

West

LA COLLEGE

a few highlights

FROM 2023

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

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West Authorized to Offer a Second Bachelor’s Degree

In June, West was granted permission to offer a second Bachelor’s Degree. It is in Aviation Maintenance: Avionics. **This makes West one of only 29 of the 116 California Community Colleges authorized to offer a Bachelor’s Degree and one of only four which offer 2 degrees.** The second Bachelor’s Degree program at West is Dental Hygiene. This program was among the first 15 authorized in 2015 under Senate Bill 850. ...[WLAC IN THE NEWS: LA Times](#)

Child Development Program Adds In-Language Learning & Path for Parents

The WLAC Child Development program has been increasing access through innovation. Through a collaboration with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, UCLA, and several other organizations, West is helping busy parents complete the coursework required to qualify for various pre-kindergarten teaching positions, ranging from assistants to lead teachers. The college is also welcoming its third cohort of students taking classes in their native language of

Spanish. For-credit, in-language classes became possible thanks to the passage of Assembly Bill 1096. These students can now pursue CA State Pre-school Permit preparation and get to work while acquiring English at their own pace. Additionally, many of these students are dually enrolled in the college High School Equivalency (GED) program which allows them to enroll in both the noncredit and credit paths for free. This dual enrollment program earned a **2023 LARAEC Innovation Award.**

WLAC IN THE NEWS: [Ed Source- Parents Become Teachers](#); [Ed-Source – In-Language Learning](#); [Spectrum 1](#)



WLAC Named MAP College of the Year



West's Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) wins award

The California Mapping Articulated Pathways (MAP) Initiative has awarded West their College of the Year recognition. West awarded 292 students an average of 9.6 units of Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) for a total of 2812 units in Dental, Real Estate, Aviation, EMT, etc. This saved over \$6.5M in education-related expenses and opened the college door to over 200 working adults who may not have entered were it not for CPL.

The recognition stated, "Your amazing progress in awarding CPL is an inspiration to the field and proof that the opportunity to increase equitable access and attainment among our working adults and veterans is substantial and overdue."

WLAC Foundation Raises Over \$145K at 50th Year Celebration

For the first time in more than a decade, the relaunched WLAC Foundation hosted a fund-raising gala to commemorate their 50th anniversary serving the college and its students. Over 250 guests attended the event at Hilton Los Angeles Culver City which **raised over \$145,000**. Honorees included LAPC's Interim President Aracely Aguiar awarded "Alumni Role Model." Aguiar entered West as a dental hygiene student and exited as Vice President of Academic Affairs who played a pivotal role in bringing the bachelor's degree program to the college. "Educator of the Year" went to Biology Professor Vered Mirmovitch. The Non-Profit Excellence Award went to the LA Regional Food Bank which partners with the College food pantry. Boeing received the Corporate Partner Award for their partnership with the Aviation program...[more event images](#)



Partnering with LAUSD Region West Brings Hundreds Of Students to Campus

West and LAUSD Region West once again partnered to hold a joint Transfer Fair which brought hundreds of high school juniors and seniors to campus to meet with university representatives and learn more about West

LA College. Additionally, bus loads of seniors strolled booths on the athletic field in May to learn more about West's program and services, enjoy performances and celebrate college signing day.

[YOUTUBE – 30 second clip from Transfer Event](#)



Steve Soboroff Among Millionaires Sharing Wisdom with High School Students at West

Over 300 high school students heard from successful entrepreneurs at the Future Entrepreneurs Conference (FEC) recently held at West Los Angeles College. The event was sponsored by PVJOBS.

Speakers included Steve Soboroff who pulled volunteers on stage to demonstrate how to effectively present your business card, shake hands and make eye contact. The little things can be critical, he explained. Soboroff was Chairman and CEO of Playa Vista, a former LA

Mayoral candidate, and a Los Angeles Police Commissioner for 10 years.

The event emcee and a fellow millionaire was David Shands. Shands told the youth, "I need you all to make a goal. Whoever takes care of you all, you are in debt," explaining that children owe a debt to those who teach, clothe and feed them into adulthood. Shands is CEO of David Shands LLC, a business training and coaching firm that specializes in helping people become the best versions of themselves.



Center for Climate Change Education Makes Waves

From the opening ceremony on Earth Day in April, to being the host site for State Chancellor's Climate Summit, to the three-day Climate Action Palooza in October that attracted over 700 people, the new Center for Climate Change Education at West has captured the attention of education and community partners, policy-

makers, employers and media. West is committed to being the green epicenter for environmental education and innovation. Enthusiasm to integrate climate change studies into curriculum and campus practices, beyond the college's unique climate change studies degree, is wide spread.

WLAC IN THE NEWS: [LA Wave – May](#); [LAist August](#); [Yale Climate Connections October](#); [LAist November](#); [Univision November](#); [LA Sentinel November](#)



Aspen Institute Honors WLAC President & College

After West was named to the prestigious Aspen Institute 2023 list of the top 150 community colleges in the country, WLAC President James M. Limbaugh was invited to participate in the inaugural cohort of the [Aspen Institute's Presidents Fellowship](#). Leaders were selected through a competitive process based on their commitment to student success and equity, willingness to take bold steps to improve outcomes, understanding of the importance of community partnerships, and ability to lead lasting change aimed at improving student outcomes. As a fellow, Dr. Limbaugh will spend a year learning from and collaborating with top community college experts to sharpen strategic reform

strategies.



[...WLAC IN THE NEWS: Culver City Crossroads](#)