



LAS POSITAS  
COLLEGE

# CONNECTION

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

Dr. Dyrell Foster, Las Positas College President

September 2025

## Tropical Welcome Back Week Kicks Off LPC's Fall Semester



Las Positas College started the Fall 2025 semester in style with a vibrant Welcome Back Week celebration on September 3 and 4. The Main Quad was transformed into a tropical paradise, complete with colorful decorations, palm trees, and island-inspired vibes, setting the tone for an exciting new academic year.

A record number 1150+ students attended the two-day event, making it one of LPC's most successful Welcome Back celebrations to date. Students connected with campus departments, programs, and clubs, all eager to share resources and opportunities to support academic success and personal growth.

Free treats, including shaved ice and taco bowls, were a big hit, and students who completed stamp cards were rewarded with delicious refreshments. Canopies, shade, and misters offered opportunities to cool down while enjoying the festivities.

The event, hosted by LPC Student Government and Student Life, brought the campus community together to celebrate a new semester, build connections, and welcome students back to campus. A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers, tabling participants, campus partners, and students who made this year's Welcome Back Week a tremendous success!

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# LPC STUDENT NAMED CHIME WORKFORCE SCHOLAR

Yanhong Dong, a student at Las Positas College, has been selected as an inaugural 2025 Chime Workforce Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The Chime Workforce Scholarship recognizes students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential, and career readiness while pursuing workforce-focused programs.

The scholarship, provided by the Chime Scholars Foundation, awards \$200,000 in total to 200 community college students enrolled in career and technical programs. Funds may be used to cover educational expenses, including tuition, certification fees, uniforms, and tools needed for workforce entry.

Yanhong Dong is among the first group of students to receive this new scholarship, which supports students working toward certificates or associate degrees in career-oriented fields.

The Chime Scholars Foundation helps students achieve financial progress and build a strong foundation for future careers, while Phi Theta Kappa recognizes academic achievement and leadership at associate degree-granting colleges worldwide.



Yanhong Dong is on the far left with her daughter, mother and sister Emily on the far right. Also featured is their beloved little Bichon fur baby, Emmo

## Introducing The New “Great Wall” of LPC



LPC has a colorful new landmark: the Great Wall of LPC! Spanning 242 feet long and 10 feet high, the once plain white wall in front of the future STEAM Complex has been transformed into a vibrant, interactive showcase of all things LPC.

The wall features bold, fun panels that highlight what makes LPC special, along with interactive spaces designed for students to snap selfies and share their Hawk pride on social media. It will remain in place for the next three years while construction is underway on the new STEAM Complex. A big thank-you goes to FLYNT Builders for helping fund and install the project, and to the Las Positas College Foundation for their financial support in bringing this idea to life.

The entire graphic is shown below and on the two pages that follow—but even better, please stop by campus to see the Great Wall of LPC in person!





# LPC TO HOST FIRST ALARM GIRLS+ FIRE CAMP



**NORCAL WOMEN IN THE FIRE SERVICE & THE FIRE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM AT LAS POSITAS COLLEGE PRESENT:**

## NORCAL FIRST ALARM GIRLS+ FIRE CAMP

**Sept 20-21**

- 2 DAY FREE CAMP
- 8:30AM - 6:00PM
- HS GRADES 9-12
- INCLUDES LUNCH, SNACKS + T-SHIRT
- TAUGHT BY FEMALE & NB FIREFIGHTERS
- SPOTS ARE LIMITED
- REGISTER TODAY!

**LAS POSITAS COLLEGE**  
3000 CAMPUS HILL DRIVE, LIVERMORE

QUESTIONS? REGISTER:   
FIRSTALARMFIRECAMP@GMAIL.COM NORCALWFS.ORG

Las Positas College will host the Alarm Girls+ Fire Camp on September 20–21, 2025, marking the first time this innovative program will be held on the LPC campus.

The First Alarm Girls+ Fire Camp is designed to inspire and prepare young women and nonbinary youth for careers in the fire service, a field where women currently make up just 4.5% of career firefighters nationwide. The camp, staffed entirely by female and nonbinary firefighters, provides participants with hands-on training in firefighting skills, including ladder climbing, hose handling, CPR, and fire safety techniques.

Since its founding in 2018, the camp has been hosted by fire agencies across the Bay Area, including the San Francisco Fire Department, Oakland Fire Department, and Contra Costa County Fire Department.

Bringing the camp to LPC highlights the college's ongoing commitment to equity, representation, and workforce diversity. Organized by NorCal Women in the Fire Service in partnership with Las Positas College, the camp not only introduces high school students to firefighting but also creates mentorship opportunities that help build a stronger and more inclusive fire service for the future.



## LPC Hawks Coach Named CCCMBCA Northern California Coach of the Year

LPC Men's Basketball is riding high after a historic 2024–25 season, capped off by Head Coach James Giacomazzi being named Northern California Coach of the Year by the California Community College Men's Basketball Association (CCCMBCA). Giacomazzi earned the honor after leading the Hawks to an incredible 28-4 record, their second-ever state championship appearance, and the program's first-ever No. 1 state ranking.

Under Giacomazzi's leadership, the Hawks built a reputation as one of the most competitive teams in California, breaking multiple program records and cementing their place among the state's elite. The recognition reflects not only Giacomazzi's dedication but also the hard work and talent of the entire coaching staff and team.

As the Hawks look ahead to the upcoming season, excitement is already building. With a strong returning core and a program culture rooted in energy, passion, and effort, the team is poised to carry last year's momentum onto the court once again.



Great Wall of LasPo cont...



# Las Positas College Opens New Cultural Community Center

## Cultural Community Center



Las Positas College is excited to announce the grand opening of its new Cultural Community Center, a vibrant hub designed to foster belonging, celebrate diversity, and support student success. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place on Monday, September 15, from 1:30–3:30 p.m. on the LPC campus.

The center provides an inclusive space for all students, bringing together programs that reflect the college's commitment to equity and community. Highlights include:

- **Puente Program:** Supports underrepresented students with counseling, academic mentorship, and leadership development to prepare them for transfer to four-year universities.
- **Movement API:** Focuses on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students, offering guidance, transfer support, and leadership opportunities.
- **Undocumented Student Support Center:** Offers academic and personal resources for undocumented, AB 540, DACA recipients, and students from mixed-status backgrounds.
- **Pride Center:** Celebrates LGBTQ+ students and fosters a welcoming environment for the college's LGBTQ+ community.
- **Prayer Room:** Provides a peaceful space for reflection, meditation, and prayer for all students, staff, and faculty.

The center also features a large communal area for studying, connecting, and building relationships, reinforcing LPC's dedication to student success and well-being.

Students, faculty, staff, and community members are invited to explore the new space, meet program staff, and join the celebration.



Great Wall of LasPo cont...

## 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.

