

Celebrating the Class of 2022

Clark College honored its 86th graduating class at the 2022 Clark College Commencement ceremony held Thursday evening, June 16, at the RV Inn Style Resorts Amphitheater. The college conferred over 1,900 degrees and certificates for the next generation of our community's workers, leaders, and scholars.

The Year in Pictures

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then consider this slideshow a year's worth of diary entries, telling the story of Clark College in 2014. It was a year of growth for the college, seeing the introduction of its first bachelor's degree, the groundbreaking for a new STEM building, and the expansion of the college's international student population. It was also a year in which our faculty adapted a variety of tools—from puppets to petri dishes—to help students learn in new, innovative ways. Take a look back at the year that was, and look forward with us to what's to come in 2015!



Clark College observed Martin Luther King Jr. Day with "The Unfinished Conversation," a daylong series of discussions and presentations facilitated by national diversity trainer Lee Mun Wah. Read more stories about diversity at Clark.



More than 60 middle-school and high school bands competed in Clark College's 52nd annual Jazz Festival in January. Read more stories about music at Clark.



As early as March, Clark College Penguins had plenty to cheer about, as the men's basketball team got ready to leave for the NWAC playoffs. Indeed, all seven fall/winter sports teams made it to playoffs in the 2013-2014 school year--and four coaches earned NWAC Coach of the Year awards. Read more stories about athletics at Clark.



In March, the Clark College Bookstore delivered 190 Dr. Seuss books to the children of fire-ravaged Crestline Elementary as part of its annual Seussapalooza event. Read more stories about volunteerism at Clark.



This summer, Clark took some major steps to respond to the needs of local employers, creating a new Industrial Maintenance Technician degree program, revising some of its existing technical degrees, and establishing classes to train aeronautics professionals in the Columbia Gorge. Read more stories about workforce development at Clark.



Spring quarter saw the introduction of the Small World Initiative, yet another of Clark's many innovative efforts to promote interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Read more stories about STEM at Clark.



Thanks to some dedicated members of the Clark College Law Club, all nine judges of the Washington State Supreme Court visited the college in May to discuss law with students and the public, as well as to hear real court cases in Gaiser Student Center. Read more stories about student clubs at Clark.



This year's Sakura Festival in April featured a kimono fashion show with some very tiny models--children from the college's Child & Family Studies program, who were introduced to the art of kimono by Professor Michiyo Okuhara and members of the Japanese Club. Read more stories about special events at Clark.



In 2014 Archer Gallery hosted some amazing artwork, from the Art Faculty Biennial to this piece done by artist-in-residence

Rodrigo Valenzuela in collaboration with Clark students. Read more stories about art at Clark.



This was a banner year for the Clark College Foundation, which saw the successful finish to its Ensuring a Bright Future fundraising campaign, a new North County campus made possible by its largest-ever donation of land, and several great events--like this one, meant to generated excitement about Clark's new STEM building. Read more stories about the Clark College Foundation.



This year's Dia del Nino/Dia del Libro celebration featured a new, bilingual puppet show created by Spanish professor Betsy Ubierno. The event brought families from around the region together for an evening of multicultural learning and enjoyment. Read more stories about Clark in the community.



Vice President of Instruction Dr. Tim Cook admires the work of the college's Aerospace Club, who competed in the prestigious NASA Student Launch rocketry competition against teams from colleges and universities like Cornell and Florida A&M. Read more stories about STEM at Clark.



This was a big year for Clark's Dental Hygiene program, which saw both the ribbon cutting of the Firstenberg Family Dental Hygiene Education and Care Center and the approval of a new Bachelor of Applied Science degree.



One guest tweeted that anchorman Byron Pitts' inspiring keynote speech at Clark's 2014 Commencement was "easily the best I have ever heard." Read more stories about Commencement at Clark.



Time for a selfie! More than 60 Adult Basic Education students attended this year's GED and High School Completion ceremony, held the Saturday after Commencement. Many planned to continue their educations in Clark's for-credit programs. Read more stories about student success at Clark.



IT Specialist Jennifer Wheeler receives applause for her 35 years of service to Clark College on Opening Day. The event,

held before the beginning of fall quarter each year, is also the occasion for bestowing the Exception Faculty and Exceptional Classified Staff awards to outstanding Clark employees. Read more stories about awards at Clark.



Clark College honored Veterans Day with a special event featuring speeches by veterans from three different conflicts. Read more stories about veterans at Clark.



A student smiles sweetly during International Education Week's student exhibition. Clark welcomed its largest class yet of international students in fall 2014. Read more stories about International Programs at Clark.

Photo Album: Fun for the Whole Familia

Not even an accidental fire alarm could stop the festivities at this year's Día del Niño/Día del Libro celebration, held in Gaiser Student Center on May 9. Approximately 225 guests enjoyed the evening-long celebration of Latino culture and literature, which included a bilingual puppet show performed by Clark Spanish language students, dance performances by Olincalli Ballet Folklorico, free food from Panadería Cinco de Mayo, and hands-on activities for children. Oswald the Penguin was on hand to greet children and pose for pictures—even when the party moved outdoors temporarily after an inquisitive toddler managed to pull a fire alarm. The celebration quickly moved back inside to continue the festivities, which are held each year around April 30, the date of Mexico's Día del Niño ("Day of the Child") and the American Library Association's Día del Libro ("Day of the Book").

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Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

Slideshow: Helping Crestline Turn the Page

Monday, March 3, four Clark College Bookstore employees visited Crestline Elementary School's temporary location, which was created after the school was destroyed in a fire last year. Their mission: To distribute to the school's kindergarten and first-grade students the 190 copies of the Dr. Seuss classic *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* that the Bookstore had gathered through its annual Seuss-a-Palooza book drive. They also read the book aloud to classrooms as part of Read Across America Day.

"The best part of the event is always seeing the look on the children's faces when you hand them a book and tell them that it is their very own to keep and take home to share with their family and friends," said Bookstore buyer Kaina Barba, who visited Crestline with his colleagues Michael Owenby, Ashley Anderson, and Michal Neubauer. Indeed, many children gasped when they received their books, peppering the Bookstore staff with questions like "how did you get all these books here?" and "I really get to take this book home?"

"The children were absolutely thrilled to receive books of their own," said Crestline Budget Secretary Lori Boyd. "Many of our students come from homes where there is not extra money to purchase books, and having their very own, brand-new book

to keep is a special treat.”

In addition to the Bookstore’s Crestline visit, 56 Clark students participated in Read Across America Day by reading to children at Harney and Fruit Valley elementary schools through Clark’s Volunteer & Service Learning program.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

The Year in Pictures

Before we toss those 2013 calendars in the recycling bin, we wanted to pause for a moment to savor the year that was. Members of the college’s Communications and Marketing staff went through the Clark College Flickr site and pulled out some of their favorite images from the past year. Whether it’s a challenging Theatre production, a response to rural residents asking for more educational opportunities, or the proud smile on a scholarship recipient’s face, these photographs tell the story of the college’s ongoing mission to enhance the community through learning. We can’t wait to see where that story takes us in 2014!

Educating for the Seventh Generation

On Friday, November 1, the aroma of fry bread wafted through Gaiser Student Center as Clark College hosted its annual "Educating for the Seventh Generation," a celebration of Native American cultures and mini-powwow. The event included food, music, dancing, and socializing among the estimated 275 guests.

Native American flautist Isaac Trimble provided music as guests arrived. Then emcee Sande Allman and arena director Ed Goodell got the event started. Clark College President Bob Knight and Clark College Trustee Jack Burkman welcomed the assembled guests on behalf of the college and its trustees; Vancouver Mayor Tim Leavitt also offered a welcome from the city. Native American military veterans led the grand entry, after which there was an invocation and then an honoring of the recently passed. Clark College Facilities Services fiscal specialist Lori Jimerson spoke in memory of longtime Clark employee and supporter Bob Moser, who died in December 2012. Moser was a strong supporter of Clark's Native American student group when it was first receiving charter in the early 1990s.

Much of the rest of the evening was given to dancing, including a "Tiny Tots" dance hosted by Child and Family Services and a series of exhibitions of the powwow dance styles of all the tribes in attendance. Guests also enjoyed "Indian Tacos" served in the adjoining cafeteria, while drummers provided music for the occasion. The dancing continued late into the evening, with a diverse range of

dancers—from grandchildren to grandparents, some dressed in full regalia and others in jeans and T-shirts.

This is the fifth year that Clark College has coordinated and hosted an event in honor of Native American Heritage Month. It is one of four signature events hosted by the college annually to celebrate diverse cultures. According to organizers, the title references “a responsibility to pass on and teach the future seven generations to protect our resources, culture and heritage.”

A selection of photos are below. [Click here](#) to view the full Flickr album.

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Choppers, Gunk, Bugs and Barges

On Saturday, November 2, Clark College’s main campus was fizzing like a lab beaker as hundreds of students participated in the Southwest Washington Elementary Science Olympiad. Almost 300 third-through-fifth grade students from 19 local elementary schools participated in the half-day event, which included five competitions: Green Eggs Go Bam!, Chopper Challenge, Tug-o-War Gunk, Benthic Bugs, and Buoyant Barges.

(See complete results from the contest.) In addition to hosting the event, Clark provided more than 60 volunteers, most of them students. This was Clark's sixth year of hosting the event, which helps promote STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) among young learners.

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Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

View photos from this event on Flickr.

Striking Developments

On October 3, the Clark College community came together for an annual tradition, the Students vs. Staff softball game. One change to the tradition: After years of being held during spring quarter, this event was moved to fall quarter. (Expect another competition, possibly kickball, to take its place during spring quarter.) Another change: After many years as the underdogs, Team Staff (which also includes faculty) came away with the victory, trouncing Team Student 13-4. Team Staff owed some of their success to new softball coach Mandy Hill's able leadership, as well as Health and Physical Education instructor Alan Wiest's impressive tally of four home runs.

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