VISTA NEWS

WINTER 2024

Black History Month Celebration Speakers

Officer Jeffrey J. Coprich Jr.
CEO Unsung Heroes
Owner Zeven Clothing Design

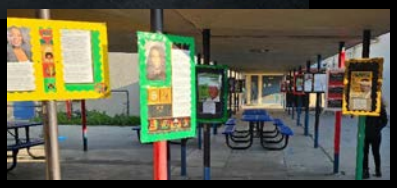
Reuben Brown
Owner of RB Dental Laboratory

Sherika Nicole
Influential Speaker and Entrepreneur

Stinson Brown
Retired LAPD

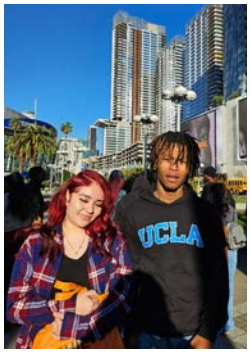
Thank you! Isabella Di'vici, Cheryl Headspeth and ASB for assembling such a successful event!

Black History Month Celebration Luncheon



Vista Students and staff participated in the celebration of Black History Month. An event that highlights and commemorates the history and contribution of African Americans. The Guest of this event delivered motivational speeches encouraging students to pursue their dreams. A luncheon followed the presentation students and faculty enjoyed fried chicken, potato salad, and some great cookies for dessert.

25th Annual Black College Expo



Black College Expo

On February 10 Vista students attended the Back College Expo at the Los Angeles Convention Center. They had the opportunity to connect with ***historically Black Colleges and Universities***, as well as many other educational institutions.

What are Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)?

HBCUs were established in the 19th century to provide Black Americans with an educational opportunity, an opportunity that was being denied by traditional white institutions due to segregation and systemic racism. HBCUs were founded on the believe that all people should have access to education, and they have committed to benefit local communities and underserved populations. There is currently 107 HBCUs and, while historically they only served black students, now days about a quarter of all students enrolled are of other races. The most prestigious of them are Howard University (Washington, DC), Spelman College (Atlanta, GA), and Hampton University (Hampton, VA).

arts for good.

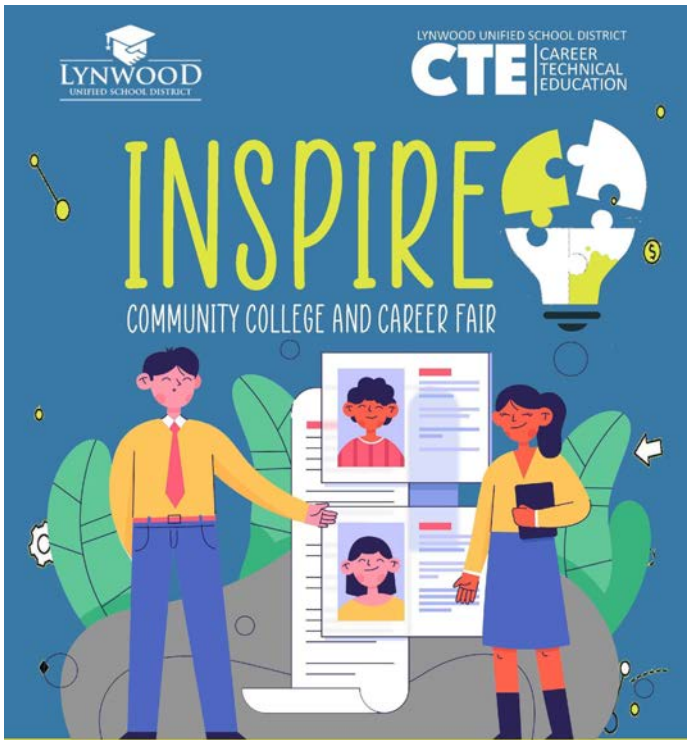
Vista Highlights!

Mr. Enriquez presented Ayetzi Abrezo, the winner of the Lynwood Partners for Education Foundation Art contest, with some gifts of recognition for her amazing work

Vista graduate Alejandra Rendon, was featured in artworxLA along with other advance program participants and the actress Keke Palmer.

Snowball Wealth & Lynwood District Launch Bilingual Financial Education

PRESS RELEASE • Program Targets Financial Literacy and College Prep for LA Students • • • • LOS ANGELES, 2023 (Newswire.com) - Snowball Wealth is proud to announce the launch of a bilingual financial education program with Lynwood Unified School District in Los Angeles. This initiative marks a significant step towards equipping high school students with vital financial knowledge and skills, in both English and Spanish. “As first-generation college graduates, my co-founder Pamela Martinez and I, understand the challenges these students face,” said Tanya Menendez, CEO of Snowball Wealth. “Our program is designed to provide them with the financial skills that we wish we had learned at their age.” The program covers essential topics such as banking, credit, investing, and comprehensive college readiness. A special emphasis is placed on guiding students through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and providing crucial information about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. "Our students, a significant number of whom are first-generation and 96% who would be the first in their families to go to college, face unique financial challenges," stated Patrick Gittisriboongul, Assistant Superintendent of Lynwood School District. "This program is an essential tool in helping them navigate their financial futures confidently." A key component of the curriculum is the college readiness course, which includes strategies on selecting a college, financing higher education, and opportunities to attend college for free. This course aims to demystify the college experience for students and their families. Miram Casuso, a teacher working closely with Snowball Wealth, is deeply invested in the students' well-being. “Our goal is to empower students with the financial knowledge that can transform their lives,” shared Miriam Casuso. “Financial literacy is more than just numbers; it’s about shaping futures.” Snowball Wealth is complementing digital resources with in-person workshops, ensuring an engaging and comprehensive learning experience. These workshops are designed to actively involve students in their financial education journey. Pamela Martinez, CTO at Snowball Wealth, emphasized the program's significance. "We're committed to bridging the financial literacy gap. This initiative is a crucial step in preparing students for a successful future, both in college and beyond."

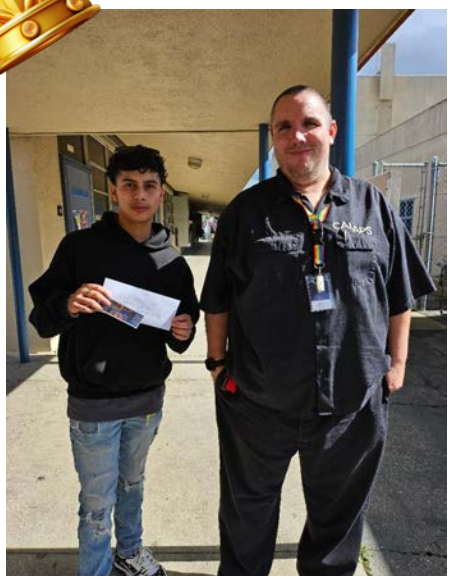


On February 10 Vista seniors met with representatives from various colleges and organizations. This was the 3rd INSPIRED College and Career Fair. This event offered students with a view of opportunities into work and study fields available for those not pursuing a traditional four year university pathway. Seniors learned about different trades such as auto-mechanic, carpentry, welding, culinary arts, construction etc. and met with representatives from LA County Sanitation District, Amazon, Cerritos City College, Caltrans, the Navy and many more.

Los Sueños Thrifting event was a great success thanks to the Swap Shop Foundation, the support of Mr. Magee, and our amazing office staff. Everyone kindly donated lots of nice clothing, shoes, purses etc. for the benefit of our students. Thanks again to all that participated! We are looking forward to a bigger and better event this Spring!!

Los Sueños club organized the first ever Thrifting Event at Vista H.S.

ASB Fun Fridays



Marco Carbadillo was the first winner of the Grand Night tickets donated by Mr. Cote. Two other fortunate students Alexa Gonzalez and Angie Aleman got their ticket as well. This Friday the last ticket will be raffled.

Who will be the lucky one??????

VISTA COMMUNITY

Wellness and Trauma-Informed Yoga/Meditation Classes

Many people are affected by current life stressors that have impacted their lives. There is a need for quality and relevant content that will support the physical and mental well-being of the Vista High School community. Trauma-informed yoga has been used as a tool to increase social and emotional learning (SEL) and has been demonstrated as extremely effective at reducing levels of stress, anxiety and depression, and improving academic performance and sleep. Beginning this quarter we are happy to introduce classes for students, which will take place once a week beginning in February. Each class will be guided by a trauma informed yoga instructor who will focus on self-awareness, self-agency, regulation of the breath and body. These techniques are life-long skills that can be practiced outside of class.

In addition, we will also be offering this class for certificated and classified staff one time per month beginning in March. We also provided one class for our parents on 2/09/24 and are looking into ways for bringing more of these classes to our parents.

Instructor: Dr. Paula Miley, DSW, MA

AND AWARDS

Vista High School PBIS team was presented with the school **Platinum Award**. Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS) is an approach to viewing and dealing with social-control issues within the school community, using proactive methodologies to positively affect the entire educational experience.

Everyone take a minute to congratulate our Principal Mr. Enriquez for earning the ACSRegion-14 Leadership Award!

FIELD TRIPS

Public Art Presentation
artwoxLA at MOCA Geffen

Students take pride contemplating their collective work

Student panelist Jax Estrada represented Vista during the Public Presentations at MOCA

Francisco Macias observes artist Eddie Rodolfo Aparicio "caucho" (rubber) work. Aparicio casted the trunks of Los Angeles trees for this exhibit.

Angel Rivera was one of the winners of Art Trivia games

A quick visit to Little Tokyo was a great opportunity to enjoy purchasing some souvenirs and tasting delicious treats.

Installation of Paul Pfeiffer: ***"Prologue to the Birth of Freedom"***.

"los tres amigos" enjoyed Nancy Rubins ***Chas' Stainless Steel*** made with about 1,000 pounds of stainless steel wire.

Artist from Vista High School engaged in the theme ***Tracing Our Environment, Tracing Ourselves***, where they investigated different ways our human bodies interact with the environment around us; whether it is the physical imprints and markers we leave behind, the different systems of knowledge we establish to make sense of our environment, or the materials we produce that become cultural symbols over generations. Guided by teaching artist **Evelyn Yin** and inspired by works of **Paul Pleiffer** and **Eddie Rodolfo Aparicio**, Vista students used art to trace their relationships with the environment, using different techniques including collage, paper marbling, mosaic art, and photography.

Adult Transition Program

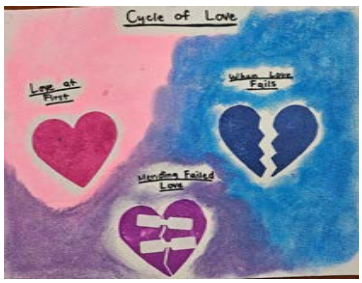
Students used public transportation to visit Plaza Mexico. Community-Based Instruction is designed to help students perform skills such as using public transportation and grocery shopping around their community.

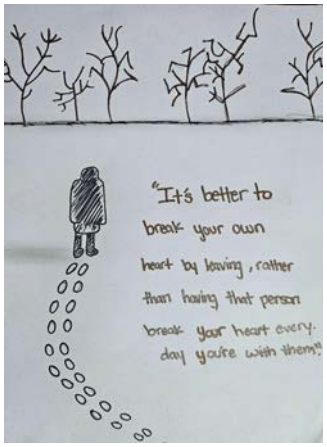
Vista Adult Program students made some amazing tie-dye T-shirts

The A***dult Transitional Program*** targets skills necessary for students to live as independently as possible. Many of the lessons focus on cleaning, personal hygiene and cooking.

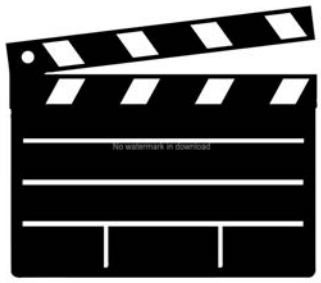
Teen Dating Violence Awareness Presentation

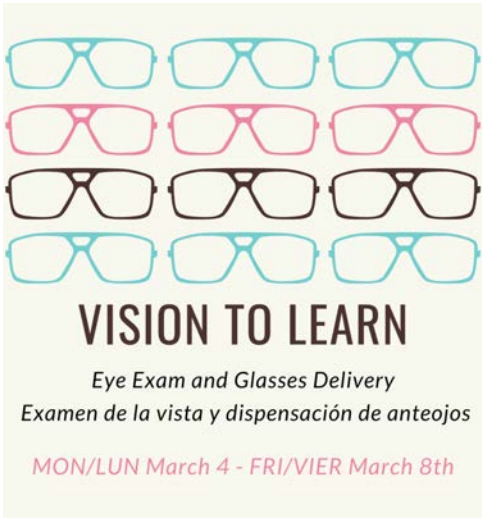
Griselda Marquez , Outreach & Education Manager from Rainbow Services visited our campus to educate our scholars on developing healthy relationships built upon respect, love & understanding. 1 out of 5 women and 1 of 7 men first experience unhealthy relationship behaviors as early as 11. Education about healthy dating is key to prevent teen dating violence.





FILM2FUTURE is on a mission to change the face of Hollywood by giving underserved LA teenagers access to professional-level filmmaking programs and employment opportunities. Film2future is inspiring and empowering a new generation of diverse filmmakers through traditional and emerging technologies.

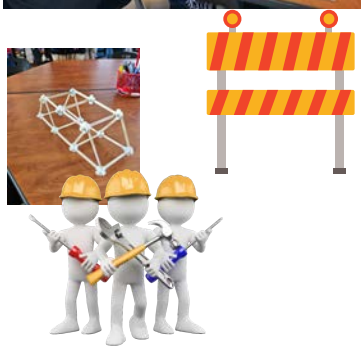




Art students create ***3 D Art*** using connectors to build creative structures and 3D pens to make some stunning bicycles. Thank you Mr. Cote for your collaboration making the connectors on your 3- D printer!

Vision to learn visited our campus once again to give students easy access to eye care and free eye glasses if needed.

Vision To Learn
Focus on the Future



artworxLA
arts for good.

Goodbye Loren!

arts for good.

We are sad to say goodbye to or amazing Workshop Coordinator Loren LeBlanc. For the last five years Loren has worked as our coordinator for artworxLA. He has shared with us his positive attitude, as well as, his incredible artistic skills. Thank you Loren for making such a great impact on Vista students!

WHO ARE THESE TEENS?

Be the first one to guess who they are and get a prize. See Ms. Casuso's Newspaper club during lunch time for your prize.