

STAYING COMMITTED AND CONNECTED

November 18, 2019

## SOAR Program Participates in Leadership Institute



Solano Community College's S.O.A.R. program was one of 23 programs across California selected to participate in the 2019 Leadership Institute for California Community Colleges Serving Formerly Incarcerated Students. This institute was organized by Corrections to College California, a project of Renewing Communities, a four-year initiative designed to build a network of bridges from corrections to college in California. Participating colleges met on three separate occasions at U.C. Berkeley (February 7<sup>th</sup>), Stanford University (May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) and at the California Community College Chancellor's Office (November 13<sup>th</sup>) to learn from each other, network, and build competencies for addressing the needs of formerly incarcerated students. The

Leadership Institute was funded in part by Corrections to College and in part by the Chancellor's Office through funding it received last year with the support of Senator Nancy Skinner.

Photo above: *Eric Gentry, S.O.A.R. Outreach Specialist (left), Shanan Danley, S.O.A.R. student (center), Damany Fisher, Director of Corrections Education and Reentry Services at Solano Community College, received a Certificate of Completion on November 13<sup>th</sup> at the final meeting of the 2019 Leadership Institute at the Chancellor's Office in Sacramento, California.*

## SOAR Presents: 13th From Slavery to Criminal with One Amendment

# S.O.A.R. PRESENTS

## 13th From Slavery to criminal with ONE Amendment

This film draws attention to the 13th amendment, which abolished slavery, except for those that are incarcerated. 13th explores the history of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on the fact that the nation's prisons are disproportionately filled with African-Americans.



# 13<sup>TH</sup>



## SOAR

STUDENTS OVERCOMING ADVERSITY AND RECIDIVISM

Bld. 1200, Theatre  
Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

FREE Event, Parking \$2 in LOT #2

[www.solano.edu](http://www.solano.edu)

## SOAR Presents: Employment After Incarceration



# LEGAL AID AT WORK

### S.O.A.R. PRESENTS

EMPLOYMENT AFTER INCARCERATION:  
KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

### STACY VILLALOBOS

WORKER'S RIGHTS ATTORNEY FOR LEGAL AID AT WORK

A criminal record should not be a life sentence to poverty, discrimination, and unemployment.

**THURSDAY, November 21st**  
**3:00-5:00pm**

DENIS HONEYCHURCH BOARDROOM  
Bldg 600, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield

## SOAR

STUDENTS OVERCOMING ADVERSITY AND RECIDIVISM

Go to [SOLANO.EDU](http://SOLANO.EDU) for more info

## Vallejo Center Astronomy Students Answer NASA's Call for New Citizen Scientists

NASA Citizen Science  
Projects are collaborations



between scientists and members of the public who are willing to volunteer their time in an effort to answer some of the most fundamental questions about our universe. “Citizen Scientists” have made thousands of important scientific discoveries in the fields of Astrophysics, Planetary Science, Solar Science, and Earth Science. They have co-authored publications in professional

scientific journals highlighting their many contributions to science, including the discovery of hundreds of extra-solar planets, and more than half of all known comets.

Students at SCC’s Vallejo campus in Prof. Maura Rabbette’s astronomy course (ASTR020) have enthusiastically become NASA Citizen Scientists. Before starting to teach at SCC, Dr. Rabbette was a research scientist at NASA for fourteen years, working on the Kepler Space Telescope that was launched to search for life outside our solar system. Having been a principal investigator on a number of NASA Astrobiology projects, she saw a perfect opportunity for her students to get their hands on *real* astronomical data. Working on real data from NASA Space Telescopes, and having the opportunity to contribute to groundbreaking discoveries, is far more exciting than reading about other people’s scientific work.

The Vallejo students have been contributing to two exciting projects this term, *Backyard Worlds* and *Galaxy Zoo: Clump Scouts*.

**Backyard Worlds:** This project offers opportunities to discover new planets at the edges of our Solar System, as well as finding cold nearby failed stars that are known as “brown dwarfs”. The students are helping NASA scientists distinguish real celestial objects from image artifacts in data from NASA’s Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) mission. The real objects are brown dwarfs and low-mass stars, the Sun’s nearest neighbors. When the students find an object of potential interest, they submit it to a research scientist for further analysis. The students then have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss their findings online with project scientists.

**Galaxy Zoo - Clump Scout:** In this citizen science project, the students are searching visible images of galaxies to find “giant star-forming clumps”. Astronomers classify these as small regions within galaxies where stars are being born at a faster-than-usual rate. The clumps are brighter and more densely packed, and stand out against the rest of the background galaxy. If students find a galaxy with a bright clumpy region, they tag it as a “clumpy galaxy”, and submit it to the project scientists for further analysis and discussion. Citizen Science projects provide learning opportunities in experimental science and research, for a broad range of SCC students. Most projects require no prior knowledge, experience, or special tools. The NASA citizen science projects teach students everything they need to know, as the project proceeds. These projects may be the only exposure that some students will have to carry out a real science project, whereas for others, Citizen Science inspires a diverse student population to pursue science careers. It is a portal into the science world, especially among community college students (57% women, 36% first-generation, and 50% non-white) that may have had limited previous exposure to science. As a result of the Citizen Science program, some students choose a major in science that they would never have otherwise considered. Apart from being engaging and enjoyable projects, these educational citizen science experiences show students the relevance of science in their lives and in the world around them.

In addition to coordinating the current Citizen Science project at the SCC Vallejo Center, Prof. Rabbette has also created a new course at SCC, ASTR 049: Honors Astronomy, for interested students to further pursue research in Astronomy.

Above Photo: Dr. Rabbette (standing, fifth from the left) with her ASTR 020 students at the Vallejo Center.

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# The Educational Journey of a Student Veteran



Nick West with Jenny Rickard, the CEO & President of Common App, and Michelle Obama. CHUCK KENNEDY

Former SCC student, Nicholas West, writes about his experience in higher education as a veteran in a recent article on Forbes.com. Titled "A Non-Traditional Route: The Educational Journey Of A Student Veteran," West describes how attending college at SCC taught him the necessary skills to follow his intellectual curiosity.

"My experiences in the military piqued my intellectual curiosity, and my education

at Solano Community College taught me the necessary skills to follow it. My first class at Solano was an introduction to sociology course taught by a professor who, coincidentally, was a veteran of the Marine Corps. It is difficult to describe how important that was for me. There I was, interacting with the first professor I had ever met, and he was a veteran. A veteran, just like my parents were, and just like I would become in a couple of years. It was an empowering experience that enabled me to feel like I actually belonged in higher education, and I quickly fell in love with sociology as a discipline. Sociology allowed me to study real things that mattered to me, and as I learned about structural functionalism, symbolic interactionism, and social conflict theory in that intro class, I started figuring out some of the answers to the questions my new life experiences had raised (social conflict theory, of course, was particularly useful to me as a service member)."

[Read full article.](#)

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## Turkey Trot Update



The Solano Turkey Trot is taking place at Solano Community College in Fairfield on Thanksgiving Day; Thursday, November 28, 2019, at 8am. Photo: [SolanotTurkeyTrot.org](http://SolanotTurkeyTrot.org)

If you are interested in participating in the Thanksgiving Day Solano Turkey Trot, please email [Celia Esposito-Noy](mailto:Celia.Esposito-Noy) as the organizers are offering two free entries. The first two to express interest will be provided with a code to use online at check out.

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## Rotarians Fix SCC Children's Playhouse

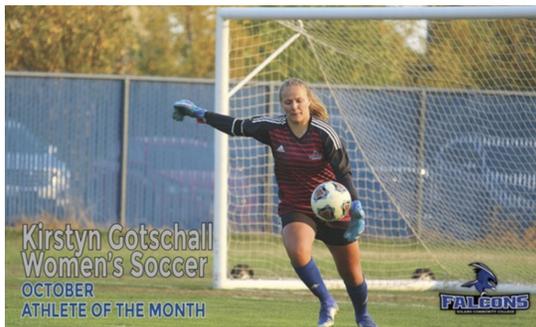


Fairfield Suisun Rotarians Dick Lubman and Kelly Rhoads-Poston recently helped out the Solano Community College Early Learning Center by fixing their children's playhouse and planters.

The Center provides preschool child care to SCC students to enable them to attend classes.

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## Athletics News



### **Student Athlete of the Month:**

Sophomore keeper and team captain **Kirstyn Gotschall** was tabbed as the Solano Athletics October Athlete of the Month, announced Tuesday.

In October, Gotschall earned five shutouts and allowed only six goals in seven outings. Against Los Medanos, she had 25 saves and currently ranks 11th in the state with 101 saves on the season, and is ranked second in the Bay Valley Conference.

Gotschall, the 2018 BVC Most Valuable Player, adds this award to her numerous

accolades from her rookie season. She was named to the All-State and All-Northern California Regional First Team, as well as being named September Co-Athlete of the Month.

**Student Athlete Data:** According to CalPASS Plus data, completion rates for SCC student athletes in transfer level English for 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 were 85%, 83%, and 92% respectively. Completion rates for transfer level math for student athletes for the same period of time were 70%, 74%, and 73%. In both subject areas, student athletes out-performed non-athletes at a significant rate.

**Women's Soccer:** The Solano women's soccer team shut out Napa Valley, 6-0, on Friday afternoon to close the regular season on a five-match winning streak. The Falcons completed the regular season with a 13-5-3 overall record, 12-1-1 in Bay Valley Conference play.



**Volleyball:** Freshman **Lindsey McLaughlin** led the No. 18 Falcons to a sweep of Los Medanos on Friday evening. Solano finishes Bay Valley Conference play undefeated, not dropping a set in its run. Set scores 25-23, 25-18, 25-14. "We got tested tonight with some great rallies," head coach Darla Williams said. "This has been a solid team both offensively and defensively. Last year was our first time winning

BVC two years in a row - we were co-champs with Los Medanos - it's nice to have a three-peat and take it undefeated and win every match in only three sets."

McLaughlin counted 11 kills and added seven blocks, and sophomore **Haley Del Rio** tallied eight kills, nine digs, and three aces.

Sophomore **Ixchel Moreno** and freshman **Rocelyn Hongria** paced the backcourt offense with 11 digs each, and Hongria also earned two aces.

Congratulations to **BVC MVP Haley Del Rio**, **BVC Coach of the Year, Darla Williams** and the following:

**First Team BVC**

Lindsey Mc Laughlin  
Kayla Somontan

**Second Team BVC**

Allora Somontan  
Ixchel Moreno

Solano (22-6, 14-0) will await its postseason fate, which will be decided and announced on Thursday, Nov. 21.

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## Games This Week



Nov. 18  
Men's Basketball vs. Sacramento City, 6pm

Nov. 19  
Women's Basketball at Siskiyou, 5pm

Nov. 22  
Women's Basketball at San Francisco, 5:30pm



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