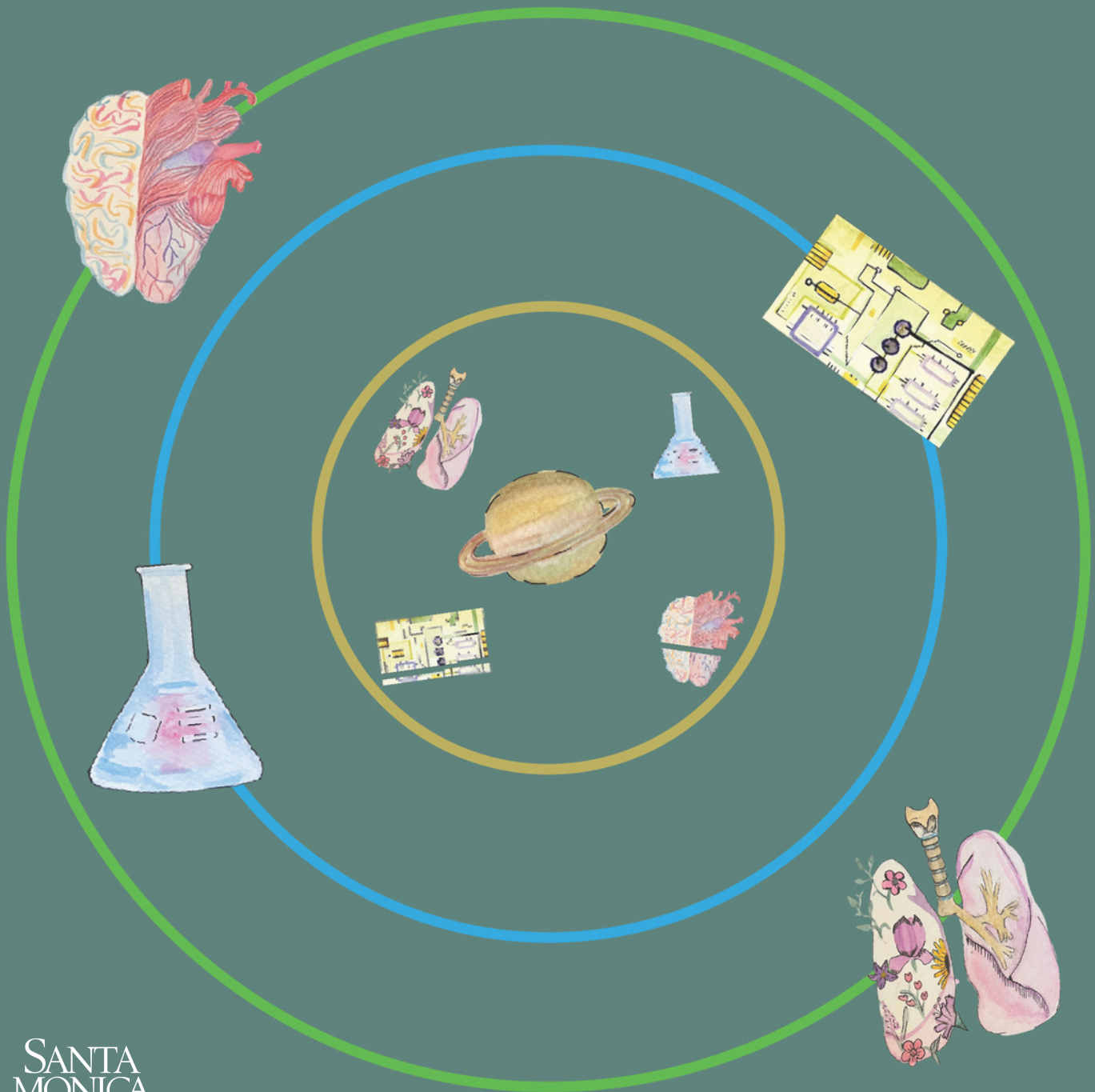


Maximizing Achievement in STEM (MÁS)

SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER



STEM
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE



SANTA
MONICA
COLLEGE

Illustration by: Misha Sharif, Psychology (Pre-med)

Hey There!



Vanan Yahnian

Program Manager, STEM MAS

Contact Us

Email: STEM@SMC.EDU

Phone: (310) 434-3988

Location: DH 302

MEET THE TEAM!



Jose Cue
STEM Counselor



Marian Lowkeen
STEM Counselor



Debbie Ostorga
STEM Counselor



Fernando Lemus
STEM Program Specialist



Sheridan McArthur
STEM Counselor

STEM Counselling Appointments

If you are in the STEM/MAS Program,
appointments can be made via
[Corsair Connect](#).

For non-program participants, there are 3
different ways to make an appointment.
Visit our website for more details.



STEM Peer Mentoring & Tutoring

We tutor math, biology, chemistry, physics,
engineering, & computer science!

First come, first serve
no appointment necessary!

Located in [Drescher Hall Room 302](#)

STEM Tutoring Schedule

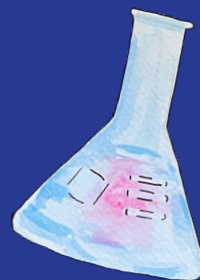


**Didn't meet your STEM
program requirements
over the spring
semester?**



**Make it up by connecting
with a STEM Counselor
and/or Peer Mentor/Tutor
over this summer session!**

Resources



Lending Resources

Did you know you could borrow the following items from STEM?

- Lab coat (White - CHEM 9, 10, 11, 12)
- Flame Retardant Lab Coat (Blue - CHEM 21, 24)
- Scientific Calculator
- Graphing Calculator

Grab them at the STEM lab
(Drescher 302)

Go Pass (Metro Card)

GoPass provides unlimited transit rides throughout L.A.

Pay the student benefit fee and get your Tap card to access unlimited free rides!

Visit the Cashier's Office on Main Campus for assistance.



bodega (food pantry)

Any currently enrolled student is welcome to come by during operating hours and receive non-perishable food items, fresh produce, and toiletries.

There are also 15 SMC Bodega Bites locations that provide students with healthy snacks

Email foodsecurity@smc.edu for general support, questions, and program assistance.

CalFresh

CalFresh is a program that helps individuals and families buy nutritious groceries and support their well-being.



RESOURCES: MATH MODULES

**Need more support in
Algebra, Trigonometry,
Statistics, or Calculus?**

**Add self-paced math
modules for more
resources!**

**Through these modules
you have access to
online textbooks,
instructional videos,
self-paced exercises
and self-check
assessments. To
access these modules,
you will need to self-
enroll using the link
below. Once you enroll
you will have complete
access to all the
content/material in the
modules.**



**ALGEBRA,
TRIGONOMETRY,
AND STATISTICS
MODULES**

[https://online.smc.edu/
enroll/JJB9JL](https://online.smc.edu/enroll/JJB9JL)



**CALCULUS
MODULES**

[https://online.smc.edu/
enroll/GWN3F9](https://online.smc.edu/enroll/GWN3F9)

HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES



Need help finding an affordable place to stay or a housing agent? Find out at [SMC Housing Security](#).

COSMETOLOGY SALON

Hair Salon from \$10 with a valid student ID! More information at: [SMC Cosmetology](#).



CHROMEBOOKS



Visit the Library Front Desk for more info/request a Chromebook

CAREER SERVICES CENTER

Meet with our Career Center for major, internship, and research opportunity support!





STEM-tunities

Research, Conferences, and more!



The City of Los Angeles

ANGELENO CORPS

FOR UP TO 10 MONTHS, GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- **Education & Child Care** – Help youth of various ages learn and grow through education.
- **Early Childhood** – Build foundation for life-long learning and development for younger children
- **Housing Rights** – Advocate for access to affordable housing and support the unhoused population.
- **Health, Climate & Environmental Justice** – Create healthier communities.
- **Immigration Assistance** – Assist immigrants with their legal rights.
- **Nutrition & Food Security** – Support food access, nutrition and health.
- **Technology & Digital Equity** – Learn how technology can empower communities.
- **Adult Day Services** – Assist seniors at Adult Day Centers with various activities.

Applicants must meet all criteria below:

- Be 18-30 years old and live in the City of Los Angeles
- Have valid work authorization
- Meet income requirements
- NOT be a current/former AmeriCorps or Angeleno Corps participant
- Some internship sites may require COVID-19 vaccination

*Priority will be given to LAP3 youth and students who are enrolled full-time at LACCD

APPLY AT [HIRELAYOUTH.COM](https://hirelayouth.com)

*The priority deadline is May 25th 2026 however, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all positions are filled.

PLEASE CONTACT ANGELENOCORPS@LACITY.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

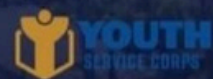
SCAN ME



tinyurl.com/AngelenoCorpsFAQ



KAREN BASS
MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES





LA TECH RISING INTERNSHIP

Applications are Open

This paid internship program offers a dynamic opportunity for **Los Angeles talent aged 18 to 24** to dive into the tech world while learning directly from experienced professionals in the field.

Topics covered: Cybersecurity, Software, IT & AI

What Interns Get:

- Relevant work experience
- Mentorship
- Mock interviews and tech practice
- Guest speaker sessions
- Career workshops
- Peer community



**APPLY
NOW**



bit.ly/4pyx3eH



**department
of economic
opportunity**
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Questions? Email us at rising@la-tech.org

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PREP PROGRAM



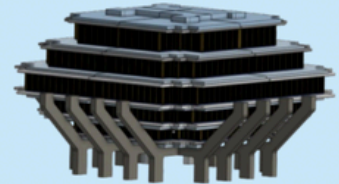
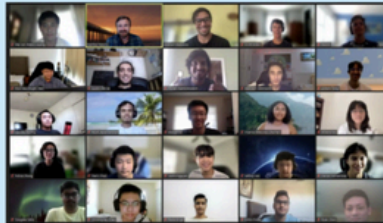
PRESENTED BY:
UC SAN DIEGO'S ECE DEPARTMENT

ECESIPP.COM

ECE.UCSD.EDU



```
1 import board
2 from digitalio import DigitalInOut, Direction, Pull
3 import time
4 led = DigitalInOut(board.D13)
5 button = DigitalInOut(board.D2)
6
7 led.direction = Direction.OUTPUT
8 button.direction = Direction.INPUT
9 button.pull = Pull.UP
10
11 button_state = False
12 led_state = False
13
14 while True:
15     button_state = button.value
16     if button_state and led_state:
17         #button is pressed and led is currently on
18         led.value = False
19         led_state = False
20     elif button_state and not led_state:
21         #button is pressed and led is currently off
22         led.value = True
23         led_state = True
24     time.sleep(0.01)
```



**Invest 4-weeks into your technical and professional development
with support from UC San Diego
engineering tutors, student orgs, alumni, faculty and staff.**

**Learn/Practice: Python, Interview Skills, PCB Design, Networking,
Microcontrollers/Sensors/Actuators (Project Kit Included), Resume
Techniques, Computer Aided Design, Technical Communication,
Internship/Career Roadmap, Lasercutting, How to Engage with Research,
Machine Learning Techniques, and Much More!**

**Program Fee: \$400
Deadline to Apply: May 29th, 2026**

**1-3PM AND 4-6PM
MON-FRI**

THROUGH ZOOM

**JULY 6TH - 31ST
2026**



LOS ANGELES
MISSION COLLEGE

Biomanufacturing Bachelor's Degree



Earn your Bachelor's Degree in Biomanufacturing at Los Angeles Mission College!

- Prepare for high-demand roles in biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.
- Gain hands-on experience with state-of-the-art equipment and labs.
- Affordable tuition compared to four-year institutions.

Program Benefits

Industry partnerships for
internships and job
placements

Supportive faculty
with real-world
experience

Flexible scheduling for
working students

Apply Now

Visit Our Website

[www.lamission.edu/academics/aos/Bachelor-
Science-Biomanufacturing](http://www.lamission.edu/academics/aos/Bachelor-Science-Biomanufacturing)

SCAN QR
CODE



<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/kUK7XrT096>

Advance Your Career with a BS Computer Science Degree



EXTENDED
UNIVERSITY
CHANNEL
ISLANDS



"The knowledge and skills I gained during the time I spent completing my BS for Computer Science here at CI was invaluable. The professors were always right there to answer questions and provide encouragement. I knew I could make something of myself in that environment."

-Ed Fang, BS Computer Science '05

Why CSUCI?



Personalized support to help achieve your goals



A reputable and accredited public institution



Small class sizes



Industry professional faculty

Discover Where Our Alumni Are Making Waves!



BlackRock.



Admission Requirements

- 2.0 minimum GPA from previous institution.
- Prior completion of 60 semester/90 quarter transferable units.
- C- or better grades required in Golden Four courses (GE Area A1, A2, A3, & B4).
- Good standing at the last institution attended.

Flexible start options - Begin in Fall or Spring



ext.csuci.edu



805-437-2748



ext@csuci.edu

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

TRANSFER TOAST



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR TRANSFER!

The Transfer Team and Student Services Special Programs
invite you to celebrate this exciting milestone as you
take your next step toward a four-year university.

Join us to take a celebratory photo, connect with fellow
transfer students, and raise a toast with sparkling apple cider.
Enjoy some cake and let's celebrate your success together!



DATE

Thursday, May 28, 2026

DROP BY ANYTIME BETWEEN

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION

SSC 3rd Floor Lounge



SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

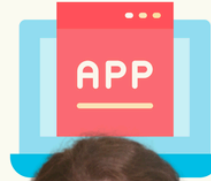
Dr. Slon Roy, Chair; Dr. Tom Peters, Vice Chair; Dr. Luis Barrera-Castañón;
Anastasia Foster; Dr. Nancy Greenstein; Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez; Rob Rader;
Sophia Maravi, Student Trustee; Kathryn E. Jeffery, Ph.D., Superintendent/President
Santa Monica College | 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405 | smc.edu



JULY 9- AUG 16, THURSDAYS 2:15 TO 4PM

*Specific workshops subject to change

Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Workshop 4	Workshop 5
Introduction & Letters of Rec	Demystifying CVs & Resumes	Financial Aid, Scholarships, & Internships	Panel: Transfer Applications	Crafting a Personal Statement



TRANSFER PREP

BOOTCAMP

Stanford's Community College Outreach Program (CCOP) is hosting a 5-week virtual Summer Transfer Preparation & Career Development Bootcamp for community college students in STEM. Join us for weekly workshops with invited speakers followed by small-group feedback and advice from Stanford graduate students and scientists.

SCAN ME



<https://bit.ly/ccopbootcamp>

CENTER FOR WELLNESS AND WELLBEING PRESENTS:

THE LIFE HACK LAB

**Join Us on Zoom Every Monday and Tuesday
12pm-1pm**

Monday and Tuesday:



**Manage Stress
Regulate Emotions
Improve Relationship Skills**





Asian American Architects/Engineers Foundation SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS



APPLICATION
DEADLINE
MAY 31, 2026

APPLICATIONS OPEN: MARCH 20, 2026

Up to:

➤ \$7000 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS*

- High School
- Community College
- Undergraduate School
- Graduate School

Up to:

➤ \$7000 STUDENT LOAN GRANTS

- For any college/university graduates or working professionals with outstanding student loans.

Up to:

➤ \$7000 AEC EDUCATION GRANTS

- For AEC (Architecture, Engineering, Construction) related organizations, institutions or clubs with involvement with the Asian/Pacific Islander Community.



SCAN ME



- Student Scholarships Applicants will receive one-year student membership with completed scholarship application.
- *High school, Community college, Undergraduate and Graduate applicants are required to have more than 12 months of education left at time of application.



Visit aaae.org/scholarship for more information



Questions : apply@aaae.org



\$175,000+
in scholarships
For First-Year Students



**SMC Foundation Scholarships for Eligible
First-Year Students who:**

- Will be enrolled in Fall 2026 as a new, first year student;
- Enrolling in at least six (6) units
- In some cases but not all, financial need is a requirement

Deadline is June 12, 2026!

Apply thru Corsair Connect!
Scan the QR code for more info.



Questions? Call SMC Foundation 310-434-4215





\$175,000+
in scholarships
For First-Year Students



**SMC Foundation Scholarships for Eligible
Out-of-State Students who:**

- Will be enrolled in Fall 2026 as a new, first year student;
- Enrolling in at least six (6) units
- In-State & Out-of-State Students are eligible for the first-year scholarships
- In some cases but not all, financial need is a requirement

Deadline is June 12, 2026!

Apply thru Corsair Connect!
Scan the QR code for more info.



Questions? Call SMC Foundation 310-434-4215





STEMie FUN!

Content by our STEM Mentors!



How I Stay Balanced as a STEM Student

By Sumaiya Yousuf



Being a STEM major can get overwhelming really quickly. Between labs, homework, and exams, it often feels like there's always something due or something you should be working on. It's easy to fall into the mindset that you need to be studying all the time to keep up, and that your hobbies are holding you back. However, from my experience, constantly working without breaks usually doesn't make you more productive, rather, it leads to burnout.

One of the most helpful habits I've built during my three years at SMC is taking a sports class every semester whenever I can. It may seem like time wasted when I could be studying, but having a scheduled time during the week to step back from studying and focus on something completely different helps me reset mentally. It gives me a break from thinking about assignments and exams, and when I come back to my work, I'm able to focus better and get more done in less time. It's also something I look forward to, especially during more stressful parts of the semester.

Outside of class, one of my favorite ways to recharge is hiking. I especially love hiking in the Bay Area because there are so many different trails that are next to the ocean. Being outside in nature helps me clear my mind in a way that nothing else really does. Even a short hike can completely shift my mood and help me feel more grounded, and it reminds me that it's okay to slow down and take a break mentally.

Another habit that helps me stay balanced is reading. Unlike schoolwork, reading for fun doesn't come with pressure. It allows me to relax while still engaging my mind differently. What I've learned over time is that staying motivated in STEM isn't always easy, and it's not just about discipline or working harder. It's about building a routine that supports you. Whether that's taking a break, or finding a hobby that gives you the space you need, these are all part of being successful, not distractions from it. If I could offer one piece of advice, it would be to make time for things that help you rest, whatever that may be, because at the end of the day, balance is what keeps you grounded.

My Experience with the UCLA Care Extenders Program

By Athina Daher-Anenberg



I completed the UCLA Care Extenders Program at Ronald Reagan Medical Center, where I earned approximately 300 volunteer hours over the course of a year and a half. This program allows volunteers to gain clinical exposure and interact with patients, providing valuable insight into the role of healthcare providers.

Throughout the program, volunteers rotate through different departments every three months. I had the opportunity to work in the emergency department, cardiothoracic surgical unit, medical ICU, pediatrics, and an outpatient hematology/oncology clinic. These rotations allowed me to experience both inpatient and outpatient care and better understand how various specialties operate. Although I enjoyed an aspect of each rotation I completed, pediatrics was my favorite, and I chose to extend that rotation multiple times.

As a pre-med student, clinical experience is essential in understanding the real-world impact of medicine beyond the classroom. Being able to interact with patients and observe nurses and physicians clearly demonstrated the responsibilities, challenges, and rewards that encompass a career in healthcare. Ultimately, these experiences reinforced my commitment to pursuing medicine.

One of my most memorable experiences in the Care Extenders Program was spending an entire shift helping care for a two-year-old patient who had been a victim of child abuse. Although my role did not involve direct medical care, I deepened my understanding of the emotional side of patient care. In addition, it emphasized the importance of empathy and compassion for patients during vulnerable moments. I enjoy how healthcare extends beyond diagnosis and treatment, it involves understanding the individual circumstances of each patient to support them both medically and emotionally.

Another impactful shift I had was observing a tracheostomy in the ICU. I was able to observe as an attending physician guided the resident through the procedure. This experience demonstrated the importance of collaboration, mentorship, and teamwork in medicine.

The Care Extenders Program also helped me identify the medical environments I was drawn to. I found that I enjoy inpatient hospital settings and roles that involve direct patient interaction. Being able to connect with patients was the highlight of my experience throughout the internship. Overall, the Care Extender Program deepened my understanding of empathy, collaboration, and respect in healthcare. The way nurses and staff supported patients reinforced the importance of active listening and open communication. My experiences, particularly in pediatrics, strengthened my desire to provide care rooted in compassion and understanding.



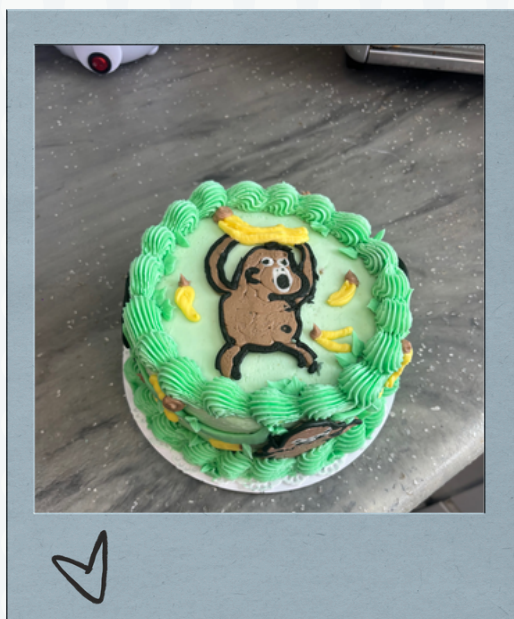
My A hands-on session from our Aquaculture 1 class, where we explored the life cycle of kelp.

Kan Ratna Felicia



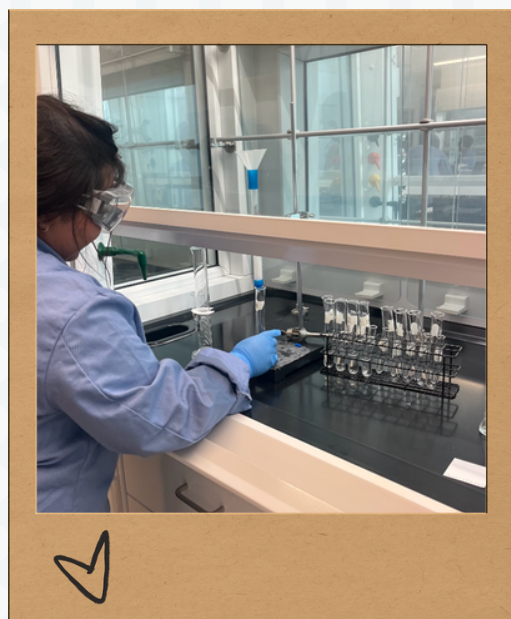
On my way to the beach with a surfboard that does not fit in the car.

Leia Binz



A cake that I made for my friend's birthday! Banana cake with butterscotch buttercream. Made and decorated from scratch.

Leia Binz



This was me in Organic Chemistry 1 lab performing a column chromatography experiment.

Dulce Flores Hernandez

Did you know?

By Samantha Wiggins

- Using the Botany definition, all fruits containing seeds are mature ovaries, and the seed(s) inside the fruit are mature ovules.
- When you're lactose intolerant, it's actually the *e coli* that is breaking down lactose in your stomach, and not the β -galactosidase produced by the lac operon.



Human Body Facts

By Athina Daher-Anenberg

- Did you know that the human brain consumes approximately 20% of the body's total metabolic energy at rest?
- Did you know that humans can distinguish at least 1 trillion different odors?
- Did you know you are approximately 1-2 cm taller in the morning because gravity compresses the fluid-filled cartilage between your vertebrae throughout the day?



STEM For Laughs

By Michael Heffernan

- I tried to make a joke about pH to my chemistry teacher, she responded, "it's too basic".
- What number never goes down.... your age....
- Biologists really rival the top philosophers. Why? Because they give really long-life lessons.



Pollinator Puzzle

By Michael Heffernan

Santa Monica's Pollinators and Flowers

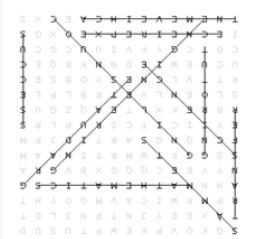
G	E	E	S	C	H	S	C	H	O	L	Z	I	A
E	P	I	L	O	B	I	U	M	C	A	N	U	M
A	P	I	S	M	E	L	L	I	F	E	R	A	U
G	F	Z	T	D	U	H	B	Q	S	O	B	B	B
D	O	A	U	F	S	P	R	M	A	Q	P	H	J
D	I	A	O	E	N	S	T	Q	L	C	O	Y	A
B	Y	A	E	N	R	V	I	U	V	T	F	L	C
F	O	S	D	I	A	I	I	H	I	I	L	A	H
Z	E	M	Y	A	Q	M	O	V	A	S	U	E	I
K	D	G	B	P	S	C	D	G	F	S	P	U	L
N	J	S	G	U	N	I	L	Q	O	A	I	S	L
A	D	V	C	V	S	A	A	F	O	N	N	P	E
C	A	R	P	E	N	T	E	R	I	A	U	C	A
B	W	X	Y	L	O	C	O	P	A	K	S	M	X

- APISMELLIFERA
- ERIOGONUM
- SALVIA
- BOMBUS
- DIADASIA
- ESCHSCHOLZIA
- HYLAEUS
- ACHILLEA
- LUPINUS
- EPILOBIUMCANUM
- CARPENTERIA
- XYLOCOPA

Word Search

By Abby Flores

S	G	K	O	V	P	K	E	W	P	T	U	S	U	D
T	A	X	E	E	Y	J	N	T	P	N	J	L	D	T
R	P	M	R	W	I	C	A	V	M	G	O	Y	H	T
A	H	N	M	A	T	H	E	M	A	T	I	C	S	G
N	Y	Y	E	E	C	Q	Q	G	X	B	V	G	R	A
S	S	G	G	F	T	W	M	R	T	I	N	A	A	M
F	C	N	Q	N	G	S	A	R	T	I	D	J	P	M
E	Y	I	I	C	I	T	C	S	R	U	P	L	P	S
R	R	R	E	K	X	L	T	E	A	Q	Z	G	U	S
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R	T	T	V	L	C	N	E	S	X	O	B	S	E	C
U	C	U	E	W	I	E	D	N	N	K	R	Q	E	C
C	D	T	C	G	Y	F	V	I	U	U	C	G	C	U
I	E	C	N	E	I	R	E	P	X	E	O	X	G	S
T	N	E	M	E	V	E	I	H	C	A	E	C	X	S



Answers:

Math & Science Building
Santa Monica College
Photo By: Bryan Hartanto

