



April 27, 2026

# Board of Trustees Resolution

## Honoring 2026 Irvine Valley College Manager of the Year Karen Orlando

*Whereas,* Karen Orlando, Director of Annual Giving for the Irvine Valley College Foundation, is an exceptional and deeply dedicated manager whose leadership extends far beyond the Foundation office; and

*Whereas,* colleagues across campus routinely seek Karen's guidance and support, as she consistently brings empathy, patience, and an unwavering commitment to going above and beyond – whether helping administrative assistants with foundation fund requests, guiding students and faculty through scholarship applications, or encouraging fellow managers; and

*Whereas,* Karen has played a critical role in the successful implementation and continuous improvement of the district's new scholarship management system, advocating for a seamless and user-friendly experience while actively gathering feedback to enhance processes for both students and reviewers; and

*Whereas,* Karen demonstrates a strong commitment to student success through her hands-on involvement in scholarship workshops, providing direct assistance to students as they complete their applications and helping to remove barriers to opportunity; and

*Whereas,* Karen's long-standing involvement as a mentor in the Puente Program, beginning with its first cohort, reflects her deep investment in student growth, as she fosters meaningful relationships built on trust, encouragement, and belief in each student's potential. Her impact as a mentor is exemplified by her mentee, Nelani Guerrero, who shares that Karen's guidance has helped her grow academically and professionally and see her potential beyond limitations; and

*Whereas,* Karen has cultivated strong and lasting relationships with Irvine Valley College retirees, engaging them in campus life and fostering a continued sense of connection to the college community; and

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*Whereas*, within the Foundation office, Karen serves as the backbone of the team, ensuring colleagues have the resources needed to succeed while fostering a supportive environment that encourages professional growth and collaboration; and

*Whereas*, as noted by IVC Foundation Board of Governors President Damien Howard, Karen's accounting expertise, creative insight, and deep knowledge of the college play a pivotal role in the Foundation's success. Karen Orlando's leadership, compassion, and dedication have made a lasting and meaningful impact on students, the campus, and the community, inspiring those around her and exemplifying the very best of IVC; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved*, that the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor of the South Orange County Community College District do hereby commend and congratulate Karen Orlando for her exemplary leadership and contributions as the 2026 Manager of the Year at Irvine Valley College.

Carolyn Inmon, President

T.J. Prendergast III, Clerk

Timothy Jemal, Member

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Julianna M. Asperin Barnes, EdD, Chancellor

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