

# HCCC Happenings

A publication of the Communications Department



## Hudson County Community College Holds Virtual Commencement Ceremony and In-Person Graduation Walks





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## From the Editor's Desk

HCCC Happenings is on the College's website at <http://www.hccc.edu>

Items for the July newsletter are due by Friday, June 11, 2021.

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### PLEASE NOTE:

Digital photos must be high resolution JPG. This means 300 dpi at actual print size.

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## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE HOLDS VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY AND IN-PERSON GRADUATION WALKS

**H**udson County Community College (HCCC) honored graduates with a combination of virtual and in-person 2021 Commencement celebrations. They included the Virtual Commencement that premiered on Thursday, May 20 on YouTube; and in-person Grad Walk events Monday, May 24 through Thursday, May 27, 2021, at the HCCC Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street in Jersey City.

"We worked diligently to ensure that the May 2021 Commencement experience would be exciting, celebratory, and, above all, safe for our graduates, their families, and the entire community," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. The format for the events was determined utilizing information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE), and input from a survey of graduating HCCC students.

The pre-recorded Virtual Commencement featured speeches and customized slides for graduates. The speakers included Dr. Reber; HCCC 2021 Valedictorian Pedro Moranchel; and entrepreneur, veteran, best-selling author, and CEO of Robin Hood, Wes Moore, who delivered the keynote address. Robin Hood is one of the largest anti-poverty forces in the nation.

The optional Grad Walk events allow members of the HCCC Class of 2021, as well as those who graduated in 2019-2020, to celebrate in cap-and-gown with up to three guests each. Graduates processed across the stage in the HCCC Culinary Conference Center Banquet Room, where they were cheered on by a small group of faculty and staff. Each graduate had the opportunity for traditional diploma photos.

The Grad Walk events were live-streamed. Participants were required to wear masks and observe social distancing.

*Continued on page 10*

ON THE COVER: *Scenes from Hudson County Community College's Grad Walks.*

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2021 VALEDICTORIAN, PEDRO MORANCHEL, ACCEPTED TO PRINCETON

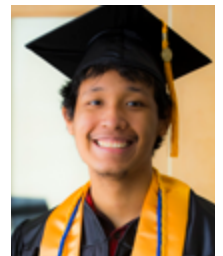
**H**udson County Community College (HCCC) announced that Pedro Moranchel, the Class of 2021 Valedictorian, was recently accepted as a transfer student to Princeton University. He is one of just 16 students in the nation to be offered the opportunity to participate in the Princeton Undergraduate Transfer Admission Program. Mr. Moranchel was chosen from a pool of more than 1,300 applicants.

"Everyone at the College joins me in congratulating this exceptional young man," said HCCC President Chris Reber. "Pedro is an exemplary student, caring and involved citizen, and gracious and thoughtful person. He embodies the spirit and determination of our students and our College. We know he will continue doing great things."

Pedro Moranchel is a Physics major, an Honors student, and the son of Mexican and Honduran immigrants whose struggles motivated him to set ambitious academic goals and work hard. He was recently named the recipient of the prestigious and highly competitive 2021 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship for his academic ability and achievement, financial need, leadership, persistence, and service. Only 72 students in the United States were selected as recipients this year. The award covers educational expenses to complete baccalaureate degrees – including tuition, living expenses, books and required fees – up to \$40,000 per year for up to three years, with an opportunity for additional funding sup-

port for graduate study. He is also an Achieving the Dream (ATD) Scholar.

A mentor and leader in the College community, Pedro is Vice President of Scholarship for the College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, President of the HCCC STEM Club, and Director of the Inter-Club Council of the HCCC Student Government Association. He participated in the Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program at Queensborough Community College, which was funded by the National Science Foundation, and a 10-week internship at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. He has worked as a volunteer in several environmental clean-up projects in Hudson County. Pedro's goal is to improve student success and close achievement gaps for historically underserved student populations, and he plans to produce diversity programs connected to STEM as a professor or person of influence in Hudson County.



"I'd like to thank everyone at HCCC for the support they have given me personally, professionally, and academically," Pedro said. "This encouraging environment truly has changed the trajectory of my family and me."

## HCCC RECEIVES GRANT FROM NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TO STRENGTHEN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



*Dr. Azhar Mahmood*



*Catherina Mirasol*

The Construction Management Program at Hudson County Community College has received a grant of \$298,806 over a three-year period (September 2021 – August 2024). It is the largest NSF grant received in College history. The primary objectives of this grant are to develop structured partnerships with local employers, seek to develop a strong advisory board to ensure the rigor and relevance of the Construction Management program, and provide recommendations to update the program as needed.

The administration team for the grant includes:

- Principal Investigator: Dr. Azhar Mahmood (Coordinator, Construction Management)
- Co-Principal Investigator: Catherina Mirasol (Director Continuing Education & Workforce Development)
- Co-Principal Investigator: Prof. Engr. Raja Javaid (Adjunct Instructor – Construction Management)
- Co-Principal Investigator: Prof. Engr. Khursheed Khan (Adjunct Instructor – Construction Management)

Construction Management is the planning, coordinating, and building of a project from conception to completion. The Associate in Applied Science Degree trains students to coordinate and supervise all phases of modern-day construction including all types of public, residential, commercial, and industrial structures, as well as roads, memorials, and bridges. They are exposed to new construction methods, protocols, materials, testing procedures, cost estimation, and management principles. The program also facilitates students to get externship opportunities for practical hands-on experiences.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 "to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare ...." NSF funds about 12,000 new awards annually in a variety of research areas. For more information, please visit [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov)



*Prof. Engr. Raja Javaid*



*Prof. Engr. Khursheed Khan*

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES RECEIVES CUPA-HR EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR TRANSFORMATIVE WORK, LEADERSHIP

The Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Office of Human Resources has been recognized with the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR) 2021 Eastern Region HR Excellence Award. The College will be honored virtually at 9 a.m. on June 7, 2021 during the CUPA-HR Eastern Region Celebration, and in a special edition of the CUPA-HR Higher Ed HR magazine that will be dedicated exclusively to award recipients.

The CUPA-HR Award honors transformative human resources work in higher education, recognizing individuals or teams whose leadership results in significant and ongoing organizational change. The HCCC award spotlights the continuation of all HCCC Human Resources programs and services, as well as the addition of new services, during the COVID-19 pandemic. These include the HCCC "Employee Spotlight Series," "Professional Development Series for Employees by Employees," and collaborations with the HCCC All College Council on "Steps for Wellness," and with the President's Advisory Council for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI) on the creative "Our Stories Untold Series."

"Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the HCCC Human Resources team has helped the HCCC community stay connected by engaging, communicating and celebrating HCCC faculty



*On left, HCCC's Human Resources team. In foreground from left: Anshuma Jain, Human Resources Administrator; Stephanie Pina, Office Assistant; Carmen McGuire, Benefits Manager. In background from left: Stephanie Sergeant, Human Resources Administrative Assistant; Lilisa Williams, Director of Faculty and Staff Development; Anna Krupitskiy, Vice President for Human Resources. On right: Eastern Region HR Excellence Award presented by CUPA-HR.*



and staff, and their accomplishments, in new and enhanced ways," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. "The entire College community joins me in congratulating our colleagues for their exceptional work, and this well-deserved award."

To support the College's goals and mission, the HCCC Office of Human Resources provides services that promote an inclusive work environment characterized by appreciation, recognition, fair and equitable treatment, open communication, personal accountability, trust, and mutual respect.

"The HR team appreciates our collaborators, partners, and every employee who stepped up, raised their voice, nominated a colleague, spoke their heart, shared their talents and skills, and told their story," said Anna Krupitskiy, HCCC Vice President for Human Resources. "We are proud of this recognition and grateful for all the support of our HCCC family and our executive team."

Ms. Krupitskiy said that CUPA-HR will contribute a \$1,000 award to the College. The HCCC HR team will allocate the funds to the new Hudson Helps Resource Center Career Closet.

## RETIREMENTS

*Philip Cafasso, Professor*  
(effective Sept. 1, 2021)

*Nabil Marshood, Professor*  
(effective Aug. 31, 2021)

*Denise Phillips, Assistant Professor*  
(effective July 1, 2021)

*Ellen Renaud, Director of Library Instruction*  
(effective July 1, 2021)

## NEW HIRES/ NEW TITLES

*Zakia Hmamou, Instructional Designer*  
(effective June 1, 2021)

*Samantha Moran, Financial Aid Specialist*  
(effective April 14, 2021)

*Yeurys Pujols, Vice President for Diversity,  
Equity and Inclusion (effective July 1, 2021)*

## PROMOTION OF FULL-TIME FACULTY (EFFECTIVE AUG. 16, 2021)

*Joseph Caniglia, Associate Professor to Professor*  
(English and ESL)

*Patrick Moore, Associate Professor to Professor*  
(Psychology)

## MODIFICATION TO STAFFING TABLE

*Chastity Farrell, Associate Director, Continuing Education and Workforce Development to Director, Continuing Education and Workforce Development*

## MILESTONES

*Congratulations to the following  
on their anniversary with  
Hudson County Community College!*

### FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

Five Years  
*Angelina Bouret*  
*Veronica Gerosimo*  
*Priscilla Ochoa*

40 Years  
*Elena Gorokhova*

### PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

Five Years  
*Asia Abazaid*

20 Years  
*George Testa*

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPOINTS YEURYS PUJOLS AS THE INAUGURAL VICE PRESIDENT FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

At its May 11, 2021 meeting, the Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Yeurys Pujols to be the College's inaugural Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). The appointment will be effective July 1, 2021.

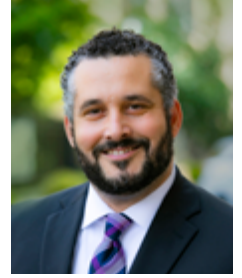
HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber recommended the appointment, in consultation with the Board of Trustees Executive Committee, based on Mr. Pujols' leadership experience; support of the College's nationally distinctive diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives; and feedback from many members of the College community.

Yeurys Pujols is Executive Director of the HCCC North Hudson Campus. Born in the Dominican Republic, he moved to New Jersey at the age of 13. Mr. Pujols joined the College in 2006. After serving as Counselor and History Instructor, he was appointed Director of Enrollment and Student Services in 2010.

Mr. Pujols is currently enrolled in the doctoral program in Community College Leadership at New Jersey City University (NJCU). He holds a Diversity and Inclusion Certificate from Cornell University, a Master of Arts degree in Diplomacy and International Relations from Seton Hall University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from New Jersey City University. Proudly, Mr. Pujols is a Hudson County Community College graduate who earned an Associate of Arts degree in 2001.

Mr. Pujols presides as Co-Chair of the HCCC President's Advisory Council for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI), and is a member of the North Hudson Scholarship Committee, the

Enrollment Management Council, the President's Executive Council, and All College Council. He also serves as the College's Deputy Compliance Officer and Deputy Title IX Coordinator, and was Co-Chair of the College's Middle



States Commission on Higher Education committee that focused on governance, leadership and administration. His professional affiliations include HCCC's Alumni Association, Latino Advisory Council, African American Outreach Committee, Boys to Leaders Foundation, "Juventud Ecuatoriana," and Save Latin America, which recognized Pujols for his educational leadership with the Juan Pablo Duarte Award, named in honor of the patriot of the Dominican Republic, at their "Los Tres Proceres Antillanos" Annual Gala in 2020.

A dedicated husband and father of twins, Mr. Pujols is a leader devoted to the mission, vision, and values of HCCC and the surrounding community.

Dr. Reber thanked Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Darryl Jones, who chaired the Vice President for DEI Screening Committee and led the interview process; and all members of the Screening Committee for their time and commitment to this internal search. "This was an affirming process that again demonstrates the strong talent and commitment of our HCCC team," Dr. Reber said.

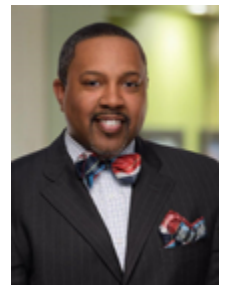
## OUR STORIES UNTOLD

Submission by Yeurys Pujols, Executive Director of the North Hudson Campus, and Anna Krupitskiy, Vice President for Human Resources.

On Wednesday, May 12, 2021, Vice Chair of the HCCC Board of Trustees, Bakari Lee, was our featured speaker for the Spring's closing out session of *Our Stories Untold* Series. Trustee Lee talked about his experience as a son who cherished his time with his father, the life lessons that he picked up along the way, and the challenges he faced as a young professional trying to get "his foot in the door" of a new profession. He mentioned how his admiration for his father led him to fashion himself after him, a principled man who modeled a life of perseverance. Trustee Lee shared his fantastic upbringing and beautiful childhood. He credited his parents for all his past, current, and future successes while claiming personal responsibility for potential shortcomings

and missteps along the way, adding that those were on him.

Lee pointed out how his father was a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity which espouses the cardinal principles of manhood,



scholarship, perseverance, and uplift. Like his father before him, when he went away for college, he also pledged and became an active member of the same fraternity, reaching the position of Basileus, or President, for the Nu Lambda (Jersey City) Chapter. After joining, he quickly recognized the familiar values he grew up with that his father exemplified, perfectly articulated, and codified by the fraternity's cardinal principles. He also talked

*Continued on page 13*

**For information about online, remote, and on-ground learning and the College's on-ground operations, students, faculty and staff are encouraged to visit the Return to Campus Task Force web page - <https://www.hccc.edu/community/returntocampus/index.html>**

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXTENDS MORATORIUM ON TUITION AND FEE INCREASES FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR

**H**udson County Community College (HCCC) Trustees have voted unanimously to freeze the costs of tuition and fees for the second consecutive year.

HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber said the Board voted to maintain the current level of tuition and fees with no increases continuing throughout the 2021-22 academic year. The extension will include this year's Summer II and Fall semester classes, as well as the 2022 Winter, Spring, and Summer I sessions.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has been physically, emotionally, and financially devastating for our students and our community," Dr. Reber said. "This is the right thing to do in spite of the financial constraints of the pandemic on our College and all higher education institutions."

The tuition rate for in-county residents will remain at \$149 per credit, the out-of-county rate at \$298 per credit, and the out-of-state and international rate at \$440 per credit. The \$25 per term registration fee, \$6.50 per credit student life fee, \$25 per credit general service fee, and \$18 per credit technology fee will also remain the same.

"In the post-pandemic world, a college education will be even more vital in securing – or tran-

sitioning to – quality, stable, well-paying jobs and careers," Dr. Reber stated. A recent McKinsey Global Institute report predicts that one of every ten U.S. workers will likely be forced to leave their present jobs and take up new occupations because of the pandemic. The most sought-after careers will include health professionals, health aides and technicians, cybersecurity experts, data analysts and managers, and financial advisors.

HCCC offers a vast array of financial assistance programs for students, including HCCC Foundation Scholarships, and federal and state resources including the New Jersey Community College Opportunity Grant program, which provided \$3.3 million in funding to over 3,000 HCCC students during the 2020-21 academic year alone. The College also provides students experiencing COVID-related financial hardships with federal stimulus and other funding. To date, the College has disbursed \$5,681,556 to 4,620 recipients, or an average of \$1,230 awarded to each student recipient.

Additional information about the HCCC Summer and Fall online, remote and in-person offerings, and available financial assistance, may be obtained by contacting the College's Admissions Office at [admissions@hccc.edu](mailto:admissions@hccc.edu).

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE INDUCTS NATALIE AKEL AS FIRST STUDENT POET LAUREATE



**H**udson County Community College (HCCC) recently inducted its first-ever, Student Poet Laureate, Natalie Akel. The virtual ceremony included remarks from HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber and members of the College's National Poetry Month Committee, as well as a reading by Ms. Akel.

Natalie Akel is a first-generation American, whose family roots are in Dominican Republic and Lebanon. She received a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Vermont in 2017, and then chose to pursue a nursing degree at HCCC. A Full-Spectrum Doula who provides support to birthing people and their communities in Hudson County and beyond, she plans to become a midwife.

Throughout her educational journey, poetry has remained Ms. Akel's consistent go-to when she needs to process, escape, or express her feelings, frustrations, and fears. During her time at Red Bank High School, she won the coveted national silver medal in the 2011 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

The HCCC National Poetry Month Committee includes Co-Chairs and Instructors of English, Eric Adamson and Karen Galli; and members Allie Bach, Assistant Professor of English; Dorothea Graham-King, Administrative Assistant, Office of Institutional Research and Planning; Hope Guirantes, Administrative Assistant; Angela Hebert, Assistant Professor of English; Susan Justiniano, Jersey City Poet Laureate; Anna Krupitskiy, Vice President for Human Resources; Amaalah Ogburn, Coordinator, North Hudson Campus; Alexandra Plante, Librarian/College Archivist; Jennie Pu, Dean of College Libraries; Christian Rodriguez, Student Government President; Sarah Teichman, Librarian; Natalia Vazquez-Bodkin, Academic Support Center Head for North Hudson Campus; Michelle Vitale, Director of Cultural Affairs; and Jing Yang, Director of Library Technology.

## TONY WYLLIE

*President & Managing Director,  
Special Olympics, North America*



For more than 30 years, Tony Wyllie has helped shape the public image and strategic direction of some of the world's most recognizable sports franchises and non-profit organizations. His laser focus on creating personal and professional growth for others has paralleled his commitment and drive on matters of inclusion as well, leading to his current position as President & Managing Director, North America for the Special Olympics.

Prior to his current position Mr. Wyllie spent 28 seasons as a public relations executive with various National Football League franchises. His accomplishments earned him the NFL's Pete Rozelle Award for top public relations staff, 5 times and the first public relations executive to win the award with 3 different teams. Wyllie's professional legacy continues to be carried out by those that have worked and developed underneath his leadership. Wyllie-department legacies have been placed among the executive and administrative leadership for the National Football League, National Basketball Association and Major League Soccer league offices, ESPN, ABC News, the Pac-12 Conference, Clemson University, the Allstate Sugar Bowl and Magic Johnson Enterprises, as well as numerous professional franchises and other industry leaders.

He has served mentor to many Hall of Fame athletes and sports media personalities as well as leading the charge for many charitable organizations. He maintains his routes in education by funding scholarships for many students, earning him a spot in the Black College Alumni Hall of Fame in 2017.

**Please join us Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. for the Business Speaker Series to hear Tony's inspirational story of leadership, mentorship, and being an innovative contributor to many organizations.**

### Business Speakers Series (Part 2)

Hosted by: Business, Culinary & Hospitality: Sharon Daughtry & Peter Cronrath

Join us on WebEx: <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-Wyllie>

Meeting number: 132 215 1188

Password: 2GtAFtqZD82

# Foundation Art Collection

The Hudson County Community College Foundation Art Collection of 1,500+ works is installed in the public areas of ten campus buildings. The entire College is an educational art museum. This Collection reveals aspects of America's and New Jersey's rich artistic and cultural history from the Hudson River School period to today. In recent years, the College's acquisition efforts have focused on strengthening its American and New Jersey modern and contemporary collections.

Each month, this page in HCCC Happenings provides updates on artists whose work is in the collection, and new additions to the collection.

## DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to Janet Rudolph for the generous donation of the painting "Don Quixote," by Sister Mary of The Compassion, OP.

## ARTIST NEWS

If you like the portrait of our former College president, Dr. Glen Gabert, on the sixth floor of the eponymous Gabert Library, you might enjoy making a quick trip to Hudson, New York, to see a group exhibition which includes the artist **Mark Beard's** work at Carrie Haddad Gallery through June 6. Beard paints under many different personas, each of which has a different name and style. Our portrait of Dr. Gabert is painted by his Bruce Sargeant persona which is featured in this exhibit. The gallery notes that this style (and the artist's name), "is inspired by the fashion photography of Bruce Weber and figurative painting of John Singer Sargent, but takes it into a realm all its own as themes and figures are reinterpreted to fit into his character's historical narrative. Sargeant is best known for his oil paintings made in the 1930's that celebrate the male form."

Artist **Chakaia Booker**, whose tire sculptures are installed in the STEM Building lobby and in the first floor of 70 Sip Avenue, was featured in a recent *New York Times* article. Why does she work in tires? "The material was just there," she said. "I was looking, like everybody else, trying various things. When the tires came in, it was like, I gotcha! And I didn't look back." The article discusses her sources for her materials. For example, Michelin sends her used racecar and motorcycle tires. *The Times* also describes her work in that medium: "Distinctive and idiosyncratic, her oeuvre transcends the material's utilitarian vocation and belies its uniformity. The sculptures can be robust and monumental, or finely detailed and uncannily tender. Some are almost figurative, the rubber cut, flexed and positioned in layers or strands to evoke the human body or more cryptic forms." The artist herself says, "It's infinite in its possibilities.... It just depends on your imagination." The article was published in conjunction with her first show in more than a decade, and her largest show ever, at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Miami. If you're feeling frisky now that our country is recovering from quarantine, the show runs through October, and might be worth a quick road trip. The exhibition also includes her work in other media, such as painting, photography, printmaking, and ceramics. (Here at HCCC, we also have examples of her print work in the first floor Media Center of the Nursing Program at 870 Bergen, and the sec-



ond floor of the Gabert Library.)

"For Chakaia Booker, Whose Medium Is Tires, the Art Is in the Journey" - *The New York Times* (<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/07/arts/design/chakaia-booker-art.html>)

**Nancy Cohen**, whose work is installed in the new Hudson Helps Resource Center on the third floor of 70 Sip Avenue, and in the Mezzanine reception area of 870 Bergen, is featured in a new show, "Atlas of Impermanence," at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit. The work will be on view until June 13, and then again from Sept. 3-26. If you've seen the work in the Hudson Helps area, and puzzled over how an artist can call something a drawing when it is made of rusted iron or of drizzled rubber, this show is an exhibit to explore! The artist writes, "It's work on a very large scale, entirely in handmade paper; I call the pieces drawings, but studio visitors have likened them to tapestries or paintings. ... The show also includes a suspended glass installation." Timed tickets are necessary. so call ahead to make your reservation at 908-273-9121.

If you like **Judy Pfaff's** work installed in the new Hudson Helps Resource Center on the third floor of 70 Sip Avenue, you might enjoy taking a trip to her new exhibit, "ar.chae.o.l.o.g.y" at the Pamela Salisbury Gallery in Hudson, New York through July 25. This site-specific exhibition fills a Carriage House with sculpture and art. In an interview with Art21, Pfaff discussed gender issues in the art world, mentioning the legendary art historian, Linda Nochlin. She says that Nochlin wrote, "Something — not particularly about me —

Thanks to the hard work of our installer Benjamin Galaday with the assistance of Darius Gilmore, this 19th Century hand-made horse was recently installed in the lobby of the STEM building. The horse is carved wood with copper and brass sheet appliqué and a brass handmade bridle. Unfortunately, we do not know the name of the artist(s) who made it. This horse was sculpted in Rajasthan, a state now in northwest India. There are archaeological remains of early human settlement in Rajasthan going back over 100,000 years. Thank you to the Estate of Peter W. Scheinman for the generous donation of this horse.

but about aspects of what I do. It was something about the chaotic nature of the work — that if a man did it, it would be seen as powerful, like, say, a Jackson Pollock. It would be seen as tough, manly, wild. It would be seen as fighting the dragons, the demons, the dark side — grappling with these things heroically. And if a woman were to handle something like that, it would only be seen as scattered, non-centered, hysterical, fighty.' Have you ever tried looking at a work of art by a woman, and imagining what would be said about it if the artist were male? Or vice-versa? It's an interesting exercise. If you'd like to read more about her thoughts about art-making, go to <https://art21.org/read/judy-pfaff-installation-and-drawing/>

**We welcome anecdotes and information about how the art collection benefits our community. If you have enjoyed using the art collection in your teaching, your studies, or your everyday life, please let us know! Contact [ASiegel@hccc.edu](mailto:ASiegel@hccc.edu) and tell us the story of how the art collection works for you.**

**To make a donation to the Foundation Art Collection**, please contact Nicholas A. Chiaravalloti, J.D., Ed.D., Vice President for External Affairs and Senior Counsel to the President at [nchiaravalloti@hccc.edu](mailto:nchiaravalloti@hccc.edu), or (201) 360-4009.

**For detailed information regarding donating artwork**, please visit [www.hccc.edu/community/arts/foundation-art-collection/index.html](http://www.hccc.edu/community/arts/foundation-art-collection/index.html)

**Would you like to explore the Foundation Art Collection using our new online searchable tools?**

Go to [www.hccc.edu/community/arts/foundation-art-collection/category-collection-search.html](http://www.hccc.edu/community/arts/foundation-art-collection/category-collection-search.html)

## Do you know someone who has extra display cabinets they want to give away?

The Foundation Art Collection welcomes inquiries about donating large display cases to use for permanent exhibitions of small sculpture. Call (201) 360-4007 or email [ASiegel@hccc.edu](mailto:ASiegel@hccc.edu) with more information.

# DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

presents



## PROGRAMS:

### "To India, With Love"

**Saturday June 12, start time 6:00 p.m.**  
**Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (DDLJ),**  
**modern Bollywood classic.**

Event with a classical dance performance by Surati, a Jersey City based Indian classical dance company. (<https://suratiinc.com>) <https://loewsjersey.org/event/to-india-with-love-a-benefit-for-covid-relief-in-india/>

### Surati - The Tri-state's premier performing arts company

Surati for Performing Arts is the Tri-State's premier Indian Arts organization specializing in Musical productions, Indian Dance, music, theater, events, and mega Indian Festivals like Holi and Diwali. Surati gives training in Indian Dance also. ([suratiinc.com](https://suratiinc.com)), to be followed by the showing of DDLJ.

### For JC Fridays on June 4

Michelle Vitale, Director of Cultural Affairs, is curating a virtual show that is in partnership with Art House. This exhibit will be featured in the gallery in Spring 2022.

To register: visit [www.jcfridays.com](http://www.jcfridays.com)

### Virtual Presentation Details:

**Living with the INVISIBLE**  
**Virtual Exhibit, June 4, 7:00 p.m.**  
**10-minute presentation**

### Art House Productions

**To register: [www.jcfridays.com](http://www.jcfridays.com)**

People living with Invisible Disabilities, such as chronic pain, mental health issues, or nerve disorders, are often accused of imagining their disabilities. The symptoms are "invisible" because many symptoms are not obvious to the onlooker. It is estimated that 10% of people in the U.S. have a medical condition that could be considered a type of Invisible Disability. This exhibit serves as a safe space for artists to come forward to discuss their lives as creatives, several for the first time speaking publicly. Some artists are the partners or children of a person with an Invisible Disability, while others have managed their health for more than 5 decades. Artists included: Doris Cacoilo, Donte K. Hayes, Mary Tooley Parker, Allison Green, Roger Sayre, and EunYoung Choi. Featured Artist: Allison Green, *String Theory Gold*



Allison Green, *String Theory Gold*

**For more information, email: [gallery@hccc.edu](mailto:gallery@hccc.edu)**

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

As of Thursday, May 13, Hudson County Community College's new website is live! Please check it out at [www.hccc.edu](http://www.hccc.edu).

For almost two years, the College has been working on a complete website redesign. Between April 27 and May 13, the Website Core Team shared several "teasers" so the College community knew what to expect when the new site went live.

### Some features of the new site include:

- Home Page: The "Apply, Visit, Info" buttons remain pinned to the right side of the page as users scroll. Other items on the home page: Early College/Transfer/Career Pathways, a student testimonial, Continuing Education and Workforce Development, three customizable buttons, and the College-wide event calendar.

- Faculty Directory: The site contains a faculty directory with photos, contact information, and



bios for all full-time faculty members and lecturers. We are proud of our faculty, their accomplishments, and their impact on our students. With our new site, students can now match a face to a name and learn about their faculty members before meeting them in class.

- Page for the Office of Human Resources: You will find HR under the Administration tab of the website, and everything HR-related will be available on the public website, except those items which require a login.

- Testimonials: No one tells the HCCC story better than our own students, faculty, and staff. You will find testimonials throughout the site to reinforce the content of each page. We continue to build our library of testimonials, especially videos, so don't be shy about sharing your story! Please email us at [website@hccc.edu](mailto:website@hccc.edu) if you would like to provide a testimonial.

Feedback, corrections, and questions can be sent to [website@hccc.edu](mailto:website@hccc.edu) so they can be addressed by the Website Team. Be sure to include the link to the page you are referencing.

Thank you to all who contributed content and to Omar Williams and Kristofer Fontanez who brought it to life.

# ENROLLMENT NEWS



Scenes from the College's Open House on Saturday, May 1.

## SUMMER CLASSES at HCCC!

*You can earn up to 12 credits over the summer!*

### APPLY NOW!

*There is still time to register!*

**Summer II:**

Tuesday, July 13 – Wednesday, August 18, 2021

**Online Session B:**

July 8 – August 18, 2021



*"HCCC is life-changing."*

Pedro Moranchel  
Valdictorian Class of 2021  
Transferring to Princeton University

View Course Schedule at [www.hccc.edu/schedule](http://www.hccc.edu/schedule)

For more information contact:  
[admissions@hccc.edu](mailto:admissions@hccc.edu) | 201.714.7200 | [www.hccc.edu/apply](http://www.hccc.edu/apply)

For In-Person and Remote Registration Appointments go to [www.hccc.edu/remoteservices](http://www.hccc.edu/remoteservices)

*We are open On-Ground, Hybrid and Online!*



**HUDSON is HOME!**

# REGISTER NOW

for Fall 2021 classes at

# HCCC!

View Course Schedule at [www.hccc.edu/schedule](http://www.hccc.edu/schedule)

APPLY NOW for Fall classes!

[www.hccc.edu/apply](http://www.hccc.edu/apply)

For more information contact:  
[admissions@hccc.edu](mailto:admissions@hccc.edu)  
or call (201) 714-7200

**We are open On-Ground, Hybrid and Online!**

To view all our remote online resources, go to:

[www.hccc.edu/remoteservices](http://www.hccc.edu/remoteservices)



## PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY NEWS

### TWO HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS

**H**udson County Community College (HCCC) students Adoum Allamine and Pedro Moranchel have been chosen from 1,500 applicants nationwide to receive the 2021 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation recognizes exceptionally talented community college students seeking to complete baccalaureate degrees. Scholarship recipients are selected for their academic ability and achievement, financial need, leadership, persistence, and service. Only 72 students in the United States have been selected as recipients this year. This is the third consecutive year in which HCCC students have been named Cooke Scholars; Sarra Hayoune was a 2019 recipient, and Abdellah Amrhar received the scholarship in 2020.

“The entire HCCC community joins me in congratulating Adoum and Pedro,” said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. “Not only are they outstanding students, but they are also exemplary citizens. We are very proud of them.”

Considered one of the most prestigious scholarship awards in the nation, each Jack Kent Cooke Foundation award is intended to cover students’ educational expenses to complete baccalaureate degrees – including tuition, living expenses, books and required fees. Awards vary by individual, based on the cost of tuition as well as other grants or scholarships they may receive. This highly competitive scholarship includes up to \$40,000 per year for up to three years to attend a four-year, accredited undergraduate college or university where they may pursue any area of study; college planning support; ongoing advisement; the opportunity to connect with a thriving community of fellow scholars; and the opportunity for additional funding support for graduate study.

Adoum Allamine is a Criminal Justice major, Vice President of the Criminal Justice Club, Secretary of the Honor Students Council, and member of National Society of Leadership and Success and Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. Adoum has served the community through volunteer work at Liberty State Park, the Hunger Free Bayonne food distribution program, Hackensack Riverkeeper cleanup, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

of Service at a Jersey City public school, among others. When the pandemic hit, he lost his job as a car service driver, but continued giving back to the community by donating items to the HCCC Food Pantry, cooking at a soup kitchen, helping at food distributions, and mentoring HCCC students. Adoum has applied to, and is awaiting decisions from Brown, Columbia, Princeton and Vanderbilt Universities.

Pedro Moranchel is a Physics major, an Honors student, and the College’s 2021 Valedictorian. He is the son of Mexican and Honduran immigrants whose struggles motivated him to set ambitious academic goals and work hard. Pedro is Vice President of Scholarship for the College’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, President of the HCCC STEM Club, and Director of the Inter-Club Council of the HCCC Student Government Association. Pedro participated in the Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program at Queensborough Community College, which was funded by the National Science Foundation, and a prestigious 10-week internship at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. He has worked as a volunteer in several environmental clean-up projects in Hudson County. In addition to receiving the Cooke Scholarship, Pedro is also an Achieving the Dream (ATD) Scholar. His goal is to improve student success and close achievement gaps for historically underserved student populations. Pedro has applied to Princeton University, Williams College, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He plans to produce diversity programs connected to STEM as a professor or person of influence in Hudson County.

Nearly half of all postsecondary students begin their college journey at two-year institutions. Jack Kent Cooke Foundation research has found that community college students who transfer to four-year institutions have equal to or higher graduation rates as compared to students who enrolled at these institutions directly from high school, or transferred from other four-year institutions. The Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship aims to increase the number of community college students completing their education at prestigious and high-performing four-year colleges and universities.

#### Other PTK news

Congratulations to Dr. Marco Ashamalla (HCCC Class of 2015) on his recent graduation from Rutgers Medical School. Marco worked as a tutor in the Basic Math Center when it was located on the second floor at 25 Journal Square.

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges highlighted the 2021 NJ All-State Academic Team on our social media channels throughout the month of May. Each student received a package in early May, including the following: New Jersey All-State Academic Team medallion, Certificate, and Recognition Flyer. Congratulations to Beta Alpha Phi’s 2020-21 President and Vice President, Darciane Barbieri-Eltz and Sofia Pazmino.

## FINANCIAL AID NEWS

**O**n May 5, 2021, Ocelot held a client workshop for New Jersey and New York post-secondary schools’ programs on Best Practices to maximize the Ocelot Platform. Christine Petersen, Associate Director of Financial Aid, presented for Hudson County Community College, speaking about our Chatbot Libby, statistics about conversations and interactions, 24/7 availability, FATV custom videos and usage, student experiences, and overall student support services provided. Other presenters included representatives from The Culinary Institute of America, Rowan University, and SUNY Empire State College. Each spoke about their usage of Ocelot services highlighting their Chatbot. Members of the Ocelot team spoke about their services and how they can support various departments within the student services area of the college or university by empowering administrators and advisors to reach every student and answer every question. Seventy-seven people attended, representing numerous schools throughout New York and New Jersey.

On April 27, 2021, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of NJASFAA (New Jersey Association of Financial Aid Administrators) presented “A Chat with Colleagues,” a moderated panel discussion surrounding a series of questions as a basis to the conversation.

#### They included the following:

- When, how, where did you realize your ethnicity?
- What comes to mind when you think of diversity and inclusion?
- Would you say you have an adjusted approach when engaging with peers from varied backgrounds at work, home, and socially?
- Have you found yourself becoming more conscious concerning specific areas of inclusion?

Seven colleagues from various post-secondary schools in New Jersey, including Christine Petersen, Associate Director of Financial Aid from HCCC, came together to share their thoughts, ideas, insights, and experiences. Other panel members included representatives from Montclair State University, Rutgers University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, William Paterson University, Felician University, and Bloomfield College. Forty members of NJASFAA attended. Christine Petersen of HCCC and Tammi Hussi of Seton Hall University are the co-chairs of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. NJASFAA is the state organization that provides training and support for financial aid administrators throughout New Jersey.

# CONGRATULATIONS!

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE HOLDS VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY AND IN-PERSON GRADUATION WALKS

Continued from page 2



### Hudson County Community College Celebrates Graduating Classes of Early College Program at 2021 Commencement

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Class of 2021 included 31 students from area high schools who earned associate degrees as part of the HCCC Early College Program. The Early College graduates received their diplomas during the in-person Grad Walk on Thursday, May 27, 2021.

"We are so proud of our Early College graduates, most of whom will be receiving their college diplomas a few weeks ahead of getting their high school diplomas," said HCCC President Chris Reber. He explained that the HCCC Early College Program permits juniors and seniors living in Hudson County or attending County high schools to enroll in up to 18 college-level credits per academic year, and earn credits towards an associate degree. Credits earned in the program transfer toward baccalaureate degrees at four-year colleges and universities.

Additionally, agreements with some high schools allow students the opportunity to earn a full Associate degree upon high school graduation with a combination of in-school, dual-enrollment classes and college courses taken after school. "Apart from the benefit of jump-starting their college education, students participating in the HCCC Early College program pay just half of the in-County tuition rate – a huge savings in comparison to tuition at four-year institutions," Dr. Reber stated.

This the first year the College presented diplomas to students from the Jersey City Public Schools. Fourteen students from Dickinson High School graduated with Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees in Environmental Studies; one student from Lincoln High School graduated with an Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree in Criminal Justice; and three students from Ferris High School graduated with Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees in Business Administration.

In addition, HCCC celebrated its second graduating class of eleven students from Hudson County Schools of Technology High Tech High School, who received Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees in Environmental Studies; and a first graduating class of two High Tech High School students who earned Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees in Science and Mathematics.

### Robin Hood CEO and Best-Selling Author Wes Moore Delivers HCCC 2021 Commencement Keynote Address

HCCC welcomed Wes Moore as the keynote speaker for the College's virtual Commencement Ceremony. Mr. Moore's speech premiered on Thursday, May 20, on <https://www.youtube.com/user/HudsonCountyCollege>, and will continue to be available for viewing. Wes Moore is the Chief Executive Officer of Robin Hood, one of the largest anti-poverty forces in the nation. He is also a best-selling author, combat veteran, and social entrepreneur.

Mr. Moore's first book, *The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates*, a perennial *New York Times* bestseller, focused on the fine line between success and failure and was optioned by Oprah Winfrey and HBO to be made into a movie. His other bestsellers include *The Work*, *Discovering Wes Moore*, and *This Way Home*. His latest book, *Five Days*, explores the 2015 Baltimore riots through a kaleidoscope of perspectives, and examines the root causes of violence and poverty.

Growing up in Baltimore and the Bronx, Mr. Moore was raised by a single mom, and overcame challenges to achieve higher education and career goals. He graduated Phi Theta Kappa from Valley Forge Military College and Johns Hopkins University. Mr. Moore earned a Master of Letters degree from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. He later served as a captain and paratrooper with the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne, including a combat deployment to Afghanistan. He was also a White House Fellow to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Prior to becoming Robin Hood CEO, Mr. Moore was the founder and CEO of BridgeEdu, an innovative tech platform addressing the college completion and job placement crisis by reinventing freshman year for underserved students. He also worked as an investment banker with Deutsche Bank in London and Citigroup in New York.

Mr. Moore has served on numerous nonprofit and social-impact boards, and is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations.



# CLASS OF 2021



## TO VIEW GO TO...

**VIDEOS:** Official YouTube Page: <https://www.youtube.com/user/HudsonCountyCollege>  
Virtual Commencement: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiQft\\_ekRio&t=3812s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiQft_ekRio&t=3812s)  
**PHOTOS:** <http://hccc.life/gradwalkpics>

## CONTINUING EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS

### HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE HOSTS EIGHTH ANNUAL 'GIRLS IN TECHNOLOGY' SYMPOSIUM JUNE 3

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Division of Continuing Education and Workforce Development will host its Eighth Annual "Girls in Technology" symposium on Thursday, June 3, 2021, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The interactive, live-stream event is open by invitation only to Hudson County middle and high school students, and is designed to provide information about fulfilling and well-paying careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) professions.



by Ms. Lihacova's company, Mr. Simon, and a live food-science demonstration with HCCC Chef Marissa Lontoc in one of the College's nationally acclaimed Culinary Arts Institute kitchens.

Essay contest winner Linda Flores, a ninth-grade student from Jose Marti STEM Academy, will open the event by reciting her winning essay on how technology inspires her.

The University of Phoenix is sponsoring the essay contest prize and a live raffle for 10 student vouchers that can be applied to any of Continuing Education's Youth and Teens programs.

Although the 2021 "Girls in Technology" Symposium is not open to the general public, Hudson County teachers and school administrators may register as many students as they wish by emailing Chastity Farrell at [cfarrell@hccc.edu](mailto:cfarrell@hccc.edu). There is no charge for the event, and the first 200 students to be registered will receive a free digital swag bag. To ensure security, the event is password protected, and no students will be seen on screen.

The centerpiece of the event is the "Working Women in STEM" panel. The interactive discussion will be moderated by Sarra Hayoune, who graduated from HCCC with an Associate of Science degree in Computer Science in 2019, and is presently studying Physics and Astronomy at Stevens Institute of Technology as a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholar. She is also an Astrophysics Research Assistant at the American Museum of Natural History.

The "Working Women in STEM" panel includes Natalie Lihacova, Co-Founder and CEO of Mr. Simon; Carolyn Oser, Vice President, Business & Technology Transformation, EmblemHealth-ConnectiCare; Thzaira Charles, P.E., Senior Airport Engineer, Port Authority NY, NJ; and Meridangela Gutierrez Zhong, Security Consultant, Accenture.

In addition to the panel discussion, there will be a live demonstration with HCCC STEM Professor, Dr. Clive Li in the HCCC STEM lab, as well as an interactive presentation on digital marketing

### GIRLS IN TECHNOLOGY 2021

Q&A

DEMOS

ACTIVITIES

RESOURCES

WOMEN IN TECH PANEL

SECURE, LIVE & INTERACTIVE

**JUNE 3RD**  
3:30 - 5:30 PM  
100% VIRTUAL

First 200 attendees receive a free Digital Swag Bag!



REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
EMAIL: [cfarrell@hccc.edu](mailto:cfarrell@hccc.edu)

This event is password protected and not open to the general public. Students will not be seen on camera.

## SUMMER YOUTH & TEENS PROGRAMS

JULY 12 - AUGUST 27



Digital Photography Field Trips  
Virtual Baking & Cooking Classes  
SAT Language & Math Prep

[www.hccc.edu/summeryouthprograms](http://www.hccc.edu/summeryouthprograms)

### HCCC HOSTS JEAN KRAUSS YOUTH LEADERSHIP AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) in partnership with the Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services received a \$25,000 grant from the Juvenile Justice Commission for the Jean Krauss Youth Leadership and Career Development Forum. The purpose of the forum is to increase the knowledge and awareness of post high school educational and employment opportunities in the state for court involved and at-risk youth in the northern New Jersey region. This is the second year HCCC was awarded the grant. The first annual event was hosted in 2019, in-person, at the Culinary Conference Center. Because of COVID, this year's event was held virtually on Thursday, May 27th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with 150 youth. The program was a mix of high energy interaction with the youth and workshops on College/Career Readiness, Financial Aid for Higher Education, Community Engagement, and Apprenticeships. Engaging discussions were heard throughout the morning's program. It was an inspiring event with workshop leaders from Hudson County and beyond. The keynote speaker, L'Mani Viney, an educator, mentor, and youth advocate, passionately spoke to the youth about expanding their world by engaging in opportunities within and outside their communities.

# OUR STORIES UNTOLD

*Continued from page 4*

about his father's perseverance and commitment to hard work, particularly while earning a Doctorate in Education, which cost the father a lot of time away from his family.

The cardinal principle of perseverance was a consistent theme throughout Lee's story. He shared that while a young boy, he asked his parents' permission to play football and was allowed to do so finally in the third grade. After joining the team, he was disappointed to be practicing instead of playing, so he decided to quit. His father did not allow this, however. Instead, he demanded that young Bakari finish the football season, even if he ultimately chose not to return for the next season. The father pointed out that Lee's coach and teammates were now counting on him. When the team moved from practice to playing, he started enjoying the experience again, and talk of quitting dissipated.

Trustee Lee first found employment working as a financial analyst for Pfizer, a pharmaceutical company. His dream, however, was to become a lawyer and to practice law. He attended law school in the evenings after work. About a year after completing his law education, Lee decided to start

looking for job opportunities in law. He started applying; however, since he completed his program during the evening, he did not have the chance to obtain the customary internships that often turn into job opportunities after graduation. Lee presented to the audience a heavy stack of rejection letters from different law firms that he kept over the years. He joked that one firm was so enthusiastic about rejecting him that they sent him two rejection letters.

He further shared another rejection letter. This time the letter was from the firm that ultimately hired him and where he is currently employed, and where he is an equity partner, serves as Chief Diversity Chair, and Chair of the Affordable House Practice. This opportunity was possible because his father knew the lead partner, who agreed to meet with Lee. Lee reflected that resumes should be looked at carefully before being dismissed as organizations can easily lose the opportunities to hire an excellent employee due to an untraditional resume or work history.

Ultimately, that meeting turned into a job and the rewarding law career that Lee always wanted. While the rejection letters illustrated a closed door,

just like football, he nevertheless persevered. Lee said that "left to my own devices, I was not successful, someone had to help me." Now, as a successful professional, a husband, and a father, he "needs" to be that person who helps and uplifts others. He clarified that it is not that he should help others or that it would be good to do so, but that he had an obligation to do so. He felt that his success is valued less if he does not help someone else. That statement was vital as it also spoke to the alignment between Trustee Lee's and the College's mission and service to the community.

"The entire Untold Stories program is powerful in connecting employees," a participant stated. Our Stories Untold storytelling emerged as a partnership between the Office of Human Resources and the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI). This series highlights the HCCC community members' personal, educational, and professional experiences, advice, and insight. Each program aims to introduce some of our outstanding and influential colleagues to enhance inclusion and create community. Do you know someone with an inspirational story? Do you want to tell your story? Tell us by contacting PACDEI@hccc.edu.

## Mental Health Resource for Our Students: TalkCampus





**What is TalkCampus, and how can it help?**



Online global mental health support network



Peer-to-peer support



Access to instant, any time 24/7

College Students who have participated in peer support has been linked to:



An increased ability to cope and feel less alone



Higher levels of self-esteem and confidence.



A greater sense of well-being and resilience.



TalkCampus is a team of volunteers who are trained in active listening and providing support online. They have safeguards in place to monitor in real-time crisis and will launch interventions as needed. If they detect that a student is in crisis, they will launch platform interventions and escalate support in real-time. TalkCampus will have direct communication with H.C.C.C. Mental Health Counseling & Wellness.


As an added benefit, HCCC students can volunteer & get training on how to be a peer support buddy.

Access TalkCampus 24/7:  
<https://www.talklife.co/ HUDSON-COUNTY-COMMUNITY-COLLEGE>

If you have any questions, please contact Doreen M. Pontius, M.S.W., L.C.S.W. at 201.360.4229 or email [mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu](mailto:mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu)



## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



# 19TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

**Monday, July 12**  
**Forest Hill Field Club**  
**Bloomfield, New Jersey**

Continental Breakfast, Cocktails, Luncheon and Awards.

Proceeds from the event will be dedicated to the growth and development of the College and students.

Space is limited, so make your reservations soon!

For more information, contact:  
 Mirta Sanchez  
 201) 360-4004  
[msanchez@hccc.edu](mailto:msanchez@hccc.edu)

# HCCC RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

Invites you to join us for our **VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION**

To find out more information about becoming a student at HCCC and a **RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST.**

**Thursday, June 3**  
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Join us at:**

<https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-RadiographySummer>

Event password: Radinfo2021



HCCC Radiography Program  
870 Bergen Avenue (Building F)  
2nd Floor, Room 218  
Jersey City, NJ 07306

For more information please contact (201) 360-4784.



## NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

During the May Monthly meeting of the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI), the membership recognized and congratulated PACDEI's CoChair, Yeurys Pujols, on his recent appointment as inaugural Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion for the College. Yeurys, who served as a Co-Chair since October 2019, will continue to work and support PACDEI while providing institutional leadership in the areas of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The members also discussed how PACDEI would continue to collaborate with all College and community members to provide opportunities for everyone to feel included and have their voices heard and respected.

Our *Stories Untold* Series, a collaboration between HR and PACDEI, closed out the spring semester on Wednesday, May 12, with a powerful story from the Vice-Chair of the HCCC Board of Trustees, Bakari G. Lee, Esq. Trustee Lee shared his powerful account of how he advanced in his career following advice and guidance from his father and other mentors. The well-attended program was engaging from beginning to end. PACDEI will continue this partnership with Human Resources to bring influential colleagues forward in the *Our Stories Untold* series. On Friday, May 14, the CoChairs of PACDEI also presented the second session of *Understanding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Work*.

Additionally, multiple colleagues, departments, and external stakeholders are coming together to offer you the "Summer Inclusion Tour." This collaboration brings forth various programs, like *Wanna Talks About It?*, *Our Stories Untold*, and *the Barber-shop*, in conjunction with many other programs that include outside speakers and facilitators. This approach will allow for increased coordination to better pace the programs while avoiding duplication of efforts. We want to thank Natalia Vazquez-Bodkins, Amaalah Ogburn, Veronica Gerosimo, Anna Krupitskiy, and many others for leading and supporting this effort.

PACDEI is also working on finalizing the PACDEI Action Plan in the coming days. Please, do not forget to join us live each month at the President's Town Halls for updates. We thank the entire College community for their efforts during this past academic year, and most importantly, we want to congratulate HCCC's Class of 2021 for their resilience and success.

**CHASE | yearup**

# OWN YOUR future

Are you between the ages of 18-26?  
Year up can get you on a path towards a rewarding professional career in just one year.

EARN AN AVERAGE OF **\$42,000** A YEAR



Year Up is a one-year career development training and paid internship program for motivated young adults, ages 18 to 26, seeking to launch a career in Business or Tech. To speak to a Year Up recruiter, visit <https://bit.ly/YUNYNJ1to1>.

The Office of Admissions & College Enrollment  
Hudson County Community College  
[admissionsnyj@yearup.org](mailto:admissionsnyj@yearup.org) | (646) 341-6800

**DON'T MISS**  
Hudson County  
Community College

**OUT of the BOX**  
PODCAST

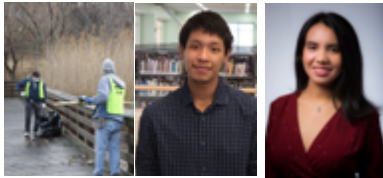


THIS MONTH'S TOPIC IS:

How PTK Benefits Our Students

WITH HCCC STUDENTS:

Pedro Moranchel and Sofia Pazmino



Tune in to our monthly podcast for a timely discussion about education, people, programs, events, issues, and solutions that affect those who live and work in Hudson County.

Each session is hosted by HCCC President, **Dr. Chris Reber** and features special guests and HCCC students.

To listen, visit  
[www.hccc.edu/outofthebox](http://www.hccc.edu/outofthebox)

## HCCC FOOD PANTRY SUMMER HOURS



**JOURNAL SQUARE CAMPUS:**  
Monday and Wednesday  
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

2 Enos Place, First Floor  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
201-360-4109

**NORTH HUDSON CAMPUS:**  
Tuesday and Thursday  
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

4800 Kennedy Boulevard, First Floor  
Union City, NJ 07087  
201-360-4709



Please join HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber for a  
**VIRTUAL TOWN HALL MEETING**  
on **Wednesday, June 16, 2021**  
**12 p.m.**

<https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m8459ae295aacb7b007632e1b886dfdef>

Meeting number: 132 876 6281  
Password: JunTH2021

*Learn about important updates and have your questions answered in real time.*

## CALENDAR

### Tuesday, June 1

Last day to drop classes for Online A

### Thursday, June 3

Strategic Planning Summit, 12:45 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
To access the Zoom link, participants should register using this EventBrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hccc-summit-tickets-156043808231>

Business Speakers Series (Part 2) featuring Tony Wyllie, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=me228b733806340e277c060f33bbf11e7>; Meeting number: 132 215 1188; Password: 2GtAFTqZD82

Radiography Information Session, 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/onstage/g.php?MTID=ef4eede0c3feb45e2b0532972f8b0dea5>; Event password: Radinfo2021

### Friday, June 4

JC Fridays Virtual Show: "Living with the INVISIBLE," in partnership with Art House Productions, 7 p.m. Curated by Michelle Vitale. To register, please visit [www.jcfridays.com](http://www.jcfridays.com)

### Tuesday, June 8

Business Speakers Series (Part 3): Ketsia Colimon, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=md9049cb6bb0a45453fe55470c53f20c8>; Meeting number: 132 270 3067; Password: 2GdVsqAkJ43

Meeting of the Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees, 5 p.m. Join at <https://zoom.us/j/99014257139?pwd=a2dmdFdMRHo3ZzdBQzI0a2d5c3ZFZz09>; Passcode: 652914

### Thursday, June 10

Advanced Manufacturing Info Session, 5 p.m.  
Register at <https://tinyurl.com/y3crj44v>

### Saturday June 12

"India, with Love," start time TBD, followed by Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (DDLJ), a modern Bollywood classic. Register at: <https://loewsjersey.org/event/to-india-with-love-a-benefit-for-covid-relief-in-india/>

### Wednesday, June 16

Last day to complete official withdrawal for Summer I/Online Session A

Virtual Town Hall Meeting, 12 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m8459ae295aacb7b007632e1b886dfdef>; Meeting number: 132 876 6281; Password: JunTH2021

### Thursday, June 17

Associate Degree RN Nursing Program Pinning Ceremony (Day Division), 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street

Associate Degree Nursing Program Pinning Ceremony (Evening and Weekend Division), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street

### Friday, June 18

Observance of Juneteenth – Floating Holiday

### Thursday, June 24

Advanced Manufacturing Info Session, 5 p.m.  
Register at <https://tinyurl.com/y3crj44v>

**Tuesday, June 29 and Wednesday, June 30**  
Final Exams for Summer I

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## Priyanka Mistry

Class of 2020

Associate of Science – Computer Science



### What factors led you to decide to attend Hudson County Community College?

I decided to attend Hudson County Community College because it was my first option in mind when I started applying for college in my senior of high school. The College was pretty close to my home, and I was able to afford tuition.

### What is your favorite memory of the College, in or out of the classroom?

My favorite memory of the College was working for the English and ESL Division and the Communications Departments as a federal work-study student. In both environments, I have learned how to work under pressure and earned experience on improving my skills, such as making my communication skills strong. Another memory which I can never forget is conversation with professors, support staff, security and classmates.

### How did you become interested in an IT career?

I became interested in an IT career while watching some YouTube videos of how to repair computer or printers and when I was volunteering at the Jersey City Public Library, where I have provided instruction in supporting patrons on computer basics and troubleshooting with Wi-Fi. After I decided to look more into learning about different types of hardware and software. However, technology is a very popular career and the fastest growing industry worldwide.

### How did your time at HCCC prepare you for your career/ life now?

HCCC made a big impact in my life, and I have learned a lot from each and every person I have met at HCCC. It also helped me prepare for the next step of my journey, which was to pursue my bachelor's degree in Information technology with Network and Information Security Specialization. The College prepared me for the real world - when I find a job in my field; moreover, it has helped me achieve my dreams.

### What is a typical work day for you?

A typical workday for me is first to check my email accounts. I then peruse *The Jersey Journal* and other

newspapers for College news clippings advertisements. I attend classes in the morning or evening, depending on the day of the week. I complete homework and assignments; I try to finish assignments before their due dates. I assist my mother with housework and watch the news to see what happening in country.

### Who are your biggest inspirations that have impacted your work in some way?

My biggest inspirations are my parents, because they came to the United States for my brother and me to give us a better life and future, so that we do not have to struggle later in life. Without their support, I could never come this far, and I would not have achieved any of what have achieved today. They have always been understanding and supportive of me. Moreover, all those wonderful professors who have been very inspirational to me and Advisor Michael Carchia, who helped me to go in the right direction and motivated me from the time I started HCCC in 2018.

### What advice would you give to recent HCCC graduates?

One piece of advice that I would like to give to recent HCCC graduates is to keep moving forward and never give up on your dream. Continue with finishing your bachelor's degree. Remember one thing: every moment is an opportunity; try to learn from everyone that around you. Moreover, take advantage of HCCC Alumni Services and Career Services, who can help you update your resume to find better jobs.

### What advice do you have for those students who are just starting their college careers?

Stay focused, work hard, ask questions if you are confused with anything, make connections with your classmates and everybody in colleges who can help go on the right path. Attend college events, take part in a work-study program which can help grow your skills, and you will succeed.

## HCCC Alumni: Get Involved!



Did you enjoy your experience at HCCC?

Are you willing to contribute time?

Do you want to inspire others with your success stories?

Are you looking for career support?

**If so join, socialize and network!**

For information about the College's Alumni Association or membership benefits, please email [alumni@hccc.edu](mailto:alumni@hccc.edu).