December 9, 2002 Newsletter from President Margie Lewis

From the President

Dr. Lewis says thanks to Cypress College employees for dedication and commitment.

As 2002 comes to a close and we all look forward to the holiday season, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who works at the college for their dedication and commitment to helping our students achieve their goals.

Each of us, in our own way, has touched a student’s life this past year. Whether we’ve provided an explanation that finally made a mathematical concept clear, or we’ve processed a financial aid check, or we’ve helped resolve a miscommunication between a student and a teacher, or we’ve simply smiled and said, “Good morning,” to a student as we’ve walked across campus, we have contributed to the college’s focus on student success.

This is a time of celebration and good will, when we are reminded of the importance of family and friends, of caring for one another, and of sharing whatever gifts we have — both tangible and intangible. It is a time to remember what really matters in our lives and to be thankful for all that we have.

However you choose to celebrate, may you find peace and joy in the weeks ahead.

— Margie Lewis

President’s Holiday Reception on Thursday

Dr. Lewis’ annual President’s Holiday Reception will be held on Thursday, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the newly remodeled Theater Lobby.

The reception is scheduled at this time each year as a way for Dr. Lewis to express her gratitude to faculty, staff and friends of Cypress College for their contributions to and support of the college and students throughout the year. Please drop by the event at any time.

EOPS Supervisor Modregon Awarded Apple of Gold

Hortensia Modregon was officially presented with the Apple of Gold for Excellence in Teaching at the Orange County Hispanic Education Endowment Fund’s annual awards dinner at the Anaheim Hilton on Friday, November 15.

“When Dr. Lewis called me and told me about the award, I couldn’t believe it,” Modregon said. “I know there are others who deserve this award, I humbly accept it, and I am honored that I was chosen.”

Modregon, recruitment and peer advising coordinator for Cypress, has worked with the EOPS program for 21 years. Her many duties include: acting as the EOPS liaison to local high schools, supervising peer advisors and reporting data to the state. In addition to these official responsibilities on campus, Modregon is heavily involved within the community, encouraging Hispanic students and their families to pursue higher education.

“In English and Spanish, she talks to these students and to their parents, helping them navigate the confusing world of college admissions and financial aid applications,” Dr. Lewis said. “Countless students are college graduates because of her efforts on their behalf.”

The Apple of Gold is awarded annually to those individuals in the Orange County area who have been exemplary teachers, advisors and role models and who have provided inspiration for all learners, especially for Hispanic youth.

“This is a very prestigious award,” according to Vilma Niebla-Reza of HEEF, “because it is chosen by all the individuals that the recipient has impacted.”

A graduate of Cypress herself, Modregon also has been influential as a campus organizer for KinderCaminata, an annual event which brings kindergarten students to campus for their first day at college. The program aims to instill expectations for college education at a young age.
**Chapman Med Center’s CEO Thanks Students**

Students from the school of nursing volunteered their time and expertise at Chapman Medical Center’s Senior Free Flu Shot Clinic and Community Health Fair on November 2.

More than 3,000 people received free flu shots, screenings and health related information over the course of the day, which was part of an ongoing community outreach program. The nursing students were thanked personally by Doug Norris, CEO of the medical center, who wrote that the professionalism displayed by the volunteers was a reflection of the training and leadership they have received at Cypress.

**‘Christmas through the Ages’ this Weekend**

The Cypress Masterworks Chorale, Camerata and the Star Carolers — under the direction of Sheridan Ball — will be in concert this weekend in the Campus Theater. They will appear with special guest Rev. Glenn Jones and the Cypress Gospel Choir. Saturday’s concert is at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday’s is at 3 p.m.

This concert will feature the Cypress Masterworks Chorale and Camerata in a wide range of holiday selections representing music from various periods in time. Opening with works based upon the mystical melodies of Gregorian chant, as exemplified by the “Ave Maria” of Spanish composer, Tomas Luis de Victoria, the program will progress through music history up to modern, secular arrangements like David Wilcock’s delightfully humorous rendition of “Deck the Hall.”

In the course of this musical journey the audience will encounter some of the world’s most beautiful music created by composers from around the globe.

This concert provides something for every musical taste, sung by two of Orange County’s finest choirs.

The annual holiday concert has become a tradition for many families in the area, so patrons are encouraged to arrive at least thirty minutes prior to concert time for preferred seating.

**Construction Corner: Piazza Railing Update**

As you can see and hear, the rest of the piazza railing removal is now in full force. After completion of phase 1 removal, the procedure has been fine-tuned to provide the least disruption. Here is the schedule:

The rest of the removal has been divided into four zones: Zone 1, Humanities; Zone 2, Theater Arts; Zone 3, Business; and Zone 4, Tech Ed 1, 2, 3, and the area around pool. The construction company is moving very quickly, starting with Zone 1 and ending with Zone 4 in a waterfall progression.

These are the steps involved and what you might expect to see over the next few weeks: 1) slot cutting and topping slab removal (saws and jackhammer); 2) sandblasting to expose attachment of rails; 3) inspection by the structural engineer and directions for removal; and 4) removal of railing.

Fences will be installed on the piazza prior to slot cutting. Additional fences will be placed on the ground level underneath the piazza railings while slot cutting is being completed. The ground-level fences must be in place prior to any railing removal. All areas will have access — and signs or people will be on hand to give directions to pedestrians.

Safety is our biggest concern. We are proceeding at this point on a non-stop basis. Unfortunately, the noise will be bothersome. Please be patient as we finish up this part of the project. The PCM3 superintendent is Lowell, and he will be happy to visit with your area if you have any concerns. If you see safety violations please, call M&O and your concerns will be forwarded to Lowell.

Railing removal will begin next Monday.

This part will be complete in 4-6 weeks.

Thank you for your patience.
CONCERT PRESS RELEASE

"Christmas Through the Ages"
Cypress Masterworks Chorale, Camerata & the Star Carolers
Dr. Sheridan Ball, Director
with special guest appearance by Rev. Glenn Jones and the Cypress Gospel Choir

Date/Time: Saturday - December 14 - 7:30 PM and Sunday - December 15 - 3:00 PM
Location: Cypress College Campus Theater
Address: 9200 Valley View - Cypress, CA
South of the 91 fwy - between Lincoln Ave. & Ball Road

This concert will feature the Cypress Masterworks Chorale and Camerata in a wide range of holiday selections representing music from various periods in time. Opening with works based upon the mystical melodies of Gregorian chant, as exemplified by the Ave Maria of Spanish composer, Tomas Luis de Victoria - the program will progress through music history up to modern, secular arrangements like David Willcock's delightfully humorous rendition of Deck the Hall.

In the course of this musical journey the audience will encounter some of the world's most beautiful music created by composers from around the globe. From the lush Christmas motets of French composer, Francis Poulenc, to the grandiose, polychoral setting of Ave Maria, by German composer, Franz Biebl - contrasted by familiar favorites such as Norman Luboff's beloved arrangement of the Austrian carol, Still, Still, Still, and Harry Simeone's ever popular Little Drummer Boy - this concert provides something for every musical taste, sung by two of Orange County's finest choirs.

In addition to selections by Z. Randall Stroope, Dale Warland, John Rutter, and Alfred Burt, the Cypress Camerata's presentation of Dominick Argento's dramatic and exhilarating Gloria will be of particular interest. Again capitalizing upon contrast, the Masterworks Chorale will perform a light hearted, jazz arrangement of We Wish You the Merriest, by Les Brown ("And His Band of Renown").

As in years past, the audience will be encouraged to join the Star Carolers in singing several traditional holiday selections and, on Saturday, the Cypress Gospel Choir, directed by the nationally recognized composer Rev. Glenn Jones, will interject yet another element of holiday cheer into this musical panorama.

From lighthearted carols and energetic gospel tunes to revered gems from the great history of choral music, this is a concert that will delight the ear and charm the musical senses.

The annual holiday concert has become a tradition for many families in the area, so patrons are encouraged to arrive at least thirty minutes prior to concert time for preferred seating.

Ticket Information "Hotline" (714) 995-4832
$14.00 General Admission $12.00 Groups of 10 or more
$13.00 Sr. Citizens, Students w/ID and Children 12 & Under
Educational Excellence

Students and staff are proud of the many top-quality academic and vocational programs at Cypress College. Our students say Cypress College is a good place to build skills and connect with others. Many feel their confidence grow. Graduates say that after completing a program at Cypress College, they feel well prepared for their next step, whether that’s a career or the university.

A Great Environment

Students often comment about the warm, personal and friendly experience at Cypress College. They say they feel safe at the college and enjoy the atmosphere. Students like that teachers remember their first names and say “hi” on campus. They also enjoy the casual environment, beautiful grounds and ample parking. And they rave about the relaxing duck pond.

Personal Attention

Cypress College classes are always taught by highly qualified faculty members. Students think their teachers are excellent and willing to go the extra mile for them. Faculty members like Cypress College because they love to teach. The result is personal attention and one-on-one interaction between students and their instructors. Many students say they came to Cypress College for that reason alone.

Value and Quality

Ask a Cypress College student if they’re getting a good deal and you’re likely to hear this response: “My friends are paying a fortune for the same education.” It’s not only the exceptionally low cost of just $11 per unit, either. Students say they know they’re getting a top-quality education and transfer credits, too.

A Fun Experience

You can’t quite call Cypress College a party school. At least not in an official publication. But students say they find lots of opportunity for involvement. The campus has a vibrant arts community and several top-notch athletic programs. Not to mention all the attractions — like Downtown Disney and Knott’s Berry Farm — that are just a stone’s-throw from the campus.
Students who come to Cypress College go places. For nearly a half-million people — including actors, athletes, doctors, executives, mechanics, nurses and teachers — Cypress College has been a springboard to their dreams. For some, Cypress College is the ticket into their university of choice and for others it provides essential training for a rewarding career. Just one Cypress College class is often all it takes to provide cutting-edge skills that lead to a promotion or a new job. Cypress College, founded in 1966, provides a quality higher education to more than 16,000 students of diverse backgrounds each semester. More than 25% of Cypress College’s students are Latinos, 18% are Asian, 7% are Filipino, 5% are African American, 38% are Caucasian, and 7% are from other ethnicities or are unidentified. The college serves the Orange County cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Garden Grove, La Palma, Los Alamitos and Stanton, although residents of any city are welcome.

Cypress College is committed to promoting student success and contributing to intercultural understanding, in a student-centered learning environment. Offering 58 university-transfer majors, 107 career-certificate programs, and degrees in 46 areas of study, Cypress College has traditional semesters beginning in January and August, while short-term courses start throughout the year. A Cypress College education costs just $11 per unit, California’s lowest tuition. Financial aid and scholarships also are available to qualifying students.

Cypress College, in sunny Southern California, is in the shadow of major tourist attractions such as Disney’s theme parks and Downtown Disney (about six miles), Knott’s Berry Farm (less than five miles), and The Block entertainment complex (about 10 miles). The campus is 12 miles from the beach and provides quick access to Long Beach and Los Angeles. Located at 9200 Valley View Street in Cypress, the college is easily accessible from several Southern California freeways, including the 5, 91, 605, 22 and 405.

The 110-acre Cypress College campus features a lake, park-like study areas and beautiful weather year-round.