



Dear Students:

As we are past the middle of the Fall Semester, we hope you are enjoying and doing well in your classes. The ISP is excited to bring you information, programs and services to help you reach your academic goals and have an enjoyable experience while studying here. Please contact us if you have any questions about the information in this newsletter or suggestions for upcoming editions.

International Education Week

The U.S. State Department and the U.S. Department of Education have declared that November 12 – November 16 is International Education Week, an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. For more information or to take the Global IQ Quiz, check out www.iew.state.gov.



International Movie Night

Tuesday, November 13

The World Cultures Alliance is sponsoring a movie night and will show the film “Curse of the Golden Flower” in Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles.

Starring Chow Yun Fat and Gong Li.

Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Achievement in Costume Design, this action - drama details unspeakable secrets that are hidden within the Forbidden City.

Free Chinese Food and Drinks

7:00 pm in the Student Cafeteria, Building # 1700

International Night at Chabot College

Friday, November 16

This year marks the 9th annual International Night which will take place at Café Cabot (Building 2300) on the campus of our sister college, Chabot in Hayward. Come for a night of wonderful performances and dinner. There will be musicians and dancers from the Eritrea, India, the Middle East, Norway, Philippines, Polynesia, Scotland and Taiwan. Dinner is served at 6:00 pm with the show starting at 7:00 pm

General Admission: \$10 (Dinner is included)

Students: \$5

For more information, please contact the International Student Program office.

ISP Office Closed – November 6, 7, and 8

The International Student Office will be closed on Tuesday, November 6 through Thursday November 8 so that Cindy and Sean can attend the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors (NAFSA) Conference in San Francisco. We will return on Friday, November 9 and our office will be open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on this day.

Veterans Day

Monday, November 12

This is a day of remembrance of all who have or are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. This date was chosen since it was on November 11, 1918 that World War I ended. It is also called Armistice Day or Remembrance Day. The holiday is actually on November 11, but since this year it falls on a Sunday, it is celebrated on Monday, the 12th instead. This is a national holiday and there are no classes at LPC.



Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 22

The first Thanksgiving was observed by the Pilgrims at Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts in 1621 to give thanks for the bountiful harvest and their triumph of survival over the wilderness. The Pilgrims were saved by the generosity of the local Native Americans in the area. Now it is a time when Americans give thanks for the good life they enjoy and celebrate by getting together with family to eat traditional foods such as turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes and pumpkin pie and watch football. There is also a morning parade in New York City that is televised. This is an official holiday and there are no classes on Wednesday, November 21, Thursday, November 22, and Friday, November 23 during this week.



Black Friday

Friday, November 23

The day after Thanksgiving is traditionally the start of the Christmas shopping season and many stores have sales on this day, particularly in the morning. It is the busiest shopping day of the year. Some people even wake up before dawn to wait in line for these sales. Check out special coupons in local newspapers or online at www.blackfriday.info

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 4

U.S. Americans learn the saying “Spring Ahead, Fall Back” to help them remember daylight saving time. Remember to **turn your clocks back 1 hour when you go to bed on Saturday night, November 3.**



Earthquake Preparedness



The recent 5.6 Earthquake centered near San Jose on October 30 serves as a reminder to everyone to be prepared for a possible major earthquake. Experts recommend that you should plan on being self-sufficient for at least 3 days. You should make a plan and build a disaster survival kit that includes such items as water, food, a first aid kit, a copy of important documents like your passport and I-20, local map, flashlight, radio with batteries, and a list of emergency contact phone numbers. Go to www.72hours.org or the American Red Cross website at www.redcross.org

which has disaster services information in several languages, for more information on building a kit and keeping safe.



Calling All Potential Graduates!

The deadline to apply for Graduation is **November 2, 2007**. If you believe you are ready to graduate, please schedule an appointment with Gilberto Victoria or Nancy Wright in the Counseling Office, Building # 700 to complete a "Petition for Graduation" Form. It is also very important to notify the International Student Program 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 must complete and submit the application to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) during a 120 day period prior to the date you complete all program requirements. Please come to the ISP Office for more information.



IMPORTANT: Deadline to Withdraw Approaching

The Last Day to Withdraw with a “W” for the Fall semester is **November 9, 2007**. 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 see Cindy or Sean to avoid falling out of status.

Concerned about your Grades?

If you are concerned about how you are doing in a particular class, please follow these suggestions:

- If you haven’t done so already, talk to your instructor about your concerns.
- Use the Tutorial Center located in the Study and Reading Room in Building #2400
- Go to the Writing Center at the Integrated Learning Center (ILC), Building #1200 for one-on-one help with writing assignments.
- Ask your instructor for extra credit work that can help boost your grade.

2009 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 for the Diversity Visa Lottery (DV-2009) must be submitted

electronically between Wednesday, October 3, 2007 and Sunday, December 2, 2007.

For DV-2009, 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: *Brazil, Canada, China (mainland-born), Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Peru, Poland, Russia, 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. 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 **only** at www.dvlottery.state.gov during the registration period. Be careful of imposter or fraudulent websites that advertise for a better chance at winning if you pay them for their services. Please see the Department of State warning on these websites at:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1749.html . Come to the ISP Office if you have any questions on this program or about how to apply.



Club Day

Wednesday, November 7

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Come to find out information on club activities and how to join student clubs.

World Cultures Alliance

The World Cultures Alliance is off to a great start this semester. If you would like to join this club that organizes fun and cultural activities throughout the semester, please come to our club meetings. The club meets every other Monday at 2:00 pm in the Club Room at the back of the Cafeteria in Building #1700. The meetings run until 2:30 pm and meet this month on November 5th and 19th. Hope to see you there!



Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies

Get yourself in the Holiday spirit by attending one of the several tree lighting ceremonies this month in San Francisco.

Nov. 18 Pier 39 @ 5:30 pm

Nov. 23 Macy's Union Square Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony @ 6:00 pm

Kristi Yamaguchi Holiday Ice Rink

Opens on November 7 through January 15 at the Embarcadero Center in San Francisco. Ice-skate outdoors under the beautifully lit skyscrapers and Bay Bridge. Call 415-956-2688 for more information.



California Indian Storytelling

Friday, November 2

Ohlone Indian tribe members will be the featured speakers when Las Positas College holds its second Friday evening event celebrating diversity in room 2420 in building 2400, the College's new classroom building. It starts at 7:30 p.m and will be followed by a question and answer period. The panel discussion will be enhanced by Ohlone songs and storytelling. Confirmed speakers include Alex Ramirez, an Ohlone Tribe elder who lives in Livermore and Gregg Castro, a member of both the Salinan & Ohlone tribes. Castro has been working to preserve the culture of both tribes and will be telling traditional tribal stories. This event is free of charge. For more information, please call Amber Machamer, Director of Research and Planning at (925) 424-1027.

National Basketball Association (NBA) Season Begins



The **Golden State Warriors** are the Bay Area's professional team. A team that had a magical run in the playoffs last season, they tipped off their regular season on October 30 and play their home games at the Oracle Arena in Oakland. Tickets start as low at \$15.



Visit the team's website at www.nba.com/warriors for the schedule and ticket information. You can also purchase tickets by calling 1-888-GSW-HOOP.

World Series Champions!

Congratulations to the **Boston Red Sox** for defeating the Colorado Rockies in the World Series of Major League Baseball. The Red Sox are truly an international team with players from Canada, the Dominican Republic, Japan and Puerto Rico in addition to the U.S. This is their 2nd World Series Championship in the past 4 years. They also won in 2004. This event has made Sean Day, Nancy Wright, and Marilyn Marquis among others in Red Sox Nation extremely happy.



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