



The Collins College of
Hospitality Management

COLLINS À LA CARTE

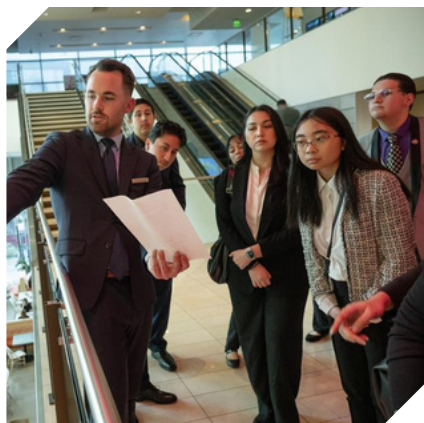
Spring 2025

HOUSE SPECIALS

Students Peek Behind the Curtain at Lodging Investment Conference

JANUARY 27

Collins College students toured the JW Marriott and Ritz-Carlton Los Angeles L.A. LIVE the day before the hotels hosted the American Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS), the world's leading lodging investment conference. As a special treat, students were able to hear from General Manager Javier Cano and several Collins College alumni who work at the hotel, including Anh Bui ('23), Nour Chehayeb ('17), Quan Nhan ('12), Nolan O'Connell ('17), Robyn Pabon ('16) and Alyssa Trinidad ('24). The Collins College Alumni Society welcomed alumni, board members and industry partners for a reception during the conference at Lazy Dog Cafe L.A. LIVE on January 29.



Job Searches Begin at Career Expo

FEB 18

Career readiness was in full swing this semester at The Collins College, starting with the Hospitality Career Expo. The event drew 43 employers and 221 students, offering valuable connections and job leads. 117 students joined prep activities, including office hours with Lazy Dog, Enterprise Mobility and the LA Dodgers, plus appointments with Career Coach Xio Ruvalcaba and alumna Margaret Bailey.

SMALL BITES

Lessons from Leaders

Students had numerous opportunities this semester to learn from Collins alumni and other talented professionals in the hospitality industry:

JAN 30

Collins Donor Gregg Patterson: Boosting Your Like Factor

FEB 11

Miranda Akkari ('15): Staying Centered in the Fast-Paced Hospitality World

FEB 27

Tia Breininger ('16): Show Me the Money! Revenue Management Workshop

MARCH 11

Aric Attebery ('15), owner, Fountain Grains & Greens: Chicken Butchery Demo



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HOUSE SPECIALS

Exclusive Yaamava' Tour Wows

FEB 26

Students received a VIP tour of Yaamava' Resort & Casino at San Manuel, led by alumni Christina Allgaier ('12), Kevin Figueroa ('16) and Maria Rojas ('16). The team delivered a behind-the-scenes experience, giving students a firsthand look at the people and operations behind one of Southern California's premier hospitality destinations. The Collins College Board of Advisors also toured the property in late April as part of the Board "loves to learn" program.



Student and Alumni Volunteers Impress at 2025 Hospitality Uncorked's "La Dolce Vita"

MARCH 22

More than 50 students and dozens of alumni donated their time and energy to support the amazing Collins College Board of Advisors' annual fundraiser, Hospitality Uncorked. This year's Robert Mondavi Award Honoree, Bob Alter, Seaview investors, LLC, was introduced by Seaview VP, Asset Management, Tiffany Jassel Bevins, MSHM '19.



SMALL BITES

Students and Faculty Shine at Competition

FEB 24

Our very own Chef Sheree Mooney was the Culinary Lead Judge for both the California and National ProStart® Competition, a high school culinary competition focused on restaurant management and culinary arts. Students from Dr. Jamie Sun's Event Management class gained hands-on event planning experience by working at the California ProStart® event at the Proud Bird Food Bazaar & Event Center.

Professor for a Day

MARCH 11 & 13

Several alumni returned to CPP as mentors and leaders for a day of learning. Thank you to: Morgan Davidson ('19), Jonathan Joyner ('15), Jacob League ('05), Chef Giovanni Trujillo ('23) and Rosie Umana ('24).

Collins Ranks in Top Ten Again

APRIL 6

CEOWorld Magazine again ranked The Collins College as a top ten Hospitality and Hotel Management School in the World for 2025.



HOUSE SPECIALS

Seniors Suit Up for What's Next

APRIL 9

Thanks to Cintas, the Hyatt Foundation, and Collins College Board of Advisors Leanne Chau, Leiala Dentino and Bruce Gorelick, 52 graduating seniors received complimentary career attire, helping them feel confident and make a strong first impression as they enter the workforce.



Collins Students Win at Bronco Startup Challenge

APRIL 16

Two student teams from Dr. Wan Yang's Introduction to Hotel/Resort Operations class were among the five finalists selected from over 50 entries in the Bronco Startup Challenge. Team Sensory Friendly Experiences — Madai Corona, Ashley Godbold, Johana Jacobo and Latoya Ledesma — earned 2nd place. Team Child Check-In, with Bryar Berry and Lois Boo also made the finals. Congratulations to our students for their innovation, hard work and entrepreneurial excellence!



SMALL BITES

ProStart® Connections Reignited at Mixer

APRIL 8

The ProStart® Alumni Mixer brought together former students to share career stories, reconnect with peers and celebrate the program that launched their careers in culinary arts and restaurant management.

Up Close With The Collins College

APRIL 12

At BroncoBound 2025, The Collins College welcomed prospective students and families for tours, meet-and-greets with faculty and students and a closer look at the career paths and programs that set Collins apart.

Entrepreneurs Educate Students

APRIL 17

Alumni shared their journeys and insights with current students about the challenges and rewards of entrepreneurship, offering valuable advice and real-world perspectives to inspire the next generation of hospitality innovators.



HOUSE SPECIALS

Charisma, Determination Key to Success for Hospitality Grad

APRIL 21

"If it weren't for The Collins College and their amazing outreach with career exploration, I definitely wouldn't be hired, I wouldn't have these opportunities to excel in the hospitality industry."

Ryan Perez recently shared his journey from "a high school marching band kid" to a Collins College ambassador with [CPP News](#).

Perez is also featured in Cal Poly Pomona's new [Become By Doing video](#), where he demonstrates his hospitality management skills on camera.

Now graduated, Perez is working as the new Taskforce Assistant Food & Beverage Manager at Hyatt Regency Orange County.



Students Tour Beverly Hills Hotels

APRIL 21

In a day of industry insight and inspiration, 21 students visited top 90210 properties. Stops included the Peninsula Beverly Hills; the Beverly Hilton with alumni Julian Herrera ('18) and Albert Sandoval ('21 and '24); the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills with Samantha Chien ('11); and the Beverly Wilshire and the Maybourne.



SMALL BITES

Culinary Careers Come Full Circle

APRIL 17

The Collins College hosted the C-CAP Alumni Mixer, bringing together current students and alumni from the Careers Through Culinary Arts Programs. This event provided an opportunity for attendees to connect with peers, share experiences and discuss career pathways.

Eta Sigma Delta Inducts New Members

APRIL 22

The Collins College inducted 23 new members into the Eta Sigma Delta International Hospitality Honor Society. Special thanks to chapter advisor Dr. Sungsik Yoon, ESD President Grace Fisher and Vice President Ryan Ngo for organizing the celebration.

Congratulations to our new inductees!



HOUSE SPECIALS

Dr. Wan Yang Delivers State of the Industry Presentation

MAY 8

In her State of the Industry presentation at The Collins College of Hospitality Management, Dr. Wan Yang, James A. Collins Distinguished Professor, highlighted how adopting a growth mindset can enhance travel experiences and increase overall happiness.

Dr. Yang examined the shift in consumer demand in the global luxury market from material good products to experiences.

The key takeaway was that mindset matters — encouraging the transformation of travel into something more meaningful and fulfilling.



Collins Grads Celebrate Commencement and Careers

MAY 16

The Collins College celebrated its newest graduating class, awarding degrees to 137 undergraduates and 16 master's students.

Keynote speaker Sandia Chang, a 2002 alumna and owner of [The Kitchen Table](#), a two-Michelin Star restaurant in London, praised students for strengthening the future of hospitality. "Not only have you chosen the best school for hospitality, but you have just made our industry and this career path for the next generation stronger and better," she said.

According to the Senior Survey, 75% of Collins graduates have secured employment or are continuing their education, with top employers including Marriott, Disney and Amazon.



SMALL BITES

Collins Hosts Court of Master Sommeliers Course

APRIL 26

The Collins College proudly hosted Master Sommeliers Thomas Price, Will Costello, and Myles Trapp to offer the Court of Master Sommeliers Introductory Sommelier Course to CPP students and alumni. Southern Glazer's provided product samples for the course. This two-day course provides participants with an intensive introduction to the world of beverage and beverage service that culminates in a comprehensive exam.

Collins in the News

MAY 13

Hospitality Management professor Linchi Kwok offered his insights into cost-effective summer travel with [WalletHub](#).

APRIL 22

Hospitality Management Professor Linchi Kwok observes in [Hospitality Net](#) that as Gen AI Search reshapes how users interact with Google, traditional search remains crucial during this transition.

APRIL 10

Hospitality Management Professor Wan Yang analyzed the benefits of the Chase Sapphire Reserve card and whether it's worth the \$550 annual fee with [WalletHub](#).

HOUSE SPECIALS

Career Technologies Hit the Collins Classroom

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

As part of the Career Markers Initiative pilot, The Collins College launched a new career development experience, hosting 19 in-class workshops tied to the career expo. With 804 touchpoints, students gained support in résumé writing, interviews and job searches. They also explored tools like VMock, Big Interview, Focus2Career and Handshake, further strengthening their career readiness.

Collins Welcomes New Communicator

STAFF

The Collins College welcomes Katelyn Scott as our new marketing communications specialist. Scott is uniquely positioned to be Collins' marcom specialist with an MBA and an undergraduate degree in business management with an emphasis in marketing. Additionally, prior to CPP, she served as the marketing manager for ASM Global, a leading venue management company and producer of live event experiences.



Faculty Redesign Curriculum

FACULTY

The Collins College Michael & Betty Ortiz Faculty Development Endowment has supported several projects, including a yearlong Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism (HRT) curriculum redesign by Dr. Jamie Sun, Dr. Wan Yang and Dr. Michelle Yoo.

This group, along with professors Linchi Kwok and Eddie Mao, also worked with the CPP Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence to review their courses using the CSU Quality Learning and Teaching (QLT) model. Each created an AI assignment to help students learn to use AI effectively.



FINAL COURSE KUDOS

Envoy Alum Recognized for Outreach

STAFF

Andrew Cervantes Moreno, our incredible Collins Envoy and proud alum, has visited 65 schools and events since joining the Outreach team and was recently highlighted by Pomona Unified's CTE and San Antonio ROP for his presentation to ProStart® students.

Thank you, Amazing Ambassadors

STUDENTS

Our team of Collins Ambassadors have showcased our programs and facilities to over 950 prospective students. As they graduate, we wish them success and thank them for their commitment: Justin Banh, Grace Fisher, Ryan Perez and Erika San Antonio.

