



Angels Host OCC Night As Part of 75th Anniversary

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim hosted “Orange Coast College Night” on Friday, May 19, as the Angels played the Minnesota Twins.

This event was a part of OCC’s yearlong campus and community-based 75th Anniversary Celebration and was highlighted by OCC President Angelica L. Suarez throwing out the game’s first pitch.

An OCC-inspired village met OCC attendees at the gate with photo ops, prizes, and game hats. The community could purchase special seating for the college to enjoy the game together.

Each ticket holder received a customized Angels and Orange Coast College co-branded hat featuring the 75th-anniversary logo and OCC’s original colors of maroon and gray.



OCC Celebrates Diamond Anniversary Commencement May 26

Orange Coast College conferred more than 3,800 associate degrees and certificates of achievement Friday, May 26, to some 1,800 graduates at the 75th commencement ceremony. For the ceremony, OCC welcomed several thousand people, including graduates and their loved ones, to the Orange County Fairgrounds Pacific Amphitheatre.

Student speaker Nancy Estrada, Associate Degree for Transfer in Spanish, shared her inspiring story and proudly completed her OCC career walking with her son Adam as they graduated together.

Estrada, already a mother of four, adopted five siblings after a family tragedy left them needing a home that would keep them together. In 2017, Adam was diagnosed with an untreatable brain malformation that pushed her determination to complete her return to OCC by the time he graduated.

“His confidence and determination to keep moving forward... despite everything he was going through... made him my hero. If he could do it...with all his challenges and limitations, I had to do it for him, myself, and my family. From that day on, I didn’t stop. I worked hard so that I may walk with my hero when he graduates. I will be walking with my hero today.”

Actor Patrick Warburton was OCC’s 2023 Alumni Hall of Fame inductee and delivered his speech to the gathered crowd. He credited his coaches at OCC for helping him and putting him on his path to success.

Kelly Elliott, Biology Professor and 2024 Orange County Community College Teacher of the Year, remembered her stepmother as her inspiration to travel and admire nature, where she fostered her love of birds.

As president of OCC, Angelica Suarez congratulated the 2023 graduates and reminisced on her graduation from Loyola University Chicago, where her mother declared with pride, “Mi hija es una doctora/My daughter is a doctor.”

Pride Month 2023

Orange Coast College joins the celebration of Pride Month this June 2023. This national month recognizes the achievements of LGBTQIA+ communities as they come together and celebrate the freedom to be themselves. At OCC, we welcome all and value respect and inclusivity for our fellow students, staff, and community.

The OCC Pride Scholars Community hosted a virtual speed friending event on June 15 for Coast

Community College District students. There were multiple rounds in which students were put into breakout rooms and given icebreaker questions to start conversations, followed by a Pride-themed Trivia game.





OCC Celebrates 65th Annual Honor's Night: "Diamonds are a Pirate's Best Friend."

Orange Coast College's 65th Annual Honor's Night was held Wednesday, May 10. Honors Night is a long-standing tradition that recognizes the community of OCC learners and educators that leave a lasting legacy.

"Diamonds are a Pirate's Best Friend" was this year's theme as a nod to OCC's year of celebration honoring the 75th anniversary of our campus.

The awards ceremony was hosted at the Robert B. Moore Theatre. It was preceded by a reception in the college Quad with food and beverages provided by OCC's culinary department.

Honors Night I recognized OCC students who have achieved top academic honors, service, and leadership to the college and community. This year, nearly \$640,000 worth of scholarships were handed out.

Juneteenth at OCC

Orange Coast College will recognize and celebrate Juneteenth Monday, June 19, 2023. The federal holiday is also known as Freedom or Emancipation Day. It honors "our country's second independence day," when the last enslaved African Americans were freed in

Texas, two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

OCC is dedicated to working with the community and its students to acknowledge and implement diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility into its programming.

To celebrate Juneteenth, local community events such as festivals, in-person meetups, and virtual art and music appreciation sessions can be found on city calendars in your area. On Instagram, OCC-affiliated groups such as the Black Student Union and Umoja OCC can be found at @bsuocc and @umoja_occ.



BSU Club President Ayleah Willis, Orange Coast College President Dr. Angelica Suarez, OCC Vice President of Student Services Dr. Madjid Niroumand, BSU Vice President Darius Gray, BSU Past President Key-ly Mizero, and Jamaal Tatum met Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at the College Center.

OCC's BSU club officers came together with the college's leadership team to discuss the acknowledgment of Juneteenth as a federal holiday and the black student experience at OCC.

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE



Celebrating 75 Years of Educational Excellence

When Orange Coast College first opened its doors in 1948, barracks buildings dotted throughout campus were all that remained of what had once been the Santa Ana Army Air Base. The first graduating class of 500 students began a tradition of excellence that OCC carries on today.

Home to many state-of-the-art facilities, OCC's 164-acre campus is a thriving community of students from diverse backgrounds. The College offers access to high-tech tools and resources that prepare students for careers in a competitive and ever-changing workforce, or transfer to a four-year university, all at an affordable price.

To learn more about OCC's 75-year history, visit www.orangecoastcollege.edu/75years



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