



COLLEGE CONNECT CHRONICLE

The Monthly Newsletter of College Connect

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A MESSAGE FROM DR. DAVID MORRISON

Dear College Connect students,

Welcome back to campus! The past few years have created some significant adjustments that have been met with excellence by our students. They have been amazingly resilient and have been inspirational to all of us as they continued to stay active in the program. Now, once again, another adjustment is coming, as we transition back to campus. This transition has been highly anticipated and I'm fully confident in our students and our College Connect staff. We have a dedicated team that is committed to serving our students. The commitment between students and staff is the best combination you can hope for. I'm looking forward to an excellent spring semester!



Best regards,
David Morrison, EdD. LEP 3175
Director of Educational and Academic Services

COLLEGE CONNECT UPDATES

March 11, 2022: Talent Show & Karaoke

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

In-person or Zoom

March 18, 2022: St. Patrick's Day Festivities

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

In-person or Zoom

CAMPUS UPDATES

Rio Hondo College & Cal Poly Pomona Spring Break:

March 28, 2022 - April 1, 2022

Azusa Pacific University Mid-semester Break:

March 7, 2022 - March 13, 2022

Mt. Sac Campus Closure:

March 31, 2022, for Cesar Chavez Day



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

D.L.



College Connect Chronicle is pleased to introduce our March student spotlight, D.L.! D.L. is currently majoring in Geographic Information Systems at Rio Hondo College. His goal includes graduating college and learning how to drive. D.L. has been an active participant in College Connect group and individual sessions, where he connects with staff and his fellow peers. College Connect is proud to highlight D.L.'s continuous academic and personal growth.

WHAT DOES COLLEGE CONNECT MEAN TO YOU?

"College Connect means being able to get help and getting along with other college students."

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT BEING IN COLLEGE CONNECT?

"My favorite moments are going to distance learning groups and social hour groups, where we play games with other students such as KAHOOT, QUIZZ, and Jeopardy."

WHAT WAS YOUR GREATEST CHALLENGE AS A STUDENT? HOW DID YOU OVERCOME IT?

"My greatest challenge is completing homework from school, which is hard. I overcame it by having my facilitator help me."

FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF:

"I like drawing pictures and using the internet during my free time."

TEAM SPOTLIGHT

Meredith Malata



College Connect Chronicle is pleased to highlight our Citrus College Student Facilitator, Meredith! Meredith received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and in Global Arts Studies, as well as her minor in Cognitive Science from UC Merced. She has worked with a wide age range of students with autism and other developmental delays and hopes to apply her skills with College Connect.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR PROUDEST/FAVORITE MOMENT AT COLLEGE CONNECT SO FAR?

"My favorite moment so far at College Connect is meeting such an amazing staff who are always welcoming and willing to help whenever they can."

WHAT IS SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT YOU?

"Something that most people don't know about me is that I love horror and thriller films! The jumpscare are so intense and startling!"

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES?

- I started dancing when I was a kid. I've done hip hop, ballet, tap, contemporary, jazz, swing, and Latin dance.
- I love to cosplay, especially at conventions and expos!
- I've been playing video games ever since I was young, specifically console, PC, and handheld devices. My first gaming console was the N64.

Checklist of fun things to do this Spring Season

- ☐ STROLL THROUGH BOTANICAL GARDENS
- ☐ CATCH A FILM—OUTDOORS
- ☐ GO TO A BRUNCH
- ☐ ATTEND A CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
- ☐ GO ON A SCENIC HIKE
- ☐ START SPRING CLEANING
- ☐ PUT OUT A BIRD OR A HUMMINGBIRD FEEDER
- ☐ GO TO A LOCAL MUSEUM
- ☐ CREATE A MURAL
- ☐ HIKE A NEW TRAIL
- ☐ SHOP AT A LOCAL FARMER'S MARKET
- ☐ START JOURNALING
- ☐ HAVE A PICNIC



“Favorite Motivational Quote

"It's always impossible until it's done."

"You yourself have to change first or nothing will change for you."

"Dreams don't work unless you do."

"If you run into a wall and pretend it doesn't exist, you'll never make any progress."

"During your life, never stop dreaming."

"Be who you are and be more confident."

"Don't limit yourself. Many people limit themselves to what they think they can do. You can go as far as your mind lets you. What you believe, remember, you can achieve."

"Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss it, you'll land among the stars."

"Good things come to people who wait, but better things come to those who go out and get them."

"Believe you can and you're halfway there."



[College Connect February Snapshot]

February was the month of new beginnings! We started our Spring program at College Connect as the majority of us started the Spring 2022 semester at Citrus College and Mt. SAC. We also hosted our very first Valentine's Day party where students dressed up, made valentine cards, and enjoyed each other's company through socializing, dancing, magic tricks, and taking photo booth pictures! Students who joined us for Valentine's Day party asked if we can continue it annually, which we definitely plan to do. We also celebrated National Pancake Day by making pancakes and watching a movie. Students were able to enjoy a cooking demonstration by Campus Leads and Facilitators for the first round of pancakes and for the second round of pancakes, students were able to make their own pancake! We hope that you can join us for our March outings and activities, stay tuned!

THE COOKING CORNER

Thin Mint Cookies

Ingredients

- Oreos
- 1/4 pound Green Melting Chocolate
- 1/4 pound White Melting Chocolate
- Golden Oreos
- St. Patrick's Day Sprinkles
- 1/2 cup butter, room temperature
- 1 3/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1/2 tsp milk
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract

Directions

- For the buttercream, in a stand mixer with a whisk attachment, cream butter until it is soft and smooth.
- Add powdered sugar, milk, vanilla and green food coloring. Mix until combined.
- Using an offset spatula, divide the Oreo in half and scrape off the center filling.
- Place buttercream in a piping bag, and pipe a large dollop of buttercream in the center.
- Sandwich the cookie back together.

For the classic dip Oreo:

- Place wax or parchment paper on a flat work surface.
- Put melting chocolate in a microwave safe bowl. Microwave the chocolate in 30 second increments, stirring after each heating, until it is melted.
- Dip each cookie halfway into the chocolate, coating the back and front evenly.
- Lightly tap the cookie on the rim of the bowl to get off any excess chocolate.
- Place cookie on paper and add sprinkles.
- Repeat this process with the rest of the cookies and let them cool on the paper until the chocolate is completely hardened.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Favorite Jokes

We want to hear from YOU!
College Connect Chronicle would like to hear your favorite joke to tell! Please submit to Jianne at oa@collegeconnectsupport.com or to your student facilitator.

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[2021 Annual by the Numbers](#)

[College Connect Pop-up](#)

[College Connect Resource Guide](#)

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