

Community College League of California Distinguished Alumni Awardees

Allan Hancock College

1988 - Robert Mange - Principal, Folsom Junior High School
2002 - Owen W. Siler - Admiral, United States Coast Guard (Retired)
2010 - Kay Ryan - Poet Laureate, Consultant in Poetry (emeritus)

American River College

2016 - Diane Bryant - Executive Vice President/General Manager, Data Center Group, Intel Corporation

Bakersfield College

1964 - Walter W. Stiern - Senator, State of California
1969 - David E. Smith - Medical Director, Haight-Ashbury Medical Clinic
1971 - Ruth Love Holloway - Director, Right to Read Program, US Office of Education
1973 - Jack C. Smith - Columnist, Los Angeles Times
2005 - Beto Gonzalez - Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education

Barstow College

2000 - Gloria Romero - Assembly Majority Whip 49th District
2010 - Joe Baca - Congressman, United States Congress

Butte College

2000 - Kenneth Grossman - President Sierra Nevada Brewing

Cañada College

1994 - Anna G. Eschoo - Member of Congress, 14th Congressional District

Cerritos College

1985 - JoJo Starbuck - Olympic and Professional Figure Skater
2015 - Peter Espinoza - Judge, Los Angeles County Superior Court
2021 - Eric Draper - Photographer/Author, Eric Draper Photography

Chabot College

1992 - Tom Hanks - Actor
1996 - Peggy Hora - Judge, Municipal Court
2003 - Marcy Feit - President & CEO, ValleyCare Health Systems

Chaffey College

1972 - William A. Walk, Jr. - Attorney and Civic Leader
1985 - Howard Allen - Chairman of the Board, Southern California Edison
1995 - Hebert Hafif - Attorney at Law
2006 - Beverly Cleary - Author

Citrus College

1980 - Gordon L. Hough - Chair of the Board, Pacific Telephone & Telegraph
1990 - Ward Munson - President (Retired), Munson Sporting Goods
2014 - Ivan Misner - Founder and Chairman, BNI

City College of San Francisco

1969 - George J. Maslach - Dean of Engineering, UC Berkeley
1973 - Andrew S. Adams - Director, Educational & Rehabilitation Services, Department of Veteran's Benefits, US Veterans Administration
1977 - W. Michael Blumenthal - Secretary of the Treasury, United States
1984 - Lee Meriwether - Actress
1988 - Burl A. Toler - Referee, National Football League
1989 - Allen Broussard - California Supreme Court Justice

Coastline Community College

1999 - Tony Aguilar - Resource Manager Legislative & Local Government Affairs, Southern California Edison

College of Alameda

1984 - Ronald V. Dellums - Representative, 8th District, US Congress (Oakland City College)

College of Marin

1972 - Karl O. Drexel - Superintendent, Contra Costa CCD

1979 - Robin M. Williams - Comedian and actor 1997 - Grace A. Hughes - President, Marin Airporter

2000 - Glen E. Robinson - Retired US Marshall

2006 - J. Dietrich Stroeh - Vice President and Secretary of CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc.

College of San Mateo

1964 - Raymond J. Daba - Attorney and VP, State Board of Education

1968 - Eleanore D. Nettle - President, California School Boards Association

1970 - Merv Griffin - Host, Late Night Show, CBS Television

1975 - Arlen Gregorio - Senator, 10th District, State of California

1976 - Edward V. Roberts - Director, Dept of Rehabilitation, State of California

1987 - Paul B. Jensen - Coroner, San Mateo County

1995 - Rosemary Pfeiffer - Judge, Superior Court, County of San Mateo

2005 - Claire Mack - Television/Radio Broadcasting and Community Advocate (Ret.)

College of the Sequoias

1980 - Glen Craig - Commissioner, California Highway Patrol

1981 - Gerald C. Hayward - Chancellor, California Community College

1983 - Louis Carter - Superintendent of Banking, State of California

Compton College

1965 - Carley V. Porter - Assemblyman, State of California

1975 - Pete Rozelle - Commissioner, National Football League

1977 - Ralph C. Dills - Senator, 28th District, California

1978 - William Hanna - Co-founder, Hanna-Barbera Production

1979 - Billie G. Mills - Superior Court Judge, Los Angeles County

1982 - G. Tom Thompson - Los Angeles Municipal Court Judge

Contra Costa College

1991 - George Miller - Member of Congress, 7th Congressional District

1986 - John Marquez - Labor Commissioner, California State Department of Industrial Relations

1989 - Virginia D. Greer - Clinical Psychologist

2003 - Maria Alegria - Executive Director, Faith Works!

Cosumnes River College

1994 - Willie C. Johnson - MD, Kaiser Hospital

2014 - Scott Syphax - President & CEO, Nehemiah Corporation of America

Cuesta College

1989 - R. Morgan Burkett - President and CEO, Sterling Hotels Corporation

1993 - Louis Owens, PhD - Professor of Literature, UC Santa Cruz

2008 - Khatchik H. "Katcho" Achadjian - San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors and Business Owner

2011 - William H. Swanson - Chairman and CEO, Raytheon Company

Cypress College

1983 - Geri Jewell - Actress

De Anza College

1993 - Robert Handa - Reporter/Producer, KPIX-Television

Diablo Valley College

1974 - Slava J. Veder - Pulitzer Prize Winner, Feature Photography

2001 - Steven Vogt - Designer of high-resolution spectrograph

2009 - Timothy P. White - Chancellor, University of California, Riverside

East Los Angeles College

1979 - Esteban Torres - Assistant to the President of the United States
1980 - Julian Nava - Ambassador to Mexico
1986 - Nathan Chroman - Attorney
1992 - Edward James Olmos - Actor/Director/Producer & Community Activist
2002 - Rosario Marin - United States Treasurer
2014 - David C. Lizarraga - President & CEO, TELACU Millennium
2018 - George L. Pla - President & CEO, Cordoba Corporation

El Camino College

1974 - Carol Neblett - Star, New York City Opera
1978 - George Foster - Professional Baseball Player
1980 - Mark L. Hicks - Quadriplegic artist (deceased)
2002 - George Nakano - California State Assembly Member, 53rd Assembly District
2003 - Cliff Meidl - National Spokesperson, Construction Safety Council and Electrical Safety Foundation
2012 - Cinna Toy-Wohlmuth - Doctor of Medicine, Loma Linda University and White Memorial Center
2020 - William A. Young - Actor/Director, Young Center for Academic and Cultural Enrichment

Foothill College

1994 - Wayne Wang - Filmmaker/Producer

Fresno City College

1993 - Angela R. Cisneros - VP Board of Directors, Fndn Center for Phenomenological Research
2002 - Cruz M. Bustamante - Lieutenant Governor of the State of California
2005 - Peter G. Mehas - Fresno County Superintendent of Schools
2007 - Gary Soto - Author
2010 - Christine Johnson McPhail - Managing Partner, The McPhail Group

Fullerton College

1966 - Arthur G. Coons - President Emeritus, Occidental College
1969 - Thomas Berkley - Lawyer, Publisher, Race Relations Consultant
1973 - Eldon L. Rodieck - Faculty & Administrator, Emeritus, Fullerton College
1974 - Jessamyn West McPherson - Author
1978 - Cruz Reynoso - Justice, Third District Court of Appeal
1991 - David R. Pierce - President, AACJC (now AACC)

Gavilan College

2010 - Luis Alejo - Mayor of Watsonville/Monterey Superior Court Staff Attorney

Glendale Community College

1999 - Larry & Ralph Cimmarusti - Owners, Cimm's Inc.
2001 - Raymond Edwards - CEO and Chairman of the Board (retired) of Glendale Federal Bank
2017 - Dave Greenbaum - Owner/President, David C. Greenbaum Co., Glendale Community College

Golden West College

1991 - Brenda Premo - Department of Rehabilitation, State of California
1994 - Martin Yan - Master Chef

Grossmont College

1984 - Lucille Moore - Politician and civic leader
2012 - Brad Daluiso - Financial Planning Specialist - Morgan Stanly Smith Barney

Hartnell College

1972 - Firmin A. Gryp - President, Northern California Savings & Loan Association
1976 - March Fong Eu - Secretary of State, State of California
1981 - James R. Fassett - Medical doctor
1991 - Eugene Dong - MD/JD, Stanford University
2013 - Dustin Lance Black - Screenwriter, Director, Producer
2020 - Luz Garcia - Physician's Assistant, Gonzalez Medical Center

Imperial Valley College

1981 - Douglas X. Patino - Director, Employment Development Department, State of California

Imperial Valley College

2005 - Amali Tower - Founder, Bridge 2 Peace

2008 - Robertta J. Burns - Chief Executive Officer, Imperial County (Retired)

Long Beach City College

1966 - Arjay Miller - President, Ford Motor Company

1992 - Melvin Salvesson - President, Universal Transaction System

1995 - Paul Rodriguez - Comedian, Actor, Education Advocate

1997 - Beverly O'Neill - Mayor, City of Long Beach

2004 - Pat Keller McCormick - Pat McCormick Educational Foundation

2007 - The Molina Family - Molina Health Care

2011 - Dolores J. "Jenni" Rivera - Singer known as "La Diva de la Banda," Jenni Rivera Enterprises

2012 - Ernest Mitchell, Jr. - US Fire Administrator Department of Homeland Security

2015 - Peter James Gravett - Secretary (Ret.), California Department of Veterans Affairs

Los Angeles City College

1964 - R. C. Fuller - Vice President, Bendix Corporation

1966 - Vaino H. Spencer - Judge

1968 - Rudi Gernreich - Fashion Designer

1971 - Raymond M. Hill - Chief Engineer & Gen Mgr, LA City Fire Dept

1973 - Georgia W. Mellon - Trustee, Chaffey CCD

1975 - Charles H. Arias - Administrator, KNBC Los Angeles

1984 - True Boardman - Radio, film and TV star

1987 - Cindy Williams - Actress

1992 - Lourdes G. Baird - United States Federal Judge

1998 - Mimi Leder - Film Director

1999 - Bernard C. Parks - Police Chief, LA Police Department

2006 - Diane Watson - U.S. Congresswoman

Los Angeles Harbor College

1999 - Benjamin J. Cayetano - Governor, State of Hawaii

2002 - Juanita Millender-McDonald - United States Congresswoman, 37th California Congressional District

2008 - Douglas Barry - Los Angeles Fire Chief

Los Angeles Pierce College

1998 - Denny Crum - Basketball Coach, University of Louisville

2004 - Robert A. Wharton - Chief Research Officer, Idaho State University

Los Angeles Trade-Tech College

1970 - J. William Orozco - President, Board of Trustees, Los Angeles CCD

1972 - Gloria Williams - Admin. Secy to the Hon. Sam Yorty, Mayor of Los Angeles

1978 - Sue Wong - American Fashion Designer

Los Angeles Valley College

2004 - Sean Astin - Actor, Director, Family Literacy Advocate

Los Medanos College

1995 - Fidel Huerta - MD, Sequoia Health Foundation

Merritt College

1977 - Joe Morgan - Professional Baseball Player

MiraCosta College

1965 - Gene Law - Associate Director, Television Series: The King Family

1985 - Paul Carlin - Postmaster General, United States Post Office

Modesto Junior College

1965 - Gerald Kennedy - Leader, Methodist Church Los Angeles

1971 - James H. Corson - Ast Exec Secy, Assoc of California School Administrators

1974 - John J. McFall - Representative, 15th District, United States Congress
1986 - George Lucas - Filmmaker and Producer, Lucasfilms
1992 - Gary Condit - Member of Congress, 15th Congressional District
1996 - John Petersen - Exec. Director, Accrediting Commission for Community & Junior Colleges
1997 - Manuel "Manny" P. Meza - Videographer, KCRA Television

Monterey Peninsula College

1982 - Bert P. Cutino - Owner, Cutino's Sardine Factory
2020 - George Ow - CEO, Ow Family Properties

Mt San Antonio College

1979 - Joan Tewkesbury - Dancer, choreographer, screenwriter and direct
1983 - Jay Rodriguez- Vice President of Corporate Information, NBC
1991 - Fred Claire - Executive Vice President, Los Angeles Dodgers
1994 - Bruce Fa Brizio - CEO, Sunshine Makers/Simple Green
2009 - Don Morris - Retired Educator, Athlete, Navy Reservist, Public Servant

Mt San Jacinto College

1988 - Mildred Wagoner Kronfly - Director, Flight Systems Design and Performance, Rockwell International
2015 - Jose Ochoa - Alcohol and Drug Counselor, Addiction Counseling & Treatment Services

Napa Valley College

1975 - Dick Vermeil - Head Football Coach, UCLA

Ohlone College

1975 - Gloria Villasana - Assistant Vice President, Fremont Bank

Orange Coast College

1990 - Albert C. Wong - President, AMKLY Systems Inc.
1992 - James Tait Goodrich - MD/Director, Neurological Surgery, Pediatrics Montefiore Medical Center

Oxnard College

2021 - Terry Pendleton - Baseball Operations, Atlanta Braves

Palomar College

1971 - Ronald T. Kenney - Editor, Escondido Daily Times-Advocate
1988 - Tencha Avila-Friedenberg - Communications Consultant
2008 - Anthony Brandenburg - Judge, California Superior Court

Pasadena City College

1965 - Warren M. Dorn - Chairman, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
1967 - William B. Langsdorf - President, CSU Fullerton
1969 - Jackie Robinson - Baseball Player
1971 - William D. McElroy - Director, National Science Foundation
1987 - Jaime Escalante - High School Math Instructor
1991 - Joyce Luther Kennard - California Supreme Court Justice
1996 - Octavia E. Butler - Writer
2001 - R. Bruce Merrifield - Recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry
2004 - Adriana Ocampo - Planetary Scientist, NASA, JPL
2010 - David Rust - Senior Cameraman, CNN
2013 - Ruthe Catolico Ashley - Teacher, DeAnza High School Law Academy

Reedley College

1966 - Hideo Sasaki - Landscape Architect, Sasaki, Dawson, Demay Association, Inc.
1970 - Warner E. Newby - Brigadier General, US Air Force
1989 - Daniel D. Villanueva - General Manager, KMEX-TV, Univision (King's River College)
2000 - Richard A. Johanson - Chairman of the Board, Johanson Transportation Services
2013 - Sonny Vaccaro - Sports Personality/Independent Agent

Riverside Community College

1966 - Eliot J. Swan - President, Federal Reserve Bank
1967 - James Mercereau - Division Manager, Ford Motor Company

1969 - Rex Brandt - Artist
1970 - Jesse T. Hill - Director of Athletics, University of Southern California
1976 - Anita J. Mackey - Board of Trustees, Loma Linda University
1979 - Rupert Costo - President, Indian Historical Society
1986 - Allen E. Hill - Rear Admiral (Ret.), US Navy
1998 - Ernest Z. Robles - Founder, National Hispanic Scholarship Fund
1999 - Judith A. Neiburger - Community Activist
2021 - Keynasia (Daniels) Buffong – CEO, & Founder, National Black Grads

Sacramento City College

1967 - Albert S. Rodda - Senator, State of California
1976 - Elwood J. Keema - Chancellor Emeritus, Los Rios CCD
1979 - John Moss - Representative, US Congress
1983 - Glen L. Ryland - President, CEO & Chr of the Board, Frontier Airlines
1983 - Jay Rodriguez - Vice President of Corporate Information, NBC
1986 - Elton Rule - President (former), American Broadcasting Company
1988 - George K. Kambara - Ophthalmologist
1988 - May Tanaka Kambara - RN
1990 - Margarita Colmenares - Lead Engineer, Chevron Corporation
1993 - Gordon D. Schaber - Professor of Law, McGeorge School of Law and University of Pacific
2011 - The Honorable Tani Cantil-Sakauye - Chief Justice, Supreme Court of California

Saddleback College

2006 - Lynn-Holly Johnson - Actor

San Bernardino Valley College

1964 - Charles Young - Vice Chancellor, UCLA
1972 - Charles E. Young - Chancellor, UCLA
1993 - Jack H. Brown - President/CEO, Stater Bros Market
1997 - Bella Lewitzky - Founder & Artistic Director, Lewitzky Dance Company
2000 - Judith Valles - Mayor, City of San Bernardino
2007 - Dorothy Ella Inghram - Retired Educator
2012 - Eloise Gomez Reyes - Attorney, Administrative & Civil Litigation, Law Offices of Eloise Gomez Reyes

San Diego City College

1964 - Predrag Mitrovich - Vice President, San Diego First National Bank
2016 - Barry Cordero - Senior Program Manager, Operations Excellence, Medtronic

San Diego Miramar College

2006 - Jerry Sanders - Mayor, City of San Diego
2013 - Adolfo Gonzales - Chief, Bureau of Investigation, San Diego County District Attorney

San Joaquin Delta College

1970 - Robert T. Monagan - Speaker of the Assembly, State of California
1971 - Skipper Yee - Businessman
1973 - Irvine H. Sprague - Administrative Ast, Majority Whip's Office, US House of Representatives
1974 - Roderick W. Beaton - President and CEO, United Press International
1976 - Eddie Lebaron - Partner, Jones, Jones, Bell, LeBaron, Close & Brown
1978 - Pearl West - Director, California Youth Authority
1980 - Janet Leigh - Actress
1984 - Dave Gerber - Independent TV and Film Producer
1987 - Robert Bersie - Vice President for Development, CSU Long Beach
1996 - Webster Slaughter - Professional Football Player
2009 - Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojosa - Assoc. Professor of Neurological Surgery and Oncology, Johns Hopkins

San Jose City College

1998 - Joe Fabris - West Region Marketing Manager, Microsoft
2002 - Amy Tan - Noted Author

Santa Ana College

1964 - James A. Smith - Regional Sales Manager, Eastman Kodak Company
1967 - Stephen K. Tamura - Judge

1969 - James B. Utt - Representative, 35th District, US Congress
1977 - Isabelle Rellstab - Vice President Student Affairs & Asst Supt (Ret.), Santa Ana College
1982 - Robert H. Weitbrecht - VP, Research & Development, Applied Communications Corporation (Rancho Santiago College)
2005 - Sinan H. Kanatsiz - Chairman and CEO, K-COMM
2008 - David Valentin - Commander of Human Resources, Santa Ana Police Department
2009 - Thanh Minh Nguyen - Pediatric Endocrinologist/Physician
2011 - Dr. James Huong Nguyen - Medical Doctor, University of Arizona Medical Center
2015 - Irasema Salcido - Founder/School Administrator (Ret.), Cesar Chavez Public Charter High School for Public Policy
2013 - Engin Artemel - President, Artemel, Inc.
2019 - Nora Mendez - Executive Director, Orange County Community Housing Corporation

Santa Barbara City College

2002 - Angela M. Belcher - Nanotechnology Research

Santa Monica College

2004 - Arnold Schwarzenegger - Governor of California

Santa Rosa Junior College

1969 - Jerome R. Waldie - Representative, 14th District, US Congress
2014 - Jonny Gomes - Outfielder, Boston Red Sox/Oakland Athletics
2016 - Gaye LeBaron - Columnist, The Press Democrat

Santiago Canyon College

2006 - Steven Frank Ambriz - City of Orange Councilman and Planning Manager, Orange County Health Care Agency, Office of Quality Management

Sierra College

1982 - Peggy Buckley - Director of Associate Degree Nursing Program, Bakersfield College
2012 - Cataleya Carlson - Captain, C-130 Aircraft Commander (Pilot) US Air Force

Solano Community College

1981 - Ernest J. Gaines - Author
1998 - John L. Burris - Attorney at Law
1978 - Daniel E. Boarwright - Assemblyman, 10th District, State of California

Southwestern College

1993 - Maria Williams - Clinical Psychologist, South Bay Guidance Center

Ventura College

1983 - Shirley Verrett - Metropolitan Opera Star

West Valley College

1986 - Everett "Eddie" Souza - Mayor (Former), City of Santa Clara
2003 - Emmy Moore Minister - President of MEMM Consulting and Communications, Director for Northern California PGA
2007 - Kathleen King - Saratoga City Council Member and Chair, Silicon Valley

Yuba College

1977 - Harry D. Wiser - Exec. Director, Accrediting Commission for Community & Junior Colleges
1981 - Ethel Winant - Vice President, Mini-Series and Novels, NBC Television