



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.

Skipping a week for Spring Break

The President's Weekly Report will not publish next week but will return April 18 with a two-week edition. Please send information and photos by each Wednesday to sfaust@hartnell.edu.

Class of 2022 will graduate May 20 with in-person Commencement



Hartnell's Commencement ceremony at 4:00 p.m. on May 20 will be held in person for the first time since 2019 (pictured). Initial student response indicates this will be one of the largest events in recent history, with students, relatives and friends eager to regain the tradition of celebrating together at Rabobank Stadium. The event will also be live-streamed on YouTube.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ceremony was presented completely online in

2020, and in 2021, the online ceremony was followed by a physically distanced in-person recognition ceremony in the Central Plaza.

Regalia rental is available through the Panther Bookstore, but orders are due by April 20. Follow the [Commencement](#) webpage for further details about the ceremony as they become available.

Rivas names Padilla-Chavez 30th District Woman of the Year

Assemblymember Robert Rivas on March 30 named Hartnell Community College District Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez as Woman of the Year for Assembly District 30 – part of a Women's History Month observance by the Legislative Women's Caucus.

Rivas (D-Salinas) said Padilla-Chavez has demonstrated “an unparalleled commitment to the region,” adding, “Erica is a true public servant, embodying her motto ‘service above self.’”

In addition to serving as an elected member of the Hartnell board since 2009, she is CEO of Pajaro Valley Prevention & Student Assistance, Inc., providing behavioral health and youth prevention services to over 7,000 youth and their families in the Pajaro Valley.



To help south Santa Cruz County communities during the pandemic, Padilla-Chavez convened and led a coalition of more than 30 non-profit and governmental organizations named the South County COVID Triage Group. The effort provided financial and legal assistance, housing retention and behavioral health support to residents impacted by COVID-19. She also is an active community member in Soledad, where she resides.

Padilla-Chavez said she shares the recognition with the many women she has worked with throughout the challenges of the pandemic over the past two years.

“Together, we have led with compassion, integration, and genuine collaboration to aid our communities in multifaceted ways. There is no greater gift in life than to use our skills to make other people's lives better,” she said. “Thank you Assemblymember Rivas for acknowledging that a collective approach to achieving community wellness is the way forward.”

Music Extravaganza draws nearly 200, raising \$1,400 to support teaching

Hartnell’s vocal and instrumental music students and community members performed for an audience of nearly 200 at the 2022 Music Extravaganza on April 1, the event’s largest ever. An admission fee of \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors raised \$1,400 for music equipment and supplies.

The evening began with performances by four students of piano instructor Galina Vinokurov (pictured: Allen Candelario), followed by the college choir, the Chamber Singers (pictured), concert band, jazz band



and orchestra (pictured). Instructor Sandra Rudo directed the vocal groups, instructor Steve Ettinger directed the orchestra and jazz band (in which he also performed), and instructor Daniel Zeff directed the concert band. Members of the Council for the Arts donated and helped serve snacks and refreshments and welcomed audience members to the Center for Performing Arts.

Ettinger said it was wonderful to return to an in-person presentation in which neither performers or audience members were required to wear masks.

“What music-making is really about is that interaction between one performer and other performers but also between performers and a live audience.”

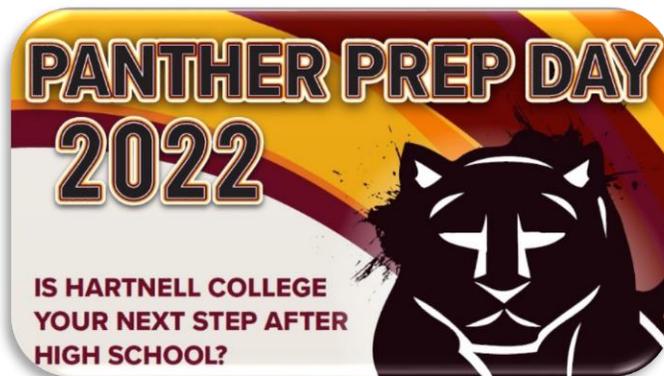
The music programs announced six additional performance dates this spring, starting with a Performance Night on April 2, a voice recital on May 9, a Hawaiian music concert on May 15, choir concerts on May 16, a joint concert and jazz band concert on May 17 and an orchestra concert on May 19.



Hartnell to hold Panther Prep Days for high school seniors on April 29-30

Salinas Valley high school seniors who plan to attend Hartnell College are encouraged to sign up by April 11 to attend [Panther Prep Days](#) on April 29-30 and receive priority registration.

During Panther Prep Day events – on April 29 at Hartnell’s education centers in King City and Soledad or on April 30 at the Main Campus in Salinas – students will meet individually with counselors to create their first semester education plan, register for classes and attend a college resource fair. Parents are welcome, too. In order to register for classes, students will need to provide proof of full vaccination for COVID-19 or request a religious or medical exemption.



On April 29, the event at the King City Education Center, 117 N. Second St., will be from 8-11 a.m., and the event at the Soledad Education Center, 1505 Metz Road, will be from 12-3:30 p.m. On April 30, on the Main Campus, 411 Central Ave., the morning session will be from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the afternoon session will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with an overlapping lunch and resource fair. As many as 1,000 students and 200 parents are expected to take part.

The purpose of Panther Prep is to help students continue their education after high school and either go on to complete a four-year degree or prepare to begin an immediate career in a technical field.

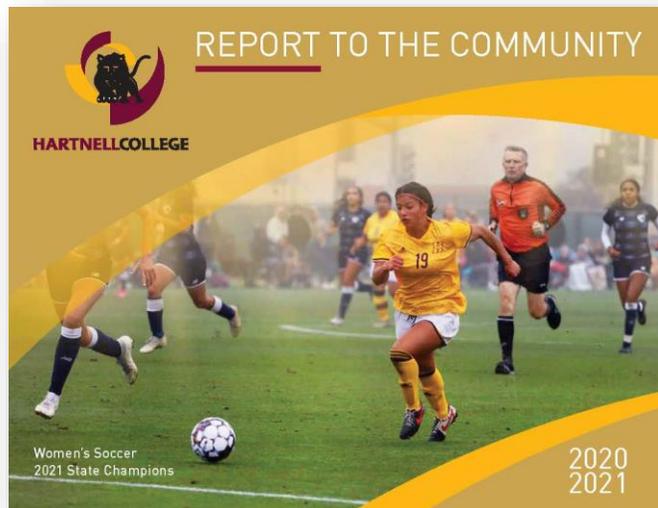
“We really take them through the whole experience and take all the guesswork out of it,” said Ariana Rodriguez, Hartnell’s College Pathways Coordinator. “We walk them through the entire process of enrollment, step by step.”

2020-21 Report to the Community published online and sent to printer

Hartnell's 2020-2021 Report to the Community has been published [online](#) and will be distributed in print to Hartnell College Foundation donors and college partners by the week of April 11. A limited number of copies will also be available on campus for sharing with campus visitors, job applicants and other interested persons.

The 40-page publication includes student profiles, updates on student and academic affairs programs, student demographic and success statistics, athletics highlights and an annual report for the Hartnell College Foundation, including lists of donors.

Scott Faust, director of communications, marketing and public relations, is grateful for the cooperation and assistance of many individuals who shared information and photos for the report. He will be reaching out this month for assistance with articles for the 2021-22 edition, planned for publication this fall. One anticipated focus will be continued expansion of academic pathway programs in partnership with Cal State Monterey Bay, beginning with CSin3, which will welcome its 10th student cohort in August.



Library technician Niduaza becomes a United States citizen

Hartnell library technician Mezairah Niduaza was sworn in as a citizen of the United States on March 26, and library staff followed up with a celebration in her honor.

"I am so happy to be able to celebrate this personal victory of mine with all of you," Niduaza told her colleagues.

A native of the Philippines, she arrived in San Francisco in 1996, completed her K-12 education and became a Hartnell student, graduating in 2017. She

was a student worker with dining services, the Panther Learning Lab and then the library. "I worked hard and grew from a professional expert to where I am today," Niduaza said.

Kreyche is back to return planetarium to its role as a learning resource for all

Andy Kreyche began working on March 21 as coordinator for the Hartnell Planetarium in the Willard Lewallen STEM Center, returning to a role he held from 2009-2015, before the new building opened in 2017.

The planetarium was closed throughout the pandemic, but Kreyche's duties will include support for astronomy classes that use the theater, as well as outreach to area schools and scheduling of public shows, said Sharon Albert, interim dean of STEM.

"Although I've arrived to operate a different planetarium in a new building," Kreyche said, "it's also reassuring to see and work with some familiar faces and again be a part of this community. I look forward to helping reestablish the planetarium as a dynamic resource to both the college and the Salinas Valley community. The planetarium can be a place of awe, learning and reflection, and I hope to see many of you here soon."



Busy week for track & field, plus more success for Panther Swim & Dive team

Head Men's and Women's Track & Field Coach Chris Zepeda had lots of news to share following his team members' participation in the Chabot Invitational in Hayward and the Mike Fanelli Classic at San Francisco State University, both on March 31. The Panthers will host DeAnza for a "duel" meet starting at 3 p.m. on the Hartnell track.

Among many notable successes for Hartnell track athletes was a first-place finish in the Chabot 400-meter low hurdles by sprinter Roxana Ruelas (65.72), who also was part of a second-place 4x100m relay team that also included Clodine Tabernilla, Isabella Reimann and Aaliyah Carreras (50.24). In the Mike Fanelli, Isaac Gensel (pictured) ran the second fastest 5000m in Hartnell history, at 14:37.36. He is currently third in the state. Isabelle Torres, who has remained a Hartnell student even after moving on to the UC Berkeley, became the second Hartnell woman to run the 5000m in under 18 minutes, at 17:49.02.



Swim & Dive Head Coach Joel McKown took his team to the Hawk Invitational at Las Positas on April 1, an event with 17 teams and more than 350 competitors. Kanyada Doughty continued her winning ways in the 100-yard individual medley with a time of 1:03.12, bringing her to a total of five new school records this year.

Erika Perez placed sixth in the 1-meter diving competition and eighth in the 3m (pictured), especially impressive because she was diving through injury, and Hartnell does not have a 3-meter board for her to practice on. Other highlights included sixth-place finishes in the 1650 yard freestyle by David Parmley and by the women's 400 medley relay team of Montserrat Castro, Kate Hanneman, Kanyada Doughty and Guadalupe Solis.

In the News

FARMS Leadership Program brings Gonzales, Soquel students to college campus:

<https://salinasvalleytribune.com/farms-leadership-program-brings-gonzales-soquel-students-to-college-campus/>

College Athlete of the Week: <https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/03/28/college-athlete-of-the-week-56/>

Upcoming Events

Public Health Career Fair

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monday, April 4

Central Plaza, Main Campus

Track & Field vs. De Anza

TBD

Tuesday, April 5

Hartnell Track

Baseball vs. De Anza

2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 5

Tony Teresa Diamond

Hartnell Governing Board

5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 5

King City Education Center

Baseball vs. MPC

2:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 7

Tony Teresa Diamond

Softball vs. Cabrillo

3 p.m.

Thursday, April 7

Hartnell Softball Field

Pop-up Pantry

12 p.m.

Friday, April 8

Hartnell Parking Structure

Spring Break

April 11-16

Baseball vs. Ohlone

2:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 14

Tony Teresa Diamond

Baseball vs. Cabrillo

1 p.m.

Saturday, April 16

Tony Teresa Diamond

Hartnell Governing Board -- Development Meeting

5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 19

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Pop-up Pantry

12 p.m.

Friday, April 22

Hartnell Parking Structure

Baseball vs. Mission

1 p.m.

Saturday, April 23

Tony Teresa Diamond

Track & Field Central Coast Open Meet

TBD

Saturday, April 23

Hartnell Track

Baseball vs. De Anza

2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 26

Tony Teresa Diamond

Softball vs. Gavilan

3 p.m.

Tuesday, April 26

Hartnell Softball Field

Career Fair

9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Wednesday, April 27

Student Center (Building C)