



San Bernardino
Valley College



President's Board of Trustees Report

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

SBVC to Receive Historic Donation for Emergency Student Scholarships

San Bernardino Valley College has been invited to apply for part of a historic **\$100 million donation** to California community colleges by the Jay Pritzker Foundation, along with 34 fellow colleges in the Inland Empire, Central Valley and Far North of the state. The unprecedented donation—the largest ever made to a community college system—will be distributed over a 20-year period and will provide scholarships to students facing unexpected financial hardships. Dan and Karen Pritzker, trustees of the Jay Pritzker Foundation, said in a virtual press conference that they have seen the outstanding benefits of a community college education firsthand through their own daughter, who completed her first two years of undergraduate education at a community college before transferring to UC Berkeley. **President Diana Z. Rodriguez** was invited to represent the Inland Empire as a panelist, as well as SBVC nursing student **Ahmael McGee**, who thanked the couple during the press conference, saying, "My finances due to COVID are a struggle. I've been furloughed. My family has been furloughed...but school expenses still exist." There are people who are intelligent, diligent and willing to go to college, "but due to finances, they're unable to," he said. Colleges receiving the funding can use it to provide emergency aid directly to students.



SBVC Distributes over \$2.8 Million in CARES Act Relief for Students in Need



Using money allocated through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF), San Bernardino Valley College has been able to provide direct financial assistance to students, purchase personal protective equipment, and secure an online navigation system that connects students with mental health care resources. SBVC received three allocations: \$3,366,282 for direct student aid, \$3,366,281 in institutional aid, and \$431,833 in minority-serving institution support. By June 25, \$2,841,000 had been distributed to 3,336 eligible students, with the amounts varying based on enrollment status. The institutional aid was used to purchase anti-viral cleaning and sanitation supplies, hot spots with high-speed internet service, laptops, software subscriptions to support online learning, and personal protective equipment for students and employees. SBVC will use the minority-serving institution funds to offer students access to Care Solace, a web-based tool that connects them with mental health care resources and providers in the community.



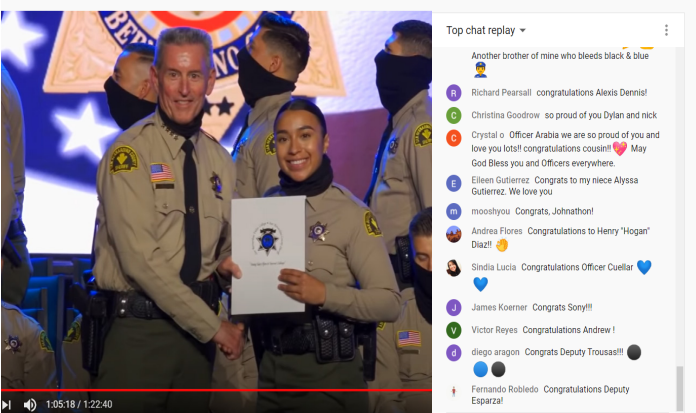
SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Adult Ed Program Helps 1,600 ESL Students Transition to SBVC

Last year, more than 1,600 English as a Second Language (ESL) students in the Inland Empire transitioned from adult education sites to San Bernardino Valley College. Once the ESL students enrolled at SBVC, they were able to benefit from campus programs like CalWORKs and the Writing Center, taking courses for credit or non-credit, and utilizing assessment tools to measure their evolving English proficiency. To further improve the ESL experience, next semester, SBVC's ESL classes will be conducted synchronously, with an instructor interacting with students while the course is in session. Taking ESL courses is a transformational experience for students, and Dr. Emma Diaz, Adult Education Block Grant Administrator, said that it's "amazing" to see how confident and inspired students become after enrolling. Students have been excitedly sharing their progress, noting that their improved English skills have led to higher-paying jobs and overall professional growth.



66 Graduates Honored During Virtual Sheriff's Academy Graduation Ceremony



The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and SBVC celebrated the 219th Basic Academy Graduation with a first-ever livestreamed virtual event on September 10. Class 219 began training on March 30, with 79 trainees, and 66 graduated. During 24 weeks of intensive training, they learned about patrol tactics, cultural diversity, ethics, and community policing and completed a rigorous fitness program. SBVC's Paul Dennis, academy director, praised the graduates for their hard work and dedication to finishing training amid a pandemic. "To the men and women of this graduating class, I commend you for your perseverance, determination, and commitment," he said. Congrats, Wolverines!

SBVC Collaborates with SB County for First-Ever Remote Theater Production

To commemorate National Recovery Month, students from the Theater Arts, Human Services, and Film, TV, and Media (FTVM) departments partnered with the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to write a play exploring the cycle of addiction titled "What About Tomorrow?" The play was written, rehearsed, and filmed through remote platforms, and premiered live on YouTube. Theater Arts professor Melinda Fogle said, "Several cast and crew members have a personal connection with the topic, and they have been generously sharing their knowledge and experience. I am very proud of the creativity and artistry the students have put into this project." This is the second year in a row SBVC has collaborated with the DBH for a theater production during National Recovery Month. In 2019, SBVC students performed "Finding Our Way", a play about addiction and recovery written by inmates at the Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility. Congratulations, SBVC!





SBVC SNAPSHOTS

SBVC Students Launch Virtual Language Luncheons

Expressive Hands, the American Sign Language Club of SBVC, hosted its inaugural "Sip Meet & Greet" over Zoom this fall, encouraging students learning ASL, Spanish, French or Arabic to grab a cup of coffee or tea, and practice their target languages in various breakout rooms. These "Language Luncheon" events are set to continue throughout the semester.



SBVC and CHC Join for Disability Awareness Fair

For the first time, San Bernardino Valley College and Crafton Hills College joined forces for the 3rd Annual Disability Awareness Fair. The event, held virtually—also for the first time—aimed to introduce students with disabilities to all of the resources available to them on both campuses. It included presentations on learning disabilities, disability and the law, assistive technology, mental health, coping with stress, and insight into the deaf and hard of hearing culture. Event organizers said this was the best year to collaborate due to the online environment and ability to combine resources remotely.

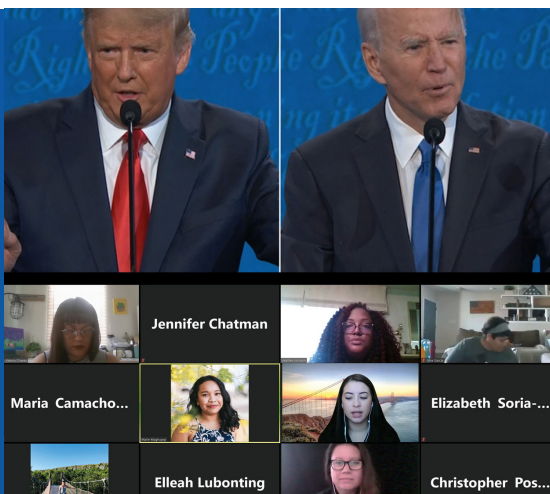


Performing Arts Club Hosts Virtual Talent Show

The Performing Arts Club of SBVC hosted the campus's first-ever virtual talent show, with performances ranging from violin, guitar, and singing to poetry and devised theater pieces. The winning act was the trio of Monica Saige Stewart, Monica Hart, and Ana Perez, who sang "Schuyler Sisters" from Broadway's "Hamilton."

SBVC Encourages Student Discourse for 2020 Election

The Associated Student Government of SBVC aimed to encourage students to discuss our nation's politics and vote by hosting a series of watch parties for the 2020 election, featuring debates from the presidential and vice presidential nominees. Each watch party was followed by a post-debate discussion moderated by SBVC faculty.





SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC Praised During First-Ever Virtual Site Visits from Accreditation Team

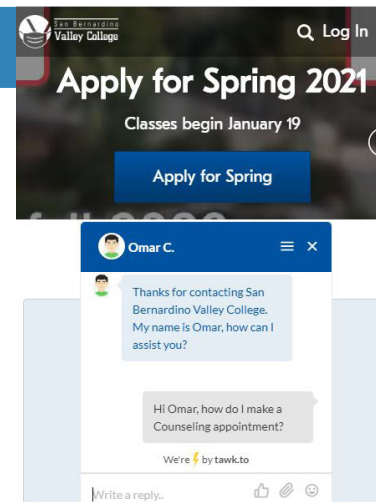


This October, SBVC completed a series of (virtual) accreditation visits, a process that only happens every seven years. This comprehensive review by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) evaluates the campus to ensure it is providing exceptional education and continuously improving its processes and services. SBVC has been preparing for this visit since fall of 2018, and was able to welcome the Accreditation Site Team for a series of virtual open forums, divisional interviews, and departmental meetings. The online discussions allowed SBVC to highlight program successes, showcase campus accomplishments, and demonstrate

how its processes and operations meet accreditation standards. In a final interview with the campus, the visiting team congratulated SBVC faculty, administrators and classified professionals on their hard work and expressed their satisfaction with the quality of faculty, staff, and community engagement during their visits, as well as sharing several areas for potential improvement. The final evaluation and official accreditation report of the campus will be received in January 2021, whereby SBVC aims to reaffirm its accreditation and continue providing a quality education to its students. Congratulations, SBVC!

SBVC Launches Live Chat Feature to Expand Engagement

In the wake of a global pandemic, students at San Bernardino Valley College have had to quickly transition to online learning. To ease the shift to remote learning and answer any student questions along the way, the Student Services division and Marketing department launched a live chat feature on the website to help students in real time. Current and prospective students can talk to a live SBVC representative about topics ranging from how to apply to campus, to making a counseling appointment, to reaching a faculty member. From the start of the pandemic, Vice President Scott Thayer said, campus leaders “drilled down on the challenges students were facing to continue their online studies.” He said that while students are physically distanced from the brick and mortar campus, there are a variety of new resources like the live chat feature for students to connect with staff to continue to get all questions answered.



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 11
Veterans Day
Campus Closed

November 23-28
Thanksgiving Recess
Campus Closed

