

Cuyamaca College Board Report



October
2026



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·



COMMUNITY
You. Me. US

IN COMMUNITY

Hello Autumn

As the fall semester gets into full swing, campus feels especially vibrant, with students filling our classrooms, walkways, and gathering spaces. We're grateful for the energy and connection they bring, for the beauty of our campus, and for the sense of community and pride that makes Cuyamaca so special. Every day, we have the opportunity to learn and work together in a community unlike any other, and this season is a wonderful reminder of how fortunate we are to be part of it.



IN COMMUNITY



It's Latine/Latinx Heritage Month, and throughout the month we're celebrating, learning, and reflecting on the diverse histories, experiences, traditions, and contributions of Latine/Latinx communities that enrich our College and the broader community.

On **September 30** outside the Student Center, we'll come together for the **Latine/Latinx Heritage Month Celebration** to enjoy great food, entertainment, and, most importantly, the opportunity to celebrate and connect with our Cuyamaca community.

To celebrate, we've also created a special commemorative t-shirt that is available for purchase at Tappi's Café in the Student Center, with all proceeds supporting Cuyamaca's [Puente program](#). Puente is a nationally recognized program that builds pathways to college and leadership through academics, counseling, and community mentorship for all students with an emphasis on and for Latine/Latinx students.



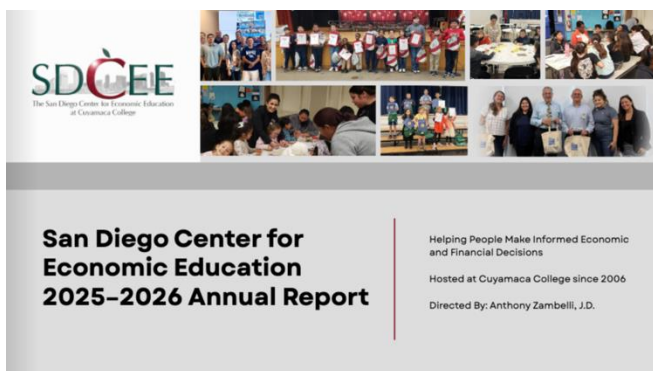
And this is just the beginning! Throughout the year, we'll be creating commemorative t-shirts to celebrate the many communities, cultures, and causes that are an important part of the Cuyamaca experience. Proceeds from each shirt will support related student clubs and programs, giving us another way to celebrate while investing directly in our students and community.

IN COMMUNITY

PACK pantry

Feeding the Pack

The Cuyamaca community will come together for the annual **Open Enrollment Fair** on Oct. 7th in the Student Center to meet with benefit vendors, pension providers, and learn about changes and enhancements to health benefits. This year the fair is partnering with **Cuyamaca Cares**, giving our community an opportunity to donate pantry staples and hygiene essentials to support the Pack Pantry!



The San Diego Center for Economic Education (SDCEE) celebrated 20 years at Cuyamaca College earlier this year. In September, SDCEE released their Annual Report highlighting a year of economic and personal

finance education across San Diego County, including professional development for educators, programs for students and families, community collaborations, and the people and organizations that make SDCEE's work possible.

Take a look through the year in the digital edition: [SDCEE 2025-2026 Annual Report](#).

IN C O M M U N I T Y



FREE Printing and Classroom Supplies!

It's all about student support this Fall! Cuyamaca Cares relocated to the Student Center, and work is underway in the Student Center

on new spaces that will give students and organizations like the Black Student Success Center, Together We Rise, and Rising Scholars an inviting space to connect, find resources, learn, and build community. Also, this Fall, the College launched a new student-support program that provides students with access to free printing and classroom supplies, conveniently located at the places they visit most across campus, including the Learning Resource Center (Library), Writing Center, Tutoring Center, and Cuyamaca Cares.



Cuyamaca's Math, Science, and Engineering faculty continue to shape the future of math instruction across California through the inaugural Math Equity in Action Institute that was created this past May. As members of the institute's core development team and as college coaches, they'll be leading a statewide effort to advance innovate, equity-centered teaching practices that support student success under AB 1705.

IN THE KNOW

MUSIC

Fall, and music, is in the air! Cuyamaca's **Thursday Night Music Series** opened Thursday, September 24 featuring Nuvi Mehta (violin) and Jessie Chang (piano) performing works by Claude Debussy. Get inspired by a rich variety of musical styles and artists each Thursday through Dec. 17 at the Performing Arts Center. For details and ticket info: cuyamaca.edu/performing-arts



Two new exhibits have officially opened at the Water Conservation Garden, the rejuvenated **Firewise Exhibit** and the new **Nifty 50 Exhibit**, featuring a living landscape of 50 low-water, drought-tolerant plants suited for San Diego County's climate! More info at thegarden.org.



Faculty Art Show

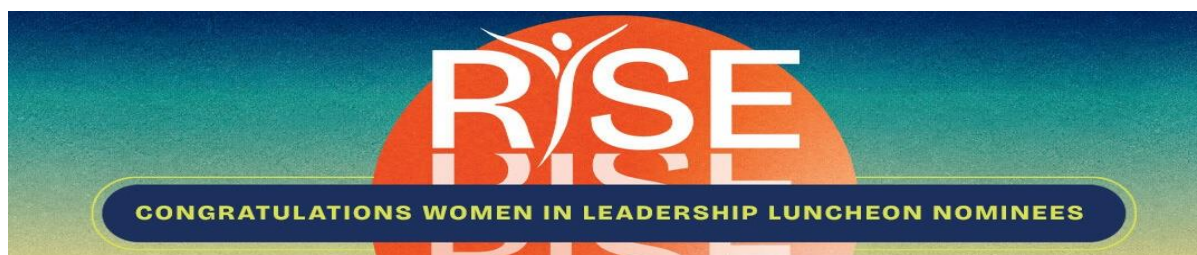


Mark your calendars for the annual **Faculty Art Show**, on exhibit weekdays from **October 21 – November 18**, with an opening reception on Wednesday, October 21 from 5-7:00 pm, both at the Cuyamaca College Art Gallery.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



[Just Equations](#), an independent non-profit policy institute that rethinks the role of mathematics in the education system to promote educational equity is launching a set of articles and webinars on [Voices on Math Readiness](#). A shoutout to Interim Vice President of Instruction and STEM Dean Tammi Marshall, who was invited to contribute an article about the College's calculus with corequisite support classes with the help from three of Cuyamaca's amazing STEM students who transferred this fall: [How we Redesigned Math Courses to Integrate Just-in-Time Support](#).



Four incredible leaders from our GCCCD community are among the nominees for the 2026 San Diego Regional East County Chamber of Commerce Women in Leadership Award: GCCCD Chancellor Dr. Lynn Neault, Grossmont College President Pam Luster, Cuyamaca College President Dr. Jessica Robinson, and GC Career Services Supervisor Renee Nasori. The award recognizes women who excel in their professions and demonstrate exemplary character, integrity, leadership and community impact. The nominees and winner will be honored at the annual luncheon in October. Congratulations to our esteemed leaders and colleagues on this well-deserved recognition!

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT



Brooklyn Lopez graduated from Cuyamaca College in 2019, studying Accounting, Business Administration and Economics. One of her proudest moments came when she was accepted to San Diego State University, where she went on to earn a master's degree in accounting in 2022, specializing in corporate tax provisions and returns.

As a former foster youth, Brooklyn credits Cuyamaca's NextUp program with helping her find a supportive community and the sure footing she needed to navigate college life and achieve academic success.

Today, Brooklyn works full time in her field and is inspired by the support she received throughout her academic journey to give back. She volunteers with organizations that are meaningful to her, including Promises2Kids and Just in Time for Foster Youth, supporting programs and opportunities that help current and former foster youth build brighter futures.

Professionally, Brooklyn hopes to become a Corporate Tax Accounting Manager. Personally, she is committed to building a legacy for her children and ensuring they have opportunities for a better life than the one she experienced growing up.

To current Cuyamaca students, Brooklyn says: "Keep your head up and live every day to the fullest. And no matter what life throws at you, remember, you can handle anything. Whatever card you're dealt, throw out the bad one, and keep moving forward."

