Cabrillo College’s second annual academic conference and community fair exploring social justice themes and issues will be held on Saturday, April 19th, 2008, and the steering committee would like to invite your organization to participate in our “Community Fair.” We are hoping that you could set up an information table about your organization and share your work toward social justice with conference attendees while enjoying our complimentary lunch.

The main goal for our conference is to provide a venue where the extended Cabrillo College community may interact and dialogue on social justice issues. The conference will include breakout sessions where students and faculty present their own original research and artistic projects, a community fair where organizations and programs from the greater Santa Cruz County present their service work and ongoing projects, and a keynote address by Banafsheh Akhlaghi, Attorney at Law.

The “Community Fair” is an integral part of our conference; imagine conference attendees milling around tables staffed by numerous organizations that work toward social justice in the greater Santa Cruz community. Students, administrators, faculty, staff and attendees are chatting at your table, picking up literature, signing up for your email contact list, and perhaps even volunteering their time. We hope that the “Community Fair” presents local organizations an outreach opportunity at our campus.

I have enclosed a copy of this year’s conference poster, our plan outline for the conference, and a “FAQ” sheet. At this point in time, our slate is filling up with proposals from Cabrillo students and faculty ranging from the Digital Bridge Academy presentations of original research conducted in the field to a group presenting on environmental issues. As one coordinator of the Puente Project, I know that our group will present essays on Latino identity and empowerment through education. All of us here at Cabrillo are very excited to hold this conference, and we would be delighted if you could accept our invitation.

Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions, and I hope to hear from you soon. For more information visit http://www.cabrillo.edu/~anajarro/socialjustice.html, and you may also sign up for the conference at this website.

Sincerely,

Adela Najarro, PhD
Cabrillo College
Steering Committee Social Justice Conference
831-479-6405
adnajarr@cabrillo.edu
Plan, Purpose and Overview
Social Justice Conference
Cabrillo College
Proposed by
Social Justice Conference Steering Committee

Plan:

We view this conference as fostering student professionalism, academic success and community involvement. Conference attendance is open for all, while presentations are reserved for Cabrillo College students, faculty, staff and invited guests. The ¾ day conference will include a key-note speaker, break-out panels, and a community fair where organizations and programs may present their work and on-going projects. The keynote speaker will explore the conference theme, “Imagining Change/Shaping the Future II.” Research and creative projects by Cabrillo College students, faculty, and staff will comprise the break-out panels, while various community-based organizations will participate in the fair. This year we will also hold a “Children’s Fair” where age appropriate inter-active social justice activities will be presented. The committee has defined social justice as a movement working toward a more just, humane society in which all individuals and groups experience fair treatment and equitable access to the benefits of society.

Purpose:

1. To create a forum where Cabrillo College students, faculty, staff and the community at large can share research, artistic projects, and programs thematically addressing social justice issues.
2. To create a venue where Cabrillo College students from all departments and majors can formally present their own original research and artistic projects.
3. To create the opportunity for Cabrillo College students to apply and participate in an academic conference.
4. To create the opportunity for organizations and programs with mission statements addressing social justice issues to present their programs to the Cabrillo College community at large.
Conference Overview

1. Conference title: Cabrillo College 2nd Annual Social Justice Conference
2. Conference theme: “Imagining Change/Shaping the Future II”
3. Date: Saturday, April 19th
4. Time: 9:00 am to 3:30 pm
5. ¾ day program
   a. Opening Session
   b. Break-Out Sessions
   c. Community Fair/Complimentary lunch
   d. Key-Note Speaker address
SOCIAL JUSTICE
CONFERENCE

IMAGINING CHANGE/
SHAPING THE FUTURE II
SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008 ♦ APTOS CAMPUS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the conference schedule?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-9:30</td>
<td>Registration/Opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-11:00</td>
<td>Break Out Sessions 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-12:30</td>
<td>Community Fair/Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-2:00</td>
<td>Break Out Sessions 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-2:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15-3:30</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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2. What do you mean by “social justice?”

   a. The planning committee defined social justice as a movement working toward a more just, humane society in which all individuals and groups experience fair treatment and equitable access to the benefits of society.

3. What is the purpose of the conference?

   a. To provide Cabrillo College faculty, staff and students a forum in which to present their work on the themes of social justice.
   b. To connect students and members of the community working on social justice issues.
   c. To encourage students to explore job and volunteer possibilities in public service and non-profit sectors where they can work toward social justice goals.
   d. To foster professionalism among students interested in social justice.
   e. To encourage faculty-student mentoring.

4. Who will be in attendance?

   a. Cabrillo College faculty, staff, students and those interested in social justice issues in Santa Cruz County.

5. Do you have wide college and community support?

   a. We have support from students across campus, the Student Senate, the Faculty Senate, the CCFT (faculty union), and numerous departments across campus, including English and Sociology. Last year, Renée Kilmer, Vice President of Instruction, opened the conference for us, while Bring King,
President of Cabrillo College, introduced the ’07 conference keynote speaker, Assemblyman John Laird.

6. **What is the Community Fair part of the conference all about?**
   a. The community fair aspect of the conference is meant to foster a connection between organizations in Santa Cruz County that address social justice issues with the larger Cabrillo College community, which includes students, faculty, and staff and others interested in social justice themes.
   b. We hope the Community Fair will carry the dialog of social justice into action by fostering participation and volunteerism.
   c. We also desire to give “voice” to the many organizations in Santa Cruz County that are working toward social justice in various ways.

7. **What type of panel presentations will be held?**
   a. We imagine papers, presentations, discussions, performances, and workshops on topics such as globalization, political action, criminal justice, anti-racism, identity, sexualities, education, war & peace, poverty, feminism, discrimination, gangs, health, the environment, activism, etc.
   b. Last year approximately 30 panels, papers, and creative works were presented in fifteen break-out sessions. The presentation topics included: “The Environment and Social Justice,” “Let Freedom Ring: Continuing the Legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.,” “Information Access is a Social Justice Issue,” “The Criminalization of Homelessness in Santa Cruz,” “Causes of Violence in Our Community,” “Poetry: Gangs, Streets, Being in Jail,” “Young Latinas and Latinos Speaking Out in the United States” and numerous other topics.

8. **Can I submit a proposal?**
   a. Priority registration begins December 1st, 2007 and continues through February 28, 2008; however applications will be accepted until the conference is full.
   b. Please apply as early as possible in order to reserve your spot!

9. **How can I register?**

10. **How much does the conference cost?**
    a. There are no costs or fees to attend or participate in the conference. As a matter of fact, snacks and a light lunch will be available to all throughout the day.

11. **If we are part of the Community Fair, when do we set up our tables?**
    a. Community Fair participants may set up their tables between 8:00 am and 10:30 am.

12. **Do we have to attend the whole day?**
    a. We would like people to stay for the entire conference, but we understand if you can only attend for part of the conference.

13. **Who do I contact for further information?**
    a. For further information contact: Dr. Adela Najarro, English Department and Puente Co-coordinator, [adnajarr@cabrillo.edu](mailto:adnajarr@cabrillo.edu) or Geneffa Jonker, English Department, [gejonker@cabrillo.edu](mailto:gejonker@cabrillo.edu).