

Thank You, Gala Guests and Sponsors! You Are the Best!

The LPC community extends sincere appreciation to all those who made the Best of the Best gala fundraiser simply the best. Kudos to our generous Foundation Board of Directors, Executive Director Kenneth Cooper, and staff for organizing an outstanding event. Bouquets of thanks go to our top sponsors: Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Souza Balazs, *The Independent*, Wells Fargo, Sandia National Laboratories, Shea Homes, Kaiser Permanente, Safeway, and UNCLE Credit Union. Thanks, too, to our superb caterer, Posada Restaurant, and fine local wineries. About 200 guests enjoyed food, wine, and entertainment, helping raise nearly \$100,000 for the Foundation. Additionally, the gala netted more than \$12,000 for LPC's Performing Arts, the featured fund-a-need program. Most of all, thanks to our valued guests. By attending, you support continued excellence at LPC—our community's college.

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Barbara and David Mertes Bequeath \$6.85 Million to LPC

"If there be any truer measure of a man than by what he does, it must be by what he gives." —Robert South

By any measure, the late Drs. Barbara and David Mertes are devoted champions of LPC and our students. This distinguished Livermore couple dedicated themselves to our college and served as pillars of community college education in our region and state. At LPC's April 22 Best of the Best gala in the arts center that bears Barbara Mertes' name, we learned that they are still taking great care of their beloved college. Foundation Executive Director Kenneth Cooper announced that the couple had bequeathed \$6.85 million to LPC—the largest donation in our college's history.

Barbara Francisco Mertes, Ph.D., was the founding Dean of the Chabot College Valley Campus, which would later become LPC, due in large part to her efforts. Upon retirement, she served on the CLPCCD Board of Trustees for 14 years. She passed away on September 4, 2015. David Mertes, Ph.D., had an illustrious career as a community college leader, served as Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, and was the founding LPC Foundation Board Chairman. He passed away on October 9, 2014. The Mertes' generous gift reflects their passions and leaves a lasting legacy in three scholarship endowments:

The Barbara Francisco Mertes Memorial Scholarship Endowment to support graduating LPC students who seek to transfer to a four-year institution and continue their studies in the performing arts. Barbara Mertes had a passion for theater and for building the college's performing arts program.

The Barbara and David Mertes Memorial Scholarship Endowment to support graduating LPC students who transfer to a four-year institution with any major. This endowment also includes the Charles and Margaret Francisco Memorial Scholarship for a male and a female basketball team member graduating from LPC and transferring to a four-year institution. The scholarship honors Barbara Francisco Mertes' parents, who valued athletics and education and played high school basketball in this region.

The Barbara and David Mertes Memorial Scholarship Endowment (ValleyCare) to support CLPCCD students working toward an Associate of Arts degree in the allied health field. Both held board positions for ValleyCare Health System, now known as Stanford ValleyCare Health.

The LPC community expresses profound gratitude for the Mertes' extraordinary bequest, which will advance our mission of excellence and transform the lives of deserving students for generations to come.

Students and Families Flock to Fair and Open House

Current and prospective students and their families got two chances this spring to learn more about LPC's campus and opportunities: Majors Fair on April 19 and



Mary Lauffer

Visual Communications Coordinator Peter Kuo visits with a student at about her academic plans at Majors Fair.

Career Exploration Open House on May 3, both jointly sponsored by the Career Technical Education Office and Student Services.



Mary Lauffer

Viticulture and Winery Technology Coordinator David Everett talks with one of the many families attending our Open House.

LPC Celebrates New Building with Topping Out Event



Photos by Roy Moreno

The LPC campus community celebrated a construction milestone for our new Academic Classroom Building 1000, formerly 100, in a Topping Out Ceremony on April 20. Funded by Measure B, the building is scheduled for completion in May 2018. At left, President Russell signs the steel beam, which was covered in signatures by the end of the Topping Out event. Thanks to all who attended and helped us celebrate the growth of our beautiful campus!

LPC Newsmakers

Biology alumnus Francis Apolinario, who transferred to UCSC, has been selected for the Summer Honors Undergraduate Research Program at Harvard University. **Engineering and Welding** club students demonstrated their skills at the April 8 *Livermore Innovation Fair*. **Students, faculty, and staff** joined the April 22 Earth Day *March for Science Livermore*. Geology Lab Assistant Carol Edson served as a route marshal.

Mass Communications Instructor Marcus Thompson II held a signing event at LPC for his new book, *Golden: The Miraculous Rise of Steph Curry*.

LPC was highlighted in a report by the California Acceleration Project on colleges that revised their placement processes to de-emphasize standardized testing. Fire Service Technology student Joey Jerome and English Instructor Karin Spirn, Ph.D., were featured.

President Russell hosted a recognition ceremony for employees at the May 3 Town Meeting, honoring many faculty, staff, and administrators and sending longtime employees off to retirement with heartfelt thanks and well wishes. He presented the Donald R. Milanese Award for Educational Integrity and Excellence to two faculty members: English Instructor Karin Spirn, Ph.D.,

and Psychology Instructor John Ruys, Ph.D.

The League for Innovation in the Community College has announced five LPC recipients of the prestigious John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Awards, which celebrate outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff. The recipients are Library Coordinator Tina Inzerilla, Ph.D., English Instructor Michelle Gonzales, Mathematics Instructor Teri Henson, English Instructor Jim Ott, and Engineering Laboratory Technician Andrew Lozano. **LPC** won a PRO award in the statewide communications contest of the Community College Public Relations Organization (CCPRO) for a publication supporting partnerships with local employers for our Work-Based Learning Program. The publication was submitted by Business and Marketing Instructor Mary Lauffer, whose work and photographs were also used in the district's award-winning entries, including a folder and a marketing campaign with a mall banner. Her graduation photos and concept for a district annual report cover, featuring alumnus Tom Hanks, were used in the Chabot College class schedule, which won a first-place CCPRO award and a national award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

Talk Hawks Win Gold

With a legacy of phenomenal wins, can our Talk Hawks get any better? You bet! The illustrious speech team traveled to Washington, D.C. to compete at the Phi Rho Pi National Championships. They captured the Gold Award as National Champions in the small school team sweepstakes category. It was their best finish since 1994. The team brought home 10 awards including four Gold, five Bronze, and Top Speaker. Way to talk, Talk Hawks!



Courtesy of the Talk Hawks

Talk Hawks celebrate with their advisors Speech Instructors Tim Heisler, second from left, and James Dobson, far right.

Business Team Bests UCs



Courtesy of the Business Club

Congratulations to our future business leaders from LPC with their advisor Business Instructor Rajeev Chopra, right.

Congratulations to LPC's Alpha Gamma Sigma (AGS) honor society students and advisor pictured here at the state convention. From left to right are the individuals and their honors: Sara Williams, elected AGS student trustee; Danielle Leedeman, recipient of the Kathleen D. Loly Academic Scholarship; Mathematics Instructor Ashley McHale, recipient of the AGS Outstanding Advisor Award; Julia Miller, AGS president and recipient of the Tom Jackson Academic, Service, and Leadership Scholarship as the top AGS student in the state; and Jennifer Sarkany, recipient of the Charles Bell Service Scholarship and national Gold Scholar Award. Both Ms. Sarkany and Ms. Leedeman were selected for the All California Academic First Team.

At a recent conference in Los Angeles, LPC Business students won in competitions with students from two- and four-year colleges, including UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, USC, and UCLA. The LPC team took first place in Name Tag Design and three individual students captured second place in Business Case Study and Business Decision Making. The conference was sponsored by California Phi Beta Lambda, a state chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America, the largest business career student organization in the world.

Honors Program Triumphs



Randy Taylor

Students Expand Horizons



David Gilbert

Biology students recently benefited from two opportunities beyond the classroom. Advisor and Dean Nan Ho, far right, accompanied Biology Club and Biology honor society students to the annual users meeting of the Joint Genome Institute, where they attended the keynote and poster session and met the institute's new Director Nigel Mouncey, third from left. Additionally, LPC hosted the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society Pacific District Convention, attended by students from a number of four-year colleges, including University of California, Davis. Students presented research talks and posters, and LPC students and alumni won awards for Excellence in Student Research. Congratulations to the students and faculty advisors!

CALENDAR

Please visit our website for more details about the latest news and events.

May 15 - 21	Campo di Bocce Benefit Week, 15 percent of sales donated to the LPC Foundation; please see homepage
May 17	Annual Student Scholarship Ceremony, 7 PM, Mertes Center
May 19	Stories and Speeches, 7 PM*
May 22 - 26	Final Examination Period
May 26	27th Annual Commencement Ceremony, 6 PM, Gym
May 30 - July 3	1st 5-Week Session
June 12 - August 3	8-Week Session
June 19 - July 27	6-Week Session
July 5 - August 3	2nd 5-Week Session

***Mertes Center. Tickets and details:**
laspositascollege.edu/performingarts

Summer work hours will begin on Monday, June 5, and conclude on Thursday, August 3. Offices will be closed on Fridays.

Award Winning *Titanic* Summer Musical at LPC

Titanic: The Musical

8:00 p.m., July 13-16

Outdoor Amphitheater

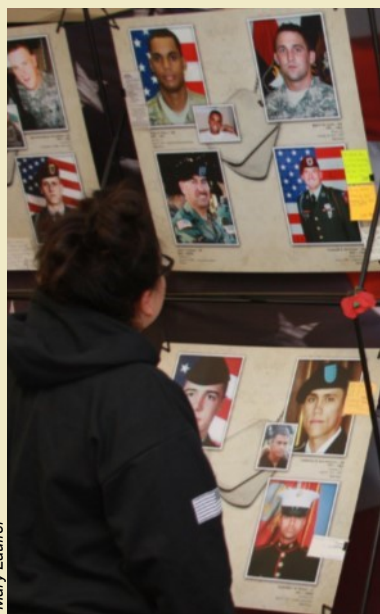
Mertes Center for the Arts

Tickets: www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts

Top Ten Reasons to See *Titanic*

1. Enjoy one of the few all fresco summer musicals in the Tri-Valley.
2. It's a Broadway hit: winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Musical.
3. Hear engaging stories of the passengers and crew, full of humor and hope.
4. It's directed and produced by Theater Arts Coordinator Titian Lish.
5. It's fun for the whole family!
6. Bring a picnic (no alcohol) or visit the popular food trucks.
7. Get comfortable: bring lawn chairs, blankets, and jackets.
8. Watch a cast of 35 actors from LPC, local high schools, and the community.
9. Admire the work of student interns who collaborated with stage tech pros to build, prepare, and crew the show.
10. Find out how *Titanic* will magically appear in our Amphitheater!

Remembering Our Fallen



Mary Lauffer

LPC is honored to host for the second year in a row *Remembering Our Fallen*, a traveling photo memorial of military and personal photos of each of California's 736 Fallen service members lost in the War of Terror. Families and individuals from LPC and our greater community have viewed this profoundly moving tribute, one of 19 individual memorials representing half of our country's Fallen since September 11, 2001. The display dates are May 3-15. Thank you to the Veterans First Program, which brought the memorial to campus.

Men's and Women's Swim & Dive Win Back-to-Back Championships

They did it again! Both the Men and Women Hawks blew the competition out of the water, capturing the Coast Conference Swimming and Diving Championships for the second year in a row. "Our depth proved to be much more than that of the rest of the conference, with Las Positas College continually outscoring all teams each day and building to a definitive victory," said Head Coach Jason Craighead. Kudos to the student athletes and coaches! Please see the Athletics website for details.



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Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

Students First