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SEPTEMBER 2025



Veterans Resource Center



Supporting VVC Vets: Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Donates \$80K

VVC Foundation Spotlights Award for VRC Students

STORIES OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND LEARNING

MEET YOUR ASB
OFFICERS

4-7

HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

8



VICTOR VALLEY
COLLEGE

AB 90 Stalls: Safe Parking for Community College Students on Hold

California lawmakers fail to advance bill for homeless students

By: Andrew Caravella

A proposed bill in California that could have established overnight safe parking programs for homeless community college students appears unlikely to move forward this year.

Assembly Bill 90, authored by Assemblymember Corey A. Jackson (D-Perris), would have allowed community college districts to designate secure parking areas with access to restrooms and showers for students living in cars or RVs. Jackson described the proposal as a “last resort” for students without access to housing vouchers or shelter options.

The measure passed the Assembly earlier this year but was held “under submission” by the Senate Appropriations Committee in August, preventing it from advancing to the Senate floor before the legislative session ends Friday.

According to a 2023 survey funded by California Community Colleges, one in four students reported experiencing homelessness, up from 19% in 2019. That figure includes both students who identified as homeless and those in unstable housing situations, such as couch-surfing.

Supporters of AB 90 pointed to existing efforts like Long Beach City College’s safe parking program, launched in 2021, which offers secure parking, internet access, showers, and referrals for housing assistance. Similar programs have been implemented in cities including Santa Barbara and Los Angeles.

Opponents, including the Los Angeles Community College District, raised concerns about the cost and feasibility of implementing such programs. The statewide cost was estimated at \$40 million to \$50 million if all districts participated, with individual district costs projected between \$550,000 and \$700,000 annually, according to SFGate.com.

LACCD Trustee Steve Veres told the Los Angeles Times that the district has opposed safe parking legislation in recent years, preferring to connect students directly to housing. Veres noted that the district allocates \$700,000 to \$1 million annually



for homelessness-related services and is pursuing housing development projects.

If AB 90 had passed, Victor Valley College could have implemented a similar program, potentially providing students living in vehicles with secure overnight parking, restroom and shower access, and referrals to long-term housing resources. Such a program could serve as a temporary safety net for students experiencing housing instability while pursuing their education.

Currently, VVC does offer numerous resources for students who might be impacted as a result of homelessness. The VVC THRIVE Resource Center. The center says that it’s committed to meeting students’ needs at VVC. They encourage students who are in need that are actively attending classes in the Fall 2025 term and would like to work with a specialist to help connect to on and off campus resources such as food, housing, mental health, utility assistance to complete the Thrive Resource Request Form so someone from their team can contact the student. More of the center’s information is available at: www.vvc.edu/thrive-resource-center

While AB 90 did not advance, the issue of student housing insecurity remains significant across the state’s 116 community colleges, which serve more than 2 million students each year.

Sources: Los Angeles Times, LegiScan



\$80,000 Grant Strengthens Victor Valley College Veterans Resource Center



Victorville, CA — The Victor Valley College District Foundation is pleased to announce it has been awarded an \$80,000 grant from Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation to strengthen the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) at Victor Valley College (VVC).

This funding will directly support the academic and career success of student veterans during the 2025–2026 academic year. The Tribe awards grants to support four philanthropic pillars: inspiring future generations through education, empowering lives, fostering healthy and resilient communities, and preserving cultural traditions while supporting Indian Country.

This grant holds deep meaning for Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation. At the Foundation's President's Circle Luncheon on September 4, 2025, Program Officer Monique Osorio emphasized the Tribe's enduring commitment to education, stating, "It is the Tribe's belief that education provides knowledge to excel all people and is the

key to creating paths to a better future for generations." Osorio also highlighted the remarkable legacy of Native American service in the U.S. military, noting that Indigenous peoples have enlisted at disproportionately high rates compared to other populations and have courageously served in every major conflict for over two centuries.

With this award, the Foundation can assist the VRC in expanding its hours of operation to include evenings and Fridays and provide scholarships and emergency aid to alleviate financial pressures.

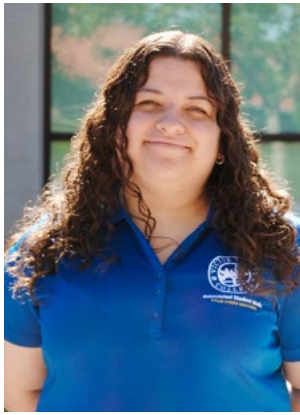
"This grant ensures our veteran students have the resources, support, and opportunities they deserve to thrive academically and professionally," said Esteban Peñameza, Program Manager of VVC's Veterans Resource Center. Kirsten Acosta, Executive Director of the VVC Foundation, added, "Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation has long supported education and community initiatives. We are proud to collaborate

with them once again to strengthen services for those who have served our nation."

This investment not only strengthens the Veterans Resource Center but also reaffirms the college's commitment to those who have served our nation. By expanding resources and removing barriers, the college is helping veteran students achieve their goals with dignity and confidence. Together with Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, the Victor Valley College Foundation is building a stronger community of support for veterans now and for generations to come.



Meet VVC's Associated Student Body 2025 – 2026



Hailey Reyes – ASB President & Student Trustee

Year: 3rd

Hailey grew up around VVC's ASB and always admired the leaders who made a difference for students. Inspired to give back, she joined student leadership to create positive change on campus. Majoring in Psychology and Communications, she hopes to graduate in Spring 2026 and transfer to a four-year university. Career-wise, Hailey is exploring paths that combine her passions, from education administration to roles that foster meaningful connections and impact.

Favorite Movie/Song/Artist: Fast & Furious franchise; "Apologies" by Three Days Grace; Three Days Grace and Eminem

Leadership Moment: Hailey researched AI detection software that falsely flagged student work, especially affecting non-native English speakers. She presented her findings to the Academic Senate and authored a resolution for statewide guidelines, which passed at the 2025 SSCCC General Assembly.



Angelina Ceja – ASB Vice President

Year: 2nd

Angelina joined student leadership to give VVC students a voice, create opportunities, and ensure they feel supported. She is majoring in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and plans to transfer to earn her Bachelor's in Biology. Career-wise, she aspires to serve as a medic in the Military.

Favorite Movie/Song/Artist: Snatch; "Baila Inolvidable" by Bad Bunny; Billy Joel

Leadership Moment: Angelina has demonstrated leadership in her personal life by caring for her younger brother and helping her mom, learning that true leadership is about listening, being patient, supporting others, and helping them succeed.



Morgan Guillen – ASB Secretary

Year: 3rd (final)

Morgan joined ASB to contribute to VVC by advocating for and supporting fellow students. She is majoring in Agricultural Animal Sciences and plans to transfer to Cal Poly Pomona for the pre-vet program, while possibly completing her associate's in business at VVC. Her goal is to earn a DVM and eventually open a high desert clinic offering free spay and neutering services.

Favorite Song: "No Excuses" by LITFRANK and Ernie Wayne

Leadership Moment: Morgan demonstrated leadership at a Community Roundtable by collaborating with fellow senators and the ASB President to advocate for initiatives supporting homeless students in the high desert.



Tieast Jenkins – ASB Treasurer

Year: 3rd

Tieast joined ASB because she loved the experience of working with students, building connections, and making friends within the college community. She is majoring in Business Administration and plans to grow her own business offering notary loan signing and live scan services, with potential future work in government contracting.

Favorite Movie: Back to the Future

Leadership Moment: Since starting at VVC in 2023, Tieast has demonstrated leadership by actively connecting with faculty, staff, and students, joining clubs, and becoming a guiding presence of hope, integrity, and unity among her peers.



Shania John – Executive Senator

Year: 2nd

Shania joined student leadership to help others and make a positive impact on campus. She is double majoring in Communications and Political Science and plans to transfer to a four-year university before attending law school. Her career goal is to become a lawyer, using her voice and education to create meaningful change in people's lives.

Favorite Movie: Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith

Leadership Moment: As the oldest of five siblings, Shania naturally stepped into a leadership role at home, learning patience, responsibility, and focus—skills that continue to shape how she leads and supports others.



DeAnn Fulton – Student Advocate

Year: Another year

DeAnn joined student leadership to give students who feel unheard a chance to express their thoughts and opinions. She is majoring in Fine Arts and plans to become a tattoo artist before pursuing her bachelor's degree in Art. DeAnn excels in fine-line tattoo work and aims to make it her career.

Favorite Movie/Song: Lilo & Stitch; "Angels & Demons" by Jxdn

Leadership Moment: As ASB President, DeAnn led her team to Washington D.C. to meet with members of Congress, discussing key federal issues and advocating for student voices.



Mia Johnson – Public Relations Senator

Year: 2nd

Mia joined student leadership because of her passion for helping students and fostering leadership opportunities. She is a dual major in Animal Science and Fine Arts, planning to transfer to a four-year university to continue her studies. Mia aspires to pursue a career as a veterinarian while also engaging in musical theatre.

Favorite Song: "You Can't Hurry Love" by The Supremes

Leadership Moment: Mia demonstrated leadership while leading a workshop at a leadership conference, guiding others and sharing her skills.

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[Continued] VVC's Associated Student Body 2025 – 2026



Toneka Richardson – Science Senator

Year: 2nd

Toneka joined student leadership to be a student advocate, motivator, and positive influence. She is majoring in Nursing and plans to attend Azusa Pacific University, with long-term goals of earning a DNP and becoming an educator.

Favorite Song: "The Greatest Love of All" by Whitney Houston

Leadership Moment: Toneka demonstrates leadership daily—helping students find their way, supporting those at risk of dropping out, and encouraging them to stay engaged and succeed.



Harmony Thompson – Fine Arts Senator

Year: 2nd

Harmony joined student leadership to make campus a better place and inspire fellow students. She is majoring in Fine Arts with a focus on film and music and plans to transfer to Loyola Marymount University. Harmony aspires to be a film director and participate in a metal band.

Favorite Movie: Zack Snyder's Justice League

Leadership Moment: Harmony revived the VVC music club by recruiting members, planning events, and creating engaging activities, fostering a creative community on campus.



Maurice Davis Jr. – ICC Representative

Year: 3rd

Maurice joined leadership to develop skills and positively influence others. He is majoring in Business Administration & Communications and plans to transfer to a four-year university. Maurice aims for a career in marketing.

Favorite Movie: Rush Hour

Leadership Moment: Maurice founded a new club, led it successfully as president, and received recognition for his efforts—marking a pivotal moment in his leadership journey.



Seth Caveyo – Social Science Senator

Year: Since Spring 2022

Seth joined student leadership out of care for students, faculty, and the High Desert community, striving to create a positive and supportive campus environment. He is majoring in Business Education Technology and plans to work for an elected official or in government, ultimately aiming to become an elected official himself.

Favorite Movies/Songs: Surf's Up, Over the Hedge, Fireproof, Courageous, Love Comes Softly; music by Bryan Duncan, Sandi Patty, Jimmy Swaggart, Gaither Vocal Band, and MBL Worship

Leadership Moment: Seth demonstrates leadership through volunteering with local food banks, dedicating his time to help feed the community and positively impact lives with humility and care.



Amerie Fortune – Athletics Senator

Year: 3rd

Amerie joined student leadership to gain experience and build a strong foundation in leadership skills. She is majoring in Respiratory Therapy and Emergency Medical Services, with plans to become a Registered Nurse. Her career goal is to work in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Favorite Song: “Ponte Bonita” by Cris MJ

Leadership Moment: Amerie has contributed to ASB council previously, supporting fellow students and strengthening campus athletics programs.



Yasmeen Arnaout – Student Services Senator

Year: 2nd

Yasmeen joined student leadership to drive positive change and ensure student concerns are addressed. She is majoring in Psychology and plans to transfer to pursue a master’s degree. Career-wise, she aims to support veterans or youth in the foster care system.

Favorite Movie/Song: Superbad; any song by Queens of the Stone Age

Leadership Moment: Yasmeen has held leadership roles from her service in the Army to serving as Director of Transportation for a Fortune 500 company, consistently guiding teams and addressing challenges.



Fernando Vasquez – Industrial Science & Logistics Senator

Year: Another year

Fernando joined ASB after nearly leaving college, finding inspiration to persevere and help other students succeed. He is majoring in Computer Information Systems and plans to transfer to Cal Poly Pomona. Fernando aspires to become a Computer Engineer, while exploring diverse interests within the field.

Leadership Moment: Fernando demonstrated quick thinking and leadership when navigating a small but risky encounter with a coyote, protecting his friends and safely redirecting the group.



RAMMY - VVC Mascot

Year: Since 1961

Meet Rammy the Ram — the heart, soul, and unstoppable energy of the Associated Student Body at Victor Valley College! Rammy isn’t just a mascot; they’re the spark that keeps campus buzzing with spirit, pride, and positivity.

From hyping up the crowd at games to cheering on students during finals, Rammy is everywhere — spreading good vibes, rallying support, and making sure VVC feels like home. You’ll spot Rammy leading community events, encouraging teamwork, and always reminding Rams that we’re stronger together.

And here’s a quirky little secret: Rammy loves windchimes. Yep, you heard that right! They’ve even tucked a few into campus trees. Legend has it, if you hear the chimes on a breezy day, it’s a lucky sign that Rammy’s rooting for you. ☐☐

NOT PICTURED

Activities Senator - Audrey Rivas

Business & Math Senator Kevin Munoz

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Hispanic Heritage Month, observed annually from September 15 to October 15, is a time to recognize and honor the rich histories, cultures, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans. This celebration shines a light on the accomplishments of individuals from diverse backgrounds who have shaped the United States in fields ranging from education and science to the arts, politics, and beyond. It is also a time to reflect on the resilience, perseverance, and enduring influence of Hispanic communities throughout history, acknowledging both the challenges they have overcome and the legacies they continue to create.

At Victor Valley College, Hispanic Heritage Month offers an opportunity to celebrate the vibrant culture and traditions of our campus community. Students, faculty, and staff come together to share music, art, literature, cuisine, and language, creating an atmosphere of learning, connection, and appreciation. Special events, workshops, and presentations are held throughout the month to showcase the accomplishments and stories of Hispanic and Latino Americans, highlighting the cultural richness that continues to shape our society and enrich our college environment.

This celebration also serves as a reminder of the importance of representation, equity, and inclusion. By honoring the stories and achievements of Hispanic individuals, VVC demonstrates its commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive campus where all students can see themselves reflected in history and society. It is a time to inspire understanding, appreciation, and solidarity while educating the community about the contributions and experiences of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

Hispanic Heritage Month is not only about recognizing the past but also about empowering the future. It encourages students to embrace their heritage, take pride in their identities, and pursue their goals with confidence and determination. By celebrating the achievements of the Hispanic community, VVC fosters a culture of inspiration and opportunity, supporting the next generation of leaders, innovators, and changemakers who will continue to shape the High Desert, the nation, and the world.

Photo Source: VVC's Día De Los Muertos celebration



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HARMONY'S HITS: Metal Goddesses Unite — The Mother, the Daughter, and the Holy Spirit



By: Harmony Thompson, ASB Fine Arts Senator

End of You is the new standout collaborative single from Evanescence front woman Amy Lee, Spiritbox front woman Courtney LaPlante, and Poppy. This is the first collab between the three metal goddesses, and it acts not only as a passing of the torch from Lee to LaPlante and Poppy, but as an all around amazing track that metalheads from any generation are sure to headbang to.

Amy Lee who is most prominently known for her role as lead singer of Evanescence, known for hits like “Bring Me to Life”, and “My Immortal”, has collaborated with nu-metal band Korn, and most recently with pop/alternative artist Halsey, and metalcore band Bring Me The Horizon. Ex keyboardist and programmer of Bring Me The Horizon, Jordan Fish, seamlessly produced this song. She opens this song with her beautiful and powerful vocals, providing listeners with an enticing entrance. She continues singing until Poppy joins in, but just before she does we’re hit with a catchy, and alluring chorus containing an addicting guitar riff written by Mike Stringer (Courtney LaPlante’s husband and guitarist of Spiritbox).

Poppy, initially known for her

performance art videos which she would post to YouTube, began making pop music in 2016 until shifting to metal in 2020 with the release of her album, “I Disagree”. Her song “Bloodmoney”, earned her a Grammy nomination making her the first solo female artist to be nominated in the Best Metal Performance category. She earned another nomination with hardcore band Knocked Loose, after being featured on their song “Suffocate”, which they also recently performed on Jimmy Kimmel Live. Her vocals begin during the second verse of this track, and they come in gentle and breathy which makes for a nice contrast with Lee’s vocals. In the last line of the pre-chorus we hear them sing together, and despite their different vocal styles they come together like peanut butter and jelly. In an interview with NME, Poppy stated that for her, the line “Cause the end of you is the start of life for me”, means “...grounded in strength”. After we hear the chorus again, a killer breakdown starts featuring strong and aggressive screams from Courtney LaPlante and Poppy.

Courtney LaPlante is best known as the lead singer of Spiritbox, who gained success within the mainstream metalcore scene with the release of their debut album, “Eternal Blue”. Last year they were nominated for Best Metal Performance at the Grammy’s for their

song “Jaded”, and received another nomination in the same category this year for the song “Cellar Door”, both of which were featured on their sophomore album, “Tsunami Sea”. In July they performed their song “Soft Spine” on Jimmy Kimmel Live. Courtney and Poppy’s screams are amazing on their own, but when they come together it’s something otherworldly. Following the breakdown we get into a 3rd verse sung by LaPlante and Lee, followed by a breakdown. While they sound great together, I do wish there was more from LaPlante on this track. I feel like there’s something missing and it lacks the prowess that is present in a lot of Spiritbox’s songs. Moving on to the bridge, the song slows down a bit right before it gets moving again with its intoxicating guitar riff. The outro of the song brings the song to a smooth halt, with Lee, Poppy, and LaPlante’s vocals coming together for a gorgeous ending.

Overall, this song is amazing. It is a superb, distinctive, and outstanding collaboration. Despite a few moments throughout the track that could have been better and more coherent, as a fan of all three incredible women, I hope this is not the end of collaborations we hear from them!

MYERS ON MOVIES: Before Streaming, There Was Eminem



By: Richard John Paul Meyers

Don't get it twisted: Eminem still wants to be left alone, but he still loves y'all. Even the obsessed Stans in his new movie. While it isn't 8-Mile, it is a must-see for fans of Slim Shady.

I was a kid back in '98 when Dr. Dre signed a battle rapper from Detroit who he thought was Black named Eminem...turns out he was a white kid from a trailer park who hated his mom. Em's first hit single, "My Name Is" was nuclear when it dropped and sent a cultural shockwave that rocked America. It went viral before going viral even existed... back when chain-mail letters on AOL gave you and your 56k dial-up modem bad luck if you didn't forward them to at least 3 other people.

Before YouTube, before Spotify, before Napster we had three things, if we were lucky: a cassette tape, MTV and a stereo. Us oldheads burned CD's from Morpheus, Kazaa and LimeWire. We'd hit the Victor Valley Mall with empty stomachs and lunch money we had saved up to go to Sam Goody's to cop a new album — if we could afford it. Most of us couldn't.

And while all of this was happening, the rapper that Dr. Dre thought was Black was making noise in a way that had never been

done before. Slim Shady rapped about sticking nine-inch nails through his eyelids, dissed popular boy bands like NSync and flowed about topics that would get you cancelled in 2025: the LGBTQIA+, slapping females, and bodybagging his ex-wife.

The biggest issue that the 27-year-old Marshall Mathers had was that he was thrust into stardom overnight and wasn't prepared for his own meteoric rise.

The 2025 movie STANS documents Eminem's feelings about how weird it is to be obsessed with him. Some of the Stans interviewed in the movie are wild. They fly from Europe to Detroit to go to the restaurant he worked at hoping they'll meet him. They dress like him, have bleached blonde hair, wear over-sized white-tees and write him fan mail and even sob as they talk about how influential his music is in their personal lives.

For Eminem fans and followers who feel a connection to his music it is a must-watch. It chronicles the stories of Eminem extremists and their unusual relationship with the artist. These Slim Shady fanatics take it to a whole new level. In Slim Shady fashion, Eminem says: "To my fans, thank you, I love y'all... that's who I do my music for...and f*** everyone else."



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Richard John Paul Meyers is a Victor Valley College alumnus, commercial and film producer, and co-founder of Myers Marketing. A former film critic whose work has appeared in respected outlets such as The Film Stage and Film Courage, Richard brings industry insight from years of storytelling and media analysis. He has worked on major productions including the Academy Awards Viewing Party and national campaigns for Chevrolet. Alongside his wife, Stephanie, he leads creative projects through their production company, collaborating with Emmy and Grammy-winning professionals. Passionate about storytelling and community, Richard continues to support local causes and arts initiatives while contributing film reviews and commentary to RAMS Monthly.

More info on Richard

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info@myersmarketing.net

"Stans" is now available to stream on Paramount+. The platform offers a free 7-day trial.

Rotten Tomatoes Critics: 88%

Rotten Tomatoes Fans: 93%

Metacritic: N/A

Genre: Music, documentary

Runtime: 1 hour, 42 minutes

Streaming Release Date: 08/26/2025

IMDb Synopsis: Reveals a superfan's intensely personal connection to iconic rapper Eminem and that artist's profound influence. Explores fandom's power to forge identity and community.



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