



Student Access, Diversity

Latino Heritage Month

Grossmont College will celebrate Latino culture and history with several events during Latino Heritage Month, which takes place Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. Events include 16 de Septiembre Celebration with mariachis and taco sales from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 15, in the Main Quad; Latino Film Festival taking place at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in Bldg. 26, room 220; Banned Book Day keynote speaker and Newbery Award winner Matt de la Pena at 2 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 29, in Griffin Gate; performances of Federico Garcia Lorca's "Blood Wedding" in October; and a display of regional Mexican clothing throughout the month in the Library. All events are free and open to the public, with the exception of "Blood Wedding" ([tickets available online](#) or at the Stagehouse Box Office). Events are presented by the Creative Writing Program, Cross-Cultural Studies Department, English Department, History Department, Latin@ Alliance, Library and Technology Resources, and Theatre Arts Department.

WACC Grant Requests

The World Arts and Cultures Committee (WACC) is soliciting grant requests for funding on-campus arts and cultural events to occur in the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters. Additional information can be found online at www.grossmont.edu/WACC. Grant requests should be submitted as far in advance of the proposed event as possible. To be considered, grant requests must be submitted no less than three weeks in advance of the activity.

Learning and Student Success

Orientation Events

More than 500 students attended various orientation events held just before or after school started. In the last two weeks of August, orientation events were hosted by Student Support and Success Programs (SSSP), Athletics, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) and the Title V grant for Hispanic and Low-Income Institutions (HLI). During the orientations, students were welcomed by administrators, faculty and staff, and received information about helpful programs and services.



Extended Hours

Hundreds of students have been on campus during the past two Saturdays, either as students in new Saturday classes, including ASTR 112, BIO 120, CHEM 120 and 141, and MATH 160; or to take advantage of extended hours in Bldg. 10.

Fall Scholarship Awards

Last Saturday, Sept. 10, the Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges and the Grossmont and Cuyamaca financial aid departments presented the fall scholarship awards. Dozens of students received scholarship awards and many had the opportunity to meet their scholarship donor.

Summer Research Experience Fellowships

With the help of biology professors **Michele Perchez** and **Bonnie Ripley**, six biology students applied for and were awarded 2016 summer research experience fellowships. Two Biology Department students who are interested in pursuing careers in scientific research were awarded prestigious National Science Foundation-funded summer Research Experience for Undergraduate fellowships. Moriah McGee worked on a research project designing bacterial proteins to detect environmental arsenic with Dr. Joseph Provost at University of San Diego, and Stephanie Aguiar went to the Rocky Mountain Biological Lab in Colorado to work with Dr. Howard Whiteman on the potential effects of climate change on high elevation salamander populations. Four biology department students—Sabrina Hunter-Boeringer, Michelle Scott, Tania Esparza and Lilianna Landin—went to the six-week intensive summer training program at San Diego State University in the Bridges to the Baccalaureate program. Its purpose is to help underrepresented students make transitions from a two-year community college to a full four-year degree program in the areas of biomedical and behavioral research. The program provides support for students to prepare them for transfer and graduate or professional school via workshops in laboratory skills, research ethics, biomedical research techniques, and a colloquium addressing minority health care issues and has a 90 percent success rate for students completing their B.S. degrees after participation. The Grossmont College Biology Department has participated in Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program for 18 years.

Transfer Fair

Students interested in transferring to a four-year college or university will have the opportunity to meet admissions officials from dozens of institutions at the Transfer Fair, taking place Wednesday, Oct. 5, in the Main Quad. Representatives will be available from a variety of public and private colleges and universities, including various University of California and California State University campuses.

Fiscal and Physical Resources

Prop X

The district's Governing Board voted July 18 to place the \$348 million Proposition X bond measure on the November ballot. Funds from the bond measure will be used to build a workforce training center, improve aging facilities and update classrooms at Grossmont and Cuyamaca colleges, and address needs for veterans' centers to assist former and active-duty military. To view a list of projects or to learn about employee guidelines during the bond campaign, [please visit the district website](#).

Value and Support of Employees

- In August, History Professor **Carlos Contreras** was elected as a Councilor, Teaching Division, of the American Historical Association. As part of his three-year term in the AHA Teaching Division, he'll be responsible for the governing board's work related to history education, including promoting and improving teaching of history at all levels of education; disseminating information about teaching and developments in history education; collaborating with other organizations that promote history education; and much more. Congratulations to Carlos!
- **Faculty and staff are invited to join Griffins Football** as they go against Chaffey College on Saturday, Sept. 24. Faculty and staff are invited to enjoy a free tailgate area before the game, starting at noon in Lot 5 North. Free food will be available to faculty and staff, with low-priced options available to family and friends. The tailgate will also include family-friendly entertainment and an opportunity to meet student athletes. Kick-off is at 3 p.m., and tickets are free with Grossmont College student, faculty or staff ID.
- Grossmont College welcomed a new school year with the **College Convocation** on Aug. 15. This year's event featured the launch of "We're All In," a campaign and friendly competition that encourages faculty and staff to participate in student engagement efforts; an introduction of this year's Associated Students of Grossmont College board of directors by ASGC President Kaitlin D'Eimon; and presentations from the Dr. Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh, President, and Dr. Cindy Miles, Chancellor. This year's keynote speaker was Dr. Tanis King Starck, Assistant Dean in the San Diego State University College of Education; she spoke about the importance of cultural competency in encouraging student success.



Economic and Community Development

Theater Arts Department presents "Blue"

This fall, the Theatre Arts Department will present "Blue" as part of its touring show presented at 15 local elementary schools and youth facilities. "Blue" is about bullying and offers a message of tolerance and inclusion, all set within the wonderful, colorful world of the Circus Bigtop. "Blue" will also be presented in the Stagehouse Theatre Oct. 28 and 29; tickets are \$15 general admission, \$12 for faculty/staff/seniors/military, and \$10 for students. Tickets can be [purchased online](#) or at the Stagehouse Theatre Box Office.

Got Plans?

On Saturday, Oct. 8, the East County Education Alliance and Grossmont Union High School District will present the annual college and career fair "Got Plans?" from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Cuyamaca College. This is the largest college and career fair in East County, with thousands of high school students and their families attending the event. Grossmont College departments interested in participating should contact Jessica Murguia, Cuyamaca College Interim Student Success Coordinator, at jessica.murguia@gcccd.edu or ext. 4422 to reserve one table and two chairs.

Constitution Day

On Thursday, Sept. 15, Grossmont College will host its annual Constitution Day. Several events will be held, including a Constitution Wall, voter registration drive, student government information booth and the Sons of the American Revolution in period costumes outside of Griffin Center from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.; and a Free Speech and Bill of Rights: Reader’s Theatre presented by the Grossmont College Speech Team from 5:30 – 7 p.m. in Griffin Gate. **Dr. Joseph Braunwarth**, Political Science, will also present a fun and interesting lecture, “The Federalist Papers: An American Musical,” at 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. and 12:30 – 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14, in Bldg. 51, room 577.