



## Calendar

- Sept. 10 – Pirate Involvement Fair, 10 a.m.- 2p.m., Main Quad
- Sept. 12 – Take a Break with Chancellor Yamamura, 1-2 p.m., College Center Ballroom A
- Sept. 13-15 – Theatre Nouveau, 7:30 p.m., Drama Lab Studio, Free admission, Mature Audiences
- Sept. 14 – International Observe the Moon Night, 7 p.m., OCC Planetarium, Free admission
- Sept. 17 – OCC Mid-Autumn Festival, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Main Quad
- Sept. 22 – Orange County Children's Book Festival, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Main Quad, Free admission
- Sept. 25 – Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour, 7 p.m., Robert B. Moore Theatre
- Sept. 27 – Skylark Speaker Series with Dr. Sean Pike, 6 p.m., OCC Planetarium, Free admission, Seating is limited
- Sept. 27 – Free Public Telescope Night, 8:30 p.m., OCC Planetarium, weather permitting

## Save the Date!

- Oct. 4 – Community Science Night, 5-8 p.m., Free admission and parking

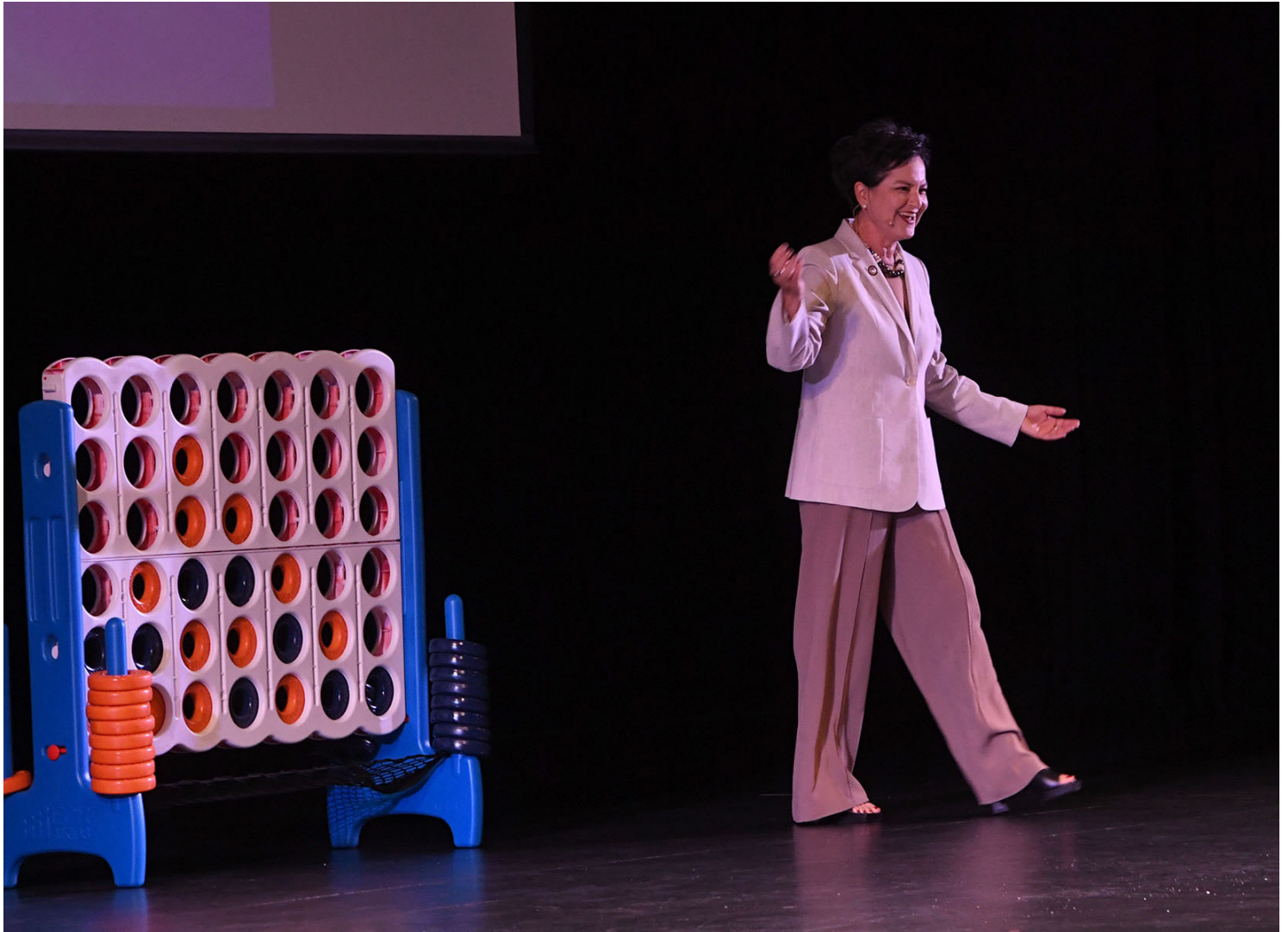


## Pirate Pops Welcome OCC Students to Fall 2024 Semester

Orange Coast College has welcomed students to the new academic year with a range of new resources and tools to support their educational journey. This includes the addition of three new tutoring centers, each geared towards specific subjects. These are the Science and Engineering Tutoring Center, the Writing and Humanities Tutoring Center, and the Math Center. In addition to these physical centers, online tutoring services are also available for students who may not be able to visit in person.

The Fall 2024 semester commenced on Monday, August 26, with three Welcome Tables placed strategically throughout the campus to assist students with basic questions and help them locate classes. The aim was not only to provide practical assistance but also to convey a sense of care and community to the students.

To further welcome students to the new semester, OCC organized Pirate Pops events with President Suarez on the first two days of school. There were eight flavors to choose from, including two favorites of President Suarez. This refreshing treat served as a delightful way to kick off the fall semester.



## Fall Flex Day Offers Employees a Chance to “Connect for Community”

Orange Coast College’s Fall 2024 Flex Day was a success, boasting 60 general sessions and over 20 workshops. Nearly 600 employees were in attendance.

This year’s Fall Flex Day was held on Aug. 23, the Friday before school began for the Fall 2024 semester and was centered around the theme of “Connect for Community.” Flex Day sessions were held from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., with a break for lunch at noon.

Session topics included “Favorite Things You Do in the Classroom,” “Curriculum Newest of the New,” and “Humanizing the Syllabus: A Culturally Responsive Approach to Learner-Centered Syllabus.”

At the event’s State of the College, faculty, classified professionals and managers had an opportunity to hear from Chancellor Yamamura, OCC President Suarez, Vice President of Instruction Dr. Tara Giblin, Vice President of Student Services Dr. Madjid Niroumand, Vice President of Administrative Services Dr. Rich Pagel, and Academic and Classified Senate Presidents. The State of the

College concluded with President Suarez announcing the retirement of OCC Foundation Executive Director Doug Bennett and thanking him for his nearly 40 years of service to the College. The retirement announcement was met with a standing ovation.

During the lunch hour, staff and faculty were treated to new Pirate Pops. It was an excellent way to kick off another successful year at OCC.

## OCC Student Completes Stanford Summer Premedical Program

Orange Coast College student Valeria Arellano was among 21 students selected to participate in the Stanford Summer Community College Premedical Program (SSCCPP) at Stanford Medicine.

Arellano, a biology major at Orange Coast College and Golden West College, spent the summer in traditional classes, medical school admissions workshops, science-based classes like human anatomy and molecular cellular biology, and shadowing physicians and other health professionals.





During the six-week program, Arellano engaged in scholarly research on health disparities and presented their research project: Understanding cardiovascular disease detection and outcomes in Santa Clara and Fresno County.

“We are immensely proud of Valeria Arellano for being one of only 21 students statewide selected to participate in this academically intensive program at Stanford Medicine,” says Orange Coast College President Suarez. “Her intellect and commitment to excellence serve as a testament to the quality of education and opportunities available at OCC.”

SSCCPP is an academically intensive experience that exclusively targets California community college students considering careers as physicians and physician assistants. SSCCPP recruits talented and motivated community college students interested in medicine to immerse themselves in the Stanford School of Medicine network through various personal and professional development experiences.

This year, the Office of Diversity in Medical Education (ODME) celebrates 25 years of offering premedical programs for undergraduates, including community college students.



## OCC Theatre Department Announces 2024-25 Nine-Show Season

The Orange Coast College’s Theatre Department has released its 2024-25 season with a total of nine productions, including faculty and student-directed shows.

Kicking off the 2024-25 season, OCC Theatre will present “Theatre Nouveau,” the first show from the OCC Repertory (The REP), the College’s student-run theatre company. The REP’s student-directed productions offer students the hands-on opportunity to direct, act, write and stage manage. Five REP productions in the Drama Lab Studio Theatre will round out this season, all with free admission.

“Three Sisters” is the first faculty-directed mainstage of the season. Directed by Peter Uribe, Anton Chekhov’s beloved play comes alive in a new translation by Marina Brodskaya. Faculty-directed productions in the Drama Lab Theatre are directed by recognized



theatre professionals and educators, allowing students to develop and perfect their craft with the latest in contemporary theatre, musicals and classical theatre.

Tickets for all productions can be reserved and purchased on the OCC Tickets website. Please note that tickets are only available for purchase online. Parking is available in Lots B and C, and a daily parking permit can be obtained for \$5 using the Passport Parking app or the Passport Parking website.

## OC Children's Book Festival Returns to Orange Coast College Sept. 22

The 21st annual Orange County Children's Book Festival returns to Orange Coast College this fall with an exciting lineup of special guest authors spanning a broad genre of interests. Families are invited to gather at OCC to celebrate the love of books and the joy of reading. The free event will be held on Sunday, September 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Main Quad.

The 2024 guest authors include cartoonist and teacher Gene Luen Yang, #1 New York Times bestselling author of middle-grade novels Jasmine Warga, Newbery Medal-winning author Cynthia Kadohata, and actress and producer Austin Highsmith Garces.

Best known as the author of the graphic novel "American Born Chinese," Yang has a number of other comics, including Dark Horse Comics' continuation of the popular Nickelodeon cartoon "Avatar: The Last Airbender" and DC Comics' "Superman." His graphic novel "American Born Chinese" was ordered by Disney+ to be converted to a television adaptation in 2021. The show premiered on Disney+ in May 2023 to positive reviews.

Warga is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of middle-grade novels "Other Words For Home," "The Shape of Thunder," and "A Rover's Story." She is also the author of the young adult novel, "My Heart and Other Black Holes," which has been translated into over twenty different languages. Her next middle-grade novel, "A Strange Thing Happened in Cherry Hall," will be published on September 10, 2024.

Kadohata is a children's writer best known for her young adult novel "Kira Kira," which won the Newbery Medal in 2005. Additionally, she is the author of the Pen USA Award-winner "Weedflower" and the National Book Award-winner "The Thing About Luck," among other prize-winning works for children.

Best known for playing Phoebe in "Dolphin Tale 1 & 2," Garces is a multihyphenate artist who published her children's picture book, "The Miracle Tree," which she authored, illustrated, and released in April 2019. She is adapting "The Miracle Tree" into a screenplay alongside Emmy winner Noam Dromi.

This year's OC Children's Book Festival will feature numerous activities such as storytelling, conversations with authors, book signings, face painting, train rides, a bounce house, and a surprise appearance of special guests from a faraway galaxy.

Admission and parking is free. All ages are welcome. Visit the OC Children's Book Festival website to learn more about the event.