



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

President's Report to the Governing Board May 18, 2021

RECOGNITION



Once again, the Griffin Speech and Debate proves victorious with wins at the National Phi Rho Pi Community College Tournament. Forty-four colleges from 13 states participated in the national competition. The Griffin Speech and Debate Team was awarded a Gold Team Award in International Public Debate Association (IPDA), with Julian McKenzie receiving Bronze in Parliamentary Debate and Eli Gail receiving both Gold in IPDA debate and Bronze in Parliamentary Debate. Congratulations to

advisors and Communication faculty Roxanne Tuscany and Michael McHan, and to the team!

In the first year of competition open to community colleges, a team of Grossmont College Computer Science and Information Systems students are finalists in the 2021 SoCal Cyber Cup Challenge. The SoCal Cyber Cup Challenge is a cybersecurity competition sponsored by the San Diego chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association, and is open to participating middle and high schools, community colleges and universities in Imperial, San Diego, Orange, Riverside, Imperial and San Bernardino counties. The National Cyber League serves as the platform, content and mentoring partner to host the 2021 SoCal Cyber Cup Challenge, now in its 12th year. The challenge consists of three main components: an individual Practice Round/Gym, a Team Qualifier Round and a Team Final Round that takes place Saturday, May 22. Good luck to the Grossmont College team as it heads towards the Team Final Round!



OUTREACH

Grossmont College will host four virtual Family Orientation events in May and June, including two English events and one each in Arabic and Spanish. During the event, which is open to families of first-year students enrolling this fall, families will learn about onboarding, Financial Aid and Scholarships, Counseling Services and the Grossmont-Cuyamaca College Promise, among other support services. For more information or to sign up, [visit the Outreach website](#).



On May 22, Grossmont College Dean of Career/Technical Education and Workforce Development Dr. Javier Ayala will moderate a Healthcare Virtual Employer Panel Presentation for the East County Economic Development Council. The event, which include panelists representing Sharp Healthcare, San Ysidro Health and BetterNight Solutions, takes place from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Those interested in attending can [register in advance](#).

While the pandemic cancelled Theatre Arts’ spring high school touring program, “the show must go on” and is doing so virtually this semester. Theatre Arts “Inside the Actor’s Process: Hope” is an especially well-timed theme for this year’s production, which is available for free viewing through June 1. The production is a journey exploring the aspirations and frustrations of actors, acting, auditioning, and applause, as they strive to change the lives of audiences and find fulfillment in their own creative expression. [“Inside the Actor’s Process: Hope” is available for viewing online.](#)

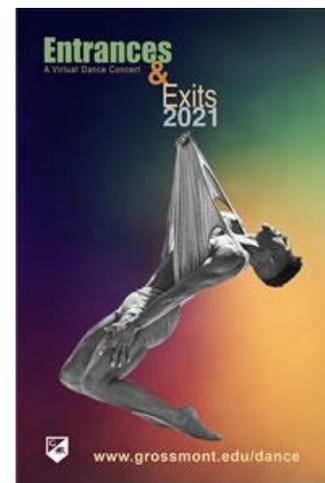


ENGAGEMENT

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, and the Asian Pacific Islander (API) Committee has a variety of events planned to celebrate and recognize the culture, history and contributions of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders. The monthlong celebration kicked off with the AAPI Read-In, which welcomed 60-plus attendees and a dozen readers

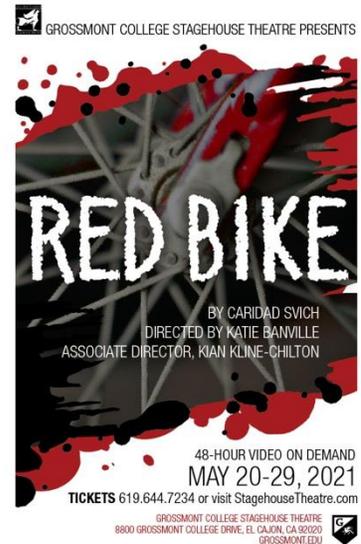
reciting various historical documents, letters, memoir excerpts, poems and more by Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders. Other planned events include a visit with author E.L. Shen, an ukulele workshop, a “Day in the Life” event with a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, a networking event with AAPI professionals, and a crowd-sourced digital cookbook, [“Good AAPI Eats.”](#) Additionally, Gizmo’s Kitchen is working with the API Committee to provide culturally relevant recipes and ingredients to students who participate in their weekly fresh food distribution. Videos of events will be available for viewing on the [college’s YouTube channel](#); for more information and registration links, visit [Grossmont.edu/API](#).

The Dance Department’s annual “Entrances and Exits” concert will once again go virtual this year. This year’s faculty-choreographed concert featuring student dancers will include a viewing of the concert featuring live chat at 7:30 p.m. each night on May 14 – 16,



and a 48-hour video-on-demand rental available May 17 – 23. Both options are \$10 fees per rental device. For more information on the concerts or to purchase a ticket, visit the [Dance Department website](#).

The Theatre Arts Department will end the spring semester with its production of “Red Bike,” directed by Katie Banville. The show, which will be available for 48-hour video-on-demand rental May 20 – 29, is an exploration of the socio-economic divide, capitalism, globalism, nationalism, gentrification, the racial tensions and immigration, the relationship with technology, the differences between rural and urban communities, and the gap between old and young – all through the eyes of an 11-year-old child. To purchase a ticket, [visit the website](#).



RETENTION

May is also Mental Health Awareness Month and Student Health & Wellness has several events taking place to support students and employees. In addition to its regular Wellness Wednesday and Feel Good Friday virtual events, the Health & Wellness team will also offer two reflection circles and a self-care workshop on how to battle Zoom fatigue and how to help distressed students virtually. For the full schedule and registration links, [view the flier online](#).



The Grossmont College Library has re-opened to students by appointment during limited hours. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, students will be able to reserve a computer seat, individual cubby, open study table or lounge seat. Students can also make a reservation to check out or check in materials, such as laptops, Wi-Fi hotspots or calculators. Students can make a reservation by [visiting the Library website](#).

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

In early April, Grossmont College hosted its accreditation site visit team with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) as part of the college’s follow-up visit. Various college faculty, classified professionals and administrators met with the team as they reviewed the college’s progress since its October 2019 visit and subsequent January 2020 action letter. The college expects a formal response from ACCJC following its June 2021 meeting. Gratitude is due to Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO), Interim Sr. Dean of College Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Dr. Joan Garcia Ahrens; Accreditation Faculty Co-Chair Dr. Tate Hurvitz; and members of the Accreditation Steering Committee for hosting the team and producing the follow-up report!