



Los Angeles Valley College

news release

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L.A. VALLEY COLLEGE HONORED BY THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION WITH 2016 TREE CAMPUS USA® RECOGNITION

LAVC named as a Tree Campus USA® for the sixth consecutive year

VALLEY GLEN, CA – Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC) was honored with 2016 Tree Campus USA® recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation for its commitment to effective urban forest management.

“For the sixth year in a row, Los Angeles Valley College is honored to be named a Tree Campus USA® from the Arbor Day Foundation,” said Dr. Erika Endrijonas, president of Los Angeles Valley College. “We are proud to be a leader in urban forest management in higher education as the first California community college to be recognized.”

LAVC holds the unique distinction of being the first California community college and the first college campus in the city of Los Angeles to be named a Tree Campus USA® in 2011.

Los Angeles Valley College achieved the Tree Campus USA® designation by meeting the required five core standards for sustainable campus forestry: a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects.

LAVC’s urban forest comprises of more than 1,600 trees and was established by early faculty members of the college’s Biology department. It has a diverse mixture of trees and plants that not only serves as an educational tool, but helps to inspire a college-wide commitment to sustainability. In 2010, the college developed a Tree Master Plan to use as a guidebook for the future growth of its urban forest. The LAVC Tree Master Plan is available online at www.lavc.edu/trees/index.aspx.

Tree Campus USA is a national program created in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation and to honor colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and for engaging staff and students in conservation goals. Currently, there are 296 campuses across the United States with this recognition.

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"Students are eager to volunteer in their communities and become better stewards of the environment," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Participating in Tree Campus USA sets a fine example for other colleges and universities, while helping to create a healthier planet for us all."

The Arbor Day Foundation has helped campuses throughout the country plant thousands of trees, and Tree Campus USA® colleges and universities invested more than \$46.7 million in campus forest management last year. More information about the program is available at arborday.org.

For more information, visit the LAVC Urban Forest Web Page at www.lavc.edu/trees/index.aspx.

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About the Arbor Day Foundation:

The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. More information is available at arborday.org.

About Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC):

Los Angeles Valley College, established in 1949, is a public two-year community college situated in the heart of the San Fernando Valley. As one of the largest campuses in the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), it serves 20,000 students in the communities of Van Nuys, North Hollywood, Valley Village, Panorama City, Burbank, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, and Encino. Valley College provides residents of the San Fernando Valley community with transfer education, career technical education and training, and lifelong learning opportunities. It offers more than 100 associate degree programs and 53 certificates of achievement programs. The college is currently undergoing a \$612 million renovation and building project funded by voter-supported Proposition A/AA and Measure J. For more information, visit www.lavc.edu.