



SAN MATEO COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY**  
COLLEGE DISTRICT

*Cañada College • College of San Mateo • Skyline College*

# Combined Report of the College Presidents





## **CAÑADA COLLEGE STUDENT LEADER RECEIVES YOUTH OF THE YEAR HONOR**



Cañada College Student Leader, Xitlali Curincita, was recently selected as the [Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula's 2022 Youth of the Year](#). Xitlali will go on to represent the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula at the national competition. Youth of the Year is the Boys & Girls Club of America's signature effort to foster a new generation of leaders, fully prepared to live and lead in a diverse, global and integrated world economy.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula's 2022 Youth of the Year is an award presented to those who have made an outstanding impact in their community. The selection process for this award is extremely competitive. Candidates must present a series of four speeches to multiple panelists on the interview team. Xitlali was one of 12 students who competed for the award after being nominated by her coaches from Future Grads, a college preparatory program held in the Boys & Girls Club.

Xitlali is in her senior year of high school. In addition, she serves as President of the Associated Students of Cañada College and is a part of the Middle College High School program. Outside of Cañada College, she has volunteered as a tutor in her local library with Project READ as well as other organizations such as the Pomeroy Recreation & Rehabilitation Center. She attributes her time spent in the community to helping her discover that

her purpose is to support her community. She is extremely community focused, which has helped her to stand out as a nominee.

The Youth of the Year event, described by Xitlali, was fancy and glamorous. There were hairdressers, make-up artists and event planners to prepare the candidates for the event. Many well-known people attended including Andre Iguodala (professional basketball player for the Golden State Warriors), John Donahoe (CEO and President of Nike) and Eric Yuan (CEO of Zoom). The final four nominees presented their speeches to the panelists, each sharing their own community building stories. After this, each nominee had one-on-one interviews where they were asked questions about their experience in helping others at the Boys & Girls Club.

With this award, Xitlali will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and special recognition for the work she has done for her community over the past four years. Xitlali describes her recognition as a win for her entire community and she is determined to show others that anyone can achieve this honor. She attributes much of her work ethic to her grandparents who constantly reminded her of her roots and why it's important to work hard. Her grandparents were highlighted throughout her speech, and she talked about how they have reminded her of her culture. She takes so much pride in her indigenous roots, as her name translates to "Star Goddess." She says that she wants to inspire others as her grandparents inspired her, along with her little brother who constantly gives her reassurance. She is also extremely grateful for the Cañada College community for their extra support through this competition.

After Cañada College, Xitlali plans to attend a four-year university and, so far, she has been accepted to University of San Francisco, Loyola Marymount University and California State University, East Bay. She plans to major in Political Science where she aspires to become a politician and help the entire nation but especially underrepresented communities.

Xitlali remarked that the best part of the Youth of the Year experience was meeting new people, networking with them and learning from them. She also would like to put these skills back into helping her community. Xitlali's community will be cheering her on as she advances through the Youth of the Year National competition.

## CAÑADA CONDUCTING FIVE-YEAR MASTER PLANNING PROCESS



In Spring 2021, Cañada College began the important year-long process of developing a new [Educational Master Plan \(EMP\)](#) to provide direction to the college instruction and support service areas on what we want to accomplish over the next five years. The EMP ensures the College is serving a changing community effectively. It is also the guide to all other college planning and is a critical part of the accreditation cycle. In addition, it prompts the College community to review its college mission, vision and values as well as update strategic goals and strategies to achieve the College's mission. A [Task Force](#) made up of faculty, staff, students and administrators is leading an inclusive, data-informed, equity and antiracism-focused EMP planning process.

Over the past year, Cañada's EMP Task Force has met regularly to evaluate the College's progress on the last EMP, review internal and external scans as well the results of a community perceptions questionnaire. The Task Force has led college-wide discussions on a broad range of topics that allowed campus stakeholders to re-visit the college's mission, vision and values. At the College's annual Leadership Retreat and at the August and October 2021 and January 2022 College Flex Days, the campus community participated in a variety of meaningful ways to enable broad-based participation and input. Most recently, the campus community came together on Zoom on February 11 for a Community Forum to re-consider the ways the world has shifted over the last five years and to discuss the pressing problems and significant opportunities that Cañada needs to strategically address in order to achieve its mission and remain effective over the next five years.

The next steps in the planning process include an Educational Master Planning Retreat on March 11 before finalizing the first draft of the EMP. From there, the draft will be presented to the Planning and Budgeting Council (PBC) and at the all-college session at the April 21 Flex Day. In May, the Task Force plans to present the EMP to the PBC for 2022-2027 for approval.

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## College of San Mateo

### PARTNERSHIP WITH LYFT EXPANDS ACADEMIC ACCESS FOR CSM COASTSIDE STUDENTS



CSM is excited to announce the first program of its Coast to College plan: Lyft Rides for CSM Coastside Students. The pilot program was born out of discussions during the December 2021 Transportation Task Force meeting which blossomed into a full partnership between Lyft and CSM. The goal of this program is to address the transportation issues commonly cited by students in the coastal communities.

A [program](#) webpage and [registration form](#) are available, allowing interested students to review program details and sign up. Those who are approved to access the new service are eligible for a daily, free roundtrip Lyft ride between CSM and 11 different designated locations throughout Half Moon Bay, El Granada, Moss Beach, and Montara. Service hours are Monday through Friday from 7 am to 9 pm and rides begin on Tuesday, February 22.

Current CSM student and Half Moon Bay resident, Basilio Rico Serrano (Chilo), knows how difficult accessing the campus can be for those living on the coast. When told about the pilot

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program, he said, "I wish this service was available when I started attending CSM. To be honest, it was really hard to get to school using the bus because sometimes they did not stop at the college, so I needed to take a second bus to get there. I believe students are still having the same problem now."

"Having transportation for Coastside students is a huge benefit because public transportation is limited," says Norma Miramontes, MidPen Resident Services coordinator for the Moon Ridge Housing Community. "Students will no longer be reliant on others for transportation, [and will be] saving money and time for families."

The partnership with Lyft signals the first of several programs focused on increasing equitable access for Coastside residents to College of San Mateo.

### COLLEGE 1 STUDENTS SHARE ENGAGING RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS



Past College 1 students share their research in College Center pre-pandemic.  
Photo credit: Allie Fasth

Launched in fall 2017, CSM's College 1 course sets first-time students up for academic success by helping them successfully transition to college life. Developed as a seminar course and part of a cohort model for students enrolled in the College's Promise Scholars Program (PSP), the UC/CSU transferable course is also available to other CSM students each fall semester.

Students in the course get experience utilizing the library for research, while also learning to examine, develop and utilize student success principles and self-management tools. Course assignments emphasize group work, peer learning, and

lifelong learning strategies, structured around a shared reading experience to develop critical reading and thinking strategies.

This past semester, these College 1 students read *Black Man in a White Coat: A Doctor's Reflections on Race and Medicine* by Dr. Damon Tweedy. In his memoir, Dr. Tweedy addresses the question of whether physicians and, more importantly, all patients, are treated equally. He does this by examining race and its interactions with medicine at all levels of his medical training. His goal for *Black Man in a White Coat* was to 'paint a fuller picture of the experiences of black patients, as well as that of the black doctors who navigate between the black community and the predominately white medical world.'

At the conclusion of the shared reading, students used what they learned in the memoir to produce their team capstone projects. They analyzed how racial discrimination affects every part of our health care system and all people as they engage with it, patients and doctors alike. They presented their projects to their peers and shared with the larger campus community via the [College 1 webpage](#) in early February.

One group project titled *Racial Discrimination in Healthcare* was developed by a group of first-year PSP students. Kaylie Corbett, a member of that group says, "College 1 taught me how to work with other students on a college level. It's a different environment from high school and having College 1 to help me transition was a positive influence."

College 1 is also unique in that it brings faculty from a variety of different disciplines, including classified staff, who work closely with the college's learning communities to develop each semester's curriculum in collaboration.

Director of Pathways and Promise Allie Fasth, one of the creators of the College 1 course, says, "College 1 brings together educators in an interdisciplinary space where we get to work together at curriculum building and supporting brand new CSM students both inside and out of the classroom."

In preparation for teaching College 1, faculty attend the annual College 1 Institute the summer before teaching the course. During the Institute, guest speakers share information as the curriculum is developed around the next shared reading assignment. The Institute provides a unique professional development space, where the faculty practice their own

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metacognitive research skills and practice the College 1 classroom motto of “make the invisible visible for the students” on each other and themselves.

“Teaching College 1 is an incredible experience,” says PSP Program Services Coordinator and College 1 faculty Priscilla Menjivar. “I have the opportunity to support the development of our first-time Promise Scholars, while also teaching them how to navigate the higher education system. My students continue to remain in close contact with their Promise family—peers, staff, and faculty, and it wouldn’t be possible without College 1.”

For more information on the College 1 and the Promise Scholars Program, please visit the [College 1 webpage](#).

Last year, Chris was one of the creators of a collaborative podcast between Energize Colleges and the Journalism department, called The Green Experience. With his experience and skills in journalism, from working as features editor with The Skyline View, summer internships, and the Kababayan and Promise Scholars Program, Chris brought his talents to the podcast and helped create a program that will continue for years to come. Chris’ episodes covered topics such as environmental and sustainability literacy, sustainable consumerism, and the first-hand experiences of how sustainability is a normal practice in everyday life outside of the US and what we can learn from those experiences.

Through these podcast episodes he engaged his listeners and challenged them to think about their own personal choices and habits, and how they can change for the better. Chris’ positive energy and passions are only amplified through his work in journalism. Whether his future path takes him to UC Berkeley in media studies or to SFSU in journalism or broadcasting, he will inspire readers, viewers, and listeners through his work.



### SKYLINE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: CHRISTIAN CARLO-CEGUERRA



Chris Carlo-Ceguerra, is a creative writer studying journalism at Skyline College, and the current Focal Point Editor for the Skyline View, Skyline College’s fully student-run newspaper. Chris is passionate about enriching the humanities and social

sciences, and his mission as a future media practitioner is to create fair and accurate media representation for people of color and for the underrepresented members of the LGBT community.

### SKYLINE DRIVE-THRU COMMUNITY MARKET LARGEST IN SILICON VALLEY!



This past week marked the 70th Skyline College Free Drive-Thru Community Market! At this most recent weekly grocery distribution event we served 987 families (down from 1,015 families from the previous week). We are now officially the largest grocery distribution partner of Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, which means that we are currently distributing more groceries than any other site in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties!

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Our distribution is a collaboration between the SparkPoint program, Public Safety and Facilities teams, but we couldn't do it without the consistent support of student and community volunteers. Volunteer support is crucial to provide this support to our community and we are still seeking volunteers each week! If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up through the [Second Harvest Food Bank website](#).

Be advised: Lot C and Lot F will continue to be closed in order to host the Skyline College Free Community Market.

Every week each household or family receives almost 50 lbs. of groceries, including milk, eggs, pasta, rice, fresh produce, canned goods and dry goods, as well as a protein item (ham, chicken, turkey, etc.). Second Harvest Food Bank calculates that over 2.9 million pounds of groceries have been distributed since our program started in September 2020 and that we have offset over \$5.3 million in grocery costs for the most at-risk members of our local community. A special thanks goes to SMCCCD employees from SparkPoint, Public Safety, and Facilities, as well as the wonderful volunteers who make this event possible every week.

This event is held at Skyline College every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and has been extended through May 2022. All staff, volunteers and participants adhere to all COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols at all times.

- Only drive-thru pickups will be served
- All participants must remain in their cars at all times and wear a mask
- Open to students and the community
- No I.D required to pick up food
- Please call (650) 738-7970 for weather and air quality closure updates
- Please use Skyline Blvd. entrance (turn left and enter Lot C)

If you have any questions please email us at [skylinesparkpoint@smccd.edu](mailto:skylinesparkpoint@smccd.edu).

*Article by Chad Thompson*