



Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

## Welcome Dr. Jeanne Wilson New Vice President of Student Services



Las Positas College (LPC) is pleased to announce its newest addition to administration, Dr. Jeanne Wilson, who will serve as Vice President of Student Services.

In her role, Dr. Wilson will lead all programs that serve LPC's students and help them achieve their goals while at the college, including admissions, financial aid, counseling, equity and diversity programs, Student Life, and more.

Dr. Wilson is an experienced leader with more than 20 years in the California Community College system. She has served the last seven years as the Dean of Special Programs and Services at Chabot College. Dr. Wilson has also served as tenured counseling faculty and Program Coordinator of Umoja, EOPS/CARE, CalWORKs, the AS-PIRE TRiO federal grant, and Co-Coordinator of the Striving Black Brothers Coalition.

LPC President Dr. Dyrell Foster said "Dr. Wilson is a proven leader who will use her skills and experience to connect students with the resources they need when they need them, to ensure their success while attending LPC.

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Dr. Wilson has a track record of leading the kinds of special programs that make community colleges the transformative institutions that our students need," Dr. Foster said. "We could not think of a better person to fill this role than Dr. Wilson. Under her leadership, the students at LPC will be in good hands."

Throughout her career, Dr. Wilson has combined innovation and collaboration with a commitment to transparency, respect for faculty and staff and a deep dedication to support both student access and success. Dr. Wilson said she is passionate about eliminating student equity gaps, and wants to continue her legacy of developing programs and services that provide a sense of community and support for all students. "As a longtime resident of Castro Valley, I consider myself part of the fabric of the Tri-Valley community,"

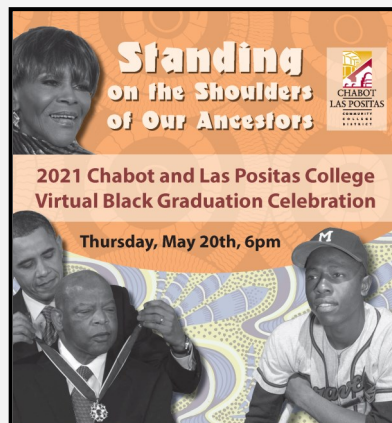
Dr. Wilson said. "I will always put students' needs first and I'm dedicated to ensuring that LPC students feel supported and empowered to reach their educational and personal goals."

Dr. Wilson has received numerous awards including three Chancellor's Awards; the ACE of Initiatives Award; the Educator of Excellence Award, and was honored in 2019 by faculty, staff, and administrators with the Vision & Leadership Award for exemplary service and commitment to excellence. She earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Mills College, a Masters in Marriage, Family Therapy from Cal State Hayward, and a Bachelor of Arts in Marketing from The American College.

*Welcome Dr. Wilson to the LPC Family!*

## Black Graduation Celebration

On May 20, Chabot College and Las Positas College held a joint virtual Black Graduation Celebration, “Standing on the Shoulders of Our Ancestors.” Participation from Administrators, Classified Professionals, and Faculty from both Colleges congratulated the students while motivating them to continue on with their studies. A live virtual reception was held at the end of the event.



## LPC Camera Club at Chabot Credit Union

Chabot Federal Credit Union wanted to brighten up their office space and asked the LPC Camera Club if they would do a photograph exhibit at the Credit Union. The initial request for works of over 16 LPC students and a few community photographers was so well received that they continue to hang at the credit union for a second show through spring 2022. Christine Petro, President and CEO of Chabot Federal Credit Union said, “We get a lot of positive comments from our customers when they visit the office.” Photography professors Deanna Horvath and Lucciana Casselli are the Camera Club Advisors that facilitated the exhibit.



## LPC Continues to put Students First During Summer

LPC's Tutoring Center will offer approximately 40 free weekly hours of online or drop-in math tutoring starting Monday, June 14.

LPC's Reading and Writing (RAW) Center is pleased to offer drop-in and paper drop-off services to summer students starting June 7 and continuing for 10 weeks.

LPC's Computer Support Center will offer online and on-campus support during the summer for students needing help with Canvas, Class-Web, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and technology and software uses.

## Alumni Spotlight

LPC Alumni and Mertes Foundation scholarship recipient John Garo Lonergan graduated from California State University Long Beach and attributed his success to the LPC Foundation scholarship he received. He stated, “This past Saturday I graduated from CSULB with a B.M. in Piano Performance. I wanted to reiterate how eternally grateful I am to the Mertes Foundation for giving me a chance and making this degree possible. It wouldn't have been possible without your help. Hopefully I will be able to perform a recital sometime at Las Positas as a token of gratitude!”



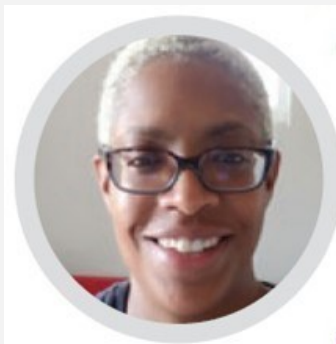
# LPC Participates in Delegation as City of Livermore is Named 2021 All-America City



The City of Livermore was named a 2021 All-American City at the National Civic League's All America City Awards Ceremony on June 9, 2021. The delegation was comprised of students, community members, and staff from the City of Livermore, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD), Las Positas College (LPC), and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD). The theme of this year's competition was "Building Equitable and Resilient Communities." LPC interim Dean Erick Bell outlined LPC's new Law Enforcement certificate which focuses on crisis intervention, bias awareness, mental health issues, and situational decision making. In a statement to the City of Livermore, College President Dyrell Foster said, "Las Positas College is committed to continuing to further our mission to provide an inclusive, equity-focused environment by addressing inequities and increasing opportunities for success for all of our students. Our new curriculum focused on 21st Century Policing has benefitted from an outstanding collaborative effort with the Livermore City Council and Police Department."

## ECE Program in 2020-21: A Call to Action

Las Positas College's very own Nadiyah Taylor, Coordinator for the Early Care and Education Program has written an article in this month's issue of "Child Care Exchange Magazine" titled, "[Centering Blackness is an Act of Love.](#)" It's part of the Magazine's Reimagining Our Work series.



### Centering Blackness Is...

...an act of love.

...not reverse racism.

...an invitation to build upon the experiences of Black children, families, teachers, site supervisors, directors, and administrators.

...an invitation to look deeply at why there are not Black people in any of the spaces where we are missing.

...an invitation to step back and listen to the everyday lived experiences of a community.

...an invitation to build trust.

...an invitation to acknowledge that our field, like many others, is pushed ahead and buoyed by the work of Black and brown people.

...about using the wisdom of Black people, to put equity into action.

In an earlier email she expressed the following as it relates to her article, "As you may remember, last July I sent out information related to all of the racial events that took place last summer, and of course, we've only seen more and more evidence of racism and trauma as the year progressed. I asked us all to think about how we might respond to these incidents with a new call to action. Last fall I wrote an article for that.

My goal for next year would be for us all to work together to see how we all can deepen our daily practices in supporting our adult students and the children to learn more about bias, how it impacts our teaching, our educational system and families – and then take some actionable steps to show our local community how committed we are to supporting equity within our program."

Nadiyah Taylor has been in the early care and education field since 1994, in a variety of roles including preschool teacher, parent educator, and diversity consultant. She is the chair of the early care and education program. Her consulting work, The Ripple Effect, focuses on the continuing need for the inclusion of anti-bias principles in early childhood settings and childrearing. Educational equity and social justice are key themes of her work.

Please take some time to read her article at the link provided below:

<http://www.childcareexchange.com/article/centering-blackness-in-education/5025984/>

# Congratulations Middle College Graduates



The Tri-Valley ROP Middle College Program at Las Positas College was excited to celebrate its 5th and largest graduating class of 67 students, the Class of 2021! To celebrate this momentous occasion, Middle College held a socially distanced photo shoot on our beautiful LPC campus with graduates and families welcome on Friday, May 21st. In addition, a Virtual Celebration was held on Zoom on Tuesday, June 1st. Representing five Tri-Valley high schools, The Class of 2021 celebrated not only earning their high school diplomas during a pandemic, but graduating with over 2200 LPC college units!

At the Celebration, recipients of two annual awards were announced.

The Dr. Odie J. Douglas Middle College Award recognized Middle College students who not only utilized the resources and opportunities that Middle College provides, but also gave back to the school community and showed exceptional personal and/or academic growth as nominated by the Middle College staff. This year three students were honored with the Dr. Odie J. Douglas Award: Jillian Sweeney, Dublin Unified School District, Shannon Snell, Livermore Valley Unified School District, and Carlissa Bass, Pleasanton Unified School District.

The Roanna Bennie Las Positas College Faculty Award of Excellence went to a graduating Middle College student who has made exceptional contributions in the LPC classroom and community as nominated by Las Positas College faculty. This year's Roanna Bennie Las Positas College Faculty Award of Excellence went to Alexis Bondarenko from Foothill High School. Alexis was nominated by multiple LPC instructors for her contributions both in and out of the classroom. She is an active member of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society and a leader among the LPC Talk Hawks Speech team. She took advantage of every opportunity presented to her at LPC and it is because of the educational experiences she received at LPC and her strong work ethic that she will be attending Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL, in the fall. We have no doubt she is one step closer to the stars.

## News in Brief

**LLNL-LLF Picture a Scientist:** Dr. Foster participated on the panel discussion of the LLNL-LLF Picture a Scientist event on June 9. The Livermore Lab Foundation (LLF), in partnership with the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Women's Association (LLLWA) and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion programs, presented a special screening of "Picture a Scientist," followed by a

candid panel discussion to enhance awareness of gender bias and diversity, equity and inclusion in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.



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3000 Campus Hill Drive | Livermore CA 94551-7623 | PH 925.424.1000 | [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu)  
**Students First**