



# G R O S S M O N T C O L L E G E

## *President's Report to the Governing Board December 15, 2020*

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### OUTREACH



Hyde Art Gallery is hosting its first-ever digital exhibition, “HOME•MADE,” featuring student art created during the fall 2020 semester. The digital exhibition allows gallery patrons to view the most exciting and innovative art and design projects that Grossmont College students have produced this semester from the comfort of their own homes. In following with the tradition of recognizing outstanding student work, the Visual Arts and Humanities Department will distribute awards-of-merit to exceptional students across all disciplines. To view the exhibition, [visit the Hyde Art Gallery website](#).

In November and December, Via Rápida, the First Year Experience, hosted several information sessions in English and Spanish for new students interested in applying for spring 2021. Via Rápida is a federally funded Title V grant for Hispanic and low-income students. Those enrolled in the program, which requires completing college onboarding steps, receive priority registration, peer mentorship, counseling and much more.

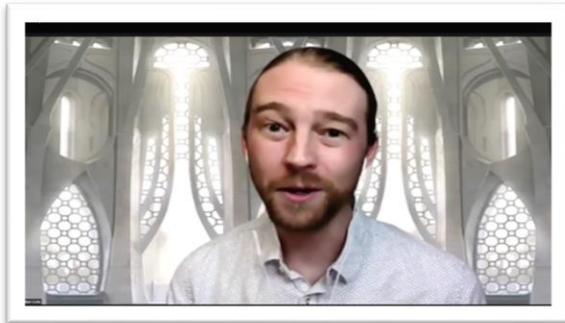
In conjunction with the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office, the Division of Career/Technical Education and Workforce Development has hosted a “Behind the Scenes of the Criminal Justice System” webinar series this semester. The third and final installment featured Deputy District Attorney Carolyn Matzger and Human Trafficking Task Force Detective Dan Dierdorff. The Nov. 18 webinar focused on human trafficking, facts and figures, and a basic understanding of what it is. Other webinars in the series focused on law enforcement and District Attorney’s Office careers, and criminal law careers and constitutional rights.

As part of its outreach to the community, especially local job seekers, the Grossmont College Career Services has expanded the offerings in its 21<sup>st</sup> Century Job Readiness Academy workshop series to include newly relevant topics that reflect current employer needs. For example, workshop offerings have been expanded to include topics such as implicit bias, in-demand jobs during and post-COVID 19, and social-diversity awareness. These workshops are designed as personal and professional development for job seekers. To learn more about the workshop series, please [visit the Career Services website](#).



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## ENGAGEMENT



In late November, the Theatre Arts Department debuted “The Winter’s Tale,” one of Shakespeare’s final plays. It is described as a romantic comedy that features elements of tragedy and magic. [The virtual performance is available for YouTube viewing on the Theatre Arts’ website](#). The play, directed by Ben Cole, features 10 students in several roles, with Creative Commons-licensed music. It is available for viewing

through Dec. 31.

In November, the Dance Department launched a [virtual version of its annual “Exits and Entrances” dance concert](#). The YouTube series includes seven videos showcasing ballet, contemporary, hip hop, improv, jazz, modern, and tap dance performances choreographed by department faculty. All dancers are current students.



This fall semester, in celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven’s birthday, Grossmont College’s Music and Media Communications departments partnered to present streamed



performances of Beethoven’s complete violin sonatas on Sunday evenings in October, November and December. Performed by Grossmont Symphony Orchestra Concertmaster and violinist Ondrej Lewit and pianist Irina Bendetsky, the concerts are streamed through Griffin Radio via the [TuneIn app](#). The concerts are produced by Media Communications Instructor Evan Wirig, with audio engineering by Brian Cantarini, Electronics Technician Sr. in Media Communications. The last performance of the series, which will include “8th Sonata for Violin and Piano in G major Op. 30” and the “10th Sonata for Violin and Piano in G major Op. 96,” will take place Dec. 6, with a replay on Dec. 13.

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## RETENTION



In addition to monthly food distribution events hosted in partnership with the San Diego Food Bank, Grossmont College has started a fresh meal distribution each week. The weekly distribution is in partnership with Kitchens for Good, a nonprofit organization located in Southeast San Diego that is dedicated to breaking the cycle of food waste, poverty and hunger. At the weekly drive-through event, Gizmo’s Kitchen staff members provide each attendee with two freshly prepared meals and a bag of non-perishable grab-and-go food items. For the Dec. 3 distribution, students also received care packages and a “snowflake” note of encouragement from Grossmont

College employees, in addition to their fresh meal.

In mid-November, Grossmont College distributed Wi-Fi hotspots to 100-plus students, providing them free Internet connectivity to complete their coursework this semester. All students were invited to apply, with students in categorical programs prioritized in the first wave of distribution. The Wi-Fi hotspot distribution is in addition to laptop and scientific calculator distribution events hosted earlier this semester.





In November, Grossmont College was recognized for the third year in a row as a Champion of Higher Education by the Campaign for College Opportunity for its work to significantly increase the number of students earning an Associate Degree for Transfer, an associate degree that guarantees transfer to a California State University institution. Grossmont College was one of 12 community colleges to be recognized throughout California, and it was also the only community college in San Diego and Imperial counties to be honored. The

Campaign for College Opportunity honors colleges that lead the state in ADT implementation as “Champions of Higher Education.”