



**Lamar Community College President's Report**  
**President – Dr. Rosana Reyes**  
**November 2023**



**Transform the student experience.**

**Student Life**

Open Mic Night

The vibrant spirit of creativity and talent was on full display at Lamar Community College's open mic night, an evening that showcased an array of diverse performances and artistic expressions. Students and faculty alike are welcome to share their stories and express themselves on stage. From soulful renditions to stand-up comedy and spoken word, the open mic night serves as a platform for individuals to share their passions and showcase their artistic flair. The event not only celebrates the immense talent within the college community but also fosters a sense of camaraderie and appreciation for the arts, leaving everyone inspired and eagerly anticipating the next showcase of talent.

### Comedy Show

The Stand-Up Comedy Night hosted by Student Life was an uproarious celebration of laughter and wit, igniting the campus with humor and entertainment. As the lights dimmed and the stage lit up, students and faculty alike were treated to a showcase of comedic talent that left the audience in stitches. From witty anecdotes to clever observations about college life and the world around us, Steve Vanderploeg and Al Jackson's performance resonated with the diverse crowd, eliciting uproarious laughter and applause. The event served as a welcomed break from academic rigors, offering a communal space for students to unwind, share in laughter, and enjoy a night filled with hilarious anecdotes and side-splitting humor. It was an evening that underscored the power of comedy to bring people together and spread joy across the campus community.



### Pool Tournament

The campus pool tournament at LCC was an exhilarating showcase of cue-sport talent and friendly competition. Students from various backgrounds and skill levels gathered at the campus recreation center, transforming it into a vibrant hub of excitement. The tournament buzzed with intense yet amiable matches, where strategic shots and skilled maneuvers made the difference between placing or going home. Amidst cheers and applause, players showcased their prowess, fostering a sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship among participants. The event not only highlighted the pool-playing skills on campus but also created a lively and engaging atmosphere, leaving everyone eagerly anticipating the next thrilling tournament.



### Day/Night Fair

Lamar Community College serves as the venue for the expansive high school gathering known as the Day/Night Fair. This event stands as a platform to illuminate the extensive array of educational trajectories and professional prospects accessible to local high school students post-graduation. Students from Lamar, Wiley, McClave, Granada, and surrounding areas converge on our campus, contributing to our vibrant and varied community. Representatives from 18 different institutions from across the state join in, aiming to interact with prospective students, providing insights into educational pathways aligned with their career aspirations. It's a dynamic occasion where students gain a glimpse into the educational requisites for their chosen career paths.

### **LCC Horse Show**

LCC's Horse Training Management (HTM) and Equine Business Management (EBM) programs culminate each semester with an impressive and thrilling horse show, showcasing the remarkable skills and dedication of their students. Held on November 17th at the LCC Arena, this semester's show was a spectacular display of equestrian prowess, attracting not only faculty, families, and horse owners but also avid equine enthusiasts from the community. The arena was alive with energy as students competed in various categories, including ranch horse team, colt starting, specialized training, and more, highlighting their expertise and commitment to horsemanship.

The audience was treated to a captivating exhibition of horsemanship, witnessing the students' proficiency in handling and training horses. Cheers and applause echoed through the arena as the participants demonstrated their talent and passion for the equestrian arts. Additionally, attendees had the chance to witness the special bond between horse and rider, marveling at the impressive teamwork and communication displayed in each performance.



Among the standout performers this semester in the EBM program were Celina Flower, a talented Freshman, and Sophia Autumn Hines-Lanckriet, an impressive Sophomore. On the HTM side, Sophia Anger, a dedicated Freshman, and Haja Anis, an outstanding Sophomore, shined brightly as the program's MVPs. The entire Ridin' Lopes community is immensely proud of their achievements and the memorable showcase of equestrian talent.

### **Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society – Induction Ceremony**

The Phi Theta Kappa induction ceremony, held at Lamar Community College on November 1<sup>st</sup>, was a momentous occasion filled with honor, pride, and celebration. As new members were inducted into this prestigious honor society, the event radiated an atmosphere of scholarly achievement and commitment to academic excellence. The ceremony's solemnity and significance were underscored by heartfelt speeches, symbolic rituals, and the induction of diligent students whose dedication to scholarship, leadership, and service stood as a testament to their academic prowess. The event not only honored the



accomplishments of the inductees but also inspired all attendees to continue their pursuit of knowledge and service, embodying the core values upheld by Phi Theta Kappa.



## Transform our own Workforce Experience

### New Employees

#### Welcome Patricia England

I am delighted to share that my journey as a mother to two wonderful grown sons has been one of my life's greatest joys. Celebrating 23 years of marriage fills me with gratitude for the love and companionship my partner and I have shared, and I eagerly anticipate the adventures and growth that lie ahead in our future together.

My professional career in healthcare spans over 20 years, during which I've been fortunate to contribute to the well-being of others. Now, I'm enthusiastic about transitioning into healthcare administration, as it presents a new frontier to apply my skills and knowledge in a different capacity, allowing me to contribute to the broader spectrum of healthcare management.



Coming from a large family of six sisters and one brother, I cherish the camaraderie and closeness that come with a big family. As the youngest sibling for a significant portion of my life, I've experienced the joy of watching my family grow when my brother and sister were welcomed into our lives through adoption. This experience has enriched my perspective on family, love, and inclusion in profound ways.



### **Congratulations Jordan Kemp**

Jordan Kemp, who previously started out in the Financial Director role here at Lamar Community College, has been selected as the new Dean of Enrollment and Student Success. This is a newly created position at LCC. The Dean of Enrollment and Student Success plays a pivotal role in higher education institutions, overseeing critical aspects of student recruitment, enrollment management, and ensuring student success throughout their academic journey. This leadership position involves developing and implementing strategic plans to attract and retain students, collaborating with admissions teams to streamline enrollment processes, and fostering a supportive environment conducive to student achievement. The Dean oversees initiatives that promote student retention, persistence, and graduation, implementing programs and support services that enhance student experiences, academic progress, and overall success. They work closely with faculty, staff, and student services departments to create a comprehensive framework that prioritizes student needs, facilitates access to resources, and cultivates a positive learning environment conducive to students' personal and academic growth.

### **Welcome Angel Camacho**

Born in the Lone Star State of Texas and raised amidst the panoramic beauty of Colorado, Angel embodies a spirit intertwined with the rugged landscapes and diverse cultures of the American West. From an early age, his fascination with craftsmanship and the artistry of construction kindled a passion within him. Fueled by a desire to build and create, he pursued his dreams at Lamar Community College, immersing himself in the realm of Construction Trades. His journey in higher education became a canvas where his innate skills merged with structured learning, honing his expertise, and shaping him into a proficient and dedicated craftsman. During his time as a student, Angel entered the workforce as a work-study for the Grounds Department. Today, armed with a wealth of knowledge and an unwavering determination, Angel joins the Custodial Department as a full-time employee. We are so ecstatic that Angel his niche with us here at LCC.





## Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

### Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative

At the forefront of fostering ethical leadership, the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative stands as a beacon of integrity and moral development in academia. Established with a vision to instill ethical principles in future leaders, this initiative has made significant strides in shaping the ethical compass of students across participating institutions.

Championed by the Daniels Fund, this program is more than just a curriculum; it's a transformative journey. By integrating ethics education into various disciplines, the initiative empowers students to navigate complex ethical dilemmas, make principled decisions, and develop a strong moral foundation. Lamar Community College is proud to be a part of this initiative and have nominated English Faculty Dr. Zachary Sands and Arts/Humanities Faculty Donnie Hollingsworth as our 2023-2024 Ethics Champions.

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, students Jacob Rogers and Mario Lesiak represented LCC at the Daniel's Fund Ethics Initiative in Colorado Springs. Their commendable participation truly exemplified the values of our institution. Through a blend of engaging coursework, case studies, experiential learning, and community engagement, the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative equips students with the tools and mindset necessary to address real-world ethical challenges. It's not merely about teaching ethics; it's about cultivating a culture of integrity, responsibility, and accountability.



### FFA Creed Speaking Invitational

Lamar Community College hosts one of the largest FFA (Future Farmers of America) events in the region, boasting a whopping 250 students or more. This event is put on with a great deal of pride by our rural community. The FFA Creed Speaking Invitational event emerged as a testament to the dedication and eloquence of passionate FFA members. As participants took the stage, the air filled with the cadence of conviction and agricultural pride. Each speaker, reciting the timeless FFA Creed, imbued their words with fervor, embodying the essence of agricultural leadership and personal growth. The event served as a platform for students to articulate their beliefs, celebrate agricultural values, and showcase their public speaking skills while honoring the legacy of the FFA Creed. It was an inspiring display of articulate minds and passionate hearts, uniting individuals in the shared spirit of agricultural excellence and advocacy.

### **Scooters Coffee - Day of Giving**

In a heartwarming collaboration, Scooters Coffee in Lamar has joined hands with Lamar Community College in a bid to support aspiring scholars. This innovative partnership aims to turn every cup of coffee on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, into a catalyst for educational opportunities by donating 100% of its proceeds toward student scholarships.

The impact of this partnership extends far beyond the café's walls. It symbolizes a powerful synergy between local businesses and educational institutions, showcasing the transformative potential when businesses align their success with the advancement of education. As each sip fuels the aspirations of deserving students, Scooters Coffee sets an inspiring example of how small gestures can lead to monumental changes in shaping brighter futures with a total donation of \$5,400 towards supporting student scholarships at Lamar Community College.



**Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.**

### **48<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts, Crafts, and Food Festival**

Lamar Community College recently transformed its campus into a bustling hub of creativity and gastronomic delights with its much-anticipated 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts, Crafts, and Foods Festival. This colorful extravaganza brought together artisans, craftsmen, culinary experts, and community members for a day filled with artistic expressions and delectable treats.

Our campus Wellness Center was adorned with an eclectic array of handcrafted treasures, from stunning artworks to intricately designed crafts that showcased the talents of local artisans and students. Visitors wandered through a kaleidoscope of creativity, admiring paintings, sculptures, handmade jewelry, and various unique crafts and treats, each telling its own story.

The event's success not only celebrated creativity but also fostered a sense of community, uniting people of all ages and backgrounds in appreciation of art, craftsmanship, and culinary expertise. As the sun set on this vibrant day, memories of laughter, creativity, and diverse

flavors lingered, marking the Arts, Crafts, and Foods Festival as a highlight in the cultural calendar, leaving attendees eagerly awaiting its return next year.

### **Winter Mini-mester**

Lamar Community College is revolutionizing the traditional semester structure by unveiling an innovative approach to education—mini-semesters. These condensed, intensive courses offer students a unique opportunity to dive into specialized subjects, earn credits, and expand their knowledge in a shorter timeframe.

Spanning just a few weeks, these mini-semesters pack a punch, delivering comprehensive content and hands-on experiences tailored to specific topics. Whether it's an in-depth exploration of a niche subject, a crash course in a high-demand skill, or an opportunity to delve into interdisciplinary studies, these compact sessions empower students to make the most of their time while pursuing their academic passions.

The flexibility and efficiency of mini-semesters cater to diverse student needs, allowing for a more focused and immersive learning experience. With an array of subjects on offer, students can now explore new interests, accelerate their progress towards graduation, and customize their academic journey with these dynamic and impactful courses offered from December 18<sup>th</sup> to January 12<sup>th</sup>.



**Winter Mini-mester**  
December 18 - January 12

- Biology: A Human Approach: SC1
- Intro to Human Disease: SC2
- English Composition I:CO1
- English Composition II:CO2
- Humanities: Mediev-Mod: AH2
- Digital Photography I



## Social Media Marketing

Lamar Community College (LCC) acknowledges the vital role of social media marketing in today's fast-paced digital world. To address this need, LCC offers a distinctive Social Media Marketing class, combining theory with hands-on experience for a comprehensive education.

Students like Abraham Bujanos praise LCC's approach, citing market simulations, company analysis, and practical business plans as key tools that make learning engaging and relevant. Ruth Espinoza echoes this sentiment, crediting LCC's business classes for her growth as a student and budding entrepreneur.

What sets LCC's Social Media Marketing class apart is its focus on real-world application. Micro-internships embedded in the curriculum enable students to apply their skills in actual settings, collaborating with departments within the college and local businesses.

Moreover, the class operates in sync with LCC's marketing department, allowing students to contribute to the institution's social media strategies. This collaboration ensures that the content remains current, engaging, and aligned with evolving trends, teaching students how to craft compelling content and adapt to audience preferences.

This hands-on approach, coupled with industry collaboration and practical experiences, equips students to tackle the challenges of the dynamic digital marketing realm. LCC remains committed to nurturing the next generation of agile and innovative professionals primed for success in the ever-evolving landscape of business and marketing.



## Construction Trades – Home Construction Progress

The LCC Construction Trades class has made an enormous amount of progress since beginning construction on a house in Wiley, Colorado. With each passing day, students enrolled in the program are transforming blueprints into reality, putting their skills to the test, and breathing life into someone's dream home.

In just one month, students have poured the concrete for the foundation, installed ICF blocks, filled those with concrete, installed rim and floor joists, installed subflooring, framed exterior walls, and poured the concrete for the garage. Under the guidance of seasoned instructors and industry professionals, these students are gaining hands-on experience that transcends classroom learning. From laying the foundation to framing walls, installing electrical systems, and meticulously crafting every detail, the students are leaving their mark on this ambitious construction endeavor.

The project is not merely a construction site; it's a classroom where practical knowledge meets creativity. Students are not only honing their trade skills but also learning the importance of collaboration, time management, and adaptability in a real-world setting.

The house serves as a testament to the dedication and determination of these aspiring builders. Beyond bricks and mortar, this project embodies the ethos of the Construction Trades Program—empowering students to turn visions into structures, transforming learning into a tangible achievement. Stay tuned as these enthusiastic builders inch closer to completing this remarkable journey—a house built from passion, dedication, and the promise of a brighter tomorrow.





