

# neighbor to neighbor

..... COMMUNITY NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF ORANGE .....

## LEARNING BY GIVING: CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE TURNS STUDENTS INTO LOCAL PHILANTHROPISTS

Since its launch in 2019, the Panther Experiential Philanthropy Project (PEPP) has given over \$60,000 to local nonprofit organizations while providing students with the opportunity to learn about the responsibilities and rewards of philanthropic giving.

Offered as part of the curriculum in multiple undergraduate courses such as “Leadership for Emerging Social Issues” and “Corporate Sustainability Management,” the program



*Each class participating in the PEPP program must reach a consensus about which of the nonprofit organizations they have researched will receive a donation.*

provides each class with funds that are to be donated to a local community organization. Students must research multiple organizations, visit the people who run them and learn how the money will make a difference to their missions. Then, as a class, the students decide which organization will receive the allotted funds.

Gianna Taylor, a first-year student from Marin County, first learned about PEPP when she was in the process of applying to Chapman. In fact, she was so inspired by the program that it became the cornerstone of her application essay.

“I wrote that I was really drawn to this because I was interested in working with marginalized communities and helping support them,” she says.

Despite her previous experience in community service, Taylor says she was nervous at first about what the process might entail. But the class helped her feel more confident about how to engage with nonprofit organizations serving the local community. “I think

this is such a cool opportunity for people who haven't been able to get involved with the community before, to take this class and figure out what it's about,” she says.

The biggest lesson for Taylor was the scope of the impact that comes as a result of philanthropic giving. “I think that's something I really hadn't been aware of,” she says. “It's really cool to see how many advocates there are for all kinds of people struggling or in need of any sort of help. I'm happy to have learned about some of the work of other local organizations. It's definitely a profession I want to go into, helping out others in need ... It's definitely something I'm going to continue learning about and working with in the future.”

Taylor's class, “Helping Professions,” taught by senior lecturer Jody Brown, ultimately made a donation of \$1,000 to Jonathan's Giving Tree, an Orange County organization that assists grieving families who have lost a child.

The other recipients of PEPP funds this semester were Beta Foster Care, Caterina's Club, Working Wardrobes and StandUp for Kids.

## A CHAMPION OF COMMUNITY AND SUSTAINABILITY AT ORANGE HOME GROWN

Nikki Patino, a passionate Chapman University alumna from the class of 2017, has made a significant impact on the Orange community. In her role as the Market Manager for Orange Home Grown, Patino's Saturdays are filled with excitement as she sets up the market, manages vendor layouts and assists customers with their needs. Her dedication to the community is evident in her weekly activities, which include marketing, organizing events and supporting various programs like the Educational Farm and Youth Food Literacy Program.

Patino's journey with Orange Home Grown began during her time at Chapman, where an unexpected internship with Backyard Bees ignited her passion for local food and community. This experience led her to become a vendor at the Orange Home Grown Farmers & Artisan Market, eventually transitioning into her current role as market manager. Nikki's commitment to making a positive impact is driven by her love for the community and her desire to create a healthier, more sustainable world for her young daughter.

Patino's degree in environmental science and policy from Schmid College of Science and

Technology has greatly influenced her approach to sustainability and community engagement.

“I am always looking for ways to make our market and practices more sustainable,” she says. “Farmers markets just so happen to be the most sustainable way to shop for food! The produce is all in-season and freshly picked from local farms, making the food more nutrient dense while having a lower-carbon footprint.”

Now that Patino has a young daughter, she is more motivated than ever to create a community and a world that is kind, just and healthy. “She is my joy and my inspiration.

*Nikki Patino '17 is a familiar face at the weekly Farmers & Artisans Market in Old Towne Orange, where she is the market manager.*



Helping our youth is how we can maintain hope and joy in an uncertain world,” she says.

### Did You Know?

This summer, Chapman is helping to keep our neighbors entertained as a sponsor of the Concerts in the Park. Hosted by Kiwanis Club of Orange, you can enjoy free concerts every Wednesday night starting July 9. Join us at Hart Park for a lineup that includes classic rock, soul and Motown hits, plus tributes to Linda Ronstadt and Taylor Swift. Hope to see you there! Visit [kiwanisoforange.org/concerts-in-the-park](https://www.kiwanisoforange.org/concerts-in-the-park) for more information.

#### Need to be in touch?

- Contact Chapman University's Office of Community Relations at (714) 289-2097 or email [neighbors@chapman.edu](mailto:neighbors@chapman.edu) to engage and provide feedback.
- To report a disturbance that needs urgent attention, please call City of Orange PD dispatch at (714) 744-7444.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us for these engaging events at Chapman.

There are many terrific Chapman University events that neighbors are welcome to attend. Here are just a few. Find more at the university’s online events calendar: [events.chapman.edu](https://events.chapman.edu). Advance tickets for performing arts events may be purchased online at [tickets.chapman.edu](https://tickets.chapman.edu).

Gospel Voices of OC

June 22, 6 p.m.  
Musco Center for the Arts

Join us for an extraordinary event, chronicling the lives of African American artistic masters across choral, dance, band and theatre genres. In its fourth annual year, Gospel Voices of OC commemorates June 19, 1865, to present day. Come and experience a Juneteenth Celebration of freedom and excellence, sure to inspire people of all ages.  
Tickets start at \$38.

Rufus Wainwright: Going to a Town Solo Tour 2025

September 12, 7:30 p.m.  
Musco Center for the Arts

Praised by the New York Times for his “genuine originality,” Rufus Wainwright has established himself as one of the great male vocalists, songwriters and composers of his generation. Captivating audiences and critics around the globe, the New York-born, Montreal-raised singer-songwriter has collaborated with everyone from Elton John and Billy Joel to Miley Cyrus. Join us this fall for Going to a Town Solo, which finds Wainwright at the peak of his powers, entering artistic maturity with passion, honesty and a new-found fearlessness.  
Tickets start at \$38.

Surfin’ Cinema: Surf Movie Posters from The Hilbert Collection

Through August 9, 2025  
Hilbert Museum of California Art

In the 1960s and ‘70s, surf movies weren’t just entertainment—they were a way of life. As independent filmmakers captured the thrill of the waves and the spirit of the surf community, their posters became just as iconic as the films themselves. Bold, kinetic and often psychedelic, these posters reflected the sun-drenched escapism and rebellious energy of surf culture. Admission is free.  
Visit [hilbertmuseum.org](https://hilbertmuseum.org) for hours of operation and reservations.



One University Drive  
Orange, California 92866  
1270-12700

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Orange, California  
Permit No. 58



Find more news at  
**NeighborsofChapman.com**

TAKE A SUMMER ART TOUR ON CHAPMAN’S CAMPUS

Summer is the perfect time to visit Chapman and explore the university’s outdoor public art installations. The campus is adorned with an eclectic array of sculptures and artworks that reflect both contemporary and traditional styles.

Notable pieces include:

- **Obid** (Oh Boy I’m Dancing) (1983) by Roslyn Mazzilli
- **Lightwave** (1982) by Jerome Kirk
- **Levitation of the Enchanted Princess** (1983) by Tony DeLap
- **Colgato II** (2013) by Betty Gold

If history is more to your tastes, you won’t want to miss Liberty Plaza, which is home to a segment of the Berlin Wall and a statue of Abraham Lincoln. Also, many busts of historic figures can be found around campus that showcase our nation’s history and notable individuals from around the world.

Looking for a fun activity for the kids? There are currently five panther statues outdoors on the Chapman campus—can you find them all?

Chapman’s commitment to integrating art into its campus environment provides an enriching experience for all who stroll its grounds, making it a perfect summer outing for neighbors.



*Levitation of the Enchanted Princess (1983) by Tony DeLap.*

More inside!