

# PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

**Lisa Bailey**



VISION STATEMENT  
Chaffey College:  
Improving lives  
through education.

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## A Message from Acting Superintendent/President Lisa Bailey

Dear Chaffey College and Community Members,

It is hard to believe we are at the end of 2024! But here we are - and it is heart warming to reflect on all that we have accomplished together. I know many of us are eager to enjoy the holidays with loved ones so I will keep this message brief.

I hope you will find that this newsletter is filled with wonderful highlights of the past month that showcase the extraordinary talent of our students and dedication of our faculty and classified professionals. From our "Pet Your Stress Away" event hosted by DPS, Panther Essentials Holiday Toy Drive to our winter concerts that displayed the musical talent of our students, there is no shortage of Chaffey pride and joy on our campuses.

As many of you prepare for a much-deserved winter break, I hope that you will find time for yourself to rest, relax and recharge for the new year. There will be new opportunities and challenges ahead, all we will accomplish together.

Whether you are traveling far or staying near this winter break, I hope you have a safe, healthy and wonderful holiday season. I am so grateful to each of you for your contributions to making Chaffey College the special place that it is.

Happy Holidays,

Take care,

Lisa Bailey

*Acting Superintendent/President*

# Happy Holidays

The college will be closed  
**December 24, 2024 - January 1, 2025**

# Electromechanics Students Tour Garner Holt Animatronics Plant



It's a company that manufactures everything from animatronic Chuck E. Cheese characters to Disneyland's Star Wars Cantina band.

Chaffey College electromechanics students got a glimpse of how the characters are made during a tour of the Garner Holt Productions production facility in Redlands in October.

Professor of Industrial Electrical Technology Markazan Romero said she brought her students to the plant so they could explore career options.

"I thought it would be a good idea to show them what they can pursue if they branch out to mechatronics," Romero said.

The trip, funded by Strong Workforce, is one of several that IET students have had the chance to participate in for career exploration.

Students observed robots being made from scratch, including the fabrication of hair and eyes, as well as pneumatics, electricity and programmable logic controllers.

Students also toured the Chino FedEx plant in October, and Romero plans to bring students to the Mountainview Generating Station in Redlands as well as the electric motor manufacturer Birthine Electric in Colton.

# Chaffey College Looks at the Road Ahead with Report to the Community

The Chaffey College community featured the "Road to Student Success" during its annual Report to the Community event at the Chino Community Center on November 7.

With "Be Chaffey" billboard replicas on every table, programs displaying a paved path through Chaffey's district, and a video including an automotive technology segment, the event celebrated on movement and progress.

"This year's theme - The Road to Student Success - means so much to me because I am one of thousands of Chaffey students currently on this road," said Chaffey College Student Government President and Trustee Corah Miller. "I am pursuing a degree in philosophy and plan to transfer to a four-year university and go to law school."

Chaffey College Governing Board President Deana Olivares-Lambert highlighted the progress on the new instructional building, as well as the overall success of Chaffey and its programs. She also pointed out the demonstrations by Chino's fashion merchandising and design, interior design, nursing and industrial electrical technology

programs in the courtyard outside the venue.

"As a product of community college, I know firsthand how critical it is to increase access to opportunities – access to education and training that is connected to well-paying careers in our communities, that will make our Inland Empire thrive for generations to come," she said.

The centerpiece of the event – a 17-minute video on various Chaffey programs – included vignettes on the college's culinary arts program, Rising Scholars and automotive technology.

Chaffey College Acting Superintendent/President Lisa Bailey praised the gathering for supporting Chaffey's mission and student success.

"I would like to take an opportunity to thank each of you for the role you play in shaping the bright futures of our students – whether you are a school district or city employee, an employer, or elected official, a community supporter or a parent – thank you for all you do for our students to transform their lives," she said.





# Chaffey Community Takes a 'Paws' With Pet Therapy Event

The pressure of finals convinced math major Mark Attalla to take a breather outside with some adorable dogs, miniature pigs and a baby goat on December 5.

The event - "Pet Your Stress Away" took place outside Chaffey's Berz Excellence Building, as well as the Chino and Fontana campuses.

"I have a final in an hour," Attalla said. "I'm pretty stressed about it, so that's why I came here. Now I'm less stressed and happy," he said.

The organizations Paws-to-Share and Wellness Ranch provided animals for the event.

Jaime Goldfarb, founder of Paws-to-Share, said his organization serves roughly 50 colleges around the state as well as K-12 school districts. It's a popular event to help students get through state testing, finals, midterms and other stressful times.

"Sometimes there's a line of people waiting to pet dogs," Goldfarb said.

Angelica Manzo, a Chaffey alumna who co-founded the Rancho Cucamonga-based Wellness Ranch with her husband, brought twin mini pigs Rosie and Lily, as well as 10-month-old goat named Daisy.

Manzo considers it an honor to give back to students at her alma mater.

"When Chaffey first reached out to me, it was a dream come true," she said.



Interior design major Shelby Jackson said she has some essays due, and to counteract the pressure, she decided to take a break to pet some dogs.

"It's a really nice event," she said. "You can see how happy it's making everyone."



## Chaffey Cybersecurity Students Present Workshop on artificial intelligence at Cal Poly

Chaffey College students, alumni and faculty presented at the Cal Poly Pomona Cybersecurity and Awareness Fair in October, sharing how AI tools can be used in cybersecurity attacks.

Chaffey's cybersecurity program has participated in the event since 2018, bringing a community college voice to the event. Past presentations have covered topics such as improving personal security, preventing ransomware from invading a home, and how hackers can run commands on a computer using a USB.

"Our cybersecurity students present and proctor yearly hands-on workshops at the fair," said Computer Information Systems Professor



# Chaffey Culinary Arts: What's New?



Chaffey's culinary arts program has had a busy fall, with students touring industry events and alumni receiving prestigious job offers. Professor of Culinary Arts Mark Forde expressed pride in the success of his past students.

"Seeing how they are progressing in the industry and becoming the future leaders that will shape the world of culinary arts is extremely gratifying," he said.

Here are a few highlights from the program.

- Alumna Emilia Nereid '17 serves as the pastry chef and lead garde manager at Noche in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The New York Times recognized the business as one of the top 50 favorite restaurants in the United States. "Emilia's journey from student to celebrated chef underscores the impact of our program's commitment to fostering talent through excellent mentorship and education," said Chino Campus Dean Margaret Fernandez.
- Students took a field trip to the US Foods Road Show in October. The students met with vendors and had tastings. They also attended two one-hour seminars on menu planning, purchasing and inventory management.
- Robert Hecht '24 was offered a position with Chef Thomas Keller's restaurant in Napa and moved there in November.

- Darren Resplandor '24 was offered and accepted a position at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center. He will be floating between the hospital's Ontario and Fontana locations under the direction of Chef Todd Engel.
- Jader Ruiz Palacios '24 landed a job at Some Crust Bakery in Claremont.
- Jennifer Van Cleave '24 served as a baking assistant for a summer camp in Vermont this summer.
- Izabelle Ruiz '24 was hired by Fontana Unified School District as a kitchen assistant.



*continued from page 3 - Chaffey Cybersecurity Students Present Workshop on AI at Cal Poly*

David Nimri. "Our students always do an amazing job, and we are so proud of them."

The presentation, called "ChatGPT Unchained: The Art of Hacking Models" explored the results of manipulating input to generate new cyber-attack techniques, and shows how important it is to hire sufficient cybersecurity staff, properly implement defense mechanisms, and the importance of using robust AI tools in security.

Other presenters covered topics ranging from phishing attack detection and social engineering to the use of law enforcement dogs to assist with investigating cybercrimes.

The 1,200 in-person and online attendees included representatives from other colleges and universities, high schools, middle schools and industry groups.

Lindsey Slakter, an alumna who serves as an apprentice for Chaffey's Computer Information Systems program, has participated in the fair three times. It's an opportunity to network, attend hands-on workshops and explore job opportunities, she said. Employers such as Crowd Strike, San Bernardino County and even the CIA have attended.

"Having a community college present at an event like this shows people you don't have to start at a four-year college to gain knowledge and experience," she said. "You can start off smaller and still get a good education."

# Chaffey Brings the Holiday Spirit to Campus with Winter Concerts

From the classical masterworks of Claude Debussy, to festive favorites such as "I'll Be Home for Christmas," Chaffey College's band and choral groups brought a winter wonderland of music to Rancho Cucamonga December 6-7.

The concerts featured both students and community members in the Chaffey College Theatre.

"It was an opportunity to see live music and enjoy a festive outing with the entire family," said Professor of Music Patrick Aranda, who directed the bands.

The Chaffey College bands – with 47 members combined – performed traditional and modern pieces including "Christmas on Broadway," "Jingle Bells Fantasy," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "O Holy Night" and more.

The choral concert, called "Voices in Harmony," included a diverse selection of music ranging from classical pieces by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Anton Bruckner, as well as folk music from the Republic of Georgia, and pop and vocal jazz favorites.

Professor of Music David Rentz, who directed both choirs, notes that students also sang songs of love and unity by Melanie DeMore, Ruth Moody, Gwyneth Walker and more.

"I'm so excited for our choral students to share the incredible progress they've made as singers, musicians and performers this semester," Rentz said.

Music student Brianna Raygoza, who is planning to transfer to a four-year university in the spring, said she was most excited to perform a song called "Alilo," a Georgian Christmas song. She enjoys performing for the community because of the reward of impacting others through music.

"I think we as individuals can communicate in many ways other than language. Music is one of those ways, and just like with all art forms, when you put in the time and practice into your craft it can really communicate with the community in a deeper, more impactful way," Raygoza said.

Jonathan Gamino, who plays drums for the bands, said performing for the community is a great chance for musicians to give back and showcase their passions. He is also planning to continue his music studies at a four-year university.



## Chaffey Celebrates California Institution for Women Graduates

Annamaria Gana missed her son's high school and college graduations while serving a life sentence in prison.

But that didn't stop her from pursuing a college education. While telling her story to family, friends and Chaffey College employees during her own commencement ceremony December 6, she feared that her son would miss her graduation too.

"My family was supposed to be here today," she said. "I don't know where they are."

Moments later, her face lit up when both Gana's son and aunt walked inside the gymnasium where the ceremony was held.

Gana and five other women from California Institute for Women 11th graduating class celebrated their coursework completion to receive associate's degrees and certificates.

"Thank you, Chaffey College for giving me this chance," she said. "I hope today is a confirmation that you did not waste your resources on me."

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## Chaffey College Governing Board



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## Serving the communities of:

Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana,  
Montclair, Ontario,  
Rancho Cucamonga, Upland

## Mission Statement

Chaffey College improves lives and our communities through education with a steadfast commitment to equity and innovation to empower our diverse students who learn and thrive through excellent career, transfer, and workforce education programs that advance economic and social mobility for all.

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CIW Associate Warden Delinia Lewis acknowledged that the graduates faced challenges that made them want to give up, but they did not.

"This is a very important day in your life," she said. "You are now scholars."

Chaffey College Governing Board President Deana Olivares-Lambert congratulated graduates for finishing what they started.

"Like your classmates who attend our three campuses in the Inland Empire, the achievements you are celebrating today will leave a lasting impression on your family members, and particularly your children," she said.

## Chaffey Choir Students Shine in Concert, Recording Studio Trip



Chaffey College Chamber Choir students performed with a professional vocal ensemble and participated in recording sessions at the Disney Imagination Campus in November.

The field trips gave students a glimpse of career opportunities in singing, a critical part of the student's academic journey, said Professor of Music David Rentz.

"These kinds of opportunities show our students that music is not just about having passion for the arts – it's also a viable and dynamic career path," Rentz said.

Students performed with the Voices of Terpsichor, a nonprofit group from Orange that supports communities in need through benefit concerts. The November 17 event raised money for the food bank at the First Presbyterian Church of Orange.

The next day students gathered at the Disney Imagination Campus to participate in the "Soundtrack Sessions: Vocal Workshop." The session showed students what it's like to be a session singer, how to increase success at auditions and to improve overall vocal skills.

China Ang, a music and history major who is planning to transfer to a four-year university in the spring, considered it a rewarding experience.

"It gave us the experience of working in a professional studio, which was worlds different from our familiar choir room," she said.

"Having a clinician and an engineer to guide us through was very exposing, but in a good way."