

# President's Weekly Report



**HARTNELL COLLEGE**

## MISSION:

Focusing on the education and workforce development needs of communities in the Salinas Valley. Hartnell College strengthens communities by providing opportunities for students to reach career and/or academic goals (associate degrees, certificates of achievement, transfer to four-year institutions) in an environment committed to student learning, achievement and success.

## Note to readers:

The President's Weekly Report to the Community is being presented twice-monthly publication while the volume of news is slowed by COVID-19 restrictions. Thanks for reading!

## Nursing & Allied Health students express gratitude for opportunity

Four students from Hartnell's Nursing & Allied Health programs were invited by faculty to speak via Zoom during the April 6 meeting of the Hartnell Governing Board and share their personal experiences over the past weeks and months. The presentation was part of a new "student engagement" feature on the agenda of each regular board meeting, initiated by board President Erica Padilla-Chavez.

The four students were: Raquel Vega, who is in the EMT program and has been conditionally accepted to the Respiratory Care program for Fall 2021; Regina Ayon (pictured), who will graduate from the Vocational Nursing program in May; Sonia Molinero, who will graduate from the Registered Nursing program in May; and Joleen Palacios, a current respiratory care student who plans to graduate in May 2022.



Among common threads running through the students' individual remarks was the tremendous value of in-person instruction, particularly given their need to learn hands-on skills, as well as an appreciation for the opportunities to learn clinical skills while working for health care providers that partner with Hartnell. Not all colleges have been as successful at maintaining this aspect of health care learning during the pandemic.

"On behalf of the respiratory program, thank you for all you guys' hard work for getting us in our clinicals," Palacios said. "This second semester, going into the hospitals, it's really put everything in perspective, and for me it's motivating in itself being in the hospital, and it helps me push through these challenges. It makes the whole program seem that much more important."

## **'Memoirs of a Pandemic' invites reflection from students, employees**

Hartnell students and employees continue to have the opportunity to share personal reflections on life during the past year of the COVID-19 pandemic, thanks to an interactive [Google Forms document](#) established by Augustine Nevarez, director of student affairs for student life. He was inspired by a Self-Care Workshop during a Women's History Month event.



"During the workshop, I thought of how many of our Hartnell Community members have not had the opportunity to share or hear from each other, so the idea of creating this written outlet came about — an outlet to share with others your experience through this most difficult time," Nevarez said in a March 18 email announcing the opportunity.

The "Memoirs of a Pandemic" page has received eight responses so far. Most are anonymous, but those responding are also welcome to identify themselves. Here is one example:

"It has been very difficult for me to see so many students going through so many difficulties. I care greatly for each of them. It has also been difficult for me to deal with the stress of making my home my workplace. ... Finally, I feel sad that so many of my relationships have suffered as a result of the pandemic. Through lack of direct personal contact, I have felt alienated from others in many ways. I am dealing with these thoughts as best as I can and trying to remember all of the things for which I have to be grateful — a loving family, a rewarding job and kind, loving friends."

## U.S. Rep. Panetta tours Soledad center with board President Padilla-Chavez

Hartnell Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez on April 2 hosted U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta on a tour of Hartnell's newly completed Soledad Education Center, and Panetta expressed his appreciation on Facebook.



"As a community college alumnus, I'm glad to work closely with these institutions on the Central Coast," he wrote. "Thanks to the Hartnell College team for showing me all that the new Soledad Education Center Campus will offer students."



Joseph Reyes, executive director of facilities, planning and construction management, assisted with the brief tour, which included the reception area (pictured).

## Music Extravaganza performances available for viewing on YouTube

The 2021 Hartnell Music Extravaganza had its online premiere on Friday, April 1, but the event remains available on [YouTube](#), where it has been viewed more than 260 times. The online presentation, which takes the place of the in-person concerts presented each spring, features students from Hartnell's instrumental and vocal ensembles, as well as guitar and piano. (Pictured: guitar student Matthew Cassady.)



During the video, instructors share behind-the-scenes details of how they were able to integrate students' individual remote performances into the finished works included in the one-hour video.

"Even though the pandemic has created many challenges for us as musicians and as teachers, we are all working very hard to provide the very best musical instruction for our students," said instrumental music instructor Steve Ettinger, who gave a welcome to open the program. "We hope you enjoy this presentation and would like to thank you for your support of the music and performing arts programs here at Hartnell College."

## Hartnell foundation distributes emergency rent, utility assistance

The Hartnell College Foundation is one of 13 agencies and organizations helping United Way of Monterey County distribute \$28 million in emergency rent and utility funds for income-eligible individuals and families.

Beginning March 15, the foundation has been assisting Hartnell students and their families and friends who face housing instability because of lost or reduced income due to COVID-19. Eligibility is not dependent on immigration status. Staff are available to answer questions and help with required paperwork such as documentation of lost income, proof of income eligibility and identification. Contact information, an application link and further details are posted on the Hartnell College Foundation [website](#).

To qualify, recipients must be tenants with formal or informal lease arrangements within Monterey County and have household income at or below 80% of the county's median income. For example, the qualifying income limit for a single-person household is \$54,250 and \$77,500 for a family of four.

"We know that job loss has hurt many of our students and families throughout our college district," said Jackie Cruz, foundation executive director and vice president of advancement and development. "We want them to be able to stay in their homes and maintain their essential utility services. This assistance can keep people from becoming homeless."

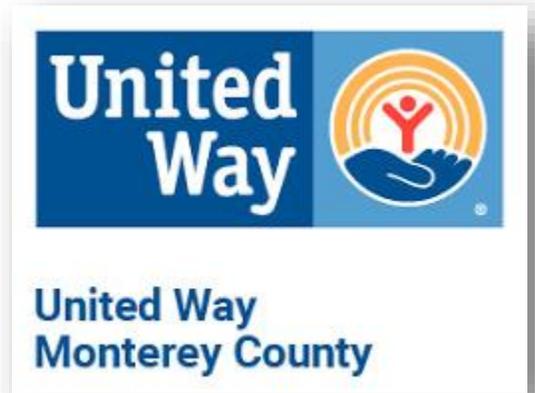
## CSEA names officers to new executive board

In its April 6 report to the Hartnell Governing Board, Chapter 470 of the California School Employees Association (CSEA) reported that it has completed selection of a new Executive Board.

In addition to Chapter President Delia Edeza, officers are: Fanny Salgado, vice president; Marlene Tapia, secretary; Jessica Green, communication officer; Betty Rivera, treasurer; Herbert Cortez, past president; and Stephen Otero, chief job steward.

Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez offered her thanks to Edeza and her congratulations to the Executive Board during the board's regular meeting on April 6.

"I just want to thank you, Delia, for your longstanding commitment to the college, but more importantly to the students," Padilla-Chavez said, "and I say frequently that I know our CSEA members are very much committed to the organization."



## Mi CASA holds 'ally' training and hosts student workshops

The Center for Achievement and Student Advancement (Mi CASA) presented a two-part "Dreamer Ally" training on March 18 and March 19 – six hours of total training for more than 50 faculty and staff.

Participants learned about the journey of undocumented students through higher education, including special presentations on mental health, immigration policies and practices, financial aid and other resources for undocumented students. In addition, they explored what it means to be an ally and began applying their knowledge in case based discussion groups.

Also in the past month, Mi CASA hosted weekly Cafecito workshops on Tuesday evenings facilitated by Equity Programs counselors Daisy Nunez and Adriana Chavez to provide social emotional support for undocumented students. Each workshop had 10-12 student participants. Workshop topics included mindfulness, scholarship applications and financial literacy.



## MESA information fair promotes STEM clubs and success programs

Thirty-one students attended the MESA/STEM Club Information Fair via Zoom on March 8, featuring presentations by student ambassadors, club leaders and representatives from a variety of student support and engagement programs.

MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) is part of a nationwide program to promote excellence in math and science among educationally disadvantaged students.

Among those presenting were MESA student ambassadors such as Patricia Ramirez (pictured), officers from like SIMA (Students Interested in Medicine Association) Math and Allied STEM.



Joel Thompson, interim director of Hartnell's Science and Math Institute welcomed attendees, and Program Assistant Anely Meneses facilitated and fielded student questions during the 30-minute program.

## CalWORKS shares baskets and books at drive-through event on April 2

The Hartnell CalWORKS staff distributed the book "Think Like a Monk" by Jay Shetty to CalWORKS students and spring gift baskets for the students' children during an April 2 drive-through event at the circle drive on Main Campus.

Pictured are Counselor Dr. Nancy Reyes, EOPS Specialist Marlene Tapia and Program Assistant I Sarah Canter.



## Writers will compete for recognition at student poetry event on May 6

Hartnell students are invited to submit their original poetry and compete for the chance to win up to \$100 in the Poetic Voices/Voces Poetica Poetry Competition and Reading on May 6.

Poems must be submitted to Hartnell English instructor Maria Garcia Teutsch by April 25 at [mteutsch@hartnell.edu](mailto:mteutsch@hartnell.edu). Put "Poetic Voices" in the subject line and be sure to include your name, email address and phone number.

Each student winner will receive the Poet Republik Poetry Prize for excellence in writing. The first-place student will receive \$100, and four additional students will receive \$50 for their work. Students from Hartnell and Cal State Monterey Bay will compete.

Winners will be recognized and read their work at the 20th anniversary Poetic Voices event, to be presented via Zoom from 1-2:30 p.m. on May 6. This year's featured poet is Daniel B. Summerhill (pictured), assistant professor of poetry/social action and composition studies at CSUMB.

The festival is sponsored by Hartnell's Homestead Review literary journal and Poet Republik micro-press. This year's judge is Jennifer Lagier-Fellguth, who has published nine books of poetry and served as co-editor of the Homestead Review. Jennifer retired from Hartnell, where she was a beloved librarian.



## Tabera named professor emeritus at San José State University



Hartnell Chicana Studies instructor Philip Tabera has been named Emeritus Faculty, Chicana and Chicano Studies, at San José State, where he was a part- and full-time professor from 1997 through 2017. He completed his Master's of Mexican American Studies and Public Policy at SJSU and was honored as Student of the Decade. Tabera has taught at Hartnell since 2009.

"I would like to thank you on behalf of San José State University for your many years of distinguished service to the university and its students," wrote Dr. Mary Papazian, SJSU president, wrote in a March letter to Tabera.

In a letter of recommendation for the honor, Dr. Maria Luisa Alaniz, acting chair of Chicana/Chicano Studies, said Tabera "made a major contribution to the SJSU campus community based on his activism and collaboration in co-sponsoring activities across the campus. He is a highly rated and respected professor. He was a mentor and supportive resource for faculty and student alike."

## Ledesmas have a new son — Benigno Santiago Victor

Joanna Ledesma, an academic support specialist for STEM, and her husband, Juan Ledesma, welcomed the birth of a son, Benigno Santiago Victor Ledesma (Beni) at 5:30 a.m. on Feb. 21. He weighed 9 pounds, 1 ounce and was 22 inches at birth.



## In the News

**Martinez, Motz win Race The Commons Series for March:**

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/04/08/martinez-motz-win-race-the-commons-series-for-march/>

**Return to the hardwood for Palma grad Rowland:**

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/04/07/return-to-the-hardwood-for-rowland/>

**Ramos solidifying himself as a defensive leader at Southeastern Louisiana:**

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/04/09/ramos-solidifying-himself-as-a-defensive-leader-at-southeastern-louisiana/>

**El colegio Hartnell está brindando asistencia financiera para pago de renta y servicios:** <https://www.facebook.com/NoticiasCostaCentral/videos/203079877913831>

# Upcoming Events

## Public Policy & Social Justice Virtual Career & Job Fair

1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 14

[Registration](#)

## The Western Stage: Alumni Symposium Series John Caldon – Managing Director

6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 14

<https://westernstage.com/alumni-symposium-series/>

## Educator in Residence: Ben Percy “Super-Powered Storytelling”

10 a.m.

Friday, April 16

Info: [www.hartnell.edu/hr/pdp/index.html](http://www.hartnell.edu/hr/pdp/index.html)

## Pop-Up Food Pantry

12 p.m.

Friday, April 16

Main Campus Parking Structure

## CBEST Prep Workshops (TPP/MAESTROS)

10 a.m.

Saturday, April 17

[RSVP](#) via Zoom

## Governing Board Meeting – Development

5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 20

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/hccd/Board.nsf/Public>

## Health & Wellness

### Virtual Career & Job Fair

1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 21

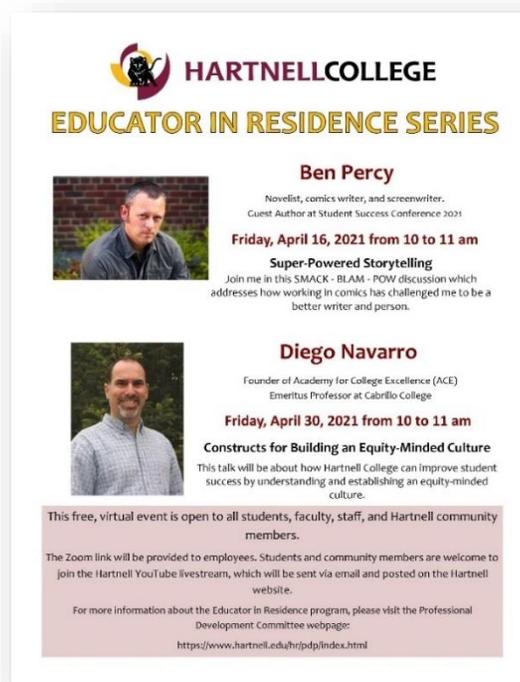
[Registration](#)

## The Western Stage: Alumni Symposium Series Deb Hiett – Actress, Playwright & Screenwriter

6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 21

<https://westernstage.com/alumni-symposium-series/>



**HARTNELL COLLEGE**  
**EDUCATOR IN RESIDENCE SERIES**

**Ben Percy**  
Novelist, comics writer, and screenwriter.  
Guest Author at Student Success Conference 2021  
**Friday, April 16, 2021 from 10 to 11 am**  
**Super-Powered Storytelling**  
Join me in this SMACK - BLAM - POW discussion which addresses how working in comics has challenged me to be a better writer and person.

**Diego Navarro**  
Founder of Academy for College Excellence (ACE)  
Emeritus Professor at Cabrillo College  
**Friday, April 30, 2021 from 10 to 11 am**  
**Constructs for Building an Equity-Minded Culture**  
This talk will be about how Hartnell College can improve student success by understanding and establishing an equity-minded culture.

This free, virtual event is open to all students, faculty, staff, and Hartnell community members.  
The Zoom link will be provided to employees. Students and community members are welcome to join the Hartnell YouTube livestream, which will be sent via email and posted on the Hartnell website.  
For more information about the Educator in Residence program, please visit the Professional Development Committee webpage:  
<https://www.hartnell.edu/hr/pdp/index.html>

**CBEST Prep Workshops (TPP/MAESTROs)**

10 a.m.

Saturday, April 24

[RSVP](#) (via Zoom)

**Pop-Up Food Pantry**

12 p.m.

Friday, April 30

Main Campus Parking Structure

**Educator in Residence: Diego Navarro**

**“Constructs for Building an Equity-Minded Culture”**

10 a.m.

Friday, April 30

Info: [www.hartnell.edu/hr/pdp/index.html](http://www.hartnell.edu/hr/pdp/index.html)

**The Western Stage: Alumni Symposium Series**

**Matthew Shiner – General Stage Manager**

6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 2

<https://westernstage.com/alumni-symposium-series/>

**Governing Board Meeting – Regular**

5 p.m.

Tuesday, May 4

Steinbeck Hall

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/hccd/Board.nsf/Public>

**Western Food Safety Summit**

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 5-6

<https://thewesternfoodsafetysummit.com/>

**Virtual ESL Orientation Workshop (bilingual)**

6 p.m.

Thursday, May 6

Register: <https://bit.ly/HartnellESL>

**Governing Board Meeting – Development**

5 p.m.

Tuesday, May 18

Steinbeck Hall

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/hccd/Board.nsf/Public>