



**SAN ANTONIO  
COLLEGE**

*Create Your Tomorrow*

February 27, 2006

# Update

1300 San Pedro Avenue

San Antonio, TX 78212

210-733-2147

[www.accd.edu/sac/pr](http://www.accd.edu/sac/pr)

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## Fine Arts & Cultural Events Series starts with Kennedy



The Fine Arts & Cultural Events Series (FACES) committee at SAC proudly welcomes author and

environmental activist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., to McAllister Auditorium on Wednesday, March 1, from 7 to 8 p.m.

"Kennedy's presentation is FACES' inaugural event," said Committee Chair and Dean of Learning Resources Dr. Alice Johnson. "His message to protect nature is in line with FACES' mission to provide opportunities for cultural enrichment and growth for all members of the college and the surrounding community."

"He promotes protecting the environment because 'it is the infrastructure of our communities - the air we breathe, the water we drink, the landscapes that enrich us all.' It is part of our culture," she said.

Named one of Time Magazine's "Heroes of the Planet," Kennedy is the Senior Attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). With degrees from Harvard University and the University of Virginia Law School, he is also a clinical professor and supervising attorney at the Environmental Litigation Clinic at Pace University School of Law, where he earned a master's degree in Environmental Law. He also studied at the London School of Economics, and is a licensed master falconer.

His published books include New York Times' bestseller *Crimes Against Nature* (2004), and award-winning articles have been featured in anthologies of America's Best Political Writing, Best Crime Writing and Best Science Writing.

At SAC, Kennedy will present "Our Environmental Destiny" with a brief Q & A session. Admission is free and open to the public, however seating is limited. Overflow seating will be available via closed circuit television in the Loftin Student Center - Fiesta Room.

For details, contact Dean Johnson at 733-2482 or [ajohnson@accd.edu](mailto:ajohnson@accd.edu).

## Calendar of Events

All events are free, except as noted.

### Now through March 2

Telephone/Web registration for Flex II. On-campus late registration, March 2. Flex II classes begin March 6.

### Tuesday, Feb. 28

African American Read - In and Essay Contest Awards. 10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. Loftin - Fiesta Room. Contact: Janice Clayton, 733-2512 or [jclayton@accd.edu](mailto:jclayton@accd.edu).

### Saturday, March 4

Young Women's/Young Men's Conference, hosted by the SAC Women's Center for 11th and 12th grade students. 8:30 a.m. in McAllister Auditorium. Keynote speakers: Cary Clack, SA Express-News, and Dr. Patricia Quijada, Asst. Professor and Assoc. Director of Women's Studies, UTSA. For details, visit [www.accd.edu/sac/students/wc.htm](http://www.accd.edu/sac/students/wc.htm) or call 733-2299.

For additional calendar items, visit [www.accd.edu/sac/pr/calendar.htm](http://www.accd.edu/sac/pr/calendar.htm)

## SAC Online recognized at state and national levels

SAC Online is receiving state and national recognition, including a recent *U.S. News and World Report* story that ranks San Antonio College as the sixth largest degree-granting online program in the country ([www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/elearning/lists/size\\_lrg\\_list.htm](http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/elearning/lists/size_lrg_list.htm)).

The top five are, in order, University of Phoenix, Park University, St. Leo

University, University of Maryland-University College and Central Texas College.

The publication's E-Learning Guide indicates that during academic year 2004-05, SAC Online had 19,000 duplicated enrollments.

Additionally, Director of Distance Education Helen Torres presented at the National E-learning Conference in Savannah, Georgia, along with Mickey Slimp, Exec. Director of the NE Texas Consortium of Colleges & Universities based at the UT-Health Sciences Center at Tyler. They presented the Texas Monograph, which was developed by a group of Texas community colleges and universities

to identify strategies/methodologies to deliver Best Online Student Services, online at <http://vc.tjc.edu/Studentsupport/Monograph/index.htm>. It features information about advising, student readiness and orientation to college, website planning and technical support, library services, student news, testing, and career planning.

Torres wrote "Website Planning and Development" and "Determining Student Readiness for Online Instruction." Counselor Carolyn Foster also participated by writing the article "Online Advising."

The League for Innovation in the Community College also featured the Monograph as a Learning Abstracts (Jan. 2006) online at [www.league.org/publication/leadership/edition.cfm](http://www.league.org/publication/leadership/edition.cfm).

For details, visit [www.accd.edu/sac/online](http://www.accd.edu/sac/online), or call the Distance Education Dept. at 733-2045.

Corrections for Feb. 3 Update: Nilo Cruz is the author of *Anna in the Tropics*. Ronald Watson directs *A Flea in her Ear*.

## Women's History Week 2006

During Women's History Week, March 7-9, the SAC community celebrates women and their achievements. Focusing on art this year, events are free and open to the public, and will be held in VATC; however, due to limited seating, films are open only to SAC students, faculty and staff.

Details are online at [www.accd.edu/sac/vatc/arthistory/arts1303/WOMEN.htm](http://www.accd.edu/sac/vatc/arthistory/arts1303/WOMEN.htm).

Contacts: Debra Schafter, [dschafte@accd.edu](mailto:dschafte@accd.edu) or 785-6074; and Marleen Hoover, 733-2896 or [mhoover@accd.edu](mailto:mhoover@accd.edu). Highlights include:

March 7:

10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. "A Lecture by the Artist," Melissa Miller, University of Texas at Austin.

12:15 - 1:30 p.m. "Women Artists of the Russian Avant-Garde," by Sarah Burke, VP of Academic Affairs and Dept. of Modern Languages, Trinity Univ.

March 9:

9:25 - 10:40 a.m. "Women's Art in the New Asian Wing," Martha Blackwelder, Curator of Asian Art, San Antonio Museum of Art.

10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m. "The Art and Ritual of Child-birth in Renaissance Italy," Jacqueline Musacchio, Vassar College.

## Folk dancers visit SAC

The 48th Annual San Antonio College Folk Dance Festival sponsored by SAC, San Antonio Dance Umbrella, and The City of San Antonio takes place Sat., March 11, 7:30 p.m. in McAllister Auditorium.

Groups performing are from San Antonio, Austin, Houston and Baton Rouge. They will present clogging, country/western, Hungarian, Romanian, Hawaiian, Mexican, Tango and Flamenco dances, and Balkan songs. Costumes represent authentic dress from the respective countries. Most participants are volunteers who want to preserve folk dances and songs for the historic nature of the areas represented.

Tickets are \$10 (\$8 for seniors) and free for ACCD students and employees. Proceeds benefit SAC student scholarships in dance and theatre. For details, call Evelyn Heny, 227-0814.

In association with the Festival, San Antonio International Folk Dance Workshops will be held Friday through Sunday at locations in La Villita. The registration fee is \$50 (\$45 before March 1). For details, call Nelda Drury at 342-2905.



Dancers Jerome Kuntscher and Marion Perry from the group Der Deutsche Volkstanzverein von San Antonio mit dem Beethoven Mannerchor and the Mazurka Polish Folkdancers. Costumes from Zywiec, Poland.

### Monday, March 6

Author **Margo Rabb** will read from and discuss her work from 11 a.m. to noon in the Chemistry-Geology Building, Rm. 201.

Rabb's short stories have appeared in numerous publications. Her series of young adult novels *Missing Persons* features two Jewish girl detectives from Queens, and her novel "Cures for Heartbreak" will be published next year by Random House.

### San Antonio College Update

Editors ..... John Hammond and Deborah Martin  
Photographer ..... Leonard Ziegler

Deadline to submit items is 5 p.m. Monday. Send news to Public Relations, FAC 313, call 733-2147, or e-mail your items to jhammond@accd.edu or dmartin@accd.edu. The Update staff reserves the right to edit items.

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## SAC alumna honored



San Antonio Business Journal recently named SAC alumna Renee Joy McGhee a "40 Under 40 Rising Star."

Currently, she is the Director of Management Information Systems and Communications for Mission City Management, Inc., a full-time single mother of four, and working toward a BA from UTSA in political science with a double minor in non-profit management and general business. Plus, she is involved at church, with community organizations, and strives to live up to her name, Joy, as evidenced by her voice-mail greeting, "Be encouraged today as you encourage others."

Back in 1996, childcare and tuition subsidies from local workforce development program Project QUEST enabled McGhee to attend SAC. She studied computer network administration, and was a work-study student for Connieanne Pugh in Administrative Computer Technology.

"Project QUEST came just in time – I knew that education was the way to better my life, but with four kids and just getting out of an abusive marriage, I didn't know how to get ahead," McGhee said.

She left the work-study position to take a job as a telemarketer with Orion where only three weeks later, despite no formal training in Information Technologies, her supervisors recognized her potential and transferred her to the IT department. She soon became assistant to the network administrator and data base administrator, while also completing an Associate's at SAC in computer network administration.

Within a few years, McGhee's boss was so impressed that when he heard Mission City Management wanted to develop an IT department, he referred her and she was quickly hired. Next month marks seven years that she's been with the private holding company that buys, sells and manages other businesses.

Saying that community is in her heart, McGhee is an active member of Project QUEST Alumni Association and serves as vice president on the Board of Directors for The School of Excellence in Education Charter District, which encompasses five different public schools, including Burch Elementary. She also works with the Boy Scouts, serves on the board of the National Urban League Young Professional Organization, and volunteers as a Bexar County election judge and deputy registrar.



SAC Excellence ★

Congratulations to **Michelle Aldana**, Financial Aid Technician with Student Financial Services, named SAC Employee of the Month for February.



Hooray for **Steve D.R. Sparks**, who has been promoted to Director of Operations for Continuing Education at San Antonio College. In this position, his many responsibilities include overseeing the registration desk, payroll, the CE website, instructional files, printing and distribution of the CE class schedule, as well as supervision of the Multimedia Specialist and the Records Liaison.



Kudos to **Claudia Kranz**, Kinesiology (right) and **Nina Guerra**, Dance. Both are recipients of the Spring 2006 Jean Dudney and Nelda Drury Scholarships.

Bravo for **Dr. Richard Schoenig** of the Philosophy Department, who presented a commentary paper at the 2006 UTSA Philosophy Symposium. He commented on a paper on the Philosophy of Religion given by Professor J. Howard Sobel of the University of Toronto.

Congratulations to SAC Political Science Instructor **Wanda Lee Smith**, who served as a panelist in the recent Starlink Teleconference, "New Standards for the New Student?" The program was moderated by Beaman Floyd of the Texas Community College Teachers Association.

Congratulations to **Rowland Martin, Jr.**, adjunct professor of entertainment law in RTVF's Music Business program. He spoke at the Second Annual Urban Music Festival held recently at The Cameo Theater. Having worked a Federal Communications Commission attorney, at New York City's WNBC-TV, and as an outside employment law counsel for Adelphia Cable Communications, combined with experience in playing and composing for keyboards, he discussed the new digital music business, and generally why it's important to understand the legal aspects of the business, especially copyrights and contracts.