

College of the Canyons



Breaking News

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

College Launches Arts Education Outreach

Performing Arts Center Effort Aimed at Local K-12 Students

In keeping with the college's mission to provide relevant academic education and lifelong learning programs for community members of all ages and educational levels, the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons has launched a new K-12 arts education outreach program.

The program will seek to use the college's vast cultural and community resources to expose students to the visual and performing arts – while also collaborating with teachers and administrators in school districts throughout

the area to develop an enhanced arts education curriculum and a variety of unique educational opportunities for all students.

"This is a chance for College of the Canyons to begin communicating a different vision in terms of the college's participation in arts education throughout our community," said Adam Philipson, managing director of the performing arts center (PAC). "It's important for the arts to be introduced to younger audiences so they can realize the powerful effect art can have on their lives, and that's something we are committed to here at the college."

To kick-start the new program, the college has partnered with the Saugus Union School District (SUSD), resulting in more than 600 elementary school students vis-

iting the PAC for a special performance and presentation by the comedic acrobatic duo The Tweaksters in early October.

Students also visited the campus art gallery to view "The Sculpture of Brad Howe" exhibit, featuring a selection of the artist's colorful, internationally renowned steel sculptures, some designed specifically for this exhibit.

"This event is just a peek behind the curtain in terms of what we hope to achieve with this program," said Rita Garasi, a College of the Canyons Foundation board member and longtime friend of the college who is helping to implement the program.

"Utilizing the resources of the college to host these

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PE EXPANSION

The recently completed Measure C-funded physical education facility expansion includes a 21,543-square-foot building (above), a new basketball court (left) and six tennis courts. Pictured during the Sept. 11 ribbon-cutting ceremony (far left) are Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook; Len Mohny, dean of physical education; Jim Schrage, dean, physical plant and facilities; and Tim Phillips of Klassen Construction Management. See EXPANSION on Page 7 for more details.

Programs, Curriculum Reviewed

Accreditation Process Under Way at College

As one of the community's most trusted and highly respected public institutions, College of the Canyons has completed an institutional self-study report as part of its application for reaffirmation of accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges.

Accreditation is a voluntary process colleges and universities undergo, performed in this case by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, to evaluate and assure the quality of education used by the American higher education community – and to subsequently make those results known to the public.

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) is the corporate entity, consisting of three separately organized commissions within the western region, which is responsible for monitoring and evaluating institutions of higher education. The commission responsible for community colleges is the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior

RELATED

It's accreditation season, with the Early Childhood Education Center receiving reaccreditation, and the nursing program also undergoing a review.

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Funding Unshackled as Governor Signs Budget

California's recently approved \$104.3 billion budget allots more money to education than last year, but still shaves millions of dollars from schools and other state services. While community colleges did not emerge unscathed from the budget axe, the view among many community college officials statewide is that the cutbacks could have been far worse.

Gov. Schwarzenegger signed the 2008-09 spending plan – about \$700 million worth of line-item vetoes included – on Sept. 23, ending the longest budget impasse in California history. The budget, signed 85 days after the fiscal year began, includes 2 percent growth funding for community colleges statewide.

"We're thrilled that the budget preserves the 2 percent growth funding – even though College of the Canyons' growth factor is 28 percent – because California's community colleges serve a vital, irreplaceable role in our communities," said

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\$437,000 Grant for Science Students

The National Science Foundation has awarded College of the Canyons a \$437,000 grant to help fund the Transitions Program, which in its first year, will support the recruitment, mentoring and support of 40 students studying biology, chemistry, engineering and mathematics.

"The Transitions Program will provide many deserving students with both the support and enrichment they need to pursue engineering and science careers," said Susan Crowther, director of the college's MESA (Math, Engineering, Science, Achievement) program.

The three-year grant, awarded through the foundation's S-STEM funding program, will help prepare students for graduation and the transfer process to four-year schools, and in the long run, increase the numbers of diverse, well-educated and skilled employees in these fields.

Students will complete educational plans, develop a student research plan and receive a \$3,500 scholarship to cover the cost of books, calculators and other academic materials required to complete a math-based course of study.

During their second and third years in the program, students will work with a faculty mentor in their discipline to design and carry out an individual research project, and then present their findings during a research conference.

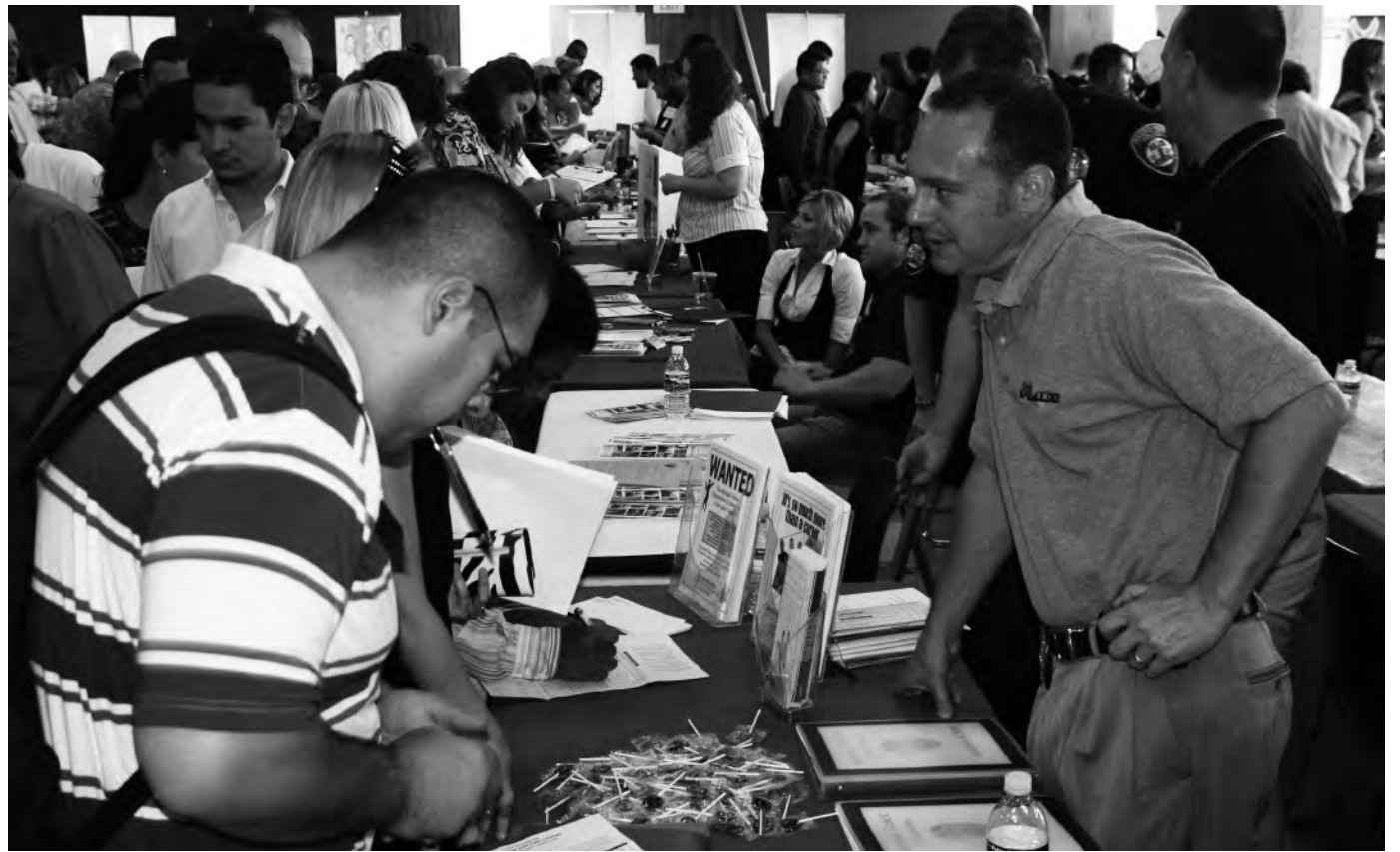
"When students, especially first generation college students, receive this kind of mentoring from faculty, they really begin to flourish," said David Martinez, chair of the college's engineering department.

Students will also explore career options in their chosen field, participate in academic enrichment activities and explore transfer institutions with strong programs in their area of study.

"The Transitions Program will enable students to really 'try on' their career choice and see if it fits," said Gregory Nishiyama, a biology instructor at the college and the leading faculty member behind the new program.

Students who demonstrate financial need and academic promise will be invited to participate in the program.

For more information about the Transitions Program or the college's science, math and engineering programs, visit www.canyons.edu.



HIGH TURNOUT

Attendance among job-seekers was higher than usual at the College of the Canyons' Job & Career Fair. More than 500 prospective employees went face-to-face with representatives of 62 employers during the Sept. 24 event at the college's Valencia campus. The Canyon Country campus hosted a similar event on Oct. 8. The job fairs are held twice a year, with the next event to be held in the spring.

Grant Funds Metal-Fabrication Training

The California Community College's Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) program has awarded the College of the Canyons welding technology department approximately \$300,000 in Industry Driven Regional Collaborative (IDRC) grant funds to help develop a series of metal-fabrication courses at the college.

The grant – which includes funding for new equipment and supplies, curriculum development, faculty training and industry outreach efforts – will allow the college to expand its current welding technology program to include both an associate in science degree and certificate of achievement program in metal fabrication in the future.

"We've been training great welders at COC for several years now, but oftentimes our graduating students are lacking the metal-fabrication skills that give them that one-two punch needed for working in several different welding industries," said Tim Baber, chair of the welding technology department. "This grant expands the opportunities for students to learn the whole package, welding

and metal fabrication, and really puts them in a position to earn more money as an entry-level technician."

Metal fabrication is a term used to describe the process that involves the construction of machines and structures from various raw materials, usually based on engineering drawings and involving various metalworking processes – including drilling, stretching, machining, bending, rolling, cutting and welding. Used extensively in the commercial and defense manufacturing industries, metal-fabrication technologies are also increasingly being utilized by the motorsports, construction, entertainment and petrochemical industries, to name a few.

"To work as a welder, you're basically an operator with a torch in your hand welding. But if you're in a metal-fabrication position and somebody gives you a blueprint and says, 'Build this thing,' you're going to be cutting the metal, shaping it, rolling it and doing just about anything else you can imagine to create or build the finished product," Baber said.

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Achieve Goals Faster with GO!

Always looking for ways to help students achieve their goals, College of the Canyons is offering an accelerated learning program to enable students to transfer to four-year colleges faster.

The GO! program, which emerged from the Leadership Education in Action Program (LEAP) this past spring, offers five-week, transferable online courses in a more compressed calendar than the traditional 16-week format.

"These classes are a perfect way for busy students to accomplish their goals at a fast pace and in an accessible format," said Diane Fiero, interim vice president of academic affairs at the college.

In the fall, 26 classes were offered in three consecutive five-week sessions. Students are enrolling in large numbers, said Fiero.

"The average class size in the fall was 31 students, and we have had to add more sections due to

demand," she added. Because classes are offered in back-to-back, five-week windows, students have the flexibility to start a class at the beginning of any five-week window throughout the year.

Research has shown that many students prefer the short-term class options because they generally provide more flexibility for students and provide alternatives to courses that are based on the standard academic calendar. Since courses are offered every five weeks, students have additional opportunities to pick up classes they might have missed at an earlier time. And, with classes repeated every two to three sessions, students need to wait only weeks, not months, to try the course again if something prevents them from completing a class.

"We look forward to adding more departments to the program and offering a full complement of degree applicable and transfer level courses," said Fiero.

Leadership Program Awarded for Innovation

The North American Council for Staff, Program and Organizational Development (NCSPOD) will present its Innovation Award to the College of the Canyons Leadership Education in Action Program (LEAP).

The Innovation Award recognizes achievement in a program, project or event that demonstrates innovative ideas, adaptations, activities or approaches that enhance the effectiveness of staff, program or organizational development.

Launched this past spring with 45 faculty, staff and administrative participants, LEAP will be recognized for its innovative approach to leadership development. Key community college leaders from around the state presented sessions on vital topics, and participants worked on team projects that focused on solutions to current challenges. Both the GO! and PAL programs emerged from this effort.

The award will be presented during NCSPOD's annual conference in Reno, Nev. on Oct. 24.

ABOUT BREAKING NEWS

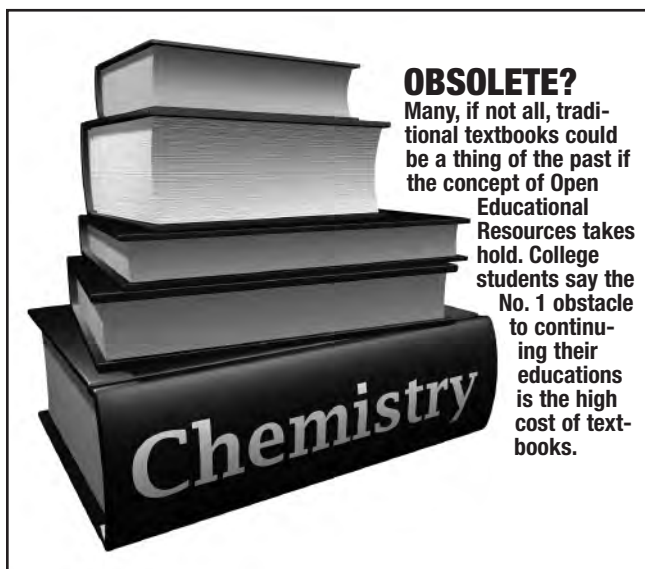
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Could Textbooks Become a Thing of the Past?



College Exploring Feasibility of Open Educational Resources

With an ongoing goal to broaden the community's access to education, while also providing new outlets for faculty innovation and creation, College of the Canyons has become involved in a statewide consortium of community colleges dedicated to the exploration, creation and wide scale use of Open Educational Resources.

Open Educational Resources (OERs) are free, electronic educational content materials, which are increasingly being used in the classroom as an alternative to traditional textbooks and course manuals. Coming in the form of high-quality content and learning tools posted on the internet, OERs range from scholarly articles, historic documents, lesson plans and lectures, power-point presentations and audio and video files made available to teachers and students for non-profit use and continued re-use.

"By engaging in the larger OER movement around the globe, COC hopes to continue to fulfill one of our

goals as a community college to open the door a little wider and make education accessible to more and more people," said James Glapa-Grossklag, dean of distance learning programs and training.

Highlighting the specific problem the OER movement addresses, the rising cost of textbooks, Glapa-Grossklag refers to the fact that the No. 1 reason given by current college students as to why they can't continue with their education is the cost of books.

Though there is currently no system in place for colleges and universities to access and share OERs, under the leadership of Dr. Martha Kanter, chancellor of the Foothill De Anza Community College District, and partner campuses like College of the Canyons, a move is under way to create a consortium of schools within the state to engage in a more collective effort to produce, collect and disseminate such materials.

Having joined the OER movement last year, College

See TEXTBOOKS on Page 6

It's Not Too Late to Take Short-Term Fall Classes

For students who missed fall registration or are looking to add one or more classes, College of the Canyons is offering a variety of classes that are just eight weeks or less in duration.

And, they're available now.

"It's never too late to enroll," said Jasmine Ruys, director of admissions and records and online services at the college. "We offer classes at many points during the semester so that students can start on their clock, not ours. Students can control when and where they take a class."

Among the 125 classes, students can earn college-transferable units in basic science, math and English courses.

Other subjects offered include:

- International Business Law
- Introduction to Photoshop
- Introduction to Culinary Arts
- Music History
- God and Politics
- Introduction to Women's Studies
- War, Genocide and Human Rights
- Open Welding Lab

Students can also choose to enroll in classes offered by the Progressive Adult College Education (PACE) and GO! programs.

The PACE program allows working adults to enroll in two classes at a time in seven- and eight-week sessions. Class times are flexible, with students meeting at the Canyon Country campus five Saturdays per session and completing the remaining coursework online.

GO! classes are five-week, intensive-format classes that allow students to earn college units at an accelerated rate.

Late-start classes are offered at both the Valencia and Canyon Country campuses.

Registration for late-start classes is ongoing until the classes are full or the add deadline has passed.

For more information about registration, visit the college's Website at www.canyons.edu.



Numerous vehicles line up in a coordinated fashion during the drive-through flu shot clinic held at College of the Canyons in 2007.

Need a Flu Shot? Drive Up!

College of the Canyons, the City of Santa Clarita, the Los Angeles Department of Public Health, and the L.A. County Sheriff and Fire Departments will conduct a drive-through, flu shot clinic on Friday, Nov. 7. It's the third consecutive year for the clinic, which allows most people to receive flu vaccinations without having to leave their vehicles.

The flu-shot production line will be conducted in the College of the Canyons parking lots adjacent to Valencia Boulevard, with shots being dispensed from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., or as long as the serum lasts.

Flu shots are often provided to the public in anticipation of an active flu season, but the event also serves a secondary purpose. This exercise will test the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) response to a bioterrorism attack.

The purpose of the CRI plan is to treat an impacted, mass population with medications within a short time period. Under the plan, the drive-through clinic is officially called a "rapid point of dispensing," or POD. College of the Canyons is a designated POD site for the bioterrorism plan.

"Over the past two years, we have been able to train dozens of volunteers and staff members regarding the safe and efficient dispensing of medicine on a large scale," said Santa Clarita Mayor Bob Kellar. "We have refined our logistics, our delivery systems and have improved dramatically in our communications capabilities, which is the main point of this activity."

"There are always things to learn and always ways to improve our procedures," said Dr. Michael Wilding, assistant superintendent/vice president of the college, as well as the POD manager for the second straight year. "The college is conveniently located and has the parking lot layout to easily handle a large volume of cars in a real emergency. And, with nursing students gaining valuable experience by dispensing the shots, the college brings a number of important elements to the table."

The clinic also allows multiple agencies to hone their ability to work together effectively.

"The planning and implementing of the clinic fosters cooperation and communication between agencies that otherwise don't often work together, who need to be able to coordinate their response in the event of a national emergency," Wilding added.

In the event of a large outbreak of disease or a regional terrorist attack, many sites similar to this one would be needed to serve the needs of California communities.

According to public health officials, the 2006 and 2007 flu clinics were two of the best in all of California. More than 120 volunteers from the participating agencies helped coordinate last year's event.

More than 1,000 community members participated and received the free vaccinations during a three-hour period in 2007 compared to 800 in 2006.

Campuses to Become 'Smoke-Free' by Early 2009

The College of the Canyons Board of Trustees has voted to make both the Valencia and Canyon Country campuses "smoke free" beginning with the spring 2009 semester.

Under the new policy, smoking will be allowed only in the parking lots of both campuses – at least 50 feet from any building – and in one designated area near Cougar Stadium on the Valencia campus.

The board's decision modified an existing smoking policy developed in 1999 that defined designated smoking areas on the Valencia campus.

A complete review of the policy and the resulting changes to the designated smoking areas were prompted by ongoing construction projects and the development of a completely new campus in Canyon Country.

The review process involved a student survey con-

ducted by the Associated Student Government (ASG) in which a majority of students – 67 percent on the Valencia campus, and 69 percent on the Canyon Country campus – expressed their desire to ban smoking.

The survey also revealed that students are unhappy with the way the existing policy is enforced, with 63 percent of respondents calling for better enforcement. Based on the survey results, the ASG endorsed modifications to the policy.

"This new policy is straightforward and clear, and adopts the same kind of policy that dozens of other campuses across the state have in place," said Dr. Michael Wilding, vice president of student services at the college.

"It should be simpler for campus visitors and students to determine where they can and cannot smoke," Wilding said. "By removing the ambiguity of the previous policy,

by reasonably accommodating the strong feelings of both smoking and non-smoking advocates and by adding clear signage on both campuses, smoking controversies should become a thing of the past."

The new policy and implementing procedures were reviewed and endorsed by the Academic Senate and the College Policy Council. The Board of Trustees approved the new policy in August.

Understanding that smoking is a sensitive issue to many, the college's administration has decided to engage in an education effort to advise students of the new changes and not implement them until the start of the spring 2009 semester, which begins on Feb. 9, 2009.

Students interested in quitting smoking can find assistance at the college's Student Health Center, located in the Student Center on the Valencia campus.

Wide Variety of Entertainment Coming to PAC

A fast approaching holiday season in the midst of a tight presidential race and tough economic times is destined to add a little stress to everyone's lives, but Santa Clarita Valley residents still have a local place where they can escape for an evening or two and have an evening of fun and laughs: the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons.

The Cirque du Soleil-esque dance troupe Diavolo kicks off the last two months of 2008 on Nov. 1. With a performance that New York Newsday called "masterful," Diavolo combines dance and acrobatics to stunning effect. Diavolo has been pushing the boundaries of both the performer and what happens on stage for two decades.

Music lovers should look forward to November, as a trio of superb performances from the Santa Clarita Symphony, the Symphony of the Canyons and the national touring show "I Love A Piano" all take the stage.

The Santa Clarita Symphony will feature special guest Bryan Pezzone for its opening-night, black-tie gala on Nov. 8. Often cited as the greatest improviser since Mozart, Bryan Pezzone is the consummate crossover pianist of his generation.

College of the Canyons' own Symphony of the Canyons kicks off its season on Nov. 15 with "The Enchanted Orchestra." Under the leadership of Paul Sherman, musical depictions of exotic lands, people and tales make up this concert of music by Grieg, Smetana and Tchaikovsky.

Irving Berlin's "I Love a Piano" is an enchanting new musical journey spanning seven decades of American history as seen through the perceptive and hopeful eyes of Berlin, and features all the timeless classics Berlin fans love such as "White Christmas," "God Bless America," "Puttin' on the Ritz," and "There's No Business Like Show Business." Any fan of Berlin's unforgettable tunes should mark Nov. 29 on their calendar.

December quickly gets into the spirit of the season when Go Country 105-FM presents its Acoustic Holiday

Concert, featuring a pair of former American Idol contestants, Josh Gracin and Phil Stacey, on Dec. 7. These two up-and-coming stars will certainly put on an unforgettable show.

The holiday fun continues Dec. 12 to 13 with "Coffee, Cookies & Choir," to be held in the Cougar Café. This unique performance will transform the newly remodeled campus cafeteria into a home away from home where audiences sample tasty treats while basking in the warmth of the voices of the COC Choirs.

The Santa Clarita Master Chorale has its holiday event that same weekend, but on the main stage of the Performing Arts Center. This year, a special kid-friendly matinee for the family will take place that afternoon, featuring festive holiday tunes, sing-alongs and a special appearance by a jolly fat man in red.

The chorale's regular holiday show "Be of Good Cheer" follows that night, and will feature favorite holiday tunes, with brass accompaniment adding to the joy of the occasion.

And what's the holiday season without "The Nutcracker?" The Santa Clarita Ballet performs this timeless spectacular Dec. 19 to 21 with beautiful sets, exquisite dancing and gorgeous costumes.

Last-minute holiday shoppers may also want to consider giving the gift of performance this season. Show tickets or gift certificates to the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons make great stocking stuffers, especially considering the stellar second half of the season, which will present Art Garfunkel, Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago and Los Lobos. In fact, the entire Roots and Folk Series, featuring Tom Rush, The Lovell Sisters, Riders in the Sky and The Hunt Family Fiddlers can still be purchased in its entirety.

For more information about "great shows close to home" or to purchase tickets or gift certificates, visit the Box Office in the PAC lobby, call (661) 362-5304 or visit www.canyonspac.com.



Photo by Kristie Kahns

The dance troupe Diavolo, whose performance was described as "masterful" by New York Newsday, will appear Nov. 1.

Care for Some Wine with Your Show?

Visitors to the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons will have the opportunity to partake in a variety of fine foods, snacks, desserts and wines – before shows and during intermissions – to make for a more complete and enjoyable experience.

All Corked Up and LA-Trends Gourmet Catering debuted their menu selections on Sept. 12, opening night of the 2008-09 COC Presents season, during The Righteous Brothers' Bill Medley concert. The menu selections will be featured at more than 15 additional performances throughout the season.

"We're thrilled with the addition of All Corked Up and LA-Trends Gourmet Catering to the Performing Arts Center lineup," said Adam Philipson, managing director of the PAC. "The opportunity to arrive early and have a bite to eat or a glass of wine before seeing a world-class performance will definitely make the theatre-going experience even more enjoyable for our patrons."

All Corked Up offers a rotating assortment of high-end wines – such as a 2005 Silver Palm cabernet sauvignon and a 2007 Drylands sauvignon blanc – as well as premium specialty beers, dessert wines and ports to complement the evening's menu selections. All Corked Up representatives will also be on hand to conduct wine education demonstrations.

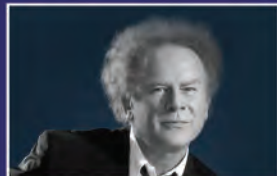
LA-Trends Gourmet Catering offers salads, gourmet sandwiches, chips, caramel corn and smoked almonds, as well as a fine cheese assortment and selection of tempting desserts packaged in 100 percent biodegradable materials and accompanied by "spudware" cutlery made primarily from potatoes.

LA-Trends will team with All Corked Up to provide pre-show selections of wine and cheese pairings on the PAC's patio, beginning one hour before showtime.

Patrons will be able to pre-order menu items that can be picked up during intermission. Although items can be purchased before or during intermission, patrons who pre-order will be able to enjoy their selections without standing in line.

For more information, call (661) 362-5304 or visit www.canyonspac.com.

SANTA CLARITA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS



Great shows. Close to home.

Check out what's coming up in November, December and January:

DIAVOLO
8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1

FALL CONCERT PRESENTED BY COC MUSIC
7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 14

SYMPHONY OF THE CANYONS' ENCHANTED ORCHESTRA
7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15

'SOME GIRLS' PRESENTED BY COC THEATRE
8 p.m. Nov. 20-22 / 2 p.m. Nov. 23

'I LOVE A PIANO'
8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29

GO COUNTRY 105 ACOUSTIC HOLIDAY CONCERT
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7

HOLIDAY CONCERT PRESENTED BY COC MUSIC
7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12

ART GARFUNKEL WITH SANTA CLARITA SYMPHONY
7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, 2009

HUNT FAMILY FIDDLERS
7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, 2009

L.A. OPERA'S 'FIGARO'S AMERICAN ADVENTURE'
2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, 2009



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Winter Session to Offer Hundreds of Classes

Non-traditional ways of attending college classes and obtaining educational goals have become all the rage. From earning a degree online and enrolling in accelerated programs to attending school during times that were traditionally considered "breaks," students are being given more options to reach their educational potential. This winter, College of the Canyons continues its commitment to adapt to the changing needs of students by offering its popular winter session for the fourth year in a row.

"Last winter, 3,563 students were able to pick up an extra class or two during the winter," said Dr. Barry Gribbons, assistant superintendent/vice president of institutional development, technology and online services. "This can be a tremendous help in ensuring that students attain their educational goals as quickly as possible. We

expect enrollments for this winter to surpass last year's record attendance."

First launched in January 2006, the winter session has steadily increased its enrollment numbers and become a popular way for students to take classes they were unable to get in previous sessions. Since it is heavily packed with general education courses that are UC- and CSU-transferable, many students take advantage of the opportunity to get ahead, allowing graduation or transfer to a four-year university to occur sooner.

The winter session also provides a unique opportunity for members of the community. By offering courses such as medical terminology, Microsoft Powerpoint and blueprint reading for construction, working professionals and those looking for jobs are offered an opportunity to quickly obtain or advance skills that are most desirable in the

job market.

The winter session is five weeks long, running from Jan. 5 to Feb. 7, and its courses cover the same material and offer the same number of credits as semester-long courses but at a more intensive pace. With \$20-a-unit classes available online and at the Valencia and Canyon Country campuses, it's a convenient, affordable option.

Specific classes to be offered are still being determined based on students' needs and desires, but college officials said that so far more than 270 classes are planned. Subjects range from advanced golf to world history, providing students, business professionals, community members and anyone else interested in education an opportunity to advance themselves. A complete listing of the courses being offered during the winter session will be available at www.canyons.edu in mid-October.

New Director Aims to Expand Recreation Management

With a goal to bolster the program with new curriculum and increased opportunities for students, College of the Canyons has named Dr. Rhonda Hyatt director of its recreation management program.

As the program's sole faculty member, Hyatt is responsible for developing and organizing new courses and curriculum; articulating more transfer agreements with four-year universities; implementing student outreach and recruitment efforts, and developing community partnerships that will foster increased recreational programs and educational opportunities.

"Having lived in the Santa Clarita Valley for a number of years, I've been able to follow the tremendous progress, growth and innovation that has gone on here at College of the Canyons," Hyatt said. "So I'm looking forward to joining the team and working to develop an enhanced mission and vision for the college's

recreation management program that will fit the needs of both this campus and the surrounding community."

Hyatt spent the last four years as athletic director at Santa Monica College. Prior to that, she spent a year as senior associate athletic director and four years as assistant associate athletic director at California State University, Northridge. She also worked there as head athletic trainer and an adjunct faculty member.

Hyatt holds an Ed.D. from UCLA, a master's degree in physical education from the University of Arizona and a bachelor's in education with an emphasis in athletic training from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

"Dr. Hyatt's vast knowledge and extensive professional experience will make her an important asset to the continued development and success of the college's recreation management classes and programs," said Len Mohney,

dean of physical education. "Under her guidance, College of the Canyons will be able to better equip students with the skills and training needed to pursue careers in a variety of sports- and recreation-related industries."

Introduced in 2006, the college's 23-unit recreation management program involves a mixture of classes and field experiences in recreation and leisure for all age groups, with the intent of preparing students for transfer to four-year recreation management programs.

"Recreational management is one of those emerging professions in which a lot of the necessary certifications and accreditations require work-related experiences gained from internships, volunteerism and observation of professionals in the field," Hyatt said. "So we need to create and then expose those opportunities to our students, because we have many of them right here in our own community."



HYATT

Arts Outreach

FROM PAGE 1

events and expose both students and teachers to the world-class artists who visit the PAC is a natural outreach that represents yet another aspect of the college's role in serving the community," Garasi said. "The PAC is not just a theater, it's a cultural arts center where students will be able to see all that COC has to offer in terms of music, theater and dance. The college is like a treasure box in that regard."

Among the many goals of the new program will be the promotion of arts education teaching and learning strategies, which could potentially be passed on from artist to teachers in a variety of different settings – including workshops, artist classroom visits, special presentations, mentor programs and various teaching/learning community partnerships – to help better communicate the arts to their students.

"Exposing students to the arts is one of the Saugus Union School District's critical areas of focus," said Michelle Morse, director of childcare and preschool programs for the Saugus district. "This partnership provides a tremendous opportunity for professionals within the arts community to become involved with our teachers and students in a variety of ways."

"Partnerships and teamwork make for a stronger community, so we're thankful to College of the Canyons for the opportunity our students will have to experience the world of performing arts," Morse said.

Philipson said he is confident the program will be a success, noting that the function of the program will be to augment, not replace, the various arts education programs that already help to meet the needs of students and schools affected by limited resources and state budget constraints.

"There are many statistics showing what happens to students when they are versed in the arts and educated in the visual and performing arts standards," said Philipson. "The interest from the community needed to step up and

encourage the arts and make this program a success is out there, and the college is in a position to help bring it all together."

Prior to coming to College of the Canyons, Philipson served as an arts administrator in various positions at Santa Monica College. While at Santa Monica, Philipson was involved in a number of community-outreach and arts education programs, including collaborations with the Los Angeles Opera Company and The Museum of Tolerance, to offer an after-school Opera Camp. In addition, Philipson played a role in the development of various K-12 arts education programs and performances in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

With Philipson and Garasi leading the charge, and with the college's full support, the Santa Clarita Valley can look forward to introducing their students to a world of high-caliber live performances.

For more information about the K-12 Arts Education Outreach Program or to get involved, contact Philipson at (661) 362-5303.

College of the Canyons

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Early Childhood Education Reaffirmed

It's accreditation season at College of the Canyons, with the Center for Early Childhood Education (ECE) having already obtained re-accreditation and the nursing department currently in the midst of the re-accreditation process (*see accompanying story*).

Over the summer, the national Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) confirmed program re-accreditation status to the college's ECE, thus verifying that the program is in full compliance with nationally recognized criteria for high-quality early childhood programs.

As a result, the NAEYC accreditation validates the college's ECE center as an outstanding setting for teacher and caregiver training to be modeled by other programs, while also ensuring parents that their children are enrolled in an ECE program of the highest quality.

"We're proud to again have earned the mark of quality from NAEYC and to be recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards," said Diane Stewart, dean of ECE and training programs. "NAEYC accreditation lets families in our community know that children in our program are getting the best care and early learning experiences possible."

To achieve NAEYC accreditation under the new system, the college's ECE center volunteered to be measured against the most robust and rigorous national standards on education, health and safety. Consisting of an extensive self-study process that measures the program and its services against 10 early childhood program standards and more than 400 related accreditation criteria, the program received accreditation status after an on-site visit by an NAEYC assessor in May.

Results of the accreditation site visit showed that the college's ECE center program standards exceeded the criteria threshold mandated for NAEYC accreditation in all 10 areas – with nine of the 10 assessed categories receiving a score of better than 90 percent, and six categories scoring in the 100 percentile. Programs are accredited by NAEYC for a five-year period.

"We are very proud of our high scores. Every staff member works hard to meet the mark of program excellence," said Monica Marshall, the ECE Center's preschool director. "Evaluation and reflection help set a framework for a plan of action to be put into place for continuous improvements and professional development opportunities."

What is Accreditation?

- Accreditation is a voluntary process that colleges and universities undergo to evaluate their programs and ensure they are delivering the highest quality of education possible.

- Accreditation also encourages improvement. The process includes both a self-study and outside evaluation of the college's adherence to standards of good practice, as well as an ongoing analysis of the overall quality of its programs and services.

- Institutions that have been granted accreditation status are said to have met or exceeded the previously stated criteria of educational quality.

- A college maintains accreditation status for a six-year cycle, during which the institutional-review process is continuous.

Nursing Program Under Accreditation Microscope

The College of the Canyons nursing program has been involved in a re-accreditation effort of its own, in this case with the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

NLNAC accreditation is a voluntary, self-regulatory process by which non-governmental associations recognize educational nursing institutions or programs that meet or exceed standards for educational quality. Accreditation also assists in the further improvement of those institutions or programs in terms of resources invested, processes followed and results achieved.

To be considered for accreditation, institutions and programs must undergo a self-review and self-study report to demonstrate how the program meets standards.

At College of the Canyons, the 200-page self-study included the combined effort of the nursing program's faculty, instructors, staff, students, program partners and

community members concerned with the program's accreditation status. The report also prepares the accreditation team for the all-important site visit, which occurred over a three-day period in late September.

"The site visit is very beneficial in terms of finding new ways to improve our overall program," said Sue Albert, dean of allied health at the college. "Even though we have an outstanding program that is recognized throughout the state, there is always room for improvement, and the NLNAC visit will allow us to continue to strive toward that."

The site visit allowed the accreditation team the opportunity to evaluate the college's on-campus and off-campus nursing education facilities – including the Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital/COC Clinical Education Center and the college's other skills lab facilities in hospitals across the region – to verify and amplify

the information contained in the college's self-study.

During the site visits, department officials showcased several aspects of the nursing program and provided the accreditation team an opportunity to speak with college administrators, faculty, students, community members and other campus visitors.

"Meeting with the college's executive staff provided the accreditation team with the assurance that the nursing department and faculty are active in all parts of campus life and have full support of the administration," Albert said. "Of course, they were also amazed by our new facility and top-notch technological capabilities. More importantly, they were impressed with the fact our faculty and, in turn, our students are so well educated in nursing theory and the nursing process."

The NLNAC board of commissioners is expected to announce its accreditation decision in February.

Review

FROM PAGE 1

Colleges (ACCJC), which evaluates and accredits public and private postsecondary institutions that offer two-year education programs and award the associate degree.

The accreditation process is conducted not only to assure the quality of the institution, but to encourage institutional improvement. It includes a self-study and an outside evaluation of a college's adherence to set standards of good practice, as well as an ongoing analysis of the overall quality of programs and services offered by the institution. A college that has been granted accreditation status has been found to meet or exceed previously stated criteria of educational quality, meaning the

institution functions with an appropriate purpose, can demonstrate that purpose, and has the resources needed to accomplish that purpose, while showing evidence that it will continue to strive to do so in the future.

A college maintains accreditation status by adhering to accreditation criteria and following a six-year cycle, during which the institutional review process – including an annual report, annual fiscal report, midterm report and completion of an institutional self-study and peer evaluation visit – is continuous.

Having most recently gone through the re-accreditation process in 2002, College of the Canyons began organizing and performing a roughly 18-month self-study involving every department and office last year. In all, more than 100 faculty mem-

bers, staff members, administrators, board members and students devoted hundreds of hours to produce a comprehensive institutional self-study report.

"Because of the daily work that goes into running a college there isn't always time to undergo the in-depth introspection that a comprehensive self-assessment requires," said Sue Bozman, vice president of district communication, marketing and external relations. "So the opportunity for the college to collectively reflect on what we do, how we are doing it, and what we can do better is extremely beneficial to us in our goal to serve our students and the surrounding community in the best way possible – and we are thankful for it."

Currently the college is preparing for an all-important peer evaluation visit from the commission on Oct. 20 to 23, in hopes

of reaffirming accreditation status.

"College of the Canyons has approached the accreditation process and development of this self-study with enthusiasm and seriousness, and consequently we are extremely proud of the result," College of the Canyons Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook said. "We welcome the commission to our campus and hope that when they read this report, they'll recognize our belief in possibilities, appreciate our joy in striving to accomplish what is best for our students and share our enthusiasm for a college that is always on the move."

To review the full Comprehensive Institutional Self-Study Report, or to obtain more information about the accreditation process, visit www.canyons.edu and click on "Accreditation 2008."

Welding

FROM PAGE 2

Set to debut this fall, the course, Welding 092: Intro to Metal Fabrication, is the first of three new metal-fabrication courses approved by the California Community Colleges' Chancellor's Office and offered locally.

Designed to include basic metal-fabrication skills training, the course will involve measuring, layout, drilling, bending, shaping, cutting and machining alloys of all types into various shapes and sizes – with additional focus on the cutting and fitting of metal pipe.

In subsequent semesters, Welding 093: Intermediate Metal Fabrication and Welding 094: Advanced Metal Fabrication, will further develop students' fabrication skills, with exposure to the industry's sophisticated metal

cutting/machining equipment, before challenging students with a complex semester-long collaborative project involving design, layout, machining, fabrication and other specific welding technology skills and operations.

"The overarching idea is to provide training to build skill sets so students can work in several different metal-fabrication industries," Baber said.

The college's metal-fabrication option was developed in response to the projected growth in the metal fabrication and welding segment of Southern California's economy and the growing need for technicians with advanced metal-fabrication skills.

In a 2001 survey of more than 220 key manufacturers and metal fabricators, the top concern was a lack of trained metal-fabrication technicians and welding operators. The shortage of welding and metal-fabrication technicians has since become more severe, prompting the

American Welding Society to predict a shortage of more than 200,000 welders and metal fabricators by 2010.

According to California labor market industry projections, every major industry that relies on advanced metal-fabrication techniques will grow, most by double digits, between 2004 and 2014.

In California alone, jobs that require metal-fabrication skills are projected to grow at double-digit rates, outpacing growth nationally.

"This grant was really necessary to help put our metal fabrication program on the map," said Baber. "We have a great reputation within the industry, but we can always raise the bar higher and that's what this grant does. So it's a very exciting and rewarding project to be a part of."

For more information about the welding department or the new metal-fabrication program, contact Tim Baber at (661) 362-3062 or visit www.canyons.edu/weld.

Budget

FROM PAGE 1

College of the Canyons Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook. "Preserving even a low rate of growth funding is important for College of the Canyons because our community continues to grow."

The budget, which includes no new taxes, is an improvement over Schwarzenegger's initial proposed plan. In addition to increasing enrollment growth funding from 1 to 2 percent, it restores funding for categorical programs, which faced cuts of up to 10 percent. The original budget also proposed eliminating competitive Cal Grants; the approved budget preserves the program.

"While this budget is not one that will enable community colleges to meet all of the needs of our students, communities and hard-working faculty and staff, it could have been a lot worse," said Scott Lay, president of the Community College League of California. "The governor and Legislature have recognized the importance of our colleges, particularly during this difficult eco-

nomie time."

Indeed, California's community colleges historically play an important role during times of economic uncertainty. College of the Canyons, in particular, has a history of responding quickly and effectively to the needs of business, industry and the workforce during periods of economic transition.

"The state understands the importance of maintaining funding for our community colleges so we can respond to businesses that need to shift gears during an economic downturn," Van Hook said. "Retraining people in areas identified by industry can stimulate the economy and put it on a path to recovery."

Schwarzenegger said California will most likely face a difficult budget situation again next year.

Schwarzenegger has been an ardent supporter of career technical education programs, and his budget adds \$30 million for their expansion, building upon the \$20 million Community College Economic Development initiative created last year. He has been lauded by higher education leaders for providing more funds for community colleges, allowing them to maintain low tuition rates and avoid raising student fees.

Textbooks

FROM PAGE 3

of the Canyons is now focusing on raising consciousness about OERs among staff and faculty. In fact, a handful of faculty members are already developing OER content with the goal of soon having those materials available to use and share.

While faculty members have responded positively to OERs, some obstacles remain before the open educational resource movement can take full flight.

"This is the future of educational content," Glapa-Grossklag added, "and it reflects the kind of changes we're seeing in learning styles and the ability technology provides us to reach those different learning styles."

Soccer Championships Coming to Canyons

College of the Canyons will have the chance to showcase some of the best soccer talent in the California community college system in December as COC has earned a bid to host the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCCAA) Men's and Women's Soccer State Championships in 2008 and 2010. The state title game is the first ever championship that COC will play host to on its campus.

"I am excited to have our first ever state championship competition here at College of the Canyons," athletic director Chuck Lyon said. "We have great facilities on this campus and we will be able to showcase them to a very large audience. I, along with the COC staff, am ready to make this a great event for not only the college, but the CCAA."

The championships, which will be a four-day event starting on Dec. 4, and includes a sophomore showcase and semi-final and finals action, will be held at Cougar Stadium on FieldTurf synthetic grass. This will also be the first time that the state title matches will be played on synthetic grass instead of natural grass.

The 7,500-seat capacity stadium replaced the natural grass surface in May of 2003 with FieldTurf synthetic grass, which is used by professional sports teams and universities all over the world.

The state championship will feature four teams from each gender and will

stimulate the tourism economy in the Santa Clarita Valley.

"With eight teams traveling to Santa Clarita, there will be a need for hotel rooms and restaurants, which will bring tourism money to the city," Lyon commented. "And what a great way to showcase soccer talent. Santa Clarita already has a huge soccer community, this will offer another opportunity for the surrounding area to see great athletes at our stadium at an affordable price."

The soccer playoffs begin with three regional rounds in northern and southern California before the field of 56 teams from across the state are dwindled down to the top-two men's and women's soccer squads from their respective regions. Following the semifinals round that will bring each gender down to two teams, the remaining teams will play on Sunday, Dec. 7 for the title.

Following a two-year stay at Fresno Pacific University in conjunction with the CCAA Championship Festival, the last game of the season will rotate to a northern or southern school every other year, with a two-year commitment. The title game will return to Cougar Stadium in 2010 after its first visit this December.

Men's and women's soccer head coach Phil Marcellin played a large part in bringing the matches to COC as the acting president of the California Community College Soccer Coaches Association.



College of the Canyons will host the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCCAA) Men's and Women's Soccer State Championships in 2008 and 2010.

Hall of Fame to Reach Back in Time



Honorees Include '81 Baseball Champs, Jesse Boyd, Susan Latch, Larry Reisbig, Al Adelini

A night of great College of the Canyons athletic memories and stories is quickly approaching. The third COC Athletic Hall of Fame event is set for Thursday, Jan. 22. With two induction dinners already past, this Hall of Fame is on its way to being the best yet.

The 2009 class includes the first team ever honored – the 1981 state championship baseball team – as well as men's basketball player Jesse Boyd, women's golfer Susan Latch, football coach Larry Reisbig and counselor Al Adelini.

"Our Hall of Fame dinners and ceremonies have been a tremendous success in the past," dean of physical education Len Mohney said. "This year's induction class had many successes on the field and at College of the Canyons and I'm honored to take out some time to recognize those accomplishments."

Also a first this year, the dinner will be held on the Valencia campus – in the East Physical Education gym. Previous dinners were held at off-site venues.

"We just completed the East PE building that houses a new gym, and what better way to showcase it than at our Hall of Fame induction," Mohney said.

The 1981 Western State Conference Champion baseball team, which was coached by 2007 inductee Mike Gillespie and Mohney, rebounded from a second-round loss in the 1981 playoffs to go on to win four straight games and snag College

of the Canyons' first state championship in its history.

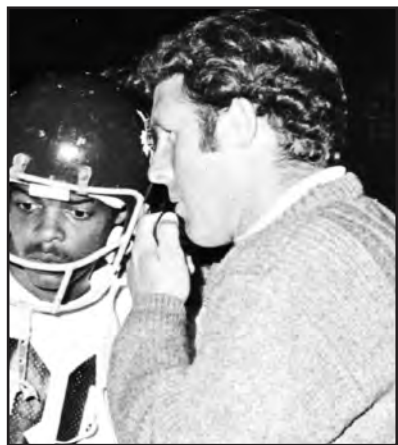
Jesse Boyd was the first Cougar men's basketball player to earn All-America and All-State honors for his efforts in the 1974-75 season. Coached by 2005 inductee Lee Smelser, Boyd still holds college records for best scoring average in a season (25.2 ppg), best scoring average in a career (23.9) and most points in a career (1,266 points).

Women's golfer Susan Latch was a member of the 2000 and 2001 golf teams. She earned Western State Conference Women's Golfer of the Year accolades during both years. She was also a part of the first women's golf team to win the state title in 2001. She's currently enrolled in the COC nursing program.

Football coach Larry Reisbig was the second coach of the Cougar football program. He led the team to two conference championships during his nine-year tenure from 1973 to 1981, including one in his first season as head coach. He is now the men's athletic director at Long Beach City College.

Al Adelini has been a longtime friend of athletics and dedicated much of his time to athletes before COC ever had an athletic counselor. Adelini spent 30 years with the college and retired in 2000.

For more information and tickets, visit www.cocathletics.com or call the COC Foundation at (661) 362-3434.



HONOREES

The Athletic Hall of Fame event will honor the accomplishments of the college's championship 1981 baseball team (above in Newhall's Fourth of July Parade), as well as former football coach Larry Reisbig (left) and former counselor Al Adelini (far left).

PE Expansion Paves Way for New Classes Such as Tennis

Students at College of the Canyons don't have to pay for a gym membership to stay fit and healthy, because the college expanded its physical education facilities for the first time since 1976 with the recent opening of a second PE building.

Even more exciting are the new classes the 21,543-square-foot building – funded by Measure C bond funds – will allow. Introduced for the first time this fall were classes in tennis, badminton and jujitsu.

The new facilities also provide much-needed new space to house classrooms, lockers and offices.

"The new PE building will offer students and community members more exercise options that are fun and affordable," said Len Mohney, dean of physical education and athletics. "So many people are looking for ways to stay active, and the expansion and tennis courts allow us to meet those needs."

The new East Physical Education Building serves as an auxiliary gym to the Valencia campus's existing PE

"So many people are looking for ways to stay active, and the expansion and tennis courts allow us to meet those needs."

LEN MOHNEY
Dean of Physical Education and Athletics

building, which houses a gym, swim and dive pool, basketball court, weight-training and conditioning facility, locker rooms and staff offices.

With the auxiliary gym and tennis courts, men's volleyball, women's badminton and men's and women's tennis are being considered as additions to the 16 sports that College of the Canyons currently offers on a competitive level.

In September, the college began offering eight-week

tennis classes for community members through the Community Education program.

For \$99, tennis players of all levels can take Cardio Tennis, Basic Tennis (for ages 17 and older), Tennis for Teens (ages 12 to 16) and Youth Tennis (ages 7 to 11) at the college's six new tennis courts. The courts are fully lighted for night play and are equipped with windscreens. On a side note, the courts were recently featured in an episode of the Fox television show "House."

"Santa Clarita is a fit-minded community, and I think these classes will really spark an interest for all of the health and exercise enthusiasts," said Gina Bogna, interim director of the college's Community Education program. "Tennis is a great alternative to a spin class or Pilates."

The tennis classes are taught by David Schwartz, who has been a member of both the U.S. Professional Tennis Association and the U.S. Professional Tennis Registry for 13 years. The six tennis courts also allow the college to potentially play host to tournaments.

College, Saugus Schools Offer Free ESL Classes

Program Will be Offered at Five District Sites

Community members can now take free, non-credit English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at convenient locations throughout the Saugus Union School District through a partnership with College of the Canyons.

Similar to the ESL partnerships created earlier this year with the Even Start Family Literacy and Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) programs at the Newhall and Sulphur Springs school districts, respectively, the Saugus district partner-

ship aims to help non-native English speakers learn the language, enabling them to help their school-age children.

"With funding from the CBET program, this gives us a great opportunity to partner with local school districts and reach out to students throughout the community," said Jennifer Brezina, interim dean of noncredit division and community education at the college. "I'm particularly pleased that we were able to expand our offerings in Canyon Country and are now

able to offer class locations in the north Valencia area."

The seven classes, with options spanning three levels of competency, will be offered at the following elementary schools: Cedar creek, Skyblue Mesa, Rio Vista, Bridgeport and Tesoro Del Valle.

"This partnership will allow more than 120 parents to take ESL classes at five local school sites," said Donna Smith, director of categorical programs for the Saugus district.

"Learning English will increase access to their child's school environment and the

adult educational community."

Instruction is free or subsidized by the CBET program for parents who agree to tutor children in English skills.

All three ESL partnerships provide students with books and free child-care.

"By working together, we're able to meet the needs of students in a way that none of us could if we were working alone," added Brezina.

For more information about the ESL noncredit classes, contact College of the Canyons Community Education at (661) 362-3300.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI HONORED



The College of the Canyons Foundation honored outstanding alumni and friends with a special barbecue in the Cougar Den on Sept. 20. Honored with the 2008 Outstanding COC Alumni Award was former foundation board chair Kevin Holmes (left, with his wife Diane). Honored with the college's 2008 Outstanding Friend Award were Dale and Margaret Lundgren and the staff of Lundgren Management. Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook (above, far left) stands with (from left) Lundgren Management's Margaret Lundgren, Gina DeTolve, Lou Beck and Will Karat.

Need Help With Math, English? Check Out PAL.

College of the Canyons students who need to improve their math and English skills can benefit from the Personalized Accelerated Learning (PAL) program that was introduced in the fall.

Specifically created to help students who must take multiple semesters of pre-college math and English classes before they reach transfer level courses, the program allows students to cover the material at a faster pace than the standard 16-week semester course.

The PAL Program is based on a cohort model that has the same group of students taking consecutive classes with the same instructor, which allow students to fully immerse themselves in the subject matter while having support from their peers and individualized attention from their instructor.

"The learning environment is more intensive due to the shorter session, but the combination of the immersion and cohort model helps students be more successful," said Diane Fiero, interim vice-president of academic affairs. "The feedback we have received from students has been very positive and we look forward to serving even more students."

The cohort classes are also paired with a counseling class to provide students with additional support to succeed in the cohort. PAL classes are offered at the Valencia and Canyon Country campuses, with morning, mid-day and evening options available.

Free Fundraising Seminar Slated

College of the Canyons will host a free fundraising seminar entitled "Meet the Grant Makers" featuring presentations by fundraising experts Sara Montrose from the Weingart Foundation and Jolene Chavira from the California Community Foundation.

The seminar, to be held at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons on Oct. 28, offers attendees a rare opportunity to speak with fundraising experts who will reveal inside tips of successful grant ideas and proposals that could help non-profit agencies and educational institutions.

A pre-seminar reception will be held at 10 a.m. The seminar is scheduled 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by a question-and-answer session with the presenters.

For more information, call (661) 362-3644. To reserve a seat, send an email to theresa.zuvevich@canyons.edu or elana.edelstein@canyons.edu.

New Theatre Chair Hopes to Broaden Offerings

College of the Canyons has named actor, director and career educator Paul Wickline chair of the college's Theatre Department. Wickline said he hopes to both broaden the selection of courses and provide more on-stage opportunities for students within the college's already strong theatre program.

In addition to serving as chair of the department, Wickline will produce the college's student theatre season. He holds a bachelor's degree in theatre and English education from Western Washington University and a master's in education with an emphasis in theatre from Central Washington University.

"I am thrilled to be working with the college's Theatre Department and Performing Arts Center staff," Wickline said. "They have a true passion for theatre and demonstrate daily their commitment and dedication by continually offering students individualized instruction from an outstanding group of faculty."

Before coming to COC, Wickline was a program coordinator and adjunct instructor for the extended education and summer school programs at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash.

Prior to that, Wickline was director of theatre arts and a theatre instructor and director at Walla Walla Community College in southeastern Washington, where he directed the annual Outdoor Summer Musical at Fort Walla Walla and founded the Walla Walla Summer Acting Camp for high school students. Wickline also has been an adjunct faculty member and lecturer at Central Washington University, Walla Walla University and The Evergreen State College.

In 2003, the Walla Walla Public School District honored Wickline as one of three outstanding district educators with a staff achievement grant. Following that success, in 2005 Wickline was awarded a Meritorious Achievement Award from the Kennedy Center American College

Theatre Festival for his work as the language and text coach for the Walla Walla University production of "Othello."

"The theatre has been my passion since the seventh grade," Wickline said. "I had a very influential teacher while I was in middle school, who nurtured my talents and encouraged me. I only hope I can provide that same source of inspiration to my students."

Wickline's theatrical training includes study of classical acting with Wesley Vann Tassel, director and author of "Clues to Acting Shakespeare," as well workshops on the Meisner technique with Larry Silverberg, and Spolin-based improvisations with Paul Sills at the Wisconsin Theater Game Center.



WICKLINE

Passionate about teaching, Wickline has also produced and directed more than 50 stage productions in the last 15 years, including "Cinderella," "The Foreigner," "South Pacific," "Pippin," "Godspell," "The Fantasticks," "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Little Shop of Horrors." In addition, Wickline has remained an active performer in professional summer and regional theatre productions.

"Paul is a great addition to the college's theatre faculty," said Dr. Floyd Moos,

dean of fine and performing arts at the college. "With his training and professional background, he brings a great deal of artistic vision, academic leadership and management of the artistic process to our department."