



## Students, Community Members Turn Out for Planetarium Beam Signing

**M**ore than 100 members of the campus and local communities participated in a special beam signing event on Dec. 8 for OCC's Planetarium, currently under construction and expected to be complete in Fall 2018.

The beam was one of three that will form a structure that will hold the Planetarium's Foucault pendulum, which demonstrates the rotation of the earth. Those in attendance at the signing included donors, members of the community, students, faculty, staff, and children from OCC's on-campus Children's Center. Representatives from the architecture firm that designed the building also were on hand to participate in the momentous occasion.

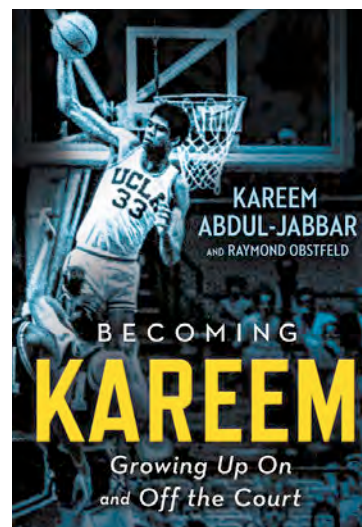
All four sides of the beam were signed, and it was erected on Monday, Dec. 11, along with an evergreen tree and an American flag. The symbolism of the tree, according to one construction worker, is that in Native American culture there is a tradition of not building anything taller than the top of the surrounding land. The tree on top of the Planetarium's beam pays tribute to that tradition.

Photos from the event can be viewed on OCC's Flickr page at [www.flickr.com/photos/orangecoastcollege](http://www.flickr.com/photos/orangecoastcollege)

## Book Co-Authored by OCC Professor Nominated for NAACP Image Award

**A** memoir co-authored by OCC creative writing professor Raymond Obstfeld and basketball legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar has been nominated for a prestigious NAACP Image Award, with the awards ceremony set to take place on Jan. 15, 2018. This is the third nomination for the dynamic duo, who previously won the award in 2013 for their children's book, "What Color is My World."

Their latest book, titled "Becoming Kareem: Growing Up On and Off the Court," was released last month and has been listed by the School Library Journal as one of the best books of the year. The book chronicles Abdul-Jabbar's life from childhood through his first year in the National Basketball Association, when he changed his name from Lew Alcindor to Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. The story is structured around the most



significant mentors in his life, including John Wooden, Wilt Chamberlain, Bruce Lee, and Muhammad Ali.

“It describes his growing commitment to social causes as well as his rise as the nation’s number one basketball player,” says Obstfeld. “Kareem hopes the book will be a guide for other kids growing up facing the kinds of obstacles he had to overcome.”

The NAACP Image Awards celebrates the accomplishments of people of color in the fields of television, music, literature and film, and also honors individuals or groups who promote social justice through creative endeavors.

Obstfeld has published more than 50 books of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction throughout his career, including five bestsellers. He has also sold more than a dozen screenplays, and has received a Mystery Writers of America Edgar Award, a Delacorte Young Adult Award, and an NAACP Image Award.

Obstfeld has collaborated with NBA legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on six books, including children’s book, middle-school novels, a graphic novel, and several nonfiction books, the latest being New York Times bestseller “Writings on the Wall: Searching for a New Equality Beyond Black and White.” He will be teaching a novel workshop in the upcoming Spring 2018 semester that covers the basics of novel writing, including structure, style, plotting and characterization.



more than 30 practices during the fall semester. Team members would often start their days at 6 a.m. and spend 8-10 hours in the kitchen. In October, the practice schedule was doubled to twice a week. The day of the competition students were exposed to networking with other culinary students and had an opportunity to receive valuable feedback from highly accomplished chefs.

For the past 24 years, OCC’s Culinary department has put forth student Hot Food Teams, winning the California state competition for the past six years in a row. The team will now advance to the ACF Western Regional competition on March 16-18, to be held on OCC’s campus.

## OCC Hot Food Team Places First Overall at State Competition

Orange Coast College’s 2017 Hot Food Team won the American Culinary Federation California State completion, held at the Arts Institute in North Hollywood on Saturday, Dec. 9.

OCC’s Hot Food Team earned a silver medal and first place overall finish in the Arts Institute’s kitchens. Teams are scrutinized by a panel of four ACF certified judges including a “certified master-chef” and a pastry judge. The competition is broken down into two phases: the first tests basic skills which are picked at random, and then demonstrated under a strict time constraint. For example, fish butchery, chicken butchery, specific vegetable cuts and established pastry skills are to be completed under 80 minutes or teams lose points.

In Phase Two teams have 90 minutes for cooking and service, which is cooking of a four-course meal for four portions. One course is a predetermined dish from the Escoffier Cookbook (a classical French cooking bible of sorts) while the other three courses are up to the team to develop.

OCC’s team has been practicing since late August, logging

## OCC Wins CA Community College Board of Governors Award for Sustainability

Orange Coast College was recognized in mid-November by the California Community College (CCC) Board of Governors for its leadership in creating a sustainable and eco-friendly campus.

OCC was named “Best Overall District - Large” for CCC’s Excellence in Energy and Sustainability award competition, presented by the 17-member Board of Governors, which sets policy and provides guidance for the 72 districts and 114 colleges that constitute the system.

The Board of Governors Energy and Sustainability Awards were established in 2012 to recognize leadership in implementing goals set forth in Proposition 39 — also known as the California Clean Energy Jobs Act — to improve energy efficiency and expand clean energy generation in schools.



“California community colleges are leaders in conservation and sustainability, with smart energy solutions that enhance learning environments, save taxpayers money, create jobs and make our system a responsible steward of public and natural resources.” said California Community Colleges Board of Governors President Cecilia V. Estolano in a press release.

Coast received the honor due to significant savings incurred by retrofitting a vast majority of the College’s lamps and new ballasts, reducing OCC’s energy bill by more than \$80,000 annually. The project cost approximately \$887,000 and was partially funded by Southern California Edison energy incentives worth \$150,000, as well as more than \$722,000 in Proposition 39 funding.

OCC was one of six California community colleges to be recognized. The College hopes to serve as a model for sustainable practices and has implemented several energy saving measures in the past few years aimed at reducing the environmental impact of its 164-acre campus. Those measures include: replacing existing landscaping with drought-tolerant plants, and bathroom water faucets with auto shut-off faucets; installing water-bottle filling stations, electric vehicle charging stations, and water-efficient toilets throughout campus; and placing recycling containers around campus.

OCC also added solar panels to its Adams Parking Lot last year that generate a significant portion of the campus’ energy supply, and this semester opened a new Recycling Center that better suits the needs of the College and local community, including expanding the types of materials that the center accepts.

## Speech & Debate Team Wins Big at Fall Championship Tournament

Orange Coast College’s Speech, Debate, and Theatre team competed at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensics Association Fall Championship Tournament this past weekend, picking up a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in two significant categories.

The competitive tournament — hosted by Moorpark College — had both two-year and four-year colleges present, and schools in attendance included California State University of Long Beach, Northern Arizona University, Mt San Antonio College and Solano Community College.

With 252 debate events and 736 individual events, the Pirates placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the Novice Division category and came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the overall sweepstakes award just behind El Camino College.

“It is really amazing to see all of the hard work and dedication that our students have put forth this semester,” said director of platform events Sean Connor. “They have been working non-stop and it clearly shows with all of the success that we have had thus far.”

Debate coach Hannah Haghghat also was pleased with OCC’s performance in both International Public Debate as well as

National Parliamentary Debate. “Our students argued with poise and conviction,” she said.

Not only did OCC’s Speech and Debate team have a strong debate showing, they also had a fantastic display in Individual Events. “Our students are absolutely meeting our expectations this year,” said director of interpretation events Shaw Davari. “It is such a pleasure to see our students be able to compete at the highest caliber against some of the best collegiate programs in the Pacific Southwest.”

Orange Coast College’s Speech, Debate, and Theatre team’s next tournament is Close to the Coast hosted at OCC in mid-January.

## OCC Theatre Dept. Staging Christmas Melodrama Dec. 15-17

The Orange Coast College Student Repertory Theatre Company will stage “Bella and the Bashful Beast of Bedford,” a Christmas Melodrama and Ice Cream Social on Dec. 15-17 in the College’s Drama Lab Theatre.

Adults and children alike are invited to boo the villain, cheer

The Orange Coast College Theatre Department Presents An

OLD FASHIONED FAMILY

# CHRISTMAS MELODRAMA

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

### BELLA AND THE BASHFUL BEAST OF BEDFORD

*Fun for the whole family!*

Boo the villain, cheer the hero, sing holiday songs  
and enjoy a free ice cream treat!  
A special visitor is also expected...

Dec. 8 & 15 at 7 p.m.

Dec. 9 & 16 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Dec. 10 & 17 at 2:30 p.m.

Performed in the Orange Coast College Drama Lab  
Adults: \$7 advance, \$9 at the door, Children: \$5  
advanced; \$7 at the door

Free parking · OCC Bursar’s Office 714-432-5880  
or [www.occtickets.com](http://www.occtickets.com)

This event is ADA compliant. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made no later than five business days prior to this event by contacting Visual & Performing Arts Division at (714) 432-5629



the hero, sing holiday songs and enjoy a free ice cream treat at performances at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 15 and 16, and matinees at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 16 and 17.

Advance tickets are available for \$7 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors at [www.occtickets.com](http://www.occtickets.com) or at the OCC Bursars Office at (714) 432-5880. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$9 for adults and \$7 for children and seniors.

Parking is free for the performance in Lots C and D. There will be a visit by Santa and parents are encouraged to bring their cameras.

## Student Programmers Represent OCC at Regional Competition

Two teams of student programmers from OCC held their own at the 2017 ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest at Riverside Community College on Nov. 11.

The teams placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> among two-year colleges, and 15<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> overall, among a field of 105 teams including those from University of Southern California, University of California campuses in Los Angeles and Irvine.

This is the second year that students from OCC have competed in the prestigious tournament, which invites college students to sharpen and demonstrate their problem-solving, programming, and teamwork skills.

## Pirates to Host Alumni Game on Dec. 22

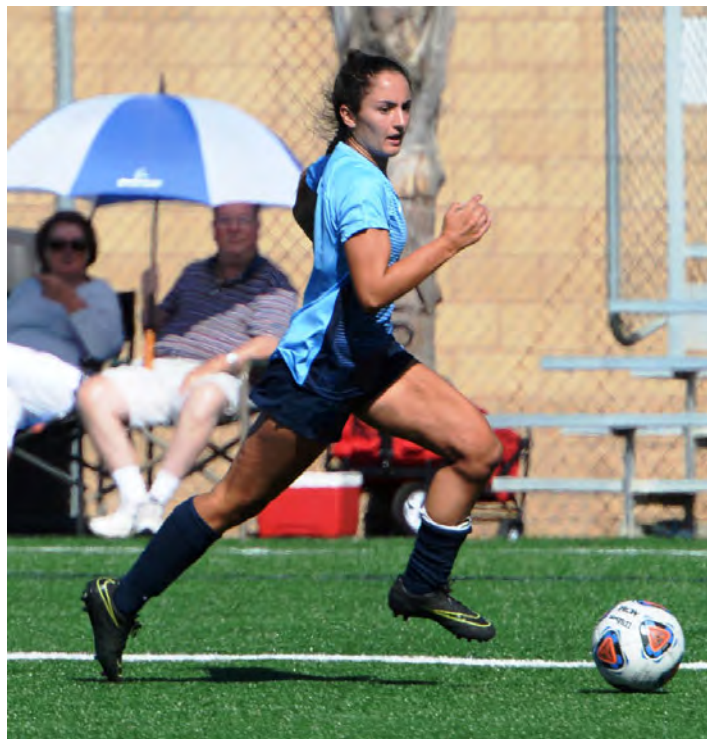
The Orange Coast College baseball team will host its first-ever alumni vs. alumni baseball game, set for Friday, Dec. 22 at Noon on the newly turfed Wendell Pickens Field.

According to head coach John Altobelli, batting practice will start at 10 a.m. with a noon start to the game, followed by a postgame get-together at a site to be determined later.

Cost per player is \$25, which includes food throughout the day.

The Pirates are looking for any/all former OCC baseball players to attend, as well as former coaches. Former head coach Mike Mayne will be attending the event and all family and friends are welcomed to attend.

Coast reminds all who attend this simple request for the recently installed field ... no sunflower seeds, tobacco, food or drinks allowed.



## Six Pirates earn All-Orange Empire Conference honors

Six members of the Orange Coast College women's soccer team earned a spot on this year's All-Orange Empire Conference team, as voted on by the coaches at last week's postseason meeting.

The Pirates, who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the OEC and earned a No. 8 seeding in this year's regional playoffs, had three first-team and three second-team selections.

Leading the way for Coast was the trio of sophomore goalkeeper Alison Marlow, sophomore midfielder Lupe Rodriguez and freshman defender Sabrina Chantler.

Marlow finished the 2017 campaign with 97 saves (second-best in the OEC) an .836 save percentage (third-best in the OEC) and a 0.81 goals-against average (third-best in the OEC).

Rodriguez notched nine goals and seven assists for 24 points (fourth-best in the OEC) and her eight goals and six assists in conference play was third-best in the OEC.

Chantler was a steady force on defense and her ability to quickly pick up the OCC defensive system allowed her to notch four goals and two assists, while playing in all 23 games for the Pirates.

On the second team, Coast defenders Alyssa Wiesen, Jane McDonald and Chatrina Skytte, earned second-team, All-OEC honors. The back end of the OCC lineup was one of the strongest in the Orange Empire Conference, allowing the competition just 19 goals this season in 23 matches, a 0.81 goals-against average. Marlow and the Pirate defense helped Coast to 10 shutouts during the season and were 9-0-1 in those 10 contests.