

[massmail] A New Newsletter from the Disability Community Collaborative at CSUEB!

From Disability Community Collaborative <dcc@csueastbay.edu>

Date Mon 2/16/2026 10:16 PM

To Massmail <massmail@csueastbay.edu>

News from the DCC @CSUEB - Feb 2026



Welcome to the first issue of the newsletter from the **Disability Community Collaborative at Cal State East Bay!**

The [Disability Community Collaborative \(DCC\)](#) brings together CSU East Bay students, alumni, staff, faculty, and community members in order to collaborate through education, advocacy, creating inclusive physical and virtual spaces, and fostering access and authentic connection.

We meet monthly over [Zoom](#). All are welcome to join us on **Fri Mar 27 from 10-11:30 am**, and/or **Mon Apr 27 from 4-5:30 pm**. Email dcc@csueastbay.edu if you'd like to be added to the list for email announcements, or submit your email address to this [form](#) if you want to receive future issues of this newsletter!

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CSUEB alums meet Alice Wong

Matias Solorzano (BS Psychology, '23) and **Nick Gantt** (BA Political Science, '23) met disability icon Alice Wong on July 18th, 2025 at the grand opening of the [San Francisco Disability Cultural Center](#).

Alice Wong (1974-2025) (she/her) was a disabled activist, writer, and editor based in San Francisco. The founder and director of the [Disability Visibility Project](#), in 2024 Alice was named a [MacArthur Fellow](#). In 2025, Alice co-partnered with Finnegan Shannon on [Disabled Rage](#), a public art project.

Disability Justice Week at CSUEB - Feb 17-21, 2026

As part of the 2nd annual **Disability Justice Week** at Cal State East Bay, all are invited by the [Center for Disability Justice Research](#) to an array of **free events** - **online**, or **in person** on the Hayward campus (PE 140 - dance studio)!

[Disability Justice Week schedule](#)

[West Coast Inclusive Dance Gathering schedule](#)

Disability Justice Week February 2026
 In loving memory of Patty Berne and Alice Wong
 All events free and open to all! All times PST.

17	Tues	<p>11:00 AM Disability and Criminal Justice Panel Discussion (<i>In Person</i>)</p> <p>4:00 PM <i>Intelligent Lives</i> film screening and discussion (<i>Online</i>)</p> <p>6:00 PM Open Rehearsal with the Inclusive Interdisciplinary Ensemble (<i>In-Person</i>)</p>
18	Wed	<p>11:30 AM Disability Justice in Health Professions Panel Discussion (<i>Online</i>)</p> <p>6:30 PM Immigration, Family Preparedness, and Disability in Contested Spaces (<i>Online</i>)</p>
19	Thurs	<p>12:30 PM Inclusive Taiko Workshop (<i>In-Person</i>)</p>
20-21	Fri-Sat	<p>Inclusive Dance West Coast Regional Gathering (<i>In-Person</i>)</p>

For details and to RSVP, click the link or scan the QR code
<https://www.csueastbay.edu/cdjr/activities-and-events.html>

Disability Community News @CSUEB and Beyond

Disability Justice and Neurodiversity Club - Students interested in this new club can email csueb.djnd@gmail.com or follow the club on [Instagram](#) (they can also ask for an invite to join the Discord community).

Think By The Bay - Congratulations to co-Principal Investigators Sara McDaniel (*Special Education*), Talya Kemper (*Teacher Education*) and Sarah Taylor (*Social Work*), who have been awarded a five-year, \$2.3 million

grant from the U.S. Department of Education for [Think by the Bay](#), CSUEB's inclusive post-secondary program for students with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Originally a two-year certificate program, there will now be a four-year option, as well as the opportunity to live on campus.

Project Impact - We are delighted to report that Director of Accessibility Services Pamela Baird has been awarded a five-year federal grant of \$1.4 million to continue supporting [Project IMPACT](#)! This TRIO Student Support Services program provides students with disabilities with individualized coaching, academic workshops, and assistive technology.

Center for Disability Justice Research - Thank you to Alina Engelman (*Associate Professor of Public Health*) for taking on the role of interim co-director of the [Center for Disability Justice Research](#), serving along with Sarah Taylor (*Professor and Chair of Social Work*) as continuing co-director.

Publication in The Lancet: Congratulations to Alina Engelman (*Associate Professor of Public Health*) on her timely publication of [US forced deportation, language exclusion, and disability justice](#) in *The Lancet* with colleagues.

Resource for disabled immigrants: [Immigrants Know Your Rights card](#) from Disability Rights California

Nothing Without Us - This group of people with disabilities and allies are dedicated to raising awareness on Trump's attacks on people with disabilities. We also attempt to educate other progressive organizations on centering disability issues. We meet monthly (usually on the first Sunday of the month) from 4-5:30 PST on Zoom. For more information, please e-mail CSUEB alum Jacob Lesner-Buxton at jakeoaktown@gmail.com

What is a DCC?

At Cal State East Bay, the DCC - or **Disability Community Collaborative** - is an informal disability community group (*recently renamed from the Disability Justice Working Group, which initially formed in 2020*).

Note that more widely in higher education disability circles, the acronym "DCC" typically refers to a **disability cultural center**. The mission of disability cultural centers is often similar to those of other affinity centers, such as the student success centers on our campus, which aim to create a sense of belonging for members of specific communities and their allies. (In this way, the primary focus of disability cultural centers differ from that of accessible education centers, like Accessibility Services on our campus, which are charged with providing educational accommodations to students).

During Summer 2025, UC Berkeley hosted a National Symposium on Disability Cultural Centers. Here's their [campus news story about the conference](#), and [personal reflections](#) from one of their DCC student employees who attended.

To learn more about disability cultural centers:

[List of DCCs in the US](#)

[CSUEB Action Research Project on Disability Cultural Centers](#)

[UC Berkeley Hosts National Symposium on Disability Cultural Centers](#)

[DCC 2025 Symposium Reflection - My Experience of Disability Culture](#) - by Jordyn Mehlman

“

Disabled people have always existed, whether the word *disability* is used or not. To me, disability is not a monolith, nor is it a clear-cut binary of disabled and non-disabled. Disability is mutable and ever evolving. Disability is pain, struggle, brilliance, abundance, and joy. Disability is sociopolitical, cultural, and biological. Being visible, and claiming a disabled identity brings risks as much as it brings pride.

– Alice Wong, [Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century](#) (2020)

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What We're Reading

News stories:

[SFSU Expands Disability Studies with Grant](#)

[In a DC Library, Students with Disabilities' Joy is on Full Display](#)

Newsletters:

[SF Disability Cultural Center](#)

[UC Berkeley Disability Cultural Community Center](#)

[Crip News](#) - “A weekly roundup about disability arts and politics”

A Note from the DCC Newsletter Committee

Please feel free to contact us at dcc@csueastbay.edu with any questions or ideas for future stories!

Also, please share your email address on this [newsletter subscription form](#) if you'd like to receive future issues of the newsletter.

-Christina Chin-Newman, Dale Ireland, and Adisa Sefic

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