

LANEY COLLEGE

President's Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees



November 13, 2025

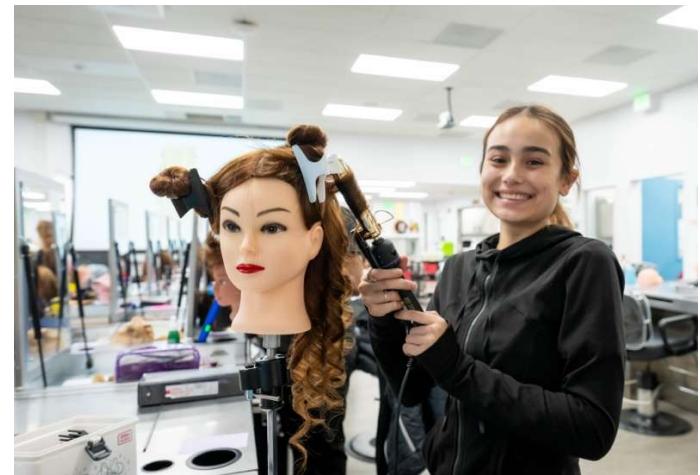
Dr. Rebecca Opsata, President

Laney College Hosts Measure G Groundbreaking & Construction Kickoff

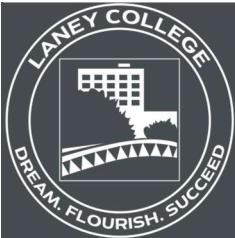


Tuesday, October 28 marked a major milestone for Laney College with the official Groundbreaking and Construction Kickoff for three Measure G-funded projects: the Library & Learning Resource Center, Theater Modernization, and Locker Room Renovation.

Held on the Laney Bistro Patio, the event brought together students, faculty, classified professional, and community members for a celebration featuring remarks from Laney and Peralta leadership. Guests also toured the FabLab and Cosmetology Department during afternoon Open Houses showcasing campus revitalization efforts.



These new facilities will expand access to technology, modernize learning and arts spaces, and strengthen Laney's athletics programs—advancing the college's mission of equity, access, and innovation in public education.



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Laney Librarian Honored with California Library Hall of Fame Award



Laney College proudly celebrates Shirley A. Coaston, who was officially inducted into the California Library Hall of Fame during the California Library Association Gala on October 24, 2025.

Shirley's recognition honors a lifetime of leadership, mentorship, and advocacy for equity and access in libraries across California and beyond. She has been a trailblazer in the profession—previously receiving the 2020 Trailblazer Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the organization's highest honor for pioneering contributions.

As an early member of the Northern California Chapter of the California Librarians Black Caucus (CLBC), Shirley played a key role in helping the organization transition into a unified statewide body. She has chaired the CLBC Scholarship Committee for several years and continues to mentor library professionals and

students, fostering diversity and inclusion in the field.

Her induction reflects not only her personal achievements but also Laney College's deep connection to community service, education, and lifelong learning. Shirley's dedication continues to inspire generations of library staff, students, and advocates.

Laney College Helps Power the Bay Area's Clean Energy Future

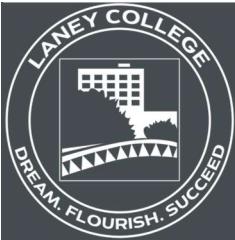


Laney College, in partnership with the Bay Area Community College Consortium (BACCC) and the Electrochemistry Foundry, is leading a new \$160,000 Strong Workforce project to prepare students for careers in battery technology—one of California's fastest-growing clean-energy sectors.

As the fiscal agent, Laney will coordinate regional efforts to develop hands-on curriculum in battery design, safety, testing, and recycling. The project is guided by

Dr. Mark Martin, Regional Director for Advanced Manufacturing and Employer Engagement for the Bay Area Community Colleges, and connects education directly to industry needs through partnerships with ECF and the Volta Foundation.

This initiative positions Laney College as a leader in clean-energy workforce development and strengthens pathways to high-demand technical careers across the Bay Area.



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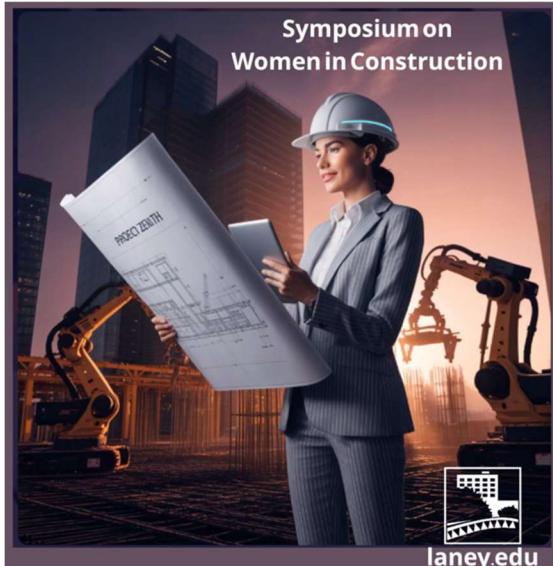
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Symposium on Women in Construction Inspires Students to Build Their Future



Laney College's Construction Management Department hosted its first *Symposium on Women in Construction* on September 24, organized by Kelle Lynch McMahon, Department Chair and founder of the Women in Construction program.

The event brought together 64 students, faculty, and industry professionals for an inspiring evening celebrating women's leadership and career pathways in construction.

Sponsored by One Workplace and Whiting & Turner, the symposium featured a panel of accomplished women who shared their career experiences across sectors including healthcare, education, solar power,

residential, and transportation.

Students engaged in networking, connected with employers, and even secured job interviews during the event.

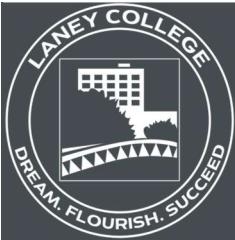
The success of the symposium has already led to plans for a second Women in Construction event in December 2025, further advancing Laney College's commitment to equity, visibility, and opportunity in skilled trades.

Día de los Muertos Celebration and Resource Fair



Laney College hosted its annual *Día de los Muertos Celebration and Resource Fair* on Monday, November 3, in the Laney Library. The event featured an altar and exhibit created by instructor Rosa Parra, with contributions from community members honoring loved ones through shared portraits and memories.

Hosted by the Puente Club and Puente Program, the celebration included free food and transfer resources provided by university representatives, blending cultural tradition with student support and connection.



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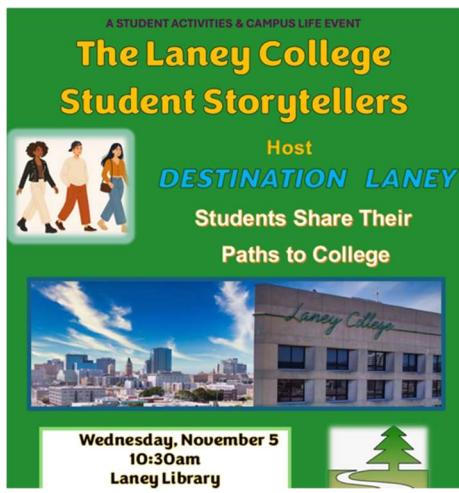
Eagles Day Brings Students Together for Connection & Community



Laney College celebrated *Eagles Day* on Wednesday, October 22, with an afternoon of music, food, and campus engagement in the Laney Quad. The event featured opportunities for students to learn about 11 chartered clubs—including A2MEND, Architecture, Black Student Union, Construction Managers Association of America, Engineering, Future Physicians, LatinX, Mongolian, Puente, Speech & Leadership, and Women in STEM.

Eagles Day also recognized LGBTQ History Month with performances and interactive activities hosted by the Queer Community Coalition (QCC) and included a “Snack & Chat” with the Associated Students of Laney College (ASLC), offering cookies, lemonade, and conversation about student involvement.

Destination Laney: Student Storytellers Share Their Paths to College

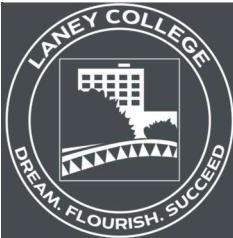


Laney College’s Student Activities and Campus Life Office in conjunction with the Communication Studies Department, hosted *Destination Laney* on November 5th in the Laney Library, featuring the Laney Student Storytellers.

During this uplifting event, students shared personal stories about their paths to college, what inspired them to pursue higher education, and how Laney has shaped their academic and personal growth.

student journey.

The event highlighted the power of storytelling to build community, connection, and belonging—showcasing the authentic voices and experiences that define the Laney



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Laney College Hosts HBCU Caravan



Laney College welcomed the Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU) Caravan to campus on Wednesday, November 5, offering students and families the opportunity to explore transfer pathways and connect directly with university representatives.

The event highlighted the California Community Colleges Transfer Guarantee Pathway to HBCUs and provided on-site admissions, scholarship opportunities, and one-on-one advising. Students also enjoyed free lunch, music, and a 360 degrees photo booth, creating an energetic and welcoming atmosphere.

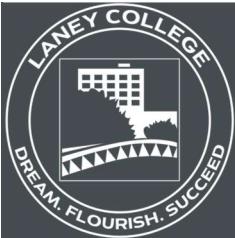
The HBCU Caravan exemplifies Laney College's commitment to expanding transfer opportunities and celebrating the legacy of historically Black colleges and universities.

Cultural Day Brings Energy & Inclusion to Laney College



As part of *Undocumented Week of Action*, Laney College hosted *Cultural Day* in the Laney Quad—an energetic celebration featuring Samba dancers, live music, delicious food, and student-led Samba lessons. The event created a vibrant space for community, connection, and joy.

Organized by Aissata Camara, Laney's Undocumented Community Resource Center (UCRC) Coordinator, the celebration highlighted the college's ongoing commitment to supporting immigrant and undocumented students. Cultural Day was a powerful reminder of Laney College's values of belonging and inclusion—and of the community's shared dedication to uplifting every student.



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Laney College Welcomes Oakland Unified Students for OUSD Day

OUSD SOARS WITH THE LANEY EAGLES 2025

EVENT PROGRAM (PROGRAMA DE EVENTO)

Scan the QR Code and Follow Us Online!

JUEVES 13 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2025

Laney College hosted *OUSD Day* on Thursday, November 13, 2025, welcoming over 150 Oakland Unified School District students to campus for a full day of hands-on learning and exploration. The event introduced students to Laney's Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways and support programs through interactive presentations, campus tours, and a resource fair.

Participants rotated through departments including Architecture, Culinary Arts, Artificial Intelligence, ECT/HVAC, MESA, and the FabLab, gaining exposure to high-demand career fields and learning about financial aid, counseling, and dual enrollment opportunities.

The day began with a warm welcome from President Rebecca Opsata and Dean Lorena Lopez, with coordination led by Kim Gonzalez, Jason Winton, and Raya Zion. Students also participated in a campus scavenger hunt and lunch resource fair, engaging with Laney programs and student services.

OUSD Day exemplifies Laney College's commitment to building early college awareness and expanding pathways from high school to higher education and career success.