History of Laney College & Graphic Arts Department

By Yukari Tanaka

Founded 1927 Central Trade School (Future Laney College)
First Location: 12th and Jefferson St.

1940 First published School Newspaper
The Laney College newspaper. The Tower—weekly publication by the Associated students of Laney College is written & edited by students of the Journalism Dept. The Tower is printed in the Laney Printing (Graphic Arts) Dept.

1948 Renamed Joseph C. Laney Trade and Technical Institute
In honor of Joseph C. Laney, the Oakland Board of Education renames the college. Laney passed away on August 16, 1948.

1953 Started Graphic Arts Programs
Graphic Arts programs are mainly Printing Trade and support the newspaper industry.

1958 Renamed Oakland City College

1964 Renamed Laney College

1970-71 Relocated Laney College
New Location: 10th and Fallon St.

1980s Installed First Computers
GRART Dept installs first computers: Windows PCs.

1990 Hello!! Macintosh
GRART Dept adds Macintosh computers. Now ½ Windows PC & ½ Mac.

2002 Discontinued Printing Programs
The printing program is discontinued (now fully GRART) due to the focus towards computers. Print equipment still being used for other GRART classes.

2010s Installed Current Macs
GRART Dept replaces current Macs & installs Adobe Creative Cloud.

2015 Discontinued Printing Machines
Most of the printing machinery is donated. A linotype machine goes to a museum in Fresno. And, some of the old type setting equipment is still in the GRART Dept at Laney, though very rarely used.

2016 Rebranded Graphic Arts Programs
GRART Dept gets a new logo.

Sources:
Laney College Archives
www.laney.edu/archives/laney-college-history/The Laney Tower Final Edition
Dan Petrilli - Former GRART Dept Chair
Daniela Nikolaeva - GRART Instructor
Burt Dragan - Journalism Dept Chair

Mr. Joseph Clarence Laney (1880-1948)
Laney college is named after him.

Mr. Joseph Laney was born in Utah. He was a journalist and printer. He worked in Oakland with assignments on the Alameda Argus, the Oakland Herald, San Francisco Chronicle, & the Oakland Inquirer. His ardent belief in the value of vocational education led to the founding of the Oakland Central Trade School which he considered his most satisfying accomplishment.