Project Change Receives Statewide Award

CSM’s Project Change program has been awarded the state’s top educational honor, the Golden Bell Award, from the California School Boards Association (CSBA). The annual Golden Bell Award promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and governance practices of school boards in school districts and county offices of education throughout California.

A partnership of College of San Mateo, the San Mateo County Office of Education and the San Mateo County Probation Department, Project Change provides a pathway to college for incarcerated or formerly incarcerated youth. It is the first community college supported program in California to provide wrap-around student support services, direct access to postsecondary education for incarcerated youth, and in-person college instruction inside juvenile youth facilities.
The project connects students to resources and programs at CSM, such as a college readiness summer bridge program, social and academic support services, nationally recognized cohort learning communities (Puente, Umoja, and Mana), and career and technical education programs. A supportive network of volunteer faculty and staff mentors, as well as a project director, assist students with navigating their first year in college.

This is the 39th year of the CSBA's Golden Bell Awards, honoring the top educational programs in California. Project Change will receive its award at a recognition reception and ceremony on Thursday, November 29, at CSBA's Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in San Francisco. For more information, see https://gb.csba.org/.

SparkPoint Grand Opening Set for November 14, 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

CCSM will celebrate the Grand Opening of its new SparkPoint Center on Wednesday, November 14 in College Center Building 10, from 11:30-2:30 pm. This event is open to all students, faculty, staff and community members. See CollegeofSanMateo.edu/Sparpoint for details.
SparkPoint serves students and other San Mateo County residents with individualized financial coaching, public benefits enrollment, and access to the on-campus food pantry. Services are available on a drop-in basis and by appointment.

College of San Mateo gratefully acknowledges its partners, United Way Bay Area, San Mateo Federal Credit Union and Second Harvest.

CSM Celebrates its Annual Family Science and Maker Day Festival

A day of learning was enjoyed by all in attendance of the festival, which included educational entertainment for young and young at heart. The activities included planetarium shows, science workshops, astronomical observations, Makerspace activities, a keynote speaker, fire technology and public safety demos, and more.

The events culminated in a keynote lecture by Ron Hipschman, host and lecturer for the Exploratorium. The title of Ron’s talk was “Science Fiction - Science Fact.” More than 1000 community members attended.

Enjoy photos from the hugely successful October 20 event.
PwC, one of the largest accounting firms in the world, came to CSM on October 24 to highlight career opportunities at its Big 4 CPA firm and to inform students about internships for college freshman and sophomores. More than 120 CSM students networked with PwC professionals over lunch, enjoyed a presentation by a PwC HR director and three PwC staff members, and engaged in a lively Q&A session.

PwC offered CSM first-year students the opportunity to participate in PwC’s Explore internship program. The Explore internship gives students a greater understanding of the client services PwC offers. PwC also encouraged sophomore African American, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander students to participate in the Start internship program, PwC’s outreach to underrepresented students. Students in the Start internship program gain exposure to PwC partners, principals and staff through networking events and formal and informal shadowing opportunities. Interns participate in professional development opportunities focused on topics such as personal brand, building relationships and developing a business perspective.

CSM accounting faculty invited students in the Umoja, Puente and Mana communities to the PwC event to help them learn about internship and career opportunities in the accounting profession.

PwC and CSM accounting faculty are also working together to connect CSM accounting students who are supplementing their bachelor’s degree with CPA exam preparation courses at CSM with recruiting opportunities for full-time jobs at PwC.
San Mateo Public Library Presents CSM Graphic Design Exhibition

Twenty-two students from Professor Vera Fainshtein’s Intro to Graphic Design class are featured in a new exhibition at the downtown San Mateo Library. The exhibition features two projects. While creating their typographic Illustrations, students were asked to think about type as an expressive visual element. The objective of the second assignment was to design currency for a specific target audience (i.e. universal or a particular country).

The exhibition is on view in the library’s Art Gallery on the first floor through January 5, 2019.

Please join us for an Artist Reception to meet with some of the student designers and Professor Fainshtein, November 19, 6:30-7:30pm, in the Cedar Room at the San Mateo Library. See https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/507/Library.

ASCSM Celebrates Halloween with a Harry Potter Theme

The Associated Students of College of San Mateo hosted a spooky Harry Potter Halloween event for CSM students with two days of free food, games, prizes and a costume contest.

The event took place Tuesday and Wednesday, October 30-31.

The first day, senators gave out Ay Caray Taqueria burritos and Super Cue boba. There were many games for students to play like Giant Jenga, Giant Connect Four and Hover
Archery. Later in the day, Susie Cakes Cupcakes, Super Cue boba and the games were available for the night class students. On day two, there was free food from Bonchon chicken, Super Cue boba and more additional games. Day two also featured a costume contest. Harry Potter scarves and glasses were given out both days to support the Harry Potter theme. Students really enjoyed the chicken wings, boba and games.

The overall turnout was amazing as ASCSM ran out of the 300 boba, 10 trays of chicken wings and 300 burritos all within the first two hours. The lines were consistently crowded, filled with hungry students ready to inhale all the food provided to them. We are looking forward for more fun events made for our students.