

PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

**THE PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT TO THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY**



San Bernardino
Valley College

November 2022

SBVC ABILITY AWARENESS WEEK BRINGS VISIBILITY TO STUDENT SERVICES OFFERED ON CAMPUS



This year's Ability Awareness Week was a resounding success — and even bigger things are ahead for San Bernardino Valley College's Student Accessibility Services (SAS).

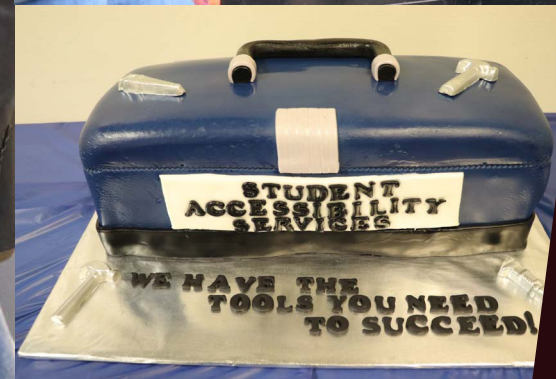
During the week of Oct. 10, several events were held to mark Ability Awareness Week, including the Ability Awareness Fair and disability rights and awareness lecture with history Prof. Ed Gomez. The highlight of the week was the Student Accessibility Services Ribbon-Cutting, held in honor of Disabled Student Programs and Services changing its name earlier this year to Student Accessibility Services.

"We had about 40 SAS students that showed up outside of our offices waiting for the event to start and they were so excited to be there," Student Accessibility Services Director Larry Brunson said. "Being

able to celebrate them with our new department name as well as the debut of our SAS promo commercial was so gratifying and rewarding. My team and I have been planning this for a year now and to see it all come together was absolutely amazing!"

The week's events and activities were attended by faculty, staff, administrators, and students, including many who were previously unaware of what Student Accessibility Services offers.

"We had several students approach us about our services and how they could apply," Brunson said. "We have even seen some of them come into our office to complete the application and intake process. I also believe that this momentum will continue because the feedback we received from students is that they really appreciate the name change because it removed the previous stigma of referring to people as disabled."



“...the feedback we received from students is that they really appreciate the name change because it removed the previous stigma of referring to people as disabled. -Larry Brunson, Director, SAS”

The Student Accessibility Services team offers workshops throughout the academic year, with the next one for students, "Student Accessibility Services High Tech Center, Alternate Media and Assistive Technology," set for Jan. 20, 2023. With earlier Ability Awareness Weeks as the foundation, Student Accessibility Services is also planning big changes for its signature event.

"On behalf of the entire SAS team, we would like to thank each and every person on this campus that has supported our efforts and attended our Ability Awareness Week," Brunson said. "Moving forward, we have decided as a team to move our Ability Awareness event to the month of April because there are many events happening in October and since April is Autism Awareness Month, we felt it would be

better there and not conflict with so many other events."

Additionally, the revamped event — tentatively called "Ability Con" — will be reduced to one day. It will take place in April 2024, giving Student Accessibility Services 18 months to prepare. Until then, "We would like to encourage students to visit our website and please do not hesitate to visit our office if you have any questions or need to make an appointment to see a counselor," Brunson said. "Also, students should check our website and the SBVC social media sites to view our promo commercial. We are very proud of the commercial and how it truly represents the work we do here at Student Accessibility Services."

HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC EMPLOYEES INCREASE VOTER REGISTRATION EFFORTS ON CAMPUS



The SBVC Library and SBVC Student Life have collaborated to pump up efforts to encourage students to register to vote this Fall. On October 6th, the library staff hosted a film screening of *Latino Vote: Dispatches from the Battleground*, where

they provided voter information before the film. This was the second film screening this semester. The first was a free screening of *John Lewis: Good Trouble* and was hosted on September 20th, National Voter Registration Day. Maria Notarangelo from the SBVC Library created a research guide with easy links to information on voter registration and the upcoming elections. These efforts go in line with California Assembly Bill 963, which establishes that all campuses from the California Community Colleges, CSU and UC systems are required to increase civic engagement on campus.

"There are many ways our students can have a voice in their communities, state, and country, but voting for their representatives and ballot initiatives is the easiest way to start," Notarangelo said of the importance of bringing these events to the SBVC campus. Both films that were screened focused on the struggles Black and Brown communities face around voting. Notarangelo said, "These films emphasize why it's important to vote and the hard work people do to get out the vote in their communities." Thanks to the hard work of Notarangelo, Mary Valdemar, Marie Maghuyop and various volunteers, SBVC pushed out the vote to students this year!

SBVC SEXUALITY & GENDER ACCEPTANCE CLUB CREATES SAFE SPACE OF LGBTQ+ STUDENTS

SBVC Sexuality and Gender Acceptance (S.A.G.A.) Club is bringing forth the voices of LGBTQ+ students. Such a presence has been absent on campus for many years. As one of the club advisors, Ernest Guillen, said, "It's been many years since a club of this kind has been active at SBVC and as we return from the pandemic environment it's important we recognize and meet the unique needs of our LGBTQ+ students." S.A.G.A. Club President Nicole Perez echoes Guillen by stating that it's important for the LGBTQ+ campus community to have a safe space to express themselves without judgement and discuss LGBTQ+ issues that affect the community inside and outside of campus.



"We just want to remind everyone that this is a campus club that is inclusive and open to all students. We welcome students of all sexualities and gender affinities as well as our allies to our meetings."
-Ernest Guillen

S.A.G.A. is driving full speed ahead by hosting a variety of events for the campus community, including bringing back the Annual Drag Show in October, a staple in the Fall semester pre-pandemic. Hosted by Texan TikTok sensation, AJ Rivas, the show featured local performers ShuLinda, King Phantom, Ginger Presley and Shear Love Montayé. Stay up to date with SBVC S.A.G.A. on [instagram.com/valleycollegesaga](https://www.instagram.com/valleycollegesaga).

ARTISTS SHARE INSIGHT INTO THEIR GRESHAM ART GALLERY EXHIBIT *sub/Terrain*



On display in the Gresham Art Gallery from Sept. 12 through Oct. 28, *sub/Terrain* showcased the work of three long-time friends and artists: Deb Diehl, Arzu Arda Kosar, and Patricia Liverman.

The exhibit addressed themes of connection by examining the spaces people occupy, with *sub/Terrain* featuring sculpture, video, photography, and site-specific works. Diehl, Kosar, and Liverman met while working at the Armory Center for the Arts in Pasadena, and have always supported one another's artistic endeavors.

During an artist talk on Sept. 20, the trio discussed their work, inspirations, and how *sub/Terrain* came to be. "Right before the pandemic, the three of us were working on an exhibition proposal," the artists explained. "As the pandemic shut down everything, we kept on meeting regularly via Zoom for weekly online studio visits. As the shutdown dragged longer, these meetings became a lifeline and supported the art that is currently on display at Gresham Art Gallery."

Most of the *sub/Terrain* work was created during and in response to the shutdown, "and addresses themes of connection by examining the spaces we occupy, examining how we shape and are changed by them, and the evolutions of the surroundings themselves," the artists said. "We use landscape, terrain, and the natural environment to explore issues around connectedness and temporality. We are especially interested in mapping our connections to the spaces we live in, examining how we shape and are changed by them."

SNAPSHOTS

SBVC HOSTS CRIMINAL JUSTICE CAREER FAIR

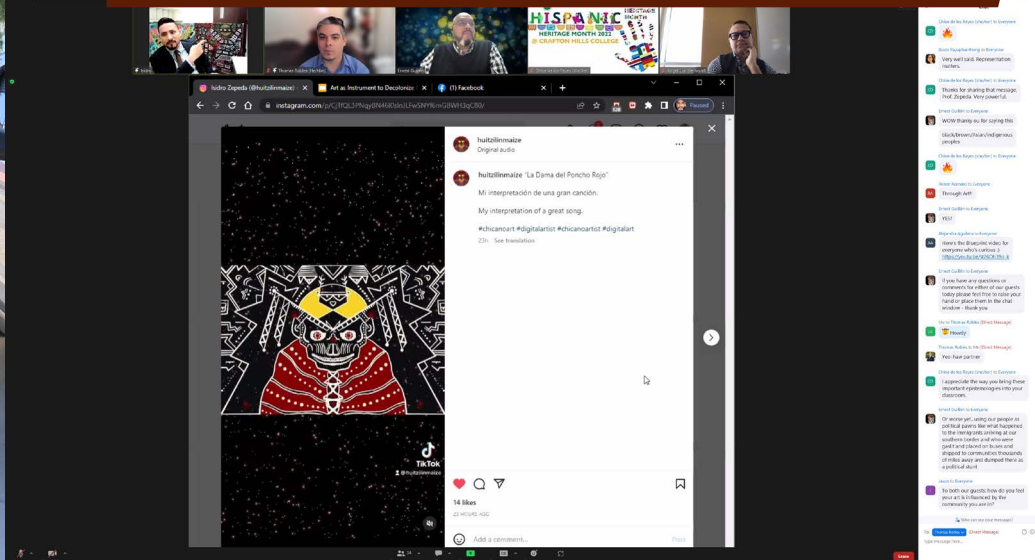


The Criminal Justice Agency Career Fair took place on September 29th. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Recruitment Unit was on hand to discuss career and educational opportunities available in the area for our police academy students, and other members of the community.

Agencies that were in attendance included:

- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
- San Bernardino City Police Department
- San Bernardino County Probation Department
- San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office
- California Highway Patrol
- California Dept of Corrections & Rehabilitation
- Redlands Police Department
- Rilato Police Department
- Colton Police Department
- Los Angeles Police Department
- San Bernardino Valley College Extended Police Academy

SBVC CELEBRATES HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH WITH CAMPUS COMMUNITY



Hispanic Heritage Month came to a close on October 18th at San Bernardino Valley College. The SBVC Arts, Lectures, and Diversity Committee hosted several events and activities to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. A lecture series ranging from discussions of educational equity, policy and activism, and the arts kicked off with Rafael Agustin, a writer on the celebrated series "Jane the Virgin". Agustin shared how his family navigated secret lives as undocumented Americans.

Another highlight of the series was the SBCCD Artists Panel, featuring Crafton Hills College English Instructor Isidro Zepeda and SBVC Social Media Specialist Thomas Robles. Both artists shared how their experiences as Latinx individuals shaped their artistic efforts. Hispanic Heritage Month ended with a final lecture by Rosa Clemente, the first Afro/Black-Latina to run for U.S. Vice-President in 2008.

The lectures proved to be an invigorating experience for the entire campus community, inspiring many to reflect on their roots.

SBVC STUDENTS & ALUMNI SHOW OFF MOVIE MAKING SKILLS DURING 48 HOUR FILM PROJECT

Over the course of just one weekend, San Bernardino Valley College student Briana Navarro and a group of other local creatives wrote, filmed, and edited an entire short film. This was the second time Navarro participated in the 48 Hour Film Project, an annual competition that gives filmmakers of all levels from around the world the chance to create a movie from start to finish. After taking part in the event in 2021, Navarro decided to do it again this year "to gain more experience and to most importantly have fun."



The Inland Empire 48 Hour Film Project started at 7 p.m. on Sept. 30 and ended at 7 p.m. Oct. 2. During that time, Navarro and her team, Tricity Entertainment, made a murder mystery about a young women who was found dead. The detective tasked with investigating the case starts hunting for clues, and quickly discovers that multiple people have motives. "The experience was hectic, but fulfilling," Navarro, a Film, Television, and Media student, said. "I would love to work on many more 48 Hour projects to come, and to eventually fill in for bigger roles and challenge myself." It was great to see how a team can come together "in such a short and tight amount of time," Navarro added, and the support shown to one another "was appreciated and just awesome."

About 20 percent of this year's 48 Hour Film Project participants were SBVC students and alums, and the 22 movies created during the 48 Hour Film Project were screened at the Regal Edwards Ontario Palace and Harkins Mountain Grove in Redlands.

SBVC'S THE SOUND OF RECOVERY HONORS LOCAL RESIDENTS AND THEIR RECOVERY STORIES



IT WAS A NIGHT OF MUSIC, LOVE, AND HOPE.

On Sept. 29, San Bernardino Valley College and the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health presented The Sound of Recovery, held in celebration of National Recovery Month. Over the course of the event, the SBVC Auditorium filled with the melodies of original songs inspired by local individuals and their recovery stories, featuring musicologist Richard Blacksher, country artist Ashlie Amber, and several SBVC students.

"The arts have been used for decades as a means to navigate the complexities of addiction and recovery," SBVC Music Prof. Margaret Worsley said. "Fortunately, the research is showing just how important these artistic outlets are within the realm of mental and behavioral health. Music therapy was once a field of alternative medicine that has evolved into a field of medical treatment that is rooted in data-based research. We are living in an exciting time where treatment plans are including music and art therapy. As an educational institution, anticipating growth within this field is a community responsibility."



“ The arts have been used for decades as a means to navigate the complexities of addiction and recovery. -Margaret Worsley, Music Professor, SBVC ”

Holding events for National Recovery Month makes it clear SBVC cares "deeply for our community," Worsley said. "Recovery affects everyone, however given the nature of our systems and cultural norms, we are not always open about the profound repercussions surrounding drug and alcohol addiction. By participating in recovery awareness, SBVC is showing our students and the community that we see them and we support them."

It's vital to get people to start talking openly about topics like addiction and treatment, and one way is through music, "an integrated part of our culture which can and does influence young people," event organizer Donnie Harris, a mental health education consultant with the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health, said. "We can utilize the recovery messages embedded in the songs to open the door for conversation about the issues surrounding substance use disorders in our community. By normal-

izing the conversation, we can reduce the stigma about addiction and offer treatment services to a greater number of community youth." Once there is increased awareness about substance use disorders and recovery programs, that leads to more opportunities "to engage with young adults in prevention as well as treatment within the Department of Behavioral Health's system of care, which has great potential to improve the overall health of students attending local high schools and colleges," Harris said.

Students and staffers from across SBVC participated in The Sound of Recovery, including Sage Azaria, Ashley Eddy, Raymond Henley, Wayne Hundley, Sarah Orinion, Anna Perez, Paul Del Rosario, Chandler Born, Richard Montoya, and Carolina Izumi (students) and Margaret Worsley, Lucas Cuny, Melinda Fogle, Samuel Rodriguez, Melinda MoneyMaker, Lillian Vasquez, and Dean Leticia Hector (faculty, staff, and administration).

EVENTS

MEDIA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

FILMING ON FILM

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2022 | 1:00PM-5:00PM

LOCATION: Media Communications Building Room 142

TOPICAL AREAS: Training, Workshops

THEATRE PRODUCTION:

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

DECEMBER 1-3, 2022 | 7:00PM-9:00PM

DECEMBER 4, 2022 | 2:00PM-4:00PM

LOCATION: SBVC Auditorium

TOPICAL AREAS: Other, Special Events

WINTERFEST WEEK

DECEMBER 5-9, 2022

LOCATION: SBVC Campus

TOPICAL AREAS: Other, Special Events

WINTER WONDERLAND

DECEMBER 17, 2022 | 11:00AM-4:00PM

LOCATION: SBVC Campus

TOPICAL AREAS: Other, Special Events

STUDENT

SPOTLIGHT



On a high school field trip in Burkina Faso, Awa Kologo visited another school in a neighboring town in the landlocked country in West Africa. The schoolhouse was a red clay structure with no windows or classroom doors.

The trip was intended to help Kologo's class appreciate the luxury they had in their own school, but for Kologo, the experience served as an inspiration.

"Since that day, I decided I wanted to become a civil engineer and build schools around the world in marginalized neighborhoods," said Kologo, a recent graduate from the UCLA Samueli School of Engineering.

After graduating from high school with a science degree, Kologo decided to move to the United States by herself so she could pursue a college education. She lived with her sister who relocated to California a few years earlier. Kologo took English language classes through UC Riverside's

“The transition from high school to Valley College was extremely hard. Coming to a new country and having to learn a new language at a grown age is challenging.”
-Awa Kologo

extension program and then enrolled at San Bernardino Valley College for two years.

"The transition from high school to Valley College was extremely hard," Kologo said. "Coming to a new country and having to learn a new language at a grown age is challenging."

Nevertheless, she persevered through the hardships of learning a new language and culture, and in 2020, she earned her associate degrees in mathematics and physics, and physical and biological science before being accepted to UCLA as a transfer student.

While at SBVC, Kologo worked as a lab technician and math tutor. The combination of her academic and work experiences prepared her well for UCLA, she said, but to begin her Bruin career through online learning because of the pandemic posed an additional challenge.

Despite the difficulties, Kologo said she still felt that she made the right choice. UCLA's diverse student population and faculty with

wide-ranging backgrounds made her feel comfortable as someone who grew up internationally. Even before her first day of classes, Kologo said she felt supported as a UCLA student because of resources offered by programs such as the ones found at UCLA Samueli's Center for Excellence in Engineering and Diversity (CEED).

"One of the first things I noticed about Awa was her determination to succeed," said Cathy Douglas, director of CEED. "She was not afraid to ask for help immediately when she faced problems. She is confident in her abilities and does not let roadblocks get in her way."

Kologo credited Cathy and the support of CEED for making her feel that she belonged at UCLA Samueli.

Kologo says she hopes her own academic journey could serve as an example of improved access to higher education for traditionally marginalized communities.