



## Outreach

### Art Exhibitions

Several art faculty and students have their work on display at exhibitions throughout the county. Art professor **Jennifer Bennett** and her student Christian Garcia-Olivo have work included in the San Diego Central Library's "You Are Here" exhibition on display through May 6. "You Are Here" includes faculty and student art from 13 different higher education art departments in San Diego County. **Paul Turounet**, professor of photography, has selections from his ongoing series, "Somewhere Out There Something is Happening," on display at MiraCosta College's Kurglak Gallery through March 2. His selections are part of a three-person exhibition, "The Dazzle of Day," which explores the notion of inherent spirit and the psyche of the contemporary American scene during a time of hope and change. Additionally, several Grossmont College art faculty are part of an exhibition at Los Angeles-based Shoebox Projects. "Feminism Now" runs Feb. 24 through March 11 at the gallery located at 1660 South Avenue 21 #3, and features instructors **Anna Stump, Jennifer Bennett, Daphne Hill and Stephanie Bedwell.**



### California Southern Region Competition

Grossmont College hosted the Future Cities 2017-2018 California Southern Region Competition last month. Dozens of middle schoolers attended the event that asks the question "How can we make the world a better place?" The event is designed as a flexible, cross-curricular educational program that gives students an opportunity to do things that engineers do, and students showcase engineering projects that help build 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Future City is one of the nation's leading engineering education programs and has received national recognition and acclaim for its role in encouraging middle schoolers' interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects.

### Grossmont College Recognition

Grossmont College programs have been recognized as some of the best in East County, thanks to the East County Californian 2018 Readers Poll. This year, readers awarded a gold star, or first place, to Grossmont College's Hyde Art Gallery for art galleries in East County. Additionally, the Stagehouse Theatre and Music Department both received silver stars, or second place, for best live theater and best live music venue, respectively. In addition, Music Professor and Chair **Derek Cannon** was named Best Teacher. Congratulations to all for the distinction!

## Engagement

### Speech/Debate Tournament

Congratulations to the Griffin Speech/Debate Team regarding their performance at the first tournament of the semester held at Pt. Loma Nazarene University earlier this month. Theo Hayes placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Open Division Dramatic Interpretation and Amanda Afentakis placed 7<sup>th</sup> in Open Division Impromptu Speaking. Congratulations to the team and advisor **Roxanne Tuscany!**



### Black History Month

Grossmont College is honoring and celebrating Black History Month with a wide variety of events this month, which has so far included a kickoff event hosted by the Black Student Union, a panel and presentation about Black Minds Matter, a Poetry Slam Festival, a “Black Panther” movie night, and Jazz Kitchen with Soul Food Specials. Forthcoming events include Black sororities and fraternities showcase and a lecture by Dr. Stacey Patton, an award-winning journalist, nationally recognized child advocate and assistant professor of multimedia journalism at Morgan State University in Baltimore. Additionally, “A Network of Familiarity,” an exhibition featuring the mixed media work of artist Len Davis, will run through Feb. 23 at the Hyde Art Gallery. Visit the [college events calendar](#) for dates, times and locations of events.

### Student Engagement Cultural Space

A new student engagement cultural space has opened in Griffin Center, dubbed Common Ground. It is located on the second floor in the former Clubs Room, between the Student Affairs Office and the ASGC Board Room. This month, Common Ground will host a LGBTQIA mixer for students, faculty and staff from 3 – 4 p.m., Feb. 22, to help students identify faculty and staff with whom they can connect with outside of the classroom.

### Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Planning is underway for an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration in May. Students, faculty and staff will plan events that celebrate, honor and engage the campus community in topics related to Asian and Pacific Islander cultures. Featured events will include a screening of the film “Mixed Match,” a film by Jeff Chiba Stearns about mixed race blood cancer patients as they struggle to identify and match with a bone marrow donor, and a donor registration drive with Be the Match, the national marrow donor program. To join the planning group, faculty, staff and students are encouraged to contact Susan Berry, student engagement coordinator, at [susan.berry@gcccd.edu](mailto:susan.berry@gcccd.edu).

### Pride Graduation

The Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Club will celebrate its second annual Pride Graduation from 2 – 4 p.m., Friday, May 25, in Griffin Gate. Students interested in participating will receive graduation sashes and leis, certificates with preferred names, free professional photos, and enjoy light refreshments and guest and faculty speakers. Students can register for the free event online through EventBrite at [eventbrite.com/e/42717624565](http://eventbrite.com/e/42717624565).

## Retention

### Open Educational Resources

As part of a state grant, the Library has hired a new librarian specifically for open educational resources, or OER. Rebecca Nowicki has experience in both locating and using OER materials, and will help campus provide the support needed to increase the number of faculty offering OER in the classroom. During the next year, Nowicki will work closely with Anthropology Professor Lara Braff and Counselor Dave Dillon, who have lead the college's OER work to date, to bring the college closer to zero-textbook-cost (ZTC) degrees for students. Welcome, Rebecca!

### Food Pantry

During the first week of classes, the college food pantry, Gizmo's Kitchen, distributed hundreds of bags of food to students experiencing food insecurity. Students can pick up a maximum of two bags of food per week from Student Health Services. Those interested in donating food to the pantry should [reference this list for donations](#) and drop off food at the Common Ground space on the second floor of Griffin Center.

## Institutional Capacity

### Music Department will host "Salsa Under the Stars"

The Music Department will host its "Salsa Under the Stars" scholarships fundraiser at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 13, in the Main Quad. The event will feature the Manny Cepeda Orchestra with Derek Cannon, and proceeds will benefit Music students. Salsa lessons will be offered from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., and performances will take place from 6:30 – 9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 general and \$10 for students. Tickets can be [purchased online](#) or at the door.



### Modular Buildings Village

On Jan. 29, the new Bldg. 100/Village opened in Lot 5. The modular buildings village includes academic department, faculty and Foundation program offices, as well as classrooms. It will be used as a "swing space" for faculty and staff as the campus is transformed through Prop. V-funded construction in the coming years.



### OPT

Congratulations to the Office Professional Training (OPT) for a recent donation from the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of San Diego association. The group recently donated \$6,000 to OPT, a free program that provides accelerated training to students to prepare them for office careers.