



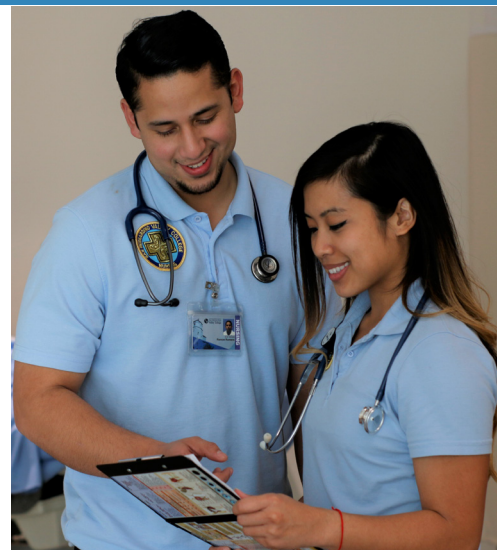
San Bernardino
Valley College

President's Board of Trustees Report

The President's Monthly Report to the Board of Trustees, Campus & Community

SBVC Launches New Apprenticeship Opportunities for Students

SBVC has recently partnered with the LAUNCH Apprenticeship Network to offer students real-world experience at a work site while they are enrolled in classes. Each apprenticeship lasts for one or two years, and students attend Career Technical Education (CTE) certificate/degree classes while working full-time in paid positions that correlate with their selected career pathway. The state covers tuition, leaving the student responsible for books and fees. Peggy Weber, SBVC's LAUNCH coordinator, says that this will allow even more students to earn a degree while adding real work experience to their resume. Employers can train students to meet their company's requirements and students can learn the process and culture of the company to see if it's a good fit. In January, SBVC launched its pilot apprenticeship program, partnering with Providence Group Healthcare for the licensed vocational nurse (LVN) to registered nurse (RN) pathway. SBVC is identifying companies to increase apprenticeship offerings in CTE programs. "It's an exciting opportunity," Weber says. "This puts qualified candidates back into the community to earn a sustainable living wage."



SBVC Foundation Disburses \$270,000 in Emergency Aid Grants



Ahmael McGee

Finish Line Scholarship Recipient / Student
San Bernardino Valley College

The SBVC Foundation has continued to help students throughout the pandemic, providing assistance to hundreds of Wolverines. The Finish Line Scholars grant will make a major impact on the lives of hundreds of students by providing emergency financial aid grants. Made possible thanks to a \$150,000 charitable donation from the Jay Pritzker Foundation, \$20,000 from the Inland Empire Community Foundation, and \$100,000 from the SBVC Foundation, the funds are "intended to assist enrolled students, address any financial hardship that may impact their ability to stay enrolled and continue their studies," SBVC Foundation Interim Director Mike Layne said. About \$70,000 of the funding was used for undocumented students, who were not eligible to participate in CARES Act emergency assistance, and \$5,000 for student transfer fees. The Foundation expects to distribute 540 awards worth \$500 each by the end of spring.



SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

SBVC Students Contribute Perspectives to Campus Anti-Racism Committee

As a co-chair of the Committee on Equity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism, Associated Student Government President **Taylor DeBenedictis** is making sure that student ideas, thoughts, and concerns are voiced as the campus moves to enact change.

"At San Bernardino Valley College, the student population is minority-based and it's important that certain unique experiences are discussed," DeBenedictis says. "It's important we stay informed and do our best to create an environment for student success, and what should be at the forefront is what we're working on - talking about inclusion, anti-racism, and equity." DeBenedictis is on the committee's Events Planning work group, which focuses on the development of educational opportunities that get conversations started on inclusiveness, diversity, and equity.



Theatre Arts Students Win Big at Virtual Kennedy Center Theater Festival

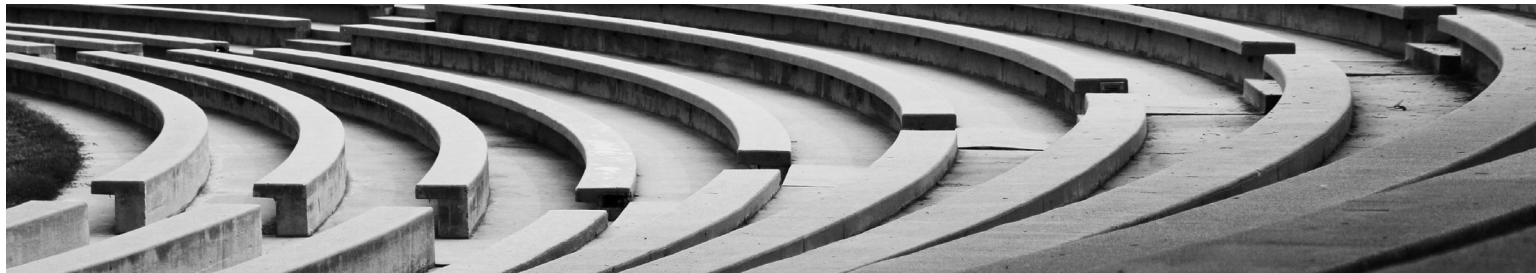


Even virtually, SBVC's Theater Arts students were able to dazzle the judges at this year's Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Seven students participated in the February event, and over the course of three days attended workshops and lectures, watched peer productions, and competed in festival competitions. **Pacifique Kabanda** was nominated for best costume design for the SBVC production of "Peter and the Starcatcher", and won three prizes at the festival: the DTM Smithsonian Student Membership Award, the Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas Award, and the DTM Heart of the Art Award. Kabanda, **Alina Alvarez**, **Marlene Clara**, **Cynthia Ramirez**, and **Juan Villegas** also created a devised piece, "Unheard Voices" that was one of three pieces selected from the region to be presented at the festival.

SBVC Art Department Reaches Global Audience

By offering virtual presentations with writers, artists, and storytellers, the SBVC Art Department and IMA are able to reach a worldwide audience. In the fall, SBVC hosted two Zoom Artist Talks, and "both had more attendees than we might have had pre-pandemic on campus," Prof. Mandi Batalo, chair of the Art Department, says. "Yousef Ragheb spoke from Egypt and some of his students in Cairo joined us for the Art Talk." This spring, the Art Department presented two free online events: a creative writing presentation with Tamiko Nimura and a conversation on digital storytelling with artist Edward Gunawan. "We do not have many opportunities to meet one another in person these days, and virtual events like this can help to maintain social connections and build artistic community," Batalo says. "It's also wonderful that people from all over the country and around the world can participate and contribute to meaningful discussions."





SBVC SNAPSHOTS

SBVC Alumnus Helps OSU Beavers Reach 'Elite 8' in NCAA Tournament

While attending SBVC in 2018, **Roman Silva** dominated on the basketball court, where he was named the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference North Division Co-Player of the Year, and led the team to the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference North Division championship. He transferred to Oregon State University, where he led his team in the most recent NCAA March Madness Tournament. The Beavers made it all the way to the Elite 8 in this single elimination tournament.



SBVC Alumnus is Idaho State MVP

Former SBVC basketball standout **Chidi Udengwu** is continuing his prowess on the court by pursuing a spot in the NBA draft. While at SBVC, Chidi led the team in rebounds, was named a member of the 1st team All-Conference, and was also selected as the SBVC 2018 Commencement student speaker. He then transferred to Idaho State, where he played in every one of the 30 games for the Bengals in the 2019-20 season. Currently, Chidi is employing a specialist with the goal of being picked for the NBA draft. He hopes that the connections he builds on his own and through his agent help him land an opportunity in the big leagues of basketball.



Actor D.C. Douglas Hosts Panel for Voiceover Acting

Actor, director and writer D.C. Douglas spoke to the SBVC campus on industry tips for breaking into the entertainment industry. As part of the 10th Annual International Student Film Festival, Douglas detailed his previous work on video games and animation voice over acting, and how students can pursue their own acting and voiceover careers.

Theatre Arts Department Hosts Virtual Improv Show

The SBVC Theatre Arts Department held a free Improv Show called "How to Get Away with Comedy." The show, held virtually over Zoom, encouraged attendees to suggest various topics and themes, which were then spontaneously performed by the student actors in a variety of zany skits and hilarious scenes improvised on the spot.





SBVC HIGHLIGHTS

SBCCDTA Develops Podcast to Support Faculty Mental Health & Wellness

The San Bernardino Community College District Teachers Association (SBCCDTA) wants all instructors to know that if they are dealing with increased stress, burnout, or addiction, help is available. The latest episode of the union's podcast covers mental health awareness and resources that are available for those in crisis. The group started its informational podcast more than a year ago, and according to Meridyth McLaren, SBCCDTA president, they "typically choose topics based on what is happening with negotiations, questions we are getting from faculty, or general information we think would be beneficial for faculty to know." In the future, podcasts will be recorded at SBVC's IMA podcast studio. The podcast is available on Anchor, Apple, iHeartRadio, and Spotify by searching "SBCCDTA."



SBVC Wolverine Con Attracts Global Audience Through Virtual Format



After a weekend of fun, film and festivities, SBVC's Institute of Media Arts (IMA) has completed yet another successful Wolverine Con & International Student Film Festival, held March 31 to April 3. The third annual festival, which was held virtually, featured a cosplay contest, panel discussions with SBVC faculty and industry professionals, film screenings from students at SBVC and all over the world, and an awards ceremony. This year's theme was "Monsters and Aliens of Horror and Sci-Fi." Lucas Cuny, SBVC assistant professor and director of the IMA, said Wolverine Con helps to showcase the incredible programs the college offers, particularly SBVC's Film, Television, and Media Program, to students

around the country. The films screened by SBVC students and alumni included "San Bernardino" by Paul Del Rosario; "Intrusion" by Jacob Hickman; "3 Days, 2 Nights" by Carlos Valencia, SBVC Class of '20; "Skateboarding: 101" by Dominick Garcez; "Conversations that Come Along with Chess" by Dominick Garcez; and "FPD-Fashion Police Department" by Dominick Garcez, which won Fan Film Best Concept at the award ceremony. On the last day of the festival, a grand jury made up of industry professionals named the top films and filmmakers during a live virtual awards ceremony. Award winners received camera equipment, cash and gift cards. To view the list of winners and screen the films, visit valleycollege.edu/wolverinecon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 14
Spotlighting Awards 2020-21
TBD • Virtual

May 26
SBVC Commencement 2021
9:00am • Virtual

