

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

MARCH 2021

Dr. Henry D. Shannon



VISION STATEMENT

*Chaffey College:
Improving lives
through education.*

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A Message from Superintendent/ President Shannon

We have now passed the one-year mark since we closed our campuses due to the global pandemic. It is hard to believe that we have spent so much time apart, away from classrooms and in-person meetings. And while the last 12 months have certainly not been easy, what I have witnessed in the last year among our students, faculty and staff makes me proud to work at Chaffey College.

Here are just a few highlights of what we've accomplished:


- We have distributed nearly \$6 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to students facing financial emergencies due to the pandemic. Undocumented and international students also received grants from us.
- We distributed food to nearly 2,200 students in need during drive-thru events at all three campuses.
- We loaned more than 2,600 Chromebooks to students without access to technology.
- Our faculty and staff have gone above and beyond their duties through training, handing out classroom materials in drive-thrus, finding innovative ways to teach their subjects virtually, etc.

COVID-19 cases have gone down dramatically in the last few weeks, which I take as a hopeful sign that when we do return to campus, it will be under much safer circumstances. Our executive leadership team and the Reopening Task Force are working closely to make this a reality for us all.

As we turn our attention to April, I want urge everyone to consider attending an event at noon on Friday April 9 called "Unpacking Anti-Asian Racism and Cultivating a Community of Care." You have no doubt seen the disturbing headlines about attacks on Asians, including the shooting of six Asian women in Georgia. We need to stand in support of our Asian American community.

Thank you everyone for your patience and hard work during the last year. You have gone the extra mile to show our students they matter. That's going to give our students a chance at a better life.

Sincerely,


Henry D. Shannon, Ph.D.

'Golden Age of Radio' Debuts April 14



From Abbott and Costello comedy sketches to commercials for Beech-Nut chewing gum, the Chaffey College theater department will present "Golden Age of Radio" virtually starting April 14.

It's a celebration of the 100-year anniversary of commercial radio and is Chaffey's second theater production presented entirely online due to the pandemic.

"Adapting theater to a virtual environment has been a learning experience for us all," said Kelly Ford-Kaminski, director and professor of theater. "But I believe our students have become stronger actors overall from this experience and the skills they're learning behind-the-scenes will also strengthen their resumes."

The production consists of four episodes that will air at 5 p.m. on April 14, 21 and 28, with the final episode on May 5.

Students, with the use of green screens, camera and audio equipment set up at home, will portray entertainment icons Bob Hope, Moms Mabley, Lucille Ball, Frank Sinatra and more. They'll present episodes

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Chaffey Joins State Innovation Initiative

Chaffey College has joined the California Community College Chancellor's Office in an initiative that will challenge students to develop inventions to solve pre- and post-COVID-19 challenges.

Chaffey will be one of four colleges in California to participate in the Invention and Inclusive Innovation (I³) initiative.

"Our communities were experiencing challenges pre-COVID, but are now facing hurdles that require immediate attention," said Chaffey College Superintendent/President Dr. Henry Shannon. "We believe anyone in our community can be an inventor and entrepreneur, and welcome this new opportunity to inspire and facilitate an entrepreneurial mindset that could lead to breakthroughs in solving real-world problems."

Participating colleges will develop a program prototype to be implemented at as many as 20 other colleges by 2022.

Businesswomen Share Entrepreneurial Journeys

When Deanna Margaritha began experiencing health problems at her former job as a hospital administrator, she started to reevaluate her life. That's when she decided to make the leap into entrepreneurship.

"I realized it was time to do something different," she said.

Margaritha, who went on to open Infuzion Zone in Chino Hills, shared her journey as an entrepreneur, along with two other businesswomen during Chaffey College's "Women Entrepreneurs" webinar on March 11.



The students will work in teams to research challenges experienced by communities, develop working prototypes through the invention process and learn to commercialize their inventions.

"This initiative aims to spark innovation in every region of the state to address small challenges that impact dozens of people to big challenges that are disrupting the lives of thousands of people," said California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley.

The I³ program is modeled after the Lemelson-MIT InventTeams. The InventTeams are groups of high school students, educators and mentors who have presented various concepts including providing publicly-available laundry machines for the homeless, invented automated devices to clean litter off beaches and created water filtration systems for Kenyans.

The event was one of several hosted by the college in celebration of Women's History Month.

Michelle Skiljan, executive director for the Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship, said her journey in entrepreneurship began after she took a small business consulting class at Cal State San Bernardino. She now serves as a business consultant.

"I learned about the industry of assisting small business owners and I truly fell in love with that," she said.

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Mission Statement

Chaffey College inspires hope and success by improving lives and our community in a dynamic, supportive, and engaging environment of educational excellence where our diverse students learn and benefit from foundation, career, and transfer programs.

Businesswomen Share Entrepreneurial Journeys - continued from page 2



Amy Valdivia switched careers when her corporate job was starting to take away too much time with her children. She now serves as a branch manager for American Financial Network in Upland.

lady,' so I had to go to a lot of conferences to learn what I was about to get into."

Valdivia suggested having a third party to examine problems, and have a mentor.



"When you go out on your own and you work and see the payoff, that's what I enjoy the most," she said.

"Hire a coach, someone who can watch you, guide you and look at your blind spots," she said

Skiljan said small business owners can reach out to her center for assistance.



All three women advised upcoming entrepreneurs to lean on the wisdom of others.

"Don't be afraid to ask for help. Starting a biz is a lot of work it's a lot of blood sweat and tears, but it's also rewarding," she said.

"I was a hospital administrator - I was not a gamer," Margaritha said. "Now I'm 'hashtag lasertag

'Golden Age of Radio' Debuts April 14 - continued from page 2

of the mystery show "Inner Sanctum," which will end on a cliff hanger each week until the finale. Professor of Music Patrick Aranda and his orchestra provided their own big band music recordings for the production.

Student Ana De La Vega, who sings a jingle and appears in a commercial, wanted to be a part of the production to bring back lost media of the 1940s.

"Singing is everything to me," De La Vega said. "Singing has always been a form of entertainment, long before TV and all the technology we have today. I was eager to be a part of this," she said.

Chris Walsh, a theater major who will graduate in May, said Chaffey's actors after a year have reached a point where they feel as though they're rehearsing in the same room together, even though they appear as boxes on a computer screen.

The pandemic, which has transformed the entertainment industry as a whole, will likely have lasting effects on theater, he said.

"This might be a big part of entertainment in the future," Walsh said.



Save The Date

April 15-16

The True Cost of Chaffey College

April 21 - Artist Talk with Zeke Peña and Isabel Quintero

April 22 - Radical Self Love with Dora Lopez

April 23 - #RealTalk Series
Stereotype Threat

April 26 - Artist Talk with Christina Erives

April 30 - Artist Talk with Ann Le

April 7 - Artist Talk with Stanton Hunter

April 9 - Unpacking Anti-Asian Racism with Rikka Venturanza

April 14 - Artist Talk with Jodie Cavalier

April 14, 21, 28 and May 5
Golden Age of Radio