



## A Message from President Kim Lopez

### Weekly Update 12-5-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### Colts Men's Soccer Advances to the State Championships!

Congratulations to our Colts Men's Soccer Team for advancing to the State Championships! Qualifying for the State Championship Tournament is a tremendous achievement and doing so two years in a row is truly remarkable. Our Colts are once again ranked among the top four teams in the state. The State Championships take place this weekend at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, where Cañada faces Cerritos College today at 4 p.m. Catch the action live on the [3C2A website](#). Best of luck to Head Coach Erik Gaspar and the team as they compete for the State title.



### Cañada College Women's Soccer: Season Highlights

Under the leadership of Coast Conference Coach of the Year Katie Perkins, the Colts have won their third Coast Conference championship since 2020, finishing the Conference season unbeaten with a record of 9 wins, 0 losses, and 2 ties (14-2-4). Although the Cañada College Women's team was defeated by a strong Santa Rosa College team (1-0) in the CCCAA playoffs, the team is still representing at the State Championships this weekend through the Sophomore Showcase.

Coach Perkins will lead the Coast Conference athletes, including Forward Emily Christman and Keeper Kira Bondi, on the field. Go Colts!



### **Please Provide Feedback on this Year's Program Review Process**

The PBC Program Review Sub-Committee invites you to provide feedback on this year's program review process. Please find a [link to the survey here](#). The survey closes on Monday, December 8 at 5 p.m. Your feedback helps us continuously improve this process. Questions or direct feedback? Please email [canprogramreview@smccd.edu](mailto:canprogramreview@smccd.edu)

### **Reminder: Flex Day Proposals Due Today**

Today is the last day to [submit proposals](#) for the upcoming Flex Days on January 8 (Districtwide) and January 9 (Cañada College). The theme for these Flex Days centers on the use of Artificial Intelligence in our work, though proposals on other topics are also welcome. If you have any questions or want to brainstorm ideas, please contact [Ellen Young](#).

### **Cañada Recognized Trans Day of Remembrance**

The Cultural Center and Brave Space Collective hosted the third annual Trans Day of Remembrance event on campus. Attendees honored Trans and Gender Non-conforming (TGNC) community members who passed this year and reflected on troubling 2025 data trends: 616 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills introduced in the U.S., the U.S. ranking second in TGNC deaths worldwide and a doubling in the murders of Trans activists over the past year.

The community mourned those lost and committed to fighting for those still living, closing the event with a dialogue on actions the campus can take to better support the TGNC community.



### English Students and Peer Mentors Explore Cañada's 1970s Archives

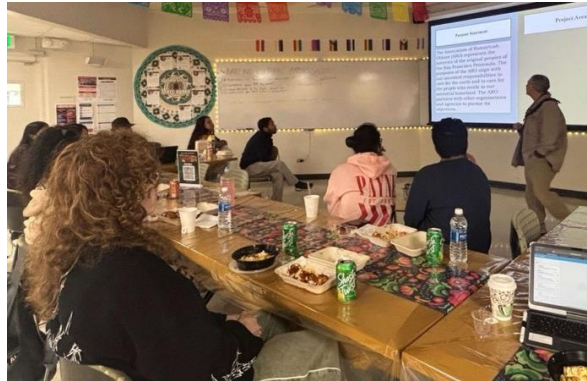
The Learning Center buzzed with discovery as Professor Benitez's English class returned for their second deep dive into the Cañada College archives with a focus on the 1970s. Students sifted through rich primary sources, uncovering stories of shifting campus demographics, student activism against the Vietnam War, the slow rise of women's athletics and second wave feminism. The previous day, peer mentors in Diego Payan's cohort also tapped into the archives to explore the early roots of student mentorship at Cañada. With guidance from long-serving staff members who shared institutional memories, the group posed questions and discussed sources for future research.





## Honoring Native American and Indigenous Peoples History Month

In celebration of Native American and Indigenous Peoples History Month, the Cultural Center and Student Senate hosted a Kava Ceremony with Director Greg Castro of the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone. Director Castro shared the history of the Ohlone peoples in California and reflected on how we can navigate today's world through the Indigenous abundance model - taking only what we need and no more. He also emphasized the importance of building relationships first and conducting business afterward to create meaningful, lasting impact. Cañada looks forward to continuing to build our relationship with Director Castro and the Association.



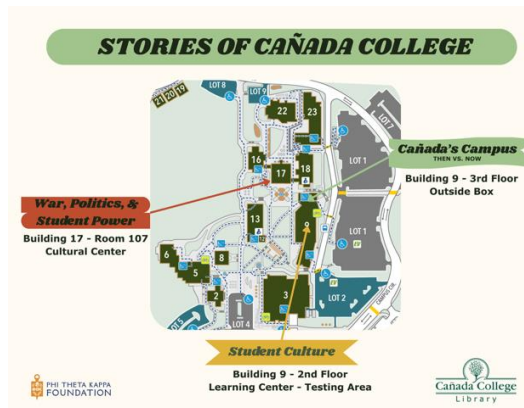
## Womxn of Color Collaborative End-of-Year Gathering

The Womxn of Color Collaborative (WoCC) and Cultural Center hosted their end-of-year gathering where participants reconnected while painting sculptures from the previous WoCC event and finished the afternoon with a lively game of Lotería.



## Phi Theta Kappa Launches “Stories in Pictures” Campus Exhibits

Phi Theta Kappa’s 2024–2025 Honors Study Topic, “The Power of Stories,” is interdisciplinary, international and action oriented. In alignment with this theme, the Cañada College chapter developed Stories in Pictures: The Social and Cultural History of Cañada College, a project that explores and visually documents the College’s evolving community. Using images from Cañada’s extensive archives, with invaluable support from Librarian and Archivist Jessica Silver Sharp, the team created three campus exhibits highlighting key moments and people in the College’s history. A map of exhibit locations is below.



## STAR & Promise Host Finals De-Stress Workshop

Students gathered this week for a calming and supportive workshop hosted by STAR and Promise, with guidance from the Personal Counseling Center. The event offered a space to slow down, unwind and learn practical ways to manage stress during finals season. Attendees participated in conversations with counselors and peers about coping strategies, stress triggers and simple tools that can make a real difference during high-pressure weeks.



The Personal Counseling Center shared techniques students can tailor to their own needs, helping everyone walk away with something that truly works for them. Alongside the conversations, students enjoyed snacks and hot tea, creating a relaxed atmosphere to pause, recharge and feel supported as they prepare for finals.



### Unveiling the New Undocumented Community Center Mural

This week, our campus community came together to celebrate the unveiling of the new Undocumented Community Center Mural. A vibrant, collaborative art piece that first took shape during Undocumented Student Success Week. Students, staff and community members gathered to see the completed mural, reflect on the stories behind it and honor the collective creativity that brought it to life. Thank you to everyone who participated in the mural's creation and joined us for the unveiling. Your voices and artistry have created a lasting symbol of belonging on our campus.





## Holiday Gathering This Monday!

Please join us this Monday for our annual Campus Holiday Gathering! Mix and mingle over light refreshments and merriment. The event will be held from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in the Building 8 Lobby.



## Classified Senate Holiday Gift Basket Raffle Now Open!

It's that time of year again! The Cañada College Classified Senate is excited to host the annual Holiday Gift Basket Raffle. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Cañada College Bookstore. Ticket Prices: \$1 for 1 ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets. The raffle is open to students, staff, faculty, administrators and community members. All proceeds support the Classified Senate Student Scholarship. Winners will be announced at the Cañada College Bookstore on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 1 p.m. Winners will not need to be present to win and will be notified by phone. Click [here](#) for more information.

Please note: Gift baskets containing alcoholic beverages must be picked up by someone 21 or older with a valid ID. Tickets submitted without a basket number will automatically be entered into the drawing for Basket #1. Thank you for your continued support!



## Whistleblower Reporting System

SMCCCD has introduced a confidential third-party system for reporting fraud, waste or abuse. Reports can be made at (833) 416-6409 or through the [Whistleblower Portal](#). Workplace or discrimination concerns should go to HR or the Title IX office.

I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Sincerely,  
Kim