



PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

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



San Bernardino
Valley College

September 2022

SBVC HOLDS FIRST IN-PERSON **OPENING DAY** SINCE 2020

San Bernardino Valley College's faculty and staff have the blueprint for success, and are using it to ensure their students thrive.

SBVC's Convocation Week was held August 9-12, and included adjunct orientation, faculty-focused workshops, and an all-campus meeting during Opening Day. One inspiring Zoom workshop, "Purpose + Belonging," was delivered by Tim Klein, who shared important information on ways to support students as they navigate college and their careers, as well as tips on how to make employees feel happier, more hopeful, and more resilient.

This was the first in-person Opening Day since 2020, and gave faculty and staff the opportunity to hear from different programs and departments about their accomplishments in the last year. The theme was "The Blueprint for Success," and attendees watched a short video with remarks from SBVC Interim President Dr. Scott Thayer and interviews with four SBVC alums: Mohamad Kudsi, Travis Love, Kimberly Morales, and Jaime Oropeza.

Thayer thanked SBVC's faculty and staff for all of their hard work, saying their "efforts have formed the foundation for our blueprint for success in 2022-2023." Everyone at SBVC wants to see students flourish, he declared, and "the blueprint we create together as architects of our

student's success will surely help to guide them from enrollment to graduation and beyond to amazing careers in the globalized workforce."

Love, who wants to become an educator, shared that going to SBVC was "an opportunity to not only prove to myself that I could do this academic thing and get to the next level, but also better myself." Kudsi, a native of Syria, spoke about how the country's civil war affected his childhood, but he never gave up his dream of becoming a doctor. Once he moved to the United States and began attending SBVC, his teachers helped him learn and improve his English "to prepare me for the bigger things I want to do in my life," he said.

Oropeza, who recently graduated from UCLA, stated that SBVC "has given me everything. As melodramatic as that sounds, it gave me an opportunity, it gave me mentors, amazing professors, people that I'll have in my life forever." He believes that "had it not been for Valley, my life would be entirely different."



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- Dr. Scott Thayer, SBVC Interim President



SBVC GROWS CAMPUS WELLNESS RESOURCES

As part of Dr. Scott W. Thayer's campus-wide wellness initiative for 2022-23, the campus has expanded upon the resources first offered to employees during the COVID-19 pandemic and developed a dedicated new Wellness Portal on the SBVC website. With separate pages for employees and students, the website now houses links to employee fitness challenges, free fitness classes, campus walking maps, curated workout playlists, meditation sessions, and mental health counseling.



"The purpose of this wellness initiative is to help us get back on track," said Dr. Thayer. "Fully remote work significantly reduced opportunities for exercise that many of us previously had built into our day before the pandemic, when we could walk around the beautiful campus grounds to attend classes or interact with each other in person. We need to rebuild that aspect of our campus experience. Hopefully, this team effort will help us to rebalance our work and physical activity levels to our collective benefit."

Employees and students are also encouraged to take advantage of the many classes offered on campus that are known to support physical and mental health, including kinesiology, music, art, health education, and much more, even if they fall outside a specific program of study. SBVC employees and their families are eligible for 100% reimbursement of tuition fees in classes successfully completed on campus.

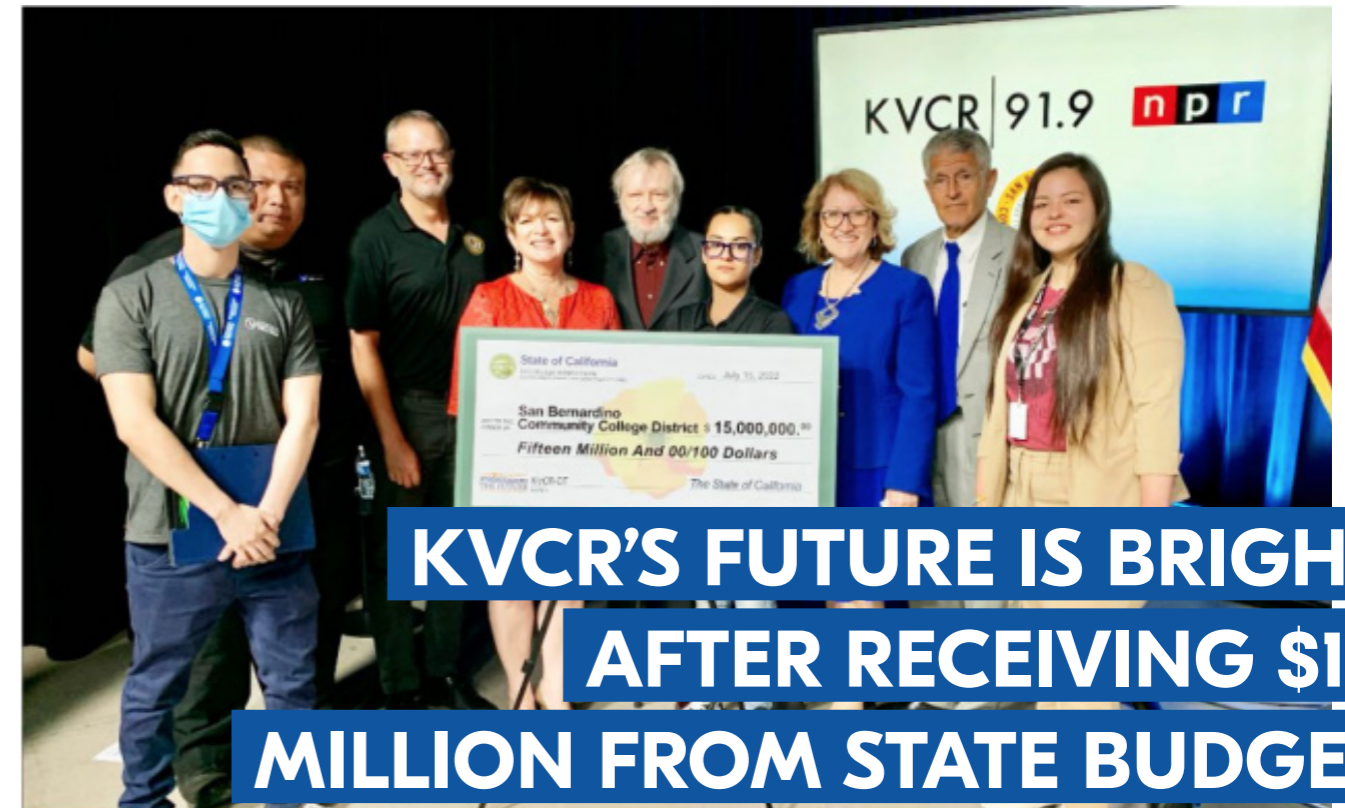
SBVC PARTNERS WITH THE NATIONAL ORANGE SHOW TO PROVIDE FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE



With reductions in available student parking due to the construction of the new Technical Building on campus and the loss of access to the Swap Meet across Mount Vernon, San Bernardino Valley College has partnered with the National Orange Show to provide hundreds of extra parking spots for students, employees and visitors, just one mile from campus.

Ferrying passengers back and forth every 15 minutes, 8:00am to 10:00pm, Monday through Thursday, is a shiny new SBVC shuttle: the first of its kind in the college's 96-year history. Parking at the Orange Show is free and open to all who find it beneficial.

HIGHLIGHTS



KVCR'S FUTURE IS BRIGHT AFTER RECEIVING \$15 MILLION FROM STATE BUDGET

It's the start of a new era for KVCR, the Inland Empire's public TV and radio station.

The California state budget signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) in June included \$15 million for KVCR, which operates out of San Bernardino Valley College with the San Bernardino Community College District owning its broadcast license. In addition to being an NPR radio station and PBS television affiliate, KVCR is also the headquarters for FNX First Nations Experience, the only broadcast network in the United States solely providing Native American and global Indigenous content.

The funding will be used to expand in-studio training for students, increase staff, and cover the costs of PBS and NPR programming.

"Our vision is for KVCR to help grow our local talent and prepare the next generation of journalists and media professionals to enter California's billion-dollar media industry," San Bernardino Community College District Chancellor Diana Z. Rodriguez said. "It means diversifying the pipeline to Hollywood. It

means training diverse journalists to cover their communities and teach how public media works."

Assembly Majority Leader Eloise Gomez Reyes (D) stopped by the KVCR studios on August 12 to present the team with a \$15 million ceremonial check. "Maintaining and expanding our inland region's public radio and programming is essential to delivering nonpartisan local news to residents," Reyes said. "This funding is important to ensure the public will benefit from KVCR, their programming, and educational training for years to come."

The funding is "historic in the life of KVCR," Rodriguez said. "I am grateful to the governor, Assembly Majority Leader Reyes, and her colleagues in the legislature for supporting KVCR. It's a matter of educational equity for our region's 4.6 million residents, not only to invest in our excellent community college district but to keep KVCR in the heart of it."

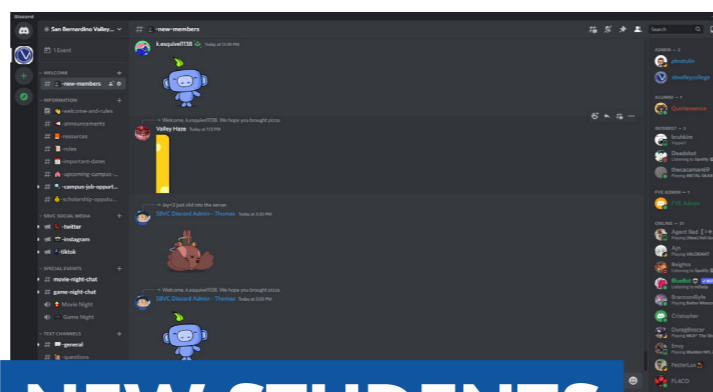
KVCR airs on Channel 24 and 91.9 FM and can be streamed on kvcr.org.



SBVC SOFTBALL COACH PUBLISHES ARTICLE FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Coach Devin Bennett, the head coach for SBVC softball, recently published an article in a national trade publication, Top Recruit, for softball coaches and student athletes. Top Recruit is a magazine for softball athletes by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. The article titled “Constructing an Effective Softball Skills Video” is embedded with videos to help student athletes produce videos of their skills to help them get recruited to the next level of intercollegiate athletics or for high school athletes with similar goals. The step-by-step guide also features a check list of equipment they’ll need to film their videos as well as tips on how to make a good first impression and more!

The embedded videos feature SBVC student athletes showcasing their skills on the field. Read the Bennett’s article at online.flippingbook.com/view/798737748/10/



NEW STUDENTS FIND CONNECTION ON SBVC DISCORD SERVER

This August new SBVC students had the opportunity to meet fellow Wolverines, ask questions and get the info they needed to prep for the Fall semester by joining SBVC’s Discord server. The server has grown significantly by over 170 new members compared to the Spring semester. With over 370 students, staff and faculty currently on the server, it has become a virtual hub for new students who otherwise would have been nervous for their first weeks of class.

Students are able to make connections, browse through job and scholarship opportunities, share their artwork and memes, discuss a variety of topics and attend virtual game and movie nights through Discord.

The Discord is proving to be another method in which to get the student’s perspective and for campus to provide support to the student body.



NURSING HOSTS FAMILY NIGHT OUT FOR NEW NURSING STUDENTS

On August 18, the Nursing Department hosted its first Family Night Out, an event aimed for new SBVC Nursing students and their families to get familiar with the Nursing Program. This event allowed attendees to meet Nursing faculty and get a tour of the clinical labs in the Health & Life Science Building.

The Nursing Department emphasized the importance of family in the educational journey of a Nursing student and gave the stage to SBVC Nursing alumni to share their stories of success and perseverance to inspire the onboarding students. SBVC Interim President Dr. Scott Thayer said of the event, “It was a great introduction of our outstanding Nursing Department for this new cohort of students.”



THE 48-HOUR FILM PROJECT IS MAKING HEADWAY FOR FILMMAKERS

The early bird special for the Inland Empire 48-Hour Film Project is live and available until September 6th.

Novice and experienced filmmakers are encouraged to form or join a team for the wild and sleepless weekend where they write, shoot and edit a 4-7 minute short film just 48 hours before premiering on the big screen on October 19th at a to-be-determined movie theater in the IE.

“This year’s kickoff is on Friday, September 30th, which is the day teams will be entered into a drawing to determine their film genre and will also be given a character name, a specific prop, and a line that needs to be included in the film,” said FTVM Professor Kevin Lyons.

For those in neighboring cities that may not have a team, a slew of Inland Empire 48-Hour Film Project networking events will be held at San Bernardino Valley College.



NEW STUDENT WELCOME DAY SHINES A SPOTLIGHT ON SBVC SERVICES AND RESOURCES

This year's New Student Welcome Day at San Bernardino Valley College was another resounding success.

On August 10, 370 new students came to campus for a day of activities. They started at the auditorium, where they received information on available resources and student services programs. From there, the students went to a resource fair, which was followed by lunch and breakout workshops that went into more detail on topics like financial aid and applying for EOPS. Throughout the day, students could also take a guided tour of SBVC.

"We really want our new students to feel comfortable on campus," outreach coordinator Justine Plemons said. "We want them to know where Financial Aid is and know familiar faces and know where resources are. You can go to class and go home, but being able to connect with clubs and student support on campus makes a night and day difference on how you're going to do academically."

New Student Welcome Day gives people the chance to ask questions and find out about opportunities to join clubs and organizations. There was an informational session on BROTHERS, a club that was started several years ago and is being revived. BROTHERS is geared toward African American male students, and gives them a place to "connect and talk to people who are like-minded and have similar experiences," Plemons said.

It's important to make new students not only feel welcomed, but also aware of all the programs and services that are available to them at SBVC. Plemons likens college to The Wizard of Oz with "the man behind the curtain. For a lot of students, it can be very scary. Our job as educators is to pull back that curtain and show them you belong here, you speak the lingo, you can navigate this place, and to really demystify the scariness of college. Hopefully we do that not just with this event, but with every day interactions."

New Student Welcome Day is a fun way to spread the word about what SBVC can do for Wolverines, and Plemons said she's already "looking forward to doing it again next August."





EVENTS

For more campus events, visit calendar.valleycollege.edu

An Editor's Life with Michael Karlich

September 14

ART-144 • 3:00pm

Black to School Night

September 14

Auditorium • 6:00pm

Planetarium Show: Your Place In Space

September 16

Planetarium • 7:00pm

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

The future is bright for **Daniela Galvez Cardenas**.

Cardenas graduated from San Bernardino Valley College this spring, and in the fall, she will enter Cal Poly Pomona as a civil engineering major. Her goal is to one day build houses and also complete their interior design. Cardenas is the third person in her family to graduate from SBVC, following in the footsteps of her older brother and sister.



"I was planning to go to a four-year school, but it was way too expensive," Cardenas, a resident of Mentone, said. "Valley is a really good school, and my brother and sister both liked it. Going to a community college first doesn't mean you're a lesser person — you get the same degree, and you're not going to be in debt. That's the difference."

Cardenas didn't always see herself going to college. As an elementary school student in Mexico, she was bullied by her teachers and classmates, and "I already decided I did not want to go to school, and was only doing

it because my mom put me there," she said. When her family came to the United States in 2009, "I thought, 'No one knows me here, I can start from scratch,' and I went from ESL to honors courses," Cardenas said.

She especially enjoyed her math and science classes, and inspired by her father's carpentry work, knew she wanted a career where she could build things. At SBVC, she prepared for a future in civil engineering, and was an S-STEM Scholar; received an Edison STEM Scholarship; and participated in the CREST II summer research program, working on a project with other SBVC students about broadband in the Inland Empire.

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