

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

## The Art on Campus Taskforce's Mural Project Comes to Life

*Written by: Amy Mattern, Dean of Arts and Humanities*

If you have not visited the entrance to the Student Services and Administration Building 1600 recently, you are in for a moment of awe. After working over the past two years to bring a new mural to the LPC campus, the Art on Campus Taskforce's vision has been realized. Bay Area artist Aaron De La Cruz completed his mural entitled, "Fruits of Labor," on June 26<sup>th</sup> after 5 ½ days of intensive work from early morning to sundown. The piece brings new life and energy to the campus and serves as a stunning welcome at the College's "front door."

How did we reach this milestone? The Art on Campus Taskforce was re-established in 2019 and tasked with acquiring artwork using a fund established for each college by the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District in 2007 following the sale of a property. Despite the brief slow-down caused by the pandemic, the Taskforce never lost sight of its mural goal. Members researched many local muralists, and selected Aaron De La Cruz for a piece.

Aaron De La Cruz is a passionate artist known for boldly graphic, street-inspired artwork that is featured all over the world. Raised by parents who worked hard in the fields and various office jobs when he was young, De La Cruz strives to create artwork that is accessible, meant to communicate with those from backgrounds similar to his, and inspired by the locale and community in which the work will reside. Graffiti was his first introduction to art, and to this day his tools are still common items found at the hardware store, such as brushes, rollers, a level, wood, paint.



A proud product of the California Community College system, De La Cruz was extremely excited to be invited by LPC to create his first piece for a college. De La Cruz has a deep commitment to social justice, giving back to his community through his work, and showing that it is possible to be an artist and to "use your art to speak up."

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After vetting the De La Cruz mural project through Executive Facilities and the Facilities and Sustainability Committee, the Taskforce was given the green light to proceed. The mural project was approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2021 and the installation was set to begin June 21<sup>st</sup>. Although he creates a rough design plan for his work, De La Cruz' style involves unplanned "mark-making" that happens as he begins and progresses through his creation. The resulting drips, patterns, and lines are all part of the aesthetic and final design. For the LPC mural, De La Cruz took his inspiration from information provided by the Art on Campus Taskforce, as well as from his visits to the campus. He wrote that his final inspiration included LPC's Latino population, vineyard, and the view around the school. "I want to re-create the feeling one gets when driving to the school. A moment captured and placed into the courtyard." The design is "influenced by the Mexican serape blanket and ... the line work is composed of a weaving technique that translates a similarity to the horizontal [and diagonal] lines in which grape vines grow." The circles are meant to resemble grapes growing, and the various colors represent the grapes and other natural components around the college.

Those who watched the mural progress throughout the week were completely mesmerized and enthused. The thoughtfulness, focus, joy, talent and passion all came together in a stirring masterpiece. For years to come, De La Cruz' piece will welcome students, faculty, classified professionals, administrators, community members, and partners to Las Positas College with a vibrant embrace.

# LPC's Return to Campus Plan

Las Positas College has developed a "Return to Campus Plan" based on the status of the pandemic in our local community. LPC will take necessary precautions and will follow all orders in place by state and county public health departments. The college will also follow the COVID-19 Safe Practices: Return to Campus guidelines and safety plan established by Chabot-Las Positas Community College District facilities, in partnership with our environmental health & safety consulting company. The majority of courses for fall 2021 will be offered virtually. Some courses that are considered hard-to-convert will be scheduled for face-to-face instruction for the full 17-week semester, starting in August. A selection of popular general ed courses will be scheduled as face-to-face courses as part of our 8-week fast track starting in October. A number of academic support resources and student services departments will offer in-person services on campus.

Please visit our [college website](#) to access the following information:

 <h3>Return to Campus Plan</h3> <p>We have been working diligently to provide a careful plan for reintroducing additional face-to-face classes on campus this fall. We look forward to eventually welcoming all of our students and employees back to campus through careful planning and practical guidelines.</p> <p><a href="#">Return to Campus Plan</a></p>	 <h3>COVID-19 Safety Plan</h3> <p>CLPCCD facilities, in partnership with an environmental health &amp; safety consulting company, has developed a site-specific COVID-19 Safety Plan for the Chabot, Las-Positas and District campuses.</p> <p><a href="#">COVID-19 Safety Plan</a></p>	 <h3>Vaccination Program</h3> <p>Get vaccinated. It's safe, effective and free.</p> <p><a href="#">Vaccination Program</a></p>
 <h3>In-Person Classes</h3> <p>Las Positas College is delighted to welcome more students back to campus this fall.</p> <p><a href="#">In-Person Classes</a></p>	 <h3>8 Week Classes</h3> <p>Las Positas College has high demand course offerings for the first 8-week session (August 18-October 8) and second 8-week session (October 11-December 21).</p> <p><a href="#">8 Week Classes</a></p>	 <h3>Virtual Welcome Center</h3> <p>Meet Live with LPC staff for general assistance</p> <p><b>LPC Zoom Room (Live Help) Hours: Monday – Thursday (9:00AM – 4:00PM)</b></p> <p><a href="#">Virtual Welcome Center</a></p>

Check LPC's [Return to Campus Plan](#) for updates to hours, services, and protocols.

## COVID-19 Town Hall for Students and Families

LPC's Presidents office invites you to have a conversation about the COVID-19 vaccine and the plan to return to campus. Please join us on July 26, 2021 at 6:00 PM by clicking the link, or scanning the QR code.



[https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93169447859?](https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93169447859?pwd=eUQzenFZb1o2ajNQS0VNNEczYXFVZz09)  
[pwd=eUQzenFZb1o2ajNQS0VNNEczYXFVZz09](https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93169447859?pwd=eUQzenFZb1o2ajNQS0VNNEczYXFVZz09)  
 Passcode: 084274

LPC's Presidents Office invites you to

### COVID-19 VACCINE TOWN HALL FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

Join us for a virtual town hall to get your questions answered about the COVID-19 vaccine. A student, staff, and faculty panel will be available to address your concerns about vaccination.

**July 26, 2021**  
**6:00 pm**

via Zoom  
 Password: 084274



<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/93169447859?pwd=eUQzenFZb1o2ajNQS0VNNEczYXFVZz09>

Co-sponsored by Las Positas College Student Government and Las Positas College Student Health and Wellness Center





Get vaccinated, Hawks!  
[laspositacollege.edu](https://laspositacollege.edu)



# New LPC Summer Internship with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



The Livermore Lab Foundation in partnership with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), are sponsoring a new summer internship for a Las Positas College student interested in gaining hands-on computer science experience with Lab mentorship.

Avery Kempton began his 13-week internship on June 7, building mobile phone applications to demonstrate core physics concepts to students. His work is part of a larger effort at LLNL to develop a high school physics curriculum using mobile phone sensors to conduct experimental measurements. This opportunity was made possible by generous individual contributions through LLNL's annual HOME campaign.

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Avery Kempton, 2021 summer intern

## How Do You Picture a Scientist?

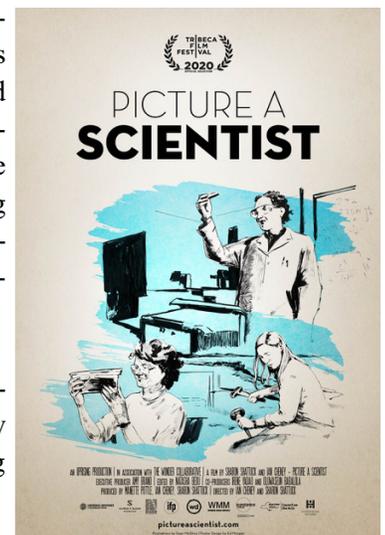
The compelling film *Picture a Scientist* set the stage for an important Lab and community event in early June. Honored by the Tribeca Film Festival in 2020, this award-winning documentary chronicles the journey and careers of three women scientists and the sexism, slights and often blatant harassment they encountered as they each pursued their love for science.

More than 400 employees, community members, students and retirees signed up to watch the film and the live discussion. Sharing their perspectives and insights on the panel were Lab Director Kim Budil; Jason Cruz, Systems Engineer at LLNL and Chair of the Asian-Pacific American Council (APAC); Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President and Monique Warren, LLNL Environmental Engineer. They were joined by Dr. Jane Willenbring (one of the film's featured scientists) and Susan Houghton, a consultant with the Foundation who moderated the conversation.



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In addition to the personal stories of the three scientists in the film, *Picture A Scientist* addressed the issue of the 'leaky pipeline' or attrition of women in science and how everyone within STEM can help address discrimination and disparity issues by moving from a "culture of compliance to a culture of change."



## New Hawk Day at LPC



Las Positas College recently held Hawk Day, an interactive virtual orientation intended to inform and connect high school seniors who are transitioning to LPC with support services to facilitate a successful first year of college.

New Hawk Day orientation included: 1) Information on choosing a major, course selection, academic planning and program requirements, 2) Enrolling into fall classes, 3) Workshops and presentations on LPC Student Services, such as financial aid, and 4) Special Programs Presentations for parents/guardians. Hawk Day contributes to a student's successful start at LPC and helps to complete their matriculation steps for priority registration.

## Welcome New Veterans Operation Gateway XIII



Las Positas College is holding the 13th Annual Operation Gateway in an on-line virtual conference format. This is a special transitional orientation geared to empower new student Veterans, dependents/spouses, and reservists with resources to ensure academic success at LPC. Questions about this event can be directed to the LPC Veterans First Program at [lpcveteransfirst@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:lpcveteransfirst@laspositascollege.edu)

## We Invite You to "The First Time in Forever"

Las Positas College would like to invite you to an outdoor performance of "The First Time In Forever," a production of songs from award-winning musicals for a live audience. The evening will include songs from popular musicals such as Waitress, Something Rotten!, Little Shop of Horrors, Next To Normal, Mean Girls, and so much more. Inspired by one of our full-cast songs from the hit musical Frozen, the title of the concert "The First Time In Forever" has just the appropriate and long-awaited sentiment we all share and crave. This performance is guaranteed to bring joy and laughter to the audience. Performances will be held at 8:00 p.m. from July 22 to July 25. Tickets can be purchased in advance at [showtix4u.com](http://showtix4u.com). We can't wait to see you there!



### News in Brief

**Convocation and College Day 2022:** College Day and Convocation will be held this year virtually on August 16 and 17, 2021. Please check your campus webpage for more information.



Las Positas Connection is published by the Office of the President. Issues are posted online at [laspositascollege.edu/president](http://laspositascollege.edu/president). Angelica Cazarez, Editor.

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**Students First**