



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

## *President's Report to the Governing Board November 10, 2020*

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### OUTREACH



The Grossmont College Theatre Arts Department launched an online opening night of its family-friendly production, “Sparkle,” on Saturday, Oct. 24. “Sparkle” is based on the children’s book, “Sparkle Boy,” which tells the tale of a young boy who loves sparkly, glittery clothing and jewelry. Sponsored by the Rice Family Foundation, “Sparkle” is presented as the Theatre Arts Department’s fall semester traveling school production. [“Sparkle” will be available for online viewing on the Grossmont College website through Nov. 30.](#)

Grossmont College, along with other community college career education programs, were featured on CBS 8 in mid-October. The story was about how San Diegans are turning to community colleges for job skills help. The interview featured Culinary Arts Facilitator Kris Saradpon, who is also a Grossmont College alumnus. To view the video, [visit CBS 8.](#)

Culinary Arts Coordinator James Foran, who teaches pastry and baking classes, participated in the Oct. 22 Celebrate the Craft, a dinner series hosted by The Lodge at Torrey Pines. Foran was joined by other celebrated local chefs to create a curated menu showcasing regional farms and vintners. A portion of the proceeds from the annual dinner series goes to Slow Food San Diego.

Griffin Gate at Grossmont College will serve as a local polling location for areas surrounding campus from Saturday, Oct. 31, through Tuesday, Nov. 3. Hours of operation on Oct. 31 through Nov. 2 are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Election Day, Nov. 3, it will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. During hours of operation, voters can submit their mail-in ballot or vote in person. The Grossmont College site will have voter information available in English and Arabic.



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## ENGAGEMENT

The Dance Department is proud to launch a virtual version of its annual “Exits and Entrances” dance concert this fall semester. The first [video, “Tap the Vote,” was released on Monday, Oct. 26, on the Dance Department’s new YouTube channel.](#) “Tap the Vote” encourages viewers to exercise their civic duty and vote in the Nov. 3 election. Within hours, the video has already had more than 100 views. Subsequent videos will be released for viewing on Nov. 20 – 22 and 27 – 29.



In mid-October, Grossmont College Student Health and Wellness partnered with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services and local nonprofit, Champions for Health, to provide a free drive-through flu shot clinic. The event was open to students, employees and the public; staff and volunteers immunized more than 100 people during the event.

As part of its commitment to holistic wellness, Student Health and Wellness has launched several new activities this past month. On Wednesdays, Student Health and Wellness hosts Wellness Wednesday events, often centered around fun activities such as Self-Care Bingo, and Ask a Nurse sessions where a Grossmont College nurse can discuss health questions with students without an appointment. Additionally, Mental Health Services also launched Feel Good Fridays to share mindfulness and stress reduction techniques to students. All events are free and open to students without pre-registration.

Virtual help desk assistance expanded at Grossmont College this month to include additional Student Services programs. The Griffins Virtual Help Desk expanded its staffing to include representatives from the Accessibility Resource Center (A.R.C.) and the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS). When prospective or current students can benefit from assistance from these programs, Outreach Ambassadors can transfer them to a break-out room where someone from these programs is available to assist.



Grossmont College’s inaugural Filipinx History Month celebration, also known as Filipino American History Month, experienced strong attendance at its events in October. Counselor Desmond Morente hosted a presentation and discussion on the colonial legacy and influence of colorism in Filipino-

American culture. The virtual event was attended by more than 50 people, including employees from other community colleges throughout the state. Additionally, as part of a discussion on food in Filipino culture, Culinary Arts Facilitator Kris Saradpon presented a cooking demo and shared a recipe for smoked chicken adobo wings;



adobo is considered a national dish of the Philippines. [A video of the recipe is available for viewing on the Culinary Arts YouTube channel.](#)

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## RETENTION



In partnership with the San Diego Food Bank, Gizmo's Kitchen, the student food pantry, hosted a drive-through food distribution event benefitting approximately 200 recipients. More than a dozen employees volunteered for the event that deposited fresh produce, eggs, bread and canned goods in the trunk of the vehicle of each student or employee who registered in advance for the event. Future food distribution events are planned for Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.

Grossmont College hosted its 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Career Expo on Oct. 28. Co-sponsored by the East County Chamber of Commerce and the San Diego Workforce Partnership, the virtual event featured more than 30 employers and about 200 attendees, which included students and community members. As part of the three-hour virtual event, attendees were able to meet and network with in-demand employers and attend Career Center workshops.