



ISP NEWS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 9

December, 2008

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Dear Students,

As the Fall Semester 2008 comes to a close, we would like to say goodbye to those students transferring to a four year college or university. Please continue to keep in touch with us to let us know about your future accomplishments. We're very proud of all of you.

We wish you all a restful break and look forward to seeing you in January. Good luck with your finals.

Season's Greetings and Happy New Year!

Dolly Balangitao and Maya Tsai

[International Student Program of Chabot College](#)



6th Annual International Film Festival Dinner and a Movie
11/18/2008



San Francisco Ice Skating Trip
11/15/2008



Reminders for All Students

• Planning A Trip? Get a Travel Signature by **December 19!**

Before you leave the U.S.A., please make sure that you come in to the ISP Office so that we can endorse your I-20 for your return to the U.S. and review your travel documents. If you are going to another country besides your home country of residence, be sure you know the travel requirements to enter that country. You may need a visitor's visa. Please check the website of the country you are planning to visit for more information.



You will need the following to reenter the U.S.

- **A valid passport:** (your passport must be valid for 6 months beyond the date of reentry to the U.S.)
- **A valid US visa:** (except under certain conditions for trips to Canada, Mexico or the adjacent islands come to the ISP Office for more information)
- **Travel signature on your I-20:** A current (less than 6 months old) Ms. Dolly's signature on page 3 of your I-20
- **EAD Card:** (if you are on Post Completion OPT)

Please contact the International Student Program (ISP) if you have any questions.

• Post Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) Update



Students may apply for 12 months of OPT upon completion of each higher educational level. Please be advised the OPT petition must be received by immigration **no later than 60 days after your final semester**. To allow for mail delays, we recommend you file at least 30 days before the deadline. Please be advised immigration is allowed up to 90 days to process your request. Fil-

ing should be at least 90 days before you wish to begin employment. You are allowed to request a start date as soon as the day after the last day of instruction or no later than 60 days after the last day of instruction of your last semester.

Once you receive your EAD card, please bring it to ISP so that we can maintain a copy in your file. This will prove very useful to you in case the card is ever lost or misplaced. Remember: you cannot begin employment any earlier than the starting date on the EAD card.

Applications and detailed information are available at:

<http://www.chabotcollege.edu/international/Forms/F-1OPTInstructions.pdf>

Reminders for All Students

Important Dates

Fall 2008

Last day to pay if registered for Spring 2009 between November 3 - December 1	December 10
Last day of instruction	December 16
<u>Final exam week</u>	December 17-23
Deadline for instructors to file Fall grades	January 7
Winter Break (CAMPUS CLOSED)	December 24 - January 1

Spring 2009

Last day to pay if registered between November 3 - December	December 10
HOLIDAY - Martin Luther King (CAMPUS CLOSED)	January 19
Spring Instruction Begins	January 20
Last day to Add or Drop NGR (No Grade of Record) <i>in person</i>	February 6
Last day to Add or Drop NGR (No Grade of Record) <i>online</i>	February 8
Mandatory Flex Day (CAMPUS CLOSED for daytime courses starting before 4:00 PM only)	February 12
HOLIDAY - Lincoln's Day (CAMPUS CLOSED)	February 13 & 14
HOLIDAY - Washington's Day (CAMPUS CLOSED)	February 16
Deadline to apply for Pass/No Pass	February 20
Last day to drop with a "W" Withdraw <i>in person & online</i>	April 19
Spring Break (No Instruction)	April 6-11
Deadline to apply for Graduation	April 17
Last day of instruction	May 21
Final exam week	May 22-29
HOLIDAY - Memorial Day (CAMPUS CLOSED)	May 25
Commencement	May 29
Deadline for instructors to file Spring grades	June 4

ISP NEWS

• ISP Office Hours during the Holidays

Please note that the International Student Programs (ISP) will **be closed at 12pm on Tuesday, December 23, 2008 through Sunday, January 4, 2009**. We will open for "business as usual" at 9:00am on Monday, January 5, 2009 and will maintain normal business hours during the winter break (Mondays-Thursdays from 9:00am- 5:00pm, Fridays from 9am-12 noon).

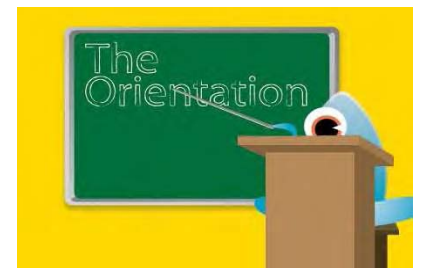


Please plan accordingly so that if you have an urgent need to see Ms. Dolly or Maya, you can arrange to do so **before 12pm on Friday, December 19, 2008**.

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• Volunteers needed for Spring 2009 (January 15& 16, 2009) New Students Orientation

The office of International Student Program is looking for current Chabot College international students to serve as "International Orientation Volunteers" to help welcome the new international students that we expect will arrive at Chabot College in January.



Please **contact us** if you would like to sign up. We thank you in advance for your assistance!

• Scholarships for International Students at the University of Oregon

The Office of International Affairs at the University of Oregon announces their scholarships for international students for the 2009-2010 academic year. New and **transfer students are eligible to apply**. please contact Office of International Affairs: intl@uoregon.edu or visit their website <http://international.uoregon.edu> if you have any questions.

SCHOLARSHIPS
for international students at the University of Oregon
2009-2010

• Need Housing?

Are you looking for housing? We currently have some available rooms provided by Chabot Staff. Please stop by the International Student Program Office for additional information as well as other available housing in the area.



Chabot News

- **Chabot College/ASCC Book Awards Program Spring 2009 – up to \$300 for each student application!**



The Office of Student Life at Chabot College is offering book scholarships to students. We strongly encourage our international students to apply for this book scholarship to assist you with your education expenses. **Deadline is December 15th, 2008.** Please contact **Office of Student Life**, Building 2300, Room 2355 for more information.

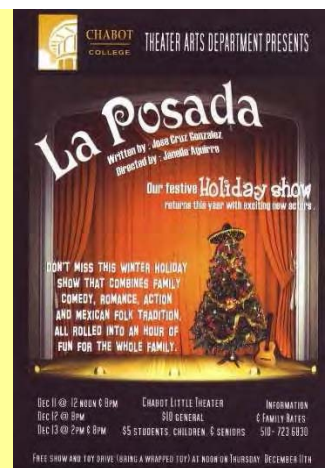
- **ASCC Free Holiday Movie! 12/17/at 6pm**

The Associated Students of Chabot College (ASCC) will be showing “ELF” on December 17th beginning at 6:00pm on the cafeteria balcony. Free food, popcorn and drinks will be provided.



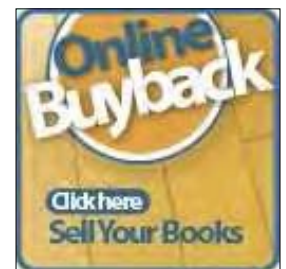
- **Christmas Play-La Posada 12/11-13**

The annual Christmas play at Chabot Little Theater will be performed on December 11-13. This is the first time the play will be directed by a student, Janelle Aquirre.



- **Fall Semester Chabot Bookstore Buyback 12/17-12/23**

Chabot College Bookstore’s buyback week is December 17-December 23. Bring in your textbooks and your student ID card and you could receive up to 50% of the original price back (Restriction may be applied).



Counselor's Corner

HUMAN RELATIONS

People in different cultures relate to one another in different ways. You may come from a culture where it's impossible to be friends with a person who is older than you, or to be best friends with a person of the opposite sex. Young people in your culture may avoid eye contact with their seniors, as this is seen as a sign of disrespect, while young people in the U.S. are expected to look their elders in the eyes while they are speaking to one another. Men and women may greet one another with a kiss in your country, or perhaps a hug, or simply a handshake, or even a bow. You may have never attended classes with the opposite sex in your country, or teachers there may have always dressed formally; boys and girls almost always have classes together in the U.S., from elementary through high school, and teachers in the U.S. can range from very formal to extremely informal, depending on the individual. In the U.S., some young people begin dating as early as age twelve, but in your country, a husband and wife may not even meet each other until their wedding day. Families in your country might consist of father, mother, children, grandparents, and even some aunts, uncles, and cousins, and possible more. In the U.S., there is no "typical" family. Most consist of parents and children, but many families are single-parent, same-sex, grandparents/grandchildren, and so on. No matter what the differences, there is a universal commonality: we all want to connect, to belong, to fit in.



It is natural to gravitate toward one's comfort zone and connect with others from our own countries, but I invite, encourage and challenge you to take another courageous leap to befriend someone you've never met before. A good starting point is to smile and say hi to a classmate. Generally when you smile, people smile back. The holidays are approaching and this is often a time when students not only feel stressed about the upcoming finals but also find themselves being lonely and missing family and friends. It is important to not isolate yourself. Support each other. If you see a student who looks like they are having a hard time, approach them and ask how they are doing. You might say something like, "you look kind of sad, is everything ok?" Try to get to know at least one student in each of your classes. In fact research shows, students who have an active social life tend to be happier and also do better academically.

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Counselor's Corner

At Chabot, we are a diverse campus of over 15,000 students, coming from all backgrounds and experiences. My hope is that your exposure to life in the U.S. has been positive and that you are becoming more aware of the acceptable social etiquette and social nuances. Remember, when in doubt, ask! Through our experiences, trial and error, we learn and grow. It takes courage to talk to others but friendships and networking formed in college can last a lifetime. The best opportunity to learn about relationships is through interaction in classes and in extra curricular activities. Possible classes to consider for spring 09 that incorporate relationship building are PSCN 11 "Interpersonal Relationships" (taught in the spring by yours truly) and Service Learning 85, where you have the opportunity to give back to the community through volunteering.



Fall 2008 Club Day

I wish all of you happy holidays and hope to see you in the New Year 2009!

Sadie Ashraf

Counselor/Instructor

sashraf@chabotcollege.edu

Are you Chabot-Savvy?

Do you know all the services available to Chabot students? Please click the image on the right for the Chabot Quick Map illustrated by Miuson Chi.

Never get lost with your Chabot Quick Map

Compiled By Miuson Chi & Jennifer Falcon

Photo illustrated by Miuson Chi

- Children's Center Bldg. 3500**
Quality care for Chabot students' children as well as offering early childhood education courses. (510) 723-6684
- Library Bldg. 100**
Besides books, computers are available for research and loans are available for small study groups, too. WRAC Center also available. (510) 723-6764
- Student Health Center Rm. 120**
General appointments to see a nurse practitioner, treatment for minor injuries/illnesses and health education. (510) 723-7625
- Financial Aid Office Rm. 110**
Provides federal and state financial aid information, help with applying. (510) 723-6746
- Counseling Bldg. 100**
Drop in or schedule an appointment to speak with an advisor. (510) 723-7013
- Bookstore Bldg. 3600**
You can also order books online at www.chabotbookstore.com. (510) 783-6800
- The Spectator Rm. 1635**
Drop by and tell us your opinion. Check out our Web site at www.chabotspectator.com. (510) 723-6922
- Assessment Center Rm. 1840**
For success in college, taking the right level courses is one of the most important keys. English, ESL, math and chemistry tests are available daily. (510) 723-6684
- Photo ID Center Rm. 2361**
The Chabot photo ID card is necessary for everyone. Do not forget to bring a printout of your current class schedule from CLASSWEB. (510) 723-6749
- Student Government (ASCO) Rm. 2311**
ASCO sponsors the Inter-Club Council, club events and programs, monthly flea markets and many other student events. (510) 723-6600
- Tutoria! Instructional Program Rm. 2351**
Peer tutors are available for appointments or drop-in on Monday through Friday. (510) 723-6960

International Student Program
Rm. 164 (510) 723-6996

International Club of Chabot College

Can't believe it is the end of Fall semester 2008 and the winter break is waiting for us... Yeah! We had so many good times together this semester! Chabot College International Student Program wants to thank the international students and everyone for spending time with us in our past events. It encourages us to keep going and put more effort into making the next events more interesting.



We are planning more activities for the Spring semester! Remember, your attendance is the power that keeps us motivated.

Photo Gallery of Fall 2008



**International Club Meeting ~ Every Thursday from Noon to 1pm
at Room 522 (Building 500, Downstairs)**

Fun Places & Events

- **Christmas – Tuesday, December 25**

An official holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus. Many U.S. Americans of Christian faith regard this as the most important holiday of the year. Family members travel great distances to be together for this day on which gifts are exchanged and a traditional dinner is shared. It is especially exciting for children, as they are taught that Santa Claus visits their homes and gives them presents under the Christmas tree while they are sleeping. Even families who do not have strong religious convictions decorate a Christmas tree and join in the festivities of the season.



- **Love Pizza?**

Maya would like to recommend 2 places in East Bay to pizza lovers:

- [Arizmendi-Lakeshore](#) (Oakland)
- [Zachary](#) : Try Zachary’s “Pride and Joy”- Spinach and Mushroom



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holiday Block Party in Mission District, SF! <p>http://getlocalsf.com/</p>	<p>Friday, 12/12/2008</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco Holiday SF! <p>http://www.ecoholidaysf.com/index.php</p>	<p>Sunday, 12/14/2008</p>	



Chabot College
International Student Program

E-mail: [intlads@chabotcollege](mailto:intladms@chabotcollege)

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HAPPY DECEMBER & JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Zhiheng Ding

Jia Luan Gu

Dan Han

Jongmin Hong

Min Jun Kim

Hsuan-Li Lin

Vi Ly

Sally Muriithi

Uyen Nguyen

Henry Oji

Fearn Ooko

Gubindrran Rajan

Fatou Seck

Sudeep Singh

Minwoo Song

जन्मदिन मुबारक हो

janmadina mubārak ho

Happy Birthday in India (Hindi)



Happy Birthday from Ganesha