

# President's Board of Trustees Report

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

Taking Flight: Soaring With Partners for Student Success

MARCH 2024

## SBVC Honors Black History Month with Events Highlighting Art & Unity

PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT  
MARCH 2024



From left to right: VP of Administrative Services Keith Bacon, guest speaker Dr. Daniel E. Walker, Interim President Dr. Linda Fontanilla and EOP&S Counselor Keenan Giles.

San Bernardino Valley College and the Black Faculty Staff Association (BFSA), organized a series of events to commemorate Black History Month. The month-long celebration kicked off on February 1 with a keynote address by the esteemed guest speaker, Dr. Daniel E. Walker.

Dr. Walker, a renowned public historian and philanthropist, captivated the audience with his insights and experiences, setting a profound tone for the month's festivities. His talk not only delved into historical milestones but also emphasized the importance of continuing the dialogue surrounding black history throughout the year. He shared experiences from his personal life and childhood to connect with the audience.

Throughout the month students and staff were encouraged to participate in BFSA/Umoja-Tumaini B-Ball Takeovers. This event fostered a sense of community, encouraging discussions with a movie and lunch after the main event.

Another noteworthy event was planned by the STEM-MESA Center and was appropriately called "Celebrating Blacks in STEM." It shed light on the achievements and contributions of black individuals in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The event aimed to inspire students and underscore the importance of diversity in these critical fields.

Closing out the month was the vibrant and energetic Afro Beats Night. This cultural celebration featured music, dance, and art, providing a platform for the community to revel in the richness of African and African-American culture. Attendees were immersed in a festive atmosphere, further reinforcing the idea that diversity is a source of strength and beauty.

These events, organized with meticulous planning by San Bernardino Valley College and the Black Faculty Staff Association, not only celebrated the history and achievements of the black community but also served as a reminder of the ongoing journey towards inclusivity and equality. EOPS Counselor Keenan Giles said it was important for the events to represent "Unity in the Community." As Black History Month came to a close at SBVC, the significance behind the events left a lasting influence within the campus community.



### GOAL 1

ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO STUDENT ACCESS & SUCCESS.



### GOAL 2

BE A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, & ANTI-RACIST INSTITUTION



### GOAL 3

BE A LEADER & PARTNER IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL ISSUES.



### GOAL 4

ENSURE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & SUSTAINABILITY.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 17 | Guest Speaker: Pat Hayashi B-100

Apr 18 | Trudell Poetry Festival B-100

Apr 24 | Black Excellence Educational Summit Auditorium

Learn More: [valleycollege.edu/Calendar](http://valleycollege.edu/Calendar)

# Spanish Language Courses introduced in Child Development at SBVC

San Bernardino Valley College has introduced Spanish language courses within its Child Development program. This initiative aims to better equip future educators to connect with a broader range of students and families, fostering a more inclusive learning environment.

The addition of Spanish language courses is a response to the growing recognition of the diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds within the community. Recognizing the importance of effective communication in early childhood education, SBVC has taken a proactive step to ensure that students studying Child Development are well-prepared to engage with families whose primary language is Spanish.

Denise Knight, Co-Chair of the Child Development Department at SBVC, expressed the significance of this new offering. Commenting that their goal is to create a learning environment that mirrors the diverse communities SBVC serves. By incorporating Spanish language courses into the Child Development program, they are preparing students to navigate the linguistic and cultural intricacies that are integral to effective communication.

The introduction of Spanish language courses in the Child Development program at SBVC represents a progressive step towards creating a more inclusive and culturally responsive educational environment.

GOAL 2: BE A DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, & ANTI-RACIST INSTITUTION.

## SBVC Unveils New Wall of Professional Champions

Several former San Bernardino Valley College athletes claimed their permanent place in SBVC history with the unveiling of the Wall of Professional Champions on January 22. The display, located in the second floor foyer of the Athletics Complex, honors notable athletes who got their start at SBVC and then earned championship status during their careers within American-based major league sports teams.

SBVC Hall of Famer Michael Sola served as the master of ceremonies for the event, and led the unveiling of the display that had brought together the friends and families of the honorees. The five athletes initiated into the Wall of Professional Champions are Rich Dauer of the Baltimore Orioles and Houston Astros, Dino Ebel of the Los Angeles Dodgers, David Lang of the Dallas Cowboys, and Craig Newsome of the Green Bay Packers.



The SBVC Wall of Champions was unveiled on January 22, 2024 in the Athletics Complex.



From left to right: Steve Benke (representing Craig Newsome), Dennis Goodloe, Ruth Lang, Weston Louder Jr., Myrtle Lang (family members of David Lang), Dino Ebel, and Stan Sanchez (representing Rich Dauer).

Dino Ebel, the only honoree directly in attendance, spoke passionately and pointedly to the SBVC baseball players at the event. Ebel shared the personal desire and work ethic that he credits for getting him to where he is within the Dodgers' organization today. As the current third base coach for the Los Angeles Dodgers, Ebel was a member of the coaching staff that led the Los Angeles team to victory when they secured the World Series title in 2020. Now that he has attained his goal of winning a World Series ring, Ebel is chasing his next dream to become a Major League manager. "For a guy like me, I said I'm never going to take this uniform off until they take it from me," he said.

Dauer was represented at the event by childhood friends Stan Sanchez, a fellow SBVC Hall of Famer, and Ray Carver. The two friends relayed stories of Dauer's success on and off the field over the years, which included being voted the best player in the history of the University of Southern California baseball program. Dauer won a World Series championship as a member of the Baltimore Orioles in 1983, before moving on to coach the Houston Astros towards their own World Series title win in 2017.

Retired SBVC track and field coach Mike Powell recounted stories of the late David Lang, who ran track at SBVC before making it to the NFL. Powell talked about the work Lang did in the San Bernardino community to help the next generation of athletes, as well as at-risk youths who were wards of the court.

"He was happy to do that," Powell said. "This was after he had a Super Bowl ring. He would literally go into the units and take that ring off and let the kids hold this — I think the rings then were like \$30,000, pretty expensive — but he didn't have a problem with letting those kids touch that ring or hold that ring. I mean, it was the biggest thrill. He was just a very kind and gentle giant."

Craig Newsome, now a high school football coach in Wisconsin, sent in a statement that Sola read: "I want to thank SBVC for making this possible, but most of all I want to thank my teammates and my coaches for giving me the opportunity to live my dream and doing what I love. I wouldn't be where I am today without having a good loving family so I want to say I appreciate you and love you guys."

# Puente Project Initiates Transformative Educational Practices at SBVC

On March 8, SBVC kicked off a professional developmental series alongside the Puente Project, in a strategic partnership facilitated by the State Chancellor's Office. The goal behind the series is to provide comprehensive and culturally responsive professional development training for faculty in the fields of Mathematics, Business, & Computer Technology.

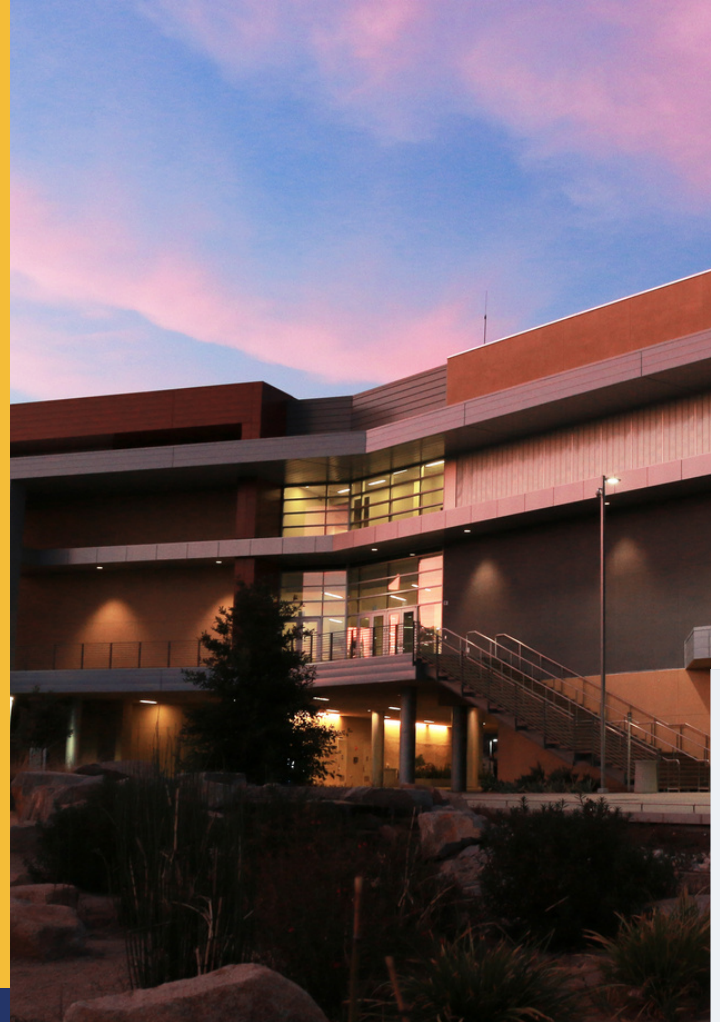
Unlike conventional one-off training programs, the Puente Project introduces a community-of-practice model that fosters a long-term commitment to shifting mindsets and practices within a supportive community of peers. This innovative approach introduced faculty members to an ongoing process of self-improvement, ensuring a lasting impact on their teaching methods.

Faculty members were encouraged to question established norms such as their reliance upon four exams per semester, publisher-based content, and the "sage on the stage" style of lecture.

The initiative also underscored the importance of supporting an antiracism approach in the classroom, while recognizing how white supremacy culture can create barriers to student success. By actively addressing these issues, faculty members can contribute to a campus-wide environment that promotes equality, diversity, and inclusion.

The Puente Project at San Bernardino Valley College represents a significant step towards redefining the educational landscape. Through this collaboration, the college is not just adapting to change but actively leading the way towards a more innovative and equitable future in education.

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## SBVC Receives Grant to Support Valley Bound Commitment Program

In December 2023, San Bernardino Valley College received a \$5,000 grant from Stater Bros. Charities. This grant will directly benefit first-year Valley Bound Commitment (VBC) students by offering financial assistance to cover enrollment costs and fees, as well as support basic needs scholarships.

Since its inception in 2008, the VBC program has evolved from a pilot initiative for 31 students to an award-winning program that has significantly contributed to the academic success of hundreds of Inland Empire residents.

SBVC Foundation Director Michael Layne explained, "When a student completes a degree or certificate program at any level of college, they are much more likely to access a higher wage job down the road and experience improved conditions of mental, social and emotional well-being, which is one of the broader and meaningful impacts San Bernardino Valley College has brought to our local communities."

Layne added that the funding will help ensure VBC can continue serving students for years, even as funding needs evolve or fluctuate.

"The grants from Stater Bros. Charities may also help the Foundation facilitate partnership opportunities and collaborations with other organizations and stakeholders in the community," Layne said. "These partnerships can help leverage additional resources and support for the program, further enhancing its impact and reach. Ultimately, the Stater Bros. Charities grant will support the VBC program and help sustain its operations, expand its reach and continue to serve our students effectively."



# Student Spotlight

## Miguel Martinez | Class of 2023



Student Spotlight: Miguel Martinez, SBVC Class of 2023.

There's no stopping Miguel Martinez. Within the last two years, he completed his Automotive Technician associate's degree and has earned multiple certificates of achievement, with the ultimate goal of becoming a Master ASE Certified Automotive Teacher within five years.

Martinez enrolled at San Bernardino Valley College in January 2022 because he wanted to learn how to do a "proper oil change on my personal vehicles," he said. "What started with an oil change developed into brakes, and before I realized it led me back into SBVC to pursue a more professional approach."

That wasn't his only reason for going back to school; Martinez was also motivated by love for his family and a desire to "offer my wife and two children a better life and achieve a livable wage," he said.

In class, Martinez learned how to properly operate an automotive hoist and fully disassemble and assemble automatic transverse transaxles and longitudinal transmissions. "It is truly amazing when you have the full support of the school to motivate up-and-coming students eager to learn and become well-versed automotive technicians," Martinez said.

Currently, Martinez is employed at Toyota of San Bernardino where he has been promoted to Advance Automotive Technician. In his role, Martinez performs multipoint inspections on vehicles as well as an array of automotive services, including brake pad replacements and suspension work.

"The greatest joy and pleasure I get from working there is that, once the customer approves the work, there is satisfaction in being able to help others," Martinez said.



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