



Hello Mesa College Community!

Weekly Update from Prez Hands provides a brief overview of the exciting efforts taking place within our community. The updates are also a great way to tell our collective story of success, and to document our journey of becoming the Leading College of Equity and Excellence. Enjoy!

.....

OFFICE OF THE *President*



Save the Date!

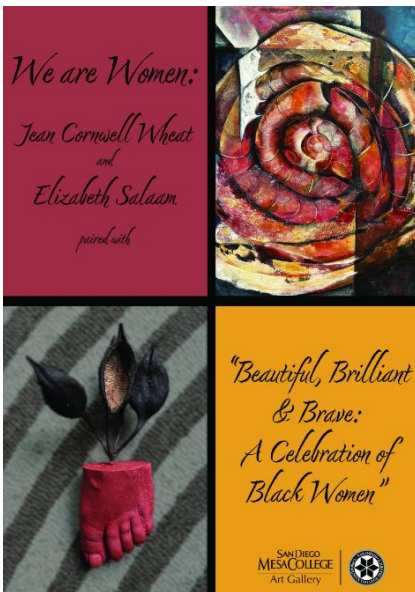
Save-the-date for our **Mix and Mingle with Chancellor Smith** event on Thursday, April 18 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.! Join your Mesa family as we welcome our new Chancellor, Greg Smith, and hear directly from him his inspiring vision for our institution and the exciting journey ahead.

No RSVP required. More details soon to follow.

Congratulations to our Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Isabel O'Connor, on her selection to be the next president of the California Community College Chief Instructional Officers! Dr. O'Connor will serve as president-elect for 2024-25, president for 2025-26, then immediate past president for 2026-27.



OFFICE OF *Instruction*



Our current dual-themed art exhibition is receiving attention again, this time from KPBS! Mesa College's Art Gallery was featured in the KPBS article, "5 art exhibits to see in San Diego this spring"!

To read the full article, please visit:

[5 art exhibits to see in San Diego](#)

"We are Women: Jean Cornwell Wheat and Elizabeth Salaam" and "Beautiful, Brilliant, and Brave: A Celebration of Black Women" will be on display in the Mesa College Art Gallery (FA-103) until April 18.

Andrea Calles-Virgen, a current Vet Tech student at San Diego Mesa College in the School of Health Sciences and Public Service was recently awarded the American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) and Merck Animal Health Scholarship for \$2,000.

AVMF supports veterinary students through scholarships and grants, focusing on academic excellence, leadership, and financial need, to ensure future veterinarians are well-prepared for their roles in public health, food safety, and animal care.

This scholarship is awarded to one Veterinary technician student in good standing and in their final year at an American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) - accredited veterinary technician school. **Congratulations Andrea!**



OFFICE OF *Student Services*

Festival of Colors

Thursday, April 11, 2024
5:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Annual Celebration for Cultural Unity Week

Program

4:55 pm - 5:10 pm
African Drum Call
Tey Sa Thiosanne West African Dance & Drum Troupe

5:10 pm - 5:15 pm
Welcome & Greetings

5:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Reggae Band
Intent

6:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Traditional Aztec Dancers
Danza Azteca

6:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Ballet Folklorico
The Wa-Kushmaa Folklorico Group

7:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Dragon & Lion Dancers
Team Hoa Nghiem

Bring your family, friends and neighbors, your blankets and lawn chairs, and join us for food and fun on the San Diego Mesa College

QUAD

or to Register for Zoom
contact: jsundayo@sdcocd.edu



Special thanks to Mesa College employees, President Ashanti Hamid, Dean Leticia Diaz, Dean Vicki Miller, Jacqueline Collins, Giovanni Garcia, Dr. Denise Rogers, Prof. Jorge Villalobos, and Dr. Judy Svendsen, for their assistance with this event. Thanks also to the STANL, the Associated Students and Mesa College Student Services. A great deal of thanks to Marlene Drenth of the Wellness Center & all the performers, including Tey Sa Thiosanne, Ievae Reggae, Dance Agency, Wa-Kushmaa Folk Productions, and Team Hoa Nghiem.

We also extend our gratitude to our MC and our Spoken Word Artists for their contributions to this culturally stimulating event.

Sponsored by the Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity, Student Success & Equity & the Student Diversity Club

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

The Committee for Diversity, Access, Inclusion and Equity are excited to present **Festival of Colors on Thursday, April 11th 5:00-7:30pm Mesa Quad**. This is a time we will celebrate cultures through the arts, dance, and food! The event is open to our campus as well as our greater community. Please join us and spread the word. This is one of many





INSPIRE.
LEAD.
SERVE.

2024-2025

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS APPLICATION

APRIL 1, 2024
Application period is open.

APRIL 15
Deadline to submit AS applications.

WE NEED YOU!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR STUDENTS WITH A DESIRE TO LEARN AND REPRESENT THE STUDENT COMMUNITY.

Applications to join the **Associated Students** <https://bit.ly/2024ASapp> are now available for the 2024-2025 academic year! We encourage every Mesa College student to **apply** and run for an elected position in an effort to collaboratively create a positive and meaningful impact on our

events taking place during Cultural Unity Week April 8-12. Please stay tuned for our calendar of events that will be circulated!

student body and all of the communities in which Mesa College belongs.

Applications are due by **11:59pm on Monday, April 15, 2024!**

Special Request: GIFT BASKET DONATIONS for Mesa's 31st Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony

The **2024 Scholarship Awards Ceremony** will take place on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at the San Diego Mesa College Gymnasium beginning 4:30pm.**

We are asking departments, shared governance groups and interested individual community members to help continue the wonderful tradition of donating themed baskets for our opportunity drawing, with proceeds going to an emergency relief fund that will help students overcome financial setbacks without dropping out.

If you would like to donate a basket, please complete the [Gift Basket Form](#) and bring your basket to the Student Affairs Office (I4-408) by **5:00pm on Monday, April 22nd**. All contributions will be recognized as supporters of the **31st Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony**. Assistance with assembling your items into a basket is available, just contact us for help!

Please call (619) 388-2699 with questions or concerns. Thank you so much for your support!

To purchase tickets to attend the Scholarship Awards Ceremony, please click [here](#), or click the following link to buy a table and become a [Scholarship Award Ceremony sponsor](#). *You may still purchase tickets through the linked websites!*

We look forward to your presence and donations!

DEBER Updates:

Faby Beas is working with Krista Stellmacher on an opportunity to meet with folks from the Education Funders of California and the San Diego Foundation and their extended funders. They are interested in learning more about DEBER at Mesa and how we have supported our students and our partnership with DEBER at SDSU. Faby participated in a panel discussion last Thursday, March 28 at Mesa where the funders were in attendance.

Faby Beas will be hosting a Meet & Greet for the DEBER Scholars with Alison Sternal, the Liberal Studies, Child Dev, and DEBER Academic Advisor at SDSU. The event is for DEBER Scholars and is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15 4pm-5pm at the Avanza Center

The **2024 APAHE National Conference** is scheduled this week in Oakland, CA with preconference on April 3 and conference on April 4 and 5. This year's theme is Radical Hope: Leading with Love, Courage, and Action. Mesa will have a huge representation with students, faculty, staff, and admin. Ailene is serving as a tri-chair for the conference. Mesa is a silver sponsor this year, along with SDCCD.



Participatory Governance

To learn more about our **Associated Students**, **Academic Senate**, and **Classified Senate**, please visit the links below:

[Associated Students](#)

[Academic Senate](#)

[Classified Senate](#)

In The Know

For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:

[Mesa College Newsroom](#)

[Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.

President | San Diego Mesa College

Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!

7250 Mesa College Drive, A-104, SD, CA 92111 | 619.388.2721

[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

