



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 9-26-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Latinx Heritage Month

Cañada College will be filled with music, food, stories and celebrations that honor the beauty and diversity of our Latinx community. Come connect, learn and celebrate together as we highlight cross-sectional culture, traditions and identities all month long. Check the full calendar of events at <https://canadacollege.edu/lhm>



Peninsula High School Students Visit Cañada College

Last week, 13 Peninsula High School seniors and two juniors, along with their College & Career Counselor, Chris Zografos, visited Cañada College. The group enjoyed a presentation and campus tour. Thank you to Dr. Scott with the Disability Resource Center, Jasmin Padilla from the Undocumented Community Center and Olivia Cortez-Figueroa, from Outreach, for sharing information about the College.

After the tour, several students mentioned how they appreciated the valuable information that was shared.



AANHPI S.T.A.R. and Honors Transfer Program Visit Chinese Historical Museum

Last Friday, the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander S.T.A.R. Program and the Honors Transfer Program hosted a visit to the Chinese Historical Museum. Students, faculty and staff toured the museum to learn about the history of Chinese Americans in San Jose from the late 1800s to today. The visit also featured a special exhibit highlighting the contributions of Chinese and Chinese Americans during World War II.



Puente Field Trip to the Red Door Escape

Also last Friday, Cañada College's Puente Project hosted its annual team-building field trip to the Red Door Escape room in San Mateo. This team-building activity uses escape rooms to foster communication, collaboration and problem-solving skills in a fun, immersive environment. The students worked together in teams to solve puzzles and clues to "escape" a themed room within a time limit, strengthening relationships and building trust by requiring effective communication and coordination.

The students learned how to take risks, delegate tasks, make decisions, and, most importantly, build connections with each other. The Puente Project is proud to welcome its 2025-26 Puente cohort to the campus community.



Cañada Showcases Career Pathways at Boys & Girls Club Fair

This week, the Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula (East Palo Alto Clubhouse) hosted a Career Fair which featured informational tables from Google, Android, Golden State Warriors and more. Cañada College joined the event to highlight the wide range of degrees and certificates available in areas such as Business and Digital Arts & Animation, while also sharing how Free College opens doors to countless career opportunities.



Latinx Heritage Month Celebration Highlights Music, Art and Resilience

As part of Cañada College's Latinx Heritage Month celebrations, Cultural Center Ambassador Angel Samora and his grupo Sierreño La Nueva Ilusión, joined by local high school musicians, filled the evening with Mexican regional music ranging from Ramón Ayala to Fuerza Regida.

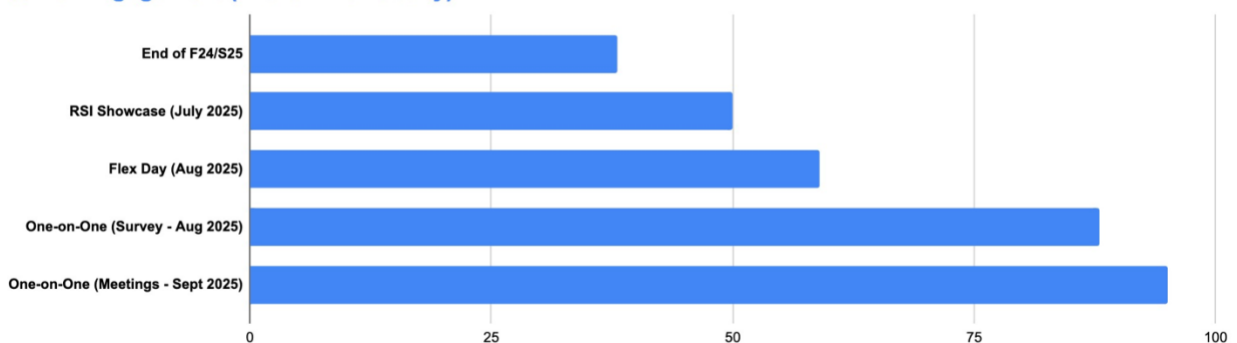
A social mixer followed before Napa Valley artist and DACA beneficiary Arleene Correa Valencia delivered an inspiring talk on “Embracing Visibility.” She shared how her portraits and installations honor immigrant labor and Latinx resilience, encouraging students to pursue creative paths as a need, not just a want, in order to remain true to their authentic selves.



Online Faculty Are Ready for ACCJC’s Review of Interaction in Our Online Courses

The Instructional Technology & Design Team has met with 95% of Fall 2025 online faculty to ensure that their courses are ready for ACCJC’s review in the Spring. ACCJC will be reviewing a random sample of Cañada’s Fall 2025 online courses for regular and substantive interaction (RSI) between instructors and their students. Faculty have been invited to review our RSI resources, complete a self-assessment of their courses and check in with the Instructional Technology & Design Team for any support needed in getting ready for RSI review. Our team has been delighted with the level of faculty engagement and the amount of amazing interaction work already being completed in our online courses. For more information on RSI, please visit the [Faculty Teaching & Learning RSI website](#).

% RSI Engagement (F25 Online Faculty)



Vending Commission - Application Due Friday October 3, 2025

The Vending Commission application is officially open to all Cañada clubs, departments, organizations and programs. This monetary grant is worth up to \$2,500 for experiences impacting our Cañada College community. All Vending Commission applications are due by Friday October 3, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. [Learn more](#) and apply [here](#).

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim