

DVC Retirees Association Newsletter Fall 2024



COME TO DVCRA's 2024 FALL LUNCHEON! Please join us to connect with friends and former colleagues over a hot buffet lunch in DVC's Diablo Room.

DATE Oct 25, 2024

TIME: 11:30am-2pm

LOCATION: Diablo Room, HSF Building, 3rd floor, Elevator Available

COST: \$20 per person cash or check, \$21 charge (guests welcome!)

FOOD: Hot Buffet featuring Italian Cuisine:
Choose regular (r), gluten-free (gf), or vegetarian (v)

PARKING: Lots 7 and 8, with a free permit (details below)
or a permanent permit

PROGRAM: **Brenda Gonzalez, Puente Co-coordinator and Counselor,** will join us with students from the program to tell us about how the program assists and supports participants as they achieve their educational goals and transfer to four-year institutions.

RESERVE: **When You Pay, Please Specify:** Name of each Attendee, the number of parking permits needed and which meal each wants regular (r) gluten-free (gf), or vegetarian (v). Either send a note with your check or use the comment box with credit card payments. See the [Payment Page](#) on the DVCRA website to reserve.

Reservations and payments must be received by Oct 16

QUESTIONS: Concerning lunch, contact Irene Menegas, imenegas@comcast.net or 925-946-0420

Concerning payments, contact Karen Castle, castlekg@gmail.com or 925-209-6317

Fall 2024 Luncheon

Rachel Westlake

We will be able to mingle and munch once again in a comfortable, well-ventilated space. Our meal will be provided for us through a collaboration between DVC's Culinary and Food Services Departments. For more details of the event, read on.

DIRECTORY: Luncheon attendees will receive a hard copy of the DVCRA Directory with members' contact information. Members who cannot attend will be mailed a copy.

FOOD: We will have an Italian-themed buffet with regular (r), vegetarian(v) and gluten free (gf) options available.

PARKING: As always, Parking Lots 7 and 8 have the most convenient access for the event – Student Ambassadors will be on site to help you find your way to the Diablo Room. A parking permit is required. If you have a permanent DVC parking pass/sticker with no expiration date on your vehicle, you are good to go. If not, you can obtain a (free) daily permit by going to **MyCampusPermit.com** at any time prior to the event. Click on Daily Permits, choose Diablo Valley College, and enter the requested information, including a special code which we will provide upon request. You must also enter the license plate number of the vehicle you will bring to campus. There will be people available in Lots 7 and 8 to assist you if you do not complete the process in advance.

GETTING TO THE DIABLO ROOM: As always, Lawrence Orme from DSS will be providing transportation from Parking Lot 7 by the BFL Community Conference Center, for those who would like assistance.

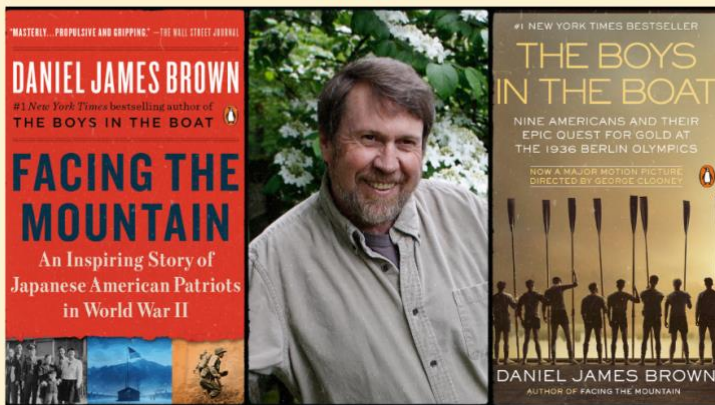
PRICE: \$20 per meal cash or check, \$21 per meal if a charge card is used.

IMPORTANT: Much as we would miss your presence, if you are feeling unwell, experiencing any COVID symptoms, or have tested positive for the virus in the week before October 25, please help us to keep everyone safe by not attending. If at some time after you have paid, but before the event, the continuously shifting COVID situation leaves you no longer comfortable about attending, please notify Irene or Karen, and let them know if you would like a refund, or if you prefer to apply your payment toward the scholarship fund.

We are looking forward to seeing you on October 25!

RESILIENCE AND TRIUMPH: AN EVENING WITH BEST SELLING AUTHOR, DANIEL JAMES BROWN

Join us for an inspiring evening with acclaimed author and DVC alumnus Daniel James Brown, known for his best-selling books "The Boys in the Boat" and "Facing the Mountain." Hear Daniel discuss his experiences at Diablo Valley College and how they shaped his path to success as a writer.



Date: Friday, October 25th
Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Forum Auditorium (Library Building)
Diablo Valley College

Tickets: \$20 (Limited seats available)

**Don't miss this unique opportunity to engage
with a celebrated author and be inspired by
stories of resilience and triumph.**



Reserve your seat today
at <https://t.ly/DanBrown>
or scan this QR code



DVC-Foundation.org

DVCFoundationinfo@dvc.edu 925.969.2028
321 Golf Club Road Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Presented by the

DVC Foundation

October 18, 2024

7 PM at

DVC Forum

Tickets At

<https://t.ly/DanBrown>

We are honored to host Daniel James Brown and give our community the opportunity to hear his remarkable story," said Charley Daly, Alumni Manager at the DVC Foundation. "This event embodies the spirit of resilience and triumph that we strive to instill in our students every day."

Daniel James Brown is the author of *The Boys in the Boat*, which tells the true story of the University of Washington's 1936 eight-oar crew and their epic quest for an Olympic gold medal. His latest book, *Facing the Mountain*, highlights the bravery and sacrifice of Japanese American soldiers during World War II.

Frank Mallicoat, the morning anchor at KTVU will serve as the MC of the event and will involve a presentation by the author followed by a question and answer period.

Remember to Join the DVC Retirees Association

Milagros Ojermark

Each year, the DVC Retirees Association, our Association, sends you a reminder to renew your membership--\$20—and we recommend you donate another \$50 to help fund scholarships for DVC's continuing and transferring students. You have been generous, enabling the DVCRA to fund scholarships of \$1000 each to 17 students for 2023-2024.

To continue as an organization and maintain our important work of supporting students, we need you to renew your membership and donate generously to the scholarship fund. Check. Have you renewed your membership for 2024-2025? If not, you can still renew.

A paid membership entitles you to a printed membership Directory with contact information for all of our members. If you attend the fall Luncheon on October 25, 2024, (11:30-2:00 in DVC's Diablo Room) you will be handed a hard copy. If you are unable to attend, we will mail you a 2024-2025 Directory by U. S. mail.

The membership also includes your receiving announcements of upcoming events of the Association as well as many of those held at DVC. You will get a Newsletter twice an academic year and be invited to attend 2 DVCRA luncheons each academic year. All these options help you stay in touch with our DVC community and allow you to continue to share time and foster connections among the members.

Please renew your membership if you have not already. If you need to check on whether you have renewed for 2024-2025, you can contact me at mjoermark@hotmail.com.

We hope to see you on October 25, 2024.

Payment Methods Yet Again, Credit Cards Accepted

Karen Castle

In an attempt to facilitate payments with a minimum of bother, we have arranged to accept credit card payments as well as checks and cash. There is a \$1. convenience fee for lunches, but not for donations or membership.

All the current options are explained on our [Payments Page](#). Reach it from Uf4cdretired.org. Please send comments and suggestions to karen castle at castle.kg@gmail.com or 925-209 6317.

Diablo Valley College Retirees Association
Financial Report
For the Period January 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024

Tim Murphy, Treasurer

The primary purpose for the DVCRA's fund raising is to award scholarships to DVC students. The Association has awarded scholarships for many years. Since 2008, we awarded 176 scholarships (\$178,400) through 2024. We award and fund scholarships in the spring and our major fund-raising efforts occur during the prior summer and fall. The funds raised in calendar year 2024 will be used to fund the scholarships in 2025.

The following DVCRA financial information is for the period January 1, 2024, to July 31, 2024:

- \$32,048 in total assets as of July 31, 2024, of which \$18,608 is available for future operations and scholarships.
- Fundraising activities (including donations, memberships, interest and luncheon net income) to date in 2024 have generated \$9,995 available for scholarships.

The DVCRA Board has tentatively approved twelve scholarships of \$1,000 each for the year 2025. Seven scholarships will go to continuing DVC students and three scholarships will go to DVC transferring students. An additional two transfer scholarships will go to a DVC Umoja transferring student and to a DVC Puente transferring student. More scholarships will be awarded as donations are received. For the year 2024, the award of 17 scholarships was higher because it reflected both higher donations and the use of \$2,000 in scholarships that were awarded but unclaimed from 2022.

Payments for membership dues, luncheon reservations and scholarship donations (not tax-deductible) can be made by mail to DVCRA, as in the past. If you prefer, you can now make payment by credit card by going to UF4cdretired.org and clicking on the link to the [Payment Page](#).

Tax-deductible DVCRA scholarship donations can be made directly to the DVC Foundation or by writing a separate check to the DVC Foundation and mailing it with your check for luncheon reservations/dues. Please specify DVCRA Scholarship Fund- 751.

Please email me at tmurphy@dvc.edu if you have any questions or need assistance regarding making a payment or donation.

Your Board wants to thank our membership for your continuing generosity to the students of DVC and for your support and participation in our Association.



Friday, October 18, 2024

Enjoy dinner prepared and served by DVC's Culinary Arts Program in the Norseman, then stroll over to the DVC Performing Arts Center for an evening of entertainment by the DVC Drama Department.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW
Contact the DVC Cashier's Office to make your
reservations TODAY 925-969-2358
Reservations must be made by October 11, 2024

This event is Sponsored by the
DVC Academic Senate

5:30 PM DINNER TICKETS: \$40/person (plus tax)
(includes wine & gratuity) Please indicate choice of entrée
when purchasing tickets: beef, chicken, fish, or vegetarian

7:30 PM THEATER TICKET: \$20/person
(Dinner and Theater tickets must be purchased separately).

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

At the DVC Cashier's Office in person or phone [925-969-2358](tel:925-969-2358)

Dinner \$40, Theater \$20 each show, \$75 all 4 shows Faculty/Staff/Seniors

Descriptions of each play at <http://dvcdrama.net/current-season>

Mark Your Calendar, DVCRA Zoom Social is Back!

Thursday, February 27, 2025, 3-5 PM!

Irene Menegas

We know our fellow retirees are an active group, and calendars fill up quickly! So, we're planning ahead! Please mark your calendars to join us for this fun event in the comfort of your own home and with your favorite refreshments! Please send Irene Menegas (imenegas@comcast.net) or Karen Castle (castle.kg@gmail.com) your suggestions for chat room topics or activities you'd be interested in during the Social.

Also, please consider hosting a chat room. Are you a trivia expert or a sports fan? Care to host a game of general trivia or sports trivia? Have you been on some interesting trips lately that you'd like to share, or would you be willing to facilitate a discussion on interesting places to visit, good tour companies to work with, great websites for trip planning, and all things travel? Or maybe you have a secret talent that you'd like to share with colleagues and in turn find out about interesting hobbies that other folks have. Think about showing some of your work and facilitating a discussion about talents and hobbies folks have.

Please let us know your thoughts so that we can plan an event that you would like to attend. Details will be sent out in early February when we our plans are more in place.

Luncheon Ideas Requested

Rob Peters

Attention Members: We want to consider *your ideas* about designing our luncheons!

We all look forward to seeing colleagues, getting college and scholarship updates and, of course, enjoying the luncheon food itself each semester that we gather. And in the interest of maintaining all of that enthusiasm, I think it would be useful to reach out periodically to all members and find out: *how would you like to see the luncheons organized?*

For starters, how can we have added fun or entertainment time to the meetings: encourage retirees to get involved in offering and/or performing or providing presentations. But any of us might also be talented and could arrange a travelogue AV show, trivia competitions, dramatic readings, a musical smorgasbord, a gong show format, stand-up comedy bits, etc., etc. We'd like to hear from you. You help decide!

Celebrating Our Student Scholars

by Carolyn Seefer

On Friday, May 10, 2024, the DVC Foundation and the DVC Faculty Scholarship Work Group held its annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony and Donor Reception. During the ceremony 158 student scholars were awarded scholarships that will help them achieve their academic and professional dreams. DVCRA members Ellen Kruse and Karen Castle attended this special event and loved being able to share in the celebration of these extraordinary students.

Of the 80 scholarships offered at DVC, four are funded by the Diablo Valley College Retirees Association (DVCRA). Through those four scholarships, DVCRA members were able to award and recognize 17 DVC students.

DVC Retirees Association Continuing Student Scholarship

David Doss	Tara Lanoie	Anu-Ujin Purev-Od
Itzayana Hernandez Cruz	Matthew Posey	Kassandra Santiago
Edgar Hernandez Figueroa	Laura Prieto	Gabriela Tapia

DVC Retirees Association Transferring Student Scholarship

Melanie Cerron	Iman Khan	Christina Scott
Sarrah Jessa	Katie Lin	Shania Stuart

DVC Retirees Association Transferring Puente Student Scholarship

Xintli Rivera Raygoza

DVC Retirees Association Transferring Umoja Student Scholarship

Blen Ashebir

These 17 students represent a variety of majors, including anthropology, art, biological science/allied health, business, chemistry, communication studies, computer science, mathematics, political science, psychology, and sociology. Some will be continuing at DVC this academic year; others will be transferring to a four-year university. Many are first-generation students, and some are reentry students. All of them have inspiring stories, goals, and dreams. And their scholarships will provide financial assistance that is life-changing.

DVCRA Member Ellen Kruse with DVCRA scholarship recipient Gabriela Tapia



During the ceremony President Susan Lamb gave the welcome address; DVC Foundation members Peter Zaballos and Jim Blair gave opening comments; the DVC Viking Ensemble performed; two scholarship recipients, Deiondre Durham and Victoria Cordova, spoke; and members of the DVC Faculty Scholarship Work Group, Patrick Leong, Kimberly Galbraith, and Ellen Beaulieu, presented the scholarships to the recipients.

DVCRA Member Ellen Kruse with DVCRA scholarship recipient Itzayana Hernandez Cruz



Patrick Leong, English professor, said this about the ceremony: "It's a wonderful event because I get to meet many of the recipients, their families and supporters, and the sponsors of the opportunities. I learn more and more about our students, their life experiences, and the generous people of our community who support the education and career goals of our students." Patrick served on the DVC Faculty Scholarship Workgroup for 27 years, and chaired the committee for nearly 10 years. He is now newly retired and will soon join us as a DVCRA member. We welcome him and thank him for his service to the DVC scholarship program for so many years.

The accomplishments of these student scholars are something we can all celebrate. Ellen Kruse encourages all DVCRA members, whose dues and other contributions go toward DVCRA scholarships, to attend the Scholarship Awards Ceremony and Donor Reception, which is held each year in May. The next Scholarship Awards Ceremony will be **May 9, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the Performing Arts Center.**

Ellen says, "You will find that the students' stories are heartwarming. Meeting these young people will restore your confidence in the future. They are fun to meet and so happy to be celebrated and honored."



Diablo Valley College, Home of Olympic Gold!

Congratulations to Amit Elor the 2024 Gold Medalist Wrestler. Amit is currently a DVC student and is the youngest woman to ever win a gold medal in wrestling. Amit is competing at 68kg women's freestyle. Meet Amit and the rest of the 2024 U.S. Olympic wrestling team. <https://bit.ly/4dq8XvQ>

In Memoria

The Diablo Valley College Retirees Association wishes to recognize those members of our community who have passed since our last published Newsletter.

For tributes and more complete obituaries, please go to the DVCRA website: <http://uf4cdretired.org> or click on the name to go to their In Memoriam page on the DVCRA website.

[Marie Jeanette \(Jinx\) Justice Abbott](#)

[Jim Costa](#)

[Robert Dantzler](#)

[Debra Louise Fowler](#)

[Bill Hutchings](#)

[Steve Padover](#)

[Bruce Reeves](#)

[\(Esther\) Diane Smith](#)



DVC Retirees Association Board

Association Coordinator - Karen Castle

Treasurer -Tim Murphy

Secretary - Irene Menegas

Membership Meeting/Luncheon Coordinator - Rachel Westlake

Scholarship Coordinator - Mary Ulrich

Newsletter Editor – Nancy Zink, Acting

Newsletter layout- Karen Castle, Acting

Member Directory Maintainer - Nancy Zink

Membership Coordinator – Milagros Ojermark

New Member Recruiter - Ann Langelier-Patton

Unions, District, Benefits Liaison - Nancy Zink

[DVCRA webpage \[uf4cdretired.org\]](http://uf4cdretired.org)