

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 12 • DECEMBER 2021

# HCCC Happenings

A publication of the Communications Department



# HATS OFF to HUDSON'S HEROES

*Gala 2021*

Honoring  
**José "Pepe" García**  
Maverick Building Services, Inc.

**Thursday, December 2, 2021**



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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 January newsletter are due by Friday, December 10, 2021.

Please send your news items, comments and suggestions to:

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**HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION 24TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY GALA CELEBRATES WITH ‘HATS OFF TO HUDSON’S HEROES’**

The Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Foundation invited the community to be a part of the 24th Annual Holiday Gala which was held on Thursday, December 2, 2021, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the HCCC Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street in Jersey City, NJ.

The theme for this year’s celebration was “Hats Off to Hudson’s Heroes.” The Foundation honored Jose “Pepe” Garcia, Founder and President of Maverick Building Services, Inc. After immigrating from Cuba in 1968, Mr. Garcia settled in Union City, NJ, where his mother worked three jobs to support her sons. Mr. Garcia started his own cleaning business while attending Seton Hall University. Today, Maverick Building Services provides facilities services to college campuses, corporate parks, office buildings, ferry terminals, high schools, transportation centers, banks, and many municipalities.

“We are excited to be able to gather once again and celebrate in person,” said HCCC President Dr. Christopher Reber. He noted that the evening included world-class cuisine prepared and served by students and chef instructors of the College’s award-winning Culinary Arts Institute (CAI).

There were several ways to support the Foundation’s largest and most festive annual

fundraiser, including advertising in the 2021 Gala Journal, Gala sponsorship opportunities (tickets for the Gala and scholarship donations), and individual dinner tickets, HCCC Foundation Chair Joseph Napolitano, Sr. noted.

The HCCC Foundation also held a “Lucky Odds Raffle” with chances at \$50 each. The Grand Prize was 40% of raffle ticket sales; Second Prize was 6% of ticket sales, and Third Prize was 4% of ticket sales.

The Hudson County Community College Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation providing tax-exempt status to contributors. Established in 1997, the Foundation generates financial support for the College and its students, develops and awards need-based and merit scholarships, provides seed money for faculty programs, assists incoming students in achieving academic success, and provides for the College’s physical growth and the cultural enrichment of Hudson County residents. Since its founding, the Foundation has raised more than \$4.2 million in scholarships. The Foundation Art Collection, established in 2006, now includes over 1,700 works – most by nationally and internationally renowned artists.

**HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY SELECTED FOR NATIONAL TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS PROJECT**

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) and New Jersey City University (NJCU) have been selected to participate as a team in the Aspen Institute-American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Transfer Student Success and Equity Intensive (TSSEI) Cohort.

This prestigious Transfer Intensive is a one-year, privately funded initiative consisting of monthly sessions to support partnerships between community colleges and four-year universities in advancing practices and policies associated with improved, more equitable transfer student success. The sessions provide practical support in accelerating transfer reform. Topics will include setting a bold transfer vision, defining long-term goals for transfer success and equity outcomes, identifying strategies to support seamless academic pathways to baccalaureate programs, and transforming culture. The program is supported through the Ascendium Education Philanthropy.

“As always, we are very proud to partner with NJCU, and to have been chosen as part of this nationally recognized initiative,” said Dr. Christopher Reber, President of HCCC.



*Pictured here, NJCU President Dr. Sue Henderson and HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber at an articulation signing earlier this year.*

“We thank the Aspen Institute and AASCU for their leadership in providing more equitable educational opportunities for the men and women of our community. The deeply rooted HCCC-NJCU partnership has been beneficial to thousands of students, and this initiative is testimony to the importance of our alliance.”

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 825 CELEBRATE TRAILBLAZING NEW PARTNERSHIP



*Pictured clockwise from left: New Jersey Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo, New Jersey Council of County Colleges President Dr. Aaron R. Fichtner, Hudson County Community College President Dr. Christopher Reber, and International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825 Business Manager Greg Lalevee.*

On November 18, 2021, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) signed an articulation agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 825. The event took place at IUOE Local 825 Training Center, 338 Dean Rhodes Hall Road in Dayton, NJ.

Under the articulation agreement terms, IUOE Local 825 members are dually enrolled in the Union apprenticeship program and the College, and will earn an HCCC Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Technical Studies. Participants will be awarded up to 30 credits over the course of the program for union apprenticeship training, and an additional 30 credits for successful completion of HCCC courses.

“Hudson County Community College is proud to partner with IUOE Local 825 in building a more educated and highly skilled workforce. This agreement will advance career opportunities, benefit our local economy, and support the advancement of equity,” HCCC President Dr. Christopher Reber stated. “Partnerships like this are valuable and transformative.”

The 18-month program, funded in part through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, is one of only two such programs in New Jersey, and the only program

at a community college. It is considered a model for future union and educational partnerships in New Jersey and nationwide.

At the event, Dr. Reber and IUOE Business Manager Greg Lalevee welcomed New Jersey Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo, and New Jersey Council of County Colleges President Dr. Aaron R. Fichtner. Commissioner Asaro-Angelo spoke, and IUOE Executive Board Vice President and Training Director William Vaccaro led a tour of the IUOE training site.

“With rapid technological advancements driving our changing world, we recognize the necessity to have a better educated workforce to close that divide,” explained Gregory Lalevee, Business Manager of International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 825. “Today’s agreement is a proud moment for our organization as we partner with HCCC to innovate our training programs.”

The IUOE Local 825 apprenticeship program four-year curriculum is accredited by the Council on Occupational Education. Students take courses in mathematics, physics, electrical, technical writing, and mechanical engineering. An average of 12 core competencies must be learned within each curriculum year. Subjects include heavy equipment

*Continued on page 11*

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, EASTERN MILLWORK AND THOMAS EDISON STATE UNIVERSITY MARK NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK WITH A ‘CELEBRATION OF COLLABORATION’



*Thomas Edison State University Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives and Institutional Effectiveness Dr. Jeffrey Harmon and Hudson County Community College President Dr. Christopher Reber are seen here with Holz Technik Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Program student-apprentices Amber Gutierrez and Amar Arslanovic.*



*Administrators are given a tour of Eastern Millwork.*



*Student-apprentices operate equipment at the Eastern Millwork site.*

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) and Eastern Millwork, Inc., partners in the Holz Technik Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Program, co-hosted a “Celebration of Collaboration” and welcomed Thomas Edison State University (TESU) as the four-year college destination for students in the program. The event was held Friday afternoon, November 19, 2021, at Eastern Millwork headquarters in Jersey City, NJ.

HCCC President, Dr. Christopher Reber and Eastern Millwork Chief Operating Officer, Heiko

Sieling were joined by Thomas Edison State University Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives and Institutional Effectiveness, Dr. Jeffrey Harmon. HCCC Associate Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development, Lori Margolin, HCCC Associate Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Dr. Burl Yearwood, and faculty, staff, and Holz Technik students also attended.

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## NEW HIRES/NEW TITLES

Tahrier Ahmad, ESL Secretary  
(effective Nov. 29, 2021)

Janet Chavez, Executive Administrative Assistant,  
President's Office (effective Nov. 29, 2021)

Samantha Ceballo, Academic Counselor  
(effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Lawrence Louie, Senior PC Technician  
(effective Nov. 29, 2021)

Frederick Medina, Customer Service Manager  
(effective Nov. 29, 2021)

Candice Peterson, Administrative Assistant,  
Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
(effective Nov. 29, 2021)

Madeline Rivera, Executive Administrative  
Assistant for Vice President, External Affairs  
and Senior Counsel to the President  
(effective Dec. 6, 2021)

Hamza Saleem, Admissions Advisor  
(effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Tamara Williams, Academic Counselor  
(effective Nov. 24, 2021)

## APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY FULL-TIME STAFF

Anita Belle, Grant Project Director  
(Grant-funded) (effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Dan Brookes, Business Developer  
(Grant-funded) (effective Nov. 24, 2021)

James Cox, Interim Dean of College Libraries  
(effective Jan. 1, 2022)

Laurice Dukes, Healthcare Coordinator  
(Grant-funded) (effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Tyiesha Nicole Hargrove, CTE Academic Mentor  
(Grant-funded) (effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Anne Hutchinson, Librarian  
(effective Jan. 1, 2022)

Ara Karakashian, Interim Associate  
Dean of Business, Culinary Arts, and Hospitality  
Management (effective Jan. 1, 2022)

Ojanae Marshall, Program Assistant  
(Grant-funded) (effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Lilian Martinez, Administrative Assistant  
(effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Mhonerra Mauleon, Receiving Clerk  
(effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Rodrigo Romea, Coordinator  
(effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Maria Lita Sarmiento, Alumni Manager  
(Grant-funded) (effective Nov. 24, 2021)

Alison Wakefield, Interim Associate Dean,  
Humanities and Social Sciences  
(effective Jan. 1, 2022)

Imane Zehaf, Financial Counselor  
(Grant-funded) (effective Nov. 24, 2021)

## OUR STORIES UNTOLD

Submission by Anna Krupitskiy, Vice President for Human Resources and  
Yeurys Pujols, Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

On Wednesday, November 17, over 40 members of the HCCC community logged in to listen to Omar K. Williams' story. Omar currently serves as the HCCC Website and Portal Pages Manager. Omar's story highlighted the different stages of his life as he transitioned from a child to a young adult, professional, husband, and father. He shared challenging moments, including when he was judged simply because of his appearance and wearing braids. Throughout his story, the themes of faith, prayer, and perseverance guided most of his life. In addition to sharing the challenges, successes, and blessings associated with his family, he also shared multiple lessons gained along the way. A staff member stated that he "knew Omar was cool" and was blown away by his story and his life insights.

Omar started his story by talking about his parents and his Trinidad-Tobago heritage. He then discussed his experiences as a young man pursuing a college education and many of the steps it took to

find gainful employment. He noted his inability to find jobs after college and feeling forced to cut his braided curls as a result. He found his first job only a few weeks after his haircut, concluding months of unsuccessful searches. An audience member asked if he would grow the curls again, but he stressed his growing gray hair as the reason for keeping to a bald cut.

Omar discussed other challenges and tribulations he faced over the years. He shared his experience during the tragic day of 9/11, when it took him a long time to get home due to the complicated traffic situation. He shared his mother's emotions as he finally arrived home when she was unsure he was going to make it home. His father was also supposed to be in the World Trade Center area on that fateful day, but he had taken

*Continued on page 12*



The Office of Human Resources  
is pleased to launch an annual  
award and recognition  
program for all employees.

Hudson Is Home (HIH)  
Employee Recognition  
Program



**SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, December 8 at 2 p.m.**

## APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY FULL-TIME FACULTY, SPRING 2022

(effective Jan. 21, 2022)

Iveth Bernardez, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Stephanie Campos, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Christopher Cody, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Yusef Dag, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Amal Eddegouj, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Raffi Manjikian, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Victor Moruzzi, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Nicole Quinones, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Wendy Trach, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Michelle Vera, Instructor (Non-tenured)  
Saliha Yagoubi, Instructor (Non-tenured)

## RETIREMENTS

Maria Arroyo, Senior Accountant  
(effective Jan. 1, 2022)

Mary Ellen Cvek, College Lecturer,  
Nursing Program (effective Jan. 7, 2022)

Salvador Figueras, Professor  
(effective Dec. 31, 2021)

## MILESTONES

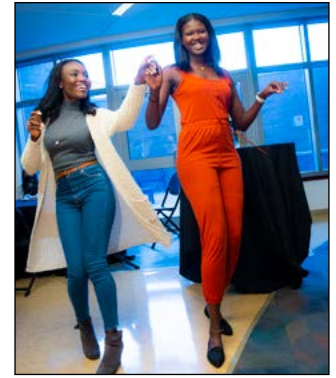
*Congratulations to the following  
on their anniversary with  
Hudson County Community College!*

**FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES**

*One Year  
Tatiana Gaona Zuniga*

## A TASTE OF CUBA

Submitted by Joseph Caniglia, Executive Director, North Hudson Campus



Yuniel Jimenez (photo at left, center) leads an ensemble of musicians during "A Taste of Cuba" event on Monday, Nov. 1. The well-attended event was entertaining and informative.

On November 1, 2021, the North Hudson Campus, the Office of Student Life and Leadership, and the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion hosted a Cuban event for the Hudson County Community College community. There were over ninety participants at the event. The event was well accepted and enjoyed by everyone. I would like to give a special thanks to Associate Director, Angela Tuzzo and Assistant Professor of ESL, Eva Kozlenko who

were instrumental in helping to make this event possible.

The event consisted of very talented musicians, Yuniel Jimenez (Tres Guitar and vocals), Manuel Sanchez (Percussion Set), Yusnier Sanchez (Congas), Jorge Bringas (Bass), and Eudy Fernandez (Trumpet). Participants heard different styles of Cuban music, which has been said to speak to the soul and body. In addition, the band gave a lecture on the history of Cuban music genres:

Changui, SucuSucu, Chachacha, Bolero, Rumba, Son as well as the history of Cuban tres, a traditional music instrument.

I personally want to thank Yuniel and his team for their dedication and excitement they portrayed in entertaining the Hudson County Community College community. The HCCC community enjoyed meeting the band members, who all were very passionate and put a smile on so many faces.

## MISSION 50 IN HOBOKEN LAUNCHES INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION LAB



Christopher M. Reber, Ph.D., President, Hudson County Community College (fifth from left), Dr. Nicholas Chiaravalloti, HCCC Vice President for External Affairs and Special Counsel to the President (third from right); along with U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez (second from right), Hudson County higher-education leadership and dignitaries at the official launch of the Mission 50 Innovation and Commercialization Lab on Nov. 8.

U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez joined the Mission 50 team and its membership, Hudson County higher-education leadership, dignitaries and other guests for the official launch of the Mission 50 Innovation and Commercialization Lab in Hoboken in November.

Located on the second floor of the newly renovated and rebranded boutique office building and coworking community at 50 Harrison Street, the lab will support the entrepreneurship programs at Stevens Institute of Technology, Saint Peter's University, New Jersey City University and Hudson County Community College.

Owned and operated by JDA Group LLC, Mission 50 has a long history of serving independent professionals, growing entrepreneurial companies, and mature enterprises in the Greater New York City marketplace. Its multi-million-dollar transformation, completed in 2021, responds to evolving workplace needs.

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WELCOMES NEW STUDENT ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE

The Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Board of Trustees swore in Jasmine Ngin as the Board's new Student Alumni Representative on Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at the Annual Reorganization meeting.



Ms. Ngin earned her Associate in Science (A.S.) degree in Computer Science from the College in May. As a student, she earned Dean's List recognition and served as the Student Government Association Director of Finance. She was also a member of the HCCC cohort of the Goldman Sachs Local College Collaborative, and the HCCC *Achieving the Dream* Student Leader Strategy Team. Ms. Ngin worked throughout her entire HCCC experience as a Health Insurance Producer at UnitedHealthcare/Optum, Data Entry Technician at Gourmet Home, and Billing Specialist at Bronx Foot Care.

Passionate and hard-working, Ms. Ngin was deeply involved in HCCC activities and made connections throughout the College. Her advocacy and leadership led her to spearhead the initiation of a transfer partnership between HCCC and New York University. She also participated in the conversations and planning of a program for incarcerated persons to earn an HCCC degree.

Currently, Ms. Ngin is attending Rutgers University where she is double-majoring in Business Analytics Information Technology, and Finance.

Ms. Ngin relates that she is excited and ready to work as the Student Alumni Representative on the HCCC Board of Trustees, and to continuing the transformative impact the College has on students and the community.

# Foundation Art Collection

The Hudson County Community College Foundation Art Collection of 1,700+ 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.



"Voyages 13: Sardaigne," 2004, 8 3/8" x 5 3/8" x 4", Cast Paper, Watercolor and Acrylic by Joyce Kozloff.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to **Joyce Kozloff** for the wonderful donation of the work "Voyages 13: Sardaigne," 2004, 8 3/8" x 5 3/8" x 4", of cast paper, watercolor and acrylic.

Thank you Annina Nosei for the generous donation of four works by **Bernd Koberling**.

Thank you to artists **Bill Rodwell** and **Mary Frances Judge** for the ephemera related to their artwork.

Thank you to Clifford Brooks for the generous donation of two copies of his recent book, *Behind the Canvas of Compassion: The Woman, Vocation, and Art of Sr. Mary of the Compassion, OP*, co-authored with Dennis Demes.

## Artist News

If you like the sculptures made out of tires by **Chakaia Booker** on the first floor of the STEM Building and the first floor of 70 Sip Avenue, you might want to make a field trip to the Montclair Museum where a huge Booker tire sculpture is on view in the exhibit, "Transformed: Objects Reimagined by American Artists" from now until December 2023. You have lots of time! The exhibition was inspired by a note the artist Jasper Johns famously wrote in 1964 in his sketchbook: "Take an object Do something to it Do something else to it..." You can see more than 60 artworks from 1829 to present, where artists "take objects as their points of departure, transforming them to reflect their varied cultural backgrounds and viewpoints." For Booker, the object is tires.

For Andy Warhol, whose work can be seen in the reception area on the 2nd floor of the Culinary Conference Center, that object in the Montclair Museum show is cars. As the curator writes, "Indeed, all objects and things can be transformed by artists with multiple and symbolic meanings beyond their appearances, just as engaging with art can transform the experience of the viewer."

If you like **Elizabeth Catlett's** work which is installed on the first floor of the Cundari Building, on the third floor of the Gabert Library, and on the fourth floor of 70 Sip Avenue, you might enjoy the new long-term installation at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City called, *Before Yesterday We Could Fly: An Afrofuturist Period Room*, which includes works related to African American culture going back to the 17th century. Elizabeth Catlett's included work is a 1947 linocut of Sojourner Truth. The goal of the exhibit is to "imagine the domestic spaces of individuals previously omitted from our period rooms," said curator Sarah E. Lawrence. The exhibition begins with the history of Seneca Village, a 19th-century community of African Americans who lived on land now occupied by the Met, and to the west in Central Park. When Central Park was designed and built in the mid-19th century, over 1,600 people, including inhabitants of Seneca Village were forced out of their homes, which had, according to the museum, "served as a refuge from the overcrowding of Lower Manhattan and the racist attitudes that prevailed there."

The term Afrofuturism, which is part of the title of the exhibit, was coined by Mark Dery in his 1994 essay, "Black to the Future." Theorist Kodwo Eshun says the term reflects a movement that, "studies the appeals that black artists, musicians, critics, and writers have made to the future, in moments where any future was made difficult for them to imagine." With a New Jersey student ID, or a New Jersey ID, the Metropolitan Museum entrance fee is "Pay what you wish."

Autographed offset lithographs of dessert paintings by Wayne Thiebaud are on display in the Culinary Conference Center in the second floor reception area and in the fifth floor reception area (E504) in the Center for Business and Industry. Mr. Thiebaud, who just celebrated his 100th birthday, is featured in a new exhibit: "Wayne Thiebaud 100, Paintings, Prints, and Drawings" at the McNay Museum in San Antonio, Texas through January 16th. One of the nation's best-known artists, he has been awarded the National Medal of the Arts by the U.S. Government. It's interesting to note that despite his wonderful success, Mr. Thiebaud always had a "day job" teaching art to students at a local public college near his home. One former student told me that each term, this world-famous

artist would start off class by bringing in half a dozen of his own works that were just terrible. The students would discuss and analyze the pictures to explore what makes a painting "good" or "bad," in other words, what makes a painting "work." Now an artist herself, the former student said she learned more from that exercise than anything else during her years at college.

Congratulations to **Faith Ringgold**, who was recently awarded the 2021 Louis Auchincloss Prize by the Museum of The City of New York. Her work can be seen on the third and sixth floor of the Gabert Library. The Louis Auchincloss Prize is presented to writers and artists whose work is inspired by and enhances the five boroughs of New York City. Disciplines include literature, architecture, art, music, playwriting, and photography. Past winners include Whoopi Goldberg and Gloria Steinem.

**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 monetary gift in support of the Foundation Art Collection, please contact Nicole Bouknight Johnson, Vice President for Advancement and Communications at (201) 360-4069 or [nicolebjohnson@hccc.edu](mailto:nicolebjohnson@hccc.edu)**

**To donate artwork, find detailed information here: [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)**

DEPARTMENT OF  
**CULTURAL AFFAIRS**  
presents

Join the Department of Cultural Affairs for another month of art, interviews and music on the 6th Floor of the Gabert Library.  
For more information, to RSVP for programs or to visit the gallery, email: [mvitale@hccc.edu](mailto:mvitale@hccc.edu)



HCCC Art Department students volunteered at Art Fair 14C at Mana Contemporary in Jersey City from Nov. 12 to Nov. 14. The Fair included 75 exhibition booths, five special spaces featuring artists who use light, video and mixed media; and a Juried Show, a showcase for 40 artists from New Jersey.

Art Fair 14 C is now in its third year as New Jersey's statewide art fair. This year, it was held in the beautiful Glass Gallery at Mana Contemporary from November 12 to November 14 at 888 Newark Avenue in Jersey City. It was an unbelievably huge success. For the second time since its inception, Hudson County Community College's Gallery Management students worked as volunteers to learn the ins and outs of the art fair business.

"I had the opportunity to volunteer at Art Fair 14C this weekend. It was truly an honor and blessing to have been surrounded by amazing artists and their work. I appreciated the artists who spared me a few minutes of their time to discuss their experiences and have motivated me to be confident in my work."

**Mayra Preciado**  
Hudson County Community College  
Student, Art Fair 14 C volunteer

"Although the annual art fair is the centerpiece, our Art Fair 14C's mission to support the visual arts and artists continues year round:

- Increase opportunities for artists
- Expand public access to fine art
- Enhance New Jersey's reputation as a leading arts destination

We are thrilled to be able to continue our partnership with HCCC and Dineen Hull Gallery with the College providing volunteers during the Art Fair. Volunteers are a core component to completing Art Fair 14C's mission. While volunteering supports the Fair, it also provides helpful insight into the behind the scenes of the art world for those who are exploring the idea of working in the industry. We look forward to new opportunities in the future."

**Kristin J. DeAngelis**  
Deputy Director, Art Fair 14C

"Hudson County Community College Art Department students had the incredible opportunity to volunteer at Art Fair 14C, the largest visual art event in New Jersey. Our students enthusiastically volunteered their time and energy to be a part of this unique Jersey City event. The student volunteers gained insight as to how international art fairs operate, and had the opportunity to engage with the Jersey City art community and to meet and view the art of literally, hundreds of artists from New Jersey, New York, and around the world."

**Laurie Riccadonna**  
Coordinator/Professor of Fine Art  
Hudson County Community College

"The HCCC Department of Cultural Affairs has supported Art Fair 14C long before it opened its doors to the public in 2018. New Jersey is growing with new art collectors, and supporting artists of the area is key in creating and sustaining a vibrant arts economy. The fair is so diverse, from traditional landscape paintings to video and more. Each year the momentum grows. Happy to have the Gallery Management class a part of the excitement."

**Michelle Vitale**  
Director Benjamin J. Dineen III &  
Dennis C. Hull Gallery & Adjunct  
Professor, Intro to Gallery Management

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**VIRTUAL RECEPTION/  
ARTIST TALK**

**Laurie Riccadonna, Jeremiah Teipen  
and Michael Lee**

**Friday, December 3  
4:30 p.m.**

**Please register in advance:**  
<http://bitly.ws/jHgX>

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[www.hccc.edu/community/arts/doca-culture.html](http://www.hccc.edu/community/arts/doca-culture.html)**

# ENROLLMENT NEWS

## HCCC HOLDS TRI-ALPHA INDUCTION CEREMONY



*Inductees of HCCC's Alpha Alpha Honor Society.*



*Nakiya Santos addresses the assembly.*

Every November 8, colleges around the nation celebrate the accomplishments of first-generation staff, faculty, and students. To mark this momentous occasion, Hudson County Community College inducted its first class of the Alpha Alpha Alpha Honor Society. The Alpha Alpha Alpha Honor Society was founded on March 24, 2018, in Moravian College. Tri-Alpha exists as an organization to support first-generation college students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The ceremony began with welcoming remarks from Tri-Alpha Chapter Co-Advisor, Angela Tuzzo and opening remarks from HCCC's President Dr. Christopher

Reber on the importance and dedication of first-generation college students. After the opening remarks, Tri-Alpha Chapter Co-Advisor, Jose Lowe presented the history of the Tri-Alpha Honor Society. He also highlighted the many obstacles that first-generation college students experience.

Tri-Alpha inductees received a certificate and an honor cord that they will wear during graduation ceremonies. Alongside this year's honorees, Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Yeurys Pujols was inducted as an honorary member. Mr. Pujols addressed the audience by

speaking about his nontraditional path into higher education. His speech was followed by anecdotes from HCCC students Ms. Katerin Claros and Ms. Madeline Dyer, who spoke on their journey as first-generation college students. HCCC Alumna Ms. Nakiya Santos compared first-generation college students' changes and struggles to the changes a chrysalis goes through before becoming a butterfly. The Tri-Alpha induction ceremony marked an important milestone in recognizing HCCC's first-generation students that will be celebrated annually.

## THE HCCC DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS - BREAKING THE SILENCE SERIES



On Thursday, Nov. 4, the College's Mental Health Counseling & Wellness Department, EOF Program, and Office of Student Life & Leadership presented "Breaking the Silence, Part 1." The first event of the series was a vigil in honor of victims and survivors of domestic abuse. Attendees were encouraged to wear purple to the event, and lit LED candles as part of the vigil. Sherylene Diaz, Community Education and Outreach Coordinator at WomenRising, Inc., was the guest speaker. WomenRising "assists women and their families to achieve self-sufficiency and live safe, productive, and fulfilling lives, through social services, economic development, and advocacy services."

# We are here for you!



**Are you experiencing stress, depression, or anxiety?**

**Difficulty in a course?**

**Dealing with mental health and wellness?**

**Hudson County Community College cares about you and wants to help.**

**Please complete the General Concern Form**  
<https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-Care>

**A member of the CARE Team will respond to you shortly.**





## PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY NEWS



Walid Achkir (right), Engineering Science major, with Sam Pesin, President of the Friends of Liberty State Park, at Bergen Square Day on Saturday, Oct. 23.



Miriam Basta, Biology major, volunteering at Liberty State Park on Saturday, Oct. 30.



Phi Theta Kappa's international convention, PTK Catalyst 2021, was originally scheduled to be held at the Baltimore Convention Center earlier this year, but was converted to a virtual event. Beta Alpha Phi's awards could not be bestowed in person. Congratulations once again!



Rosa Teixeira and her husband volunteered as marshals at the Friends of Liberty State Park 5K Run to Protect the Park on Saturday, Nov. 6. Rosa graduated from HCCC and attended New Jersey City University on a full scholarship.

## HCCC PRESIDENT DISCUSSES WHAT'S NEW AT HCCC WITH SHCCNJ



On Saturday, Oct. 30, HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber (left) joined Carlos Medina, President/CEO of the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCCNJ), to discuss developments at the College, most notably the Hudson Helps Resource Center, the adoption of the 2021-24 Strategic Plan, and the College's new tagline, "Hudson Is Home."

**Get Connect-ED with HCCC!**

Hudson County Community College has implemented **Connect-ED**, a text- and voice-messaging **emergency-alert system** in the event of a crisis or emergency that poses an immediate and life-threatening danger to the College community.

Connect-ED is HCCC's response to a federal law which requires disclosure of pertinent information about campus crime and security. The system will allow the College to send time-sensitive notifications by phone, email and/or text message.

Users may access the College's web site, <https://www.hccc.edu/administration/communications/emergency-notification.html>, and click on the Connect-ED link to register their contact information such as home, work, and cell phone numbers.

### Free and Confidential

HCCC will provide this emergency service free of charge to students and employees – there is no charge to sign up. However, mobile service providers may charge a fee for incoming messages depending on an individual's plan.

Personal information entered into the Connect-ED system will be kept confidential and will not be used for any other purpose.

**For information about Connect-ED, visit :**  
[www.hccc.edu/administration/communications/emergency-notification.html](https://www.hccc.edu/administration/communications/emergency-notification.html)

**Stay informed and get Connect-ED today!**

## SAFETY AND SECURITY OFFICE HOSTS CPR/AED TRAINING



HCCC team members underwent CPR/AED training on Nov. 16.

On Tuesday, Nov. 16, the Office of Safety & Security held a certification training for Hudson County Community College participants. The CPR-AED course trains participants to provide CPR, and use an automated external defibrillator (AED) in a safe, timely, and effective manner.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is an emergency procedure that uses chest compressions and artificial ventilation to help a person suffering from cardiac arrest recover.

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a medical device designed to analyze the heart rhythm and deliver an electric shock to victims of ventricular fibrillation to restore the heart rhythm to normal. Ventricular fibrillation is the uncoordinated heart rhythm most often responsible for sudden cardiac arrest.

Congratulations to the 25 HCCC employees who participated in the training. After passing the certification test, they are certified for two years.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS



Continuing Education's November 20 "Digital Marketing: Strategies for Impact & Influence" course taught by Chastity Farrell.

Students learned how to design an effective digital strategy to use for work, creative endeavors, or for their own personal pursuits. Coursework included how to find and connect with ideal customers, the type of content to post for power and influence, social media strategies and tactics to achieve goals, how Search Engine Optimization (SEO) converts clicks to customers, how to create personalized digital experiences for customers, digital marketing technologies and tools, web analytics – how to tell what is working and what is not working, and how to measure Return on Investment (ROI).



### Continuing Education Destination Photography Courses

In these Photography + Destination Combination courses, which ran in Fall 2021, Continuing Ed's Classroom Au Pair students learned about basic digital photography and applied their new knowledge and skills during trips to cultural destinations around the United States. Coursework focused on photography, where students explored the concept of exposure, color balance, and composition. Students learned shooting macro photography and landscape, as well as basic editing and retouching techniques.

### Academic and Workforce Pathway Program

The Academic and Workforce Pathway Program is a new program, which began in the Fall 2021 semester and is funded by the Hudson County Department of Housing and Community Reintegration. Individuals who are incarcerated at the Hudson County Correctional Facility have the opportunity to enroll at Hudson County Community College for a degree program or a workforce program. Some of the degree students are registered for ENG 112, a required Speech course. This course and all the others are delivered remotely. However, the students had the chance to deliver their speeches to their professor in person. Professor Katie Sweeting held an in-person class at the Hudson County Correctional Facility. The students in the class are doing well and their grades are outstanding. One student was recently released and remains a registered student, actively engaged in college studies while living in the community.



### Exploring Digital Photography and Oahu: The Heart of Hawaii

During this five-day hands-on class, students had the opportunity to experience many aspects of Hawaiian life including its culture, history, marine life, agriculture, volcanoes, landscape and surfing. Students visited the Polynesian Cultural Center, Pearl Harbor National Memorial, a local Hawaiian farm, the Dole Pineapple Plantation, the Diamond Head Trail, and Iolani Palace. They went snorkeling at the North Shore, and explored Honolulu and the world famous Waikiki Beach.

This student came to campus to meet with his College Student Success (CSS 100) instructor, Professor Nakiya Santos. She introduced him to other staff at HCCC and set him up with a laptop so he can continue to log into his remote classes. Professor Santos expressed how engaged the College is in the student's academic and non-academic success.

### Gateway to Innovation

Gateway to Innovation Alumni Manager, Ms. Maria Lita Sarmiento, has established a relationship with Dress for Success in Jersey City. Upon her recommendation, alumni can receive full business attire. Once employed, alumni may be eligible for additional clothing. To learn more, please email [msarmiento2@hccc.edu](mailto:msarmiento2@hccc.edu).

According to its corporate website, Dress for Success' mission "is to empower women to achieve

### Exploring Digital Photography and South Florida: Miami & Key West

During this three-day hands-on class, students experienced the culture, art, history, literature and marine life of South Florida. They visited Downtown Miami, the Wynwood Art District, Miami Beach's Art Deco Historic District, Little Havana to learn about the Cuban influence in Miami, and historic sites such as Key West Museum of Art & History, Ernest Hemingway's house, and Mallory Square.

economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Our vision is a world where women do not live in poverty. We strive for a world where all women are financially independent, are treated with dignity and respect and are directly impacting their lives and those of their families. We aspire to a world that fully harnesses the power of women and recognizes their role in economic sustainability. Our purpose is to offer long-lasting solutions that enable women to break the cycle of poverty. Dress for Success is part of a global movement for change, empowering women to obtain safer and better futures."

## HCCC HOSTS LATINO ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



**O**n Wednesday, Nov. 10, Hudson County Community College hosted a meeting for its Latino Advisory Committee, a group comprised of College leadership and local members of the Latino community. The committee collaborated to brainstorm an event to take place at the College.

## HCCC CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT STUDENTS CONDUCT WORK AT HISTORIC JERSEY CITY AND HARSIMUS CEMETERY



**O**n Sunday, Nov. 21, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Construction Management faculty and students spearheaded a project to assist with the maintenance of the Historic Jersey City and Harsimus Cemetery. The project is being conducted as an experiential education/service-learning component of the \$300,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant awarded to the College in June. The HCCC team of 20 students and three faculty members was led by Dr. Azhar Mahmood, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the HCCC Construction Management Program.

## HCCC ATTENDS MEDIA LUNCHEON FOR REENTRY TRAINING PROGRAM



**O**n Friday, Nov. 19, HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber (second from left) attended a media luncheon of the New Jersey Reentry Corporation (NJRC) at the Governor's Reentry Training and Employment Center in Kearny. The NJRC is a non-profit agency with a social mission to remove all barriers to employment for citizens returning from incarceration. Former Gov. James E. McGreevey, chairman of the NJRC, is pictured at right.

## HCCC AND NJCU SELECTED FOR NATIONAL TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS PROJECT

*Continued from page 2*

"We are grateful for the outstanding community college partnerships that New Jersey City University shares with institutions like Hudson County Community College," said Dr. Sue Henderson, President of NJCU. "The prestigious Aspen Institute and AACSU initiative provides NJCU and HCCC with financial support to sustain and strengthen academic programming and student support in order to ensure that our region has an educated workforce. We look forward to working with Chris Reber and his team to realize this goal."

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies organization based in Washington, DC. Its mission is to foster values-based leadership and provide a nonpartisan forum for the exchange of ideas to solve problems. The Institute has campuses in Aspen, Colorado, and on the Wye River on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Aspen Institute events have attracted presidents, statesmen, diplomats, judges, ambassadors, and Nobel laureates over the years, enriching and enlivening the Institute as a global forum for leaders.

## HCCC AND OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 825 CELEBRATE TRAILBLAZING NEW PARTNERSHIP

*Continued from page 3*

operator training, emergency response, hazardous waste operations, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements.

HCCC is a Registered Apprenticeship Sponsor with the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeships. The College is involved in apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs with local businesses, construction trade unions, and area governmental agencies.

IUOE Local 825 has more than 8,200 members throughout New Jersey, and in New York's Rockland, Orange, Ulster, Delaware and Sullivan Counties. The Union invests millions of dollars in training and equipment to ensure members are the best at what they do, and to provide contractors with safe and efficient workmanship.

This event also marked National Apprenticeship Week, a nationwide celebration during which education, labor, and industry come together to showcase the value of Registered Apprenticeships for rebuilding the nation's economy. National Apprenticeship Week also provides an opportunity to address pressing challenges such as supply-chain demands, clean energy, addressing public health and cybersecurity issues, and rebuilding infrastructure.

## OUR STORIES UNTOLD

Continued from page 4

the day off. He talked about experiencing extreme back pain after an accident. At the time, doctors and medical science did not provide much hope for his relief. Once, while walking in the street, he just kneeled and prayed to God. Without hope from science, he turned to God. Subsequently, his faith and prayer guided him to his wife, the love of his life, to getting married and spending their lives together, now with two young children.

Omar provided pictures to illustrate how his story aligned with some of the lessons he experienced and shared with the audience throughout his presentation. There was a photo of him wearing fabrics that made him look like a superhero with wings. He wore the costume at Comic-Con, which ultimately led to increased sales. This lesson suggested that one should always think outside the box. In another photo, he was on the trading floor of Wall Street. He explained how he was not dressed professionally that day, and unexpectedly was asked to go to the trading floor with the rest of his team. He immediately called his wife to bring him a razor and a change of clothes. The lesson he learned was always to be ready and dressed, prepared for work every day.

When prompted by an audience member, Omar said he had no regrets and would not do anything differently. Every experience and everything he has done led him to his current life and position at HCCC, which he would not change. On advice to students, he highlighted the importance of faith and prayer. An audience member shared "It was an inspiring story, and I enjoyed listening to every aspect of Omar's journey."

"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 Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This series highlights 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 [dei@hccc.edu](mailto:dei@hccc.edu).

## Are you a graduating HCCC student this term, who has made some great art you want to enter in a contest?

**Enter the HCCC Foundation Student Art Awards Contest. Deadline for entries is Friday, April 15, 2022, but you can enter now, and still win even if you graduate this term! At the Spring 2022 awards ceremony this year, the Hudson County Community College Foundation will make up to six cash awards totaling up to \$1,600 to students enrolled at the College (during the Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 semester).**

Our purpose is to acknowledge and award excellence in student art work. At the Student Excellence Awards ceremony, there will be up to two \$500 Hudson County Community College Foundation Student Art Purchase Awards to help the College build a student art collection. These original signed works will be professionally framed and permanently installed on campus. Up to four \$150 HCCC Foundation Student Art Supplies Gift Certificate Awards will go to students showing outstanding promise in the fine arts.

### Please note:

There is no guarantee work will be purchased in any given semester. Eligible artwork includes painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, collage, and prints such as etchings, lithographs, wood block prints, and digital art.



**HCCC Foundation Student Art Awards Contest deadline: Friday, April 15, 2022**

To apply, email Andrea Siegel at [asiegel@hccc.edu](mailto:asiegel@hccc.edu) for an application.



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

**OUT of the BOX**



PODCAST

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)

## NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK WITH A 'CELEBRATION OF COLLABORATION'

Continued from page 3

Holz Technik Apprenticeship Program participants earn an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Advanced Manufacturing from HCCC while serving as apprentices for EMI, an industry leader in custom and high-end, automated woodwork manufacturing and installation.

Up to four qualified local high school seniors are selected each year and hired by EMI as apprentices who receive full benefits – paid vacation and holidays, 401K plan, and health insurance. Apprentices earn a salary starting at \$24,500 and rising to \$70,000 by the end of the fourth year, when they are awarded their HCCC A.A.S. degree and become engineers at EMI. At the end of five years, the apprentices earn a Bachelor's degree in Technical Studies from Thomas Edison State University, have no college debt, and can continue to climb the career ladder. The first cohort of Holz Technik students will graduate from HCCC in spring 2022 and begin studies at TESU that fall. The program and partnership is a model that is being expanded to other partners in advanced manufacturing industries throughout New Jersey and beyond.

"We are proud to partner with Eastern Millwork and Thomas Edison State University," Dr. Reber stated. "The Holz Technik Advanced Manufacturing Apprenticeship Program successfully addresses the challenges of developing educated, skilled workers needed in specialized and vital industries like high-end, automated woodwork manufacturing and installation."

"Our partnership with Hudson County Community College, and now, Thomas Edison State University, embraces talent and technology," EMI Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Campbell said in a statement. "It helps to fill the void that existed; opens doors for the young people of our community with demonstrated promise and aptitude to have a tuition-free college degree in Advanced Manufacturing and well-paying careers with many options; and enables our company – and our industry – to provide value that importers cannot provide."

Complete information about the HCCC-EMI Holz Technik Apprenticeship Program is available at <https://www.hccc.edu/programs-courses/workforce-development/apprenticeship/eastern-millwork/program-details.html>.

## Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FALL 2021

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2021 | 1:00 p.m. - 2 p.m. | Online  
Supporting Student Success

Facilitator: Sharon Daughtry, MBA

Understanding and designing student success based on the teaching & learning toolkit of *Achieving the Dream*.

- A review of the Guided Pathways Movement model.
- Collaboration between faculty and student affairs professionals to cultivate learning and support student success

JOIN US AT: <https://tinyurl.com/t88xuxbj>

Meeting number: 132 170 0389 | Password: WpXNXRrS377

### ACUE Informational and Recruiting Sessions

#### Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning National Information Sessions

Facilitators: Dr. Paula Roberson and Sharon Daughtry, MBA

Participants will be informed of the benefits, structure, and professional development offered by the Association of College and University Educators.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3 at 1:00 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJEkcOirrjMsE9XhxDQIn4Lmg8-RwP10962p>

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Online: <https://tinyurl.com/92xvnbht>

Meeting number: 2630 254 7422 | Password: bUmsdS6SJ72

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Paula Roberson, Ed.D., Director, Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation  
[proberson@hccc.edu](mailto:proberson@hccc.edu) | 201-360-4775

## Your Year End Giving Makes a Difference.



Go to: [www.hccc.edu/foundation](http://www.hccc.edu/foundation)

- click the donate button or mail your tax-deductible gift to  
Foundation Department, 162-168 Sip Avenue, Second Floor, Jersey City, NJ 07306.

## ACHIEVING THE DREAM

### Update on HCCC's Student Success Work

On Tuesday, October 19, 2021, Dr. Mary Fifield and Dr. Rene Garcia, Hudson County Community College's Achieving the Dream Leadership and Data Coaches, respectively, presented to the HCCC Board of Trustees. Dr. Fifield and Dr. Garcia celebrated the work HCCC has completed to date in adopting a laser-like focus on student success across the College and implementing initiatives to move the needle on key student success metrics. They also offered guidance for continuing this work in Year 3 of HCCC's engagement with Achieving the Dream. Dr. Fifield and Dr. Garcia's presentation to the Board of Trustees came on the heels of their sixth visit with the HCCC family.

From Tuesday, October 5 through Friday, October 8, 2021, Drs. Fifield and Garcia conducted a virtual site visit. They met with various College constituencies including members of the team responsible for implementing the Title V Grant Project, La Puerta Dorada/The Golden Door; members of the Student Success Dream Team; John Scanlon and John Urgola of Institutional Research and Planning; the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and the leaders of the functional areas that have primary responsibility for implementing the 2021-24 Strategic Plan initiatives. President Reber recently shared Dr. Fifield and Dr. Garcia's follow-up letter containing their observations, thoughts, and recommendations with the College community.

HCCC's third year of engagement with Achieving the Dream will focus on several different initiatives that were the result of research and recommendations from HCCC's Student Success Dream Team's "How Teams." For Year 3, "How Teams" will now be called "Implementation Teams." Each month, updates on the ongoing work of each Implementation Team will be provided in Happenings and other venues. To become involved in any of the Implementation Teams, please reach

out directly to the lead(s), or contact Dream Team Co-Chairs, Dr. Heather DeVries (hdevries@hccc.edu) and Dr. Sheila Dynan (sdynan@hccc.edu).

**Implementation Team Lead(s)**  
ESL (aligning with the Title V Grant Project)  
Jenny Bobea – jbobea@hccc.edu

**Academic Foundations English**  
Dr. Sean Egan – segan@hccc.edu

**Academic Foundations Mathematics**  
Laura Samuelsen – lsamuelsen@hccc.edu  
Kyle Woolley – kwoolley@hccc.edu

**Student Leaders**  
Dr. Heather DeVries – hdevries@hccc.edu  
Dr. Sheila Dynan – sdynan@hccc.edu  
Crystal Newton – cnewton7197@live.hccc.edu

**College Student Success (CSS-100)**  
Kenny Fabara – kfabara@hccc.edu  
Angela Tuzzo – atuzzo@hccc.edu

**Hudson Helps**  
Dr. David Clark – dclark@hccc.edu  
Dr. Ara Karakashian – akarakashian@hccc.edu

**Early Warning/Alert Systems**  
Dr. Sirhan Abdullah – sabdullah@hccc.edu  
Dr. Gretchen Schulthes – gschulthes@hccc.edu

**Student Success Academy**  
Dr. Pamela Bandyopadhyay  
pbandyopadhyay@hccc.edu  
Joseph Caniglia – jcaniglia@hccc.edu

**Accessibility**  
Matthew LaBrake – mlabrake@hccc.edu  
Jacqueline Safont – jsafont@hccc.edu

**Pre-Nursing Student Cohort**  
Dr. Lori Byrd – lbyrd@hccc.edu  
Lisa Cieciewicz – lcieciewicz@hccc.edu  
Catherine Sirangelo – csirangelo@hccc.edu



### Mask Protocol

**MASKS ARE REQUIRED ON CAMPUS.**

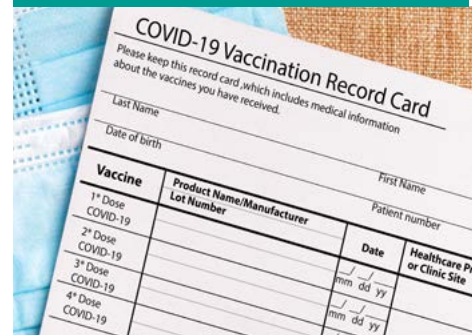
*Masks are available at security desks in all HCCC buildings.*

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

*Your safety is important to us!*

# ATTENTION

HCCC PT and FT Faculty and Staff!  
Effective December 20, 2021,  
**ALL HCCC EMPLOYEES MUST BE VACCINATED.**



For updates, please refer to the Return to Campus Task Force Web Page at

<https://www.hccc.edu/community/returntocampus/index.html>

**HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE WILL BE CLOSED**  
from Wednesday, December 22, 2021 to  
Friday, December 31, 2021 for Winter Break.

**THE COLLEGE WILL REOPEN on Monday, January 3, 2022.**

**In-person/remote registration**  
will reopen on January 3 for Winter Intersession only.

**Spring 2022 registration**  
will resume on Tuesday, January 4.

**REGISTER ONLINE**  
While the College is on Winter Break, eligible HCCC students may still register online 24/7 and avoid delays in January.

<https://myhudson.hccc.edu>



## CALENDAR

### Wednesday, December 1

Deadline to apply for May Graduation Social Service Day, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Student Center, 81 Sip Ave., Multipurpose Room, Second Floor

Faculty Workshop: Managing Your Canvas Gradebook, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Join at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/hccccenter-for-online-learning-10899964365>

APA/MLA Research Paper Formatting Workshop, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m228e0095230187a4a2fab2c3bdfc4b4b>

What We're Reading: Book Recs from the Libraries, 3 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. Join at <https://www.twitch.tv/hccclibrary>

### Thursday, December 2

Hudson County Community College Foundation Annual Extravaganza, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk St.

"Una Noche en Su Idioma," 6 p.m. Register/join at [www.tinyurl.com/hcccsisepuede](http://www.tinyurl.com/hcccsisepuede)

### Friday, December 3

Fall Student Virtual Exhibit opens, [www.flickr.com/photos/dineenhullgallery/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/dineenhullgallery/)

Understanding Your Emotional Intelligence, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=mfff77b977f8045eba9dfcf2f5e7779f1>; Meeting Number: 2632 464 8356; Password: PMdD7CxYR65

Supporting Student Success, 1 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m689c92bb58ec50a021165b58da42ddcf>; Meeting number: 132 170 0389; Password: WpXNXRrS377

ACUE Informational and Recruiting Session, 1 p.m. Join at <https://zoom.us/j/96222544324?pwd=WS9VS2FVOEICm1TK1g1M2p2QkhqZz09>

Virtual Artist Reception and Hudson Presents: Conversations with Jeremiah Teipen and Laurie Riccadonna, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Register at <https://zoom.us/j/96222544324?pwd=WS9VS2FVOEICm1TK1g1M2p2QkhqZz09>

Video Gaming, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Makerspace (L116), Gabert Library, 71 Sip Ave.

### Saturday, December 4

Accommodations at HCCC workshop (Spanish), 10 a.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/meet/jsafont>

### Monday, December 6

Panel Discussion on Women in Higher Education: Voices for Advancement, 11 a.m., Gabert Library, 71 Sip Avenue, 6th Floor, Atrium, or join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m8d4334dfa666b74579e284e9ae403d47>; Meeting number: 2631 490 9888; Password: HCCCWIHE21. Register at <https://womeninhighereducation2021.eventbrite.com>

Adult Coloring Finals Stress Buster, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m41539f33a72fad0253f3bf06ee1e903>

Virtual Toast to the Grads, 4 p.m. Register at <http://hccc.life/toast2021>

### Tuesday, December 7

Goal Setting and Professional Development Planning for Employee Performance Management Workshop, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m904db4ba424fcacd1c4ba8431bc015e8>; Meeting number: 2630 663 4157; Password: bdVmedgW332

HCCC Data Summit, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hccc-data-summit-2021-tickets-207419155277>

December Graduation Ceremony, 5:30 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street and Virtual on WebEx. Graduates wishing to be recognized virtually must RSVP for this date at <https://hcccdecgradreceptiondec7.eventbrite.com>

"Wanna Talk about It?" weekly discussion, 1 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/webappng/sites/hudsonccc/meeting/download/2abaa0f59a01487990e02068f098e376?siteurl=hudsonccc&MTID=m19832a16fd370dab8f91d896c834b1f1>

### Wednesday, December 8

ACUE Informational and Recruiting Session, 11 a.m., STEM Building, Room S214, 263 Academy St., or North Hudson Campus, Room N404, or join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m7bf9c5c91868fb06ebe22395ca5af48d>; Meeting number (access code): 2630 254 7422; Meeting password: bUmsdS6SJ72

"Hudson Is Home" Employee Recognition Program, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk St.

December Graduation Ceremony, 5:30 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street and Virtual on WebEx. Graduates wishing to be recognized virtually must RSVP for this date at <https://hcccdecgradreceptiondec8.eventbrite.com/>

### Thursday, December 9

"The Barbershop: The Winter Blues" featuring James Cox, 1 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m37a9630da6306094276db24fae51826f>

Monthly Download Online, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Join at <https://zoom.us/j/92462154122?pwd=dUNkbGirdFlwbEtHc004RkNuTzN2QT09>; Meeting ID: 924 6215 4122; Passcode: 775083

Accommodations at HCCC workshop (Spanish), 7 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/meet/jsafont>

### Friday, December 10

HCCC Poetry and Language Collective presents "It Became a Wild Horse: A Creative Writing Workshop on Turning the Mundane into the Poetic," 1 p.m.; join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m0cf03f8471dee88324a272a3a8b7b449>

Video Gaming, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Makerspace (L116), Gabert Library, 71 Sip Ave.

### Saturday, December 11

Accommodations at HCCC workshop, 10 a.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/meet/jsafont>

### Monday, December 13

Accommodations at HCCC workshop, 7 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/meet/jsafont>

HCCC Honors Showcase Awards and Virtual Gallery Release, 4 p.m. Join at <https://tinyurl.com/posterfall21>; Meeting ID: 984 4077 1039; Passcode: 055864

### Tuesday, December 14 – Monday, December 20

Last classes and/or final exams

### Wednesday, December 15

What We're Reading: Book Recs from the Libraries, 3 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. Join at <https://www.twitch.tv/hccclibrary>

### Thursday, December 16

Libraries Story Time, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Join at <https://zoom.us/j/96222544324?pwd=WS9VS2FVOEICm1TK1g1M2p2QkhqZz09>; Meeting ID: 962 2254 4324; Passcode: 390128

Practical Nursing Pinning Ceremony, 6 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, Banquet Room, First Floor

### Friday, December 17

Student Art Virtual Presentations, 10 a.m.

### Saturday, December 18

Accommodations at HCCC workshop, 10 a.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/meet/jsafont>

### Monday, December 20

Accommodations at HCCC workshop, 6 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/meet/jsafont>

### Wednesday, December 22 through

### Sunday, January 2

College Closed

### Thursday, December 23

Last day to submit final grades

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## ALUMNI CORNER

### Tytianna Jackson

**Class of 2018**

**Associate in Science – Mathematics**



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

I was so nervous about starting college and leaving home to live in the dorms. My friends were going to an open house at HCCC and asked me to come with them. When I went to the HCCC Open House, I saw many of my old friends from high school who graduated before me and I felt that this would be a nice place for me to start my college education.

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

My favorite memory is when I completed the EOF Summer Program. This was my first academic success at the College. I also received an award for "Most Improved" for reading and writing, which were two topics with which I struggled.

#### How did you become interested in mathematics?

I always struggled when it came to reading and writing; however, I excelled in mathematics. By learning about mathematics, I discover that I also have a good understanding of computer science. So when I transferred to Drew University, I majored in mathematics, and I minored in computer science. Now I am doing a master's program in Data Science, which includes math and computer science.

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

When I started at HCCC, I was very shy and every time I had an issue, I tried to solve it myself and not ask for help. Doing this hurt my grades for some of my classes, mainly in my English class. I had to receive tutoring. It helped me and I was relieved as my grade started to improve. I learned that if I have an issue with something, there is nothing wrong with asking for help.

#### What is a typical workday for you?

I work as the Financial Liaison for the EOF Program. With the skills I learned via my bachelor's degree, I assist the EOF Program with creating Excel sheets for reports and processing documents for HESAA (New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority), which EOF Scholars need to submit as a part of their financial aid. A skill I use is a program language, SQL, to complete Excel sheets more quickly.

#### What has been the most memorable project/case you have worked on?

The classes that I took my last semester here at HCCC were most memorable. I made meaningful connections with my professors, and we talked about the future possibilities for math majors. Another was meeting friends with similar majors as mine.

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

My parents and my professors are big inspirations. I am a first-generation student, and I am an Afro-Latina woman. My professors always encouraged me throughout my time at HCCC when it came to my classes because there are not that many women of color in the STEM field.

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

My advice for HCCC graduates is to create goals for yourself and once you complete one goal create another goal and continue to climb the ladder of success.

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

Don't be afraid to talk and communicate with people. In life, connections mean everything. Connections can help you with many things such as finding friends, tutoring or even work.

## 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).