

# DACE NEWSLETTER



**The Mission of Davis Adult and Community Education is to ignite a love of learning and empower students to fulfill their personal goals by:**

- **Providing an environment in which each student can increase their knowledge, skills, and well-being**
- **Implementing systems and programs that enable students to thrive and make positive contributions to their community and**
- **Emphasizing Schoolwide Learning Outcomes that enhance student's college and career readiness.**

Welcome to the first Davis Adult and Community Education school newsletter! We have created this newsletter in the spirit of our mission as a source of inspiration for lifelong learning in the Davis community. We hope that this Winter newsletter is informative, interesting, and inspiring for our community as we enter the new year.

This newsletter focuses on our School-Wide Learning Outcomes of **Adaptability and Resilience**. Resilience is incredibly important to practice in the winter, as when the days get shorter, we tend to grow more tired and need a boost, but we must power through and continue our work. Similarly, as the conditions of the weather change, it is important that we demonstrate adaptability in our willingness to change according to our environment.

DACE offers a variety of programs, including Community Interest, English as a Second Language (ESL), Adult High School Diploma (HSD), and Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) classes. We are proud to announce that our High School Diploma program is now fully accredited through the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC).

We hope that the DACE Newsletter will keep our community informed about our classes and program offerings, highlight student achievements, introduce you to our diverse teachers, classes, and support staff, and keep you, our community members, updated on what is happening at Davis Adult and Community Education!

If you would like to get involved with the next Davis Adult and Community Education Newsletter, please visit the DACE Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DavisAdult> or Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/davisadulthoodeducation>.

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## DavisAdult & CommunityEducation



### GETTING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AS AN ADULT

By Ann Forlenza & Grace Sauser

Student Success Coordinator & Davis Adult and Community Education Principal



Going back to school is a big step towards one's future success. People go back to school for many reasons including career advancement, learning a new skill, and earning a certificate or diploma. Adults returning to school face many challenges including balancing life, work, and school commitments along with societal stressors and anxiety, but there are tools to help students manage these challenges. This quarter's focus on **Resilience and Adaptability** reminds us that these are essential skills for anyone embarking on a new challenge.

Getting a High School Diploma can create many future opportunities for students. It can lead to a promotion at work, entrance into college, or open the door to a career path that will generate many future financial benefits. Our High School Diploma program is free to students and is funded through the California Adult Education Program (CAEP).

A few simple strategies can help students build their **Resilience and Adaptability** over time.

- Define clear and simple goals and milestones and develop a plan to achieve those goals. By defining exactly what you want, it will be easier to reenergize and get back on track if you run into unexpected obstacles. Make sure to set realistic "success points" so that you can see and celebrate your accomplishments along the way. Instead of something big like "I want to get my high school diploma", try smaller goals like "I'm going to complete 5-credits within three months." Set calendar reminders on your phone to come to an Open Lab class or to remind yourself to get at least one assignment done each day. And most importantly, if you fall off the horse, it's okay! Just get back on your plan when you can and keep moving forward one baby step at a time.
- Manage your time effectively and consider all your other commitments. One of the hardest things to manage is life's unexpected time commitments. Your kid comes home sick from school or you find out that you have guests coming over for dinner so you have to make a quick run to the store. No matter how well we plan, we can't always plan for everything, but if we have a good sense of how we are using our time, it makes it easier to readjust our schedules to accommodate these unexpected interruptions and still find time to get our work done.

The old adage continues to hold true: If we fail to plan, we plan to fail, so make a plan to make things happen and don't let obstacles stand in your way.

## FALL QUARTER NEWS



- **Let's Talk Construction:** Have you seen our corner of Davis Senior High School (DSHS)? Our small portable building is hidden from the construction of the new **Robotics building on the corner of 14th Street and Oak Avenue.** We haven't had a proper parking lot since June! However, it is important to note that our office will not be moving. We will be in the same portable as always!



- **WASC Accreditation Updates:** Davis Adult and Community Education was awarded accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. This accreditation was a long time coming, as over the course of four years, we were refining and implementing our Action Plan, gathering input from stakeholders, and reviewing data to identify areas of strength and areas for growth. We're incredibly happy to attain accreditation, and we look forward to continuing to serve the Davis community as a WASC-accredited institution for many years to come.



- **CNA Program is Back! Next Cohort Begins in January 2023:** We are pleased to announce that after a long hiatus, DACE has brought the CNA program back. The new cohort will start in January 2023. DACE is looking forward to celebrating the graduates of this first cohort in our next newsletter.



## Winter Courses



DACE is pleased to announce new courses along with some old favorites. DACE offers both CAEP (High School Diploma and English as a Second Language) courses and non-CAEP (Community Interest) courses. The following is a list of some available courses:

**Davis Parent Nursery School**  
A few openings are available in some programs. Check out the DPNS website [here](#).

**High School Diploma for Adults**  
Orientations occur monthly.

**English as a Second Language (ESL)**  
Orientations occur monthly.

**Career Technical Education**  
**Certified Nursing Assistant Program.**

**Computers and Technology**

**Arts and Crafts**

**Fitness and Health**

**World Languages**

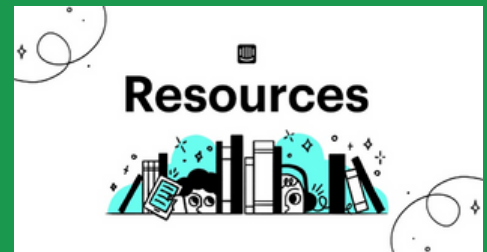
**Other Courses of Interest**

This is just a sampling of the **many** courses offered by DACE in Winter Quarter 2023. For a full list, please see our catalog, which can be found on the website [here](#), or visit our registration site [here](#).

## FALL QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS



We were excited to see so many of our students coming back to our community interest classes. In fact, many of our Fall community interest classes were full! In the Fall quarter, we had waiting lists for Woodshop, Watercolor, Auto Mechanics, Drawing, Yoga, and Beginning Spanish. Make sure you sign up when registration for Winter Quarter opens on Monday, December 26 so that you can secure your spot in a Winter class!



**Davis Adult and Community Education** has compiled a list of community resources. To check out some of the existing resources in our community, click [here](#). Listed below are some examples of resources. This is not an exhaustive list, so if you need additional resources check out [Unite Us](#).

**Davis Community Meals & Housing:** The purpose of Davis Community Meals and Housing is to provide low-income and homeless individuals and families with housing, food, and human services to help them rebuild their lives. For more information, visit <https://daviscommunitymeals.org/>. Address: 1111 H St, Davis, CA 95616 Phone Number: (530) 753-9204

**The Davis Night Market:** According to their website, "The Night Market is an environmentally sustainable community-based food recovery organization. We recover both cooked and non-perishable excess food, and redistribute to the community, no questions asked. We distribute food every MONDAY-FRIDAY 9-11PM @ CENTRAL PARK (4th and C) in DAVIS, CA."

**Yolo Food Bank:** Yolo Food Bank is a Feeding America partner serving the nutritional needs of ten of thousands of Yolo County residents each month. To find out more about the resources and schedules, visit their website at <https://yolofoodbank.org/>. Address: 233 Harter Ave, Woodland, CA 95776 Phone Number: (530) 668-0690

**Suicide Prevention of Yolo County:** The mission of Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services of Yolo County is to provide crisis prevention and intervention, education, and community outreach services to the residents of Yolo County. They can be reached at (530) 756-7542 or email [SPYC@sbcglobal.net](mailto:SPYC@sbcglobal.net).

# Trivia Corner

## Did you know?

- THE MAJORITY (57%) OF STUDENTS ARE BETWEEN 18 AND 39 YEARS OF AGE, WHILE THE REMAINING STUDENTS ARE OVER 40.
- ACCORDING TO DATA FROM THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR, WHICH IS INCLUDED TO THE RIGHT, THE TOP NATIVE LANGUAGES OF ESL STUDENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS: SPANISH - 24%, KOREAN - 16%, AND CHINESE - 11%
- THE LARGEST PROGRAM IN TERMS OF ENROLLMENT IS THE COMMUNITY INTEREST PROGRAM, WHICH SERVES BETWEEN 900-1200 STUDENTS PER YEAR IN A VARIETY OF CLASSES.
- THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS (70%) ARE FEMALE.
- FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DAVIS ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION STATE-FUNDED (CAEP) PROGRAMS, SEE BELOW.



**225**  
Students Served




**41**  
Literacy Gains Achieved

### Enrollments by Program Area & Outcomes



**70%**  
English as a Second Language



**15%**  
Basic Skills/ Adult Secondary



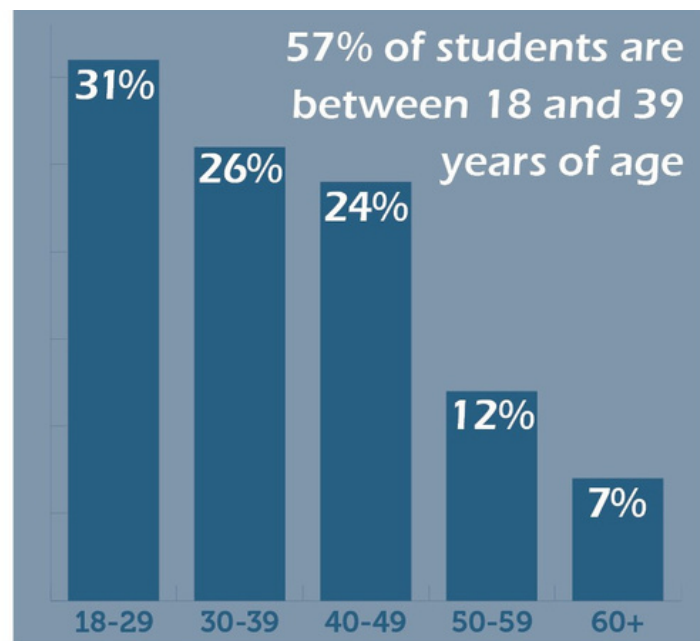
**2%**  
Short-Term Career Tech. Ed.



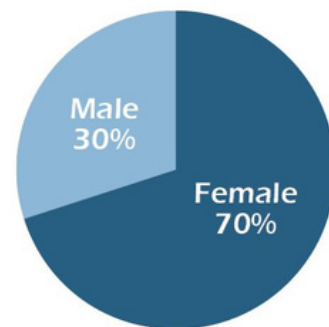
**13%**  
Workforce Prep.



This is 2021-22 data for Davis Adult and Community Education provided courtesy of Capital Adult Education Regional Consortium.



Women represent 7 of every 10 students



**85%** are non-native English speakers

### Top Three Native Languages

Spanish 24%  
Korean 16%  
Chinese 11%

**100%** Students with one or more employment barriers

# Winter Corner



## Winter Book Recommendation

December may be cold, but you will be warm with this book.



### The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield

*The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield is a gothic novel following aging novelist Vida Winter, who enlists a young bookshop owner to write her life story for reasons unknown to the reader. It is full of mystery and intrigue, all while being set in the English countryside, making it the perfect winter read.

## WINTER RECIPE

### Mexican Hot Chocolate



#### INGREDIENTS

- 6 cups of milk
- 1/2 cup of sugar
- 3 ounces of unseasoned chocolate, chopped
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 beaten eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- whipped cream, to taste

#### DIRECTIONS

- In a large saucepan combine 1 cup of the milk, the sugar, chocolate, and cinnamon.
- Cook and stir over medium-low heat until chocolate is melted.
- Gradually stir in remaining milk.
- Cook and stir until milk is hot. Do not boil.
- Gradually and slowly stir 1 cup of the hot milk mixture into eggs, then transfer entire mixture to saucepan.
- Cook and stir for 2 minutes over low heat.
- Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Stir quickly until very frothy.
- Pour hot chocolate into mugs and dollop with whipped cream.

# STAFF PROFILES

Grace Sauser  
Principal



**How long have you been working at DACE?**

Ten years. I started here in July of 2013.

**If you went to school, what did you study in college?**

I got my Bachelor's degree from UC Davis with a major in English (Creative Writing Emphasis) and a minor in Dramatic Arts in 1997. I got my Masters in Educational Technology (i-MET) from Sac State in 2015.

**What do you like to do in your free time?**

My favorite hobby is camping and pretty much anything outdoors.

**What are your favorite books and/or movies/TV shows?**

There are so many! A favorite recent book that I read was The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

**What made you interested in the educational field?**

My father was a teacher and I had a very dynamic and engaging English teacher in Middle School and High School that inspired me to want to be like him. I was also always helping my friends with their homework so I felt that I had a natural bent towards teaching.

**What is your favorite part of your job?**

Talking with students about their lives and their goals. Graduation night is my favorite night of the year!

**What was a time that you felt most fulfilled by your job?**

I feel most fulfilled when I have past students come back and tell us what they are doing now and that we made a difference in their lives.

**What are some tips you have for students taking classes with DACE?**

Ask lots of questions, show up every week, and reach beyond your comfort zone because that is where real learning takes place.

Vanessa Soriano  
Administrative Assistant



**How long have you been working at DACE?**

I have been with DJUSD for five years but started with DACE in mid-September.

**What do you like to do in your free time?**

Watch TV, play board games with my family, cook, and listen to music and attend concerts.

**What are your favorite books and/or movies/TV shows?**

I am really into the Yellowstone and See TV series.

**What made you interested in the educational field?**

I find the educational field very rewarding. I enjoy seeing students succeed and gain confidence within themselves. It inspires me to work on my educational goals.

**What is your favorite part of your job?**

Helping and greeting people, making connections within our community.

**What was a time that you felt most fulfilled by your job?**

I always feel fulfilled when I am able to assist people, especially when they feel frustrated with certain things that I know I can help them figure out.

**What are some tips you have for students taking classes with DACE?**

For community interest classes, I would say to sign up quickly when registration is open because some of our classes get filled up quickly. Also, trial classes are a great option to attend a class that you are interested in but unsure of.

## *In Loving Memory*

In memoriam to Valerie Shaw who passed away on December 27, 2021, after battling cancer. She was the heart of DACE, loved our students, showed compassion and always had the biggest smile. Our DACE community misses her.

