Program Title: Centennial Exhibition

Proposed by: San Bernardino Valley College History Club

Program Date: September 2026

Requesting: Support from the Academic Senate

To the Academic Senate,

The History Club of San Bernardino Valley College has been diligently working on creating a centennial exhibit to display on San Bernardino Valley’s campus. This exhibition will showcase and celebrate a hundred years of Valley College. After meeting with President Contreras and Dr. Neimeyer-Romero on March 14th, 2025, History Club received both of their informal support and approval of this exhibition. Inspired and motivated by our proposal, President Contreras commented to the Wolverine Weekly about our exhibit plan, discussed our centennial project with the Cabinet, and added our exhibit plan as an agenda item in an upcoming college council.

Our goal is to show our current and future students that we are deserving and capable of the progress necessary to provide change on our campus. We present this centennial exhibit as a beacon of endless possibilities as well as a resource that our students can depend on. The historical treatment of San Bernardino's underprivileged communities and its demographics highlight that it is an underserved population. Due to current circumstances in part of our recent social and political climate; [Loss of History](https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/restoring-truth-and-sanity-to-american-history/), [Importance of Un-Ambivalent History](https://truthout.org/articles/erasing-history-erasing-democracy-trumps-authoritarian-assault-on-education/), it is especially crucial to continue the push to preserve our history. By encouraging communal identification, advancing cultural awareness, bolstering economic growth, and offering educational opportunities, historical preservation helps society maintain a link to the past while laying the groundwork for the future.

To make our centennial exhibit possible on September 2026, History Club requests your formal support in:

* Student-Led and Centered (ONLY)
  + Students will;
    - Research and Build a Narrative
    - Decide on the Exhibition’s; information displayed, how it’s designed, and how it will be operated (e.g. layout, locations (permanent museum space), displays, design, color schemes, artifacts, and all aspects that are included in the creation and operation of our exhibition.)
  + Under the guidance of our club advisors:
    - **Christina Perris (2015)**
      * Adjunct History Professor
      * M.A. - Claremont University (History & Archival Studies)
      * Certification of Archivalist - Claremont University
      * B.A. - Cal State San Bernardino (Public History)
    - **Edward Gomez (1998)**
      * Associate Professor - History (Department Chair)
      * M.A. - University of California, Riverside
      * B.A. - California State University, Los Angeles
      * A.A. - Los Angeles City College
  + Advisors will:
    - Oversee students
    - Assist in Exhibit Creation
    - Assist in Budget Proposal
    - Assist in Securing Spaces on Campus
    - Assist in Securing a Permanent Location
* Exhibit Spaces
  + Access to Gresham Gallery for the main centennial exhibit
    - Approved and Supervised by:
      * **Mandi Batalo (2006)**
        + Art Professor and Gresham Gallery Director
        + Ed.D. - Fielding Graduate University
        + M.A. - California Polytechnic University, Pomona
        + B.A. - California State University, San Bernardino
      * Gallery Space Approved For Use September 2026 (1 Month)
  + Other possible locations when a permanent museum is approved
  + Satellite locations (library, department lobby displays, open spaces, and classrooms on campus)
    - Library Approved and Supervised by:
      * **Maria Notarangelo (2019)**
        + Librarian, Associate Professor - Library and Learning Support Services
        + M.L.I.S. - California State University, San Jose
        + M.A. - California State University, San Bernardino
        + B.A. - University of California, Santa Cruz
    - Geology Department Lobby Displays Approved and Supervised by:
      * **Matthew Robles (2016)**
        + Associate Professor - Geology
        + M.S. - University of California, Riverside
        + B.S. - California State University, San Bernardino
        + A.A. - College of the Desert
* Accessibility
  + Free for students without restrictions
  + Online digital access to exhibits
  + Physically open to the community (specific dates and times) donation-based
* Completion date
  + Saturday, September 26, 2026, completing 100 years since the opening of the college
  + 30 days of community activities/festivities leading to the Gallery’s Grand Opening
  + Will not interfere with student on-campus events, class time, or faculty teaching hours
  + Larger community outreach
* Funding (**College Counci**l)
  + Budget breakdown proposal by Professor Christina Perris
    - $250,000
      * Gallery exhibit: $54,325
      * Small satellite exhibit: $25,900
      * Medium satellite exhibit: $28,175
      * Large satellite exhibit: $26,500
      * Lobby satellite exhibit: $24,100
      * Miscellaneous expenses: $90,495
        + Student volunteer/Intern stipend: $55,000
* Funding Strategy
  + Desired Option: 80/20 (\*other breakdowns available in handout\*)
    - SBVC College Support & Partnerships ($200,000)
    - Sponsorships & Grants ($40,000 goal)
    - Alumni & Community Donations ($5,000 goal)
    - Event Fundraising ($5,000)
* Formal Faculty Support
  + Foster Positive Learning
    - Creates a safe space for students to take risks, express judgment, and enhance student engagement
    - Building relationships between students and teachers
    - Encourage collaboration to expand networking opportunities for students
    - Promoting autonomy competence
  + Improving Academic Outcomes
    - Guidance in refining ideas and enhancing work.
    - Access to resources/opportunities and creating pathways to furthering education at Cal States or UC’s
    - Developing trade skills and experience in preparation for the workforce
  + Secure/share their open department spaces for possible satellite exhibit locations
    - Display Cases
    - Open Classrooms
    - Outside Areas
  + Provide historical artifacts and or information students can utilize for the exhibit
    - Personal Items (e.g. historical artifacts, cultural artifacts, scientific specimens, artwork, publications)
    - Alumni work \*donated (published works, art pieces, photographs, donated works, and/or artifacts)
  + Exhibit Promotion/Advertisement
    - Encourage your students to volunteer

In closing, we hope that you see the potential of this exhibition project and can formally support us with requesting and acquiring all the mentioned items. We cannot overstate just how vital your support is in creating this exhibit, and we implore you to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Help us motivate our community and demonstrate to our aspiring student leaders that their hard work will always result in the change they seek.

**Extra Information Links**

[Exhibition Team Experience](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jQzjLAQv48mxtK1-Y5-zgRz55A2Zhj_MruC0WJm74hU/edit?usp=sharing)

[Faculty Support Statement](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Om_QXHhlnfrHc4mV4yW-eSr6X2reg-blCbpvqtqLJ-0/edit?usp=sharing)