

HCCC Happenings

A publication of the Communications Department



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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 14, 2024.

Please send your news items, comments and suggestions to:

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HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE RECEIVES \$1.75 MILLION TRAINING GRANT FROM UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The United States Department of Labor (USDOL) has named Hudson County Community College (HCCC) the recipient of a \$1.75 million Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grant (SCCTG). The funding will expand the College's Gateway to Innovation program's capacity to provide training that addresses the skill needs of employers in the Hudson County Financial Services and Technology sectors. The grant will serve 375 individuals over a four-year period. HCCC is the only New Jersey recipient of the funding in Round 4 of this grant.

"Training programs should not end in a job search, they should end in a job," said Acting United States Secretary of Labor Julie Su. "The Biden-Harris administration is investing in training programs that are demand-driven; Strengthening Community Colleges will help connect people to good jobs and employers to the people they need."

HCCC President Christopher Reber reported that the College's Gateway to Innovation program was awarded this grant funding because of successful outcomes and productive, mutually beneficial partnerships. "We have built alliances with our elected officials, local employers, labor unions,

local and state workforce development organizations, public agencies, community organizations, students and alumni, and other higher education institutions," he said. "We are especially grateful to Congressman Rob Menendez and Senator Cory Booker for their role in securing this funding for the College that will promote the economic growth of our community."

"This grant is an investment in Hudson County's next generation," said Congressman Rob Menendez. "I am proud to see that Hudson County Community College students will receive the tools and support they need to succeed in these rapidly evolving industries."

"I'm proud to have worked with the U.S. Department of Labor and Congressman Menendez to secure this investment in Hudson County Community College students. Hudson County's and the college's leaders have consistently demonstrated their commitment to empowering our next generation with the skills they need to thrive in the careers of tomorrow. This grant will boost their efforts by connecting more students with meaningful career paths," said U.S. Senator Cory Booker.

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ON THE COVER: Those present at the news conference announcing Hudson County Community College's receipt of the United States Department of Labor \$1.75 million Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grant included (from left): HCCC Vice President for External Affairs and Senior Counsel to the President, Dr. Nicholas Chiaravallotti; Hudson County Board of Commissioners Chair Anthony L. Romano; HCCC President Dr. Christopher M. Reber; New Jersey Assemblyman William B. Sampson IV; United States Representative Rob Menendez; Hudson County Executive Craig Guy; and HCCC Trustee Jeanette Peña.

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER REBER RECEIVES PHI THETA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the premier international community college honor society, presented Hudson County Community College (HCCC) President Dr. Christopher Reber with the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction at their annual convention last month in Orlando, Florida.

The Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction is Phi Theta Kappa's most prestigious award for community

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Hudson County Community College Mathematics Professor and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Chapter Advisor Theodore Lai (left) is pictured here with President Dr. Christopher Reber, who was presented PTK's Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction.



HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SIGNS MILESTONE TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY

The signing of a new transfer agreement between Hudson County Community College (HCCC) and Saint Peter's University will make it easier for HCCC students to transfer to the nearby Jersey City institution to pursue their bachelor's degrees upon their graduation from HCCC.

On April 30, HCCC President Dr. Christopher M. Reber and Saint Peter's University President Dr. Eugene J. Cornacchia met to sign the milestone agreement. The agreement facilitates the seamless transfer of credits from HCCC to St. Peter's, forging clear transfer pathways and ensuring students do not accumulate unnecessary excess credits at either institution.

When community college students enroll at four-year universities, they must often navigate a complex and opaque process and find that some of their credits will not be accepted at their new school. This historic agreement breaks down this barrier and provides transfer students with additional resources, including a transfer counselor, to ensure they have the support they need to successfully transition to St. Peter's.

Dr. Cornacchia stated, "This collaboration signifies our joint commitment to empowering students with the tools and resources to excel academically and thrive in their chosen fields."

HCCC President Dr. Christopher Reber remarked, "We are proud to solidify this connection with Saint Peter's University,



HCCC President Dr. Christopher M. Reber (left) met with St. Peter's University President Dr. Eugene J. Cornacchia (right) to sign the transfer agreement between the two institutions.

which is fitting as we are neighboring institutions standing together in the shadow of the statue of Liberty. We look forward to seeing the partnership generate opportunities for our students as they take the next step toward earning their bachelor's and graduate degrees. Many HCCC graduates continue their journeys at nearby St. Peter's each year, and this agreement will be transformational for them. As he approaches his retirement in June, I'd also like to commend President Eugene Cornacchia for his steadfast leadership of St. Peter's, and thank him for his contributions to this community over the past 43 years."

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HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPOINTS JAMILAH MOUDIAB AS INAUGURAL DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) has welcomed Jamilah Moudiab as the College's Inaugural Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Veteran Affairs and International Student Services.



In her new position, Ms. Moudiab will oversee the development, implementation, supervision, and evaluation of all programs, activities, policies, and services for veteran and international students. She will provide vision, leadership, and strategic direction to ensure inclusiveness and accessibility; collaborate with multiple campus constituents; and lead targeted enrollment, retention and engagement activities including community-building programs and celebrations for veteran and international students. She will also help cultivate a welcoming and inclusive environment, and develop workshop and other professional development opportunities.

A dedicated higher education professional, Ms. Moudiab served as Director of International Admissions and Programs at Felician University; Senior Director for Global Initiatives at New Jersey City University; International Admissions and Student Services Coordinator for Bloomfield College; International Student Advisor and Application Manager at The New School; and Enrollment Associate at Rutgers University.

ARRIGO O. ROGERS EOFPANJ 2024 SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED TO DALIA POBLANO

EOF student Dalia Poblano has been awarded the Arrigo O. Rogers Scholarship by the Educational Opportunity Fund Professional Association of New Jersey (EOFPANJ). She was honored at the EOFPANJ Spring 2024 conference and received a \$1,000 check at the EOF Graduation Celebration held on Thursday, May 2, 2024.

This scholarship, created in memory of Arrigo O. Rogers, an exceptional leader and graduate of the EOF program, is awarded to EOF students who have shown exemplary leadership skills, outstanding ability, and a strong dedication to serving others.



Dalia Poblano (center) was presented with the EOFPANJ Arrigo O. Rogers Scholarship at the EOF Graduation Celebration on Thursday, May 2.

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.

To listen, visit www.hccc.edu/outofthebox.

MILESTONES

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

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

One Year

Joyce Alvarez
Carmen Guerra
Mona Mokdessi
Eric Okai
Prachi Patel
Leslie Soriano

Five Years

Marta Cimillo

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

One Year

Diana Acosta
Natalia Amin Montero
Lisa Camacho
Najwa Essaki
Alisa Figueroa
Josefa Flores
Henry Gomez
Ryisha Heusner
Velia Hoffman
Paula Mayorga
Chuka Nweke
Vincent Steiner
Tito Torres Villacres
Joseph Wise

Five Years

Lesley Armengolt
Abou Traore

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP) WEBINARS

To sign up for upcoming webinars, visit eap.ndbh.com, enter company code HCCC, and scroll down to the "Check Out Our Webinars" box. Questions? Connect with your EAP account manager, HR department or call 800-624-5544.

PROFESSIONAL NOTES

On Tuesday, April 16, Dr. Jose M. Lowe successfully defended his dissertation titled "Advising in Community College Support Programs: A Descriptive Phenomenological Study of Academic Advisors' Lived Experiences" in the Counseling and Supervision doctoral program within the College of Health Professions and Human Services of Kean University. EOF staff, faculty and students from Hudson County Community College joined in the celebration of this significant academic achievement.



ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY



The Office of Human Resources hosted HCCC's Administrative Professionals who attended the appreciation lunch on April 24, 2024 in the STEM Multipurpose Room.



APPOINTMENT OF STAFF

Ivy Altamirano, Student Success Retention Specialist, Nursing - Effective: May 20, 2024

Shuang De Jesus, Senior Assistant Director, Data Assessment - Effective: May 16, 2024

Joselito Rosal, Nursing Admissions Advisor Effective: May 20, 2024

APPOINTMENT TEMPORARY FULL-TIME STAFF

Daniella Araoz, Administrative Support Specialist - Effective: May 16, 2024 - Aug.31, 2024

Luisa Carranza, Administrative Support Specialist - Effective: May 16, 2024-Aug. 31, 2024

Machli Joseph, Coordinator, Environmental Justice Workforce Program (Grant-funded) Effective: June 1, 2024-December 31, 2024

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK



On April 25, 2024, the Office of Human Resources hosted the nationally recognized Take Our Daughters and Sons to work day. Children accompanied their parents across campus as they participated in a full day of interactive events across campus at various offices and schools. The day ended with an ice cream social at the Gallery on the 6th floor of the library building.

STEPS FOR WELLNESS

As part of the Steps For Wellness program, Vice President Anna Krupitskiy and History instructor Dr. Christopher Cody co-led a walking tour of the Brooklyn Bridge on Saturday, May 4. HCCC staff, faculty, and students learned about the history of the Brooklyn Bridge and New York City from Dr. Cody, and also about the city's architecture from VP Krupitskiy. The walk concluded with pizza at the world-famous Grimaldi's Pizzeria in downtown Brooklyn.

MODIFICATION TO STAFFING TABLE

Robert Kahn, Learning Systems Manager to Director of Instructional Systems for Online Learning - Effective: May 16, 2024

Callie Martin, Instructional Designer to Senior Instructional Designer - Effective May 16, 2024

Jennifer Valcarcel, Director to Associate Dean Effective: May 16, 2024

EMERITUS AND EMERITA

Joseph Colicchio, Associate Professor Emeritus, Humanities and Social Sciences

Elaine Foster, Professor Emerita, Humanities and Social Sciences

Lloyd Kahn, Professor Emeritus (Posthumous), STEM

David Rosenthal, Professor Emeritus (Posthumous), STEM

SAVE THE DATES

COLLEGE SERVICE DAY
Wednesday,
August 21, 2024

**ALL COLLEGE ADJUNCT
FACULTY ORIENTATION**
Thursday,
August 22, 2024

CONVOCATION
Tuesday,
August 27, 2024

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SIGNS MILESTONE TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY

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HCCC Director of Transfer Pathways Jennifer Valcarcel stated, "We are thrilled to partner with Saint Peter's University for this transfer articulation agreement, making it easier for HCCC graduates to continue their education at this nearby prestigious institution. Transferring to a four-year school can be a complicated endeavor, but this agreement will make it a more seamless process for students, which is the goal."

In accordance with the agreement, HCCC and Saint Peter's will develop and maintain accurate, up-to-date course equivalency listings for HCCC's Associate Degree programs and the B.A., B.S., B.P.S. Degree programs at Saint Peter's, which will be posted on the Saint Peter's website. These listings will be reviewed annually each June. These connected degree programs may be expanded periodically as agreed upon by both institutions.

Each institution will assign liaisons to facilitate their ongoing communication. Saint

Peter's will engage one of its employees to administer the day-to-day operations of this agreement on HCCC's campus, and HCCC will provide shared space and other services for Saint Peter's employees.

The partnership is an exciting development for HCCC students, as they will be empowered to fully transfer their credits to Saint Peter's and utilize the opportunities Saint Peter's can provide while still at HCCC.

HCCC is establishing enhanced transfer agreements with other four-year New Jersey universities to facilitate transfer pathways for all HCCC students.

Dr. Cornacchia closed by telling the audience, "As we celebrate this milestone, let us remember that this is just the beginning. Together, we have the power to inspire, educate, and transform lives. Here's to a future brimming with endless possibilities."

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER REBER RECEIVES PHI THETA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

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college presidents. Named for Dr. Shirley B. Gordon, the society's longest serving Board of Directors Chair and a founder and longtime president of Highline Community College in Des Moines, Washington, the award recognizes college presidents who have prioritized student success initiatives leading to stronger pathways to completion, transfer, and employment. Recipients, who are nominated by students from their respective colleges, must have served in their role for at least five years and may receive the award only once during their career.

"This college president has made it a priority to support student success, both inside and outside the classroom," stated Phi Theta Kappa President and CEO Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner. "This award is special because it comes directly from the students, and it is evidence of the gratitude they feel for Dr. Reber's support for them."

Christopher Reber has devoted his entire career to higher education. He became the sixth

president of HCCC in July 2018. Accessibility, advocacy, and collaboration are hallmarks of his tenure. Dr. Reber's engagement with students, monthly Town Hall meetings, and his association with unions; local, state and national governance leaders; advisory committees; community organizations; and national higher education bodies all have been vital in supporting students and promoting the College's mission.

Prior to arriving at HCCC, Dr. Reber served as President of Community College of Beaver County (CCBC) near Pittsburgh, PA. His career also includes 12 years at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, and 18 years at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College.

"This honor is especially meaningful to me because our students put forth the nomination," Dr. Reber said. "Our students are at the center of everything we do at Hudson County Community College, and my most valued award is seeing them succeed. I am humbled to receive

this honor, and grateful to serve our students and this inspirational community."

HCCC Mathematics Professor and Advisor for the College's Beta Alpha Phi Chapter of PTK, Theodore Lai, was also recognized at the convention with the 2024 Continued Excellence Advisor Award. This honor is bestowed upon past recipients of PTK's Distinguished Advisor Award.

"We are so proud of Professor Lai and the outstanding work he does to support our students and our community," Dr. Reber stated. "Ted works tirelessly to provide information and support that lead to transformational scholarship and transfer opportunities for hundreds of our students. He also maintains strong contacts with several organizations in our community and coordinates with our PTK student leaders to arrange outreach and events that make a difference, including environmental cleanups and tutoring. The entire HCCC family joins me in congratulating Professor Lai."

We've been celebrating...



Graduation BBQs at JSQ and NHC

Hudson County Community College held Graduation BBQ events at the North Hudson Campus on Monday, April 29 and the Journal Square Campus on Tuesday, April 30.



EOF Graduation

The Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program recognized outstanding students at its EOF Graduation Celebration on Thursday, May 3.



American Chemical Society

The HCCC chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) held its inaugural induction ceremony on Friday, May 3.



Leadership Excellence Awards

HCCC recognized student club executive board members and their advisors during a Student Leader & Club Recognition event on Monday, April 29.



The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS)

The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) welcomed new members at its induction ceremony on Friday, April 26.



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Student Passport Program (DEISPP)

The College honored a new cohort of students completing the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Student Passport Program (DEISPP) at an event on Friday, May 3.



Construction Management

On Monday, May 6, the College honored students in its Construction Management program who earned Stackable Credit Certificates.



Lavender Graduation

The College honored the achievements and contributions of graduating LGBTQIA+ students at a Lavender Graduation Ceremony on Thursday, May 9.



Early College

HCCC honored Early College graduates from Lincoln High School and Harrison High School on Friday, May 10.



Cybersecurity Graduation

The College's School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) recognized students who have completed all requirements of the Cybersecurity Program on Saturday, May 4.



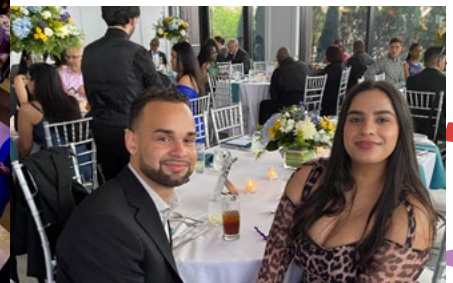
Local 825 Graduates

On Saturday, May 4, the College recognized the first cohort of graduates from the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 825, who earned their HCCC Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degrees in Technical Studies.



Kente Graduation

HCCC recognized the educational and cultural achievement of students representing the African diaspora at its Kente Graduation ceremony on Friday, May 10.



ESL GRAD

On Monday, May 13, HCCC honored graduating students from the Class of 2024 who began their journeys in Hudson's ESL Program during the "ESL to Graduation: A Celebration" event.



Graduation Formal

Graduates and guests danced the night away at the Graduation Formal on May 14, held at Hudson House.



HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATED A RECORD 1,532 GRADUATES AT THE 47TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) hosted the Class of 2024 and their family members and friends at the College's 47th Annual Commencement Ceremony. A record 1,532 students graduated on Thursday, May 16 at Red Bull Arena in Harrison, NJ.

"As members of the HCCC Class of 2024 embark upon their next journey, we are confident they will continue to demonstrate the resilience and leadership that characterize them as Hudson County Community College students," said HCCC President Dr. Christopher Reber. "Whether they are beginning new careers or continuing academic studies, we know our graduates will achieve great things and make us all proud."

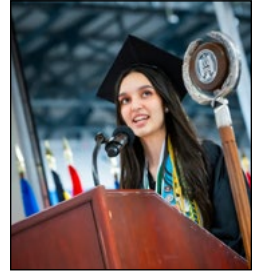
Dr. Lisa Dougherty, Master of Ceremonies and Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment, led the Commencement festivities. The Order of Exercises included Opening Remarks by Student Alumni Representative Sally Elwir; Greetings and Introductions by Dr. Reber, HCCC Board of Trustees Chair William J. Netchert, Esq.,

and Hudson County Executive Craig Guy; and Presentation of Graduates by Dr. Darryl Jones, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"These graduates have overcome challenges and navigated uncertain times. Through it all, they have persevered with strength and determination, emerging stronger and more prepared to take on the world that awaits them," Trustee Netchert said. "As they move forward toward bright futures, they will always have a home here at HCCC."

During the ceremonies, HCCC Class of 2024 Valedictorian Najwa Essaki addressed her peers. The immigrant, first-generation college graduate enrolled at HCCC in 2022 to overcome a language barrier. Excelling in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, she went on to maintain a 4.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) while pursuing her Associate degree in Accounting and participating in a federal work study program. Najwa worked side-by-side with her fellow students in community outreach and enrichment events such as preparing meals and caring for the homeless, blood drives,

and more. She is a Chapter Officer of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and served as Vice President of Scholarship in its Beta Alpha Phi chapter; Publicity Chair of National Society of Leadership and Success; President of Student Programming Board; Record Keeping Director of Student Government Association; and Vice President of the Arab Student Association.



**Valedictorian
Najwa Essaki**

HCCC Class of 2024 graduates earned Associates degrees and certificates from the HCCC Schools of Nursing and Health Professions; Business, Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management; Humanities and Social Sciences; and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

Congratulations Class of 2024!





Foundation Art Collection

The Hudson County Community College Foundation Art Collection of 1,900+ works is installed in the public areas of 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 works are in the Collection, and new additions to the Collection.



*Faith Ringgold, Here Come Moses (2014),
Serigraph, 21" x 29" (framed)*



Faith Ringgold, Coming to Jones Road, Under a Blood Red Sky #8 (2007), Digital Print with Hand Lithography, 12" x 12"

Artist News

The great American artist (and Englewood, New Jersey resident) **Faith Ringgold** died April 12 at the age of 93. Jasmine Weber wrote of the artist in *Hyperallergic*: “Faith Ringgold paved the way. For Black women artists, writers, and activists, her legacy exemplifies the possibilities of creativity. She showed us that we could be pensive, radical, tender, sensual, and maternal; that we could experiment beyond expected mediums and topics,

communing with culture and politics through cloth, through canvas, through our words.” You can see her work on both the 3rd and 6th floor of the Gabert Library. The prints in the Foundation Art Collection depict and tell stories (in writing around the border of each picture) of people who made their way on the Underground Railroad from slavery to freedom.

An Arts & Culture Trust Fund Grant has been awarded to the Foundation Art Collection! Jersey City Artists & Arts Organizations awarded a \$13,175 grant to train students to write about art. As a result of this grant, starting in the fall, students will have an opportunity to be paid to learn to become professional writers and produce publishable materials: the final result will be descriptive placards that are placed beside artworks installed on campus. To participate, please contact Andrea ASiegel@hccc.edu. Congratulations to other Jersey City Arts & Culture Grant Recipients at HCCC. Award-winning members of our community include: Prof. Laurie Riccadonna; Woolpunk aka Michelle Vitale, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Cultural Affairs and Curator, Benjamin J. Dineen III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery & the Art Concourse at North Hudson; and Nancy Cohen, an artist whose works are in the Collection. You can see them in the Hudson Helps area on the 2nd floor of 70 Sip and in Dean Sirangelo's reception area on the top floor of 870 Bergen.

Congratulations to Foundation Art Collection Coordinator Andrea Siegel for her Outstanding Teaching award as well as her promotion to Adjunct Full Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

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 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 at (201) 360-4069 or nicolebjohnson@hccc.edu.

To donate artwork, find detailed information here:
www.hccc.edu/community/arts/foundation-art-collection/index.html.

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.



HUDSON
COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION

22nd Annual

GOLF OUTING

**JULY
15
2024**

**10:00 a.m.
SHOTGUN START**

Forest Hill Field Club
9 Belleville Avenue
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

In Memory of Philip Johnston

SCAN FOR
MORE INFORMATION





HUDSON
COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION

*SAVE
THE
DATE*

27TH ANNUAL GALA

12.05.24
6 P.M.

Culinary Conference Center
161 Newkirk Street
Jersey City, NJ 07306

OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

presents



**Last chance to see the beautiful
Fabricio Suarez exhibit at the
North Hudson Campus
Art Concourse.
Exhibit ends June 15.**



Follow Us

For more information, email: mvitale@hccc.edu
or visit www.hccc.edu/community/arts/doca-culture.html
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dineenhullartgalleryhccc
Instagram: www.instagram.com/dineenhullgallery

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

A Juneteenth Celebration:

The Power of Faith and Hope

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024 | 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Gabert Library, Benjamin J. Dineen III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery
71 Sip Avenue, Sixth Floor, Jersey City, NJ 07306



KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Reverend Thurselle Chisolm-Williams

Reverend Thurselle Chisolm-Williams serves as the Executive Pastor of the New Hope Baptist Church in East Orange NJ. She is a pillar member of IAM (interfaith Action Movement), Founder of the daily devotional "Strength for the Day", and the Interfaith Caucus chair of the Democratic Convention of the State of New Jersey.



SPECIAL PERFORMANCE:

Lil' Maceo

Lil Maceo's powerful music has made him one of the most sought after saxophonists in the industry. He has shared the stage with a host of music giants including Prince, Cyndi Lauper, JT Taylor, Maceo Parker and others.

The evening includes song, dance, and other special performances.

Food and refreshments will be provided

This Celebration is open to all HCCC students, faculty, staff and community members.

To confirm your participation, please RSVP here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-june-teenth-celebration-the-power-of-faith-and-hope-tickets-906019628097>

HCCC RECEIVES \$1.75 MILLION TRAINING GRANT FROM UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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"I'm proud of Congressman Rob Menendez and Senator Cory Booker for securing \$1.75 million to help Hudson County Community College train our future financial services and technology workers," said Hudson County Executive Craig Guy. "Hudson County is home to more of New Jersey's financial services than any other county and our technology industry continues to thrive. The grant will allow the college to expand access to job training and skill development for these growing industries. This award is yet another example of the great work Congressman Rob Menendez and Senator Cory Booker are doing for Hudson County."

HCCC initiated the groundbreaking Gateway to Innovation program in 2021 with an \$850,000 investment from JPMorgan Chase. The program is devoted to building college capacity to implement sector-based career pathway strategies, advance equity, and support sustainable systems changes to ensure that students have equitable access to jobs paying family-sustaining wages supported with career development opportunities.

In 2023, Gateway to Innovation was a Top Ten finalist in the Workforce Development category of the prestigious national Bellwether College Consortium awards. The program was also named a 2022-23 Innovation of the Year by the national League for Innovation in the Community College.

HCCC Employer Advisory Board members review curricula; provide industry knowledge, expertise, and guidance to prepare students for employment; lead and participate in student events; furnish experiential learning opportunities; contribute to scholarships; and interview and hire students.

With this funding, HCCC will address key equity gaps for low-income women and men in Hudson County's Black/African American and Hispanic/Latinx communities. Industry-recognized credentials awarded to students who successfully complete the training programs include Intuit Bookkeeping Professional Certification, Salesforce Sales Representative Professional Certification,

Google IT Help Desk Professional Certification, Google Data Analyst Professional Certification, and a planned expansion to include CompTIA IT Fundamentals, Intuit Certified Bookkeeping Professional Exam, Salesforce Administrator Certification Exam, CompTIA A+ Helpdesk, CompTIA Networking, and CompTIA Cybersecurity.

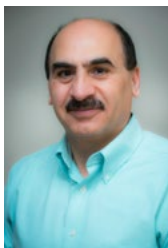
Lori Margolin, HCCC Associate Vice President for Continuing Education and Workforce Development, said this grant would build upon the ability of the Gateway to Innovation program to train hundreds of students for high-demand occupations. "By integrating stackable credentials, experiential learning, committed employer partnerships, and a program design driven by diversity, equity and inclusion, we deliver relevant, hands-on training."

"We are very proud to have earned this award. The outcomes will be truly life changing for hundreds of our neighbors in Hudson County," Dr. Reber said.

CLUB ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT

Each month in HCCC Happenings, you will meet faculty and staff who serve as advisors to student clubs and organizations at Hudson County Community College. To learn more about student clubs and events, please visit <https://involved.hccc.edu>

Faisal Aljamal, Assistant Professor Advisor of the Cybersecurity Club 2 Years of Service



What is the mission and goal of the Cybersecurity Club?

The Cybersecurity Club aims to provide a platform for students interested in cybersecurity to expand their knowledge and gain exposure to this prominent field. Through regular meetings, events, and various learning opportunities, club members will learn about cybersecurity concepts, tools, and best practices and better understand how to protect themselves and their communities from cyber threats.

Please share your advising style.

Lead by example, share real-life experiences, and provide various meeting modalities.

Please share your best advice for future HCCC Advisors and student leaders. Be involved at all times.

Please share an experience with your club or organization of which you are most proud.

It's being involved with my students in activities besides schoolwork.

What events, gatherings, and activities does the club or organization host that have positively impacted our diverse student population?

Our in-person meetings and Hackathon.

NSLS ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS FROM HCCC

The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) is the nation's largest leadership honor society with more than 800 chapters and 2 million members. The NSLS exists for the sole purpose of creating lasting positive change. Through program benefits, scholarships and awards, accreditation (through NCCRS and ACE), and more, the NSLS encourages community action, volunteerism, personal growth, and strong leadership.

Congratulations to these HCCC alumni selected for awards and scholarships by NSLS:



Birva Pinto

DREAM SUPPORT GRANT- The NSLS Foundation aims to empower and engage individuals as they embark on fulfilling their potential. NSLS recognizes that working toward a personal goal takes unlimited hard work, unyielding determination, and unbreakable courage that must defy all odds. The purpose of this grant is to support individuals in achieving their dream.



Shemia Superville

UNITED BY PURPOSE: BUILDING EQUITABLE LEADERS - The NSLS "United by Purpose: A Challenge for Equality for All" Scholarship is a program that provides financial support to National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) member teams who are working to create more inclusive and just communities. The scholarship aims to raise awareness and promote diversity, equity and inclusivity to create a sense of belonging for everyone.

Saliha Yagoubi, Instructor Advisor of the Arab Student Association 1 Year of Service



What is the mission and goal of the Arab Student Association?

ASA is a dedicated organization committed to fortifying the Arab and North African communities. We achieve this by fostering the exchange of knowledge, information, and ideas while also educating both Arab and non-Arab individuals about the rich cultures of the Middle East and North Africa. Our overarching goal is to cultivate a nurturing and enhanced environment for students at HCCC.

Please share your advising style.

My advising style is to support, guide, and empower students. I start by listening to their ideas and suggestions and then advise accordingly. We, as a club, think and plan collaboratively.

Please share your best advice for future HCCC Advisors and student leaders.

Be present and get involved! Communicate clearly, provide resources, and assist in planning events and activities while fostering a sense of leadership and inclusivity.

Please share an experience with your club or organization of which you are most proud.

This Spring 2024 Semester is our debut as a club—the successful planning of the ASA Inaugural Event.

What events, gatherings, and activities does the club or organization host that have positively impacted our diverse student population?

We hope to impact our diverse student population positively, and they will feel welcome to join our events and activities.

NORTH HUDSON CAMPUS OPEN HOUSE



Hudson County Community College hosted a Spring Open House on Saturday, April 27. During the event, prospective students met with academic and student support units, toured the facility, and applied for admission on the spot.

123 students attended with 78 guests for a total of 201. More than 80 employees of the College (comprising more than 25 units) met these guests.

The two Spring Open Houses nearly doubled the attendance of last year (465 compared to 264).

PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY NEWS



The NJCC Scholars event on Thursday, April 25 honored the 2024 All-State Academic Team for outstanding achievements and exceptional service to their communities and colleges as members of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.



Pictured from left: Prof. Ted Lai, HCCC honorees Leonardo Silva Serra de Paula and Shemia Superville; and Dr. Lisa Dougherty, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment.



Beta Alpha Phi, Hudson County Community College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, volunteered at the Walk MS fundraiser, hosted by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, at Liberty State Park on Saturday, May 4.



On Sunday, April 21, Beta Alpha Phi Chapter inducted more than 90 new members and installed its 2024-25 officers during its Spring Induction ceremony.



On Saturday, May 18, Beta Alpha Phi Chapter participated in the Walk to Fight Alzheimer's fundraiser at Liberty State Park. Pictured are Prof. Ted Lai, chapter advisor (left) and Instructor Raffi Manjikian.

HCCC HOSTS 3RD ANNUAL MISSION 50 ENTREPRENEURIAL PITCH COMPETITION



Participants in the third annual local Entrepreneurial Pitch Competition with completion judges and College leadership.

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) is proud to announce the successful conclusion of its 3rd local Entrepreneurial Pitch Competition in collaboration with Mission 50 sponsorship. The event, which occurred on Monday, April 15, 2024, at the Culinary Conference Center.

The competition invited all students interested in entrepreneurship and innovation.

Participants from the Schools of Business, Culinary Arts, and Hospitality Management (BCH) (led by Dr. Peter Cronrath, Assistant Professor, Business, and Sharon Daughtry, Instructor, Business) and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) (led by Dr. Clive Li, Assistant Professor, Engineering Science) presented their groundbreaking ideas to a panel of esteemed administrative judges including Dr. Heather DeVries, Dr.

Darryl Jones, Matthew LaBrake and Dr. Yeurys Pujols. An independent auditor, Lester McRae (Associate Professor, Accounting) oversaw the event, and a live audience supported the presenters.

Students were encouraged to harness their creativity and vision, with the top three pitches earning cash prizes. The winning team of Smart Box presenters Justin Mosquera, Chuka Nweke, Camila Pazmino, and Dillon Singh had the honor of representing HCCC at the County Pitch on May 2, 2024, where they competed against Saint Peter's University and Stevens Institute of Technology for additional prizes.

"We are thrilled to provide our students with this platform to showcase their talents and entrepreneurial endeavors," remarked Dean Ara Karakashian. "This competition not only fosters innovation but also offers valuable learning opportunities for our students."

CONTINUING EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS

The School of Continuing Education and Workforce Development's Eleventh Annual 'Girls in Technology' Symposium Showcases STEM Opportunities for Area High School and Middle School Students



Scenes from CEWD's Girls in Technology Symposium on March 21.

Women lead major research and development projects for corporations, build high-tech products, solve environmental problems, design websites for influencers, and mentor the next generation of young women interested in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) professions. Due to a lack of role models, women remain largely underrepresented in these historically male-dominated fields.

On Thursday, March 21, 2024, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) hosted its Tenth Annual Girls in Technology Symposium to inspire and support young women to pursue fulfilling and well-paying careers in STEM.

The program began with Valerie Medina of Jose Marti STEM Academy reading her winning

essay, "Technology and Its Components," and a panel discussion, "A Day in the Life of Women in STEM."

The morning continued with several engaging activity sessions. In the afternoon, the Student Display Contest highlighted works focused on "Technology: Past, Present, and Future." Students learned about attending Hudson County Community College and the HCCC STEM programs. Also in attendance were representatives from the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Essex and Hudson & Union Counties.

After lunch, attendees enjoyed the presentation, "Toxicology in Personal Care: Navigating Careers in Beauty – A Conscious World by L'Oréal", and the winners of the Student Display Contest were announced

- Samantha Mursuli, Charlissee Burns, and Melody Andes-Phillips of Explore Middle School.

The HCCC Girls in Technology program was made possible thanks to the generosity of program sponsors – Eastern Millwork, Inc., L'Oréal, Ernst & Young LLP, OneConnect Bank, SILVERMAN, Englewood Health Physician Network, MAST Construction Services, Inc., and eMazzanti Technologies.

To view the event agenda, please visit the event page at <https://www.hccc.edu/programs-courses/continuing-education/programs-events/girls-intechnology.html>

To sponsor or participate in next year's symposium, please contact Chastity Farrell at cfarrell@hccc.edu.

Igniting Growth Through the ACCESS Peer Mentorship Program Launch

The ACCESS Peer Mentorship Program at the Center for Adult Transition is more than just a program – it's a gateway to a vibrant community where students can truly thrive. The program's mission is to foster a deep sense of belonging and engagement among ACCESS students, equipping them with the tools and support they need for success.

A Thriving Community

The program actively encourages participation in campus events, facilitates meaningful social interactions, and helps students to build and maintain a robust support network. This creates an environment where every student feels valued and supported on their unique journey.

Remarkable Success

Since its inception, the ACCESS Peer Mentorship Program has achieved remarkable success. Mentees form strong connections with mentors who serve as guides and advocates. Mentors introduce students to a wide variety of clubs, workshops, and activities, including College Student Success (CSS 100) classes, where students can audit a class. These experiences enrich their academic journey and open doors to exciting career opportunities. It is truly inspiring to see students flourish, express themselves authentically, and establish a tight-knit community of peers beyond the classroom.

Empowerment and Opportunity

The ACCESS Peer Mentorship Program encourages students to step outside their comfort zones and empowers them to take advantage of campus opportunities. As a result, they gain confidence and resilience to navigate their academic goals, setting the stage for lifelong success.

Get Involved

To become a peer mentor (open to Phi Theta Kappa members and College alumni), request an application by contacting CAT@hccc.edu. To become an ACCESS member starting June 24, 2024, call 201-360-5477 or email CAT@hccc.edu for more information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

School of Continuing Education and Workforce Development 161 Newkirk Street, Room E504, Jersey City, NJ 07306 (201) 360-4224 | CE@hccc.edu

UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AT: www.hccc.edu/continuingeducation

ATD COACHES MEET WITH NURSING

On Thursday, April 18, HCCC's ATD Coaches Dr. Mary Fifield and Dr. Rene Garcia met with the Nursing Program team (Dr. Catherine Sirangelo, Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions; Dr. Lori Byrd, Director of the Nursing Program; and, Lisa Ciekiewicz, Admissions and Recruitment Coordinator for the Nursing Program) and John Scanlon, Associate Vice President for Institutional Research and Planning to review data and best practices.



FALL 2023 DEAN'S LIST CELEBRATION

In the Fall 2023, 888 Hudson County Community College students qualified for the Fall 2023 Dean's List in recognition of their outstanding academic performance. This honor is bestowed upon students who have completed 12 or more college-level credits and achieved a 3.5 or higher grade-point average for the semester. The College recognized their hard work and achievement at a Dean's List Celebration on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at the Culinary Conference Center.



SPRING 2024 LEARNING COMMUNITY DAY



On Thursday, April 25, 2024, Hudson County Community College students enrolled in Spring 2024 Learning Community courses prepared posters and oral presentations at the semiannual Learning Community Day at the Student Center. A learning community is a cluster of two or more courses, often with the same theme; the faculty of each respective course coordinate class work, assignments, and field trips to assist the linked group of students to discover and explore connections between distinct and seemingly unrelated fields of study.

WOMEN'S AND CIVIL RIGHTS' WALKING TOUR

Instructor of English as a Second Language ESL Reading/Academic Discussion Level 3 students made these and similar exclamations throughout the guided walking tour on Wednesday, April 17 in Manhattan: "I didn't know that!" "That's unbelievable!" "That's shocking!"

The two-hour event focused on exploring the rich history of the Women's Rights movement and the Civil Rights struggles that have shaped our community. Since the tour's theme closely matched the course syllabus, students enthusiastically engaged with the dynamic presentation of their classroom lessons and appreciated the additional insights they gained.

NYC licensed tour guide Mr. Hank



Orenstein expertly led the tour and presented numerous fascinating stories and astounding facts about the courageous women and civil rights pioneers who profoundly influenced our country right here in Hudson County Community College's backyard.

The students gave resounding, unanimous feedback: "Let's do something like this more often!"

REGISTER NOW for Summer/Fall 2024 Classes at HCCC!

Summer 2 classes

begin on:
Wednesday,
July 10, 2024

Fall classes

begin on:
Wednesday,
August 28, 2024

View Course Schedule at
www.hccc.edu/schedule

APPLY NOW for classes!
www.hccc.edu/apply

For more information on how
to register, go to
www.hccc.edu/admissions/register-for-classes

For more information, contact:

admissions@hccc.edu
text (732) 509-4222
or call (201) 714-7200



Are you experiencing stress, depression, or anxiety?

Difficulty adjusting to the College environment?

Dealing with mental health and wellness?

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



Please complete the General Concern Form
click here: <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-Care>
or scan the QR code.

The form is NOT monitored 24/7. A member
of the CARE team will respond to your request
during regular business hours.

If you need immediate help call
or text 988 or visit
<https://988lifeline.org>



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One High Tech Way
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Phone (201) 360-4388

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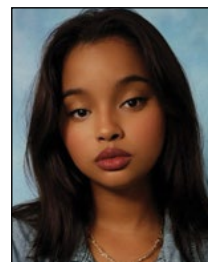
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www.hccc.edu/community/foundation/index.html

ALUMNI CORNER

Leymi Abreu, HCCC Class of 2023 A.S., Business Administration



How did you decide to attend HCCC?

I moved to this country in 2021, eager to learn new things and secure a good job, but unsure where to start. My mom, who took ESL classes at HCCC, suggested I enroll here to explore my options. Following her advice, I registered at HCCC and am proud to have earned my Associates degree in Business Administration in May 2023.

What made HCCC the right choice for you?

My mom's recommendation played a significant role in my decision, but I soon realized it was the best choice I could have made. The welcoming and inclusive atmosphere at HCCC stood out to me. Additionally, HCCC provided me with invaluable opportunities, starting as a Federal Work-Study Student, then as a Part-Time Office employee, and now as a Temporary Administrative Assistant. These experiences have equipped me with the skills and confidence needed for the workforce, making Hudson truly feel like home.

Any favorite memories or classes at HCCC?

One of my favorite memories is from English 101, my first class beyond ESL. I was very nervous initially, knowing it would be a challenging course. However, Professor Santo Kibble made a significant impact on me. His passion for teaching and the detailed feedback he provided transformed my anxiety into a love for the subject, especially writing essays, which I initially disliked.

What got you interested in your field of study?

Entrepreneurship runs in my family. My grandfather founded a high school, and my grandmothers are both entrepreneurs—one is a successful florist, and the other is a skilled modiste with her own atelier. Growing up with these role models instilled in me a desire to learn about business and entrepreneurship, with the dream of one day starting my own business.

What advice do you have for HCCC students just starting out?

My advice for new HCCC students is to take full advantage of the resources and opportunities available to you. Engage with your professors, participate in campus activities, and don't hesitate to seek guidance from advisors. Building connections and gaining diverse experiences will enrich your academic journey and prepare you for future success.

What are you up to now/what do you do in your new role at HCCC?

Currently, I am pursuing my bachelor's degree at NJCU, majoring in Global Business. I am now in my second semester with plans to graduate next summer. Alongside my studies, I work as a temporary administrative assistant at the Office of Human Resources at HCCC, where I assist with various administrative tasks and support HR initiatives.

What is next on the horizon for you?

Looking ahead, I aim to complete my bachelor's degree and further my career in business administration. My goal is to gain more professional experience and eventually start my own business (I am still figuring out which path I want to take), building on the entrepreneurial spirit and skills I have developed through my education and family background.

For information about the College's Alumni Association and membership benefits,
please email alumni@hccc.edu.



COLLEGE EVENTS CALENDAR

For the most up-to-date information, please visit
<https://www.hccc.edu/calendar>.

Hudson County Community College reserves the right to modify
the calendar as necessary.

