



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MARCH  
2023

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



## THEATRE STUDENTS TRAVEL TO SPOKANE FESTIVAL



Mendocino College Theatre Arts students returned recently from an exciting week at the KCACTF (Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival) regional conference in Spokane, WA. Mendocino College Theatre Director Reid Edelman and Career Center Specialist Joel Shura accompanied 12 students to the weeklong festival. The students who attended included four students who were nominated for prestigious Irene Ryan Scholarships and who each prepared two monologues and a scene with a partner for the festival. The Irene Ryan nominees were: Alexander Marsh, Gwendolen van Wyk, Dakota Laiwa-McKay and Jasmine Norris. Their scene partners were Gabriel Mendoza, Kelly Alvarez, Lalo Torres and Jordan Wegner. In addition to these students, the remaining festival attendees from Mendocino College were Matt McClelland, Rory Silveira, Brisa Yopez and Julayne Ringstrom. All 12 student-attendees participated each day in workshops and performances with faculty and other students from colleges throughout the northwest region.

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### **Once, the Musical**

March 23, 2023 to April 2, 2023 in the Center Theater  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday March 30, April 1 at 7:30 PM, and  
Sunday April 2 at 2 PM. Tickets (\$20 general; \$15 students and  
seniors) available at the Mendocino Book Company, online at  
[www.ArtsMendocino.org](http://www.ArtsMendocino.org) and at the door as available.

## END OF COVID-19 EMERGENCY

### **Governor Newsom Marks End of California's COVID-19 State of Emergency**

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2023/02/28/governor-newsom-marks-end-of-californias-covid-19-state-of-emergency/>

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom issued a proclamation terminating the state's COVID-19 State of Emergency, as previously announced in October.

### **Mendocino County Board of Supervisors terminating the local emergency related to COVID-19**

On February 28, 2023, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution terminating the local emergency related to COVID-19. The resolution can be viewed in the meeting packet at:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors/agendas-and-minutes>

**LAKE CENTER COLLEGE DAY**

On Thursday, March 9th, the Lake Center welcomed Mendocino College students and over 250 high school students from Kelseyville, Clear Lake, Upper Lake and even beyond our district with Middletown and Lower Lake high schools. This event focused on assisting students explore their educational and career opportunities with Mendocino College and Lake County industry partners. The day would not have been possible without the amazing coordination of Lake Center Director, Mónica Flores, and Lake Center Assistants Machiko Shimada & Tuesday Gallardo. As well as the team at LCOE, Beth Hampson and Cydney Greb! Yet, there would not have been an event without the stars of the show, representation from student services (CAMP, Foundation, Puente, Career Hub, Disability Resource Center, Financial Aid, EOPS, MESA, Native American Resource Center, Learning Center, Basic Needs/Cal Fresh, Transfer Counseling, Mental Health Counseling & Veterans Services) and academic departments (Agriculture, Automotive, English, Spanish, Sustainable Construction, Culinary, Child Development, Fire Science, Emergency Medical Services, Administration of Justice, Psychology, Health, Chemistry, Math, Cooperative Work Experience, Athletics, Ceramics, Computer Science, Nursing, PTA, & Sonoma State – Liberal Studies). Thank you also to the Facilities crew for their work in the storm supporting the event.

**FEATURED EVENTS**

*Below are some highlighted events over the next month. A full listing of events can be found on the College webpage at <https://www.mendocino.edu/events>*

**Community Fair**

Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 11:00am to 4:00pm at the Ukiah Campus  
<https://www.mendocino.edu/about/mlccd/50th-anniversary>

**Once, the Musical**

March 23, 2023 to April 2, 2023 at the Ukiah Center Theater  
 The remaining performances are Thursday, Friday & Saturday March 30, 31 and April 1 at 7:30 PM, and Sunday April 2 at 2 PM. Tickets (\$20 general; \$15 students and seniors) are available at the Mendocino Book Company, online at [www.ArtsMendocino.org](http://www.ArtsMendocino.org) and at the door as available. The performance on Thursday March 30 is a special discount night, with all tickets costing only \$10. For information, call (707) 468-3172 or visit <http://www.mendocino.edu/the-arts/theatre>.

**North County Center College Day**

Thursday, March 30, 2023 from 10:00am-12:30pm at the North County Center

**Native Learning Symposium Panel 2 (Theme: Education)**

Friday, April 21, 2023 from 3:00-4:30pm.  
<https://www.mendocino.edu/support-services/services/all-support-services/native-american-student-resource-center/native-0>

Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Library, Instruction office, and Institutional Research, in collaboration with representatives from a number of tribes in the district, are organizing a speaker series featuring local Native American experts, elders, and educators.

**Native American Motivation Day**

Friday, April 28, 2023 from 1pm-5pm at Ukiah Campus

**Athletics**

To check out upcoming athletic events go to <https://www.mendoeagles.com/landing/index> for a full listing of game days and times.

**EXEMPLARY DUAL ENROLLMENT AWARDEE**

Mendocino High School (MHS) received an Exemplary Dual Enrollment Awardee. MHS is one of nine high schools statewide to receive this award. We are proud to partner with our K-12 districts to offer opportunities to students to support their educational journey.

The Dual Enrollment Award committee is comprised of representatives from the California Coalition of Early and Middle College (CCEMC), Career Ladders Project (CLP), the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), the California Department of Education (CDE), and dual enrollment practitioners from secondary and postsecondary institutions.

**GUARANTEED ADMISSIONS TO SSU**

In our efforts to strengthen pathways and partnership with our regional universities, I was able to meet with the new Sonoma State University President Lee in Fall 2022 to discuss options to strengthen our long-standing partnerships with SSU. The Mendocino College team, including Vice President Velasco and Transfer Counselor Osea, worked quickly and diligently to formalize new partnerships with SSU.

Mendocino College students will have guaranteed admissions to Sonoma State University. This applies to impacted majors (Nursing, Psychology, Sociology, and Criminal Justice) as well.

I want to thank SSU President Lee for approving four transfer scholarships to Mendocino College students. The Presidential Scholarships are \$2,000 per student.

Below are the elements of guaranteed admissions.

- Ensure that all students complete A1 (speech), A2 (English composition), A3 (critical thinking) and B4 (GE Math) with a C- or better, a 2.0 minimum grade point average and 60 transferable units with 30 of those units being general education courses with a minimum grade point average of 2.0 for non-impacted majors.
- Utilize ADT/pathway plans.
- Applicants must submit a Cal State Apply Application to SSU and pay the application fee by the application deadline.
- Students must be in good standing in the Spring term prior to their admissions term at SSU.
- Applicants that apply within the first two weeks of October will be prioritized and provided early admissions with an invitation to celebrate and receive their certificate of admissions at SSU's Preview Day in late October.

**TEACHERS ON TEACHING**

On Saturday March 4th, the Guided Pathways Foundation Skills Working Group hosted the first post-Covid Teachers on Teaching Conference. Despite the rain, it was a successful and enjoyable gathering of local educators. This (usually) annual gathering brings together community college faculty with K12 educators to discuss common experiences of teaching and learning. This year the theme was Teaching with Compassion. 65 registrants attended both in person and via Zoom and heard presentations on the racial trauma experienced by our students, collaborations between tribal education directors and the K12 system, innovations at South Valley High School, and ways to engage compassionately with students in the classroom.

**NATIVE LEARNING SYMPOSIUM**

On Friday March 10th, the college hosted the first panel in the Native Learning Symposium series. Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the symposium aims to educate college faculty and staff, local community members, and K12 partners about the tribes in our district so that we can better serve our native students. The theme of the first panel was Sovereignty and featured Batsulwin Brown, a cultural practitioner and member of Elem Indian Colony ; Nikcole Whipple who is a member of Round Valley Indian Tribes as well as a Mendocino College outreach specialist and adjunct instructor; and Debra Ramirez, the Chairwoman of the Little River Band of Pomo Indians. The panelists explained the concept of tribal sovereignty in context of their local histories and personal experiences. The presentations were both moving and intellectually engaging. 25 people attended in person and 70 via zoom. The theme of the next panel is Education and it will take place on April 21st at the Lake Center.