

# IN SERVICE TO 2019 OUR COMMUNITY



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# A COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS



"THE DRIVING FORCE OF ANY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION MUST BE THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE PEOPLE IT SERVES. AT RÍO HONDO COLLEGE, WE ARE IN SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY, PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY THE PROMISE OF HIGHER EDUCATION, DELIVERING SUPPORT TO COMBAT CHALLENGES AND GUIDING OUR STUDENTS AS THEY ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS."

#### **Equity and Success**

Both of these terms are essential to the mission of Río Hondo College.

Equity drives our goals to provide access to higher education opportunities to all members of our community, especially those who face significant barriers because of challenges often outside their control. For these individuals, Río Hondo College serves as a beacon of hope and possibility, providing not only educational options, but a host of support services to help them overcome challenges in their quest for a more rewarding life for themselves and their families.

Equity is fundamentally about ensuring access, but it also means ensuring that once individuals are on our campus, they receive instruction tailored to their needs and services that understand the competing pressures for their time and resources.

This Annual Report focuses on 2019 but given that it is being distributed at a time of great community upheaval, as we all grapple with the challenges posed by the coronavirus and civil unrest, our focus on community becomes ever more essential.

The demand for innovation in how we deliver instruction has never been higher. The requirement that our courses of study focus on career fields of significant importance to our community has never been more critical.

Ultimately, our efforts to provide opportunity are measured against one single attribute: Success.

Starting at Río is a significant step. Achieving goals at Río opens doors to unlimited vistas of opportunity and possibility, whether students are seeking career advancement or transfer to four-year universities.

Río Hondo College is committed to guiding our students to success in all their educational pursuits. Their success *is* our success. As you read through this annual report, you will see not only evidence of our commitment to equity, but also the success of our students as they achieve their goals.



## **EQUITY** | TOGETHER WE DREAM

#### **Empowering our students to advocate for their futures**



Río Hondo College held a series of events to empower undocumented students, including the second annual Dreamers Conference, themed "Together We Dream."

The conference was designed to educate and empower undocumented students to continue their education regardless of their immigration status. A panel of Dreamers shared their experiences as undocumented students navigating the educational system, which gave an opportunity for attendees to learn about issues as well as how to overcome them as they continue their education.

In addition to the conference, the College staged its second annual Undocumented Student Week of Action. The event drew Themed "Dream to Believe," the program included events focused on assisting students seeking protection under Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (DACA), a policy created by President Obama and being dismantled under the Trump Administration. DACA shields undocumented individuals brought to the U.S. as children from deportation, allowing them to work and pursue an education.

On Nov. 12, 2019, 13 students and staff spoke up for Dreamers at a press conference coordinated by Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis in support of the federal Delayed Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The date marked the start of a U.S. Supreme Court hearing of arguments for the program. Solis joined the students in chanting "Here To Stay" and "Sí Se Puede" in solidarity with all 800,000-plus DACA residents nationwide.

Former Student Trustee Diana Laureano added her voice to campus-driven activism when she attended President Trump's State of the Union speech as a guest of U.S. Rep. Linda Sánchez. Laureano - who is studying philosophy and political science and is part of the Río Hondo College Pathway to Law School program - said she considers it her mission to ensure undocumented residents are seen and heard

# hundreds of students and supporters who shared stories, raised more than \$2,300 for students seeking to renew federal protections against deportation and added their voices to those advocating for permanent solutions. KIO HONDO CO

#### **Program Links Latino Students with Mentors**



College offices of Government and Community Relations, Student Equity, Student Success and numerous campus leaders have partnered to connect 60 high-need Latino male scholars with scholarships, mentors, and

workshops through a program called Latinos Empowered Guided and Cultivated in Education (LEGACIE). The effort is raising awareness of resources, facilitating networking and fostering a sense of community.

#### Student Support Program Celebrates 50th Year

Educators, community leaders, alumni and students celebrated Río Hondo College's Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOP&S) 50th anniversary on Nov. 14, 2019, lauding the program for providing academic, financial and personal support for low-income students whose educational and socio-economic situations might otherwise prevent them from achieving their higher education goals. Río Hondo College's program is the eighth-largest in the California Community Colleges system, serving 1,731 students in 2018-19 with \$750,000 in direct support, including book and meal vouchers and educational supplies.

#### **Veterans Service Center Smooths** Path to Educational Goals



Veterans who have earned degrees and certificates from Río Hondo College praise the College for its support services, including the Río Hondo College Veterans Service Center (VSC), as a critical element in their success. The VSC provides educational and vocational opportunities combined with a wide range of services to support veterans students with their transition into higher education. The Center helps to facilitate orientations, holds application process clinics and workshops, all while connecting the students with Veterans Administration resources within the community. The VSC is also a designated area where students can network, use the computer lab, receive tutoring, obtain career goals and seek suport.

#### **Writers' Resource Center Expands Role**

In fall 2019, the Writers' Resource Center (WRC) re-opened as a larger, more comprehensive, institutionalized service for all Río Hondo College students seeking instructional assistance in writing and research, essential skills for all academic and career success. The WRC originated as an equity-funded project that gained great popularity over the past several years. With new laws allowing all students to enter college-level English without requiring "remedial" English in advance, Río Hondo's English Department took the initiative to expand the WRC to serve as a place where all students could receive instructional support through specialized English tutoring, English faculty tutoring and workshops.

#### **Educational Centers Boost Enrollment**

Assisted by the launch of the College's third educational center, attendance at regional campuses has risen steadily over the last several years. The centers are bringing the opportunity of a Río Hondo College education into the community for students who cannot always make the trek to the main campus.

#### NSF Awards Nearly \$1 million for Scholarships

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded the College \$996,708 for scholarships to aid Río Hondo STEM students. More than 60 percent of the funds will go directly to students as scholarships. The remainder will support the study of a culturally contextual STEM identity. Understanding how to build strong STEM identity especially in the community college environment will be an important addition to the literature, because community colleges are the main pipeline for underrepresented minorities in STEM.



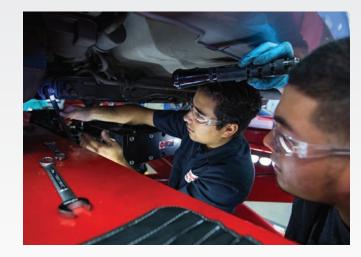
# **STUDENT** FIRST-EVER BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREES

#### Inaugural class is part of historic movement

Río Hondo College honored its inaugural class of graduates earning Bachelor of Science degrees in automotive technology at a special ceremony in May 2019. Río Hondo College is one of just 15 community colleges authorized to grant a four-year degree as part of a state pilot program launched in 2015. Sixteen students earned the degree, which offers management and technical tracks.

The College chose automotive technology because of strong demand in the industry and its own strength in technical training. The first upper-division courses were offered in fall 2016. Lee Esten, an associate at American Honda Co., said he joined the fledgling program to improve his chance of promotion to posts requiring bachelor's degrees.

"A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE BACHELOR'S DEGREES IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION," ESTEN SAID.
"I WANTED SOMETHING SPECIALIZED IN MY FIELD. IT ALSO SAVED ME A LOT OF MONEY TO DO IT AT RÍO HONDO."



Esten said his instructors shaped the program to the needs and talents of students, deepening their knowledge of the auto industry via history courses, strengthening their understanding of operations with classes in management, marketing and accounting, and bringing students to dealerships so they could see operations firsthand.



#### TESLA Program Launches Graduates into Lucrative Careers



Río Hondo College celebrated the graduation of 34 new Tesla START technicians in three cohorts, bringing to 57 the total number trained since the Whittier-based College became the globally recognized innovative car

company's second training partner in 2018. The new START program graduates were immediately placed at Tesla service centers across California, in Texas and in Virginia.

## **Board of Governors Recognizes Alternative Fuels Program**

Río Hondo College received the California Community Colleges' highest honor – a 2018-19 Exemplary Program Award – for its alternative fuels program focused on hybrid fuel, fuel cells, compressed natural gas, liquid natural gas, liquid petroleum gas and electric vehicle technologies. The program prepares students to become alternative fuels specialists at transit agencies, government maintenance facilities, heavy equipment dealerships or repair facilities.

#### **Police Academy Graduates 87 Cadets**

Río Hondo Police Academy graduated 87 cadets from classes 207 and 208, celebrating each graduation before packed crowds of family and area police leaders at the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse. Keynote speaker for the Class 207 graduating class of 39 recruits was Hermosa Police Chief Sharon Papa, who presides over the Los Angeles County Police Chief Association and serves on the Río Hondo Police Academy Advisory Board. Class 208, which had 48 graduates, received its keynote address from Vernon Police Chief Anthony Miranda.

# Fire Academy, Wildland Fire Academy Graduate 111 Firefighters

Río Hondo Fire Academy celebrated the graduation of 75 cadets from two classes as well as 36 students from the annual Wildland Fire Academy. The program, recognized nationally, includes many students sponsored by local fire or ambulance companies, or in review for hiring by local agencies. Of 33 cadets who graduated in Class 92, 30 were in the process of joining local fire agencies.

#### **Homeland Security Degree Program Enrolls 1st Cohort**

Río Hondo College expanded core and elective classes for its groundbreaking Associate of Science and Certificate of Achievement program in Homeland Security. The program, approved in 2018 by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, builds on Río Hondo College's nationally recognized public safety programs. Classes offered in fall 2019 in the interdisciplinary degree program included Introduction to Homeland Security, Hazard Mitigation in Emergency Management and Cybersecurity: Policy and Practice.

#### Women's Soccer Wins 7<sup>th</sup> Team Academic Award

Even more impressive than its wins on the field,
Río Hondo College's women's soccer team won its
seventh consecutive Academic Team Award from United
Soccer Coaches – the longest streak in California and
second longest in the nation. College Team Academic Award
recipients are active members of the United Soccer Coaches
College Services Program with a composite GPA of 3.0 or better on
a 4.0 scale for all players on the roster.

#### **NASA Grant Funds Space Studies**

Río Hondo College was selected for the second time for a NASA-sponsored California Space Grant that provides 10 students with hands-on instruction in science, technology, engineering and math as a way of boosting their interest in STEM fields and raising academic performance. The competitive grant from the California Space Grant Consortium brings the College \$6,000 for student scholarships, \$500 for electronic kits, \$500 for electronic assembly equipment and \$500 for faculty mentor awards.

### \$477,000 Grant to Expand Online Career Training Programs

Río Hondo College's Office of Online Education received a \$477,000 grant as part of the California Virtual Campus Online Education Initiative to add or update 16 industry-valued online certificate programs in fields ranging from Wildland Fire Technology to Web Design. The 16 programs were strategically chosen from a diversity of campus programs with the goal of transforming online education within each division. Río Hondo College anticipates the degree and certificate programs will be open to students in fall 2020.

### Students Present Original Play at Edinburgh Festival Fringe



Río Hondo College California Repertory brought its summer paean to Christmas to the world stage at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. "The Hollywood Summer Christmas Show," is an original play by Río Hondo College theatre Professor William Korf with songs and dancing inspired by a child's love of the holiday. The play is set in a 1949 Hollywood radio station during the golden age of radio. The play follows the comic attempts of a group of actors to present a summer radio show with the wrong script.

# **STUDENT** 56<sup>TH</sup> COMMENCEMENT **SUCCESS** CEREMONY

#### Keynote speaker urges students to turn dreams into reality



Río Hondo College celebrated 1,828 graduates during its 56th annual Commencement ceremony on May 23, 2019.

Keynote speaker Dr. Luis S. Garcia, who advocates for marginalized communities through the Weingart Center in Downtown Los Angeles, urged students

to be lifelong learners who contribute to their community, focus on the positive and "walk into your loveliness."

Garcia struggled in high school and earned his diploma while incarcerated.

"As you leave here this evening ready to turn all your hard work and your dreams into reality, I hope you never lose the will to learn," he said. "Hold on to your imagination. You reached one goal here this evening when you earned your degree or certificate, but remember this is an intermediate goal that has prepared you to take another step forward – whatever that may be."

Valedictorian Hanh "Jenny" Pham, who earned a 4.0 GPA, was honored with the Pellissier Family Award. As an immigrant from

Hanoi, Vietnam, Pham arrived in the U.S. about four years ago. An early childhood education and accounting double major, she plans to pursue bachelor's and master's degrees at Cal State Fullerton.

Tiffany Nunez, who helped create and implement the College's food pantry, gave the student address. Nunez served as both secretary and vice president of the Associated Students of Río Hondo College (ASRHC) as well as a member of the College's Presidential Search Committee.

Nunez, who has transferred to UC Santa Barbara to study communications, said all of the graduates should be proud of their success

"ALL THE CHOICES WE MAKE IN LIFE
REPRESENT WHO WE ARE. WE MADE THE
CHOICE TO GET OUT OF BED EVERY MORNING,
TO HIKE UP THAT HILL AND GET TO CLASS,"
SHE SAID. "WE HAVE THE DEDICATION TO REACH
OUR GOALS AND RECEIVE OUR DEGREES."

# COLLEGE HONORS STELLAR GRADUATES



#### **Eduardo Gonzalez**

After high school, Gonzalez worked two part-time jobs to support his family. A survivor of Hirschsprung's disease as a baby, he decided to seek a degree in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields, earning associate degrees in biology and chemistry. He planned to seek a four-year degree in life science or biochemistry at a Cal State or UC campus.



#### **Kevin Skinner**

A former Marine sergeant, Skinner maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout his Río Hondo College career. He mentored fellow veterans at Río Hondo College and served as president of the Veterans Club. He organized Veterans Week activities and spoke at community events, including the College's 9/11 Memorial. Skinner earned an Associate of Science in general studies with an emphasis in science and mathematics. He planned to study environmental science and engineering at Harvard University.



#### **Kristian Lozano**

Part of the College's Pathway to Law School program, Lozano was honored for his service to the College and dedication to his studies. Lozano earned a 4.0 in three consecutive semesters and served as vice president of the Pre-Law Society. He led planning of events such as a Pathway to Law School/Ferias Legales Mentorship Mixer. He has earned an Associate Degree for Transfer in philosophy and continued his studies at UC Berkeley as a philosophy major. He will receive priority admission review at eight partner law schools, including UCLA, Loyola Marymount, UC Davis, UC Berkeley and UC Irvine.



#### **Luisa Mesones**

A grandmother, Mesones is a returning student who married young and raised a family as a single mother. After beating fibromyalgia and breast cancer, she reignited a childhood love of language and enrolled in a French class at Río Hondo College. She graduated with four degrees – communications studies, social behavior and self-development, art and human expression, and social studies. She transferred to UC Berkeley.

# COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING OUTREACH RELATIONSHIPS

#### **Outreach efforts showcase College programs for K-12 students**

Río Hondo College delivered its message of opportunity and success to members of the community through a series of outreach events during the year, including two summer camps, partnerships with local school districts, staging educational programs and

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hosting area high school counselors.

The efforts provide a tangible focus for college aspirations for local youths, including middle school students who are a special focus of the summertime Camp Río, a two-week exploration of College programs, science, career and technical education and physical activities.

Río Hondo College hosted 45 members of the Boys & Girls Club of Whittier, building on a program piloted in 2016 and launched in 2017.

In 2018, it expanded to focus on exciting project-based learning summer activities designed to inspire interest by children ages 11-13 in college attendance.

In 2019, the College partnered with the Network for Entrepreneurship Teaching (NFTE) to offer a business concept/entrepreneurship component. Students followed one of three tracks: coding, digital photography and electronic music. All students also participated in afternoon activities that include soccer, volleyball and basketball.

The successful program prompted the Río Hondo College Business Division to host a second weeklong event – Entrepreneur Camp Río – with NFTE for 16 high school students. Students, who hailed from St. John Bosco High School and the Boys & Girls Club of Whitter, enjoyed a project-based, experiential course was taught by a NFTE-certified teacher, who taught students to identify business opportunities, construct a financial model, and create a marketing and sales strategy.

The camp culminated with all students developing and pitching an original business plan and participating in a business plan competition judged by community members.





#### CTE Division Hosts Open House for High School Students



The Río Hondo College Career and Technical Education Division (CTE) hosted more than 100 guests during its annual open house. Participants rotated through hands-on informational sessions and lab tours showcasing Río Hondo's outstanding CTE programs, including alternative energy technology/electronics/home auditing, alternative fuels/fuel cell technician, the automotive technology Bachelor of Science, architecture, civil design engineering technology and GIS, Honda professional career training program specialization and hospitality management.

#### **Women in CTE Event Showcases Programs**

Río Hondo's Career and Technical Education Division held its first-ever Women in CTE event, immersing 50 female students from the El Monte Union High School District in hands-on demonstrations in career field instruction. Programs included Administration of Justice, Automotive Technology, Engineering Design & Drafting and Fire Technology. All sessions were presented by professional female role models who shared their pathways and school journey leading into their chosen careers. Students were exposed to inspirational stories from women who have traveled through the pipeline and achieved their dreams.

#### **Seniors Explore College at Annual Preview Day**

Río Hondo College welcomed high school seniors from across the region for its Senior Preview Day in March 2019. Students attended academic workshops, toured the campus and enjoyed lunch as they discovered the many academic and career-training programs available at the College.

#### 90 Schools Attend Regional Science Olympiad

Río Hondo College hosted students from 50 Los Angeles County high schools and 40 middle schools for the Regional Science Olympiad, a series of highly competitive science and engineering contests. Arcadia High School and Mesa Robles Middle School took top honors. The effort represented a collaboration between College faculty and staff, including facilities and security, information technology team, MESA student volunteers, students and alumni from Caltech who staffed the competition, Dean of Kinesiology, Dance and Athletics

#### **Counselor Breakfast Sets Attendance Record**

Río Hondo College and the Office of Outreach & Educational Partnerships hosted more than 180 high school counselors and other educators at the sixth annual Regional Counselor Breakfast in January 2019. The record number of guests – who represented schools from Whittier, Santa Fe, Pico Rivera, El Monte, South El Monte and the larger San Gabriel Valley – learned about the two-year Río Promise, which offers free tuition to first-time college students. Río Hondo was the first community college in Los Angeles County to offer free tuition for two years. They also received updates on the new English and math placement procedures, financial aid, honors program, transfer services and the Self-Discovery Assessment Program. Counselors attended one of three breakout informational sessions given by the Public Safety, Business and Communication and Languages divisions.

# FACULTY | EDUCATORS | HONORED



#### **Former ESL Professor Receives Hayward Award**

Former professor Dr. Lynette Nyaggah was named the 2018-19 Hayward Award recipient by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges in recognition of her commitment to students, College and profession. The honor is the second consecutive for a member of the Río Hondo College faculty. In 2018, anthropology Professor Dr. Adam Wetsman received the award, which was established in 1989 to honor two full-time and two part-time faculty members annually. Recipients receive \$1,250 and a commemorative plaque. Nyaggah taught linguistics and English as a Second Language (ESL) courses, drawing on her experiences living and teaching in Kenya to strengthen her connection with students.



#### **Distinguished Faculty Award**

Río Hondo College automotive technology Professor John Frala received the 2019 Distinguished Faculty Award during Commencement. Frala is one the state's leading experts on alternative fuel

technology. He led efforts to create the automotive technology Bachelor of Science and helped the College secure a landmark partnership with Tesla to train auto technicians.



#### Fellow of the College

Professor and counselor Belen Torres-Gil, who retired in 2017 after 29 years at Río Hondo College and 40 in education, was honored in May as the Fellow of the College. Speaking at Commencement, Torres-Gil told graduates that

the choices they make matter, and to make the most of their time and their relationships. She told a story about a young man who asked to be her intern 13 years ago and who today heads a community college's counseling department. She then noted his sister also interned with her and is receiving a master's degree this year.



#### Fire Technology Coordinator Retires after 22 Years

Chief Tracy E. Rickman, who helped lead and expand Río Hondo College's nationally respected firefighter training academies and launch a cadet crew that annually battles

California wildfires, retired in December. Rickman oversaw the refurbishment of the Fire Academy and the design and construction of the College's Regional Homeland Security Training Center, for which he also assisted in securing federal appropriations. In 2001, he helped create Roadrunners Fire Crew 77, which is called up multiple times a year to aid the U.S. Forest Service fight wildfires.



#### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

The National Association of Student
Personnel Administrators (NASPA) has
named Río Hondo College Vice President
of Student Services Henry Gee as one of
two recipients of the Fred Turner Award for

Outstanding Service to NASPA. Gee has served in higher education for 40 years. He has served in his current position for 15 years, in addition to recently taking on the task of interim executive director for the Río Hondo College Foundation.



#### Athletics Director of the Year

Steve Hebert, dean of the Río Hondo College Division of Kinesiology, Dance and Athletics (KDA) and athletic director, was named Athletics Director of the Year by the California Community College Athletic

Director's Association (CCCADA) in recognition of his tremendous impact on the association. Hebert, who holds a master's degree in education with an emphasis on physical education from Azusa Pacific University, taught science and health courses while coaching football, basketball, golf and baseball at area high schools from 1985 through 2001. Hebert joined Río Hondo College in 2001 as head basketball coach and P.E. instructor and has taught numerous health and wellness and activities courses.

### **FOUNDATION** | SETTING NEW RECORDS

#### **Annual 'A Taste of Río' Sells Out Again**

More than 700 guests sampled artisan cuisine, fine wine and craft beer during the Río Hondo Foundation's seventh annual "A Taste of Río" event on April 26, breaking records yet again for attendance and for funds raised to support students.



The event displays banners featuring students who represent "The Face of Río" – those who have been assisted by the funds raised during the event. In 2019, the banners featured Bailey Garcia, who earned

an associate degree in philosophy and transferred to UC Berkeley; Justin Chow, who earned an associate degree in arts and transferred to Cal State Long Beach; Yarisma Rocha, who earned an associate degree in business and transferred to USC; and Brenda Coronel, who earned an associate degree in psychology and transferred to UCLA.

#### **Homecoming Celebration**

In 2019, the Foundation sponsored the return of a Homecoming Celebration for the College. The event, held just before spring semester, drew hundreds of alumni from over 50 years to join students, faculty and staff for reunions and ball games.

#### **2019 Foundation Donors**

#### Gifts \$25.000+

Albert and Bettie Sacchi Foundation

Anthony Pritzker Family Foundation Foster Care Initiative

BCM Foundation
Clean Power Alliance

Edison International

Foundation for California Community Colleges/Osher Golden State EJA Grant-Fire

Academy Cadet Scholarships
Dr. Marijane Paulsen\*

Río Hondo College Auxiliary Services Org.

#### Gifts \$10,000+

Angels Baseball Foundation Inc.
Assistance League of Whittier
Del Terra Real Estate SVC, Inc.
Greater L.A. New Car Dealership
LA County Board of Supervisors,
Fourth District
Yoshio Nakamura

#### Gifts \$5,000+

Pat Ballew
Coca-Cola
Credit Union of Southern
California
Follett Higher Education Group
Maurice Meysenburg

Samuel A. Ramirez & Co. RBC Capital Markets Corporation Westberg + White, Inc.

Gifts \$2,500+
Bank of the West
Judy Bradt
Jacqueline Brearley
CWDL Certified Public Accounts
Don L. Jenkins\*
Keenan and Associates
Key Air Conditioning
Contractors, INC.

LA County Board of Supervisors, First District Leeba Lessin

Longo Toyota-Lexus John Peel\*

People Space PIH Health

SchoolsFirst Credit Union\*
The Solis Group

Wood (John Wood Group PLC)

#### Gifts \$1,000+ Jose Arroyo\*

Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud, & Romo Robert Bethel\* Beverly Community Hospital Association Eleanor Bewley\* Boomer Construction Albert Bretado\*
Janis Cavanaugh
Dennyse Clark
Teresa Dreyfuss

Dr. Jennifer Fernandez
Dr. Carmella Franco\*

Dr. Carmella Franco^
Dr. Leslynn Gallo
Norma Edith Garcia\*

Henry Gee\*

Consuelo Gutierrez\* Steven Hebert\*

Jorge Huinquez Jerry & Vickie Ito

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ey\* Dr. Ludmila Pomerantsev
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\* President's Circle

Stephanie Wells

Barbara Wilson

Mahlon Woirhaye\*

Mark Yokovama\*

YourCause, LLC Trustee

for Edison international

District

Whittier Union High School

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### **CAMPUS PROFILE** | WHO WE ARE

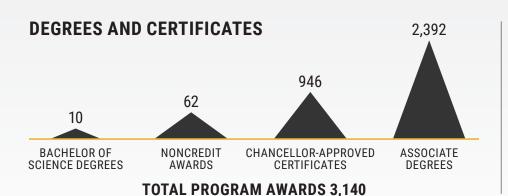
**GENDER** 

44.5%

54%

1.5%

23 MEDIAN AGE



TOTAL ENROLLMENT	19,854
NON-CREDIT	800
FULL TIME	5,155
PART TIME	13,899
LIMICELINEIT	UIAIUU

**ENROLLMENT STATUS** 

#### **ETHNICITY**

AMERICAN INDIAN/ ALASKAN NATIVE 1% BLACK NON-HISPANIC 1.5% white NON-HISPANIC 6.0%

asian/pacific islander 6.3%

0THER 6.9%

79.2%

# FISCAL FORUMS OFFER TRANSPARENCY

#### **College Reports Fiscal Solvency**

Río Hondo College hosted a series of budget forums in late 2019, sharing information about the College's finances and opening the budget process to the entire campus community in the spirit of transparency.

College administrators shared financial information with the campus community during the budget forums, peppered with questions and answers. Information encompassed the College's budgeting calendar, which includes passage of the state budget, adoption of a tentative Río Hondo budget and a final budget. The process includes setting enrollment targets and a process for reviewing priorities, needs and allocating resources.

California Community Colleges follow a new state funding system called the Student Centered Funding Formula. The formula provides a base allocation reflecting enrollment. A supplemental allocation is given for students who receive financial aid such as a College Promise Grant, Pell Grant or are covered by AB 540 that allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition.

Finally, colleges receive a student success allocation tied to the number of students who earn associate degrees, credit certificates, transfer to four-year universities/colleges, complete transfer-level math and English in their first year or who complete nine or more career education units and attain the regional living wage.

#### Bond Refinancing Saves \$13.9 Million

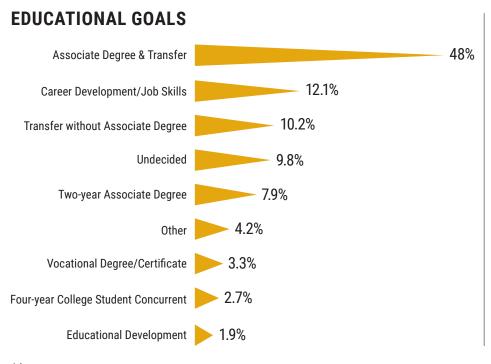
The District refinanced a portion of its general obligation bonds, saving taxpayers more than \$13.9 million in interest costs that will be passed on to residents through lower tax bills. The District issued new bonds at a rate of 1.6% to refinance \$72 million in bonds originally issued as part of the Measure A facilities bond program.

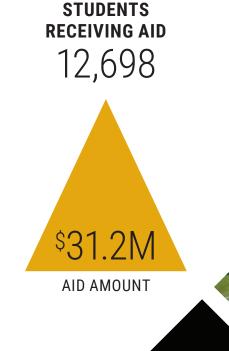
#### **Transportation Center Breaks Ground**

Río Hondo College broke ground for a new transportation center that will provide an all-in-one transit hub for the campus community. The Río Plaza project, in planning for more than three years, will feature restrooms, vending machines, bike lockers and a shade structure.

#### **L-Tower Seismic Effort Progresses**

The effort to stabilize the 53,906-square-foot building finished the year at about 50 percent completion of the first of two phases. The \$36.4 million project has required extensive demolition, followed by the erection of steel columns, beams and structural buckling restraining bracing and steel stud framing.









#### **RIO HONDO COLLEGE**

3600 Workman Mill Road Whittier, CA 90601 562.692.0921 Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage **PAID** Whittier, CA Permit No. 70

**ECRWSS** 

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Oscar Valladares, President Rosaelva Lomeli, Vice President Vicky Santana, Clerk Norma Edith García, Member Gary Mendez, Member

**POSTAL PATRON** 

