



ISP News



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Volume 5, Issue 2

October 2011

Dear Students,

We hope you are enjoying your classes and having a wonderful semester so far. The International Student Program (ISP) has a total of **118** students from 32 countries including:

- 29** from South Korea
- 18** from China
- 8** each from Brazil and Taiwan
- 5** each from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and India
- 4** each from Germany and Hong Kong
- 3** each from Ecuador, France ,Nigeria and the Philippines
- 2** each from Austria, Japan, Kenya , Pakistan and Vietnam
- 1** from Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Jordan, Macedonia, Malaysia, Norway, Peru, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Venezuela

We are honored that you've chosen to study at Las Positas College. We hope that you find the information contained in this newsletter enjoyable and helpful. As always, the ISP welcomes your feedback, questions, and story ideas.

Save the Date—International Night – Thursday, November 17

International Education Week

Save the date! We will be celebrating International Education Week from November 14 - 18 with an International Night on **Thursday, November 17th** from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. If you have a talent like singing or a dance or even traditional clothes from your country, we would love to have you perform. Please see Sean or Cindy for more information. Hope to see you there!



Seasonal Flu Shots Available

With influenza (flu) season just around the corner, now is the time to prepare by getting immunized. Each year, 10 to 20 % of Americans get ill. Influenza is caused by a virus and is much more serious than the common cold. Symptoms can include high fever, body aches, headache and extreme fatigue. The Student Health Center in Building #1700 will have the Flu Vaccine available **starting on October 10, 2011**. This flu shot for students is **free!** Flu shots can be 70%-90% effective in healthy adults. Annual vaccination against influenza is recommended for any adult who wants to reduce the risk of becoming ill with influenza or of transmitting it to others. Contrary to a popular myth, you can not get Influenza from the Influenza injectable vaccine. There is a limited supply of the vaccine, so if you're interested, call the Student Health Center at 424-1830 to schedule your appointment today or to answer any of your flu related questions.



Starting on October 10, 2011, the Flu Vaccination Clinic will be held on:
Mondays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and
Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm
 while supplies last

International Students Club Meetings

The International Students Club that celebrates the diversity of our campus with cultural and social activities meets every other Monday from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm in the Library (Building #2000) in Room #2014 (the back room of Library). The meetings this month are on:

- Monday, October 10 and
- Monday, October 24

Come to the meetings to give suggestions on and vote on club activities and the spending of club funds.

The **Club Officers** are:

Co Presidents - Anqi Jian (China) and Shule (Sunny) Song (China)

Vice President - Lawrence Witkowski (USA)

Secretary - Shule (Sunny) Song (China)

Treasurer – Linda (Indonesia)

Communications Officer - Jonathan Chun Hei Lau (Hong Kong, S.A.R.)



Join the Las Positas College International Students Club Facebook page!



How to Prevent the Spread of the Flu

Simple steps can help prevent the spread of the new flu virus and other germs that make people sick such as:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and then put the tissue in a waste basket.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water after coughing or sneezing for a least 20 seconds, or about the time it takes to sing the "Happy Birthday" song 2 times.
- Wash your hands often.
- If soap and water are not available, use a alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Keep your hands away from your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Eat a healthy diet, get plenty of rest, and exercise regularly.



If you are Sick with the Flu

- Know the signs of symptoms of the flu. These may include fever or chills and cough or sore throat. In addition, symptoms of the flu can include runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea or vomiting.
- Stay at home for at least 24 hours after there is no longer a fever (38 degrees Celsius or 100 degrees Fahrenheit) and get rest. Staying away from others while sick can prevent others from getting sick too.
- Contact your instructors to let them know why you will be absent from class.
- Drink plenty of clear liquids such as water, broth, sports drinks to keep from becoming dehydrated.
- Take over the counter pain relievers to reduce fever and ease body aches.
- Contact the Las Positas College Health Center or your Health Care provider if you are having difficulty breathing or are getting worse.

Got 12 Units?

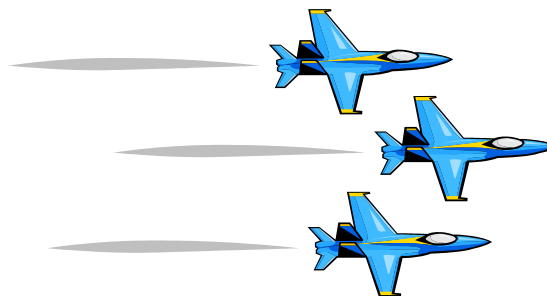


All F-I Students are required to have at least 12 units each semester to maintain their legal non-immigrant status in the United States. If you are missing some units this semester, the last chance to be enrolled full-time is to register for a **Fast Track - 2nd Session course**. These classes meet from October 19 through December 13. See page 90 of the Fall 2011 Class Schedule for a listing of these classes.

Important Note. The Deadline to Withdraw is approaching soon (November 4 for full-term courses). Please be advised that International students may **NOT** drop a class with a "W" unless you are still enrolled and attending 12 units. The U.S. Immigration Service does not recognize "W"'s as part of your required 12 units to maintain full-time status. Before dropping a class, please come to the ISP Office to avoid falling out of status.

Fleet Week - October 7 - 10

The U.S. Navy's Blue Angels highlight this annual spectacular event in San Francisco. An estimated 1 million spectators watch the show each year. The best viewing spots are at Fisherman's Wharf, the Embarcadero, Ghirardelli Square, and Treasure Island.



Highlights include:

Friday, October 7

Blue Angels air show from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm, weather permitting

Saturday, October 8

The Parade of Naval Ships from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Blue Angels air show from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm, weather permitting

Sunday, October 9

Italian Heritage Day Parade, San Francisco's oldest civic event from 12:30 pm - 3 pm. The parade travels from Fisherman's Wharf to North Beach, the Italian section of San Francisco.

Concert Series at Pier 39 with live music from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Blue Angels air show from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm, weather permitting

Monday, October 10

Concert Series at Pier 39 with live music from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm .

Visit <http://www.military.com/fleetweek> for more information.

Columbus Day - Monday, October 10



This day honors Christopher Columbus who is credited with discovering the Americas in 1492. Italian-Americans celebrate this day as a cultural pride day. This day is also known as "Indigenous People's Day" in some cities like Berkeley and "Native American Day" in the State of South Dakota to recognize that there were already Native Americans living in the Americas at the time of Columbus' "discovery" and that this encounter was eventually devastating to them and their civilizations. Many places are

named after Columbus including the capital city of the State of Ohio, the District of Columbia, the western Canadian province of British Columbia, and even the country of Colombia in South America. This is a federal holiday in the United States and it is generally observed by banks, the U.S. Postal Service and other federal agencies. It is not a state holiday however and most business and schools, including **Las Positas College will remain open.**

2013 Diversity Immigrant Visa Program

The annual program, commonly known as the “green card lottery” provides 50,000 permanent resident visas available to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. This application is FREE and applicants are chosen by a computer-generated random lottery drawing. Entries from the Diversity Visa Lottery (DV-2013) must be submitted electronically between Tuesday, October 4, 2011 and Saturday, November 5, 2011. For DV-2013, natives of the following countries are not eligible because they sent a total of more than 50,000 immigrants to the U.S. in the previous 5 years: *Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born), Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, South Korea, United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland) and its dependent territories and Vietnam*. Persons born in Hong Kong, SAR, Macau SAR, and Taiwan are eligible.



New for DV 2013, natives of South Sudan and Poland are now eligible for selection, while Bangladesh natives are now ineligible.

Applicants must have either a high school education or its equivalent or 2 years work experience within the past 5 years in an occupation requiring at least 2 years of training or experience to perform.

Apply at <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov> during the registration period. Come to the ISP Office if you have any questions on this program or about how to apply.

Important Note

No fee is charged for the electronic lottery entry in the annual Diversity Visa (DV) program. Any intermediaries or others who offer assistance to prepare DV entries do so without the authority or consent of the U.S. Government. Beware of these scams as they charge fees but do not help your chance of obtaining a DV.



LPC Soccer Games

Come and cheer on your LPC Hawks as they play the following HOME games (at the Soccer Field behind the Gym (Building 2500)). All games are free! The Assistant Coach for our Women's team is current International student Marcial Tafarel (Brazil). The Head Coach is former Brazilian World Cup Star Sissi Do Amor



Women's Games:

Tuesday, October 4 vs. Canada @ 1:30 pm
Friday, October 14 vs. West Valley @ 4:00 pm
Friday, October 21 vs. Chabot @ 4:00 pm
Tuesday, October 25 vs. Ohlone @ 4:00 pm

Men's Games:

Tuesday, October 4 vs. Evergreen @ 4:00 pm
Tuesday, October 18 vs. Monterey @ 6:30 pm
Tuesday, October 25 vs. Canada @ 6:30 pm

Amazing Race—Reality TV Show

The 19th season of the Emmy Award winner for Outstanding Reality- Competition Program, The Amazing Races started on September 25 and continues this month on Sundays at 8:00 pm on CBS (Channel 5).

The Amazing Race features eleven teams of two Americans, each with a pre-existing relationship, in a race around the world, performing tasks that are typically designed to highlight the local culture of the

country they are in, with the winners earning a \$1 million prize. This season, contestants travel through 7 countries including Taiwan, Denmark, Belgium, Malawi, and Indonesia. Be sure to cheer on the team of Jeremy Cline and Sandy Draghi, since Sandy Draghi was born and raised right here in Livermore! For more information, check out: http://www.cbs.com/shows/amazing_race/.

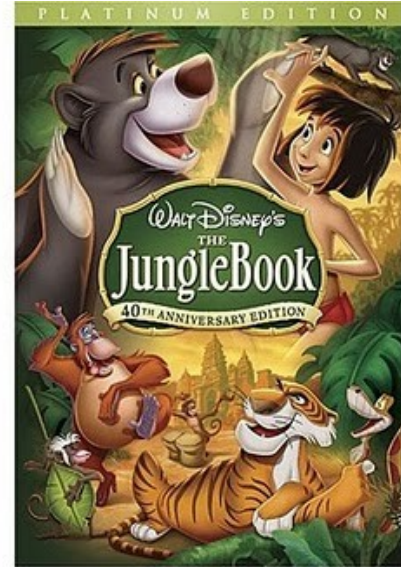


LPC Children's Theater—The Jungle Book

LPC Performing Arts students as perform “The Jungle Book” based on the collection of stories by British author Rudyard Kipling and later made into a classic Disney movie.

Friday, October 21 at 7:00 pm at the College Center for the Arts (Building 4000) Black Box Theater
Saturday, October 22 at 2:00 pm at the College Center for the Arts (Building 4000) - Black Box Theater.

Free. Donations may be accepted and light refreshments may be sold.



Choir Concert with Valley Concert Choir Chorale

Sunday, October 23

3:00 pm

LPC College Center for the Arts (Building 4000) - Main Stage Theater

Tickets: \$20.00

This collaborative choral concert features guest artist Anders Paulsson, a celebrated saxophonist and composer from Sweden. He is well-known for his arrangements of Deep River, Bright Morning Star and Amazing Grace. Many of his sensitive interpretations incorporate elements of jazz, blues and Gospel music. Mr. Paulsson has performed as a soloist in 20 countries and has recorded over 13 CDs. Please visit:

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/197755> for more information.

Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival

Friday, September 30, Saturday, October 1, and Sunday, October 2

The annual **free** concert of Bluegrass music takes places in Speedway Meadow

in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. Please visit

<http://www.strictlybluegrass.com/> for more information.



Halloween— Saturday, October 31

Originally a Pagan festival of the Celts in Ireland and the United Kingdom, the tradition of Halloween was taken to the United States by Irish and Scottish immigrants in the 1800s. Christians celebrate November 1st as All Saint's Day, and therefore, the night before, "All Hallows Eve" later shortened to "Halloween" was believed to be the time of year that spirits make contact with the physical world, and a time when magic was most potent.



On Halloween, people carve pumpkins into "jack o' lanterns", dress up in funny or scary costumes, have bonfires, watch horror movies, visit haunted houses and at night, children decorated in costumes walk to their neighbor's doors and say "trick or treat" and receive candy.

G & M Farms Cornfield Maze & Pumpkin Patch



Located at 487 East Airway Boulevard across the freeway in Livermore, this 6 acre cornfield maze and pumpkin patch has been shown twice on the David Letterman television show and has been voted the "Best Seasonal Attraction in the East Bay" by Diablo Magazine. Open October 3 - October 31. Tickets are \$8 for adults. \$1 discount coupons are available in the ISP Office. There is also a pumpkin patch, fresh produce, and farm animals and a Cow train

for children. You can find more details at <http://www.gmfarms.com>.

Major League Baseball Playoffs

The "World Series", really the championship of Major League Baseball, starts on October 19, 2011 featuring the American League champion vs. the National League champion in a best of 7 format. Games will be shown live on FOX, Channel 2.



October Birthdays

Claude (Neil) Kasanda Mutetela (D.R. Congo) - October 9
 Loada Sarcia (the Philippines) - October 10
 Ya Jie Liu (China) - October 13
 Shasha Ao (China) - October 14
 Jaewook (Jake) Kim - (South Korea) October 15
 Rafael Janania (Honduras) - October 18
 Kikhwi Jung (South Korea) - October 19
 Yanzhu (Sophie) Ding (China) - October 23
 Gleicinará (Nara) Fonseca (Brazil) - October 26
 Mi Ok Lee (South Korea) - October 28
 Minsoo Lee (South Korea) - October 28



Maligayang Kaarawan (Tagalog for Happy Birthday)



Birthday Tradition in the Philippines

A mixture of East and West, birthday cakes are baked in various sizes and shapes. The celebration includes noodles representing long life, balloon decorations and piñatas. Filipino families display blinking colored lights to show that someone is having a birthday at their home. Earlier in the day, the family may go to Church to thank God for their birth.

Calling All Potential Graduates



The deadline to apply for Graduation is **October 28**. If you believe that you are ready to graduate, please schedule an appointment with Gilberto Victoria in the Counseling Office, Building # 700 to complete a "Petition for Graduation" Form. It is available here:
<http://www.laspositascollege.edu/admissions/documents/RequestforAA-ASDegreeCertificateFillableform3-31-2011.pdf>

It is also very important to notify the ISP Office of your plans. Students planning on transferring to a university must notify ISP to insure your SEVIS record is transferred in a timely manner.

Post Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT)

If you are going to graduate this semester, and are interested in working up to 1 year full-time in a field related to your major, now is the time to apply! All F-1 students are eligible for OPT as a benefit of their F-1 status. To apply, you may complete and submit the application to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) during the **90 day period** prior to or during the 60 days following the date you complete all program requirements. It is currently taking the USCIS approximately 3 months to adjudicate these applications so now is a good time to apply. Please come to the ISP Office for more information.



3033 Collier Canyon Road
Livermore, CA 94551

International Student Program
Building # 1300
Rooms # 1311 (Sean) and
1314 (Cindy)
Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 - 4:00
F 9:00 -1:00



Contact Us

Sean Day

International Admissions Specialist

Telephone: (925) 424-1540

E-mail: sday@laspositascollege.edu

Cindy Balero

International Student Program Coordinator

Telephone: (925) 424-1548

E-mail: cbalero@laspositascollege.edu

