

FOCUS ON RÍO

February 2021

President's Message



Teresa Dreyfuss

As 2021 continues, I am deeply proud of our Río Hondo community for its endless level of support.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has presented challenges for us all, I hope we are all seeing signs of positivity since the vaccine is now being made available to our faculty and staff members. Getting our employees vaccinated means we're well on our way to fighting the virus to ensure a safe campus.

As you know, we love to highlight former students being hired at high profile jobs, because it shows how Río Hondo College is a pathway to achievement. Many of our former students go on to

achieve amazing things as professionals, and their stories remind our community that a Río Hondo education is a powerful tool in the workforce.

We are also thrilled that our community continues to embrace virtual events. We are proud to offer many engaging virtual events and glad that our community members are participating in the opportunities we make available to them.

I find that each passing month at Río Hondo College makes me more optimistic. We continue teaching our students to be their best and challenge them to reach new heights of success.

Professor, Activist Hosts First RÍO Talks Event



The first-ever RÍO Talks event offered an in-depth look into the importance of activism, by looking back on the inspiring story of Rosa Parks and the modern approach of a Río Hondo College professor.

The inaugural event, titled "Activism Never Sleeps" was led by Río Hondo College communications and languages professor Dr. Angela Sadler Williamson, who is a cousin to Parks. Williamson discussed how society benefits from diversity and social justice and also outlined her own journey in activism.

"Over the last eight months, I've seen Río Hondo College do so many events to support activism and diversity, so I was thrilled when I was given the opportunity to share

about my activism journey in RÍO Talks," Williamson said. "This event is perfect for storytellers, like myself, and the dialogue with students and colleagues after my talk was my favorite part of the event."

Upcoming RÍO Talks events:

Monday, April 19: "The Safe Workplace"

Monday, May 17: "It's Up to Us to Rescue Truth" - Confronting post-truth challenges in the college classroom

For more information about RÍO Talks events, click here:

<https://www.riohondo.edu/staff-development/events/>

RÍO HONDO COLLEGE



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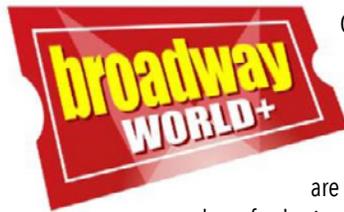
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RÍO IN THE NEWS: Read more in the [Broadway World news](#)

Río Hondo College Alumna Hired as Company of Angels Associate Producer



Company of Angels (CoA) will welcome three new hires who are passionate about furthering CoA's mission to create a theater of Los Angeles that is deeply connected to communities who are under-represented on Los Angeles stages.

Julianna Stephanie Ojeda takes the formal position of Associate Producer and Nakasha Norwood will take the role of Company Manager after both working with CoA in varying capacities including acting, directing and assistant producing. Corinne Chooy is an accomplished actor and improviser who will establish the role of Company of Angels' Director of the now one year old 'Angel City Improv' plus also lead the organizations' Community Engagement initiatives

throughout Boyle Heights and the Los Angeles community at-large.

Ojeda is a Latinx theatre artist born and raised in the Gateway Cities of LA. She is a graduate of Río Hondo College who completed her BA in Drama with Honors in Acting at the Claire Trevor School of the Arts.

During her undergrad she was a directing intern turned production assistant/ASM on the South Coast Rep production "The Long Road Today" by José Cruz Gonzalez directed by Armando Molina. At San Diego Repertory Theatre she joined the Fellowship program with a focus in stage management. At San Diego she worked with artists like Herbert Siguenza by assisting in casting the workshop of his show Beachtown.

Said Ojeda, "I'm excited to join this diverse group of artists to continue to uplift and tell the stories of our Los Angeles community."

Nobel Prize Winner, Caltech Professor to Speak at Motivational Workshop

Río Hondo College will host a motivational workshop with Dr. Francis H. Arnold, who is not only a professor in chemistry, biotechnology and biochemistry at Caltech, but also a Nobel prize winner.

The Zoom event, hosted by the College's chemistry department, will take place 3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 2. For more information, contact Dr. Garima Garg at ggarg@riohondo.edu or to RSVP, please email Michelle Yriarte at myriarte@riohondo.edu.

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has announced that Institutes of Higher Education staff are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine.

Appointments can be accessed on the My Turn website at: myturn.ca.gov



All staff who live or work in Los Angeles County also have access to vaccination appointments through community vaccination sites across the County and through their health care providers. Please visit VaccinateLaCounty.com for more information and appointments.

Appointments open up regularly, but also fill up quickly. Be patient. Check sites daily.



South Coast Conference Traditional Spring Sports Canceled for 2020-21

Due to the fluctuating number of COVID-19 cases, concerns of other COVID variants and the pandemic conditions in Los Angeles County, the 12 presidents of the South Coast Conference colleges unanimously made the difficult decision to suspend athletic competition for traditional spring sports for the 2021 season.

All South Coast Conference colleges are located in Los Angeles County. Spring sports offered by the conference include baseball, softball, men's and women's swimming and diving, women's tennis, women's badminton, women's beach volleyball, and men's and women's track and field.

The nine-conference fall sponsored sports are: men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's water polo, women's volleyball, and men's and women's basketball were previously suspended due to COVID concerns.



The South Coast Conference consists of the following colleges: Cerritos, Compton, East Los Angeles, El Camino, Los Angeles City, LA Harbor, LA Southwest, LA Trade Tech, Long Beach City, Mt. San Antonio, Pasadena City, and Rio Hondo.



Rio Hondo College
Student Health & Psychological Services

Support Groups



<p>Healing Circle for Survivors For sexual assault survivors</p> <p>Mondays 12:30 – 2:00 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 863 9020 7850</p> <p>Contact: Michelle Pereira-Henriquez for password mpereira@rlawc.org (323) 526-5819</p>	<p>Coping and Connecting For anyone managing anxiety and depression</p> <p>Tuesdays 11:15 am – 12:30 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 914 586 254 Zoom Mtg Passcode: happiness</p> <p>Contact: Glenn Heap gheap@riohondo.edu (562) 646-6148</p>	<p>Veteran's Support Group For Veteran's adjusting to student, family, and civilian life</p> <p>2nd Tuesday of the Month 11:15 am – 12:30 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 937 9748 1232 Zoom Mtg Passcode: Veterans</p> <p>Contact: Glenn Heap gheap@riohondo.edu (562) 646-6148</p>
<p>Together We Grow For Rise Scholars or anyone formerly incarcerated</p> <p>Every other Tuesday 4:00 – 5:00 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 209 669 051 Zoom Mtg Passcode: success</p> <p>Contact: Glenn Heap gheap@riohondo.edu (562) 646-6148</p>		<p>Grief, Loss & Beyond For students dealing with death & loss due to COVID-19 or other circumstances</p> <p>Every other Tuesday 4:00 – 5:00 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 973 6426 1248 Zoom Mtg Passcode: Healing</p> <p>Contact: Glenn Heap gheap@riohondo.edu (562) 646-6148</p>
<p>Cuz, I Love You For Queer Initiative members (LGBTQ)</p> <p>Wednesdays 4:00 – 5:00 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 340 209 255 Zoom Mtg Passcode: loveslove</p> <p>Contact: Glenn Heap gheap@riohondo.edu (562) 646-6148</p>	<p>Resilience For Guardian Scholars or those formerly in foster care</p> <p>Thursdays 11:15 am – 12:30 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 920 609 900</p> <p>Contact: Marisela Saenz for password msaenz@riohondo.edu (562) 463-7472</p>	<p>UndocuTalks For Students Without Borders or undocumented students</p> <p>Fridays 11:00 am – 12:30 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 955 1844 4561 Zoom Mtg Passcode: Here2stay</p> <p>Contact: Glenn Heap gheap@riohondo.edu (562) 646-6148</p>
<p>Circle of Care For CARE students (single parents)</p> <p>Fridays 3:30 – 5:00 pm Zoom Mtg ID: 920 609 900</p> <p>Contact: Laura Verdugo for password lverdugo@riohondo.edu (562) 463-7275</p>	<p>Transfer Jitters For transfer students</p> <p>TBA TBA</p> <p>Zoom Mtg ID: 919 8248 0940 Zoom Mtg Passcode: degree</p> <p>Contact: Alaine Rodriguez laroz@riohondo.edu (562) 317-0518</p>	

<https://www.riohondo.edu/student-health-services/>

Counseling Services Provide Community Support

Rio Hondo College's Student Health and Psychological Services Office is currently offering 10 virtual support groups through Zoom.

COVID-19 has exacerbated the mental health challenges that students face. The virtual support groups provide safe spaces for connection, understanding and conversation.

Support groups include topics such as: grief, anxiety/ depression, healing from sexual abuse, veterans, queer scholars, guardian scholars, RISE scholars, UndocuScholars, CARE and transferring to university.

For more info, visit: <https://www.riohondo.edu/student-health-services/>

UC Transfer Admission Guarantee Workshops

Planning to apply to transfer for Fall 2022? Or simply interested in transferring to a UC? You may be interested in learning more about the UC Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) Program.

By participating in TAG, you may receive early review of your academic records, early admission notification, specific guidance about major preparation and general education coursework, and, most importantly, guaranteed admission to the UC that you TAG with.

For more information on TAG workshops, visit: <https://www.riohondo.edu/transfer-center/uc-transfer-admission-guarantee-tag/>.

RIO HONDO COLLEGE
TRANSFER CENTER

UC TRANSFER ADMISSION GUARANTEE WORKSHOPS

March 9th	March 11th	March 16th	March 18th
10 - 11AM	10 - 11AM	10 - 11AM	10 - 11AM
1 - 2PM	1 - 2PM	1 - 2PM	1 - 2PM
5 - 6PM	5 - 6PM	5 - 6PM	5 - 6PM

The following SIX schools participate in UC TAG:



LEARN MORE ABOUT UC TAG AND GET A HEAD START ON LEARNING ABOUT THE APPLICATION. CLICK [HERE](#) TO JOIN!

Río Hondo College Names Staff Recognition Award Winners



Río Hondo College recently recognized five educators for going above and beyond in their duties, promoting open educational resources and for ensuring connectivity during remote learning.

Art History Professor Sheila Lynch, through her work with the Open Educational Resources (OER) program has showcased that she supports her students, colleagues and the community through her many endeavors. Lynch was named the "Río Star" for consistently encouraging students and her peers to improve themselves by utilizing free educational materials.

Zulma Calderon, Grant Linsell, Gabriela Olmos and Jill Pfeiffer from the Office of Distance Education were awarded the "Better Together" award for completing

the monumental task of converting the entire Río Hondo College campus to fully online instruction as a response to the COVID-19 stay-at-home order in Spring of 2020.

When the pandemic first hit and Río Hondo College transitioned to fully remote learning, the Office of Distance Education worked long hours to get faculty trained and move all classes online. On March 14, there were roughly 600 Canvas shells, or pages used for educational content, in existence. By March 21 there were more than 1,400. In other words, the Distance Education staff built over 800 Canvas shells in just 7 days, often working nights and on the weekend.

Connect with Us on Social Media



Serving the communities of

- El Monte
- Santa Fe Springs
- South El Monte
- Whittier
- Pico Rivera

and portions of:

- Norwalk
- East Whittier*
- Downey
- South Whittier*
- La Mirada
- West Whittier*
- City of Industry
- Avocado Heights*
- Los Nietos*

*Unincorporated communities within our District

Mission Statement

Río Hondo College is committed to the success of its diverse students and communities by providing dynamic educational opportunities and resources that lead to degrees, certificates, transfer, career and technical pathways, basic skills proficiency, and lifelong learning.



Save the Date

Every Wednesday:

RHC Queer Initiative counseling, virtual
<https://form.jotform.com/2005>

6 p.m. Wednesday, March 24:

Board of Trustees study session and oath of office ceremony. Join the Río Hondo College Board of Trustees as they swear in Anais Medina Diaz as the new Area 1 representative. Zoom meeting ID: 6341288934.

3 p.m. Thursday, March 25:

Reflection & Renewal Session - Things Unknown: Considering Questions Worth Asking

4 p.m. Tuesday, March 30:

Grief Loss & Beyond counseling, virtual
VIA ZOOM:
Meeting ID: 973 6926 0548
Password: Healing

Monday - Friday, March 29 to April 2:

Spring Break

Río Hondo College Student Health & Psychological Services Presents



Grief Loss & Beyond

A new group dedicated to dealing with death and loss due to COVID-19 or other circumstances, to process grief, affirm feelings, and restore hope. Sarah Ann Nguyen and Glenn Heap from Psychological Services will facilitate.

Every Other Tuesday

Starting February 16th

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

VIA ZOOM: Meeting ID 973 6926 0548

Password: Healing

RÍO
HONDO
COLLEGE

The Río Hondo College Board of Trustees
cordially invites you to a virtual

OATH OF OFFICE Ceremony 2021



Anais Medina Diaz

Elected - Representing Trustee Area 1
City of El Monte

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

6:00 p.m. (Oath of Office)

Zoom Meeting ID: 6341288934