



# Los Angeles Valley College FOUNDATION

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

### Alumna Jade Kosché '16, Receives Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award



While a student at Los Angeles Valley College, Jade Kosché took a legal writing class with Professor Eileen McGarry, an instructor who would eventually become a mentor. One day at Valley, Professor McGarry offhandedly told Jade that she should “apply for a Fulbright.”

“I didn’t know what that meant at the time,” recalls Jade. “But it was something that stayed in mind for years.”

Inspired by Professor McGarry, Jade decided to pursue law herself. Since California only requires a minimum of 60 college units for admittance to law school, Jade took the LSAT right after getting her AA in English from Valley in 2016. She received a scholarship to attend Trinity Law School, where she focused in international humanitarian law and served as the Executive Editor of the Trinity Law Review.

After taking the bar exam, Jade had to wait three months for her results. It was during this “down time” that she remembered Professor McGarry’s words from so many years before and decided to apply for a Fulbright Scholarship.

Just last month, the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board awarded Jade with a Fulbright

U.S. Scholar Program Award to travel to Israel to pursue an LL.M. degree in International Trade Law. Jade will study at Tel Aviv University to research the feasibility of an international convention on standardizing and codifying corporate responsibility, with respect to human rights abuse in supply chains.

“I want to investigate how, from the top down, we can stop abuse that happens in international supply chains. This includes things like diamonds mined by children and exploitation in the textile industry,” Jade explains. “How can we get together an international agreement that corporations will adhere to regarding certain rules for corporate responsibility? This is my passion.”

Kosché is one of 800 U.S. citizens who will teach, conduct research, and/or provide expertise abroad for the 2020-2021 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government’s flagship international educational exchange program. Fulbrighters address critical global challenges in all disciplines, while building relationships, knowledge, and leadership in support of the long-term interests of the United States. Fulbright alumni have achieved distinction in many fields, including 59 who have been awarded the Nobel Prize, 84 who have received Pulitzer Prizes, and 37 who have served as a head of state or government.

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### Alumnus Stefano Bloch '98 Publishes *Going All City*



Scholar, artist, and Valley College alumnus Stefano Bloch recently published *Going All City: Struggle and Survival in LA's Graffiti Subculture*, an auto-ethnography detailing the complexities of life in Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley in the 1990s.

The book explores major structural and societal issues, including poverty, violence, policing, and gang activity, from the perspective of Bloch, then a young graffiti writer who had no choice but to learn how to navigate them.

Los Angeles Valley College plays a prominent role in the book and in Bloch's life. After navigating a childhood of trauma and being forced out of high school, Bloch found refuge and a new path forward at Valley.

“If it wasn’t for Valley College, I don’t know what my life would look like,” says Bloch. “For someone like me who was homeless and experiencing abject poverty, Valley provided not just structure, but the individual attention I needed from the most caring people.”

Bloch recalls a long list of faculty and staff who made a life-long

impression. “Farrel Broslawsky changed my perspective on life, radically. Thomas Yacovone taught me to be a student. Steven Mark Sachs mentored me and showed me exactly what I needed to do to transfer. Yasmin Delahoussaye made school seem fun. Coach Gary Honjio was the first person to tell me I needed to chill out,” he recalls. “The list goes on forever of these people who did all these things for me and gave me structure.”

Bloch graduated in 1998 with full ride offers to multiple University of California schools. He obtained a BA in literature from UC Santa Cruz, an MA in urban planning from UCLA, and a PhD in geography from the University of Minnesota. He was an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow with the Cogut Center for the Humanities and a Presidential Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow in the Urban Studies Program at Brown University. He is now an Assistant Professor in the School of Geography, Development, and the Environment at the University of Arizona.

“In the context of my book, Valley College is one of the most important spaces for navigating the city. It’s a safe space – an educational sanctuary,” says Bloch. “For me, Valley led me away from the traumatic spaces I was facing. Valley was a first step toward an academic life -- one where I can write a book like this.”

## New Endowments Established with the LAVC Foundation

**Carol Bishop Memorial Endowment** was established by the family and friends of Carol Bishop, who passed away in December 2021. Bishop was a long-time professor at Valley College's Art Department and taught courses in art history, advance drawing, painting, and design. The endowment will provide scholarships to Valley College students studying Art.



**Isabel Diaz Memorial Endowment** was established by the eight children of the LAVC Alumna in her memory. Diaz, who passed away in 2012, graduated from Valley in 1980 at the age of 51. She was so energized by the learning experience as told by her son Ron. She received an AA from Valley and then went on to Cal State Northridge to receive her Bachelor's degree. The endowment will provide scholarships to mothers who attend Valley College.

**Raul V. Castillo Endowment** was established by the family and friends of the Valley College Alumnus (Class of '88") in his honor. Castillo will also be celebrating his 20th year as the Executive Director of the LAVC Foundation. The endowment will provide general scholarships to Valley College students.



**Adelante PAC 3 Endowment** was established as a result of a match from the Title V Department of Education grant received by LAVC. The grant is designed to make the most meaningful impact for LAVC to move forward/ahead by bringing about a transformation that connects students to the college so they can be successful in their educational endeavors.

**Adelante**

**HFPA Endowment** was established by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association as it continues to support organizations in the community who serve those seeking careers in the television and motion picture industry as well as media. This endowment will provide scholarships in the media arts and journalism.



## Virtual Fundraising Event for Dreamers a Success!

On October 22, 2020, the LAVC Foundation held its first virtual fundraising event to assist Dreamers. LAVC President Barry Gribbons was joined by Congressman Tony Cardenas, LACCD Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez, Trustees Andra Hoffman, Gabriel Buelna, and David Vela. Foundation VP Imelda Padilla moderated the event with Yarell Ramos (Univision) and Jose Luis Gonzalez (Estrella TV) participating in the discussion.

Each year, Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC) enrolls approximately 1,000 undocumented students. To support these students' unique needs, LAVC was one of the first community colleges in the nation to open a fully staffed Dream Resource Center. The Dream Resource Center supports undocumented students through their educational journey, offers a safe and supportive space, and provides coordinated services that improve outcomes for both undocumented students and their families.

Nearly \$14,000 was raised from the event which will contribute to a growing Dream Resource Center fund to help students pay for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) legal filing fees. DACA is a federal administrative relief program intended to protect eligible immigrant youth who came to the United States before the age of 16. DACA gives eligible young undocumented immigrants: 1) protection from deportation, and 2) a work permit. The program expires after two years, subject to renewal. Bi-annual filings fees are \$495.





## COVID-19 Emergency Student Stipend Impact Stories

With the support of our many friends and community partners, the LAVC Foundation provided 154 Valley College students with a **COVID-19 Emergency Student Stipend**. Here are two stories of how this support has impacted our students' lives.



*"Hi, my name is Jocelyn Cruz. I'm a first generation college student in my family. It's a lot of pressure because I have a younger sister who looks up to me. My major is child development. I do not work right now because my parents want me to focus on school. But sometimes it's hard for them to pay bills right now because of COVID-19. My mom is not working, which has been hard for us, but we are getting by little by little. I received the Emergency Stipends provided by the LAVC Foundation and this support was such a blessing. It helped me and my family a lot and put a smile on our faces during these tough times. The stipend helped me pay for our bills, rent, and to buy food. This support helped me not have to worry about the bills and focus on school."*

*"My name is Lilit Mkrtychyan. I am 30 years old and moved to the United States with my husband and infant son two years ago. We came here to work, study, and begin a new life in this country of possibilities.*

*Right away, I enrolled at Los Angeles Valley College to improve my language skills and begin taking Child Development courses.*

*However, soon after enrollment, COVID-19 began. The pandemic brought great challenges for my family. We lost work and had to stay home all the time. I began taking online courses and continued to challenge myself with my classes. I also welcomed my second child, a baby boy named David, a week after my last classes of the spring semester.*

*During these confusing and difficult times, I was grateful to receive an Emergency COVID-19 stipend from the Los Angeles Valley College Foundation. This support helped cover our bills so I could stay in school. The stipend I received was very significant in this hard time and we were very thankful for it. It is very important for a family like mine to receive support and attention from kind people that we don't even know."*



## First Response Emergency Stipends for Nursing and Respiratory Therapy

November 2020, The Los Angeles Valley College Foundation received First Response Healthcare Student Support Grants, totaling \$12,600, from the Foundation for California Community Colleges. This new funding provided immediate stipends to 16 Nursing students and 11 Respiratory Therapy students.

The stipends were intended to help Los Angeles Valley College students who are facing adverse financial impacts of COVID-19 with their ability to stay enrolled and complete their education. They will also help address California's pressing need to advance students in Nursing and Respiratory Therapy into our health care system.



## Greetings & Notes



Left to right: Foundation Board President Araz Parseghian, Los Angeles Valley College President Barry Gribbons, and Foundation Executive Director Raul Castillo

Dear LAVC Foundation Supporters,

We are deeply grateful for your generosity. LA Valley College has a deep commitment to providing access to higher education, ensuring equity, and supporting our students through completion of their education goals. We regularly see the lifelong impact that education has on people and in creating economic opportunities. At the scale that Valley College is working, we can even see the transformational impact it has on communities. Arguably, we are facing historic challenges and opportunities at the same time.

While we are committed to our mission and honored to serve our students and the community, we simply would not have the impact we have without you. Your generosity provides support to our programs to hundreds of students each year. While these times indeed bring historic challenges, you too have brought historic-level of support. Thank you for your belief in LA Valley College and our students. Together, we will continue to change lives and transform communities!

Highest regards,

Barry Gribbons, Ph.D.

President, Los Angeles Valley College

Dear Friends,

I am very happy to make it through my first year as your Foundation President! I did not know what to think last year amidst the pandemic when things seemed so uncertain. However, we got through it and I hope all of you are well!

One of the things your Foundation Board did this past year was have a retreat to create a strategic plan. I appreciate the participation of the Board members as well as the input of Valley College President Dr. Barry Gribbons. Lastly, thank you Executive Director Raul Castillo for piecing together our thoughts to present a plan with a three, five and ten year strategy. I hope the benchmarks set will lead to building capacity and growth. More importantly, a thriving foundation that can play a more significant role in the life of Valley College.

As I start my second year, I want to thank you all for supporting the Foundation. We are so grateful!

Sincerely,

Araz Parseghian  
Foundation President

Dear Monarch Family,

We prepared for the 2020 -2021 fiscal year as COVID 19 continued to ravage lives around the world. I think we did quite well this year despite limitations that were imposed. It certainly was not business as usual, but we were able to accomplish most of our goals and objectives this year including having a virtual event. I guess it was a ZOOM year!

It was a very good year for our investment portfolio which includes the Foundation's endowments. The portfolio earned over \$1.3 million this past year. The earnings will contribute to the continued growth of our endowments and will also provide scholarships as well as support for designated campus programs, projects, and departments on campus.

As we concluded the fiscal year, things seem to be returning back to normal. I thank you all so much for your continued support. I hope to perhaps see you on campus soon. Continue to be safe!

Sincerely,

Raul Castillo  
Executive Director  
Class of 1988



# Los Angeles Valley College Foundation

## Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2021

**Assets:**

Cash and cash equivalents	509,957.00
Receivables	18,360.00
Mortgage note receivable	58,887.00
Investments, at fair value	8,147,237.00
	<u>8,734,441.00</u>

**Liabilities:**

Funds held for others	730,247.00
Total	<u>730,247.00</u>

**Net Assets:**

Without donor restrictions	606,150.00
With donor restrictions	7,398,044.00
Total	<u>8,004,194.00</u>



## Statement of Activities for Year-End June 30, 2021

**Revenues:**

Contributions	865,649.00
In-kind donations	140,902.00
Other Support	
Interest and dividend revenue	186,283.00
Investment gains (losses)	1,316,381.00
	<u>2,509,215.00</u>

**Expenses:**

Program Services	298,710.00
Supporting:	
Management and General	280,037.00
Fundraising	93,345.00
Change in Net Assets	1,797,264.00
Net Assets, start of the year	<u>6,206,930.00</u>
Net Assets, end of the year	<u>8,004,194.00</u>



\* Data provided prior to official audit.

# 2020 to 2021 Supporters

## \$100,000

Hollywood Foreign  
Press Assn.  
PASSO Title V

## \$50,000-\$99,000

Weingart Foundation  
ECMC Foundation

## \$25,000-\$49,000

Foundation for LACCD  
LAHSA  
Adelante PAC 3 Title V  
Anthony Pritzker  
Family Foundation  
Foundation for California  
Community Colleges  
Anonymous

## \$10,000-\$24,999

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## \$5,000-\$9,999

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of the Valleys  
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## \$3,000-\$4,999

ZERO TO THREE  
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## \$1,000-\$2,999

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- Tyree Wieder



**FOUNDATION SUPPORT PROVIDED TO L.A. VALLEY COLLEGE IN 2020/2021**

Donated Monies to campus programs & projects	\$ 53,000
Fiscal Agency Administered Funds	\$145,000
Programs & Grants Administered	\$103,000
Scholarships & Stipends Awarded to LAVC students	\$162,000
Endowment Monies Raised	\$223,000
Endowment Earnings via investments	<u>\$857,000</u>
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT PROVIDED TO LAVC</b>	<b>\$1,440,000</b>

**FOUNDATION BOARD & VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED:** 825 HOURS  
(in \$\$\$ value donated) \$ 50,000

**FOUNDATION ENDOWMENTS**

Athletic Endowment	Bruce Grossman Memorial	Richard K. Nystrom Memorial
ACCESSO	Herbert Hafif Memorial	Tom & Anna Pangonis Memorial
Elgin & Elaine Baylor	HFFPA	PAC 3 Adelante
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	Joseph B. Nordmann Memorial	Tyree Wieder

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Erick Bubbers	Patty Melody
Raul V. Castillo	Laurie Nalepa
Karen Daar	Paul Sabolic
	Teresa Sutcliffe
	Karen Timberlake
	Dennis Zine

\*Donations and Distribution results are from Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021



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