



# Community News

Contra Costa College • Diablo Valley College • Los Medanos College

Welcome to the **4CD Community News**, an online newsletter designed to provide news and information to our greater community. The Contra Costa Community College District (4CD) encompasses three colleges: [Contra Costa College](#) in San Pablo, [Diablo Valley College](#) in Pleasant Hill and San Ramon, and [Los Medanos College](#) in Pittsburg and Brentwood.

With nearly 50,000 students and thousands of course offerings, our colleges are open to all, and they provide associate degrees, associate degrees for transfer, certificate programs in dozens of industries, career training, athletics, student clubs, and more!

[Subscribe today!](#)

**December 2025**

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## Governing Board Selects New Officers for 2026



*Pictured from left: Board Trustee Rebecca Barrett, Secretary John E. Márquez, President Diana Honig, Trustee Andy Li, Chancellor Mojdeh Mehdizadeh, and Student Trustee Sophie Khouri.*

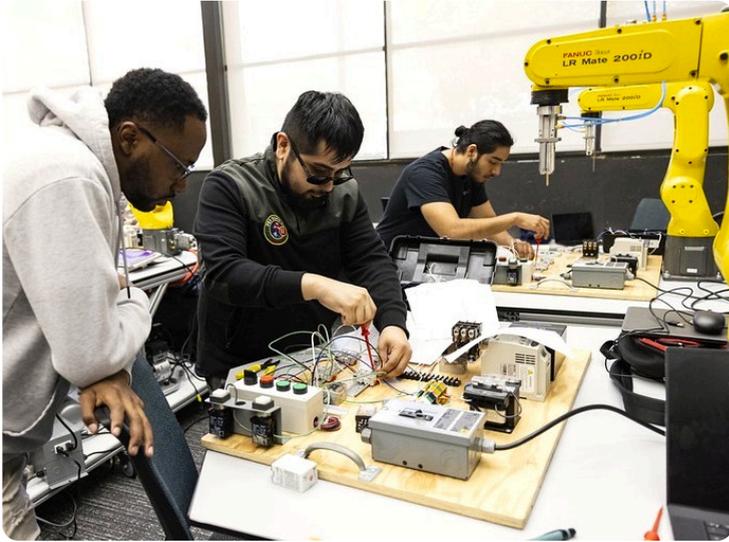
On Dec. 17, the [4CD Governing Board](#) held its annual organizational meeting, selecting Diana Honig as President of the Board, Fernando Sandoval (not pictured) as Vice President, and John E. Márquez as Secretary for the term that runs December 2025 to December 2026.

The board members thanked outgoing President Andy Li for his service in this role over the past year.

"You always keep our students in the forefront of your mind, no matter where you are," President Honig said of Trustee Li. "We really appreciate your strong commitment to our colleges and our students."

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## 4CD Foundations Provide Critical Support for Local Students



As the season of giving inspires reflection and generosity, many look for meaningful ways to give back to their community. You may be interested to know that right here in Contra Costa County, the three foundations of the Contra Costa Community College District quietly make a life-changing difference every day.

These 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations provide critical support for local students—through scholarships, emergency aid, and program enhancements—that helps them stay in school and build brighter futures. Research shows that when students succeed, our entire community benefits through increased employment, economic growth, and stronger neighborhoods.

If you're thinking about making an end-of-year gift, consider learning more about how the District's foundations open doors of opportunity for students across our three colleges. Even a small gesture of support can have a lasting impact, helping students achieve their dreams.

[Contra Costa College Foundation](#)

[Diablo Valley College Foundation](#)

[Los Medanos College Foundation](#)

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## CCC, LMC Earn Black-Serving Institution Designation



Contra Costa College and Los Medanos College have both earned official designation as Black-Serving Institutions (BSIs) under California's new Black-Serving Institutions Program Act (SB 1348).

The two colleges are among the state's first community colleges to receive this honor, underscoring their ongoing leadership in promoting educational equity and advancing Black student success.

The BSI designation recognizes colleges and universities that demonstrate a strong commitment to serving Black and African American students through robust academic resources, culturally responsive programs, and clear pathways to higher education and career opportunities. To qualify, institutions must have either at least 10% of students identify as Black or African American, or enroll a minimum of 1,500 students from these communities.

The colleges' initiatives include mentorship programs, culturally responsive curriculum, student leadership development, and community partnerships that champion Black excellence and achievement.

[Read the CCC press release.](#)

[Read the LMC press release.](#)



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## Students Win Cash Prizes at Entrepreneurship Showcase



Student entrepreneurs from across the Contra Costa Community College District recently showcased their creativity, talent, and business acumen at the districtwide 4CD Business Pitch Competition, held at Diablo Valley College's Pleasant Hill campus.

Ten finalist teams presented their business ideas to a panel of local leaders, entrepreneurs and industry experts. The teams were selected to pitch from a competitive pool of 24 applicants, each demonstrating originality, clarity, and potential for real-world impact.

At the conclusion of the event, four standout student teams were awarded cash prizes:

- First Place (\$1,000): **WellPulse** – 100% anonymous wellness survey platform
- Second Place (\$500): **Leftoverly** – Platform for restaurants to sell surplus meals
- Third Place (\$250): **Scholarise** – Platform for tracking scholarships, internships, coursework for university transfer
- People's Choice (Audience Vote, \$50): **Garydian** Angel – Voice activated wristband providing calm family safety

"This competition truly highlights the entrepreneurial spirit, creativity and determination of our students at DVC, and our sister colleges CCC and LMC", said Charlie Shi, Dean of Business, Computer Science, and Culinary Arts, and Community Education at DVC.

[Read more.](#)

## CCC Hosts Holiday Toy Drive

Each year, Contra Costa College comes together to make the holidays a little brighter for student families.

Through their annual Holiday Toy Drive, CCC creates moments of celebration for more than 350 children ages 0-17 in their campus community.

First, they collect hundreds of donations ranging from art supplies and picture books to board games, sports gear, and electronics.

Then, volunteers help by wrapping gifts and distributing the presents to hundreds of excited children.

Thank you, CCC, for sharing the holiday spirit!



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## Spring Classes Begin January 26



Interested in earning a degree, updating your technical skills, or taking a class just for fun?

The spring term begins on Monday, Jan. 26, and registration is now open for *current* students.

**Registration for all new students will open on Friday, Jan. 9.**

With day and evening classes, both in person and online, 4CD offers many flexible options for those wishing to pursue college.

4CD is committed to increasing access to college. Our [Full-Time Free Tuition Program](#) provides free tuition for up to two academic years for students enrolled full-time at Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, or Los Medanos College.

Learn more about our colleges and apply today!

[Register](#)

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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

From all of us at 4CD

Contra Costa  
Community  
College District

*pathways to success*



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