



**EVERGREEN
VALLEY COLLEGE**

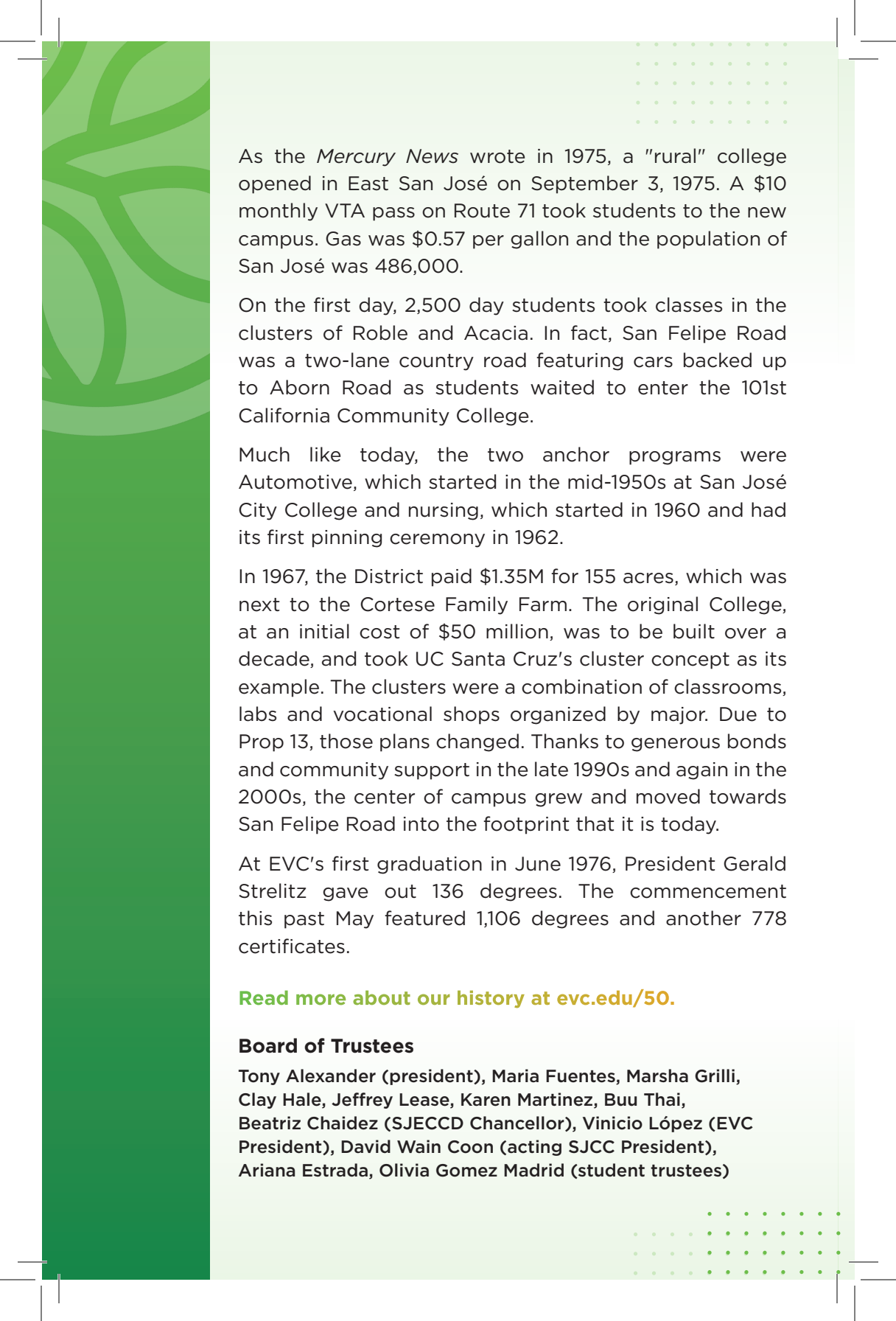
San José

50TH BIRTHDAY KICKOFF

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

EVC THEATRE & ART GALLERY

EVC.EDU/50



As the *Mercury News* wrote in 1975, a "rural" college opened in East San José on September 3, 1975. A \$10 monthly VTA pass on Route 71 took students to the new campus. Gas was \$0.57 per gallon and the population of San José was 486,000.

On the first day, 2,500 day students took classes in the clusters of Roble and Acacia. In fact, San Felipe Road was a two-lane country road featuring cars backed up to Aborn Road as students waited to enter the 101st California Community College.

Much like today, the two anchor programs were Automotive, which started in the mid-1950s at San José City College and nursing, which started in 1960 and had its first pinning ceremony in 1962.

In 1967, the District paid \$1.35M for 155 acres, which was next to the Cortese Family Farm. The original College, at an initial cost of \$50 million, was to be built over a decade, and took UC Santa Cruz's cluster concept as its example. The clusters were a combination of classrooms, labs and vocational shops organized by major. Due to Prop 13, those plans changed. Thanks to generous bonds and community support in the late 1990s and again in the 2000s, the center of campus grew and moved towards San Felipe Road into the footprint that it is today.

At EVC's first graduation in June 1976, President Gerald Strelitz gave out 136 degrees. The commencement this past May featured 1,106 degrees and another 778 certificates.

Read more about our history at evc.edu/50.

Board of Trustees

Tony Alexander (president), Maria Fuentes, Marsha Grilli, Clay Hale, Jeffrey Lease, Karen Martinez, Buu Thai, Beatriz Chaidez (SJECCD Chancellor), Vinicio López (EVC President), David Wain Coon (acting SJCC President), Ariana Estrada, Olivia Gomez Madrid (student trustees)

50TH CELEBRATION

Welcome

Len Ramirez, KPIX Journalist and
EVC Alum Master of Ceremonies

Vinicio López, EVC President
Beatriz Chaidez, SJECCD Chancellor
Tony Alexander, SJECCD Board of Trustees President

History of Evergreen Valley College (video)

Matt Mahan, Mayor of San José
Domingo Candelas, Councilmember of San José
Sylvia Arenas, Supervisor of Santa Clara County

Soul Poetic (Spoken word performance)

Tuan Nguyen, former EVC student and representative
with Assemblyman Ash Kalra

Broadway South Bay (musical performance from “Anastasia”)

Ugonna Udeh, current EVC student

Recognizing EVC’s First Family — Three generations of President Gerald Strelitz’s family

U.S. Congressman Jimmy Panetta’s office
State Senator Dave Cortese’s office
(whose family farm was next door)
U.S. Congressman Sam Liccardo office

Original faculty and employees
Former Presidents David Wain Coon and Henry Yong

EVC Theatre (performance from November production of “Evergreen Stories: 50 Years of Life, Laughter & Learning”)

EVC Music (performance of “Bohemian Rhapsody”)

Close

Len Ramirez



Happy 50th

Evergreen Valley College

***EVC EXTENDS A SINCERE THANK YOU
TO OUR SPONSORS!***

GOLD

Rodan Builders, Inc.

SILVER

Broadway South Bay

Gilbane-Cordoba

Dr. Vinicio López

PG&E

Star One Credit Union

Voler Strategic Advisors

BRONZE

A Kennedy Group

Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Derivi Castellanos Architects

Senator Dave Cortese & Family

Kaiser Permanente

Piper Sandler

Plaza de Jennings and Chipman LLP

Robert N. Chang Charitable Foundation

ROI Insurance Solutions

Josh and Philippe Selo

Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth LLP





**EVERGREEN
VALLEY COLLEGE**
THEATRE

EVERGREEN STORIES:

50 **YEARS**

OF LIFE, LAUGHTER, & LEARNING

***Exclusive 50th Anniversary offer!
Order your tickets tonight***

DIRECTED BY John Kaufmann

Commemorating the 50-year anniversary of EVC, Evergreen Stories brings audiences along on an exciting, heartfelt, theatrical journey through the individual stories and experiences that make up our beautiful campus and community.

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Wednesday, November 19 at 4 p.m.

Thursday, November 20 at 11 a.m.

Friday, November 21 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 22 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

EVC.EDU/THEATRE





**EVERGREEN
VALLEY COLLEGE**

MONTHLY MUSIC PERFORMANCES

DIRECTED BY
Dr. Maryam Farshadfar

Join EVC Music for its monthly ensemble during lunchtime! Our students perform live for you on the following dates!

- **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

PA-117 | 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

- **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22**

PA-117 | 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

PA-117 | 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

- **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10**

EVC Theatre | 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

evc.edu/music

