



Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

LPC Theater is Back In-Person

Las Positas College (LPC) Theater Arts Department in Livermore, CA presents the Tony Award-winning play “Peter and the Starcatcher” live on campus at the Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts indoor Main Stage on October 29-31 and November 5-7, 2021.

Tickets are available now for the play which is based on the titular best-selling novels by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson. It upends the well-known century-old story of a miserable orphan boy becoming Peter Pan, the fabled youngster who never grows up. From marauding pirates and jungle tyrants to unwilling comrades and unlikely heroes, “Peter and the Starcatcher” playfully explores the depths of greed and despair and the bonds of friendship, duty and love.

A young orphan and his mates are shipped off from Victorian England to a distant island ruled by the evil King Zarboff. They know nothing of the captain’s cabin’s mysterious trunk, which contains precious, otherworldly cargo. At sea, a precocious young Starcatcher-in-training girl named Molly discovers the boys. She realizes that the trunk’s precious cargo is starstuff, a celestial substance so powerful that it must never fall into the wrong hands. When the ship is taken over by pirates – led by the fearsome Black Stache, a villain determined to claim the trunk and its treasure for his own – the journey quickly becomes a thrilling adventure.

Director Titian Lish said she was “struck” by the “magical quality and sense of play” in “Peter and the Starcatcher.” “It feels like a story of make-believe in a grandparent’s attic, full of fantasy and drama and absolute possibility,” Lish said. “I was reminded that actors were once called players, theaters once called playhouses, and so after the suspension of make-believe of the last year and a half, it felt necessary to return to a sense of play. I hope that the audience finds the magic in the production and in themselves as we journey back into live theater together.”

Featuring 20 actors portraying more than 100 unforgettable characters, “Peter and the Starcatcher” uses the limitless possibilities of imagination to bring the story to life. LPC students Matt Bessiere, Nikki Bonato, Marissa Ferreira, Colin FitzMaurice, Stephanie Ann Foster, Megan Geiger, Danny Georgiev, Mathew Glynn, Eduardo Gonzalez, Jasmine Guerrero, Alexandria Lish, James Perry, Gabby Pinto, Tucker Price, Lysander Sahagun, Logan Schluntz, Jared Sigman, Xander Struckmann and Jonathan Weiss star in the play. For the safety of the audience and each other, all members of the cast are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

LPC faculty, staff, and guest artists bring the production to life. Student Anthony Lopez serves as Stage Manager supported by John Kelly as Technical Director; Karl Haller as Stage Technician; Mike Rinaldi as Lighting Designer; Devin Gregory as Scenic Designer; and Jennifer Gogh as Costume Designer.

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Las Positas College Theater Arts presents

PETER AND THE STARCATCHER

Live Performances Oct 29-Nov 7
Fri/Sat 8PM, Sun 2PM
Tickets www.laspositascollege.edu/theater

A play by Rick Elice
Based on the Novel by
Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson
Music by Wayne Barker
Directed by Titian Lish

THE ACTORS CONSERVATORY LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

MASKS AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS REQUIRED
INDOOR EVENT AT THE MERTES CENTER FOR THE ARTS
FOR INFO VISIT LASPOSITASCOLLEGE.EDU/THEATER
WITH PERMISSION BY MUSICAL THEATER INTERNATIONAL

President's Connection Corner

The UC Davis Wheelhouse Center for Community College Leadership and Research has completed its 2020 - 2021 Fellows Institute, the institute's fourth cohort. The Wheelhouse Institute on Leadership supports Community College CEOs to build know-how, tenacity and lasting peer networks. Where once California college leaders traveled to Texas or Massachusetts for transformational leadership experiences, they now come to the UC for context-specific learning designed for their needs. The institute taps the everyday experiences of community college leaders for intense, assumption-challenging discourse on organizational change. This is both safe ground and a place to stretch professionally, a venue for exploring individual leadership performance and collective intelligence for the ultimate success of students.

The 2020-2021 Fellows pictured below include LPC President Dr. Dyrell Foster. The team convened three times in the year-long assignment that included a nine-day institute that incorporated provocative speakers, compelling case studies, personal and organizational analytics, and reflective assessments to advance personal and organizational impact. Wheelhouse publishes timely, readily understood and actionable briefs for decision-maker audiences statewide. This cohort's published work and research can be found on the [UC Davis Wheelhouse Website](#).

Congratulations to the 4th cohort of Fellows: Dr. Gregory Anderson, President, Riverside College; Dr. Byron Breland, Chancellor, San Jose Evergreen Community College; Dr. Jerry Buckley, President, Reedley College; Dr. Kristin Clark, Chancellor, West Hills Community College District; Dr. Dyrell Foster, President Las Positas College; Dr. Mary Gallagher, President, Los Angeles City College; Dr. Martha Garcia, Superintendent/President, Imperial Valley College; Dr. Kim Hoffmans, President, Ventura College; Dr. Jamillah Moore, President Cañada College; Dr. Art Pimentel, President, Woodland Community



Top left to right: David O'Brien, Dr. Kevin Trutna, Dr. Art Pimentel, Dr. Jerry Beckley, Dr. Kevin Walthers, Dr. Byron Breland, Dr. Gregory Anderson, Dr. Dyrell Foster, Dr. Kim Hoffmans, Dr. Mary Gallagher, Dr. Daisy Gonzales, Dr. Francisco Rodriguez, Dr. Daniel Walden, Dr. Martha Garcia, Dr. Siria Martinez

College; Dr. Greg Schulz, Superintendent/President, Citrus College; Dr. Regina Stanback-Stroud, Former Chancellor, Peralta Community College; Dr. Kevin Trutna, Superintendent/President, Feather River College; Dr. Daniel Walden, Superintendent/President, Victor Valley College; Dr. Kevin Walthers, Superintendent/President, Allan Hancock College.

Trustee Sbranti, Chancellor Gerhard and LPC President Attend UC Merced's State of the University



On October 7, 2021, Trustee Tim Sbranti, Chancellor Ron Gerhard and LPC President Dr. Dyrell Foster attended the State of the University address in which Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz outlined the progress UC Merced has achieved across many fields. Following the address, the team, along with Ms. Monya Lane, Vice-Chair UC Merced Foundation Board of Trustees toured the first research university built in the 21st Century to enhance the opportunities for our Tri-Valley students by creating networking opportunities in the Central Valley. This meeting created a great opportunity for our District to continue our engagement efforts and further our collaboration with UC Merced.

Middle College Alumni Making a Difference

Sisters Nazineen Kandahari and Nilufar Kayhani are improving the lives of local Bay Area Afghan refugees. Nazineen, a student in the Berkeley-UCSF Joint Medical Program (JMP), and Nilufar, an undergraduate UC Berkeley student majoring in Public Health, began this mission in January 2020, when they started interviewing Afghan women in the area. They soon partnered with numerous nonprofit organizations focused on refugee resettlement, aid, and healthcare to address the specific health needs of the Afghan community.

Thus, their initiative, Afghan Clinic, was born. The spirit of the Afghan Clinic is rooted in the Afghan tradition of the sofreh, where women gather together to eat, pray, and provide support to one another. The clinic represents both the sisters' cultural history and academic studies.



Nazineen Kandahari and Nilufar Kayhani

Nilufar was an LPC Middle College student in 2019 and stayed with LPC to transfer to a four year university. She was an active member of the college community as well as a tutor for the Tutoring Center at LPC.

Their work has been recognized by the community. Nazineen won a 2020-2021 SF Bay Area Schweitzer Fellowship and a Human Rights Center Fellowship from the UC Berkeley School of Law. Nilufar was awarded a Center for Race and Gender grant from UC Berkeley to support the Afghan Clinic. Nilufar is also an Alumni Scholar Leadership Award 2021-2022 recipient and the recipient of the Cal Pride Scholarship, a merit-based award given to a student for academic achievement, leadership, community involvement, and their contribution to the LGBTQ community. The Cal Pride Scholarship is given by Cal Alumni Pride, the LGBTQ alumni club at UC Berkeley.

Be the Change You Want to See

In Celebration of LatinX/Hispanic Heritage month at LPC, the UndocuAlly Task Force offered an explorative zoom session to hear from LPC alumni and professionals who majored in political science and related fields that have experience working in the areas that affect public policy and have the opportunity to advocate for community development and have worked in all levels of government.

Speakers included LPC Alumni Luis Sanchez, BA Political Science, UCLA. Luis is a part-time Financial Aid Advisor at Las Positas College. He first attended LPC in 2016 and graduated in 2019. During his time at LPC, he was involved in student government and the Puente Program. Erica Torres, BA Latino Studies, UC Berkeley. Erica is currently working in a business development role at Cisco. Mariana Zuniga, BA Latino Studies, UC Berkeley. Mariana is currently interning at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in the Space History Department. Prior to working at the Smithsonian, she interned at the California Attorney General's Office as Press Intern. Professional panelist included Honorable Peter A. Hernandez, Superior Court Judge for the County of Los Angeles. Rosanna Bayon Moore, Assistant City Manager, City of Antioch. David Noguera, Director of Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization for the City of Dallas. Gene Calderon, Legislative Affairs Liaison for Caltrans.



BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE:

**Exploring Majors & Careers in
Public Service and Advocacy**

The event was moderated by LPC Counselor for EOPS and CalWorks Michelle Zapata.

LPCSG Educates for Constitution Day

The Las Positas College Student Government (LPCSG) hosted guest speaker Attorney John L. Burris of Law Offices of John L. Burris in Oakland on Friday, September 17, 2021 for Constitution Day. Mr. Burris gave a live discussion on constitutional rights. Roughly 60 students and staff attended the virtual conversation with Mr. Burris.

Mr. Burris is a civil rights attorney, author, and legal commentator for national and local television, radio, and print media. Practicing law for more than 40 years, Mr. Burris is primarily known for his work in the areas of Civil Rights with an emphasis on police misconduct and excessive force, such as many high-profile cases including Rodney King and Oscar Grant.



Veterans First Celebrates Latinx/ Hispanic Heritage

FREE EVENT!
RSVP Eventbrite
<https://pcmfamiliamilitar.eventbrite.com>

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Stephanie Gattas
US, Navy Veteran
Founder of The Pink Berets
An organization that provides support to women veterans who suffer from mental illness and military trauma
www.thepinkberets.org

PANEL MODERATOR:
Xóchitl Rodríguez Murillo
US, Army Veteran
Deputy Secretary of Minority & Underrepresented Veterans
California Department of Veterans Affairs

LPC STUDENT PANEL
Bryan Hernandez (US, Marine veteran)
Engineering Tech
Darel Lopez (US, Navy veteran)
Psychology
Kenia Vazquez Garcia (US, Navy veteran)
Nursing
Luis Orasco (US, Marine veteran)
Fire Science Technology
Reina Rocha (US, Army veteran)
Early Child Development

MI FAMILIA MILITAR
STORIES OF SERVING MY COUNTRY. LATINX STUDENT VETERANS SHARE THEIR MILITARY EXPERIENCES.
VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION
SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 @ 11-12 PM
GRACIAS!

On September 22, 2021, LPC’s Veterans First Program offered a virtual online panel discussion, Mi Familia Militar that translates to my Military Family.

This event included five LPC Latinx student veterans representing various military branches sharing their personal experiences and stories regarding the intersectionality between their Latinx and military identities.

LPC to Host Water Polo Playoffs

This year Las Positas College has the opportunity to host the NorCal Regional and State Championship water polo playoffs. There will be 14 teams participating in this event. The Regional games are scheduled for November 11 and 12, 2021. The Championship games are scheduled for November 19 and 20, 2021 at the LPC pool.

News in Brief

LPC Priority Registrations Dates for Spring 2022: The LPC Priority Registration dates are now available online. Registration begins November 9 and continues until December 1, 2021. Please see the Admissions and Records Website for specific dates.

Living Healthy by Erick Bell: Congratulations to Interim Dean Erick Bell on his book, *“Living Healthy - 6 Simple strategies to achieve a healthy life physically, spiritually, and financially.”* His book was published on September 21, 2021.



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Students First