Eshoo to be 2015 Commencement Speaker

I had the privilege in late January to meet with Congresswoman Anna Eshoo in her Washington office. We spent more than an hour together discussing a wide range of issues, including: President Obama’s call for free community college education for all residents, accreditation ups and downs, and various initiatives to promote community college access and student support. It was a simply delightful conversation and I was greatly impressed with the Congresswoman’s grasp of the big picture, as well as the fine details of the challenges and opportunities facing our colleges, and Cañada specifically! This was no surprise as Anna Eshoo, Member of the US House of Representatives for California’s 18th District (which includes our campus), and Member since 1993, is an alum, having graduated from Cañada College in 1975 with an Associate of Arts Degree in English. The Congresswoman has a rich record of promoting human and immigration rights, and was a cosponsor of H.R. 1275, the American Dream Act. I proposed that the Congresswoman serve as our Spring Commencement Speaker to share her own story and her vision for community college students. She agreed! We’re working on the details now and I’ll share more in future editions about how you can meet the Congresswoman when she is here.

Cañada College has been generating power from our Solar array at 100% capacity since February 2nd!
**Adult School Visit**

On February 13 I had the opportunity to visit the Sequoia Union Adult School in Fair Oaks where the school’s Director, Lionel de Maine, and his staff gave me a personal tour. There, I spoke with program coordinators and visited multiple classes at different levels, including a class where the students were on the brink of beginning their first semester at Cañada. It was wonderful seeing their excitement to come to Cañada and continue their goals of achieving their Associates degree to build a stronger financial foundation for themselves and their families.

Sequoia Adult School has been serving our community since 1921; the school opened its Fair Oaks site in 1989. There, students can study English as a Second Language and take classes needed to earn a High School Diploma or GED certificate. The adult school also holds a partnership with Sequoia Adult School Scholars (SASS), an organization that provides financial support and assistance to Sequoia District Adult School ESL and GED students. SASS provides student support so they can enroll in community college to continue their education and expand their career options. Almost all SASS recipients attend Cañada College. As a result, Cañada and SASS have forged a strong partnership as exemplified by several significant collaborative efforts. Cañada’s ESL Retention Specialist, Diana Espinosa, works closely with SASS students on course selection, changes, and certificate requirements. Also, instructors complete two progress reports per semester for each SASS recipient, enabling SASS to monitor student progress. Additionally, an entry-level Cañada ESL class is taught at Sequoia District Adult School.

This is a valuable partnership that wouldn't have been possible with staff at the Sequoia Adult School and our Cañada staff. Thank you to Diana Espinosa, Jenny Castello, and Noel Chavez for their work in strengthening the partnership that Cañada holds with the Sequoia Adult School and providing students with the support they need to transition comfortably and successfully to Cañada.

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**Redwood Symphony Concert** submitted by Michelle Carter, Redwood Symphony

In a salute to spring, Redwood Symphony will present a world premiere, two soloists and two masterpieces of the 20th century (a Sibelius symphony and a Bartok concerto) in a single concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 28, in the Main Theater of Cañada College.

The concert will feature “Variations,” a world premiere, composed and performed by Redwood Symphony’s co-principal bassoonist, Douglas McCracken. Most people will recognize the theme from childhood. Violin soloist Miranda Liu will make her Redwood Symphony debut in Bela Bartok’s Violin Concerto No. 2.

Maestro Eric Kujawsky will explain the subtleties in his pre-concert talk at 7 p.m.

Tickets from $10-$25 are available at [RedwoodSymphony.org](http://RedwoodSymphony.org), and children under 18, accompanied by an adult, are admitted free.
NATIONAL TRIO DAY
5th Annual Regional Conference

Saturday, February 21, 2015
Cañada College, Building 6, Room 101
8:00am—2:30pm

In February of each year, TRIO programs around the country are celebrating 50 years of helping students achieve their academic goals! Join us for interactive workshops, budgeting and financial aid tips, student-led activities, alumni networking and motivational student and community speakers! Wear your TRIO gear and represent your program!

Please RSVP by Wednesday, Feb 18th
RSVP at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GT2O7J7P
OR by signing up with your respective TRIO program.

FREE breakfast and lunch!
For more information, please contact Candice Johnson at (650) 306-3369 or johnsonc@smccd.edu.

Featured Speaker

Michael Tubbs

Tubbs is an adjunct professor for Langston Hughes Academy in Stockton, CA. In addition to his role as an educator, he was elected in 2012 as the youngest city council member in Stockton’s history, earning more than 60 percent of the vote. Tubbs has interned at Google and at the White House, as well as earned a bachelor’s degree with honors and a master’s degree in policy, organization and leadership studies from Stanford University. He is a Truman Scholar and a recipient of the Dinkelspiel Award, the highest award given to undergraduate students at Stanford. Tubbs is the founder of The Phoenix Scholars at Stanford and the Summer Success and Leadership Academy at the University of the Pacific, and was featured on NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams as a speaker at TEDx San Joaquin and TEDx Stanford. He was honored as one of Black Enterprise’s Top 4 under 4, The Root’s Top 25 under 25, and one of Reader Digest’s 50 things to love about America.

calendar at: Vice President’s Offices, Dealerser, Bookstore, International Student Center’s
Skyline College leadership

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