan McCleary – Ann Page
George Page – Richard Parker – Jesus Martinez
Bradford Salamon – Steven Jay Schmidt – Cathy Stone

GALLERY HOURS
Mondays/Thursdays 9:30 am – 7:30 pm
Tuesdays/Wednesdays 12:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Friday 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Saturday, December 21st 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm
* Schedule is subject to change.

$2.00 parking fee in unmarked lots.
Closest lots are C, D and E.