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Respondent

36

Anonymous

**39:40**

Time to complete

### Application Information

1. Name: \*

Yvette Marthell

2. GCC Title/Position: \*

Adjunct Faculty Member: Photography

3. Department: \*

Art

4. Campus: \*

Verdugo

Garfield

5. E-mail: \*

ymarthell@glendale.edu

6. Phone: \*

562-221-7444

7. Dean or Department Head's Name: \*

Peter Green

### Project Proposal

8. Name of Project/Program: \*

GCC Photography Student Access to SPE West Regional Conference 2026

9. Please select which category best describes your project: \*

- Arts & Culture
- Athletics & Fitness
- Career & Work Training
- College Operations & Facilities
- Humanities/Social Sciences
- Science & Technology

10. Amount requested: \*

\$5000

11. What do you propose to do? \*

The requested \$5,000 will help offset the costs associated with taking GCC photography students to the Society for Photographic Education West Regional Conference in Sacramento in November 2026. The majority of funds will directly support student participation through conference registration, lodging, transportation, and meals. A portion of the funding will support the faculty lead responsible for organizing and supervising the trip and may also support one additional faculty member or instructional support person, if approved, to assist with student supervision, logistics, and educational programming. This funding will reduce financial barriers for students and increase access to a significant professional and educational opportunity in the field of photography.

12. Who will be involved in the project/program? \*

The primary participants will be Glendale Community College photography students. Yvette Jessica Marthell, MFA, MA, will serve as the faculty lead and will coordinate student preparation, conference participation, and post-conference reflection. If funding and college approval allow, one additional GCC photography faculty member, lab technician, instructional aide, or classified support person may participate to assist with student supervision, travel logistics, conference navigation, and instructional follow-up.

Students will be selected from GCC photography courses based on interest, availability, and commitment to completing the pre-conference preparation and post-conference reflection. The project is designed to directly support student access to a professional learning opportunity in photography.

13. What are the benefits of this project/program to the students, college, and the community? \*

This project will benefit GCC students by reducing financial barriers to attending a regional professional photography conference. Students will gain exposure to contemporary photographers, educators, exhibitions, lectures, and conversations about visual literacy, image ethics, artificial intelligence, truth in photography, and professional practice. The experience will help students connect classroom learning to real-world artistic, academic, transfer, and career pathways.

The project will benefit the college by strengthening photography instruction and expanding experiential learning opportunities for students in the visual arts. Students who attend will bring their learning back to GCC through reflection, class discussion, and possible informal presentations, allowing the impact of the conference to extend beyond the students who travel.

The broader community benefits when GCC students develop stronger visual literacy, creative confidence, and professional awareness. Photography is one of the primary ways people communicate, document, and understand the world. Supporting students in this field helps prepare them to participate thoughtfully and ethically in visual culture, creative industries, education, and community storytelling.

## 14. How does this project/program support the College's Institutional Strategic Plan? \*

View ISP at <https://www.glendale.edu/home/showpublisheddocument/68172>

This project supports Glendale Community College's 2025–2030 Institutional Strategic Plan by advancing the college's three major priority areas: Inclusion, Success, and Support.

First, the project supports Inclusion by increasing equitable access to a professional arts and photography opportunity that many community college students may not be able to afford on their own. By helping cover registration, travel, lodging, and meal costs, the project reduces financial barriers and helps students feel that they belong in professional, academic, and creative spaces beyond the classroom.

Second, the project supports Success by connecting students' photography coursework to their educational, career, transfer, and life goals. Students will attend lectures, panels, exhibitions, and professional conversations that expose them to contemporary photography, visual literacy, image ethics, artificial intelligence, truth in images, and creative career pathways. This directly supports student achievement by helping students understand how photography functions as both an academic discipline and a professional field.

Third, the project supports this by using college resources to create a meaningful, faculty-guided experiential learning opportunity. As the faculty lead, I will prepare students before the conference, support them during the conference, and guide post-conference reflection so that students can connect what they learned to their own photographic practice and academic goals. The project also supports continuous faculty learning, since conference content will be brought back into GCC photography courses through updated lectures, discussions, assignments, and student-facing resources.

Overall, this project aligns with GCC's mission to empower students to transform their lives through instructional programs, student services, and community partnerships. It strengthens student belonging, expands access to professional networks, supports equity-minded teaching, and helps students imagine future pathways in photography, art, education, transfer, and creative industries.

## 15. Timeline for the project/program. \*

Summer 2026: Confirm conference dates, registration costs, travel needs, lodging estimates, and student participation requirements. Coordinate with the appropriate GCC department or supervisor regarding travel procedures, student participation, and any required approvals.

Early Fall 2026: Announce the opportunity to students enrolled in GCC photography courses. Invite interested students to apply or express interest, with priority given to students who demonstrate commitment to photography, availability to attend the conference, and willingness to complete the pre-conference and post-conference activities.

By the End of September 2026: Finalize the student participant group, conference registration, transportation, lodging, travel logistics, and any required paperwork or approvals. This deadline is important because the conference takes place in November, and travel arrangements must be confirmed well in advance.

October 2026: Hold pre-conference preparation meetings with participating students. These meetings will introduce students to the conference theme, review selected speakers or topics, discuss professional conference etiquette, and help students develop personal learning goals for the experience.

November 2026: Attend the Society for Photographic Education West Regional Conference in Sacramento with GCC photography students and faculty/support participation as approved. Students will attend lectures, panels, exhibitions, and professional programming related to contemporary photography, visual literacy, image ethics, artificial intelligence, truth in images, and creative practice.

Late November–December 2026: Students will complete a written or visual reflection connecting the conference experience to their photography coursework, creative development, academic goals, and possible transfer or career pathways. Students may also share key takeaways with classmates through discussion, short presentations, or informal class sharing.

Spring 2027: Conference content and resources will be integrated into GCC photography courses through updated lectures, discussion prompts, artist examples, and assignment materials. The faculty lead will assess the project's impact through student reflections, classroom discussion, and documentation of revised instructional materials.

16. How do you propose to use the funds requested? Please include specific budget information. \*

The requested \$5,000 will be used to provide student travel support for up to five GCC photography students and project support for the faculty lead to attend the Society for Photographic Education West Regional Conference in Sacramento on November 5–8, 2026. The funds will help cover conference registration, lodging, transportation, meals, and related travel costs. Because final conference registration rates, hotel costs, taxes, transportation needs, and student participation may vary, the budget below represents estimated costs. Funds will be allocated across these categories based on final approved costs and college travel procedures.

Proposed Budget

Expense Category	Estimated Cost
Student conference registration support, up to 5 students	\$500
Student lodging support, shared rooms, 3 nights, including estimated taxes/fees	\$1,400
Student travel/transportation support, including mileage, fuel, parking, or shared transportation	\$500
Student meals/per diem support, approximately \$100 per student	\$500
Faculty lead conference registration, lodging, transportation, and meals	\$1,400
Additional faculty or instructional support staff participation, partial support if approved	\$500
Parking, local transportation, and project materials	\$200
<b>**Total Requested**</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

The majority of the funds will directly support student access to the conference by helping offset the costs of registration, lodging, transportation, and meals. Faculty lead support is also necessary because this is a supervised student learning experience involving travel coordination, student preparation, conference navigation, student support during the event, and post-conference instructional follow-up. If an additional faculty member or instructional support person is approved to participate, the grant may provide partial support for that role, with additional department, professional development, or outside funding used as needed.

This funding will reduce financial barriers for students while also ensuring that the project is organized, supervised, and connected back to GCC photography instruction.

17. Please list any other sources of funding you have applied for and include dollar amounts if already awarded. \*

At this time, no additional funding has been awarded for this project. If needed, I may explore additional support through department funds, professional development funds, student travel support, or outside sponsorship to help cover costs not fully supported by this grant. Any additional funding would be used to expand student access, support required travel expenses, or assist with approved faculty or instructional support participation.

18. How will the Foundation's support be recognized? \*

The Glendale College Foundation's support will be recognized in student-facing materials related to this project, including pre-conference information, post-conference reflection materials, and any classroom presentation or sharing activity connected to the conference experience. Students will be informed that their participation was made possible through support from the Glendale College Foundation.

Recognition may also include photographs from the conference experience, with students wearing Glendale Community College gear when appropriate, to help visibly represent GCC student participation. With student permission and college approval, selected images and brief student reflections may be shared through appropriate GCC department, college, or Foundation communication channels, including social media, newsletters, or other public-facing materials.

If appropriate and approved, I would also acknowledge the Foundation in any department communication, course announcement, or brief project summary shared after the conference. Recognition may include a statement such as: "Student participation in the SPE West Regional Conference was made possible through generous support from the Glendale College Foundation."

19. How do you plan to evaluate this project's success? \*

The success of this project will be evaluated through student participation, student reflection, classroom sharing, and instructional follow-up.

First, success will be measured by the number of GCC photography students who are able to attend the SPE West Regional Conference with grant support. The goal is to support up to five students who may not otherwise have access to this type of professional arts and photography opportunity.

Second, students who attend will complete a written or visual reflection after the conference. Their reflections will ask them to connect the conference experience to their photography coursework, creative development, academic goals, transfer interests, or possible career pathways. These reflections will help evaluate how the experience supported student learning, confidence, and professional awareness.

Third, students may share key takeaways with classmates through a short discussion, informal presentation, or class reflection activity. This will help extend the impact of the project beyond the students who attend the conference.

Finally, I will evaluate the project by documenting how conference content is brought back into GCC photography courses through updated lectures, artist examples, discussion prompts, or assignment materials. Success will be demonstrated by student participation, completed reflections, classroom sharing, and the integration of conference learning into future photography instruction.

20. If your project/program is successful, how will it inform your practice moving forward? \*

If this project is successful, it will inform my practice in several important ways. Pedagogically, it will help me bring more current professional conversations into my photography courses, especially around visual literacy, image ethics, artificial intelligence, truth in photography, contemporary photographic practice, and creative career pathways. I will be able to use what students and I experience at the conference to strengthen lectures, discussions, assignments, and student reflection activities.

This project will also support my growth as a faculty leader. I am serving as the lead organizer for the SPE West Regional Conference, and this project would allow me to connect that regional leadership work directly to my role at GCC. Coordinating student participation, travel planning, conference preparation, reflection activities, and post-conference classroom integration will help me continue developing administrative and instructional leadership skills that support students beyond the classroom.

Moving forward, the project would give me a stronger model for creating meaningful experiential learning opportunities for photography students. It would help me better understand how to connect community college students to professional organizations, regional arts networks, transfer pathways, and career possibilities. If successful, this project could also serve as a foundation for future student conference participation, field experiences, visiting artist programming, or other opportunities that connect GCC students to the larger creative and professional photography community.

21. Please provide a 2 – 3 sentence summary of your project proposal. \*

This project will provide travel and conference support for up to five Glendale Community College photography students and the faculty lead to attend the Society for Photographic Education West Regional Conference at California State University, Sacramento, November 5–8, 2026. SPE has been transformative for me as both an educator and artist because it brings students, faculty, artists, and leading voices in photography together across regional and national communities, and this project would give GCC students access to that same powerful professional and educational experience. By visiting a university campus, engaging with contemporary photographers and educators, and participating in conversations about visual literacy, image ethics, artificial intelligence, and creative practice, students will gain a broader perspective on transfer, degree pathways, career possibilities, and their place within the larger field of photography.

### Signature and Acknowledgments

22. I hereby acknowledge/certify: \*

- My Dean or department head is aware of this application and has authorized its submission.
- If my proposal involves the hiring of temporary/contracted professionals, I will obtain approval from Human Resources before proceeding and will provide documentation to the Foundation that the hiring/contracting has been reviewed and approved.
- If my proposal involves conference and/or other travel, I will complete the GCC travel approval process and adhere to GCC travel guidelines.