



President's Report to the SMCCCD Board of Trustees

President Michael Claire ~ December 11, 2013

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Writing in the End Zone Presented at Statewide Conference



Photo by James Carranza

Several of College of San Mateo's Writing in the End Zone (WEZ) faculty **James Carranza** (English), **Teeka James** (English), and **Bret Pollack** (athletics), presented CSM's unique program at the statewide CCLC convention held in Burlingame on November 22nd. Carlyle Carter, CEO/Director of the CC Athletic Association, specifically requested their presentation, acknowledging WEZ as a highly successful, innovative educational program, which improves the academic success of student-athletes, specifically male students of color. WEZ is an interdisciplinary student success project (English/football), which has greatly increased the English completion rates of African-American and Pacific Islander student-athletes. English professors and football coaches work together to promote academic and athletic success. WEZ participants succeed at a higher rate than all other CSM students and significantly outperform their non-WEZ peers.

Celebrating **50** years on the hill
1963-2013

College of San Mateo

“Sounds from the Streets” Salutes Latin Rock



Photo source: Facebook

On November 13, **Rudy Ramirez**, adjunct assistant professor of ethnic studies, presented “Sounds from the Streets,” a musical history of Latin rock in America. Ramirez combined his background as a teacher and musician to educate the audience about the history of Latin rock music and its impact on society and entertain them with live performances. The “mini-concert,” which pays tribute to the band Santana, featured music by the Mission Street All Stars. Proceeds from the event went to support the Milagro Foundation, a group that assists organizations that work with children in the areas of education, health and the arts. An article about Ramirez and the event appeared in *The Daily Journal* on November 11, 2013.

CSM Alum Mends Architecture and Art

Local architect-turned-artist and CSM alum **Michael Murphy** was the subject of an article in the *San Francisco Chronicle* (November 3, 2013), “Drawn to Buildings.” Murphy has created a catalog of painted sketches in “Forgotten Modernism” a series that brings attention to San Francisco’s modern architecture. It currently includes 25 buildings including the speaker tower in Aquatic Park, the Hyatt Embarcadero and St. Mary’s Cathedral. He begins his sketches using pencil which eventually become digital drawings; the drawings are then used to create striking giclee prints with bold colors. His illustrations and paintings have been displayed at galleries in both San Francisco and Los Angeles and signed and numbered works are sold online and at retail shops including the Museum of Modern Art store. His art has caught on to the extent that Murphy is expanding his field of work to include architecture of Los Angeles and Palm Springs. After attending CSM, Murphy transferred to University of New Mexico where he earned his architectural degree.



Photo source: SF Chronicle

Police Academy Graduates Become Local Officers



Photo by Joan Dentler, Belmont Patch

On November 26, the Belmont Police Department swore in five new police officers; four of whom graduated from CSM's Police Academy. The CSM alums are **Mike Stauffer**, **Joe Lorenzini**, **Ryan Collins** and **Andrew Balady**. It was the highest number of new recruits in the history of Belmont PD. According to Police Chief Dan DeSmidt, "Our recruitment efforts were long and very successful..."

Jazz Festival Attracts Top Notch High School Musicians



An incredible array of talent was on hand for CSM's 17th Annual Jazz Festival held on November 22 which featured performances by some of the Bay Area's most accomplished high school jazz musicians. Approximately 500 students, teachers and parents attended the festival in what is considered one of CSM's largest outreach events. Participating students represented 18 high school big bands in addition to those in CSM's combo bands. The festival not only showcased student talent, but it provided a learning opportunity as students performed and shared musical experiences with one another and learned from nationally-recognized professional jazz musicians and educators. Each year, one of the participating bands is selected to perform at KCSM's Jazz On the Hill; that honor went to the Northgate High School Jazz Ensemble from Walnut Creek.

The professionals served as adjudicators offering insightful comments and advice to the students. **Mike Galisatus**, Professor of Music and the festival coordinator, lined up an impressive panel of adjudicators: **Aaron Lington**, director of jazz studies,

San Jose State University; **Stephen Roach**, director of jazz studies, CSU Sacramento, **Chuck Tumlinson**, director of jazz studies, CSU Fullerton, **Jon Norgren**, director of jazz studies, Cabrillo College, **Curtis Gaesser**, director of music, Folsom High School. During the event, students and band teachers attended clinics and workshop sessions conducted by professional and noted musicians: Latin Rhythm Section by the **John Santos** Quartet; Talking Jazz and Music with **Dana Leong**, and Essentials of Jazz Improvisation by **Dmitri Matheny**. One of the highlights of the festival was an evening performance by special guest artist Dana Leong, a composer/cellist/trombonist who blends jazz, classical and pop music to create a signature sound.

Associated Students Host Women In Leadership Event



On Wednesday, December 4, the Associated Students of CSM, in conjunction with the Associated Students of Cañada College and Skyline College, hosted a town hall forum on Women in Leadership. Coordinated by ASCSM Vice President **Amanda Governale**, the town hall highlighted the accomplishments of local women in leadership positions. **Jan Yanehiro**, a pioneer in local television and director of the School of MultiMedia Communications at the Academy of Art University, San Francisco, and **Beverley Madden**, CSM's director of community relations and marketing, shared their experiences working in the private sector and higher education, and the paths they took to their current leadership positions. Members of the campus community also engaged in a question and answer session with the guests. (Story and photo contributed by Fauzi Hamadeh)

Kudos

~ Congratulations to the **CSM Bulldogs** for another successful season. Ranked fourth in the State, CSM equaled its best modern-day record of 10-1 as it crushed No. 7 American River, 75-9 in a record-setting ninth Bothman Bulldog Bowl. Running back **George Naufahu**, a graduate of San Mateo High School, scored two touchdowns and rushed for 156 yards to become the top single season scorer in CSM's 92-year football history with 19 touchdowns and 114 points. A high-definition, taped delay telecast of the game was shown on PenTV throughout San Mateo County in early December; an audio webcast feed is available at collegeofsanmateo.edu/football.

~ **Krys Bobrowski**, associate professor of music and Brenda Hutchinson, adjunct instructor of music, have been invited to serve as lead sound artists on a project called *Aeolin Day: Making Music with the Wind!* *Aeolin Day* is a big public sound art project based in Oakland that will culminate with a free community festival at the Middle Harbor Shoreline Park in Oakland on May 17. It is a collaboration between local sound artists, Oakland public schools and the Port of Oakland.

~ CSM alum and former football player **Matt Pelesasa** was profiled in the Sequoia Healthcare District's 2013 *Annual Report to the Community* for his work with students attending Garfield Elementary School in Redwood City. The 24 year-old former college quarterback is coaching Garfield students in the PE+ program, an initiative funded by the Sequoia Healthcare District.



Photo source: Rivals.com

Pelesasa, who teaches 15 weekly physical education sessions,

describes benefits of the program for his students, "It helps them be alert in class, at home and attentive to homework. We encourage them to be healthy, to try multiple things and not be limited in their life choices."

While at CSM, Pelesasa achieved the second-highest scoring defense in the state; he transferred to Western Kentucky University where he played for the university's Hilltoppers Division 1 team. He returned to the Bay Area and graduated from Menlo College with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

~ **Rupinder Singh**, an Honors Project student, along with two



Photo by Tim Maxwell

CSM professors attended the Bay Area Honors Consortium Roundtable held at Mills College. Rupinder, who presented his paper at the Honors Research Symposium at Stanford University, joined a panel of honors students that was moderated by Professor of English **Tim Maxwell**. Professor of Astronomy, Math and Physics **Mohsen Janatpour** participated in a panel discussing honors in STEM education.

~ **San Mateo Middle College students** entertained the children at the CSM Mary Meta Lazarus Child Development Center during Halloween festivities, which included arts and crafts, face-painting and games.



Photos courtesy of Greg Quigley



Photo source: Tom Szczerbowski-
US PRESSWIRE

~ Former Bulldog **Bob McClure** was recently hired as the Philadelphia Phillies pitching coach. McClure pitched for 19 seasons in the big leagues with several teams. In 2006, he transitioned to pitching coach with the Kansas City Royals where he spent six seasons; in 2012, he coached the Boston Red Sox pitchers.

Upcoming Events

CSM Holiday Reception

December 12, 2:15–4 pm, Center for Student Life Building 17, Room 112

For Your Entertainment Fall Dance Concert

December 13, 1:30 and 7 pm, Theatre

Sky Tonight Planetarium Show

December 13, 7:30–9:30 pm, Planetarium

Jazz Under the Stars

December 14, 7–10 pm, Rooftop Observatory

CSM Basketball Tournament

December 19, all day, Gymnasium