



Los Angeles Valley College

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ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION HONORS LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE WITH 2015 TREE CAMPUS USA® RECOGNITION

LAVC is the only California Community College to receive this designation

VALLEY GLEN, CA – Los Angeles Valley College was honored with 2015 Tree Campus USA® recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation for its commitment to effective urban forest management.

“Los Angeles Valley College is very proud to be named as a Tree Campus USA® for the fifth year in a row,” said Dr. Erika Endrijonas, president of Los Angeles Valley College. “We thank the Arbor Day Foundation for recognizing our efforts to maintain our beautiful urban forest.”

Since 2011, LAVC has held the unique distinction of being the first and only California community college to be a Tree Campus USA®. In addition, Valley College was the first college campus in the city of Los Angeles to be bestowed this honorable designation in 2011.

Los Angeles Valley College achieved the Tree Campus USA® designation by meeting the required five core standards for sustainable campus forestry: a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and the sponsorship of student service-learning projects.

LAVC’s urban forest was established by early faculty members of the college’s Biology department. Comprised of more than 1,600 of trees, LAVC has a diverse mixture of trees and plants that not only serves as an educational tool, but helps to inspire a college-wide commitment to sustainability. In addition, the college developed a Tree Master Plan to use as a guidebook for the future growth of its urban forest. The LAVC Tree Master Plan is available online at <http://www.lavc.edu/revitalizingvalley/urbanforest.html>.

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Tree Campus USA® is a national program created in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation and to honor colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and for engaging staff and students in conservation goals. Currently, there are 254 campuses across the United States with this recognition.

“Participating in Tree Campus USA® sets a fine example for other colleges and universities, while helping to create a healthier planet for us all,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

The Arbor Day Foundation has helped campuses throughout the country plant thousands of trees, and Tree Campus USA® colleges and universities invested more than \$36.8 million in campus forest management last year. More information about the program is available at <http://www.arborday.org/TreeCampusUSA>.

For more information, visit the LAVC Urban Forest Web Page at <http://www.lavc.edu/trees/index.aspx>.

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About the Arbor Day Foundation:

The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees. More information is available at arborday.org.

About Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC):

Los Angeles Valley College, established in 1949, is a public two-year community college situated in the heart of the San Fernando Valley. As one of the largest campuses in the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), it serves more than 20,000 students in the communities of Van Nuys, North Hollywood, Valley Village, Panorama City, Burbank, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, and Encino. Valley College provides residents of the San Fernando Valley community with transfer education, career technical education and training, and lifelong learning opportunities. It offers more than 100 associate degree programs and 62 certificate programs in in-demand career fields. The college is currently undergoing a \$620 million renovation and building project funded by voter-supported Proposition A/AA and Measure J. For more information, visit www.lavc.edu.