

# HCCC Happenings

A publication of the Communications Department



## Hudson County Community College Opens 'Hudson Helps' Resource Center





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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 June newsletter are due by Friday, May 14, 2021.

Please send your news items, comments and suggestions to:

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**HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPENS ‘HUDSON HELPS’ RESOURCE CENTER**

On Thursday, April 15, 2021 Hudson County Community College (HCCC) further strengthened its culture of care with the opening of the new “Hudson Helps” Resource Center. The College held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Resource Center, which is located on the third floor of 70 Sip Avenue, on the College’s Journal Square Campus in Jersey City.



*Caption for HHRC – HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber (far left) brings greetings to invited guests at the "Hudson Helps" Resource Center opening.*

HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber said the new "Hudson Helps" Resource Center will provide HCCC students with services, goods, financial assistance, counseling, and a variety of programs in-person and remotely, all year-round.

“We are determined to remove the barriers that prevent our students from succeeding in their studies and completing their degree and certificate work,” said Dr. Reber. “This Resource Center provides a complete array of services and

resources to address students’ myriad of needs, and ensure their academic success.”

In 2018, United States Government Accountability Offices research demonstrated that up to 50 percent of community college students experience food insecurity, and 15 percent endure homelessness. In spring 2019, with seed money provided

*Continued on page 11*

**ON THE COVER:** Pictured from left are: LaTrenda Ross, Hudson County Department of Family Services, Senior Community Service Aide and HCCC alumna; Nancy Aleman, Director of Family Planning/Marketing, Hoboken Family Planning, Inc.; Rose Ringor, Director of Clinical Services, Hoboken Family Planning; Dr. David Clark, HCCC Associate Dean of Student Affairs; Kevin Callahan, Hudson County Department of Family Services, Social Work Supervisor; Lisa Dougherty, HCCC Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment; Dr. Chris Reber, HCCC President; Catherine Tantillo, Lord Abbett, Head of Community Relations, Corporate Services; and Patricia Ricco, Lord Abbett, Associate Director, Event Management. (L) In the Career Closet, HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber (second from right) with, from left, Dr. David Clark, HCCC Associate Dean of Student Affairs; Lisa Dougherty, HCCC Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment; Catherine Tantillo, Lord Abbett, Head of Community Relations, Corporate Services; and Patricia Ricco, Lord Abbett, Associate Director, Event Management. (C) Lisa Dougherty (left), HCCC Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment, presents a plaque of appreciation to Catherine Tantillo, Lord Abbett, Head of Community Relations, Corporate Services (center) and Patricia Ricco, Lord Abbett, Associate Director, Event Management. (R) Pictured from left in the Career Closet: Bernadette Barnes, June Barriere and Imane Zehaf.

**HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE NAMED AS STIGMA-FREE ENVIRONMENT**

During the opening of the Hudson Helps Resource Center on Thursday, April 15, Robin F. James, MA, PD(MFT), LPC, Administrator of Behavioral Health and Addiction Services, Hudson County Department of Health & Human Services, presented to Hudson County Community College a proclamation naming the College as a stigma-free environment and promoting mental health awareness.

Doreen Marie Pontius, HCCC’s Associate Director of Counseling & Wellness who accepted the proclamation on behalf of the College, noted the following:

*Continued on page 9*

*Doreen Marie Pontius, Associate Director of Counseling & Wellness.*



## UPDATE ON HCCC'S STUDENT SUCCESS WORK

On April 5, 2021, President Reber received a letter from Dr. Mary Fifield and Dr. Rene Garcia, HCCC's Achieving the Dream Leadership and Data Coaches, respectively, that summarized their March 2021 visit and provided key findings and recommendations for further consideration.

HCCC's Achieving the Dream Dream Team continues to implement the College's Student Success Action Plan through eight How Teams. Each How Team is tasked with implementing one specific strategy of the Action Plan. The How Teams are pleased to share the following updates on their work.

How Team 1.1 ("ESL") is conducting focus groups to obtain qualitative information about students' experiences in the ESL program. The ESL How Team is also supporting the forthcoming work of an ESL "Rapid Response Team." The Rapid Response Team will engage in intensive work over the summer to construct a reimagined model of ESL education at HCCC. Co-leads: Jenny Bobea & Alexa Riano.

How Team 1.2a ("AF English") is making recommendations regarding the refinement of the Directed Self Placement Process. How Team 1.2a is also exploring the viability of the condensing Academic Foundations English course sequence. Co-leads: Lauren O'Gara & Robin Singer.

How Team 1.2b ("AF Math") recently conducted a workshop on standardized grading across Academic Foundations mathematics sections. How Team 1.2b continues to explore the feasibility of a self-paced model of instruction known as the emporium model. Co-leads: Laura Samuelson & Kyle Woolley.

**Did something catch your eye? How Teams always welcome new members. To get involved, contact Heather DeVries (hdevries@hccc.edu) or Dr. Sheila Dynan (sdynan@hccc.edu).**

How Team 2.1 ("Student Leaders") is gathering additional "Hudson is Home" testimonials through video. Members of How Team 2.1 are also recording testimonials as they reflect on their involvement with Achieving the Dream and How Team 2.1 over the past year. Co-leads: Koral Booth & Abou Traore.

How Team 2.2 ("Remove Barriers") is engaged in the important work of mapping processes related to testing, placement, and course scheduling to identify gaps in both policies and procedures. How Team 2.2 continues to obtain information from other community colleges about College Student Success courses and First Year Experience models. Co-leads: Dr. Pamela Bandyopadhyay & Victoria Marino.

How Team 2.3 ("Hudson Helps") has been working with members of the Enrollment Management Council to finalize questions that will appear on the admissions application and assess students' basic needs. Students' responses will be used to inform the development of future resource and service areas. Co-leads: Dr. David Clark & Dr. Ara Karakashian.

How Team 2.4 ("Academic Supports") held the spring 2021 iteration of the Student Success Academy virtually on April 13, 2021. Members of How Team 2.4 are also creating a professional development workshop that will train faculty on the steps, strategies, and processes for making their classrooms more inclusive. Co-leads: Joseph Caniglia & Jacqueline Safont.

How Team 2.5 ("Pre-Nursing") reviewed Dr. Fifield and Dr. Garcia's comments specific to this strategy and are working to operationalize their recommendations. Co-leads: Heather DeVries & Dr. Sheila Dynan

## MIDDLE STATES UPDATE



• Heather DeVries, Dean of Academic Affairs and Assessment, has been appointed as the College's Accreditation Liaison Officer as of January 2021. The institution's ALO is the designated liaison and serves as the primary point of contact with MSCHÉ staff. The ALO is responsible for Accreditation Review and Monitoring, MSCHÉ Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, and State and Federal Regulations.

• The 2021 Annual Institutional Update (AIU) reporting period will open on Monday, July 12, 2021, at 9 a.m. and will close on Monday, August 16, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. Eastern. The AIU is one of the key methods by which MSCHÉ monitors an institution in accordance with the Accreditation Review Cycle and its Monitoring Policy and Procedures. The AIU requires institutions to provide key data indicators on an annual basis, including but not limited to enrollment, financial information, and, importantly, measures of student achievement.

• Hudson County Community College was part of MSCHÉ's Lesson's Learned Webinar Series with our presentation on Continuing Momentum after Re-Affirmation: A Case Study in Applying Change Management Principles to Accomplish the Strategic Planning Process. In alignment with MSCHÉ Standards I and VII, this presentation focused on how an urban community college managed the complex process of launching holistic Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives, becoming an Achieving the Dream equity-focused institution, and heading into a mission review and new strategic plan.

## GRADUATING STUDENTS: Tell Us Your Story!

Hudson County Community College's Communications Department needs your help in identifying unique and exceptional graduate student stories to use in publicity for the upcoming Commencement ceremony as well as future marketing materials.

HCCC's Communications Department will be pitching these stories to media during the Commencement season and would be pleased to hear from students willing to be interviewed. **Some past noteworthy stories covered by media included students who:**



- Students who began studying at HCCC later in life
- Have relatives on HCCC staff or of HCCC alumni
- Are family members graduating together
- "Beat the odds" (earned a degree despite an obstacle, disability, etc.)

## #HCCCGRADS2021

For more information please contact the Communications Department at 201.360.4060 or email at [Communications@hccc.edu](mailto:Communications@hccc.edu)

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ANNOUNCES TENURE FOR THREE FACULTY MEMBERS

The Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Board of Trustees has granted tenured status to three faculty members in recognition of their excellence in teaching, scholarly achievement, service to the College and community, and fulfillment of their professional responsibilities.

"We are proud to announce that Eric Adamson, Faisal Aljamal, and Dr. Peter Cronrath are being promoted for tenure to the rank of Professor in the 2021-2022 academic year," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. "They possess extraordinary talents and experience of the Hudson County Community College faculty."

Eric Adamson began teaching English courses at the College as an adjunct in 2015, and in 2016, he accepted the position of full-time tenure-track instructor. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Brown University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from New York University. Professor Adamson participates in various HCCC committees, including All College Council – Space and Facilities Subcommittee, President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (PACDEI), and

National Poetry Month Committee. He is also an advisor to the LGBTQIA+ Club. Professor Adamson is continually looking for ways to engage and motivate students, who love his innovative use of technology. He is also a successful freelance writer, and a published poet.

Faisal Aljamal began teaching at HCCC as an adjunct instructor in 1996, teaching various computer and mathematics classes. He became a full-time tenure-track Instructor of Computer Science in 2016, and he developed and coordinated the HCCC Associate of Science in Cybersecurity program. He holds a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from Montclair State University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from New Jersey City University. Professor Aljamal served on the HCCC Academic Affairs, Curriculum & Instruction, Technology, and Faculty Search and Hiring committees. He is also involved in partnerships with institutions and organizations that provide students with internship and scholarship opportunities such as YearUp, InfoSec Learning Institute, and Saint Peter's University. Prior to coming to HCCC, Professor Aljamal had a

successful, 29-year career as a Software Asset Management Coordinator for Unilever, a Fortune 500 company.

Dr. Peter Cronrath began teaching Business, Management and Marketing courses at HCCC in 2015, and became a full-time instructor in 2016, and a tenure-track Instructor of Business in 2018. He earned a Ph.D. in Management, Leadership and Organization Change, and Master of Philosophy Management degree from Walden University. He also holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Montclair State University, and Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Rutgers University. Dr. Cronrath co-authored a grant to install the Bloomberg Finance Lab at HCCC, and serves as a faculty mentor and advisor for the Goldman Sachs Local College Collaborative program, the NJC4 Case Competition (held by Rutgers University), and the Horizon BC/BS Transformational Case Challenge. Dr. Cronrath is the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the All College Council. He was awarded a National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Award for Teaching Excellence in 2018.

### MILESTONES

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

#### FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

One Year  
Albert Williams

Five Years  
David Clark  
Anthony LaRocco  
Patrick Mbong

20 Years  
Ines Franco

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

One Year  
Jairo Borja\*  
\* April 2021

### NEW HIRES

Chrissto Canales,  
Counselor, Advisement and Transfer

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

### STARS RECOGNITION

On Wednesday, April 28, Hudson County Community College held its 8th annual Special Thanks And Recognition (STAR) event to acknowledge employee service milestones. Every year we recognize and celebrate service anniversaries starting from five years, and this year

recognizing through 40 years of incredible service. Close to 150 members of the HCCC community were able to join the celebration. The STARS further shared memories of their time at the college, some remembering their first day on the job. We also extended our appreciation to those retiring.

#### FULL TIME 5 YEAR

Ilya Ashmyan  
Angelina Bouret  
Christopher Cieli  
Dr. David Clark  
Devlyn Courtier  
Saba Daud  
Lauren Drew  
Dr. Sheila Dynan  
Aycha Edwards  
Chastity Farrell  
Faiza Fayyaz  
Jason Figueroa  
Veronica Gerosimo  
Zakia Hmamou  
Anthony LaRocco  
Shaniqua Matos  
Patrick Mbong  
Priscilla Ochoa  
Christine Petersen  
Fernelis Ramirez  
Dr. Paula Roberson  
Genny Sanchez  
Willie Shirer  
Geoffrey Sims  
Michelle Vitale  
Richard Walker

#### FULL TIME 10 YEAR

Joseph Caniglia  
Kevin Eng  
Velino Joasil  
Sean Kerwick  
Catherine Sweeting

#### FULL TIME 15 YEAR

Michael Ferlise  
Lisbety Ferrer  
Jo Ann Kulpeksa  
Catherina Mirasol  
James Olivier  
Yeury Pujols

#### FULL TIME 20 YEAR

Sandra Aviles  
Ines Franco  
Julio Maldonado  
Mark Murray  
Dr. Raffaella Pernice  
Taramatty Persaud  
Mohamedrafiq Siddiqui  
Richard Skinner  
Mildred Vera-Matich

#### FULL TIME 25 YEAR

Gilma Acosta  
Frederick Medina  
Milena Moscoso

#### FULL TIME 35 YEAR

Gary Bensky  
Nitzia Berrio

#### FULL TIME 40 YEAR

Dr. Elena Gorokhova

#### PART TIME 5 YEAR

Camila Avalos  
Nicole Behman

Dorisneida Gaviria  
Cynthia Gonzaga  
Amjed Hedhli  
Kyara Martin  
Mark McCarthy  
Mona Mokdessi  
Dimarie Pagan  
James Pereira-Shorey  
Gabrielle Reeves  
Rodrigo Romea  
Alyssa Smith  
Selena Suarez  
Gianny Suero  
Heather Tabora

#### PART TIME 10 YEAR

Javier Cabezas Velasquez  
Tyquan Grant

#### PART TIME 15 YEAR

Amorfina Muhi  
Cathleen Sova

#### RETIREES

Philip Cafasso  
Nabil Marshood  
Nelida Mojica  
Julio Morales  
Denise Phillips  
Ellen Renaud  
Linda Schultz-Whitlock

## HCCC GETS COVID-19 VACCINES

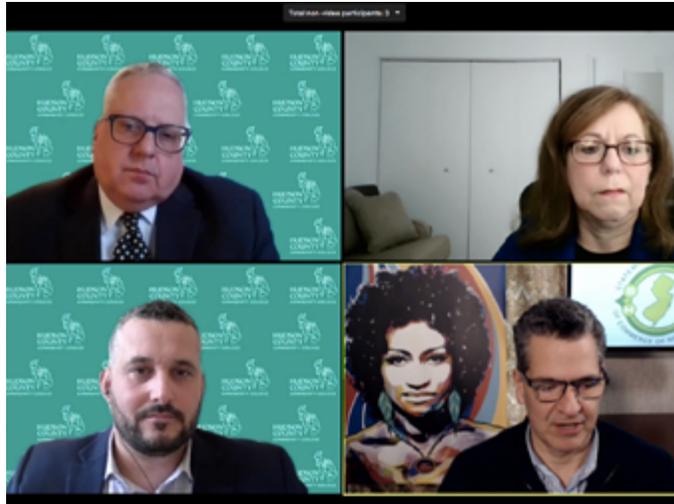


*Vaccine image – Amaal Ogburn (left), Coordinator, North Hudson Campus, and Anna Krupitskiy, Vice President for Human Resources, after receiving Moderna vaccines for COVID-19 courtesy of the North Hudson Community Action Corporation.*

## PROFESSIONAL NOTES

**Kathleen Smith-Wenning**, Director of Health Related Programs and Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Public Strategies, gave a special interview with the IPS' Newsletter Committee for its March 2021 newsletter. The interview may be read at <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-Smith-Wenning>.

## CAFÉ CON CHRIS AND HCCC IN THE MEDIA



*Clockwise from top left: HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber; Associate Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Lori Margolin; Carlos Medina from the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey; and Yeury Pujols, Executive Director of the North Hudson Campus.*

During the April 5 Café con Chris, Carlos Medina from the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey joined to speak with HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber, Associate Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Lori Margolin, and Yeury Pujols, Executive Director of the North Hudson Campus.

On April 12, Dr. Reber was interviewed by Hudson TV's Jeff Henig, speaking on the topic, "You Can Afford a College Education During a Pandemic." The interview may be viewed at <https://fb.watch/4Q3pKmxzxH/>.

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADDS NINE DEGREE PROGRAMS THAT ARE FULLY AVAILABLE AT THE NORTH HUDSON CAMPUS

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) now offers 19 degree programs that can be completed from start to finish, on site, at the College's North Hudson Campus in Union City.

"To better respond to the community's needs and to offer more flexible options, the College has integrated Interactive Telepresence Video (ITV) into classrooms at our North Hudson Campus," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. "This technology has enabled us to significantly increase the number of degree programs offered in totality at North Hudson, so students never need to leave that Campus to complete their degrees."

ITV classes mirror traditional classroom experiences for students in different locations. Large video monitors and enhanced video and audio equipment provide two-way, real-time instruction between students and faculty on the College's Journal Square and North Hudson Campuses. The instructors and students can see and talk with one another as though they were actually in the same room. In the HCCC ITV model, the instructors rotate between Campuses weekly. During the week instructors are not physically in the classroom, Academic Coaches are present to assist students.

Hudson County Community College initiated and fully implemented ITV technology last Fall, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. "It not only



addressed concerns about traveling from one campus to the next during this time, it provided us with a way to offer nine more complete degree programs – for a total of 19 – at North Hudson," Dr. Reber said. The nine new programs are Accounting AS, Business AA, Business Administration AS, Criminal Justice-Homeland Security AS, Early Childhood Education AAS, English AA, Environmental Studies AS; History AA, and Sociology AA. The ten existing programs offered fully in Union City are Criminal Justice AS, Digital Art and Design Profi-

ciency Certificate, Early Childhood Education AA, Early Childhood Education Child Development Associate (CDA) Coursework, Elementary/Secondary Education AA, Health Science AAS, Infant/Toddler CDA Professional Development, Liberal Arts AA, Psychology AA, and Special Education AA.

Dr. Reber said the College will continue adding fully on-site degree programs at the North Hudson Campus in the future.

Nearly 3,000 students pursue studies at the HCCC North Hudson Campus each semester. In addition to classrooms with SMART-boards and Wi-Fi, the seven-story, 92,300 square-foot building at 4800 Kennedy Boulevard in Union City houses a fully operational Library and Bookstore; an Enrollment Center with Enrollment Services, Bursar, Financial Aid, Testing & Assessment, Academic Advisement, and Community Education Offices; Academic Support Center; Computer, Science and Language Labs; Student Lounge; Outdoor Courtyard; and Multipurpose Room. A glass-enclosed pedestrian bridge connects the building to the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Bergenline Avenue Transit Center.

Information about courses offered at the HCCC North Hudson Campus may be obtained by emailing [northhudsoncampus@hccc.edu](mailto:northhudsoncampus@hccc.edu).

# Foundation Art Collection

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

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

## DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to Prof. Laurie Riccadonna, and her senior students, Tania Amores, Patricio Barahona, Brandon Brito, Sarah Cowell, Israel Rodriguez, and Lorena Sofia for their intelligent and enthusiastic volunteer work on a Foundation Art Collection subcommittee curating a collection for donation. We appreciate your good work.

Thank you to Julie Murkette for the generous donation of the artist catalogs and to Tom Nathan for the generous donation of the art books.

Thank you to Jon Rappleye for your generous donation of gorgeous art.

## ARTIST NEWS

Visiting New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art contemporary art collection, one can see many works by artists in the Foundation Art Collection. For example, on the ground floor are works by **Chakaia Booker** (learn more about the tire sculpture here: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/492175>), **Willem DeKooning**, **Joan Snyder** (learn more about the painting here: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/744549>) and **Jennifer Bartlett**. In the newly expanded lower levels, you can see work by **Chuck Close** and **Kerry James Marshall**. On the stairway wall between the floors is a wonderful bronze work by **Kiki Smith** (learn more about the sculpture here: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/486711>).

If you like **Robert Mangold's** work which is featured in both the North Hudson Library and the Gabert Library (first floor), you might enjoy exploring this recent exhibit online at Pace Gallery in London through May 22, which surveys his work over three decades. (<https://www.pacegallery.com/exhibitions/robert-mangold-19/>)

Many people find Mangold's work puzzling in its simplicity. The phrase, "My four year old could do that," is often heard. Why do Mangold's simple colors and simple large shapes remain popular and important in the contemporary art world?

Mangold makes what is called "Minimalist" art. Minimalism emerged in the 1950s and 1960s as a response to the first major American abstract art movement, "Abstract Expressionism." Abstract Expressionist artists, in their time, were responding to the terrifying brutality of World War II, and trying to find a new art language to express the horrific truths the War revealed about human behavior. Many of their paintings and sculptures were intensely dramatic and personal,



And the Band Played On (2007) by May Stevens, 12" x 12", Digital Print and Hand Lithography with Gold Dusting.

and sometimes they looked like they were painted with violence.

The Minimalists, reacting or responding to Abstract Expressionism, sought to make art that was calmer, and less personal, stripped down to the bare essence of the art materials. So, paint on canvas, sometimes just one color, was enough. Minimalism has an added benefit in a commercialized art world:

For corporations and wealthy art buyers who do not want art that challenges them, minimalist art can appear pretty, colorful, and non-threatening. However, please be aware that many serious art lovers are passionate about the Minimalists too. They seem to revel in the spare-ness and simplicity, and appreciate the concepts with which the artists engage.

If you like **May Stevens'** work on the sixth floor of the Gabert Library, you might enjoy this recent feature on her lifework in Art News: <https://www.artnews.com/feature/may-stevens-1234589674/> The article reveals that Stevens was a founder of the famous activist group, the Guerrilla Girls – anonymous women artists who protest the bigotry of the art world, while they wear gorilla masks. The article also raises an interesting question about art and politics: In Stevens' writing, she said every art work "can be placed somewhere along a political spectrum." She believed that art that did not make its politics explicit was silently approving the status quo. Is all art political? What do you think?

If you like the two works in the Gabert Library by **Mickalene Thomas**, you might enjoy learning more about "Brand New Heavies," an exhibit the artist has co-curated with her life partner, curator Racquel Chevremont. The exhibit (on view at Pioneer Works in Brooklyn through June 20) was reviewed in *The New York Times*: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/09/arts/design/Brand-New-Heavies-pioneer-works.html>

The show features the work of artists **Abigail Deville**, **Xaviera Simmons**, and **Rosa-Johan Uddoh**, all of whom are women of color, and all of whom were provided with resources (a fabrication team and materials) to "go big" and make art large enough to fill a former factory that covers half an acre and has 40-foot ceilings. All three chose to make work critical of contemporary culture.

"Our curatorial practice is like: These are artists we want to work with, let's allow them to make and do stuff they haven't been able to do otherwise," Thomas said. According to *the Times*, "The hunch is that giving artists a wide-open creative brief, with the freedom to make the work they feel is most urgent, and space and resources to see it through, can be as effective in illuminating a time of crisis as would any tightly crafted curatorial argument — and possibly more."

"It's of the moment," Thomas said. "It's something that you've never seen before...When artists are given the platform and have an idea, something magic happens... That's the heavy. That's the brand new." What would you make of such an opportunity? What did they make? Take a look at the article.

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

**For detailed information regarding donating artwork, please visit**  
<https://www.hccc.edu/foundationart/>

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

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

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF  
**CULTURAL AFFAIRS**  
presents



## PROGRAMS:

### Wellness Wednesdays with Mindful Play Yoga

<https://www.facebook.com/mindfulplayyoga/>  
Facebook Live at 10 a.m.

MAY 5, "Peace Begins with Me" end of semester stretches

### Saturday Drawing Series with Katie Niewodowski

Zoom and Facebook at 2:30 p.m.

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

MAY 8: Join artist Katie Niewodowski for 45-minute drawing sessions throughout the spring semester starting Saturday, February 20 at 2:30 p.m. This workshop series is designed for beginners but will inspire drawing love for all levels. Niewodowski is a Jersey City-based artist well-versed in creating and inspiring a love for drawing. She currently teaches drawing at HCCC and Montclair State University. To learn more visit: [www.katieniewo.com](http://www.katieniewo.com)

### Young Masters Art Classes with Kristin DeAngelis

<https://www.facebook.com/youngmastersartclass>  
Facebook Live Only on Fridays at 10 a.m.

MAY 7: Rashid Wright: Poetry as Inspiration

## ACCLAIMED ARTISTS LEAD WORKSHOPS AT HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

On April 12 and 13, Rashad Wright and Azikiwe Mohammed joined virtual classes taught by Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Assistant Professor of History Dorothy Anderson, to lead workshops aimed at exploring links between contemporary art practices and imagery to the subjects' historical antecedents.

Both artists have contributed works to the two-person exhibition at HCCC's Benjamin J. Dineen and Dennis C. Hull Gallery, "Azikiwe Mohammed: Tales Told from Fold Out Chairs, and Rashad Wright: in heaven's wakanda," which is curated by Monira Foundation Executive Director and Curator, Ysabel Pinyol Blasi, and on view until July 16, 2021.

Rashad Wright is a writer, performer, theater artist, and the former poet laureate of Jersey City, New Jersey. He is the author of *Romeo's Whiskey*, a book of prose and poetry, and he has performed his writings from both local and national stages in the form of slam poetry. His many accolades include ranking 25th in the country at the 2019 Individual World Poetry Slam, taking First Place at the



Azikiwe Mohammed

Walter Glospe American Academy of Poets Prize, and being inducted into the Academy of American Poets.

Azikiwe Mohammed's work has been exhibited in galleries both nationally and internationally. In addition to solo exhibitions at the Knockdown Center, SCAD Museum of Art, and Spring Break Art Show, his work has appeared in group exhibitions at MoMA PS1 and the Studio Museum in Harlem, among others. He received the Art Matters Grant in 2015, the Rema Hort Mann Emerging Artist Grant in 2016, and a Rauschenberg Artist Fund grant in 2021. His work has been featured extensively in magazines, including *VICE*, *i-D*, *Artforum*, *Forbes*, *BOMB* and *Hyperallergic*.

Both artists have robust teaching practices: Wright has coached groups like Jersey City Slam, the University Academy Poetry Club, and 6th Borough Slam—a team that placed 10th in the world at the Brave New Voices International Youth Poetry Slam Festival in 2019. Mohammed is the founder of The Black Painters Academy, a free school in Manhattan's Chinatown neighborhood, launched in January of this year.

Biographies and images of each artist are available on the Monira Foundation website at: [www.monirafoundation.org/education](http://www.monirafoundation.org/education).

To learn more about Monira Foundation, Hudson County Community College, or to schedule an interview with Dorothy Anderson, Azikiwe Mohammed, or Rashad Wright, please email [info@monirafoundation.org](mailto:info@monirafoundation.org) or [mvitale@hccc.edu](mailto:mvitale@hccc.edu). Visit the Monira Foundation website at: [www.monirafoundation.org](http://www.monirafoundation.org) and the Hudson County Community College at: [www.hccc.edu](http://www.hccc.edu)

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

TOUCHSTONE CRYSTAL BY SWAROVSKI

HUDSON COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION

Party for a  
Purpose

Celebrating Mothers Everywhere!!!

Hudson County Community College  
Foundation Scholarship Fundraising!!!

[www.touchstonecrystal.com/VB78N64L](http://www.touchstonecrystal.com/VB78N64L)



**FRIDAY, MAY 7**

**Safe Space Training: Beyond the Basics**  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Join this Safe Space Training if you have attended a Safe Space Training in the recent past and consider your knowledge of the LGBTQ+ community to be intermediate or advanced. Topics of coverage include advanced education on LGBTQIA+ history, community celebrations, statistics, and issues to know, and how to further support our LGBTQIA+ students.

**Registration Required:**  
<https://involved.hccc.edu/event/7074729>

*Training facilitated by Hudson Pride Center*

*Participants will receive  
a completion certificate!*

## Summer Classes at HCCC!

You can earn up to 12 credits over the summer!

**APPLY NOW!**

**Summer I:**

Mon., May 24 – Wed., June 30, 2021

**Summer II:**

Tues. July 13 – Wed., August 18, 2021

**Online Session A:**

May 24 – July 3, 2021

**Online Session B:**

July 8 – August 18, 2021



*"It's not just a college  
– HUDSON is HOME!"*

Gabriela Melendez,  
Valedictorian, Class of 2020

**Veteran Priority Registration and  
Continuing Honors Student Registration**  
Begins March 31

**Online (for students who are eligible to take Eng 101),  
In-Person, and Remote Registration**

Open to all students April 1

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

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

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

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



**SAVE THESE DATES!**

**VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT**

**Thursday, May 20**

12 p.m.

Streamed live at

<https://www.youtube.com/user/HudsonCountyCollege>

**WALK-THROUGH EVENTS:**

**Monday, May 24 – Thursday, May 27**

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Culinary Conference Center

161 Newkirk St.

Jersey City, NJ 07306

**For Frequently Asked Questions, please visit:**

<https://myhudson.hccc.edu/commencement>



**HCCC**  
**Communication Studies**  
**Option Program**  
**VIRTUAL INFO SESSION**

**THURSDAY,  
MAY 13  
6 p.m.**

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

**Questions?**

Contact Gilda Reyes  
at [greyes@hccc.edu](mailto:greyes@hccc.edu)

**JOIN US TO:**

Learn about the program and  
employment opportunities

Meet faculty and staff of  
the program.

Learn how to enroll at HCCC

Get your questions answered.

## FINANCIAL AID NEWS

### Celebrating Financial Literacy for the Spring Semester!

The Financial Aid department celebrated financial literacy this semester with three significant events. February's event covered "Tax Return Basics" with Professor Lester McRae of the Business, Culinary Arts & Hospitality Division. He spoke about the basics of filing a tax return and credits/deductions available for education. March's event was new to our lineup, teaming with the Career Services Department titled "Work, School, and Bills!" Tiana Zuniga, Maria Tejada, and Christine Petersen spoke about taking advantage of entry-level work to stay on top of bills, get ahead of school loans, and build a career path. In April, celebrating financial literacy month, the topic was "Credit and Debt

Management" with guest speaker from Sallie Mae, Jeanne McCarthy. Over 110 people attended these three informative events.

### Celebrating Scholarship Recipients!

The winners of the Asa Philip Randolph Scholarship were HCCC students Ariel Hwang and Luke Lalchan. Each was awarded \$250 for books at an award ceremony via Zoom on April 15, 2021. Asa Philip Randolph was an American labor unionist, civil rights activist, and socialist politician. In 1925 he organized and led the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the first mainly African American labor union. Congratulations to Ariel and Luke on receiving this scholarship.

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE NAMED AS STIGMA-FREE ENVIRONMENT

*Continued from page 2*

"During my interview for this position, I stated that my goal was to help make HCCC a stigma-free campus. After a year of hard work dedication, it has been accomplished." Pontius then acknowledged members of the Mental Health Awareness team:

- Tom Larson for consistently supporting our students' mental health and well-being and for providing leadership to the social work interns.

- Donna Heggis for helping build our community resources and helping students in crisis.

- Karla Levine for always supporting and helping her fellow interns become educated on procedures, facilitating support groups virtually to reach all hccc students, and providing individualized mental health support.

- Yvette Peralta for creating educational workshops for our EOF students, also managing mental health training events for staff and faculty.

- Andrew Paine for dedicating his time and support for HCCC students, facilitating support groups, and managing events such as the suicide Out of Darkness event that earned \$1,200 towards suicide prevention.

- HCCC interns Joselin Vidal-Pena and Eli Merles for helping us understand our students' needs and promote workshop events and research mental health supports for students.

- Welcome to our new interns: Bill Anthes, Melissa Rosario, and Elizabeth Paul

Pontius also noted that the department was moving forward with helping grow support for the College's veteran population.

To view the presentation, please view at the Collee's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/hcccedu/videos/205420367705488/>

## PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY NEWS



*Pictured from left: Hugo Iglesias, Walid Achkir, Ana Polanco, and Friends of Liberty State Park President Sam Pesin at Friends of Liberty State Park salt marsh cleanup in April.*

Christian Rodriguez, Walid Achkir, alumnus Juan Cacho, Irene Goldwasser, and Prof. Ted Lai volunteered at the Bayonne Nature Club cleanup at Rutkowski Park on March 20. Justin Mosquera and Sofia Ruseva of the Environmental Club also volunteered.

On April 10, Walid Achkir, Gabriela Araujo, Iham Haider, and alumni members Ana Polanco and Hugo Iglesias volunteered at the Friends of Liberty State Park salt marsh cleanup. The Saturday gardening was suspended in January.

On April 10, Keturah Curtis helped to get the Career Closet ready for the ribbon cutting opening on April 15. She had also volunteered with other members on March 27 to organize and to check the donated clothes.

### Middle States Regional Award of Excellence 2020

The Phi Theta Kappa Middle States Regional awards for 2020 were recently shipped to Prof. Ted Lai, chapter advisor. The regional convention was canceled less than a week before it was scheduled



*Bayonne Nature Club: Pictured from left: Irene Goldwasser, Justin Mosquera and Sofia Ruseva at the Bayonne Nature Club on March 20.*



*HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber with his Middle States Regional Award of Excellence.*

to be held at the Seaview Hotel and Resort in Galloway because of coronavirus. Instead of being distributed at the convention the awards were announced at a virtual convention after the convention was transformed into a Zoom ceremony over two days. The awards remained in storage for many months, but are finding their way to their recipients. Congratulations!

# CONTINUING EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS

## “Sunday Brunch: Live!” The Culinary Club at HCCC Continuing Education

On April 18 Chef Rene Hewitt and co-host Anthony Spirito welcomed Jackie Washington, HCCC Culinary alum, and special guest, Legendary Women's Basketball Olympian Silver Medalist Gail Marquis, to talk about food, recipes, what's cooking, and more.

Gail Marquis and her wife, Fashion Icon, Audrey Smaltz, are featured in “The Devotion Project,” a series of short documentaries celebrating the love and commitment of LGBTQ+ couples by filmmaker Anthony Osso.

To learn more about Gail Marquis and The Devotion Project visit: <https://gailmarquis.com/the-devotion-project>

“Sunday Brunch: Live!” is a new series available live on Zoom, through The Culinary Club at HCCC Continuing Education’s Facebook group. The active group offers delicious recipes, interactive, edu-



Scenes from “Sunday Brunch: Live!” featuring clockwise from top left: Chef Rene Hewitt, Jackie Washington, Gail Marquis, and Anthony Spirito.

cational culinary videos, live culinary shows, and a place where members share fun food photos and tips. Whether you are a novice cook or a true gourmet, this lively Facebook group has something to offer every foodie at heart.

Join The Culinary Club at HCCC Continuing Education to watch past episodes and to be updated on future shows: [www.facebook.com/groups/culinaryhccc](http://www.facebook.com/groups/culinaryhccc)

**GIRLS IN TECHNOLOGY 2021**

Q&A  
DEMOS  
ACTIVITIES  
RESOURCES  
WOMEN IN TECH PANEL  
SECURE, LIVE & INTERACTIVE

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

First 200 attendees receive a free Digital Swag Bag!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
EMAIL: [cfarrellshccc.edu](mailto:cfarrellshccc.edu)

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

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT Certificate Program



**May 3 to  
June 14, 2021  
(Live via Zoom)**  
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays,  
6 to 8 p.m.  
(36 hours) | \$1,000

This live, fully online certificate program promises participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of various principles and processes involved in managing a project of any size in any industry.

Increasingly, employers are screening project management job candidates for either the PMP credential or training. Globally recognized and demanded, project management training demonstrates the experience, education, and competency to lead and direct projects.

The program is recommended for those who want to add to their value and marketability, increase earning potential, or are interested in a new career.

The certificate counts towards 36 hours of the educational requirements for the Project Management Professional (PMP)® or Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)® certification exam.

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC2021>

For more information, please contact:  
Alexis Muniz  
[amuniz@hccc.edu](mailto:amuniz@hccc.edu)



Tuition for this program may be eligible for professional development or tuition reimbursement benefits. Please speak to your supervisor to determine eligibility.

## Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification BLS Certification/Renewal

Course Sign-up for  
the Basic Life Support  
(BLS) Certification  
at Hudson County  
Community College!



This 4-hour Basic Life Support Certification (BLS) class uses a scenario-based approach to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills that drive better outcomes for adult, children, and infant patients.

**Schedule** (space is limited to 8 students per class)

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 12

Wednesday, May 26

Thursday, June 20

E Building 161 Newkirk Street,  
Room E508 Jersey City, NJ 07306

**Register at** <https://tinyurl.com/BLSSP2021>

Price: \$77 per person! (Certification card and student manual included)

**For more information, please contact**

Qua'Fayshia Ransom at [qransom4959@livehccc.edu](mailto:qransom4959@livehccc.edu)  
or (201) 360-5326.

# HCCC OPENS 'HUDSON HELPS' RESOURCE CENTER

*Continued from page 2*

by the HCCC Foundation, the College community established food pantries on both the HCCC Journal Square and North Hudson campuses. Since opening, thousands of students have utilized the pantries. In viewing the response to the pantries, it became apparent that HCCC students had other needs, and some were discontinuing their studies for "life happens" reasons.

In the summer of 2019, the College instituted "Hudson Helps," and in addition to the food pantries, the College offered emergency financial assistance for those times when students may not be able to pay their utility bill or rent, or fix a problem with the car they depend on for going to and from work and classes.

The new Resource Center will continue to offer hallmark programs of "Hudson Helps," including the food pantry with shelf-stable, refrigerated and frozen foods as well as HCCC Culinary Arts

Institute-prepared, ready-to-heat meals; nutritional counseling; mental health and social work services; emergency financial assistance; financial counseling; emotional health and spiritual counseling; immigration counseling; technology support; and Chromebook loans, among many others.

Two new features are being added to the "Hudson Helps" Resource Center:

- The Career Clothing Closet provides business attire and accessories donated by Lord Abbett for students' interviews and jobs. Lord Abbett is a 92-year-old, global asset management company headquartered in downtown Jersey City.
- "Single Stop" is a centralized network that links students to child- and elder-care services; transportation; health care (vaccines, preventive care, screenings, treatment, and insurance); financial counseling; employment assistance (tem-

porary employment, financial literacy, and public assistance); tax services; mental health counseling (on-campus and community-based); legal aid; food assistance; housing assistance (temporary housing, utilities, weatherization, and relocation); emergency relief, recovery assistance and start-up help; and a host of other support services. "Single Stop" is made possible as part of an \$850,000 investment in HCCC from JPMorgan Chase to fund the HCCC "Gateway to Innovation" initiative, which is designed to provide lasting improvement in the Hudson County workforce ecosystem.

"Hudson County Community College is a beacon of hope and promise to so many. HCCC students often refer to the College as their home," Dr. Reber stated. "Our sincere thanks to Lord Abbett, JPMorgan Chase, our Trustees, the HCCC Foundation, our faculty, students, staff, and everyone who assists in providing our students with much needed, caring, and comprehensive services."

## Mental Health Resource for Our Students: TalkCampus





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



Online global mental health support network



Peer-to-peer support



Access to instant, any time 24/7

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



An increased ability to cope and feel less alone



Higher levels of self-esteem and confidence.



A greater sense of well-being and resilience.



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

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

Access TalkCampus 24/7:  
<https://www.talklife.co/hudson-county-community-college>

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



## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



## 19TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

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

Continental Breakfast, Cocktails,  
Luncheon and Awards.

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

Space is limited, so make your reservations soon!

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

## OUR STORIES UNTOLD SERIES

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

On April 21, over 70 College community members attended the latest session of *Our Stories Untold Series* featuring Professor Joseph Caniglia. His colleagues and students also participated by sharing their own experiences. Additionally, the post-event survey results were highly positive; for example, one respondent wrote, “Better than *Chicken Soup for the Soul!*” while providing feedback to the program. His story began with his 16-year-old grandfather, who came to the US from Spain to Ellis Island. He soon found employment in a shoe factory, even though his English was very limited. Joe cherishes the lessons that his parents taught him and his younger brother and sister: being honest, trustworthy and always treating others the way you would want to be treated. Education was also important, and so the siblings knew they had to go to college. At first, Joe thought he wanted to be a dentist but ended

up graduating with a dual major of English and Biology, with a certified license to teach. This opened many opportunities for Joe, and he stayed teaching in the public school system for about 11 years.

Eventually, at about 30 years old, Joe went back to school to study business and ended up working for a pharmaceutical company as a corporate trainer, progressing to become a district manager managing a large territory from New York City through Boston, MA. One student noted that “Professor Caniglia has a personal and professional journey filled with many insights for learning.” Joe shared that this professional journey was a fantastic experience, but something was always missing.

Joe shared the impact that his father had on Joe’s decision to come back to education. It was “a very touching story behind the person I already



admire.” After his father unexpectedly fell ill, Joe found himself visiting his father the day before he passed away. His father thanked Joe for leaving his passion and helping his father grow a business and encouraged him to return to education. “I can’t impress to everyone that family is so important,” and if you don’t have a role model for a family, Joe continued, “we’re your home here; Hudson is home.”

The love for Joe from the audience was evident. As Joe started looking for jobs, Hudson County Community College came up. When he first visited, he met Dr. Pamela Bandyopadhyay, who gave him a chance to become a tutor after a rigorous interviewing process. Shortly after, Joe started teaching as an adjunct and eventually gained a full-time role and tenure. Mr. Hudson, as Joe was called by one of the participants, is still working on achieving his goals. His message to the students is that going to HCCC provides many opportunities, support, and guidance. “You will have ups and downs in life, but the easy thing to do is give up and not go to college; you have to look at the big picture; that’s what mom and dad always told me,” reflected Joe.

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

CHASE | yearup

# OWN YOUR future

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

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

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

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





## HCCC NURSING STUDENTS PROVIDE COVID-19 VACCINES THROUGHOUT HUDSON COUNTY

Please join HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber for a **VIRTUAL TOWN HALL MEETING** on **Monday, May 17 at 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

The Town Hall is transitioning to WebEx! To speak and/or make comments, participants must use the WebEx app on a computer or mobile device.

**JOIN THE SESSION AT:**  
<https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m9b9874330adec8730e303f0cc107d3e6>  
 Meeting number: 132 557 5466  
 Meeting password: MayTH2021

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

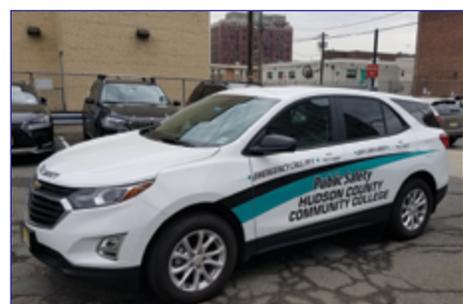
Mayor Jimmy Davis is sharing a COVID-19 Update. 52 mins · 🌐

I want to give a special shout-out and thank you to the Hudson County Community College (HCCC) student nurses. They are helping Bayonne get vaccinated at the Bayonne Medical Center. Thank you for being Bayonne Strong! #BayonneStrong #WeAreBayonne The City of Bayonne



HCCC students from the Spring 2021 section of Nursing IV (NSG 220) led by Miriam Masias, administered vaccinations at a Hoboken University Hospital & New Jersey Department of Health site in April.

## HCCC DEBUTS NEW PATROL VEHICLE



Hudson County Community College's Safety & Security Department recently had its newest patrol vehicle outfitted with College branding. The vehicle displays contact information for the department, the College website, and 911 for emergency situations.

## IT'S THE HCCC BIG GIVE-BACK CONTEST

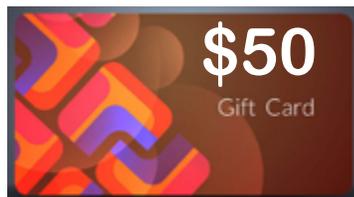
Be one of 20 winners in our students-only contest! Prizes\* include a laptop computer, cell phones, iPad, iPods, Beat Headphones, Fitbit, and ten \$50.00 gift certificates.

The only way to win in the HCCC BIG GIVE-BACK CONTEST is to participate. Hudson County Community College wants you to be a winner and become part of our history by telling us – in one sentence – what HCCC means to you as a student, and what at HCCC has influenced you most.

The rules are simple: You must be a registered HCCC student to participate. All entries should be emailed to [communications@hccc.edu](mailto:communications@hccc.edu) by May 15, 2021.



Dr. Chris Reber, President of HCCC, says: "Our students have made so many contributions to the success of Hudson County Community College. Our contest is a way to let you know how much we value your input and opinions. So, to all who participate, good luck!"



\* Donations for contest prizes were made by private individuals and companies that support HCCC and the HCCC Foundation.

# HCCC RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

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

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

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

**Join us at:**

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

Event password: Radinfo2021



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

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

## THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION (PACDEI) UPDATE

The President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI) continues to work with colleagues, departments, and community members on programs, training, and other initiatives that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion for all College constituents. April was a month filled with excitement, engagement, and reflection. We kicked off the month with a tribute to the remembrance of the Holocaust. We want to thank members Michelle Vitale, Director of Cultural Affairs, and Elana Winslow, Assistant Professor of Business, and others who collaborated to present a powerful event that partnered with Jersey City and the Anne Frank Foundation to host writer and speaker Pieter Kohnstam. He talked about his family experiences and how they escaped Nazi persecution. More than 100 people attended the event. Another notable activity during the past month was our regular PACDEI monthly meeting, where the membership hosted Dr. Aaron Fichtner, President of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC). Dr. Fichtner shared how impressed he was with our broad base and inclusive approach to DEI. He also walked away with multiple ideas of how NJCCC can support New Jersey Community Colleges' DEI efforts. One key proposed initiative centered around the opportunity to offer an annual DEI conference for the benefit of the 18 community colleges coming together to share and learn from one another. Other suggestions included the creation of a statewide DEI affinity group for greater collaboration. PACDEI will keep you updated on these and other developments.

PACDEI is proud to partner with the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation (CTLI) to offer workshops on creating inclusivity in the classroom. These workshops include those made through a partnership between CTLI and the Bayard Rustin Center for Social Justice. Other programs on creating inclusivity in the classroom include a collaboration between HCCC's Achieving the Dream's (ATD) How Team and PACDEI. These workshops will be offered in Fall 2021. Keep your eye out for these and other important training, workshops, and engaging events.

PACDEI members actively plan, implement, support, and lead a wide range of diversity, equity, and inclusive activities. We encourage the entire college community to participate in these efforts that support and expand diversity, equity, and inclusion at our institution and the communities we serve.

PACDEI Co-chairs will continue sharing updates at the President's Town Hall each month and look forward to seeing you at these events, programs, and training. Please contact us if you would like to discuss how we can collaborate or support your DEI efforts. Please follow the efforts of PACDEI's DEI initiatives via the website or contact us directly by sending an email to [pacdei@hccc.edu](mailto:pacdei@hccc.edu).

## Feeling the Blues?

- Difficulty concentrating
- Feeling irritable or angry
- Feelings of exhaustion and fatigue
- Feelings of loneliness
- Lack of pleasure in normal activities
- Losing interest in activities that you normally enjoy
- Sleeping much more or much less than normal
- Trouble making decisions
- Withdrawing from friends and family



**YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**  
Talk with people who get you.



### TalkCampus

24/7 Support  
<https://www.talklife.co/udson-county-community-college>

### New Jersey Suicide

**Prevention HOPELINE**  
24/7 Peer Support & Suicide Prevention  
1.855.654.6735  
<http://www.njhopeline.com>

### Crisis Text Line

Text HELLO to 741741  
Free, 24/7, Confidential

Visit our CARE Team portal page at  
<https://myhudson.hccc.edu/udson-care> for more information  
and additional resources.

### Mental Health Counseling & Wellness

(201) 360-4229  
[mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu](mailto:mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu)

To seek services please visit –  
<https://myhudson.hccc.edu/mental-health-counseling-wellness-center>

We are still here for you!  
Click here to complete a Care Form  
<http://www.hccc.edu/wecare/>

### Staff and Faculty Resources:

Employee Assistance Program  
Emotional support line at 833-848-1764  
Visit <https://eap.ndbh.com>  
(Username: hccc Password: guest)

## DON'T MISS Hudson County Community College

### OUT of the BOX PODCAST



THIS MONTH'S TOPIC IS:  
**How PTK Benefits Our Students**  
WITH HCCC STUDENTS:  
Pedro Moranchel and Sofia Pazmino



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

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

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

## PLEASE PROPERLY WEAR YOUR FACE MASK

### FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES



- Wash your hands before and after touching the mask.
- Touch only the bands or ties when putting on and taking off your mask.
- Make sure the mask fits to cover your nose, mouth and chin. If you adjust the mask to cover those areas, wash your hands before and after.
- Make sure you can breathe and talk comfortably through your mask.
- Wash reusable masks after each use. If the mask is disposable, discard it when visibly soiled or damaged.

## CALENDAR

### Saturday, May 1

Open House, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Culinary Plaza Park, 161 Newkirk Street. RSVP at [www.hccc.edu/openhouse](http://www.hccc.edu/openhouse)

### Sunday, May 2

Phi Theta Kappa Spring Induction, 2 p.m. Join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/94314147741?pwd=dGxZQkpJeWFSVlhLRmV4cW9zeDd3Zz09>; Meeting ID: 943 1414 7741; Passcode: 701385

### Monday, May 3

Creating a DEI Classroom for any Modality: Part 1 - The Syllabus (An ACUE Workshop), 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85790417440?pwd=WnVlSDNlUWN2Zmp1OGU4LzhXUGwrUT09>; Meeting ID: 857 9041 7440; Passcode: hD1E9K

HCCC Speaker Series Featuring Ryan Jamaal Swain (Pose), 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Register at <https://hccc.life/ryanjamaalswain>.

### Wednesday, May 5

Wellness Wednesdays with Mindful Play Yoga, 10 a.m., <https://www.facebook.com/mindfulplayyoga/> and Zoom

### Thursday, May 6

Honors Speeches/Paper Presentations, 1 p.m. Join at <https://hcccchors.life/paperpres2021>; Meeting ID: 995 2176 8294; Passcode: 243548

Creating a DEI Classroom for any Modality: Part 2 - Managing Micro-aggressions (An ACUE workshop), 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85790417440?pwd=WnVlSDNlUWN2Zmp1OGU4LzhXUGwrUT09>

### Friday, May 7

Safe Space Training: Beyond the Basics, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Registration required at <https://involved.hccc.edu/event/7074729>

Young Masters Art Classes with Kristin DeAngelis, 10:30 a.m., <https://www.facebook.com/youngmastersartclass>

The Doctoral Journey: Deciding on a Research Topic, 11 a.m. Join via WebEx: <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m07bfc28b29912f780371ed7e648bb0b7>; Meeting number (access code): 132 523 9184; Meeting password: tUwTTMk6p57

The Corona Crash and the Screen New Deal: Symptoms and Speculations, 2 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m5be05b5140522e87a775aa51732d2f12>; Meeting number: 132 141 8538; Password: screennewdeal

Community Artist Interviews featuring Alyssa Fanning, maker of paintings and drawings, ([alysaefanning.com](http://alysaefanning.com)), 6:30 p.m. on Zoom and Facebook Live. For more information, email [galler@hccc.edu](mailto:galler@hccc.edu)

### Saturday, May 8

Saturday Drawing Series with Katie Niewodowski, Zoom and Facebook at 2:30 p.m. For more information, email: [galler@hccc.edu](mailto:galler@hccc.edu)

### Monday, May 10

Honors Showcase Awards and Virtual Gallery Release, 4 p.m. Join at <https://hcccchors.life/showcase2021>; Meeting ID: 971 2442 6824; Passcode: 842707

### Tuesday, May 11

Meeting of the Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees, 5 p.m. Join at <https://zoom.us/j/98778481604?pwd=blc0d0R6TnNzQ1VZCtpUjJocUpadz09>

### Thursday, May 13

ACC May Special Meeting, 1 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=mce2f2ce6c1d34702b36880f6fc2974c8>; Meeting number: 132 022 8066; Password: sharedgovernance

Communications Studies Option Program, 6 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/onstage/g.php?MTID=e72ec4f5efb21af4a71863946d7d69c89>

The Rise and Voice of Alumni featuring Bladimir Quito, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Join on Zoom: <https://saintpeters-edu.zoom.us/j/7660517658>; Meeting ID: 766 051 7658

### Monday, May 17

Summer hours begin

Virtual Town Hall Meeting, 12 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m9b9874330adec8730e303f0cc107d3e6>; Meeting number (access code): 132 557 5466; Meeting password: MayTH2021

### Tuesday, May 18

Virtual Information Session: Criminal Justice, Homeland Security Option, Work/Life Portfolio for Criminal Justice Professionals, 5 p.m. Join via WebEx: <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m6b6e1a56aff5bfb0aa431a7e5556a19>; Meeting number (access code): 132 939 1545; Meeting password: rnTVKEpm272

### Thursday, May 20

Virtual Commencement, 12 p.m. at <https://www.youtube.com/user/HudsonCountyCollege>

### Monday, May 24

Grad Walk, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk St. (Division of Business, Culinary Arts, and Hospitality Management; and Division of English and ESL)

### Tuesday, May 25

Grad Walk, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk St. Division of Humanities and Social Sciences)

### Wednesday, May 26

Professional Development Day, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Grad Walk, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk St. (Division of Nursing and Health Sciences; and Division of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)

### Thursday, May 27

Grad Walk, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk St. (all Divisions)

### Monday, May 31

Memorial Day (College Closed – No Classes)

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## Doris Nicholson

Class of 2009

Associate in Arts – Liberal Arts

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

Hudson County Community College offered me the chance to start over from the beginning with my college education. I initially attended Jersey City State College in the mid 1980's and decided to not finish because life got in the way. Instead of returning after 25+ years to the 4-year institution where I felt education changed after so many years. I decided to attend HCCC so that I could grasp college from the ground up. So in 2006 a door opened for me and college, which allowed me to attend part-time while working and taking care of my family.

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

My favorite memories of HCCC are the Science Labs I participated in, the art classes that gave me so much relaxation and joy, the tutoring I received for classes, the chance to see Broadway plays and the opportunity to join Phi Theta Kappa to continue to do community service.

### How did you become interested in your major?

I always wanted to become a Nurse growing up and since I didn't feel I had the stamina nor time to fully dedicate to Nursing, due to having to work full-time and care for my children. I decided to do the Liberal Arts curriculum that would give me the credits needed to apply towards the 4-year institution I planned on attending after graduating from HCCC.

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

HCCC played a tremendous part in setting me up for my career. It allowed me to take all the classes I needed without interruption; work at a pace that was comfortable for me, offered classes on Saturdays and Sundays and prepared me for my future.

HCCC helped prepare me to excel in the 4 year university I chose to return to after 25 years, New Jersey City University. There I was able to excel tremendously in completing my degree in Public Health. HCCC gave me the tools that I needed to return home to Jersey City State College/NJCU from where my college career all started for my next level in Higher Education

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

I work for the City of Jersey City in the Preventive Medicine Clinic at 1 Jackson Square., and my title is

Disease Intervention Specialist/HIV Coordinator. There I work one-on-one with clients, educating, testing and treating if necessary for STI's for themselves and their partners.



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

Most memorable project besides seeing patients daily was the drastic change from inpatient services to servicing the people of Jersey City during the Corona Virus Pandemic of March 2020. In my office we converged from seeing patients to being contact tracers, listening to peoples stories both triumphant and tragic, offering testing site locations, suggestions for caring for self and others, educating people on the virus and answering questions to help calm people's fears of the unknown.

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

My grandmother and mother were my biggest inspirations that influenced my work in many ways. Both worked tirelessly as a Nurses' Assistants at the Margaret Hague Maternity Hospital then my mother transferred to the Jersey City Medical Center where she worked on the Maternity floor for over 47 years. Seeing my mom interact with patients and how many appreciated her for helping with their babies throughout her life made me want to be in the healthcare field.

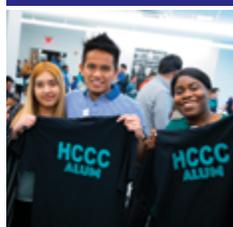
### What advice would you give to recent HCCC graduates?

Don't stop at having an Associate's Degree; finish strong at a 4-year institution of your choice and make your degree choices work for you.

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

Don't be afraid to step out and be uncomfortable in any situation; it just may work out better than you could ever imagine. Don't get by just to pass in class but become a specialist in what you're studying and to be more than good, be your absolute BEST! I had no idea how both of my degrees would help me advance in my career. I LOVE what I do and the clients I engage with daily!

## 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).