

A New kind of Texas

22 February 2019

## TJCSGA Region II Chapter of the Year Award

The Texas Junior College Student Government Association (TJCSGA) acknowledges for bright and promising organizations with TJCSGA's Chapter of the Year Awards. These awards support the prosperity and hard work of Student Governments from every region. Cedar Valley College's (CVC) Student Government Association (SGA) aspires to be this year's TJCSGA Chapter of the Year, based on the achievements of this year's delegation. Cedar Valley's outstanding SGA program demonstrates leadership and student involvement on campus and in their surrounding communities.

The CVC Student Government Association is responsible for the current campus change of climate. How did that happen? SGA continues to be involved in Presidential and Administrative Cabinets, which has an influence over the manifestation of the college. This led to the advocacy of campus space modifications, beautification of outdated areas, and landscaping corrections. For example, the old cafeteria furniture served well, but needed to be replaced with a sturdier design and brand-new fabric. The remodeling is done and now the cafeteria is an inspiration for other outdated locations on campus.

Another issue was campus courtyard construction. For over 10 years, a set of steps leading down to the cafeteria have been broken and unsafe. To add insult to injury, the campus gained a substantial hole due to plumbing issues in the center of the courtyard. So, there were multiple reasons to finish these projects in a timely manner. For student safety, SGA persisted in

the swift correction of the project, speeding up the completion date. Now, the courtyard is safely reconstructed; appropriate and less dangerous.

In addition, SGA's influence encouraged the President's Cabinet to implement a "Wayfinding" future model for the campus. This will eliminate confusion when navigating the campus and ground. Some of the new implementations will be new identification signs on the building, signs in the parking lots, campus maps placed inside the campus like a mall kiosk, and a new, bright sign on Dallas Avenue so students can see where to turn for Cedar Valley.

Efforts did not stop there! Students and staff on campus needed a way to express their concerns, thus SGA initiated "Speak Out" tables. These interactive tables were placed strategically to reach as many students and staff as possible. The "Speak Out" tables were used to obtain feedback from the students and staff about their experience on campus. This event was done anonymously so students and staff could speak freely. Additionally, boxes were placed around the campus to reach those who could not submit at the table. The outcome was fantastic and encouraged critical thinking about the future state of our campus. It was the student body's voice that helped SGA organize their plans for addressing the Administration. It's amazing what a simple word-of-mouth campaign can do for students. SGA will continue to implement "Speak Out" Sessions.

Cedar Valley College's SGA presence is known on campus, not only for our beautification projects, but also for the social fundraisers. Our SGA has held two major fundraising events to promote the organization and is currently finalizing a third. For Halloween, we fancied something entertaining, yet educational. We created the "Trick or Trivia" event to celebrate the spooky holiday. Staff and students played trivia or paid they got a trick. The event was a tremendous success because it was mobile, highly accessible, and everyone enjoyed the

trivia. For Christmas, SGA brought the experience of holiday joy. “Ho Ho Cocoa” concluded 2018 with jolly wishes and cherished memories. Even Santa visited to take pictures and hear the wishes of Cedar Valley’s Merry Attendees. Also, SGA created handmade Christmas gifts that would be a center piece for any holiday celebration. Last year, SGA hosted their first annual dunk tank fundraiser, but this year we raised the stakes by adding additional carnival activities. During the first dunk tank, CVC’s very own president, Dr. Joe Seabrooks, volunteered himself as tribute and we raised over 600+ dollars. This year, SGA has five beloved staff members participating, including the President, the Vice President, the basketball coach, the HR Director, and the Faculty Association President. Epic, is the only way to describe it!

SGA values engaging in volunteer services as much as we enjoy hosting fundraisers. SGA has co-hosted several events on campus, such as: The African American History Museum, “I’m a Poet and I Know it” Poetry Jam, the Minority Entrepreneurs Panel – where students learned more about entrepreneurship, and the “Traffic Stop” Movie - creating awareness of unsolicited stops by police. SGA attended and assisted in advertising other campus events comprising of: The Health Fair and the Valentine’s Day Human Sexuality Event.

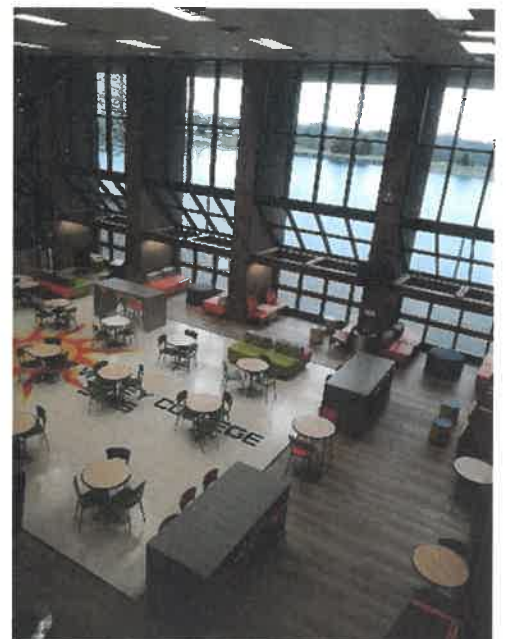
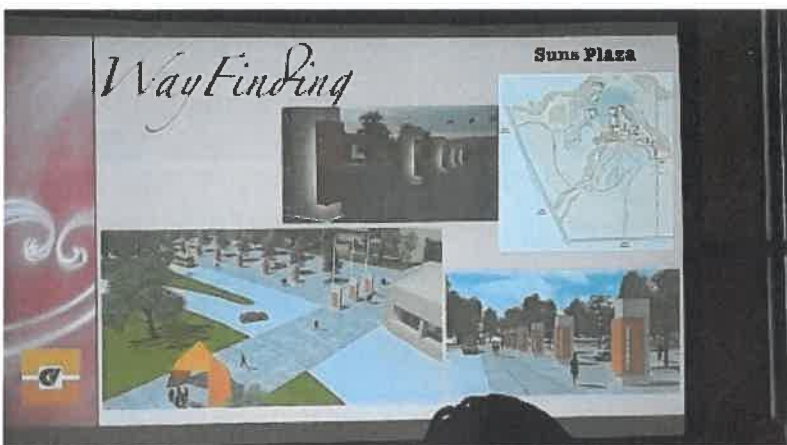
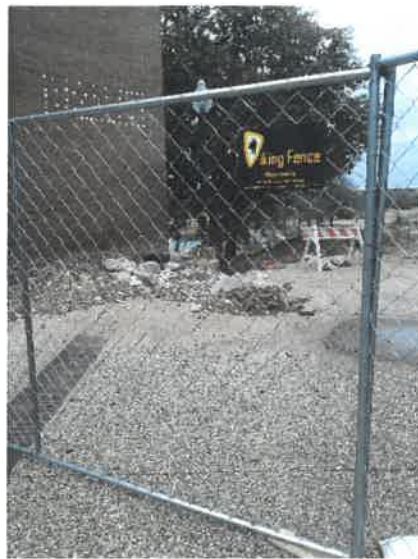
This Spring, for local community service contributions, SGA volunteered at the “Couch to 5K Run/Walk” in Lancaster. In this event some of the members took the fitness challenge while others aided with supply distribution and preparation. Additionally, SGA is registered for The Scottish Rite Hospital’s “Reverchon Round-up” on March 2nd, where members will clean up and beautify the Reverchon Park in Dallas. We also plan to the visit the hospital’s playroom to sing, dance, read and play with the children.

Cedar Valley College’s SGA representation is recorded with the Texas Junior College SGA Organization. Our contribution to the TJCSGA Region II is apparent at every conference in

committee engagement. CVC's SGA President is the current Secretary for the Awards Committee, the Vice President is a member of the T-Shirt and Cheer Committee, with remaining delegates in other committees. We are excited to be attending TJCSGA State Conference in April where we will continue to be participate in its activities. In the prior year, we had several of our delegates on state committees. Our hope is to continue this legacy.

Conclusively, Cedar Valley College's Student Government Association has contributed many aspects of service to the campus, the community, and the region. We will continue advocate for students of the campus, support the surrounding communities, and enrich our own experiences. We thank you for your time and ask the committee to consider us as Chapter of the Year 2019. We will represent Region II well at State.

# Remodeling



# Fundraising

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# TJCSGA Region

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## “Speak Out” Tables

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