



**Victoria P. Morrow, President**

October 31, 2008

### **President's Report to the Board of Trustees**

The report I gave to the Board this Wednesday is available at <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skynotes/index.html>.

### **Budget presentation available online**

Yesterday Kathy Blackwood, our district Chief Financial Officer, provided a briefing on how the national and state budget situations might affect the college, and also answered questions. Thanks to College Budget Committee Co-Chairs Ray Hernandez and Eloisa Briones for inviting her, and to Kathy for her usual clear and intelligible discussion of complex matters. If you missed the presentation but would like to see it, you will be able to do that starting next Monday, November 3, via Skyline's iTunesU website at <http://www.smccd.edu/itunesu/>. You can also get to it via the district portal page—the iTunesU button is near the bottom of the page.

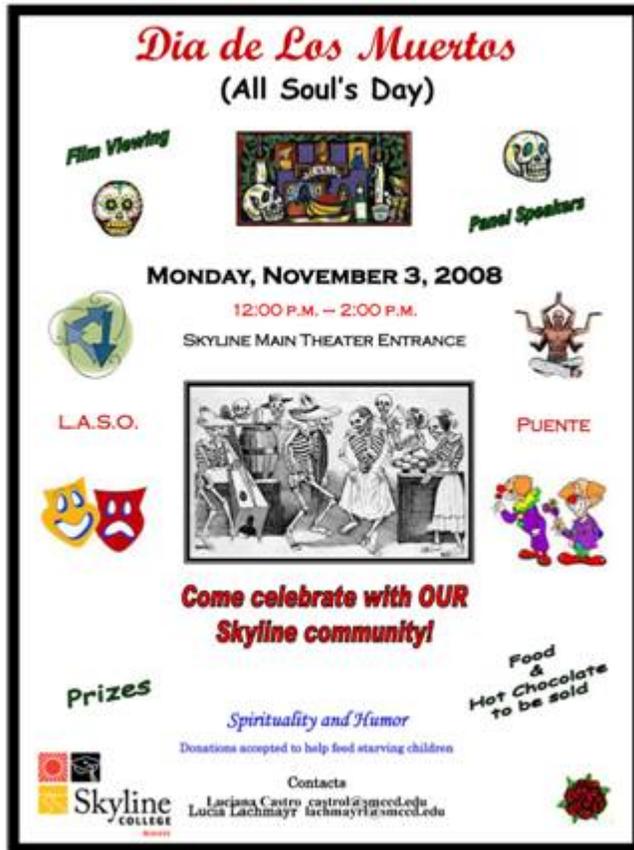
### **Skyline student wins national prize**

Skyline student and Phi Theta Kappa Chapter president Ashley Good won second place in the national Phi Theta Kappa Essay Contest on "Affluence and Sustainability: An American Paradox." The contest was open to all Phi Theta Kappa members in the country. Ashley's winning essay is entitled "Affluence and Sustainability: An American Paradox of Abundant Energy." Ashley won a cash prize for herself and one for the Skyline chapter. The chapter's prize must be spend on the International Service Project, Operation Green. The chapter will use its share of the prize to partially fund prizes for the Operation Green middle school cartoon contest. Congratulations Ashley!



*Photo by Chris Case*

**El Dia de los Muertos will be celebrated Monday, 12-2 pm at the Main Theater entrance**



### High School Day coming to Skyline next Thursday

Next Thursday, November 6, Skyline College will be hosting a comprehensive and interactive High School Day for the students of San Mateo Unified High School District (SMUHSD). High School Days is part of the HY-PHE Project which is being funded by both the President's Innovation Fund and the statewide Basic Skills Initiative. There will be about 100 students coming to the college who will be participating in several activities throughout the day from 9 am-1 pm. Activities include a student panel consisting of a diverse group of students from different programs, clubs, and learning communities; campus tours; and open classes to give them a taste of the college classroom environment. Thanks in advance to everyone who will be participating in the student panel as well as those who are kind enough to open their classes during that time. Please make sure to smile and welcome our incoming high school students. Let's show them that Skyline does truly shine! It would be a great day to wear our "Ask Me" buttons too.

### Skyline continues to support green programs

The second class of solar panel Installers completed their final project and received their completion certificates on Saturday, Oct 25<sup>th</sup>. The final project included complete installation and set up of a 16 panel solar array and tie in to the power grid. The weather was spectacular and sunny for all the outside course activities. Below are the class graduates. In the front row are the Skyline team of instructors – Omer Thompson, Skyline College, Jake Tornatzky, Solar City and Brian von Moos from Borrego Solar.



### **High school counselors hear the latest on Skyline**

On Friday, October 17, Skyline College hosted the Fall 2008 High School Counselors Breakfast in the Student and Community Resource Center. Garnering the biggest attendance yet, over 60 counselors, advisors, career tech specialists, and youth organization representatives attended this event. The breakfast event provided a forum for sharing information about Skyline College's current collaborations and initiatives at our local feeder high schools, and for engaging in dialogues about how best to serve our students. In addition, the attendees were given updates from our instructional programs and student services such as the Jumpstart Program, Cosmetology, the Business division, Puente, Foreign Languages, and the Honors Transfer Program. The morning was highlighted with a video illustrating our President's Innovation Fund projects such as the Hermanos/Hermanas Programs, HY-PHE (Heightening Your Personal Development through Higher Education), Rock the School Bells Hip-Hop Conference, and Math Academy. Based on the evaluation completed by the participants, the event was a tremendous success. Attendees also walked away with giveaways donated by several of our programs and services. The attendees are excited for next spring's HS Counselor's Breakfast. The event was organized by the Outreach Team, Nate Nevado, Kenny Gonzalez, Jocelyn Vila, and Minerva Velasquez. Special thanks to all who helped make this event possible!



## **El Dia de la Raza shone and was followed by a week full of Hermanos/as educational and cultural events**

These events occurred during the week of October 13 while I was away chairing an accreditation site visit team. I wish I had been here to witness these myself, but I have heard about them from other members of the college.

### **Dia De La Raza Food Sale**

A cheerful cultural event that informed Skyline students about Dia de La Raza and help expand the Hermanos Club network. The event was not only a successful fundraiser, but Skyline students also got to hear compelling speakers, introduced by Luciana Castro and Lucia Lachmayr. Charismatic La Kalle disc jockey Edgar "Shoboy", told personal anecdotes about overcoming adversity in school from K-12 to graduate school. It was a powerful and encouraging message to the crowd of about 60 people that gathered around the podium in the quad. Students from Luciana Castro's Spanish classes spoke about the meaning of the day and the taxonomy of different terms applied to Latinos and Hispanics. The student speakers were Noemi Perdomo, Nico Piccinini, Talita Queiros, Genevieve Tiangco and Rosa Paz. Astrid Berrios spoke from L.A.S.O. (Latin American Student Organization), and Saul Morales from Hermanos, about their clubs' respective functions on campus. Many members of LASO passed out flyers that explained the meaning of 'Dia de la Raza.' Jenny Santiago, Margarita Gutierrez, Alfredo Rivera and George Hernandez from LASO helped make the event happen and Noah Brown served as the impromptu promoter of food sales. Jose Zaragoza from Hermanos and others from LASO and Hermanos who worked as a team, stepped up to the plate to have a successful homemade food and T-shirt sale.



### **Advisory Board Meeting**

A room filled with people who want to see the program succeed, not much else needs to be said.

### **Mentor Training**

A well facilitated training by Jacquie Escobar, with Room 6206 filled with mentors who mingled with each other and received all the information they needed to know about their role as mentors and about the program.

### **4th Annual Latino Business Award Ceremony**

This San Francisco event was attended by Hermanos Club members Jorge Murillo, Paola Ferrara and Hermanos Coordinator Daniel Tostado. The Skyline people were invited by Rick Gomez, business owner and Chairman of the San Francisco Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Besides offering great food, the event helped us expand the Hermanos/as network.

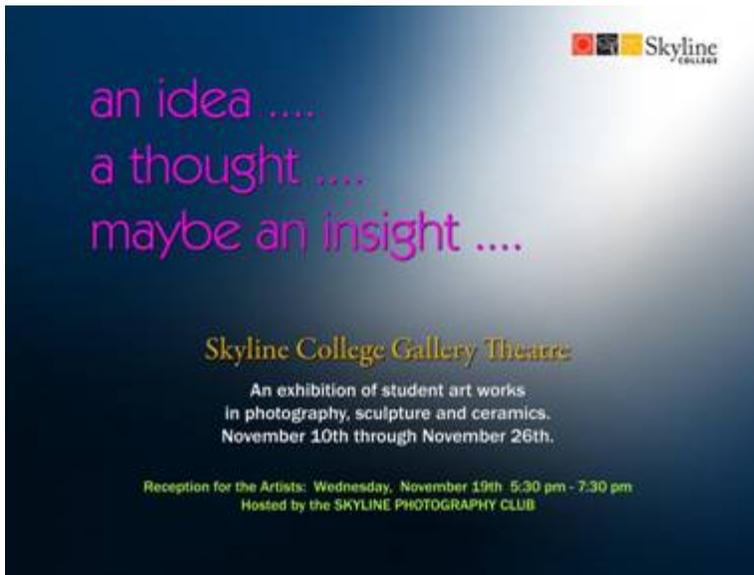
### **Mentor/Mentee Mixer**

Our faculty and staff tell me it was inspirational to see how quickly the Hermanos/as family grew in one day. Our students are going to benefit tremendously from our great mentors. Also, Fabian Morales and Alma Garcia did a fine job of leading the activities and making sure that the 60 attendees enjoyed their time.

## **Three big events are ahead for November**

You may want to get these on your calendar.

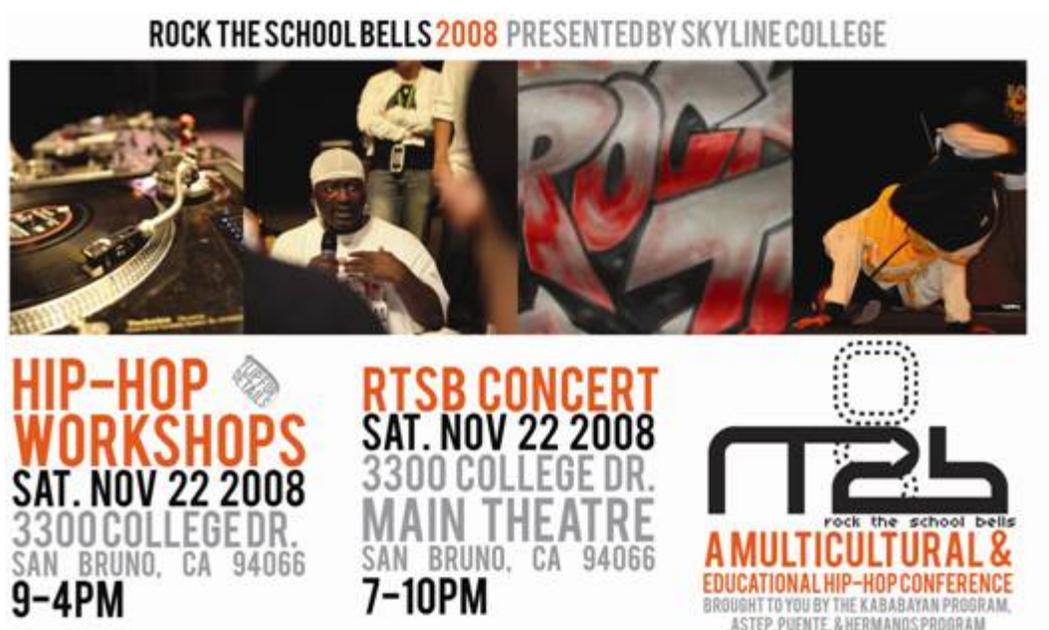
The **Fall Student Art Show** will open November 10, and there will be a reception for the artists on November 19.



The **Holiday Job Fair** will be November 12, in the Student Center. It will be a terrific opportunity for students to explore possibilities.



Our second annual **Rock the School Bells** conference and concert on November 22.



## College Budget Committee (CBC) update

At the beginning of each fiscal year, CBC invites Kathy Blackwood, the district's Chief Financial Officer, to discuss the state and district budget and other fiscal issues at hand. This year, the CBC invited the Skyline community to hear Kathy's report on the fiscal challenges the district is faced with due to the looming state budget shortfall this year and the district's loss from investments in the county pool. She also touched on the bleak budget picture as the state projects a huge deficit in 2009-10. Here is a synopsis of her presentation:

- As of today, the latest estimate shows education will be hit anywhere between \$3 to \$4 billion in the current year. In light of this, the district will need to prepare for mid-year cuts (as of today, estimated between \$3 to \$4 million).
- Kathy acknowledged that it will be tough for Skyline to make cuts considering how efficient we are and how lean our budget already is. She commended Skyline for achieving its FTES goals and exceeding its productivity targets, both of which already generate cost savings for the college.
- She said that there is still room for the colleges to grow and be compensated by the state until the district hits its growth cap.
- The large group that attended represented all constituencies of the college, so everyone had the opportunity to raise questions, concerns and suggestions. CBC expressed their appreciation to Kathy for all the good work that she has done to strengthen the relationships between and among the district and colleges, and for her ability to explain fiscal matters in clear, understandable terms.

This session was videotaped and will be available starting next Monday, November 3, via Skyline's iTunesU website at <http://www.smccd.edu/itunesu/>. You can also get to it via the district portal page—the iTunesU button is near the bottom of the page. The next regular CBC meeting is November 13. CBC minutes are archived at <http://www.smccd.edu/accounts/skycbc/home.html>.

## Coming Up ...

### Friday, October 31

- Halloween Costume and Film Party: "Young Frankenstein," 11 am – 1 pm, Main Theatre
- Men's Soccer at Monterey, 2 pm
- Women's Soccer at Skyline, 2 pm
- Women's Volleyball at DeAnza, 6:30 pm

### Saturday, Nov. 1

- Wrestling at Cuesta, 9 am
- Women's Basketball at CSM, 10 am

### Monday, Nov. 3

- Dia de los Muertos, 12-2 p.m., Main Theatre

### Tuesday, Nov. 4

- Election Day. Vote!
- Women's Soccer at Skyline, 1 pm
- Personal Statement Workshop for Scholarships, 12:10 pm, Rm 5100
- Science in Action: "Plague-Causing Bacteria and Host Defenses," 4 pm, Rm 2306

### Wednesday, Nov. 5

- Personal Statement Workshop for scholarships, 10:10 am, Rm 5100
- Reception to welcome Alan Ceccarelli, Theatre Events Manager, 10:30- 11:30 am, Main Theatre Lobby
- Women's Volleyball at Skyline, 6:30pm

### Thursday, Nov. 6

- SMUHSD High School Day at Skyline, 9 am - 1 p.m., Bldg 6

### Friday, November 7

- Men's Basketball (through Nov. 9) at San Jose City, 4 pm
- Women's Basketball (through Nov. 9) at Cosumnes River, noon
- Men's Soccer at Gavilan, 3 pm
- Women's Soccer at DeAnza, 3 pm
- Women's Volleyball at Skyline, 6:30 pm
- Men's Wrestling Triple Dual at SRJC, 7 pm

You can see the event calendar at [www.smccd.net/accounts/skypio/calendar.html](http://www.smccd.net/accounts/skypio/calendar.html)

To add events to the calendar, visit [www.smccd.net/accounts/skypio/events.html](http://www.smccd.net/accounts/skypio/events.html)

**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 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/>.

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