

# BERKELEY CITY COLLEGE

February 27, 2024

Denise Richardson, Ed.D., President

## Black History Month and Lunar New Year Celebrations Continue at Berkeley City College

Berkeley City College's joint celebration of Black History Month and Lunar New Year continued with a packed two weeks of events during college hour in the BCC Atrium. On Tuesday, February 13 the Oakland Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club visited Berkeley City College. President and Chaplain Lawrence VanHook and Historian John Semien presented the history of the American Civil War and the founding of the 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments that would be later known as the Buffalo Soldiers during Westward Expansion and their participation in the Spanish-American War. Dr. VanHook and Semien also parked their motorcycles in the BCC Atrium and shared stories of their cross-country travels sharing the history and charitable work of the Buffalo Soldiers MC.



The following week, Black History Month celebrations continued Wednesday, February 21 with an art showcase in collaboration with the Joyce Gordon Gallery. The atrium was filled with art from the Joyce Gordon Gallery alongside

art created by Berkeley City College students. Guest speaker and BCC Art instructor Carolyn Martin shared with students a presentation titled "Undisciplined Storytellers: Contemporary Black Women Artists."



Lunar New Year events included a game day on Thursday, February 15 with a game day organized by the BCC Black History Month/Lunar New Year Planning committee. Students were able to partake in traditional Lunar New Year games and share red envelopes and snacks.

On Tuesday, February 20 lion dancers with the Yao Kung Moon Kung Fu Association in San Francisco visited BCC. The sounds of drums and cymbals filled the BCC campus as the lion danced through all 6 floors of the building to spread the good luck and fortune of the new year throughout the campus. Students were also able to get Lunar New Year treats and boba for their participation.

On Thursday, February 22, Chyanne Chen of the United Chinese



Association visited campus to share the history and cultural significance of the Lunar New Year. Students took part in the interactive presentation answering questions about Lunar New Year and sharing their cultural experiences and were awarded red envelopes with money for participating. Students were also given treats and boba for their participation. This event was funded in part by the Associated Students of BCC and the Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Student Achievement Program.

Berkeley City College wants to thank the sponsors and

**Community Health Worker Apprenticeship Offers Students Paid Experience**

In partnership with East Bay Innovations, LifeLong Medical, and Crisis Support Services of Alameda, Berkeley City College Social Work and Human Services program is running a PAID apprenticeship for Community Health Workers. This is an opportunity to earn and learn, get valuable feedback and training, and a full-time job at completion. An Apprentice on a community health worker team is like a helper-in-training, closely shadowing and mimicking the actions of seasoned community health workers. Apprentices pick up vital skills and approaches from veterans, and in-class learning complements on-the-job training. Every participant has access to a case manager, a job-mentor, a school-mentor, and peer support. Participants in the program will enroll in Social Work and Human Services courses, and complete paid hours on-site earning at least \$20/hour.

The apprenticeship begins in June 2024 and runs through May 2025 with flexible hours, health insurance, orientation and ongoing training, and wrap around support services. [Berkeley City College is hosting two online info sessions on March 6 and March 9. Interested students can register here.](#)

community partners for helping to put on these great events, as well as the BCC organizers **Ramona Butler, Susan Truong, Connie Tran, Gail Pendleton, Christina Taing-Rivera, Susan Cuong, and Andrea Williams** and the student workers for all their work scheduling the events and serving students good food and fun!



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COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

## Apprenticeship program

APPRENTICESHIP

- ✓ A dynamic blend of hands-on experience and classroom learning.
- ✓ Industry-recognized Community Health Worker credential.

LAUNCH

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

DETAILS

- Learn how to be a Community Health Worker
- Dates: June 2024 - May 2025
- Get paid on Day 1
- Starts at \$20 per hour w/ health insurance
- 30+ paid hours per week
- Classes and OJT
- Wrap-around support services
- Multiple East Bay Locations
- Professional Mentorship and approachable faculty

REQUIREMENTS

- Authorized to work in the U.S.
- 18 years or older
- Empathetic & passionate about serving your community
- NO HS Diploma required

SCAN HERE! →



FOR MORE INFORMATION



## Berkeley City College MESA Program Launch

Berkeley City College officially launched its Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program for the Spring 2024 and hired **MESA Program Director Armando Franco**, who began his role on Wednesday, February 21. MESA will provide academic advising and support to first generation students planning to enroll in calculus-based STEM programs. Students can participate in academic excellence workshops where they will be tasked with solving science-based problems that relate to their classroom studies. The goal is to provide a space for students to build study groups naturally and create connections as the cohorts move through the program and transfer to their respective universities. BCC's MESA program has a dedicated classroom located at the 2000 Center St. satellite campus which will have computers and equipment available for students to study together and work on MESA projects. MESA Program Director Franco will be doing outreach to recruit the first cohort of students in March.

Armando Franco is a first-generation college graduate of UC Berkeley with a degree in Environmental Economics and Policy. Originally from Los Angeles, Armando is the son of Mexican immigrants. He's currently finalizing his graduate degree in Environmental Geoscience at CSU East Bay.

Armando has worked in non-profit education since 2005, starting at the Making Waves Education Program in Richmond, CA. He previously worked at Huckleberry Youth Programs for over 10 years where he served as the Access to College Equity (ACE) Manager supporting first generation, underserved students and their families navigate high school and the college admissions and financial aid process.



Armando is a passionate advocate of diversifying the sciences and providing necessary support and resources to students to ensure they achieve healthy outcomes and reach their personal and career goals. He says he is excited to establish the MESA program at BCC to support students pursuing STEM.

## Upcoming Events & Services

**BERKELEY CITY COLLEGE**  
**6TH ANNUAL**  
**UMOJA DAY EVENT**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024**  
**12:20 - 1:30PM**  
**BCC ATRIUM - IN PERSON**

THE BCC UMOJA LEARNING COMMUNITY INVITES YOU TO LEARN AND EXPERIENCE TRADITIONAL UMOJA PRACTICES. ENJOY FOOD, MUSIC, DANCING AND COMMUNITY. ALL ARE WELCOME!

umoja™ community

BERKELEY CITY COLLEGE  
TRANSFORMING LIVES

**WOMEN'S**  
**Career Panel**

★ Join us to hear the experiences of ★ women in the workforce, and their educational journey!

Date & Time: (March 7th) (12:30-1:30)  
Location: (Auditorium)

RSVP Now!

• Lunch will be provided! •  
• Exciting give away! •  
Participate in our raffle for a chance to win fabulous prizes.  
Goodie bags for all attendees!

Brought to you by:

BERKELEY CITY COLLEGE  
STEM  
WOMEN'S CAREER PANEL