Employee giving campaign tops $130,000 for record-high giving
Thank you to all the Hartnell employees who contributed to a very successful Student Success Campaign. I am humbled by the generosity of our campus community and speak about it at every opportunity.

This year's campaign exceeded our $125,000 goal, with $131,825 in total contributions by 209 new and contributing donors to support our students, with either a monthly pledge or a one-time donation. In the past nine years, we have raised $700,142, beginning with $23,885 contributed by 45 employees in 2009-10.

Your support has a direct impact on our students through scholarships, student emergency funds and areas of greatest need. These funds encourage students to push through and realize their educational dreams.

A special thank you goes to the following members of the Employee Giving Campaign Committee: Art Alvarado, Ashton Clarke, Augustine Nevarez, Bronwyn Moreno, Bobbi Jo Palmer, Dora Sanchez, Frank Gallegos, Joy Cowden, Savannah Lewis, Dr. Debra Kaczmar, Lucy Serrano, Mary Dominguez, Dr. Mostafa Ghouse, Miriam Vazquez-Gonzalez, Shawn Pullum, Steven Triano, Albert Graham, Gabriel Bravo, Hermelinda Rocha, Melissa Chin-Parker, Ana Martinez-Aguilar, Amy Taketomo, Belen Gonzales, Carol Kimbrough, Christopher Zepeda, Elsa Brisson, Dr. Hortencia Jimenez, Heather Rodriguez, Nancy Schur-Beymer, Selso Ruiz, Terri Pyer and Jackie Cruz.
TRIO SSS event honors grads and gives thanks to their families

I was honored to provide welcoming words as Student Support Services TRIO (SSS TRIO) recognized 67 graduates at a “Fiesta!” recognition ceremony on May 26 in the Student Center. A total of 375 people witnessed this moving celebration of achievement by the students and their families, which concluded with the graduates presenting me with a picture of a tree with leaves formed by their fingerprints.

The emcees were Upward Bound TRIO program assistants Liliana Cruz and Peter Xiong, and program director Dr. Manuel Bersamin also delivered a welcome. Also speaking were Governing Board President Aurelio Salazar, Jr., student Vanessa Perez and Elvira Martinez, the mother of graduate Noemi Martinez.

SSS TRIO counselors Norma Nichols and Joel Torres presented each graduate with a certificate of achievement, a personalized medallion and a certificate from U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta. Following the presentation, graduate Daisy Ochoa spoke about parental support and invited the graduates to honor their parents or significant others with the recognition certificates and medallions that they received.

(Pictured are, from left, Director Bersamin, Counselor Norma Nichols, Dr. Lewallen (superintendent/president), Carla Johnson (dean of student affairs for student success) and Counselor Joel Torres.)
Hartnell to hold second annual forum for HSI partners on June 14

Hartnell will host its second annual Hispanic Serving Institutions Forum on June 14 and welcome as special guests U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta, Dr. David Ortiz, senior vice president and chief operative officer for the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, and Luis Maldonado, that same organization’s chief advocacy officer.

The morning program in Steinbeck Hall on the Main Campus will focus on efforts to secure and maintain federal support for colleges and universities that qualify as Hispanic-serving, meaning that at least 25 percent of their full-time students are Hispanic/Latinx and at least 50 percent are from low-income households. Another area of emphasis will be a proposal to extend the Hispanic-serving designation to qualifying K-12 school districts, including many in the Hartnell Community College District.

In addition to Hartnell, five other colleges and universities from the Central Coast region will participate in the forum: Gavilan, Cabrillo and Monterey Peninsula colleges; University of California, Santa Cruz; and California State University, Monterey Bay.

‘Little Women’ musical opens
June 22 at The Western Stage

The Western Stage will present “Little Women,” the first Mainstage musical of its 2019 season from June 22 through July 13. Based on Louisa May Alcott’s beloved semi-autobiographical novel, the heartwarming drama follows the four March sisters as they struggle to find their own paths during the Civil War, mirroring the growing pains of a changing America.

The play starts with Jo, living as a writer in New York, and traces her memory as she looks back on her final four years in Concord, Mass. Interspersed amid vignettes of Jo’s and her sisters’ lives, are melodramatic re-enactments of Jo’s imaginative tales of adventure and lore.
“Little Women” is directed and choreographed by Lorenzo Aragon, with music direction by Don Dally. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday matinees start at 2 p.m. They are presented in the Mainstage Theater in the Center for Performing Arts (Building K).

Tickets are $26 general admission, $24 for seniors and military, and $12 for children age 5-15. Hartnell students are free with student I.D. Tickets are available at The Western Stage box office, open 5-8 p.m. Tues. through Sat.; online at westernstage.com or by calling (831) 755-6816.

Obana is lead coordinator for Salinas Valley Promise program
Chynna Obana joined Hartnell in May as lead coordinator for the Salinas Valley Promise scholarship and leadership development program.

Prior to joining our college, she coordinated internship programs at NASA Ames Research Center and has extensive experience working in academic advising and student programs at four-year universities.

A San Diego native, Obana received a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles and a master’s degree in higher education administration from the University of Maryland, College Park. In her spare time, she enjoys going to the beach, traveling and trying new cuisines.

“I am excited to join the Hartnell community and meet all the students, staff and faculty,” she said. “I look forward to working with you all in the future.”

Spotlight on fatigue, drug use as National Safety Month continues
Kenneth Laird, director of public safety and emergency management, invites the greater Hartnell community to consider several key injury-prevention reminders during National Safety Month throughout June.
This week’s focus is on the risks of fatigue and being under the influence of drugs at work. Adults need 7-9 hours of sleep a day
for peak performance, and excess fatigue decreases safety performance and increases the risk of vehicle accidents. Drug use on the job can lead to lost time, job turnover and increased health care costs.
“Continuous working for 16 hours leaves you not safe to drive,” Laird said. “You’re in the same condition as if you’ve had four drinks and get in the car.”
To share a safety concern on campus, call the non-emergency line at (831) 770-7001 or the emergency line at (831) 755-6888.

Football, XC and track teams send five to four-year spots
Hartnell Athletics recognized 2019 graduates who are transferring to compete in football, cross country and track and field at four-year universities:

In football, defensive back Christian Olmos (pictured at right in white T-shirt), a graduate of King City High School, is transferring to Western Colorado University in Gunnison, and running back/wide receiver Cameron Walker (pictured lower right n black T-shirt), a graduate of Salinas High School, will continue at Friends University in Wichita, Kan.

In track and field and cross country, Everett Alvarez High School graduate Nick Merillana and North Salinas High School graduate Nina Arias (pictured together, lower left) are both transferring to Minot State University in Minot, N.D. Javelin and pole vault competitor Jack Fling (pictured lower right in white shirt and hat), who attended Palma High School, will continue as a walk-on at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

With words that apply to all five of the transferring athletes, Head Football Coach Matt Collins said, “The recruiting process is always difficult, but I am proud of these guys and that they have an opportunity to go out and experience this world and new things, cultures and ways of life. I would imagine that they will come back to this community as leaders in their own right.”
Upcoming Events

**Note:** All event locations are on the Main Campus in Salinas unless otherwise noted.

**Summer and Fall 2019 Registration**

*Continuing Students and New Matriculating Students*

Summer through June 16; fall through Aug. 11

**“The Miracle Worker”**

*The Western Stage*

June 1-22

Mainstage Theater

**Farewell Reception for Mary Dominguez**

1:30-3 p.m.

June 17

Building E, room 112

**CalPERS on the Road: “Planning Your Retirement”**

9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Register at calpers.ca.gov

June 19

West Wing Conference Room

Salinas City Hall

200 Lincoln Ave.

**“Little Women”**

*The Western Stage*

June 22-July 13

Mainstage Theater