



**Victoria P. Morrow, President**  
December 18, 2008

Best wishes for the winter break! This is the last edition of *Skyline Shines* for this year. The next edition will be published the week of January 12, 2009.

#### **Budget update**

If you missed Ron Galatolo's December 11 Open Forum here in the Main Theater, you can view it online at our iTunesU website at <http://www.smccd.edu/itunesu/>. You can also get there from the district portal page: <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/portal/>. Scroll down to iTunesU.

#### **Voting results for Building 4N inscriptions**

The results are in on our voting for two inscriptions for new Building 4N. I am sending a recommendation for approval to the Board of Trustees at their January 15 meeting. There will be two inscriptions. For the eastern wall, facing the Loop Road, the recommendation will be for the top ranking quotation among the shorter submissions (51 characters or fewer), from George Santayana: "The wisest mind has something yet to learn." For the western wall, facing the quad, the recommendation will be for the top ranking quotation among the longer ones (70 characters or fewer), from Eleanor Roosevelt: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." We had 250 votes cast, split about evenly between students and staff, with some community members participating as well. Thanks to the College Council for their leadership on this project, to the Construction Planning Department and Hensel Phelps for their work with us to achieve this outcome, and to Rob Johnstone for running the password protected, instant runoff voting process.



*Building 4N as viewed from the Loop Road, looking west.*



*Building 4N as viewed from the center of campus, looking northeast.*

**Skyline College Puente Program Noche de la Familia recognizes students and their families**

The Puente Program invited family, friends, volunteers, mentors, current and former Puentistas, LASO (Latin American Student Organization) members, faculty, and staff to honor the students' academic success in the annual program on December 5. More than 140 people joined in the celebration, including myself, Dean Rick Wallace, and Dean Connie Beringer. Guests also had the honor of hearing keynote speaker Jose Jesus Rodriguez' personal challenges and drive during his attainment of an undergraduate degree from U.C. Berkeley. During the event, each student was recognized for their commitment to higher education. All who attended were also recognized for their continued support of the Puente Program and its students. This is important because being part of the "familia" is what Puente is all about, with the love and support from family members and the community students are more easily able to reach their academic goals. Special thanks go to Luciana Castro, who came to celebrate on her birthday, Dina Valdemar, who helped create the gift bags, David Hasson, who helped format the agenda, and Felix Perez, whose continued support and technical assistance we deeply appreciate.



*Photos by Felix Perez*

**Skyline students sing their final exam**

I had the pleasure of hearing Jude Navari's solo and ensemble voice students sing their final exams last Tuesday in the Gallery Theater. The first half of the program was Latin songs and Italian arias, and the second half was songs from the musical, "Avenue Q." Here Jude directs them in the finale, the "Avenue Q theme."



*Photo by Alan Ceccarelli*

### **Children's Center celebrates the holidays**

The annual winter holiday potluck party for the Children's Development Center was held the evening of Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. More than 250 children and family members attended. The children sang, visited with Santa and toys and books were given to all children. Thanks to the teachers, student assistants, substitutes, Mentor students, Practicum students and parents who brought food and helped with set-up and clean-up – over 50 volunteered! Special thanks to Mimi Vilmenay, as Santa's elf, Maurice Goodman as Santa himself and Carlos Ortega on the keyboard and to the President's Council who donated toys and books for presents for the children.



*Photo by Sandy Irber*

### **Phi Theta Kappa sponsors contest for local middle school students**

Our Phi Theta Kappa chapter sponsored a cartoon contest for local middle school students. The theme was "Operation Green: Keep America Beautiful." The cartoon used characters from Sherman's Lagoon cartoon strip, with permission from cartoonist Jim Toomey. Over 200 7th and 8th graders from five middle schools filled in speech bubbles for Sherman and his lagoon pals. The participating schools were Robertson, Ben Franklin, Ocean Shore, Westborough, and Cabrillo. Chapter Vice-President of Fellowship Jack Torres led the judging team. The winners received \$50, \$25, and \$10. The winners' classrooms received \$500, \$250, and \$100. The winners were from Westborough (first place), Ben Franklin (second place), and Robertson (third place). Chapter President Ashley Good and Jack Torres presented the prizes to the winners. In the photo at the Westborough Intermediate School assembly (from right): Ashley, winner Ryan, teacher Mrs. Khan, and Jack.



Photo by Chris Case

### Hermanas take a field trip to SFSU

Table manners play an important part in making a favorable impression. They are visible signals of the state of our manners and therefore are essential to professional success. For this reason, on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> the Hermanas class went to SFSU for a dining etiquette course. The course was taught by the Hospitality Management Program Chair, Dr. Janet Sim. The hospitality management students at SFSU prepared and served the food. The Hermanas students learned about the importance of dining etiquette, proper dining skills and they enjoyed gourmet food. After the meal, the Hermanas class met SFSU faculty, students and had a campus tour. The students were excited about the possibility of transferring to SFSU. Accompanying the Hermanas were Marta Bookbinder (*first row, fourth from the right*), South San Francisco Community Learning Center, Coordinator and strong supporter of the Hermanas Program, as well as, Alma Garcia (*second row, first from the right*), Hermanas Program Instructor.



### BIOBus Tour brings Capuchino High School students to Skyline College

Skyline College and Capuchino High School sponsored a BIOBus Tour of South San Francisco's biotechnology industry earlier this month. On Friday, December 5, thirty-one Capuchino High School students, along with their instructor Michael Dunn, participated in a day-long biotechnology experience. Activities began with a drive through the world's largest biotechnology concentration of companies in South San Francisco. The bus tour then brought the students to Skyline College where they participated in a series of workshops on the state of the biotechnology industry and continued with Pat Carter leading a guided tour of the new biotech labs in building 7. Special thanks also to Jocelyn Vila and the Outreach team for providing the students with a general Skyline College presentation. The tour concluded with a hands-on experiment led by Dr. Melissa Michelitsch on creating a kaleidoscope with column chromatography. In this experiment the students learned methods for separating mixtures of dyes. The same methods are used in the Biotechnology industry to purify drugs, removing contaminants. Coordinated by Skyline's Adolfo Leiva, the activity is part of a grant managed by Skyline's Center for Workforce Development and funded by the Chancellor's Office, California Community Colleges, to

enhance Career and Technical Education connections between high schools, regional occupation programs and colleges. Special thanks also to Dr. Nick Kapp, Dean Michael Williamson and the Biology 415 students for assisting with the BIOBus experience. In the left picture below, Melissa Michelitsch observes students conducting experiments. The second photo depicts the Capuchino High School students.



Photos by Adolfo Leiva

**Do you have a suggestion?**

One way to submit it is through our e-Suggestion Box, via the hyperlink in the box below, or via the same box on the front page of our website at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/>.



For suggestions specific to the **budget**, here is the link:



And for ideas about Skyline's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration next year, here is the link:



**For state level information on community colleges, see these websites:**

- The Chancellor's Office in Sacramento: <http://www.cccco.edu/>
- The Community College League of California: <http://www.ccleague.org/>
- The Research and Planning Group: <http://www.rpgroup.org/>

**Skyline Shines** is archived at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/skynotes/>.