

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.

More graduation news – and a break

This edition of President's Weekly Report includes more employee graduation announcements. The report will take a brief break and return next month. Please continue to send information and photos to vagonzalez@hartnell.edu.

Hartnell receives \$480,000 grant to guide incarcerated students



Hartnell College will use a three-year, \$480,000 grant from the California Community Colleges (CCC) system to ensure that more incarcerated students not only complete college courses, but also earn a degree and continue their education.

The grant, effective July 1, is part of \$10 million awarded to 59 colleges in the CCC's Rising Scholars Network, funded by Assembly Bill 417. The statewide program serves almost 20,000 justice-involved students both on campus and in prisons, jails and detention centers.

In addition to degree completion, the initiative seeks to help incarcerated students earn college credentials more efficiently, with fewer total credits. The overall goal is for students to lead productive lives once they leave prison and never

come back there, said Ana Gonzalez, who directs the Rising Scholars program at Hartnell.

"We want to get students through the finish line – to be able to say, 'OK, you're ready for graduation, or you're missing this one class,'" Gonzalez said.

Hartnell began offering classes for incarcerated students in 2016 following passage of Senate Bill 1391, which allows community colleges to receive funding for incarcerated students. Hartnell now serves about 800 students in 25 course sections at the Correctional Training Facility (CTF) and the Salinas Valley State Prison, both near Soledad, and at the Monterey County Jail and Monterey County Detention Center, both in Salinas.

The college will use the funds to provide increased counseling services for incarcerated students, helping them determine what they need to complete a degree and guiding them to complete those courses. In addition to paying for an additional part-time counselor, the grant will replace funding that now comes from a Student Equity Fund.

(Pictured: Brenda Jones, College Pathways coordinator for the Rising Scholars Program at Hartnell, presents to students at the Salinas Valley State Prison during a workshop for Fall 2022 applications on May 2.)

Juneteenth Celebration honors fulfillment of Lincoln proclamation

Hartnell hosted the Second Annual Juneteenth Celebration on June 18 at its Main Campus, making it the first major community event held in the college's newly redesigned Central Plaza. Hundreds of people gathered for speeches, live music, dance, poetry, food, shopping and fun — all to commemorate the date of June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers enforced President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and freed all remaining slaves in Texas, signaling the full enactment of that decree.



Event committee members included Hartnell counselor Tony Anderson, who participated on behalf of the Umoja student organization, and 2020 Hartnell graduate Kenya Burton, a community organizer and the Youth Poet Laureate for Salinas who now attends Sacramento State University. Jason Garrett, director of Academic Affairs for Foster and Kinship Care Education, was the college's liaison to the committee.





Hartnell Community College District Trustee Aurelio Salazar delivered a welcoming address to help open the celebration, saying, "Our work in achieving racial justice, equity and equality is not done." He harkened back to a college-wide message he provided as board president on June 2, 2020, soon after the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer.

"We will continue to look at our programs, resources, faculty, staff, administration and policy to be sure that they're free from implicit racial bias," Salazar said, "and that the college operates in a non-discriminatory way, and that it will address any inequities in its policies and procedures. Only together can we create institutional change."

(Pictured: (above) Event participants watch a performance by the Salinas Youth Choir of New Hope Baptist Church; (left) Trustee Aurelio Salazar Jr. with Yvonne Thomas, president of the Monterey County Chapter NAACP, who also was a featured speaker.)

Carmen Corona is new director of student affairs for Equity Programs

Carmen Corona joined Hartnell on June 13 as the new director of student affairs for Equity Programs, overseeing services for undocumented students, the Salinas Valley Promise program, the Umoja program, the WELI and MILE leadership programs and LGBTQ students.

Since October 2021, Corona has served as an executive coach for community college recruitment and retention with the Gravensberg Group. Beginning in 1996, she held a variety of administrative roles at California universities, most recently as executive director of admissions and outreach at Cal State East Bay from 2019-21.

Corona pledged to "partner with all campus constituents to create an inclusive, welcoming, and supportive learning environment for all students and to continue my career-long dedication to bridging the equity and achievement gap and to serving traditionally underserved students."

"I am vested in advancing the efficacy of our programming and in ensuring the Office of Equity Programs continues to promote and promulgate a culture of respect, innovation, empowerment and inclusion," she added.



College to recognize Spring 2022 honor students with newspaper ad

Hartnell has announced the names of 1,145 students whose academic achievement earned them recognition on the President's Honor Roll or the Dean's List for the Spring 2022 semester.

As in past semesters, the college will celebrate these students by listing their names in a full-page advertisement in The Salinas Californian's print edition, on June 25. This is intended to make it easier for students to share the good news with friends and family.

In order to be on the President's Honor Roll or the Dean's List, students must be enrolled in at least 12 units. The 470 students on the [Dean's List](#) have earned a grade point average between 3.0 and 3.49, and the 745 students on the [President's Honor Roll](#) have earned a GPA between 3.5 and 4.0.

Congratulations to all who have earned this distinction for Spring 2022!



Martinez receives best wishes as she concludes her preschool career

Staff at the Hartnell Child Development Center (CDC) held a retirement party on June 9 to bid farewell to 30-year preschool teacher Janice Martinez.



Martinez, who got her start as a student teacher with Hartnell, worked as a toddler teacher for the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District for nine years before she joined a center at Hartnell's Alisal Campus, finally moving to the Main Campus nine years ago.

Her plans for retirement are to spend more time with her father in Chico, work as an adjunct teacher, spend time with her grandkids, and consider opportunities as an early childhood education mentor and coach.

"I loved my job," Martinez said. "It never felt like I was going to work. I loved being with the children and their families. My real joy was being here. My heart will always be here. It was the most rewarding thing to look back at. It was meaningful work. My student workers used to be students and it has been my biggest joy to support their growth."

CDC Director Anne Adamson offered her best wishes to Martinez at the retirement event, held in the center's courtyard.

"I found so many of your ideas inspiring, and it is hard to imagine the CDC without you!" Adamson said. "When you fondly reflect on your time here, you can rest assured that your work has made a lasting, positive impact on the families and teachers in this community."

LGBTQIA-Allies group presents Pride Film Festival June 22-24

The LGBTQIA-Allies group invites the Hartnell College Community to join them on June 22-24 for a Pride Film Festival, featuring four short films and three featured films. Group member Augustine Nevarez, director of student affairs for student life, said the films were selected to “celebrate, entertain and inform.”

All the films will be presented in the Hartnell Planetarium (S-101). There is no admission fee, but attendees are asked to [register](#) in advance because seating capacity is limited to 75. Film titles and times are listed below in “Upcoming Events.”

An opening celebration will be hosted at The STEM Building on June 22, at 12:00 PM. Light refreshments will be provided.



Hartnell students receive scholarships from the California Rodeo Salinas

Continuing a 36-year tradition, the California Rodeo Salinas has announced scholarships of \$2,500-5,000 to five Hartnell students and graduates.

The Hartnell recipients are: Adam Garcia, a 2022 graduate who will major in human biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, with the ambition of becoming a family doctor; Katya Hernandez Trejo, a 2022 graduate who will major in agriculture education at Fresno State University, with plans to become a high school agriculture teacher; Erin Hoffman, a 37-year-old mother of two who is studying at Hartnell to become a Certified Public Accountant; Natasha Perez, who will attend Hartnell this fall and plans to become a pediatric surgeon; and Kyras Headley, a 2022 graduate who will major in plant science at Chico State University.

Said Kelly McCarthy Sutherland, chair of the California Rodeo Salinas Scholarship Advisory Committee, “The Rodeo Association’s generosity will impact these students’ lives, and they will in turn come back to their communities and become great leaders and contributors. Each one of these students is a superstar, and we can hardly wait to see what they do when they finish school.”



McCall-Ortega gives birth to daughter

Administrative Assistant Adair McCall-Ortega and her husband, Daniel McCall, have welcomed a daughter. Isabel Delora McCall was 21 inches long and weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces when she was born on June 5 at Natividad Medical Center.



Track and field athletes announce plans to compete at 4-year level

Joined by Head Coach Christopher Zepeda, several more graduating student-athletes in track and field have announced their plans to transfer to and compete for four-year universities:

- Medium-distance sprinter Karla Herrera (Marina High School) is transferring to Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio Texas. She will major in Kinesiology.
- Distance and steeplechase competitor Mariah Changco (Hollister High) has received a cross country and track and field scholarship from CSU Northridge, where she will major in kinesiology. "Hartnell definitely made a positive impact on my life and running career," she said. "I'm really happy I chose Hartnell and with the help of Coach C., I succeeded in running and school." (Pictured, left, with Assistant Coach Alrene Diaz Leal and Coach Zepeda, and Mariah Changco, at right.)
- Distance runner Faith Mora (North Monterey County High School) also received a scholarship for cross country and track at CSU Northridge, where she will major in kinesiology. "Hartnell gave me the foundation as a runner, and I will definitely take those lessons on to the four-year university."
- Thrower Kyras Headley (KC High) will be going to Chico State, where he will major in plant science. "Coming to Hartnell was a great decision for me," he said. "I got to continue throwing and get to throw at a four-year college."



Congratulations to these employees and family members for graduation milestones!

The following graduations are listed by the name of the employee who shared them and by level of credential:



Monica Navarro

Name of graduate: Alexis Navarro

Relationship to employee: Daughter

Degree/milestone: Associate of Arts, General Studies with a Language & Rationality Emphasis

Date of graduation: Fall 2021

Name of institution: Hartnell College

Job title of employee: Enrollment Services Specialist

Silvina Zepeda

Name of graduate: Alfredo Zepeda

Relationship to employee: Son

Degree/milestone: Middle school promotion

Date of graduation: May 25, 2022

Name of institution: Harden Middle School

Job title of employee: Program Assistant I



Name of graduate: Christina Zepeda

Relationship to employee: Daughter

Degree/milestone: Sixth-grade promotion

Date of graduation: June 1, 2022

Name of institution: Dr. Oscar Loya Elementary School

Job title of employee: Program Assistant I



Belinda Saechao-Jimmey & Daniel Jimmey

Name of graduate: Zya Saechao-Jimmey

Relationship to employees: Daughter

Degree/milestone: Kindergarten promotion

Date of graduation: June 6, 2022

Name of institution: Mission Park Elementary School

Job title of employees: NHS Lead Program Coordinator & IT Support Technician

In the News

Impacts of DACA still felt on the Central Coast 10 years later:

<https://www.ksbw.com/article/dacas-10th-anniversary/40304291>

Hartnell College to host Juneteenth Celebration Saturday:

<https://kingcityrustler.com/hartnell-college-to-host-juneteenth-celebration-saturday/>

Juneteenth events planned on the Central Coast:

<https://www.ksbw.com/article/juneteenth-events-planned-central-coast-santa-cruz-monterey-salinas/40289080>

Celebrating food, art, history and freedom, Juneteenth events proliferate across the

county: https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/entertainment/art/celebrating-food-art-history-and-freedom-juneteenth-events-proliferate-across-the-county/article_ae738b36-ed04-11ec-a4e8-779d02860270.html

Upcoming Events

Basketball Camp/Men's Head Coach (coed)

Ages 5-14

9 a.m.-12 p.m., June 20-24

[Register](#)

Hartnell Governing Board – Development Meeting

5 p.m.

Tuesday, June 21

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Hartnell Pride Film Festival – “Dreams by the River”

1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Wednesday, June 22

Hartnell Planetarium (Building S)

[Register](#)

Hartnell Pride Film Festival – “Pelo Malo (Bad Hair)”

1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Thursday, June 23

Hartnell Planetarium (Building S)

[Register](#)

Hartnell Pride Film Festival – “Moonlight”

1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Friday, June 24

Hartnell Planetarium (Building S)

[Register](#)

Basketball Camp/Women’s Head Coach (girls elite)

Ages 12-18
12-4 p.m., June 27-30

[Register](#)

Hartnell Governing Board – Regular Meeting

5 p.m.
Tuesday, July 5
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Soccer Session 1 Camp (coed)

Grades K-2
9:30 -11 a.m., July 11-15

[Register](#)

Soccer Session 2 Camp (coed)

Grades 3-6
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., July 11-15

[Register](#)

Volleyball Camp (girls)

Grades 3-5
9 a.m.-12 p.m., July 11-15

[Register](#)

Volleyball Camp (girls advanced)

Grades 6-12
12:30-3:30 p.m., July 11-15

[Register](#)

Swim and Dive Camp (coed)

Middle and high school ages
3-5 p.m., July 11-15

[Register](#)

Kids Track & Field Games (coed)

Ages 5-12
9 a.m.-12 p.m., July 18-22

[Register](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Convocation 2022

8:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 26

