

## *Press Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **North Orange County Community College District Showcases “Hostile Terrain” Exhibit for 5<sup>th</sup> Annual SUR:biennial**

**Anaheim, Calif.** – The North Orange County Community College District’s Office of Diversity and Compliance, along with its Diversity and Inclusion Faculty Fellows, and Cypress College invite all community members to the “Hostile Terrain” Exhibit Opening and Reception on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at Cypress College. The reception will be held in front of the Fine Arts Gallery from 6 – 6:30 p.m. and the exhibit unveiling will be at 6:30 p.m. in the Cypress College Theater Lobby.

“Hostile Terrain” is part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual SUR:biennial founded in 2011 to explore the complex notions of globalization and exchange that take place in the ambiguous borderlands between Los Angeles and the “South.”

Curated by University of California, Los Angeles Professor Jason De León and the Undocumented Migration Project, the global pop-up installation is a large wall map of the Arizona/Mexico border with 3,116 handwritten toe tags representing the recovered bodies of people who have died crossing into the United States through the Sonoran Desert between the early 1990’s and 2019.

District Director, Diversity and Compliance, Arturo Ocampo noted about the exhibit, “These handwritten toe tags, filled out by teams of student and community member volunteers, represent an opportunity to both witness and establish solidarity with those who have lost their lives in search of a better one.”

“Hostile Terrain” raises awareness about the United States immigration policy “Prevention through

Deterrence,” and serves as a prototype for a global installation that will take place in 150 locations around the world in 2020.

Directly before the exhibit opening and reception on September 19, there will be a screening of the documentary *Border South*, followed by a question and answer session with film director Raúl Pastrana from 4:30 – 5:40 p.m. at Cypress College in the Theater. Mexican immigrant filmmaker, cinematographer, and multimedia creator, Pastrana’s work intersects contemporary art, political documentary, and visual ethnography to explore themes of belonging and alienation in immigrant communities.

For the event flyer, click [here](#).

For media coverage, click [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

For more information, contact Monica Ernandes from the District Office of Diversity and Compliance at 714-469-2405 or [mernandes@nocccd.edu](mailto:mernandes@nocccd.edu).

## **NOCCCD Background**

Two of the state’s premier colleges and most extensive continuing education program combine to provide the quality educational programming of the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD). Nearly 56,000 students enroll each term at Cypress College, Fullerton College, and North Orange Continuing Education. College students are able to shape their futures in programs leading to associate degrees, vocational certificates, and transfer opportunities. Life-long learning also is possible in continuing education programs that range from high school completion and basic skills mastery through an array of vocational training and self-development courses. The NOCCCD campuses serve an area of over one million diverse people – each pursuing their own, unique ambitions.

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