

Spring Welcome Message from Interim President Kim Lopez

Dear Students,

Happy new year—I hope you had a restful holiday break and were able to spend some quality time with your loved ones.

We are just a few days from the start of the spring semester, and I want to welcome you back. I do this somberly, understanding the challenges we still face from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and deep political divisions in the country. The violent scenes we witnessed from the United States Capital last week were disturbing and not in keeping with the ideals we aspire to in this country. My heart goes out to the five people who died and the many that were injured there.

It is no secret that our national politics have been increasingly divisive—and quite frankly uncivil and nasty—over the last several decades. This has played out in our most recent national election. However, the actions on January 6, 2021 have taken this divisiveness to a new level of concern.

While our democracy isn't perfect, it is designed to allow for a continued push toward perfection. I know—individually and collectively—that we have the power to make it better. This begins with respecting facts and evidence, guided by values of respect and trust. These are the principles that form the foundation of the work we do at CSM and we hold them dear. I encourage you to do the same.

Turning to COVID-19, the distribution of vaccines is ramping up. San Mateo County recently [opened a vaccination clinic](#) at the San Mateo Event Center, providing shots to those in the state's Phase 1A guidelines. I am looking forward to the moment when I can get my vaccination as the first step towards a return to normality. Even if it's not perfect, the progress we see is exciting and provides me with much-needed hope for the year ahead.

Along that line, we'll keep you informed about when we might be able to return to campus. We want this to happen soon, but the decision to do so will be rooted in science and safety. Until then, we continue in this virtual academic environment through spring. To get you off to a strong start, please review these [tips for the semester's start](#). In the next few days, you'll also receive an email of student resources and services that will provide a useful reference for any support you need.

Keep up the great work, and I wish you a very successful semester.

Kim Lopez, Interim President

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IMPORTANT DATES

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, January 18

Spring 2021 Semester begins
Tuesday, January 19

Last day to drop semester-long courses with eligibility for fee credit or partial refund
Monday, February 1

Last day to add semester-long courses using authorization codes on WebSMART
Monday, February 1

Check out the Fall 2020 Honors Project Showcase

The Honors Project

Virtual Student Showcase



Fall 2020

Welcome to the Honors Project Virtual Student Showcase

Program Coordinator: David Laderman

Seminar Instructors: Sarah Mangin
Christopher Walker

Dean of ASLT: Tarana Chapple

Division Assistant: Annie Theodos

If you have interest in any of these intersecting academic areas: education, the arts, race, gender, ethnicity, the pandemic, cultural myths and values, health sciences, technology, economics, politics, climate crisis, and more...

Consider a visit to the [Honors Project virtual Fall 2020 Student Showcase](#), where almost 40 lively and provocative student presentations cover a wide range of topics from unique angles.

CSM Rated #16 for Community College Graduate Earnings

CSM was recently listed as one of the top 50 community colleges whose graduates earn the most money. Ranked 16th on the list, mid-career pay comes in at \$74,800 and early career pay at \$52,200. View the full list at [Newsweek.com](https://www.newsweek.com).

Ask the Doctor: COVID-19 vs. The Flu

This ongoing feature addresses common student health questions, answered by CSM College Physician Dr. Jennifer Yang.

DEAR DOC: How can I tell if I have Covid-19 or just the regular flu?

–Sniffing in San Mateo

DEAR SNIFFLING: COVID-19 and the flu have many symptoms in common, and it can be tough to distinguish the two. Both types of viruses can give you fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, body aches, headaches, runny nose, nausea, diarrhea, among others. Some people with COVID-19 infections have reported losing their sense of smell or taste. While more is learned every day about COVID-19, there is still much that is unknown. The best way to tell if you have COVID-19 or influenza (flu) is to get tested. Find where you can get free COVID-19 testing in San Mateo County at <https://www.smcgov.org/testing>

If you have more questions, or would like to schedule a telemedicine appointment with a CSM Nurse or the College Physician, email csmwellness@smccd.edu or visit us at the [CSM Wellness Center](#).



You Are Invited to Hear Author & Scholar Dr. Cornel West

Our sister college, Cañada College, with sponsorship from CSM, will host an important conversation with Latino Thought Maker's Rick Najera featuring renowned speaker, author and Harvard scholar, Dr. Cornel West. The event, discussing the shared history of African American & Latinx Communities, will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 4 p.m. PST via Zoom. Event registration is required.

Dr. Cornel West is Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy at Harvard University and Professor Emeritus at Princeton University. Cornel West graduated Magna Cum Laude from Harvard in three years and obtained his M.A. and Ph.D. in Philosophy at Princeton. He has authored 20 books and edited 13 and is best known for his classics, *Race Matters*, *Democracy Matters*, and for his memoir, *Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud*, and his most recent book, *Black Prophetic Fire*, which offers an unflinching look at nineteenth and twentieth-century African American leaders and their visionary legacies.

[Register Now](#)

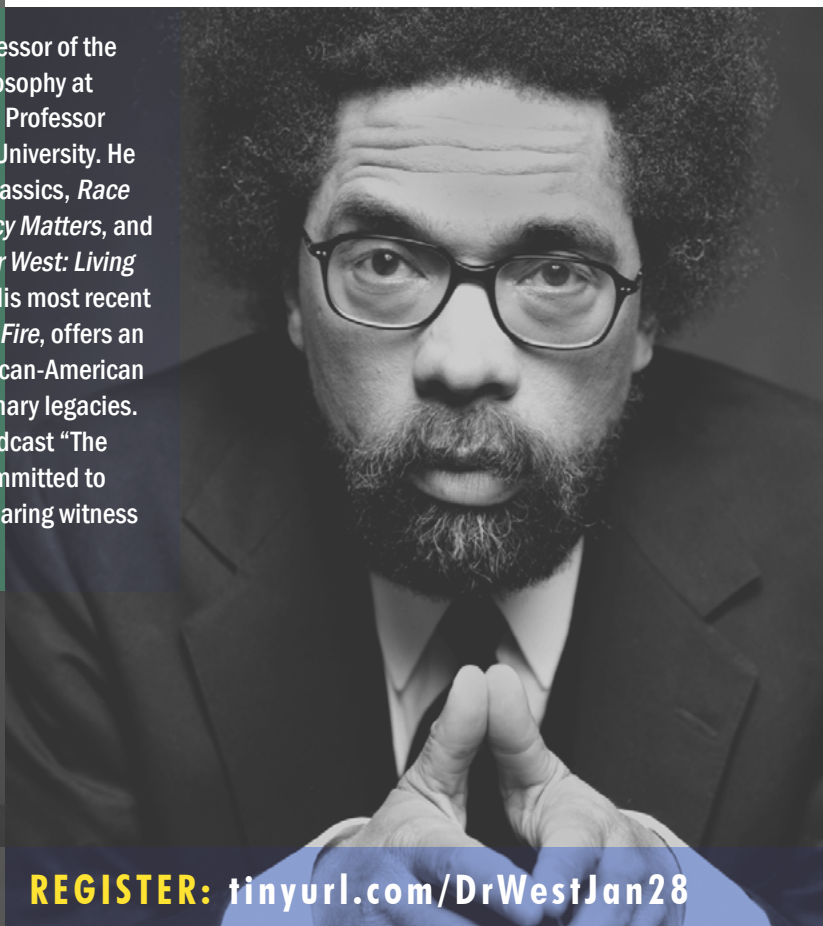
For additional information, please visit <https://canadacollege.edu/speaker-series>. Thank you to our [Sponsors](#).

THE SHARED HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICANS & LATINX PEOPLES' JANUARY 28 | 4 P.M. PST | VIA ZOOM

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Rick Najera, host of
Latino Thought Makers



REGISTER: tinyurl.com/DrWestJan28



Upcoming Career Services Workshop: How to Start Your Job Search

You are invited to join this virtual workshop on Wednesday, February 10. The event is hosted by CSM Career Services and the Workforce Hub is open to all CSM students. [Register Now!](#)



JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

HOW TO START YOUR JOB SEARCH

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

12:00PM - 1:00 PM

*LEARN HOW TO USE JOBSPEAKER TO CONNECT TO
YOUR NEXT CAREER OPPORTUNITY*

REGISTER TODAY:

[JobSpeaker Workshop](#)

Questions? Contact Career
Services at csmcareerservices@smccd.edu



WORKFORCE
HUB



CAREER
SERVICES

San Mateo County Expands Free Wireless Internet

The County of San Mateo is bringing free high-speed wireless internet access to areas of the North Fair Oaks and Stambaugh Heller neighborhoods of Redwood City. This expansion of [SMC Public WiFi](#) provides free wireless Internet access to 665 unconnected K-12 students and to thousands of residents and community members who live or visit these neighborhoods.

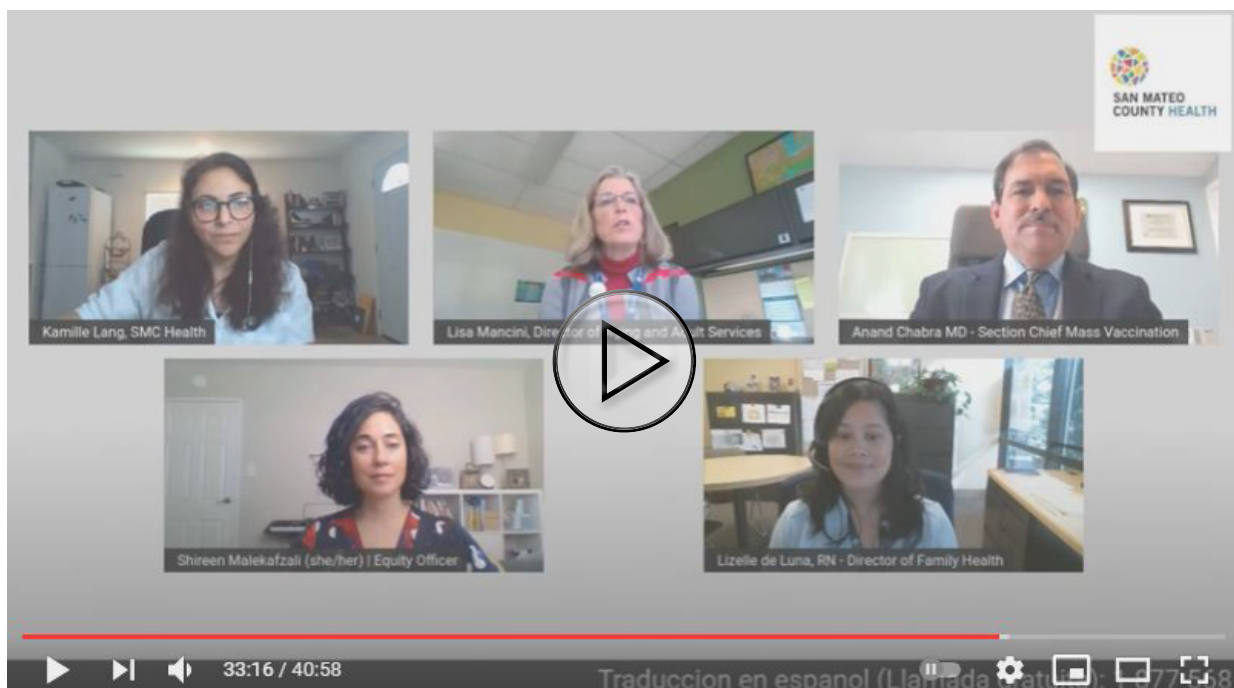
[View the map and read more.](#)

San Mateo County Health Hosts COVID-19 Vaccination Webinar

On Wednesday, January 13, the San Mateo County Health Department hosted a webinar titled COVID-19 Vaccination: What You Need to Know. The event covered common questions about the vaccine, including:

- Phases and distribution within the County
- How they are ensuring equity within their vaccine distribution
- Other resources available to you while you wait for your turn to receive the vaccine

The recording can be [viewed on YouTube](#). Please share this video with your friends and family to stay informed.



If you would like to schedule a free telemedicine appointment with a CSM Nurse Practitioner or the College Physician to seek medical advice while classes are in session, email csmwellness@smccd.edu.

Headspace & San Mateo County Partner to Provide Free Resources

Headspace and San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services are working together to provide FREE resources to help all who currently live, work, or go to school in San Mateo County! Meditation has been shown to help people stress less, focus more and even sleep better. Headspace is meditation made simple. [Why get Headspace?](#)

Sign up to access meditations, sleep sounds, and movement exercises designed to help you care for your mind — because in times like these, a little support goes a long way.

[Sign up here, ALL FREE through August 2021 for new Headspace members!](#)

SMCCCD Releases its Annual Security Report

San Mateo County Community College District's (SMCCCD) 2020 Annual Security Report (ASR), required by the Clery Act, includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus; in certain off-campus buildings owned or controlled by SMCCCD; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from SMCCCD. Our 2020 Annual Security Report also outlines various campus safety and security policies, such as those concerning crime reporting, prevention and response to sexual and gender violence, alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, emergency response and evacuation procedures, and other matters. The 2020 Annual Security Report also includes important tips to help every member of the community remain safe and avoid becoming a victim of crime.



The 2020 Annual Security Report is now available at: <https://www.smccd.edu/publicsafety/2020%20SMCCCD%20Annual%20Security%20Report.pdf> You can also obtain a copy of this report by contacting the Department of Public Safety at the District Office or any of the three Campuses (650) 738-7000.

