



President's Board Report

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community | March 2018



SBVC Celebrates African American History & Culture

On February 9, San Bernardino Valley College hosted a *Black History Month Breakfast & Fashion Show*, incorporating a unique element of student participation into the annual celebration to allow guests to appreciate the evolution of African American fashion and music against its historical influences.

Kathy Kafela, vice president of the SBVC Black Faculty, Staff, and Administrators Association, said students have taken full ownership of the fashion show. On the catwalk, they strutted important political concepts and represented different eras of awakening, starting with ragtime up through the Black Power Movement and hip-hop activism.



In her opening speech, President Diana Z. Rodriguez recalled local African American heroes and SBVC alumni who have made a difference in their local communities, such as Dorothy Inghram and Willmer Amina Carter.

"We celebrate that we have dreamers, poets, and heroes not only in our country," said Rodriguez, "but also right here in our own community. Heroes who have left a lasting impact on us all, whether we realize it—and acknowledge it—or not."

The event's keynote speaker was A. Majadi, President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of San Bernardino.

Congratulations, SBVC!

VP Brings Adventure and Love for Outdoors to Daily Work at SBVC



Some folks look to unwind after a hard day's work at a nice, calm spa, or go for a night of deep restful sleep. Others, like Scott Stark, enjoy unwinding down the side of the steep rocky slope.

When he's not at his high-pressure day job, the Vice President of Administrative Services at San Bernardino Valley College, he is on call into the wee hours of the morning to help save those lost, stuck, or injured in the wilderness.

The volunteer EMT search and rescue specialist for the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department wouldn't trade the experience for any amount of vacation time. To him, it is the vacation. When 911 calls for Stark's services come in, someone is often lost, on the edge of a cliff, or seriously injured. He and other highly trained volunteers spring into action.

Hauling 50-pound backpacks loaded with rescue gear and rope, they often hike miles into the forest, where helicopters either can't muster the wind or fit into the most confined crevices of the San Bernardino Mountains. When they locate the victim, they need to be clear-headed enough to render medical aid and extract him or her to safety. "When the initial search is over, we have to have the energy to get out of there, many times carrying the subject in a litter," said Stark. "We don't always have a helicopter ride out."

In addition to basic search and rescue, he is also certified for winter mountaineering rescue, rope rescue, rescue utilizing helicopters, and highly technical over-the-cliff rescues. *Read the rest of this article at www.valleycollege.edu/news.*



Community Members Earn Certificates at SBVC

Fifteen students enrolled in Cajon High School's medical career pathway program were among the first to also earn workforce readiness certificates from San Bernardino Valley College. The 72-hour course prepares students for interviews, putting together resumes, providing customer service, employer expectations, and more, and is the first program of its kind to be offered for free to high school students in the Inland Empire. Once the course is finished, students qualify for paid internships provided by the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and work experience credit from SBVC. The program was designed by the San Bernardino Community College District's Office of Economic Development and Corporate Training. Congratulations, Wolverines!

SBVC Receives \$25,000 Grant from SoCal Gas

The San Bernardino Valley College Foundation has been named one of 42 non-profit recipients of the 2018 Environmental Champions Grant presented by Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas). The \$25,000 grant will support San Bernardino Valley College's (SBVC) Automotive and Heavy/Medium Duty (Diesel) departments.

SoCalGas' Environmental Champions Initiative supports organizations advancing innovative environmental projects. Specifically, those contributing toward growth in clean water, clean air, and clean energy, with a special emphasis on underserved communities. The Initiative has awarded more than \$1.5 million since its 2015 inception. Congrats!



Faculty Spotlight: James Stewart



Professor **James Stewart** has been teaching at San Bernardino Valley College since 1976, and is still as enthused to work with students now as he was then.

An art instructor, Stewart calls SBVC's facilities "world class" with "state-of-the-art equipment," and is proud of the education provided to students. "It's the best foundation for other higher division courses," he said. "Classes are low-cost, and students can be here and learn and take advantage of that value. Dollar for dollar, the education is second to none. This is the best deal anywhere."

He teaches students who want to receive their associate's degrees and move on to four-year institutions or specialty schools, as well as adult learners who are interested in taking one or two courses for personal enrichment.

"We are open to all," Stewart said. "We support our community and give them what they want. Many times,

people come in and ask how they can take one class, and that leads to another. Once they get on campus, they discover something in one area that's translatable and transferable to other classes."

SBVC is one of just a handful of community colleges in Southern California that offers a comprehensive glass program. Stewart said that when high school students visit campus, they are "blown away" that such unique classes are offered, and excited to know that they can participate once they enroll at SBVC. Some of Stewart's students have gone on to study glass at the finest schools around the world, including in Murano, Italy. They have opened their own studios, or work at places like the Museum of Glass in Tacoma.

To read the rest of this article, visit www.valleycollege.edu/news.



From Student to Environmental Activist

SBVC alumnus **Joshua Bell** grew up in Los Angeles, and moved to San Bernardino young, bouncing between schools that matched his age and prepared his heart for career climbing once he graduated. He transferred to San Andreas High School and from there attended San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC), where his passions took root and his high school diploma was upgraded to a college one.

While at SBVC, Josh majored in Business Administration and minored in Accounting. Between the persistent papers and the extracurricular call to leadership, he connected with SBVC library secretary and representative of the Sierra Club, Mary Valdemar. The two shared passions and Joshua swiftly became a Sierra Club volunteer, with uprooting vim and vigor.

His shared interests led to organized events that culminated in Josh engaging with the office manager of the Sierra Club. Upon communicating the needs of the organization with the manager, Josh's volunteering time bloomed into something more permanent as he secured an internship with assemblywoman Eloise Gomez Reyes, a representative of California's 47th district assembly and vivacious proponent of grassroots environmental causes. To read the rest of this article, visit www.valleycollege.edu/news.

FNX Brings First-Ever Native American Comedy Show to Campus

San Bernardino Valley College is hosting the taping of a groundbreaking comedy series that features Native American stand-up comedians and some of the biggest national names in stand-up comedy. Dubbed *The First Nations Comedy Experience*, the show is taped live on campus and syndicated nationally through First Nations Experience (FNX), the first and only TV channel exclusively devoted to Native American and World Indigenous content. The live tapings are scheduled through April 2018 and are open to the public (\$15 general admission; \$10 students), with free parking available on the SBVC campus. Hosted by Graham Elwood, a Los Angeles-area stand-up comedian and the show's host, the show features comedians like Leah Mansfield, Craig Shoemaker, Nikki Glaser, Kevin Avery, and dozens more. Congratulations, SBVC and FNX!



Ratio of SBVC's Hispanic Students in STEM Bucks National Trend



SBVC's Department of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness recently discovered an exciting trend among the college's Hispanic students: they have earned more STEM degrees over the past five years than ever before.

This is exciting news because there is an increased national demand for STEM graduates, and Hispanic students constitute the largest minority group in the public school system yet enroll at much lower levels, so they are underrepresented in STEM programs.

"We have seen an increase in enrollment by Hispanic students in STEM majors over the past 5 years," said Christie Gabriel-Millette, SBVC's senior research analyst. "There has also been an increase in graduates in STEM fields, as well as a trend showing Hispanic students earning more degrees than certificates." Congratulations, SBVC!

SBVC Hosts SkillsUSA Region 6 Competition

In January 2018, San Bernardino Valley College hosted the SkillsUSA Region 6 Competition. Students from local colleges, high schools and middle schools visited campus to compete. Prior to the event, the SkillsUSA coordinator and faculty from the Applied Technology Division made sure classrooms were prepared, as well as supplies needed for the competition. During the competition, students demonstrated their skills in Automotive, Culinary Arts, Diesel, Web Design, Welding, Machinist and many other fields, and are now eagerly awaiting the announcement of winners, which should be released soon. Go, SBVC!



Upcoming Events



March 22
Faculty/Staff Poetry Reading
4:00pm / Library Viewing Room

March 27
Guest Speaker: Juli Grigsby, Ph.D.
6:00pm / B-100

April 24
FoodIEFest 2018
11:00am / Auditorium