

PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

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



San Bernardino
Valley College

July 2022



SBVC MUSICIANS HIT THE RIGHT NOTES DURING END-OF-YEAR PERFORMANCES

Once again, the sweet sound of music filled the air at San Bernardino Valley College: for the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Music Department was able to hold several in-person performances to celebrate the end of the academic year. "These concerts featured Voci Soli, SBVC's elite choral ensemble; a soiree of solo performances from our Applied Music students; and a few performances of the Concert Band," Prof. Margaret Worsley, of the Music Department, said. "Repertoire performed was derived from traditional composers such as J.S. Bach and John Philip Sousa, as well as formerly under-represented composers including women and people of color. Themes this year revolved around rejuvenation and triumph." The SBVC Concert Band also performed at Commencement for the first time in more than 25 years, with approximately 30

students, alumni, and community members joining the ensemble.

While the spring semester ended on a high note, "we had a bit of a rocky start" with the initial remote restrictions, Worsley said. "But, through the support of our Dean, Leticia Hector, and Vice President of Instruction Dina Humble, the band was able to come back to in-person rehearsals safely." The musicians wore performance masks and socially distanced, and Worsley said being able to rehearse together again was "incredible. Students were finally able to listen across an ensemble in the same room and adjust their pitch and rhythm, and match articulation and phrasing. Every rehearsal was almost a spiritual experience, and we all took our time together seriously."



DISABLED STUDENTS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES CHANGES ITS NAME TO **STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES**

San Bernardino Valley College's Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) has a new name to better reflect its purpose and ensure everyone feels included: **Student Accessibility Services (SAS)**. "In keeping up with our district's mission, vision, and goals specifically around diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism, we really believed that the DSP&S name was outdated and was not a representation of our current students and their unique needs," SAS Director Larry Brunson said. The program graduates at least 70 students every year and the new name "breaks down the stigma" of using the word "disabled" and "has a more welcoming and inclusive feel for our students," Brunson added.

When it came time to select a new name, students were part of the decision-making process. Last fall, a focus group was put together, made up of SAS students from SBVC and Crafton Hills

College, and 15 alternative names were discussed. Before their final meeting in April, a survey was sent to current SAS students at SBVC and Crafton, and "we received over 300 responses where the students overwhelmingly chose the name Student Accessibility Services," Brunson said. "The focus group agreed with the student voice and Student Accessibility Services was born."

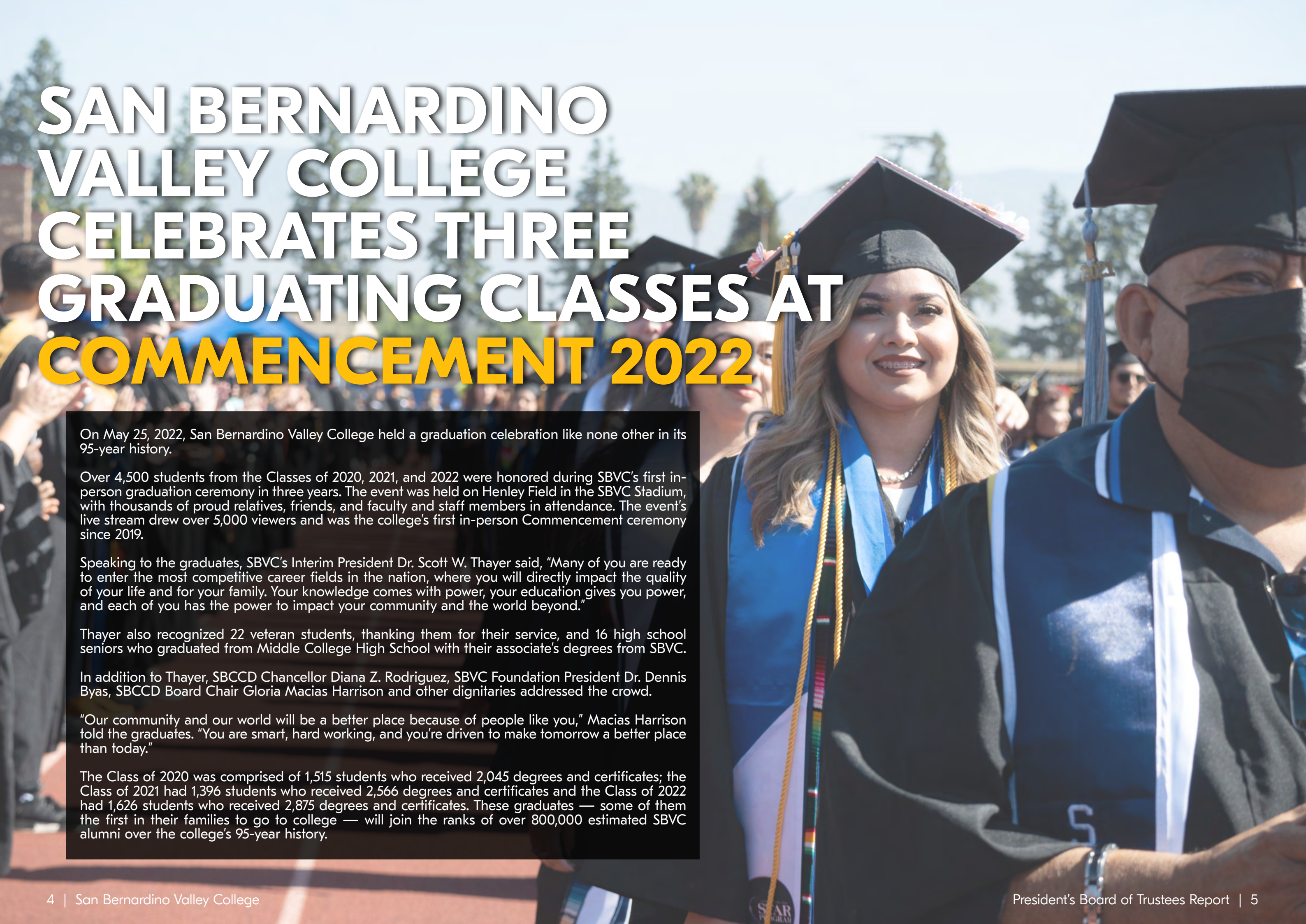
The name may be new, but the SAS office will still provide the same "top notch" services for SBVC students, including educational planning, securing appropriate accommodations, and providing audiobooks and assistive technology support through the Hi Tech Center. There will also be events this fall to celebrate the SAS rebranding, including an open house. "Here at Student Accessibility Services, we are very proud of our past and very excited for our future," Brunson said.

SBVC PARTICIPATES IN COLLEGE SIGNING DAY AT SAN MANUEL STADIUM



San Bernardino Valley College made its presence known at the College Signing Day event on May 3 at San Manuel Stadium. Organized by Cal State San Bernardino's California Student Opportunity & Access Program (Cal-SOAP), College Signing Day was attended by several thousand K-12 students, their families, and teachers. SBVC set up a booth to distribute baseball pennants, T-shirts, coloring books, and pamphlets, and Interim President Dr. Scott Thayer addressed the crowd inside the stadium.

"I think it is important for Valley to be at these types of events in the community, to engage and connect in that way," Amanda Moody, administrative secretary with Student Equity and Success, said. "We're able to attend events where we are seeing elementary and junior high kids who are not exactly college ready, but it's an early intervention to get them thinking about college and community college. Four-year institutions are not always an option, and we really want to make sure that local kids know Valley College is here to support them."



SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY COLLEGE CELEBRATES THREE GRADUATING CLASSES AT COMMENCEMENT 2022

On May 25, 2022, San Bernardino Valley College held a graduation celebration like none other in its 95-year history.

Over 4,500 students from the Classes of 2020, 2021, and 2022 were honored during SBVC's first in-person graduation ceremony in three years. The event was held on Henley Field in the SBVC Stadium, with thousands of proud relatives, friends, and faculty and staff members in attendance. The event's live stream drew over 5,000 viewers and was the college's first in-person Commencement ceremony since 2019.

Speaking to the graduates, SBVC's Interim President Dr. Scott W. Thayer said, "Many of you are ready to enter the most competitive career fields in the nation, where you will directly impact the quality of your life and for your family. Your knowledge comes with power, your education gives you power, and each of you has the power to impact your community and the world beyond."

Thayer also recognized 22 veteran students, thanking them for their service, and 16 high school seniors who graduated from Middle College High School with their associate's degrees from SBVC.

In addition to Thayer, SBCCD Chancellor Diana Z. Rodriguez, SBVC Foundation President Dr. Dennis Byas, SBCCD Board Chair Gloria Macias Harrison and other dignitaries addressed the crowd.

"Our community and our world will be a better place because of people like you," Macias Harrison told the graduates. "You are smart, hard working, and you're driven to make tomorrow a better place than today."

The Class of 2020 was comprised of 1,515 students who received 2,045 degrees and certificates; the Class of 2021 had 1,396 students who received 2,566 degrees and certificates and the Class of 2022 had 1,626 students who received 2,875 degrees and certificates. These graduates — some of them the first in their families to go to college — will join the ranks of over 800,000 estimated SBVC alumni over the college's 95-year history.

SNAPSHOTS



SBVC EMPLOYEE DONORS ENSURE VALLEY 360 RESOURCE CENTER STAYS STOCKED

Whether it's a can of soup purchased at the grocery store or tomatoes grown in a home garden, San Bernardino Valley College employees are always stopping by the Valley 360 Resource Center with items to fill the shelves and refrigerators. "The Valley 360 Resource Center has been supported by the SBVC community since its inception," Dr. Ray Carlos, Director of Student Life, said. "In July of 2020, the Valley 360 Resource Center, affectionately known as the Pantry, transitioned under the operations of the Office of Student Life. Since then, we have been able to provide students with frozen foods, fresh produce, dried foods, and essential items. Many of the items have been generously donated by colleagues across campus." Those products include food from their own pantries and fresh fruit picked from their trees. "Sometimes it's a few items, sometimes a full trunk load — both are received with a heavy hand of gratitude by our students," Carlos said. Since July 2020, there have been more than 5,500 visits to the Pantry.



CHC & SBVC PROFESSORS BUILD COMMUNITY AT GREAT TEACHERS SEMINAR

A first of its kind effort, the Great Teachers Seminar was a collaboration between Crafton Hills College and San Bernardino Valley College's Professional Development teams. The seminar created a space for full time and part time faculty across different disciplines to share their successes and challenges, especially given all the changes that have come with moving to remote instruction and transitioning back to campus. The seminar allowed faculty the opportunity to meet (many for the first time) and build community. The event opened with activities led by SBVC professor Melinda Moneymaker, which focused on faculty sharing personal experiences of who we are and where we come from, prior to moving into topics such as alternative ways of grading and concerns regarding returning to campus. Crafton Hills faculty Tina Gimple, Breanna Andrews, and Chris Oliver served as group facilitators. The success of this year's event has encouraged organizers to offer it again during the 2022-23 academic year.



CLASS 226 GRADUATES ARE READY TO ENTER THE WORKFORCE

On June 16, 2022, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Frank Bland Regional Training Center and San Bernardino Valley College hosted the 226th Police Academy Graduation Ceremony in the Abundant Living Family Church in Rancho Cucamonga. Eighty-nine trainees completed an intensive twenty-four-week program. Over 1,000 family members and friends watched the ceremony, including on a livestream via YouTube. Graduates have been hired by several law enforcement agencies; including San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Azusa Police Department, Barstow Police Department, Chino Police Department, Claremont Police Department, Corona Police Department, Fontana Police Department, La Verne Police Department, Montclair Police Department, Pomona Police Department, Rialto Police Department, Riverside Police Department, among others. San Bernardino Valley College is extremely proud of the pre-service cadets who have all been hired by law enforcement agencies.



MESA STUDENTS ARE ACCEPTED TO COMPETITIVE PROJECT

Two SBVC MESA students, Eva Santoyo and Bradley Burson, were accepted to the competitive 2022 Idea Accelerator project. Santoyo and Burson will have eight weeks to work on developing a solution to a societal problem using a human centered design process. California MESA is a college and career prep engine that propels student diversity and achievements in science, engineering and math.

The program's goal is to develop and inspire MESA students to be visionary entrepreneurs through the coursework they take. Industry members judge a pitch presentation and the winning team earns a scholarship. Scholarships are also awarded to team leads and teams who finish the project.

Santoyo and Brunson will learn and compete with students from CC, CSU, and UC campuses.



SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY COLLEGE HOSTS ITS **FIRST-EVER** JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Hundreds of people attended Juneteenth: A Celebration of Freedom, an event hosted by San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC) and the Southern California Black Chamber, on Saturday, June 18.

Keynote speaker Dr. Daniel Walker, an internationally-recognized author, scholar, filmmaker, and public speaker, was featured during the family-friendly event.

San Bernardino Juneteenth Committee Chair Edwin Johnson said the committee's goal was an event for all that teaches about the history of the event, but all brings people together.

"The event had a lot of diversity, and everyone who attended understood the true meaning of Juneteenth; many people joined in celebrating it," Johnson said. "Several nonprofits and businesses on our committee wanted to see collaboration at its best in San Bernardino; through our efforts, we created a positive impact on thousands of people."

The celebration included live performances, educational workshops, a pie-eating contest, dominoes, and card tournaments for grown-ups. It also featured a kids' zone and a free skate clinic for kids sponsored by the American skateboard company Dirty Ghetto Kids (DGK).

Though celebrated by many Black communities throughout the United States for over a century, Juneteenth only became a federal holiday in 2021.

The holiday, held every June 19 (Juneteenth), commemorates the day in 1865 that the last enslaved people in the United States received news of their freedom, two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.



The background features a large, leafy tree on the left side, partially obscuring a white clock tower. The tower has a red-tiled roof and a smaller, grey-roofed tower on top. The scene is set against a clear, light blue sky. The entire image has a blue gradient overlay.

EVENTS

For more campus events, visit calendar.valleycollege.edu

First Day of Fall Classes

August 15

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jaime Oropeza has found his place in the world. After high school, the Bloomington native says he didn't know what he wanted to do for a living, and "wandered aimlessly" working "dead end jobs." In 2013, his life completely changed when his mother was in a serious accident. A family friend who works as a paralegal took on her legal case, and Oropeza, wanting to help his mom, started an internship with him so he could "learn the ropes."

The paralegal covered everything from probate to divorce, and the more Oropeza learned about the different areas of law, the more it made sense to him to enroll in a paralegal program. Although he didn't find the classes he was looking for at San Bernardino Valley College, Oropeza decided to take general education courses and see where that would take him. "I was a new person," Oropeza said. "I was actually doing my work, applying myself for the first time ever in my academic career, getting good grades, and meeting the right professors."

Oropeza was accepted to UCLA, and in June, earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy. This fall, he will return to the Inland Empire to receive his teaching credential at UC Riverside, with the goal of becoming a high school teacher. "I want to be the teacher I wish was there for me at that age," Oropeza said. "I have to pay it back, because I honestly wouldn't be where I am without the mentors and professors I had at Valley. This was where I evolved academically."



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