

The

SUMMIT



GROSSMONT COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWS MEDIA | MAY 2025

Summer State of Mind



PHOTO BY NATHALY ESTREMER

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The SUMMIT

A publication of Grossmont College's
Media Communications Department.

Vol. 50 | Issue 6 | May 2025

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WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SUMMER REFRESHMENT?

OSCAR ALCON

My favorite summer refreshment is a double extra large Slurpee from 7-Eleven, brah! Since the summer days are getting hot, the Slurpee really cools me down since it's all icy and crispy, ja feel?

NATHALY ESTREMER

During the summer, I like to switch out my usual warm cup of coffee for a smooth, subtly sweet iced matcha latte. The Japanese green tea satisfies my caffeine needs without jitters, since it boosts energy at a slower pace than coffee.

DANEYRA RAMIREZ

Nothing says summer more than a classic lemonade, but a lilikoi lemonade from Homestyle Hawaiian quenches your thirst at the next level. The sweetness from the lilikoi perfectly balances the sourness of the lemonade, making the perfect summer refreshment.

SAUL RUIZ

I love drinking a cool, sweet, refreshing Baja Blast. Not only does it have a rich and interesting history as a fountain drink, it's a main staple of Taco Bell-American culture. The rich lemon-lime flavor and ocean water color makes it super appealing, brah!

ANTHONY SEATON

For sure, my favorite summer refreshment is a Cactus Cooler. That citrusy, pineapple-y vibe with a hint of something extra just screams summer. It's a liquid vacation in a bottle, brah!

PHILICIA TONANGOYE

My favorite summer refreshment is a Strawberry Açai Lemonade Refresher from Starbucks. The ideal size is the Trenta, and the mix of lemonade and strawberries is just perfect, especially with a lot of ice.

SANDRA VIDRIO

I am a proud Tapatia who loves Cantaritos, a drink from Jalisco, Mexico, that mixes lime and grapefruit juice with salt, soda, tequila and Sangrita (another Mexican mix). This drink is perfect for a pool party during the hot summer.

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@gccd.edu.**

EVERY STORY MATTERS

As the semester draws to a close and we log out of Canvas for the summer, we can take a moment to not just reflect, but to honor the student voices that help make our print issues come to life.

Every student has a story to tell, and every story is worth writing. This semester has been filled with moments of change, resilience and connection. We can witness these moments through stories like "Building the Future" by Oscar Alcon, "Dreams on Hold" by Anthony Seaton and "PepperUp Grossmont" by Sandra Vidrio.

The Summit's newsroom continues to be a haven for student journalists to exercise their First Amendment rights, connect with others and build community. I deeply appreciate our writers this semester. If it weren't for their passion, curious minds and persistence, we wouldn't have the insight or clarity journalism brings to light.

I extend my gratitude to those we've met along the way, and those who continue to work with our news organization. Whether you've shared your story, provided feedback or simply picked up a copy, you've helped us grow stronger and better reflect the diverse voices that shape Grossmont College.

Here's to every story told at *The Summit* and the stories that have yet to come.



Nathaly
Nathaly Estremera,
Editor-in-Chief

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



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* since our last issue:

- **April 15:** Extra patrol is being conducted due to reports of vehicles speeding throughout the parking structure.
- **April 16:** A Grossmont student was experiencing a medical emergency in class. Medics obtained information with help from an interpreter and the student was transported to Grossmont Hospital via ambulance.
- **April 21-24:** Multiple follow-up attempts on a case involving an assault occurring on the Cuyamaca campus resulted in the arrest and booking of the suspect into jail.

*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 CALENDER* COMPILED BY PHILICIA TONANGOYE

MAY

- 13:** Blood Drive, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Main Quad) | **A Showcase of Speeches and Debate**, 7-9:30 p.m. (26-220)
- 15:** Fine Dining Series, 5:15 to 7 p.m. (60-173) \$
- 19-20:** Finals Study Jam, 3-6 p.m. (Griffin Center)
- 21:** Blood Drive, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Main Quad) | **MESA Finals Study Jam**, 2-5 p.m. (Mesa Center)
- 26:** Memorial Day: Campus Closed

JUNE

- 2:** End of spring semester; P/NP deadline for second 8-week session
- 4:** Commencement, 9:30 a.m. to noon (SDSU Viejas Arena)

AAPI HERITAGE MONTH

- MAY 12:** Dance Fitness, 3-3:30 p.m. (Griffin Gate + Online)
- MAY 19:** Tai Chi, 3-3:20 p.m. (Online)
- MAY 23:** Fun with Photocards, noon to 2 p.m. (60-177)
- MAY 24:** Asian Cultural Festival, 11 a.m. (Balboa Park)
- JUNE 2:** AAPI Graduation, 5 p.m. (Main Quad)

DANCE

- MAY 10:** *Entrances and Exits*, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

MUSIC

- MAY 13:** Grossmont Jazz/Afro-Cuban concert, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$
- MAY 15:** Music Major Recital, 2 p.m. (PVAC)
- MAY 16:** Advanced Music Major Recital, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC)

HYDE ART GALLERY

- MAY 15-JUNE 30:** *A Walk Through Palestine: A Pre-1948 Exhibit*. (PVAC)

THEATER

- Twelfth Night*, Stagehouse Theatre \$
- MAY 15-17, 22-24**, 7:30 p.m.
- MAY 17 AND 24**, 2 p.m.

CAREER CENTER (60-140)

- MAY 9:** Financial Literacy / Budgeting 101, 10 to 11 a.m. | **Harness the Power of Emotional Intelligence**, 11 a.m. to noon
- MAY 14:** Business Start-Up Workshop, 4-6 p.m. (Griffin Gate)
- MAY 16:** LinkedIn Basics & Digital Fluency, 10 to 11 a.m. | **In-Demand Jobs/ SD Priority Sectors**, 11 a.m. to noon.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS

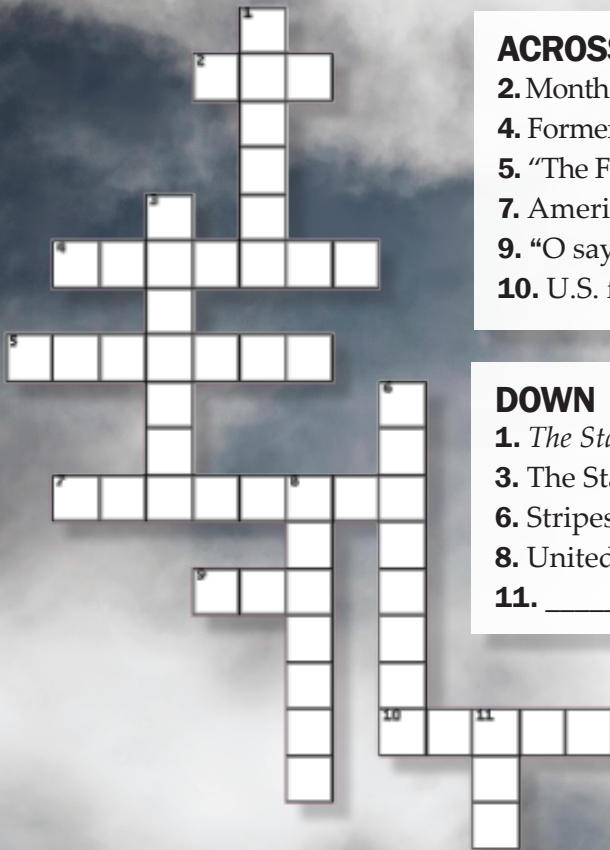
- MAY 16, 23, 30**, 10-11:30 a.m. (10-172)

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

May daze with these puzzles.

BY OSCAR ALCON

**SOLUTIONS
ON
PAGE 15**



ACROSS

2. Month Memorial Day takes place.
4. Former member of U.S. military
5. "The Few, The Proud, The ____"
7. America's national pastime
9. "O say can you ____?"
10. U.S. flag has 50 ____.

DOWN

1. *The Star-Spangled* ____
3. The Stars and ____
6. Stripes represent the 13 ____.
8. United States of ____
11. ____ Force



CROSSWORD: MEMORIAL DAY

PHOTO BY TIM MOSSHOLDER

WORD SEARCH: CELEBRITIES BORN IN MAY

ADELE	EMILIO ESTEVEZ
BILLY JOEL	GEORGE CLOONEY
BONO	HENRY CAVILL
CILLIAN MURPHY	ROBERT PATTINSON
CLINT EASTWOOD	SAM SMITH
DAVID BECKHAM	TIM MCGRAW
DWAYNE JOHNSON	WILL ARNETT

J U Q K H K W Z A S I L G M O O Y K F J
G G S J R Z I K X F P T E L J U J I B D
T W D E Q D W A Y N E J O H N S O N I D
R H J M V P F C G F U N R E O T F K L G
W O L W L H J L A G H H G M C Z E P L V
F Z B D I J W A D C A V E I L U Y Q Y I
B H T E P L Y G E B O V C L I S Q D J S
A E D H R W L Y L U F L L I N I Y U O W
X O B A E T U A E F Z T O O T Y L F E T
A P E P V N P F R Q K P O E E I K T L I
G J A E D I R A I N C U N S A S F S U M
Y C M B D J D Y T P E F E T S L S A K M
F L S U V Q N B C T V T Y E T B S M M C
B P D W P K T B E A I I T V W L E S V G
M J F D G U Z X L C V N D E O N R M L R
K E B Q L Q E H U X K I S Z O B X I C A
I D K D I C V T A V L H L O D O E T U W
I D X H C Z E P F A V O A L N N T H Y X
N N J P D G X Q I P F Q Z M A O K H B B
P O I F L E C I L L I A N M U R P H Y L

© PIXABAY

SUMMER IN SAN DIEGO

The county is busy with events all season long.

STORY BY NATHALY ESTREMER AND SAUL RUIZ | DESIGN BY DANEYRA RAMIREZ

San Diego's sunshine is just right around the corner, as the county saddles up for a summer-long season of fun. While beach lounging and Padres games remain staples, residents will have plenty of other events to explore in the months ahead.

Grossmont's semester ends on June 2, wrapping up with an annual spring commencement on June 4 for all graduates within the previous school year who wish to participate.

While San Diego is not known for its gray skies, the residents are used to "May Gray" and "June Gloom." May will start with the weekend-long event of WonderFront Music and Art Festival from May 16 to 18, at the waterfront in downtown. That same weekend, on May 17, the La Jolla Half Marathon & Shores 5k will be held.

For a day of remembrance, May 26 is Memorial Day, which will be honored by many. The Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery will honor all fallen soldiers in a ceremony from 10 a.m. to noon. The Rancho Bernardo Inn will host a cookout filled with classic barbecue favorites and alcoholic refreshments from noon to 6 p.m.

June starts the summer activities with the San Diego County Fair opening on June 11 until July 6, with the theme of Summer Pet-tacular, celebrating the bond between humans and their pets. The fair contains music entertainment, rides, animals and food vendors. It is a fair where all ages can enjoy.

As for music, Julian's 4th Annual Town Square Music Festival will be on June 7. The event is free and family-friendly; donations are encouraged.

In the sports world, Snapdragon Stadium will host the Concacaf Gold Cup, a men's soccer national team

tournament from June 14 to July 6, hosted across 14 stadiums and 11 metropolitan areas in the United States and Canada. It will feature 16 teams and is expected to bring large crowds. Snapdragon will host two matches on June 15; Haiti vs. Saudi Arabia will be game one and Costa Rica vs. Suriname will be the second.

Grossmont's first summer sessions will begin on June 9. The second six-week session starts on June 26 and the second four-week session on July 7.

July is the month when the sun begins to shine, with the celebration of Independence Day throughout the country. Kicking it off with the Crown City Classic Fourth of July Race, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., followed by parades, then ending the night with fireworks at various locations.

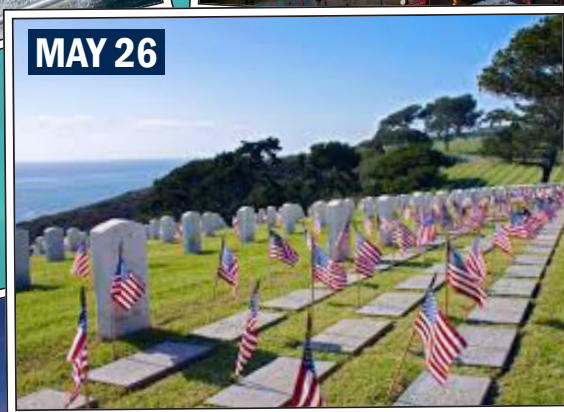
Comic-Con will return once again on July 24 to 27. Incoming teaching assistant, Valor McConnell, described convention as "a cool event to be around and it's just fun to be in downtown when you go during Comic-Con, even if you don't have tickets."

Comic-Con has many events and activities that extend beyond the walls of the convention center and onto the streets of downtown San Diego.

Although these events are known to bring in big crowds and cause traffic, a few residents enjoy spending their free time at more local spots. Grossmont student Diego Mateus shared that he enjoys bars like The BLVD, saying he likes "not [having] to worry about homework, so I can drink whenever I want, really."

Whether it's a music festival, the beach or a bar, San Diego has it all for students and locals to explore before fall semester begins on Aug. 18. More events can be found on SanDiego.org. 🐦





WHISENHUNT OUT

As the semester closes, Grossmont bids goodbye to President Denise Whisenhunt and welcomes an interim into the position.

STORY AND PHOTO BY SAUL RUIZ

As the college's semester nears its end, the community of Grossmont bids goodbye to President Denise Whisenhunt, who will move to Fresno City College. There will be a transitional period until July, when the college tentatively ushers in a new president, Dr. Pamela Luster.

Whisenhunt was appointed the college's president in 2021 and has "commendably led Grossmont College through a number of challenges and notable successes," according to Chancellor Lynn Neault. The college has seen an increase in enrollment of 18% and further engagement in campus programs such as the Math, Engineering & Science Achievement (MESA) program, Neault said in an email.

Whisenhunt recently reflected on her tenure at Grossmont.

"This place is an outstanding academic institution, the work came well before Denise Whisenhunt ever sat in the chair. But I'm really proud of how the college has really grown in many ways," Whisenhunt said. "Successes that we've had from the lens of the academic growth of the campus, but also like student support."

A notable accomplishment of Whisenhunt's is bringing the Golden Pyramid Scholars Award – where students,

mostly of underrepresented communities, are rewarded for being high-achieving scholars – to Grossmont.

"It's been just an honor to kind of shepherd some of that experience for our students," Whisenhunt said when talking about tutoring opportunities for students.

Whisenhunt said she viewed the staff at Grossmont as having provided a nurturing educational environment for students. "I'm not one to take credit for things, I think my job is to kind of help create conditions that support student achievement," she added.

Whisenhunt commented on the transition from her office in Building 10.

"I think I have the best view in campus," she said. "I would never want to change my view because I get to look at students. [When] I have a tough day, I just get up and look out the window."

Whisenhunt said she will remember Grossmont's campus for its vibrant student life and the opportunities it has provided for students to succeed both in life and academically.

Luster is president emerita of San Diego Mesa College. Luster has retired from the school in 2022 after an 11-year tenure, but will be tentatively appointed interim president of Grossmont College, effective July 7.

Luster is widely recognized for having multiple achievements as a faculty member of Las Positas and West Valley College, having been a chairwoman for the Community College Presidents' Initiative in the National Science Foundation. Notably, Luster is a co-founder of the Equity Avengers, a group dedicated to addressing higher education needs for marginalized groups.

"She is a fierce, unapologetic advocate for inclusive practices and student success, who is highly respected statewide and nationally," Neault said in an email. "I am confident Dr. Luster will bring steadfast leadership, a focus on inclusive practices, and operational continuity to Grossmont College during this critical transition."

How the transition will affect the college has yet to be seen.

"I think it kind of just depends what they change," Grossmont student Esmeralda Rendon said. "It's kind of who they are as presidents as individuals– what they prioritize, do they have the same common interests for the school or are they coming in with different ideas?"

As the community bids goodbye to Whisenhunt, there is a planned future for who will lead the college as the search for a new permanent president begins. ♡

BE READY TO FACE ICE

Long-term and short-term foreigners need to be aware of their documents.

The International Admissions office at Grossmont College emailed its students regarding the executive order issued by President Donald Trump on Jan. 20, stipulating that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), requires certain non-citizens to apply for registration and fingerprinting effective April 11, 2025.

But concretely, what does it mean? Accordingly to the new presidency, this executive order requires all undocumented immigrants 14 years of age and older who were not registered and fingerprinted when applying for a U.S. visa and remain in the United States for 30 days or longer to apply for registration and fingerprinting (except if waived). Once registered and fingerprinted, the Department of Homeland Security will issue evidence of registration, which each individual over 18 must carry and keep with them at all times. Failing to comply with this law may result in criminal and civil penalties, including misdemeanor prosecution, fines and incarceration.

International students who have completed the registration process with fingerprints at the visa application and entered the U.S. at a port of entry do not need additional documents.

Grossmont's International Admission Specialist Yumiko Hudson has invited students through email to take action and keep their most recent I-94 (an official document that shows they are legally admitted to the U.S.), along with an original passport showing an F-1 visa and their I-20 at all times. She also encouraged students who are moving or making changes to update their contact information, including phone number, email address and physical address, within 10 days after the change.

“Students are free to leave and return home, but we just want them to know the risks. A student can travel but needs to know that he may or may not be able to re-enter the U.S.”

-YUMIKO HUDSON

“For international (students), it has always been the law; it is just stricter,” Hudson said.

For students leaving the United States this summer to return home, the international admissions office didn't want to send a “scary” email discouraging them from leaving. Students heading home will have a face-to-face conversation with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and no one can predict what is going to happen, Hudson said.

“Students are free to leave and return home, but we just want them to know the risks,” Hudson said. “A student can travel but needs to know that he may or may not be able to re-enter the U.S.”

If there is a blockage at the airport, immigration services may reach out to Grossmont College's international office to verify the student's registration status and compliance with regulations. This is the sole method by which Grossmont can assist in such cases.

It's important for international students to be prepared by keeping their contact information updated with their Designated School Official (DSO) and having their most recent I-94, I-20 and passport (visa) with them at all times, even when going to the gym. You never know when or where ICE may question you, and failing to show these documents during questioning can result in fines or detention.

For more information, refer to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website, uscis.gov/alienregistration (scan the QR code), or consult the email sent by the International Admission Office. You can also email grossmont.international@gccd.edu or visit Building 60 for walk-ins. 🐦



**STORY BY PHILICIA TONANGOYE
PHOTO BY NATALIYA VAITKEVICH**

GRIFFINS TAKE THE STAGE

Live performances highlight student growth and musical achievements.

STORY AND DESIGN BY DANEYRA RAMIREZ

Graduating and advanced music majors will perform in May, one last time as Griffin students in the Performing and Visual Arts Center. The musicians get the chance to share their talent with a live audience as they reach the end of the performance studies course. The recitals display all instruments, including string, percussion, woodwind, brass and vocalists.

The next recital will be held on May 15 at 2 p.m., followed by a more formal recital on May 16 at 7:30 p.m., with the graduating students performing.

Performance studies instructor Audra Nagby said in an email: “It is a more formal recital than the Thursday in-class recitals. It is a wonderful way to celebrate their accomplishments, and often means more to them than even walking with their cap and gown during graduation because they have worked so hard on their music, and have built relationships with their peers and professors in the Music Department.”

Performance studies is a required course for music majors at Grossmont. As students reach the advanced sections, they will begin to rehearse for recital performances. Throughout the course, students attend private lessons to hone their skills and learn the best path to advance as a musician.

The students choose a piece to perform in front of their classmates throughout the semester and provide each other with feedback.

The recitals allow students to gain experience by performing in front of a live audience. The class provides a simple and safe environment for the performers to perfect their technique, work through nerves and build confidence on stage.

Michaela Park, a graduating student, will be singing at the recital. To

prepare for the recital, Park said she practices daily and attends private lessons with Nagby.

“She really helps me make sure I am singing my songs to the full potential that I can, and guides me in what the songs are about, along with my acting choices to go with the songs,” Park said in an email.

Park will perform three songs that “show both sides of me in my performance... slower, more somber dramatic ones, versus playful prima donna songs,” she said.

Johnathan Hanninen is also performing at the recital. After spending all semester on the chosen pieces, Hanninen said in an email, he is appreciative of his music instructors for helping him grow as a singer and is excited to perform.

“I hope the audience sees what I’ve been able to accomplish throughout my tenure at Grossmont and to continue to pursue their goals,” Hanninen said.

Before he continues his music education at SDSU, Hanninen will perform with his band “Rabbits Foot” at McGuffie’s Live on May 25.

As the semester comes to an end, the recitals display students’ growth as musicians after practicing their skills daily and taking advice from their instructors and peers. As an instructor, Nagby sets an example as a professional musician by continuing to advance her own skills. Nagby said it is important to work toward a goal to see results. She added that anything can be accomplished with consistency and said she hopes her students learn this during their time at Grossmont.

The recitals, featuring eclectic performances from the talented students of Grossmont’s Music Department, are free to attend at Grossmont and open to the public. 🐦



PERFORMANCE STUDIES INSTRUCTOR,
AUDRA NAGBY



VOCALIST (SOPRANO)
MICHAELA PARK



VOCALIST
JOHNATHAN HANNINEN



CELEBRATING ARAB HERITAGE

Grossmont recognizes Arab American Heritage Month with on-campus events.

April was recognized as Arab American Heritage Month in the United States in 2021, and since then, the Arab Club of Grossmont College has made this celebration a meaningful opportunity to share and appreciate Arab culture through events accessible to everyone on campus.

Noha Ireiqat, the club's adviser, described Arab Heritage Month as a period of education, an opportunity to bring the community together, share and, above all, represent Arab students on campus with planned events each week.

"Those events are beneficial and important, because they also help in a certain way break the stereotypes that people have about Arabs, but also Arab Americans," Ireiqat said.

One event people still have a chance to attend in May is the exhibit, "A Walk Through Palestine," which features mainly photographs from the 1890s to the 1940s. This exhibit amplifies Arab communities' message on education and raising awareness.

Since this event focuses on current issues in Palestine, it is a key moment for those who support and empathize with Palestine. In other words, this event will bring people together, educate them and raise awareness.

The exhibit will be on display at the Hyde Art Gallery from May 15 to June 30. Ireiqat said she doesn't want to ruin the surprise by giving too many details, but she invited everyone to experience the exhibit firsthand and hear the

accompanying speech to gain a deeper insight.

She also highlighted the teamwork between her, Hyde Gallery Director Alex DeCosta and many others who contributed their help to present this work. She clarified that their goal was not to make it a political event, but rather an educational and awareness-focused one for everyone.

In honor of the Arab American Heritage Month, many events were hosted on campus. For example, "The Art of Palestinian Dabke and Poetry" held on April 8, was an immersion in art that has transcended generations and others. For "The Arab World: Culture, History, and Traditions" held on April 14, students drew maps of Arab countries and wrote about facts of each country.

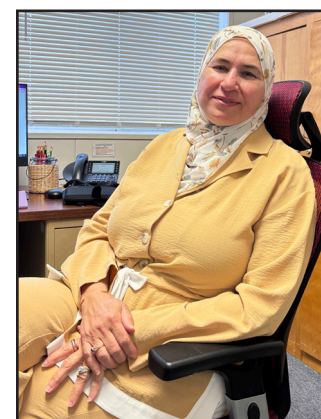
This was in addition to "Arab World Music: A Journey Through Sound," a music event held in the PVAC on April 23 that offered an immersion in music from the Arab world through sounds and instruments.

"Arab culture is not only food and kebabs; it is deeper than that," Ireiqat said.

If one is interested in learning about Arab and Muslim culture through various events, the Arab Club of Grossmont welcomes everyone. Anyone can attend to share quality time in total immersion, with one goal: sharing, educating and bringing the community together.

For more information, contact Ireiqat at Noha.Ireiqat@gcccd.edu.

**STORY AND DESIGN
BY PHILICIA TONANGOYE**



DR. NOHA IREIQAT

"Arab culture is not only food and kebabs; it is deeper than that."

—DR. NOHA IREIQAT

TWELFTH NIGHT

Or What You Will

A classic Shakespeare romantic comedy full of epiphanies takes on a 1920s twist.

Be ready for surprises as the romantic comedy Shakespeare play, *Twelfth Night or What You Will*, debuts at the Stagehouse Theatre at Grossmont on May 15, followed by two weeks of performance, ending Grossmont Theatre Arts' 2024-25 season.

Set in a 1920s speakeasy during the Prohibition era, the cast translates the roles of social hierarchy to a kitchen setting, hoping costumes and behavior will help the audience recognize parallels to the original.

"It's a romantic comedy, so it's very sweet and tender and also raucous and funny," Director Linda Libby said. "There's some pranks and some trickery, but everyone gets their own in the end, in a delightful way."

Libby accredits not only the cast, but also student costume designer Marni Fullington; retired set designer from California State University, Fullerton and dear friend of hers, Todd Muffatti; as well as fight director and former Grossmont professor, Martin Katz.

Twelfth Night is Fullington's first time as head costume designer, as she experiments with movement to emphasize nightlife, recreation, party and glamour of the '20s. You will notice fringes, frills, jewels and beads on one of the lead characters, Olivia, as she is also expected to have the most costume changes.

"It's one of my favorite semi-contemporary periods of fashion," Fullington said. "The silhouette is really interesting because for men and women, it's pretty straight for the first time in history."

In a performance full of revelations, Libby said she hopes the audience leaves feeling "delight and inspiration to be who they are, love who they love," as themes of gender, unrequited love and pain are explored and embraced. "I hope that everybody walks out hand in hand," she said.

The two-hour play with an intermission will have its last performance on May 24. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time on gcccd.universitytickets.com or day of at the box office. 🐦

STORY AND DESIGN BY NATHALY ESTREMER

GROSSMONT COLLEGE STAGEHOUSE THEATRE PRESENTS



→ TWELFTH NIGHT

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

DIRECTED BY LINDA LIBBY



7:30 PM – MAY 15, 16, 17, 22, 23 & 24

2:00 PM – MAY 17 & 24

The Grossmont College Dance Department offered dance students a series of master classes taught by dance personalities throughout the semester, to expose them to different types of dance and instructors.

Six master classes were offered on campus during the semester, including popping, contemporary, community partnering, ballet *folklorico* and two contemporary ballet classes; beginner and advanced levels.

According to Department Chair Nancy Boskin-Mullen, the class limit was 30 to 35 people, with enrollment priority given to dance students since the classes were mandatory for them. "If there's space, we allow other students to take the class, and that's usually 10 dollars to get that," she said.

Master classes were taught by dance professionals from outside the college community, and the students' satisfaction was high.

Keonnie Ross, a dance major, said that if these classes were not mandatory for her, she would still attend the classes because they've pushed her out of her comfort zone while gaining confidence. "At first I was very shy, and thinking, 'Everyone is so good, I don't think I can do this,' but... finally [I was] not being

shy," she said.

According to Nakyal Boone, a marketing major, the master classes also gave students the chance to explore new styles and try different forms of dance that they may not have experienced before.

"It's always good to have versatility," she said. "You want to have a whole bunch of different things under your belt, and even if you do specialize in one thing, it's so nice to maybe have this... Pokemon card [to] pull out here."

Boone also mentioned how inspirational it is to see other dancers and think, "I can do that too."

Ross and Boone mentioned these classes were different than the regular dance classes in the major's requirements, as instructors tend to rush their classes, but the master class instructor would take time to explain the why and how. "My favorite part is... when the choreographer does the dance right here, and then... somewhere else... so you can see what they're doing," Ross said.

To give students the opportunity to expand their skills, the Dance Department tries to offer these classes every semester and bring in different instructors each time. 🐦



The Dance Department offers master classes to let students explore new styles.

BY SANDRA VIDRIO



STATEWIDE CHANGE

The California Community College introduces the Common Course Numbering system to ease the transfer process.

BY NATHALY ESTREMER

California Community Colleges will implement the Common Course Numbering (CCN) system over the next three years, starting Fall 2025. The CNN is meant to ease the stress of transferable credits between institutions by making courses easily identifiable to help students remain on their academic plan for degree completion.

The Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District will launch the CNN in phases, meaning only a few course numbers will change, mainly introduction classes. When students register for the fall semester, they should expect to see course subjects to be numbered with C1000 in comparison to the usual 120 introduction course. For example, ENGL 120: College Composition and Reading, will now be labeled as ENGL C1000 and will be called "Academic Reading and Writing."

Summer registration will remain the same as in previous years. If students need guidance to translate their college education plan to the new numbering system, meeting with a counselor is encouraged. Both virtual and drop-in appointments are welcome.

Students can find more information on gcccd.edu/ccn. 🐦

Common Course Number (CCN)	Former Course Number
ENGL C1000 Academic Reading and Writing	ENGL 120 College Composition & Reading
ENGL C1001 Critical Thinking and Writing	ENGL 124 Advanced Composition: Critical Reasoning
COMM C1000 Introduction to Public Speaking	COMM 122 Public Speaking
STAT C1000 Introduction to Statistics	MATH 160 Elementary Statistics
POLS C1000 American Government and Politics	POSC 121 Intro to U.S. Govt & Politics
PSYC C1000 Introduction to Psychology	PSY 120 Introductory Psychology



PUSHING FOR PLAYOFFS

The Griffins look back on a successful season and forward to the future.

BY OSCAR ALCON

While the season's first month started as 5-5, the Grossmont Griffins' baseball team turned it around, finished the season with a winning record and secured a spot in the playoffs.

Whether it was the late heroics from sophomore first baseman MJ Sweeney in the ninth inning, the dominant pitching from sophomore, Issac Cota, or the way the players know how to score runs and finish with a hot four game win streak that landed them a 29-10 record, including a three game sweep of the San Diego City College Knights.

The Grossmont baseball team was going back and forth with Palomar College to get first place in the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference (PCAC) standings. Unfortunately, the Griffins finished a game behind Palomar at the end of the season.

The final three games of the season against the Knights were filled with drama and excitement. In the first game of the series, down to the last strike of the ninth inning, Sweeney hit a go-ahead home run to put the Griffins up 10-9. In the bottom half, sophomore Trevor Morgan shut down the door to win the game.

"I was trying to get a good pitch, and when I got a fastball inside, I pulled the ball and I knew it was going into the gap, but later on, the ball kept on traveling and went over the wall for a home run," Sweeney said.

In the second game of the series, Griffins won 5-4 in their last home game on campus, with two home runs coming from freshman Nico Newhan and sophomore Colby Corlett. There was a dominant five-inning pitch performance from Cota, with a save from Morgan.

In the final game of the series, the Griffins went all out on the runs against the Knights to win 11-5, with four runs from Sweeney. Some of the sophomores went out in a grand fashion, like Cota, Newham and pitcher Johnny Nuanez.

Some sophomores described being a Griffin as an honor: "Being a Griffin feels like I'm part of a family with my teammates and it feels like home," Cota said.

"Being a Griffin is lots of fun. There is very great energy with the team and the coaching staff is great," Nuanez said.

The head coach of the team is Randy Abshier. Throughout Abshier's 25-year stint as head coach, he's given the ballplayers a second chance to potentially receive a scholarship to four-year institutions with the hopes of playing in the majors.

"The main objective of my tenure is to give these kids a second chance. We've had 45 players drafted, over 200 scholarships offered with two Division I players next year in MJ Sweeney and Nico Newhan, and three major leaguers," Abshier said.

Another thing he stated is that the team is one big family and hopes that once they graduate from Grossmont, they'll walk off the field as a better ballplayer and, most importantly, as better men. The baseball team has a saying of: "Once a Griffin, always a Griffin."

The Griffins should be praised and applauded for the season they had because, one day, these men might be a great pitcher or hitter in the majors and reflect on how they were part of the "Griffin Baseball Nation." 🐾



Grossmont's speech and debate team won several awards during the Phi Phi Pi National Speech and Debate Tournament, held April 5-12 in Norfolk, Virginia.

Benjamin Lindall claimed the gold in International Public Debate (IPDA), while Jadine Montanez's talent was also recognized with a gold award in Dramatic Interpretation.

Emily Anderson secured a silver in IPDA alongside Lindall and a bronze in Program Oral Interpretation. Atia Fairuz also brought home a bronze in Persuasive Speaking and another in IPDA. Edgar Torre contributed with a bronze award in Impromptu Speaking.

The team, which included Juliana Bertin and Mechelle Mouzon, was coached by Roxanne Tuscany, Michael McHan and Andrew Jassick. 🐦



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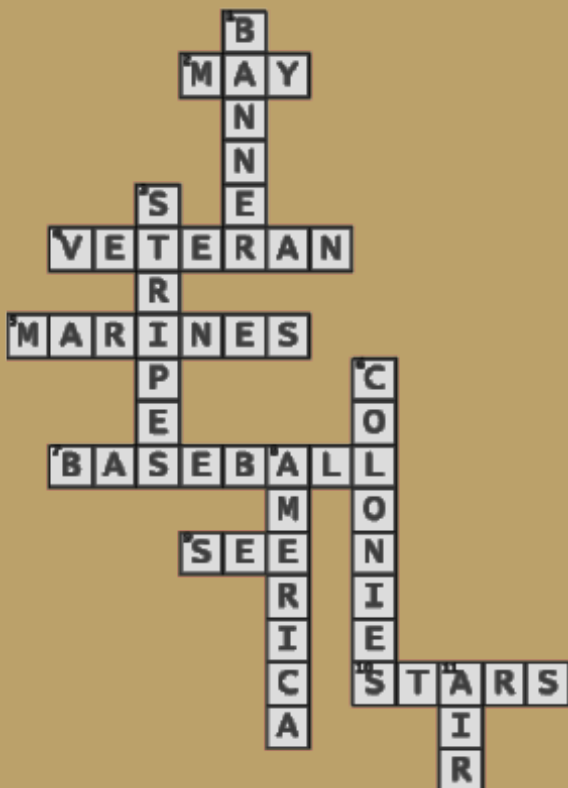


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[PUZZLES FROM PAGE 5]



BRAIN BOOST SOLUTIONS



REEL TALK | REPRESENTATION MATTERS

Celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month with one of these films.



THE WEDDING BANQUET

| Review by Sandra Vidrio

The Wedding Banquet is a remake of the 1993 film of the same title, I found it to be an amazing representation of the Asian culture and community. This movie is about Min (Han Gi-chan), a gay Korean man who is seeking to get a green card to stay in the United States; however, he cannot marry his boyfriend because he wants to please his grandmother by following her tradition that does not accept gay marriage. Min proposes to Angela (Kelly Marie Tran), his lesbian friend, in exchange for the money she needs to pay for her girlfriend's insemination treatment to get pregnant. I enjoyed watching this film; it made me laugh, cry and I definitely did not expect the ending. The only reason I didn't give it five stars is because I did not enjoy the acting of a couple of characters; I did not feel their engagement in their role. However, it's worth a trip to the movie theater!



BIG HERO 6

| Review by Saul Ruiz

Big Hero 6 has to be among my favorite Disney films of all time. Adapted from the Man Of Action/ Marvel comics of the same name, the film follows Hiro and his assemblage of a superhero team while a sinister force brews. With the backdrop of San Fransokyo, a mash of American and Japanese architecture, *Big Hero 6* maintains cultural richness in its representation of Asian American life. The film has a wide variety of emotional moments, not straying away from topics such as grief and losing a loved one, yet it maintains a completely hilarious tone in its softer moments. All in all, *Big Hero 6* is a wild ride throughout.



CRAZY RICH ASIANS

| Review by Philicia Tonangoye

Asia, love and prejudice—these themes are at the heart of the 2018 *Crazy Rich Asians*. Directed by Jon Chu, this film follows Rachel Chu (Constance Wu), a Chinese American who has never been to Asia before. She discovers the crazy, luxurious and bourgeois lifestyle of her fiancé Nick (Henry Golding) and his family during a trip to Singapore for his best friend's wedding. During this trip, Rachel discovers that Nick is not only an heir to one of the wealthiest families in the country, but also the most sought-after bachelor. The movie showcases her adaptation to this new lifestyle and a complicated relationship with her "mother-in-law," along with some drama from the past, while also offering a delightful immersion in a beautiful and luxurious universe.

