

The Luna Light



"Creating Opportunities for You!"

Second Volume 1 Issue 12

May 31, 2018

"Magnificent 7" Dental Assistant students double-up classes to graduate in spring



Luna Dental Assisting students had a pinning ceremony on Thursday, May 24. Pictured (l-r) are Dawna Ortega Gallegos (instructor), Amber Trujillo, Isaiah Sandoval, Chantel Rivera, Kimmeeh Martinez, Tabitha Leyba, Aubrie Chavez and Glorianna Baca.



As part of the pinning ceremony, Luna dental assistant students have a member of their family go up on stage with them to get their pin as well as receive well-deserved congratulations. Another aspect is for students to take a pinning candle oath. Pictured (l-r) are Glorianna Baca and her sister Jamie and Chantel Rivera and Kimmeeh Martinez.



Luna Community College Dental Assisting students made history this past semester. Glorianna Baca, Aubrie Chavez, Tabitha Leyba, Kimmeeh Martinez, Chantel Rivera, Isaiah Sandoval and Amber Trujillo all took 10 classes instead of a normal five-course load in the spring. Because of their hard work and dedication, they were official graduates of Luna on May 24.

The seven students and their instructors Gloria Pacheco and Dawna Ortega Gallegos, upon receiving news in November of Luna's uncertain future accreditation status by the Higher Learning Commission, decided to double-up the teaching and course load in the spring to make sure they would earn their credentials in May, instead of July like in previous years. Because of their accomplishments, some people that have observed the dental assisting students accomplishments have dubbed them "The Magnificent 7."

Continued on page 2

Dental Assistant students...

Continued from page 1

The Higher Learning Commission will make its decision on whether Luna will keep its accreditation in the last week of June.

“I can’t stress enough on how dedicated and committed these students were to finishing early,” said Pacheco. “They had the willingness to get this done.”

Amber Trujillo, one of the seven students said she never thought about transferring or looking back after hearing that the Higher Learning Commission placed Luna on a Show Cause Order in November.

“I was never negative towards it,” said Trujillo. “I felt confident and I have a lot of pride in Luna and I wanted to graduate from here. It was stressful, but we got through it. We appreciate Gloria and Dawna; we couldn’t have chosen two better instructors.”

Trujillo earned her GED at Luna and went on to the Dental Assisting Program.

Pacheco said that the 22-hour course load taken by the seven students in the spring would have normally been 15. Students would have been taking the other seven hours in the summer. Pacheco said that 71 percent of students passed the national boards and the students that did not pass it the first time have to retake the test by the end of June. In addition to the class load, all seven students did 300 hours of clinicals, 100 more than normal.

“They all got jobs,” said Pacheco. “I’m proud to be an employee of Luna. We’re an elite group of people that are supportive of one another and of our students.”



Student representative Aubrie Chavez gives a keynote address to her fellow classmates.



Nichole Lopez sings the final notes of the National Anthem at the 2018 Luna Dental Assisting Pinning Ceremony.



my LIFE
my CAREER
my LUNA

Register for SUMMER 2018 Classes

Register online* at <https://pathways.luna.edu> or in-person

* Advisor approval needed to register for online classes.

Classes begin on Monday, June 4, 2018

Last day to register for classes is Friday, June 8, 2018

View the Summer 2018 schedule at luna.edu or call **505-454-2500**

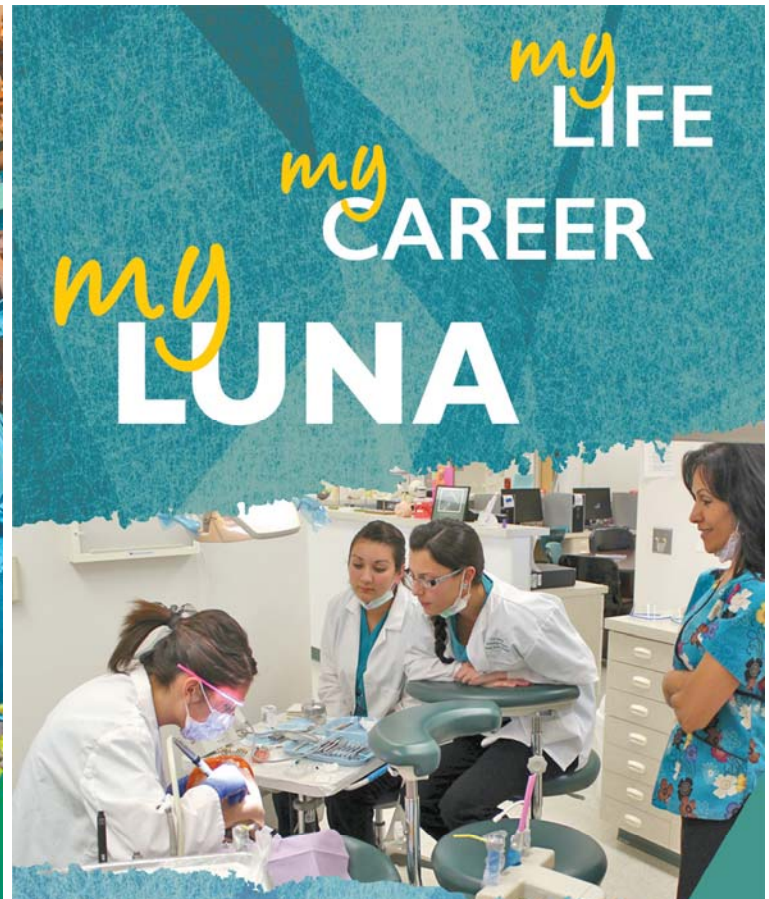
Notice: Luna Community College remains accredited by the Higher Learning Commission while under Show Cause Order. For more information, please visit our website at www.luna.edu

SCHEDULE A CAMPUS VISIT

#LCCmatters

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www.luna.edu
Dental Administrator: Gloria Pacheco, MA, CDA
505-454-2528 • gpacheco@luna.edu
AHS Director: Dr. Rolando Rael
505-454-2527 • rrael@luna.edu

505/454-2500
Fiscal Office: 505/454-2506
Office of Admissions: 505/454-2556
Access Center: 505/454-2552
Student Financial Assistance 505/454-2534
Office of the Registrars: 505/454-5314

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SCHEDULE A CAMPUS VISIT

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Luna Community College

LCC's Lucero and Herrera take first, second at Heavy Equipment Rodeo

Luna Community College's Vocational/Technical Studies students John Lucero and Tracy Herrera took first and second-place at the Associated General Contractors of America Heavy Equipment Rodeo on Friday, May 4 in Albuquerque. Lucero narrowly beat out Herrera in the excavator simulator competition by a money score of \$1,700 to \$1,638. The competitors had to load a dump truck within a four-minute time frame. The competition is based on a monetary basis with the simulator awarding the competitor points based on how much material is loaded into the dump truck. The faster you loaded the truck, the more money you earned. As part of the competition, students were deducted points if they had any safety violations or if they overloaded the dump truck.

For his win, Lucero earned a \$2,500 Heavy Equipment Operations Credential scholarship. The certification is through the National Center for Construction Education and Research



Luna Building Technology Instructor Joseph Montoya is pictured with his students Tracy Herrera and John Lucero. In the second photo, Lucero is pictured with his \$2,500 Heavy Equipment Operations Credential scholarship.

(NCCER).

"We had five competitors over the \$1,000 range," said Luna Building Technology Instructor Joseph Montoya. "There was a big interest of students in our program."

Lucero is expected to earn his building technology certificate in December. After this, Lucero said he would like to start his own construction company in Las Vegas.

"I'm happy I won this scholarship," said Lucero. "I've paid for school out-of-pocket all my life so I feel blessed and grateful. It helps out a lot."

As part of the rodeo, students were able to practice on several heavy equipment machines.

According to BuildYourFuture.org, a heavy equipment operator earns an average annual salary of \$61,091. This salary does not include overtime or incentives.

For more information on Luna's Vocational/Technical Studies or Building Technology programs, contact Montoya at 505-454-2586 or at jjmontoya@luna.edu.

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Luna Community College

PHONE: 505-454-2530
Or 1-800-588-7232
Website: www.luna.edu
LCC MAIN CAMPUS—
Las Vegas, NM

CNC WOOD-WORKING MACHINE ENGRAVING



"Creating Opportunities for You!"

Luna Faculty Senate and the Office of Academic Affairs hosted an Appreciation Coffee & Pastry Social on Wednesday, May 16. Pictured are faculty, academic and vocational directors.



14TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW

OPEN HOUSE & INFORMATIONAL BOOTHS

JUNE 9, 2018

SET UP: 8:00AM - 10:00AM

SHOW: 10:00AM - 3:00PM

Entry Fee: \$20.00

1st 100 entries receive a commemorative t-shirt & plaque

Early Bird Door Prizes

Food Vendors

Sponsored Trophies

Entertainment:

Meshika Sin

Los Tropicales

Double D Entertainment

Special Guests:

"Justice" Lovato

& her

1985 Cadillac Eldorado

"Miss 505"

2017 SFMA Radical Rod

International

Build & Drive Off Winner

Charlie Pacheco & Jean Cutter

Pre-Registration & Cruise Night June 8, 2018

Holiday Inn Express

816 South Grand Ave. Las Vegas, NM 87701

6:00pm - 8:00pm



For more information call

Anthony Baca 505 - 429 - 0425 or Dave Montano 505 - 718 - 9560

Luna to host 14th Annual Car Show on Saturday, June 9

Luna Community College will be having its 14th Annual Car Show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 9 at the College. There is no admission charge to the public.

A \$20 fee is required for each vehicle entered. Entries will be received until the day of the event. The first 100 paid entries will receive a commemorative t-shirt and a plaque. All entries will qualify for door prize drawings. Pre-registration and a Cruise Night will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, June 8 at the Holiday Inn Express on 816 Grand Ave.

"I'm inviting all car enthusiasts to participate in this event," said Luna Auto Collision Instructor Anthony Baca who is coordinating the Car Show. "Las Vegas and the surrounding communities have always supported our Car Show and we appreciate all that they do for us. Adding to the event this year, several Luna faculty and staff will have informational booths highlighting the College. Not only will the public get an opportunity to see a great car show, if they choose to, they will be able to get to see what our College has to



This file photo shows two of the vehicles that were part of the 2013 Luna Car Show.

offer as well."

In addition, Meshika Sin, Los Tropicales, Double D Entertainment and Viento are scheduled to perform. Special guests for the Car Show include "Justice" Lovato and her 1985 Cadillac Eldorado "Miss 505"; 2017 SEMA RaTical Rod International; Build & Drive Off Winner and Charlie Pacheco and Jeam Cutter.

Several food vendors will also be at the event.

"We invite everyone to join

us," said Baca. "There will be one-of-a-kind vehicles that are absolutely amazing."

The Car Show is open to all makes, years and models of trucks, cars, motorcycles and bicycles. Sponsored trophies and icon awards will be part of the activities.

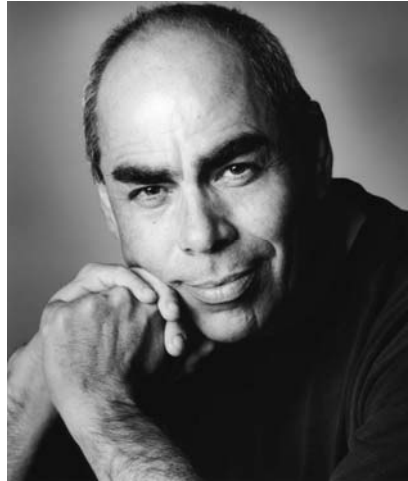
For more information on the Luna Car Show, call Anthony Baca at 429-0425 or Dave Montano at 505-718-9560.

#LCCmatters

Internationally renowned Jimmy Santiago Baca to have workshop with Luna students

Award-winning author and internationally renowned Jimmy Santiago Baca will conduct a writing workshop with Luna Humanities Summer Bridge Program students on Thursday, June 7. Baca's prose and poetry is known for tackling themes of poverty, addiction, pride, community and the Latino experience as it relates to the American Southwest.

Among his awards, Baca is the recipient of the Pushcart Prize, the American Book Award for Poetry, the International Hispanic Heritage Award, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and the International Prize.



Jimmy Santiago Baca

Baca also wrote the screenplay for the movie *Blood In, Blood Out*.

"It's an amazing opportunity for our students to learn from an internationally celebrated writer as Jimmy Santiago Baca," said Luna Humanities Instructor Nathan Baker. "Our students will be inspired by a New Mexican native who has achieved so much acclaim."

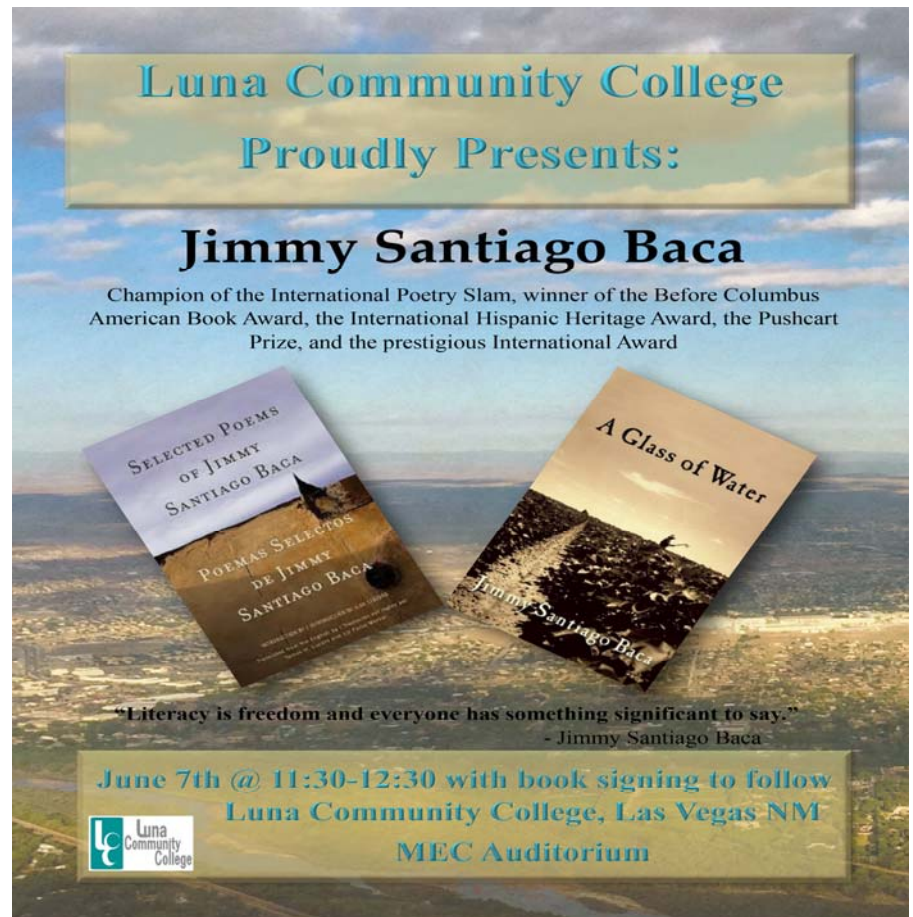
After his workshop with Luna students, Baca will host a poetry reading and have a book signing event from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Media Arts Auditorium.

Humanities Department offering Summer Bridge Program

The Luna Community College Humanities Department is offering a tuition-free Summer Bridge Program for high school juniors and seniors entering the 2018-19 school year.

The eight-week course includes English 106 and College Success HD 110 for four credit hours. Students who successfully complete the English 106 course will be eligible to take English Comp I at Luna in the fall semester. Classes will meet from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Applications are available at the main campus or at the Santa Rosa and Springer Satellites and the Mora Site.

A student must take the Accuplacer before being accepted into the program. For more information, call Amanda Lucero at 505-454-2557.



Luna Community College
Proudly Presents:
Jimmy Santiago Baca
Champion of the International Poetry Slam, winner of the Before Columbus American Book Award, the International Hispanic Heritage Award, the Pushcart Prize, and the prestigious International Award

SELECTED POEMS OF JIMMY SANTIAGO BACA
POEMAS SELECCIONADOS DE JIMMY SANTIAGO BACA

A Glass of Water
Jimmy Santiago Baca

"Literacy is freedom and everyone has something significant to say."
- Jimmy Santiago Baca

June 7th @ 11:30-12:30 with book signing to follow
Luna Community College, Las Vegas NM
MEC Auditorium

Luna Community College