



PHOTO JEREMY CUENCA

Between March 16 and April 23, criminals stole over \$3,000 worth of electronics and musical instruments from offices and classrooms within the Music Center at LACC.

Burglars Steal Instruments, Electronics from Music Center

BY ISIS MALONE

Authorities are investigating an early morning burglary at the Herb Alpert Music Center on the campus of Los Angeles City College, where suspects shattered glass doors and stole musical instruments, an Apple laptop, and key cards.

LACC Instructional Assistant Sam Plotkin arrived on campus early in the morning to find a window behind his office broken.

Faculty members say the incident, which occurred over the weekend of March 16, has left them frustrated by a lack of administrative support and no way to replace stolen personal property.

Deputies responded to a 7 a.m. burglary call at the Music Center, according to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department incident report. Instructional Assistant Caroline Reyes told police that when she arrived for work, she discovered the glass window

on the door to Room 108 had been shattered. A second glass door that leads to the Music Library was also broken.

Inside, Reyes noticed a record player had been stolen. She then discovered that eight key cards, which provide access to multiple classrooms and offices within the building, were missing from a drawer in her office desk.

A violin and a banjo were also missing from Plotkin's office. In all, \$3000 worth of instruments and electronics were missing.

"[The banjo] is the one I'm most heartbroken about, as I had been planning to provide it for a student to learn on," he said. "Both instruments were district property."

There are no suspects in custody, but sheriffs do have surveillance footage that shows two suspects in-

SEE "MORE PATROLS" PAGE 6

CalFresh: Expanded Work Requirements Start in June

BY VANESSA KOLB

New work requirements will limit access to CalFresh benefits for many Californians starting June 1.

As part of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, CalFresh provides grocery assistance to more than 5 million Californians each year. An estimated 665,500 people are at risk of losing food assistance, according to the California Legislative Analyst's Office.

To be eligible for CalFresh, partic-

ipants must either meet minimum hours-per-week or dollars-earned work requirements, or be exempt from the work requirements for a specific, approved reason. The new rules reduce the number of people who are exempt.

Veterans, foster youth and people experiencing homelessness will no longer be exempt from work requirements. The require-

SEE "CALFRESH" PAGE 6

PART 2

Years After Senate Warning, Harassment Concerns Persist

The District must adopt "clear concrete steps" for the selection of campus leaders after sexual misconduct allegations.

BY MICHAEL EDELSTEIN

Some faculty leaders at Los Angeles City College are demanding accountability in the way the college responds to accusations of sexual misconduct and harassment to keep students and staff safe, and it is not the first time.

The District Academic Senate, which represents faculty at all nine campuses, passed a resolution in 2024, to review how complaints of sexual harassment are handled.

Two years have passed since the District Academic Senate passed the resolution. But the senate at LACC filed a resolution of its own that mirrors the same concerns and issues previously articulated by the District Senate.

A lawsuit filed by a former student worker from Southwest College in 2017, has stirred controversy at L.A. City College. The new dean of recruitment and student services, Johnel Barron was named in the lawsuit, which alleged sexual harassment, gender/sex discrimination and a hostile work environment when he worked as an outreach coordinator at Southwest.

The complaint also included accusations of uninvited hugs several times a day from the defendant, "grooming" of the plaintiff on how to dress, interact with men and

even a threat of violence against the plaintiff and other employees of Southwest College, according to the lawsuit.

"Barron would yell at her and afterward[s], would hug her. Barron threatened plaintiff and other employees telling them: 'I come from Indiana which is the murder capital of the United States. I know where you live and I won't hesitate to put my hands on you and be violent,'" according to Page 5 of the complaint.

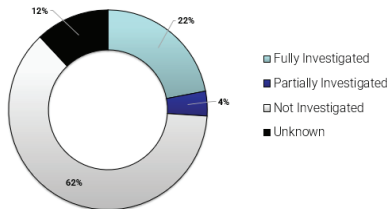
Collegian reporters attempted to schedule an interview with the former student worker from Southwest College, Raquel Gonzalez, several times without success.

Dean Barron declined to speak to the Collegian in April or comment on the lawsuit, the past proceedings or the truthfulness of the allegations against him. In a series of YouTube videos, he appears as a motivational speaker and teacher, offering encouragement to young people.

"Johnel has the ability to connect with teens and parents, sending his audience into a 'reality-based' walk of self-discovery that is dedicated to opening the eyes, minds and hearts of our society's future leaders. By eliciting a positive change in their attitudes, actions and environment, Johnel Barron's goal is to promote a positive change in our community by tapping into the educational system and reducing our country's drop-out rates," according to a short bio from a YouTube presentation that features the new

SEE "STUDENTS" PAGE 6

September 2, 2025
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In total, LACCD fully investigated twenty-nine complaints and partially investigated five complaints. Of the twenty-nine fully investigated complaints, the allegations were substantiated in only one complaint.

The table below shows the investigation status and outcome for all 132 cases we reviewed.

Determination		Substantiated	Not Substantiated	Unknown	Not Applicable
Fully Investigated	29	1	22	6	0
Partially Investigated	5	0	5	0	0
Not Investigated	82	0	0	0	82
Unknown	16	0	0	16	0
TOTAL	132	1	27	22	82

We were also asked to determine whether respondents were involved in multiple complaints and if so, how many. Our review showed that there were nineteen respondents with more than one complaint against them. Of these nineteen respondents, none were district-level employees (chancellors, deputy and vice chancellors, and other personnel at the district-level), five were campus-level administrators (presidents, vice presidents, deans, or personnel at a similar level), five were faculty members, and four were staff members. In none of those cases were the allegations substantiated. Of the nineteen respondents with more than one complaint against them, thirteen are still employed at LACCD.

3. Determine whether LACCD resolved those complaints in a timely manner

Our review found that LACCD resolved approximately 65% of complaints in a timely manner and approximately 23% of complaints in an untimely manner. In 12% of cases, documentation gaps made it impossible to tell whether the resolution was timely or untimely.

These timeliness rates, however, are misleading as a marker of efficiency. We found that most of the cases that were resolved in a timely manner were closed at or shortly after intake, often without sufficient intake steps being completed before the case was closed. For the cases that were closed in an untimely manner, the delays were often extensive, well beyond the 60 to 90 days set forth in policy for an investigation. In addition, in many instances, the delays and the causes for the delays were not sufficiently documented or communicated to the parties as required by Title IX and the Clergy Act.

TO READ THE FULL COZEN O'CONNOR REPORT, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT: TINYURL.COM/3RFNZ7BF



PART 2

Medina Case Advances, Bond Watchdog Cites Several Issues

Bond Program Monitor flags contractor oversight, ethics concerns and safety problems in the multi-billion dollar BuildLACCD Program.

BY MATTHEW ALI

While the Los Angeles Community College District prepares to fight a lawsuit filed by former General Counsel Maribel Medina, it must also consider a list of BuildLACCD Bond Program Monitor findings in a four-part report that covers May 2024 through June 2025.

The Medina trial will begin in July in L.A. Superior Court after a May postponement. On April 30, Judge Jerrold Abeles granted summary judgment to former Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez and Trustee Steve Veres. This means the District remains a defendant and will face potential liability at trial. But neither Trustee Veres, nor Rodriguez will pay punitive damages for the behavior Medina alleged in her lawsuit. Only the LACCD will face the jury and pay punitive damages if Medina wins.

This raised an issue with Student Trustee Jasmine Francis at the May 6 meeting of the

LACCD Board of Trustees, as Francis nears the end of her term.

She asked questions about how the LACCD will protect against legal costs that affect student resources, since the District paid legal costs for Veres and Rodriguez from the "General Fund," according to Francis.

"We want those questions answered, so whatever time and format that we need to submit those questions, we would like a public [response] back," Francis said during the meeting. "Either you post it on your page somewhere [or] somehow ... but we want those responses publicly recorded."

She also cited a petition that she circulated online. The stated goal was to hold Trustee Veres accountable. The LACCD took the original petition down after over 400 people

SEE "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" PAGE 6

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EDITORIAL



AI IMAGE GENERATED BY KEN BUBUSHYAN

FREEDOM OF DE-PRESSED

BY JEREMY CUENCA

In an era where information moves faster than ever, the volume of content that Americans consume daily has made it difficult to distinguish credible journalism from misinformation. The line between reality and fabrication becomes fuzzier each day with the advancement of Artificial Intelligence and recommendation algorithms. AI systems are trained on vast data sets to understand and generate human-like content or to target social media content to people based on their previous browsing history and demographic data. Audiences are exposed to an overwhelming amount of content online each day. Much of it lacks verification

or editorial oversight. This saturation and algorithm-based personalization not only blurs the distinction between facts and opinions, but it also reinforces existing biases, which can be dangerous in some cases. As a field, journalism faces growing pressure, political hostility and declining public trust largely because of the rapid rise of algorithm-driven content. Journalists themselves encounter increased resistance and pushback from government officials, the public and even publishers. The amount of censorship we notice today is concerning. George Orwell’s dystopian novel “1984” is a story written to warn against the dangers of totalitarianism. No one is allowed to read or write anything other than what the leadership’s (also known as Big Brother) propaganda allows them to consume. Although

Orwell wrote his story as a warning against dictatorships, it feels as if the Trump administration has used this as a blueprint to manipulate and control the masses. The most relevant part of the book today is how the Party controlled reality by controlling information. Especially in America, the echo chambers of social media and the growing mistrust of journalism make it hard for people to agree on what is true. As a result, public opinion is becoming easier to manipulate. What does this mean for those who are actively trying to inform the public of what happens around us? As these challenges grow, journalism programs, particularly within public college systems like the Los Angeles Community College District, are being forced to adapt, often with limited resources, to prepare

students for a rapidly changing and increasingly polarized media landscape. In press briefings and public forums, reporters have been dismissed and interrupted or publicly criticized for asking direct questions and raising concerns about the normalization of hostility toward the press. As the current presidential administration seems determined to put our country in a chokehold, suppressing the media is just the start of a march toward totalitarian control. This new age of technology and rapid information could be a good thing for society, if it is used to keep us informed of objective truths. Our journalists and scholars give us hope through their brave attempts to bring the truth to light, even if it means costing their livelihoods, reputations, freedoms or possibly even their lives.

VIEWPOINT

Listen to Survivors First, Hold Perps Accountable

BY ANGELA JOHNSON

How do we amplify sexual harassment and sexual assault survivors’ voices? What should happen when survivors say they were harassed or assaulted? How should bystanders be empowered and encouraged to step up and support survivors? Those are questions with no easy answers. I have a few helpful suggestions and a lot more questions intended to precipitate deliberate consideration, decisive action and create change. I would like to make a few assertions first that I think are just common sense.



The burden of proof should be on the perpetrator of harassment or assault and not put upon the survivor. Those in positions to address the allegations should not discount the word of survivors just because they step forward on condition of anonymity. The survivors are right to be afraid. College administrators shouldn’t act like they don’t understand how power-sex dynamics work. Mainstream television has romanticized power gender politics for decades. Contemporary representations include “Mad Men,” “The Office,” “Scandal,” “Succession,” “Billions” and “Suits.” Each of these hit shows depict sexual harassment, exploitation of subordinates and quid pro quo situations with a glossy, seductive tint. The men are portrayed as reeking with aphrodisiacal power, ruthless, cunning, sexy, yet redeemable. Not as the narcissistic sexual

predators they would be in real life. The reactive remedy of launching an investigation is merely performative at best and a smokescreen at worst that allows the perp to skirt accountability. They get to keep their public-facing persona intact and not be seen for the predator they really are. The predator can just continue doing their dirty work at the next place of employment. Employers must specifically screen for sexual harassment and assault in background checks. They’re going to need to dig a little deeper than the curriculum vitae. A decade or two should be sufficient. The students are worth it. I was totally taken aback when I found out a nationally-recognized cultural critic, scholar and best-selling author I admired was investigated for sexual harassment at a university where he was a tenured professor. No results of the investigation were made public. He switched universities. A graduate student

at another university where he taught also accused him of sexual harassment. He moved on to yet another Ivy League high-profile position. He is considered a distinguished professor and receives paid speaking engagements. One of the latest, at Los Angeles City College. Professor Michael Eric Dyson has been a guest speaker at LACC at least two times that President Amanuel Gebru recalled when we talked back in February. I told one of Gebru’s cabinet members about the sexual harassment allegations lodged against Dyson and the survivor who withheld their own name. The administrative leader was on the committee that invited the scholar to LACC and seemed to discount the lived experience of the survivor. I was vexed by this response because I assumed this administrator is astute enough to understand the threats that go along with power-sex dynamics of inappropriate faculty and student interactions.

Making an anonymous complaint is not akin to throwing rocks while hidden behind a tree. This is about reprisals that affect someone’s academic, educational and professional aspirations. Of course, women are afraid to speak out. When they do, it is beyond courageous because the threat of repercussions and retaliation is real. Careers and livelihoods are jeopardized if the whistle is blown on a powerful man who can inflict harm on the survivor, their family members and loved ones. I would be afraid to speak up, too. Sexual harassment must be considered with the same gravity of human rights and civil rights violations. Violators must know that they will be vigorously prosecuted. The threat of hard, unyielding consequences, including public humiliation, should be strong enough motivation to stop the sexual harassment and assault before it has begun.

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CITY VIEWS

Students have reported receiving scam emails through their school-issued email accounts. How do you protect yourself from phishing attempts and scams?

CITY VIEWS & PICTURES BY
KEN BUBUSHYAN



CAROLINE AILEY
PUBLIC HEALTH MAJOR

I have received a few phishing emails on my student email, and I believe when you get one, it tells you that this sender is not in your like registered district. That is the first red flag that I would look for. But again, I do not blame them because most of them are like job opportunities or ways that you can make money and as many of us rely heavily on financial aid and might not make enough financially to support ourselves in college, we will fall for these scams.

I believe if the career center has a workshop or something to help students get more educated on spotting scam or phishing emails that would be really helpful.



MARILOU CONCEPCION
BIOLOGY MAJOR

I don't click on any links or attachments sent in suspicious emails. I usually check the sender's email address because sometimes it may look like it is from LACCD, but it actually comes from a Yahoo or Gmail account, and that is how I know it is fake. I also pay attention to whether the email is sent to multiple students. If everyone is CC'd, I assume it is a scam ...

I don't know if all students are aware, but there is a phishing email address where students can forward suspicious emails for review. They usually respond within 24 to 48 hours to confirm whether or not it is a scam.



DANIELLA SANCHEZ
JOURNALISM MAJOR

I always fact-check before I respond to or click on anything in an email. I think the school could help by posting scam warnings in one central place, instead of only sending out individual emails, so students can stay updated more easily. I have not personally received any scam emails through my school account.



BRANDIE THIRFT
FILM AND MUSIC MAJOR

I mostly just clean out my email. Sometimes that feels like all you can do because scam emails keep coming, just like scam phone calls. The most you can do is block the sender and delete the email. I personally haven't received any scam emails through my school account, but I think the school should work with its IT department to figure out how to prevent them from reaching students.



ARI MORALES
PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

One area where I see a lot of suspicious emails is with messages claiming to be from the Career Center. They often offer job opportunities, but sometimes they look too good to be true. When that happens, I usually check with the Career Center directly. If the email did not come from them, I block the sender.

A lot of these scam emails ask for personal information, like a Social Security number, and that information can easily be used in a harmful way. I think the school should create stronger email security for students so that messages have to come from official school sources. Sometimes students do not pay.

INK STYLE

A Visual Representation of the World as We Know it



AI IMAGE CREATED BY KEN BUBUSHYAN

Many Americans Ignore Harm Unless It's Personal

BY ISIS MALONE

The federal government instituted a repatriation campaign aimed specifically at deporting “illegal” Mexican immigrants. They called it “Operation W---k,” but I don’t feel comfortable using that slur.

Federal authorities deported more than four-million Mexicans over a 15-year period during the Obama, Trump and Biden administrations. Yet so many voted for this style of government, knowing a wave of deportations or worse could follow.

It is frustrating because we have known Trump wanted to build the wall bordering the USA



and Mexico since 2016! He said as much point blank before he was elected: On day one I will launch the world’s largest deportation program.”

Last year, the president targeted more than 600 Guatemalan children who were living in U.S. shelters for deportation until a judge blocked the order. The children crossed over without their parents, according to the Associated Press. Now, I don’t believe America is going to see the largest deportation it has ever witnessed, because Donald Trump is full of crap. But that does not mean he won’t try everything in his power to deport large numbers of immigrants.

Then, we have white women who are republicans now, that are ready to settle down and start a family, but they were crying on their friends’ shoulders at the abortion clinic in 2017. It’s like because these circumstances no

longer benefit them, they want to take that right away from anyone else. Something everyone needs to realize is that we are all living a vastly different life from each other and just because something doesn’t affect you personally, does not mean it won’t affect others.

The 2024 General Election made me realize how deeply stupid Americans are. The least educated people voted against humanity, and they are the same people who will complain when things are working against them. Honestly, that scenario is old to me. Society warned them, political parties aside, and still a felon was chosen to be president because he’s a man.

I feel some fear for every minority in this country and my own sanity as well, because I see myself saying “well, they voted for this” or “ask Trump” if anything bad were to happen.

I do realize back in 2016 nothing too crazy happened during Trump’s first term, but I also was in the seventh grade and too young to understand what was happening.

Project 2025 did not exist either, or I wonder what happened to republicans in the span of eight years for them to favor a dictatorship.

It’s uncomfortable to be in a class with a Black woman who supports the republicans, because it’s like, they are supporting outdated values and qualities. Honestly, older people like that shouldn’t vote that way. In my opinion, if you were raised in a lower-class area or the hood, you should not be voting red.

Billionaires in government could care less about you and you don’t know their true intentions from a can of paint because if you did you would not be happy about the 2024 General Election.

Who Gets Past the Velvet Rope?

BY NARIA PAYTAS

Every Friday and Saturday night, the streets of Los Angeles are sprinkled with twinkling, blinking lights and people shining in their best outfits, as lines of partygoers stand outside while the club bouncer checks for names on “The List.”

To get on “The List,” there is one major requirement: know somebody who can put you on the guest list or will vouch for you at the door. Oftentimes, that might not even be enough to get on the list.



As I stood in these lines watching women in nice dresses and eager young men get turned away, I often questioned if the “exclusivity” these establishments boasted walked the same line as discrimination. This question is not a new one.

The Los Angeles Times article, “The Nerd Factor: Nightclubs’ Unwritten Dress Codes Under Attack,” published in 1990, outlined the story of Kenneth M. Lipton, an attorney who stated he was denied entry into a downtown L.A. nightclub based solely on his attire, despite there being no disclosed dress code.

Two years ago, two social media models Ella Halikas and Alexa Jay told their story of denial at the door, and it went viral. Jay posted a TikTok video where she says, “I was being discriminated against because of the size of my body.”

In the digital age when there is an app for just about everything. There is an app that will boost your chances of getting into notoriously exclusive night clubs. Apps like Partiful allow event hosts and club promoters to advertise their parties en masse notification to users. Your Instagram handle is often required information only to potentially be handed a golden ticket, your spot on “The List.”

Now, unlike in Lipton’s or Halikas and Jay’s case, would-be partiers can be stopped before they even get to the front door with a quick glance at the online profiles of potential guests. These apps help blur the lines of racial, appearance, and class-based discrimination.

From the doorman’s spotty dress code to the party host’s darkened phone screen, discrimination wears a disguise; and is often branded as “exclusive.”

This issue has risen to such prominence that a sociology professor at the University of Illinois, Reuben M. Beuford, gathered various instances of this type of discrimination happening at nightclubs across the United States between 2000 and 2014. Beuford coined the term “velvet rope racism,” which refers to the velvet ropes separating the wishful regular folks from those granted access to the exclusive parties, and what that denial of access sometimes can mean.

As the hours spent in dimly lit bars fade from Friday to Saturday, as the velvet rope divides us like lines in a coloring book, we will hopefully denounce exclusivity in the name of being cool, because discrimination never belongs on the guest list.

TALK BACK TO THE EDITORS

We are interested in what you have to say

Email us at
losangeles.collegian@gmail.com
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PHOTO BY MARYANNA LIZAMA

Cast and crew take a group photo for the new upcoming play, "shape of our voices" that will take place at the LACC Caminito Theater Academy from May 14-16, 2026 and May 21-23, 2026.

Representation Will Soon Take the Stage in May

BY NIRUPAM DHAKAL

Just in time for Asian Heritage Month, the Los Angeles City College Theatre Academy will present "shape of our voices", a bold and intimate theater production directed by Chie Saito. Devised by LACC Theatre Academy acting student, the play will run for six shows starting on May 14 to 16, 2026, concluding on May 21 to 23, 2026. Each show will begin at 7 p.m.

The play is centered on Asian Americans and Asian immi-

grants and will examine themes of oppression, discrimination, liberation and transformation. The themes will be "expressed through our bodies, emotions and the theatrical space," Saito says.

Performances will take place at the Caminito Theatre. Admission is free, with reservations recommended through Eventbrite which can be found on the LACC Theatre Academy website.

Students, faculty and community members are invited to support student theater and engage with this deeply authentic and emotional play which is bound to resonate with many far beyond the stage.



PHOTOS BY JUAN MENDOZA

(Top) In this scene from "Hummingbirds Are Not Machines," characters end up sharing their personal issues and secrets, revealing more about themselves and the tension that's building

(Lower) In the scene, the two doctors caring for the mental wellness facility patients attentively listen to their heartfelt concerns.



Student Production Explores Fragility of the Human Mind

BY JUAN MENDOZA

Cameo Theater at Los Angeles City College packed a house for "Hummingbirds Are Not Machines" with a limited three-day engagement. The play opened on Thursday night from April 30 to May 2.

This student-led production, written and directed by Shewan Edward, offered a poignant, surreal exploration of the complexities of human connection and the exhausting pace of modern life.

The psychological drama, with elements of mystery, centers on perceptions of trust and power in a mental health facility. "Two doctors started this facility away from the real world and

the city, essentially to protect men and women of color from a world that has been abusive and destructive to them," Edward said.

The play explores themes of uncertainty and suspicion after one of their friends, a patient, disappears one night; the event quickly disrupts the fragile stability of the patient community. Because the setting blurs, reality and perception, no one is sure what's real, whom to trust, or whether the disappearance was accidental, voluntary, or something darker.

"The play unfolds as a mystery, revolving around what happened," Edward said. "What really happened to Louise? Did she run away? It's somebody who hurt her. How did she leave, locked in

this gated community of color?"

The two doctors in charge of the mental facility are supposed to provide care and stability, but patients who genuinely demand answers about their treatment challenge their authority. Is the treatment harming them, or is it experimental? The failure to reveal the cause of their friend's disappearance further fuels their frustration and creates chaos at the facility.

The confined setting intensifies the drama, creating a claustrophobic atmosphere in which tensions escalate and truths are slowly uncovered. Patients begin turning against one another, fueled by fear, paranoia, and isolation. This creates tension and exposes underlying personal issues and secrets.

The story centers on individuals confined in a facility intended for healing, where a disappearance ignites suspicion and prompts larger inquiries about trust and authority. The play explores the fragility of the human psyche, the challenge of distinguishing truth from illusion, and the moral complexities of mental health care.

"Originally, this was just supposed to be a staged reading. Reading the script, maybe sitting in chairs, getting the story out," said Edward. "And then, very quickly after I cast the actors and created this story, it became clear to them and to me that we could make it into something bigger." The play was entirely self-produced and completed in five weeks.



PHOTO BY JUAN MENDOZA

On April 16, 2026, a group of emerging writers and illustrators arrived at the Writers and Illustrators of the Future Gala in Hollywood, CA. They dressed in everything from stunning gowns to smart tuxedos, bringing elegance, energy, and excitement to the night.

Emerging Sci-Fi and Fantasy Writers Stride the Red Carpet

BY JUAN MENDOZA

Red carpet arrivals, flashing cameras and a towering dragon statue set the tone at the Writers and Illustrators of the Future Awards ceremony at the Taglyan Complex in Hollywood on April 16.

The ceremony welcomed emerging writers and creators, along with their mentors, families and friends, whose work was featured in the Writers of the Future Anthology.

Every year, 12 writers and 12 illustrators are chosen to take part in the anthology. This year's cover features art by veteran fantasy artist Ciruelo Cabral.

"There is a central dragon figure, along with two Amazonian warriors. The scene is called 'The Fire Drive,' and it's about characters who control fire. Behind them, you can see a volcano," Cabral said. "They live on an island where fire is a natural element, and in the image, it's clear that the two Amazonian warriors, along with the dragon, are defending their territory."

Thomas R. Eggenberger wrote a story about bubbles that stop time and save people from disasters and accidents. "A Ready-Made Bubble of Light" secured Eggenberger's win.

"It's a society where they've gained the ability to stop time in small areas, and they use it to help people," Eggenberger said. "[The protagonist] in the story goes out to help people who are about to have a car crash. People survive a car crash by reducing the vehicle's weight. He does a perfect job, but things don't turn out as expected."

Eggenberger says that students in the creative writing discipline should sit down, get behind the keyboard and try.

"When I came up with the story, I sat down and started writing it first," he said. "By simply sitting down at the keyboard and gently encouraging yourself to write, thoughts tend to start flowing more naturally out of you. The more you write, the better you'll become at it."

Born in China, Haotian "Allen" Zhang, the illustrator behind "A Ready-Made Bubble of Light," studied traditional Chinese painting and calligraphy, which sparked his love of art and led him to commit to turning imagination into vivid images and meaningful stories.

"I'm very excited to be here with all the writers and the illustrators," Zhang said. "It's amazing. I learned a lot during the process."

Jannicke Mikkelsen, was a special guest and gala awards keynote speaker. She served as the spacecraft commander for the SpaceX Crew Dragon Fram2 mission. It was the first mission to fly over Earth's poles.

"To all writers and illustrators who are with us tonight, my crew and I would not have gone into space aboard the Dragon if it were not for the science fiction writers who dream up the possibilities that we made real," Mikkelsen said. "Your journey of exploration, discovery and understanding would not be possible if all of you did not tap into the future of what-ifs. The future you imagine is one we'll all explore one day. Dare to dream, dare to write and dare to create."

NEWS BRIEFS

SPRING IS FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

BY DOREEN SANCHEZ

Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed in May for 77 years as a national movement to reduce stigma and promote mental wellbeing. This year, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) is hosting one of its “Take Action” events at Los Angeles City College on Wed., May 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 840 Heliotrope Drive.

The event is one in a series of family-friendly gatherings throughout the county that offer a variety of activities geared toward mental health and wellness: meditation, yoga, free food (while supplies last), music, gift giveaways, free hair cuts, manicures, pet adoptions, onsite hiring opportunities. LACDMH planned a full calendar of engaging “Take Action” events this month. For more information go to the website at <https://www.takeactionla.com/events>.

LECTURE SERIES HOSTS INTERGENERATIONAL CONVERSATION

The Nick Beck Investigative Journalism Lecture Series hosts father and daughter journalists Jorge and Paola Ramos, who will share their perspectives on Latino social identity and political dynamics, on May 14, 2026 at 4 p.m. The engaging conversation will examine intergenerational issues facing the Latino community today. This will be an opportunity to hear from two influential voices that offer a bridge between generations and experiences.

The conversation will happen in the Multi-Purpose Room on the third floor of the Student Union Building.

REPORTERS NOTEBOOK



"Online Bad Actor" by Wesley Fryer is licensed under CC BY 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/?ref=open-verse>.

Scammers Hit Student Inboxes
Fraudulent emails dressed up as financial aid and job offers target LACC students.

BY ANDRE SOTO
UNTIVEROS

Reporting Suspicious Emails: If you receive a suspicious email, do not click on any links. Please forward it immediately to phishing@laccd.edu. When in doubt, ask!

Today’s hackers have more power than ever as they take advantage of a hyper-digital world to launch scams that steal money, personal data and even identities. Nobody is immune, especially not students, businesses or hospitals. Even public institutions have become targets.

Over the past few weeks, I noticed something strange in my college email. Messages about financial aid grants, remote job offers and urgent account messages kept showing up.

At first glance, they looked somewhat official, but something felt off. I took a closer look, and it became clear that these were not legitimate school emails but instead part of a growing wave of scams targeting students.

First off, many of these emails were sent from personal Gmail accounts, not official school domains. They were also distributed to hundreds of students at once, and they used generic greetings like “Dear Student.” They created urgency by pressuring students to act quickly and to click on external links and identical school forms.

These tactics are part of what’s known as phishing. Attackers try to trick individuals into providing sensitive information. The L.A. County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs recommends that students who are targeted by

scams should not click suspicious links and report the messages immediately. If personal information is entered, it is recommended that you change passwords, contact financial institutions and monitor your accounts for unusual activity.

Real world cases show how serious these scams can be. One individual, William H., shared his experience after attempting to renew his driver’s license online:

“Everything seemed fine ... the website looked identical to the original DMV website, but it wasn’t. I ended up falling for it, and later found out it was a scam. They had access to my debit card and all my information, including my social number.”

He described spending days closing accounts, changing passwords and placing fraud alerts to protect himself from future attacks. While hacking is often thought of as breaking into systems, many attacks rely on manipulating people instead.

An individual familiar with cybersecurity, who asked to be identified as Luis, explained:

“There are three types of hackers ... black hat, gray hat and white hat,” said Luis, an individual familiar with cybersecurity who preferred not to share his last name. “Black hat hackers commit crimes illegally, gray hat hackers will do good or bad for the right amount

of money and white hat hackers work closely with organizations and companies to prevent attacks.”

In cases like student email scams, attacks are mostly done by black hat hackers using phishing techniques. Once hackers gain access to your accounts, they can use that information to steal money, open credit cards or loans, commit identity theft and even impersonate you to scam others.

Students are often targeted because they rely heavily on email for important updates, making messages about financial aid or jobs even more convincing. However, there are clear warning signs to watch for:

Emails from non-school addresses

Messages sent to large groups

Urgent language requiring immediate action

Generic greetings like “Dear Student”

Links to unfamiliar websites

Despite my attempts to contact the LACC IT department for comment, no response was received. At the end of the day, these scams don’t just hack systems, they hack real people. In a world where a single click can expose your identity, your finances and your future, awareness is your first line of defense.

Resources for Students:
If you or anyone you know may

have fallen victim to a scam, you can use the following official resources:

U.S. Department of Education – Office of Inspector General (OIG)

Report education-related scams, identity theft, and fraud:

<https://oig.ed.gov/oig-hotline/where-report/identity-theft-and-scams/education-related-scams> IdentityTheft.gov (Federal Trade Commission)

Steps to recover from identity theft and protect your information:

<https://identitytheft.gov/ReportFraud.ftc.gov> (Federal Trade Commission)

Report scams and fraudulent activity directly to the FTC:

<https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/> Federal Trade Commission (FTC) – Phishing & “edu” Email Scams

Learn how scammers target student email accounts:

<http://consumer.ftc.gov/node/76832>

Federal Trade Commission (FTC) – Consumer Information General guidance on scams and fraud prevention:

<https://consumer.ftc.gov/> Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs

Updates on current scams and tools to protect yourself:

<https://dcba.lacounty.gov/>

RETIREMENT

Professor Hangs Up Goggles



A student visited the Collegian Offices this week to notify the staff about a "wonderful" professor who will retire at the end of the spring semester.

The student clutched a handful of colorful flyers that described how prospective students could lose their fear of water and master basic swimming strokes, inside the Kinesiology North Building, if they enrolled in classes taught by Professor

Thomas D. Cano. His "office" is located amid amenities like the spin studio and the gymnasium.

After 30 years of teaching at Los Angeles City College, the professor will be retiring. In "Rate My Professor," Cano is described as an “amazing person” and someone who “radiates positive vibes.” Students on the site say they would take his classes again. His committed student, Michael Mac Donald, wanted the Collegian staff to take note.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

THE CANDIDATES



Colter Carlisle



Dylan Kendall



Rich Sarian



Hugo Soto-Martínez

A candidates forum brought an estimated 300 members of the public to hear from candidates ahead of next month's election for the L.A. City Council District 13 seat now held by incumbent Councilman Hugo Soto-Martinez (right) on April 30. Challengers outlined their plans for District 13, which includes Echo Park, Atwater Village and parts of Hollywood, if they can unseat Soto-Martinez in the June 2 election.

[HTTPS://CD13.INFO](https://cd13.info)



FROM "BOND WATCHDOG" PAGE 1

BPM Raises Conflict of Interest Concerns

signed it, according to Francis, because it improperly used LACCD resources. Frances reposted the petition not long after, without the use of district resources.

BOND MONITOR FLAGS RISKS IN ETHICS AND OPERATIONS

The BPM became concerned about possible conflicts of interest and access to sensitive records, confidential leaks and how the LACCD responded to its recommendations. The BPM reports phone calls from outside the District that involve privileged information that was only shared with the District Chancellor's Office and the LACCD General Counsel's Office.

The bond monitor works for the public.

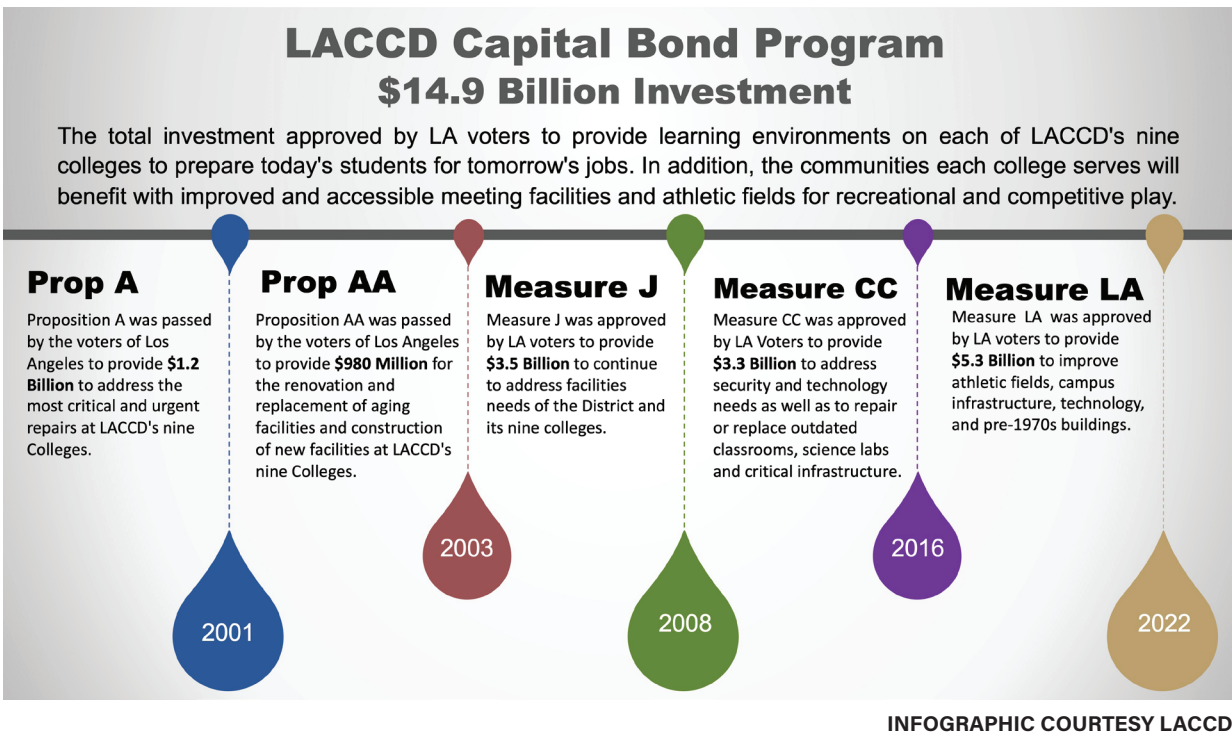
"The BPM serves as the eyes and ears of the District's stakeholders – the District Board of Trustees, the Chancellor, BuildLACCD, LACCD faculty, students and staff, contractors, consultants and the citizens of greater Los Angeles – to identify and respond to allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse, and/or violations of laws, regulations and rules occurring within the district's bond construction projects, and to help the District maintain the integrity of its public-funded bond construction program," the BPM states in the executive summary of its most recent report.

LEVINE ACT RAISES CONCERNS

One of the most important findings involved campaign contributions and potential conflicts of interest for a number of LACCD trustees from firms or sub-contractors connected to a major bond-program contract competition. The 2024 third quarter BPM report says trustees received campaign contributions over the \$250 Levine Act threshold from companies or vendors connected to firms bidding on the Program Management Office contract, while the board was preparing to vote on the award. The Levine act prevents public officials from accepting campaign contributions from vendors or companies with business pending before the LACCD.

The BPM warned: "Any perception of or actual conflict of interest ... is to be avoided for the integrity of the Bond Program to remain intact."

As stated in the report, a number of seated trustees received campaign contributions over that



INFOGRAPHIC COURTESY LACCD

threshold from one or more of three bidders or their named sub-contractors for the PMO re-compete contract. The BPM cited Los Angeles County Registrar Campaign finance filings, standard California disclosure documents that candidates and officeholders are required to file to report campaign contributions and expenditures.

"So, there's been a lot of questioning around the Levine Act because we're told as trustees, as elected officials, that there's a 12-month period before and after. So, during campaigning, you can collect contributions," Henderson said.

As a sitting trustee, Henderson says she received information about contributions from LACCD's General Counsel, Jeffrey Prieto.

"Six of us had received contributions and one trustee had not," Henderson said. "So, the fact that [the BPM Reports] went back 24 months unnecessarily when we were told 12 because all of us would have, I'm going to speak for myself. We were told 12 months because we had gone beyond the 12 months, at the time of voting for these, for these measures, these contracts, I would have recused myself."

The Collegian contacted the office of the LACCD general counsel. Within the hour, Juliet Hidalgo, Interim Chief of Staff at the District called and asked for an email that explained the information needed but added she would not be able to respond until after the weekend.

Regarding the contract, the

BPM recommended LACCD withdraw the PMO re-compete process. The district complied.

The contract is currently held by Jacobs Solutions, Inc., and governs day-to-day management of the bond construction program and must be rebid every five years.

The BPM's 2025 second-quarter report states the monitor delivered a Preliminary Determination on the Levine Act findings to the district. The report states that a summary with supporting documentation is anticipated to be shared with the California Fair Political Practices Commission for its consideration, with any enforcement actions left to the FPPC to undertake.

BPM LACKS WORKSPACE ON SITE

The 2025 first-quarter report cited a recurring obstacle to the BPM's work.

"The district has not made relevant technologies and systems available to the BPM," the report stated. "This limitation on the BPM's ability to conduct its work has been raised to relevant District officials repeatedly for months now, with no remediation to date."

The same report describes throttled access to BuildLACCD's document management system. In addition to that, AMI., does not have a physical workspace at any district property from which to conduct related business.

CAL OSHA/WORKER SAFETY PROBLEMS

The report identified possible violations of Cal/OSHA rules that promote worker safety and labor

law concerns. The report also noted the failure of contractors to provide oversight, as interns processed invoices and granted financial approvals without adequate training or experience in cost accounting, according to the report.

The BPM identified Cal/OSHA violations involving outdoor heat illness prevention and other labor laws, resulting in the district terminating the vendor's contract within seven days.

Mikhail Gordon of Affiliated Monitors, Inc., was the interim bond program monitor appointed in May 2024, and became the permanent BPM in April of 2025. Before Gordon was appointed, there had been no oversight for nearly six months, and this roiled LACCD Trustee Gabriel Buelna.

"We were spending money," Trustee Buelna told the Collegian. "And for six months, the Board didn't have a bond monitor. And I was asking, 'Where the hell is the bond monitor?' And they didn't like those questions."

TO VIEW THE BOND MONITOR QUARTERLY REPORTS, SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT: TINYURL.COM/YBPU38MP



FROM "HARASSMENT CONCERNS PERSIST" PAGE 1

Students: Do Something

dean posted by Speaking.com.

Complaints and accusations of sexual harassment and assault are not new to the LACC campus. Mia Post filed a lawsuit in L.A. Superior Court in October of 2020 against the LACCD and the Board of Trustees. In it, Post alleged she was sexually harassed and assaulted by a professor at L.A. City College in 2018. The professor was not included in the lawsuit.

The lawsuit alleged negligence, civil rights violations and violation of the California Education Code. Students at LACC who spoke to the Collegian offered similar views on sexual harassment in the workplace: More must be done to manage what happens if allegations are proven to be true.

"I definitely think there should be more safety measures and more than just going to HR (Human Resources)," said Kiera, a theater arts major. "It actually depends [on] if they do something about it or find more ways to stop it. I don't think complaints should go to the administration but to a third party and arbitration first."

Last fall, the Los Angeles Community College District released the findings of the Cozen O'Connor report. The district retained the firm to learn how well the district responded to sexual harassment complaints, sexual misconduct and sex-based discrimination accusations.

LACCD Trustee Andra Hoffman has been an advocate for strengthening policies against sexual harassment and bullying, including full investigations without fear of retaliation.

She oversees the district's sexual assault, sexual harassment and Title IX efforts. Sex-based discrimination in any education program that receives federal funds is against the law.

"Many people who suffer harassment don't file formal complaints, although the current climate is leading many more to come forward," Hoffman said in an interview with LAist reporter Adolfo Guzman Lopez in 2018. The trustee did not return calls to the Collegian in time for publication.

But Hoffman says she has raised concerns about reports of sexual harassment and assault across the campuses.

L.A. City College Faculty Senate

President Anna H. Le introduced Academic Senate Resolution #05-526, Urge Reform to Prevent Sexual Misconduct, which was passed on April 2, 2026.

Sarah Springier is a Student Services Specialist in the LACC Counseling Department. She offered her views on the issue during public comment at the Board of Trustees meeting in April.

"When leadership appointments appear to overlook credible concerns, it undermines trust not only among students, faculty and staff but also our community partners," Springier said. "Our institutions need to hold the highest ethical standards."

She also says that many survivors of harassment see these decisions as "deeply personal," and that affects whether they feel safe or respected on campus.

Springier called for clear concrete steps to ensure past conduct is fully considered whenever a leadership appointment is made.

Brian is an employee who works in the Cinema Department at LACC, and he offered his thoughts about sexual harassment at work.

"I think it is a painful, horrible experience for anyone to go through and a scar on higher education," he said.

HARASSMENT CASE RETURNS TO THE DOCKET, FALL 2026

A notable legal case was filed on October 2018 (Case B327997), Sabrena Odom a tenured English professor and Director of Student Success at Los Angeles Southwest College filed a lawsuit for sexual harassment; failure to investigate and prevent sexual harassment; retaliation; and negligent hiring, supervision and retention, in violation of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA; Gov. Code, § 12940 et seq.), against defendants Los Angeles Community College District and Howard Irvin, then the vice president of student services at Los Angeles Southwest College.

The California Court of Appeal reversed the \$10 million verdict on April 7, 2025, finding that the trial judge admitted improper "#Me-Too" evidence and made prejudicial, and inappropriate comments. A new trial and proceedings are scheduled for the fall.

FROM "BURGLARS STEAL INSTRUMENTS" PAGE 1

Gebru Promises More Patrols

side the building around 2:24 a.m. on March 16. There is a male adult wearing a black hoodie and black pants with white lettering and a small red backpack. He was recorded walking down the hallway toward Room 108. Five minutes later, a female adult wearing a black tank top, blue jeans and carrying a large red backpack, along with a brown paper bag joined him. The two entered a restroom and stopped at multiple classrooms.

The pair returned to the hallway at 3:50 a.m. By 3:55 a.m. they exited a classroom holding multiple items that appeared to be musical instruments, including black cases. The male suspect returned at approximately 4:55 a.m. He entered another room and exited with several items, including a black case in his right hand and both a tan case and an additional black case in his left hand, according to the incident report narrative.

"A number of items were stolen, including a computer purchased by the department, and a personal hard drive which I use to back up my work files off-site," Plotkin wrote in an email to the Collegian.

The estimated value of the stolen property totals over \$3,000,

according to the incident report.

Officers were also unable to locate video footage showing the suspects entering or exiting the building, leaving open the possibility that the burglars accessed the Music Center through a back door close and obstructed by a construction site next to the building. Plotnick says that the music building's location makes it a natural target for break-ins.

"We have reported issues with our entrance facing the Vermont Avenue side for years, and only after the robbery was the door fixed," Plotkin said.

He added that he did not receive any reimbursement for the personal property stolen and that the department is still waiting for the police report filed by the Sheriff's office.

On April 23, Adjunct Faculty Juan Suarez emailed Deputy Alfonso Pastrano about another robbery in the Music Center.

"A pair of headphones was stolen from an equipment station where I work in this secure area. Sennheiser brand professional over-ear type, black in color," Suarez wrote in his email. "I noticed the missing equipment today. Other equipment in the area had also been tampered with, and I am continuing to assess

if anything else was stolen."

Since the break-in on March 16, Pastrano has sent Daily Log Patrols emails to a group of faculty and administrators including President Gebru. The logs record the Sheriff's patrols from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. and include recommendations like the repair of doors or the installation of locking mechanisms in problematic areas and locations around campus and details about campus incidents during the logged time and date of each report.

President Gebru sent an email to the LACC community, titled "State of the College - Year End Report- 2025-26," on May 6. Campus safety and environment were at the top of Gebru's email.

"[W]e are already taking steps to increase visibility and presence on campus," the president wrote. "This includes more frequent patrols during peak hours, the use of decoy vehicles in strategic locations, and the addition of a full-time deputy. We are also planning a 'safe walk' initiative for evening classes beginning in Fall 2026 to provide visible support as students move between classrooms and Parking Lot 3."

FOR THE RECORD:

In the April 22 edition of the Collegian, the Page 1 article "Lawsuits Allege Corruption, Misuse of Public Funds" incorrectly referred to the Harvard Kennedy School as "Harvard Kennedy School of Law." We regret the error.

FROM "WORK REQUIREMENTS" PAGE 1

CalFresh Restricts Work Exemptions

ments will also now apply to people aged 18 to 64, up from age 59. And while previously, caring for a dependent child under 18 was a valid exemption, now only dependents under age 14 will count.

As with the previous rules, for students to be exempt from the work requirements, they will need to document that they are attending college, vocational school or a work training program at least half-time.

The rules will also limit the duration of time over which eligible participants can receive CalFresh. Because the state had previously qualified for a waiver of certain SNAP rules, Californians could

often continue to receive CalFresh benefits for an indefinite amount of time, even if they were unable to meet work requirements or qualify for an exemption.

Starting in June, that waiver will no longer apply. People who do not either qualify for an exemption or continually meet work requirements will be limited to receiving only three full months of CalFresh benefits within a fixed three-year period. The current fixed period extends from Jan. 1 of this year until Dec. 31, 2028.

The new requirements are mandated by federal law H.R. 1, also known as the One Big Beautiful

Bill Act, which was signed by President Trump in July 2025.

Applicants will be screened for compliance with the new rules when they apply for benefits after June 1, or the next time that they recertify their eligibility if they are already receiving CalFresh. Recertification takes place continuously throughout the year.

Los Angeles City College's Fresh Success Program, which provides supportive and employment services to CalFresh-eligible students, was contacted to comment on the new work requirement rules but did not respond before publication.

Spring 2026 - Final Exam Schedule

Tuesday, June 2 to Monday, June 8, 2026

- Every student is required to take the final examination.
- Every instructor is required to give the final examination following the schedule below.
- Final exams for short-term classes shall be administered during the final two hours of the last class period.
- Because of potential conflict within students’ schedules, deviations from the final exam schedule ARE NOT PERMITTED.
- In case of a conflict, please consult your instructor. If students indicate that a conflict occurring, instructors are advised to contact their supervising dean immediately.
- Each examination is scheduled for two hours.

Instructions: In the table below, find the start time of the class. Then find the day(s) of the week the class meets and read across to the last two columns for the exam date and time. These exam times are subject to change

M = Monday / T = Tuesday / W = Wednesday / R = Thursday / F = Friday / S = Saturday			
Class Start Time	Class Meeting Day(s)	Final Exam Date	Final Exam Time
8:00 AM	M	Monday, June 8	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	MW	Monday, June 8	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	MTWR	Monday, June 8	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	MTW	Monday, June 8	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	MWF	Monday, June 8	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	TR	Tuesday, June 2	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	TRF	Tuesday, June 2	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	W	Wednesday, June 3	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	R	Thursday, June 4	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	F	Friday, June 5	8:00 am - 10:00 am
8:00 AM	S	Saturday, June 6	8:00 am - 10:00 am
9:35 AM	M	Monday, June 8	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	MW	Monday, June 8	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	MTWR	Monday, June 8	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	T	Tuesday, June 2	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	TR	Tuesday, June 2	10:15 am – 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	W	Wednesday, June 3	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	R	Thursday, June 4	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	F	Friday, June 5	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
9:35 AM	S	Saturday, June 6	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	M	Monday, June 8	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	MW	Wednesday, June 3	10:15 am - 12:15 pm

Class Start Time	Class Meeting Day(s)	Final Exam Date	Final Exam Time
5:15 PM	TR	Tuesday, June 2	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:00 PM	M	Monday, June 8	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:00 PM	MW	Monday, June 8	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:00 PM	MTW	Monday, June 8	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:00 PM	T	Tuesday, June 2	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:00 PM	TR	Tuesday, June 2	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:00 PM	W	Wednesday, June 3	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:00 PM	R	Thursday, June 4	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
6:50 PM	M	Monday, June 8	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
6:50 PM	MW	Monday, June 8	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
6:50 PM	T	Tuesday, June 2	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
6:50 PM	TR	Tuesday, June 2	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
6:50 PM	W	Wednesday, June 3	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
6:50 PM	R	Thursday, June 4	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
6:50 PM	F	Friday, June 5	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm



NEW PODCASTS
EVERY MONTH

collegianwired.com

Spring 2026 - Final Exam Schedule

Tuesday, June 2 to Monday, June 8, 2026

Class Start Time	Class Meeting Day(s)	Final Exam Date	Final Exam Time
11:10 AM	MTWR	Wednesday, June 3	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	T	Tuesday, June 2	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	TR	Thursday, June 4	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	W	Wednesday, June 3	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	R	Thursday, June 4	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	F	Friday, June 5	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
11:10 AM	S	Saturday, June 6	10:15 am - 12:15 pm
12:45 PM	M	Monday, June 8	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	MW	Monday, June 8	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	MTWR	Monday, June 8	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	T	Tuesday, June 2	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	TR	Tuesday, June 2	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	W	Wednesday, June 3	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	R	Thursday, June 4	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	F	Friday, June 5	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
12:45 PM	S	Saturday, June 6	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	M	Monday, June 8	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	MW	Wednesday, June 3	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	MWR	Wednesday, June 3	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	MTWR	Wednesday, June 3	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	T	Tuesday, June 2	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	TR	Thursday, June 4	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	W	Wednesday, June 3	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	R	Thursday, June 4	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
2:20 PM	S	Saturday, June 6	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
4:00 PM	MW	Monday, June 8	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:00 PM	T	Tuesday, June 2	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:00 PM	TR	Tuesday, June 2	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:00 PM	W	Wednesday, June 3	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:00 PM	R	Thursday, June 4	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:00 PM	F	Friday, June 5	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:40 PM	M	Monday, June 8	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:40 PM	T	Tuesday, June 2	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:40 PM	W	Wednesday, June 3	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
4:40 PM	R	Thursday, June 4	3:15 pm - 5:15 pm
5:15 PM	MW	Monday, June 8	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Presented by the Nick Beck Investigative Journalism Lecture Series

Intergenerational Conversations On Issues Facing Latinos Today

JORGE AND PAOLA RAMOS

Join us for an engaging conversation with Jorge and Paola Ramos, as they examine the most pressing issues facing Latino communities today. Drawing from decades of frontline reporting and on-the-ground storytelling, they offer unique perspectives that bridge generations and experiences. This is an opportunity to hear from two influential voices shaping the national conversation.

Jorge Ramos and Paola Ramos are journalists and authors known for their influential reporting on Latino communities, identity, and politics in the United States. **Jorge Ramos** was a longtime anchor of Noticiero Univision and is one of the most prominent voices in Spanish-language news. His daughter, **Paola Ramos**, has followed in his footsteps with a focus on cultural and social issues shaping the U.S. She has worked with outlets such as Vice Media and MSNBC, reporting on Latino identity, belonging, and political dynamics.

Disclosure: Please note that this event will be filmed and photographed. By attending, you consent to being recorded and to the use of your image, likeness, and voice in connection with promotional and archival materials.



- Open to the public
- Admission fee: \$35
- FREE for LACC students, faculty, staff, alumni and emeriti
- Parking info will be sent to all registrants

Date: May 14th, 2026
Time: 4:00pm
Location: Los Angeles City College
Student Union Bldg
Multi-Purpose Room (3rd floor)

RSVP at:



<https://tinyurl.com/Ramos26>
laccfoundation.org
info@laccfoundation.org

68th Annual Southern California Journalism Awards Finalists

PRINT/ONLINE - ANY OUTLET EDUCATIONAL REPORTING

- * Jaweed Kaleem, Los Angeles Times, "Times Investigation: Ex-Trump DOJ lawyers say 'fraudulent' UC antisemitism probes led them to quit"
- * Tyler Kingkade, NBC News Digital, "Parents say school-issued iPads are causing chaos with their kids"
- * Stacie Stukin, Capital & Main, "The Farm-to-School Model Is Under Threat"
- * **Sorina Szakacs, Angela Johnson, Los Angeles City College Collegian, "Journalism Cuts - Parts 1, 2, 3 and 4"**
- * Madhri Yehiya, Los Angeles Public Press, "USC officials weighed halting sexual assault investigation if professor retired — emails reveal"

PAGE DESIGN

- * **Beatrice Alcala, Los Angeles City College Collegian, "Dolores Huerta, Photojournalist's Return"**
- * John Goecke, Brent Hatcher, Alta Journal, "Special Section: 25 Books That Define California"
- * Will Hooks, Haley Kluge, Variety, "Stranger Things"
- * Peter Mellgard, Amara Higuera, Noema Magazine, "The Unseen Fury Of Solar Storms"
- * Karen Villalpando, Beverly Press/Park Labrea News, "Our People Our Places"

STUDENT MEDIA BEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

- * el Don Staff, Santa Ana College, "el Don"
- * Tony Gleason, Graphic Staff, The Graphic, "The Graphic"
- * Long Beach Current Staff, Long Beach Current, "Long Beach Current"
- * **Staff, Los Angeles City College Collegian, "Los Angeles Collegian"**
- * The Union Staff, The Union, "The Union"

BEST NEWS PHOTO

- * Ethan Cohen, Long Beach Current, "Crowds, chaos, resistance: Scenes from DTLA's anti-ICE protests"
- * Jake Crandall, The Corsair, "A protester stands on top of a destroyed Waymo car holding a hammer"
- * Kayjel J. Mairena, The Corsair, "Jimmy Kimmel cancellation protestor"
- * **Juan Mendoza, Los Angeles City College Collegian, "Scotus Expands ICE Powers"**
- * Andrew Ramiro Diaz, The Daily Bruin, "Gallery: UCLA AFSCME Local 3299 members strike Nov. 17 and 18, demand fair work contract"



BEST NEWS WRITING Campus Issues, Layoffs/Strikes/Protests - PRINT or ONLINE

- * Henry Adams, The Graphic, "Pepperdine Administrators Shut Down Weisman Exhibition After Censoring Artwork"
- * Ayleen Bran, VNHS Mirror, "Budget cuts lead to counselor reassignments"
- * Hali Mecklin, Paige Shea, Laya Albert, Mohammed Zain Shafi Khan, AnnenbergMedia, "USC President Carol Folt reflects on her tenure at USC: 'You're not there to necessarily please people'"
- * Sam Mulick, Daily Bruin, "Long commutes, short-staffed – 'We want to live,' union leaders demand from UC"
- * **Sorina Szakacs, Angela Johnson, Los Angeles City College Collegian, "Journalism Cuts - Part 1, 2, 3 and 4"**

BEST TV or STREAM REPORTING

- * Isabella Garcia, Grace Lawson, Dante Estrada, Long Beach Current, "Second Street bars hit 30-day blackout"
- * **Dave Martin, Jeremy Cuenca, Emily Gonzales, Erika Ramirez, Beatrice Alcala, Collegian Wired, "LAPD Fires Rubber Bullets at Media, Dolores Huerta Calls for Peace"**
- * Coleman Standifer, Sabatino Stacchi, The Los Angeles Loyolan, "There is a 'demographic cliff' threatening college enrollment numbers"
- * Skylar Stock, Long Beach Current, "No Kings in Long Beach"
- * Jenna Tibby, The Corsair, "Fighting food waste through the Santa Monica College Bodega"

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SPORTS BIN

FROM SILENCE TO SPOTLIGHT LACC REBUILDS SPORTS LEGACY

BY JORGE PONCE

For more than a decade, the fields at Los Angeles City College sat quiet, a reminder of a once-proud athletic tradition put on pause. In 2009, the college discontinued its sports programs, leaving a gap not just in competition but in campus identity. That silence ended in 2021.

When LACC brought back athletics, it marked more than a reset. It signaled a commitment to rebuilding something that had long defined the college. LACC has a long history with sports teams, and the return carried expectations, hope and a sense of unfinished business. It did not take long for results to follow.

After years of waiting, the men's soccer team delivered a breakthrough moment, winning the conference tournament championship and restoring pride across campus. The title became a symbol of how far the program had come in a short time, and how much it still aims to achieve. Now, that momentum is reaching beyond the field.

CHAMPIONSHIP WIN OPENS DOORS

On the heels of their championship run, the LACC Men's Soccer Team is set to be featured in a World Cup commercial. The timeline for its release has not yet been announced, but the recognition will thrust the program onto a global stage. The project is being developed by Tele-mundo, which brought in writers to create a commercial highlighting the

team and its impact.

"The men's soccer team is just the face of the college as we have soccer as a pinnacle way of transforming our community," Campos said.

The honor extends beyond the team itself. LACCF was also recognized as a 2026 World Cup "Community Champion," further cementing the college's growing presence in the sport and its role within the local community.

For LACC, the journey from 2009 to now has been about more than wins and losses. It has been about rebuilding identity, reconnecting with the community, and proving that opportunity can return stronger than before.

"As a head coach who won a championship and got featured in this commercial, I feel very proud in being able to represent the L.A. City College community and showcase the great work we do here in L.A. City, within athletics and everyone that is part of it behind the scenes and on the field," coach Javier Aguiniga Campos said.

The coach says that the recognition reflects the broader mission of the program. He spent a decade as an assistant coach at East Los Angeles College and Rio Hondo. Prior to his coaching career, Campos spent four months in Mexico City at soccer camp in 2008 for a tryout with Cruz Azul, a professional team that has won eight championships.

"I am very honored to bring the spotlight to our college," Campos told the Collegian. We love our jobs here at LACC and all of us work so hard to continue to open doors for all of our students and empower them to reach their full potential here at LACC and beyond."

The fields are no longer quiet. And this time, the spotlight is only getting brighter.



PHOTOS BY JUAN MENDOZA

(Top) Javier Aguiniga Campos, the Head Coach of the men's Cubs soccer team, is proudly holding up the championship trophy at the LACC-South Kinesiology building on Nov. 24, 2025, in Los Angeles, California. It's a joyful moment as the Cubs celebrate their win in the 2025 South Coast Conference Championship Tournament.

(Lower) Javier Aguiniga Campos, the head coach of the Cubs men's soccer team, stands behind three of the student athletes. From left to right: Central Midfielder, Freshman Daniel Pascual (#6); Offensive Midfielder, Sophomore Christopher Morales (#23); and Central Midfielder, Freshman Angel Gomez (#13). Top-tier performers known for strong technical skills and a "team-first" mentality proudly displayed the award, signifying the highest honor in the South Coast Conference Championship Tournament at the LACC-South Kinesiology building on Nov. 24, 2025.

