



## Orange Coast College Prepares Thousands of Wildfire Relief Meals

In response to the devastating wildfires in Los Angeles, Orange Coast College has partnered with Abound Food Care to prepare thousands of relief meals for those affected.

When Steve Gostin, OCC's General Manager of Instructional Food Services, received a call from Abound Food Care to prepare hot, nutritious meals for those affected by the wildfires, the timing could not have been better.

The College Center Dining will be closed for the next two weeks in preparation for the start of the spring semester, which allows the Instructional Food Services team to redirect their efforts to support this important cause.

The team, along with Culinary Arts and Food and Beverage Management programs, prepared 600 wildfire relief meals intended to be both hot and nutritious, all made from scratch.

Ingredients for these meals were generously donated by Sysco Foods- LA, OCC's main food services vendor, as well as Fresh Point Produce and Penjoyan Produce, totaling over \$8,000 worth of ingredients.

In addition, they will prepare, freeze and store an extra 5,000 bulk

meals to ensure that nutritious options are readily available as the situation evolves.

"We are pleased to give back and help the community with hot, nutritious meals during this state crisis," says Gostin. "We couldn't have done this without the support from our partnerships."

The meals will be delivered by Abound Food Care.

## Two New Exhibits Opening at the Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion This February

The Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion is excited to announce the opening of two concurrent exhibits, "What's My Thesis?" and "Wizard Hours," beginning Saturday, February 1. An opening reception will take place that day, followed by a campus reception on Thursday, February 6, from 4 to 7 p.m. Both exhibits will run until Thursday, March 20, and admission is free for all exhibits and gallery events.

## Calendar

### FEB. 6

**Campus reception for "What's My Thesis?" & "Wizard Hours,"**

4-7 p.m., Main Quad

### FEB. 12

**Unity in Activism Featuring**

**Ken Nwadike Jr.,** 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.,  
College Center Ballrooms

### FEB. 13

**OCC Lunar New Celebration,**  
Noon-2 p.m., Main Quad

### FEB. 19

**Unity in Our Voices Luncheon**

**featuring OCC Students and  
Dr. Ron McCurdy,** 1:30-3 p.m.,  
Student Union Multipurpose Rm 101

### FEB. 20

**Chemistry Building Ribbon Cutting  
and Tour,** 10-11:30 a.m.

**Spring Flex Day**

### FEB. 22 & 23

**Plays Made in a Day,** 7:30 p.m.,  
Drama Lab Studio, Free admission,  
Mature audiences only

### FEB. 24

**Unity in Cultural Identity with**

**Dr. Chike Akua,** 1-2:15 p.m.,  
Giles T. Brown Lecture Hall



The exhibit “What’s My Thesis?” is based on a podcast hosted by Javier Proenza, where guest artists share the insights they have gained in pursuit of their artistic practices. The Doyle is proud to feature over 30 talented artists from Southern California in this group exhibition. Showcased in the Main Gallery, this exhibit highlights a diverse range of mediums, including painting, photography, sculpture, and video, representing various art communities and stages of artistic career development. Notable artists include Hiroshi Clark, part-time photography faculty member at OCC, and Amir Zaki, who previously exhibited at the Doyle with his solo exhibit in 2019.

In addition, “Wizard Hours” will be a solo exhibition by Elias Hernandez featured in the Project Gallery. Hernandez’s work brings myth-building to life through a character he calls the “Clock Wizard.” His creations – spanning painting, ceramics, and drawing – form a layered fantasy dreamscape that allows the wizard to both transform and terrify other creatures. Drawing inspiration from animation, video games, and card games of the 2000s, Hernandez constructs dynamic worlds and figures. The wizard and magical citizens are ever moving; their bodies wave, bend, and stretch like the whimsy of a fable or possibility of a cartoon. His detailed drawings resemble tapestries, while his ceramics and sculptural work reflect the “equipable items” and gems familiar to video game enthusiasts. Through his artistry, Hernandez links contemporary illustration with traditional themes, invoking magic and monsters for a new, playable era.

“Simply put, the exhibits are fun gathering of artists from Orange County and Los Angeles,” says Dakota Noot, Acting Director for The Doyle. “Both highlight the wonder of podcasts and video games as references for the arts.”

## OCC Celebrates Black History Month



Orange Coast College will celebrate Black History Month throughout February by embracing the theme “Power of Community in Unity” with a series of planned events.

The Black History Month Kickoff Celebration was the featured event for the month-long celebration hosted on Wednesday, February 5 in the Main Quad. This event was a cultural celebration of dancing, music, food, and inspiration for the month and beyond. Dr. Jewel Jackson, owner and founder of African Soul International, educated and brought the joy of African culture, history and music.

EOPS Counselor and Umoja Coordinator Andrea Eke-Amacker is the lead organizer for the Black History Month programming at Orange Coast College.

The Black History Month festivities commenced on February 1 with the annual OC Black History Parade and Unity Festival in Downtown Anaheim, followed by the Black College Expo and Battle of the Bands in Sofi Stadium in Inglewood.

A complete listing of Black History Month events can be found on the Umoja website.

## OCC to Celebrate Year of the Snake with Lunar New Year Celebration



OCC’s Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) team will host a Lunar New Year Celebration on Thursday, February 13, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Main Quad.

This celebration will mark the beginning of the Year of the Snake and raise awareness about the various ways Lunar New Year is

celebrated around the world, including Chinese New Year, Seollal in Korea, Tet in Vietnam, and more.

Activities will start at noon with a community resource fair featuring many local organizations that support the Asian community. During the celebration, the campus community will have the chance to win prizes, participate in photo opportunities, enjoy Asian appetizers, partake in a tea tasting, and hang their New Year’s wishes on a Wishing Tree. The highlight of the celebration, The Lion Dance performance, will begin at 12:30 p.m.

Lunar New Year is celebrated across the globe to welcome the arrival of spring and the start of a new year based on the Chinese lunisolar calendar. This year, Lunar New Year began on

January 29, kicking off more than two weeks of festivities, customs, and delicious feasts.

The snake sign this year symbolizes good luck, rebirth, and regeneration, drawing the Chinese mythology.

## OCC Recycling Center Re-Opens Operating Under OC Recycling



Orange Coast College’s Recycling Center held a soft re-opening on Wednesday, January 22 to welcome back customers to the facility, resuming operations under third-party vendor OC Recycling.

Last year, OCC invited bids from local businesses interested in operating the recycling center on a contract basis, and OC Recycling was granted a five-year contract to assume operations. OC Recycling will run the enterprise under the name OC Recycling and use the facility to process the goods it collects.

The recycling center will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:15 p.m. and closed for lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will also be open Saturdays from 8 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. and closed for the same lunch break. On Sundays, the center will operate from 10 a.m. until 3:45 p.m.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony with city and college officials will be scheduled for a later date.



~ You're invited ~

Please join us for Orange Coast College's

**CHEMISTRY BUILDING  
RIBBON CUTTING & TOUR**

FEB

**20**

**10–11:30 a.m.**

Program followed by ribbon cutting and tour.

Parking available in Lot H  
(Adams Ave. and Pinecreek Dr.)