

### **Trinidad State College**

# Report of Activities January 2025

Rhonda M. Epper, Ph.D., President

#### Transform the student experience.

**Film screenings and discussions** were held commemorating **Martin Luther King Day.** Students, staff and faculty could pop in for a screening with discussion to follow. The Equity Committee then sent out the film links so that they could be viewed if missed. "**Memorializing King, Envisioning Martin," "Struggle in Montgomery," and "When I get Grown"** were all shown and had empowering discussions.



TSC held a **Welcome Week Bowling Night** for our students to great success! There was a full venue of Trinidad State Students. The college reserved half the venue but within 30 minutes of 'opening the doors", the Student Life team easily realized we needed to reserve all of the lanes and TSC was quickly accommodated by the owner. Sounds of student's strikes and cheers echoed through the bowling alley bringing smiles and laughter. It was an activity to repeat.

Collaborating with the Latin American Education Foundation (LAEF) students, staff and faculty on the Valley Campus attended a **Goal Setting workshop** and created **vision boards**. Materials and lunch were provided by LAEF and students from Trinidad State and from Adams State participated through this Title V activity. The workshop will be repeated on the Trinidad Campus.







Student Life and Residence Halls Departments are building a collaborative relationship with **Cuchara Mountain Park** (CMP) to add winter outdoor recreation opportunities for our students. Housing's Resident Advisor, Austin Dengel, volunteered on opening day. He spent the entire day helping the CMP team with unloading skiers at the top of the slopes and enjoyed skiing himself. It was a snowstorm kind of day but perfect for skiing and snowboarding. Austin texted mid-day ... "seriously gotta figure out a way for students to get up here to enjoy this". We hope to bring students to Cuchara Mountain soon.

#### Transform our own workforce experience.

**Holiday luncheons** were held on each campus before the winter break celebrating with staff and faculty. The Trinidad campus gathering was the first gathering held in the newly renovated Samuel Freudenthal Library, while the Valley Campus staff transformed a classroom into a holiday luncheon location.





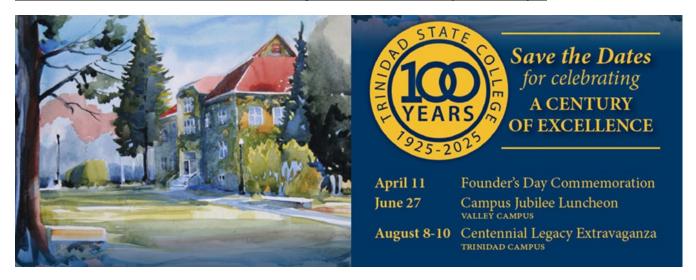




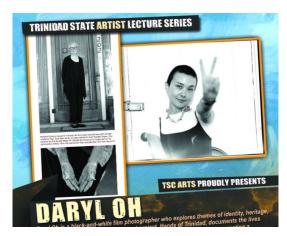




#### Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.



Trinidad State Artist Lecture Series continued in December with Daryl Oh, a black-and-white film photographer who explores themes of identity, heritage and community storytelling. Her recent project, Hands of Trinidad, documents the lives and histories of Trinidad's residents through portraits and hand images. Funded by The Sharon Prize 2024 and in collaboration with the Trinidad History Museum and History Colorado, this project invites viewers to engage with the continuity of community history.



## Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.



The **Makerspace at Trinidad State** has completed the move to the Freudenthal Memorial library on the Trinidad State campus. The Makerspace at Trinidad State is a <u>community makerspace</u> and <u>small business incubator</u> aiming to empower the economic and creative development of Trinidad's diverse community and its members through experiential learning, inclusive collaboration, radical knowledge sharing, and hands-on opportunities to explore new skills and knowledge.

**Emergent Campus' Tech Night Out** featured speaker, Brock Predovich, Entrepreneur and Founder of BiteZen & Success Syndicate. BiteZen is a product in development to address and treat bruxism or teeth grinding. Predovich talked about developing the idea, creating prototypes, working through the patent process and more.





https://trinidadstate.edu/strategic/

An excerpt from President Epper's message in the recently adopted Trinidad State College Strategic Plan.

"As Trinidad State College celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I am pleased to share this 2025-2030 Strategic Plan. We embark on this next century with a plan that honors our legacy as the first community college in Colorado and that looks forward to our vision of shared prosperity in our communities."



**CCCS Day at the Capital.** Senators Rod Pelton (District 35) and Cleave Simpson (District 6) seated with CCCS Rural Presidents, Dr. Rhonda Epper (Trinidad State College), Dr. Kimberly Zant (Otero College) and Dr. Rosana Reyes (Lamar Community College).

