



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 10-6-23

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Chancellor Search Town Halls - TODAY

You are invited to attend a virtual Town Hall to provide input as we begin a search for the District's next Chancellor. Three sessions will be held, one for each college. If you cannot join your college's Town Hall, you can join one of the other sessions. District Office employees can join any session.

Friday, October 6, 2023

Cañada College

1–1:45 p.m.

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

College of San Mateo

2–2:45 p.m.

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Skyline College

3–3:45 p.m.

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

The District has hired RH Perry & Associates to support the Chancellor Search process. The Town Halls will be led by SMCCCD Human Resources and [Paul Doeg](#), President & COO of RH Perry & Associates. These Town Halls will allow you to share your thoughts on what you'd like to see in the District's next Chancellor. Your feedback is important and will be used to develop the position announcement. If you cannot attend the Town Hall meetings, please provide input by completing the [Chancellor Search Feedback Form](#). This form is anonymous. Thank you for your participation as we search for our next Chancellor.

RSVP for October 11 Flex Day

October 11 is Flex Day. Campus will be closed for all employees to enjoy a day of learning and community. We have created the attached sign for you to post in your offices to remind students that campus is closed for Flex Day. Highlights from the agenda include sessions honoring National Coming Out Day, a Building-13 Self-Guided Tour, and much more! Please check out the [Flex Day Website](#) for session descriptions and a printable [Flex Day Agenda](#). [Please register](#) for any sessions or meals you plan to attend. If you have any questions, please direct them to Flex Day Coordinator [Ellen Young](#).

Latinx Heritage Month

This week's Latinx Heritage Month events featured a Selena Sing-a-Long where Cañadians listened to pop artist Selena's music, sang her songs and took a quiz on her impact on the community. Folks even dressed like Selena and/or wore their favorite Selena attire! Yesterday, we welcomed speaker Angel C. Fabian (he/she/they) in ceremonial spaces known as Tlahuizpapalotl (Butterfly of Light). Angel shared that their life experience has enabled them to connect, advocate with/for, uplift and celebrate community members from all walks of life.



Why is it Important to Celebrate Latinx Heritage Month?

Throughout Latinx Heritage Month, we will share reflections from members of our campus community on why it is important to celebrate Latinx Heritage Month.

"I believe it is important to celebrate Latinx Heritage Month at Cañada, both to recognize our Hispanic Serving Institution status and to celebrate the tremendous Latinx diversity to be found both in Redwood City, North Fair Oaks, East Palo Alto, and the community broadly. My family immigrated from Michoacan, Mexico to California and growing up in North Fair Oaks I was primarily surrounded by other people from Michoacan and Mexico. When I first became a student at Cañada, I began to encounter and befriend people from different parts of the world and different parts of Latin America. That experience taught me a lot about others and myself, and inspired me to pursue a career working with and supporting my broader community. Now as an employee at Cañada, the various events we've hosted throughout these past years have allowed me to experience the joy of learning from fellow colleagues and students from different backgrounds. I am excited and looking forward to more opportunities to connect, celebrate, and build community."

-- Nimsi Garcia, Program Services Coordinator, Undocumented Community Center (UCC)

"Being part of the Latinx community means so much to me. It signifies belonging to a community that embodies resilience and hard work. Our community has overcome numerous challenges, and I admire the determination and perseverance that we exhibit. I strive to contribute to the growth and success of the Latinx community, as we continue to thrive and pave the way for future generations."

-- Yuliana Leon Subias, President, Associated Students of Cañada College



Filipinx Heritage Month

October is Filipinx Heritage Month (FHM). In 1992, the Filipino American National Historical Society introduced Filipinx Heritage Month and in 2009, the U.S. Congress officially recognized FHM in the United States. October is an important month in the Filipinx community because the first Filipinx arrived in the continental United States in what is now Morro Bay, California on October 18, 1587. According to FANHS, Filipinx-Americans are the second largest Asian American group in the United States and the third-largest ethnic group in California.

In recognition of Filipinx heritage and history, the AANHPI (Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander) S.T.A.R. Program and the Cultural Center will host a celebration on [Monday, October 16 from 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.](#) Please join us for a cultural presentation, a traditional folk dance Tinikling workshop from Professor Ray Lapuz and baked goods.

Assistance Needed for October 18 Fall Job Fair!

It's that time of the semester when the Career Center is looking for people to help with the upcoming Job Fair on October 18 from 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in The Grove. There are 60 employers who plan to participate in the fair and you can view the list of attending employers [here](#). Please check with your supervisor before signing up and if you are available to work at the event, please complete the sign-up form [here](#).

Faculty are also encouraged to allow time for their students to attend the fair, perhaps assigning an extra credit reporting of their experience or another like assignment. Please do whatever you can to get the word out and help students participate as there will be many opportunities for employment and internships. Make it a field trip and bring your entire class!



Mariel (Maggie) De Paz Fernandez, Program Services Coordinator, Cultural Center

Please welcome Mariel (Maggie) De Paz Fernandez as the new Program Services Coordinator for Cañada's inaugural Cultural Center! Prior to her role with the Cultural Center, Maggie served as the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's (CHCI) College Programs Manager in Washington, DC. Maggie developed curriculum for CHCI's internship cohorts focused on community, professional development, and self-advancement. Maggie is a graduate of San Francisco State University, where she received her Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Master's in Public Administration. She is also a proud alumni of the SMCCCD, graduating from Skyline College. Maggie is excited to give back to her community by providing resources for students to continue thriving in and out of the classroom. She has experience working with college students in several areas, varying from STEM to professional and personal development.



Building Captain Training Sessions in October and November

The Building Captain program was established to facilitate enhanced emergency preparedness and coordinate initial emergency procedures in every regularly occupied SMCCCD campus building. Whether you want to be a new Building Captain or have been trained in the past, these trainings are required to stay current on our new Emergency Action Plan. The course is two half days and one full day and offers training in CPR, first aid, AED, and advanced bleeding control. Each day of training may be taken at the same college campus or you may attend training at one of the other SMCCCD campuses, if that is more convenient. To view upcoming training sessions and to register, please visit the [SMCCCD Building Captain Program](#) site.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and stay cool!

Sincerely,
Kim