

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

AUGUST 2022

Dr. Henry D. Shannon



VISION STATEMENT

*Chaffey College:
Improving lives
through education.*

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A Message from Superintendent/ President Shannon

Dear Campus Community,

Fall semester has officially begun and students have returned to campus. What an exciting time it is to be at Chaffey College!

I had the privilege of bringing some of my children and grandchildren to campus for Orientation Day the week before school, showing them how vibrant our campus has become. It was a proud moment for me, meeting and speaking to hundreds of new and returning students who are planning to earn certificates and degrees, join the workforce or transfer to continue their studies.

This fall semester, all of us can look forward to more on-campus student activities and opportunities to be engaged. We can anticipate things like in-person theatre and dance productions returning, the reopening of the Wignall Museum and face-to-face events hosted by the Center for Culture and Social Justice (CCSJ).

For the first time in several years, Club Rush will take place on campus on August 31, bringing together students with common academic and personal interests. College life has officially returned in full force (just look at the parking lots!) and we are so grateful to be able to offer these experiences for our students.

I encourage all of you to embrace this new beginning.

In addition to in-person CCSJ, Student Life and arts events, please save the date for our annual [Tailgate celebration](#) on Saturday October 22, along with the many [home games](#) we have scheduled for fall.

Have a great 2022-2023 academic year!

Sincerely,



Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D.

More Than 2,000 Gather for Orientation Day

When Andrea Baerenwald graduated from Alta Loma High School in May, she chose Chaffey College as her next stop to help narrow down a career path. She decided to kick off her new chapter by attending Chaffey's "Orientation Day" at the Rancho Cucamonga campus on August 12.

"When you move to a new school or start college, you feel nervous," Baerenwald said. "But I am excited and ready to see what's next."

She was one of more than 2,000 students and family members who attended virtual and in-person "Orientation Day" events, which included campus tours, food and music at all three campuses.

Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon told students that the campus community wants all of them to achieve their academic goals.

"We have all kinds of programs here to help you be successful," he said. "We're here to be your support system."

International student Kian Fekri came to Chaffey from Toronto, hoping to start on a path toward a mechanical engineering

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Chaffey College Welcomes More than 17,000 Students for Fall

Chaffey College welcomed more than 17,000 students, 20 new faculty and rolled out new academic programs for the start of the 2022-2023 academic year on August 15.

After more than two years, students returned to find more on-campus activities and events scheduled for the fall semester through the Wignall Museum, the Center for Culture and Social Justice, the theatre and more.

"We saw the return of our student-athletes to campus in 2021, and now we will see the campus come alive even more with increased in-person events and face-to-face classes," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon. "We are very excited to see our campuses more closely resemble what they looked like before the pandemic."

Classes that will include in-person instruction will comprise 37 percent of course offerings, with about 60 percent of classes available online.

"Students continue to value the flexibility of online learning, but we realize that many students yearn for the full college experience and we look forward to providing that atmosphere this fall," said Laura Hope, associate superintendent of instruction and institutional effectiveness.

More than 17,000 students have enrolled in classes for fall, with increased numbers expected as students enroll in courses beginning later in the semester. And more than 20 new faculty have joined Chaffey's employees, teaching a wide variety of subjects including nursing, aviation technology, physical therapy and child development.

Chaffey introduced new academic programs and courses. New courses include American Sign Language, robotics, astronomy and music production, among other subjects.

The campus has reopened the Wignall Museum to the public for exhibitions. The visual and performing arts department will present music, theater and dance productions for the public in the fall and spring. And the Center for Culture and Social Justice will offer robust programming such as guest speakers, panel discussions and more.



Ethnic Studies Discipline Unveiled for Fall

When Jose Zamora received an F on an essay about the American West in junior high school, he asked the teacher why.

The teacher's response: "This information about Native Americans didn't need to be in there."

It's an answer that sticks with Zamora today, and serves as a driving force behind his work to educate students on the importance of ethnic studies.

Zamora and Patricia Medellin Gomez – two new full-time professors helping to bring Chaffey's newest academic discipline to students – are excited to get started.

Chaffey has introduced three new ethnic studies courses, with three more expected for spring - providing students with general education options and supporting the college's equity initiatives.

The slate of courses includes instruction on Native American, Latino, Asian and Black culture. Ethnic studies became a Cal State University graduation requirement under [Assembly Bill 1460](#) in 2020 and a [high school graduation requirement](#) in 2021. University of California campuses also [require](#) students to take courses centered on ethnicity and race to graduate.

"California leads the way when it comes to enriching high school and college students with the knowledge to better succeed in a multicultural world," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Henry D. Shannon.

Ethnic studies is the study of histories, experiences, cultures and issues of racial-ethnic groups.

Gomez and Zamora hold master's degrees from Cal State Fullerton in American Studies, and bring extensive teaching and research experience related to the subject, as well as backgrounds in activism and social justice work.

"We're bringing ethnic studies to some people who may not know the benefit of it," Gomez said. "I think there are going to be a lot of aha moments for students and also faculty."

The state requirements are new, but the ethnic studies movement is not. It was born at [San Francisco State University in 1968](#) during the Civil Rights Movement. College students demanded courses about their ancestral history, and word spread to nearby UC Berkeley where students there requested similar coursework.

But today, it is a subject that not all states have embraced. Zamora says 23 states have actually banned it.



Jose Zamora
Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies



Patricia Medellin Gomez
Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies

"This is coming at a critical time because of the attack on ethnic studies throughout the country," Zamora said.

Chaffey College Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences Cory Schwartz said the new courses not only will give students a more global perspective, but it also supports the college's equity initiatives.

"It's celebrating our diversity and our equity," Schwartz said.

"It makes us better citizens, the more we know about all of our backgrounds and history."



Pável Acevedo, *Nis/Water*, 2022. Paste-up (print on paper adhered to wall). Courtesy of the artist.

Wignall Returns to Campus for Fall Exhibition

Chaffey College will reopen its [Wignall Museum](#) for the first time in two years for an in-person presentation of "Home Edition," a diverse collection of paintings, sculptures and other works of art.

The "Home Edition" exhibition will open September 6 and run through November 12, with an artist reception set for 4 to 7 p.m. on September 27 at the museum.

"Not only are staff and students slowly returning to campus, but so is the community," said Wignall Director Rebecca Trawick. "It just seemed like a great opportunity to bring together this diverse group of artists and cultural workers together." *continued on page 4*

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Mission Statement

Chaffey College improves lives and our communities through education with a steadfast commitment to equity and innovation to empower our diverse students who learn and thrive through excellent career, transfer, and workforce education programs that advance economic and social mobility for all.



Claudia Alvarez, *Boxer Girl #1*, 2021. Watercolor on stoneware, 34 x 14 x 11 inches. Courtesy of the artist.
Claudia Alvarez, *Boxer Girl #2*, 2021. Watercolor on stoneware, 35 x 13 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

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When Chaffey closed to the public in March 2020, the Wignall shifted all of its events online. The virtual version of "Home Edition" included online talks and workshops, as well as online art exhibitions by students, faculty, alumni and community members.

The community will be able to see various works from 32 artists including a 90-foot sculptural fiber piece by Los Angeles artist Amanda Maciel Antunes called "I've Got Something to Tell You." Antunes brought the cloth with her during frequent hiking trips amid the pandemic and embroidered it with various messages at the top of a mountain. Texas artist Willie Baronet will present his "We Are All Homeless" project, an installation of cardboard signs that he purchased across 24 cities from people experiencing homelessness. Chaffey alumna Jody Cavalier will present her "I Want Food" manifesto - a piece to illustrate food insecurity. Various faculty works of art will also be displayed in Home Edition.

The exhibition will be in the Wignall Museum of Contemporary Art and the Center for the Arts Building A (CAA) at the Rancho Cucamonga campus, 5885 Haven Avenue. The Wignall's fall hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday or by appointment. Contact rebecca.trawick@chaffey.edu or 909-652-6493 to schedule a visit.

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career. He eventually plans to transfer to Cal Poly Pomona. His father, Arash, came with him to Chaffey to get a glimpse of the campus.

"It's nice - a good environment," Kian Fekri said. "I came here to learn more about the college itself."

Maggie Silsbee brought her niece, Emma Balutansky, to the Rancho Cucamonga event. Balutansky has decided to major in kinesiology.

"I went to school here, my son went to school here and we've been in the community for 45 years," Silsbee said.



Save The Date

August 31 - Club Rush

September 5

Labor Day
(campus closed)

Opening September 6

[Home Edition](#)
[Fall Exhibition](#)

September 15 - October 15

[Hispanic Heritage Month](#)

September 22

[Herencia Latino America:](#)
[Exploring Latin American](#)
[Heritage & Culture](#)