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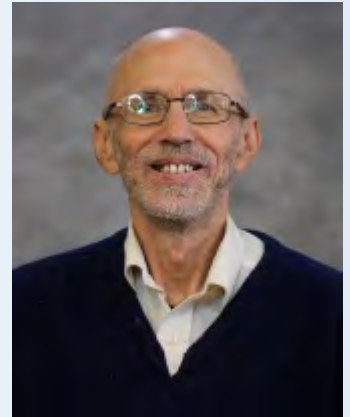
Contra Costa County Office of Education Teacher of the Year

On Thursday, September 19, 2024, Los Medanos College (LMC) Professor of Physical Sciences **Scott Cabral**, was honored at the 52nd annual Contra Costa County Teachers of the Year (TOY) event, held at the Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek.

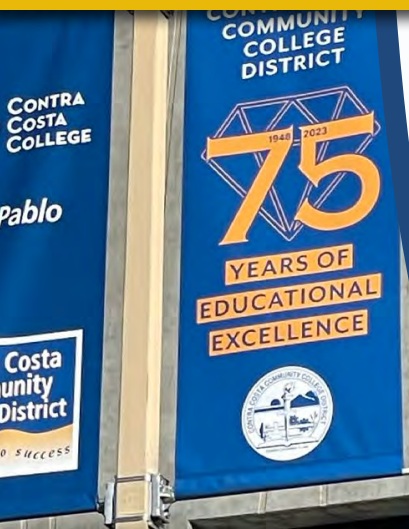
The Contra Costa County TOY program recognizes excellence in teaching within the County's public schools. Participating districts nominate individual teachers to receive this special recognition. Contra Costa County Office of Education also nominates one of its teachers to compete. At the celebration in September, two teachers were identified as the Contra Costa County Teachers of the Year and became eligible to participate in the statewide competition.

With a passion for teaching, and a deep affection for astronomy, now retired Professor Cabral combined his experiences in these subjects to inspire and educate the future generations of lifelong learners for over 35 years. Cabral attended UC Berkeley, obtaining degrees in both physics and astronomy. Following UC Berkeley, Cabral studied at San Francisco State University, obtaining a master's degree in physics, and it was there that Cabral discovered a passion for teaching, while lecturing in lab classes as a graduate student. Cabral's first experience teaching community college curriculum was at LMC where he taught part-time from 1989 to 2002, until becoming a full-time professor.

Nicole Vicknair, a graduate of LMC, who now teaches 11th and 12th-grade English at Bidwell Continuation High School in Antioch, was one of two K-12 Teachers selected to be considered for California State Teacher of the Year.



Los Medanos College Professor of Physical Sciences, **Scott Cabral**



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Contra Costa Community College District
500 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553

The News
4CD Employee Newsletter

District publications are posted online at
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/the-news/index.html>

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.
E-mail the Communications and Community Relations Office at info@4cd.edu.

The Contra Costa Community College District, founded in 1948 and governed by a publicly elected five-member board, is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. The mission of the District is to attract and transform students and communities by providing accessible, innovative and outstanding higher education learning opportunities and support services.

Contra Costa Community College District is committed to equal opportunity in educational programs, employment, and campus life. The District does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, parental status, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in any access to and treatment in College programs, activities, and application for employment.

San Ramon Valley Fire District Scholarships

The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District, in partnership with 4CD, announced the award of their first joint Paramedic school scholarship. In May, the Fire District Board of Directors approved the expansion of its highly successful Internal Recruitment Training program empowering the Fire District to offer additional scholarship opportunities in collaboration with 4CD.

“I’m proud to announce that through our partnership with the Contra Costa Community College District we’ve developed a truly unique scholarship program that not only allows us to play a role in educating future firefighters but affords the scholarship recipient the opportunity to join the ranks of firefighter with the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District after successful completion of their education,” said Fire Chief Paige Meyer.

At the Fire District’s August Fire Board of Directors Meeting, the Fire District and 4CD introduced the first joint scholarship recipient, Nathaniel “Nate” Jackson Jr., of Pinole, California. Jackson, a 2017 graduate of Salesian College Preparatory, enrolled in Contra Costa College pursuing his associate’s degree while completing his EMT program. Jackson was later invited back as an EMT instructor. He currently works as an EMT and Field Training Officer for AMR and volunteers for the Crockett-Carquinez Fire Department. Additionally, he will also start as a Reserve Firefighter for the Fire District while continuing his studies in the paramedic program.

“The Fire Department saves lives, with this action you are also now changing lives through the power of education”, said Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, “We are deeply grateful and incredibly proud of this young man.”

Additional scholarships are available from the Fire District and 4CD. Interested students can contact their College’s Financial Aid/Scholarship Office.



*Nathaniel “Nate” Jackson, Jr., with 4CD Governing Board Vice President Li, Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, Fire Board Members, Fire Chief Meyer, Deputy Chief Aguair, and 3546-L President Duggan.*



Hispanic Heritage Month

At their September 11, 2024, meeting, 4CD's Governing Board approved a Resolution recognizing September 15-October 15, 2024, as National Hispanic Heritage Month. Celebrated annually, the theme of National Hispanic Heritage Month for 2024 is "Pioneers of Change: Shaping Our Future Together." In honor of those who paved the way as pioneers of change, the Governing Board approved this Resolution and honored John E. Márquez, Genoveva Calloway, Maria Viramontes and Al Zuniga for their efforts in the establishment of La Raza studies at CCC, along with the establishment of Ethnic Studies throughout 4CD.



John E. Márquez (third from left) accepts the Hispanic Heritage Month resolution. Pictured are Student Trustee Halena Neyazi, and Governing Board members Rebecca Barrett, Fernando Sandoval, Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, and Governing Board member Andy Li.

Voter Drop Boxes Installed on 4CD Campuses

This summer, in partnership with the Contra Costa County Clerk's Office, three voter drop boxes were installed across our campuses to provide county residents with a secure and accessible designation for all countywide election days.

The drop boxes will be unlocked and ready to receive ballots on October 7th as soon as Ballots are out and will be serviced daily by Contra Costa County Elections staff, making it easy for students and employees to participate in the November 5, 2024, General Election.

The secure ballot drop boxes were permanently installed at the following locations:

CCC: Next to the drop off area directly across Parking Lot 2, along Comet Way.

DVC: Next to the brick wall at the Southern drop off area of Parking Lot 8.

LMC: Next to the Polices Services building across from Lot 1A.

The installed voter drop boxes are listed on the County's official drop box locations website:

<https://www.contracostavote.gov/elections/official-ballot-drop-boxes/>



Diablo Valley College Hosts Exceptional Sports

On Saturday, September 21, 2024, 40 families attended an Exceptional Sports (e-hoops) event at Diablo Valley College (DVC). The event was a collaboration between e-hoops, DVC’s basketball program, and the International Student Office.

E-Sports is a fully inclusive program dedicated to empowering kids of all abilities to reach their full athletic and social potential.

This event supported children to foster teamwork, friendship, and a love of basketball. Along with volunteers from the community, international students, and DVC’s basketball team, children participated in group warm-up activities, basketball drills and fun relay races, and also had an opportunity to interact with DVC’s basketball team.



DVC's Men's Basketball players with e-hoops participants

4CD Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in September.

Regular Academic Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Erin Hansen	Physics/Astronomy
DVC	Oscar Martinez-Cabezas	Culinary Arts/Food Technology
DVC	Kamara Taylor	Psychology

Classified Professional Employees

Location	Name	Title
DVC	Bryanna Menor	Athletic Trainer

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held on September 11, 2024, click on the link below:
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board-reports/2024-2025/September%2011,%202024.pdf>

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meetings held in September 2024, click on the link below:
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors-cabinet/2023-2024/September%202024.pdf>

District Governance Committee

To learn more about the District Governance Committee, click on the link below:
<https://www.4cd.edu/about/committees/dgc/>