



Volume 2 • Issue 2 • January 28, 2021

## CSM Digital Media Student Creates Documentary Focused on Online Learning Challenges

When the coronavirus pandemic caused the first shelter-in-place order in early 2020, CSM Digital Media student Gregory Merkes faced an immediate academic challenge. He was enrolled in the spring Digital Media Independent Study class and had been preparing to work on a video project at CSM.

Now that he couldn't come to campus, he had to shift his focus and figure out how to create an engaging video in the new masked and socially-distant world he found himself in. Additionally, whatever he ended up producing would have to be done solely with his equipment at home. After collaborating with his digital media professor Michelle Brown, he decided to produce a documentary focused on the challenges CSM students were having with virtual learning.

With a new idea solidified, Gregory then had to tackle the challenge of finding students willing to record themselves answering his questions. With some encouragement and a little extra credit, Professor Brown helped Gregory find 15 students to participate. The only details left were to figure out how to collect, review, and provide feedback on the student videos, and then, how to condense all the great footage into a final 15-minute documentary titled, "CSM Coping with Covid."

After almost a year of work Gregory is proud to share his documentary with the CSM community.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Today: Hear Dr. Cornel West
- CSM Becomes COVID-19 Testing Site
- Ask the Doctor: COVID-19 Vaccines
- Wellness Week: February 8–11
- Career Services Workshops
- Black Minds Matter SFSU Transfer Event
- Smoke & Tobacco-Free Campus Webinars
- CSM Honors Project Showcase
- Free Headspace Resources
- SMCCCD Security Report

### IMPORTANT DATES

**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

**Last day to add semester-long courses without appearing on student record**

Sunday, February 7

**STAY UP TO DATE WITH CSM STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

[View ASCSM Agendas & Minutes](#)

## TODAY: 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 this afternoon 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'

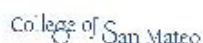
**JANUARY 28 | 4 P.M. PST | VIA ZOOM**

Dr. Cornel West is Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy at Harvard University and Professor Emeritus at Princeton University. He is best known for his classics, *Race Matters* and *Democracy Matters*, and for his memoir, *Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud*. His most recent book, *Black Prophetic Fire*, offers an unflinching look at African-American leaders and their visionary legacies. He is co-host of the podcast "The Tight Rope," and is committed to telling the truth and bearing witness to love and justice.



Rick Najera, host of Latino Thought Makers

**REGISTER: [tinyurl.com/DrWestJan28](https://tinyurl.com/DrWestJan28)**



# CSM Becomes COVID-19 Testing Site

The San Mateo County Community College District, in partnership with San Mateo County Health, has launched a drive-through COVID-19 testing site at the College of San Mateo campus. Located in upper Hillsdale Lot 1 at CSM, the site is open to the public and replaces the previous testing location at the San Mateo County Event Center.

## Testing hours:

Sundays–Thursdays, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm through January 31, 2022

## Testing location:

Upper Hillsdale Lot 1 at College of San Mateo, 1700 West Hillsdale Drive, San Mateo CA 94402

## The test is free but an appointment is required.

The tests are conducted with a nasal swab and results provided within 24–72 hours. The site has the capacity to test 1,000 people per day. Testing services are provided by OptumServe, the federal health business of Optum and UnitedHealth Group.

## Special Hours for SMCCCD Employees and Students

Special time blocks have been reserved exclusively for San Mateo County Community College District students, staff, and faculty on Sundays–Thursdays from 10–11 am and 3–4 pm. These blocks will allow 96 District employees and students to be tested daily.

## Additional Details:

- San Mateo County community members must remain in their vehicles at all times.
- Portable restrooms will be available for community members.
- SMCCCD employees and students who are working at CSM or the District Office, or attending a class at CSM, may walk to testing site from their work/study locations.
- SMCCCD employees and students must access testing site through Campus Access Point or Community Testing Access Point.

## To make an appointment:

### Online:

1. Visit the [Logistics Health COVID-19 Testing website](#)
2. Select “California” from the dropdown menu
3. Select “Get Started”
4. Follow registration steps to create an account
5. Log in to your account
6. Choose a testing location
7. Schedule an appointment

*Note: Appointments for children under 13 cannot be made online and must be made by calling the LHI Call Center.*

### By Phone

Call the LHI Call Center at (888) 634-1123 to make an appointment by phone.

## Getting Your COVID-19 Test

1. Attend your scheduled testing appointment
2. On-location staff will check you in
3. Staff will conduct nasal swab test and send sample to the lab
4. Notification will be provided when your results are ready and available on LHI. Care within 24-72 hours.

This information is also available on the [District COVID-19 website](#).

## Ask the Doctor: Is the COVID-19 Vaccine Safe?

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

**Dear Doc:** I read about some scary side effects from the new COVID-19 vaccine. Is this vaccine safe?

-Worried in Woodside

**Dear Worried:** The short answer to your question is YES. The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and is authorized for use in people age 16 and up. It works by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight off the COVID-19 virus. There have been reports of severe allergic reactions in people who are allergic to an ingredient in the vaccine and in people with a history of anaphylaxis. These people should see their doctors first. If you have allergies not related to vaccines such as food, pets, venom, environmental, latex, or oral medications you may be vaccinated safely. With any type of medication or procedure there are risks.

Let me put this into perspective for you. According to the most recent data from the CDC and Johns Hopkins University, the risk of having a severe allergic reaction to the vaccine is about 11 out of 1 million vaccinations. The risk of dying from COVID-19 across the whole U.S. population is about 16,645 out of 1 million people who have COVID-19.

The vaccine works -Through mass vaccination, the hope is to achieve herd immunity so that COVID-19 has a much harder time spreading from one person to another. That threshold to reach herd immunity is yet unknown for COVID-19, but our current goal is to vaccinate 85% of the population. At the time of this writing, the U.S. has vaccinated 17,546,374 people. The total U.S. population is 330,844,337.

As a community, we can reduce our risk of catching COVID-19 by wearing masks, washing our hands, and staying at least 6 feet from others who are outside our households. For further information on the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit this CDC webpage <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

For students who would like to schedule a free telemedicine appointment with a CSM nurse or the College Physician, they can email [csmwellness@smccd.edu](mailto:csmwellness@smccd.edu) or call 650-574-6396. Appointments are available while classes are in session, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 9 am to 3 pm and on Wednesdays from 9 am to 4 pm.





# Spring Wellness Week is Approaching: February 8–11



These events are brought to you by the CSM Wellness Center. Whether you need basic medical assistance, food, financial guidance, or just want to talk to someone about personal issues, we can help. Learn more and see full event details at [collegeofsanmateo.edu/wellnesscenter](https://collegeofsanmateo.edu/wellnesscenter).

## **Monday, February 8**

**1–1:45 pm - Understanding your Stress – Mind and Body Connection**

[Zoom Link](#) • Meeting ID: 897 2124 3754

• Passcode: 377553

**2–3 pm – Alcohol and Drug Abuse in College**

[Zoom Link](#)

## **Tuesday, February 9**

**12–1 pm – Coronavirus Resources**

[Zoom Link](#)

**1–2 pm – What is CalFresh and How Can I use it to Buy Groceries?**

[Zoom Link](#)

**2–3 pm – Am I in a Healthy Relationship?**

[Zoom Link](#)

**3–4 pm – Connecting Through the Screen: Virtual Social Scene for CSM Students**

[Zoom Link](#) • Meeting ID: 864 4908 5356

• Passcode: 945180

## **Wednesday, February 10**

**2–3 pm – Do You Want Beautiful Skin? It is Possible.**

[Zoom Link](#)

**3–4 pm – A Gentle Exploration of Our Individual and Collective Grief Through Art**

[Zoom Link](#)

## **Thursday, February 11**

**11:10 am – 12:30 pm – Wellness: Getting Beyond the Buzzword**

[Zoom Link](#) • Meeting ID: 822 0390 4057 •  
Passcode: 532438

**1–2 pm – A Hands-on Stress Management Workshop**

[Zoom Link](#)

**2–3 pm – Healthy Lifestyle Tips to Living Your Best Life in 2021**

[Zoom Link](#)

# Upcoming Career Services Workshops

You are invited to join these virtual events hosted by CSM Career Services. They are free and open to all CSM students.

[Register](#) for Fall in Love with a Career on February 8

[Register](#) for How to Start Your Job Search on February 10

[Register](#) for the Resume Writing Workshop on February 10

## FALL IN LOVE WITH A CAREER

Meet CSM alumna

**Claire Mack,**

former three-term San Mateo Mayor, author, model, tv host, and current owner of Claire's Crunch Cake bakery, and hear her story of how she turned her passion into a career she l♥ves.



Photo courtesy of Claire's Crunch Cake

Please register using the QR code (at right), or via the following link:

<https://bit.ly/2LYOJSR>



CSM Career Services, SMCCC Foundation, and CSM Ethnic Studies are pleased to host this presentation on the rewards of working in a career you l♥ve.

**DATE:**

**Monday,  
February 08,  
2021**

**TIME:**

**11:15 AM to  
12:30 PM  
via ZOOM**

Questions?  
Contact Career  
Services at  
csmcareerservices  
@smccd.edu





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](mailto:csmcareerservices@smccd.edu)



**WORKFORCE  
HUB**



**CAREER  
SERVICES**



**Join us for a  
RESUME WRITING WORKSHOP  
with**

**Rose Yun Negrete,  
CSM Career Counselor**

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021

**TIME:** 5:30 – 6:30pm (Pacific Standard Time)

To register, go to <https://rb.gy/hm27uo>  
or scan the QR code below.



Once you register, you  
will receive a  
confirmation and  
ZOOM link via email.



Need to create or  
update your  
resume?

Considering  
applying for a new  
job or internship?

We can help!

This workshop is  
part of our  
Career Services  
Spring 2021 series

Questions?

Email us at  
csmcareerservices  
@smccd.edu



# Black Minds Matter SFSU Transfer Presentation

San Francisco State University will be visiting CSM English Professor Jeramy Wallace's class on Monday, February 8, from 10 am – 1 pm for a transfer presentation geared towards Black students. The event features a student panel, an admissions presentation, and a virtual guided tour of SFSU. Professor Wallace has graciously opened the event up to all interested students.

Black Minds Matter [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 853 7462 6612

Passcode: 137062



## Black Minds Matter

### San Mateo Community College Umoja Community,

You're invited to join us in an eventful day to honor Black excellence during Black History Month!

### Agenda:

Student Panel

Admissions Presentation

Virtual Guided tour

**February 8th, 2021**

10:00am - 1:00pm



SAN FRANCISCO  
STATE UNIVERSITY

Questions? Email [shanice@sfsu.edu](mailto:shanice@sfsu.edu)



### Zoom Link:

<https://sfsu.zoom.us/j/85374626612?pwd=UE9zZVZ3QzhwT0FwMHMzNDBxR3NEdz09>

### Meeting ID:

853 7462 6612

**Passcode:** 137062

## Smoke & Tobacco-Free Campus Webinars

Skyline College faculty and student leaders/volunteers have partnered with the San Francisco Community Health Center (SFCHC) to create **Only Fog @ Skyline**, an advocacy group led by Professor Rika Yonemura-Fabian, that aims to reform the current smoking policy within the San Mateo County Community College District to create a healthier educational environment. Their mission is to adopt a policy that removes designated smoking areas on campuses in order to make our colleges completely smoke, tobacco, and vape-free by March 2022.

You are invited to learn how big tobacco industries targets communities and how to advocate for a 100% smoke and tobacco-free campus by joining one of the two webinars listed below.

Contact Rika Yonemura-Fabian at [fabianr@smccd.edu](mailto:fabianr@smccd.edu) if you have any questions or request additional information about the proposal for a 100% smoke, tobacco and vape free policy.

[Registration](#) for Monday, February 22, 11 am – 12 pm

[Registration](#) for Wednesday, February 24, 3–4 pm



SAN MATEO  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE DISTRICT

**NOT ON OUR CAMPUS,  
NOT IN OUR LUNGS**

**FEBRUARY 22ND 11AM -12PM  
FEBRUARY 24TH 3PM-4PM**

**REGISTER : <http://bit.ly/notonourcampus1>  
<http://bit.ly/notinourlungs2>**

**CONTACT: [MARK@SFCommunityHealth.org](mailto:MARK@SFCommunityHealth.org)**

**Learn how big tobacco industries targets  
our communities and how to advocate for  
a 100% Smoke and Tobacco-Free  
San Mateo Community College District**

## 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.

# SMCCCD Emergency Food Distribution Continues Into 2021


The San Mateo County Community College District, in partnership with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, is continuing to operate free food distributions sites into 2021. Those in need can pick up fresh food at Skyline every Wednesday and at CSM every Friday by driving through the designated pickup locations. Both sites operate from 11 am to 1 pm on their respective days.

The food distribution is open to the public and serves a large number of college students as well as community members.

See flier below for full event details.

## Free **GROCERIES**

*San Mateo County Community College District  
Emergency Food Distribution*



### Drive-Thru Food Pickup Wednesdays & Fridays 11 am – 1 pm

#### **Skyline College** (Wednesdays)

3300 College Drive | San Bruno  
(Skyline Boulevard Entrance)


#### **College of San Mateo** (Fridays)





1700 W. Hillsdale Blvd. | San Mateo  
(Beethoven Parking Lot #2)

- COVID-19 guidelines will be observed
- Only drive-thru pickups will be served
- Open to students and the community
- This does not impact public charge
- No I.D. required to pick up food

**[smccd.edu/food](https://smccd.edu/food)**

Weather Closure Updates:  
(650) 738-7970





## 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's Annual Security Report Available

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.

