

THE MAGAZINE OF LEE COLLEGE

FALL 2025

POLARIS

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*The Transformative Power
of the Lee College Prison
Education Program*

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LEE COLLEGE

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Navigators and Friends of Lee College,

What an inspiring time to be part of the Lee College community. As we enter our 91st year, I am both humbled and energized to share that our fall enrollment once again reflects the trust and confidence of our region—more than 8,900 students have chosen Lee College to begin or continue their educational journey. This number represents more than success in enrollment; it embodies lives transformed and futures strengthened through learning and opportunity.

In this issue of *Polaris*, you'll read about several meaningful milestones that continue to define who we are and why our mission matters. Among them is the remarkable expansion of our Prison Education Program, now strengthened by Pell Grant eligibility. This change means that even more men and women in Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities can earn degrees and credentials, rebuild their lives with purpose, and rejoin their communities with confidence—free from the burden of educational debt.

We are also embarking on an exciting new chapter with the development of the Lee College Branch Campus in Mont Belvieu. More than just a new location, this beautiful facility will serve as a launchpad for high-demand allied health programs, designed to meet the region's growing workforce needs in health care, and offering residents greater access to life-changing educational opportunities.

These accomplishments—high enrollment, expanded educational access, and the promise of a new campus in Mont Belvieu—reflect a shared commitment to progress, purpose, and possibility. As we move forward, we continue to champion the “ideal student experience,” ensuring that every path we create leads our students toward empowered lives and meaningful careers.

Thank you for believing in your community college. Your trust and partnership make all that we do possible and strengthens the bright future we are building together.

With gratitude,



Lynda Villanueva, Ph.D.
President



POLARIS

The Magazine of Lee College

Fall 2025

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On the cover: Frederick Wilson, Class of 2024, returned to the stage at the Lee College Huntsville Center to deliver the 2025 commencement address. His journey from student to speaker is a testament to the transformative power of education and perseverance, even behind bars.

Lee College New Branch Campus on Horizon

The college is celebrating a historic milestone with bold plans to expand educational opportunities across Southeast Texas by opening a new branch campus in Mont Belvieu.

“The future Lee College branch campus represents a monumental milestone in the college’s 91-year history,” said Lee College President Dr. Lynda Villanueva. “This achievement will expand educational opportunities for gener-

ations of Southeast Texans, creating pathways that will improve quality of life and strengthen our communities.”

Set to open by the end of 2027, the branch campus will provide students with the full range of services and foundational courses offered at the main campus, while also introducing programs in high-demand fields such as cybersecurity and cloud computing, respiratory therapy, sonography, and sterile processing technology.

“I am deeply grateful to the citizens of Barbers Hill ISD for their commitment, to Dr. Greg Poole for his steadfast partnership in bringing this dream to life, and to the trustees of Barbers Hill ISD and the regents of Lee College for working together to advance the future of our region,” Dr. Villanueva added. “Together, we are building an enduring investment, where students and families will realize the power of education to transform their lives.” ★

The Power of Learning through Fun

The Kids at College program serves as a summer camp designed to provide engaging, educational opportunities for students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Enrollment opened right after spring break, and this year’s camps ran from early June through the end of July. It turned out to be the program’s biggest summer yet, offering 81 camps and welcoming 857 campers, which is double the enrollment from last year and the most in a decade.

Campers had a wide variety of options to choose from, including arts and crafts led by talented instructors, summer reading courses with weekly interactive activities, and hands-on science and engineering sessions. Some of the most popular offerings included the Mad Scientist Camp and Lego Camp, along with basketball and volleyball camps that also supported athletics on campus.



Students have fun while learning how to take care of animals at “Humane Heroes” camp.

Specialty camps such as cosmetology, gardening, and Humane Heroes, an initiative with the Baytown Animal Shelter, added even more variety. This summer also marked the expansion of Kids at College to the Lee College Education Center – South Liberty County. To keep the camps accessible, 149 scholarships were awarded to local students.

Parents noticed the impact. Savannah, the mother of a kindergarten camper, said Kids at College was a perfect fit for her family because few local camps welcomed children as young as hers. Her son attended Kindergarten Camp, which gave him the confidence and skills to start school ready to learn. “He came home every day telling me how brave he was ready to be,” she said. “He was prepared with the knowledge and structure to listen to his teacher, and that was very beneficial for him.” Stories like hers highlight the heart of the program. “These stories capture the heart of what we do, creating joyful, meaningful, and affordable learning experiences for children and families in our community,” said Marsha Tuha, Executive Director of Workforce & Community Development. “Thank you for believing in the power of learning through fun.” ★

New Cosmetology Dream Space Launches

This fall, Lee College unveiled its new cosmetology building, a state-of-the-art training facility for future beauty industry professionals. Purchased in 2024, the building has been transformed into a modern space designed to give students hands-on experience with industry-standard tools and techniques.

The facility includes styling stations, color labs, and nail studios, providing students with the practical skills they need to succeed in professional salons. Flexible classroom spaces also support theory instruction and professional development, ensuring students are prepared for every aspect of a cosmetology career. This new building reflects the college's commitment to work-force development and expanding opportunities for students in Southeast Texas. 🌟



Striking the Right Note

Lee College Welcomes Dr. Joshua Armstrong as Instructor of Instrumental Music



Met Dr. Joshua Armstrong, Lee College's new Instructor of Instrumental Music! A seasoned percussionist and educator, Armstrong will lead the Lee College Concert Band, Baytown Jazz Band, and Drumline, while also teaching sophomore-level Music Theory and Ear Training, Percussion Lessons, and American Music.

Armstrong, a native of the Houston area, returns home after 14 years of teaching at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi.

"I'm excited to be back in Houston and on the community college side of music education," he said. "At my previous school in Mississippi, most of our students

came in as transfers from community colleges. Now I have the chance to help Lee College students prepare for their next step, whether that's transferring to a university or joining Houston's vibrant music scene."

A percussionist by training, Armstrong holds multiple degrees in percussion performance with a minor in Instrumental Conducting. He is also a sponsored artist with Vic Firth Sticks, Marimba One Marimbas, and Black Swamp Percussion. His passion for performance is matched by his enthusiasm for teaching.

"Music is such a powerful way to connect people," Armstrong said. "I look forward to building those connections here at Lee College and helping students grow as musicians and individuals." 🌟

Celebrating Regent Emeritus Susan Moore-Fontenot

Susan Moore-Fontenot was honored on June 30, 2025, for her 37 years of service on the Board of Regents. Friends, colleagues, and community members gathered at Rundell Hall to recognize her lasting impact. She was named Board Member Emeritus, becoming Lee College's longest-serving regent, and received a lifetime membership from The Association of Community College Trustees in recognition of her national impact on community college governance.

Dr. Lynda Villanueva, president of Lee College, praised her advocacy and leadership: "What strikes me most about Susan is her unwavering advocacy for those who need a voice—students seeking opportunity, communities seeking growth, and institutions striving to fulfill their mission of transformation. During her tenure, Susan guided Lee College through remarkable growth, ensur-



Moore-Fontenot poses with members of the Lee College Board of Regents and President, Dr. Lynda Villanueva.

ing that progress never came at the expense of our core values or commitment to student success."

Baytown Mayor Charles Johnson also issued an official proclamation celebrating her contributions to education and the community.

Moore-Fontenot reflected on the college's transformative role: "Lee College has been more than a place of

learning. It's been a living, breathing force for opportunity—transforming lives, lifting families, and rewriting futures because of the work done here. To my fellow Regents, past and present, thank you for your commitment, your collaboration, and your courage. Governing isn't always easy, and progress isn't always quick, but together we have kept students at the center of our decisions." 🌟

Beloved Business Instructor Retires

After 27 years of dedicated service to the college, Dr. Gregg Lattier retired from his role as Business and Management instructor. Throughout his career, Dr. Lattier helped countless students discover their passions and build strong foundations for success. He is especially known for his inspiring leadership of the Rotaract Club, establishing the Books and Beans Café, and spearheading the college's Service-Learning program. As he begins this next chapter, Dr. Lattier looks forward to continuing his journey through volunteer work and, of course, plenty of hiking adventures! Thank you, Dr. Lattier, for your legacy at Lee College! 🌟



Dr. Gregg Lattier (center) is shown with Lee College Hall of Fame recipients at the 2025 Presidential Honors Day celebration.

MEET THE BOARD:

Getting to Know Heron Thomas

A lifelong resident of Baytown and principal of the Eagle Positive Intervention Center in Barbers Hill ISD, Heron Thomas has always held education close to his heart. In May 2025, he was elected to serve as a member of the Lee College Board of Regents, applying his love for education to serve at the collegiate level. We recently caught up with Thomas to discuss his connection to Lee College, his commitment to education, and his vision for the future.

Q: What is your current professional role, and how does it relate to the mission of Lee College?

A: I am currently the proud principal in Barbers Hill ISD of the Eagle Positive Intervention Center. This relates to the mission of Lee College because I am deeply interested and invested in making sure that students receive high-quality education and are prepared for their next chapter in life.



Q: What is your educational background, and how has it shaped your perspective on higher education?

A: I graduated high school from Baytown's Robert E Lee. I then graduated with my bachelor of business administration with a concentration on marketing from the University of Houston (main campus). I received my master of education in administration from Lamar University.

Q: What inspired you to join the board of Lee College?

A: It gave me the opportunity to serve two of the things that I love dearly, my community and education. I take pride and pleasure knowing that I serve the students who will have an impact in our community thanks to the efforts of our hard work.

Q: Do you have any previous connections to the college?

A: I have always been surrounded by proud alumni of Lee College. Both of my parents, my three brothers, and my son have all attended Lee College. I have served and volunteered at athletic events and with the Lee College Foundation. Growing up, I attended many camps and enrichment activities at the college.

Q: What are you most excited to contribute during your time on the board?

A: I am excited to contribute my expertise in building meaningful relationships with our community members. With my background and experience, I believe I can help strengthen connections that are currently in place between the college and the communities we serve.

Q: How do you hope the college will grow or evolve in the next five years?

A: I hope that the college will continue to grow and eventually offer cutting edge opportunities that other community colleges aren't able to offer. I would love to see us offer a 4-year nursing program, integrate new AI programs, and grow our service area. I am also looking forward to the new branch opening within Barbers Hill.

Q: Why is access to education important to you personally?

A: The access to education has opened doors that I didn't think were possible. The education, relationships, and friendships have made my life more meaningful and enjoyable. I hope that everyone could experience the love of education that I have. ✨



FROM CMA TO RN

Mariana Fuentes' Journey Through Lee College and Into Healthcare

For Mariana Fuentes, the dream of working in healthcare was always alive. But for a long time, it felt just out of reach. As a mother of two young children, the path to becoming a registered nurse seemed more overwhelming than inspiring. But that all changed the day she walked into Lee College.

"I visited Lee College for information on the Nursing Program," Mariana recalls. "I always wanted to go for an RN degree, but I realized it just wasn't the right time for me and my family."

That moment could have been the end of her healthcare journey. Instead, it was just the beginning.

While exploring her options, Mariana learned about the Clinical Medical Assistant (CMA) classes offered in the evenings through the Lee College Cross Credit Healthcare Program.

For a mother juggling parenthood and education, this was a life-changing moment.

"To me, the fact that the class schedule was flexible was key," she says. "I didn't have to worry about childcare, which made it very doable for my family."

Mariana enrolled and quickly found her rhythm. The nighttime classes allowed her to study while her husband cared for their children. The short, focused timeline of the program made it ideal for her family's needs. In July 2019, she completed the program. Before she even graduated, she was offered a job at her clinical site, the Women's Healthcare Center of Baytown.

Her time in the CMA program laid a strong foundation. Mariana credits the supportive environment and dedicated instructors for helping her thrive.

"The program was great," she says. "It helped a lot. I didn't feel lost when I stepped into clinicals. I felt comfortable."



She also found mentors among the nursing faculty members; people who advocated for her, guided her, and even helped her land interviews for future opportunities.

"I loved my job as a CMA," Mariana explains, "but I knew I could do more."

Encouraged by her success and eager to grow, Mariana decided it was finally time to pursue her original goal: becoming a registered nurse. She spent a year completing prerequisites before diving into two years of nursing school.

In May 2025, Mariana graduated *summa cum laude*, earning her associate degree in nursing and receiving the Presidential Honors Award in Nursing—a testament to her hard work, perseverance, and academic excellence.

But she isn't stopping there.

Recently, Mariana began a residency program at Houston Methodist Hospital in Baytown, a position she secured with the support of the same instructors who had once encouraged her. The year-long residency will prepare her for advanced practice as an RN2, and she already has her sights set on earning her bachelor's degree in nursing next.

Her vision has evolved as she's grown. Initially drawn to labor and delivery, her clinical experience opened a new door: the intensive care unit.

"I loved my clinicals in the ICU," she says. "I've always looked up to ICU nurses. They're so knowledgeable. It's life-or-death situations. You get fewer patients, but the level of care is intense. I felt drawn to it."

Mariana's journey didn't just transform her life; it inspired those around her, too. She encouraged her sister to complete the CMA program, and now she's paying it forward by sharing her story.

"If you're interested in healthcare but not sure where to start, go through the CMA program," she advises. "You'll get your certification quickly. And if you want to take it further, it'll help you feel familiar with medical terminology, processes—everything. I would do it again. My success in nursing was due to my experience in the CMA program."

Lee College's Cross-Credit Healthcare Programs empower students to create personalized educational pathways that align with their unique goals, supported by individualized guidance every step of the way.

The Clinical Medical Assistant program is a 184-hour program that prepares students to work in doctors' offices, chiropractic clinics, optometry practices, and more. It includes 136 hours of classroom instruction and a 48-hour clinical externship.

Program Manager Tainisha Arvie explains, "Our model ensures that every student's experience matters—whether they're beginning with a certificate or working toward advanced allied health or nursing programs. We adapt to each student's timeline, goals, and learning style to help them succeed."



This flexible and student-centered approach reflects the college's commitment to making healthcare education accessible and meaningful for all learners.

Mariana Fuentes proves that even when the timing isn't perfect, passion and perseverance can still carry you forward. From navigating motherhood to excelling in healthcare, her story is one of strength, adaptability, and never letting go of a dream, no matter how long it takes to reach it.

Ready to take the first step toward your healthcare career? Registration for the Lee College Cross Credit Healthcare Program is now open. Designed with flexibility in mind, these programs offer convenient scheduling and fast-track pathways to certification in high-demand fields such as clinical medical assistant, dental assistant, EKG technician, and phlebotomy technician.

To find out more and begin your journey today, email cchealthcare@lee.edu or call 281.429.6229. ★



Remarkable Alumna **Tina Ly** talks Rockets, Stanford, and love for Lee College

For most high school students, graduating at the top of their class is a monumental achievement. But for Tina Ly, valedictorian of Anahuac ISD, that milestone came alongside another impressive accomplishment: earning an associate of science degree in pre-engineering from Lee College before she even received her high school diploma.

What drove Tina to take on such an ambitious academic path? “My curiosities did!” she said with enthusiasm.

Tina’s fascination with STEM began in ninth grade after a rockets class awakened her love for engineering. After she maxed out the STEM curriculum at her high school, she sought ways to expand her learning. That’s when Lee College entered the picture.

“I took charge of the opportunity to keep pursuing my curiosities at Lee College,” Tina explains.

Tina’s educational journey was shaped by a deep appreciation for learning, but also by the unique influences of her family. Her mother earned a degree in Vietnam, while her father left high school early to work and support his family. Though their educational paths were different from hers, Tina has always been inspired by them.

“They’ve always believed in the power of education,” she shared. “They gave me the space to learn and encouraged me to follow my passions, no matter how big or unconventional.”

That encouragement paid off. At Lee College, Tina found a community of educators and students who shared her love of learning and supported her goals.

“The faculty is so willing to share knowledge and make learning fun,” she said. “But beyond that, Lee College makes education accessible for everyone. There are resources for mental health, food, parenting—everything a student might need. It’s a place that truly lifts people up.”

Juggling high school, college, sports, and community involvement was no easy feat. Tina credits her success to good planning and genuine passion. “Using a planner helped me stay organized,” she says. “But when you genu-

inely love what you do—learning, playing sports, giving back—it’s easy to keep going.”

As someone who’s navigated the world of dual enrollment successfully, Tina’s advice to others considering early college programs is to just jump in.

“Absolutely go for it! Learn what classes transfer, ask questions, and find your support system,” she said. “You don’t have to do it alone.”

“Lee College makes education accessible for everyone. It’s a place that truly lifts people up.”

In addition to being valedictorian of her class, completing an associate degree, and being active in countless extracurricular activities, Tina was also a NASA High School Aerospace Scholar, and the first NASA STEM Enhancement in Earth Science intern from her hometown.

Looking ahead, Tina is preparing to take on her next big challenge: attending Stanford University. But even with all she’s accomplished, her mindset remains grounded in the curiosity that started it all.

“I want to keep asking questions, challenging myself, and learning something new every day,” she said. “The foundation I’ve built at Anahuac High School and Lee College has given me the confidence to keep growing and exploring what’s possible.” 🌟



DRIVING TOWARD OPPORTUNITY

Lee College's CDL Program Fuels Regional Workforce

In the fast-moving world of logistics and transportation, Lee College is ensuring local students and regional employers have the tools and the training to keep up. The Commercial Driver's License (CDL) program, offered through the college's McNair Center, is quickly becoming a vital resource for students eager to enter the workforce and for businesses facing a growing demand for skilled drivers.

CDL training follows a practical, workforce-driven approach. The six-week program begins with a dedicated week of classroom instruction, where students build foundational knowledge in vehicle mechanics, safety protocols, and industry regulations. Over the course of the program, students receive 100 to 120 hours of behind-the-wheel training, which is shared among all class members.

This means that with smaller class sizes, each student benefits from increased individual drive time, gaining valuable hands-on experience in everything from pre-trip inspections to real-world driving scenarios.

According to Ashley Iwunwanne, program manager for Industrial & Construction Technologies, the goal is to integrate classroom learning with hands-on learning to support student success.

"Although the first week focuses entirely on classroom instruction," Iwunwanne explains, "we've built in intentional opportunities for continued learning through activities like pre-trip inspections and mechanical and operational checklists. Our priority is making sure every student is prepared and confident for the future they envision."

Students train on combination tractor-trailers, more commonly known as semi-trucks, complete with a dry van trailer. These vehicles match what graduates are likely to drive on the job, ensuring they're not just licensed but workforce-ready.

John Coleman, the program's full-time instructor, is a licensed CDL Class A holder with nearly 20 years of industry experience. His credentials include hazmat, triples, doubles, tanker, and even school bus and passenger endorsements.

"This is the equipment they'll use on the job," says instructor John Coleman. "Our students get extensive training in real-world settings. With safety as the priority, they will be prepared and confident from day one."

While the core program focuses on Class A licensing, students are also introduced to other key endorsement areas such as hazmat through course materials and classroom discussions. This gives them a head start if they wish to pursue additional qualifications later.



For Andres Rodriguez of Baytown, completing the CDL course unlocks new possibilities for growth and advancement within his current job that were out of reach before.

Rodriguez says the smaller class sizes and friendly atmosphere at Lee College have made all the difference in his success.

"I like this program because it combines classroom learning with practical experience, and the instructor has been really helpful throughout the entire process," he said. "Plus, the smaller class sizes make it easier to get more drive time, which makes me feel more prepared for the final certification tests."



Since launching at the McNair Center, Lee College has helped nearly all its trainees earn their Class A CDL licenses, which is an accomplishment that reflects the demand for and quality of the program.

And interest continues to grow.

As e-commerce expands, along with the infrastructure that supports it, the demand for qualified CDL drivers is increasing throughout our region and the United States. The college is already working with companies like TALKE Logistics and Chambers County to help train employees in areas like Solid Waste and Road and Bridge.

At a cost of \$4,000, the program is already a competitive option, but the program takes affordability a step further. Students unaffiliated with employer sponsorships may qualify for a \$2,400 grant through Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG), or other scholarship opportunities.

By investing in this program, the college is investing in the economic health and mobility of its region. With its combination of expert instruction, hands-on experience, and community support, the CDL program is more than a class; it's a launchpad for the future. 🌟



Think the SRAC Isn't for You? **Think Again!**

The Student Resource & Advocacy Center (SRAC) has already helped countless students and their families bridge financial gaps and access vital resources — but many students still don't know about everything it offers. Whether you're new to campus or returning, the SRAC is here to support you in more ways than you might expect.

Not sure how it could help you? Here are seven reasons you should stop by the SRAC today:



1. Childcare Assistance

Worried about how to afford day care while attending classes? SRAC can help cover your childcare tuition. If approved, payments are made directly to your licensed day care provider — and you get to choose the center that works best for you.



2. On-Campus Food Market

Grocery costs add up fast. That's why enrolled students can visit the on-campus food market twice per month and receive up to 60 pounds of groceries per visit! From fresh produce and proteins to pantry staples like pasta, canned veggies, oatmeal, and more, there's something

for everyone. A new recipe section has been added to give students ideas for healthy recipes using common ingredients in the market, and a series of live nutrition training workshops are scheduled to roll out this fall.



3. Emergency Financial Aid

Life happens, and unexpected expenses shouldn't derail your education. Whether it's a flat tire, rent assistance, or help with a utility bill, SRAC can step in where needed. Just complete the emergency aid application, and a rep from the team will reach out within 48 business hours to offer support.



4. Free Clothing Closet

Need professional wear for an upcoming interview, or just looking to stretch your family's wardrobe? SRAC's clothing closet offers free clothes, shoes, and accessories for men, women, and children. Styles and sizes vary based on donations, so stop by Room 112 in the Student Center to see what's available.



5. Transportation Support

Don't let the cost of transportation keep you from coming to class. SRAC provides:

- Free gas cards (available once every 30 days)
- Harris County Transit bus passes (individual or monthly options)



6. One-on-One Support

Not sure where to start? The SRAC team is here to listen and connect you with the right resources, whether on campus or in the community. No question is too small, and no concern is too big. You're not alone!



7. Support for Student Parents

In addition to childcare assistance, SRAC provides baby items, parenting resources, and emotional support to help student parents balance their academic and family responsibilities. Many of our offices are equipped with toys to help keep children occupied during meetings. There's also a nursing room conveniently located just outside the office, along with changing stations in the second-floor restrooms. We've worked hard to make our space welcoming and parent-friendly!

A note from the SRAC Director, Jessica Haney: "We recognize that getting an education while also managing life's responsibilities is very difficult. Every day we are inspired by our students who work tirelessly toward their degrees, and we are proud to support them on that journey. No matter where a student begins the educational journey, we will do all we can to make sure they cross the graduation stage one day."

The SRAC exists to help all students thrive academically, emotionally, and personally.

Visit the Student Center, room 112, to learn about all the resources available to YOU! 🌟

FROM INCARCERATION TO HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY

How Lee College changes lives

Every year, hundreds of thousands of people return to the “outside” after being incarcerated, hoping for a fresh start. Yet, for too many, the odds are stacked against them. Nationally, 95% of incarcerated individuals will eventually be released — but within four years, only one-third will find a job. Without education, support, and opportunities, the cycle of incarceration too often repeats itself.

Lee College in Texas is changing that. Through powerful integrated prison education and reentry programs, it is equipping justice-impacted individuals with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to build new lives. The impact reaches far beyond the individual: families are reunited, communities grow stronger, and local economies benefit.

Lee College is not a newcomer when it comes to prison education. One of the oldest (and largest) programs of its kind in Texas, the college’s Huntsville Center, which currently enrolls more than 1,200 incarcerated individuals, began in 1965.

Today it brings educational programming to nine of the 100 prisons throughout the state of Texas, offering an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in business management; certificates and degrees in technical programs; and a six-week reentry program, founded in 2017 with Title V funds, that supports students in learning essential life skills to facilitate their successful transition to existence outside of prison walls.

For-Credit Programming

Paul Allen, academic division chair of the Lee College Huntsville Center, has been teaching incarcerated individuals full-time for the past 41 years. One would be hard pressed to find a person more dedicated to the mission of prison education than he. “Education knows no barriers,” he says. “Because you’re incarcerated doesn’t mean you’re a failure for life.”

He says a fervent belief that life can be better post-incarceration than pre-incarceration is the spirit of the Huntsville Center program. “It’s just very heartfelt to know that you’ve helped somebody do something that they never thought they would ever be able to do,” he shares. “They’re the first graduate in their family; they’ve been able to rekindle some those [family] relationships; they’ve been able to restore some lost trust. That’s the human side that really, really motivates us to do even more.”

According to Allen, 60% of the students enrolled in Huntsville Center programming never completed high

school, but, through a system of supports, the center makes postsecondary credentials attainable. In addition to placing students who have successfully completed their program as embedded tutors in classes, all of the nine prison units where Huntsville Center has a presence boast student success centers, instructional labs, and are equipped for research.

As for recruitment, Allen says the benefits of educational programming are contagious in the units. "Our current students and graduates are our best recruiters down in the cell blocks, because inmates see people going home. They see people getting paroled. They see people having something special in their life, and they want to know what that is. They want to be part of that."

In addition to the AAS degree program in business management (which, thanks to a blossoming partnership with Sam Houston State University, is on track soon to offer a transfer pathway to a four-year degree in business), Lee College Huntsville Center offers a truck driving certification as well as both certifications and degrees in fields ranging from welding, cabinet making, HVAC, and auto mechanics to logistics, culinary arts, horticulture, and microcomputer applications.

The college ensures that certificate programs result not just in a college certificate but an industry-credential that will assist graduates in getting jobs after release. While the availability of the technical programming to students is dependent upon the unit in which a student resides, it is entirely possible for a student to acquire both the AAS degree (offered on all nine units) as well as one or two technical credentials.

The business management degree is often a perfect complement to a technical degree, explains Donna Zuniga, associate vice president of the Huntsville Center, as many students hope to own their own business one day. She points to the incredible success of one graduate of the HVAC program who established his own HVAC company, employed other graduates of Huntsville Center's HVAC program, and eventually sold the business for several millions of dollars.

As for the success of for-credit programs at Lee College Huntsville Center, the metrics speak for themselves. Among full-time students, three-year completion rates for the associate degree and 18-month completion rates for the certificate programs average roughly 85%.

The rate is so high, says Allen, that people hearing it are often incredulous. "People say, 'Well, how do y'all do it? That success rate is unheard-of. Your quality must not be the





same as [on the main] campus.” But Allen says they have the data to prove otherwise. A big part of his job, he says, is ensuring that the same standards for instruction and accreditation that are used for their standard programs are duplicated for the Huntsville Center programs.

In addition to looking forward to the establishment of the four-year transfer pathway, administrators, faculty, and staff at Lee College are hopeful about other forms of expansion.

The recent reinstatement of Pell Grants for incarcerated individuals wishing to participate in postsecondary education — a source of need-based support that was cut off with the passing of the 1994 crime bill — has been a “game changer,” according to Zuniga.

Lee was fortunate enough to be accepted into the Second Chance Pell pilot program in 2016, and last month, after multiple approval processes, received notification from the Department of Education that the college now has permanent status as a recognized prison education program for the Second Chance Pell. “We’re very proud of that. So, of course, now we’re looking to possibly add some programs,” Zuniga says.

Reentry Program

Though much newer than the 60-year-old prison education program, Lee College’s reentry program — the only community college-based reentry program in the state — is having a substantial impact. Open to any student who has taken classes through the Huntsville Center, the reentry program supports students (on the same nine prison units served by the center) with preparations for reintegrating back into society.

According to Director of Reentry Services Tracy Williams, the student services side of the program focuses on teaching students the skills they will need to thrive on the outside, covering topics such as résumé writing, critical thinking, and soft skills, including behaviors expected by employers, how to develop credit and track personal finances — even the basics on finding health insurance.

A large component of the services focuses on developing digital skills, which are critically important, particularly for those students who have been incarcerated for extended periods of time and will face a largely unknown digital world upon release.

“If you are someone in this world and you don’t know anything about computers or the basics about a phone or email, you’re going to be lost,” explains Williams. “And for a person that has a skill or education, that can really hamper that person’s adjustment back into society. So, that’s what we want to be able to do — make our students be the most successful they can be.”

Digital literacy is such an essential part of successful reintegration that Williams says they are considering extending the six-week program by two additional weeks in order to provide an even greater digital focus.

In addition to student services, the reentry program also offers a vast array of benefits from its extensive alumni network. Composed of 780 former Lee College students who were formerly incarcerated and over 200 other previously incarcerated people across Texas, members of the alumni network connect with Lee students who have



Lee students in the Texas State Penitentiary at Huntsville work to repair a car as part of their training in the auto mechanics program.

recently been released to provide mentorship — whether that be in the form of virtual support groups that offer help with cell phone use or setting up an email account or assistance with finding employment.

Having grown in popularity, Lee’s reentry program runs two to three times per year on each of the nine prison units

and annually graduates approximately 300 students. For those who are unable to participate in the class because of scheduling conflicts with their for-credit classes, Williams and his colleagues give special presentations at various times during the year at the units to ensure the information is widely available.

“In the class, we try to give individuals hope, knowing that they can go out there and live their best life, and not go back to crime.”

They also publish booklets and other resources as handouts. As these printed resources travel with individuals through prison transfers, incarcerated individuals residing in facilities without a reentry program often write to Lee’s program to request more information. “We’ve gotten a lot of requests from all over the state,” says Williams.

This clamoring for reentry assistance has inspired the idea of creating a reentry podcast. While the 130,000 incarcerated people across Texas have state-issued tablets, they do not currently have internet connectivity. Williams hopes there is a way to make a podcast accessible via the tablets in order to further spread helpful information.

Measures of Positive Impact

In determining the impact of prison education programming, people often look to the programming’s effect on recidivism rates. Among Lee College students who have completed a degree or certificate through the Huntsville Center, recidivism currently stands at 11.1% — a rate that confirms the positive influence of prison education when compared to Texas’ recidivism rate of 16.7% among those who do not participate in prison education.

Dr. Douglas Walcerz, provost and vice president of academic and student affairs at Lee College, is quick to point out the difference between recidivism and desistance. He compares a student who is released, gets a job and housing, reintegrates with family, and supports their children with a student who gets released, commits crimes, uses drugs, overdoses, and dies.

“Both of those are success stories from a recidivism standpoint, because neither one went back to prison [with]in three years,” he explains. “But desistance is about measuring the behaviors that lead to pro-social interaction, and [so] measuring desistance is more meaningful for us than recidivism. That’s part of what our reentry class is focused on: not just recidivism but desistance. Harder to measure, but more meaningful.”

Williams says Lee’s reentry program takes steps to measure desistance. Through surveys, they attempt to capture how



Lee College Huntsville Center faculty members and students from the Wallace Pack Unit at the students’ induction into the Alpha Beta Gamma National Honor Society.



Students in the horticulture program at the Lucile Plane State Jail for women

formerly incarcerated students are faring by asking about their financial situation, their quality of life, if they are engaging in civic events, and other markers of pro-social behavior. “We ask, ‘Does a person feel more hopeful?’ In the class, we try to give individuals hope, knowing that they can go out there and live their best life, and not go back to crime,” he states.

Huntsville Students Shine at Annual Debate

On February 28, 2025, the chapel inside the Huntsville Unit transformed into a stage for spirited debate as the Lee College Huntsville team faced off against students from Lone Star College in the fifth annual George Beto Debate Invitational.

The event, which brings together incarcerated students and peers from outside the prison system, highlighted the power of dialogue to bridge backgrounds and spark understanding. Before a panel of five judges, both sides delivered sharp arguments and showcased hours of preparation. Respect and camaraderie filled the room, even as the competition grew intense.

In the end, the Lee College team earned top marks in every topic area, securing the championship title. More than a contest, the invitational reflects a broader mission: supporting the Texas Department of Crimi-



nal Justice’s commitment to public safety and helping incarcerated students build the skills needed for successful reintegration into the community. 🌟

The Case for Second Chances

Prison education programs are often met with skepticism, but the question shouldn't be, "Why invest in them?" According to Dr. Walcerz, it should be "Why not?" He argues that there are significant benefits for all stakeholders. "Over 95% of people who are incarcerated are going to return [to society], and they're going to return all over the United States," he says. "What kind of person do you want returning to your neighborhood? I want a college-educated person."

From a purely practical standpoint, Zuniga underscores the positive return on investment in prison education. "It gives [incarcerated individuals] the opportunity to go back and to be a good citizen, to pay taxes rather than being supported on our taxes," she points out.

**"Education is so transformative.
It changes your mindset."**

Zuniga also mentions the less tangible — but no less impactful — effect on families. "To be able to reunite with families and be successful ... the impact [that has] on children who have incarcerated parents is huge and is not really addressed as it should be," she adds.

There is another community that feels the positive effects of prison education, Zuniga says, and it is one that is often overlooked. In addition to better equipping the individual students who reenter society, stabilizing their family units, and uplifting neighborhoods, prison education has positive outcomes for the prison communities themselves.

"Many wardens tell us ... it reduces the amount of problems they have inside the prison," she reports. "The Department of Corrections gets a lot of value from having college education training on their units. It changes the culture of a unit ... There's less violence, fewer issues," she notes. "If there's an individual serving a life sentence, people would



Lee College students in the truck driving certificate program at the Huntsville ("Wynne") Unit.

say, "Why would you educate somebody that's never going to get out?" [It's because] that individual can impact many, many other individuals in there and guide them."

For Williams, who served more than 25 years in prison, a great deal of the value in a prison education program is in the optimism it brings to its students. "Education is so transformative," he says. "It changes your mindset. It changed my mindset, my thinking. And so that is 'the why,' you know? To give individuals hope."

When it comes to prison education, Lee College's story is one of resilience, redemption, and the transformative power of second chances. It stands as compelling evidence that education can disrupt cycles of incarceration and open the door to brighter futures — not just for individual students, but for families, communities, and society as a whole. More profoundly, it affirms a simple but powerful truth: People are not defined by their worst mistakes. With access to education and a network of support, meaningful change is not only possible — it is happening every day. As Williams reflects from personal experience, "People do change. Despite mistakes or past bad decisions. People do change." ★



Reprinted from Achieving the Dream, "From incarceration to hope and opportunity: How Lee College changes lives" by Jennie Aranovitch, April 2025. © Achieving the Dream. Used with permission.

HOPE

Through Higher Learning Lee College Celebrates Incarcerated Student Graduation at Plane State Jail

In a powerful display of determination and hope, Lee College celebrated the graduation of 37 incarcerated women at Plane State Jail in Dayton, Texas. The ceremony honored five women who earned Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees in Logistics and Business Management, and 32 others who completed certificates in horticulture, logistics, and business. The event marked a significant milestone not only for the graduates but also for the growing success of college-in-prison programs that are transforming lives behind bars.

Family members and friends were present at the graduation, filling the room with joy, pride, and support. Their excitement and emotional reactions highlighted the profound impact of education and how deeply meaningful it is for both students and their loved ones. For many families, the ceremony represented a turning point—a symbol of progress, redemption, and a brighter path forward.

According to Associate Vice President of Lee College Huntsville Center Donna Zuniga, the success of these students would not have been possible without the strong network of support they received throughout their academic journey.

Lee College's dedicated student advisors, instructors, Pathway Grant director, reentry specialists, IT support staff, and librarian all played critical roles in helping students stay focused and on track. Access to computers and library resources allowed students to fully engage in their studies despite the limitations of incarceration.

"Earning a degree or certificate while incarcerated is nothing short of transformative," said Zuniga. "For these women, education has opened doors to new possibilities both within the correctional system and upon reentry into society."

Graduates of the Logistics program also earned two nationally recognized industry certifications: Certified Logistics Associate and Certified Logistics Technician—credentials that greatly enhance their employment prospects. As they move forward, these graduates are better equipped with the knowledge, confidence, and credentials to build meaningful careers and reintegrate successfully into their communities. 🌟





President Villanueva shares a moment of pride with a Plane State Jail graduate — a reminder that education can change lives, no matter where the journey begins.



TimelyCare: The path to student wellness starts here. And it's free.

Zoie Moore remembers that night as if it were yesterday. As a full-time student, she was overwhelmed by a wave of anxiety late one evening, unsure of what was happening but certain that she needed help. That's when she turned to TimelyCare, a virtual service designed to provide free, confidential mental health and medical care to all students enrolled in college credit courses.

For students balancing academics, work, and personal lives, moments of stress or anxiety can feel overwhelming. This is a reality that many like Zoie have faced.

What exactly is TimelyCare?

TimelyCare is a comprehensive virtual healthcare service tailored specifically for college students. It offers 24/7 access to medical and mental health services, all at no cost

to students. The platform is available to all students taking college credit courses, ensuring they have the resources to support their physical and emotional well-being—whether it's a routine checkup or urgent mental health assistance.

One of the key features that sets TimelyCare apart from its competition is the "TalkNow" service, which provides immediate access to licensed counselors. For Zoie, this

feature was a key contributor in overcoming her stress. When anxiety struck unexpectedly, she was able to connect with a counselor who helped her work through the situation in real-time.

“It was late at night, but it didn’t matter,” Zoie remembers. “The counselor I spoke with was wonderful. She taught me breathing exercises that helped me feel more focused and in control.”

Easy, accessible, and confidential care

TimelyCare is built around the understanding that students are often facing challenges alone. For Zoie, who is navigating college without parental support, the ability to connect with therapy at any hour was invaluable. The platform is created to be confidential, and no information shared during a session is communicated back to the college. This ensures that students can feel safe in seeking help without concerns about privacy.

Even for students who already have a primary care physician, TimelyCare remains a useful tool. While it is not an insurance plan, it serves as an additional resource, providing free consultations and support that can complement existing care. There are no copays, and the hours are flexible including night and weekend availability. This means TimelyCare allows students to access help whenever they need it.

Breaking the stigma around mental health

Dr. Rosemary Coffman, Executive Director of Student Success and Wellbeing, emphasizes the importance of taking care of one’s mental health in order to succeed academically.

“Stigma is still a barrier that may prevent students from seeking support when

they are feeling overwhelmed or anxious,” she explains. “Taking care of your mental and emotional well-being is essential for students and leads to better academic success.”

Zoie, now a part-time transition specialist helping students with disabilities, echoes this sentiment. She encourages anyone hesitant to reach out for help to take that first step. “I was scared, too,” she says. “But you don’t have to face it alone. Getting help is an important part of maintaining your overall health.” 🌟



Steps to download TimelyCare

1. Open the Apple App Store on an iPhone or iPad, or the Google Play store on an Android device.
2. Search for TimelyCare.
3. Download the app to your device.
4. Once the app is installed, open it and register using your Lee College email address to set up your account.



“I was scared, too. But you don’t have to face it alone. Getting help is an important part of maintaining your overall health.”



THE POWER OF PERSEVERANCE

Navigators Push Through Challenges in Strong Volleyball Season



The Navigators' season has been about more than wins and losses, it's been a testament to perseverance. Through challenges on the court, demanding practices, and the balance of academics and athletics, the team has shown that resilience and unity are just as important as talent. This shared determination has become the heartbeat of the program, driving players to push themselves and each other to new heights.

Returning sophomores from left: Brianna White, Coryn Bailey, and Keira Jones

The Navigators volleyball team made waves this season, combining grit, teamwork, and fierce energy on the court. With a strong mix of returning sophomores and new freshmen talent, the Navs have embraced both the challenges and the successes that come with collegiate athletic competition.

Now in her second season as head coach, Kylie Cobb says she's proud of the way her players have come together to create a resilient, supportive unit.



Freshman Addisyn Green hones her powerful swing during pre-game warmups.

“This group has shown incredible heart,” Cobb said. “Our sophomores are setting the tone, and our freshmen are rising to the challenge. It’s exciting to see how they push each other to get a little stronger with every match.”

Among this season’s returning players are sophomores Coryn Bailey, Keira Jones, and Brianna White—three leaders who have grown tremendously as athletes, students, and friends since first stepping into the arena. Their steady presence has been invaluable, both in tough matches and in helping younger teammates adjust to the demands of college-level competition.

“It’s been a journey,” Bailey reflected. “I’ve learned a lot since I started, and I’m glad I can help the newcomers learn from our mistakes and find success. This is a really great group, and we push each other to reach a new level.”

For many players, family has been their anchor through both victories and setbacks. White says her mom has been her biggest influence and someone she talks to before every game.

Freshman Kate Valt, an education major from Crosby, plays outside hitter. She hopes to become a high school volleyball

coach and one day lead her alma mater to the state tournament. “We have a big freshman class, so a lot of us are new,” Valt said. “The sophomores have been super helpful.

Valt’s advice to others? Don’t quit. Even when things get tough, keep growing and learning. “Being an athlete is year-round,” she said.

Freshman Addisyn Green of College Station plays right side and has quickly found her place on the team. “My experience has been really great so far,” she said. “All of us are extremely close, and we bond no matter what happens on the court. The sophomores have been great role models and friends.”



Win or lose, the Navigators leave it all on the court and regroup for what’s next.

“All of us are extremely close,
and we bond no matter what
happens on the court.”

As the season winds down, the Navigators are focused on building momentum, staying disciplined, and chasing a spot in the postseason.

“This team has shown extraordinary effort and resilience from day one,” Cobb said. “No matter the challenges, they keep finding ways to push through and lift each other up. Their growth as athletes and as teammates has been inspiring, and I couldn’t be prouder of the determination they bring to the court every single time.” ★

THE **WORK** BEFORE THE **WIN**

Inside Navs Basketball Preseason

As the Navigator basketball season approaches, the team is hard at work preparing for the challenges ahead. Among them is Mohamed “Moe” Tounkara, a forward-center from Kita, Mali, who is dedicating his time, energy, and focus to elevating his game. In the preseason, Moe takes a holistic approach—training his mind, body, and spirit—to stay motivated and keep his sights set on the season to come.



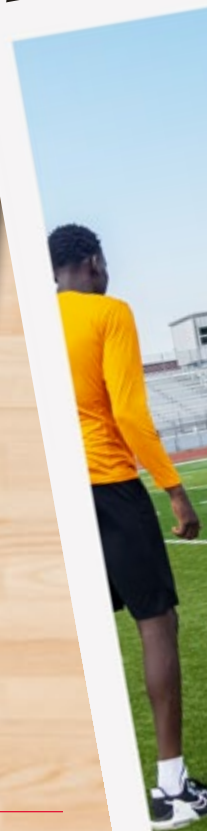
Learning never stops. Navs always take the opportunity to sharpen their skills and build confidence. Moe is shown playing one-on-one with Coach Russel Bundage.



While Navs basketball fans wait for next season, the grind never stops for players like Mohamed “Moe” Tounkara.



Strength and conditioning during preseason builds the power, endurance, and resilience players like Moe need to stay competitive and prevent injuries when the season starts.





Hard work demands smart recovery. Wellness and nutrition turn effort into excellence.



No lights. No crowd. Just the love of the game. Moe and the team are giving everything they've got in preseason, preparing to shine the moment the arena buzzer sounds.



Building friendships on and off the court makes the team bonds stronger.



Whether he's pushing the pace in practice or balancing books between games, his hustle defines what it means to be part of Navigator Nation. ★

FUELING FUTURES:

The Donors Who Power Lee College

For more than 56 years, the Lee College Foundation has supported student success by removing financial barriers and opening doors to higher education. At the core of this mission are the donors who give with generosity and purpose. Whether through scholarships, program support, or planned gifts, each contribution strengthens the future of the college and the communities it serves.

Each year, the Foundation manages millions of dollars in donations, thoughtfully investing these resources not only in scholarships but also in emergency assistance and enhancements to academic programs.

In 2024 alone, the Foundation granted \$830,000 in scholarships to nearly 800 students. Yet, scholarships represent just one part of its mission.

“Many people are surprised to learn there are many different ways to give beyond traditional scholarships,” said Lauren Heffernan, director of Advancement & Donor Relations, who works closely with donors and scholarship recipients. “Whatever your interests or how much you’re able to contribute, every gift to the Lee College Foundation truly makes a difference by changing the lives of our students and the futures of their families.”

Since 2015, the **PVF Roundtable** has invested \$50,000 each year to advance Lee College’s workforce programs in welding, pipefitting, machining, millwright, and instrumentation. In addition to this annual support, the organization also provides scholarships that directly benefit students pursuing these high-demand fields.

“At the PVF Roundtable, our charitable efforts are centered on supporting individual students who are preparing to become the next generation of skilled

professionals in the pipe, valve, and fitting industry,” said Frank Durham, chairman of the PVF Roundtable.

“We look for students who have set clear goals but need a hand in reaching them, and we partner with colleges and educational institutions that share that commitment through annual scholarship awards. The Lee College Foundation has consistently proven to be such a partner, demonstrating year after year a shared dedica-



PVF Roundtable’s Chair, Frank Durham (back left), shows the organization’s unwavering support for the Foundation.

tion to helping students succeed. We are proud to work alongside the Foundation, whose faculty and staff show a genuine care for students and an understanding of the industry they serve. The results speak for themselves in the number of graduates now working in our field, and we look forward to building on that success together.”

Just as the generosity of corporate partners fuels the Foundation’s mission, the support of individual donors also plays a vital role in strengthening programs and providing opportunities for students.

Doug and Inta Walker have been steadfast supporters of the Lee College Foundation for more than two decades. Doug joined the Foundation board in 2003 and was named an emeritus member in 2021, honoring his many years of service. Together, the Walkers have contributed generously to scholarships, gala support, and the Performing Arts Center. Today, they are creating their seventh scholarship, dedicated to students pursuing math, science, and pre-engineering.

“It is my belief that one of the most important things for a young person is to get a good education,” Doug said. “It’s important to their future success in life and opens doors that otherwise would be closed.”



For over 20 years, Inta and Doug Walker have been steadfast supporters of the Foundation’s work and impact.

Reflecting on his time with the Foundation, Doug added, “I feel truly fortunate to have served on the Board for more than 20 years, helping to grow the Lee College Foundation and provide vital financial support to young men and women who might not otherwise have had the opportunity to attend college. It is important to provide the financial resources to those in need, as well as grow the Foun-

ation for future needs through wise investing and community support.”

The Walkers’ story is a reminder of how gifts of all kinds make a lasting difference, and how every donor plays a role in opening doors for the next generation.

“These gifts come from a place of genuine belief in the power of education and a sincere hope for every student who walks through our doors,” explained Selah Tacconi, executive director of the Lee College Foundation. “Our donors are like family. So many pour their heart and soul into the Foundation’s success, becoming true partners in its vision, not just contributors.”

Donors come from all walks of life, including alumni, community members, and corporate entities. Some give once a year, while others support the Foundation monthly or through estate planning. This wide range of giving options allows donors to connect with causes they care about, whether that is helping single parents return to school, supporting students in skilled trades, or funding basic needs for students.

The strength of the Lee College Foundation does not come from a single person or program, but from the collective generosity of those who believe in its mission. For information on how you can help students succeed through the Lee College Foundation, please contact the Foundation office at 281.425.6303 or foundation@lee.edu. ★



Honoring the Legacy of Judy Wheat

One person who truly embodied the spirit of giving was Judy Wheat, a longtime supporter and former fundraising chair for the Foundation. Judy passed away recently, leaving behind a legacy of service and dedication that shaped the Foundation’s work for years. She gave her time, energy, and resources with genuine care, and her impact continues to be felt across campus. Her commitment helped grow the Foundation’s ability to support students in meaningful ways—and inspired countless others to give back.



EXPERIENCE THE SEASON — AND THE BAY

LIVE & IN COLOR at the Lee College Performing Arts Center

Make your night out more than just a show —
make it an experience.

From the soulful sounds of *Forever Motown: A Holiday Celebration* to the energy of *Fleetwood Mask: The Fleetwood Mac Tribute*, the 2025–26 season celebrates live entertainment in all its color and creativity — right here in Baytown.

Don't miss the season finale — **Fleetwood Mask: The Fleetwood Mac Tribute, Saturday, May 23.**

Hailed as the world's most authentic tribute to Fleetwood Mac, *Fleetwood Mask* brings audiences the band's full catalog, tour tributes, original stage gear, and custom costumes for an unforgettable concert experience.

#VisitBaytown

Enjoy dinner by the bay or explore historic downtown before your visit.

Plan your perfect evening with tips from VisitBaytown.com and see why Baytown is the perfect setting for a night of live entertainment.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE PAC

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 8 P.M.

Baytown Crime Stoppers

Presents:

THE FAB 5

Main Performance Hall

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30 1 P.M.

Halloween Monster Concert

Choral Hall PAC 137

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 1–3 P.M.

James Earl: Artist Workshop

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 7:30 P.M.

Forever Motown: A Holiday Celebration

Main Performance Hall

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17 7 P.M.

Fall Choir Concert

Main Performance Hall

NOVEMBER 19, 20, 22

Holiday Art Sale

Wednesday, November 19 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Thursday, November 20 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Saturday, November 22 12–8 p.m. PAC
foyer

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 7:30 P.M.

Jazz Band Concert

Main Performance Hall, PAC

NOVEMBER 24 – FEBRUARY 20

Art Exhibit: Ethan Acres:

A Fool's Journey

Opening Reception:

Thursday, February 12, 1–3 p.m.

PAC Art Gallery

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 7:30 P.M.

Bay Area Philharmonic:

Christmas In Baytown

Main Performance Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

10 A.M.–2 P.M.

Bowl-A-Thon

MHC W28

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 7:30 P.M.

Dasha Kelly Hamilton:

Makin' Cake

Main Performance Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28 7:30 P.M.

Bay Area Philharmonic:

Classic Thunder

Main Performance Hall

MARCH 2 – APRIL 10

FotoFest 2026

Opening Reception:

Saturday, March 7, 5–7 p.m.

Artist Talk: Tuesday, March 24, 1–3 p.m.

PAC Art Gallery

APRIL 14 – MAY 1

Student Art Show

Opening Reception: Tuesday, April 21,
1–3 p.m.

PAC Art Gallery

MARCH 5 – MARCH 6 8 P.M.

Spring Theatre Performance

Black Box, PAC

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 7:30 P.M.

Jazz Band Concert

Main Performance Hall, PAC

MONDAY, APRIL 27 7 P.M.

Spring Sing Choir Concert

Black Box, PAC

SATURDAY, MAY 2 7:30 P.M.

Bay Area Philharmonic: On Broadway

(Side by Side with area high school students)

Main Performance Hall

SATURDAY, MAY 23 7:30 P.M.

Fleetwood Mask:

The Fleetwood Mac Tribute

Main Performance Hall

MAY 29 – AUGUST 22

Art Exhibit: Baytown Area High School Mentor Show

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 30,
5:30–7:30 p.m.

PAC Art Gallery

Lee College Performing Arts Center • 281. 425.6255 • 805 W. Texas Ave. • Baytown, TX 77520

Find tickets and more information at **LEE.EDU/PAC**





Daily walks will
clear your **mind**
and improve
your **mood**.



Navigator Trail

A half-mile walk through Main Campus
to clear the mind and recharge.

Find your balance at lee.edu/wellbeing