

Community Impact – Talking Points – 2023-24

- For 75 years, SLCC has played an important role in the community.
 - [The College opened its doors in 1948 as the Salt Lake Area Vocational School](#). The school primarily served GIs returning from World War II, and its motto was “Learn to Earn.”
 - The College has changed names many times, but our mission has remained the same: providing training and education that allows students to embark on vibrant, rewarding careers.
 - A comprehensive timeline for the College, including information on the institution’s presidents, programs and milestones, [can be found here](#).
- We play an important role in Utah’s vibrant economy by training and educating students to work in essential industries. These industries include jobs in the state’s fast-growing manufacturing and technology sectors, as well as the health care and transportation industries.
 - One of our major goals is to align our programs to support Utah’s workforce needs. We do this through industry partnerships. Our aim is for SLCC graduates to be the most sought-after candidates for hiring.
 - We also operate [Salt Lake Technical College](#), where we quickly train students and provide them with the means to immediately move into the workforce.
 - To maximize our positive impact on the economy and to ensure exceptional graduates, we work directly with industry in training and educating our students. Examples of industry partnerships include [Cummins](#), [Stadler Rail](#), [Intermountain Healthcare](#), [Kenworth](#), [Facebook](#), Amazon, etc.
 - We also consult with [technology companies](#) and [others](#) in providing state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge curriculum.
- SLCC students have an impact on the economy that cannot be underestimated. More than 85% of our students plan to stay in Utah to work and raise families, and providing top-notch education ensures Utah will have the workforce it needs for continued economic growth.
- We also strengthen Utah by supporting small businesses through [The Mill Entrepreneurship Center](#).
 - The Mill offers entrepreneurial training and a business incubator, and we are one of the few community colleges to partner with the [Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses](#) training program. This program is often referred to as a mini-MBA and is designed to help small business owners gain practical skills in negotiation, marketing and employee management. Participants also receive tools and professional support in developing customized business plans and in accessing capital .
 - [The Mill also supports local entrepreneurs through training and mentorship](#) through the critical start-up phase and provides physical office space with open work areas, cubicles and closed-door offices to new businesses.
 - The Mill is home to the [Salt Lake Region Small Business Center](#), which is open to all and offers personalized consulting in management, financing and marketing. It also provides businesses with needs assessments, feasibility studies and help in accessing capital.
 - In 2022, the counsel and training provided by the Salt Lake Center directly resulted in the creation of nearly 476 jobs and more than \$28.9 million in revenue growth.

- Because “community” is the most important word in our name, we strive to be a “force for good” in the lives of our neighbors, especially those who might have difficulties participating in higher education.
 - Since 2017, we’ve been educating incarcerated individuals through our [Prison Education Program](#) (PEP) at Utah State Correctional Facility.
 - SLCC also proudly offers a [Refugee Leadership Program](#) for both youth and adults.
 - Program is offered at our Miller Campus and is designed to help refugees navigate the complexities of living in the United States.
 - Refugees learn about community building, public speaking, family budgeting and structure, conflict resolution, domestic violence, civic responsibility, networking, marketing, career readiness, community fundraising and government. The youth program teaches about motivation, relationship building and group dynamics.
- SLCC is proud to contribute to the community in ways that go beyond the classroom.
 - We have a vibrant art collection and beautiful gallery spaces that we gladly share with the public.
 - [Our permanent art collection has more than 400 works](#), including fine art prints, sculptures, tapestries, installations, etc. and are on display throughout several of our campuses.
 - Multiple exhibitions take place each year at the [George S. & Dolores Dore Eccles Art Gallery and the LED Exhibition Wall in the Edna Runswick Taylor foyer](#) at our South City Campus.
 - Each year we present our [President’s Art Show](#), a juried exhibition featuring nearly 100 artworks exclusively created by Utah artists, including SLCC students, alumni and employees.
 - SLCC also has an outreach program geared toward elementary and middle school students called [The Beloved Community Photography Project](#). To honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s vision for societies that embrace cooperation, unity and connection, we provide photography training and cameras to students, who then go into their communities to take photos. The photos are then displayed in an exhibition at the Eccles Art Gallery.
 - Our institution is also home to the [historic and highly regarded Grand Theatre](#) at our South City Campus. The theatre regularly hosts important community events, lectures, concerts and award-winning theatre presentations.
 - [Built in the 1930s as part of Salt Lake City’s South High School](#), the Grand Theatre has been renovated by the college and combines depression-era charm with the latest in lighting and sound technology.
 - SLCC presents several productions, ranging from dramas to comedies to musicals, each year at the Grand. The theatre is also made available for community-theatre productions, forums, lectures and other events.
 - Since 2015, SLCC’s Grand Theatre has served as a screening location for the internationally recognized [Sundance Film Festival](#).
 - We engage in outreach to K-12 students through our [Grand Youth Theatre camps](#). At these camps, students can learn about the technical and performance facets of theatre production.
 - We have a [Community Writing Center](#) that is open to the public and provides coaching to those wanting to improve their writing, complete a writing project or explore new

modes of expression. The center is located at Library Square Plaza in downtown Salt Lake City.

- SLCC hosts meaningful community events open to everyone.
 - The [Tanner Forum on Social Ethics](#) is held each October and brings nationally and internationally recognized speakers in the area of social ethics to SLCC. The Tanner Forum provides opportunities for the students, faculty, staff and the wider community to come together and examine critical issues in contemporary social ethics. Past speakers include NPR's Mara Liasson, former U.S. Labor Secretary Robert Reich, White House Photographer Pete Souza and CNN Commentator Van Jones.
- Our institution has a long history of service to the greater community.
 - For more than 25 years, SLCC has been home to the [Thayne Center for Student Life, Leadership and Community Engagement](#). The Thayne Center connects its more than 100 community partners with students, faculty and staff seeking service-learning and leadership opportunities.
 - Service opportunities through the Thayne Center include: [Alternative Breaks](#); [Bruin Food Pantry](#); [Civically Engaged Scholars](#); [SLCC Community Gardens](#); [Community Work-Study](#); and [SLCC Serves](#).
 - We also encourage our employees to help others by providing all staff members with [24 hours of paid leave each year to use for community service](#).