





PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ANNUAL REPORT | **2024 - 25**







PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
A **MARICOPA** COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



DR. JANA SCHWARTZ

PRESIDENT PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

It's my honor to share with you the 2024-25 Annual Report. This is more than a report of statistical accomplishments – it's the prideful presentation of the activities, learning experiences, collaborations and extraordinary heights that were reached this year by students, faculty and staff. It's a record of our work together, which has and will continue to elevate Paradise Valley Community College in the classroom, community and state. PVCC hit its highest student retention rate in over a decade. PVCC experienced a 16% increase in enrollment, year-over-year, and a fall-to-fall 57% retention rate. We're proud of this work and I know you will be as well. Take a look!

We're thrilled that we launched our bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education program and named two scholarship recipients – the first two in the District – who will both graduate in the spring of 2025. All students in this program receive instructional support including access to open educational resources (OER), which includes books at no cost to them.

To further support our students, our Office of Strategic Partnerships leads us in trailblazing collaborations that open opportunities for Community-based Organizations (CBOs) and constituencies to build skills that ultimately lead to increased workforce development. Additionally, our President's Community Advisory Council (PCAC) introduced a new model that raised participation and member giving to support our students. We also launched the Single Parent Support initiative to better support single-parent families here at PVCC.

As students graduate and enter the workforce we support their new path through the Dress for Success Phoenix program, now in its second year. The program continues to bring PVCC and Dress for Success together to provide professional clothing for students during the interview process so they feel confident. Additionally, students can polish off their professional look with a free haircut from a new partnership with ClipDart hairstylists.

Our remarkable students benefit from intentionally designed wrap-around services and we are continually looking to acknowledge their needs and make efforts to support them. This comes in the form of food distributions, blood drives and our first health equity summit all aimed at leveling disparities in our community. These events and programs follow our mission to support student learning, personal growth, career development and positive social change ultimately helping our students reach their goals.

I feel proud and grateful for our collective commitment to creating a dynamic learning environment at PVCC. Our focus on promoting learning and supporting each student's individual journey truly distinguishes us.

By drawing on our diverse backgrounds, experiences and expertise, we continue to shape the future of our community and empower our students to pursue their goals. I strongly believe in the transformative power of education, and together, we are leaving a lasting impact on the world around us.



President,
Paradise Valley Community College

PVCC's accreditation was reaffirmed by the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) for the next 10 years. This milestone marks the culmination of a two-year, college-wide effort to prepare for an in-depth evaluation by HLC in October 2024.

ACCREDITED: Paradise Valley Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, one of six regional accreditors recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education to provide accreditation to degree granting, postsecondary educational institutions in Arizona and other states.

OUR VISION

Paradise Valley Community College aspires to be the higher learning organization of choice by creating engaging lifelong educational relationships that inspire and support all learners to increase their capacity for personal growth and positive social change.

MISSION

To educate the whole person and to serve our students and our community by providing learning opportunities that are designed to help them achieve their goals.



OUR VALUES

INTEGRITY

We uphold ethical behavior in all that we do; we value accountability, transparency, fairness, and honesty.

COMMUNITY

We cultivate a campus culture where open dialogue, mutual understanding, and collaboration are encouraged, allowing everyone to contribute and learn from one another in a supportive setting.

INNOVATION

We encourage informed risk-taking that enhances student, employee and organizational learning.

PARTNERSHIPS

We are committed to building and sustaining internal and external relationships that enhance learning.

EXCELLENCE

We expect greatness in all that we do to advance student, employee and organizational success.

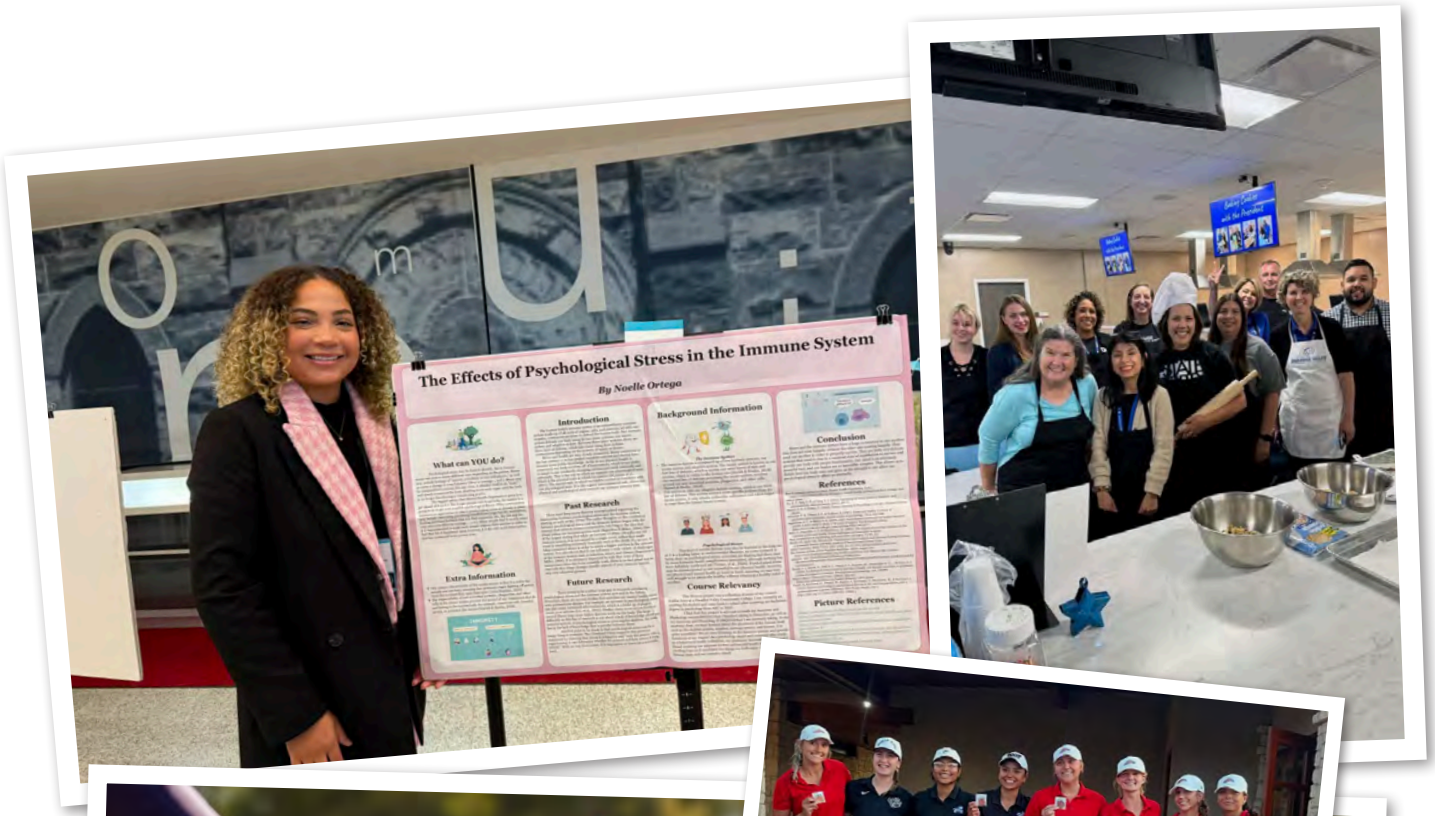
SUSTAINABILITY

We practice organizational, social, economic and environmental responsibility.

WELLNESS

We champion a campus culture that recognizes health and wellness as an integral part of learning by fostering an environment supporting the emotional, mental, physical and social well-being of all.




The Effects of Psychological Stress in the Immune System
By Noelle Ortega
What can YOU do?
Introduction
Background Information
Conclusion
Past Research
References
Extra Information
Future Research
Course Relevancy
Picture References



START
PARADISE VALLEY
MESA
179
162
160
157
153
146

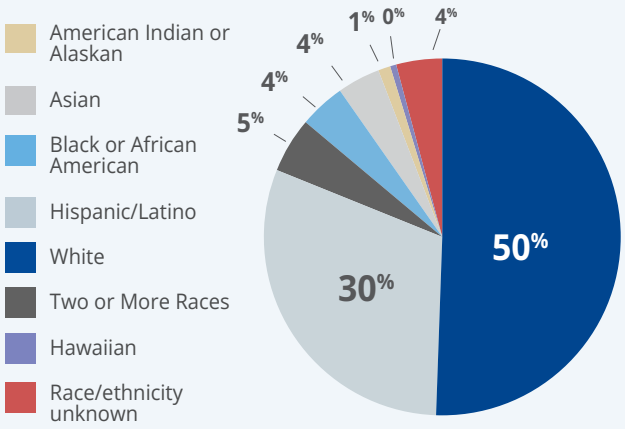
FALL ‘24 & SPRING ‘25



FAST FACTS

Total number of credit students **5,788**

Ethnicity



$97 per lower-division credit current situation

Over **$690,000** in scholarships awarded to students in academic year

95% of students would recommend their college to family or friends (2023 CCSSE)

Awards Conferred

Transfer Degrees **421**
Transfer Certificates **202**
Occupational Awards **423**
Total Awards 1,046
Awards from IPEDS Year 2023-24

First Generation

42% First Generation
58% Not First Gen

6

Number of biennial distinctions the college has been named by the Aspen Institute as one of the nation's Top 150 community colleges across the country.

97%

Pass rate for PVCC nursing students taking the NCLEX licensing exam

Student Intent

46% Transfer to University
19% Enter/Advance in Job Market
12% Personal Interest
11% High School Student
7% Undeclared
4% University Student
1% Bachelor's Degree

Averages

Age **27** Credit Hours **27** Class Size **15.8**

Academic Load

28% Full-time



72% Part-time

Prior Education

41% No College or University
26% Some College or Univ., No Degree
10% Undeclared
7% Bachelor's Degree
7% Some College While in High School
4% Associate's Degree
4% Master's Degree or Higher

Gender

56%



42%

Undeclared 2%

Residency

89% Maricopa County Resident
4% Out-of-Country **7%** Out-of-State

PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SELECTED FOR

ASPEN INSTITUTE UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITY NETWORK

PURPOSE

Accelerate equitable student success and economic mobility.

FOCUS

Integrate proven tools, partnerships, and best practices to align PVCC programs with labor market needs and student goals.

PRIORITY AREAS:

- Align pathways with high-value careers and bachelor's transfer options.
- Improve post-completion outcomes across CTE and academic programs.
- Reimagine advising for proactive, equitable support.
- Embed reforms into PVCC's strategic plan for lasting change.

ALIGNMENT

Supports PVCC's Strategic Action Plan to expand CTE programs, redesign scheduling, streamline enrollment, and strengthen advising.

IMPACT

Builds on Guided Pathways and advising reforms while improving data integration, tracking outcomes, and closing equity gaps to ensure programs lead to family-sustaining wages.


EMPOWERED
FOR STUDENT SUCCESS
Your gift will empower students to pursue college opportunities for their future—and ours.
REMOVE BARRIERS.
EMPOWER DREAMS.
Join the Movement
mcccdf.org/empowerED-pvcc
MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOUNDATION
PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

FUTURE DIRECTION

Paradise Valley Community College's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan is our roadmap into the future. It's a plan to ensure all students have access to an equitable, quality, affordable educational experience. A plan thoughtfully and intentionally developed by those who are committed to strengthening our approaches to teaching and learning. A plan intended to create a culture of care and belonging. A plan that we are committed to so that our students have the opportunity to elevate their learning experience in an environment that is respectful, responsive and welcoming.

PRIORITIES

Student Learning, Success, Equity & Excellent Experience

Goal: Meet the needs of today's diverse learners

- Create a learner-centered strategic schedule of classes in a variety of modalities, course lengths and times
- Provide research-based support services, teaching and learning strategies
- Develop academic and success programs to address the needs of undeserved, underrepresented populations

Continued Access to an Affordable, Quality Education

Goal: Ensure affordable, quality education where learners feel welcome

- Increase enrollment by expanding recruitment to working adults and those with prior credits but no credentials
- Optimize use of public resource and secure external funding to support student success and program development

Care, Respect, Value & Belonging for All Individuals

Goal: Create a culture of care and belonging for employees, students and the community

- Develop a culture of care through process changes and professional development
- Create wellness access and programming development

Engagement Responsiveness to Community

Goal: Drive economic development in the region by serving as a hub for workforce development and training in high-impact areas

- Develop in-demand baccalaureate degree programs
- Develop or expand academic and CTE (degree/certificate) programs that meet industry/university transfer needs
- Increase strategic partnerships with K-12, industry and community
- Develop a robust infrastructure for offering student internships, co-ops, and work-based experience

NEW OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

PVCC's Business/IT Division launched a new occupational program in clinical research, adding two certificates. The Clinical Research Program offers two specialized Certificates of Completion: **Clinical Data Coordination** and **Clinical Research Coordination.** Students will gain the skills necessary to take charge of the collection, cleaning and management of data in clinical trials in the Clinical Data Coordination program, while the Clinical Research Coordination program will prepare students to actively support, facilitate and coordinate daily activities within clinical trials, which includes managing recruitment processes, monitoring and communicating with participants, collaborating with investigators and preparing essential documentation. **PVCC has partnered with Mayo Clinic and other industry leaders in Clinical Research to deliver real-world curriculum that includes practical experience on site in clinical research labs.**



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

PVCC is distinguished within the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) as the only campus that mandates in-person student orientation, with exceptions made for specific issues.

FIELDS OF INTEREST (FOI)

Designated Fields of Interest (FOIs) organize degrees and certificates into categories that share similar areas of study, allowing students to identify skills and interests geared toward specific careers best for them. The student journey consists of the following elements:

- Identify an FOI to define educational goals.
- Attend mandatory Puma Power-up and FOI-specific New Student Orientation.
- Participate in First Year Experience (FYE) with faculty and staff support.
- Receive ongoing support and personalized guidance from FOI Care Teams.
- Encourage students to join PVCC Alumni Association upon graduation.

Once a student determines their FOI, they begin to foster a connection and are exposed to invaluable resources to help them guide them through their academic journey including the Career Center, Advising, and Counseling

CAREER CENTER

PVCC's Career Center helps students explore career paths through events and activities centered around students' FOIs. In collaboration with the Alumni Program and FOI Care Teams, Career Services hosts engaging panel discussions that connect students with PVCC alumni and industry professionals. These events give students valuable opportunities to:

- Hear real-world experiences from alumni and employers
- Learn about exciting career options across diverse industries
- Discover how PVCC helped alumni succeed in their field.

The Career Center works closely with Advising and Counseling to ensure seamless student support. Students meeting with FOI Analysts or FYE instructors can easily connect with Career Services for additional guidance, career planning, and resources.



Students receive an FOI t-shirt at orientation as a symbolic gesture not only unifying the student body but also reinforces the commitment to their chosen FOI.

ALUMNI

PVCC alumni continue to play a vital role in supporting and celebrating the college community. Last year, alumni and industry experts participated in eight FOI Career Panels, sharing valuable insights into their professions.



A dedicated group of alumni volunteered at the Palomino Easter Festival for the second consecutive year, serving over 800 burritos to local families.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

Recipients of the 2025 Outstanding Alumni Awards were Wesley Winter, Stephanie Papadopoulos, and Emiliano Toscano, exemplifying professional achievement, community and volunteer service, commitment to lifelong learning, strengthening communities, and meaningful engagement with the PVCC community.



UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

PVCC is proud of our university partnerships for those students wanting to transfer to a four-year program to complete their bachelor's degree. By beginning their academic career at PVCC, they will experience lower tuition, small class sizes and university credits that can be applied when they're ready to transfer.

ASU Arizona State University

Grand Canyon University

The University of Arizona

Northern Arizona University

HIGHLIGHTS



Building on our long-standing commitment to accessible, high-quality education, PVCC launched its second bachelor's degree program – Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Accounting. Set to begin in Fall 2025, the new program aims to meet the growing demand for skilled accounting professionals while expanding career opportunities for students in the region. The program creates a strong foundation for students in the accounting field, covering key areas such as financial reporting, taxation, auditing, and compliance. With virtual learning options, students can balance school with work, family, and other commitments, making this degree accessible and adaptable to their needs.

Launched in Fall 2024, PVCC's Bachelor of Arts in Elementary and Special Education prepares students for Arizona teacher certification in grades K-8 and K-12, including a Structured English Immersion Endorsement. The program offers flexible online, hybrid, or in-person learning options, and emphasizes hands-on classroom experience through partnerships with local schools. With small class sizes, strong faculty mentorship, and cost-saving Zero-Textbook Cost (ZTC) courses, PVCC's BA in Education provides an accessible, high-quality pathway for aspiring teachers committed to making a difference in their communities.

Both Fall and Spring Festival of Tales drew more than 1,500 participants and volunteers, including PVCC students, employees, faculty, and staff. This beloved literacy event continues to bring the community together through storytelling, learning, and fun. As an added bonus, Vitalant hosted a blood drive during the festival and collected donations from 23 donors—including seven first-time donors, reaching 92% of the day's goal.

PVCC is collaborating with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security (AZDOHS) to build on the workforce grant that has powered the expansion of the college's cybersecurity program, now serving nearly 200 students. Through this partnership, PVCC launched its own Security Operations Center (SOC), while Glendale Community College developed a parallel site. Though independently operated, both centers will share best practices and maintain alignment to strengthen Arizona's overall cybersecurity readiness. The PVCC SOC will offer students hands-on experience in threat monitoring, analysis, and incident response, preparing them for high-demand careers and supporting the state's public-sector security initiatives as employees of AZDOHS.

PVCC is making waves in the world of competitive gaming with its rapidly growing Esports program. Since launching its Certificate of Completion (CCL) in Esports in 2022, PVCC has taken bold steps to establish itself as a leader in the field.

PVCC was recognized as one of the top nursing schools in Arizona, earning the No. 4 spot in Nursing Explorer's 2024 rankings of the state's best Registered Nurse (RN) programs. This recognition highlights PVCC's commitment to excellence in nursing education and its success in preparing students for their careers as registered nurses.

HONORS HIGHLIGHTS

The Honors Program pushes students to further develop critical thinking, communication and leadership skills, spawning opportunities through scholarships, field trips and a full faculty immersion.

401
scholarships totaling
$814,230,50



Three honors students were invited to the Western Regional Honors Conference in Denver, CO to present work they did with faculty while earning Honors credit for their courses. Their topics included medical imaging, the history of funk music, and the impacts of stress on health.

Honors students Jeremy Walk and Catherine Nguyen were named to the 2025 All-Arizona Academic Team for their outstanding academics and community service. The two will also receive a two-year scholarship to Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University or University of Arizona.

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

PVCC's Office of Strategic Partnerships (OSP) oversees corporate and community partnerships, alumni engagement programs, fundraising, and government relations to form strategic win-win partnerships that benefit our students and the community. Our corporate, community, and governmental partners recognize that PVCC boasts impressive academic programs and that our students are top-tier talent who are essential for fueling the local economy.

CORPORATE ALLIANCES

The OSP partners with Academic Affairs and Student Affairs to form dynamic alliances that help our corporate partners recruit and retain top talent from our programs. These alliances also highlight programs that employer partners have vetted and endorsed as producing the skills and competencies they know help their team members thrive. By forming strong connections with our workforce partners, PVCC ensures programs offered are high-impact and students are set up for success.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

PVCC values our community partners and engages our President's Community Advisory Council members to leverage their expertise in advising PVCC to its best. The OSP also works to form partnerships that serve constituents from these organizations by connecting them to strong workforce programs, engaging them in campus tours, highlighting scholarships for them and working with employers who may want to offer expedited or guaranteed interviews. Check out some of our valued partnerships!



Corporate Alliances

arts scottsdale

Arrowet

Liberty Mutual INSURANCE

USAA

Big Brothers Big Sisters

AZ Association of Accounting and Tax Professionals

JAG JOBS FOR ARIZONA'S GRADUATES

Jackson Hewitt TAX SERVICE

Legacy Healthcare

BLACK BOX

HONORHEALTH

AZCAAR ARIZONA CENTER FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCES



BETH KOEHNEMANN COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

- The Beth Koehnemann Community Impact Award was established in her honor, celebrating individuals who have made a lasting, transformative impact on the Greater Paradise Valley area.
- The 2025 recipient of the Beth Koehnemann Community Impact Award was Marisha Geraghty from the Paradise Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) in honor of her outstanding contributions to student success, community collaboration, and educator development through the Volunteer in Paradise College Corps (VIPCC) program at PVUSD.



HIGHLIGHTS

- PVCC was honored as one of 471 colleges and universities recognized by the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge (ALL IN) for exceptional efforts to increase nonpartisan student voter participation in the 2024 election. PVCC received the Best in Class for Most Improved Voting Rate at an Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and the 2022 Arizona Campus Voting Challenge Most Improved Voting Rate: Community College awards.
- For more than a decade, PVCC continues to offer free tax preparation services to community members in partnership with AARP and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA).

HIGHLIGHTS

EXPANSION OF TUTORING, STUDENT ATHLETE SUPPORT AND SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION

- PVCC expanded supplemental instruction resources for each 142 additional students. Students who participated in SI sessions saw their final course grades improve by half to one whole letter grade compared to their non-participating peers for Spring 2025
- Puma Tutoring Center visits increased by 21% from Fall 2024-Fall 2025. Expanded tutoring topics such as chemistry, writing, math, and biology allowed PVCC to provide tutoring for courses with historically higher DFW rates.
- PVCC expanded Athletics PASS Time tutoring hours from 12hrs per week to 32 hrs per week. We also increased engagement of the academic success coaches with the student athletes as well as ensuring that students were connected to the Puma Tutoring Center if concerns were reported from faculty during PAWS grade checks.

EXPANDED ORIENTATION, STUDENT ONBOARDING AND ADVISING

- Puma Pre-advising Team (Recruitment, Admissions, and Advising) focused their efforts in contacting 1166 students with 690 scheduling for a session. The New Student Orientation team also actively communicated to incoming students before and during PVCC's three in-person orientation sessions that welcomed approximately 700 students for fall 2025 and encouraged them to stay engaged during "Weeks of Welcome".
- Advising reduced student walk-in wait times to less than 15 min to see an advisor.



MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT SUCCESS

- Veterans Services realized a 24% increase in retention rate by focusing efforts on advising requirements and other strategic engagement efforts.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



BACHELOR'S DEGREE ELEMENTARY / SPECIAL EDUCATION

- The Bachelor's of Arts in Elementary and Special Education had its accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The HLC is one of six regional accreditors recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to provide accreditation to degree-granting, post-secondary educational institutions.
- In its inaugural year, PVCC's bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education program has named its first two scholarship recipients, both of whom are set to graduate in the spring of 2025. The students are the first in the Maricopa County Community College District to be awarded a scholarship in the bachelor's program.



INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

1. A Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC)

PVCC is scaling the use of open educational resources (OER) which are textbooks, library subscription sources and high-quality open-access materials that are free to students. The "Zero Cost" team at PVCC supports faculty transitioning to Zero-Textbook-Cost courses, and to date, has helped students save more than $400,000 in textbook costs and supported the development of Zero-Cost courses in Psychology, English, Communications, Theater, Mathematics, Nutritional Science, Art History, and most recently, PVCC's Education BA program.

2. Library spaces, alternative checkouts and college collaborations

Our Facilities team helped us to renovate our space with new lighting, carpet and paint. We studied student usage patterns of the space and shifted all our furniture and shelving to create study nooks. We worked with our partners in Student Affairs to create "Studying with Littles," a single-parent study space. We supplemented our children's collection with board books, costumes and educational toys. In this way, students can serve as reading and educational role models with their children. We also added a variety of alternative checkouts, such as culture passes, puzzles, games, noise-canceling headphones, chargers and seeds to demonstrate that we are a library that is not just for students but also our community.



- PVCC's co-curricular programming emphasizes Asian culture during the Lunar New Year and Hispanic culture around the Day of the Dead. More than 600 students came out for these events. Additionally, a sugar skull and altar workshop was held focusing on Día de los Muertos during Hispanic Heritage Month.









HONORS PROGRAM

HONORS PROGRAM

The Honors Program pushes students to further develop critical thinking, communication and leadership skills, spawning opportunities through scholarships, field trips and a full faculty immersion.

642
students served

$685,510
in scholarships awarded to nearly

531
students

The Honors Program hosted their biannual Honors Debate & Showcase event where

169
students participated

EARLY COLLEGE

EARLY COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

The Puma Early College program is designed for motivated high school students, who possess the readiness for and commitment to rigorous college coursework.While still in high school, students will make progress toward earning their AGEC Certificate or associate's degree, typically enrolling in 6-9 credits per semester.

- At Cactus Shadows High School, we achieved 265 enrollments from 195 students. This was a 30% increase over Fall 2023 and the highest amount in 6 years.
- At Shadow Mountain High School, we grew the number of dual course offerings and had 126 students with 153 enrollments. This was a 10% increase over the previous year.

Across the District, more students than ever are taking advantage of this opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school. This accomplishment not only reflects our commitment to providing quality educational pathways but also highlights the trust our students and their families place in us. This increase is a testament to the collaborative efforts of our faculty, staff, administration, and community partners. We look forward to building on this momentum and exploring new ways to engage even more students in the coming terms.






PARADISE VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Your Future Starts Here

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

We know that welcoming legislators to campus helps our elected officials connect to our constituents and celebrate the PVCC story of transformed lives through education. The OSP team was pleased to host the following legislators this year.

1. Senator John Kavanagh, District 3
2. Representative Justin Wilmeth, District 2





PHILANTHROPY

PVCC achieved a record number of funds raised through philanthropic donations and contributions, making a larger impact for our students and community. Some highlights include:

1. Awarded 275 scholarships for a total of $217,778 that were distributed to our PVCC students. Scholarships help with college enrollment, retention and completion.

2. Together, we raised $228,000 in total donations for the 2024-2025 fiscal year for our scholarships and programs. Through college fundraising efforts, there was an increase of 35% in revenue over the prior fiscal year ($160,289).

3. During our PVCC Month of Giving in April that featured the EmpowerED for Student Success Campaign, we exceeded our $15,000 goal and raised over $24,000. We set a new college record with the number of donors and funds raised through the campaign.

4. Created essential funds that will benefit our students and programs: Dr. William L "Hank" Mancini STEM Athletic Scholarship, Puma Esports Fund, Shining Light Memorial Fund for Educators, and the Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship Fund.



HIGHLIGHTS

Physics faculty Dr. Casey Durandet created a new endowment – the Dr. William L. “Hank” Mancini STEM Athletic Scholarship – in honor of her late partner and fellow PVCC faculty member, Dr. William “Hank” Mancini. The scholarship supports student-athletes pursuing degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and will assist them in receiving the financial assistance necessary to pursue their academic and athletic dreams.





PVCC announced a new partnership with The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona (TRVFA), accepting a $10,000 scholarship donation, which will greatly benefit PVCC nursing students. The generous donation has helped decrease the financial burden and lowered the barrier to higher ed for several of our nursing students, enabling them to pursue their career aspirations while boosting their confidence and motivation to succeed.

The Kiwanis Club of Carefree Benefit Foundation made a generous donation to the PVCC Fire Science Department. This contribution will fund critical equipment and resources necessary for the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) assessment, enhancing students’ preparation for careers in firefighting.





Thank you!

TOP DONORS

Michael Kranitz

Dr. Casey Durandet

The Rockley Family Foundation

Paradise Valley Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona

Mesa West Rotary Community Service

The Kiwanis Club of Carefree Benefit Foundation

National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship

Phoenix Astronomical Society

Frazier Shows



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION



- Lynn Clark brings decades of real-world experience to her role as program director for PVCC's Accounting Program. She was named a recipient of the 2025 NISOD Excellence Award, honoring exceptional contributions to student learning and success in community and technical colleges.

- .CIS Residential Faculty Dr. Michelle Carter was selected as a 2025 recipient of the Dale P. Parnell Distinguished Faculty Recognition, awarded by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). This prestigious honor recognizes faculty members who make a lasting impact in the classroom and beyond, demonstrating passion, leadership, and commitment to student success.



- Recipients of PVCC's 2025 Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award were Tracy Brooks (Nursing), Lester Peterson (Business), and Katharine Elizabeth Stuff (Chemistry) – all exceptional educators who have gone above and beyond in their classrooms, departments, and communities, exemplifying PVCC's mission to empower students and foster a vibrant learning environment.





- Mario Marquez was selected to participate in the second cohort of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Enlace Mid-level Leadership Program. Marquez, who works in PVCC's Office of Strategic Partnerships as a Senior Development Officer, is one of fifty-four participants chosen from across the nation, and one of three from the Maricopa County Community College District.



- MCCCD's talented pitch team, led by PVCC's Dr. Caron Sada, clinched second place at the 2024 Ratcliff Pitch for Skilled Trades competition in Minneapolis, MN. Competing against top-tier community college teams from across the country, the team's innovative proposal, "Community of Hats," impressed the judges with its interdisciplinary approach to building essential skills for the trades, earning a prize of $25,000.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

BUILDING BRIDGES AND FOSTERING CONNECTIONS

1. Celebrating the Lunar Year, PVCC hosted a three-day event with presentations and workshops celebrating Asian culture.
2. PVCC welcomed more than 16,000 community members for various events on campus including the 32nd Street Market, the monthly Thieves Market, Honeybee Festival, Festival of Tales and served as a general election voting location.
3. Celebrating Native American Heritage Month included a performance by the Indigenous Enterprise group and Indigenous artist Terrill Goseyun, a master Apache violin maker.
4. PVCC won the MVET Challenge amongst MCCCD colleges in support of military veterans, collecting more than a pallet of food and hygiene products to be donated to the MANA House, a peer-supported organization of homeless and formerly homeless vets.
5. PVCC hosted the Fall Mental Health Awareness and Wellness Information Fair bringing attention to resources for various students' needs including food insecurity, housing concern, employment and more.
6. During Poverty Awareness Month, PVCC featured documentary screenings and Q&As.
7. In conjunction with St. Mary's Food Bank, PVCC holds monthly farmer's markets offering fresh, free food to students, staff and the community at large.
8. Black History Month kicked off on campus with a Black Voices panel discussion, followed by various presentations. The Center for Performing Arts also presented the talented musicians Calumet by Funk & Soul band.

PVCC ADVISORY COUNCIL

PVCC's Advisory Council advances the college and its mission; members understand and advocate the role of PVCC to prospective students, community members and donors. Here is a list of our council members.

Allison Barnett | Managing Partner+Ambassador | North 32nd, Inc

Tracey Beal | CEO | School Connect

Charles Berry | Rotary of Paradise Valley/Clark Hill

Stuart Brackney | President | Phoenix Astronomical Society

Sandra Carrier | Executive Director | Kiwanis Club of Carefree

John Crane | Mayor of Carefree | Town of Carefree

Marjorie DeRubeis | President | Job's for Arizona's Graduates (JAG)

Bill Dolezal | Superintendent | Cave Creek School District

Marjaneh Gilpatrick | Interim Associate Vice Provost | NAU, Online & Innovative Educational Initiatives

Will Gonzalez | Executive Court Adminstrator | Phoenix Municipal Court

David Hamerski | Senior Vice President | HBW Insurance Group, Inc.

Alan Havir | Rotary of Paradise Valley

Vicki Hochstetler | Operations Manager, Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences and Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Science | Mayo Clinic

Steve Kaiser | Founder | Arizona Prosperity Project

Beth Koehnemann | PVCC Founder | Community Member

Christine MacKay | Director of Economic Development | City of Phoenix/Phoenix City Hall

Tamala McBath | CEO | Dress for Success Phoenix

Sherry Mischel | President | Rotary of Paradise Valley

Mary Mitchell | Co-CEO | Girl Scouts of Arizona

Wilson Okwuobu | Owner | Legacy Healthcare

Les Peterson | Former Mayor of Carefree | PVCC Adjunct Faculty

Annique Petit, MA | Director, Trusted Learning Partnerships | ASU Rep

John Ramirez | Board Member | Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Heather Rausch | Owner | Fox Fire Events (PVCC Alum)

Connie Robinson | Executive Board | AZCAAR (Arizona Center for African American Resources)

Lisa Scarpinato | CEO & Co-founder | Kitchen on the Street

Judy Schwiebert | Representative | Arizona House of Representatives

Terrance Smith | Community General Manager | Desert Ridge Community Association

Adam Wong | Founder and President | Rock Star Workforce (PVCC Alum)

GRANTS

Under the leadership of Dr. Emmanuel Ojameruaye and Dr. Huu Huang, PVCC has surpassed the FY2024 Grant Development Goals, more than double the grant awarded amount, by securing over $5.5 million in new grants in FY2024.



HIGHLIGHTS

$2.17 million from the U.S. Department of Education for Title III Strengthening Institutions and the Child Care Access Means Parents in School programs (CCAMPIS).

More than $1.1 million from the Arizona Department of Health Services for PVCC's Nurse Education Investment pilot program.

More than $2.2 million supporting PVCC's Early Care and Education Workforce Development program, Bachelor in Elementary and Special Education degree program, and Enhancing Cybersecurity Programming Workforce Development program.

$25,000 for the Ellucian Foundation PATH Scholarship program, benefiting 32 students facing financial hardships.

$15,000 for The Alliance of Persons with Disability and Intersectionality for Inclusion, Networking, and Transition Opportunity in STEM program from a National Science Foundation Subaward.

$29,000 for the PVCC Food Forest pilot from the AZ Department of Forestry & Fire Management and Second Nature.

$7,019 for the PVCC Saturday Arts Academy from the AZ Commission on the Arts.

ALL-USA SCHOLAR

Our 2023-2024 All-USA scholar recipients were Christine Collado-Frost and Halle Goral, both of which demonstrated academic excellence and intellectual rigor combined with leadership and service that extends their education beyond the classroom to benefit society.



Christine Collado-Frost



Halle Goral

NISOD AWARDS

PVCC faculty Kevin Taussig and Ryan Wentzel were recipients of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award.



Kevin Taussig



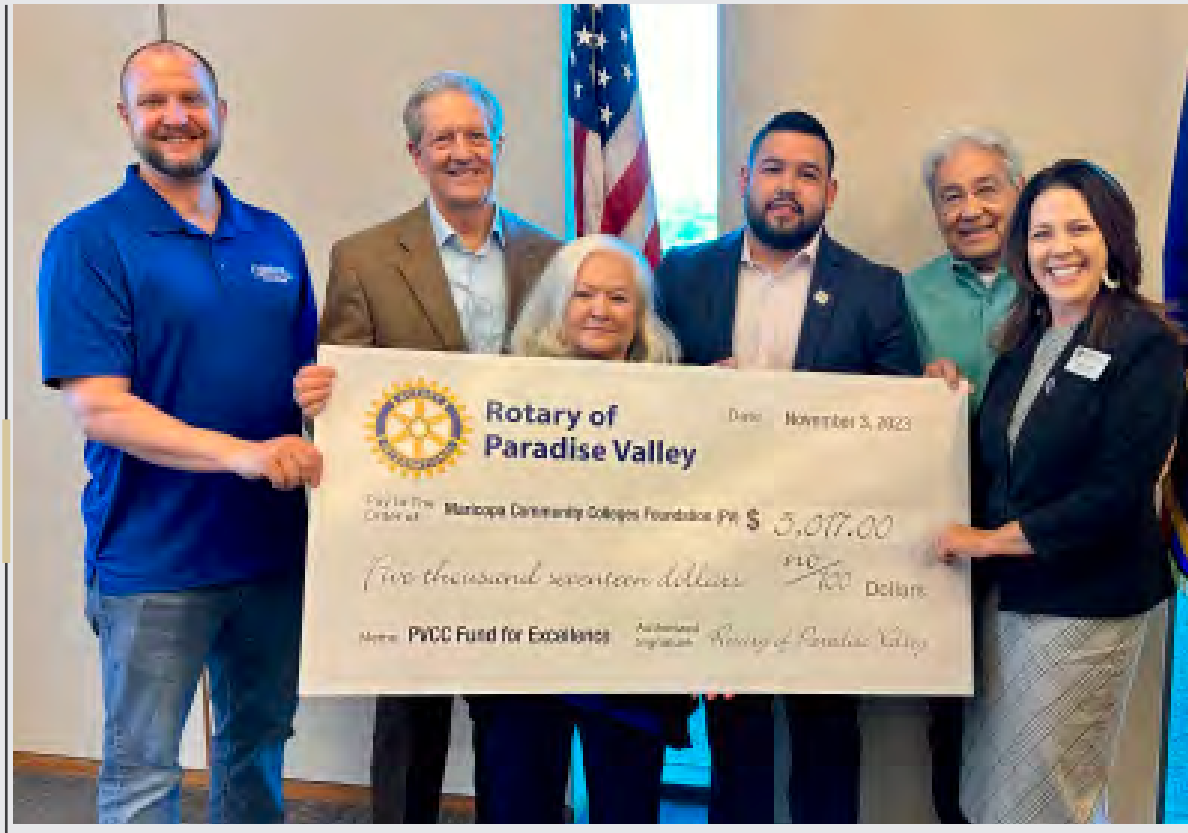
Ryan Wentzel

ALPHA OMICRON CHI

PVCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, the official honor society of American's two-year colleges, earned a five-star designation for the first time since 2019. Five stars is the highest designation.

PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS





STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS



01. Ensure high levels of student success with equity and an excellent experience.

- Student Government (STUGO) returned to campus for the first time since 2020, prioritizing issues and concerns to bring to PVCC administrators. STUGO also serves as an open forum for sharing other developments in PVCC's various clubs and organizations.
- PVCC made its Puma Pantry available year-round, providing essential food and basic needs items to students.
- The 2023-2024 cohort of Nina Mason Pulliam Legacy Scholars included four Pumas from disadvantaged backgrounds to obtain the resources and financial assistance needed to successfully complete their college education.
- PVCC was selected as a 2023 Progress, Accomplishment, Thriving, Hope (PATH) Scholarship recipient through the Ellucian Foundation. The PATH Scholarship program provides grants to two-year public institutions in 2023 with a focus on supporting students facing economic hardship.
- The Rotary Club of Paradise Valley teamed up with PVCC on several initiatives to serve the community and help fund various vocational programs. In light of our recent partnership, the Club presented a donation of $5,017 to PVCC's President Community Advisory Committee (PCAC) to support scholarships for PVCC students in EMT, Paramedics and Fire Science programs this coming spring semester. These students will work in critical fields that aid and protect our community.



02. Strengthen our local economic and positive social change impact.

- Captivating music and art lovers throughout the community, PVCC's Summer Flute Choir celebrated 30 years of performing every summer at the college's Center for the Performing Arts since 1994.
- The Student Nurses Association (SNA) provided flu vaccinations at the Legacy House of Avondale, a residential senior living community. The group of nursing students, along with PVCC Professors Tina Barney, MNSN-Ed, RN, CCRN, CHS, and Julie Robertson, MSN-ED, Ms-MHW, RN-C, held a four-hour flu shot clinic, administering vaccines to more than 70 residents.
- Awarded a $10,000 grant from the Maricopa County Community College District Sustainability Office, PVCC's facilities and sustainability departments are planning to develop a food forest on the 4.4-acre parcel of undeveloped land at the southeast corner of the Union Hills campus.
- First-generation students, staff and faculty gathered for the annual celebratory dinner in observance of National First-generation Day, which was created in honor of the Higher Education Act of 1965.
- PVCC is one of a handful of institutions in Arizona approved to facilitate K-5 Literacy Endorsement by 2028. It has initiated a collaboration with local school districts to provide the three-credit courses, making them accessible both off-site and on-site.





03. Build a great place to work through organizational and operational effectiveness.

- Pumas came out on top for the second year in a row in the Maricopa County Community College District's fourth annual MVET Challenge, a friendly competition amongst sister colleges in support of veterans. Paradise Valley Community College collected two full pallets of food and hygiene supplies that will be donated to MANA (Marines, Army, Navy, Airforce) House, a peer-support organization of homeless and formerly homeless veterans.
- PVCC unveiled its mobile billboard – a promotional-wrapped ambulance spotlighting the college's nationally recognized emergency medical technology (EMT) and paramedicine programs. Both state and nationally accredited programs give students an upper advantage in entering their chosen career paths, with high-level classes and training necessary for working in emergency medical services.
- The Center for Performing Arts hosted the MCCCD Artist of Promise Art, Dance and Music Gala, showcasing the immense talent of our community. More than 60 pieces of original art adorned the gallery, while six dance performances and 16 musical acts commanded the stage. The evening celebrated artistic expression across disciplines, from classical and opera to jazz and country rock.

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS



Dance - Sonia Valle

- The PVCC Dance Program showcased its incredible talent at the American College Dance Festival's High Desert Region Conference. The regional event brought together dancers from colleges and universities to perform, partake in classes, and receive feedback from nationally recognized artists and professionals in the dance industry.
- Dance major Victoria Morena-Tsosie earned first place in Choreography and second place in Performance for her piece Alchemist in the MCCCD's Artist of Promise dance competition. Her dedication to her art was further recognized last semester when she was selected as a guest choreographer for Shadow Mountain High School's fall dance showcase—an opportunity that not only strengthened her skills but also deepened her commitment to her craft.

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Music

- Music student Patrick Cassidy earned a $240,000 scholarship to attend the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston, Mass. beginning in Fall 2025. Cassidy's musical journey at PVCC began in Spring 2024, after taking a few general education classes as a part-time student at Phoenix College. He was introduced to PVCC through our partnership with the Phoenix Conservatory of Music and was immediately impressed.
- PVCC alumnus Brandon Berg and PVCC music faculty John Keenan collaborated on an inspiring orchestral composition featured as the opening theme of the 47th Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Emmys. The duo attended the black-tie event and dinner hosted by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter, rubbing shoulders with industry executives and talent.
- PVCC hosted a landmark concert rich in tradition and innovation presenting the college's new Klezmer Ensemble and debuting PVCC's own Mishy Katz original Hanukkah song. The group - made up of nine musicians from throughout the valley performed and a new Klezmer course was announced, the first in Arizona.
- To bring PVCC's values to life in a memorable way, students, teachers, and staff at PVCC came together to create an original song spotlighting the college's seven core values – integrity diversity, innovation partnerships, excellence, sustainability, and wellness. The "Values Song" is set to the tune of "In the Name of Love" by Bebe Rexha and Martin Garrix.
- PVCC's Music Industry Studies Professor John Keenan was spotlighted for helping to shape the next generation of music producers and artists with his incredible achievements and ongoing contributions to the world of music. With more than 30 years' experience working in the music industry, and 14 years teaching at PVCC, Keenan continues to make a huge impact on both his students and the music community. He is a strong advocate for PVCC's Fine Arts and Music departments who has had a hand in the college's assessment sessions and long-term planning.
- PVCC's Music Industries Program took the stage —literally and figuratively— in an exciting collaboration with community-partner Phoenix Forge, the Valley's premier community makerspace. Together, they hosted the Making Music Fest, a week-long celebration of the art and craft of hand-made music, bringing together musicians, makers, and music lovers from across the region.
- PVCC and the Music Industries Studies' program hosted its inaugural Mixtape concert as part of the Center for Performing Arts (CPA) Rock series. The unique, community-curated musical experience brought nearly 300 people together for an unforgettable night.
- PVCC and GCC joined forces for an electrifying Sunday Night Rock Show at a local grill in Glendale. The free concert showcased eight student bands from both colleges, featuring a dynamic mix of rock, pop, punk, and metal, and celebrating the collaborative spirit of MCCCD musicians.
- Four talented Pumas from our Fine and Performing Arts program were selected to sing in global superstar Andrea Bocelli's backing choir at his Phoenix concert. The students – Noelle Krugman, Bobby Cave, David Chasca, and PVCC adjunct faculty member Jeanette Winzeler, who also serves as the director of PVCC's Community Choir, were chosen following a competitive audition process.



Theatre - Andrea Robertson

- PVCC hosted its 3rd annual Theatre Day for the largest group of students yet. Choosing from 15 different workshops, covering a wide range of theatre topics, the workshops were led by PVCC professors, students, and guest artists.
- Storybook Playhouse brings the magic of storytelling to life, giving college students hands-on theatrical training while sharing live performances with young audiences throughout the community. Students enrolled in PVCC's Theatre for Youth class take the lead in crafting an original play inspired by fairy tales and fables from a variety of cultures. They adapt these stories into a fun, imaginative script, then rehearse, design, and build everything—from costumes and sound effects to props and scenic backdrops.
- Three sisters and a fellow Puma alumna – showcased their diverse talents in the production of The Comedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark. As their final capstone project for Tech Club, the students developed a full-blown theatrical show. They planned, organized, and performed a showcase of their newly acquired skills.
- The Fall 2023 production of Shakespeare in Love was named "Best Play" by BroadwayWorld Phoenix in the 2024 Regional Awards, a prestigious honor celebrating the creativity and talent of PVCC's theatre program.
- PVCC students attended the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Region VIII at Mesa Community College, to showcase their talents in acting, directing, design, and stage management.
- PVCC students took center stage—not just as performers but as the creative force behind the theatrical production of Past, Present, and Future. From writing and directing to designing sets and managing technical details, students were in charge of every aspect of the show, showcasing their creativity, leadership, and teamwork.

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS





Art

- For more than 20 years, PVCC Art Professor David Bradley has made it his mission to bring people together for the communal fundraiser Empty Bowls, helping to raise both awareness and funds for food insecurity. The October event felt symbolic as students, faculty, and community members gathered for a shared soup meal, celebrating Bradley's May 2025 retirement.
- The annual Sugar Skull Workshop and Lecture has become one of PVCC's most highly anticipated events in the community, offering a hands-on way to explore the artistic and cultural aspects of Día de los Muertos. The vibrant and engaging event honors Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) and draws nearly 300 participants, ranging in age from 2 to 72 years old. More than 350 sugar skulls are decorated, many of which adorn the Día de los Muertos community altar at PVCC.
- Twenty PVCC students were selected for the Artists of Promise Visual Arts Competition, marking the highest number of accepted works from PVCC students since the competition began. **Story here.**
- Dedicated art student, 91-year-old Larry Norban has spent decades experimenting with photography but found new inspiration through the technological advancements he discovered in PVCC's art program. Under the mentorship of Professor George "Kip" Sudduth, Norban dove into the world of abstract photography, pushing the boundaries of his craft. Norban donated a photo years in the making to the PVCC art collection, now proudly displayed in the computer lab.

Esports

- PVCC is making waves in the world of competitive gaming with its rapidly growing Esports program. Since launching its Certificate of Completion (CCL) in Esports in 2022, PVCC has taken bold steps to establish itself as a leader in the field.

Video Game Production

- Video Game Production and Center for Performing Arts' Technical Arts team will launch its first-ever Escape Room this Fall. This year's theme throws you behind the scenes of a punk rock concert. The show runs three weekends with dates TBD. Look out for showtimes - you won't want to miss this.
- Video Game Production held its first-ever Board Game Exhibit in Spring 2025. This two-week collaboration featured board games designed by Dr. Lisa Tolentino's GST202: Games, Culture and Aesthetics students. The exhibit served as VGP's learning lab for new students and community members to play-test games, give feedback, and enjoy being together.

PUMA ATHLETICS

Academic Excellence

45

NJCAA Academic Achievement Honorees (min. 24 credits with cumulative 3.60 GPA)

7

NJCAA Honorable Mention All-Academic Teams (min. 3.0 GPA: Men Cross Country, Women Cross Country, Baseball, Men Indoor Track & Field, Women Indoor Track & Field, Men Outdoor Track & Field, Women Outdoor Track & Field)

Athletic Excellence

- Men's Cross County 2024 ACCAC Division II Champions
- Women's Cross County 2024 ACCAC I Division II Champions
- Men's Cross County 2024 Region I Division II Champions
- Men's Cross County 2024 Region I Division II Individual Champion – Jackson Bland
- Women's Cross County 2024 Region I Division II Individual Champion – Keira Damron
- Men's and Women's Cross Country Advance to NJCAA National Championship
- Men's Cross Country Division II NATIONAL CHAMPION – Jackson Bland
- Women's Cross Country Team places 2 nd at NJCAA Division II National Championship
- Men's Cross Country Team places 4 th at NJCAA Division II National Championship
- Men and Women's Indoor Track & Field teams qualify for the NJCAA National Championship
- Women's Indoor Track and Field team places tied for 30 th at NJCAA National Championship
- Men's Indoor Track and Field team places tied for 23 rd at NJCAA National Championship
- Men's Tennis 2025 Region I Champions
- Baseball advanced to Region 1 Division II Tournament
- Men's Tennis qualifies for NJCAA National Tournament

NOTABLE

ACCAC Men's Tennis Coach of the Year – Jim Paajanen

ACCAC Division II Assistant Baseball Coach of the Year – Jim Murphy

Head Cross Country Coach David Barney named as an NJCAA Coaches Legacy Award honoree

Athletics Director Christina Hundley chosen to serve as National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) Secretary



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Puma student-athletes served approximately 800 total hours in the community.

PUMA ATHLETICS



NJCAA All-American Honors

- 4 NJCAA Division II Women's Cross Country All-Americans (Keira Damron, Laynee Hollech, Olivia Coulston, Rachael Bethancourt)
- 3 NJCAA Division II Men's Cross Country All-Americans (Jackson Bland, Jaxon Zimmerman, Jacob Soukup)

Highlights

- 2 Women's Golfers qualify for NJCAA National Tournament (Maritza Bautista and Donnietta Diaz)
- Men and Women's Outdoor Track; Field teams advance to the NJCAA National Championship
- Men's Outdoor Track and Field team tied for 33rd at National Championship
- Women's Outdoor Track and Field team places tied for 24th at National Championship










PARADISE
CROSS COUNTRY
VALLEY
NJCAA
NATIONAL
RUNNER-UP
WOMEN'S
CROSS COUNTRY
DIVISION II
2024



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