

where **community** meets **opportunity**

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

DUTCHESS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DUTCHESS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION



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\$283 million

DCC'S REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

1,361

SCHOLARSHIPS

AWARDED BY THE DCC
FOUNDATION SINCE 2016

7,239
STUDENTS

3,500+ JOBS

ARE SUPPORTED BY DCC
1 PER 45 JOBS IN THE COUNTY

51,610
TOTAL ALUMNI
AS OF MAY 2023

**TWO OUT OF
THREE STUDENTS
GRADUATED**

WITH **NO** STUDENT LOAN DEBT

\$4.7 million

DCC FOUNDATION SUPPORT
TO THE COLLEGE SINCE 2017

60+ DEGREE, CERTIFICATE
AND MICROCREDENTIAL
PROGRAMS

806

CONKLIN SCHOLARS
FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
IN 20 YEARS

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Poughkeepsie, NY
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Fishkill, NY
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DCC @ HVR AIRPORT

237 New Hackensack Road
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DCC @ FAMILY PARTNERSHIP CENTER

29 North Hamilton Street
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sunydutchess.edu

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

DCC spent much of 2023 evolving to become an even greater asset for our community. Having launched a new strategic plan — with input from many industry, community and government leaders — we're broadening our role as an educational institution and economic driver. We're redefining terms like students, instructors and alumni. And we're reimagining our role as partner and facilitator in making the aspirations of our region's families, entrepreneurs and civic leaders a reality.

As you can see on the previous "At A Glance" page, DCC's importance to our region is substantial, yet we believe there is much more to come, guided by our strategic plan and four lenses:

STUDENTS — as we rededicate ourselves to developing lifelong learners and retaining local talent.

LEARNING — as we align programming and curriculum to address societal and industry needs.

COMMUNITY — as we serve people across generations and socio-economic groups, as well as the education pipeline; and

GROWTH — as we promote individual and regional economic mobility and advancement.

It's at the intersection of these lenses that we can have the greatest impact. That is where collaborations and synergies occur. To that end, our five-year plan is filled with partnership opportunities, designed to benefit residents, businesses and municipalities throughout our region.

The first is our P-16 Initiative, designed to improve the education pipeline from cradle to career. DCC works with Dutchess BOCES, 13 school districts in Dutchess County, and three more in Putnam County to provide courses onsite that count toward high school graduation and add college credits. We now serve close to 2,300 high school students through these offerings!

We're also building a "P-TECH" program with Dutchess BOCES, Wappingers Central School District, and the Council of Industry. This four-year, school-within-a-school model will allow students to earn a high school diploma and an associate degree during their traditional high school years. It will accelerate their entry into the workforce and save them considerable money (see page 10).

We're strengthening university agreements and pathways to advanced degrees as well, providing similarly streamlined and cost-effective paths for students. These include transfer articulations with SUNY New Paltz, Marist College, and others on the horizon. We're also exploring onsite baccalaureate programs, through which we'll "import" degrees from partner schools. This would give students the ability to access specializations not offered locally and complete their four-year degree without leaving home.

Additionally, DCC is investing in our business community, resulting in powerful outcomes. The most recent is our new Mechatronics Lab in our Center of Excellence for Industry and Innovation on our Fishkill campus (see page 6). This facility's grand opening was held in October — with Dr. Jill Biden on hand for the celebration — and provides hands-on, cross-disciplinary training in four key areas: automation, electrical technology, HVAC technology and mechanical technology. With more trainings under consideration, we're positioned to be the Mid-Hudson Valley's premier advanced manufacturing training hub.

We also have our Center of Excellence for Aviation Education at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport. We recently welcomed our fifth Aviation Maintenance Technician cohort to begin this unique, high-demand program that is drawing job offers before students even finish. To date, 40 aviation maintenance technicians have been added to that industry with average starting salaries of \$65,000.

Our accredited Nursing program is also among our greatest points of pride. In fact, our first-time test takers achieved a very strong 93.6% pass rate on their most recent national license exam (NCLEX Q3 '23). Recently, we made simulation technology and equipment upgrades to our labs and added much-needed tenure-track faculty members. The high demand for LPNs, imaging technicians, and respiratory therapists by our healthcare partners tells us we must do more to support this industry, setting the stage for us to create a new Center of Excellence for Nursing and Allied Health Professions, which is just underway.

Of course, as an education leader, we understand that affordable, reliable, safe, quality childcare is critically important to most families' ability to attain in-demand and well-paying jobs. Thus, DCC is expanding its childcare and early childhood education programs and partnerships, to prepare more certified educators and expand the number of childcare slots available.

We also launched our new Direct Support Professional Microcredential program, which welcomed its first cohort this fall. It's the result of a partnership between the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities and SUNY. This three-tiered program aligns with national certification standards, as students receive college credit that can be applied to a Human Services certificate or degree.

The most rewarding part of all of these initiatives is that we're already seeing results. In Fall 2023, DCC produced its first increase in applications and enrollment in over a decade. We enrolled 4,192 students — a 7% increase over 2022. This includes 1,607 new students, 240 more than last year — a 17.6% jump! Preliminary new-student data from other SUNY community colleges suggests that DCC has surpassed the median increase of 3.9%. We're also seeing increased interest among adult learners, in particular.

All of this is possible due to the cooperative efforts of community, industry and municipal leaders. They help us ensure the relevance of our curriculum, equipment, and technology which students learn, as well as the practical and applied learning experiences they need. Their commitments to economic and workforce development, guidance, and generous funding have all been critical in achieving these successes.

It's an honor to lead my colleagues at DCC, and it's equally rewarding to play a role in making our community stronger by building partnerships and fostering collaborations throughout our region.



Peter Grant Jordan, Ed.D.
President

DCC partners with individuals,
not-for-profit organizations,
business and industry and
government agencies to enhance
the quality of life in the
mid-Hudson Valley.

TO OUR DONORS:

Thank you.

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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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W. John Dunn
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Dutchess Community College
Dutchess County Association of Realtors
Dutchess County Counseling Association
Dutchess County Deputy Sheriffs PBA
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NXP by Philips
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NOTE: LIFETIME GIVING TOTALS
AS OF 8/31/2023

*deceased

Dear Alumni & Friends,

As we welcome 2024 with much anticipation for great things to come, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and share our future plans. This past year has been full of preparation and reorganization as the Foundation readies to create a new, ambitious, strategic plan to meet the needs of our students and the College.

As you just read in President Jordan's letter, DCC has developed its own new strategic plan and is moving in many new and exciting directions. These initiatives enable the Foundation to partner with many more community members through purposeful engagement, making them active members of the DCC family. It also has afforded us the resources to expand our student support.

The Foundation's portfolio has grown tremendously over the past several years to not only include merit-based scholarships but also career-specific, need-based, and childcare scholarships; student housing support; emergency needs grants; and food security for our students. In addition, the Foundation provides the College funding for student technology and equipment; professional development for faculty and staff; campus and facility improvements; and esteemed lecturers to visit our community and augment our academic offerings.

We were able to help so many because of your support, which allows hundreds of students to manage their finances, minimize their debt, and realize their dreams each year. In some cases, we even help students stay in school and continue their education during difficult times. One student who received support from DCC CARES wrote, "Thank you so much! I really appreciate it! That was a bigger blessing than you understand. Life has been difficult, but these small acts keep me going."

We are grateful for the opportunity to work with you to make this happen.

Together, we are changing lives!

We are pleased that our many benefactors endorse this wide array of important community initiatives. Whether you have supported us with a gift to one of the areas just mentioned or others through the Foundation, rest assured that every gift makes a difference. Thank you! We look forward to building a brighter future and continuing to improve our community — hand-in-hand, with you.

Warm wishes,



Raymond J. Freda
Board Chair
Class of 1988



Diana L. Pollard
Executive Director
Class of 1997



2023-24 Dutchess Community College Foundation

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DUTCHESS
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Mechatronics Launches

DCC Opens New Lab with Help from First Lady

On Oct. 6, Dutchess Community College officially opened its new Mechatronics Lab in our Center of Excellence for Industry and Innovation with a very special guest in attendance. Dr. Jill Biden, our nation's First Lady and a longtime advocate for higher education, joined dozens of college and SUNY officials, along with numerous business, government and community leaders at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on our Fishkill campus.

Centrally located at the intersection of U.S. Route 9 and Interstate 84 in Fishkill, the 6,000-square-foot facility features state-of-the-art equipment and three labs focused on providing hands-on, cross-disciplinary training spanning four key areas of expertise: automation, electrical technology, HVAC technology and mechanical technology.

"This...will help students get the skills they need for the growing businesses here — preparing them for careers making everything from display screens to jet engines to semiconductors," said Dr. Biden, who was accompanied by U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "As a community college professor... I'm so excited to see how this work changes people's lives."

"It is critical that the Hudson Valley's dedicated workers have the skills and resources needed to secure high-quality, good-paying jobs in New York's booming advanced manufacturing industry. This...is the boost DCC needs to help students get the hands-on experience needed to fill in-demand jobs."

U.S. SENATOR CHUCK SCHUMER



First Lady Jill Biden, Ph.D., joined DCC's students, faculty, staff and administrators, along with dozens of elected officials and community leaders, to celebrate the opening of DCC's new Mechatronics Lab in our Center of Excellence for Industry and Innovation.

Mechatronics is the intersection of mechanical, electrical and control systems with computers. The new facility offers an array of programs, with credit-bearing and credit-free options designed to serve a broad student population. Those already working in the field now have the chance to gain new skills and credentials, while students without prior experience can acquire the technical proficiency needed to launch their careers.

Students can pursue DCC's certificate program in air conditioning/refrigeration and associate degree in electrical technology, in addition to short-term, industry-recognized credentials in topics ranging from pneumatics to robotics.

"This is a prime example of how DCC is working to meet the economic and development needs of our region and state, while also providing a pathway to gainful employment for our community members," said DCC President Peter Grant Jordan.

With more trainings to come, such as Certified Production Technician (CPT)-Plus certification and supply chain automation, the facility is positioned to become the premier advanced manufacturing training hub of the Mid-Hudson Valley.

"We are thankful for the partnership that secured funding for this state-of-the-art facility from Dutchess County and New York State investment through SUNY and Empire State Development (ESD)," SUNY Chancellor John B. King, Jr. added. "This is an exciting opportunity for students and adult learners to successfully gain skills for jobs across the region."

This is the latest in many partnerships DCC has with state and regional government entities, as the College reimagines its role as partner and facilitator in making the aspirations of our region's families, entrepreneurs and civic leaders a reality. These include DCC's Center of Excellence for Aviation Education at our Hudson Valley Regional Airport campus, as well as a new Center of Excellence for Nursing and Allied Health Professions, on which we are just beginning to work.

"[ESD] is laser-focused on innovative and smart projects that will grow the economy and provide opportunity for all New Yorkers," said ESD President, CEO and Commissioner Hope Knight. "DCC's new Center of Excellence for Industry & Innovation is the perfect addition to the community and complements the many new companies that are moving into the Mid-Hudson Region. By strategically investing in workforce development — especially in advanced manufacturing — we are building a bright economic future for generations to come."

Commissioner Knight's excitement is warranted, as manufacturing jobs pay 12% more in hourly compensation than comparable workers earn in the rest of the private sector.

DCC has partnered with such companies as OnSemi, eMagin, and MPI to develop the lab's curriculum, and they will be involved in additional offerings in the Electrical Technology Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program and technical training. DCC is also working on expanding programs for middle and high school students, and students attending BOCES programs.

"I have two boys, 1 and 4. What I want more than anything — what I'm sure all of you want more than anything — is for our kids to have good-paying jobs that allow them to raise their families here in the Hudson Valley."

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE PAT RYAN

"We are proud to be at the forefront of advanced manufacturing — often called Manufacturing 4.0 — collaborating with our government, industry and education partners," Dr. Jordan added.

The new facility also allows DCC to serve additional subsets of learners in our community: those coming out of high school who don't want a traditional college pathway, and slightly older students who are re-evaluating their career paths.

To learn more about the Mechatronics Lab's programs and trainings, contact Freddy Santiago, DCC's Coordinator of Mechatronics Programming, at **(845) 790-3645**, or visit **sunydutchess.edu/mechatronics**.

DR. MARY LOUISE VAN WINKLE PROFESSIONAL STAFF TEACHING LEARNING CENTER

Van Winkle's 'Pillars' Inspire New Teaching and Learning Center



Dean of Academic Affairs Emerita Mary Louise Van Winkle has created a lasting legacy at DCC. Dr. Van Winkle, who passed away in 2020, had a significant impact on the life and work of faculty, staff and students throughout her 16-year tenure. As DCC's longest-serving Academic Affairs dean, she is remembered for her unstinting support, ensuring opportunities for personal and professional growth, encouraging the development of new and relevant courses and programs, and recognizing years ago the importance technology would assume in alternative modes of instruction delivery.

Regarding the latter, the Mary Louise Van Winkle Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) stands as a testament to her commitment as an educator to build on and move from "what is" to "what will be." Each of these areas could be considered pillars of her professional ethic. Together, they set strong precedents for initiatives that have continued to inform DCC's reputation for excellence.

Those who did not know Dr. Van Winkle can discover her values through the legacy she left as a member of the James F. Hall Legacy Society. The TLC is a symbol of excellence at DCC, providing faculty and staff the ability to expand their knowledge and expertise, and then pass that down to students while also using it to advance the College.

Her friends Jane Huber Yates and Sharon Rallis remember Mary Louise as the quintessential historian; her analytic, communication, problem-solving, research and writing skills made her their perfect friend and contributed to her distinguished academic career. Her legacy will continue as a powerful model for many young women she influenced through her volunteer activities, including serving on the boards of the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill and the Vassar Brothers Institute.

Dr. Van Winkle filled her early retirement years assuming interim academic deanships at Ulster Community College and Adirondack Community College. Her quest for new challenges then took her to Sitka, Alaska, where she served as chief academic officer for a year at a college whose student body consisted mainly of the Native Alaskans. Her final years back in the Hudson Valley were marked by engagement and participation in a range of activities, while always staying connected to DCC.

Mary Louise's many contributions to the lives of those with whom she was in contact, personally and professionally, will endure as happy memories of having known such a splendid human being. If this sounds like how you'd like to be remembered, contact the Foundation and ask about becoming a member of the James F. Hall Legacy Society.

The TLC Gets Some TLC

On Sept. 20, faculty and staff attended a grand opening and open house to commemorate the exciting renovations recently completed at the Dr. Mary Louise Van Winkle Professional Staff Teaching Learning Center — better known on campus as the TLC. Thanks to the DCC Foundation, campus administration, and the offices of Instruction & Learning, Facilities and Information Technology, the updated space in Hudson 232 includes new furniture, updated computers, an 86-inch touchscreen monitor, new carpeting and a fresh coat of paint! The ceremony featured a ribbon-cutting led by President Jordan along with several students and staff to celebrate the improvements and enhanced learning resources now available campus-wide.

LASTING IMPACT

HALL LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

The James F. Hall Legacy Society was established to recognize benefactors who have pledged generous gifts to the Dutchess Community College Foundation through their estate plans.

Members understand the importance of a successful community college and seek to keep the spirit of educational excellence alive for future generations. The individuals listed to the left have notified the Foundation that they have made a planned gift to Dutchess Community College. Planned gifts may include a bequest, charitable trust, personal residence, life insurance policy, IRA or any appreciated items such as artwork.

Some members are former students who connected in a meaningful way with faculty and staff and, as alumni, appreciate how the support and dedication of their teachers positively impacted their lives. Others are faculty and staff who have dedicated their lives to teaching and learning, and community members who recognize the impact that DCC has had on their neighbors. The College is fortunate to have so many friends and supporters who believe in its mission. The chance to help students enhance their lives through higher education inspires so many wonderful people from varying backgrounds to partner with DCC.

By becoming a member of the Hall Legacy Society, you are showing your commitment to the College and demonstrating a belief in future students.

Visit sunydutchess.giftlegacy.com to explore ways you can leave a lasting legacy.

Ellen L. Baker
 Rosemarie I. Becchetti-Rice '83
 Karen T. Blonder and Jerry L. Toepfer*
 Charles E.* and Mabel E.* Conklin
 David J. Conklin*
 Linda L. Connors '71
 Jim Curley '64 and Ceme Curley
 Eric W. Deyo '71
 Vincent J. DiMaso '66 and Joan DiMaso '68
 Jack and Donna Dworak
 Kathleen Eagan '67
 Toni M. Emery '66 and Joseph A. Lucas '87
 Dorothy J. Fitchett '81
 James V. Forster III*
 Raymond J. Freda '88
 Gail Ganter-Toback and Arnold Toback
 Patricia Ansari Gee
 Gladys L. Glick* '75
 Dr. James F. Hall*
 Bernard and Shirley Handel
 Mary V. Imperatori*
 Vernon D. Jones
 Anne Landry
 Gary J. Lindstrom* '60
 Kathleen M. Marinn* '63
 F. Kennon Moody*
 Michael J. O'Dell '69
 June S. Pierson
 Barbara Jean Planck
 Diana L. Pollard '97
 Vincent F. Post, Jr. '73
 Michael J. Quackenbush '78
 Francis U.* and Mary F.* Ritz
 Shirley Roberts-Brereton '88
 Carol A. Roper*
 Werner H. Schmidt*
 Carol F. Shuman '69
 Edna K. Silber*
 William R. Steinhaus '69
 Mary Louise Van Winkle*
 Allyn J.* and Mildred I.* Washington
 Carole J. Wolf

*deceased



Ready. Set. P-TECH!

This summer, SUNY and Governor Hochul announced \$31.5 million in funding for 12 Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) programs throughout the state. One is a joint partnership between DCC, Dutchess BOCES and the Council of Industry (CI), which together were awarded \$2.95 million.

P-TECH is a comprehensive, public and private sector stakeholder initiative which supports academically and economically at-risk students. This four-year, school-within-a-school model will serve at least 200 students when it is fully built out, each of whom will earn a high school diploma and a two-year associate degree during their typical four-year high school tenure.

“It’s all about creating opportunities for our students,” said Dutchess BOCES Superintendent Jason Schetelick. “When they get to cross the stage at graduation and receive not only their high school diploma but also a DCC degree, it can change the trajectory of their lives — especially first-generation students. If we can do that and positively impact Dutchess County industry, it’s an even bigger win-win.”

This accelerates their entry into the workforce and their ability to contribute to our economy sooner. It also reduces their cost of higher education and minimizes their college debt — which is quite a value-proposition to the average 18-year-old and their family.

“This is an incredible opportunity for our region as a whole,” added DCC President Peter Jordan. “The world of work is evolving rapidly, and programs like P-TECH empower education and industry to collaborate and serve the needs of students and the broader community.”

Given the demand for qualified workers in Dutchess County’s manufacturing industry, the group anticipates that P-TECH will play an important role in ensuring the talent pool grows to meet the need. Planning for the program will take place over the 2023-24 academic year, with a launch planned for some time in 2025.

Enrollment Up-Up-Updates!

We are pleased to report that, as of our census date, DCC’s fall enrollment was up for both new and returning students. This fall, DCC produced its first increase in applications and enrollment in over a decade. Nearly 4,200 students enrolled — a 7% increase over the prior year, including a nearly 300 net-student-increase. This includes 1,607 new students, 240 more than last year, which is a 17.6% jump!

Non-matriculated students also increased to 140, with 45 enrolled in new programs such as the Cannabis Retail Management and Direct Support Professional microcredentials. Furthermore, DCC is outranking other SUNY community colleges, according to preliminary new student enrollment data — far surpassing the median increase of 3.9%.

“This is the first time we have had an increase in enrollment in over a dozen years,” said Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success Scott Schnackenberg.

DCC also achieved some success in addressing the equity gap. Its one-year retention rates among African Americans improved eight percentage points from the fall 2020 cohort to fall of 2021’s, and their 56.6% rate was their second-highest one-year mark since 2013. Similarly, Hispanic/Latinx students’ one-year retention rate improved by nearly two percentage points year-over-year, nearly three percentage points higher than their African American counterparts and within one percentage point of white students.

“Best of all, these increases haven’t come from any one place. They’ve been incremental increases across the board from a host of initiatives,” added President Peter Grant Jordan. “In other words, there hasn’t been a magic bullet. It’s been a measured, realistic approach — as it should be — and we congratulate all our hard-working colleagues who played a role in this accomplishment.

Vicki Haak '77 and Her Family Celebrate Her Father's Legacy

The Donald W. Haak Memorial Scholarship was established by his wife, Barbara D. Haak, and their daughters, Vicki, Betsy, Donna, and Karla, in memory of their beloved husband and father to celebrate him and his love of aviation. The award is given to a DCC Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) student with a GPA of 3.0 or better. This fall, student Sarandon Kerr became its inaugural recipient.

Mr. Haak was a mechanic/engineer, inspector and Westchester Aircraft Maintenance Association board member during his career.

"Our dad loved to tinker and had an aptitude for understanding how things work and how to fix them," Vicki shared. "He also loved to travel and learn about history. Working in aviation [gave him] a cohesiveness for all of these passions."

All four of his daughters became comfortable with flight and travel, which literally opened a world of opportunities to them.

"We all share a passion for learning and exploring, each with our own nuanced approach to weaving it into our professional and personal lives," Vicki added. "He always encouraged us to follow our dreams — and to change the oil in our car and swap out the kitchen faucet!"

At this year's Convocation luncheon, foundation donors got to meet with scholarship recipients and enjoy a meal together. It is always a very rewarding experience, as Vicki can attest.

"Meeting Sarandon and celebrating all the awardees was profound," Vicki said. "Our mom and dad instilled in us the importance of education — and of paying it forward. Knowing that our dad's legacy continues in such a worthy and measurable way is humbling."

"Mr. Haak loved what he did, and I could see that pride and passion reflected in Ms. Vicki's eyes when she talked about her dad's life and work."

SARANDON KERR, '24

INAUGURAL RECIPIENT OF THE DONALD W. HAAK
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Among the many wonderful things about the Haak scholarship is that their father built his career with IBM at Hudson Valley Regional airport — where today's students now learn — which has added a deeper meaning to the family.

As an alumna, Vicki is especially familiar with DCC's advantages, opportunities and benefits.

"Dutchess County was, and continues to be, an idyllic place to work and raise a family," she advised. "While some of my friends went away to college, DCC was the perfect institution for me to continue my education and earn a degree."

Vicki began by exploring a career in early childhood education. Eventually, she turned her focus to accounting and would go on to earn a degree in finance and economics.

"The skills and credits I earned at DCC provided the foundation to acquire my bachelor's degree," she said. "Today, I am proud to have built a career and practice as a wealth manager and financial advisor."

"Helping provide the financial resources and encouragement to DCC's community of students reaps a multitude of rewards," she concluded. "As a financial advisor, I work with families looking to leave a legacy, as well as those who wish to provide their children with a college education. The DCC Foundation offers donors the ability to build a legacy and experience firsthand the value received by a deserving student. It also provides a pathway for students to help fund their education and shouts out to them that we all believe in them and their commitment to learn."

Thirst for Knowledge Earns Alumna East Coast Pommelier of the Year Honors

Paige Flori '09 has been in sales and marketing for most of her career. One day, she happened upon a tasting at a wine shop and struck up a conversation with the person conducting the sampling. He was looking for someone to represent his products in the Hudson Valley, and her interest was piqued.

She began offering samples of his wine and was soon promoted to wine representative, selling directly to stores and restaurants. She eventually found that she preferred the retail side of the business, connecting directly with consumers to help them explore different styles and expressions of wines and spirits.

She also developed a love for hard cider, a relative newcomer in the craft beverage industry, even though its roots date back centuries in the U.S. — including as a favorite beverage of presidents George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson!

“Cider’s resurgence comes from our renewed interest in local food and agritourism, the craft beverage popularity, and the need for more gluten-free options,” explains Flori. “Its lower alcoholic content also makes it “sessionable” (less inebriating), and its versatility makes it great to accompany many meals.”

Flori soon decided to open her own business: Boutique Wines, Spirits and Cider in Fishkill, N.Y. Like good parents describing their children, she insists she loves all her products equally. Still, it’s cider that makes her store unique: it’s the only cider tap system in a New York liquor store.

Now, after nearly seven years in business, Flori finds herself among the thought leaders in her space. She was part of the lobbying effort to extend her industry’s legal retail hours to 9 p.m. She’s also dealt with changing regulations and navigated a pandemic and recession.

“Having our finger on the pulse of our industry, as well as the ability to pivot to a changing environment, has been paramount to our success,” she states.

Yet, for Flori, all that is secondary. She thrives on knowing her craft, carrying forward a lifelong thirst for knowledge she refined at DCC. She decided to become a certified pommelier — hard cider’s equivalent of a wine sommelier, or expert.

“The Certified Pommelier exam was one of the most challenging I’ve ever encountered!” Flori insists.

She must be a natural, however, because she was chosen a year later as the American Cider Association (ACA)’s East Coast Pommelier of the Year.

“Winning this award was mind-blowing!” reports Flori, who had previously been honored by the ACA as its Best Cider Retailer. “Being recognized for something you’re passionate about is like the sprinkles on your ice cream sundae.”

If so, then the accompanying publicity has been the whipped cream. It’s been phenomenal for business, she says, and it’s helped more people discover the hard cider category.

“This also helps us point folks to our local cideries, which are fellow small businesses and farms,” Flori says. “We’re spreading tourism dollars that stay in our community, which we’re proud to do.”

Flori truly appreciates her DCC experience. She returned to school as an adult, and DCC gave her class times that fit her schedule. She studied Business as well as Communication and Media Arts, both of which she still uses routinely.

“I feel the quality of the education I received is second-to-none,” she advises. “I encourage anyone looking to start or continue their collegiate journey to strongly consider DCC!”





Alumni Highlight: **Shoshana Akins, MPH**

“The small class sizes meant more interaction with professors, and I was able to develop connections with my classmates, who became my first colleagues.”

SHOSHANA AKINS, '08

Shoshana Akins, '08, is helping to shape policies to advance the Biden-Harris Administration's equity goals. A DCC's honors program graduate and daughter of the College's Engineering Professor Leah Akins, she was appointed to the Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity (ACTE) by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg on Aug. 17.

Shoshana is one of 24 leading experts selected from an applicant pool of over 240 for a two-year term with the ACTE beginning this fall. The committee meets regularly to discuss and inform public policy, focusing on underserved groups and ways the federal government can better align infrastructure improvements with community needs.

In addition to serving on the ACTE, Akins is the manager of public participation planning at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission in Philadelphia, where she has worked for over eight years doing outreach and urban planning specifically centered on civil rights and environmental justice policy. She says the role is a perfect synthesis of her interests in policy, public health and urban planning, and a true culmination of her professional and educational experiences.

Akins earned her bachelor's in Sociology and Journalism from Suffolk University and her master's in Public Health from Drexel University. As a Liberal Arts student at DCC, she worked on the College newspaper and laid the groundwork for her future scholarship and career.

“The small class sizes meant more interaction with professors,” Akins shared, “and I was able to develop connections with my classmates, who became my first colleagues.”

Some of her favorite professors during her academic years were at DCC, and she cites her experience in those classrooms as key building blocks for her career. She specifically credits English Department Chair Joe Allen, who taught one of her most memorable classes (ENG 226), with helping her develop analytical skills and organize her thoughts into clear points — skills that continue to serve her well in her policy and advocacy work.

Onward and Upward

Class of '23

This year's graduating class celebrated their achievements at DCC's 64th annual commencement ceremony held at the Majed J. Nesheiwat Convention Center on Friday, May 19. They were joined by an audience of approximately 1,600 including faculty, staff, board members, community leaders, family and friends, with many more attending by livestream.

The diverse group of students ranged in age from 17 to 67 and earned degrees and certificates from 48 different academic programs. Of the 865 total graduates in the class of 2023, 89 began in one of DCC's programs designed to strengthen academic preparation such as EOP, CSTEP and TRiO, nearly 48% earned a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2, and 15 finished with a perfect 4.0.

In her commencement address, now-retired Professor of English Jacqueline Goffe-McNish charged the Class of 2023 to move confidently into the world using the skills they acquired at DCC.

"You can communicate. You can think. You're a team player," she advised. "You have a moral center, so use what is in your hand!"

Also speaking at graduation were DCC President Peter Grant Jordan, Instructional Staff Council Chair Matthew Murray, Board of Trustees Chair Michael Dupree, student commencement speaker Kyle Bredberg '23, and Dutchess County Executive William F.X. O'Neil.

The College awarded a posthumous degree for the first time this year to Melanie Chianese, who would have graduated with honors last fall. It was presented to her mother by Dr. Jordan, along with Vice President for Instruction and Learning Raymond Houston and Human Services Program Chair Lacie Reilly.

A full recording of the ceremony is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZZdj3mN7iU>.

You can also enjoy a recap video at <https://vimeo.com/829572843?share=copy> and a photo album at <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAEUcC>.

*VP for Instruction & Learning
Raymond Houston addresses the
graduates and their families.*

*A member of the Class of 2023 signals
her accomplishments to her loved ones.*



President Jordan congratulates a graduate who accepted her diploma the same way she completed her coursework — while balancing motherhood.



President Jordan presents the College's first posthumous degree to Cheryl Chianese, the mother of Melanie Chianese, who would have graduated with honors last fall.



Retiring Professor of English Jacqueline Goffe-McNish challenges the Class of 2023 to "use what is in your hand!"



Student speaker Kyle Bredberg shares his experiences and advice with his classmates



A student's mortar board shares her next steps with the audience.



A new graduate enjoys his moment in the spotlight.

FALCONS HIGHLIGHTS

Men's Basketball Qualifies for 2022-23 Nationals, Begins 2023-24 Campaign First in the Region, Ranked 8th in the U.S.

The men's basketball team has been on a quite a roll over the past year. Led by Coach Rob Piano, they finished the 2022-23 regular season with a 17-14 record (8-4 in their region), won the Region XV tournament, and earned a trip to the Division-III National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Championships, which they entered with the #12 national ranking. Though they did not advance far, they met their goal of making it to the Nationals.

This year, as the fall 2023 semester concluded, the Falcons were 11-2 with conference record of 8-1 and the #8 NJCAA ranking. They compiled a 9-0 record through November, ending the month ranked #4 in the nation.

The Falcons' leading scorer is freshman Prince Kamate, who averages 13.8 points, 4.3 rebounds and 1.8 steals per game. Fellow freshman Quincey Platt is the team's second-leading scorer and top rebounder, averaging a double-double with 11.3 points and 10.2 rebounds per game. Platt also thrives on defense, where he blocks more than two shots and grabs 1.5 steals per game. Sophomore point guard Raesean Greer dishes out 5.3 assists per game and is the team's third-leading scorer with 9.8 points per contest. Freshman Seiray Sinerna leads the nation in shooting percentage at a 71% clip — mostly from inside the arc as a guard. Sophomore Nashuan Johnson and freshman Joseph Battle both average over eight points a game and have had huge games to help DCC get key wins.

The Falcons return to action Jan. 20 when they take on Kingsborough Community College at home in Falcon Hall.

Women's Volleyball Makes Nationals for Second-Straight Year



DCC earned a spot in the D-III National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Championship Tournament and won the Mid-Hudson Conference for the second-consecutive year. The Falcons completed a grueling final week which had them competing in five matches, all of which they won, including a rematch of last year's regional final loss to Monroe Bronx, which they avenged. DCC then traveled to Iowa for the national tournament, where they fell in their first matchup vs. number-one seed and eventual national champion Dallas College-Eastfield (35-0), which became the first team in NJCAA Division III volleyball history to go unbeaten and win a national championship.

The Falcons finished the season with a 24-6 record, including a 13-1 conference mark. They were led by sophomores Grace Ferretti and Lauren Seigel along with freshman Maya-K Johnson, all of whom averaged over 2.7 points per set, with Johnson's 3.1 leading the way. In addition, sophomore Nicole Spero averaged more than four assists per set and led the team in service aces. Classmate Kaitlin Robin finished second on the team with 3.5 assists per set while finishing among the top five in almost every statistical category. Freshman Franchelis Guzman led the team in digs as well as service receptions.

Siegel was named Mid-Hudson Conference MVP for the season and to the All-Region first team and All-Tournament Region XV team. Ferretti was named to the All-Tournament team as well, and to the All-Region second team. Johnson received an All-Region honorable mention, and Guzman was named Region XV defensive player of the year. Ferretti and Johnson were also selected for the Mid-Hudson Conference First Team.

Let The Games Begin!



DCC was thrilled to unveil its new eSports arena last spring in Dutchess Hall. It features a community space with room for anyone to engage in gaming, whether they play competitively or for fun, individually or on a team. Its equipment includes state-of-the-art computers, controllers, screens, gaming chairs and cameras. Players can also access it off-campus, making practice more convenient.

"We were looking to create a location not only for competitive eSports, but also for students, faculty and staff to engage in social and recreational opportunities," said Director of Athletics Matthew Paquet.

eSports is officially recognized and sponsored by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). More than 100 schools compete at this level, nationally. Student-athletes are required to meet similar academic and performance requirements as their traditional-sport peers do. There's also a great deal of preparation that goes into eSports competition, including staying physically and mentally fit.

After its launch, participants quickly got to work — in-person and online — preparing for matches against other colleges, nationwide. The DCC Valorant team held its first matches on Feb. 16, losing 0-2 to Trinity Valley CC, before winning its first match 2-0 against Heartland CC on Feb. 23. They recently competed in an in-person Valorant tournament at Contender eSports in Fishkill, against eight other two- and four-year colleges across the Northeast. DCC's program had 24 participants at the end of the fall term.

Outside of competition, the eSports Program hopes to partner with local high school teams and invite them to campus for competitions. The athletic department is also actively recruiting students to join the program and prepare for its spring 2024 season. If you know someone who may be interested or would like to join yourself, contact the athletic department today!

Men's Soccer

Men's soccer finished the 2023 season with a record number of players earning individual honors. Aidan Yereance was selected to the Region XV Second Team, and Braden Pettigrew was selected to the Region XV Honorable Mention team. Alan Quezada was selected to represent DCC for the region's Sportsmanship Award. Yereance and Pettigrew were also selected to the Mid-Hudson Conference Second Team.



Women's Basketball

The Dutchess Women's Basketball team heads into the break with an 8-3 record in their first season of action in three years. The all-freshmen team is led by Alexis Ochoa-Pena who is averaging 16.8 points per game this season while also leading the team in per-game assists and steals. On the interior, the Falcons have two players who are putting up double-doubles every game in Maya-k Johnson and Shalanda Lefevre. Lefevre averages 12.8 points per game to go along with 11 rebounds while Johnson is scoring 11.4 a game with 12.2 rebounds. Franchelis Guzman had a big game against Borough of Manhattan Community College, where she put up a team-high 20 points in the win.



Leaders Honored at Our Community's Bridge to the Future Gala

The Dutchess Community College Foundation held its “Our Community’s Bridge to the Future” gala on Sat., March 25 at The Grandview. The annual event celebrates distinguished DCC alumni, benefactors and student leaders, and raises funds to support scholarships and other College initiatives — which total more than \$800,000 annually. All proceeds from the gala go directly to the Fund for Dutchess, which supports the College’s most urgent or immediate needs.

This year’s honorees included two new DCC Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame inductees: Keith Daly ’72 and Rita McPeck ’88, for their outstanding professional contributions and community commitment.

Daly rose from playing on the DCC Falcons basketball team to outfitting entire basketball teams and other athletes around the world as a former and now retired CEO of the multi-billion-dollar Foot Locker, Inc.

McPeck, a DCC Foundation board member and Italian immigrant, has enjoyed a distinguished career in finance over the past 35 years. Now AVP/SBA senior service officer for KeyBank’s Hudson Valley/Metro NY and Albany districts, she has won the Signature Circle award six times for significantly exceeding goals and been given numerous accolades for her work in the community.

DCC Board of Trustees Chairman Michael Dupree and his husband, Michael Fleischer, were presented with the Bridge to the Future award in appreciation of their generous support of housing insecure students and the DCC CARES program. They also devote much of their time and energy to strengthening their Hyde Park community and preserving its wealth of historic resources.

Lastly, Ronald M. Lane ’75, was chosen to receive the Bernard Handel Community Leadership Award. Lane spent 35 years in medical sales and business consulting at McKesson Corp. until his retirement in 2014. He has been volunteering and serving on boards in support of a variety of causes for just as long — from his

enduring commitment to Dutchess County SPCA (since 1991); to college sports, as a former tennis player then volunteer coach at Marist; to arts and culture as board president of New Deal Creative Arts Center; social services at Grace Smith House, and more.

The evening also featured live music from two bands, Joe North Trio and The Chain Gang, as well as a silent auction with such prizes as trips, jewelry, wine, spa excursions, game tickets — even a pass to the exclusive Pawling Mountain Club. The event was masterfully co-chaired by Foundation Board Vice Chair Lisa Morris ’85 and Director Susan Scivollette-McCormack ’87.

“We’re so fortunate to have such accomplished and caring individuals in our community,” said DCC Foundation Executive Director Diana Pollard ’97. “Their generosity and investment continue to fuel life-changing opportunities for thousands of students each year, in addition to the economic impact they have on families and our community as a whole.”

The Foundation is also very appreciative of its lead sponsors: Bonura Hospitality Group; Michael Dupree & Michael Fleischer; Pepsi-Cola of the Hudson Valley; Nuvance Health; Royal Carting Service Company; and VIVO Creative; as well as all those who supported the event in any way.

SAVE THE DATE
DCC Foundation Gala 2024

April 6th

Register at sunydutchess.edu/gala



This year's DCC Foundation Gala honorees, from left: Keith Daly '72, Ronald M. Lane '75, Rita McPeck '88, Michael Francis Dupree, and Michael Fleischer.



Student Resource Navigator Whitney Morris explains how her DCC CARES team helps students overcome barriers to success.



DCC Foundation Executive Director Diana Pollard chats with college trustees Stephen Caswell (left) and Ibis Guzman '00.



Student Government Association President Erick Vasquez Maldonado thanks the attendees for their support.



Gala co-chairs Lisa Morris '85 and Susan Scivolette-McCormack '87 celebrate a successful event!



Foundation Board Chair Raymond Freda '88 shakes hands with President Peter Grant Jordan at the podium.

Three DCC Students Named Chancellor's Award for Excellence Recipients

Three Dutchess Community College students received awards for excellence from the State University of New York (SUNY) in April. This award is the highest honor bestowed upon a student by the University.

Kaitlynn Lopez of Cornwall, N.Y., Penny Lowry of Kingston, N.Y., and Daniel O'Sullivan of Staatsburg, N.Y., were among just 193 students from 63 SUNY campuses presented with the Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence. The honor recognizes the integration of SUNY excellence with many aspects of their lives, including academics, leadership, campus involvement, community service, and the arts (creative or performing).

SUNY Chancellor John B. King, Jr. said, "I am honored to recognize these students for the work they've done to better their communities, their generation, and our collective future. I'm honored to witness the growth of a generation of individuals like these and to work to support their educational pursuits."



Daniel O'Sullivan



Kaitlynn Lopez



Penny Lowry

The Denton Writing Awards

Eight students were selected for this year's Denton Writing Awards across six categories. The awards are given annually and named after Tom Denton, who founded the Writing Center and congratulated students in person at the ceremony on April 27.

ACADEMIC WRITING

Susanna Gilgert & Trinity Ridenhour

CREATIVE NON-FICTION

Susanna Gilgert & Kuiper Steinmeyer

FICTION

Emmet Arimborgo & Kuiper Steinmeyer

MATH AND SCIENCE

Melody Burke

POETRY

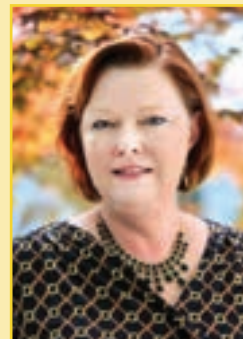
Ethan Nelson & Angela Sanchez

SCREENPLAY

Jake Veglia



Keating '76 Comes Home for Health Fair



Eugenia Keating '76 was one of 26 employers at September's Health Career Fair in the Louis Greenspan Dining Room. Students, alumni and community members

explored internships and careers in such fields as nursing, clinical lab technology, phlebotomy, mental health and more.

Keating is a Senior Talent Acquisition Nurse Recruiter with Archcare, a continuing care community of the Archdiocese of New York. She has over 35 years of operational, human resources and marketing management experience in healthcare including assisted living communities, skilled nursing facilities, hospitals and home care agencies.

As a DCC student, Keating served as president of the Student Government Association, a yearbook and newspaper contributor, and a member of the Student Senate, Media Communications Club and Social Activity Club.

"Going to school at DCC was a great place to begin my formal education in media and related studies," said Keating. "New friendships were made and lots of possibilities were explored."





Alumna Joins Nursing Faculty as Her English Faculty Mentor Retires

Kymouye Williams-Gourdine returned to DCC this fall to teach in its Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program as a Clinical/Lab instructor — ironically, following the retirement of her DCC mentor.

Nursing has always been Kymouye's passion. She is driven to help others in their most vulnerable time — just like her mother, a fellow nurse and her ultimate role model. After earning her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) credential at Dutchess BOCES in 2014, Kymouye knew she was destined for a similar path.

"I heard many great things about DCC and knew it was the best place to continue my education," Kymouye said, citing the assistance she had from faculty and staff since day one, the low cost, and the many student resources available.

DCC enabled Kymouye to complete her prerequisites and transfer to a school with a well-regarded Registered Nurse (RN) program. However, it also gave her an unexpected second role model.

Kymouye met Professor Jacqueline Goffe-McNish while taking a prerequisite English class. Her guidance was particularly impactful, and her passion for teaching motivated Kymouye to work hard and become an educator as well.

"After having worked as a nurse in the region as well as New York City, I wanted to return to DCC to start my teaching career path," Kymouye added. "I had such a great experience as a student, and I want to provide the same to other nursing students."

Kymouye especially enjoys the wide range of specialty areas and settings in which one can work in the nursing industry. As she returns to DCC as a faculty member, she hopes to share those options with her students.

"Professor Goffe-McNish has been one of my biggest motivators and mentors, and I hope to be the same for the students I teach," Kymouye explained. "To be able to teach a new generation of CNAs means a lot to me. The love I have to help others, along with the chance to share my knowledge and experience, is a dream come true."

Chancellor Award for Excellence Winners: Faculty & Staff

The following DCC faculty and staff were honored with as 2022-23 Chancellor's Award for Excellence recipients — the highest honor bestowed to faculty and staff by the SUNY System.

FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Melissa Carlo, Ph.D., TRiO Director
Martin Schneider, Grants Director

FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Lindsey Guile, Associate Professor of Art
Lacie Reilly, Human Services Department Chair

FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLASSIFIED SERVICE

Maureen Byrum, Business Technology senior office assistant

FOR EXCELLENCE IN ADJUNCT INSTRUCTION

Danielle Ely, adjunct instructor of English



Maureen Byrum



Melissa Carlo



Danielle Ely



Lindsey Guile



Lacie Reilly



Martin Schneider

DR. D. DAVID CONKLIN
DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

Award-Winning Historian Downs Delivers Timely Historical Revision of Modern Medicine

Lecture stressed how slavery, colonialism and war drove the study of infectious disease

Protecting the health of our communities relies on scientific insights many of us take for granted. How did the field of epidemiology develop, and why is this history relevant today?

Award-winning historian Jim Downs addressed these topics in his lecture, "The Troubled and Troubling Origins of Epidemiology: How Slavery and Colonialism Changed Medicine." His Sept. 14 address in the James and Betty Hall Theatre was the fifth event in the Dr. D. David Conklin Distinguished Lecture Series, established by the DCC Foundation to recognize the College's fourth president, who retired in 2014.

Dr. Downs is the Gilder Lehrman-National Endowment for the Humanities Professor of Civil War-Era Studies and History at Gettysburg College. He is the author of "Maladies of Empire: How Colonialism, Slavery, and War Transformed Medicine," which has been translated into Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean and Russian.

In addition to his other books, "Sick from Freedom: African American Sickness and Suffering During the Civil War and Reconstruction" and "Stand By Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation," Downs has published essays in *The Atlantic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Vice*, *Slate*, *The Lancet*, *LA Times* and others. He is also a partner at History Studio, where he hosts podcasts on how to tell an authentic story.

From left, Dr. D. David Conklin, Jim Downs, Dr. Peter Grant Jordan, and Dr. Werner Steger



From left, Handel Foundation Endowed Faculty Chair Sharon Hallager, author and journalist Shannon McKenna Schmidt, Shirley Handel, Bernard Handel, and DCC President Peter Grant Jordan.

HANDEL FOUNDATION ENDOWED FACULTY CHAIR TO PERPETUATE THE LEGACY OF FRANKLIN AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT LECTURE

Handel Lecture Series Highlights Eleanor Roosevelt's Role in WWII



On Oct. 12, author and journalist Shannon McKenna Schmidt delivered a lecture highlighting Eleanor Roosevelt's courageous and unconventional support for U.S. troops during World War II. The lecture, which is part of the Handel Foundation Endowed Chair to Perpetuate the Legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt series, included an historical account of America's most-traveled

First Lady, whose unwavering support for the U.S. troops included a rigorous five-week journey to the front lines of the Pacific theatre in 1943.

The annual lecture comes to DCC courtesy of the Handel Foundation and Dutchess Community College Foundation. DCC's Sharon Hallager, instructor of history and recipient of the Handel Foundation Endowed Faculty Chair to Perpetuate the Legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, facilitated the event.

The Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence

THE CHARLES E. AND MABEL E. CONKLIN SCHOLARSHIP for Academic Excellence was created to provide a full-tuition scholarship for Dutchess County high school students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their class.

This extraordinary scholarship offers outstanding students the opportunity to earn their two-year degree tuition-free. This fall, a total of 18 first-year students from high schools throughout the county have been awarded the prestigious scholarship, bringing the number of Conklin Scholars at Dutchess Community College to 36.

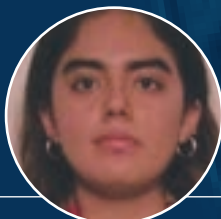


This scholarship is made possible through a generous gift from the late Mr. & Mrs. Charles Conklin and the Dutchess Community College Foundation.

Charlie and Betty have created a legacy that will last many lifetimes with their \$2M gift. Their endowment will continue to grow to support more and more students through the generations.

After finding out I was awarded the Conklin Scholarship, I was extremely excited and knew all my hard work had paid off. This scholarship will keep me motivated to get a step closer to becoming a teacher.

KIMBERLY GARCIA



Being granted the Conklin Scholarship and being able to attend DCC makes me beyond excited not only for my present, but for my future. Thank you all!

ALEC MALLES



FIRST-YEAR CONKLIN SCHOLARS

Andrew Check
Cassandra Crum
Kimberly Garcia
Aida Hernandez
Alec Malles
Marissa Mendez Vazquez
Melissa Mendez Vazquez
Pierre Simon Miranda
Joshua Montero
Rosemary Notaro
Chastity Robinson
Nicholas Scaffidi
Memphis Self
Raegan Smith
Jack Sozzi
Jordyn Thorne
Emilee Villano
Maria Volino

SECOND-YEAR CONKLIN SCHOLARS

Alex Bass
Margaret Chau
Nicole Ciardullo
Tamian Holness
Andrew Dorfschmidt
Rachel Fenwick
Stefanie Healy
Emma Kiesbye
Gianna Leonardi
Lillian Mackin
Angelina Merendino
Benjamin Nikolai Miranda
Jeremy Newman
Julianna Powers
Emily Rector
Chanel Reed
Waheed Saroyia
Teagan Nicholson

2023 Scholarship Recipients

Each year, the DCC Foundation awards over 200 scholarships collectively valued close to \$300,000.

We thank our donors for their generous support of our students and congratulate the 2023 scholarship recipients.

Continuing Student Scholarships

ALLIED HEALTH and BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

William J. Buckner Exempt Firemen's Scholarship: **Akeem Alexander**
Michael J. Cassetta Memorial Scholarship: **Shaun Collazo**
Dutchess County Home Bureau Scholarship: **Yasmin McMahon, Fatoumata Sawo**
Dr. Alfredo Fonts Memorial Scholarship: **Maria Herrera**
Dr. Lloyd D. Harris Memorial Scholarship: **Calie Herman**
William E. Holland Scholarship: **Matthew Jennison**
Ariel E. Ingoglia Memorial Scholarship: **Yadenny Torres**
Dennis Kipp Memorial Scholarship: **Augustine Agbamu**
Margaret Fondren Koniz Memorial Scholarship: **Katelyn Brenner**
Mazzetti Family Scholarship: **Alec Cattell**
McCann Foundation Scholarship: **Ashley Call**
Millbrook Tribute Garden Scholarship: **Arman Yasin**
Jeffrey Pells Memorial Scholarship: **Andrea Vallovera**
Richard L. Skimin Memorial Scholarship: **Shaun Collazo**
Tara Sweet-Flagler Scholarship: **Matthew Jennison**
Pat Zerbe Scholarship: **Katelyn Brenner**

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Sheriff Butch Anderson Scholarship: **Sarah Burleski**
CAYSA Region IV Criminal Justice Scholarship: **Jessica Mericle**
Diversity and Social Justice Scholarship: **Ziare Suddith**

Dutchess County Deputy Sheriffs PBA Scholarship: **Hailey Hormozy**
Dutchess County Police Chiefs Association Scholarship: **Hailey Hormozy**
Dutchess County and NYS Southeastern Zone Retired Teachers Association Scholarship: **Juliette Bushee**
Dutchess County Correctional Officers Benevolent Association Scholarship: **Keisy Calcagno**
Drs. Eugene and Eileen Lambden Best Scholarship: **Catherine Bey**
McCann Foundation Scholarship: **Gregory Johnson**
Vernell Charles "Fuzzy" McClinton Jr. Memorial Scholarship: **Jerome Fearon**
Sheriff Fred Scoralick Family Scholarship: **Ivan Beniquez**
Jane M. Shulkin - MARC Foundation Scholarship: **Lisa McDonald**
Zaida Swan Memorial Scholarship: **Merima Hodzic**
Cathie Tarpey Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship: **Mackenzie Ean**

BUSINESS, AVIATION and CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONS

Business Administration Career Scholarship: **Hailey Urgiles**
Business Community College Partnership Scholarship: **Serenity Crump**
Betty J. Canfield Memorial Scholarship: **Joanna Picciano**
Thomas Cawley Memorial Aviation Scholarship: **John Haga**
Dutchess County Association of Realtors Scholarship: **Bianca Poyser**
George N. Freedman Memorial Scholarship: **Lauren Siegel**
Louis Greenspan Memorial Scholarship: **Leonardo Malcolm**

"This scholarship is a blessing...because it will help me further pursue my career in construction management. A big thank you to my scholarship donor and the DCC foundation for making this possible."

LEONARDO MALCOLM
Louis Greenspan Memorial Scholarship

LEONARDO



Donald W. Haak Memorial: **Sarandon Kerr**
Hudson Valley Credit Union Scholarship: **Jalysa Pecora**
Ginger Mancuso Memorial Scholarship: **Marcus Hazzard**
McCann Foundation Scholarship: **Rakan Al Ghananim**
Timothy J. McCormack Memorial Scholarship: **Calliope Barlow**
Meyer Family Scholarship: **Debora Brum**
Millbrook Tribute Garden Scholarship: **Paul Andrews**
TEG Federal Credit Union Scholarship: **Sandra Camacho**
UHY LLP Certified Public Accountants Scholarship: **Omar Nassar Othman**
Ulster Savings Bank Scholarship: **Alyssia Beliveau**
Westage Companies Scholarship: **Karah Humphrey**

ENGLISH and HUMANITIES

Russell S. Cleverley Memorial Scholarship: **Isobel Sciacca**
Sylvia L. Jones Scholarship: **Derek Donnelly**
Jerry A. Lee Memorial Scholarship: **Patricia Lederer**
Seth W. Lessinger Scholarship in Philosophy: **Angelina Giordani**
McCann Foundation Scholarship: **Tiffany Felidi**
McNish-Goffe Scholarship: **Kevin Blake**
Michael O'Dell Scholarship: **Carl Muñoz**
Edmund Webb Memorial Scholarship: **Trinity Ridenhour**

HISTORY, GOVERNMENT and ECONOMICS

Eric W. Deyo Scholarship: **Olivia Flanagan**
Joseph H. and Miriam B. Gellert Memorial Scholarship: **Calvin Serpico**
Louis Greenspan Memorial Scholarship: **Susanna Gilgert, Marley Zuniga**
Vincent J. Tedone Memorial Scholarship: **Marley Zuniga**

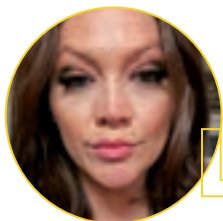
MATHEMATICS and COMPUTER SCIENCE

McCann Foundation Scholarship: **Logan Roberts**
Daniel P. White Memorial Scholarship: **Carol Pachar**

NURSING

John Brinckloe Memorial Scholarship: **Victoria Relyea**
Dutchess County 40/8 Voiture #502 Nursing Scholarship: **Ayren McNett**
Dutchess County Home Bureau Scholarship: **Sierra Douglass**
Sonny Frasier Memorial Scholarship: **Gianna Desisto**
Blanche Knapp Hart Memorial Scholarship: **Jessica Meyer**
Hudson River State Hospital Nurses Alumni Scholarship: **Jacqueline Giulietti**
Mary Lyman Memorial Scholarship: **Jacqueline Giulietti**
Leslie D. Maserjian Memorial Nursing Scholarship: **Jessica Rymar**
McCann Foundation Scholarship: **Bridgytt Varner**
Millbrook Tribute Garden Scholarship: **Ashley Brennan**
Martha Reifler Myers Memorial Nursing Scholarship: **Sharnele Simpson**
Jean D. Rock Memorial Scholarship: **Christine Abbruzzi**
Cathy Tice Memorial Scholarship: **Emmagrace Annese**
Jackie Warner Memorial Nursing Scholarship: **Alison O'Meara**
Ann D. Whalen Memorial Scholarship: **Emma Ohlandt**

"I am incredibly thankful for this generosity. Addiction is...close to my heart. I have lost countless friends and family members over the years. I am gaining valuable skills and knowledge that will allow me to help others...save lives and prevent families from having to bury members due to this devastating crisis."



LISA McDONALD
Jane M. Shulkin-MARC
Foundation Scholarship

LISA

PERFORMING, VISUAL ARTS and COMMUNICATIONS

George Bernstein Memorial Scholarship:
David Hartsough

Jacques Cohen '89 Memorial Scholarship:
Jade Tallie

Dutchess Heritage Quilters Scholarship:
Ashley Kim, Mawazi Matende

Clarence J. "Woody" Ferrier Theatre
Scholarship: **Moeha Saito**

Harold and Dorothy Hayward Memorial
Scholarship: **Moeha Saito**

Agostino, Lidia and Mary V. Imperatori
Memorial Scholarship: **Ahlam Elboukhari**

JTN Scholarship: **Mary Ruggerone**

Peter Klose Memorial Scholarship:
Clarisse Michelle Teves Bennett

Karen Lee Knapp Memorial Scholarship:
Thomas Orapello

McCann Foundation Scholarship:
Victoria Sickler

Lynette McKinney Memorial Scholarship:
Jasmin Urena

Dr. Holly Mollala Dance Scholarship:
Daniela Mejia

Laura Lucille Staats Memorial Scholarship:
Claire Apthorpe

Stuart Griffin Photography Scholarship:
Mary Ruggerone

PHYSICAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING and TECHNOLOGY

Charles E. Conklin Entrepreneurial
Scholarship in Technology:
Asim Aleem

Melanie A. Kotes Memorial Science
Scholarship: **Tiffani Jack**

Gary J. Lindstrom Scholarship:
Jeremy Cestero

Seth B. Lyon Memorial Scholarship:
Joshua Garcia

McCann Foundation Scholarship:
Anthony Moustakas, Matthew Ferolito

Michael J. Morris Scholarship:
Nathaniel Marino

Tompkins Mahopac Bank Scholarship:
Robert Bohl

Daniel P. White Memorial Scholarship:
Dalton Melious

SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Achievement Scholarship:
Carlia Gordon

Association of Women at DCC
Scholarship: **Serenity Crump,
Marisa Babboni**

Bridge to the Future Scholarship:
Ashton Felix Balloqui-Smith

Trudy Hankinson Briggs AAUW
Scholarship: **Thomas Paulet**

Phyllis L. Cady Memorial Scholarship:
Brendan Murphy

Peter J. Clark and Timmian C. Massie
LGBTQ Scholarship: **Ryan Scott**

Dr. D. David Conklin Scholarship for
Student Leadership: **Lisbeth Castellanos**

Carmine Curcio Scholarship:
Melody Sanni-Thomas

Alexander Cutionilli Memorial Scholarship:
Jonathan Amico

Dutchess County Youth Board and
Coordinating Council Scholarship:
Angelina Giordani

William Jeff Edwards Memorial
Scholarship: **Jose Rodriguez**

Sadie and William Effron Scholarship:
Byron Sanchong

Nan Ginger Memorial Scholarship:
Tehreem Hasan

Dr. Michael J. and Lois Hall
Memorial Scholarship for Education:
Giovanni Castellanos

Bernard Handel Community Leadership
Scholarship: **Daniel DeChristopher**

Helen and Henry Katula Memorial
Scholarship: **Chriss-Ann Pryce**

Susan Scivolette-McCormack Scholarship:
Samantha Guevara

Moody Family Scholarship:
Jose Rodriguez

Jean and Dr. Carl Needy Scholarship:
Nicole Bonanno

Nine Partners Lions Club Scholarship:
Aidan Fitzmaurice

Sgt. Mark C. Palmateer Memorial
Scholarship: **Xiaodong Hu**

Allan E. Rappleyea and Julia M. Rappleyea
Scholarship: **Adri Ganz, Tiffani Jack**

Rhinebeck Bank Scholarship:
Anastasia Bondarenko, Brianna Brill

Senator Stephen M. Saland Bi-Annual
Scholarship: **Alexandra Scott**

Senator Stephen M. Saland Legacy
Scholarship: **Genesis Adams**

Catherine Reeck Shanks Scholarship:
Janoi Stewart

Tiger Family Scholarship to Support
the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:
Brianna Brill, Rachael Smith

Usman Zia and Moez-UL Hassan Memorial
Scholarship: **Akeem Darlington**

"I feel so grateful for this scholarship. It allows me to gear my focus towards my education in fulfilling my dream to become a NICU nurse! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!"

EMMAGRACE ANNESE
Cathy Tice Memorial Scholarship



EMMAGRACE

"It is an honor and privilege to have received this scholarship. This...will allow me to [worry] less and spend more time in my community and studying. I will strive to show the kindness to others that you have shown me."

RYAN SCOTT
Peter J. Clark and Timmian C. Massie
LGBTQ Scholarship



RYAN

Graduating Student Scholarships

Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship:
Elyssa DiDomizio, Ava Muscat

American Association of University
Women Scholarship: **Shernette Bourdier,
Athena Xenakis**

Milton Chazen Scholarship: **Garrett Oles**

Jim Curley Graduate Scholarship:
Keven Martinez

DUE Scholarship in Honor of
Allan E. Rappleyea: **Anne Stoll**

William J. and Pauline Egan Memorial
Scholarship: **Regina Roman Ramirez**

Cynthia R. Feldman Scholarship:
Nicole Gee

Drs. Florence H. and Elvin E. Gottdiener
Memorial Graduate Scholarship: **Karissa
Vandemark, Naomi Flinchum-Marquez**

James and Betty Hall Founding President's
Scholarship: **Danielle Bunn**

Henry McDermott Scholarship:
Timothy Bradley

Richard Reitano Scholarship:
Angelina Giordani

Maximilian Schneider Memorial
Scholarship: **Jonathan Gomez**

Robert B. Sayegh Memorial Scholarship:
Jerry Jastrzab

Richard Steffen Engineering Alumni
Scholarship: **Ryan Rabenda**

Rochel Stein and Richard O'Connor
Memorial Scholarship: **Dean Fejes,
Arius James Sanfratello**

Transfer 101 Scholarship: **Tytiana Britt,
Joseph Mondello**

Allyn J. Washington Scholarship:
Melody Burke, David Venuto

Mildred I. Washington Memorial Graduate
Scholarship: **Julia Roberts**

Young Engineers Scholarship:
Sophia Lopez

"Thank you so much for this recognition! It means more than you will ever know. I will carry this honor with me to...SUNY New Paltz. As a future teacher, I hope to pass on this sense of gratitude on to my students!"

JULIA ROBERTS
Mildred I. Washington Memorial
Graduate Scholarship



JULIA

Incoming Scholarships

Arlington American Legion Post
Scholarship: **Saifullah Imdad**

The Jordan E. Bell STEM Scholarship for
Women: **Sydney Greenhill**

Andre Valencia Taylor Bond Memorial
Scholarship: **Dylan Soria**

Chevron-Texaco-Beacon-Dutchess
Scholarship: **Brianna Moleano,
Madison DeLeo**

Dutchess County Youth Board
and Coordinating Council Scholarship-
Incoming: **Tiffany Lopez**

Hyde Park Lions Club Scholarship:
Joanna Ruiz

Junior League of Poughkeepsie
Scholarship: **Kiara Ramos**

KeyBank Community Scholarship:
**Ashawna Reid, Lauryn Menz, Hayley
Kacmarczyk, Joanna Ruiz**

Kirchhoff Family Scholarship:
Kyle Schmitt

Kirchhoff Family Scholarship for Home-
Schooled Students: **Lukas Bell**

JDJ "Mulligan" Scholarship:
Rahtisha Pittman

Evelyn Partridge Memorial Scholarship:
Rahtisha Pittman

Honors Convocation Presents 168 Scholarships to Students

After a three-year hiatus, the DCC Foundation returned to hosting this event in a new format. The luncheon, which brought together scholarship recipients and Foundation donors, was held May 17 at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie.

DCC President Peter Grant Jordan asked scholarship recipients to “take a look around the room at all of the people who believe in you and support your academic endeavors.” He encouraged them to “let people know where you got your educational start” and to “pay it forward” by staying connected to DCC, contributing to the Foundation, and sharing career experiences with future students.

DCC Board of Trustees Chair Michael Dupree addressed the scholarship founders and thanked them for their generosity. He recognized that their scholarships help give students “the confidence to pursue their passions and make a positive impact on their communities.”

Vice President of Instruction and Learning Raymond Houston read the scholarship recipients’ names and asked them to stand. After a hearty round of applause, the guests enjoyed conversation and lunch.

This year, the Foundation awarded 168 scholarships to students totaling \$168,850 and ranging in amount from \$500 to \$4,000. It is thanks to you, our donors and community partners, that we are able to offer these life-changing funds. We look forward to sharing stories of select awardees in the future. If you’d like to join the ranks of our donors, visit <https://1406.thankyou4caring.org/DCCF> — or contact DCC Foundation Executive Director Diana Pollard at pollard@sunydutchess.edu if you wish to create a specific scholarship.



From left: DCC President Peter Jordan; Sadie and William Effron Scholarship Awardee Byron Sanchong; Scholarship Donors Shirley and Bernard Handel; Helen and Henry Katula Memorial Scholarship Awardee Chriss-Ann Pryce; Bernard Handel Community Leadership Scholarship Awardee Daniel DeChristopher; and DCC Board of Trustee Chair Michael Dupree.

First Cannabis Retail Management Cohort Honored

New York’s cannabis market is expected to generate \$4 billion over the next five years. In anticipation, SUNY awarded a three-year, \$1 million grant to the Hudson Valley Education + Workforce Consortium, a group of six community colleges which developed courses aligned with skills employers need. DCC Professor Mark Condon (Biology) and Assistant Professor Maureen Gittelman (Hospitality & Tourism) worked with the consortium and industry professionals to develop the curriculum and meet the demand.

Sixteen students — with interests ranging from retail to cultivation — went through DCC’s new Cannabis Retail Management microcredential this past fall, and its inaugural cohort was honored at a December ceremony.

“The students...came from diverse backgrounds,” Gittelman added. “Some haven’t been in a college classroom for 10 to 15 years — or ever — but they committed themselves to the program and each other.”

They included Angela and Stephanie Barone, a mother- and daughter-in-law duo who enrolled together. The family ran Hyde Park Brewing Co. for 27 years and received their adult-use cannabis license in April.

“As we were getting organized and thinking about opening our dispensary, we really wanted to get equipped with as much knowledge as we could,” Angela said. “We want to be on the cutting edge and know the most up-to-date information.”

“Since it’s a new industry, we thought about how this certification could help us build our workforce,” Stephanie added. “If I want my supervisors to take these classes, I want to know exactly what they’re going to learn.”

The program also strengthens one’s network, as 59-year-old Timothy Mazyck discovered.

“I now have 15 new friends who’ll all be involved in different aspects of the industry,” he said.

The 13-credit microcredential develops skills in retail management, merchandising, storeroom operations, cost control, customer service and cannabis science. Its classes are streamlined to be completed in one, 15-week semester, with a schedule designed for working, non-traditional students.

“This is a great example of ways DCC and the SUNY system continue to innovate, finding new ways to collaborate with business and industry to develop programs that truly serve our community,” Dr. Jordan said.



‘Bring It On’ Sets the Stage for DEI

You would expect a musical about competitive cheerleading to be full of pep and enthusiasm. Authentic, diverse characters who celebrate one another’s differences? Or a positive, laughter-inducing story exploring complex subjects like race, body image and sexuality? Maybe not. But that’s exactly what the DCC Performing Arts Program and Masquer’s Guild Theatre Club did under the direction of part-time Instructor of Theatre AnnChris Warren.

The energetic production featured ‘backbreaking feats of athleticism’ and impressive dancing choreographed by Performing Arts alum Cedric James. The stellar arrangements and orchestrations were directed by Instructor of Music and Music Program Supervisor John Howell. The cast, a mix of first- and second-year DCC students from several different majors, was phenomenal.

Associate Dean of Instruction and Learning: Pre-Collegiate Programs/Title III Project Director Dr. Rachel Mead, who attended the Saturday performance shared, “The actors represent our student body and illustrate that DCC provides a space for students to grow and develop, no matter their background. The play itself spoke to inclusion, tolerance and building friendship across differences — motifs that are especially important now, when it’s less and less likely those with differing views and perspectives will come together reciprocally or harmoniously.”

The musical, which debuted in 2011 and introduced Broadway’s first teenage transgender character, outdid expectations and drew over 1,200 attendees across four shows on the weekend of November 9. Brava!



Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery Hosts Kristallnacht Exhibit



Eighty-five years after the horrors of 1938’s Kristallnacht — during which Nazis in Germany torched synagogues, vandalized Jewish homes, schools and businesses, and murdered close to 100 Jews — a multimedia installation of the same name opened in the Mildred I. Washington Gallery.

The exhibition, brought to DCC by Gallery Director and Professor of Communication Media Dana Weidman, tells the fictional story of a Jewish woman and Nazi soldier who meet on Kristallnacht, which translates to “Crystal Night” but has become better known as, “The Night of Broken Glass.”

The opening reception was followed by a concise historical overview by Dr. Werner Steger, Professor of History and recipient of the Handel Foundation-Greenspan Trust Endowed Chair in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. A panel, featuring Dr. Steger, artist Dean Goldberg and journalist Rosemary Armao followed. It was a nuanced conversation between experts, exploring connections between the provocative work, the current political situation in the U.S. and recent atrocities in the Middle East.



Podpora Helps Central Hudson Co-workers Reconnect with Alma Mater

Adam Podpora '11 is an engineer with Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. Podpora, who became secretary of the Dutchess Community College Foundation Board of Directors in September, recently led an initiative to help reconnect many of his colleagues with their alma mater.

A board member since 2022, Adam worked with Central Hudson's Human Resources Department to reach out to the more than 150 DCC alumni currently among their ranks as he coordinated an alumni reception. In December, 13 alumni from Central Hudson's accounting, engineering, human resources, and information technology teams, along with Central Hudson Executives, joined the college's Engineering, Physics and Computer Science faculty and staff, together with our foundation team, to share their many connections to the College.

The alumni were also excited about standing invitations to share their experience with current students, visiting classrooms and attending future campus and alumni events.

Daemyian Watson '02, a system analyst at Central Hudson, reminisced with Professor Frank Whittle about his memories as a Computer Information Systems student.

The parents of Anthony Giammatteo '82 were immigrants from Italy. He and his three siblings all attended DCC. It was their only door into higher education, and they all enjoyed their experience. His son, Giancarlo, graduated from DCC this past May with a degree in Computer Information Systems.

"There was a great energy in the room throughout the evening when discussing past memories as well as future opportunities," said Adam.



Two Named to DCC Board of Trustees

Maya Chinkan and Evelyn Panichi were appointed to the Dutchess Community College Board of Trustees this summer.

Panichi, co-owner of Royal Carting Service Co. and Welsh Sanitation, was appointed by the Dutchess County Legislature for a term that will expire in 2030. Chinkan was elected by the student body to serve as Student Trustee for a term that will expire in June 2024.

Chinkan, a general studies major on the nursing track at DCC, is passionate about making a difference in the lives of others — by serving as the voice of her peers in her new role and through her career goal of becoming a nurse practitioner.

Panichi, a lifelong Dutchess County resident, has devoted herself to a number of community causes, having held board and trustee positions in hospitals, arts organizations, schools and more. She has earned several awards for her service, including DCC's Falcon Award for Business Excellence, Saint Francis Hospital's Franciscan Award and WMC Health's Spirit of Giving Award. She and her family have also been honored by Walkway Over the Hudson, the Greater Southern Dutchess Chamber of Commerce and the Exchange Club of Southern Dutchess.

Other trustees include Frank Castella Jr., Stephen Caswell, Darrah Cloud, Angela Flesland, Lisa Ghartey, Ibis Guzman and Linda Pratt.



DCC Career Fair Attendees Explore Job Openings in Numerous Fields

Dutchess Community College's Workforce Development Department and its Academic, Career & Transfer (ACT) Center partnered with the NYS Department of Labor to host its annual DCC Career Fair in April. More than 90 local, state and national employers came to Falcon Hall to meet DCC students and alumni and share their needs.

The organizations included manufacturing and engineering companies, retail and hospitality businesses, police departments, school districts, hospitals and clinics, banks and credit unions, nonprofit and human services organizations, summer camps and more. They came to recruit full-time employees, part-time and seasonal workers, volunteers, and interns.

To learn how your organization can participate in the spring 2024 fair, call **(845) 431-8904**.

History Class Rides to Antietam

In April, Associate Professor of History Michael Boden and six students from his Civil War America 1850-1877 (HIS 218) class visited the sites of the battles of South Mountain and Antietam in Sharpsburg, Md. The group visited Fox's and Turner's Gap at South Mountain. The trip was made possible thanks to the Richard Reitano Model UN Endowed Fund managed by the Dutchess Community College Foundation. Here the group poses at the Irish Brigade Monument at Bloody Lane, Antietam.



Meet New SGA President Lisbeth M. Castellanos



After Lisbeth Castellanos' family moved to Pleasant Valley from Yonkers for her senior year of high school, she decided to enroll at DCC because of its affordability. Today, she's serving as DCC's new Student Government Association (SGA) President.

"When I began at DCC, I wanted to get more involved with the school," Castellanos says. "One of

the goals I have is get more people involved with DCC. I think it is something we need as a community."

She's particularly interested in increasing the number of overall student events and expanding the number of channels through which those events are publicized.

"More events equal more fun things to do and [should result] in more students wanting to show up," she theorizes, leading to a heightened sense of community among fellow students. "I see my role developing as being the voice of the student body."

As a Communications major, she seems ideally suited to accomplish those goals. She credits her public speaking class for preparing her for this role. She also enjoys short film production, including a class led by Professor Gary Ljungquist, which allowed her to serve as a film director.

Castellanos recognizes the power which clubs have to combine learning and camaraderie among her peers. She joined the TV Production Club, for example, which helped her consider new career possibilities as she made new friends and discovered some personal strengths.

She even produced a comedic horror film, "A Night at Falco: Falco's Revenge," which features DCC's beloved mascot Falco in the starring role.

"In five years, I hope to be a director making a film for people to enjoy," she says. "I want to make films that make people laugh."

Change Lives with a Gift to DCC

Whether you want to inspire a DCC student, honor or remember a loved one or support an academic or extracurricular program, the DCC Foundation is here to help make your giving experience meaningful and rewarding.



Establish an Endowment

Donated funds are invested in perpetuity. Principal-generated earnings fund a scholarship, academic program or campus needs based on your wishes. If you are eager to have your gift impact lives now and in the future, establishing an endowment is a wise choice.



Make an Annual Gift or Attend an Event

Your gift to the Fund for Dutchess supports DCC's highest priorities and areas of most urgent need. These include merit-, need-based and daycare scholarships, student emergency support, student technology and programming, faculty development, campus facility improvements and esteemed lectures. Additionally, an event sponsorship offers a wide range of giving opportunities to highlight you, your business or your organization in fun, exciting ways, all while supporting the Fund for Dutchess.



Legacy Planning

Integrate philanthropy into your overall personal estate planning. We will work with you to achieve your personal philanthropic goals through a bequest from a will, retirement assets such as an IRA or 401k, life insurance benefit, charitable gift annuity or personal property. Our goal is to ensure that your legacy is preserved.



Naming Opportunities

Leave your mark on DCC. The Foundation offers many opportunities for you to name a building, room or other space. The naming of campus space will recognize your generosity publicly. Your name will be displayed in a place of honor for all to appreciate for generations to come.



Honor or Memorial Commemoration

Mark exceptional events or remember that special person by making a gift to the DCC Foundation on behalf of a loved one. Bricks can be purchased for placement in the Petrovits Pine Grove Patio, and engraved leaves are available for the "Remembering Community Tree."



Gift of Time

Come back to campus — your time is a gift as well. Maybe you have professional experiences worth sharing with our students in class or a career expo. If you are an alum, your story could inspire potential or current students. We also are looking for volunteers to help the DCC Foundation by joining its Board of Directors or a committee, and/or volunteering at an event.

Get Started

To make a gift or pledge, contact Diana Pollard, executive director, at **(845) 431-8403** or **pollard@sunydutchess.edu**. To use a credit card, visit **www.sunydutchess.edu/giving**.

Checks should be made payable to the DCC Foundation and mailed to **53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601**.

A Tee-rific Time!

The DCC Foundation held its 33rd Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner on May 22 at The Links at Union Vale in Lagrangeville. Ninety-one golfers participated, including President Jordan, who played his first ever 18-hole round! Initially established with generous support from the family of Jack Orcutt, one of DCC's founding faculty members and the first director of student activities, this year's event raised over \$50,000 for scholarships and other educational initiatives.

We'd like to thank our sponsors who contributed to this event's success:

EVENT SPONSOR Llelanie Orcutt and Family

GIVEAWAY SPONSOR Andersen

DOUBLE EAGLE SPONSORS Baroni Recycling & Scrap Metal, Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Pepsi Cola of the Hudson Valley, and Real Property Abstract & Title Services LLC

EAGLE SPONSORS Royal Carting Service Company, Shirley Roberts-Brereton '88 and LaBella Associates

Photos available at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/dccfalconi/albums/72177720308477906/>



FIRST PLACE

Dave Meyer, Don Meyer, Austin Valentine and Chris Norton



SECOND PLACE

John Trosie, Ken Hutter and Tim Decker



THIRD PLACE

Tom McCormack, Mike McCormack '78, Paul Hochenberg and Mike King '89

CONTEST WINNERS

CLOSEST TO THE PIN

Ann Cassalina (women) and Dave Meyer (men)

LONGEST DRIVE

Yvonne McCrea (women) and Dillon Fontaine (men)



A Middle States Milestone

DCC completed an extensive self-study review for its re-accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), the College's official accrediting body, culminating in a notice of full re-accreditation in November.

The self-study was the result of two and a half years of hard work involving over 70 faculty and staff. The DCC team was led by Behavioral Sciences Department Chair Michael Hall; Chief of Staff and Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness Susan Rogers; and Vice President of Enrollment and Student Success Scott Schnackenberg.

Together, they facilitated the massive undertaking in collaboration with other members of the Self-Study Steering Committee, which culminated in a successful multi-day site visit from a Middle States team this past April.

"I am particularly proud of the degree of involvement we had across the campus," said Hall. "This was not an easy process and required a significant amount of work over an extended period of time. I believe it speaks highly of our colleagues and sends a message to the visiting team that the campus takes re-accreditation seriously."

We are thrilled to report that the College received full re-accreditation through the 2030-31 academic year. In addition, we were especially honored by Middle States' request to use our self-study as a template and point of reference for peer institutions seeking re-accreditation.

"Completing the Middle States Re-Accreditation Self-Study was an incredible accomplishment that relied on the combined efforts of groups across campus," Dr. Rogers added. "I am grateful for and impressed by the commitment shown by the entire campus in pulling this project together."

The full report can be viewed here: https://dutchess.open.suny.edu/modules/_1270_1/DCC-Reaccreditation-Self-study-Report-03-01-2023-updatedROA.pdf.

From DCC to Washington, D.C.

Dutchess Community College was among 12 community colleges from across the country invited to participate in a dialogue around President Biden's Investing in America (IIA) initiative, aimed at providing pathways for diverse workers into well-paying jobs.

Community college leaders, including DCC President Peter Grant Jordan, joined union representatives and government officials to explore collaborations that would design and deliver high-quality education and training programs for IIA jobs. Priority occupations for potential community college-labor partnerships include mechatronics and HVAC — careers related to two of DCC's fastest-growing programs.

"It was an honor to be asked to attend the meeting at the White House, and a privilege to be part of a conversation of such national significance," Dr. Jordan said. "The shared commitment to social mobility and economic development, coming from a number of different regions and perspectives, underscores the importance of the work we're doing at DCC to align program offerings with a rapidly evolving job market."



DCC Foundation Hosts 51st Holiday Craft Fair

The DCC Foundation's annual craft fair is a Hudson Valley tradition — and a great way to kick off the holiday season! It's an opportunity to shop local while supporting scholarships and other educational initiatives.

This November the Foundation partnered with Quail Hollow Events, Q 92.1 FM, and Pepsi Cola of the Hudson Valley. DCC alumna Beth Mullen '01, owner of Fine Palette Art, was one of the more than 100 exhibitors in 10 media categories.

The event was a huge success, with more than 3,000 visitors coming from near and far in search of unique, handmade gifts and confections. The DCC Foundation would like to thank everyone who made this event possible.

Congratulations, Maureen Gittelman!



Assistant Professor and Chair of DCC's Hospitality & Tourism Management program Maureen Gittelman was presented with the Emerging Leader Award by the International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education (ICHRIE) during the organization's international summer conference in Phoenix in July.

The honor recognizes the leadership and accomplishments of early career

educators. To qualify, recipients must have a record of inspiring activity, demonstrate innovation and creativity and be an example of the knowledge and skills needed in the contemporary hospitality industry.

DCC Launches Handshake for Students and Alumni

DCC recently signed on with the service provider Handshake, the nation's number-one college-to-career job search network. All alumni and employers are welcome to search for positions or post jobs on this free platform.

Alumni can sign up at <https://sunnydutchess.joinhandshake.com/> register and follow these steps:

- 1 Select the link above
- 2 Use your personal email address
- 3 Choose Dutchess Community College
- 4 Follow the prompts to create your account
- 5 Dutchess Community College staff will then approve your account

DCCALUMNI

We'd love to hear from you!

The Dutchess Community College Foundation would love to hear from as many of DCC's 50,000 graduates as possible. We also are looking for notable alumni to highlight, so if you would like to share your story or know a distinguished alum that we should recognize, please give us a call at **(845) 431-8400**. You can connect with the over 17,000 alumni on DCC's LinkedIn page and share your story via our other social media:

-  [linkedin.com/school/40448](https://www.linkedin.com/school/40448)
-  [DCCFAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/DCCFAlumni)
-  twitter.com/DCCFAlumni
-  [dccfalumni/](https://www.instagram.com/dccfalumni/)
-  www.flickr.com/photos/dccfalumni/albums

#DCCFAlumni

Alumni Benefits

Did you know that alumni of DCC are entitled to many services and programs that can help with employment, personal and professional enrichment, and savings on travel and events? Visit www.sunnydutchess.edu/alumni for more information.

Show Your DCC Pride!

Visit www.bkstr.com/dutchessccstore to order apparel and gifts, including our new plush mini-mascot!



Class Notes



Congratulations to **Brian Altmann, '89**, founder and president of DBS Remodel and recipient of the 2023 Fred Case Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Brian, an Architecture and Construction Management alumnus, is a Certified Aging-In-Place Specialist and an EPA-Certified Renovator. Former students have many pathways after our Architecture program and Brian is

a great example of where you can go.



Adam Pregno '98 spoke to Professor Maureen Gittelman's Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism class in September. Adam is the general manager of the new Inn at Bellfield. He shared his career path in the hospitality industry, beginning in a housekeeping role and moving to a front desk position, restaurant service, maintenance, sales and

eventually general manager. He explained the tremendous advancement potential in the industry, including mentoring, professional support and the opportunity to travel to different destinations. When hiring employees, he said looks for personable people who are willing to serve, be reliable, have a high attention to detail, and go the "extra mile" for guests.



DCC Engineering Science and Electrical Technology Alumni from the classes of 1960-2022 gathered for a reunion at Black Snake Brewing Company at Old Adriaance Farm on May 17. This alumni gathering has become a four-plus-decade-long tradition. It is a great way for faculty to reconnect with students from their past and help make connections for current students. The beautiful outdoor venue allowed family members and future alumni to join in the fun!



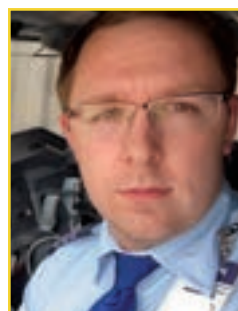
Thank you to the female professionals in the STEAM fields who shared their experiences with students on March 30 as part of DCC Women's History Month events. They described how they began their careers and the challenges and rewards they encountered on their path to success.

The panel included **Jessica Geer Patterson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of

Chemistry, DCC; **Maria Emilia Leon Sanchez '17**, Assistant Manager, Global Branding Planning, The Estee Lauder; **Amanda Repp**, Architect and Owner, Studio Repp Architecture; **Nadine Wiese**, Production Manager, DBS Remodel; and **Jessica McMahon, B.S.** Pharm, MBA, Pharmacy Director, Vassar Brothers Medical Center.



Keith Daly '72 visited campus to speak to student athletes and coaches about his career — during which he rose to CEO of Footlocker — after graduating from and playing basketball at DCC. **Louis LaPenna '72**, one of Keith's teammates, also attended the event. Keith was inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame at this year's DCC Foundation's Our Community's Bridge to the Future Gala.



In the 2021 annual report, we included an alumni spotlight article on **Terrance Sheehan '14**, a JetBlue pilot who was beginning his captaincy training. We are excited to report that he has since earned his captain's epaulettes! Congrats, Terrance!



Congratulations to the 40 Under 40 Movers and Shakers who were honored by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce on April 27. **Dave Aisenstat '07, Brooke Anthony '07, Nicole Gilmartin '14, Kate Guinan '05, Felicia R. Kirschner '15, Dylan Miyoshi, Danielle M. Mollica '10, and Amy E. Van Tassel '05** were honored along with 32 other Dutchess County professionals. Kudos to these DCC Alumni for their contributions to the Hudson Valley Region!



In May, DCC's ELT250 students presented their projects in the ELT Capstone Poster Session. The projects were judged by a four-person panel of external evaluators that included engineering and technical staff from onsemi (**John Paulus**), Sono-Tek (**Randy Copeman '95**), Central Hudson (**Adam Podpora '11**), and Applied Materials (**James Mastroianni '22**).

There were roughly 40 visitors including students, faculty and staff, family members and friends, and — most importantly — local technical staff and recruiters. Students had good conversations with recruiters, leading many to set up what were essentially second interviews with a number of companies including Applied Materials, Con Edison, onsemi (formerly ON Semiconductor), Sono-tek, and The Gap (distribution center).

Judge Paulus commented on the quality of the students and their projects. "I'd like to see this program grow!" he said. "These are exactly the skills [onsemi] needs in their workforce and are looking to hire!"

The DCC Foundation thanks **Michael A. Campagna '11, Ryan G. Fohl**, and **Jacqueline Goffe-McNish** for their many years of board service. All three have contributed tremendously to the Foundation over the years. You will be missed! We also thank our student representative, **Tamia S. Cox '23**, for her service this year and wish her well in her future studies at SUNY New Paltz.



From left: DCCF Board Member Shirley Roberts-Brereton '88, Outgoing Student Representative Tamia Cox '23, and Outgoing Board Member and Retiring DCC Professor Jacqueline Goffe-McNish. Missing: Ryan Fohl and Michael Campagna '11.

Class Notes Submissions

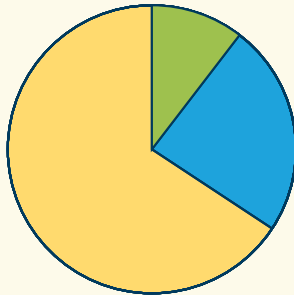
To make a submission to DCC's Class Notes, please email the Foundation Team at dccf@sunydutchess.edu or mail us your news at 53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., 12601. You can also phone us at (845) 431-8403 with questions.

Please be advised the deadline for next year's annual report is **Friday, November 1, 2024**.

2023 FINANCIALS

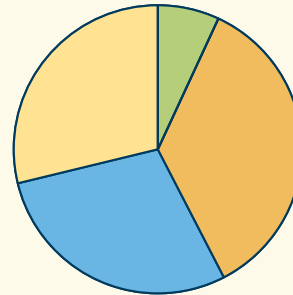
DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Budget Allocation*



Instruction, Academic Support, Student Services and Library	\$37,189,907
General Administration	\$13,538,783
Facilities	\$5,895,486
Total	\$56,624,176

Funding Sources



County	\$20,618,703
State	\$16,706,873
Student Tuition	\$16,726,529
Other	\$3,991,244
Total	\$58,043,349

DCC FOUNDATION

Statement of Financial Condition

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$17,332
Investments	\$15,585,002
Other Assets	\$454,543
TOTAL ASSETS	\$16,056,877

Liabilities

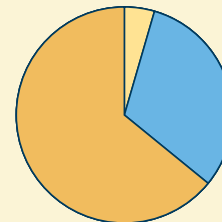
Accounts Payable	\$165,008
Other Liabilities	—
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$165,008

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$1,144,952
Temporarily Restricted	\$3,391,514
Permanently Restricted	\$11,355,403
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$15,891,869

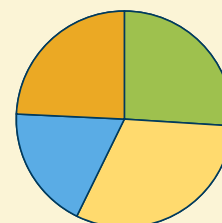
Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$16,056,877**

Investment



Equity Mutual Funds	\$9,931,634
Fixed Income Mutual Funds	\$4,913,557
Cash	\$739,811
Total	\$15,585,002

Support



Scholarships	\$485,058
Program Support	\$374,141
Development and Stewardship	\$627,527
Fundraising	\$531,844
Total	\$2,018,570

*Fiscal year ended 8/31/23

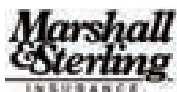
Thank you to our 2023 major sponsors.



MICHAEL DUPREE &
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LLELANIE ORCUTT



PETER & DIANA JORDAN
AND FAMILY



Pepsi Cola of the
Hudson Valley



Central Hudson Gas & Electric | Anthony DiMaso '65 & Joanne DiMaso | Follett Higher Education
Bernard, Shirley & Evan Handel | Hudson Valley Hospice | Hudson Valley Magazine
Kearney Realty & Development Group | Kip Bleakley O'Neill | LaBella | Sarah and Robert Levine
Liscum McCormack Van Voorhis | Marist College | McCabe & Mack | Michael J. Hall, Tim Lawton and Rob Conlon
MidHudson Regional Hospital/WMC Health | Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union
New Horizons Resources | Shirley Roberts-Brereton '88 | Rondout Savings Bank | Th!nk Dutchess
Ulster Savings Bank | Walden Savings Bank | Wallace & Wallace LLP | Williams Lumber & Home Centers

Thank you, volunteers.

The Foundation extends a warm thank you to all who helped plan our events.

Karen & Doug Abramson | Akeem Alexander | Bridgette Anderson | AnneMarie Andrews
Pat Bordonaro | Neomi Brereton '19 | Shirley Roberts-Brereton '88 | Marcia Butland '74 | Paul Conrad '12
Tim Decker | Carla DelTreste-Jutt '01 | Pam Dembicki '89 | Barbara Dolansky '90 | Ryan Fohl
Raymond Freda '88 | Mary Gabel '82 | Maureen Gittelman | Jacqueline Goffe McNish | Michael Hall
Matt Hanlon | Stacey Langenthal | Sarah Lee | Donna May | Rita McPeck '88 | Lisa Morris '85
Vincent Nunziato | Harro Penk | Adam Podpora '11 | Virginia Poznack '77 | Rain Schwinger | Steven Scivolette
Susan Scivolette-McCormack '87 | Yvonne Sewell '69 | Karen Slizewski '08 | Sally Weglinski '77



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