



CCC SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM EARN CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE DECEMBER 1 TOURNAMENT

The Fall championships tournament was held on December 1 – 3 at Mt. San Antonio College. The tournament was a large event hosting over 40 colleges nationwide, including University of Utah and Northwestern University in Illinois. There were over 900 entries in the various events offered, and in the end, our Speech and Debate were victorious. Out of our ten competitors, seven of them qualified for the final rounds. Audrey Turner went undefeated in six rounds of International Public Debate Association (IPDA) style debate and took Gold. Audrey also took fourth place speaker out of 107 speakers in the division. Mikaela Silva Took Silver in her division in IPDA style debate. Ivan Garcia-Cervantes took Silver in his division in IPDA style debate. Zamzam Ali took Gold in her division in NFA-LD (also known as Lincoln-Douglas Debate). Cristina Espinosa Took Silver in their division for After Dinner Speaking. Ariel Davis took 4th place overall in their division for Program Oral Interpretation. Devin Redding took 3rd place in his division for Program Oral Interpretation. Congratulations to these amazing students and outstanding Speech and Debate Club Advisor Nathan Wensko.



OPENING DAY SUCCESS ON JANUARY 4. THE ART DEPARTMENT & LIBRARY EARN THE “TNT” AWARD

President Armstrong provided a wonderful college update along with department updates from Administrative Services, Instruction, Student Services, Academic Senate and the Classified Senate.



The “TNT” award is a Senate and faculty driven accolade that aims to illuminate, appreciate, and honor outstanding individuals whose meaningful work, above, beyond, behind, and between the scenes, is often overlooked, unheralded, and interstitial areas, makes a very real difference in all our lives at our college. This year’s honorees are the Art Department and the Library for their outstanding commitment and dedication to serving our students.

WELCOME TO THE SPRING SEMESTER

Student Ambassadors offered smiles and helped students at various Welcome Week tables. Dr. Armstrong also greeted students for their first day of class. A Zoom option was also available for students taking online classes. The new student welcome event “Crush Days” was held on January 5. Students learned about various campus programs and resources to help them be successful in college. President Armstrong was the keynote speaker at the “Welcome Black” Mixer on January 23, organized by the African American Success Initiative and Black Student Success. Emilee Slater did a news conference about the first day at Clovis.

PRESIDENT ARMSTRONG HONORED TO SERVE AS GUEST SPEAKER AT LOCAL REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. EVENTS

President Armstrong attended various events (see list on next page) honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and was honored to serve as the keynote speaker at the City of Clovis Police Department’s Annual Community Breakfast and at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Madera.



CCC CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH ENGAGING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Opening Ceremony for Black History Month was held on February 1 and featured the African Drum Circle and Artist Audia Dixon, faculty, Opening Reception called Reimagining Eden. [View the various events.](#)

Thank you [CBS47](#) for covering the Opening Day Celebration.

THANK YOU TO ABC30 FOR HIGHLIGHTING VARIOUS CCC PROGRAMS

Watch the media coverage about the [music class featuring the Ghana Drums](#) and story about the [plant science and digital art programs.](#)

CCC EARNS THE PRESTIGIOUS L.I.F.E. (LEARNING IS FOR EVERYONE) COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD FROM THE DIAMOND LEARNING CENTER, INC. (DLC)

On December 21, President Armstrong, Dr. Lori Bennett, and James Sewell were delighted to earn the 2023 Diamond LIFE Community Partner Award from Jami De La Cerda of the Diamond Learning Center, Inc. This award is bestowed on an organization who contributes time and resources to the amazing students at the DLC.

FALL ENGLISH 1A CLASS FEATURED IN WIKIPEDIA'S BLOG POST: STUDENTS ADD BIOGRAPHIES OF DIVERSE PEOPLE IN STEM

Last Fall, students in English Instructor Melanie Sarwo’s Honors English class, came together with a common mission: Add biographies of diverse people in STEM to Wikipedia. The 12 students split in four groups to add four new biographies to Wikipedia: [Steve Ramirez](#), [Joseph Monroe](#), [Juan G. Santiago](#), and [James M. Jay](#).



[Read the full story.](#) Congratulations!



VALLEY COMMUNITY SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SBDC) HOSTED AT CCC EXCEEDED 2023 SERVICE GOALS

2023 marks the 5th consecutive year the SBDC has met and exceeded their goals. In 2023, the SBDC:

- Successfully served 1,408 clients, dedicating a total 5,747 hours to invaluable counseling sessions.
- Hosted 95 training sessions, drawing an attendance of 2,175 individuals.
- Helped start 81 new businesses.
- Supported 3,128 jobs.
- Had Capital Infusion of \$22,966,043.00

CCC PARTNERS WITH UNITED WAY TO OFFER FREE TAX PREPARATION

CCC has partnered with United Way of Fresno & Madera Counties to offer [FREE Tax Preparation](#) for those who earn \$60,000 or less. The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) project will be open for five Saturdays beginning in February. The VITA office is located at Clovis Community College 10309 North Willow Avenue, Fresno 93730, in room AC2-185. Free parking in the student/unmarked stalls. Thank you to Accounting Instructor Eunji Seo for making this great partnership with the United Way of Fresno & Madera Counties.

CRUSH ATHLETICS UPDATE

Natalia Guerrero (women's soccer) was named to the 3C2A Scholar Athlete Honor Roll. Honorees are selected by the 3C2A Awards Committee from nominations made by community colleges throughout California. Candidates must carry a minimum GPA of 3.5 and must also show outstanding leadership as an athlete, student, or in other college and community activities, as well as have participated in two seasons of sport at a California community college. Last year there were just 17 total recipients throughout the entire State (including our very own Angie Petrakis from women's soccer), which includes roughly 24,000 total student-athletes.

This spring season offers meets and competitions for swim and dive, and track. Student-athletes are ready to kick off the season. Visit www.gocloviscrush.com for the latest news and events.

[Shawn Jones, Ed.D.](#) was recently named the new swim & dive head coach.

JANICE LEDGERWOOD, ART (DIGITAL MULTIMEDIA) INSTRUCTOR, HAD HER ART FEATURED AT CORRIDOR GALLERY

An art reception was held on January 4 featuring Janice's art exhibit, "Which side are you on now." It was an experimental installation that evolved over the course of the exhibit.

CCC, ALONG WITH MADERA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, FIRST SCCC COLLEGES SELECTED FOR THE "ACHIEVING THE DREAM" SCHOOLS

This exciting opportunity was provided by funding from the Kresge Foundation and the District Office. Achieving the Dream (AtD) is a national non-profit organization that has created a large network of community colleges working to become strong engines of student and community growth.

In February, we will join 2024 AtD cohort and take a small group from Clovis, Madera and the District Office to the AtD conference.

"COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS" WITH PRESIDENT DR. KIM E. ARMSTRONG

President Dr. Armstrong is excited to host the [President's Luncheon](#) on March 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District. This networking luncheon will be a wonderful opportunity to share an update with community members and leaders, educational partners, and elected officials.

- 12/4 Clovis City Council Meeting
- 12/5 F3 All Gears Meeting with Ashley Swearingin
- 12/8 Clothing Closet Tour with Pamela Freeman
- 12/10 TNS 7th Annual Holiday Party with donor Adam Macy-Ayotte
- 12/11 Clovis City Council Meeting
- 12/13 Soroptimist International Meeting
- 12/14 Senator Shannon Grove Holiday Open House
- 12/15 Clothing Closet Tour with donor Ashley Bocek, U.S. Bank
- 12/16 CCAPW Holiday Dinner
- 12/17 Christmas Tree Lane Lights
- 12/21 Diamond Learning Center Christmas Party
- 1/19 Garlanding Ceremony at Fresno State
- 1/8 Clovis City Council Meeting
- 1/10 Soroptimist International Meeting
- 1/11 MLK Prayer Breakfast
- 1/11 Fresno County Superintendent of Schools MLK Contest Reception
- 1/12 MLK Community Award Program and Reception
- 1/13 Annual City of Clovis Community Breakfast MLK – Dr. Armstrong keynote speaker
- 1/14 Dr. King I Have a Dream, Too Celebration – Dr. Armstrong keynote speaker
- 1/14 Countdown to King Concert
- 1/15 MLK Community March and Commemoration Program
- 1/16 Clovis City Council Meeting
- 1/19 MLK Commemoration Program at Fresno State
- 1/20 Made Fleece Blankets for Breaking the Chains (Human Trafficking Victims)
- 1/20 Champagne and Tea Social with BWOPA
- 1/23 CUSD Career Technical Education Fair
- 1/24 Filmed Celebrate Black Excellence Video for Ericson Elementary School
- 1/24 Pizza with the Presidents/ASG President Jeremiah Lopez
- 1/25 Clovis Chamber of Commerce Salute to Business Awards
- 1/25 Clovis Rodeo Sponsorship Appreciation Reception
- 1/26 Meeting with Senator Butler at West Fresno with ASG officers
- 1/18-1/29 CCLC Legislative Conference
- 1/31 Soroptimist International with Guest Speaker Marjorie Mason Center

View CCC events on the [website calendar](#)