

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

OCTOBER 2024

Lisa Bailey



VISION STATEMENT

Chaffey College:
Improving lives
through education.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Chaffey Hosts Academic and Career
Communities Showcase2

Chaffey College Receives Top
National Ranking by Intelligent.com
.....2

Fall Festival Brings Good Music,
Good Vibes to Chaffey3

Pizza With the Presidents
Highlights Expanded Night
Classes, Mental Health Concerns ...3

Artist Samuel Dunson
Commissioned for Juneteenth Mural
.....4

Hundreds Gather for InTech
Manufacturing Day5

Theatre Arts Presents
"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"6

Save the Date6

A Message from Acting Superintendent/President Lisa Bailey

Dear Chaffey College and Community Members,

It has been a busy fall season at Chaffey College! From our Fall Festival to Manufacturing Day, our campuses have been buzzing with high energy and opportunities for meaningful engagement. In this newsletter, you can catch up on or relive some of these moments.

Our largest event in terms of participants took place on October 30 with our 3rd annual Black and Brown Minds & Mattering Conference. We welcomed approximately 500 community members, educators and high school students to our campus for a day that proved to be both enriching and uplifting. Thank you to our keynote speakers, workshop presenters and all those who worked tirelessly to make this conference a success! [View the event recap on the Panther Scene](#) web page.

Also, I am very excited for our upcoming Report to the Community luncheon event taking place at the Chaffey College Chino Community Center on November 7! This year's theme is the *Road to Student Success* and will showcase inspiring stories of our students and alumni and highlight our Culinary, Rising Scholars and Automotive programs.

To stay in the know with all our campus events and stories, please visit the [Panther Scene](#) - our online hub for Chaffey happenings.

I believe it has never been a better time to be a Chaffey College student. Whether students are served on our campuses or online, our goal is to provide the best student experience possible. Thanks to our dedicated faculty, classified professionals and managers, we are continuing to make meaningful enhancements every semester. One clear indication of our success is our enrollment numbers, which show record increases for both summer and fall 2024 semesters.

Registration for spring 2025 is officially open! The latest updates on class offerings and session dates are [available online](#).

Take care,

Lisa Bailey
Acting Superintendent/President

Chaffey College Receives Top National Ranking by Intelligent.com

The higher education research and rankings organization [Intelligent.com](https://www.intelligent.com) named Chaffey College a top 50 college in the nation for academic quality, graduation rate, cost and return on investment.

In the "Best Community Colleges of 2025" list, [Chaffey College](#) ranked as the No. 1 community college in the Inland Empire and was tabbed No. 6 in Southern California. Chaffey ranked No. 47 nationally.

"Chaffey College faculty and staff prepare students for competitive, living-wage careers as well as university transfers, all at an affordable price" said Chaffey College Acting Superintendent/President Lisa Bailey. "We are honored to be recognized among our peers for improving lives through education."

Intelligent.com compiled data from sources such as U.S. News & World Report, the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition to academic and cost factors, the site considered educational resources available to students, including resources for online-only programs, as well as on-campus resources.

"Intelligent.com's rankings serve as a benchmark for top-tier online and hybrid programs, focusing on institutions that prioritize both quality and affordability," representatives noted.

The personal finance site WalletHub also included Chaffey on its list "[Best and Worst Colleges of 2024](#)," earning the No. 30 best spot in the statewide list. Chaffey ranked as the No. 4 college in the region.

WalletHub included colleges that are members of the American Association of Community Colleges, examining cost and financing, as well as education and career outcomes. The organization considered data such as cost of in-state tuition and fees, colleges offering free education, faculty salaries, first-year retention rates and median salaries after attending, among other factors.



Chaffey Hosts Academic and Career Communities Showcase

Alani Magana started her journey at Chaffey College as a biology major, but had second thoughts after experiencing the math requirements. When she switched to nutrition, she realized she couldn't see herself making that her lifelong career either.

Magana eventually landed on communication studies, and came to Chaffey's "Navigate Academic and Career Communities" on October 16 to explore what jobs she can pursue with her degree.

"Attending events like this will give me more of a grounded experience and will show me where my communications major will take me," she said.

The new event aims to cut down on the guesswork for Chaffey students, giving them direct access to program representatives who can answer questions about majors, resources and help students sign up for information sessions.

"A lot of students may not know where to take their career and this event provides an opportunity to 'future shop,'" said Professor of Computer Information Systems David Nimri. "They get to go and see what they could be." Chaffey's

Academic and Career Communities are Art, Communication and Design; Business Technology and Hospitality; Health and Wellness; Manufacturing, Industrial Design and Transportation; Public Service, Culture and Society; and Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Various student support departments such as financial aid and counseling also participated in the fair.

Professor of Chemistry Maryline Chemama, and Administrative Assistants Megan Robles and Gwen Gorden represented the STEM community at the event, giving students an overview of the majors and jobs they can pursue.

"The beauty is that we are right here, counseling is right here and we can point them in the right direction immediately," Chemama said.

Nursing major Randall Wiley said his college and career path are planned out, but the event could have been helpful for him when he first started at Chaffey.

"This absolutely would have helped me to basically see everything I can take advantage of and what resources are available to me," he said.

Fall Festival Brings Good Music, Good Vibes to Chaffey

The Chaffey College Quad came alive with music, face painting and pumpkin decorating at the College's inaugural "Fall Festival" on October 18.

Student Life introduced the event as a way to connect students to resources, liven up campus culture and to help ease the stress of midterms and the coming holidays for students.

"We want to lighten up our students' spirits as they head into the home stretch of the semester," said Albert Rodriguez, executive director of student life, equity and engagement.

Kira Dela Cruz, a game development major, said it was a great way to meet people. By holding the festival alongside the Farmer's Market both students and the community came together for an afternoon of fun.

"Studying is important, but people need to get out to events like this and talk to friends," she said.

Dela Cruz, who came dressed as Foxy from the video game *Five Nights at Freddy's*, came in third place for the Festival's costume contest.

The band Them Kool Kats played a variety of songs spanning multiple eras and genres from smooth jazz, to pop, Latin and dance music. Students gathered around with paint brushes, decorating miniature pumpkins while others sat to have their faces painted.



People attending the festival bought tamales, pupusas and other food at the Farmer's Market, and visited various resource booths.

"It's a really nice vibe," said Manar Hijaz, Chino Success Center faculty and coordinator.

"I like the idea of having all these students together, kind of crisscrossing and it makes it a lot more comfortable, more community-driven," said Nicole Wilburn, anthropology major.

Pizza with the Presidents Highlights Expanded Night Classes, Mental Health Concerns



Students, faculty and staff filled Student Life for an afternoon of pizza and conversation around issues affecting the campus community during "Pizza with the Presidents" on October 2.

Acting Superintendent/President Lisa Bailey said that when she came to Chaffey from another community college over 20 years ago, she quickly noticed a contrast in the quality of care among Chaffey employees for students and each other.

"From mental health, to class size, to technology, there is a high level of care, intentionality, and involvement," said Bailey. "And the fact that you, the student body, are here today shows your level of care and commitment, as well."

Leaders outlined various ways they are boosting student engagement at Chaffey, both with special events and expanded course offerings.

"We've been working really hard to make sure we have student events that are happening during the times that you're here to try to make you feel more connected to the college," said Alisha Rosas, associate superintendent of student services and strategic communications.

Artist Samuel Dunson Commissioned for Juneteenth Mural

continued from page 3 - Pizza With the Presidents Highlights Expanded Night Classes, Mental Health Concerns



The 2000 Samuel Dunson painting, *The Cultivators*, captured the attention of Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon.

That image of a Black family harvesting books from the soil made such an impression that Dunson was selected as a frontrunner for a Juneteenth mural, said Wignall Museum of Contemporary Art Director Rebecca Trawick.

Dunson was ultimately selected out of three artists for the piece, which will be installed in Chaffey's new Library Learning Commons when the building is completed in fall 2025.

"The painting will both honor and celebrate the traditions of Juneteenth. The project was born of Dr. Shannon's 10-point plan and will be one project that helps to meet the goals outlined in the plan," Trawick said.

Dunson, who earned a Master of Fine Arts from Savannah College of Art and Design under a Presidential Fellowship Award, serves as an associate professor at Tennessee State University. He will incorporate the themes of celebration, education, reflection and empowerment into the mural. It will incorporate the concept of Sankofa – a principle from the Akan people of Ghana, symbolizing

the importance of reflecting on the past to shape the future.

The 8-by-45 foot mural will merge diverse landscapes from a savannah and a wheat field to the mountains surrounding Chaffey College. Dunson's piece will view Juneteenth not just as a historical event but as an enduring symbol of freedom.

Dunson says he is excited and honored to create a piece of art relating to Juneteenth that will be seen for generations by students, faculty and staff.

"That energy is a positive weight on my shoulders," he said.



"The Cultivators" by Samuel L. Dunson

Chaffey College Student Government President and Student Trustee Corah Miller said the added events are building on the sense of community that she has seen at Chaffey.

"Whatever you like, whatever you're interested in, there's something for you here and you can find other people here who are interested in the same things," she said.

Associate Superintendent of Instruction and Institutional Effectiveness Michael McClellan highlighted the 114 percent increase in night classes offered for fall, giving students more options to pursue their goals. He said that on-campus resources such as food and support at night will also be expanded to accommodate those students.

"You will be receiving a survey over the next couple of weeks that will give you an opportunity to talk about your experience with evening classes, if you're taking those classes in person," McClellan said.

Leaders also addressed the September suicides of two Los Osos High School students and its effect on the Chaffey community.

"A lot of our dual enrollment students actually knew these students because they were sometimes in class with them," Rosas said.

Manager of Student Wellness Denise Padilla met with students to help them decompress and gain understanding of the issues surrounding mental health. She also hosted several sessions focused on suicide prevention, support and resources.

Hundreds Gather for InTech Manufacturing Day

Middle and high school students from 15 San Bernardino and Riverside County schools visited InTech Center on October 4 to meet with employers, try their hand at welding simulators, program robots, and more. Manufacturing Day is an event that gives companies and schools a chance to showcase modern manufacturing careers to students, parents and the public.

"It's pretty amazing because it opens our eyes to opportunities, pay and hours, and gives us an idea of what we want to do," said Aidan Alarid, a student at Eisenhower High School.

Students came from Carter, Rialto, Eisenhower, Los Osos, Montclair, Grand Terrace, Granite Hills, Valley View, Patriot, Nueva Vista, Colony, Chaffey, Yucaipa and Jurupa Valley high schools. Students also came from De Anza Middle School in Ontario.

Manufacturing involves the mechanical, physical or chemical transformation of materials, substances or components into new products, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Students can pursue careers in industrial maintenance, as robotics technicians, machinists, welders and more.

Employers attending the event including Frito-Lay, Coca-Cola, California Steel Industries/Nucor, Target, FedEx, and others. Representatives answered students' questions about job prospects and how they can prepare for manufacturing careers.

Lily Quevedo, a senior at Montclair High School, is interested in working on cars, but she came to Manufacturing Day to consider other career possibilities.

"I think manufacturing careers are important for our society as a whole and being here gives us an opportunity to look at all of our options," she said.

Justin Vaselenko, a junior at Granite Hills High School in Apple Valley, says he's looking at colleges and considering his career path. He said the event has given him inspiration for the future.

"I'm still trying to figure out what I want to do, but I am interested in robotics and programming," he said. "This opens my eyes to a lot of things."

Granite Hills senior Belen Silva, who wore a NASA shirt to the event, says she wants to become an aerospace engineer or an aircraft mechanic. She came to network and get information on what she needs to take in college to prepare for those careers.

"I'm very grateful to be here. I wouldn't know anything about these careers without this event," she said.



Connect with Us on Social Media

-  ChaffeyCollege
-  @ChaffeyCollege
-  @ChaffeyCollege
-  @ChaffeyCollege

Chaffey College Governing Board



Deana Olivares-Lambert
President



Gloria Negrete-McLeod
Vice President



Gary C. Ovitt
Clerk



Lee C. McDougal
Member



Kathleen Brugger
Past President



Corah Miller
Student Trustee/
CCSG President

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.

Theatre Arts Presents "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"

Chaffey College students brought the spooky tale of the Headless Horseman and Ichabod Crane to the stage with the production of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, October 24-27.

The play featured a cast of 35 student actors and 15 students handling behind-the-scenes elements.

"This is a classic sit-around-the-campfire ghost story," said Professor of Theatre and Director Kelly Ford-Kaminski.

The story takes place in 1790 in Sleepy Hollow, where Ichabod Crane works as a schoolmaster. Townspeople tell the story of the Headless Horseman, who haunts a church bridge every night. The story ends with the main character fleeing for his life from the ghost.

It is the first time in at least 20 years that Chaffey has staged a Halloween-themed play, but it was designed to be family friendly.

"The focus for me is always to bring the community in and have a safe, fun atmosphere where grandparents can sit with their grandchildren and watch a story unfold," Ford-Kaminski said. Graphic design major Gabriel Gutierrez, who played the role of Ichabod, said he tried out for the play just to step out of his comfort zone. It was only his second time acting on stage. He previously played Don Pedro in Chaffey's spring production of *Juanita's Statue*.

"It was a really good experience and that's what made me want to try it one more time," he said.

A second play that was written, directed and acted by students will precede *Sleepy Hollow* during the full theatrical run. *Mystery Mash*, a murder mystery featuring classic horror movie characters, featured Cameron Escamilla as the detective Beetlejuice. Students played the roles of Dracula, the Mummy, the Creature from the Black Lagoon and even Michael Myers from the film series *Halloween*, among other characters.



Save The Date

September 3 - November 16

Zines, Comix and Other Radical Texts
[Wignall Museum](#)

November 7

MariNaomi in Conversation
[CAA-211](#)

November 11

Veterans Day (campus closed)

November 13

Listening Party
[Wignall Museum](#)

November 20

Moonlight Munch & Mingle
[Rancho Campus](#)