

PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

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



San Bernardino
Valley College

May 2022

SBVC'S 95TH ANNIVERSARY GALA RAISES \$175,000 FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

It was a night of food, fun, and fundraising, as San Bernardino Valley College celebrated 95 years of excellence at its Great Expectations Gala.

Held April 1st on the SBVC campus, this sold-out event brought in more than \$175,000 through sponsorships, seats, a silent auction, an opportunity drawing, and additional donations. Amazon was the gala's largest sponsor at \$25,000, followed by Stater Bros. Charities and Edison with \$10,000 each.

All net profits from the gala will support future student scholarships, and San Bernardino Community College District Chancellor Diana Z. Rodriguez thanked the audience for "really believing in the power of education." "We're holding the door open for the next generation that follows us so that they, too, can have opportunities for a better life," Rodriguez said.

The gala was also a celebration of 95 Distinguished Alumni, with one of them, Dexter Thomas, performing onstage with a jazz band. SBVC Interim President Dr. Scott Thayer praised the college's alumni during his remarks, saying that "for almost a century, SBVC has helped to build up and drive the many businesses that flourish in our region. Throughout that time, we have produced over 850,000 global alumni in every field imaginable, winning so many awards, recognitions, and accolades they are difficult to count."

The night was "a resounding success," SBVC Foundation Director Mike Layne said, adding that his team is "extremely grateful for all of the support from the community and stakeholders." "The event allowed us to showcase the many positive impacts that San Bernardino Valley College and its students have brought to our local communities for the past 95 years."

HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC BREAKS GROUND ON NEW APPLIED TECHNOLOGY BUILDING



San Bernardino Valley College officials and community members gathered on April 8th for the groundbreaking of the school's new Applied Technology Building.

The new facility will cost around \$95 million dollars and replace the current applied technology building that was built in 1965. "Inside, we're going to provide hands-on, collaborative training designed to get students hired," said San Bernardino Valley College Interim President Dr. Scott W. Thayer.

Thayer says the new building will transform lives and offer courses for several different careers. "We will prepare students for good-paying jobs in electric automotive repair, water inspection technology, modern machining, HVAC technology, and so much more," Thayer said.

A significant portion of the building funds are coming from Measure CC, which passed in 2018, as well as from a California matching program.

U.S. Congressman Pete Aguilar, who attended the event alongside other elected officials, said the new facility will mean modernization, infrastructure, and job creation for future Valley College students. "This is just an amazing day for San Bernardino Valley College and our region because we're going to be able to pave the way for new jobs and to train our young people (and) give them the skill set to succeed in the next economy," Aguilar said.

The 108,000 square foot building will take three years to complete and is set to open in 2025.



SBVC BEGINS NEW STUDENT APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM WITH CERTIFIED AVIATION SERVICES

Certified Aviation Services (CAS) is implementing a new student apprenticeship program with San Bernardino Valley College. During their time in the program, CAS hires students to work on actual aircraft, engines, systems, panels, and more to complete 70 of their required student hours. This apprenticeship program allows students to receive real on the job training under experienced, licensed mechanics. The program also allows for students to get hired and paid as regular employees while continuing their education at SBVC. Students have the opportunity to keep their employment after they graduate the program.

CAS met with the Dean of Applied Technology Vanessa Thomas and Aeronautics Professor Kenneth Wilkerson to show them the CAS facility at the San Bernardino Airport and present the program to the San Bernardino International Airport Authority Board. CAS will also be donating materials and supplies for educational purposes.

CAS President of Commercial, Paul Oliver, said, "CAS is continually looking to create concrete ways to develop and grow talent for its future growth needs. I am delighted that we have been able to successfully partner with San Bernadino Valley College to help young aspiring aviation professionals to gain a foothold in the industry. By combining their studies with real life paid work, the students are accelerating access to their dream jobs. Following the training period, CAS expects to place all apprentices into one of their wide ranges of MRO activities."

SBVC'S WOLVERINE CON AND FILM FESTIVAL BRING THE ARTS BACK TO CAMPUS

Movie makers and lovers came together for the 2022 Wolverine Con and 11th Annual International Student Film Festival at San Bernardino Valley College.

Running March 30 to April 2, this year's theme was "Heroes & Villains." The event kicked off with an expo and several panel discussions, including "From Hero to Zero Back to Hero: Inclusivity of Film" and "The Villain's Quest." More than 76 films were screened during the festival, and guests also had the chance to walk the red carpet to a showing of the best movies created during the Inland Empire 48 Hour Film Project.

This was the first in-person Wolverine Con and International Student Film Festival since the start of the pandemic. Both events were "a blast this year," Lucas Cuny, faculty chair of SBVC's Film, Television, and Media Department and director of the Institute of Media Arts, said. "I think mainly because we were able to celebrate media arts as they should be: face to face."

Highlights of Wolverine Con include graphic arts students from the SBVC Art Department showcasing their zines; representatives from Panavision discussing their new filmmaker grant program and demonstrating how to work a camera system; and a presentation from cinematographer Gus Bendinelli.

"He shared with the department his desire to bring more of our students to Hollywood and help make sure Hollywood continues to pursue better diversity, equity, and inclusion," Cuny said.

Films were screened by filmmakers from as far away as Alaska and Canada, and several SBVC student projects won awards: the Grand Jury Prize went to Zach Gutierrez for *Airdrop*; Best Sound Design was won by Oscar Bermudez for *Night of Armageddon*; Best Documentary was awarded to Dominic Garcez and Briana Navarro for *Meet the I.E.*; and Best Editing went to Romeo Lorenzo Apalit for *Sleepless*. Apalit, a 2020 SBVC graduate, is now a student at California State University San Bernardino.

Organizers are already preparing for the 2023 Wolverine Con and 12th Annual International Student Film Festival, set to run Feb. 28 through March 3. The theme is "Classic Hollywood," and a new category is being added to the festival: Silent Film. Cuny is also planning to coordinate with SBVC's Art, Theater, and Music Departments to hold an open house showcasing the media arts departments on campus.



"We were able to celebrate media arts as they should be: face to face."

- Lucas Cuny
Department Chair, FTVM

SNAPSHOTS



SBVC DREAMERS RESOURCE CENTER CELEBRATES 7TH ANNIVERSARY

The week of April 11th was busy with events celebrating seven years of the Dreamers Resource Center providing support services to our undocumented DREAMers/AB540/DACA students. The week started with a free film screening of "Status Pending" by Priscilla Gonzalez Sainz and ended with a resource fair.

Guest speakers at the fair included Dean of Student Equity and Success Carmen Rodriguez and Ericka Flores, an SBVC alum who's currently attending Southwestern Law School.

The DRC also unveiled an art mural outside of the center that was painted by Eldy Fajardo. The campus community is invited to take a selfie in front of it by visiting the DRC in LA-121.



LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS RETURN FOR SENIOR DAY 2022

On April 20th, hundreds of local high school seniors experienced campus life at SBVC thanks to the efforts of the college's First Year Experience and Outreach departments.

Seniors were able to learn more about college programs and resources that are available to them at a fraction of the cost and time that it could take to attain similar education at 4-year or out of state schools. After a welcome presentation in the SBVC Auditorium, the seniors participated in campus tours and met campus representatives.

Blue the Wolverine also made an appearance, taking selfies with future students and promoting the college's TikTok and Instagram accounts.



GLASSBLOWING DEMO GATHERS ASPRING ARTISTS ON CAMPUS

The SBVC Art department hosted one of its first on-campus events since the pandemic, a glassblowing demonstration from Katherine Gray.

Gray is a CSUSB professor, glass artist and resident evaluator on the Netflix show Blown Away. After a live demo in Studio E, Gray answered questions and discussed her process, allowing current students to learn of the opportunities that an art degree can open up.

Professor Gray's work ranges from blown glass to elaborate installations of found glass. Her immersive work draws on rich traditions of glass blowing, fearless experimentation, and a fascination with glass as both a visual and experiential encounter.



BLACK STUDENT SUMMIT DRAWS LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADS

On April 28th, hundreds of local high school students were invited to San Bernardino Valley College for the Black Excellence Education Summit. The event served as an introduction to the college lifestyle, and presented the numerous special programs and resources SBVC has to offer. Hundreds of students from local high schools were guided into the SBVC Auditorium, where campus faculty and community officials welcomed them with upbeat music and atmosphere.

Several guest speakers and campus faculty addressed the crowd of eager students by stressing the importance of higher education and excellence in the African American community.

EVENTS

For more campus events, visit calendar.valleycollege.edu

API Grad Recognition Ceremony

May 13

Greek Theatre • 5:00pm

Nuestra Graduación

May 15

Parking Lot #3 • 5:00pm

Transfer Celebration

May 17

SBVC Auditorium • 5:00pm

Black Graduate Celebration

May 21

SBVC Auditorium • 3:00pm

2022 Commencement

May 25

SBVC Football Field • 9:00am

As SBVC celebrates its 95th anniversary, we look back on some of the college's rich history. In this photo from the 1980s, students perform at a pep rally next to the original Library building.





As a high school student athlete, Augusta Cheek was interested in continuing his football career while furthering his education in college. San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC) was an easy choice for him. It was a combination of his close ties to defensive coach Kenneth Lawler, who Cheek describes as “like family to me.”

“I wanted to play football under him and learn his defensive schemes,” he said, adding that he already planned to take advantage of the ways SBVC makes college affordable for its students.

Born and raised in Cordele, Georgia, the anthropology major said he has enjoyed every step of his experience at SBVC.

“San Bernardino Valley College has heightened my confidence academically and has prepared me for life,” said Cheek.

Cheek has the extracurriculars to prove it. He is currently a member of the Associated Student Government (ASG), and football and track and

field teams. He plans to transfer to a university in California and to graduate with an anthropology degree while completing the prerequisites for the Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

With the pandemic changing the landscape of in-person learning, Cheek and his classmates in his Psychology and research methods class were able to work together and build relationships and camaraderie through online learning as if they were still in the classroom.

“Enduring the pandemic has been tough,” said Cheek. “But having a school system where faculty are driven to help students succeed makes it less stressful.”

When asked if he would recommend SBVC to family or friends, Cheek was enthusiastic.

“Yes! I recommend anyone I come across who is seeking education to look into Valley College,” he said. “I will continue to do so given the huge impact that Valley had on me.”

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