

The

SUMMIT



GROSSMONT COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWS MEDIA | APRIL 2023

OUR WORLD



ILLUSTRATION BY GERD ALTMANN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 The Front Stuff

Editor's letter, safety update, campus calendar and Brain Boost.

6 Soaked SoCal

Record-setting precipitation has affected our region.

8 Riding the Waves

The Surf Club offers fun in and out of the water.

9 Clean Up Campus

The Conservation Club plans a campus beautification event.

10 Curating on Campus

After 50 years, the Hyde Gallery gets new exhibition space.

12 The Mouse's Century

Disney celebrates its 100th anniversary.

13 AI's Potential

How will artificial intelligence affect higher ed?

14 Covering Your Prints

The new digital age has brought many risks, including identity theft.

15 Audition Help

Students offer advice on the audition process at Grossmont.

15 Creating Your Own Path

Student entrepreneurs share their outlooks on taking business courses at Grossmont.

16 Friar Forecast

Here's what to know about the start of the San Diego Padres' current season.

17 Griffin Athletics Schedule

Check out a game or match and support our home team.

18 District Diversity

Updated ESL Curriculum and Governing Board goals aim to improve Grossmont.

18 Champs 14x

Griffins clinch the PCAC tennis title.

19 Arts Update

Upcoming dance concert, community music and Shakespeare on campus.

20 Reel Talk: Playing Games

Get into the game with these film adaptations.



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SUMMIT STAFF

Editor-in-Chief: Gideon Fogt

Deputy Editor: Andrew Breitenbach

Staff Writers

Lindsay Elias, Jacob Houseman,
Sydni Koerner, Dani Uzman

Adviser: Jeanette Calo

GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

8800 Grossmont College Drive
El Cajon, CA 92020
619-644-7454 | grossmont.edu

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Contact us at

summit@gcccd.edu



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SUMMIT STAFF: What do you like to do outdoors?

DESIGN BY JOSEPH SALCIDO



ANDREW BREITENBACH

"I enjoy snowboarding, hiking and walking on the beach in my free time. My favorite outdoor places to visit are Mission Trails, La Jolla Shores, Big Bear and Mammoth Mountain."



LINDSAY ELIAS

"I like to be outdoors, preferably at night to avoid crowds or when it's not hot. I like going to fun places with nice views, whether it be the beach, mountains or city."



GIDEON FOGG

"I usually like to go on hikes or go to the beach. Some of my most memorable outdoor memories were on my solo road trip to Oregon, where I got to explore some of the most remote ecosystems I have experienced in my short life."



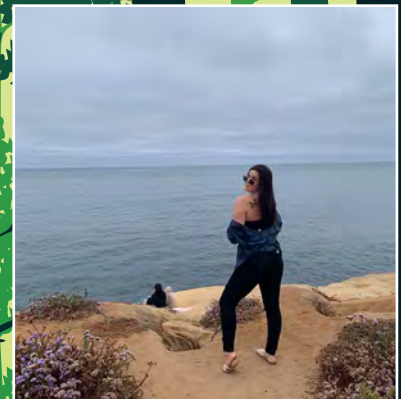
JACOB HOUSEMAN

"I like to go on hikes with my friends and family; it keeps me active. There are a lot of different and unique trails in San Diego County, as well as places I go to on vacation like The Narrows in Zion National Park, Utah."



DANI UCMAN

"I like going to Disneyland. This is something I typically do with my family, so it is always a fun family trip."



SYDNI KOERNER

"I like to go outdoors, my favorite place to go is anywhere near the ocean. I feel so at peace and at my happiest when I am at the beach no matter what time of day or who I am with. It is my absolute favorite place to be."

The staff of *The Summit* is enrolled in an academic media news production course. A main function of *The Summit* is to provide a professional learning experience for students of any major classification who express an interest in journalism and have completed an introductory news writing course. To serve this function, *The Summit* is entirely student-run. Student editors are responsible for all editorial decisions, content and editing. The instructor/ adviser is available for training, guidance and advice, but has no control over the content or editing of the newspaper. Prior review is not exercised. These guidelines have been established to protect the First Amendment freedoms guaranteed to the student press, as well as a guarantee of valuable learning experience in all aspects of newspaper management for the students. **Please direct all inquiries, comments and letters to the editor to summit@gcccd.edu.**

TAKE A MOMENT

Here we all are in the heat of the semester, just after midterm exams and spring break, and a bit before the lead-up to final exams. While many of us might be feeling the stress of the semester beginning to weigh heavy, it is important that we do not neglect our own self-care.

We have already learned and grown noticeably from where we started in late winter. With that in mind, give yourself a moment to credit your efforts and treat yourself, even if it's just a small break from the grindstone.

Remember that sometimes the greatest obstacle in the way of your own success can be your own worst nature. Maintaining your mental health means taking care of your humanity, and that is what we all are at the end of the day—only human.

I have faith that we can all see our goals through to their apex. Stay positive, everyone.



Gideon Fogt

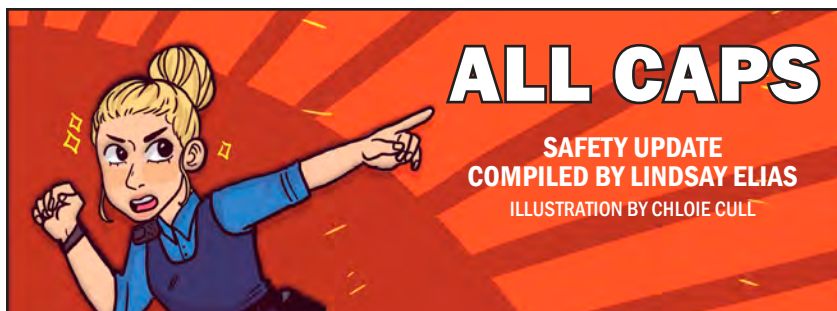
Gideon Fogt, Editor-in-Chief

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

We are very concerned with the quality of our journalism. If you spot a factual error, please contact us at summit@gcccd.edu.

MARCH C&C

Page 8 Correction: We reported Debbie Rose, Grossmont's new Respiratory Therapy instructor, teaches on campus Tuesday to Thursday. Rose also teaches on campus on Fridays.



Grossmont's Campus and Parking Services team, a.k.a. CAPS, handle campus safety concerns along with a sheriff's deputy from the San Diego County Sheriff's Office.

Grossmont's Campus and Parking Services team, also known as CAPS, is dedicated to ensuring safety among all students and faculty at the college. These events on campus were among those noted on the crime log* last month.

- **March 10:** A signal malfunction at the two traffic signal lights east of Highwood Drive was investigated by CAPS and Grossmont deputy.
- **March 15:** A student reported a non-injury hit-and-run collision.
- **March 20:** Deputies investigated a call for a mental health evaluation. The student was transported to a local hospital for assessment and evaluation for crisis intervention.
- **March 23:** A deputy investigated a possible report of school burglary from a shed next to the baseball field.

* *The Clery Act is a federal statute requiring colleges participating in federal financial aid programs to maintain and disclose campus crime statistics and security information. A daily crime log is kept allowing the public to view the most recent information.*

CAMPUS CALENDAR

COMPILED BY GIDEON FOGT

APRIL 14: College Band Night, 5 to 9 p.m. (Balboa Park, Organ Pavilion) | Chamber Music Concert, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

APRIL 15: Afternoon Tea Party benefiting Office Professional Training, 2 to 4 p.m. (Griffin Gate) \$

APRIL 17: "Day in the Life," 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Career Center)

APRIL 19: Arab Countries Showcase, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Main Quad)

APRIL 20: Middle Eastern Music, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. (PVAC)

APRIL 21: 20th Century Classical Duets with Drs. Vanessa Fountain and Joshua Phillips, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

APRIL 24: Arabian Tea and Coffee Gathering, 1 to 3 p.m. (Career Center) | Literary Arts Festival (LAF) Events: Faculty Panel, 2 to 3:15 p.m.; Writer Sonia Gutiérrez, 7 to 8:15 p.m. (Griffin Gate)

APRIL 25-26: ASGC and Student Trustee Elections, (Online) | In-Person Voting (Assessment Center)

APRIL 25: LAF Events: 'Zine-Making Workshop, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. (PVAC Lobby); New Voices Student Reading, 7 to 8:15 p.m. (Griffin Gate)

APRIL 26: LAF Events: Poet Adam Deustch, 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.; Novelist Shilpi Somaya Gowda, 2 to 3:15 p.m.; Fiction Author Tara Stillions Whitehead, 7 to 8:15 p.m. (Griffin Gate) | Music Department's *A Tribute to Blue Note Records*, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

APRIL 27: LAF Events: Graphic Literature and Social Justice, 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.; Deaf Writer Raymond Luczak, 7 to 8:30 p.m. (34-206)

APRIL 28: Feeding San Diego Food Distribution, 10 to 11 a.m. | Grossmont Symphony Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

MAY 1: Summer and Fall Semester Registrations Begin w

MAY 4-6: Entrances and Exits Dance Concert, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

MAY 11: Next issue of *The Summit* hits newsstands

*Events subject to change; visit grossmont.edu for online meeting logins and latest info. | \$ Indicates admission cost

IMAGE BY LARA JAMESON

SOLUTION
ON
PAGE 19



ACROSS

3. The air is becoming more _____.
4. Random things to do for the planet, like planting trees or picking up litter, to celebrate Earth Day
7. It is important not to _____ by dropping plastic bottles on the ground.
14. The solid part of Earth, including landforms and the sea floor
15. You should _____ plastic bottles and cans.

16. The average weather of a place over many years.
18. Gases that warm the atmosphere causing climate change
19. O₂
20. Long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns

DOWN

1. A pocket of gases that surround planets like Earth
2. CO₂
5. _____ may cause some land below sea level to flood.

6. All living things are categorized in this sphere.
8. Current anniversary of Earth Day
9. Year of first Earth Day
10. By turning off the lights, you are conserving _____.
11. Name of our planet
12. The icecaps are _____ due to climate change.
13. All Earth's water (oceans, lakes, rivers, etc.) is categorized in this sphere.
17. Month in which Earth Day takes place

Soaked SoCal

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY ANDREW BREITENBACH

DESIGN BY LYNDSSEE MARQUEZ

Outstanding amounts of rain and snow have been falling across Southern California. Mountain peaks are white with snow, inland valleys are coated with flowers, and coastlines have been reshaped by fierce waves.

Lake reservoir water levels are the highest they've been in years and the drought severity has dropped to almost nonexistent in San Diego as well as Los Angeles.

While the sudden surge of storms has brought beauty to the state, it has also created many problems in everyday life. Several arid years followed by a record rainy year could be catastrophic for some regions. Rain-on-snow flooding events could also be frequent this season due to the record snowpack in the mountains.

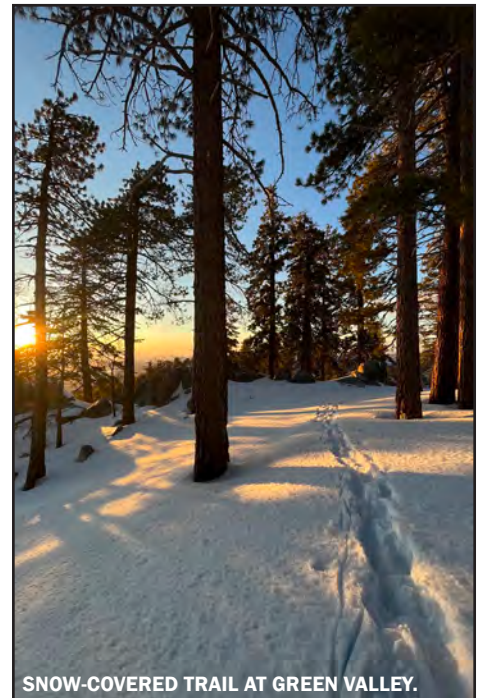
Mountain Region

Snowfall has been blanketing the various SoCal mountain ranges, including the San Bernardino Mountains, the San Gabriel Mountains and the Laguna Mountains. Ski resorts have received more than twice their average snowfall, and there is still a month left. This record snow year has caused most mountains to extend their riding season through April.

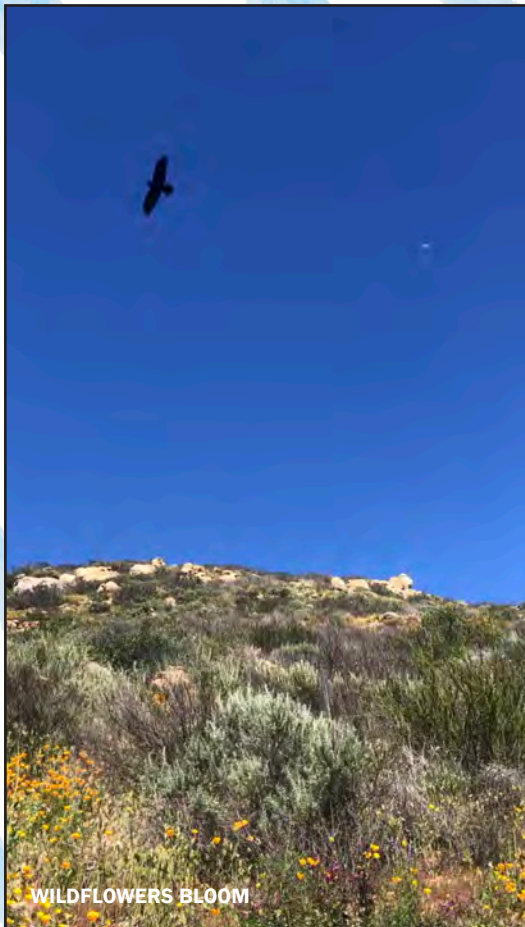
Bear Mountain and Snow Summit average just over 100 inches of snow annually, but have over 243 inches so far this year. In addition, Snow Valley Mountain Resort averages 86 inches of snow per year and has seen roughly 190 inches this season. Many employees of the resorts and members of the mountain communities struggled to dig their way out of the snow.

"For four days I was snowed in at the resort unable to leave," Snow Valley Employee Diane Pauley said. "Luckily, those of us who were snowed in were mainly workers and not customers."

In March, mountain communities throughout Southern California were forced into a state of emergency due to the snowfall. Schools and businesses were shut



SNOW-COVERED TRAIL AT GREEN VALLEY.



WILDFLOWERS BLOOM



DIXON LAKE IN ESCONDIDO.

down. Entire towns were buried and left waiting for authorities to dig them out. Residents claimed it was the harshest storm to ever hit the area.

"This is the worst year as far as snowfall I've ever seen," Snow Valley Employee Ryan Marin said. "I was out of work for two weeks in early March because the storm closed all the roads and shut everything down."

Once the snowpack melts, the surrounding lakes will benefit greatly. Mountain lakes are expecting a surge of water over the next two months. Rain will wash away most of the snow by April and May. Mudslides also present potential problems as Mother Nature transitions through Spring.

Inland Valleys

Vibrant flowers are blooming across the Southern California valleys as a result of the continuous rainfall. Hillsides are lush and overgrown. California poppies, desert lilies and fleabane daisies can be seen popping up along highways and walking trails. Locals are appreciating the colorful spring after years of drought.

"I really enjoy the yellow and orange flowers," Grossmont Student Colton Dietrich said. "The California poppies are cool on the side of roads and nice to look at."

San Diego has gotten over 9 inches of rain this year, which is 2 inches more than notoriously wet Seattle thus far. Unlike most years, the surrounding hills are coated green. East County San Diego resembles "back home in Ireland" to Grossmont Student Shane Farias O'Donnell.

"It's pretty nostalgic," O'Donnell said.

San Diego's water reservoirs are also doing well after the wet season. Lake Miramar Reservoir is 83% full, Lake Murray Reservoir is 79.2% full and the San Vicente Reservoir is 60.5% full. The local lake's water levels are visibly higher than in past years.

"This is the worst year as far as snowfall I've ever seen."

-Ryan Marin, Snow Valley employee

Coastal and Urban Regions

On the coast, intense weather has created massive waves capable of significantly damaging ocean cliffs. Bluffs in Blacks Beach, La Jolla, collapsed due to a large system earlier this year. Winter storms can produce waves up to 20 feet tall. In addition to the large waves, king tides raise the water line drastically. The result is large amounts of water crashing against the cliffs and sea walls. Ongoing rain has also washed sewage and bacteria into the ocean, making it unsafe to swim in at times.

Commuting through urban areas has also been an issue due to flooding. The San Diego River continues to flood its surrounding areas, reaching depths up to 10 feet in places. Crossings near Mission Valley and Fashion Valley were closed in mid-March, as well as several other times in the year. San Diego highways are not meant for this much rain, and potholes have multiplied in busy areas.

"I have a small car so it's a little scary to drive on the freeway in all of this," Grossmont Student Sarah Puffinburger said.

With summer on the horizon, this burst of harsh weather should finish soon. The rain replenished the state's nature but also refueled its next fire season. Many different regions will be at risk for fires this fall due to overgrowth and dry conditions. For now, Southern Californians can relish the results of this historic winter. 🐦

Riding the Waves

The Surf Club offers fun in and out of the water.

BY JACOB HOUSEMAN | PHOTOS COURTESY OF GROSSMONT SURF CLUB

Surf Club is one of the newest clubs to be chartered at Grossmont College. Started last semester by five students and the faculty advisor Natalie Ray, Surf Club provides the opportunity for students to learn how to surf or engage in an activity they're already interested in.

After the group bonded over surfing, they began going to the beach every Sunday.

"We really got out on the wave, and we really wanted to give the students of Grossmont the opportunity to come surfing with us," Club President Isaac Suarez said.

The club isn't just for people who already know how to surf though. The ICC Representative of the club Parinya "Anna" Chanvannasy didn't know anything about how to surf until last semester.

"I'd say one of them would be Anna learning how to surf because I think she was the only one in our club currently that did not know how to surf and she learned within like two days," said Suarez when asked about highlights of the club so far.

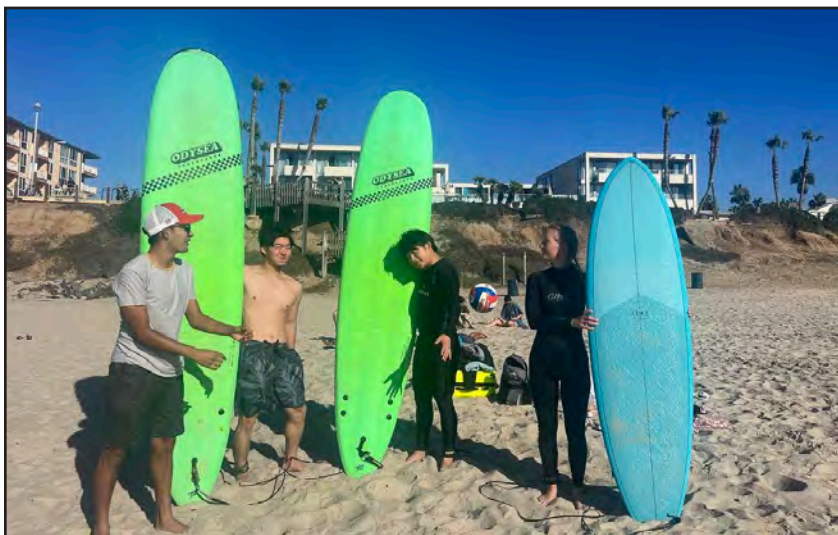
Although their meeting times are Sundays, the specific times aren't all official.

"The weather is probably the biggest problem we are facing right now," Chanvannasy said. "Because we cannot surf in this kind of cold."

It also greatly depends on other weather conditions like rain which can lead to them engaging in other activities as a group.

There are also other options than just surfing for students





that attend their meetings such as volleyball, kickball or simply watching the sunset and surfers. This can help students who don't want to commit to paying for rentals or buying gear, which may not be affordable to everyone.

"We did find a very cheap place," Suarez said. "It's called South Coast P.B. and they're \$8 per rental so that might be a challenge for some students but we're looking to get funding."

There are no plans yet for any fundraiser events, but it's something the club has expressed interest in wanting to do so that anyone from any economic background can participate.

Another challenge the Surf Club is facing is finding parking in Pacific Beach. "I remember I spent the first almost hour trying to find parking," Suarez said. "Then I also would bring my surfboard so it would not be fun but...when you catch the sun and you catch the right parking it's very fun."

Participating in the club may be beneficial for students to relieve stress built up during the semester.

"I just believe that getting out of your house, like in nature, really kind of makes all of these worries about school or all of these problems about school so small because it's like we're part of something so big," Suarez said.

One of the plans the Surf Club has for the future is a collaboration with International Club where they will have a beach party for graduation.

"I'm looking for what to collaborate with other clubs to keep our club active and if we help each other it's going to be easier," said Chanvannasy when asked what she was looking forward to.

This would also be their first time collaborating with another club at Grossmont.

"We welcome everyone to join us even if you cannot surf at all or you know how to surf already; come and join us to experience new things and meet new people," Chanvannasy said. "I met a lot of incredible people there." 🐦



IMAGE
BY LARA
JAMESON

CLEAN UP CAMPUS

The Conservation Club plans a campus beautification event.

BY JACOB HOUSEMAN

Grossmont's Conservation Club is planning a campus beautification event in honor of Earth Day on Friday, April 21. Other clubs are also expected to participate in the occasion.

The club is working with facilities to find projects they can engage in that could better the campus.

"It's a little bit neglected from the time that it was closed over COVID and our facilities crew has been understaffed," Club Advisor Bonnie Ripley said.

Like in some other industries, hiring has become a more difficult and long process.

"Normally employees of the college would be going around doing these tasks, but we've been so short on employees," Ripley said.

After meeting in the main quad, volunteers in the tidying event will do activities that will help facilities and that most anyone who participates will be able to do such as pulling weeds, raking and mulching.

"We're hoping that we'll have enough student club members to help supervise volunteers that kind of know what we're supposed to be doing," Ripley said.

After the cleanup is finished, those who participated might have the opportunity to attend the Hyde Art Gallery where the climate change-related exhibit "Climate Reckoning" is on exhibit through April 25.

Volunteers may also be able to participate in an Art Department-hosted screen printing workshop with an Earth Day theme after the cleanup. 🐦

CURATING On Campus

After 50 years, the Hyde Gallery
gets new exhibition space.

By Dani Uzman

Photos by Andrew Breitenbach | Design by Daelynn Meglasson

The Hyde Art Gallery on Grossmont's campus is now showcasing two new exhibits.

The main space is exhibiting *Climate Reckoning* in collaboration with the Feminist Image Group (FIG). In this show, which is open through April 25, 26 artists react to the problematic stewardship humanity holds over the natural environment. The window exhibit is *What I Wanted To Tell You is This....*, a memorial exhibition of poetry and collage by Jade Solan, a communications instructor who recently passed away, that runs through April 21.

"These exhibitions aim to provide museum-quality presentations for the Grossmont and East County San Diego communities," Gallery Director Alex DeCosta said. "They are also curated to influence and inform our art students' art practices and supplement the educational opportunities for all Grossmont students."



Coming Back

With these new exhibits, Gallery Director Alex DeCosta provided more details about the campus's gallery, which reopened in the Fall 2021 semester after being closed due to the pandemic.

"The first exhibition I curated in the new gallery space was the 'Grossmont Open,' a campus-wide faculty and staff exhibition of artwork created during the pandemic," said DeCosta, who added that the gallery has since continued its tradition of capping off each semester with an exhibit of student work.

"Like many other programs on campus, we are still struggling with attendance and gaining back some of our pre-pandemic prominence and visibility in campus life, but it's a good feeling to have artwork on the walls again," DeCosta said.

This academic year, the gallery is back to presenting three exhibitions, lasting four to five weeks, each semester.

New Digs

DeCosta said the gallery's new location in the Performing and Visual Arts Center (PVAC), which finished construction in 2020, is "a great space" that allows different exhibits at the same time. He said the space is an upgrade compared to its old location in Building 25, where the gallery was housed for 50 years.

"The previous gallery was a standalone building embedded in the 200 Fine Arts Quad," DeCosta said. "Now, the gallery is recessed inside another building closer to the edge of the campus. This move has increased our visibility as the gallery's new Patterson Window Display is one of the first things you see when driving onto campus."

The window display opens up more exhibition options.

"This space has been exciting and challenging to curate exhibits in, but it provides the gallery with the unique opportunity to showcase larger, more installation-heavy artists," DeCosta said.

DeCosta noted that it has "been a challenge" to let the campus community know of the gallery's new location. However, he notes the collaborative potential of the new PVAC, which is used by various arts programs including music and theater.

"I'm excited to see the type of programming we develop and how this building will be utilized in the future," he said.

The gallery's more visible location can help "students discover that Grossmont College has a somewhat important art gallery on campus that has been operating for 54 years," DeCosta said of the gallery, which is open to walk-ins almost daily and is free and open to the public.

Student Work

The Hyde Gallery stages a faculty exhibition in the fall and ends each semester with a student show. These last exhibitions are reserved for showcasing student work produced during that



semester. Many students are excited about it, as it is the only time student artwork is displayed in the gallery.

DeCosta said as an art director, it is rewarding to see when the students are able to publicly display the fruits of their labor to an expanded audience, who often discover the gallery online.

"In the past, the gallery sent out physical mailers, but to be more environmentally conscious, I have decided to primarily promote in a digital format – social media and email," he explained. "After seven years of operating like this, the gallery has a fairly extensive emailing list and social media following. These venues and word of mouth around campus have been very effective in increasing our viewership."

He added: "It is also important to bring artists to campus whose artwork and concepts students can identify with. If the exhibition can pique the interest of our students, they will come."

DeCosta said he typically plans exhibitions a year in advance.

"This gives the artist(s) enough time to create new work and plan around other exhibition opportunities," he said.

Current Shows

The gallery is currently showing two exhibitions that "are powerful on their own and showcase various mediums and concepts," DeCosta said.

Climate Reckoning, the FIG exhibition, presents the work of 26 regional artists, most of whom DeCosta has not worked with before.

"Being a gallery director is meeting new artists and learning about their process and body of work," he said. "This exhibition, in particular, showcases various mediums, processes and concepts, making it a powerful show for student artists."

Grossmont Student Blair Clark specifically visited the gallery to see the climate exhibition.

"This exhibit is important, especially with all the information about climate change and how it affects the world," Clark said. "Anyone with doubts or little information about climate change should see this exhibit. This exhibit will change everyone's perspective."

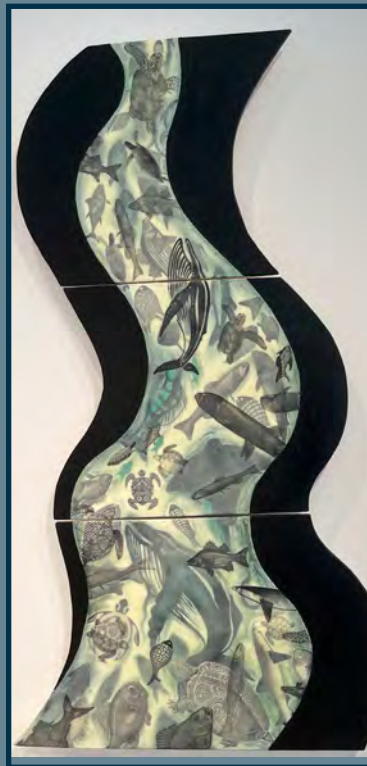
The second exhibit, *What I Wanted To Tell You is This....* is a memorial for Jade Solan, a professor in Grossmont College's Communications Department for 15 years who died of cancer last fall. The show was curated by Solan's partner of 30 years, Alisha Solan.

Grossmont Student Jenny Harris, who knew Jade Solan said seeing the exhibit brought many memories back.

"This is also a beautiful way for this work to be shown, especially with how Mr. DeCosta chose to display it," Harris continued. "If any student knew Ms. Solan, then you should go to this exhibit."

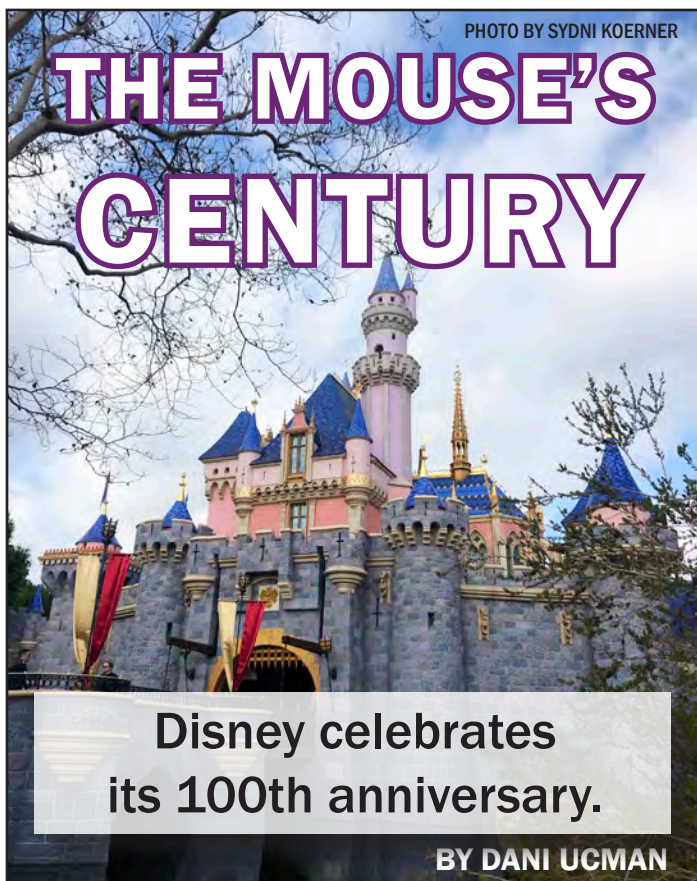
Harris added: "I love the Hyde Art Gallery. It is one of my favorite spots on campus."

The Hyde Art Gallery is open Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit hydeartgallery.com or follow @hydeartgallery on Instagram. 🐦



Above and Left: Pieces on display for *Climate Reckoning*, an exhibit with Feminist Image Group on display through April 25.
Below: *What I Wanted To Tell You is This....*, a posthumous exhibition by former Grossmont professor Jade Solan, on display in the Patterson Window Exhibit through April 21.





Disney is celebrating its 100th anniversary at Disneyland Park in Anaheim, California, alongside new movie releases coming out this year.

The Disney company has been a part of many people's lives in one way or another for many decades, whether through animated movies, sprawling amusement parks or the Disney Channel.

Grossmont Student Jessie Miller recalled his first experience with Disney through home movies on videotape.

"I think the first ever Disney VHS I owned was *The Three Mouseketeers*, and it just grabbed hold and pulled me in," Miller said. "[I] remember sitting at my TV watching that tape over and over again until it eventually broke. It was my introduction to the imagination and beautifully drawn animation."

Miller, like many others during the global COVID pandemic, was kept away from his favorite amusement park when it shut down due to health and safety restrictions. When restrictions were lifted, he was eager to make new memories at Disneyland. He said his favorite memory was his first Disney trip with his girlfriend.

"We met during the pandemic, so there wasn't much to do; I remember our first date was at an automatic car wash, so as you could tell, I pulled out all the stops," Miller said. "When Disneyland finally opened up again, we bought tickets immediately and had our first Disney trip together and our first trip in years. I just couldn't help smiling the entire time, not to mention there were no lines at all, and we rode every ride by ourselves. It was a surreal experience."

Like Miller, many other couples have shared memories with their significant other at Disneyland.

Miller said his favorite Disney character is Peter Pan.

"I think I relate to him the most because I think we've all never wanted to grow up," he said. "There are taxes, rent, insurance and just more scary stuff when you're older, but when you're a kid, you have no worries. You just have fun."

"Peter Pan shows us we shouldn't lose our inner child and stay true to ourselves," Miller continued. "Just because you're older

doesn't mean you should lose your sense of adventure, but instead, harness it and still have a bit of your younger self in your heart."

Disney celebrating its 100th is a significant milestone for Miller.

"I can both believe and not believe that Disney is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Disney has been in my life for what seems like forever, but in the grand scheme of things, it's only a fraction of the company's lifetime," Miller said. "To me, there is more than just a company. They represent memories they represent fun, represent happiness. Disney means so much to everybody, and if you genuinely think about it, they've made so many people smile over 100 years, making them magical."

Tory King, another Grossmont student, shared her insights on Disney and its anniversary.

"My first time going to Disneyland, I was about 2 or 3, but the first time I remember a Disney trip, I was in fourth grade, and the one thing I remember was watching my dad go on the Tower of Terror," King recalled. "I don't think I have one solid favorite memory of Disney, but there have been several times I have just been in awe of Disney. Whether it has been watching a new movie or an old one or if I have been in the parks experiencing another fantastic moment. All the memories will be my favorite."

Parents taking children to Disneyland when they are in their early years is often a shared memory among many students who live in Southern California. Though these are not memories they can clearly recall, students have photos or memorabilia of them going to Disneyland.

The amusement park has always been oriented toward families, so parents going with young children was very common, and is still is although prices have increased so much over the years.

"My favorite Disney character is Winnie the Pooh," King said. "I have always loved Pooh Bear. He has always made me laugh with his silliness and taught me that it does not matter the size of your body."

King said she chose Pooh Bear because the character made her feel that the size of your body doesn't matter as long as you have a big heart.

"The fact that Disney is celebrating 100 years is mind-blowing. I have only been around for 21 years, but that's almost a quarter," King said. "Disney is so important to me, so I am happy to know there have been 100 years of joy and happiness."

Former Grossmont Student Morgan Reed said she also fondly

"Peter Pan shows us we shouldn't lose our inner child and stay true to ourselves. Just because you're older doesn't mean you should lose your sense of adventure, but instead, harness it and still have a bit of your younger self in your heart." -JESSIE MILLER



remembered Disney.

"I spent many birthdays there and have many pictures from that time," Reed said. "My favorite memory is watching the Christmas Fantasy Parade with my mom. It was our tradition, which I still keep even though my mom is no longer here."

Traditions often hold a lot of people together and since Disney has been around for many people's childhoods, some memories are directly connected with family members.

Reed named Anna from *Frozen* as her favorite Disney character.



"She is a brave character, and she does anything for her family, even if that means putting herself in harm's way," Reed said. "My favorite thing about her is she does not need a prince to save her."

Released in 2013, *Frozen* is a fairly recent movie, but that just goes to show even more that Disney films are not just for children; they are made for everyone.

"I have been to Disneyland since they started the celebrations for the 100th anniversary," Reed said. "I will be celebrating at the parks this entire year. Also, it's crazy to believe they are celebrating their 100th anniversary because I forgot they have not been around as long as they have."

The Walt Disney Company has touched many people over the decades and has been critical to many students' lives. Hopefully, everyone who wants to celebrate the anniversary can do so in their unique way, whether going to the theme parks or rewatching their favorite movie.

Remember, as Walt Disney said, "All of our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them." 🐼

AI'S POTENTIAL

How will artificial intelligence affect higher ed?

BY GIDEON FOGT | DESIGN BY JARED ESPINOZA

With the use of artificial intelligence (AI) rapidly on the rise, colleges are facing another relatively unknown element to which they must adapt. Grossmont College is no exception.

Most have probably heard of popular programs like ChatGPT that are renowned for their language modeling AI, which closely mimics human language and responses. A trend among some students has been to use such programs to help them with responding to written prompts on assignments.

The potential of these applications in the educational field, both in use and risk, has caused a vast array of questions to arise. The brunt of the work ultimately falls on the schools and their staff to adapt to this growing technological snowball.

A recent research study released by NYU in early March revealed that postsecondary teachers make up a majority of the top 10 jobs "most exposed" to language-modeling AI, a trend to which many educators are paying close attention.

Despite the unknown variables in the future of AI, there is a strong population of educators who express hope for what it could bring to the table as a tool in the classroom.

A poll of higher education staff done by EDUCAUSE revealed roughly 46% of the respondents were "very or extremely familiar" with generative AI. Roughly 54% of the respondents claimed they were "optimistic or very optimistic" about the potential use of AI, while 12% responded "pessimistic or very pessimistic" and the remaining staff describing themselves as "neutral or cautious"

Some of that optimistic sentiment has been expressed by educators at Grossmont.

"I do know that some instructors are inviting instructors to have open conversations about AI and ChatGPT and learning together about them and their purpose, value,

use, academic integrity, etc," Grossmont's Distance Education Coordinator Dave Dillon said in an email response.

However, all of the optimism around AI has not stopped the concern. Some faculty at Grossmont have even approached Dillon with their issues and or concerns regarding the use of artificial intelligence.

In the visual and digital arts especially, there is a growing concern among creators about the rise in popularity of AI-generated illustrations. These programs use databases containing millions of images across the web to create a "new" generated art style and subsequent artwork.

Concerns tend to be raised among artists that these images can be of other individuals' unique work that will go uncredited.

"From an artist perspective – if I have the right to call myself that, I mean – it's technically not their own work but an amalgamation of uncredited sources,"

Grossmont Art Major Sage Calvin said. "It annoys me especially when it takes from

small artists on the internet that

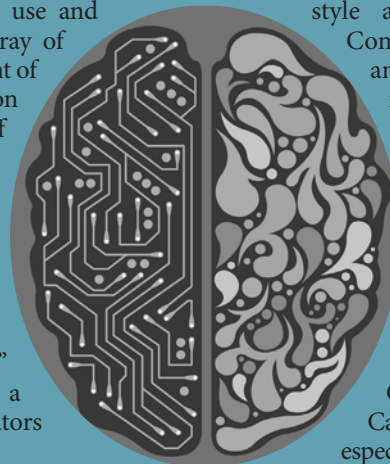
The potential of these applications in the educational field, both in use and risk, has caused a vast array of questions to arise.

might not have the following or recognition that someone like da Vinci would."

Concerns like this are reasonable for those in the field, with some businesses beginning to make commercial use of generated artwork. It can become even more confusing when the murky legal waters of authorship and copyright are explored.

"I don't care how much money someone spends on an app to type a couple of sentences and get some art created from thousands of other people's hard work," Calvin said. "It's a massive problem in my opinion. So many actual artists who put in the effort will go unnoticed if AI art becomes the new thing."

While the consensus when it comes to AI's role in higher education is still unclear, the inevitability of its continued evolution is something everyone will experience. 🐼

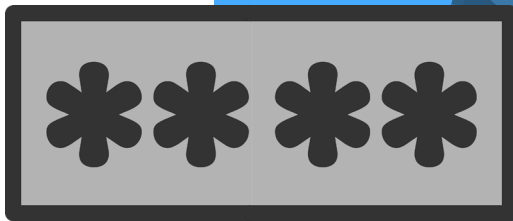


Covering Your Prints

The new digital age has brought many risks, including **identity theft.**

BY LINDSAY ELIAS

DESIGN BY
KELLYE DOS
SANTOS BAEZ



Knowing how to protect your digital footprint – or your digital identity – can ultimately save you from unwanted scams.

In a workshop conducted by Grossmont, Jeff Lackey, a Sallie Mae partner and director of financial aid at Peninsula College, offered tips on how to minimize your footprint.

Lackey reminded attendees that thieves can use our information for medical services, utility bills, filing fraudulent tax returns and opening new bank accounts along with lines of credit.

“They’ve even been known to provide stolen names to police officers during traffic citation instances where you may not even know that you were pulled over,” Lackey said.

He added that scammers have become better at sending emails and electronic notifications that look authentic and could appear as if they are coming from companies you associate with. When in doubt, it is better to contact said companies’ customer service directly. It is also important to not use the phone number or links provided in these notifications, as they are more than likely a part of the scam.

Our Social Security number is also a highly targeted piece of information. Lackey advised only sharing it if you are comfortable and being sure to question why it is needed, how it will be used and if there is any other information you can provide instead.

Lackey also discussed biometric ID theft, which he described as “the act of stealing somebody’s physical or behavioral characteristics. And essentially what they are doing is they are using it in a way to manipulate electronic security systems.”

Voice recognition, identification prints and facial imprints all fall

under biometric identification. Lackey noted this information is stored on many phones and can be hacked and used by someone with fraudulent intentions.

He also said it was also important to take notice of the existence of synthetic identity fraud.

“That’s the process of taking a combination of people’s personal information, their data, traits and let’s say a multitude of information from your social media account,” he said.

Lackey advised being aware of what information we share on social media because information like our birth date, school name, pet names and names of significant others can be used to create a counterfeit person.

He said if you find yourself in a situation of suspected fraud, you should keep all paper information and emails that are provided to you regarding the situation. “Anything that they take from you that is considered non-public is essentially a crime,” he said.

Will Rivera, a partner of California Coast Credit Union, mentioned his company has a free financial wellness resource that can be accessed online through calcoastcu.org/enrich. He describes the site to be a “variety of articles, videos and tools to help you with financial wellness, questions, identity theft.” You do not have to be a member or student to access this resource.

On campus, we have Jason Bunch, who is part of California Credit Coast Union and manages the Financial Wellness Center. Grossmont students can take advantage of the services provided by Bunch every other Tuesday at Student Services. 🐾

Thieves can use our information for medical services, utility bills, filing fraudulent tax returns and opening new bank accounts along with lines of credit.



Auditions are currently taking place for the Stagehouse Theatre's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare. Becoming a part of the theater at Grossmont College can be tricky without the correct information. Audition information can be found by following the Stagehouse Theatre on Instagram (@stagehousetheatre). Finding the auditions is the first step, but there are still other preparation steps. Theater students from Grossmont who have participated in past auditions and shows are here to help with the whole process.

Jake Strohl, a theater student at Grossmont who has been a part of many shows, shared some of his insight on auditions at the college. "It can be an interesting process to go through," Strohl said. "The one thing to remember is the earlier you get an audition slot, the more choices you get, like days and times to audition." He continued: "You never know what to prepare for. Depending on the show will depend on what you have to do. Always research before auditioning for a show. It is best to know what you are going in for." Current Theater Student Heather Warren has auditioned for shows and plays many times at the college. "Always have fun when you go in for an audition," Warren said. "Having fun is important when you audition because if you are nervous, people can tell." She continued: "Accept whatever part you are given, even if it is the smallest role. Even with the smallest part, it still helps grow your resume." Another Grossmont Student, Fa Sawyer, also had some advice. "Everyone has the talent to audition," Sawyer said. "Never be scared to show your talent because the most important thing is to believe in yourself. If you are ever scared to audition, just go for it; putting your name out there never hurts. That is how people remember you." 🐦



Entrepreneurs play a big role in our economy, and there are many paths to building your own business. While some opt out of school and choose to pursue their own routes, there are always ways to improve, and Grossmont College has classes available to help kick off your journey into business. Grossmont offers multiple courses in the business administration category. This includes Introduction to Business, Business Law, Business Communication, Business Mathematics and multiple others. A full list can be seen on the Grossmont College website. According to the webpage, most of the courses available fulfill the lower division requirements of colleges and universities. Joseph Toledo, the owner of Blackout, a clothing company, said he is looking forward to furthering his knowledge at Grossmont in the fall. Toledo describes his company as "a clothing brand inspired by the nightlife to deliver a simplistic fashionable look." Toledo is in charge of every aspect of his business since he is the only one working to fulfill sales, advertising and social media marketing. "Taking a business course would definitely be a positive in any space because in today's society,



Joseph Toledo, wearing "The Crew Sweatshirt" from blkoutclothing.com.
| Photo by Lindsay Elias

you need to use that business knowledge to further yourself in life," Toledo said of the classes. "I feel like anybody should take a business class to fulfill that basic knowledge for their life." Toledo said he hopes to expand his business in the future by not just selling online but eventually opening up his own brick-and-mortar stores around San

Diego with wide recognition. He advises other entrepreneurs to stay consistent with their work. Entrepreneur Mia Chavez also shared her take on what owning a business is like and the benefits surrounding business classes. Chavez co-owns The Wave, a candy shop in National City, with her parents. The snack shop carries everything from Mexican sweets to pinatas. She helps to manage the store, as well as do inventory and hiring. Chavez said she wants to further her experience by taking a business or marketing class. With the info she gains, she hopes to help her parents open more locations around San Diego and add more items requiring permits to their store. "Business is in everything that we do," Chavez said. "Nowadays money is everything, so I think business is going to be, like, worth your while, whether it's you opening a business or working somewhere." Entrepreneurship can be a challenging road, but, hopefully, Grossmont courses can help ease the process. Nurturing these opportunities will likely be beneficial to the future of these young entrepreneurs. 🐦

FRIAR FORECAST

Here's what to know about the start of the San Diego Padres' current season.

STORY BY SYDNI KOERNER | DESIGN BY SARAH CASTILLO

It is officially that time of year again. The 2023 baseball season is in full force, and the Padres are ready to make history once again.

Fans are anxiously excited for this upcoming season after the run the team had last postseason, making it all the way to the National League Championship Series against the Phillies. They would ultimately lose that series in five games, but it marked the first time the Padres had made it that far into the postseason since the 1998 World Series, when the Padres lost to the New York Yankees in a four-game sweep.

Some big moves were made heading into the new season. The one drawing the most attention was the signing of Xander Bogaerts to an 11-year contract after he left the Boston Red Sox in free agency. Another big topic for the upcoming season was Fernando Tatis Jr. approaching his return from injuries and an 80-game suspension for violating the MLB's banned substance policy. These additions, along with Manny Machado signing an 11-year extension and Jake Cronenworth a seven-year one, are giving fans hope that the Padres could make a run for the World Series this year.

Last postseason, the Padres really showed up and showed off. Players who weren't normally seen as key pieces stepped up and really made a name for themselves. Trent Grisham had a rocky regular season with a batting average of .184, but came back to show

WHAT
TO
LOOK
OUT
FOR

out in the postseason with a .389 batting average. Another player who made a big impact was Catcher Austin Nola, who had a batting average of .167 in the regular season, but made a large jump to a .225 average in the postseason.

"Trent Grisham has really brought himself back," said Imani Garcia, Grossmont student and Padres fan. "Last season was a little rough, but I am happy he is back to being a star and really showing off his skills."

One player who really opened up some eyes last postseason was Pitcher Joe Musgrove. According to FanNation, Musgrove really caught some attention when he made MLB history as the first pitcher to give up two hits or less while pitching seven or more innings during a series win against the Mets. In this same game, Musgrove was accused of cheating. As reported by CBS Sports,

Mets Manager Buck Showalter had the umpiring crew check Musgrove's ears for illegal substances giving him pitching enhancement. Musgrove ended up getting cleared by MLB officials of any wrongdoing. He finished that game with seven innings with no score, and also won the hearts of many, being named the "hometown hero" as he's from El Cajon, California.

On the topic of pitchers, San Diego hasn't always had the best of luck when it comes to its pitching crew. For this season, the team signed some powerhouse pitchers such as Seth Lugo from the

"I feel like Tatis coming back does not look good for the organization, and I feel like it's just not gonna help the team this year."

– Jason Gonzales



New York Mets and Michael Wacha from the Boston Red Sox. Last season, the Padres also signed Josh Hader, who has become a star as the team's closer. The Padres were able to lock in Yu Darvish for a six-year extension as well. Including fan favorite Musgrove, the Padres still have a few more pitchers in their arsenal.

One item up for discussion is the return of Tatis from this suspension. People have very mixed reviews about Padres' star "El Niño" coming back.

"I feel like Tatis coming back does not look good for the organization, and I feel like it's just not gonna help the team this year," Grossmont College Baseball Player Jason Gonzales.

Alyssa Lindall, Grossmont student and Padres

fan, also expressed his opinion on the franchise player's return.

"I think it might be rocky at first to get him back into the swing of things but I am excited," she said. "I think the energy will be great."

Reviews from fans everywhere vary, so we shall see how Tatis performs and acts once his suspension term is up.

Big things are happening for the San Diego Padres this season. It is definitely one of the teams to watch as its batting lineup looks like "2023 version of Murderer's Row," as described by Tom Rumsinski from The Score.

All of San Diego and many fans across the country will be rooting for the Friars to reach even higher levels this season. 🐾



GRIFFIN ATHLETICS SCHEDULE

Check out a game or match and support our home team.

COMPILED BY
ANDREW BREITENBACH

BASEBALL

APRIL

- 15** vs. Palomar (2 p.m.)
- 18** at Southwestern (2 p.m.)
- 20** vs. Southwestern (2 p.m.)
- 22** at Southwestern (1 p.m.)
- 25** vs. Imperial Valley (2 p.m.)
- 26** at Imperial Valley (2 p.m.)
- 28** vs. Imperial Valley (2 p.m.)

MAY

- 5** SoCal regional Playoffs begin

SWIM AND DIVE

APRIL

- 14-15** SoCal Diving Championship (TBA)
- 20-22** PCAC Conference Championship (TBA)

MAY

- 4-6** State Championships (TBA)

WOMEN'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL

APRIL

- 14** vs. Palomar at Warm Water Beach (9 a.m.)
- 21** vs. San Diego City (9 a.m.)
- 21** vs. San Diego Mesa (9 a.m.)
- 26** PCAC Pairs Day 1 at MiraCosta (9 a.m.)
- 28** PCAC Pairs Day 2 at MiraCosta (9 a.m.)

MAY

- 2** Team Regionals
- 5-6** Pairs Regionals
- 11-13** Team State Championships at West Valley College

WOMENS TENNIS

APRIL

- 27-30** CCCAA State Championships at Ojai

**Events subject to change; visit grossmont.edu for latest info.*



Updated ESL Curriculum and Governing Board goals aim to improve Grossmont.

STORY BY ANDREW BREITENBACH | ILLUSTRATION BY GERD ALTMANN

When San Diego County residents think of English as a second language, they may assume Spanish as an individual's first language. It is a natural assumption because San Diego borders Tijuana, Mexico.

However, at Grossmont College, Arabic and Farsi are often students' first languages. This is because the school sits in a diversely populated area. Many people in El Cajon traveled from the Middle East and made new homes in eastern San Diego. The college benefits from this by receiving a culturally diverse campus, as students from all over the world attend Grossmont each semester.

Prior to its March meeting, the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Governing Board hosted an English Second Language workshop where ESL faculty discussed changes to the program. Since the pandemic, new curriculum for ESL has been implemented across the district. The new accelerated language learning program uses activities and focuses on reading, writing, speaking, grammar and listening. Old teaching methods had separate texts for separate classes, but now the texts and classes intertwine much better.

In addition to the new ESL educational program, the Governing Board said it supports students with its current Districtwide Goals and Strategic Priorities. The list of objectives focuses on increasing student enrollment, particularly among historically under-served populations, and eliminating equity gaps in student access and outcomes.

"The board has taken several steps to advance policy related to diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in recent years," Dr. Lynn Neault, the district's chancellor, said. "The board added to its monthly meeting agenda

updates on diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility initiatives."

Throughout recent years, the board has added multiple initiatives aimed at cultural diversity on campus. One example is the June 2021 resolution 21-011, which affirms the district's commitment to diversity equity and inclusion. Another example is the June 2020 resolution 20-015 denouncing violence against Black Americans and commitment to anti-racism. Additionally, the college offers a number of events to help new students get acquainted.

"We proudly offer cultural heritage months and activities, as well as affinity orientation and resource nights, including our recent Black/African American Family College Night, upcoming Latinx Family

"The board has taken several steps to advance policy related to diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in recent years." -DR. LYNN NEAULT

College Night and Asian American and Pacific Islander Family College Night," Grossmont College President Denise Whisenhunt said.

Faculty at the March workshop also explained how the new ESL curriculum strives for a shorter sequence and higher goals. Of the ESL students at Grossmont, 14% are international students, while the other 86% are refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants. Students range from 17 years old all the way up to grandparents trying to communicate better with their grandchildren.

ESL classes are able to be taken as credit or non-credit; the choice is up to the student. Grossmont and Cuyamaca's programs are aligned, which should allow students to switch between schools seamlessly. 🐦



Griffins clinch PCAC tennis title.

BY ANDREW BREITENBACH

Grossmont's March 30 victory against Southwestern College secured the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference Championship. This is the 14th PCAC title for Griffins Women's Tennis since the program was founded back in 1999.

The Griffins had another strong year of conference play, finishing with a record of five wins and only a single loss in the PCAC. Their overall record, which includes out-of-conference games, was six wins and five losses. Grossmont College is set to host the PCAC Championships April 6-8, and the CCCAA State Championships are scheduled for April 27-30 in Ojai, California. 🐦



IMAGE COURTESY @GCGHOUSE TWITTER

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ON TUNE IN



ARTS UPDATE BY DANI UCMAN

A faculty choreographed dance concert

Entrances & Exits 2023

PHOTO BY
STEPHEN
HARVEY



May 4-5-6, 2023

All shows 7:30pm

DANCE CONCERT

Grossmont College Dance Department presents *Entrances & Exits 2023*, a faculty-choreographed dance concert. Seven faculty choreographers and one alum will present an evening of new works. The diverse program, which reflects the department offerings, includes works in ballet, modern, jazz, hip-hop, musical theater and tap. Performances will be held May 4-6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing and Visual Arts Center (PVAC). Tickets are \$10. For more info, call 619-644-7766 or visit grossmont.edu/dance.

COMMUNITY CONCERTS IN THE PVAC

Grossmont is beginning Griffin Community Concerts, a new concert series held in the Performing and Visual Arts Center (PVAC). These events take place in the evening so everyone can attend and enjoy them.

The first concert takes place on Friday, April 21. Dr. Vanessa Fountain, harpist, and Dr. Joshua Phillips, clarinet will be performing *20th Century Classical Duets*.

The next event will take place on Thursday, June 1, with the CY Quartet featuring Barnaby Finch. They will be performing *Jazz Up Your Finals Week* to get the students pumped up for finals.

General admission tickets are \$20. Tickets cost \$15 for employees of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, seniors and the military. Student tickets cost \$5. Tickets can be purchased online at gcccd.universitytickets.com.

SHAKESPEARE ON CAMPUS

A Midsummer Night's Dream will be performed at the Stagehouse Theatre May 18-27. The plot of the play by William Shakespeare revolves around the union of Theseus, King of Athens, and Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons. It tracks the lovers Hermia and Lysander as they try to escape but are stopped by Demetrius, who loves Hermia, and Helena, who loves Demetrius.

Parallel to this is the tale of Titania and Oberon, the woodland rulers engaged in their conflict. As Oberon tells him to use a love concoction to make Demetrius fall in love with Helena, Puck, their fairy entertainer, acts as a mediator between the two groups. Oberon's plan backfires, and Puck is responsible for making things right.

Performances are May 18-20 and 25-27 at 7:30 p.m. Matinee showings will be May 20 and 27 at 2:30 p.m. For tickets, call 619-644-7234 or visit stagehousetheatre.com.



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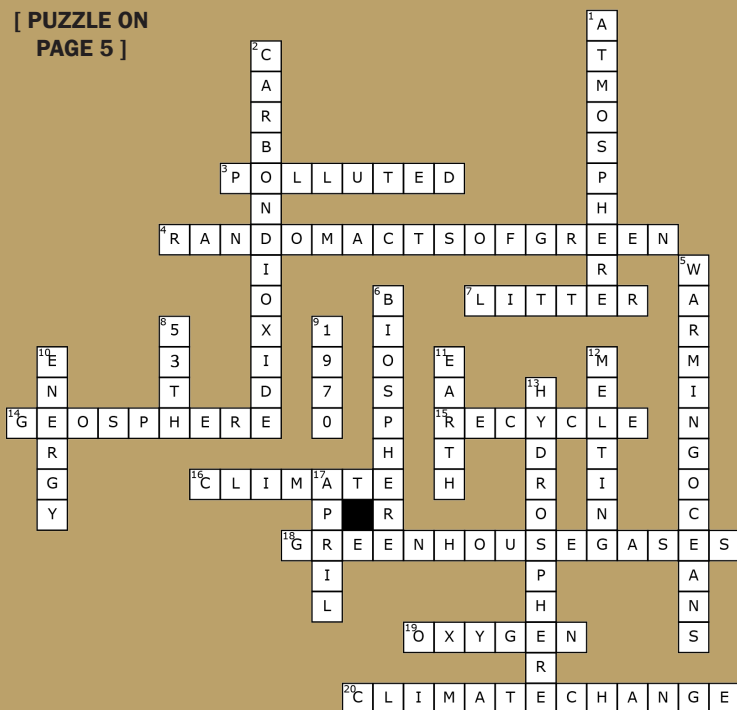


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BRAIN BOOST SOLUTION

[PUZZLE ON
PAGE 5]



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REEL TALK | PLAYING GAMES

Get into the game with these film adaptations.



THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE

| Review by Dani Uzman

The Super Mario Bros. Movie is an animated adventure comedy and a collaboration between Nintendo, Universal Pictures and Illumination, the studio best known for creating the Minions. This movie is based on multiple *Super Mario* games, including *Mario Kart*, *Super Mario 64* and more. It is an adventure for the whole family running 92 minutes long, a good length for kids and parents.

The movie features the voice talents of Chris Pratt and Anya Taylor-Joy, as well as a stand-out performance from Jack Black as Bowser. Black's voice acting brings this character to life in a different way that makes it original to him but does not change the nature of his traditional version. Though there was concern with Pratt voicing Mario, he did well, mixing conventional Mario with Pratt's own version.

There are a lot of Easter eggs in this movie for the people who love the *Mario* franchise. If you are a fan, you should go and see this movie. Even if you are not a die-hard fan, it is an excellent film to watch.

D&D: HONOR AMONG THIEVES

Review by Andrew Breitenbach |

Directed by John Francis Daley and Jonathan Goldstein, *Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves* is an action, fantasy movie with a comedic edge. Loosely based on the tabletop role-playing game, *Dungeons & Dragons*, this feature doesn't take itself too seriously and aims to make the audience laugh.

Chris Pine plays a bard named Edgin Darvis who has lost his family and will do whatever it takes to get them back. Pine is witty in this role, which involved singing songs with his lute and bringing a charm similar to that seen in the *Star Trek* trilogy—ambitious, comical and reckless as hell. He is accompanied by Michelle Rodriguez, who portrays the strong and serious Holga Kilgore. She plays her typical tough-girl role and acts as the muscle for the duo. Other notable roles are Sophia Lillis as Doric, Regé-Jean Page as Xenk Yendar and Justice Smith as Simon Aumar. Collectively, these five actors make up an adventuring party that travels the mystical world together while opposed by the evil villain Forge Fitzwilliam, played by Hugh Grant.

The movie turned out to be shockingly humorous with a few fun jump scares sprinkled in randomly. The film has no connection to the *Dungeons & Dragons* trilogy that was made from 2000 to 2012. The shots of Iceland and Northern Ireland used to portray the Forgotten Realms are stunning and similar to the beautiful scenery seen in *The Lord of the Rings*.



THE LAST OF US | Review by Gideon Fogt

The Last of Us, created by Neil Druckmann and Craig Mazin, is a live-action HBO series adaption of the famous video game of the same name developed by Naughty Dog. It is set in a post-apocalyptic Earth in which humanity is on the brink of extinction due to Cordyceps, an incurable fungal infection that turns humans into violent, zombie-like hosts. The main plot follows the stoic and loss-stricken Joel Miller (Pedro Pascal), as he travels across the U.S. with fierce 14-year-old Ellie Williams (Bella Ramsey) to deliver her to doctors who might be able to synthesize a cure from her immunity to Cordyceps. From episode one, the writing and acting hook you to the characters and the events transpiring, leaving you suspicious of what else there is just around the darkest corner.

The Last of Us also does something that most video game adaptations fail to do, balancing the use and respect of source material with the writers' and producers' own creative identity. It is a well-produced series that feels like one, and not like a video game trying to be emulated on television. Pascal and Ramsey get a lot of credit for this, with their on-screen chemistry and acting prowess captivating the audience with an element critical to both the video game's storyline and the HBO series—the character development and relationship of Joel and Ellie. The only real issue with the series is how fast all of the events transpire; however, with this being the first season, the showrunners likely did not want to stretch it out or experiment too much without first seeing some returns.