



VALLEY LIFE: FAST-FOOD FINDS
NOODLES, BURRITOS AND DONUTS CAN ALL BE FOUND WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE



VALLEY LIFE: NO DUMMIES
VALLEY COLLEGE WILL SOON OFFER 4-YEAR DEGREE IN RESPIRATORY THERAPY.

CSU campuses hit with tuition hike

Starting in the fall of 2024 tuition will increase by 6 percent every five years

STAR EISENBERG
STAFF WRITER

California State University leaders approved a proposal that will increase tuition by 6 percent every year for the next five years starting in fall 2024.

"It comes at the expense of the student body to make up for the CSU's deficit," said Cal State Long Beach official Anthony Regina prior to the board's decision..

"The tuition increase would be hard for [my parents] because they'll have to work extra days and miss family events."

-Angel Chiawa, Valley College second-year nursing major

Tuition across the 23 campuses will jump from \$5,742 to \$6,084 in the first year and reach \$7,682 by the 2028-2029 academic year. The tuition increase comes amid a \$1.5 billion budget deficit related to high-cost classes, inflation, declining enrollments and other factors.

"It's already challenging enough for students to have to deal with tuition while they're here," said Sable Thomas, a first-year nursing major at Valley College. "We have to consider the hardship that it's going to place on students who are already in school or are considering school."

The California State University is the country's largest four-year public university and primarily relies on two revenue streams: state funding and tuition.

According to a statement on CSU's website regarding



IVONNE ELIAS | VALLEY STAR

Hike: Students walk on the campus of CSUN near Manzanita Hall this semester when it was announced that CSU would increase its tuition in fall 2024. The board of trustees approved a 6 percent hike every year for the next five years.

the tuition increase, "Simply put, the CSU requires additional resources to continue to provide its students with an accessible, high-quality education that prepares its graduates for success in California's fast-evolving workforce."

Since 2011, tuition at CSU increased once in 2017 by 5 percent to \$5,742. The system argues that tuition is the

only major revenue source that it controls to generate more revenue and that the tuition increase is needed to narrow the budget deficit.

"I will be the first child in the family to graduate from college or university, and my parents would do anything to make sure I get through it," said Angel Chiawa, a second-year nursing major at

Valley. "The tuition increase would be hard for them because they'll have to work extra days and miss family events."

The proposal includes a reassessment plan after five years.

"People should have equal opportunity to learn and get into the career field that they want, and they shouldn't have

to pay exuberant amounts of money to do that," said Sami Keil, a second-year musical theater major at Valley who plans on transferring to Cal State Fullerton. "It's a little scary because it's a lot more saving and planning that I have to do."

These features and more can be found in full @ www.thevalleystarnews.com

Transfer deadlines approach

MORGAN BERTSCH
STAFF WRITER

Valley College students who plan to transfer to CSUN, UCLA or any of the other state universities can submit their applications from Oct. 1 - Nov. 30.

A California State University also known as a CSU is a university that is funded by the state. Tuition can cost more than \$5,742 per academic year on CSU campuses and around \$14,000 a year at the UCs. The difference in tuition can be marked by endowments, funding and demand.

Many students find their way to the CSUs through an associate in arts for transfer known as AA-T or the associate in science for transfer known as an AS-T. These are mainly intended for students who wish to transfer from a community college to a CSU.

Students who hope to attend a UC campus have a few options. They can complete the Transfer Admission Guarantee program (TAG) or they can complete the UC Transfer Pathway program.

The cost to apply to the CSU system is \$70 per campus while the UCs are \$80 each. Some students may qualify for a CSU application fee waiver. Students applying to the UC system may apply for the fee waiver within the application.

Notes from the President

President Berry Gribbons announced that enrollment is up 13 percent at Valley in his campus update on Thursday.

He also noted that first-time students are up 34 percent, and returning students are up 29 percent.

"Having that big increase in new students is a really positive foreshadowing of next semester and next year, and that is heartening," Gribbons said. "It reflects the amazing work that is being done in outreach, financial aid, marketing, academic affairs and making sure we have classes for new students."

Mid-Autumn Festival

The ASU is celebrating Asian heritage today from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Student Union Plaza. The family friendly event includes lantern making, mooncake eating and moon watching.

Sports Briefs

Valley's women's soccer team will host Antelope Valley College at 2 p.m. on Friday.

Men's water polo will host Palomar Saturday as part of the LA Valley Tournament.

The football team travels to Santa Ana College on Saturday to face the Dons in their home coming game.

Complaints lead to new ticketing policy

Sheriffs issuing citations for students parked in restricted areas.

VALLEY STAR STAFF

Students parking in faculty spaces, illegal zones, or in EV spots without showing a charging receipt will be ticketed, according to an advisory email sent Friday by the campus. The ticket ranges from \$35 for staff parking violations to around \$65 for red zone violations. No permit is required to park in student spaces for the fall semester.

"Overwhelming complaints

"We are all creatures of habit, and nobody likes receiving a ticket. Just be aware of where you park."

- Sheriff Press

from staff members regarding students parking in staff parking spots are what started it," said Sheriff Anthony Coleman, regarding the ticketing policy.

The campus had paused handing out parking tickets during the height of Covid but will require students to pay for parking in student spaces starting in the spring.

"I received an email about the parking tickets," said student Rafaela Tigno. "I think it's okay to enforce the rules and implement them. If it says to not park somewhere we should just follow the rules."

According to their websites, Santa Monica and Santa Barbara colleges ticket students who park in faculty spaces and started charging for parking this semester. Their parking violations range from \$35 to \$53.

At Valley, all fines will be paid to a collections company with instructions stamped on the ticket.

Students can park on floors 2-4 of the parking structure and in lots B, D, E, F, and G. Lot A features both student and faculty parking.

Valley College's Officer Press stated that the department is mindful of the fact that this is a new protocol and wants to help students adjust in any way they can.

"We are all creatures of habit, and nobody likes receiving a ticket," Press said. "Just be aware of where you park."

These features and more can be found in full @ www.thevalleystarnews.com



IVONNE ELIS | VALLEY STAR

Sheriffs placed a citation on a vehicle missing the "faculty-staff" display in Valley's parking structure.

Respiratory therapy degree comes to Valley

Valley College will offer its first four-year degree beginning in the fall of 2024.

STAR EISENBERG
STAFF WRITER

Valley College students looking to earn a bachelor's degree in respiratory therapy will not have to hold their breath for long. The new BSRT program is designed to prepare students for careers in respiratory care and open doors to higher-level positions in the field.

Respiratory therapists are healthcare professionals who specialize in maintaining and improving lung function. These therapists work closely with physicians and nurses to provide care for patients. They are trained to evaluate, treat and care for those with breathing difficulties and cardio-respiratory problems like asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

"It's a great career path with a lot of opportunities in healthcare," said Cheryl Pearson, the director of Valley's respiratory therapy program.

The goal of the program is to provide prospective students who have an associate's degree in respiratory therapy with additional clinical practice and skills. Officials say the program will allow students

to meet professional goals in their chosen career path.

The job market for respiratory care is expected to grow in the coming years with a base salary for a respiratory therapist ranging from \$76,875 to \$91,977. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment is projected to rise 14 percent from 2021 to 2031; that's about 94,000 job openings for respiratory therapists over the next decade.

Valley's respiratory therapy program recognizes the increasing challenges of earning a four-year degree and will likely save students hundreds of dollars in tuition and other costs. "Being able to work while taking courses online is helpful for students' schedules," said Pearson. "The program is cost-effective, not cost-prohibitive because we can offer students a bachelor's degree at a community college price point as opposed to a university price point. There are a lot of pluses that come with the BSRT program."

Students can make an appointment to see a counselor for a transcript review or connect with program director Cheryl Pearson.



JEREMY RUIZ | VALLEY STAR

DEGREE- Cheryl Pearson lectures on asthma to respiratory therapy students. They will soon have a four year respiratory degree option.

Students celebrate Hispanic heritage month

ASU brought students together and taught them traditional Hispanic pottery painting techniques.



IVONNE ELIAS | VALLEY STAR

POTS- A Valley student takes her time in painting flowers around her pot as part of the ASU event that celebrates Hispanic Heritage month.

MORGAN BERTSCH
STAFF WRITER

Students of every age, gender and background gathered to learn about Talavera pottery and its artistic cultural background in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Talavera pottery was introduced to Mexico during the 15th century by Spanish settlers and has been used in Mexico ever since. It is a style of pottery that is traditionally used for decoration. Talavera uses strong patterns and colors that represent how the artist feels or to depict a scene.

Many students painted and socialized with one another on Sept. 7 in the Student Union Plaza.

"I painted my favorite video game character Spyro the Dragon," said first year art major Angelica Harvey.

People who painted pots had the opportunity to keep them or give them up to ASU to be shown at a future event for Hispanic Heritage Month

which lasts until Oct. 15.

"I think it's a really great event because it's outside, there is music and I love painting," said Alina Lysake, a first year computer science major. "I think a lot of people really enjoy the atmosphere."

ASU sponsored the event in hopes of engaging students and showing them the diverse events and cultures that dominate the campus.

"This event is to gather student engagement and make students aware that there are other cultures on campus. I like to make students feel welcomed and involved," said Ammy Duarte, commissioner of culture and ethnic affairs.

Hispanic Heritage month began as a week-long celebration in 1968 and was later turned into a month-long holiday in 1988.

THE FACTS

According to the U.S. census, 49 percent of LA county residents are Hispanic or Latino.

Nearby restaurants offer savory options for students

Students willing to take a short walk will likely find food to satisfy their hunger in between classes.

KATHERINE OBRIEN FIELD
STAFF WRITER

Valley College's cafeteria closes at 1 p.m. and once those doors close, students may be able to find a Subway sandwich in a cooler somewhere at the back of the bookstore.

But there are far more food options available than first appears. Monarchs can find breakfast, lunch and dinner within walking distance of campus.

USA Donuts is an excellent choice for breakfast food, donuts and sandwiches. The bacon, egg and cheese croissant with coffee or tea is a great morning meal and more than plentiful. There are many more combinations, but the classic breakfast is tried and true. The lunch sandwiches like tuna, roast beef and ham and cheese are very tasty with generous portions. The donuts are wonderful and

the maple bars and apple fritters are delicious too. All the favorites are in the case, with classic donuts and mouth watering pastries on display. These are excellent old time American breakfast treats. There is limited seating and to-go orders. It is across the street from campus.

Rigo's Taco has authentic Mexican Angeleno food, and is a classic Mexican taqueria with American and Mexican drink favorites. Breakfast burritos are available all day. The classic menu of tacos, burritos, and combination plates are the main fare. The meat is well seasoned and cooked with good quality ingredients. The plates have generous portions, with delicious rice and beans. The salsas are excellent, especially the salsa verde, from the all-you-can-eat salsa bar. Sit down or to-go. The Mexican restaurant sits about three blocks from campus on the

corner of Oxnard and Woodman. Students can also place pick-up orders through the phone.

Grandma's Thai Kitchen features delicious Thai food, with appetizers like egg rolls, dumplings, salads, soups, noodles, curries and fried rice.

For entrees, the orange chicken and cashew chicken are fan favorites. The Chef's specialty also includes steamed fish and different teriyaki dishes. Grandma's has side orders, desserts, and drinks, including an excellent classic hot jasmine tea.

With tofu offered as a protein option, vegetarians also have choices. Lunch specials are served from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sit down or to-go. Grandma's sits directly across from campus on Burbank Boulevard.

Students may also find other Mexican options at Sharkeys, which sits on Burbank next to Grandma's Kitchen.



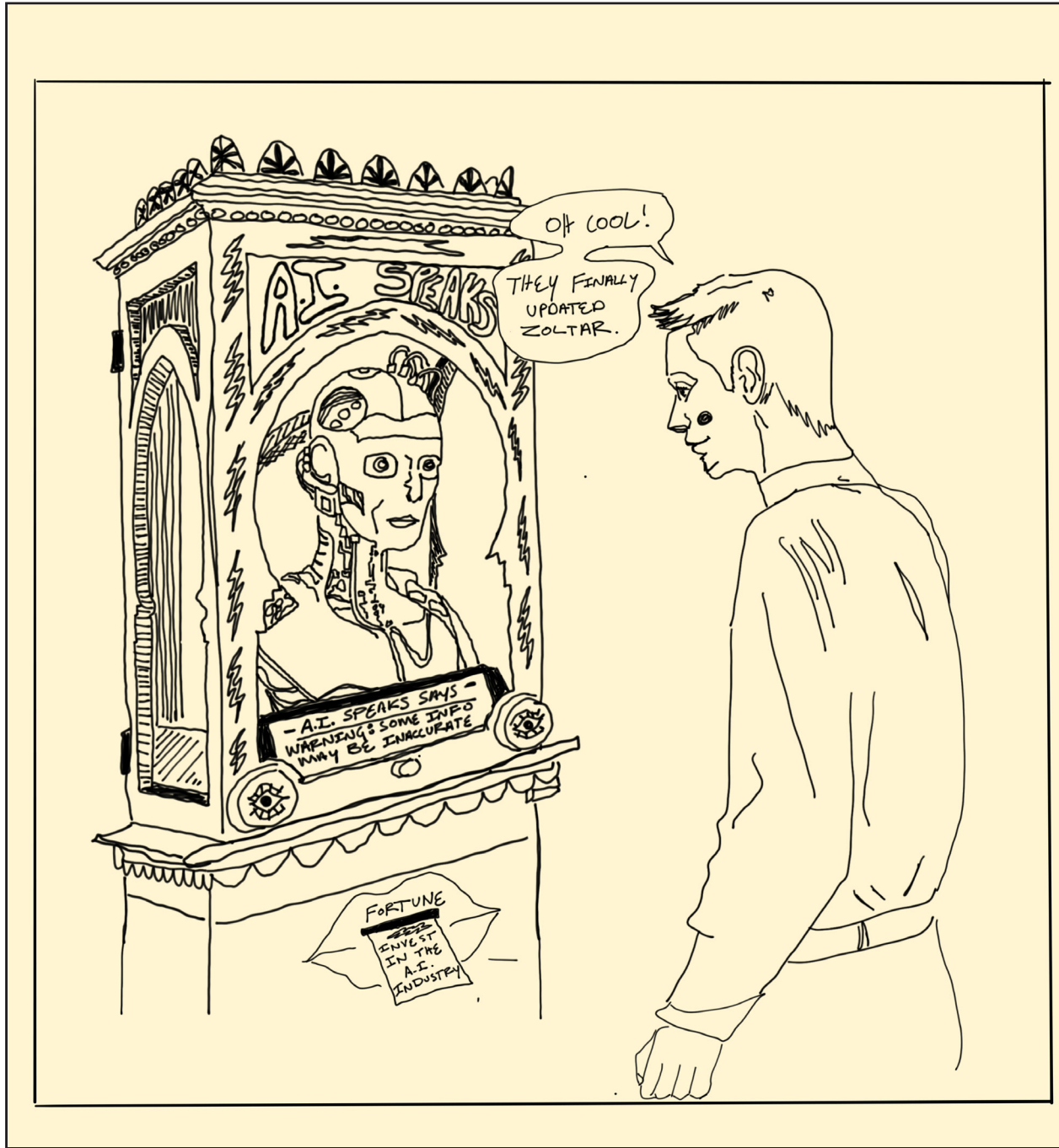
ANDREW GONZALEZ | VALLEY STAR

OPTIONS-Rigo's Taco first opened in 1989 in Pacoima and has since expanded to five locations.

One Way or Another: One question, two opposing viewpoints

Financial illiteracy in 2023 can be summed up to the mere suggestion of college students utilizing AI to financially set themselves straight by playing poker in the stock market with their piddling incomes.

- Asher Miles, Staff Writer



GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION | MILAN RAFAELOV

The typical practice is for employers to run resumes through an Applicant Tracking System, which prescreens all resumes and weeds out applicants who do not meet the qualifications for the position.

- Katherine O'Brien Field, Staff Writer



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GOT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

Letters to the editor can be submitted online at www.thevalleystarnews.com. Letters must be limited to 300 words and may be edited for content. Full name and contact information must be supplied in order for letters to be printed.

Don't put stock into AI

ASHER MILES
OPINIONS EDITOR

AI may be able to whip up a tune, help complete your homework and even polish up a shoddy resume, but AI cannot beat the financial market or predict the economy. Financial illiteracy in 2023 can be summed up to the mere suggestion of college students utilizing AI to financially set themselves straight by playing poker in the stock market with their piddling incomes. Today, almost every industry, sector and strived college student has come to embrace the artificial revolution that has found its way into the zeitgeist. The latest in AI software has had problems disseminating nebulous information as well as posing a threat to the livelihood of television writers and actors. Humanity can not deny the bevy of ways that AI has ameliorated the human experience. Matter-in-fact, we all are in a complex interplay in the multitude of ways in which AI can and will enhance our existence. However, this has led to the notion that college students can game the system with AI. Homework. Relationships. Even finances.

In these aspects, AI cannot help but lose to human hubris. The majority of licensed financial advisors posit that everything one needs to be financially successful can be written on the back of a cocktail napkin. The lack of financial understanding is why students would even contemplate trading stocks with AI. However, it is important to note that there is indeed a guidebook for managing one's finances that has been historically proven: save \$1000, pay off debts, save three to six months' worth of expenses and invest 15 percent of income for retirement. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that full-time workers aged 25-34 with some college or no degree earn a median annual salary of \$39,900. To suggest that a budding college student bypasses researched financial essentials to use AI to pick stock options is not only asinine but obfuscates away from decades of successful financial advice. The volatility of markets is characterized by rapid changes, influenced by the decisions of world leaders and unpredictable political environments. Given this turbulence, it raises the question of why anyone would rely on AI for their financial future.

AI can help students find work

KATHERINE OBRIEN FIELD
COPY EDITOR

Finding employment as a student or graduate has been dramatically impacted by AI in ways that many people may not yet be aware of. In the past, students found jobs through internships, networking and applying directly to employers for open positions. In this way, students were easily able to interview with employers while conducting their job search. However, employers now use AI tools in selecting candidates which seriously hinders an applicant's ability to even get an interview. According to CNET, a YouTube Channel that tracks coverage of consumer software and electronics, most employers now use automated software to screen resumes before any human ever sees them. The typical practice is for employers to run resumes through an Applicant Tracking System (ATS), which prescreens all resumes and weeds out applicants who do not meet the qualifications for the position. The problem is that since there is no way to know what the ATS is looking for, applicants who may be qualified can be easily rejected by choosing the wrong words.

According to Laura Michelle Davis, Senior Editor of CNET, AI has a solution for the lack of information about the algorithm - called the keyword simulator - using a software program called Jobscan. According to Davis, Jobscan is an AI tool that allows the student to copy and paste the job posting and their resume into the software. Jobscan then matches the words in the resume with the words in the job posting. According to Davis, the resume should have roughly a 70 percent match with the relevant keywords, in order to likely move ahead to an actual in-person interview. Jobscan has a few more handy tools - a cover letter generator, and a practice room for a mock Zoom interview, complete with common employer questions. Each of these tools is found in the modules inside the Jobscan software and is valuable in the way they acquaint the student with how employers now search for candidates. Indeed, even before the student undertakes to find long-term employment, finding gig work is an additional way that AI can help the student find work in their desired field. AI can help match a student's natural talents to industry opportunities. ChatGPT, developed by OpenAI and Microsoft, requires that you ask questions of the software, as it

then learns from each interaction in providing further responses. A good search string would list the student's top talents and a good question would be what jobs match those talents. AI will then provide direction to relevant online job directories, such as Upwork's platform. Students can look through the work postings on Upwork to see if any offers match the student's course program and interests. In this way, AI can help the student find possible gig work even before looking for long-term employment. AI creates challenges in the working world but has now also provided ways to meet those challenges. It is up to the student to be proactive to assure themselves success in the job hunt. By embracing AI, the student better prepares themselves for working in the modern world.

EDITORS NOTE

The views expressed on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Valley Star, its instructors, editors, staff or those of Los Angeles Valley College, its administration, faculty, staff or students.

VALLEY VIEW | DO YOU THINK AI IS A GOOD FINANCIAL RESOURCE?

TEXT BY MILAN RAFAELOV
PHOTOS BY JEREMY RUIZ



"AI is really good at finding micro patterns while humans are good at seeing giant patterns. I wouldn't rely on AI fully. I'd use it as a tool, but I'd go with my gut with a financial decision, but I'd use AI for calculating."

-ROWAN WINSTON, HISTORY MAJOR



"Honestly I feel like AI is a grey area. With the predisposition of technology, it's already taking notes in what we are doing. In a way, it's kind of scary, so I probably would not feel comfortable with it handling my finances."

-CRYSTAL NIETO, VALLEY GRADUATE



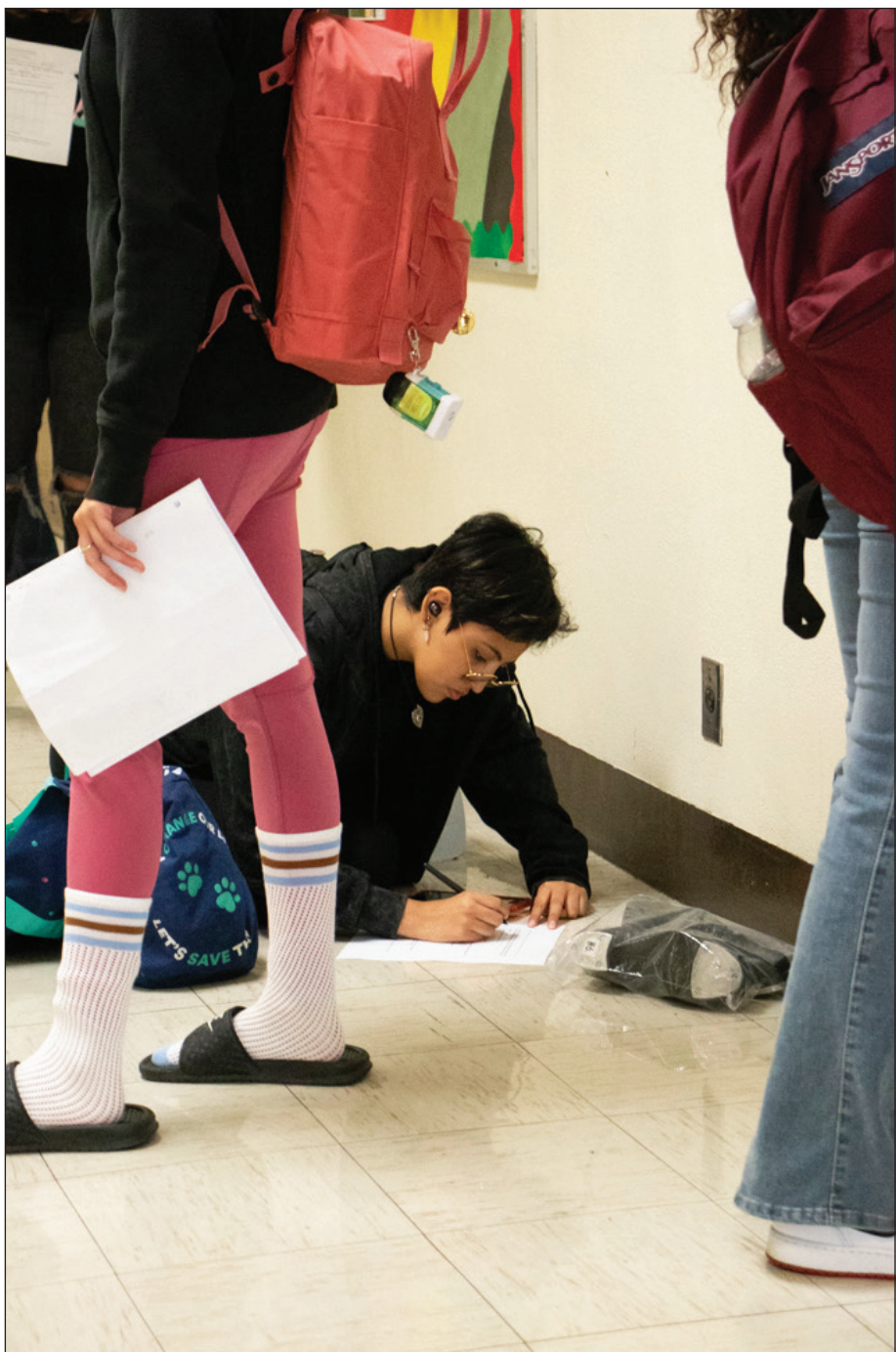
"I feel I can get my own decisions on how to spend my money rather than somebody else telling me how to do it."

-SOLOMON ROBINSON, BUSINESS MAJOR



"If it's just advising me on my finances, it depends on how far they take it. If it's all up to me to input data, then it's fine. Dare a (data) leak happens, everyone has their super personal information leaked."

-GRAY BIRYUCHKOVA, COMPUTER SCIENCE MAJOR



Nova Luna fills out a form while waiting with other students in a hallway adjacent to the Fireside Room in Campus Center.

Nina Diaz | Valley Star



The show director and staff conduct the auditions onstage in the Fireside Room.

Nina Diaz | Valley Star



Raylene Marquez Lopez reads out lines as part of her audition for the upcoming production of "Hope" at Valley.

Nina Diaz | Valley Star

Hope Springs

Valley actors vie for parts in the fall musical production "Hope."

Center right: Alejandro Coauhtemoc performs the singing portion of his audition with an acoustic guitar.

Far right: Nova Luna delivers a spoken monologue followed by a ukulele performance at her audition.



Astrid Cortez | Valley Star



Astrid Cortez | Valley Star