

## Orange Coast College Grieves the Loss of Longtime Baseball Coach John Altobelli

The OCC campus community is in mourning following the deaths of longtime baseball coach and faculty John Altobelli, his wife, Keri, and their 13-year-old daughter, Alyssa, who died in a helicopter crash in Calabasas on Jan. 26. Altobelli and his family were traveling with a group that included retired NBA legend Kobe Bryant and his daughter, Gianna — a teammate of Alyssa Altobelli.

Coast employees and players gathered at Wendell Pickens Field on the afternoon of Jan. 26 following the devastating news. Amidst the sadness and shock was another sentiment — resolve. Players made the decision to move forward with the Pirates' season opener against Southwestern College on Tuesday, Jan. 28 in order to honor Coach Altobelli's determination and drive in building a championship program at OCC. The game was preceded by a tribute to the Altobelli family, with all OCC baseball players wearing "Coach Alto's" number 14, and the Costa Mesa Fire Department hanging a large American flag in front of the entrance using a fire engine ladder. More than 2,000 people showed up to pay their respects and support the College.

Altobelli led the Pirates to numerous conference and state championship titles during his 27 years as head baseball coach, notching more than 700 wins during his career and four state championships. In 2019, he was honored by the American Baseball Coaches Association as an ABCA/Diamond National Coach of the Year, a testament to his incredible work ethic and passion for the game. Coach Alto was a mentor to his players, often playing a key role in positioning student athletes to obtain scholarships to play at the four-year level.

"John meant so much to not only Orange Coast College, but to baseball," said Coast Athletic Director Jason Kehler in a statement. "He truly personified what it means to be a baseball coach. The passion that he put into the game, but more importantly his athletes, was second to none - he treated them like family. Our deepest condolences go out to the Altobelli family during this time of tragedy."

The Orange Coast College Foundation established the Altobelli Family Memorial Fund to support John Altobelli's surviving children, JJ and Alexis. So far, the fund has raised more than \$30,000.



## Calendar

- Feb. 6 — "Right Time, Right Place" Artist Reception  
Doyle Arts Pavilion, 5 p.m.
- Feb. 10 — Altobelli Family Memorial  
Angel Stadium, 4 p.m.
- Feb. 11 — Baseball vs Long Beach  
Wendell Pickens Field, 2 p.m.
- Feb. 11 — Men's Volleyball vs Vanguard  
Peterson Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 13 — "Love Yo Self!" Valentine's Day Mini Fair  
MBCC Patio, 12-2 p.m.
- Feb. 19 — Softball vs Golden West  
Softball Complex, 2 p.m.
- Feb. 20 — Spring Flex Day Sustainability Fair  
Arts Center, 12:45 p.m.
- Feb. 20 — Baseball vs Desert  
Wendell Pickens Field, 2 p.m.
- Feb. 24 — Softball vs Saddleback  
Softball Complex, 2:30 p.m.
- Feb. 26 — Dr. Maulana Karenga Talk  
OCC Planetarium, 3 p.m.
- Feb. 21 & 22 — Opera Magnifica  
OCC Music Recital Hall, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 22 & 23 — Opera Magnifica  
OCC Music Recital Hall, 3 p.m.
- March 3 — Senior Day  
Campuswide, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

### SAVE THE DATE:

# Founder of Kwanzaa Invited to Give Talk at OCC to Celebrate Black History Month

Orange Coast College's Global Engagement Center UMOJA and EOPS programs, as well as its International Multicultural Center, have teamed up to organize a special event featuring activist and scholar Dr. Maulana Karenga on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 3 p.m. at the OCC Planetarium.

Dr. Karenga is the creator of Kwanzaa and the writer of the Nguzo Saba (the Seven Principles), and currently is a professor and chair of the Department of Africana Studies at California State University, Long Beach. His talk, titled "Living the Legacy of Black History: Remembrance, Reflection, Resistance and Remaking the World" is part of OCC's celebration of Black History Month, which takes place during February.

Kwanzaa is a weeklong secular holiday that celebrates African heritage and identity, and is observed by millions of individuals all over the world. Dr. Karenga is the author of authoritative books on the subject, including "Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture," and he has received numerous awards for this work, which has spanned more than five decades. He holds two Ph.D.'s, one in political science (United States International University) and another in social ethics (University of Southern California), as well as an honorary doctorate from the University of Durban, South Africa.



Jerzo Castellanos

Chris Huerta

Christopher Gonzalez

# OCC Guardian Scholars Selected to Travel Abroad for Humanitarian Work

Three OCC Guardian Scholars were selected from a highly competitive national pool of candidates for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel abroad this summer to do global humanitarian projects with an organization called Export Hope. The students are now fundraising \$500 each to cover a small portion of the expenses for their trips.

Export Hope funds all travel expenses and the cost of participating in the various programs the Scholars have selected; however, each scholar is responsible for fundraising \$500 to help support miscellaneous expenses while in their host countries. "Every little bit helps — both practically and in showing OCC's Scholars just how many of us are rooting for them behind the scenes," says Program Coordinator Gabrielle Ridley.

Jerzo Castellanos - one of the students selected to participate in Export Hope's program - plans to study jaguars in Costa Rica's Tortugero National Park, and hopes to one day earn his doctorate in veterinary medicine. Another student, Chris Huerta, will volunteer in Thailand where he will care for elephants and teach English to school children. Huerta is pursuing a career in Health and Human services to help others the way he has been helped at OCC, and plans to transfer to a four-year university in the fall.

The final student is Christopher Gonzalez, who will travel to Peru where he will assist professional archeologists in excavating new dig sites. "This [will be] my first time traveling anywhere ... and I am very excited to have been chosen to make a difference somewhere else in the world," he says. Gonzalez is a film student at Coast who has applied to transfer to both USC and UCLA, among other highly competitive programs.

Donations can be made at [www.exporthope.org/about-us/ambassadors](http://www.exporthope.org/about-us/ambassadors)


For more information contact OCC's Guardian Scholars program at (714) 432-6877 or at [guardianscholars@occ.cccd.edu](mailto:guardianscholars@occ.cccd.edu)

**Orange Coast College**  
Umoja, GEC, IMC, EOPS  
Costa Mesa, California

**LIVING THE LEGACY OF BLACK HISTORY:**  
REMEMBRANCE, REFLECTION, RESISTANCE AND REMAKING THE WORLD


**Wed., Feb. 26, 3 p.m.**  
**OCC Planetarium**

**DR. MAULANA KARENGA**  
PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF AFRICANA STUDIES  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH  
CREATOR OF KWANZAA AND THE NGUZO SABA



Dr. Maulana Karenga is professor and chair of Africana Studies at California State University—Long Beach. He holds two Ph.D.'s, one in political science (United States International University) and another in social ethics (University of Southern California), as well as an honorary doctorate from the University of Durban, South Africa. Dr. Karenga is also the author of numerous scholarly articles and books—including, *Maat, The Moral Ideal in Ancient Egypt: A Study in Classical African Ethics* | *Selections from the Husla: Sacred Wisdom of Ancient Egypt* | *The Book of Coming Forth By Day: The Ethics of the Declarations of Innocence* | *Odu Ifa: The Ethical Teachings* | and *Introduction to Black Studies, 4th Edition*. Dr. Karenga is the creator of the pan-African cultural holiday Kwanzaa and the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles) and author of the authoritative text titled, *Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture*. ([www.MaulanaKarenga.org](http://www.MaulanaKarenga.org))

This event is ADA compliant. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made no later than five business days prior to this event by contacting EOPS/UMOJA at (714) 432-5817.



# First Survey of Fine Art Photography by OCC Emeritus Opens at the Doyle

The first-ever survey of photographs by influential photography educator John Upton will examine his decades-long commitment to exploring urban and natural landscapes in transition, at Orange Coast College's Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion from Jan. 29 until Apr. 4, 2020.

The exhibition, titled "Right Place, Right Time: A Survey of John Upton's Photographs," is curated by The Doyle's director Tyler Stallings, and presents selections from four main bodies of work: Early Work, "Japanalia," "Jungle Road," and recent work, "Petaluma."

On Thursday, Feb. 6, there will be an artist walk-through at The Doyle from 12:30-1 p.m., followed by a preview reception that evening from 5-7 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 8, there will be a curatorial walk-through of the Project Gallery exhibition ("Immersion: Visions of the Singularity through VR/AR"), from 1-1:30 p.m., followed by an artist-led tour by John Upton of his exhibition in the Main Gallery and a book signing until 2:30 p.m., after which the opening reception will continue from 2:30-4 p.m. Admission to all events is free.

"The breadth of the exhibition examines John Upton's early days at the California School of Fine Arts in the 1950s, his special mentorship from, and friendship with, noted photographer Minor White, and Upton's impact in photographic education in Southern California while teaching at Orange Coast College for more than thirty years and nationally, as co-author of the seminal textbook, 'Photography,'" says Stallings.

Upton studied with Ansel Adams, Imogen Cunningham, Minor White, Dorothea Lange, and Edward Weston at the California School of Fine Arts in the early 1950s. In 1955 he was the first resident student of Minor White in Rochester, N.Y. and took courses in the history of photography from famed photo art

historian, Beaumont Newhall. In the late 1960s he became Chair of the Photography department at OCC, retiring in 1999. In 1976, he co-authored, with Barbara London, the college textbook "Photography" now in its 12th edition with more than 1.5 million copies in print. In essence, John Upton has been in the right place at the right time in the history of twentieth century photography.

John Upton (b. 1932) earned a bachelor's degree in Art History and Education, with graduate work in contemporary and Asian art history, from California State University Long Beach. He has curated numerous exhibitions including Color as Form: A History of Color Photography in 1982 at the International Museum of Photography at the George Eastman House. In 1988 he received UC Riverside's California Museum of Photography Members Award for contributions to the history of photography and education. He will be recognized as the Honored Educator of the year at the 2020 Society for Photographic Education (SPE) conference held this March in Houston, Texas. Upton currently lives and works in Petaluma, Calif.

Gallery hours are Monday thru Thursday, 11 a.m. until 5 p.m., and First Saturdays, Noon until 4 p.m (Feb. 1, Mar. 7, Apr. 4). The gallery is closed on Fridays and school holidays in Spring 2020 (Feb. 14, 17, Mar. 23-29).



## OCC Music's 'Opera Magnifica' Will Feature Works by Bach, Puccini on Feb. 21-23

The Orange Coast College music department is brewing up some mischief with Opera Magnifica 2020, scheduled for the weekend of Feb. 21-23.

Student singers in the College's choral program will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's secular "Coffee Cantata," composed in the 18th century and widely regarded as miniature comic opera. Singers also will perform Giacomo Puccini's "Gianni Schicchi," a comic opera written in the early 1900s. The performance will conclude with a scene from Jacque Offenbach's "La Perichole."

Evening shows are scheduled for 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 22, with matinees set for 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22 and Sunday, Feb. 23. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for students) and can be purchased in advance at [www.occtickets.com](http://www.occtickets.com) or at the door.



## OCC Adult Ed Offers FREE Class For Non-English Speaking Parents

This spring, Orange Coast College will offer its first noncredit English Language Learning (ELL) course uniquely designed for non-native English speaking parents/guardians of children in elementary school to help them more confidently and effectively advocate for their children's academic success.

The course, which is currently offered for the Spring 2020 semester, will focus on building parents' English speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills within the context of tasks related to their children's schooling. Equally important, the course will develop participants' cultural knowledge about requirements, expectations and programs available in the American Elementary School System in efforts to afford them greater leverage in their children's academic success.

Parents/guardians with all English skill levels are welcome, and classes are offered at the OCC campus and meet every Friday from 8:45-10:55 a.m. The course is part of the College's growing efforts to increase the civic engagement of all of the members of its community.

OCC Music Department presents

## Opera Magnifica 2020!



**Bach meets Puccini....**  
and we're brewing up some mischief....

**Coffee Cantata (Bach) &  
Gianni Schicchi (Puccini)**

~ with a scene from Jacque Offenbach's La Perichole ~

Friday, Feb. 21 & Saturday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 22 & Sunday, Feb. 23 at 3 p.m.