



Cañada College

Cultural Center





Cultural Center workgroup

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ÁSE POWER CONSULT

Internal Equity Report

'22

Recommendation 2

Affinity Spaces: Prioritize **affinity spaces for historically marginalized groups on campus**. Provide opportunities for individuals currently leading affinity spaces on campus to **receive additional training facilitating anti-racist and anti-bias conversations**. Prioritize creating affinity spaces for Black/African Americans, the Latino/a/x community, the LGBTQIA+ community, Veterans, People with Disabilities, New Migrants, and Dreamers. These groups were mentioned repeatedly throughout assessments as **needing spaces to practice physical and psychological safety while learning how to navigate the College's systems**.

CAREER LADDERS PROJECT

Cultural Center Focus Groups

'21



Participants across all groups noted that a cultural center would support the development of a more inclusive and supportive culture at Cañada College by balancing two goals: 1) providing a place for **community, connection, and cultural celebrations** represented through **art, food, and music**; and 2) fostering an environment or “safe space” to have the **hard conversations about race and culture**. All groups emphasized the need for **dedicated paid staff** and students to manage and support the center ensuring a **welcoming, positive, and safe atmosphere**. Participants noted that without paid staff to manage the center they feared it would become neglected and less impactful.

Additional 8 recommendations can be found in the full summary.

Career Ladders Project Focus Group Results

- **The Look of the Center**
 - Have murals, flags, art (p.7)
 - Must be a central location (p. 4, p. 5, & p. 7)
 - Adequate space for dialogue (p. 5)
 - Safe space (p. 3)
- **Staff**
 - Student ambassadors (p. 7)
 - Dedicated professional staff member (p. 7)
 - Cultural Center Steering Committee (students, faculty, staff, admin) (p. 7)
- **Subjects for Community-Building, Workshops, Training , Events, Speakers,**
 - Anti-Blackness (p. 7)
 - Racial bias (p. 7)
 - Diversity and inclusion training (p. 7)
 - Activism (p. 7)
 - Student leadership (p. 7)
 - Cultural competency (p. 5)
 - Understanding unique challenges
 - Appreciate cultures/understanding cultures

<https://canadacollege.edu/antiracism/Canada%20College%20Focus%20Group%20Findings%20Spring%202021-final.pdf>

Timeline

- **Fall 2022:**
 - Develop Mission Statement & Goals
 - Identify potential space for Cultural Center
 - Work with Facilities
 - Put in Personnel Resource Request for Director of Equity & Program Service Coordinator
- **Spring 2023:**
 - Present Mission Statement & Goals to ASCC, IPC, SSPC and PBC for feedback
 - Identified NEW permanent location
 - Work with Facilities to quote & timeline
 - Identify temporary space
 - Begin search and hire Director of Equity & Program Service Coordinator
- **Summer 2023:**
 - Anticipate start for Director of Equity and Program Service Coordinator in temporary space
 - Planning for permanent location*
 - Continue strategic planning for Cultural Center

*Permanent location planning & construction 2023-2024. Tentative ribbon cutting of permanent Cultural Center in new location: Fall 2024

Resource (mission & goals development):

- [Cultural Center missions and goals examples](#)
- [California Council of Cultural Centers in Higher Education](#)

Student Senate Context:

- [Cultural Center Student Senate Resolution \(2020\)](#)
- [Multicultural Center Resolution \(2020\)](#)
- [List of Student Demands](#) Post 45th President Election (2017)

Mission and Goals

The mission of the Cultural Center is to create spaces of healing, joy and critical engagement through learning, awareness, and advocacy that empowers the campus community to become culturally responsive advocates for justice and liberation.



The Cultural Center will:

- Educate about and celebrate cultures through cultural programming and cultural immersion experiences.
- Create spaces for coalition building through partnerships, collaborations and affinity spaces to interrogate and dismantle systems of oppression.
- Support and advocate for the success of our most marginalized students through resources, events and services.

Feedback Survey



<https://forms.gle/zWJYvXCElfwJnCoD9>

Deadline: May 26, 2023