

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

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How Bill Tynan's Time at Crafton Hills College Fueled a Passion for Education, Community Mentorship



Here in the Inland Empire, you'll find many champions for community college. Among those is Bill Tynan, a former Roadrunner who developed a passion for community colleges during his time at Crafton Hills College and its sister school, San Bernardino Valley College.

"Community College allowed me to reinvent myself as a student," shared the 46-year-old Redlands resident. "Of course, I didn't know it when I was 18...."

Tynan recalled his days graduating from Pacific High School in San Bernardino and trying to figure out a way to attend his

dream school, UCLA. With little money and average grades. He thought his dream was out of reach until he learned about what the community college system had to offer.

Tynan began attending Crafton in the Fall semester of 1998. His stint as a Roadrunner didn't last as long as he had hoped because he needed to be closer to where he worked. But that one semester has stuck with him.

"I had this dream of attending UCLA, but learning about Crafton allowed me to develop enough sense that my dream was not lost, because while I wasn't going to UCLA right out of high school, there was another door that opened for me," said Tynan. "Attending both Crafton and Valley was all about reinvention. It was about growing up, maturing as an individual and as a student. I always worked to fund my whole way through college, and through that experience learned a higher education was needed."

Eventually, his hard work paid off and Tynan found himself drenched in blue and gold as a UCLA Bruin, earning a bachelor's from that institution in Spring 2000. He stayed in Los Angeles after graduating, settled down in the area, and started a family.

But the Inland Empire came calling him back.

Today, Tynan continues to champion CCs and actively works with local students through Enchanted Education, a Highland-based company that provides introductory skills for future innovators of the theme park industry through STEAM education and career exploration. The company uses innovations such as makerspaces, work spaces set up for students to develop their ideas through learning techniques, collaboration, and team building activities. The San Bernardino City Unified and Jurupa Unified School Districts and Norton Science & Language Academy are among Enchanted Education's regional partners, and class offerings are available in both English and Spanish.

Tynan has no plans on leaving the I.E. any time soon.

"This area is home, a place that is working to reinvent itself. I'm really, really proud to be here and to work with youth in the community," he said. "How can you not love it here? Geographically, we are at the center of this wheel where you're an hour away from the ocean, the desert, the mountains. This is home for me."

Photo: Bill Tynan.

District Employee Olympics Spark Friendly Rivalry at Crafton Hills and Valley College



The San Bernardino Community College District Employee Olympics brought the competitive spirit to Crafton Hills College on September 27, as employee athletes from both district colleges and the District Office gathered at the Aquatic Center for an afternoon of fun-filled competition. The events featured cornhole toss and inflatable raft races, drawing a large crowd of supporters to cheer on their favorite teams.

Colleagues packed the stands, waving blue and white for San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC) or green and gold for CHC. Foam fingers and signs proclaiming their team as #1 were everywhere. The crowd's energy was palpable, with cheers, foot-stomping, and chants of encouragement echoing around the pool as a drone captured the excitement from above.

The cornhole toss brought out fierce competition, with the District Office team ultimately claiming the gold. Meanwhile, the inflatable raft races were a spectacle to behold, with rowers battling to keep their crafts steady. Some teams capsized, much to the amusement of the crowd, as participants transformed into swimmers, pushing their rafts to the finish line. The CHC Roadrunner team emerged victorious, taking gold in the raft race.

The Olympic excitement continued at SBVC on October 11, where athletes took part in more thrilling events, including a free-throw contest, a three-point shootout, and a cart race. The cart race, in particular, was a crowd favorite, with teams zooming around the course, navigating tight turns and thrilling the spectators. The games further ignited the competitive spirit between CHC, SBVC, and the District Office.

With each event bringing laughter, camaraderie, and a healthy dose of competition, the Employee Olympics have proven to be a fun and engaging way to foster teamwork and community spirit across the district.

Photo: CHC President, Dr. Kevin Horan with Mascot Ryker and SBVC President, Dr. Gilbert Contreras with Mascot Blue.

CHC Cross Country Athletes Show Strength and Determination at SoCal Cross Regional Previews



CHC Cross Country athletes showcased their resilience at the SoCal Cross Regional Previews on October 4, hosted by Chaffey and San Bernardino Valley Colleges.

This competitive event brought together over 20 teams and more than 100 athletes in both the men's and women's divisions. The course posed a rigorous challenge with steep hills comparable to those at Crafton Hills and high temperatures that

tested the athletes' endurance.

Following their outstanding performances at the Inland Empire Athletic Conference Championship on October 25—where Elizabeth Garcia and Madysen Juarez placed 3rd and 8th overall, respectively—both athletes are advancing to Regionals on November 8 at Chaffey College.

Photo: Sam Oyoyo.

CHC's Dr. Ericka Paddock Selected for Social Justice & Career Advancement Institute



Dr. Ericka Paddock, Associate Dean of Student Services and Student Life at Crafton Hills College, has been selected as one of 45 leaders for the second cohort of the Social Justice & Career Advancement (SJCA) Institute, organized by the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA).

The competitive program equips fellows with social justice and identity training, career development strategies, and professional networking opportunities to advance equity and diversity in California's

community colleges.

Dr. Paddock's selection highlights her commitment to justice and equality. Dr. Spencer, CHC Vice President of Student Services, remarked, "Her passion for justice will empower her to continue leading positive change in our community." CHC President Dr. Kevin Horan added, "Her leadership has been instrumental in fostering inclusivity at Crafton Hills College."

Photo: Dr. Ericka Paddock.

Crafton Hills College Hosts Redlands Chamber Mixer at Fire Academy



Crafton Hills College hosted the Redlands Chamber of Commerce mixer on September 18 in the engine bay of the college's Fire Academy. The unique venue provided a fitting backdrop for local business leaders, educators, and community members to explore CHC's state-of-the-art facilities.

Attendees were invited on guided tours of the Public Safety Training Center, where they gained insight into the college's fire and emergency medical services programs. One of the highlights of the evening was a live fire simulation that allowed Chamber

members to witness firsthand the high level of training CHC provides.

"We're thrilled to host the Redlands Chamber of Commerce here at Crafton Hills College and showcase our Public Safety Training Center," said Michelle Riggs, Director of Advancement at CHC. "Our fire academy and EMS programs are some of the finest in the region, and tonight's event gives the community a closer look at how we're preparing the next generation of first responders."

Photo: Attendees at chamber mixer.

Hello Major, Hello Career Fair Connects CHC Students with Pathways to Success



On October 16, Crafton Hills College hosted the "Hello Major, Hello Career" fair in the quad, bringing together over 30 employers and academic departments. Students enjoyed a vibrant atmosphere with music, food trucks, and a special appearance from Ryker, the CHC roadrunner mascot.

The event featured internships, job placements, giveaways, information on

certificates and majors, free professional headshots, community resources, and "Coffee with a Cop." An engaging employer Q&A panel provided valuable insights for students exploring their future careers, making it a dynamic day of networking and discovery for everyone involved.

Photo: Attendees at Career Fair.

CHC's Theatre Program Performs "Lair of Dracula"



The Crafton Hills College Theatre program's production of *Lair of Dracula* provided its audience with a uniquely immersive dramatic experience, bringing the audience on stage and into the play's action.

As theatregoers gathered in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) lobby, some of the play's

characters roamed about engaging with audience members in light conversation, establishing a sense of community. The lobby also served as one of the play's "stages" a bar owned and operated by Quincy Morris, an American westerner who is one of the three suitors for the hand of Mina Harker's close friend, Lucy.

The action evolved as the audience was ushered into an Oxford University lecture hall, an actual PAC lecture room, where Abigail Von Helsing (a female adaptation of Bram Stoker's Dr. Abraham Von Helsing) lectures on the recent invention and research on blood transfusions and then explains vampirism in response to a question about human vampirism from a visitor from Transylvania, who later reveals himself as encountering Count Dracula in his home country.

The audience is then directed to follow characters to other locations ("stages") as the story unfolds. Throughout, the play employs letters read by characters or even a member of the audience from Jonathan Harker to his wife Mina that provide accounts of the happenings in Transylvania as Dracula prepares for his passage on a steamboat to England.

As the audience shuttles from one "stage" to the next with the characters, they are always right there on set. This process provides an immersive audience experience. It all ends at Carfax Abby, where the virtuous characters confront Dracula and his vampire minions at the evil count's lair and defeat him using crosses and wooden stakes, one piercing his unholy heart.

Photo: Cast of Dracula.

Veterans Resource Center Outreach Success at Five Winds Country Festival



The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) outreach program had a significant presence at this year's Five Winds Country Festival, successfully engaging with over 20 potential veteran students. The festival offered a prime opportunity to connect with veterans, many of whom have children nearing high school graduation or starting college.

The event fostered a welcoming environment where veterans and their families could learn about the services available at CHC's VRC where they

can access important resources, share their experiences, and build a sense of community.

Steve Rush, CHC's VRC Coordinator commented, "given the positive response, our goal is to continue participating in the Five Winds Festival annually. This platform allows Crafton Hills College to strengthen its support for veterans and their families, ensuring access to essential resources and fostering lasting connections."

Photo: VRC staff and students.

Erin Elizabeth Adams' Cycling Through Exhibition at Crafton Hills College Gallery



On October 1, the Crafton Hills College Art Gallery debuted *Cycling Through*, a powerful exhibition by Los Angeles-based artist Erin Elizabeth Adams. The show, which ran through the end of October, featured large-scale sculptures and assemblages made from found objects collected on the streets of Los Angeles. Adams explored environmental destruction and regrowth themes, drawing parallels to the Chernobyl disaster's unexpected natural renewal. Her works, such as *Splat*, critically examined cultural instability, using discarded Americana furniture to symbolize a world on the edge of collapse.

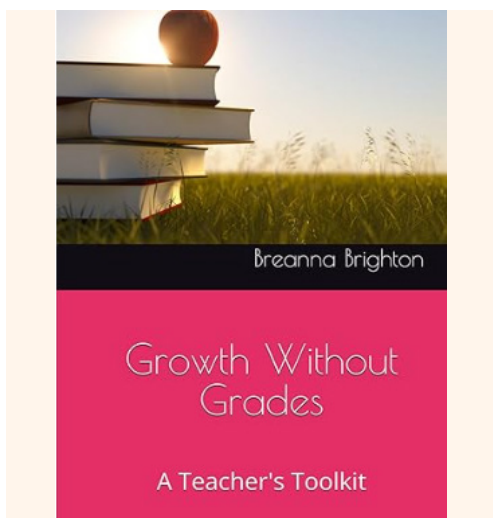
Adams, known for her multidisciplinary

practice, brought her experience in antiquing and set design to the exhibition, transforming everyday materials into thought-provoking pieces that evoke cycles of catastrophe and renewal.

A public reception and artist talk were held on October 9, with over 30 students attending to hear Adams discuss her creative process and the environmental themes behind her art. The event provided an engaging opportunity for students to interact with the artist and gain deeper insights into her work.

Photo: Erin Elizabeth Adams and Renée Azenaro.

ASL Professor Breanna Brighton Publishes Innovative New Book on Ungrading



CHC's Breanna Brighton published an inspiring new resource for educators, *Growth Without Grades: A Teacher's Toolkit*. Her book offers a detailed roadmap for shifting away from traditional grading systems toward a student-centered, feedback-driven assessment model.

Brighton's work challenges conventional grading structures and introduces a practical, flexible approach that prioritizes student growth, curiosity, and self-reflection. Brighton provides adaptable templates, sample documents, and real-life examples to foster a dialogue-rich environment

where students can focus on meaningful feedback and personal development.

Whether an instructor is new to ungrading or looking to enhance their existing approach, this book serves as a foundational resource for creating a sustainable, growth-oriented learning environment.

CHC is proud of Brighton's contributions to the field of education and congratulates her on this significant accomplishment.

Photo: Breanna Brighton's book.