



**LAS POSITAS**  
COLLEGE

# CONNECTION

October 2025

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

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

## Las Positas Achieves Top Ranking, Again

Las Positas College (LPC) has once again garnered national recognition, securing the 4th spot among the best community colleges in the United States, according to Niche's 2026 rankings. This achievement places LPC ahead of hundreds of institutions nationwide, underscoring its commitment to academic excellence and student success. The college's performance is evaluated based on factors such as academic quality, graduation rates, affordability, and student satisfaction.

In addition to its national standing, LPC ranks 2nd among community colleges in California, trailing only Foothill College. This distinction highlights LPC's prominence within the state, reflecting its dedication to providing accessible, high-quality education to a diverse student body. The college's reputation is further bolstered by its status as a top Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.

These accolades affirm LPC's role as a leader in higher education, demonstrating its unwavering focus on fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment. As the college continues to evolve and adapt to the needs of its students, it remains committed to enhancing educational opportunities and outcomes for all.

### In This Issue:

1. LPC Achieves Top Rankings, Again!
2. Las Positas College Recognized for Exceptional Student ROI
3. LPC Media Students Make History
4. LPC Transfer Day Hosts 50+ Colleges and Universities
5. Job and Internship Fair
6. Las Positas Opens New Cultural Community Center
7. Veterans First Program proudly hosted the 2.2 for 22 Challenge

NICHE®



CONGRATULATIONS

Niche is proud to recognize

**Las Positas College**

for achieving the rank of **#4**

**Best Community Colleges in America**

August 2025

*Luke Skurman*  
Luke Skurman, Chief Executive Officer

# LPC Recognized for Exceptional Student ROI

## Golden Returns

A Regional Look at the ROI  
of California's Community  
and Career Colleges

### KEY FACTS AND FINDINGS



COLLEGE  
FUTURES

THE  
HEA  
GROUP

Las Positas College (LPC) has been named one of California's top 25 community and career colleges for delivering the highest return on investment (ROI) for students, according to Golden Returns: A Regional Look at the ROI of California's Community and Career Colleges. Out of 327 institutions analyzed, LPC ranked 20th, with typical students able to recover their educational costs within just six months of completing their programs.

The recognition reflects LPC's dedication to affordable, high-quality education that opens doors to meaningful careers and transfer opportunities. With annual costs under \$5,000, students graduate well-positioned to earn significantly more than their peers with only a high school diploma, making their investment in an LPC education highly worthwhile.

This award underscores LPC's ongoing commitment to student success and economic mobility. By providing programs that deliver both academic excellence and real-world financial benefits, LPC continues to empower students to achieve their goals while building a strong foundation for long-term financial stability.

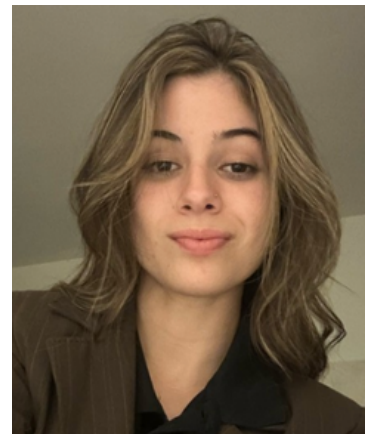
## LAS POSITAS MEDIA STUDENTS MAKE HISTORY

Las Positas College's Journalism and Media Studies (JAMS) program has earned unprecedented national recognition from the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP). For the first time, The Express—LPC's student-run newspaper—was named a finalist for the prestigious Newspaper/News magazine Pacemaker Award. LPC's arts and literature journal, Havik: Crosswalking, also earned finalist status in the Literary Arts Magazine Pacemaker category, following its Best of Show award earlier this year.



Alumna Olivia Fitts, now at the University of Missouri's School of Journalism, stands out individually as a finalist in four categories, including Reporter of the Year for two-year colleges, columnist, human interest profile, and podcast. JAMS coordinator Melissa Korber praised Fitts' work as "next level," highlighting her article This Land Is Their Land for Naked Magazine.

Winners will be announced Oct. 18 at ACP's national convention in Washington, D.C., where Fitts, LeDuc, and their peers hope to celebrate further recognition of LPC's student media. "It's inspirational to see our students' creativity, dedication, and leadership honored at the highest level," said Korber.



LPC Alumna Olivia Fitts



# LPC HOSTS 50 UNIVERSITIES FOR TRANSFER DAY



On September 15, Las Positas College hosted its annual Transfer Day in the Campus Quad, welcoming more than 50 colleges and universities to meet with students. Representatives from UC, CSU, private, and out-of-state institutions shared information about majors, admissions requirements, and transfer pathways, giving students the chance to explore a wide range of opportunities—all in one place.



The lively event offered students the chance to ask questions directly, make connections, and begin charting their path toward a bachelor's degree. Many expressed excitement about discovering schools they hadn't previously considered and appreciated the convenience of meeting so many institutions in a single afternoon.

Transfer Day reflects LPC's strong commitment to helping students achieve their educational goals and making the transfer process as smooth and accessible as possible.

## Fall Job and Internship Fair a Big Success

Las Positas College hosted its Fall Job and Internship Fair on Wednesday, September 24, and the event was a tremendous success! Over 35 employers participated, giving students the opportunity to explore a wide variety of job and internship opportunities, including paid internships, full-time, part-time, and seasonal positions.

In the weeks leading up to the fair, students prepared through workshops designed to help them stand out with employers. The "Job-Ready Resumes" workshop taught students how to create or refine resumes that highlight their strengths, while the "Job Fair Success: Preparing for a Job Fair" session provided tips on professional dress, effective communication, and making meaningful connections with potential employers. At the fair itself, students had the chance to receive personalized resume feedback at the dedicated Resume Feedback table.

The event was further enhanced by "Professional Dress Day," which encouraged students to attend class in business casual attire, helping them make a strong impression during the fair. Thanks to the participation of sponsors Moss Adams-Baker Tilly, Pacific Homecare, SPG, Tasteocracy, and ChildCare Careers, the fair offered a rich, engaging experience that empowered students to take the next step in their careers.



# LPC Celebrates Grand Opening of New Cultural Community Center

Las Positas College proudly celebrated the grand opening of its new Cultural Community Center on September 15 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony that brought together students, faculty, staff, and community members. The event marked a major milestone in the college's ongoing commitment to fostering belonging, celebrating diversity, and supporting its community of learners.

Guests toured the new space, met with program staff, and experienced firsthand the welcoming environment the center provides. The Cultural Community Center now serves as home to the Puente Program, Movement API, the Undocumented Student Support Center, the Pride Center, and a Prayer Room operated in partnership with the Muslim Student Association. It also features a large communal area designed for studying, connecting, and building relationships.

"The Cultural Community Center brings our commitment to equity and student success to life," said Dr. Jeanne Wilson, Vice President of Student Services. "This space is about creating a sense of belonging where every student feels seen, valued, and supported."

The celebration was a resounding success, reflecting LPC's dedication to advancing equity and inclusion across campus.



## 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

Affirm LPC's unwavering commitment to equity by deepening campus-wide engagement, enhancing professional development, embedding equity-minded practices in decision-making, assessment, and accountability processes; and building capacity to resolve inequities.

Increase student success and completion through sustainable college practices, processes, academic support, removal of barriers, and focused professional development.

Establish a knowledge base and appreciation for health and wellness in the workplace; create a sense of urgency about wellness; prioritize wellness in decision-making, assessment and accountability; and build capacity to support wellness.



## VETERANS 2.2 FOR 22 CHALLENGE



Las Positas College's Veterans First Program proudly hosted the "2.2 for 22 Challenge for Veterans" on September 28 at the LPC Track and Field, bringing students, families, and community members together to raise awareness about veteran suicide prevention.

The event featured a moving opening ceremony with a color guard presentation and national anthem, followed by a series of interactive challenge stations themed around the number 22. Activities included a 22-yard dummy drag led by the Fire Technology Program, a 22-hula hoop challenge hosted by Middle College students, and many more that promoted fitness, camaraderie, and resilience.

"This event is about connection," said Jovan Pierre, U.S. Army veteran and Student Veterans Organization President. "It's about creating connections, honoring our veterans, and reminding them—and their families—that they are not alone."