



Dear Pacifica Community,

As we prepare to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends, I want to express sincere gratitude for all that you do throughout the year. I am thankful for our students, faculty, administrators, staff, alums and partners, who have weathered the difficulties of global pandemic along with their own individual challenges, while continuing to achieve great things.

I also think it's important to acknowledge that while for many Thanksgiving is a time of gathering and gratitude, for others these few weeks have brought continuing violence and tragedies that touch many of our students, faculty, administrators, staff and alums. Pacifica stands in support of the LGBTQIA+ community and those in the Pacifica community who may be feeling grief, fear, and/or anger.

November is also Native American Heritage month. For Native Americans, Thanksgiving may be a reminder of the history and atrocities that took place on their native land. We must not erase this history.

If you feel safe to do so and the circumstances arise, you can support struggling communities and embrace allyship by speaking out at the dinner table and not allowing room for hate and erasure. Having these conversations, although difficult, is necessary as we seek to build understanding, heal, and advance our mission to tend the soul of and in the world. If you need support, please know that the **PGIAA Careline** is open and able to take your call at **(805)-679-6163**.

There is a lot to be grateful for this year and much work to be done in our community and in the larger world to continue our mission. So please know that we will continue working to support all of you. I wish you all a peaceful, healthy, and meaningful holiday.

With care,

Dr. Lee