



**LAS POSITAS**  
COLLEGE

# CONNECTION

June 2026

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus, and Community

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President



## THE LAS POSITAS COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT GALA: A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION, REFLECTION, AND NEW BEGINNINGS

The LPCSG Gala marked an important milestone for the student government organization, celebrating the accomplishments of the past year while honoring graduating officers. Incoming leadership was welcomed through the oath of office ceremony. The event brought together students, officers, and supporters in recognition of the impact LPCSG has continued to make across campus and the broader community.

This year's gala was held on May 7<sup>th</sup> and proved to be an incredible turnout. Energy, laughter and excitement filled the room, marking the evening as one to remember. The celebration showcased the growing reach and influence of LPCSG over the past several years. As the final event of the academic year, the gala also served as a special opportunity for student officers to come together one last time to reflect on their shared work, friendships, and achievements before the next chapter begins.

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# FINAL BEAM PLACED IN NEW PERFORMING ARTS STORAGE STRUCTURE AT LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, the Las Positas College Performing Arts community joined Dr. Foster, campus leaders, project partners and students to celebrate the final beam placement in the new storage structure. Participants previously gathered to sign the beam, leaving their mark on a project that reflects the collaboration, dedication and shared vision of the entire campus community.



“Today we celebrated a major milestone with a topping out ceremony for the Amphitheater Alterations Project. Upon completion, the project will feature a new stage sunshade structure with integrated lighting and AV support, along with a new storage room and control booth. This milestone marks significant progress toward transforming the existing campus amphitheater into an enhanced venue that will elevate functionality, performance capabilities, and the overall experience for future campus events and performances,” said Dan Bright with Flint Builders.

## LAVENDER GRADUATION & GAY PROM CELEBRATION



The Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA) and the LPC Pride Center hosted the second annual Lavender Graduation and Gay Prom, the capstone events for Las Positas College’s LGBTQ+ community on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Graduates were honored with lavender cords, followed by an inspirational commencement speech from legendary trans author Casey Plett about the importance of community. Students then enjoyed dinner, dancing, and time together throughout the evening.

Earlier that day, Professor Plett led a discussion of her book, *A Safe Girl to Love*, the first published collection of short fiction by a trans author centered on trans experiences. She spoke with students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators about the challenges facing the trans community. The Lavender Graduation and Gay Prom fostered a sense of pride and community for LGBTQ+ students at Las Positas College.

# PAINTING PEACE BEFORE FINALS



In celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, Movement API hosted a "Stress Relief Through Art" event - a relaxing midday gathering where students from API programs and clubs across campus came together to unwind before finals week over Vietnamese Banh Mi and painting. The group channeled their creativity into a stunning Asian-inspired mural featuring delicate cherry blossoms and a serene mountain landscape.



# COMMENCEMENT 2026 | HAWKS TAKE FLIGHT

Las Positas College celebrated its 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement Ceremony on May 30, 2026, at Cornerstone Fellowship in Livermore, honoring the accomplishments of more than 500 participating graduates. Surrounded by family, friends, faculty, and community leaders, students were recognized for earning a combined 2,190 associate degrees and 373 certificates.

The ceremony featured musical performances by Las Positas College student ensembles, recognition of military veterans, inspiring remarks from college and district leaders, and a keynote message from valedictorian Arya Khirwadkar, who encouraged graduates to continue seeking growth and opportunity.

The event culminated with the conferral of degrees and certificates, the traditional turning of the tassels, and the official presentation of the Las Positas College Class of 2026. Congratulations to our graduating Hawks!



# SIEMPRE ADELANTE: HONORING OUR LATINO GRADUATES



On Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Chicano Latino Education Association team (CLEA) had the privilege of hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Latino Graduation at LPC. The Latino Graduation celebrates students' accomplishments and academic achievements, but also their perseverance, dreams, and determination. It recognizes the unique journeys and challenges many Latino students overcome in pursuit of higher education.



Our guest speaker, Dionicia Ramos, along with our outstanding student speakers, Yazmin Martinez Portilla and Carla Quintanilla, shared inspiring messages that captured the resilience, strength, and dedication required to succeed while navigating the challenges many Latino students face every day.

From colorful decorations and live Latin music to vibrant Aztec dance performances and authentic cuisine, the event was a joyful celebration of these graduates and their achievements.



To our graduates, we wish you continued success in all your future endeavors. You will always have a home at Las Positas College.

As you move forward and embrace new opportunities, remember our guiding message: Always Move Forward - Siempre Adelante.

## LPC Mission

Las Positas College is an inclusive, learning-centered, equity-focused environment that offers educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, and career-technical goals while promoting lifelong learning.

## College Priorities

### **Equity:**

Establish a knowledge base and an appreciation for equity; create a sense of urgency about moving toward equity; institutionalize equity in decision-making, assessment, and accountability; and build capacity to resolve inequities.

### **Student Success & Completion:**

Increase student success and completion through change in college practices and processes; coordinating needed academic support, removing barriers, and supporting focused professional development across the campus.

### **Health and Wellness:**

Establish a knowledge base and an appreciation for health and wellness in the workplace; create a sense of urgency about wellness in decision-making, assessment, and accountability; and build capacity to support wellness.

## ALAN HU FOUNDATION AWARDS

The Alan Hu Foundation, a Pleasanton nonprofit supporting students pursuing mental health and first responder careers, honored two Las Positas College students this May.

Nayeli Barajas received the Scholarship Superiority Award, and Caleb Chang received the Scholarship Meritorious Award. Both are members of LPC's President's Scholar Program and will graduate this year. Congratulations to Nayeli and Caleb on this well deserved achievement!

