



LAS POSITAS  
COLLEGE

# CONNECTION

June 2023

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

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President



Photo Credit: Kenneth Cooper

## LPC Celebrates Grads!

LPC Celebrated the 33rd annual Commencement Ceremonies on Saturday, May 27. Las Positas College awarded 1,469 associate degrees and 197 certificates of achievement. 350 students will receive more than one degree of certificate. Valedictorians for the graduating class were Sophie Sipe and Alexandra Borgna.

This year LPC honored Mrs. Julie Duncan, Superintendent of the Tri-Valley Regional Occupation Program, as the Friend of the College for her collaboration with our community college district, local school districts via the Tri-Valley Educational Collaborative and our college.

We congratulate all our graduates and wish them much success in their future career goals and aspirations.

Go Hawks!



Mrs. Julie Duncan Friend of the College and President Foster



LPC Executive Team: Dr. Raichbart, VP Admin. Services; Dr. Jeanne Wilson, VP Student Services; Dr. Ho, VP Academic Services; Dr. Foster, College President

### In this Issue

1. 33rd Annual Commencement Ceremony
2. Chabot-Las Positas Black Graduation
3. May Town Awards Ceremony
4. Fire Academy Graduation
5. Dr. Nan Ho New Vice President of Academic Services
6. Black Family Day



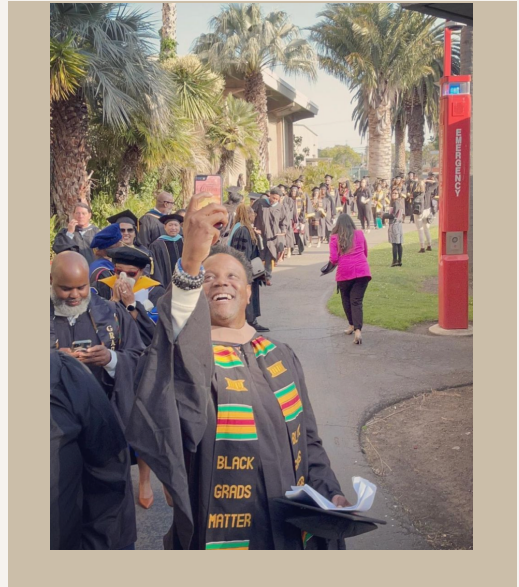
Above: Platform Party for Ceremony 1 Below: Faculty Participating in Commencement



# Chabot - Las Positas College Black Graduation

On May 24, LPC and Chabot College celebrated the Chabot-Las Positas College Black Graduation that was sponsored by the Black Education Association, My Sister's Keeper, The Black Cultural Resource Center, UMOJA, Striving Black Crothers Coalition, A2Mend, the Las Positas Foundation, and the Black Student Union.

Graduates were welcomed with their families to celebrate their many accomplishments as well as enjoy a performance by Destiny Arts, a welcome by Chancellor Gerhard, President Sperling and President Foster followed by presentations by UMOJA, the presentation of Stoles, and the closing by Dr. Saleem Gilmore.



Congratulations to all the Graduates!



We're proud of our students!



Photos courtesy of Carolyn Scott via LinkedIn

# May Town Meeting Service Awards Ceremony



The LPC Annual May Service Awards Ceremony was held on May 3 at the Mertes Center for the Arts. This is an opportunity for LPC to come together and honor their colleagues and wish retiring faculty and classified professionals well.

Jean O'Neil-Opipari, Classified Senate President and Program Coordinator for STEM, received the Don Milanese Award. This award is given to an individual who demonstrates the utmost integrity, is a consummate professional, has an unfailing commitment to students, and an unwavering dedication to educational excellence. Congratulations Jean!

We wish our retiring LPC family members well. We thank you for your service to LPC and the Tri-valley Community. Maureen O'Herin, Program Coordinator for English and Faculty member; Michael Sato, Professor for English; Lucas L.W. Hasten, Professor in Anthropology; Bill Komanetsky, Professor in Computer Science; Andi Schreibman, Financial Aid Officer; and Frances DeNisco, Program Coordinator for Community Education.

John Armstrong, Student Records Evaluator was our 30 year service award recipient.

Michael Ansell, Professor in Science; Moh Daoud, Professor in Computing Studies Technology; Katie Eagan, Professor in English; and Heike Gecox, Counselor and Professor where all honored for their 20 years of service to LPC.

The 10 year award recipients included Alesia High, Fiscal Coordinator and Special Programs, and Andrea Migliaccio, Academic Services Specialist.

Our final awardees include the 5 year award recipients: Wanda Butterly, Fernando Calzado, Daniel Cearly, Stella Del Rosario, Lyndale Garner, Jamila Jabbar, Joanna Jen, Mary Lauffer, Ana Le Cara, Rifka Several, and Wais Sultan.

Thank you all for all you do for students and the Tri Valley Community.

# Meet LPC's New Vice President of Academic Services

A very warm welcome to Dr. Nan Ho former Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to her new role at Las Positas College as Vice President of Academic Services. She was approved by the Board of Trustees on May 16 and began her role as Vice President on June 15.

"Dr. Nan Ho has been an invaluable asset to Las Positas College, and we are thrilled to see her take on this new leadership role," President Foster. "Her passion for education, strategic vision, and unwavering dedication to our students make her the perfect choice for LPC's Vice President of Academic Services. We have full confidence in her ability to advance our academic programs and support our community's educational needs."



As the Vice President of Academic Services, Dr. Ho will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape of LPC. Her primary responsibilities will include overseeing all aspects of academic programs, curriculum development, student support services and faculty development initiatives. Dr. Ho will collaborate closely with the college's administration, faculty and classified professionals to ensure that the institution maintains its high academic rigor and student success standards.

Throughout her distinguished career, Dr. Ho has cultivated strong relationships across the community and region, collaborating with educational institutions, industry leaders, government agencies and nonprofit organizations. Her commitment to equity and opportunity has secured extensive grant funding, including LPC's first-ever National Science Foundation grant. She has helped lead and facilitate transformative initiatives at LPC, including Guided Pathways and Assembly Bill 705, both of which focus on equity and student success. Her teaching, research and leadership abilities have been recognized through numerous awards. These include the three-time recipient of the Chancellor's Award, the Outstanding Full-Time Faculty Award and the three-time recipient of the Outstanding Teaching Award.

Dr. Ho holds a doctorate of organizational change and leadership from the University of Southern California. She holds a master's and bachelor's degree of biological science from Stanford University. Her contributions extend beyond the classroom, having served in various leadership positions, such as department coordinator, committee chair, grievance officer for the Faculty Association, president of the Administrators' Association and faculty advisor to student clubs and the Beta Beta Beta Honor Society.

# YOU'RE INVITED TO BLACK FAMILY DAY AT LPC!



LAS POSITAS COLLEGE  
PRESENTS



## BLACK FAMILY DAY

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023  
10:00AM - 2:00PM

MEET LPC FACULTY AND STAFF, ATTEND WORKSHOPS,  
TOUR THE CAMPUS, ENJOY MUSIC, AND FREE FOOD!



We are excited to announce our first-ever Black Family Day at Las Positas College (LPC), a special event dedicated to our African American community and promoting equity and excellence in student learning. The event will take place on Saturday, September 16th from 10:00am - 2:00 pm.

Black Family Day will provide an opportunity for attendees to discover the exceptional academic and career programs offered at LPC, as well as explore the wide range of student support resources available, including our renowned

### LPC Mission

Las Positas College is an inclusive, learning-centered, equity-focused environment that offers educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, and career-technical goals while promoting lifelong learning.

### College Planning Priorities

Establish a knowledge base and an appreciation for equity; create a sense of urgency about moving toward equity; institutionalize equity in decision-making, assessment, and accountability; and build capacity to resolve inequities.

Increase student success and completion through change in college practices and processes: coordinating needed academic support, removing barriers, and supporting focused professional development across the campus.

Black Cultural Resource Center. Attendees will also be able to meet and connect with LPC faculty and Classified Professionals, attend informative workshops, take a guided tour of our beautiful campus, and enjoy lively music and complimentary food.

This event is open to all new students, prospective students, families, and community members of all ages. Admission is FREE, but an RSVP is recommended.

We hope to see you then!



Students First

Las Positas Connection is published by the Office of the President.  
Issues are posted online at [laspositascollege.edu/president](http://laspositascollege.edu/president). Angelica Cazarez, Editor

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