



A Message from President Kim Lopez

Weekly Update: 1-26-24

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula MOU Update

Last semester I shared with the campus community the MOU that signified the start of the next level in our partnership with the College and the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula (BGCP). This elevated partnership renews existing commitments that build a seamless pathway for middle school, high school and college students in Southern San Mateo County. Since the October 2023 signing ceremony, great work has been done between Cañada College and BGCP, including expanded Dual Enrollment college courses for students taught at the East Palo Alto Clubhouse, developing a Winter Camp for 80 BGCP middle school students hosted at the College, planning for summer sessions with approximately 250 BGCP high school students also hosted at Cañada College, and shared office space on each other's campus/Clubhouse, providing for special programs, events and resources. When walking campus this week I was delighted to see Adjunct Faculty member and BGCP staff member, Jaime Barajas, connecting with students. I look forward to the continued development of this partnership that benefits youth in our community.



Men's Basketball – Cheer on the Colts Tonight!

Our Colts Men's Basketball team is gearing up for a crucial game tonight versus Ohlone College with intense one-on-one matchups and dedicated conditioning. Coach Harris emphasizes the significance of the game, highlighting the tough competition within the conference which is considered the best in the state. A win tonight is pivotal for the team's standings and playoff aspirations. Join us in showing school spirit and cheering for our team in Building 1, Gym at 5 p.m. Let's make this game a victory to remember!



Undocu-Speaker Forum: Andres Quintero

On Tuesday, the College hosted its first Undocumented Speaker Forum. The goal of the forums is to introduce former and current undocumented Cañada students and learn about their journeys and the strategies that helped them succeed! This forum was led by student Luis Romero and featured Andres Quintero, an immigrant who arrived in the United States in 2006 from El Salvador. Guided by his sister's advice, Andres initially enrolled in adult school but found it lacking in challenge. Seeking more, he ventured to Cañada College, where the language barrier and tough classes initially daunted him. Despite the obstacles, Andres persevered, completed ESL classes, and chose to major in Computer Science. Overcoming the challenges of the required courses, he earned multiple degrees and successfully transferred to San Francisco State. The campus community is invited to attend the next forum which will be held on February 7 from 5 to 6 p.m.!



Shōgatsu: Japanese New Years Celebration

On Wednesday, the Cultural Center celebrated Shogatsu, the Japanese New Year, featuring delightful Osechi snacks. Presenters shared their unique New Year celebrations, encouraging attendees to contribute their diverse traditions. A highlight of the event was a demonstration of traditional Mochi-making, providing insights into this cultural practice. Later in the day, participants engaged in a hands-on kite-making session and a Daruma goal-setting workshop, adding interactive elements to the celebration. It was a day filled with cultural richness and shared experiences!



I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Kim