



# news release

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*  
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## LA VALLEY COLLEGE NAMED A TREE CAMPUS USA BY THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION AND TOYOTA FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW

**The First Community College in California and Only College in Los Angeles  
to receive a 2012 Tree Campus USA distinction**

**Lincoln, Neb.** – The Arbor Day Foundation announced today that Los Angeles Valley College has been named as a Tree Campus USA for the second year in a row.

“Valley College is honored to be the only community college in California, and the only institution of higher learning in the city of Los Angeles to be a Tree Campus USA,” said Dr. A. Susan Carleo, president of Los Angeles Valley College. “This is a unique distinction that demonstrates our college’s ongoing commitment to sustainability and being stewards of the environment.”

Tree Campus USA is a national program created in 2008 to honor colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and for engaging staff and students in conservation goals. Toyota helped launch the program and continues its generous financial support this year.

Los Angeles Valley College achieved the title by meeting Tree Campus USA’s five standards, which include maintaining a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures toward trees, an Arbor Day observance and student service-learning projects.

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## LAVC Named a Tree Campus USA 2012

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"Students are eager to volunteer in their communities and become better stewards of the environment," said John Rosenow, founder and 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 all of us."

"Toyota is so proud to support a program that we believe has a tremendous impact on both reducing the environmental footprint of a college campus and inspiring college students to become the conservation leaders of the future", said Patricia Salas Pineda, group vice president of National Philanthropy and the Toyota USA Foundation.

The Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota have helped campuses throughout the country plant hundreds of thousands of trees, and Tree Campus USA colleges and universities invested \$23 million in campus forest management last year. More information about the program is available at [arborday.org/TreeCampusUSA](http://arborday.org/TreeCampusUSA).

LAVC has a longstanding commitment to sustainability and inspiring the next generation to be conservation leaders in their community. The LAVC Urban Forest was established the founding faculty members in the college's Biology department, and today it contains a diverse mixture of more than 1,600 of trees and plants. Valley College uses its urban forest to not only serve as an educational tool, but is part of its college-wide commitment to sustainability. Additional information on LAVC's urban forest is available at [www.lavc.edu/revitalizingvalley/urbanforest.html](http://www.lavc.edu/revitalizingvalley/urbanforest.html).

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### **ABOUT THE ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION**

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit conservation and education organization of one million members, with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org), or by visiting us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or our [blog](#).

### **ABOUT TOYOTA**

Toyota (NYSE: TM) established operations in the United States in 1957 and currently operates 10 manufacturing plants. Toyota directly employs nearly 30,000 in the U.S. and its investment here is currently valued at more than \$18 billion, including sales and manufacturing operations, research and development, financial services and design. Toyota is committed to being a good corporate citizen in the communities where it does business and believes in supporting programs with long-term sustainable results. Toyota supports numerous organizations across the country, focusing on education, the environment and safety. Since 1991, Toyota has contributed over half a billion dollars to philanthropic programs in the U.S. For more information on Toyota's commitment to improving communities nationwide, visit [www.toyota.com/philanthropy](http://www.toyota.com/philanthropy).

### **ABOUT LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE**

Los Angeles Valley College is a public two-year college located in the heart of the San Fernando Valley. Since 1949, Valley College has been meeting the needs of the San Fernando Valley community by providing transfer education, career technical education and lifelong learning opportunities. Valley College serves more than 18,000 students, from the Los Angeles suburbs of Van Nuys, Valley Village, Studio City, Sherman Oaks, Encino, Lake Balboa, Panorama City, Sun Valley and Burbank. For more information, visit [www.lavc.edu](http://www.lavc.edu).