

The symbol of the lotus flower that Skyline College has chosen for the *People's College Initiative* (PCI) has a profound meaning in many cultures that is essential to share. For example, in the ancient Eastern scriptures such as Hindu and Buddhist, the lotus is revered for its grace, strength, persistence, self-regeneration, culture, knowledge, and rebirth (Joo, 2018, p. 180) that grows in mud and murky waters. This depiction of the lotus represents Skyline College's journey in blossoming into its full potential through the transformative work of the PCI. Additionally, the lotus represents the simultaneity of cause and effect, as it blossoms and seeds at once. So, whatever actions the members of the PCI undertake, its effect will transmute throughout the College and the local community, just as the blooming lotus brightens the murky pond. Also, it is quite a fitting visual to parallel our commitment to take on the difficult work of addressing campus climate concerns, representing renewal and resilience in the face of adverse circumstances.

Note: We are so grateful for this lotus description and symbology provided by the collaborative work between Pia Walawalkar (Library Faculty) and Suji Venkataraman (Adjunct Faculty).

Reference: Joo, E. (2018). Lotus: Symbol of rebirth and resurrection. *Eurasian Journal of Analytical Chemistry*, 13 (3), 174-183.