



## CCC HOLDS 9TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT ON MAY 17 AND VARIOUS PROGRAM COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES. PROUD OF OUR “CRUSH” GRADUATES!

Nearly 400 graduates participated in the 9th Annual Commencement Ceremony on May 17 at Clovis Community College. About 2,618 students are eligible for degree/certificate conferral which are being processed by Admissions and Records. HEND ALI served as the Class of 2024 Student Speaker. [Visit CCC's Flickr Album page](#) to view photos from the various Commencement Ceremonies including the: Main Ceremony, African American Success Initiative, Athletics End of the Year Celebration, Early Childhood Education, EOPS/TRIO/CalWORKs, Leon S. Peters Honors Transfer Scholarship Celebration, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Student Art & Music Open House, and the Veterans Resource Center Celebration. Watch the Commencement Ceremony on [CCC's YouTube Channel](#).

[READ THE FULL BIOGRAPHIES ON OUR MEDALISTS NOW](#)  
(partial bios below)



### STEPHANIE GOMEZ EARNS THE 2024 PRESIDENT'S MEDAL OF DISTINCTION

Stephanie's leadership, academic excellence, dedication, commitment to peers, and her journey of overcoming obstacles to pursue education has earned her the honor of being selected as this year's recipient of the President's Medal of Distinction. Stephanie is graduating with a multiple degrees in Sociology, Social Science, and Liberal Arts. These degrees are not only a testament to her academic achievements, but to her passion to help others overcome obstacles that she faced at a very young age. Stephanie came from a broken home and was victim of human trafficking, childhood sexual abuse, domestic violence, and adult homelessness. However, Stephanie is no longer a victim of her past.

### DEAN'S MEDAL OF DISTINCTION HONOREES

#### Sergeant Shane Armstrong - Student Services, Counseling, Admissions & Records, Financial Aid

Shane Armstrong is a United States Army Veteran and is graduating with an Associate for Transfer in Sociology, an Associate of Arts in Social Science, and a CSUGE Certificate. Shane will graduate with a 3.93 GPA and transfer to CSU Fresno in the Fall. She has a passion for advocating and helping other Veterans.

#### David Baize - Physical and Computational Sciences and Distance Education

Returning to school in 2021 was no small feat for David Baize. Dropping out of high school before the age of 17 due to having Autism and missing large portions of school for numerous surgeries, he went on to have a career in construction for 30 years before going back to school to pursue his educational goals.

#### Ariel Davis - Humanities and Athletics

Ariel is earning degrees in Communication and Social Science and has had a tremendous impact on this college, joining clubs, student government, and more. In her first semester, however, as an LGBTQ student with undiagnosed dyslexia and difficulties with her mental health, she struggled in the mostly online environment. Under her own power, she found college resources in DSP&S, Psychological Services, EOPS, and TRIO.



#### Sabrina Gonzales - Social Sciences

Sabrina is a student who exemplifies determination, passion, and perseverance. Sabrina is graduating from Clovis Community College with two degrees, Business Administration and Social Sciences. She is a single mother on cash aid, and she had another child recently as well. Sabrina's children are ages 9, 3 and 4 months.



#### Amanda Vadeboncoeur - Natural & Health Sciences

Through her faith Amanda took on the challenge of being a full-time student, a full-time employee of Community Medical Centers, and a full-time single mom. Between work and school few hours were left to spend quality time with her daughter and that time was and is precious.



#### Ziyue "Sue" Xue - Student Success, Equity, Tutorial Center, and Outreach

After moving from China to the United States in 2015, Sue experienced challenging differences between the educational systems of the two countries. Despite moments of frustration and uncertainty, she has become proficient in English and adapted to cultural differences. She now uses her bilingual capabilities to help others, often assisting students and parents with translation needs at Clovis Community College.





## STEM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS) STUDENTS SHINE AT THE 3RD ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM ON MAY 10

STEM students were excited to display their research projects at the 3rd Annual STEM Research Symposium. Our amazing faculty teach through research to empower students to investigate the world around them, put classroom theory into real-world practice, and diversify the scientific workforce. Dr. Contreras Nieves, Stanford School of Medicine Postdoctoral Medical Fellow in Nephrology, served as the guest speaker. This is a [premier research opportunity](#) for CCC students as this level of research is normally offered at the junior and senior levels or at the graduate levels at the universities.



## STUDENTS FINISH THE SEMESTER STRONG WITH VARIOUS CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Thank you to staff, classified professionals and administrators who volunteered to cook and prepare breakfast and dinner on May 13. Activities included:

- A Frosty Finals Fiesta on May 7.
- Light the Way to Success Candle Making Workshop on May 8.
- Crush Breakfast and Dinner on May 13.
- Ceramics Workshop on May 14.

## CRUSH ATHLETICS UPDATE: ATHLETES "CRUSH" IT AT STATE TRACK MEET

**Rhiannon Walker:** 3C2A State Champion – 3000m Steeplechase, All-American and First Team All-State – 3000m Steeplechase, 5000m. **Genevieve Tamondong:** All-American and First Team All-State – 800m. **Julia Martinez:** Second Team All-State – 1500m, 5000m. **Quincy Patton:** Second Team All-State – 400m.



CCC's women's team placed **9th overall in the State** at the 3C2A Championships with 33 points. Rhiannon also qualified for the **USATF U20 National Championships** in Eugene, OR on June 12-13. If she makes the National Team through this meet she will represent the United States at the World Athletics U20 Championships in Lima, Peru in August. The **28th Annual Kiwanis Torch of Excellence Awards Banquet** was May 1st. We had 53 student-athletes recognized with at least a 3.2 GPA, which represents roughly half of our entire student-athlete population. **Kaya Jensen** from women's soccer was our Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year (4.0 GPA) and **Sal Renteria** from men's cross country and track & field was our Male Scholar-Athlete (3.67 GPA). Also, **31 student-athletes graduated or received a certificate** at Commencement on May 17.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES HOLDS A "SNEAK-PEEK" EVENT FOR NEW WELLNESS VENDING MACHINE ON APRIL 30

The new vending machine will be ready this summer and offer a variety of health-related supplies to students for a discounted price.

## HONORS ENGLISH 3H CLASS RESEARCHED A VARIETY OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY GENERATIVE "AI" USE POLICIES AND PROVIDES SUGGESTIONS TO CCC'S ACADEMIC SENATE "AI" AD HOC COMMITTEE

Students wrote policy arguments and produced podcasts about this topic and were excited to share their recommendations to the Academic Senate "AI" Ad Hoc Committee.



[VIEW PHOTOS FROM THE ANNUAL SPRING EXTRAVAGANZA ON MAY 1](#)



[VIEW PHOTOS FROM THE "SPRING INTO DEBATE" SPEECH GALA FUNDRAISER ON APRIL 26.](#)

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

(April 24 – May 22)

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| April 24 | Clovis Rodeo – CCC was recognized  |
| April 25 | Merced State of the College Address and Luncheon                                   |
| April 26 | Clovis Rodeo and Dinner  |
| May 1    | Court Schools PTA Spaghetti Luncheon – "Celebrity Server"                          |
| May 1    | Kiwanis Torch of Excellence – Honoring our student-athletes                        |
| May 2    | Fresno City Hall Meeting for The Fresno Center AAPI Proclamation                   |
| May 2    | The Fresno Center AAPI Celebration and Reception – Honoring Bonnie Boonthavongkham |
| May 2    | Cen CA Food Bank Empty Bowl 2025   |
| May 3    | Fresno Compact Board Meeting   |
| May 3    | Senator Shannon Grove's Woman of the Year – Dr. Armstrong received the award       |
| May 3    | Bishop's Ball  |
| May 4    | Prayer's Breakfast at Family Community Church                                      |
| May 4    | B.E.S.T Concert 2024   |
| May 4    | Debutante Ball Iota Phi Lambda Sorority  |
| May 6    | Clovis City Council Meeting  |
| May 8    | Celebration of Dr. Kapoor  |
| May 8    | CCC Athletics Award Ceremony – Welcome Speaker                                     |
| May 9    | Regional Investment Plan Spring Kick Off   |
| May 12   | St. Paul Catholic Newman Center Graduation Mass – VIP attendee                     |
| May 15   | SCCC Board of Director's Retreat   |
| May 16   | Visit The Fresno Center with President's Council                                   |
| May 18   | Soroptimist Cottage Tea and Fashion Show – gave scholarships to 2 CCC students     |
| May 19   | CHSU Class of 2024 Commencement – VIP attendee                                     |
| May 20   | Clovis City Council Meeting  |
| May 22   | Soroptimist International Meeting  |

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