



## Calendar

- April 28 - Emergency Preparedness Information Session, 11 a.m., Student Union 214
- April 29 - OCC Dennis Kelly Aquarium 50th Anniversary Open House, 10 a.m., Lewis Center
- May 3 - CLEEO Latinx Art Spotlight, 12:45 p.m. - 2:10 p.m., CLEEO Project Center (GEC 109)
- May 5 - OCC Waterfront Campus Job Fair and Industry Panel, 9 a.m. - Noon, Waterfront Campus
- May 7 - "The Jazz Side of Gershwin" Concert, 3 p.m., Robert B. Moore Theater
- May 10 - OCC Career Advantage Industry Day, 10 a.m., OCC Technology Division
- May 10 - OCC Honors Night, 4 p.m. (reception), 6 p.m. (program), OCC Quad/Robert B. Moore Theater
- May 13 - Beethoven Spectacular Concert, 7:30 p.m., Robert B. Moore Theater
- May 17 - OCC Film Festival, 6 p.m., Fine Arts 119
- May 17 - CLEEO Student Panel, 5:30 p.m., CLEEO Project Center (GEC 109)
- May 19 - Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim OCC Night, 6:30 p.m., Angels Stadium
- May 21 - Spring Guitar Ensemble 3 p.m., Robert B. Moore Theater
- May 25 - Allied Health Pinning Ceremony, 5 p.m., Robert B. Moore Theater
- May 26 - OCC 75th Commencement Exercises, 5:30 p.m., OC Fair Amphitheater



## OCC CLEEO Program Welcomed Homeboy Industries Founder, Father Boyle

Orange Coast College's Counseling Latinos for Engagement and Equity (CLEEO) project hosted Father Gregory Boyle, the founder, and director of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, on April 25.

Boyle has authored several books and established the largest and most successful rehabilitation and re-entry program for former gang members worldwide.

Boyle witnessed the devastating impact of gang violence on his community during the so-called "decade of death" that began in the late 1980s and peaked at 1,000 gang-related killings in 1992. In the face of law enforcement tactics and criminal justice policies of suppression and mass incarceration as the means to end gang violence, he and parish and community members adopted a radical approach at the time: treat gang members as human beings.

OCC's CLEEO Project provides cross-cultural learning opportunities for the campus community and supports the access and success of Latinos in higher education.

## OCC Celebrates Black Student Success Week

Orange Coast College Celebrated Black Student Success Week, April 24 - 28, with events, webinars, and activities at the College and virtually through the State Chancellor's Office. This year's theme was "Vision to Action: Building Systems and Structures for Black Student Success." The week-long event Focused on successful approaches to ensuring Black and African American students succeed at California community colleges.

## OCC Celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month

May is designated Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, a celebration of how generations of Asian and Pacific Americans have enriched and shaped United States history.

The Orange Coast College Global Engagement Center, Multicultural Center, and Student Equity and Student Life programs will host several virtual events and activities throughout the month to celebrate OCC's AAPI community, including an online community board, mental health workshop, and movie screening. Go to the OCC Multicultural Center web page for more details.



## OCC Forensics Takes Gold at Nationals for 13<sup>th</sup> Time

The Orange Coast College Forensics team won the National Championship title on April 15 at the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament. This is the 13th National title for the program.

The team of 14 students won by 40 points over their competitors from schools nationwide. All 14 members of the OCC team had at least one event in the final round of

competition. The team scored 282.5 points, making it the winningest in community college forensics history.

"I am so honored and humbled by all your work," OCC President Angelica Suarez said. "Thank you for bringing this honor to Orange Coast College."

Top awards went to River Mishow and Campbell Gorlinski, who tied for first place for the Bovero Award, which celebrates the top speaker in the nation. This was the team's first time in the 60-year history that teammates have tied for this title.

This forensics team was led to victory by a coaching team of 6 former OCC Pirates; Director of Forensics Shauhin Davari, Director of Debate Hannah Haghighat, and OCC Speech and Debate team coaches Alissa Duong, Christiaan Pipion, Sean Connor, and Jimmy Gomez.

Phi Rho Pi, the National Junior and Community College Forensic Association and Honor Society, is a non-profit organization committed to increasing knowledge and appreciation of the forensic arts at the junior and community college level. Phi Rho Pi offers community college and junior college students the only full-service national tournament in the United States with 11 individual events, three forms of debate, and interpreters' theatre.

## OCC Marketing and Public Relations Collect National and State Community College Honors

Orange Coast College's marketing and public relations department won a Gold Paragon Award at the National Council of Marketing and Public Relations conference and awards ceremony in March in Orlando. Coast was honored in the E-Newsletter category for its 2021 OCC Magazine. More than 250 colleges submitted entries to the contest.

NCMPR Paragon Awards honor excellence and recognize outstanding achievement in design and communication at community and technical colleges from marketing and PR professionals at two-year colleges. The organization has more than 1,700 members from more than 550 colleges in the United States and Canada. OCC received a Gold Paragon for its OCC E-Newsletter.

OCC also received eight Community College Public Relations Organization awards Thursday, April 13, in Los Angeles.





Coast was recognized with four gold, six silver, and two bronze awards for creative work produced during the academic year.

CCPRO serves California's 116 community colleges and public and governmental relations, marketing, and design professionals. The annual conference allows marketing and public relations professionals to network with peers and share experiences, challenges, and advice.

**Gold**

- College Website: Specialty Page
- Video Profile
- Print Advertising
- Class Schedule- Division B

**Silver**

- College Website: Specialty Page
- Note/Card/Invitation

**Bronze**

- Banner/Outdoor Media
- College Promotional Video- Short Format

"We feel honored to receive this recognition from our marketing and PR peers around the country," said Director of Marketing and Public Relations Juan Gutierrez. "I could not be prouder of our marketing team and the quality of their work in promoting OCC's outstanding programs and services."



## Juan Gutierrez Receives CCPRO All Pro Award

Juan Gutierrez, Director of Public Relations & Marketing at Orange Coast College, was honored with the Community College Public Relations Organization 2023 All Pro award Thursday, April 13, in Los Angeles.

This lifetime achievement award is for outstanding work and service to CCPRO and as a community college communicator. CCPRO California serves community colleges, public and governmental relations, marketing, and design professionals state-wide.

"I am honored and humbled to receive this award from my peers, whom I respect, and from an organization I love," Gutierrez said. "I have the best job in the world. I get to share excellent news and help celebrate the accomplishments of our outstanding students. I get to promote programs that truly change lives and partner with many worthwhile groups in our communities who share a mission to better the circumstances of so many."

Gutierrez stepped into his role at OCC in 2014 and has been the school's chief spokesman for the past nine years. He has led his team in community relations and multiple award-winning media campaigns in communication, design, marketing, and social media. Gutierrez has more than 21 years of experience in higher education in the California Community College system, including OCC, Pasadena City College, and Bakersfield College.

"It's hard to think of a more deserving person for the All Pro award than Juan," Director, Marketing & Public Relations at



Felipe Salazar directs a student during OCC's Discover OCC event. More than 2,500 potential students attend the event on April 20.

Golden West College Andrea Rangno said. "He understands how important it is to stay at the forefront of marketing and public relations trends in higher education, and OCC has really benefited from that knowledge."

Gutierrez has held leadership and board roles in such organizations as Community

College Public Relations Organization (CCPRO), National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR), Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), Director of the Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce, and a graduate of the Leadership Pasadena program. In 2013, THE Magazine of Pasadena honored Gutierrez as one of its 50 inspiring leaders.

"My heartfelt congratulations to Juan on receiving this well-deserved prestigious award," Orange Coast College President Angelica Suarez said. "It serves as a testament to his remarkable commitment to exhibiting the highest standards of excellence in the field of public relations, marketing, and communications."

## OCC Dance Students Selected for Nationals Competition

Orange Coast College Dance participated in the American College Dance Association's Baja conference last week at the University of California, Irvine. Faculty and students participated in classes and workshops and submitted two dance works to be adjudicated. Out of 47 works at the festival, OCC Dance's guest artist work was selected as "top 10" and then one of the four that will go on to perform in the National Festival at CSU Long Beach in late May. Dancers from the 13 regions of ACDA will be in attendance. As a bonus, during the National Festival, the Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival producer will select works to appear on their stage in Massachusetts in August.

## Angels to Host 'Orange Coast College Night' May 19<sup>th</sup>

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim will host "Orange Coast College Night" for all fans on Friday, May 19, as the Angels host the Minnesota Twins. Game time is set for 6:38 p.m.

This event is part of OCC's yearlong campus and community-



based 75th Anniversary Celebration. OCC President Angelica L. Suarez will be on the field to throw out the game's first pitch.

The available sections for these discounted seats include sections 129, 130, 132, and 133. All sections are field-level seats located down the right-field line.

The discounted tickets are \$27-50. Each ticket purchased comes with a customized Angels and Orange Coast College co-branded hat featuring the 75th-anniversary logo and OCC's original colors of maroon and gray.

The hats will be available on the game day in the University Village at the Gate 5 Courtyard. There will be an Orange Coast College-themed display before the game and OCC-themed elements throughout the game.

Tickets can also be purchased online for \$27-50 a ticket (plus fees) at [www.angels.com/occ](http://www.angels.com/occ). Be sure to use code PIRATES to unlock the exclusive pricing.



## OCC Dennis Kelly Aquarium Hosts Open House to Celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In celebration of its 50th anniversary, the Dennis Kelly Public Aquarium at Orange Coast College is hosting an open house on April 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guests can tour the aquarium, including the touch tank, and participate in marine and aquarium science activities.

There will also be children's games and information booths from groups, including the Laguna Ocean Foundation, the Catalina Island Conservancy, the Bolsa Chica Conservancy, and the Boy Scouts of America's Sea Base.

The schedule includes a range of informational and experience-based events:

- The planetarium shows "Expedition Reef" will play at 10:30 and 11:15 a.m., noon, and 12:45 and 1:30 p.m.
- An aquaponics tour will start at 10:20, 10:50, 11:20, and 11:50 a.m. and 12:20, 12:50, and 1:20 p.m.
- Dennis Kelly will speak on the aquarium's history at 1 p.m.
- Marine and Aquarium Science Department overview at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and noon.



The aquarium opened in 1973 and is home to dozens of fish and wildlife species from various ecosystems, including cold water, tropical, freshwater, brackish estuaries, and a mixture of seawater and fresh water. This makes OCC's aquarium unique among its peers because aquariums often focus on only one type of animal, such as all local animals, says Rob Ellis, marine sciences professor and former aquarium director. For more information, visit OCC Aquarium.

## OCC Honors Outstanding Coast Colleagues and Retirees

Orange Coast College hosted its annual Outstanding Coast Colleague of the Year Awards and the Spring Retiree Recognition Ceremony to honor OCC retirees, nominees, and our Coast Colleagues of the Year winners. This year, 25 nominees for the Outstanding Coast Colleague award and six colleagues retiring during the spring semester.

Retirees included Bill Barber, professor in the Culinary Arts program; Thomas Seltzer, General Manager in instruction Food Services; Richard Frechen, Professor of Chemistry;

Farah Sogo, Professor in Biology; Rose and Garcia Kings, Professor in Architectural Technology, and Jorge Sanchez, from Maintenance and Operations.

Coast Colleagues of the Year nominees' winners were

Classified Professional of the Year - Kourtney Jones, Early Childhood Lab Coordinator

FT Faculty Member of the Year - Kelli Elliott, Biology

PT Faculty Member of the Year - Nina Barrios, English

Manager of the Year - Rochelle Santacruz, Early Childhood Lab Manager

Since 1990 OCC has honored and recognized employees, via the Coast Colleagues of the Year award, who "demonstrate the highest level of dedication, commitment to student success, excellence in instruction and the College's mission." Awardees are nominated by their colleagues and students for this prestigious designation, and in recent years winners have been chosen by the College's employee representative groups. This peer-to-peer recognition is one of our most revered traditions and contributes to a sense of community and connectivity on campus.



FT Faculty Member of the Year - Kelli Elliott, Biology and PT Faculty Member of the Year - Nina Barrios, English



Manager of the Year - Rochelle Santacruz, Early Childhood Lab Manager and Classified Professional of the Year - Kourtney Jones, Early Childhood Lab Coordinator