

CITRUS *view*

LATEST NEWS FROM CITRUS COLLEGE



Super Saturday 1K/5K brings community together

The first Citrus College Athletics Super Saturday 1K/5K event was held on campus in early February.

From seasoned athletes to first-time runners, the inaugural Citrus College Athletics Super Saturday 1K/5K combined fitness, fun and fundraising to support both student-athletes and student-musicians.

More than 325 students, employees and community members participated in the race, which involved a scenic route through campus. Music from student and employee performers was performed at several points along the course.

"I participated in the 5K because I love being outside among my friends and colleagues. I also love supporting students any way I can," said Sarah Bosler, public services librarian. "Getting to explore the campus on a gorgeous day while listening to great music performed by students and faculty, like Lisa Villa's band My Pet Rock Covers, was an added bonus."

The event opened at 8 a.m. with a 1K for children 11 and under, followed by a chip-timed 5K at 8:30 a.m. While everyone who crossed the 1K finish line received a medal, the 5K runners who came in first, second and third in certain categories were recognized with special awards. Among the Citrus College participants, the top three men's finishers were Kevin Praeger, office technology/computer science adjunct faculty; Fernando Perez, audio-visual support specialist; and student John Stimson. The top three women's finishers were Antonella Curinga, assistant cross country coach; Priscilla Englert, automotive technology faculty; and Eva Mazorra, gardener II.

Additionally, participants enjoyed raffle prizes, dance contest awards and Chick-fil-A giveaways.

Students bring enthusiasm to start of spring semester

The Citrus College campus buzzed with excitement in mid-February as thousands of students returned for the beginning of the spring 2026 semester.

While some students set foot on campus for the first time, others returned for their final term as they prepared to graduate in June 2026.

Still others began or continued their higher education journey online, taking one or more virtual class offerings.

Throughout the first week, students also encountered some uncharacteristic winter weather, including heavy rain and low temperatures. Nevertheless, eager learners showed up in droves, excited at what the next few months held in store.



Performing arts students continue to shine on big stage



The Citrus Singers met actor Matthew Lillard (back row, center), who praised the group's performance.

From meeting a star actor to performing at a Tournament of Roses event, Citrus College Visual and Performing Arts Division students have stayed busy over the past few months.

In December 2025, following a holiday-themed performance, the Citrus Singers met actor Matthew Lillard, whose resume includes the films "Scream," "Scooby-Doo" and "Five Nights at Freddy's."

According to instructor and Citrus Singers director Marius Beltran, Lillard approached the group after watching them perform and told them how much he enjoyed their performance. He also told the group that he participated in theater and choir as a kid and wanted them to know how much he enjoyed their talent and discipline.

Before departing, Lillard encouraged the Citrus Singers to continue chasing their dreams, Beltran said.

A few weeks later, instructor Dan Volonte and a group of students in the emerging theatre technologies (ETT) program traveled to Galveston, Texas, to set up a large-scale show.

The ETT students, who contribute to the production design of approximately 75 events each year, provided the staging, lighting, and audio and video equipment for "Holiday Fantasy: North Pole's Got Talent at Moody Gardens' Holiday in The Gardens." Among their most impressive feats was building a 20-foot by 32-foot video wall for the production.

On New Year's Day, Night Shift performed at Floatfest, a showcase of Rose Parade floats following their appearance along the parade route. With their lively performance, featuring support from ETT students, the band earned new fans from throughout the region.

"Our performing arts students continue to awe and amaze me, as they do to all they encounter," said Amberly Chamberlain, dean of visual and performing arts. "It is a great honor to watch them grow into diligent and skillful working professionals through these incredible opportunities, mentored by immensely dedicated faculty and served by tremendously hardworking staff."



Campus leaders visit Sacramento, Washington to advocate for students



Citrus College officials visited Sacramento in January.

A team of Citrus College administrators and board members recently traveled to Sacramento and Washington, D.C., during the winter session to meet with legislators about the importance of continued investment in community colleges.

In January, Dr. Greg Schulz, superintendent/president of Citrus College, was joined in Sacramento by Trustees Laura J. Bollinger, Dr. Anthony Contreras, Dr. Randa B. Wahbe and Dr. Cheryl Alexander; Student Trustee A.J. Hernandez; and Executive Director of Strategic Communications, Marketing and Public Affairs Lisa McPherson.

During their visit, the group met with several elected state leaders or their chiefs of staff, including Assemblymember Blanca E. Rubio, Senator Sasha Renée Pérez and Assemblymember Mike Fong. They also met with officials from the governor's office and the Legislative Analyst's Office, as well as Assembly Budget Chair Jesse Gabriel's staff.

In their discussions, the Citrus College representatives shared the [2026 Citrus College Legislative Priorities](#), which advocates for students' basic needs, long-term fiscal stability, and noncredit and workforce development.

A few weeks later, Superintendent/President Schulz, Dr. Contreras and McPherson attended the Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C.

While meeting with members of Congress, including Senators Alex Padilla and Adam Schiff and Representatives Judy Chu and Gil Cisneros, the group discussed student success and recent campus achievements, among other important topics.

"For more than 110 years, Citrus College has been committed to serving the San Gabriel Valley and helping students achieve their educational goals," Superintendent/President Schulz said. "But we can't do it alone. By working with elected officials from across California, we are confident that Citrus College will have the support it needs to continue growing and serving even more students from throughout the region."



Branding project concludes with redesigned seal



Citrus College is proud to present the final element of its transformed brand – the redesigned college seal!

Since its founding in 1915, the Citrus College seal has reflected our shared identity and values. It has evolved over time, with each version marking a new chapter in the institution's history.

This evolution sets the stage for a thoughtful redesign – one that balances tradition with clarity, consistency and contemporary design.

More than a mark, the redesigned seal is a visual narrative told through carefully chosen symbols that connect the college's origins to its future.

About the Citrus College seal

The new Citrus College seal tells our story by returning us to where we began and pointing us to an even brighter future.

At its center stands the first building on our current campus. It is a reminder that Citrus College was founded on the belief that higher education should serve as a public good – accessible, affordable, equitable, practical and transformative. The Mediterranean Revival-influenced architecture is not presented as a monument, but as a symbol of inclusive classrooms filled with curiosity and potential.

Behind the building, a new day begins – rays of sunshine extending outward and upward. This represents renewal, reflecting the college's role as a starting point; where paths take shape and dreams unfold.

Adorning the seal are orange blossoms, delicate and resilient, forecasting a bountiful harvest. Long before Citrus College was founded in 1915, these blossoms – and the orange trees on which they flourished – defined the area's livelihood. They celebrate the agricultural roots of the San Gabriel Valley, honoring the labor and diverse community that helped shape this region. More specifically, the blossoms connect the college's name to a living landscape and shared heritage.

Together, the elements of the new seal are not nostalgic ornaments, but living symbols. They reflect a college rooted in history, shaped by community and focused on growth.

This seal positions Citrus College as a place where tradition and progress meet – where learning is cultivated and opportunities bloom.

Women's History Month

Citrus College is honored to celebrate and champion Women's History Month!

With many female leaders across the college – including our board of trustees, Academic Senate, chapter 101 of the California School Employees Association and more – the college embodies strong and effective female leadership in the San Gabriel Valley.

Students: Please join us for these upcoming events celebrating women!

ASCC Tea Party for Students

Wednesday, March 4

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Women's Wellness Day for Students

Tuesday, March 17

Noon to 1:30 p.m.

You are also encouraged to stop by the Hayden Memorial Library all month long to view displays related to Women's History Month, as well as visit their online research guide on the topic: <https://libguides.citruscollege.edu/whm>



Counselor wraps up cross-country fundraising effort



Citrus College counselor Anthony Giammalva celebrates his fundraising feat in Florida after cycling across the United States.

A serious bicycle crash didn't stop Anthony Giammalva from completing a cross-country journey in support of two causes close to his heart. Seven months after breaking a bone during his first attempt, the Citrus College counselor was back on his bike and riding through eight states.

Over the course of 47 days, Giammalva trekked from California to Florida to raise awareness and funds for the fight against Tourette syndrome and brain cancer. He covered 3,000 miles, pedaling 80 to 100 miles each day over rough roads, hills and highways.

"My cross-country ride was dedicated to my nephew Gianni, who is currently in remission from brain cancer, and for all of those with Tourette syndrome," Giammalva said. "I am blessed to say it was a great trip with not a lot of unexpected challenges. I would have to say the worst part was getting chased by dogs!"

Although Giammalva had long envisioned using cycling to raise money, his effort began in earnest when he bought a bike and started riding in February 2023. He was soon biking 50 to 100 miles per week and working out in the gym five days a week. Initially starting on March 2, 2025, he was 10 days into his route when catastrophe struck.

"I had an accident near the New Mexico border and broke my clavicle," Giammalva remembers. "After rehabbing for two months, I began training again. Several months later, I was ready to ride."

Giammalva was back on the road on Oct. 12, 2025, peddling with renewed purpose. Each day was dedicated to his nephew and individuals living with Tourette syndrome. Backed by family, friends and colleagues, his efforts raised nearly \$14,000. Funds were donated to the Tourette Association of America to be used for research and to help raise awareness.

"The Glendora Chamber of Commerce was a great help, especially Active7 Fitness in Glendora, whose owner organized a fundraiser for me," he said. "My fellow Citrus College counselor, Lisa Villa, and her band, My Pet Rock Covers, also helped raise money. They put on three separate concerts and are amazing!"

Now, Giammalva is setting his sights on what's next.

"Training for two years and then having an accident made me pretty depressed, but the opportunity to continue and finish my ride was the best feeling in the world," he said. "I have some big things planned for the future, and I am feeling called to continue my advocacy on behalf of my nephew and those affected by brain cancer and Tourette Syndrome."

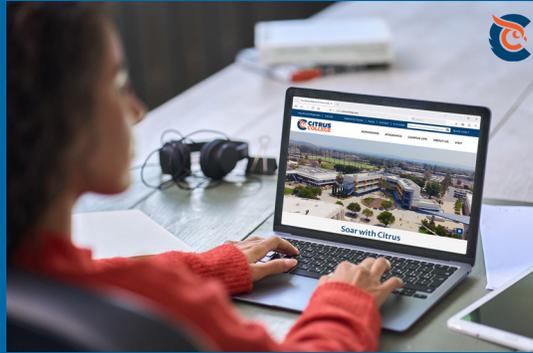
Refreshed website offers accessible, user-friendly experience

Visually striking, interactive and student-focused – the new [Citrus College website](#) continues to earn kudos nearly two months after its launch.

Beginning in the fall of 2024, Citrus College staff worked behind the scenes with Modern Campus, a leading higher education software and website design firm, to build a new online home that would be both a resource for the campus community and a hub for prospective students looking for more information about the college.

Multiple stakeholders provided feedback through the website redesign process, including the College Information Technology Committee, the website taskforce, members of the Associated Students of Citrus College, student clubs, campus community members and others.

Visitors of the new site will see several impressive changes.



The new Citrus College website launched in January 2026.

The top of the home page now features video clips of students, faculty and staff in and out of the classroom. It also boasts an easy-to-read list of activities and events, as well as Owl Spotlights, which highlights some of the college's most successful students.

Other improvements include a streamlined directory, a reorganized layout and increased accessibility, creating a more inclusive experience for all users. Additionally, the college's new logo and colors are featured prominently throughout the website.

"I want to thank everyone who played a role in building our new website," said Eric Calderon, chief technology officer. "We've received an incredible amount of positive feedback, and I am confident that this new site will help more students and campus community members become familiar with all of the incredible resources and services we have to offer."

Community leader installed as board president



The Citrus College Board of Trustees (pictured, L-R): Trustee Steven Bluiitt Flowers, Trustee Dr. Anthony Contreras, Trustee Dr. Cheryl Alexander, Trustee Laura J. Bollinger, Trustee Dr. Randa B. Wahbe and Dr. Greg Schulz, superintendent/president of Citrus College.

In December 2025, the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees held its annual organizational meeting and appointed community leader Laura J. Bollinger as president for 2026.

First elected in 2020 and reelected in 2024, Trustee Bollinger represents trustee area 2, which includes Claremont and portions of Pomona and La Verne.

In addition to serving on the college's governing board, she is a member of the Fairplex Association and the Los Angeles County Library Foundation. Her local involvement has also included volunteer service with a variety of community organizations.

In addition, Dr. Anthony Contreras was installed as board vice president and Dr. Randa B. Wahbe was installed as board clerk/secretary. Steven Bluiitt Flowers and Dr. Cheryl Alexander will continue to serve as board members, while A.J. Hernandez will remain in his position as student trustee.

"The board of trustees plays a critical role in setting the vision for our district. Each member brings a wealth of experience and a shared passion for fostering growth and opportunity to their role," said Superintendent/President Schulz. "I look forward to working alongside them as we support students and strengthen the future of Citrus College and our communities."

Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

Ms. Laura J. Bollinger
President

Claremont and portions of Pomona and La Verne Representative

Dr. Anthony Contreras
Vice President

Azusa and portions of Duarte Representative

Dr. Randa B. Wahbe
Clerk/Secretary

Monrovia/Bradbury and portions of Duarte Representative

Mr. Steven Bluiitt Flowers
Member

Glendora and portions of San Dimas Representative

Dr. Cheryl Alexander
Member

Duarte and portions of Azusa, Monrovia, Arcadia, Covina and Irwindale Representative

Mr. A.J. Hernandez
Student Trustee

Dr. Greg Schulz
Superintendent/President



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