



Clovis Community College

FALL 2014 VOL. 8, ISSUE 2

# Connections

## Upgraded! Student Spotlight on Josh Hawk

### Also:

Scholarships: Fostering a  
Culture of Gratitude

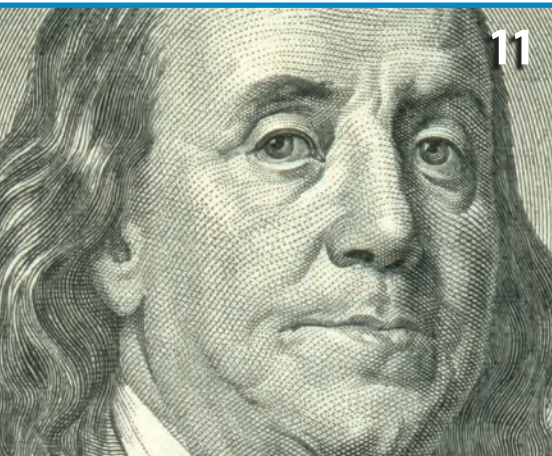
CCC Cisco Academy Recognized  
in Top 25% Internationally

CCC Library Celebrates 10 Years

What Can You Do with \$3 Million?



## Inside This Issue:



# FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



*Dear Friends of CCC,*

The fall semester always brings a sense of excitement, anticipation, and hopefully, for all students and staff, a renewed enthusiasm for learning.

2014 has been a busy year for CCC! We have finished up the renovation of the old allied health space into the new Physical Therapist Assistant space, replaced a large percentage of our roofs, and started the renovation project at the Petty Performing Arts Center in downtown Clovis. Our campus continues to evolve as the goals of our educational programs change. It's hard to believe that the W. D. Dabbs Library is ten years old this year!

This issue of *CCC Connections* features the accomplishments of our students and staff. Our faculty, staff, and students are working together to increase degree and certificate graduation rates as well as overall student persistence in all degree programs. This means that faculty and staff are providing high quality instruction and supportive services to students, and students are working to achieve their academic goals.

CCC continues to meet the performance goals of the New Mexico Higher Education Department for performance funding. These measures center on degree and certificate completion, and ultimately, student success. That success results from a shared responsibility among our students, faculty, staff, and the community.

Thank you for being part of our success!

*Becky Rauter*



**Clovis Community College**

• DREAM • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED

CCC Connections is a semiannual publication produced by the Department of Marketing and Public Relations. Articles are written by Natalie Daggett, Scott Knauer, and Lisa Spencer.

For questions or comments, please contact Lisa Spencer at 575.769.4115 or [lisa.spencer@clovis.edu](mailto:lisa.spencer@clovis.edu).

# U.S. BANK PRESENTS CCC FOUNDATION \$15,000 FOR MILITARY SPOUSE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

On July 24, 2014, U.S. Bank Vice President Jim Sours presented a check for \$15,000 to Natalie Daggett, Executive Director of CCC Foundation, at the local branch's grand re-opening reception. The funds will assist the CCC Military Spouse Scholarship program, which ensures that military spouses have the means and opportunity to earn academic and/or professional credentials that can bring greater financial independence to their families.

CCC values the contribution of our military students, and we are honored to provide high quality education and student services that serve their needs in our community. Since 1991, more than 10,000 active military members, spouses, and dependents have attended CCC, and over 2,000 have received degrees and certificates. CCC was

again recently awarded the coveted Military Friendly Schools® (MFS). The MFS list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

U.S. Bank contributes to the strength and health of their communities through the U.S. Bank Foundation, Community Affairs and Corporate Giving. Each year, the U.S. Bank Foundation provides cash contributions to nonprofit organizations in grant priority areas of education, economic opportunity, and artistic and cultural enrichment. In 2013, the U.S. Bank Foundation provided more than \$23.4 million in grant funding.



**Photo (from left to right):** Paul DiPaola, US Bank - ABQ; Thomas Martin, CCC Foundation; Natalie Daggett, Executive Director, CCC Foundation; Richard Hadley, CCC Foundation; Jim Sours, Vice President, US Bank - Clovis & CCC Foundation; Ray Mondragon, CCC Foundation; Neicee Bernal, Branch Manager, US Bank - Clovis; Travis Tarry, US Bank - Las Cruces; Craig Buchanan, US Bank - Las Cruces; Jed Fanning, US Bank - ABQ.

To find out more about how you can contribute to the CCC Foundation Military Spouse Scholarship, contact Natalie Daggett, Executive Director, at 575.769.4956 or [natalie.daggett@clovis.edu](mailto:natalie.daggett@clovis.edu). To learn more about the Foundation, visit <http://Foundation.clovis.edu>.

## CCC Collaborates with Clovis Municipal Schools for Young Masters Art Show

On May 13, 2014, Clovis Community College, in collaboration with the Clovis Municipal Schools Foundation, hosted the second annual Young Masters Juried Student Art Show, featuring artists in many disciplines from Clovis High School, CHS Freshman Academy, and Choices Alternative High School.



Winners of the 2014 Young Masters Art Show pose for a photo with New Mexico-based artist Barry McCuan

A total of 14 students gained entry to the show with 24 individual pieces of art selected during the jurying process. Cash awards went to Marin Smith (Best of Show), Harrison Rikel (1st Place), Samantha Bannister (2nd Place), Michelle Eimen (3rd Place), and Honorable Mentions went to Elizabeth Gardea, Jasmin Simental, Jamie Drain, Michelle Eimen, and Ashli Reid.

Student artists were invited back to CCC the following day for an intimate day-long workshop with guest judge Barry McCuan. The students studied techniques and enjoyed lunch with the artist, who was happy to share from his own experience as a professional artist.

The Young Masters Art Show will return to CCC's Eula Mae Edwards Gallery during the spring of 2015.

Barry McCuan conducts a demonstration of color, light, and form while Clovis high school students and CCC fine arts students observe.



We sat down for a chat with Josh Hawk, a 2014 graduate of Clovis Community College's Computer Information Systems program. Hawk knows what it takes to achieve academic success: hardwork and involvement. A past president of CCC's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Hawk earned his associate's degree from CCC last spring and earned numerous scholarships along the way, paving the path toward future graduate studies.

# UPGRADED

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEGREE  
TAKES JOSH HAWK TO NEW HEIGHTS

**You studied computer information systems at CCC. How did you get interested in the field?**

I think I have always had a knack for technology. It is unusual because I was not a CIS major to begin with. What really pushed me in that direction was my fascination with network security and penetration testing. I did not know much about it, but I assumed networking was a good place to start. I was right!

**Tell us about your involvement in Phi Theta Kappa honor society. How did you get started and what benefits did you gain from your involvement?**

My journey with PTK started back in the fall of 2011. I got an invite letter to join PTK, and like most people, I was skeptical about paying the membership fee. I had many questions about PTK, so I went to the orientation to learn more about it. I was instantly

intrigued! What really piqued my interest were the scholarship and leadership opportunities. I wasted no time and joined PTK that very night. The following semester I got an email from the exiting chapter president announcing chapter officer elections. At the time I was focused on building my résumé, so I decided to volunteer as chapter vice president. As the 2012 chapter vice president, I learned PTK was more than just an honor society; it is a fellowship of likeminded people. PTK quickly became a passion of mine. I enjoyed it so much that I decided to run for chapter president for 2013. Because of my experience, I had no difficulty securing the position. As president, I had the privilege of working closely with CCC administration on various college projects. It had a tremendous impact on my leadership skills.

Because of my involvement, I was honored at the 2013 PTK regional convention with a Distinguished Chapter Officer Award. If that wasn't enough, I was also the recipient of two rather large scholarships: the NM All-State Academic Team Scholarship and the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Scholarship. I never thought in my wildest dreams that PTK would take me this far. The more you put into PTK, the more you truly get out of it!

**Can you talk about what it feels like to be the recipient of two really great scholarships? Is it a sense of relief that educational expenses are covered?**

It is a HUGE relief! I can pursue my goals without the debt or financial burden which can come with attending a university. Many college students do not have that luxury, so it is a blessing that this happened to me.



Josh Hawk, CCC class of 2014, works on a PC at his new job after graduating in May.



**What are your future educational plans? How do you plan to spend that national scholarship money?**

I plan to transfer to ENMU in August to study Computer Science. I will use the NM All-State Academic Team Scholarship to cover my tuition and the Coca-Cola Scholarship to cover my books.

**Network and computer systems administrators can earn a median annual salary of \$74,000 in the United States. The field has a projected job growth of 100,500 positions through the year 2022.**

*Source: O\*Net*

**Any plans for graduate school after your bachelor's?**

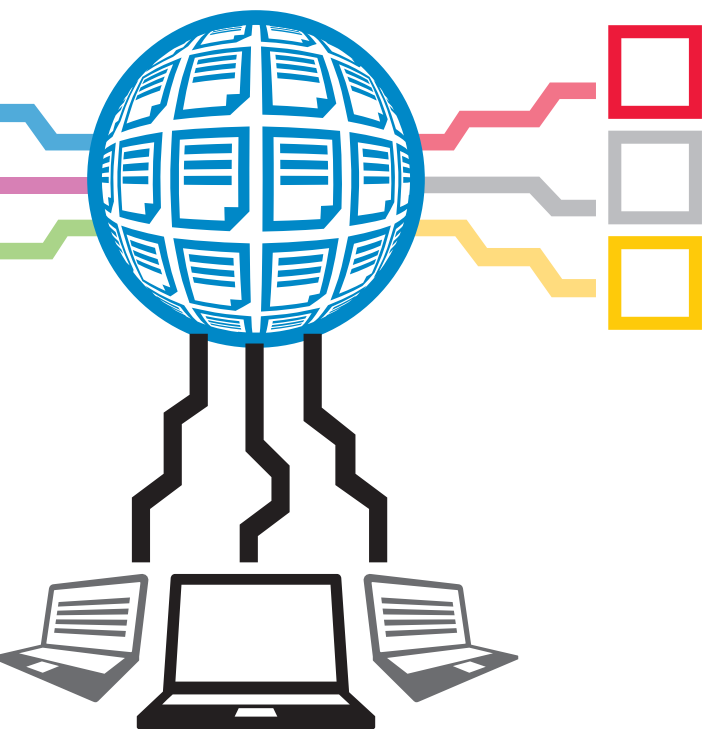
Absolutely! I am a firm believer in higher education. Community College Completion Corps taught me the value of this! After I get my bachelor's in a couple of years, I hope to be working on my master's degree at Texas Tech.

**How does it feel to be entering the workforce and being able to apply your education in your new job?**

It feels great! It is reassuring to see my hard work paying off. I have my foot in the door, and I hope to make the best of it.

**Wildcard question: If you could change one thing about higher education, college, its associated processes, etc., what would it be?**

If I could change one thing, I would make it more affordable. Many students are unable to continue on with higher education because of the price of tuition. If higher education was cheaper, I think more students would have the opportunity to pursue higher degrees.



For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed our programs, and other important information, please visit [www.Clovis.edu/ConsumerInformation](http://www.Clovis.edu/ConsumerInformation).

## A NATION OF NERDS: JOSH HAWK VISITS PTK'S ANNUAL "NERD NATION" CONFERENCE

I was honored this past April at the Nerd Nation International Convention in Orlando as a Coca-Cola scholar, a distinction given to the top 150 scholars in the country. I got to walk on stage in front of 4,000 people during the parade of scholars. It was a little nerve racking but a memorable experience nonetheless. At Nerd Nation, I got to meet Phi Theta Kappans from all over the world. Even though we were practically strangers, it certainly did not feel that way. I became good friends with a lot of them and still keep in touch with them to this day, especially my new friends from the Republic of Palau.



If meeting new people wasn't enough, I got to talk to recruiters representing prestigious universities from various parts of the country.

When I wasn't in the marketplace, I was attending leadership seminars. At the general sessions, I had the privilege of listening to some amazing keynote speakers: Alison Levine, a mountain climber and author, and Dr. Robert Ballard, the man who discovered the sunken Titanic.

Of course, what's a trip to Orlando without the Disney experience? The Nerd Nation schedule gave my new friends and me plenty of time to explore Disneyland and the surrounding attractions.

These are things to expect at a typical Nerd Nation. Even though I was a face in the crowd, I was proud to have represented NM and CCC on a grand stage such as Nerd Nation. Nerd Nation was one of the greatest experiences of my entire life. If there's one thing I took from Nerd Nation, it's this: it's cool to be smart!



# FACULTY *Accolades!*

## Cisco Academy at CCC Recognized in Top 25% Internationally

Terry Davis and Raymond Walker, Cisco Networking Academy instructors at Clovis Community College, have been recognized by Cisco as part of the top 25% of instructors globally. Both men are computer information systems instructors at Clovis Community College, receiving accolades and high remarks from Cisco for their achievements in professional development opportunities, attention to student needs, student performance, and use of resources.

According to Davis, the most gratifying thing the Cisco Networking Academy at CCC offers is a chance to feed graduates into the workforce in our own community. "We have graduates working at Clovis Municipal Schools, Plateau Telecommunications, and even here at CCC," Davis said. Graduates are coming from the local area but also as far away as Los Alamos, San Antonio, Montana, and Florida.

Davis also adds that extra satisfaction comes from determined students who take and pass certification exams. "To take that extra step and actually take the Cisco exam has to come from within the student," Davis said.



**CISCO**™



**I love watching them realize they are accomplishing and comprehending more than they thought they would at the beginning of the course.**

- Raymond Walker



Raymond Walker discusses a networking problem with CCC student Lakeisha Lobstein during an evening lab.

Walker enjoys watching student progression through the program. "I love watching them realize they are accomplishing and comprehending more than they thought they would at the beginning of the course," said Walker.

The Cisco Networking Academy at Clovis Community College began in 2001 by Davis and Doug Stoddard (retired). The program began with only five routers to be used by 15 to 20 students but quickly grew and became one of the most well-equipped labs in New Mexico and West Texas. The purpose of the program is to deliver a twenty-first century curriculum of problem solving, collaboration, and critical thinking skills for the modern IT and networking professional. Globally, the program has trained over four million students in the field, including those from CCC.

In addition to the Cisco Networking Academy, CCC also has partnerships with CompTIA, Microsoft, Pearson, Certiport, and VMware to assist in a variety of information technology certifications that are well recognized in the industry.

# Peers Select Four CCC Employees for National Award

Four Clovis Community College instructors received the 2013-2014 Excellence Awards from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development. Gayle Richerson, Chris Williamson, Ray Walker, and Apryl Nenortas were honored at the awards banquet in Austin, Texas, in May.

Each recipient is nominated by a group of peers and then chosen from letters that endorsed the instructors' skills, abilities, and attributes.

The following are excerpts from each letter.



Created in 1978 with initial grants from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) is a consortium of community and technical colleges that share a philosophical commitment to support excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership.



"Chris Williamson's dedication doesn't stop with her students and the HPE faculty; she is dedicated to the CCC employees and the community as well. Over the years, she has provided classes for in-services and health fairs, as well as provided health and fitness talks for community organizations.

She has served as a mentor for many incoming fitness instructors, spending hours of her own time helping to prepare them for instruction. She told me that one of her goals in life is to help people. That is very apparent in her teaching style, her dedication to her students, her commitment to the college, and her love of overall wellness. She is a true example to our field, and she has set a standard of teaching excellence in our department."

Jan Williams  
Health and Fitness Instructor



"Apryl Nenortas has developed online Microbiology and General Chemistry I and II which she is regularly updating and making even more relevant and more top-notch. Apryl never rests and is consistently working to improve her courses.

Her in-class observations and student evaluations both point to an instructor of high quality.

She has been an outstanding part of CCC in general and the science program at CCC specifically for several years. Even though her teaching load is completely online and she resides in Florida, Apryl personally attends many on-campus functions including the fall and spring in-service sessions, monthly FACCC meetings, Skillfest, and spring graduation."

Todd Kuykendall,  
Chair, Math and Science



"Gayle Richerson is truly a NISOD recipient. She is committed to the students, nursing program, and CCC. She goes above and beyond what is required of her and never complains about the time that she devotes to the students or the job. I highly recommend that you consider Gayle as one of the recipients of the NISOD award this year."

Shawna McGill, BSN, MSN  
Chair, Allied Health Programs



"Ray Walker clearly stands out and goes above and beyond Instructor responsibility in his determined pursuit of course excellence, meticulous assessment of student learning objectives, and continuing professional development. His outstanding efforts greatly improve chances of student success in their educational goals and positively reflect on the mission and goals of Clovis Community College."

Terry Davis  
Computer Information Systems Instructor



Matthew Benbennick, left, helps CCC student Logann Ewers check out a book.

## W. D. Dabbs Library Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Fact: moving is a chore. You beg your friends and you find someone's truck to borrow for the frantic weekend of boxing up personal belongings and carting them across town. But what about moving an entire library?

The solution is simple: one book at a time. In 2004, the Library at Clovis Community College was ready to move to its new home—a brand new building on the other side of campus—designed to house a growing collection of resources both physical and digital.

Fact: books are heavy. And much like moving to a new house, finding boxes is always a scramble. The staff of the CCC Library worked with a local business who furnished boxes by the hundreds, and the packing began.

“It was a daunting job,” recounts Deborah Anderson, former director of library services at CCC. “Looking back, I can’t believe we managed to move in just 11 working days.”

Now we have a beautiful space with extensive electronic resources that can be used by students who are on- or off-campus.

Kelly Gray

According to Matthew Benbennick, public services librarian for CCC, the Dabbs Library now houses over 65,000 volumes, including a special collection that was purchased in 1991 from Dr. I. D. Johnson. The special collection also includes a rare and beautifully leather-bound book of cattle brands that was used by cattle inspectors from 1900 to 1915.

But in the modern age of digital resources and convenience, the W. D. Dabbs Library is not sitting idle. In 2013, the library expanded its database subscriptions to offer students and staff additional resources. Also, CCC's previous library featured only 4 computers, while today there are over 20.

Kelly Gray, CCC's director of library services, loves having it all in one place. “Now we have a beautiful space with extensive electronic resources that can be used by students who are on- or off-campus. We have made the library to be a place for students to find books and other materials that will help them foster a lifelong love for learning and reading for pleasure.”






## A Day at the Races

For the second consecutive year, CCC has celebrated Community College Month (each year in April) by hosting the Prairie Dog Relay Games. This year, teams made up of students, faculty, and staff members competed in two heats centered on a western theme. Crowds cheered on teams from our Radiologic Technology and Cosmetology departments, who competed against teams from the CCC Business Office and the department of Academic Advising. The high-energy races involved an old-fashioned sack race, dressing up as a cowboy and riding an inflatable steed, target practice with marshmallow shooters, and lassoing mannequin heads representing the college's executive council. In the end, students from Radiologic Technology came out victorious, leaving their competition in the dust.



# Fostering a Culture of Gratitude

Thank You!



## CCC Foundation Awards 86 CCC Student Scholarships for 2013-2014 Academic Year

The scholarship program at CCC represents a strong tradition of helping students attain their educational goals. For many students, the challenge of affording college can add stress to making a decision whether to continue working or attending college. The CCC Foundation has received generous donations over the years to help students lessen that financial burden through scholarships.

In 2013-2014 academic year, 51 CCC students from various majors were awarded 35 named scholarships with a total of \$21,437. In addition, the General Foundation Scholarship fund, CCC Friends, was able to award 35 students a total of \$9,215. Students applied for scholarships through AcademicWorks, an online scholarship system. Students were then reviewed based on their academic performance, educational goals, community/school activities, and financial need.

"Thank you for the generous, financial support towards my higher education. To not have the added burden of 100% tuition is a great stress reliever, and I am 100% committed in making my education at CCC successful."

Jane Cornella

"I want to express my most sincere appreciation for your generosity. Education has become a passion of mine, and I plan to complete my degree at CCC and begin work on my bachelor's degree in Renewable Energy. Your kindness allows me to get one step closer to my goals."

Roger Grano

"By awarding me this scholarship, I am able to concentrate on what is important to me, my education. Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal and has inspired me to help others by giving back to the community."

Valene Bell

"I have truly been blessed with the education that I am receiving through CCC. It is also a blessing to myself and other students that there are programs like this to help us achieve our goals in life. Thank you for bestowing this wonderful opportunity upon me."

Rhonda Pierce

"This scholarship is going to be a big help to me and my children because it is allowing me to be able to maintain just a part-time job and go to school full time. Now that I have the support, I am motivated to complete my education."

Deanna Valero

"Ever since I've become a military spouse, I have been worried about how I would go anywhere in higher education if we continue getting re-stationed all the time. That's why I'm so lucky to have found CCC. When I received this scholarship, I was overwhelmed with relief and gratitude knowing how much this would help with the expenses involved with the Radiologic Technology program. Thank you so much for selecting me for this opportunity."

Danielle Wooten

The CCC Foundation is a charitable organization created in 1997 to promote private support for the college. The CCC Foundation mission is to encourage, solicit, receive, and administer gifts and bequests for scientific, educational, and charitable purposes in the advancement of Clovis Community College.

Donations to the CCC Foundation's scholarship program provide a meaningful and valuable resource for our students and work to transform their lives as they pursue their educational goals and dreams. For more information on how you can contribute to the CCC Foundation's scholarship program, please contact Natalie Daggett at 575.769.4956 or [natalie.daggett@clovis.edu](mailto:natalie.daggett@clovis.edu).

Clovis Community College  
**FOUNDATION**



# BIG MONEY

*in Little Clovis*

Since 2004, Clovis Community College has been offering free income tax preparation and filing for the public. Monica Sanchez, CCC instructor in accounting and finance, leads the service that has saved local tax payers approximately \$3 million.

So we imagined what \$3 million looks like in \$100 bills. With 30,000 Benjamins, you could line up the money starting at CCC's entrance, down Seventh Street, and wrap around Clovis' Hillcrest Park and Zoo, a distance of approximately 2.8 miles!



## General Obligation Bond helps CCC renovate campus

As the date for accreditation nears, CCC hopes to start its new Physical Therapist Assistant program in spring 2015, and with the start of the program, the students will be located in a newly updated area currently being prepared for the program.

Thanks to New Mexico voters, the remodel funding for the PTA program, previously the Nursing program department, is due to the passing of the 2012 General Obligation Bond C, from which CCC received \$800,000 for the construction. The remodel began in April of this year and has been completed.



CCC President Dr. Becky Rowley discusses the Phase VI project with Brian Bunce of Stoven Construction.

Stoven Construction, located in Albuquerque, remodeled the 12,000 square foot area that will include four offices, a reception area, study area, and a PTA lab with several classrooms.

The Health and Fitness Center also received an update to the aerobic lab. The aerobic lab now features new carpet, lighting, paint and new aerobic equipment.

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# Connections

FALL 2014

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## Stay Connected.

*Campus life, community events,  
and so much more!*

Facebook.com/ClovisCommunityCollege

Twitter.com/ClovisCommunity

YouTube.com/ClovisCommCollege

## 2014-15 Cultural Arts Series

Clovis Community College and The Citizens Bank of Clovis proudly present our fourteenth season with performances that will inspire, educate, and entertain you!

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Sept. 27</b> | <b>Jumping Jack Flash: A Tribute to the Rolling Stones</b>   |
| <b>Oct. 28</b>  | <b>Reduced Shakespeare Company</b>   |
| <b>Nov. 16</b>  | <b>Handel's Messiah with Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra, ENMU Choirs, &amp; Clovis Community Chorus</b> |
| <b>Jan. 20</b>  | <b>Aeolus Quartet</b>  |
| <b>Feb. 19</b>  | <b>Glenn Miller Orchestra</b>  |
| <b>Mar. 21</b>  | <b>Nelson Illusions Smoke &amp; Mystery Tour</b>   |
| <b>Apr. 14</b>  | <b>Scrap Arts Music</b>  |
| <b>May 10</b>   | <b>hONEyhoUSe</b>  |

**JOIN THE SERIES TODAY!** Series ticket holders receive priority seating at each performance, invitations to private receptions, and advance notice on future Series events. Select how you become our core group of supporters from a three-tiered Series ticket system with various affordable pricing. Sponsorship packages are also available. Individual tickets went on sale September 2. CCC students and staff receive discounted tickets for each show.

*The Series is made possible in part from a grant from New Mexico Arts, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and Xcel Energy.*

### For more information on the Series:

- Call 575.769.4956
- Visit [www.Clovis.edu/CulturalArts](http://www.Clovis.edu/CulturalArts)
- Follow us on [Facebook.com/CulturalArtsSeries](https://www.facebook.com/CulturalArtsSeries)