

MAY 2021 *update for faculty & staff*

ECEFS Professor Rebecca Roth (top left, in black) shared, "Our Class of 2021 graduating students seemed to really enjoy the event and were very appreciative! Still, I don't know if anyone enjoyed it as much as I did! I realized how much I truly miss seeing our students on campus. Thanks to all who made this event such a big success!"

Taft College Early Care, Education, and Family Studies Recognizes Class of 2021 Graduating Students

On April 30, the Taft College Early Childhood Education (ECE) Club Drive-Thru event for Class of 2021 graduates, their families, and fellow students successfully kicked off the 2021 graduation season! We have 35 Early Care, Education, and Family Studies (ECEFS) students graduating this year who are ready to make a critical difference in the lives of young children.

Each of the 25 participating ECEFS graduates at the drive-thru received several gifts, including a professional portfolio binder made possible by a Taft College Foundation grant, a blue/gold cord for their graduation day regalia, and a special children's book autographed by ECEFS faculty.

The ECE Club and Taft College ASO purchased the blue/gold cords, other outreach items, and a new ECEFS tablecloth for this special occasion and future events. The ECE Club and Taft College Foundation financed the books.

Taft College Child Development Center Director Meghan Hall-Silveira served students at the event, alongside ECE Club President Desirae Salas, ECE Club Vice President Maria Gonzalez, and ECE Club Treasurer Kristen Harmon.

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*Right, left to right:
 EOPS/CARE &
 CalWORKS
 Counselor
 Gracie Mickelberry,
 EOPS/CARE
 & CalWORKS
 Technician
 Morgan Sanchez,
 EOPS/CARE &
 CalWORKS
 Student Worker
 Destiny Harris, and
 EOPS/CARE &
 CalWORKS
 Counselor
 Natalie Woodall.*



EOPS/CARE & CalWORKS Conduct “Transfer Survival” Events for Class of 2021

On May 4 and 12, EOPS/CARE & CalWORKS celebrated the resiliency and accomplishments of 62 students graduating from these programs. Understanding that many Class of 2021 graduates will be transferring, EOPS/CARE & CalWORKS decided to provide graduates with a “Transfer Survival” JanSport USA backpack (*top left*) fully loaded with high-use supplies, including highlighters, a water thermos, a notebook, a flash drive, and snacks, as well as a Taft College Alumni mug and a Taft College Alumni shirt or cap (*bottom left*) all courtesy of the Taft College Foundation. These events took place in front of the library with easy curbside access for graduates who drove up to receive their JanSport USA backpacks and other goodies. In addition, a graduation backdrop (*middle left*) was set up for students who wanted their photos taken with EOPS/CARE & CalWORKS staff who served them over the course of their Taft College studies. Everyone followed the still-in-place safety protocols of wearing masks and practicing social distancing. Congratulations, EOPS/CARE & CalWORKS Class of 2021!

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Taft College Superintendent/ President Dr. Debra S. Daniels Presents College Highlights at State of the City Luncheon

On April 29, the State of the City Luncheon was held on the Taft Transit Center patio. Superintendent/President Dr. Debra S. Daniels detailed the college's achievements and plan forward. Also in attendance were Trustee Dr. Kathy Orrin, Executive Vice President of Administrative Services Brock McMurray, Vice President of Student Services Severo Balason, Vice President of Instruction Dr. Leslie Minor, Executive Director of Marketing and Community Relations Susan Groveman, and Taft College Foundation Executive Director Sheri Horn-Bunk.

In honor of

*Women with a Heart
for Bakersfield*



Taft College Dean of Instruction and CTE Dr. Jessica Grimes Receives Local Honor



Taft College Dean of Instruction and CTE, Dr. Jessica Grimes has been named a "Woman with a Heart for Bakersfield" by Garden Pathways for supporting and serving the marginalized within the local community. On May 19, she will be awarded a resolution and a certificate from elected officials for "demonstrating a caring heart for people in Bakersfield."






FACULTY APPRECIATION WEEK

Please join me in thanking our hard working faculty members for all that they do for our students!

CLASSIFIED APPRECIATION WEEK

Please join me in thanking our hard working Classified staff members for all that they do for our students!

Dr. Eric Hershkowitz
Winner of 2021
Taft College
Faculty Member
of the Year



Michele Matthews
Winner of 2021
Taft College
Classified Member
of the Year



Taft College Superintendent/President Dr. Debra S. Daniels Celebrates Superb Contributions of Faculty and Classified Staff Members

Dr. Daniels stated, "Dear team, I am very proud of the continuous work that our classified staff members and faculty members have done to serve our students during this unprecedented pandemic. Without all of you working together to create more certainty for our students to be able to finish their coursework on time, they may not succeed at their goals. You got more creative, doubled down on how our students learn best online, and served up access to technology, tutoring, and additional support measures. Our students succeed because of you! I am beyond grateful for all you do for them."

This is a monthly publication by the Taft College Office of the President. If you have feedback, comments, or questions, please contact Susan Groveman, Executive Director of Marketing and Community Relations at (661) 763-7942.