

LAVC Alum's Madcap Balloons Decor Business Delivers Smiles for Miles

When Theresa Harding first entered Los Angeles Valley College in 2002, little did she know pursuing her love for the arts here would contribute to her professional success years later.

The co-owner of Sherman Oaks-based [Madcap Balloons](#) was then a 15-year-old encountering her first school community experience—she hailed from a large family and was mostly homeschooled. She remembers immediately feeling welcomed.

Harding still comes to Valley College, but now it's for business—she is a preferred vendor on the community college network and has delivered several projects for LAVC. Working alongside her husband, Harding has provided professional balloon artistry services nationwide for 12 years and counting. Madcap's repertoire includes balloon twisting entertainment (creations shaped as animals, etc.) and balloon décor arrangements, such as welcome arches and photo backgrounds for events.

Harding shares she flourished under the guidance of several mentors in a space that nurtured her interests. Though her focus was music, her artistic streak saw her involved in the theater program as well. She likens her work with balloons to a visual version of music—a universal language which brings joy to all.

Acknowledging her pivotal phase at LAVC, Harding advises current students, “Every day is a gift, take it one day at a time, and on the hard days, take it moment to moment, but the most important thing is to not give up and hold fast to your dreams and goals.”



Theresa Harding

COMPANY:
Madcap Balloons

