



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update 10-10-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Flex Day Follow Up

I hope you enjoyed the fantastic workshops provided by our colleagues and thank you to our Professional Development Planning Committee for organizing Wednesday's Flex Day. If you haven't already, please complete the [Flex Day Feedback Form](#) to help us know what we can do to better support you! Recordings, handouts and other resources from this and past Flex Days can be found on the [Flex Day Resources](#) page.



Students for Justice in Palestine Host Documentary Screening and Discussion

Last Monday, Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), along with classmates and community members, gathered in Cañada's Cultural Center for a screening of the 2024 documentary *Where the Olive Trees Weep*. The film explores the struggles and resilience of Palestinians living under occupation, focusing on trauma, loss and the pursuit of justice. Guests enjoyed authentic Palestinian food from Lotus Falafel and Showerma while learning about recent SJP initiatives and ways to get involved. Faculty advisor Michael Hoffman shared updates on international humanitarian efforts and Librarian Jessica Silver-Sharp highlighted works of Palestinian poetry, history and fiction available in the Library. Organizers extended special thanks to Mario Acuña for supporting this meaningful event.



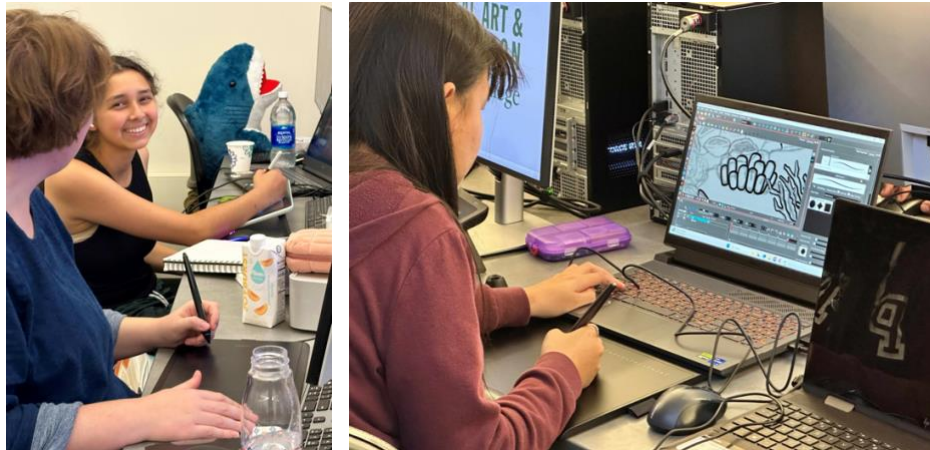
International Team Kicks Off the Season with “Pumpkins & Pie”

Cañada's International Team recently hosted Pumpkins & Pie to welcome the holiday season. With autumn traditions celebrated around the world, students, staff and faculty enjoyed international trivia, pumpkin decorating and seasonal treats like pumpkin pie, pumpkin cheesecake and apple cider — creating a warm, festive space for cultural connection and celebration.



Digital Art & Animation Students Compete in 24-Hour Animation Challenge

On October 3 and 4, 15 Digital Art & Animation students participated in the 23rd Annual 24 Hours Animation Challenge, marking the fifth year that students from the program have competed. Working in teams of five, students had just 24 hours to conceptualize, design and produce a 30-second animated film based on the theme *"Flip Your Perspective."* The 24 Hours challenge provides students with the opportunity to conceptualize, design and create an animated sequence while on a very tight deadline, on their own without any faculty assistance. Teams from colleges around the world then had 24 hours to produce their film based on that theme and upload their completed films to the competition site. Digital Art & Animation faculty were on site throughout the challenge to keep an eye on the students and provide emotional support. The completed films from the challenge will be shown as part of the annual Digital Art & Animation Student Show at the end of the Spring semester.



Cañada Connects with Future Scholars at Hispanic Heritage Celebration

On October 7, Cañada College participated in César Chávez Ravenswood Middle School's Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. The event featured student presentations, music, food and community spirit. Cañada representatives engaged with local middle schoolers and their families to discuss career goals and future educational pathways.



Latinx/Filipinx Cañada Women's Soccer Game Social

On Tuesday, soccer, music and community spirit filled the field at this lively event celebrating Latinx and Filipinx Heritage Months. Students, staff and supporters came together for an afternoon of fun, connection and school pride. Congratulations to the Cañada Women's Soccer team for taking home the win over Skyline College!



Filipinx American History Month Speaker Inspires Campus Community

In celebration of Filipinx American History Month, the AANHPI S.T.A.R. Program, Cultural Center and ASCC hosted a special speaker event featuring Dr. Arlene Daus-Magbual, Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies at San Francisco State University. Dr. Daus-Magbual delivered an inspiring talk that intertwined her personal journey with the broader history of Filipino and Filipino American experiences. Students from the S.T.A.R. Learning Community and History 245, along with faculty and staff, attended and engaged in thoughtful discussion.



Latinx Heritage Month: Herbalist Workshop with Tierra Rituals

As part of Latinx Heritage Month, yesterday, participants came together for a hands-on herbalism workshop led by Tierra Rituals. The session explored the healing traditions of BIPOC communities, highlighting ancestral practices and the power of plant medicine. Through storytelling and interactive learning, attendees connected with cultural knowledge rooted in wellness and community care. The workshop offered a meaningful way to celebrate heritage while embracing holistic health and collective healing.



Cañada College Presents at Strengthening Student Success Conference

Vice President of Instruction Dr. Chialin Hsieh, along with PRIE team members Dr. Karen Engel and Dr. Alex Claxton, presented “Are You Really a Two-Year College?” at this year’s Strengthening Student Success Conference. Their session highlighted Cañada’s significant progress in ensuring all two-year degree programs can be completed within two years. The presentation drew more than 35 participants, with one attendee remarking, “This is amazing! I’m going to try to replicate this at my college!”



Whistleblower Reporting System

SMCCCD has introduced a confidential third-party system for reporting fraud, waste, or abuse. Reports can be made at 833-416-6409 or through the [Whistleblower Portal](#). Workplace or discrimination concerns should go to HR or the Title IX office.



San Mateo County Community College District

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See Something? Say Something.
Report concerns about fraud, waste and abuse:
• talk to your supervisor or management
• or report confidentially through EthicsPoint

Your voice will be heard.

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I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim