



I want to start with congratulations to our RN Program Class of 2024 students, of whom 100% passed the NCLEX (RN licensing exam) on their first attempt! This outcome cannot happen in a vacuum, it takes the dedication of students, tremendous faculty, support of classified professionals, and the

generosity of donors to the foundation, which paid for the student's exam fees. This is one example of the entire college community coming together for the success of our students.

In other news, I had the honor to serve as the chair of an ACCJC accreditation team to the College of the Desert. Participating in the peer accreditation process is informative. Our district has a strong commitment of having employees serve on accreditation teams. This is a valuable professional development experience and benefits our institution.



## K-16 COLLABORATIVE

This summer the North County Center partnered with the K-16 Collaborative and six local high schools (Willits, Sanhedrin, Willits Charter, Laytonville, Legett, and Round Valley) to offer a six-week summer intensive focused on supporting dual enrollment students. Free lunches were provided in collaboration with Willits High School through their free summer nutrition program, transportation from outlying schools was funded through K-16, and stipends were made available for students who completed the program requirements.

With nearly 60 students participating in this program over the summer, two students from Willits High School (Estrella Mendoza and Stormie Nowlin) were excited to share about their successful experience on Thursday, September 12th in San Francisco at the annual CCEMC educational conference. Joining them in this presentation were Dean Amanda Xu, North County Center Supervisor Rose Mehtlan, Mendocino College full-time construction faculty member Noel Woodhouse, dual enrollment instructor Amber Godey-Hamor, and Sanhedrin HS counselor, Toni Cassidy.

Plans are underway to enhance this program for summer 2025 and beyond in collaboration with the Friends of the Mendocino College North County Center.

## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

**FALL 2024 ENROLLMENTS**

Fall enrollment across the district is higher with 9% FTES over last year. Significantly, Fall FTES are 2-4% above 2019 and 2018 levels. These two years were our high-water mark for fall enrollment. This achievement could not be possible without faculty, classified staff, and managers working together to construct a student-focused schedule of classes and work with partners to increase educational opportunities.

The tables below illustrate enrollment trends by location and online. Post-pandemic student enrollment patterns have changed. Students continue to enroll in online courses at a higher rate than in pre-pandemic years. This shift has affected the Ukiah campus more than the centers.

**FALL 2024 TOTAL ENROLLMENTS**

SEMESTER	ACTIVE STUDENTS	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME	TOTAL FTES
FALL 2024	5075	1032	4043	1110.59
FALL 2023	4685	879	3806	1013.58
FALL 2020	3478	815	2663	1014.89
FALL 2019	4360	979	3381	1064.03
FALL 2018	4259	1033	3226	1086.29

**NORTH COUNTY ENROLLMENTS**

Semester	Active Students	TOTAL FTES
FALL 2024	474	32.71
FALL 2023	431	27.34
FALL 2020	0	0
FALL 2019	331	28.33
FALL 2018	331	28.65

**ONLINE ENROLLMENTS**

Semester	Active Students	TOTAL FTES
FALL 2024	2722	481.21
FALL 2023	2477	448.34
FALL 2020	3440	1003.27
FALL 2019	1495	276.64
FALL 2018	1445	252.13

**LAKE CENTER ENROLLMENTS**

Semester	Active Students	TOTAL FTES
FALL 2024	632	78.26
FALL 2023	678	85.09
FALL 2020	0	0
FALL 2019	606	98.8
FALL 2018	555	107.43

**UKIAH CAMPUS ENROLLMENTS**

Semester	Active Students	TOTAL FTES
FALL 2024	2143	433.49
FALL 2023	2064	386.13
FALL 2020	90	11.62
FALL 2019	2484	576.36
FALL 2018	2476	616.01

**COAST CENTER ENROLLMENTS**

Semester	Active Students	TOTAL FTES
FALL 2024	630	81.83
FALL 2023	475	63.02
FALL 2020	10	0
FALL 2019	427	80.59
FALL 2018	396	74.31

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS



## LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH

October 1st - 31st, 2024

LGBTQ+ History Month was first celebrated in 1994 to encourage openness and education about LGBTQ+ history and rights.

Mendocino Student Services is proud to support our LGBTQ+ students. For questions about LGBTQ+ History Month or for resources, please reach out to our program specialist, Thais Springer at: [tspringer@mendocino.edu](mailto:tspringer@mendocino.edu).

## MENDO SAFE SPACE WORKSHOP

The LGBTQIA+ Program would like to invite you to a Cultural Humility Workshop on October 16th from 2-4 pm. This training is 100% free, and snacks and drinks are provided! Mendo Safe Space will help uncover our own personal biases and better understand our preconceived notions through self-reflection, self-realization, and self-awareness. All are welcome!

### Meet the Mendo Safe Space team that will be leading this workshop:

Cynthia Coupe (she/they/them) and Cinnamon (she/her/hers) from the Mendocino County Safe Space Project (MCSSP) will be leading an engaging and interactive workshop using the Cultural Humility model to focus on the LGBTQIA2S+ community. Together, we will delve into the importance of recognizing and addressing our own internal biases to become better allies. Our goal is to view every individual as an expert in their own identity, learn how to effectively support our LGBTQIA2S+ youth, create positive and inclusive spaces, and celebrate the rich diversity of our LGBTQIA2S+ students, families, and coworkers.

Cinnamon is a sexuality educator for the Intellectual and Developmentally Disabled (IDD) populations, while Cynthia is a Speech-Language Pathologist and TEDx speaker with extensive experience working within the neurodivergent community. During the workshop, we will cover critical topics including the heightened risks faced by this community, state-mandated requirements for staff and educators, and the intersectionality of neurodivergent individuals and other marginalized groups. We will also discuss sexual and gender identities, the significance of gender identity pronouns, and effective strategies for addressing harassment, bullying, and unhealthy family dynamics.

We look forward to creating an inclusive and safe space for everyone to talk openly about these important topics. We are excited for you to join us!

**Free to All Mendocino College Students & Staff - Food Provided!**

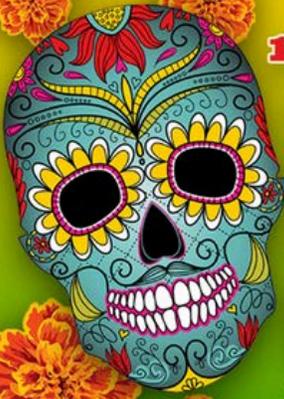
### Questions? Contact:

Thais Springer, LGBTQIA+ Program Specialist at [tspringer@mendocino.edu](mailto:tspringer@mendocino.edu)



REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

**Mendocino College 2024  
Day of the Dead Celebration**



**12TH ANNUAL**  
**Día de los Muertos**  
Oct 23rd  
**POMO PLAZA**

**Miércoles 23 de octubre  
4 pm - 8 pm**

Comida ◊ Música ◊ Artesanías ◊ Altares ◊ Ballet Folkórico ◊ Danza y ¡más!

Food ◊ Music ◊ Arts & Crafts ◊ Altars ◊ Traditional Dancing & More!

Mendocino College 1000 Hensley Creek Rd., Ukiah CA 95482  
Información/Information: [jvasquez@mendocino.edu](mailto:jvasquez@mendocino.edu) 707.468.3105 - 707.468.3115

Mendocino College Gallery Presents



**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS**  
**POP UP SHOW**

October 29 - November 3  
College Gallery

Hours  
Tues 12:30 - 3:30pm  
Wed 10:30-1:30pm  
Thurs 12:30 - 3:30pm



## 12TH ANNUAL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS EVENT

Music | Dancing | Food | Art | Altares & More

The Hispanic/Latino event planning committee cordially invites you to save the date for the 12th annual Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) event.

Day of the Dead celebrations date back thousands of years ago when Indigenous people from central Mexico would honor their deceased by placing food and water offerings on their resting place. In modern-day Day of the Dead celebrations, family members continue to practice these traditions by building altars (altares) where they place pictures of their beloved family members along with food and other items their family members enjoyed during their lifetime.

We hope you will join us as we celebrate our loved ones during an evening filled with music, dancing, food, and piñatas.

If you are interested in putting up an altar in remembrance of a loved one, please email Roberto Renteria at [rrenteria@mendocino.edu](mailto:rrenteria@mendocino.edu).

Altars will be on display in the Lowery Student Center from Friday, Oct. 18th until Friday, Oct. 25th.




**Undocumented Student Action Week**  
Education and Career UndocuDreams Made Possible  
October 14-18, 2024

[HTTPS://ASCCC.ORG/UNDOCUMENTED-STUDENT-ACTION-WEEK](https://asccc.org/undocumented-student-action-week)



## HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Thank you to all the faculty, staff, and managers who sit on hiring committees. Participation in these important governance committees ensures a diverse perspective and active insights into selecting our new Mendocino College employees. We appreciate the commitment of any time on a hiring committee.

We would like to call out some stand out superstars who have been very active this last year (October 2023-October 2024), sitting on multiple hiring committees. A round of applause for their commitment to these important process!

Number of Hiring Committees	Classified	Faculty	Management not including chairs
5	Gus Calderon	Mark Edward Osea	
3	Nayely Garcia	Neeka Aguirre, Emily Hashemia, Brianna Zuber	
2	Beronica Leon, Isabel Lopez, Amy Nelson, Bea Sanchez	Greg Allen, Fernando Calderon, Julie Finnegan, Jose Hernandez Venegas, Lisa Larimer Burtis, John Rall, Lisa Rosenstreich, Vivian Varela,	Joe Atherton, Janet Daugherty, Dave Johnston, Kelly Keyes, Ingrid Larsen, Jackeline Orozco, Yuliana Sandoval, Christy Smith



Kelly Keyes

Yasmin Muniz

Nicole Marin

## RECENT STAFFING CHANGES

**Kelly Keyes** moved into the role of Executive Assistant II to the President, from Executive Assistant I to the VPs effective 7/01/2024.

Following an extensive recruitment process, Kelly was selected as the Executive Assistant II to the President. She has served in various capacities within the District, including Accounting Specialist and Executive Assistant I. Kelly brings a myriad of experience and insights into her new role.

**Yasmin Muniz** moved to EOPS Coordinator from Financial Aid Technician effective 8/01/2024.

After a thorough and comprehensive application and interview process, Yasmin was selected to serve as the EOPS Coordinator. While this will not require a long distance move, her role has shifted from Financial Aid Technician to EOPS Coordinator, serving our students and community in a new and exciting role.

**Nicole Marin** moved to the role of Vice President of Administrative Services, from Director of Human Resources effective 10/1/2024. She will remain the acting Director of Human Resources until a new Director is onboarded, with a projected 1/1/25 start date.

After a robust recruitment effort, including a multistep interview and public forum; Nicole was selected to serve as the Vice President of Administrative Services.

## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

**WELCOME SUMMER 2024 NEW HIRES!****Maria Ceja Lopez**

7/01/2024 | EOPS Specialist | Financial Aid Office

**Neydi Rodriguez Zamora**

7/01/2024 | Center Assistant | Lake Center

**Thiem Tran**

7/01/2024 | Instructional Technology Specialist | Library

**Christine Samaniego**

7/01/2024 | Center Operations Manager | Coast Center

**Cassidy Daniels**

8/01/2024 | Lab Technician | Coast Center

**Shirin Salemirad**

8/01/2024 | Admissions &amp; Records Tech | Admissions &amp; Records

**Michael Wietecha**

8/01/2024 | Student Retention Specialist | Coast Center

**Keeaira McKee**

8/15/2024 | Lead Preschool Teacher | Child Dev. Center

**Melissa Kuhn Fornari**

8/16/2024 | FT Faculty – ESL | Coast Center

**HR CORNER**

Human Resources with Mendocino College provides a supportive atmosphere to all current and future employees. Your friendly Human Resources Team would like to highlight some useful links:

**Check Out Open Positions**

- [Employment Opportunities](#)

**Training Opportunities**

- [Training with Keenan SafeColleges](#)
- [Vision Resource Center](#)

**Access Collective Bargaining Agreements**

- [Collective Bargaining Agreements - 2024/25](#)

**Retirement Links**

- [CalPERS - Classified Employees and Managers](#)
- [CalSTRS - Certificated Employees & Educational Administrators](#)
- [403\(b\) Supplemental Retirement](#)

**ADVENTIST HEALTH: HOWARD HERO**

Carol Garcia, Culinary Arts Management student, was named the Howard Hero this month at Adventist Health. The last time someone from the culinary art program was recognized there was 5 years ago.

**ACCJC HIGHLIGHT MENDOCINO COLLEGE**

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), our accrediting body, has started a series highlighting the work of community colleges. This week Mendocino College is featured, with an emphasis on our dual enrollment and community partnership successes.

It's a quick read, and well worth seeing the acknowledgement of so many of our programs and services designed to serve our unique communities. Check it out [here](#).



## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

**EOPS STUDENT TRIP**

September 20-22, 2024, EOPS Specialist Maria Ceja Lopez took a group of six students to the Journey to UC event. The event consisted of a free three-day, two-night program to visit UC Davis and UC Berkeley. Students jumpstarted their knowledge about UC transfer admission requirements, campus majors, transfer resources and tools, student life, and toured both campuses. During the student panel, great advice was given from transfer students. Our EOPS students enjoyed exploring and learning about the transfer process and resources, not to mention an array of delicious food!

**EAGLE CONNECT**

The college launched our Eagle Connect (early alert) software by Starfish this Fall 2024. In doing so, we initiated a new practice of providing instructional faculty with an opportunity to participate in a progress survey. Students enrolled in full-term courses were included in the progress surveys.

We had an initial participation level of a 20% response rate on the first progress surveys, also 2.5x more kudos than flags! Flags are items that need attention/correction to ensure a successful semester. Numerous students shared the impacts of receiving the kudos, with department staff in counseling and the tutoring centers. The initial impressions were favorable around the impact of an encouraging kudo.

**COUNSELING DEPARTMENT**

The Counseling faculty are working collaboratively to develop service area goals as a team. They recently facilitated a planning session to outline activities and interventions that will take place this year to support student success as well as aligning the counseling activities to the Vision 2030, and support improving the Student Success Funding Formula metrics locally.

**NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT SUCCESS & SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The NASSP team took students on a trip to the State Capitol on Friday, September 27th in celebration of California Indian Day. California Indian Day is a Celebration of the indigenous people of California, the rich cultural traditions, resilience, wisdom and recognition of the historical injustices California Indian people have endured. Tribes gathered from all over the state to share their stories, resources, and cultures. Following the event, students took a tour of the Sacramento State Campus and learned about the programs and resources available to students. Overall, the day was a positive experience for students and staff to learn together and build a sense of belonging. Participants included students from past, and present Pomo Pathway cohorts, Peer Mentors, and general Native American students.



## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

**RETENTION SPECIALISTS**

The Retention team is in the development stages of identifying concrete activities to support the efforts to retain students and support persistence toward goals. As such, they will partner up with our counseling and instructional departments to support enrollment efforts for Math & English within the first year of enrollment, as well as more specific focus on re-enrollment from the Fall to Spring semester. They are exploring how to use our new software to collaborate more with our Career Hub and help students who are 'undeclared' to assess their interests with our Wingspan career assessment tool, then support students to engage with our Counseling faculty to create an accompanying education plan. We look forward to updating you on the implementation of these ideas along the way.

**CAREER LADDERS PROJECT  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Our student-facing departments recently re-engaged their work with our CLP partners. The energy and engagement at our last professional development opportunity left us with an exciting feeling as we engage in defining equity centered student support approaches and improve our students' experience across our sites. This partnership is being done through our HSI Grant funding, which promotes engagement and collaboration among all student-facing staff. We have another training scheduled this Fall before we continue in the Spring with two more trainings for employees.

**BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT**

The team has been providing evening meals to students throughout the Fall Semester. Each meal serves over 100 evening students. Evening students are very limited in staff interaction and engagement with programs due to the timing of their classes. Basic Needs strives to connect with students through food, opening conversations about services we offer, and taking suggestions for future meals. Students have shared that the Ukiah bus line running in the evening has made a huge difference for them since some students do not have reliable vehicles and have previously had to walk to and from school. Now that the evening bus is running again, they walk to and from the bus – reducing their physical exhaustion and supporting them in focusing more on school.

**FINISH LINE SCHOLARS**

Applications were reviewed, and awards were made to 26 students this Fall. Many students are struggling with transportation, childcare, and meeting their basic costs. The Finish Line Scholarship review process aimed to better understand student needs and support those who need the resources the most. We were able to award something to all students with complete applications. But the team knows that students have needs above and beyond what Finish Line can provide. Student Life and Support will partner with Financial Aid to explore resources for students.

## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

**EAGLE SUPPORT CENTER**

The team has been preparing to celebrate Heritage events in the Eagle Support Center. Students who visit the ESC often stop by for a snack or to engage with resources available in the individual programs. Through the celebration of Heritage events, the ESC hopes to become a place where students see themselves reflected, feel welcome, and learn more about the current heritage celebration. This month staff participated in the door decorating activity. Each door is decorated as a unique Loteria Card to represent Hispanic Heritage and celebrate a culture which many of our students identify with.

**CREATING TRAUMA INFORMED CLASSROOMS TO BUILD ACADEMIC RESILIENCE**

Ginny Buccelli, Mendocino College English Professor, pursued a study of students' experiences of trauma and how they impact teaching and learning. She will be leading a three-part workshop series which explores how despite our best efforts in recent years, some of our students still struggle to persist and succeed. Likely it is because they are struggling with some level of trauma which undermines their ability to build academic resilience. In order to make effective changes in our classrooms, the workshops will define trauma for both students and faculty, explore trauma informed values in the classroom, and identify discipline specific activities and lessons to support academic resilience. Part #1 on Friday, October 25th will define trauma, its prevalence in our student and faculty populations, the impact it has on teaching and learning and our responses to it. The importance of self-care for faculty and students will also be addressed.



# ACCJC

**ACCREDITATION PEER REVIEW**

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Debra Polak, was asked to serve as Vice Chair on a team reviewing an Application for Candidacy to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) for the California Indian Nations College (CINC) in Palm Desert, CA. It is an honor to be chosen to work with this college as they establish themselves as a Tribal College. VP Polak was asked to participate on this team because ACCJC took notice of the important work being done by so many at Mendocino College to better serve our Native American students.

## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

**CAREER HUB AWARD**

The Career Hub has been awarded the Career Sparks Spotlight Award from Handshake, our online job board. Handshake evaluated event attendance, platform utilization, and Handshake Academy activity of 43,000+ career services users and identified those who have dedicated the most time to learning and utilizing the product to support student success. Fun fact: Mendocino College is one of only four organizations chosen for this award!

This award recognizes a small group of career centers for their exceptional work in supporting students—and an even smaller group of individuals for high engagement with the Handshake product. We are proud to be in the first group of CSA Spotlight winners, thanks to the hard work of Filemon Lara-Lopez in the Career Hub!

**COAST CENTER COLLEGE & CAREER DAY**

The Mendocino College Coast Center is hosting a College and Career Day in Fort Bragg on Thursday, October 17th, from 10 am to 12 pm.

This event is open to both students and community members, providing a unique opportunity to explore various areas of study with our instructors. Attendees can engage in discussions on career and transfer topics and connect with employers from related fields. Additionally, student services such as financial aid, MESA, the Native American Resource Center, LGBTQIA+ support, and more will be available. We encourage you to join us for this enriching event!

For questions or more information, please contact the Coast Center's main line at (707) 961-2200.

**STUDENTS VS STAFF SOFTBALL GAME**

Join us on Monday, October 21, for the Staff vs. Student Softball game from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the MC softball field! We will have a Taco stand serving free food for both students and staff members. VP Ulises Velasco and Joe Atherton are captains of the staff team, and ASMC is creating the student team. We hope that this will be a fun, community-building activity for all involved. Not interested in playing? No problem; stop by to cheer us on!

If you're interested in joining the staff team, please complete this [short form](#).

**HARM REDUCTION CONCEPTS & STRATEGIES**

The Health & Wellness team invites you to a harm-reduction training for students & staff, presented by MCAVHN on October 29 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm. in Library Room 4210 *or* online via Zoom.

Harm Reduction is an evidence-based spectrum of strategies utilized to support persons who use substances (PWUS). These strategies include safer use, managed use, abstinence, and meeting people “where they’re at” in addressing conditions of use along with the use itself.

To register, please click [here](#).

For more information, please contact:

[wellness@mendocino.edu](mailto:wellness@mendocino.edu) or call (707) 621-6463

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

## BOOK CLUB

You are invited to join our next lunchtime book club, featuring *Transforming Hispanic-Serving Institutions for Equity and Justice* by Gina Ann Garcia, on Nov 8th from 12:30-2 pm. This author recently taught at Santa Rosa JC and now teaches at UC Berkeley. We recommend that you listen to her [podcast](#) along with reading the book. For more about the book and a short sample read, click [here](#).

To join the book club or for additional information, please email [Janet Daugherty](#) this week so we can order the books as soon as possible. Lunch suggestions are also welcome!

## ZERO TEXTBOOK COST (ZTC) PATHWAYS

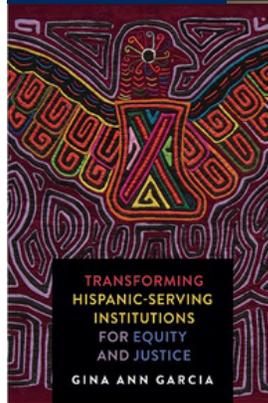
Textbook Affordability on Campus with Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Pathways. To learn more about the legislation for ZTC Degree Grant Program go to [Education Code Section 78050-78052](#).

There are different ways for a Degree Program /Career Technical Certificate to become ZTC and some new grant money is available to support the process. There is a deadline for the grant money application. Degree Programs/Career Technical Certificates interested in the options available to become a ZTC Program should email [Gabrielle Visco](#).

## MAGAZINES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Mendocino College Library's [Flipster](#) subscription is available to faculty, staff, and students for FREE, 24/7. Flipster is a great digital educational resource that faculty can share directly with students within Canvas, and it is an easy-to-use platform. We have a wide assortment of digital magazines, something for everyone, with titles like Science News, American Craft, National Geographic España, Out, Say, The New Yorker, and more. To access Flipster please use your MC College login. Flipster is located within the library's AZ Guides, listed on our [webpage](#).

Do you have questions about Flipster or need a hand with access? Please email us at [librarian@mendocino.edu](mailto:librarian@mendocino.edu). We're happy to help!



Textbook Affordability on Campus

## ZERO TEXTBOOK COST PATHWAYS

Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Grant Program Legislation  
[Education Code Section 78050-78052](#).

There are different ways for a Degree Program /Career Technical Certificate to become ZTC. There is some new grant money available to support the process.

Degree Programs/Career Technical Certificates interested in what options are available to become a ZTC Program, reach out to Gabrielle.

Book an Info Session

Gabrielle Visco, MLIS  
OER/Textbook Affordability Librarian  
707-468-3050  
[gvisco@mendocino.edu](mailto:gvisco@mendocino.edu)

## MC Library Resource Flipster

Mendocino College Library's [Flipster](#) subscription is available to faculty, staff and students for FREE.

Access from our AZ Databases on the website at [mendocino.edu/library](http://mendocino.edu/library)





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

*By Leslie Banta*

Many of our faculty take on extra duties on our campuses and in our communities. A number of our full-time faculty are also serving their fellow faculty and our students through statewide service.

Professors Valentina Velazquez-Zvierkova (World Languages) and Neeka Aguirre (History) are serving with the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Open Educational Resource Initiative (OERI) Collaboration Cohorts in their subject matter areas to review the current curriculum and textbook options available in Open Educational Resource (OER), explore what is being developed, and collaborate on the development of additional OER textbooks or adaptations. Having quality OER materials available to our students is imperative to their learning and success.

Prof. Dave Pai (Computer Science) serves with the California Community Colleges (CCC) Artificial Intelligence Consortium. This faculty-created initiative connects community college faculty across California who collaboratively develop innovative AI curricula by sharing resources, expertise, experiences, and professional development in the fast-advancing fields of artificial intelligence in education. The Consortium establishes collaboration with State education agencies, academic institutions, and industry partners to bring an interdisciplinary, inclusive, and equitable AI education to our students.

Prof. Mark Osea (Counseling), serves as the Area B Representative on the ASCCC Executive Committee. Covering all of the Bay Area and more, Area B contains 34 California community colleges. Area Representatives coordinate two area meetings each year prior to plenary sessions to discuss matters of concern to their areas, review proposed resolutions, and generate their own resolutions.

Prof. Marcus Frederickson (Chemistry), serves as Director of Finance Elect for the CCC Student Affairs Association. The CCC Student Affairs Association focuses on networking, student and professional development, and advocating for the field of Student Affairs and Student Leadership within the CCC System.

Professors Chantal Cimmiyotti (Math) and Leslie Banta (Math) serve on the Board of the California Mathematics Council Community Colleges (CMC3). Prof. Cimmiyotti serves as the PT/Contingent Faculty Advocate and Campus Rep Co-coordinator. Prof. Banta serves as Treasurer and Campus Rep Co-coordinator. CMC3 provides a forum through which CC math faculty in Northern and Central California can express themselves professionally at local, state, and national levels as well as supporting mathematical activity by students and faculty. The CMC3 Foundation offers scholarships each year to CC math students and several MC students have received these scholarships over the years.

Prof. Banta also serves on the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) Board of Governors, the Legislation & Budget Committee, and the Think Tank. FACCC's mission is to inform, educate, empower, and advocate for faculty in service to students and the communities of California. Having a local representative on the FACCC Board gives voice to smaller rural colleges and the unique needs of their faculty and students.

## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

*Photo by Scott Spears***THEATRE DEPT. PRESENTS THE BOOK OF WILL**

The Mendocino College Theatre Arts Department will present Lauren Gunderson's contemporary play *The Book of Will* for two weekends only October 17-27, in the Mendocino College Center Theatre on the Ukiah Campus. Gunderson is currently the most frequently produced playwright in the United States, and this play is one of her most popular scripts. The story, a love letter to the theatre, is about friendship, art, and the heart-achingly fragile nature of nearly everything. The action unfolds three years after the death of William Shakespeare as his friends and fellow actors realize that they alone hold his plays in their memories and in their scattered collections of unpublished scripts. Together they set out to publish and thereby preserve his plays and his legacy for future generations of theatregoers. Their efforts against all odds express not only their love of theatre but also their shared humanity and devotion to their friend.

This production will feature costumes and scenery highlighting the work of students in Mendocino College's CTE program in technical theatre under the direction of faculty & staff members Steve Decker, Kathy Dingman-Katz, and David Wolf. Theatre student Eduardo "Lalo" Torres is the show's co-lighting designer and students Ella Cash and Hannah Hinrichs are assisting Steve Decker with the scenic design. Costuming students Shianne Robertson, Percival Knutson, and Vicko Ciraulo are assisting designer Kathy Dingman-Katz. Sarah Jansen is assisting producer & director Reid Edelman, and the student stage manager is Jasmine Norris.

The talented cast features 18 actors, including many students and alumni of the Theatre Arts Department's Conservatory Cohort ensemble. Eli Fowler and Julian Sterling play Shakespeare's friends and fellow thespians Henry Condell and John Heminges, without whose efforts we would have lost at least half of Shakespeare's works. One theme of Gunderson's play is the unsung but essential contributions of women in preserving Shakespeare's legacy, and the play features several powerful female roles, including Heidi Peterman as Alice Heminges (John's daughter), Alicia Bales as John's wife Rebecca Heminges, and Joni McLeod as Elizabeth Condell (Henry's wife). Schuyler Marcier plays both playwright Ben Jonson and actor Richard Burbage. The ensemble cast also includes Miranda Swearingin, Rory Silveira, Jordan Wegner, Crispin Cain, Andrea McCullough, Scott Spears, Esteban Orozco, Percival Knutson, Phaedra Swearingin and Tina Marie Silveira. Julayne Ringstrom and Valerie O'Riordan are featured as Shakespeare's daughter Susannah and widow Anne Hathaway.

According to director Reid Edelman, "This is truly one of the most beautiful plays I've ever encountered; it is just bursting with heart." Due to some mature language, the production is appropriate for audiences ages 13 and older.

**Performances are Thursday, Friday & Saturday, October 17, 18, & 19 at 7:30 PM, and Thursday, Friday & Saturday, October 24, 25 & 26 at 7:30 PM, and Sunday, October 27 at 2 PM.** Tickets (\$20 general; \$15 students and seniors) are available at the Mendocino Book Company and online at [www.ArtsMendocino.org](http://www.ArtsMendocino.org). The performance on Friday, October 18 is a gala opening night celebration, and for this performance, the ticket price includes a food and beverage reception catered by the college's Culinary Arts Program, starting one hour before the show. The performance on Saturday October 19 benefits the Mendocino College Foundation and student scholarships. A free glass of wine is included with the ticket price for this performance. Thursday October 17 is a "pay what you wish" preview. The performance on Thursday October 24 is a special discount night, with all tickets costing only \$10. For information, call (707) 468-3172.

For information, call (707) 468-3172 or visit [www.mendocino.edu/academics/programs/arts/theatre-arts](http://www.mendocino.edu/academics/programs/arts/theatre-arts).

## REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

THE MENDOCINO COLLEGE GALLERY PRESENTS

**SEEKING THE LIGHT**

A LONG STRANGE TRIP

SELECT WORKS BY

*Susie Racecar and Bob Comings*

SEPTEMBER 5TH - OCTOBER 27TH

Opening Reception: September 5th, 4:30-6:30pm

Mendocino College Gallery Hours: Tues: 3-6PM | Wed: 12-3PM | Thurs: 3-6PM

**SEEKING THE LIGHT***Featuring Susie Racecar & Bob Comings***September 5th - October 27th, 2024**

Mendocino College Gallery is thrilled to present 'Seeking the Light | A Long Strange Trip' a two-person show featuring select works by Bob Comings and Susie Racecar. Comings and Racecar share in common a love for high-key color and the organic complexity of patterned mark-making.

**Regular Gallery Hours:**

Tuesdays: 12:30-3:30pm | Wednesdays: 10:30am-12:30 pm

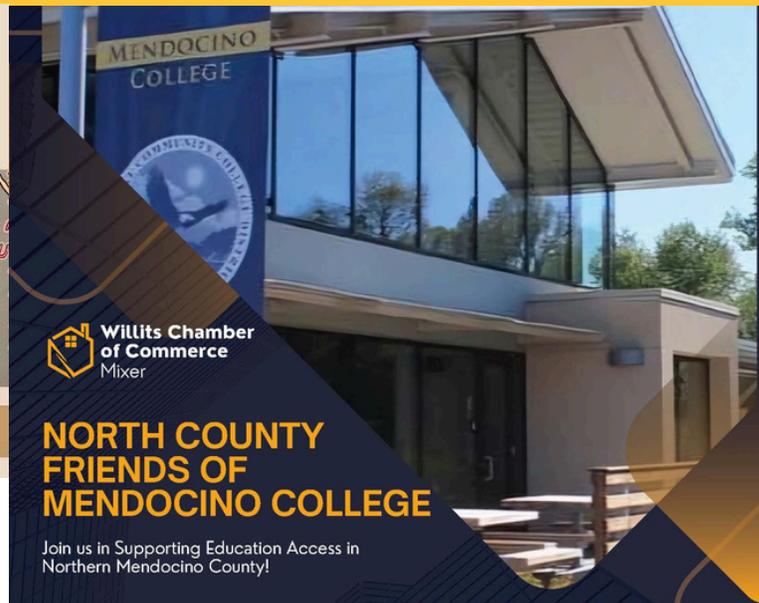
Thursdays: 12:30 - 3:30pm | And by Appointment

**CALMING STRATEGIES**

STOP Breathing with Rhea Hollis

**CALMING STRATEGIES****October 23 | 12:30pm - 1:00pm | Online via Zoom**

Find your calm using the S.T.O.P. Breathing technique. Led by Rhea Hollis. For more Health & Wellness resources, visit us [here](#).

**Questions?**Contact us at [wellness@mendocino.edu](mailto:wellness@mendocino.edu) or 707-621-6463
**Willits Chamber of Commerce Mixer**
**NORTH COUNTY FRIENDS OF MENDOCINO COLLEGE**

Join us in Supporting Education Access in Northern Mendocino County!

**MIXER-FUNDRAISER FOR MENDOCINO COLLEGE NORTH COUNTY CENTER****October 11, 2024 | 5:30pm - 7:30pm**

North County Center, 372 E Commercial Street, Willits

Join us in supporting educational access in Northern Mendocino County!

Free to attend! Enjoy hors d'oeuvres & a live auction with Tom Allman as our auctioneer.

The Mendocino College North County Center in Willits seeks your aid in continuing to sponsor high school students from Willits, Laytonville, Leggett, and Covelo to engage in a six-week college summer session with free meals, transportation, and a \$300 scholarship for all students who are academically successful in their courses.

Help us jumpstart the educational opportunities in your home community. Sponsor a student today!

*Hosted by the Willits Chamber of Commerce.*

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT KARAS

2024 ELECTIONS

**YOUR  
VOICE.  
YOUR  
VOTE.**

Be the change you want to see - register to vote

WWW.VOTE.GOV

**HONORING  
INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES  
DAY**

**OCTOBER 14, 2024**

## EVENTS

*The regular seasons for three of our sports teams (Women's Soccer, Men's Soccer, and Women's Volleyball) began in September. Come out to cheer on our student athletes. Details can be viewed on the [Events page](#), or the [Athletics page](#). The monthly [student newsletter, The Eagle](#), provides a listing of upcoming events and campus news too.*

### **Walking Moai**

Mondays, Start at 1pm | Pomo Plaza, Ukiah Campus

### **Mixer-Fundraiser North County Center**

October 11, 2024 | 5:30pm - 7:30pm | North County

### **Indigenous Peoples Day**

October 14, 2024

### **Undocumented Student Action Week**

October 14-17, 2024 | [asccc.org/undocumented-student-action-week](https://asccc.org/undocumented-student-action-week)

### **Mendo Safe Space Workshop**

October 16, 2024 | 2:00pm - 4:00pm  
Library Rm. 4210, Ukiah Campus

### **The Book of Will**

October 17-27, 2024 | Center Theater, Ukiah Campus

### **College & Career Day at the Coast Center**

October 17, 2024 | 10:00am - 12:00pm | Coast Center

### **Students vs. Staff Softball Game**

October 21, 2024 | 12:00pm - 1:30pm | Softball Field

### **Calming Strategies**

October 23, 2024 | 12:30pm - 1:00pm | Online via Zoom

### **12th Annual Dia de los Muertos Event**

Wed., Oct. 23rd | 4 pm - 8 pm | Lowery Student Center

### **Sharing Circle**

October 23, 2024 | 4:00pm - 5:00pm | Online via Zoom

### **Fall Teacher's Institute**

October 25, 2024 | 9:30am - 2:30pm  
Library Room 4210, Ukiah Campus

### **Harm Reduction 101: Concepts & Strategies**

October 29, 2024 | 4:00pm - 5:30pm  
Library Room 4210, Ukiah Campus *or* Online via Zoom

### **Dia de Los Muertos Pop-up Gallery Show**

Oct 29 - Nov 3, College Gallery

### **Book Club: *Transforming Hispanic-Serving Institutions for Equity and Justice***

November 8, 2024 | 12:30-2:00pm, Zoom or Ukiah Campus