

We have the power to create change in our world.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Alumni,

For 70 years, graduates of Pacific Oaks College have advocated for social justice and inclusion among the diverse populations they serve. Now nearly 6,000 strong, our alumni distinguish themselves through deep commitment to culture-centered pedagogy and creating sustainable change. I am honored to be part of this progressive institution and to know so many alumni who have made significant contributions to their professional fields.

Pacific Oaks College
55 Eureka Street
Pasadena, CA 91103
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fax 626.529.8102
alumni@pacificoaks.edu

Pacific Oaks alumni have established nonprofits that aid undocumented minors entering the U.S., implemented pilot programs to build capacity in South African preschools, and provided veterans and their families with pro bono counseling services. These are but a few of the many ways Pacific Oaks is building a better future for Los Angeles, California, the nation, and the world.

With your support, we can continue to train and graduate the next generation of education pioneers, thought leaders, and social activists. Rising tuition costs and declining government assistance mean that students need your help now more than ever. As the season of charitable giving approaches, please consider making a gift to Pacific Oaks College and our talented students. Your donation can help students purchase textbooks, support faculty research and projects, help our first generation students graduate, and through the Ann Peppers Foundation, which will match your donation, dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000 until March 31, 2017, support our undergraduate students. Visit pacificoaks.edu/giving today to make a difference in the lives of our students. Let's work together to establish a legacy of impact on communities in California and around the globe.

With gratitude,



Patricia A. Breen, Ph.D.
President, Pacific Oaks College & Children's School



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1 • FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

**Thomas Leveque, Ed.D.,
Joins Pacific Oaks College as Associate Dean for the School of Education**



Dr. Leveque spent over 15 years in the film industry as a production executive before he went into the field of education. He has worked both as a teacher and administrator for the Los Angeles Unified School District and held leadership roles in nonprofits serving underprivileged youth. Dr. Leveque received his BA in Communication Arts from Loyola Marymount University, MA in Educational Administration from California State University, Los Angeles, and Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Q & A with Dr. Leveque

Was there a specific moment in your life that inspired you to become an educator?

"I was in the motion picture business, but ultimately decided to leave because I felt I needed to do more. I had small children at the time and education seemed to be a good fit. Also, I realized that education is at the core of everything. Whatever it is that you want to do, you need to be educated to do it."

Why is culture-centered education important?

"We are so diverse culturally, particularly in Southern California, and it's important to recognize that. Not everybody has the same background, so things that are important to one person may not be as important to another, and we have to take that into consideration in terms of how people interact with each other. We need to bring people together to give them space to talk. That's how differences are resolved across cultures."

What advice do you have for alumni?

"On a day-to-day basis, teaching is a difficult, difficult job, but focus as much as possible on the goal, on the outcome, what it is you want to achieve. You may not be able to see your impact incrementally on a daily basis, but over a period of time you're going to see that and it's going to be worth what you're going through now."

Pacific Oaks' alumni newsletter will now be published on a quarterly basis.

STAY TUNED FOR OUR **SPRING** EDITION!



2 • PACIFIC OAKS' FOUNDERS DAY



October 1, 2015 heralded the 70th Anniversary of Pacific Oaks' Founders Day.

It was a day to honor those who broke educational traditions

and barriers to teaching diversity and inclusion to young children. Their courage and determination continues to inspire all of us and lives on through PO's culture-centered pedagogy. The mood on campus was upbeat and celebratory, and festivities included a breakfast for faculty, staff, and

teachers as well as a mini birthday party for the children at our Children's School. Cookies with icing forming "70" were shared with employees and students alike. At our new site in Northern California a number of faculty, staff, and alumni shared early stories of PO's history over lunch. After all, it would not have been a true PO celebration without breaking bread as a community! We look forward to continuing the celebration of our 70th Anniversary throughout the remainder of 2015, and look to the future with high hopes and great expectations for our beloved institution.

3 • EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

New Discovery School - Seattle, WA DIRECTOR

New Discovery School is an independent, not-for-profit, play-based preschool serving three to five and a half year old children. Our mission is to nurture the whole child. We foster confident, joyful learners by building a strong community of children, families, and teachers. We are proud our community has experienced, long tenured teachers and staff. Every individual at NDS is respected and heard. Our focus is on the social-emotional development and problem solving skills of our students, giving them the confidence and readiness to learn. We are a friendly, warm, welcoming community.

Job Description

The Director provides leadership and administration that motivates and inspires teachers and staff to provide the best possible opportunities for students' growth and development. The Director sets the tone for and models the mission and vision of the school. The Director is responsible for all elements of hiring and managing staff and the day-to-day operations of the school while ensuring that the school practices support the school mission and philosophy.

Overview of Key Responsibilities

- Leadership • Staff and Curriculum Management
- Admissions • Finances • Fundraising
- Board of Trustees • Communications & Community Building • Compliance Responsibilities

Desired Qualifications

Strong candidates will have significant experience teaching young children and a related college degree. In addition, qualified candidates will have progressively responsible leadership and staff management experience and successful financial management skills. We will also seek a strong fit with our school's philosophy of social emotional development and play-based learning.

Interested Candidates

Learn more about the school and this position by contacting ndsdirectorsearch@gmail.com.

Applications will be accepted beginning January 2016

4 • THE INAUGURATION OF PACIFIC OAKS' 10TH PRESIDENT



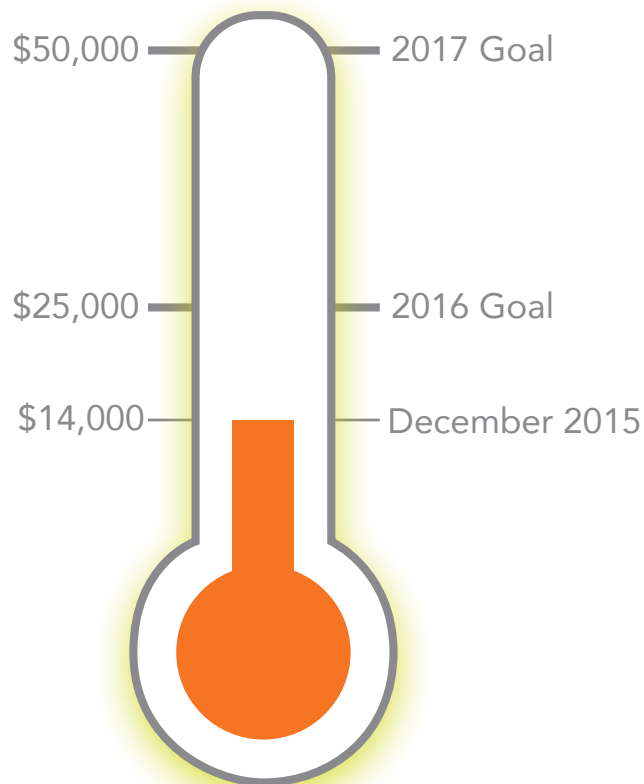
We had the great honor of inaugurating our 10th president, Dr. Patricia Ann Breen on Friday, October 2, 2015 at Pasadena's historic Castle Green. Pacific Oaks' Board of Trustees, faculty, teachers, staff, students, and alumni were joined by the Mayor of Pasadena, Terry Tornek, Viola Van, a field representative from Congresswoman Judy Chu's Office, and dignitaries from area colleges and universities. Our own Dean of Academic Affairs, Carol Rinkoff, presided over the ceremony as the chief marshal.



*Read more on Dr. Breen's inauguration
in the upcoming issue of Voices magazine.*

5 • ANN PEPPERS GRANT UPDATE

The Ann Peppers Foundation has awarded Pacific Oaks College a 2-year challenge grant in support of undergraduate students in need. The foundation will match every donation, dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000 through March 31, 2017.



With only four months to go in this first year of the challenge grant, we still need to raise \$9,000 to meet our goal of \$25,000 and receive the match from the Ann Peppers Foundation. We can do it, but not without your support! Visit www.pacificoaks.edu/giving and select the "College Ann Peppers Foundation Scholarship" to make a donation of any size today. Your generosity can help change the life of a student by supporting them through their Pacific Oaks journey.

“Without vital support from generous donors like you, minorities and other disadvantaged students could not achieve their goals of completing their education and contribute to making our society a better place for the greater good.”

Alice C., 2014-2015 Scholarship Recipient

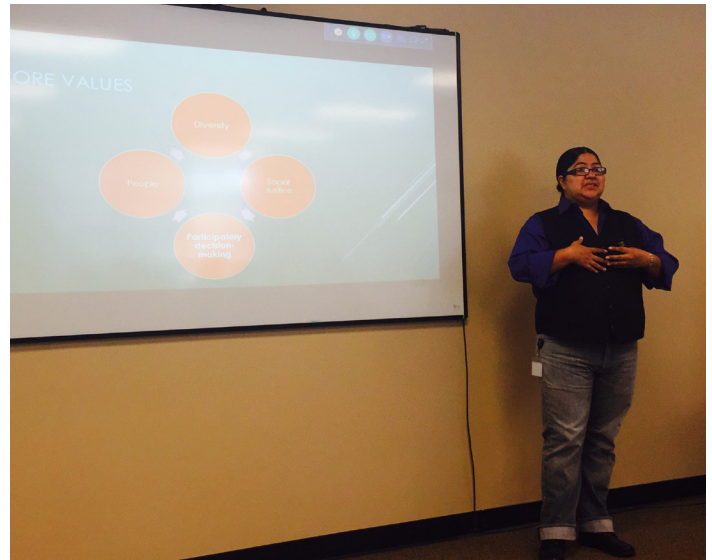
One of the many ways you can help the College meet the Ann Peppers challenge is by purchasing a PO Proud t-shirt. PO Proud t-shirts are available to purchase for \$10 with proceeds benefitting the Ann Peppers Scholarship Endowment. Contact the Advancement Office at 626.529.8091 for more details.



6 • PACIFIC OAKS' ED TALKS

Earlier this year Pacific Oaks began hosting its own version of TED Talks, ED Talks. Twice a month the members of the faculty and staff convene as a community to listen to short, powerful presentations on ideas worth sharing with those who work in education. We've heard from a number of internal community members, including Pacific Oaks College alumna and current Adjunct Faculty member, Eugenia Rodriguez, LMFT, who presented on how Pacific Oaks' mission and core values can support transgendered students. Following a discussion on the various ways people self-identify, Eugenia offered a number of insightful do's and don'ts for respectful staff and faculty interactions with our LGBTQ students as well as the broader community.

If you would be interested in hosting an ED Talk at Pacific Oaks we encourage you to contact us at president@pacificoaks.edu to learn more.



ANYTHING TO SHARE?
We would love to hear from you!

Please send updates to alumni-po@pacificoaks.edu



ATTENTION ALUMNI!

Pacific Oaks College
is introducing a
NEW online master's
program this Spring!



M.A. in Organizational Leadership & Change



Maintaining the principle that true leadership comes from within, this program develops management and leadership competencies through reflection and self-discovery. With a focus on analysis, change management, global strategies, and effective communication, students graduate with the competency and cultural intelligence to manage a diverse workforce and advance their careers.

**Apply for a second degree at Pacific Oaks and
we will waive your application fee!**

Connect with an enrollment counselor at 800.201.2296
or admissions@pacificoaks.edu

During this Holiday Season

WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO

Pacific Oaks Alumni

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



WISHING YOU AND YOURS A HAPPY HOLIDAY
SEASON AND A NEW YEAR OF HEALTH,
HAPPINESS, AND PROSPERITY!

*From your
Pacific Oaks Family*

Pacific Oaks College
55 Eureka Street
Pasadena, CA 91103

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To ensure you are included on our
electronic mailing list, please email us
at alumni@pacificoaks.edu.

We look forward to hosting you soon!



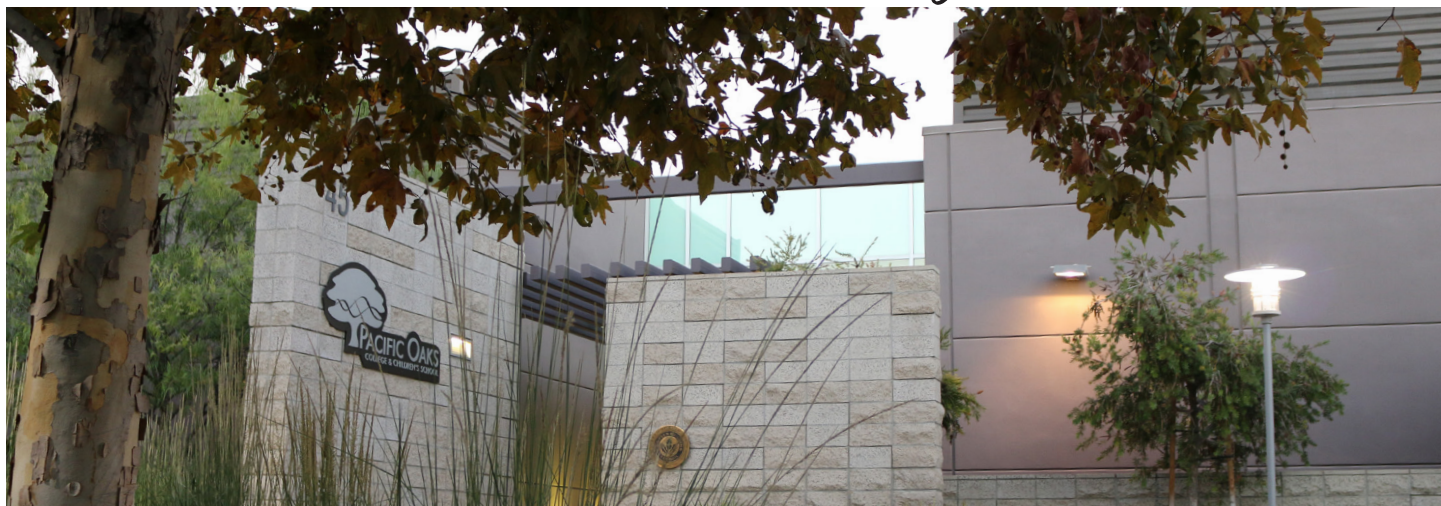
PACIFIC OAKSSM
COLLEGE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



WINTER 2015

Newsletter

We have the power to create change in our world.



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