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Board Recordings



Board Report



**Cabinet
Highlights**



**District
Governance
Council**

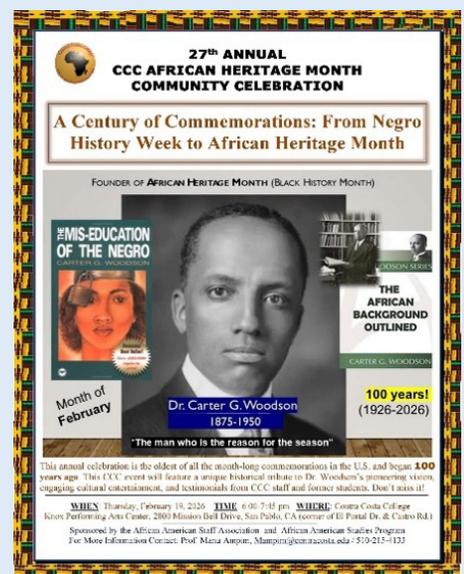
District, Colleges Celebrate Black History Month

At their February 18 meeting, the 4CD Governing Board adopted a resolution recognizing February as Black History Month. The 2026 theme of Black History Month is, “A Century of Black History Commemorations.” This theme focuses on the transformative impact of recognizing Black lives and contributions. It encourages reflection on the journey and meaning of these celebrations, honoring the achievements and struggles of Black and African American communities while looking toward future progress.

California Education Code Sections 37221 and 37222 stress the importance of our history curriculum of community, state, region, nation and the world in reflecting the experiences of individuals of different racial, religious, and ethnic groups. Among the 4CD workforce, 10.7% of employees identify as Black or African American. The District serves a student population that includes 9.5% who identify as Black or African American.

[Read the full resolution.](#)

Contra Costa College (CCC) hosted “100 Years of Black History: A Centennial Celebration,” honoring the legacy of Carter G. Woodson, the founder of Negro History Week and a pioneer in preserving and advancing Black history. Held at the CCC John & Jean Knox Performing Arts Center, the celebration highlighted the power of education, scholarship, and community in honoring a century of African American heritage.



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The 3rd Annual Black History Month Gala brought students, faculty, and community members to Diablo Valley College (DVC) for an unforgettable evening of reflection, artistry, and cultural celebration. Highlights of the night included a powerful drumming performance that set the tone for the evening, highlighting the richness of cultural expression and community connection.

DVC's **Akeem Ajani** shared the importance of programs that center and support Black student success. Three students also shared reflections from their study abroad experience in Ghana, describing how the trip deepened their understanding of history and identity.

The evening concluded with a keynote address from Professor **Manu Ampim** of Contra Costa College, who reflected on the origins and evolution of Black History Month and encouraged continued growth in honoring Africana history.

The DVC Early Childhood Education department hosted a children's book fair in recognition of Black History Month, sharing the rich stories of the African diaspora. The fair included a wide showcase of children's books ranging from imaginative storybooks to powerful biographies and educational historical texts. The collection highlighted diverse voices and experiences, giving the readers an opportunity to see themselves through the stories while also learning about influential figures and important moments in history.



Throughout the day, the fair welcomed a wide range of community members, including students and their children, parents, and employees. By highlighting literature that reflects the stories of the African diaspora, the event created a special space for members of the community to come together and celebrate.

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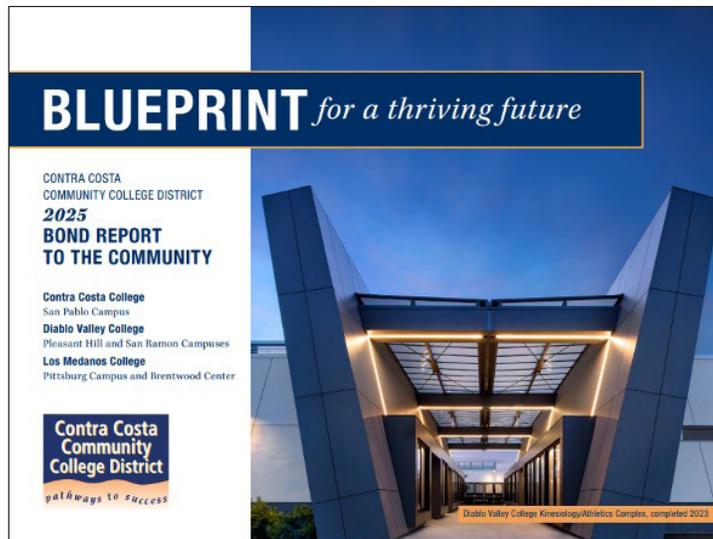
The 3rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Ceremony at Los Medanos College (LMC) highlighted the strength and importance of the student community across campus. Centered around the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., the overall message focused on unity, shared humanity, and the responsibility we have to support one another.

Speakers at the event acknowledged the personal, academic, and financial challenges many students face and reinforced that having a strong support system can make a meaningful difference. An exceptional part of the ceremony was the recognition of LMC student leaders Mina Jobe and Chijoke Onyeagucha, who received the Emerging Leadership Award.

Tianna Hicks received the Beloved Community Award, and Dennisha Marsh received the Visionary Leadership Award. Each awardee was honored for their leadership, service, and commitment to uplifting others.



Tara Sanders, Jennifer Saito, Cindy McGrath, Chijoke Onyeagucha and his mother, Dr. Pamela Ralston, and Dr. Tanisha Maxwell.



4CD Releases Annual Bond Report to the Community

The 2025 Measure E Bond Annual Report to the Community is now available on the [4CD website](#). The annual report is a publication that thanks the community for their support, summarizes the spending of the bond funds, and includes a letter from the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, which reviews and substantiates that 4CD spending is consistent with the original bond intent.

Contra Costa County voters passed Measure E in 2014 to garner local funding for various capital

projects at all three colleges. Nearly 90 percent of Measure E funds have now been invested in projects that are transforming campuses with modernized, sustainable learning environments. Many new and upgraded buildings meet LEED or Zero Net Energy standards, supporting the District's commitment to sustainability.

The report, produced and available in both English and Spanish, was presented to the Governing Board in February and sent to all public libraries and historical societies in the county.

Read the 2025 Measure E Bond Annual Report to the Community in [English](#)
Lea el informe de la comunidad en [español](#).

4CD Places New Bond Measure on June Ballot

While the facilities progress resulting from Measure E has been significant, many older buildings at each college still need repairs or replacement to meet current safety, technology, and sustainability standards.

To address these needs, the 4CD Governing Board voted unanimously on January 21, 2026, to place a general obligation bond measure for \$920,000,000 on the June 2, 2026, ballot. If voters approve the measure, known as Measure G, the funds would be used to complete essential projects outlined in the District's Facilities Plans, including:

- Renovating aging classrooms, labs, and career-technical education (CTE) facilities for nursing, allied health, and emergency services programs
- Expanding job training programs in clean energy, advanced manufacturing, and other fast-growing industries
- Enhancing safety, sustainability, and accessibility
- Protecting previous investments by repairing infrastructure before it deteriorates

View the campus priorities and [facilities plan](#).

Diablo Valley College Hosts Lunar New Year Celebration

On February 21, Diablo Valley College (DVC) hosted a Lunar New Year Celebration, which was co-sponsored by DVC'S Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Learning Community & Contra Costa Chinese School. DVC's AANHPI leads are Dean **Charlie Shi** and Co-Coordinator **Dr. Andrea Medina**.

"We are tremendously proud that the community of Pleasant Hill could collaborate with our district to create such a powerful cultural event for our students!" Dr. Medina said. "There were more than

500 people in attendance to view the many talented performers, taste the delicious culinary treats, and meet our friendly faculty and staff here at DVC."

This free event proved to be popular with packed crowds on hand to enjoy the dragon parade, martial arts demonstrations, kid-friendly face painting, and much more. Our deep gratitude to all partners involved in this ever-important cultural event to support the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander learning community.



(From left) 4CD Governing Board President Andy Li, Associate Vice Chancellor **Dr. Mandy Liang**, Chancellor **Mojdeh Mehdizadeh**, Pleasant Hill Councilmember Sue Noack, Pleasant Hill Vice Mayor Andrei Obolenskiy, Pleasant Hill Councilmember Belle La, DVC Dean & AANHPI Lead **Charlie Shi**, DVC President **Dr. Monica Chahal**, Judy Chen Contra Costa Chinese School, Pleasant Hill Councilmember Amanda Szakats, and John Chen, Contra Costa Chinese School

4CD Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in February.

Contra Costa College

Classified Professionals

Denise Smith, Police Services Officer

Los Medanos College

Classified Professionals

Clarissa Grubbs, Administrative Assistant, Senior



Contra Costa Community College District
500 Court Street, Martinez, CA 94553

The News, 4CD Employee Newsletter

District publications are posted online at
<https://www.4cd.edu/crpa/the-news/index.html>

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.
E-mail the Communications and Community
Relations Office at info@4cd.edu.

Connect with us on social media!



Community News



Contra Costa Community College District is committed to equal opportunity in educational programs, employment, and campus life. The District does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, parental status, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in any access to and treatment in College programs, activities, and application for employment.