

**Spring  
2025**

# Opening Day Newsletter



**MCCARTY CENTER**  
FOR FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS



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of this newsletter*

# Table of Contents

Administrative Services Updates.....	1-2
Office of Instruction Updates.....	3-4
Student Services Updates .....	5-6
New Faculty and Staff .....	7-8
Fall 2024 Semester in Review .....	9-13



# Administrative Services Updates

Vice President - Melanie Highfill

Welcome back. We in Administrative Services hope everyone had a good winter break and was able to have some down time. There are some things we would like to update you on as we start the Spring 2025 semester.

## Fiscal Update

As we begin the Spring 2025, there are a few updates Administrative Services would like to provide. Things are still holding, with no proposed reductions or increases for our general fund.

Strong Workforce was reduced by \$65 million state wide, which caused Reedley to be reduced by \$500,000. Due to this cut we were only able to finish some projects that were underway, such as the Green House, Auto Lifts, and the remaining two Skyleader planes. Equipment and projects that were proposed for the 2025 fiscal year will be considered in the 2026 budget.

## Facilities Update

Center for Fine and Performing Arts - Building is getting closer to completion. Final punch list walk will be next week and once approved the building will be turned over to the campus. The additional work on the sound system and new equipment installation will hopefully be done in mid to late February.



Softball - Construction is underway for the improvements to our Softball facility. Currently contractors are estimating to be done for our first game on January 25, 2025.

Emergency Phone (Blue Phone) replacements - Our current Analog Emergency Phones are going to be replaced with VOIP phones. This project is complete with all but one phone working. The phone outside the Administration Building is missing some parts that have come in, and we are waiting on the contractor to install.

Auto Lifts - I am happy to say they are installed and inspected, ready to be used for the Spring 2025 semester.

Green Houses - This project is finally complete with the last part done in Fall 2024.

Baseball - Due to CCC2A changes we have had to add pitching clocks and fencing in front of the dugouts. This work is anticipated to be complete by mid-January.

Removal of Dental Building - This is being bid out in January with a mid-February start date.



# Tiger Café



## Reedley Tiger Café

The Reedley College Tiger Café has been busy this summer with Upward Bound, STEM, and many other catering events. For the upcoming semester, be on the lookout for weekly lunch specials and rotating menus. In an effort to help students, the Tiger Café is keeping prices the same for this semester. The RC Tiger Café is always looking for menu options so please let us know what you would like to see offered.

## Custodial/Grounds Services Update:

During the Fall 2024 semester Custodial Services placed QR codes throughout the campus. Once scanned these QR codes will take you to a quick survey that will identify areas that may need some additional attention. Custodial/Grounds Services appreciates your assistance in helping keep our campus welcoming and clean.

## Business Office Update

Business Office would like to update the campus community on a few things. First are parking permits. Please make sure that you have purchased your parking permit for either the semester or the year. Parking will be enforced beginning January 27, 2025. Please make sure you have the correct license plate number for your vehicle's assignment in PMB (the parking management system). New for this year you will be allowed to have two vehicles assigned to one permit, again, make sure you have the correct license plates listed. If you do not receive your permit within two weeks of when you ordered it, please follow up with PMB and not the Business Office. The Business Office no longer handles the issuance or tracking of parking permits, that is handled by District Police and PMB.

Second is the TouchNet 360U mobile application. This easy-to-use phone app will allow students to have a digital ID card, campus maps, calendar, access to self-service, Canvas, and other applications. Students can add funds to their Tiger One Card, opt in to receive financial alerts, and receive campus communications. Faculty are encouraged to download the app, however, at this time faculty will still need an actual ID card to disarm buildings and access doors on campus. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/campus-life/student-activities/tiger%20one%20card.html>

Finally, as Reedley College approaches our 100-year anniversary, our Business Office in conjunction with the Reedley College Foundation, has shirts, mini Clyde's for sale and donation opportunities on the RC Foundation website at <https://reedley-college-foundation.square.site/>



# Office of Instruction Updates

Vice President – Dale van Dam

## Congratulations Franchesca Amezola: 2024 Muro de Honor Honoree!

Congratulations to Spanish Instructor Franchesca Amezola, who was inducted into the Muro de Honor on December 10. Muro de Honor recognizes the contributions of dedicated and outstanding members of the Chicano/Latino community associated with the State Center Community College District. The ceremony took place at Arte Americas - Casa De La Cultura in Downtown Fresno. “It is inspiring to work with colleagues that value different cultures and approaches to life. In diversity, there is power, as it makes an organization more flexible in thinking,” stated Franchesca. “It is a privilege to have been added to the list of successful Latino Americans/Chicanos that work daily for the betterment of our institution and its services.”



L-R:  
Nicolette Fierro,  
Jocelyn Davis &  
Anapaula Ochoa.

## Honors Students of the Fall 2024 Semester!

RC’s Honors Program is proud to introduce the students selected as Students of the Month during the Fall 2024 semester:

### Nicolette Fierro—September

Nicolette is majoring in Psychology and will be transferring in Fall 2025. She looks forward to earning a bachelor’s degree in Psychology and becoming a clinical psychologist. She is the founder of Reedley College’s Lemon Club, which combats pediatric cancer through the nonprofit Alex’s Lemonade Stand. Additionally, she is involved in Alpha Gamma Sigma (a community-service based honors society) and Active Minds, a club that aims to promote greater mental health awareness on campus.

### Jocelyn Davis—October

Jocelyn is pursuing associate degrees for transfer in both History and Art History at Reedley College, with the goal of double majoring at UC Santa Cruz in Fall 2025. She serves as the Secretary of Reedley College’s Lemon Club, and she works as the Student Navigator of the Social Sciences Pathway, where she helps connect students to on-campus resources and Social Sciences faculty.

### Anapaula Ochoa—November

Anapaula is majoring in Animal Science for its diverse opportunities related to veterinary medicine and her aspirations in becoming a veterinarian. She finds joy in helping her peers as a tutor for our Reading and Writing Center, and she looks forward to transferring to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in Fall 2026. She is excited about taking risks in pursuing more academic opportunities, and she feels that the Honors Program has provided her inspiration and a plethora of new academic challenges.



L-R: SCCC Board Secretary Robert Fuentes, Chancellor Carole Goldsmith, Franchesca Amezola, Student Support Services Counselor Nancy Rodriguez, and Vice President of Student Services Jesus Vega.



### Excellence in Ag Education Continues!

Reedley College's Agriculture Department has been honored again as the Outstanding Post-Secondary Department for the East Fresno/Madera Section at the San Joaquin Regional California Agriculture Teachers Association (CATA) meeting! RC was also named the Outstanding Post-Secondary Department for the entire San Joaquin Region. We are now in the running for the Outstanding Post-Secondary Department for the entire state of California, an award we have won multiple times before. Nick Deftereos, Stephen Hawkins and Kevin Woodard (below) were on hand to accept the hardware.



### Accreditation Update

RC's Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) was reviewed by our Peer Review Team (PRT) in October 2024. The PRT then submitted what are called "Core Inquiries" to the college for follow up. The PRT had three Core Inquiries, one that might require a recommendation and two for which the PRT is considering a commendation for the college. Core Inquiry number one (a potential recommendation) has to do with demonstrating that regular and substantive interaction (RSI) is routinely occurring in our distance education courses; numbers two and three (potential commendations) have to do with RC's Student-Centered Scheduling Summits and our overall Planning Processes, respectively. The Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee has met and created outlined responses, complete with evidence sources, for each of the Core Inquiries and anticipates submitting additional documentation to the PRT in the middle of January. Onesta Francis and others are compiling these responses. Representatives of the PRT will be on campus on February 25 and 26 for campus tours, interviews, and an open forum. Those campus personnel involved in the activities will be notified well in advance of the time and location of tours and/or interviews; all will be invited to the open forum. The PRT will then conduct an Exit Report at noon on February 26. By April 15, the PRT will submit their report to ACCJC and Reedley College is expected to receive the report shortly thereafter. If you have any questions about the process, please reach out to Onesta Francis or any member of the PIE committee.



# Student Services Updates

Vice President – Dr. Jesús Vega

## MESA Center

The MESA Center officially opened in Fall 2024! Once computers and a printer are installed, MESA will be a fully functioning academic center. This marks a significant step as MESA has transitioned to Title 5 status, moving from a grant-funded to an allocated funding program, strengthening its capacity to serve students and expand beyond the current grant cycle. Jackie and Alex, along with new MESA student aides, will continue to focus on recruitment and outreach. Building on the success of last semester's STEM classroom tours, MESA plans to partner with STEM faculty this spring to promote services. Additionally, MESA will establish a campus council this spring to foster collaboration and support with the campus at large.

### MESA Highlights:

- PG&E MESA Mentorship Program: One of our students has been accepted into the PG&E Mentorship Program, and we look forward to sharing their experience upon completion.
- Faculty-Led Research: A research group on Dielectric Actuators, led by Dr. Heathcote, Dr. Abioye, and Instructor Shults, is making significant progress.
- Student Leadership Retreat: MESA will send four students and Counselor Alexandra Garcia Gonzalez to a leadership retreat this spring.

MESA is excited for upcoming workshops, academic events, and collaborations with the Tutorial Centers this spring. We are grateful for the Reedley College community's support and look forward to continued growth and collaboration in serving students.

## Starfish

A QR code was created that faculty can use to direct students to the Tell Us About Yourself Survey in Starfish.



## College Relations and Outreach

This past fall the Outreach team attended many college nights, fairs, and special events including the Fresno and Tulare County College Nights serving over 6,000 students. Our ambassadors provided campus tours to over 2,500 prospective students and families, including our annual 6th grade tour on December 13 for 1,600 students. Our Outreach Specialists helped over 4,000 high school students complete their SCCC application. In the Welcome Center our staff helped over 3,000 students at the welcome window and in the web room, and we answered over 1,500 phone calls. In total we served over 17,000 students, families, and community members.

## HSI Initiatives

- The Office of HSI Initiatives supported four RC student employees in attending the Adelante Student Leadership Institute at the annual Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities (HACU) conference held in Denver in November 2024. Students are pictured L-R: Sarahi Sanchez Soto, Brandon Solorio, Valeria Magaña and Alberto Villarreal.
- Tahler Caldera, Gil Torres, Ralph Marrufo and Adelfa Lorenzano also attended HACU.
- The 15th annual Padres Como Compañeros Conference will be held on March 1, 2025.





## Educational Talent Search (ETS)

In the fall of 2024, our fantastic STEM ambassadors from Reedley College held a fun, hands-on workshop where students got to build rockets during one of our after-school ETS tutorials at Parlier High School. During this exciting session, our ETS students explored the STEM college pathway, learned about different majors, and discovered all the helpful campus services available to those interested in pursuing a STEM degree. The Reedley College ambassadors truly enjoyed the experience, feeling empowered to inspire the younger students while having a great time engaging with the new ETS group. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone involved!

## Dual Enrollment

Dual Enrollment continues to see an increase of COUN 53 "College and Life Management" courses being offered at our local feeder high schools, with students having great success in this course. The COUN 53 course is designed to assist students in developing the necessary tools for future success by providing structures and activities that illustrate the relationship between interpersonal and intrapersonal interactions. Course topics include development of student's personal strengths, interpersonal relationships, personal values, healthy lifestyle choices, and success skills. This past semester, we invited two cohorts of students from Reedley High School for a campus tour of our facilities and provided them with information on the supportive services available to all Reedley College students. Students heard from programs such as CalWORKs, MESA, EOPS, etc. and were provided lunch on the lawn, next to Clyde. Our goal this upcoming semester is to bring additional high school students in our COUN 53 courses to Reedley College, exposing them to life on campus and connecting students to available resources that will support their overall growth as a successful college student.

## Upward Bound/Upward Bound Math-Science

Reedley College's Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math Science programs had an exciting experience at Fresno State in early November during the first pre-collegiate TRIO Day! The students participated in fun workshops exploring post-secondary options, majors, and career paths. The university staff also shared valuable information about financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Our Upward Bound students learned about local majors and discovered the perks of attending a nearby university. To top off the day, they were invited to enjoy a football game that evening against Hawaii, where the university community warmly welcomed them. It was a great collaboration and opportunity for everyone!

## College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)

- 100% of CAMP students are enrolled for Spring 2025.
- 12 CAMP students will be attending the CA CAMP Leadership Conference at Madera Community College in March.
- 60 CAMP students received a Fall 2024 CAMP Scholarship for a total of \$35,940.
- CAMP will nominate Diego Lopez Alvarado for the Summer 2025 USDA HEP/CAMP 10-week summer Internship Program in Washington, D.C.

## TRIO Student Support Services (SSS)

- 94.4% of SSS students are enrolled for Spring 2025.
- SSS successfully recruited all 280 students for our program, with additional students on the wait-list.
- During the Fall 2024 semester:
  - 47 SSS students received Transfer Planning Assistance.
  - 6 SSS students were awarded a degree or certificate.
  - 32 SSS students received Grant Aid for a total of \$31,250.
  - SSS hosted 15 well-attended workshops for our students.
- The SSS and CAMP programs will take 50 students to Disneyland to participate in the Disney Imagination Campus Teamwork and Leadership Workshops during Spring Break.



# New Faculty and Staff

**Vanessa Chavez**  
*Administration Assistant,  
Student Services*

Vanessa Chavez is a mother of two boys, ages three and 10. She offers years of experience as an office/administrative assistant. Some places Vanessa has previously worked at include Community Regional Medical Center, County of Fresno Department of Public Health, and Superior Court of Fresno. In her free time, Vanessa enjoys watching her oldest son play football for the Clovis Rebels and watching her younger son play soccer and baseball. She has two Rottweilers, one French Bulldog and a cat. She is excited to join Reedley College!



**Susana Garcia**  
*Counseling Instructor*

Susana Garcia holds a master's degree in Educational Counseling & Guidance and a bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Susana has a wealth of experience as a counselor working with the general college population and with special programs. She also has 10 years of teaching experience, specifically courses including College and Life Management, Career Planning and Development, and Group Dynamics and Self-Understanding. Most recently Susana has worked with Fresno City College as a general counselor. She held leadership roles including Instructional Department Chair for Counseling, Starfish Functional Lead, Lead Counselor for implementing AB 705, and Lead Intervention Specialist for Early Alert for the Business Pathway.



**Dr. Michael Little-Crow**  
*Mathematics Instructor*

Dr. Michael Little-Crow will join us for the Spring 2025 semester as a new full-time, tenure-track math instructor. Michael is deeply committed to promoting mathematics education and empowering learners from diverse backgrounds. As a member of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa-Cree people, he co-founded OPEN Global Village, Original Peoples Education Network, Inc., a non-profit organization which focuses on supporting inter-tribal and international education initiatives. His dedication to mathematics education has involved active collaboration with the tribal education agencies of the Pascua Yaqui, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, all in Arizona, and various Chippewa nations in North Dakota, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Michael has taught at Oregon State University, Scottsdale Community College, and just previous to his appointment at Reedley, at Arizona State University. Michael earned his bachelor and master of science degrees in Mathematics Education from Oregon State University (OSU) and an Ed.D in Educational Leadership and Innovation at Arizona State University (ASU). Through his multifaceted roles as an educator, researcher, and student advocate, Michael has actively promoted inclusivity, empowerment, and the realization of human potential through the learning and understanding of qualitative principles and patterns using the medium of Story from the oral traditions of Native Peoples.



**Beth Murdock**  
**Tiger Academy/LGBTQ+ Coordinator**

Originally from Plainsburg, CA, Beth Murdock-Gomez holds a BA in Sociology and a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from California State University, East Bay (CSUEB). She also earned a Single Subject Teaching Credential from Fresno State. With over a decade of experience in higher education, Beth has spent the past four years at Reedley College, where she is deeply committed to supporting student success. She currently resides in Madera, CA, with her spouse and two children.



**Stefani Nomura**  
**Head Softball Coach**

In December, Stefani Nomura was hired as a tenure-track PE instructor and the head coach of the Reedley College softball program. Stefani has been in the position of head coach as an adjunct for the last year. Stefani's collegiate athletic journey began at Fresno City College, where she excelled as both a standout softball player and golfer. Stefani then attended Fresno State and earned a bachelor's degree in Physical Education and completed her master's degree in Sports Administration in 2015. She was an athletic director at Central Unified for eight years. Stefani previously coached at Central High School (basketball and softball), worked as an assistant coach at Sunnyside High School, and was an assistant coach at Clovis East High School. Stefani also spent four seasons as an assistant coach at Fresno City College. Stefani has also coached travel ball. As an active player and coach in the Central Valley, Stefani has built extensive connections with coaches at the college and high school levels. We look forward to working with Stefani and watching her athletes succeed on the diamond and, most importantly, in the classroom.



**Erin Vang**  
**Science Laboratory Coordinator for Chemistry**

Erin Vang graduated from the University of California, Irvine with a bachelor of science degree in Biology. Prior to attending UC Irvine, she was a student at SCCC. Erin completed an associate degree for transfer in Biology and a certificate of achievement in Chemistry. Erin has lab experience in both research and production industries with an emphasis in pesticides. Fun fact, during undergrad at Fresno City College, Erin was a member of the women's badminton team as well as an Extending the Classroom Leader for Biology 11A. Erin truly enjoyed her undergrad years with SCCC, and it is her pleasure to serve and be a part of the team at Reedley College.



**Brittany Webster**  
**Executive Assistant, Vice President of Student Services**

Brittany Webster is a dedicated administrative professional and proud mother of four, bringing a wealth of experience in supporting academic and student services. Throughout her career, she has developed a reputation for organization, adaptability, and a collaborative approach to problem-solving, ensuring that processes run smoothly and efficiently to benefit students, faculty, and staff alike. Brittany is passionate about creating a positive and supportive environment where students can excel, and she values the opportunity to contribute to their success. Her ability to streamline operations and foster clear communication aligns with the goals of the Student Services Division at Reedley College. As she begins her journey with Reedley College, Brittany is excited to work alongside the administration and staff to continue fostering an environment of growth, inclusion, and achievement. She is eager to bring her skills, experience, and dedication to the team and looks forward to supporting the college's mission of empowering students to reach their full potential.



# Fall 2024

## Semester in Review

### National Recognition

Financial services company WalletHub has recognized Reedley College as one of the top community colleges in the state and nation for its affordability and overall success in the classroom. Reedley College is ranked 21st in the state out of all of the 116 community colleges in California, and 107th in the nation out of 653 community colleges surveyed. The national ranking puts us in the top 15 percent in the nation. To determine where students can receive the best education at the lowest



price, WalletHub compared 653 community colleges nationwide across 18 key indicators of cost and quality. National rank-

ings were based on cost and financing, education outcomes, and career outcomes. Researchers determined each college's weighted average across the board to calculate the overall score, graded on a 100-point scale. "A recent report that placed Reedley College's performance at 21st out of the 116 Community Colleges in California is a tribute to the hard work of all of our faculty, staff, and administration in implementing a successful and meaningful guided pathways framework," said Reedley College President Dr. Jerry Buckley. "This is a tribute of how our team makes a difference for the students and communities we proudly serve." The Wallethub research was conducted by members of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

LINKS:

<https://wallethub.com/edu/e/best-worst-community-colleges/15076>

<https://wallethub.com/edu/e/states-with-best-worst-community-college-systems/15073>



### Flight School in Session

It was a great start to the day August 9, as we held our ribbon cutting ceremony for our flight school, which will now operate exclusively from the Reedley Municipal Airport. While 11 sophomores will be finishing their flight training at JB Aeronautics at the Fresno Yosemite International Airport, 18 new students will begin in Reedley. The new location also includes five briefing stations, which will be used to track weather conditions and conduct pre and post flight requirements. All of the classroom work, including flight simulator training, will remain on campus in the Aeronautics Building. Guest speakers were Chancellor Goldsmith, Assemblyman Jim Patterson, Assemblyman Joaquin Arambula, Congressman Jim Costa, SCCC Board President Magdalena Gomez, Reedley City Manager Nicole Zieba, and Flight Science program alum Jhonathan Flores, who is now a First Officer Pilot for SkyWest Airlines. President Buckley cut the ribbon on a new era for the flight science program, which welcomed its third Skyleader airplane to the fleet August 21 with two more in transit.

CBS 47 STORY: <https://www.yourcentralvalley.com/news/local-news/reedley-college-flight-school-opens-doors-for-future-pilots/>

MID VALLEY TIMES ARTICLE: <https://shorturl.at/RzCU8>



### New Look Tiger Pantry

A much needed face-lift was given to the Tiger Pantry, which now has more food options for students than ever before. New shelving was installed and more non-food products such as toiletries and diapers are now available.

### Scholarship Night

Our scholarship awards ceremony was one of the largest in campus history, as 155 students received over \$184,000 in scholarship money that will help them cross the finish line towards earning a degree or certificate. Much thanks to the State Center Community College Foundation and Reedley College Foundation for their hard work and effort toward this special evening, as well as our individual donors who make this event possible each year.



There were 172 different scholarships offered, with some of them granting financial support to multiple students. SCCC Foundation President Rico Guerrero and RC Foundation President Linda Launer presented the awards, and President Buckley took photos with each recipient and their donors. The event was held September 13 in the cafeteria.

Total # of Scholarships: 172

Total # of Scholarships Awarded: 294

Amount Granted via SCCC Foundation: \$126,200

Amount Granted via RC Foundation: \$58,390

Total Amount Granted \$184,590

### First Solo Flight

Congratulations to Matthew McClendon of our Flight Science program for completing his first solo flight! Matthew is learning to fly the friendly skies in our brand new Skyleader 600 aircraft. His one hour flight took him around Reedley and Orange Cove and back to the Reedley Airport for a smooth landing. His proud instructor is Jabaar King. We now have our full fleet of five Skyleader 600 planes at the airport fully cleared for takeoff.



### Special Guest

It isn't every day that a three-time basketball champion comes to campus, so our men's basketball team was all ears listening to former Fresno State standout Quinton Hosley at the team's Media Day event October 25. Hosley won three championships in Poland, and also played professionally in Turkey, Italy, Iran, and Spain. He spoke to our guys about perseverance, dedication to the sport, and working hard in the classroom. Hosley also played at the Juco level with Lamar Community College before transferring to Fresno State, so he is very familiar with the path our student-athletes are taking. Quinton is currently an Assistant Coach at Denver South High School.





**Reedley College**  
is turning **100!**  
(1926-2026)

For more information visit:  
<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/about/reedley-college-centennial.html>

To nominate an alumni or another special recognition, scan the QR code below:



Be a part of this centennial event and help us celebrate a century of empowering students and our community. Donations will be used for:

- Community events
- Alumni recognition
- Commemorative materials



Follow Reedley College:



## Harvest Fest Success

Reedley College had a very successful first fundraiser for its upcoming centennial celebration, as Harvest fest raised over \$1,500 that will go directly towards events during the 2026-2027 academic year to commemorate 100 years of student success. Much thanks to our vendors, clubs, volunteers and the community for joining us for a day of fun, food, prizes, and photos with Clyde! Stay tuned for details on our next fundraiser, which is still in the planning stages.



## 100th Anniversary Preps

As we quickly approach the 100th anniversary of Reedley College, preparations are already underway to make the 2026-2027 academic year one to remember. A centennial celebration page is now on the main page of our website, which features vintage photos, our new 100th anniversary logo, campus timeline, links to our Alumni and Volunteer Associations, the Facebook Alumni Page, the Top 100 Alumni form, and event information. You can

also purchase mini Clyde statuettes and commemorative t-shirts on the page as well. Check it out!  
LINK: <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/about/reedley-college-centennial.html>



## Undocumented Student Action Week

Reedley College recognized the 8th Annual Undocumented Student Action Week October 14-18 with a variety of events, including a Resource Fair, webinars, campus visits to UC Davis and Woodland College, information on various immigration relief paths, and group photos of staff showing support for immigrants and their families. Reedley College will continue to provide these students with the education and resources they need to thrive, as well as promote awareness, inclusion, and opportunities for all undocumented students.



## The Curtain Goes Up on the MCFPA

After years of dreaming, planning, fundraising, groundbreaking, and building, Reedley College proudly held its Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the McClarty Center For Fine and Performing Arts (MCFPA) November 19, 2024. This \$30 million, 508-seat facility is now the crown jewel of our campus, and will host many performances, conferences, and campus and community events for decades to come. Guest speakers included Chancellor Goldsmith, Board President Magdalena Gomez, former RC President Dr. Sandra Caldwell, Greater Reedley Chamber of Commerce CEO and President Erik Valencia, and Harold McClarty, who donated \$1 million toward construction of our amazing building. Mr. McClarty, his wife Debbie, and their grandchildren cut the ceremonial ribbon, and our magnificent donor wall was unveiled shortly thereafter. Thank you to the many donors and supporters who helped make this amazing facility a reality. Take a self-guided tour of the McClarty Center for Fine and Performing Arts [here](#).

[ABC 30 STORY](#)

[BUSINESS JOURNAL STORY](#)

[GV WIRE STORY](#)

[MID VALLEY TIMES STORY](#)



## Ag Conference is First Event in New MCFPA

It was only fitting that the very first event inside the new McClarty Center was agriculture related. Our annual Ag Conference took place the very next day (November 20) with more than 200 people in attendance, which included growers, ag business leaders, faculty, and students. President Buckley welcomed everyone to the conference and moderated the first panel discussion "Workforce of the Future." Other conversations included the CA ETP Program & Employer Benefits, the F3 AgTEC Certificate, Food Safety, Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture, Local Industry Resources, and the proposed RC Innovation Center. The conference concluded with AgTech demonstrations that focused on labor solutions and efficiency.



## Aaberg Wows Crowd at Holiday Piano Performance

Students, staff and our community were treated to a magical few days with Grammy and Emmy nominated pianist and composer Philip Aaberg December 5-7. Mr. Aaberg taught music improvisation to our music students, held masterclasses for young pianists, and ended his visit with an amazing holiday solo piano concert November 7 at the McClarty Center for Fine and Performing Arts. Mr. Aaberg performed using our newly gifted Steinway D Concert Grand piano, which was donated by his in-laws, the Belknap family, who are longtime Reedley residents. Mr. Aaberg has worked with musical legends Kenny Rogers, Peter Gabriel, Vince Gill and the Doobie Brothers. Approximately 250 people attended the memorable performance. Mr. Aaberg and Director of Marketing and Communications George Takata promoted the concert on KSEE 24's Central Valley Today December 6. [View it here.](#)

## Another Student Solo Mission

Congratulations to Flight Science student Meagan Ricketts, who completed her first solo flight last month. Her friends and family came out to the Reedley Airport to watch and celebrate the milestone occasion. Meagan's instructor is the very proud Brian Rouska. Congratulations, Meagan!



## Women's Golf Finishes 3rd in State

After Our women's golf team finished in third place at the 3C2A State Championships for the second consecutive year. The Tigers fought hard through strong windy conditions at Monarch Dunes in Nipomo. The Tigers were sitting in second place after Day 1, with Modesto JC leading by 8 and Mt. San Antonio College behind them by 1 stroke. The second round would prove to be an uphill battle. The Tigers were led by freshman Miya Promwongsa, who shot 77 & 74 for a two-day total of 151. That score would qualify her as fourth overall and a selection to the All-State Team. The Tigers battled but couldn't quite get the edge and fell to a 329 team score on day two for a tournament team score of 645. The eventual champion was Mt. San Antonio College, who posted a 631, with Modesto finishing second with a 638. The Tigers had another fantastic season overall, winning the NorCal Regional and the Big 8 championship. Sophomore Ethel Asequia was named the Big 8 Conference Champion.





President – Dr. Jerry L. Buckley

Vice President of Instruction – vacant

Vice President of Student Services – Dr. Jesús Vega

Vice President of Administrative Services – Melanie Highfill

Dean of Instruction – David Clark

Dean of Instruction – Dr. G. Todd Davis

Dean of Instruction – Juan Bedolla

Dean of Student Services – Shannon Solis

Dean of Student Success & Achievement – Dr. Natalie Culver-Dockins

Dean of Early College - Dr. Sandra Fuentes

Director, Athletics & Student Athlete Success – Dr. David Santesteban

Director, DSPS – Dr. Samuel Morgan

Director, EOPS/CARE/NextUp - vacant

Director, Institutional Research, Planning & Effectiveness – Janice Offenbach

Director, Marketing & Communications – George Takata

Director, College Technology Services – Dan Demmers

Director, Title V – Adelfa Lorenzano

Director, Outreach, Onboarding & Student Engagement - Kia Tan