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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Brookdale Community,

As we reflect on the successes of the past year, it is with great pride that I share our accomplishments reflected in the pages of this annual report and look forward to the exciting developments on the horizon. The dedication and hard work of each member of the Brookdale community have been instrumental in our progress, and I extend my sincere gratitude to all.

We have achieved remarkable milestones and witnessed significant growth. From the increase in enrollment by over 3 percent to higher retention rates, we are on a trajectory of success. Our students consistently excel across diverse platforms, earning accolades such as the prestigious Gold Crown from the Columbia University Scholastic Press Association for our student magazine and recognition on the New Jersey All-State Academic Team. Additionally, partnerships with esteemed institutions underscore our dedication to providing diverse and innovative educational pathways. These accomplishments highlight our unwavering commitment to academic excellence, ensuring Brookdale students are well-prepared for success in their chosen fields.

Beyond the classrooms, Brookdale Community College has left an indelible mark on the community through robust engagement initiatives. Our commitment to inclusivity is exemplified by the SAIL Into Summer Program, offering new opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities and inspiring talks by individuals like Caroline Hunter, who motivate our students to become positive changemakers. The Caroline Huber Holistic Wellness

Center continues the vision of prioritizing mental health, wellness, and social justice and introduced the Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE) to enhance comprehension of poverty realities. The report further details the abundance of meaningful partnerships and community collaborations that form the foundation of our commitment to serving and enhancing the broader community.

I could not be prouder of Brookdale earning the top grade in the state for two consecutive years, which is a testament to our unwavering commitment to excellence. We have maintained our exceptional standards and soared higher on the national stage, moving from the top 20 percent to the top 10 percent. This remarkable achievement reflects our dedication to providing outstanding education, fostering diversity, and ensuring student well-being.

I extend my deepest appreciation to the Board of Trustees, executive leadership team, faculty, administrators, and staff. It is truly heartening to witness the collaborative efforts of every committee and department, and together, we have transformed Brookdale Community College into an extraordinary place for both work and learning.

Sincerely,



David M. Stout, Ph.D.
President
Brookdale Community College





Donald D. Warner
Student Life Center

DONALD D. WARNER
STUDENT LIFE CENTER

B4

CIVIL
DISCOURSE

AWARENESS
...AS AN ACT OF COURAGE

MISSION

Brookdale Community College empowers a diverse community by providing open access to high-quality and cost effective educational and lifelong learning options with clear paths to personal, educational, and economic success.

VISION

Brookdale, the County College of Monmouth, is a dynamic community college system committed to student success, lifelong learning, economic development and the common good of society. Brookdale plays a transformative role in our community, providing educational, cultural and professional programs and offerings to enable, empower and inspire all community members to fulfill their aspirations to the best of their ability.

CIVILITY

Brookdale Community College is committed to freedom of expression while maintaining a civil and ethical learning environment. We believe that a community composed of people with diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and abilities promotes learning and engagement. We are responsible for treating one another with respect and kindness regardless of our differences.

DIVERSITY

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student's disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status.



2023 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PAUL CRUPI ELECTED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Paul Crupi is Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Brookdale Community College, was elected in November with a unanimous vote of confidence. He is an 8-year member of the Board, appointed by the Monmouth County Commissioners three times. Crupi has served on all the Board Committees over his tenure and has served in leadership as Committee Chair of the Finance & Facilities Committee in 2022, the Audit Committee Chair in 2021, and the Governance Committee Chair in 2016. He has also served as the Liaison to the NJ Council of County Colleges in 2017 and 2018.

Crupi, a lifelong resident of Monmouth County, holds a master's degree in public policy from Rutgers University and a bachelor's degree from Villanova University. He has worked as a legislative liaison for the New Jersey Department of Education and as a policy advisor in the Office of the Governor. He is currently the Senior Vice President of Public Affairs at Capital Impact Group, a bipartisan government affairs and business development firm in Trenton.

In describing the qualities needed for a career as a lobbyist, he said, "It's essential to have a deep understanding of the policymaking process and the ability to work collaboratively with people of diverse viewpoints. An open-minded and curious attitude toward others' backgrounds is crucial in working towards a mutual goal."

During his tenure, and no doubt using many of those qualities, Crupi is proud to have participated in the

significant changes and transformation of Brookdale Community College. He said his first meeting was overwhelming and challenging, particularly with the announcement of a reduction in force, with hundreds of people in the audience and hours of public comment.

Since then, the College has overcome those challenges and improved its position as one of the strongest he has seen in the past eight years. "We couldn't have a better president than Dr. Stout to get us there," Crupi said.

There have been changes to the board and administration and a refocus on the College's mission, which he feels contributes to a more dynamic and adaptable organization.

"I am grateful that we have varying levels of expertise and life experiences in my fellow trustees, so that we can lean on each other for different perspectives when an issue or a challenge comes up," Crupi said.

He recognizes the significant role that the College plays in the community, serving a wide range of people from students fresh out of high school to those returning to college after a long time, as well as those learning English as a second language.

"It is a really rewarding experience to impact policy decisions and manage the future prospects of the school to ensure that the Brookdale that exists today will exist in the future," he said. "I am grateful to be the Board Chairman now. It is something that I've wanted to do for a long time."



MARY PAT ANGELINI APPOINTED BY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO COLLEGE BOARD

Mary Pat Angelini has been appointed to the Board of Trustees at Brookdale Community College by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, a position she will hold until August 2026. The announcement was made during the September 28 Board meeting, where Angelini was officially sworn in.

Mary Pat Angelini is a leading advocate for children, families, and behavioral healthcare issues in New Jersey. A former legislator, she is currently the CEO of Preferred Behavioral Health Group (PBHG), a non-profit behavioral healthcare organization in central New Jersey. Before her position at PBHG, she was Executive Director of Prevention First, overseeing programs countering the harmful effects of substance use, violence, and bullying. Both non-profits have been the recipient of many awards under her leadership.

While serving in the New Jersey Legislature from 2008 to 2016 as Deputy Conference Leader, Ms. Angelini sponsored numerous legislative initiatives. As Ranking Member of the Health and Senior Services Committee, she crafted legislation to improve state psychiatric hospitals' conditions and address underage drinking and drug use. She was the prime sponsor of the "Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights," and the "Lifeline" legislation, which establishes a "safe haven" from prosecution for minors who summon medical assistance for intoxicated underage persons. In addition, she fought for strict ethics reform and stronger regulations for childcare centers. President Dr. David M. Stout expressed excitement about Angelini's addition to the

Board, citing her distinguished career and commitment to transforming lives.



FAST FACTS

- 133 International students from 45 countries
- 14, 610 Total credit students
- 82 Academic Programs and Certificates offered
- 111 Nursing Graduates
- 783 fully online classes
- 1,426 associate degrees awarded
- 35 4.0 GPA
- 58 Alpha Pi Theta (PTK) Students
- 81 Distinguished Scholars
- 18: 1 Student to Faculty Ratio
- 19 Average Class Size
- 6,084 enrolled in Continuing and Professional Studies Programs
- 527 ABE / GED / ESL noncredit
- 5 Locations: Freehold, Lincroft, Long Branch, Neptune & Wall



TAIPHANE ORANGE NEW STUDENT VOICE ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Taiphane Orange of Neptune, a 2022 political science graduate of Brookdale Community College, was sworn in as the 2022-2023 Graduate Trustee on July 15. As the Graduate Trustee, she is the student voice and a voting member of the Board. This seat is filled annually through a student election.

Tai, as most people call her, said she applied to be this year's graduate trustee because it was her way of contributing back to the college community. "Brookdale Community College is for the students, and we all need to work together to create positive changes that will benefit all students."

During her time at Brookdale, Tai was an honor student and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) member. She participated in multiple club activities, including serving alternately as vice president and secretary of the Black Student Union. In addition, she was the public relations associate for the social media accounts of the school's Educational Opportunity Fund Student Alliance (EOF). Tai demonstrated exceptional engagement in global issues during her time at the College and was honored as a distinguished graduate of the Global Citizenship Project. Additionally, she was a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) and Women in Learning and Leadership (WILL), which empowers women students to become the future leaders of our local and global communities.

Tai is continuing her education in political science at Monmouth University with a concentration in international relations. After graduation, she will pursue

a master's in public administration. Though she currently does not have a specific career path, she lives by the phrase "to whom much is given, much is required" and said she would do her best to help serve the students and give back to the community that has helped her thus far in her academic journey.



STEVE CLAYTON APPOINTED TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brookdale Community College welcomes Steve Clayton as its newest member of the Board of Trustees. Clayton, a former student and first-generation college graduate, recognizes the pivotal role Brookdale plays in Monmouth County. With a Bachelor of Arts in History & Sociology from the University of Maryland-College Park and a Master of Science in Public Policy & Management from Carnegie Mellon University, he brings a diverse educational background. Clayton, who transitioned from a career in financial services, expresses honor and excitement in serving as a Trustee, aiming to ensure current students have similar opportunities to those he received.

With experience in both corporate and nonprofit sectors, as well as local governance on the Ocean Township Board of Education, Clayton brings a wealth of professional background. Currently serving as the Director of Development for Advocates for Children of New Jersey, he remains dedicated to promoting children's safety, health, and education statewide.

Chairman Paul Crupi commends Clayton's appointment, highlighting his commitment to service and education. President David M. Stout emphasizes the importance of collaboration and expresses confidence in Clayton's ability to contribute significantly to advancing Brookdale's mission and vision. Clayton's capacity to unite people and find common ground, demonstrated throughout his career, aligns with the college's commitment to fostering teamwork.

In addition to his professional endeavors, Clayton actively participates in his community, serving on various boards, including the Alumni Association Board at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy. He also contributes to the Board of Directors for the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, demonstrating a commitment to philanthropy and community support.



FAST FACTS

- 90 Monmouth County Early High School Graduates From the following schools:
 - Asbury Park HS
 - Keyport HS
 - Matawan Regional HS
 - Neptune HS
 - Raritan HS
 - St. John Vianney HS
- High School Dual Enrolled Students
 - Fall 2022: 1,390
 - Spring 2023: 1,201
- Total Financial Aid Awarded
 - Federal Grants \$12,802,951.00
 - State Grants \$ 6,371,439.00
 - Loans \$ 4,917,846.00
- Total awarded in Scholarships/Grants/Programs in FY23 \$606,965.39



STUDENT MAGAZINE WINS GOLD CROWN FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Brookdale Community College 51st edition of Collage, a magazine that showcases the highest caliber art, design, and literary pieces that Brookdale students create, was awarded the 2022 Gold Crown for Print Literary Magazines from Columbia University Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). In addition, the publication received a Gold Medalist Critique Rating and three All-Columbian Honors for Essentials, Verbal, and Visual.

“I commend the staff of Collage for receiving this honor that reflects on the outstanding qualities of technical excellence, and distinctive and creative efforts in student journalism.” said Brookdale Community College President David M. Stout, Ph.D.

The Crown Awards honor top student publications chosen from CSPA’s members. Crowns are selected for overall excellence in a head-to-head comparison. During Crown consideration, publications are judged on their excellence as shown by their design, photography, concept, coverage, and writing. This year’s winners were chosen from a total field of 817 nominated publications.

Brookdale’s Collage earned the Gold Medalist Critique rating for written evaluation and the Gold Crown Award for overall excellence. In addition, the three All-Columbian Honors were earned because the publication scored more than 95 percent of all the points within the sub-categories,

ranging from design to creativity.

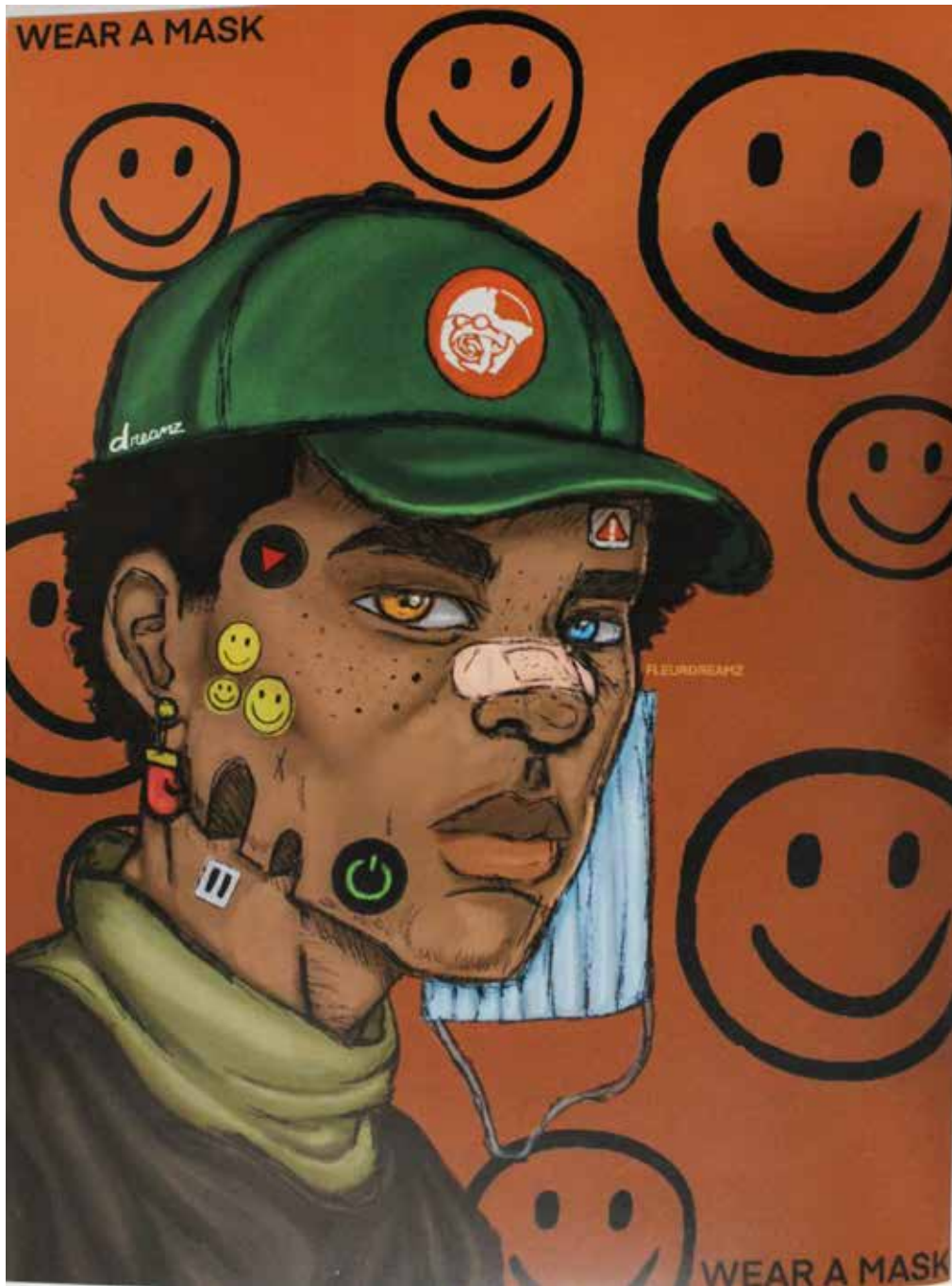
“The members of Collage have outdone themselves again, said Dean of Humanities Christine Webster-Hansen, Ph.D. The 50th Anniversary edition won the Silver Crown in 2021, and this year it won the Gold Crown. I am so proud of the team for their outstanding recent accomplishments.”

This year the judges were sensitive to the challenges COVID-19 raised to student publications. The judges read the membership profiles and learned of the obstacles, and alternative tasks staff chose to follow to publish their publications.

In the introduction to Collage’s 51st edition, the team proudly announced it as their first fully remote creation. Emphasizing the healing power of art and design, they explored themes of self-discovery, modern friendships, and inclusivity. The edition featured a wellness section, a curated Spotify playlist, and a metaphorical story centered on the theme of circles, symbolizing connections within communities.

The following Collage members deserve recognition for their fantastic work and accolades of the 51st edition:

- Briana Tomas, Design Co-president, Art Director, and Illustrator 2021-2022
- Jesse Hernandez, Design Co-president, and Well Editor 2021
- Zafira Demiri, Literature Co-president, Secretary, and Literary Editor 2021-2022
- Branden Mesia, Co-president, and Art Director 2020-2021
- Bryce Macleod Fagel, Vice President, and Literary Editor 2020-2021
- Cassidy Wall, Design Director
- Olivia Pawlowski, Wellness Design Team
- Beth Devereaux, Design Team
- Jonathan S. Adler, Design Team
- Nelly (Melanie) Pieklo, Design Team
- Florencia Jouan, Design Team
- Donna Battistoni, Design Team
- Frances Digiovanni, Design Consultant
- Elisa Elorza, Faculty Advisor
- Jennifer Kaminski, Faculty Advisor



*“Keep Your Mask,
Find Your Peace”*

by Jeremiah Fleurant,
digital media



FAST FACTS

- Athletics:
 - 123 student athletes received Academic Honors
 - 6 Named All Americans
 - 4 Named Players of the Year
 - 1 Woman of the Year
 - 3 Teams NJCAA Region XIX Champions
 - 3 Teams NJCAA Region XIX Finalist
 - 17 GSAC Players of the Week
 - 24 All-GSAC Honors
 - 28 All-NJCAA Region XIX Honors
- *Coach of the Year*
 - Cross Country Mike Tursi
 - Men's Basketball Paul Cisek
 - Softball Bo Scannapieco



BEST OF THE BEST IN NEW JERSEY

Belinda Asamoah and Sara Hosbach were honored by the New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC) who recognized 37 students from the state's 18 Community Colleges for outstanding academic accomplishments and community service. These students, members of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for Community Colleges, were named to the 2023 New Jersey All-State Academic Team. The New Jersey Community College Scholars Celebration occurred at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton. NJCCC President Aaron R. Fichtner commended the students for their academic excellence and perseverance, highlighting their inspirational work ethic.

“These exceptional students utilized the many opportunities that New Jersey’s Community Colleges have to offer and succeeded brilliantly. We applaud the New Jersey All-State Academic Team members for their academic excellence, hard-work, and perseverance to rise to the top of their class. Their tenacity and incredible work ethic serve as an inspiration to all,” said NJCCC President Aaron R. Fichtner, Ph.D.

President David M. Stout, Ph.D., attended the celebration and introduced Brookdale’s scholars Belinda Asamoah and Sara Hosbach. “Their dedication and unwavering pursuit of knowledge have led them to be the best of the best, and I am proud to have them represent us. I have no doubt that they will continue to achieve great things in their futures.”

Belinda Asamoah, a Global Citizenship Scholar, received her Associate of Science in Health Science. Belinda expressed her gratitude towards the college, stating, “Brookdale Community College took a chance on me in

a way that many schools were willing to do. It helped me to overcome an issue as great as being an “out-of-status” international student while equipping me with a world-class education at an affordable price.”

Sara Hosbach will graduate with an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts. She said, “Brookdale Community College offered me an unforgettable higher education experience. Through my time at Brookdale, I established networks that will assist me in the future and develop my understanding of the world.”

NJCCC Chair Mary Zimmermann praised the students who have thrived on and off campus as community leaders to reach this high level of achievement—exemplifying all the good that comes from a New Jersey Community College education.



COLLEGE READINESS PROGRAM EMPOWERS STUDENTS

Brookdale Community College's College Readiness program is making significant strides at Keansburg High School in closing the achievement gap and providing equal access to quality education for its students. The program, funded by a grant from the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, aims to prepare students in grades 8-12 for college by removing barriers and offering academic opportunities.

"The partnership with Brookdale College has been crucial," said Keansburg District Guidance Coordinator Jennifer O'Keefe. "We see a lot more students sticking with school and taking on other challenges after participating in this program. I enjoyed working with Brookdale, and I think the course has been great for our students. Our goal is to have more seniors take this course and gain college-level experience before they leave."

This program offers a diverse range of initiatives to support students in their journey toward college readiness. Among the offerings are test preparation courses that help students to avoid remediation and become college ready in English, reading, and math. Furthermore, the program provides student success courses designed to equip students with essential skills.

One of the courses offered is the First Year Seminar, a 1-credit, 10-week course that enables students to identify and practice skills necessary for success in both high school and college. The other is College Success Seminar, a 3-credit course designed to promote academic self-

efficacy and help students apply critical thinking and use information literacy skills. It also focuses on career planning.

"I want to be a software engineer when I grow up, and I thought this class could help me learn valuable lessons for college and my future," said Jaden Arenas, one of the Brookdale/Keansburg students who completed the College Success Seminar.

The College Readiness program collaborates with ten high schools and community partners, including Lunch Break in Red Bank and the Boys and Girls Club of Asbury Park. These partnerships help extend the program's impact and reach a wider range of students.

"I think this program is great for all our students because it rounds out their college applications and shows that they were held to a college standard in high school," said Keansburg's District Director of Operations, Curriculum, and Instruction, State & Federal Programs Christine Formica. "Our goal is to build our students' confidence and prepare them for college by giving them skills and college classroom experiences, as well as college credits before they leave."





2023 GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP PROJECT AWARDS

Brookdale Community College's 12th Annual Global Citizenship Project Awards Ceremony, held on April 24th, 2023, celebrated the recipients who demonstrated an exceptional commitment to globally focused activities and courses. The award recognizes the importance of international education and cultural exchange in preparing students for the increasingly interconnected world. The programs and learning outcomes of the Global Citizenship Project provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to thrive in an ever-changing global environment, and the ceremony serves as a platform to highlight the significant achievements of these global citizens.

Belinda Asamoah and Fafa Awoonnor demonstrated exceptional engagement in global issues at the College and received the Global Citizenship Distinction Graduates Award.

“They have gone above and beyond to engage in globally focused co-curricular activities, contributing to their personal and professional growth,” said Dr. N. Rajkumari Wesley, professor of Psychology. “As a result, they have gained valuable experiences and developed essential skills that will prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing world. Their success highlights the importance of global citizenship today and inspires other students to pursue a similar path.”

The ceremony also acknowledged the outstanding achievements of several Student Curricular Award recipients.

Professor Kelsey Maki selected Christopher Margotti in the English category for his work on Possibilities for Peace in Ukraine and Ashley Yansaguano for Organ Trafficking in The Red Market. Additionally, Professor Elana Maloney chose Stephanie Dailey for her paper on Sea Otters and their Role in the Environment and Justin Medina for Jesus Christ: Conquest of the Caucasian Identity.

In the Environmental Science category, Professor Harry Compton selected Samantha Akers for her work on Deforestation across the Nation and Isabelle Zeleznik for Environmental Sustainability.

Professor Caroline Calogero honored James Cerreta in the Sociology category for his paper on The Elderly Majority.

In the History category, Professor and International Education Center Liaison Ashley Zampogna-Krug selected Candela Cleries for Brookdale: More than a Learning Experience and Christopher David DeSantis for Industry and Class Inequality.

For the Reading category, Professor Barbara Barrella recognized Zoe Golden for her paper on Refugees and Mental Health.

Professor Georgia Cassidy selected Shimma Masoomzadeh-Fard for Grateful for My Professors in the Nursing category.

Lastly, in the Art/Design category, Professor Elisa Elorza chose Guadalupe Bautista Bueno and Gabriela Pachero for Colonialism in Mexico, Oudai Al-Shuaibi for Exploring the Intersections of Culture and Colonialism, and Keishon Taylor for West African Mud Architecture.

These exceptional student works showcase the students' talent and dedication towards academic excellence and critical thinking.

The next set of awards presented at the ceremony was the Outstanding Involvement Awards, recognizing students for their exceptional work in various programs. The first program, Media as Medium: Pushing and Pulling, Civility Week Events, invited the audience to explore the intersection of design, social media, artificial intelligence, and creativity. Keishon Taylor, Sage Rafkind, and Eddie Reiff were recognized for contributing to this program.

The second program, Social Media Around the World, and Does Social Media Allow Free Speech Globally?, was a Civility Week Event where international students debated freedom of speech and equality issues in their respective countries. The participants included Avril Chwe (Zambia), Bouchra El Charabaty (Lebanon), Faris Abdelaal (Egypt), Iana Dunaevskaia (Russia), Jean Guerdy Paul (Haiti), Noreen Soloman (Egypt), Sina-Imose Friehling (Germany), Thays Paiva de Almeida (Brazil), Bruno Seibt (Brazil), Jesús Calle Bula (Columbia), and Ewurafua Acquaaah (Ghana/US).

Additional programs awarded were Movement Generation: Fundamentals of Anti-Oppression led by Rowan Chasco, Ashley Caposello, Jake Hessels, Belinda Asamoah, Jean-Paul Guerdy, Sina-Imose Friehling and Black Student Union (BSU) by Belinda Asamoah, Sina-Imose Friehling, Tabitha Destinoble, and Kenneth Grant.

Recipients of Global Citizenship Distinction went to two deserving students, Eden Pela, a creative writing major, and Morena Traditi, a psychology major. “Their impressive efforts and accomplishments throughout their first year at Brookdale have set them apart as exceptional global citizens,” said Wesley.

The Employee Engagement Awards were given to individuals who have shown exceptional commitment to their work. Art/Design Faculty and Center for Visual Arts (CVA) Gallery Coordinator Elisa Elorza, Director of Communications, College Relations Laura Oncea, Director of Diversity and Inclusion/CCOG Angela Kariotis, and the Caroline Huber Holistic Wellness Center Team, consisting of Director Dinneen Jackson, Coordinator Gina Giannattasio, and Media Coordinator Patrick Zavorskas.

International Director Janice Thomas emphasizes that collaborating towards a shared objective can enable us to positively impact the world, which is at the core of the Global Citizenship Project. Those honored with this recognition should feel a sense of pride in contributing to this movement.



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DESIGN STUDENTS WIN THE RUNWAY TO STREET CHIC AWARD AT IIDA FASHION MEETS FINISH EVENT

The Interior Design Program at Brookdale Community College received the Runway Street to Chic Award in the 2023 International Interior Design Association (IIDA) Fashion Meets Finish Competition held at the Naimoli Tennis Center in Newark, NJ.

The competition challenged fourteen design teams to create a couture garment using materials typically used in interior design projects. This year's theme was We Make Space. The Brookdale team was paired with industry partners Via Seating and Tarkett to utilize their materials.

Eight men and women with model and award in hand. The Brookdale team, led by Adjunct Instructors Jesse Cermak, Interior Design and Larissa Eteson, Architecture and Interior Design, Professor of Interior Design and Department Chair Celeste Chirichello, and students Emily Pulka, Aubree Gergich, Jolie Barsoum, Alexis Spinnato, Norhan Evripidou, Rija Nayyer, and Annaiz Morales, impressed the judges with their innovative and stylish creation.

“Our team created a four-part look interpreting our view of space,” said Emily Pulka, announcing the team's concept to the judges. “One small step for woman, one large leap for earth. From street to space and back again, we are the brave astronauts who push the limits. Valentina Tereshkova in 1963, Sally Ride in 1983, and Christina Koch

in 2023. We take up space for ourselves and for others. In a deconstructed space suit puffer, a celestial black hole dress, and a headpiece in the phases of the moon, the satellite of the moon, a symbol of femininity. There is no moon dust without us.”

Fashion Meets Finish is an event organized by the PA/NJ/DE Chapter of the IIDA to celebrate the creativity and talent of interior designers. The event was filled with high fashion, great music, creativity, and good company.

The Pre-Party included live music, drinks, passed hors d'oeuvres, and the opportunity to connect with industry peers. The Main Event on center stage was a fashion show of the teams' one-of-a-kind garments when Aubree Gergich was the essence of cosmic beauty as she captured the judges' attention while modeling Brookdale's design. The event ended with an After Party where guests could reflect on the amazing creations.

“Participating in competitions organized by Brookdale's Interior Design Student Association which encompasses three network organizations, IIDA, American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), and National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA), provides a gateway for students to propel their career forward,” said Chirichello. “Engaging beyond the confines of the classroom is crucial for personal and professional growth.”

“Brookdale's win in this year's IIDA Fashion Meets Finish Competition feels monumental,” said Cermak. “Not only will it help open doors for those students who participated, but it also shows the positive influence that cross-disciplinary design thinking can have on various industries – blurring the lines between interior design, fashion, and beyond.”



VALENTINO ON HER WAY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Brookdale Community College student Andrea Valentino discovered an excellent opportunity while participating in a hackathon. During the event, (a social coding event that brings computer programmers together to improve upon or build a new software program), Valentino, a first-year student, learned about the Department of Defense's Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship Program. The SMART scholarship provides funding for students pursuing degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields, allowing them to gain hands-on experience with the Department of Defense as part of their education. Valentino is excited to pursue this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and expand her skills in the field of technology.

"I am thrilled to have discovered the SMART Scholarship Program. With this program, I can continue to develop my skills and contribute to meaningful research with the Department of Defense, and I cannot wait to see where this opportunity takes me."

The Department of Defense SMART scholarship will cover her college costs for the next three years and support her in the summer of 2024 at her internship at the Maryland Proving Grounds. In addition, she will have a job upon graduation in the Department of Defense.

"This is a highly competitive process," said Dr. Susan Monroe, associate professor of Mathematics at Brookdale.

Valentino was accepted to Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, last year but could not afford

college, so she came to Brookdale through the NJ Stars program and applied for the Scholarship. She now has acceptances at several colleges including Emory University, Atlanta GA.

Her favorite part about Brookdale is the professors, especially Dr. Monroe, who she said "is super encouraging both in the classroom and the WEST (Women in Engineering Science and Technology) club meetings." Valentino is also Vice President of the Computer Science Club.

"My goal is to increase the number of women represented in computer science and use technology to improve educational outcomes and equity for students across the world," said Valentino.

In fourth grade, Valentino discovered a passion for innovation and creating things. For her science class project, they had to build a dollhouse and create lighting for every room.

"I began formulating ideas about how to tinker with the wires and circuits to illuminate my doll house. After some trial and error, I had established working lights in all the rooms, she said. "A wave of satisfaction immediately washed over me."

This passion grew in middle school when she was introduced to 3D printing and programming. Throughout high school, she participated in academic technology competitions and worked as a coding instructor at Code

Ninjas, where she created a club to empower girls in technology.

"Code Ninjas has led me to pursue an interest in using technology to help improve educational outcomes and equity of students worldwide, Valentino said. "I do this by creating free educational videos reviewing introductory computer science topics and providing links to free online coding resources."

Valentino has been proactive in advancing her education in the field, having completed every available computer science course that pertains to Python and JavaScript. She has also gained hands-on experience with specialized machines like Raspberry Pi and enrolled in online programs that concentrate on cybersecurity, software engineering, and user-experience design.

She is interested in cybersecurity and hopes to further explore that with the Department of Defense.

"I want a career where I know my work would make a positive influence within the world," she said. "Working for the Department of Defense would allow me to accelerate my intellectual and technical abilities, while also allowing me to proudly serve my nation."



JCP&L WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES FROM THE POWER SYSTEMS INSTITUTE TRAINING PROGRAM

Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L), FirstEnergy Corp. (NYSE: FE) utilities hired several Brookdale Community College graduates of the Power Systems Institute (PSI) two-year educational training program. This program helps prepare the next generation of line and substation workers for FirstEnergy's ten electric utility companies.

“Our Power Systems Institute develops top-quality, well-educated men and women for the electric utility industry,” said Jim Fakult, president of New Jersey Operations. “We look forward to these graduates joining our workforce to help continue providing safe and reliable electric service for our customers.”

All the graduates were assigned to line and substation shops across JCP&L's service area. Their work assignments will rotate as part of the training program. Since the program's inception, FirstEnergy has hired more than 2,400 line and substation personnel who completed PSI programs in Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.



BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS TO BENEFIT FROM NEW PATHS TO TCNJ

The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) President Kathryn A. Foster Ph.D., and Brookdale Community College President David M. Stout Ph.D., have established an articulation agreement facilitating a smooth transfer for Brookdale graduates to TCNJ's four-year bachelor's degree programs.

Starting fall 2023, eligible Brookdale associate degree graduates with a required GPA can gain automatic admission to TCNJ by completing the application process. The agreement encompasses 51 academic pathways across various TCNJ schools and supports students who initiate their college studies at Brookdale before transferring to TCNJ after earning their associate degrees.

The partnership also introduces a Dual Enrollment program for freshman applicants denied direct admission to TCNJ, offering benefits such as campus activities, waived fees, advising from both institutions, and eligibility for specific scholarships.

TCNJ plans to maintain a visible presence on the Brookdale campus, providing support and information to students. Over the past three years, TCNJ has admitted over 68 percent of the 250 Brookdale applicants, with more than 100 Brookdale graduates currently enrolled at TCNJ.





BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE & PENSKE JOIN HANDS TO LAUNCH AN AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN CAREER PROGRAM

Brookdale Community College and Penske Automotive Group, Inc. announced a groundbreaking partnership with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), paving the way for the establishment of an Automotive Technician Career Program. This program aims to equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to thrive in the automotive industry.

Brookdale, known for its commitment to providing top-quality education and training programs, will offer state-of-the-art facilities and an Associate of Applied Science in Automotive Technology curriculum designed to develop students' automotive expertise. In addition, successful graduates of Brookdale's educational program will be able to secure employment with Penske Automotive Group, one of the world's premier automotive and commercial truck retailers.

Dr. David M. Stout, president of Brookdale Community College, expressed his excitement about the partnership, stating, "This innovative program will bring down costs for our students, aligning with our mission of ensuring that our students have access to high-wage jobs at an affordable price. Through this collaboration, we are fulfilling our commitment to providing our students with excellent education and ample employment opportunities."

Sam Cammarata, East Region recruiter from Penske Automotive Group, highlighted the significance of the collaboration, saying, "As the largest automotive retail company globally, Penske Automotive Group is always seeking opportunities to bring in talented individuals and provide them with a path to a successful and fulfilling

career. This partnership with Brookdale allows us to do just that. We are proud to connect with a college that has produced many successful alumni who have excelled within our organization. The opportunity to work with Brookdale is truly a home run for us."

Penske Automotive Group, an international company with 26 locations in New Jersey and 150 locations in the United States, and 250 worldwide across nine different countries, recognizes the value of investing in the next generation of automotive technicians.

Sam Cammarata further explained, "Our facilities are equipped with cutting-edge technology, ensuring a clean and safe work environment. In addition, by providing uniforms, safety equipment, and climate-controlled shops, we are dedicated to delivering the highest standards for our employees."

The Automotive Technician Career Program offers a comprehensive package of benefits to students who successfully complete their studies at Brookdale and secure employment at one of their dealerships. This is a \$20,000 program over three years that includes, on top of the technician's salary, a regular payment every month of reimbursement of up to \$13,140 for tuition and fees, \$2,000 for tools, and a \$5,000 employment bonus.

The partnership between Brookdale Community College and Penske Automotive Group signifies a commitment to the development of future automotive technicians and the growth of the automotive industry.



PENSKE



KEAN UNIVERSITY TO OFFER COURSES AT BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Commencing in the Fall of 2023, Brookdale Community College's main campus in Lincroft is set to offer courses through a recently established partnership with Kean University. This collaboration between the two institutions signifies a concerted effort to broaden educational opportunities for students in Monmouth County.

Under the agreement approved by both governing boards, Kean will start offering psychology courses with plans in place to expand the degree-completion offerings in the coming years.

"Through this new agreement, we are thrilled to strengthen our partnership with Kean University," stated Dr. David M. Stout, President of Brookdale. "This collaboration not only enhances opportunities for our students now but also demonstrates our ongoing commitment to empowering them for future success in their educational journey."

"Kean is so pleased to be able to extend our footprint further into Monmouth County and provide additional opportunities for students to climb higher and earn their bachelor's degrees," said Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., president of Kean. "This partnership will benefit students from a range of backgrounds by making a four-year degree more accessible."

Senior administrators from Kean and Brookdale celebrated the newly expanded partnership at a signing ceremony on

the Lincroft campus on May 25.

Kean will occupy two dedicated classrooms and two specialized advising offices at Brookdale's Lincroft campus. Students will be able to register for online and in-person psychology classes to work toward earning their bachelor's degree in psychology.

The partnership builds on an agreement signed by the two institutions in 2021 that established a seamless program-to-program direct transfer process to Kean for students who graduated from Brookdale with one of 13 different associate degrees.

Under that agreement, which remains in effect, freshman applicants who apply to Kean University but are denied direct admission and reside in the County of Monmouth are guaranteed admission to Kean once they complete their associate degree from Brookdale.

"Kean is proud to be nationally recognized as a transfer-friendly institution and these types of partnerships are key to advancing opportunities for transfer students," said Michael Salvatore, Ph.D., senior vice president for administration at Kean. "We want the transfer process to be as smooth as possible so students can focus on achieving their goal of earning a four-year degree."





Pursue Your Bachelor's Degree from Kean at Brookdale

PSYCHOLOGY

Kean University now offers world-class psychology courses on Brookdale's campus. And more are coming soon!

Save valuable time and money by taking **in-person** and **online** classes.

Find Out If You Qualify for **Free Tuition**

kean.edu/brookdale

Working with students to provide the highest quality of care. For more information, please contact the Office of Student Support Services at (973) 733-2222 or student.support@kean.edu.



BROOKDALE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE





NEW MULTIMEDIA PRODUCTION OPTION FOR HUMANITIES DEGREE

Brookdale Community College added a new Multimedia Production Option for the Humanities associate in arts degree. This option aims to provide students with a comprehensive skillset in pre-production, production, and post-production, which will prepare them for transfer to four-year institutions offering bachelor's degrees in Multimedia or Audio/Video Production.

Students can enroll now for this program featuring a Capstone Course, providing practical and occupational experience working as content creators for the College Radio Station 90.5 The Night. This course will allow students to apply their skills in a real-world setting and gain valuable experience in the field.

“Essentially, the Station is the student’s client,” said Associate Vice President of Innovation and Learning Dr. William F. Burns. “Utilizing the skills they acquire in their course work, students will attend cultural and social events on campus and around the County and create web-based audio and video content, along with still images and text that may be used on the station website or on the air.”

The new Multimedia Production Option will complement similar programs at four-year institutions and provide students with numerous articulation and transfer opportunities. Students who complete this program will have the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue careers in advertising, audio and video production, web design, marketing, and public relations, all industries with

tremendous growth potential.

The program will consist of 60 credits in total, including 45 credits of General Education and 15 credits of Career Studies, providing an excellent opportunity for students to gain a multifaceted skillset in multimedia production and prepare for successful careers in various industries.



2023 LEADING IN NEW JERSEY

BROOKDALE EARNS #1 COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTINCTION IN NEW JERSEY

Brookdale Community College has been named the top community college in New Jersey on Niche's 2023 Best Community Colleges list. Niche, known for its comprehensive school rankings, focused on the value of education this year, especially in light of concerns about the rising costs of higher education.

However, cost remains just one of the many factors considered. Brookdale received the top grade from Niche among the state's 19 community colleges based on acceptance rate, quality of professors, diversity, student life, safety, and location. Nationally, Brookdale earned a place in the top 20 percent, earning spot #177 of 906 institutions on Niche's list of the Best Community Colleges in America.

Niche's rankings incorporate data from the U.S. Department of Education, the American Community Survey, and student and alumni surveys, with a renewed emphasis on evaluating students' post-graduation earnings.

A student giving Brookdale a 5-star rating said, "I cannot say enough good things about Brookdale CC! The opportunities are endless, and the extremely helpful staff help make your dreams a reality. The advising office has gotten me through many challenging decisions in my college career and the efficiency of the financial aid office has made my college education a possibility!"

"Brookdale is a lovely school and there is nowhere else I would have rather spent my first two years of college," said an alumnus. "My professors were kind and constructive, my selection of classes was robust, and I learned things that

I am confident will have an effect on me for the rest of my days."

The positive testimonials from students and alumni highlight Brookdale's supportive environment and the impact of its education on individuals' lives.



BROOKDALE AWARDED BEST PARTNERSHIPS

Intelligent.com, a trusted resource for program rankings and higher education planning, included Brookdale Community College on its list of the Best Community Colleges in New Jersey in 2023. The research identifies top schools in the state based on tuition costs, the number of credits required to graduate, and the online coursework delivery format.

Brookdale stood out by receiving the accolade for Best Partnerships, particularly for its associate degree programs that facilitate transfers to four-year institutions. Notable partnerships include those with Georgian Court University, which offers six bachelor's degrees, including English, Psychology, and Nursing, and Rutgers University, which offers seven bachelor's degree programs, including Business Administration, Liberal Studies, and Political Science, all available at the Lincroft campus.

Brookdale also has transfer agreements with over 45 colleges and universities worldwide. These specialized agreements offer students several benefits for transfer, including transfer scholarships, reduced tuition, waived admission fees, and more.



2023 ALUMNI SUCCESS

BROOKDALE CULINARY ALUMNI TOP CHEFS AT NEW LINCROFT RESTAURANT

The culinary world is buzzing with excitement as Charlie's of Lincroft opened its doors, proudly showcasing the talents of two accomplished individuals who honed their skills at Brookdale Community College. Chef Josh Sauer, appointed as the executive chef, and Alison Clark, serving as the sous chef, bring a wealth of experience and dedication to their roles, marking another success story for Brookdale alumni.

Chef Josh Sauer's culinary journey began with a passion for cooking instilled at an early age by his German and Polish grandparents. Their influence, characterized by preparing fresh pierogies, kielbasa, and pies, ignited Chef Sauer's love for the culinary arts. Pursuing his passion further, Chef Sauer enrolled in the Brookdale Culinary Program, where he developed his patisserie skills during a stage at the Grenville Hotel in Bay Head. After graduating in 2004, Chef Sauer's career flourished, with notable stints at Doris & Ed's and the acclaimed Rat's Restaurant in Hamilton, NJ, both renowned for their commitment to made-from-scratch menu items and meticulous attention to detail.

Sous Chef Alison Clark's culinary journey took a unique path. After obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Language and Literature from Montclair State University, she decided to follow her culinary aspirations. In 2016, Clark enrolled at Brookdale Community College, earning an Associate of Arts in Culinary and a Pastry Arts Certification with honors in 2018. Her exceptional journey has been celebrated by Chef Chad Schoonveld, Instructor of Culinary Arts at Brookdale, who commended Clark for

achieving the sous chef position.

Michelle Zuppe, Professor of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management at Brookdale, expressed immense pride in the success of these graduates, emphasizing the excitement for the Brookdale community to savor the culinary delights at Charlie's of Lincroft, conveniently located near the campus.

Charlie's of Lincroft, situated in a historic location that has housed an eating or lodging establishment since 1697, maintains its historical charm in architectural design. The Hess family, owners of the restaurant and property, ensured a seamless blend of historical perspective and modern elegance, evident in the upscale tavern-like ambiance. The restaurant boasts a diverse menu featuring steak, poultry, brick oven pizza, and vegetarian options, prepared with Chef Sauer's signature twist on homestyle and comfort-style food.

With a seating capacity for up to 264 people, Charlie's of Lincroft offers two private event rooms, a wine room, and a great room for regular dining.

The Hesse family, owners of Charlie's of Bay Head, are deeply rooted in community support. They intend to replicate this commitment in Lincroft by actively supporting schools and local organizations. As the culinary duo of Chef Josh Sauer and Sous Chef Alison Clark brings their expertise to Charlie's of Lincroft, the restaurant is set to become a culinary haven and a testament to the success achieved by Brookdale Community College alumni.

DOCTOR AND CAPTAIN IN THE US AIR FORCE

2010 Brookdale Community College alumni, and former cross country standout Captain Alec Moran, D.O., is grateful for Brookdale's effect on him as a student-athlete and in his current life.

From the Fall of 2009 to the Fall of 2010, team captain, Alec Moran, led the Brookdale cross-country team to second place at the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region 19 Tournament and then sixth place overall at the NJCAA Nationals. In addition, Moran was recognized as a Distinguished Academic All-American by the NJCAA for maintaining a 4.0 GPA for four consecutive semesters of study while competing. In 2010, Moran was honored as a Gold Star Athlete at Brookdale's annual Gold Star Awards dinner for maintaining the highest GPA of all male runners.

"I began my Brookdale journey seeking a community," he said. "I am grateful beyond measure for being part of the inaugural year of the cross-country team. My coach at the time taught me the value of hard work and friendship which has had a lasting effect on me. And I still love running long distance as a result of my experiences."

After obtaining an Associate of Science in Math and Science at Brookdale, Moran attended Rutgers University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Exercise Physiology in 2013. He then attended Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine and graduated with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine in 2017. From 2017-2018 he was an Internal Medicine Resident at Jersey Shore University Medical Center and, in January of 2018, was sworn in as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. He is

currently an Anesthesiology Resident at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. He is certified in Anesthesiology and has obtained his New Jersey State Medical License. In 2019 he was cited in "Process measure of FAST tuberculosis infection control demonstrates delay in likely effective treatment." in the National Library of Medicine. In addition, this talented man plays the Mandolin.

"It's been a long 12-year journey," Moran said. "The long-distance mindset I gained running at Brookdale has surely helped me stay focused and have an outlet to find peace and achieve my goals."



ALUMNI JOSEPH FRISCIA JOINS PROSECUTORS OFFICE

The Monmouth County Prosecutors Office recently announced that four detectives, each with a record of accomplishment and diverse experience, have joined the Office. Amongst them is Brookdale Alumni Joseph Friscia of Union Beach.

The new detectives all have deep experience in a multitude of areas in the community.

“We consider ourselves truly fortunate to be welcoming four dynamic detectives who throughout their careers have made a habit of serving the public with distinction and honor,” said Acting Monmouth County Prosecutor Lori Linskey. “Our sincere expectations for each of them is that they continue to build upon their already stellar body of work.”

Brookdale Alumni Joseph Friscia, an eight-year Union Beach Police Department veteran, most recently served as a sergeant. He supervised a contingent of approximately 30 sworn officers and was also designated as his department’s resiliency officer, assisting colleagues in coping with stressors inherent to the job.

He was a recipient of the 2019 Union Beach Police Department Officer of the Year “Officer William H. Letts Award.” Friscia has a record of accomplishment in working the department’s most high-profile and intensive narcotics, sex crimes, and internal affairs cases.

He holds an associate degree from Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, and a bachelor’s degree from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York.

“Our hiring process for new detectives is rightfully rigorous, and for good reason – this team of new hires with these outstanding credentials marks nothing short of a wealth of riches for the Office,” Acting Chief of Detectives John G. McCabe, Jr. said. “We have every confidence that they are capable of making an immediate contribution to our office, our cases and our residents.”



ALUM NATASHA ARENA HAS CAREER IN THE NFL

Natasha Arena, a former student-athlete at Brookdale Community College, credits the institution for teaching her the value of working hard and positively impacting the community. She fondly remembers her time at Brookdale, where she played on the women's soccer team for two seasons and earned her Associate of Arts in Humanities. Despite Brookdale not being a four-year school, Arena believes that her experience there had a positive effect on her academic and athletic pursuits.

“I have always told many that I wished Brookdale was a four-year school because it always left a positive impression on me in my academics and especially when I played soccer there. I was able to make lasting friendships with my teammates that are still very much a part of my life today.”

Arena pursued her passion for sports and earned a master's degree in Sports Administration from Ohio University. She began a career as a Client Relations Coordinator and Manager for the New York Jets before becoming a Player Experience Specialist for the National Football League (NFL). Her current role allows her to make a difference in the lives of NFL players and help them prepare for life after football.

Arena's enthusiasm for sports and desire to impact the life of an athlete is a testament to the values she learned at Brookdale.

“My love of sports has always been with me at such a young age, and it was always something I was proud to be a part of; that locker room environment. When I decided what I wanted my career to look like, it was going to be something I was passionate about, and that was sports; making a

difference in my community and being around athletes of the game. Fortunately, that is exactly what I am doing now with my career and working for the NFL. I truly believe that being a Jersey Blue gave me the tools to succeed in my career path.”



OUTSTANDING ALUMNI RECOGNIZED AT BROOKDALE'S 2023 COMMENCEMENT

Brookdale Community College is proud to announce the recipients of the prestigious Outstanding Alumni Award for 2023. This distinguished accolade is presented to selected alumni whose professional, personal, and civic accomplishments, along with their exceptional service to the community, have earned them unquestionable recognition. This year, two exceptional individuals, Sean P. O'Halloran and Dana Tango, have been honored with the 2023 Outstanding Alumni Award.

Sean P. O'Halloran receiving Outstanding Alum Award on stage at Commencement ceremony wearing cap and gown along with President Stout presenting the award. Sean P. O'Halloran, a 1999 graduate of Brookdale Community College, exemplifies the transformative power of education. Initially aspiring to a career in law enforcement, O'Halloran pursued a major in Business Administration at Brookdale, following advice to explore other fields before joining the police academy. This decision laid the foundation for a remarkable educational and professional journey, including a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Individualized Studies and a Master of Administrative Science Degree from Farleigh Dickenson University. Sean P. O'Halloran at podium wearing cap and gown.

O'Halloran's commitment to continuous learning and personal growth led him to graduate from the New Jersey Chiefs of Police Command and Leadership Academy, as well as the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA. Today, he serves as the Chief of Police of Wall Township, where his dedication, bravery, and exceptional

leadership have made Monmouth County a safer place to live, work, and raise families. O'Halloran's involvement in various community organizations, such as the Wall Township Recreation Advisory Committee and Wall Helps Its People, further demonstrates his unwavering commitment to making a positive impact.

Outstanding Alum receiving award from President Dr. David M. Stout at Commencement ceremony. Dana Tango, a 2004 distinguished alumna, who was in Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and Biology Club member while at Brookdale. She has made significant contributions to the fields of biomechanics, motion analysis, and wound care research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) at Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine. Tango's work in occupational environmental epidemiology and healthcare-associated infectious disease prevention research, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, further showcases her dedication to advancing public health.

Donna Tango speaking at the podium at Commencement ceremony wearing cap and gown. Tango's commitment to education and her profession extends beyond her research endeavors. She has served as a lecturer in Community Health and Infectious Diseases Epidemiology at both Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine and the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. Her involvement in numerous professional organizations, including the Association of Alumnae at the University

of Pennsylvania and the American Women in Science (AWIS), reflects her dedication to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in academia and healthcare.

Brookdale Community College is proud to honor Sean P. O'Halloran and Dana Tango for their exceptional achievements, unwavering commitment to their communities, and remarkable contributions to their respective fields. These outstanding alumni exemplify the values and mission of Brookdale and serve as inspiring role models for current and future students.





BROOKDALE



2022-2023 JERSEY BLUES ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)

Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC)

National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA)

Men's Cross Country

- NJCAA Region XIX Champions
- GSAC Champions
- *Teddy Purdon*
 - NJCAA Region XIX Tournament Race - First Place Finisher
 - The US Track & Field Coaches Association - NJCAA Division III Cross Country - Men's Athlete of the Year - 2022 - East Region
 - National Player of the Week
- *Head Coach Mike Tursi*
 - NJCAA Region XIX Coach of the Year
 - GSAC Coach of the Year

Men's Soccer

- Finalists - NJCAA Region XIX Tournament
- *Jairo Chira*
 - NJCAA Div III All-American 2nd Team

Women's Soccer

- Finalists - NJCAA Region XIX Tournament
- *Lianna Quezada*
 - All-American 2nd Team named by United Coaches Association

Women's Volleyball

- Finalists - NJCAA Region XIX Tournament

Women's Basketball

- Quarterfinalists - NJCAA Region XIX Tournament
- Head Coach Rich Brunson reached his 100th career win

Men's Basketball

- NJCAA Region XIX Champions
- NJCAA North Atlantic District Champions
- NJCAA National Champions
- GSAC Champions
- *Kevin Mateo*
 - NJCAA Div III Player of the Year
 - GSAC Player of the Year
 - NJCAA Div III All-American 1st Team
- *Nick Williams*
 - NJCAA Div III All-American 3rd Team

Head Coach Paul Cisek

- Reached his 600th career win
- NJCAA Region XIX Coach of the Year
- NJCAA Northeast District Coach of the Year
- NJCAA Coach of the Tournament
- NJCAA Coach of the Year
- GSAC Coach of the Year

Cheerleading

- Perform at all home basketball games.
- Biggest team yet
- Support campus wide initiatives with welcoming performances
- More stunting and tumbling

Softball

- NJCAA Region XIX Champions
- GSAC Champions
- *Alyssa Sigler*
 - NJCAA Region XIX Player of the Year
 - NJCAA Div III All-American 1st Team
 - NFCA 2023 NJCAA Rawlings Gold Glove & All-American 1st Team
- *Mallory Shevlin*
 - NJCAA Div III All-American 1st Team

Gianna Praet

- NFCA NJCAA All-American 1st Team
- *Sydney Rawlings*
 - National All-Tournament Team
- *Head Coach Bo Scannapieco reached 1200th career win*
 - NJCAA Region XIX Coach of the Year
 - NJCAA North Atlantic A District Coach of the Year
 - GSAC Coach of the Year

Baseball

- Finalists - NJCAA Region XIX Tournament
- *Brendan Williams*
 - NJCAA Region XIX Pitcher of the Year
 - GSAC Pitcher of the Year
 - NJCAA Div III All-American 1st Team
- *Marcus Johnson*
 - NJCAA Div III All-American 3rd Team



2002
RECORD: 47-9

CHAMPIONS
2005
RECORD: 49-8-1

CHAMPIONS
2010
RECORD: 45-10

CHAMPIONS
2013
RECORD: 33-1

2013
RECORD: 17-1-1

2014
RECORD: 19-1

BROOKDALE
JERSEY BLUES



AMUNDSON ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

Brookdale Community College's Director of Athletics and Recreation, and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region XIX Women's Director, Katelyn P. Amundson, received the 2022 Ron Case Athletic Director of the Year Award. This prestigious award is presented annually to a Region XIX Athletic Director for their commitment and positive contributions to their campus, region, and surrounding communities.

Thirty-two colleges from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware participate in Region XIX of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Amundson, an alum of Brookdale and two-sport Academic All-American student-athlete, served as assistant coach for the women's soccer team for two years before being named the head coach in the fall of 2011, a position she had until the fall of 2020. She became the assistant director of athletics in 2013, and in October 2018, Amundson was named director of athletics at Brookdale.

During her tenure, Amundson has been instrumental in leading the Jersey Blues program to several conferences and regional and national titles.

Additionally, because of her exceptional student-focused efforts continued commitment to academic success and community service, Amundson was appointed to the NJCAA Division III Oversight Committee, overseeing the direction of Division III athletics within the NJCAA. The committee serves as the voice of Division III programs across the country, overseeing and guiding several initiatives related to the student-athlete experience.



LILY QUEZADA NAMED TO ALL-AMERICAN TEAM

Brookdale sophomore midfielder Lianna Quezada from Old Bridge, NJ, was named to the 2022 Junior College Division III Second Team All-American by the United Soccer Coaches Association.

Quezada is the only student-athlete from the Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Region XIX to be on the list for both the men's and women's teams. Lianna finished the season with eight goals. Four were game winners in just 14 games.

Quezada played center mid for Brookdale in the 2021 and 2022 seasons. She is transferring to Kean University in 2023 and will be on their women's soccer team.



ALL-AMERICAN





JERSEY BLUES NJCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS / CISEK COACH OF YEAR

The Brookdale Community College Men's Basketball Team secured their third National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) National Championship title with a thrilling victory over top-seed North Carolina's Sandhills Community College Flyers. Kevin Mateo, from Hackensack, emerged as the tournament MVP, scoring 31 points in a game played at Herkimer College in New York. This triumph adds another accolade to the Jersey Blues' impressive record, securing their third national championship within the past decade.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Paul Cisek, the Blues had an impressive season, finishing 27-3 and earning the North Atlantic District Championship. Cisek, who secured his 12th Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Championship and was named GSAC Coach of the Year, led the team to victory in the NJCAA DIII National Championship with a 30-3 overall record.

President Dr. David M. Stout commended the team's extraordinary legacy of success and recognized the outstanding efforts of each player, emphasizing the significance of their academic and athletic achievements.

"Throughout Brookdale Community College's 56-year history, the Brookdale Athletic Department has supported the success of thousands of student-athletes, both in competition and in the classroom," said Dr. Stout. "Under the leadership of Head Coach Paul Cisek, Associate Head Coach Charlie Hawthorne, Assistant Coaches Kurt Fenchel, Ryan Pastore, and John Rivera, the Jersey Blues

men's basketball team has experienced an extraordinary legacy of success. The 2022 2023 Jersey Blues men's basketball student athletes formed an unbreakable bond, battled through adversity, and never lost hope throughout the season. This team displayed strong character and sportsmanship."

The ceremony celebrating the team's accomplishments included the awarding of championship rings to team members and staff. Returning and graduating players were recognized, emphasizing the unity and dedication that defines the Brookdale men's basketball team's remarkable journey.



KEVIN MATEO NAMED NJCAA DIII MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Brookdale Community College point guard Kevin Mateo has been named the 2023 NJCAA Division III Men's Basketball Player of the Year.

"Kevin Mateo is a great player with the ability to lead any team to its highest points," said Brookdale head men's basketball coach Paul Cisek.

The sophomore guard averaged 17.3 points per game and shot 35.5% from behind the arc. Mateo also averaged 5.2 assists and 3.0 rebounds per game for the Jersey Blues. Starting all 25 games this season for Brookdale, Mateo also averaged 2.8 steals per game for the future national champions.

He was a central piece in the Jersey Blues national championship squad, leading them in scoring throughout the season. Mateo was named Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Player of the Year for the 2022-23 season.

After an impressive North Atlantic District Tournament run, Mateo led Brookdale to its first district championship since 2018 by holding off nationally ranked Northampton (PA). Mateo scored 20 points in the matchup, earning four assists and four steals.

"His stats are very impressive, but his overall leadership will be hard to replace. He is that piece to the puzzle that every coach looks for," said Coach Cisek.

Entering the national tournament as the No. 3 overall seed, Mateo was a force throughout the national tournament

for Brookdale. In the quarterfinal game, the guard scored 16 points and grabbed six rebounds. The Jersey Blues won in the quarterfinal over DuPage before leading them to a semifinal win over Rochester. Mateo saved his best game for the national championship, scoring a game-high 31 points on 43% shooting. He made four clutch free throws to help secure the third championship title in program history and was named Tournament Most Valuable Player.

2022-23 Stats

- 17.3 points per game
- 5.2 assists per game
- 2.8 steals per game
- 84.8% free throws (12th in the nation)

2022-23 Accomplishments

- 2022-23 NJCAA DIII Player of the Year
- 2022-23 GSAC Player of the Year
- 2022-23 First Team NJCAA DIII Men's Basketball All-America Selection
- 2022-23 NJCAA DIII Men's Basketball Championship Most Valuable Player
- 2022-23 NJCAA DIII Men's Basketball National Champion



BROOKDALE SOFTBALL AMONG THE TOP IN THE NATION

In a stunning display of skill and teamwork, the Brookdale Community College softball team, under Head Coach Bo Scannapieco, dominated as the 2023 Region 19 North Atlantic District A Champions. Their decisive victories over the RCSJ-Cumberland Dukes, 7-0 and 10-3, earned them a coveted spot in the NJCAA DIII national tournament in Dewitt, NY.

The series began with Zoey Hagan's three-run homer, setting a triumphant tone. Nicolette Pavlik's solo home run and standout performances by Gianna Praet and Mallory Shevlin, each going 3-for-4 with crucial RBIs, further fueled their momentum. Praet's seven-strikeout shutout in the first game was a highlight.

Their offensive strength continued in the second game with an eight-run explosion in the second inning. Shevlin shined with a two-run homer and an RBI double, while Alyssa Sigler and Praet added to the scoring spree. Pavlik's two-run homer in the sixth inning capped the scoring. Hagan, with a 3-for-4 performance across both games, earned the Region 19 Tournament MVP, while Shevlin's dual role as pitcher and hitter was pivotal, contributing five hits and limiting the opposition to two earned runs.

Celebrating a remarkable achievement, Head Coach Bo Scannapieco secured his 23rd Region title and was duly recognized as the 2023 Coach of the Year. Under his guidance, the Brookdale softball team displayed not only individual brilliance but also a collective spirit that propelled them to the pinnacle of regional and national success.

The season concluded impressively with Brookdale finishing 5th in the NJCAA DIII World Series Tournament, reflecting their hard-fought journey and exceptional skill. Finishing the season with a 34-12 record and capturing both the Region 19 and GSAC Championships, the team demonstrated resilience and competitiveness at the highest collegiate level. This performance is a testament to the dedication and teamwork of the players and coaching staff, marking a significant chapter in Brookdale Community College softball history.



WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Brookdale Community College student-athlete Zoey Hagan (Atlantic Highlands) was honored as Woman of the Year by the New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NJAIW) along with other New Jersey college and university women who have made significant contributions to their institutions and community through athletic accomplishments, academic excellence, service, and leadership.

Hagan is a business management major at Brookdale and played as a catcher and 3rd baseman on the Jersey Blues softball team. She helped the team finish 3rd in the nation, with an overall 33-12 record. In addition, the team was crowned the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region XIX and Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Champions. Hagan finished the season with a .400 batting average, 60 hits, 14 doubles, 1 triple, 6 home runs, 38 RBIs, 34 runs, and a fielding percentage of .934 with 123 putouts, 32 assists, and only allowed 12 stolen bases.

“Being a part of the Brookdale softball program has shown me how much love I have for the game,” said Hagan. “Having a big role on the team, being involved in Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) and working with the faculty members in the athletic office has taught me a lot about leadership and accountability.”

Hagan is named on both the 2022 NJCAA and GSAC First Team. In addition, she was awarded April 10th’s GSAC Player of the Week for her performance at the plate, and while at bat, she smashed three home runs in three double-

header matchups.

Coach Bo Scannapieco sang her praises, “Zoey is a very industrious and conscientious student-athlete who displays excellent leadership qualities on the field.”

Hagan led the SAAC as Vice President in the fall of 2022 and quickly became President in the spring of 2023. She was the point of contact for all student members of the club working closely with the club’s advisor David Tompkins and Student Life & Activities. Demonstrating her dedication to positively impacting her community, Hagen helped deliver food and clothing to Lunch Break in Red Bank in December. In addition, she helped oversee the Student-Athletes Honor Jersey Blue Employees Event in February.

“I am so honored to receive this award,” Hagan said. “I would just like to thank my family, coaches, and teammates who have helped me get to where I am today.”



CROSS COUNTRY'S TEDDY PURDON EARNS BACK-TO-BACK NJCAA DIII MEN'S ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Brookdale Community College sophomore Theodore Purdon achieved recognition as the 2022 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III Cross Country Men's Athlete of the Year for the East Region. Notably, Purdon also earned this prestigious award the preceding year, underscoring his consistent excellence.

Hailing from Little Silver, Purdon garnered further acclaim as The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Male National Athlete of the Week for September 19th, 2022. He secured the top position among all NJCAA Region 19 DII student-athletes and emerged as the leader in the Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC). His remarkable performance at the NJCAA National Championship ranked him seventh nationally, reaffirming his status as one of the country's top runners.



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JERSEY BLUES STANDOUTS: WILLIAMS AND JOHNSON MAKE 2023 NJCAA DIII ALL-AMERICA TEAM

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III Baseball Committee selected two Jersey Blues to the 2023 All-America Team. Sophomore pitcher Brendan Williams, was named to the first team and sophomore center fielder Marcus Johnson, was chosen for the third team.

Adding to his accolades this season, Williams has also earned the 2023 Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Pitcher of the Year, NJCAA DIII Pitcher of the Week, NJCAA Region 19 Pitcher of the Year, First Team All-Region, First Team All-GSAC. For the 2023 season, Williams pitched 71.1 innings with an ERA of 2.40, 113 strikeouts, two shutouts, and finished with a 9-2 record

Johnson produced incredible stats this year with a .440 batting average while cranking out 13 home runs, 58 RBI's, 23 stolen bases, and posting a .952 fielding percentage. Marcus was also handpicked for NJCAA first team All-Region, first team All-GSAC, and will continue his baseball career at Montclair State University.



ALL-AMERICAN SIGLER AWARDED THE RAWLINGS GOLD GLOVE

Rawlings Sporting Goods Company, Inc. revealed Brookdale's sophomore center fielder, Alyssa Sigler, as a recipient of the 2023 National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Rawlings Gold Glove Award, presented by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA).

Head coach members of the NFCA voted for the winners. The group utilized fielding statistics and closely examined finalists to select the winners at every defensive position.

Sigler was awarded Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) Player of the Year, Region 19 Player of the Year, and Named to NJCAA First Team All-American.



2023 EVENTS COMMENCEMENT

BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATES GRADUATES AT 2023 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Brookdale Community College proudly honored the outstanding achievements of its graduating class. The event at the college's Collins Arena marked a momentous milestone in the lives of 1,440 students who received well-deserved degrees, including 34 military and veteran graduates, 89 Early College High School graduates, future healthcare heroes, and many first-generation college graduates.

The morning ceremony began with a heartwarming speech from Dominic R. Sama, president of the Student Life Board, who graduated with an associate degree in political science and attended Montclair State University in the fall. This was followed by Olayi A. Calderon, who delivered an empowering address during the afternoon ceremony. Calderon, who graduated with an Academic Credit Certificate in paralegal studies, recently took her LSAT and set her sights on law school to embark on her journey toward becoming an attorney. The words of both speakers resonated with the graduating class, emphasizing the importance of courage, dedication, and the limitless possibilities that lie ahead.

Distinguished guests honored the occasion, including Monmouth County Board of Commissioners Director Mr. Thomas A. Arnone, Commissioner Ms. Susan M. Kiley, and Brookdale Community College Board of Trustees Chair Mr. Paul Crupi. Mr. Crupi emphasized Brookdale's dedication to academic excellence, highlighting Brookdale's remarkable value and affordability.

"Brookdale is ranked number one in New Jersey and within the top three percent of all community colleges in the nation because we have invested in top-ranked faculty and staff who are dedicated to academic success," he stated. Continuing his remarks, Crupi added, "On average, our graduates had higher GPAs at their transfer colleges than the students who started out as freshmen at those other colleges. This is due to the support services, academic and career advising, and student life opportunities available to all here. We also ensured that you were getting the highest quality education possible at an affordable cost. On average, you saved more than \$24,000 compared to your peers who began their academic journeys at New Jersey state colleges."

President Dr. David M. Stout warmly welcomed the graduates and shared the remarkable achievements of the class of 2023. Among the graduates were 249 students who received honorable distinctions, including 82 distinguished scholars and 113 members of honor societies such as Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, the National Society of Leadership and Success, and discipline-specific honor societies for business administration, nursing, human services, and psychology. Additionally, 12 graduates earned honors in Global Distinction and Women in Leadership and Learning Distinction. Notably, 42 graduates achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA, a testament to their dedication and hard work.

The ceremony also recognized six outstanding individuals with the Outstanding Student Awards from each academic institute. Steven Moccio, IV, AS, Business Administration and Christina J. Urbano, AA, Education; Iana Dunaevskaia, AA, Health Science; Ewurafua Kumpah Acquaah, AA, Liberal Arts; Jennifer Alexander, AS, Computer Science and Joseph Michael Brennan, AS, Biology.

Moreover, the college presented honorary degrees to Stephanie Hueston-Paden and Douglas Quinn for their exceptional contributions to their respective fields and unwavering commitment to community service.

As the graduates embarked on their respective journeys, Brookdale Community College wished them joy and success in all their future endeavors. The college remained committed to providing quality education and empowering individuals to create positive change in their communities.

As Calderon expressed, "At Brookdale, in every interaction I had in and outside the classroom, it was apparent that every employee here cared. And her closing statement to the graduates was, "Wherever the next chapter of our life story takes us, let's make sure the journey includes joy above all else."



NURSING GRADUATES ENTERING A PROFESSION WITH HIGH DEMAND

The Health Sciences Institute's Fall Nursing Pinning Ceremony on January 3, 2023, in the Robert J. Collins Arena at Brookdale College was a momentous event honoring the achievements of 59 nursing graduates. Among them, Taylor Soave, a nursing graduate, and student speaker, expressed gratitude to the Brookdale faculty and staff. Soave commended them for being a guiding force throughout the students' journey, providing direction and encouragement. She highlighted the institution's commitment to ensuring student success and shaping them academically, instilling core values, and fostering passion for their profession.

President Dr. David M. Stout addressed the nursing graduates, acknowledging and thanking them for their tireless efforts, perseverance, and selflessness in dedicating their lives to the noble cause of helping others. He emphasized how the graduates had made Brookdale proud with their hard work and commitment.

Dr. Jayne Edman, Dean of the Health Science Institute, explained the symbolic significance of the nursing pin. She noted that it serves as a link to the alumni network and a constant reminder that the graduates are entering one of the most trusted professions in the United States.

Guest speaker Georgia Cassidy, an Instructor of Nursing at Brookdale, praised the graduates for embarking on their nursing education during a pandemic and highlighted the crucial role they would play in a world where nurses are at the forefront of patient care. Cassidy emphasized

the graduates' extraordinary journey and the increased demand for their skills in today's challenging healthcare landscape.

Monica Bubello, in her farewell address, celebrated the strong bonds formed among the nursing graduates. She expressed deep pride in her peers, emphasizing that they were not just colleagues but friends who had supported each other through the challenges of nursing school. Dressed in navy-blue scrubs, they stood ready to take on the world as they entered their professional nursing careers.

The ceremony also included special recognitions, with six graduates being acknowledged for induction into the Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society, Alpha Sigma Chapter. Additionally, Cherrelle Rainey received special recognition, as her grandmother had graduated from Brookdale's first nursing class in 1970. Her presence at the pinning ceremony was an inspiring link between generations and highlighted the enduring legacy of nursing education at Brookdale College.



TOP OF THE CLASS

In acknowledgment of the remarkable accomplishments achieved by its culinary and pastry arts students, Brookdale Community College presents annually the distinguished Culinary Top of Class Awards. These accolades commend academic excellence, dedication to community service, and mastery of culinary skills. The occasion spotlighted the unwavering commitment and diligence exhibited by students who have truly excelled in their culinary pursuits.

Highlighting the ceremony were the prestigious top three class awards, the White Cordon, Red Cordon, and Blue Cordon.

The White Cordon Award was bestowed upon Yara Alramyan, an exceptional student acclaimed for her leadership, bilingual proficiency in transcribing recipes in both Arabic and English, and her generous contributions. Yara's impact extended well beyond the classroom, solidifying her as a valuable asset to the culinary community.

Matthew Corey earned the Red Cordon Award, an esteemed accolade honoring him as the second-highest ranked student in his class. His commitment to excellence, passion for cooking, and exemplary work ethic distinguished him. Matt's consistent dedication, always being the first to arrive and last to leave, underscored his unwavering commitment to his craft.

The highest honor, the Blue Cordon Award, was rightfully conferred upon Samuel Cook, recognized as the top graduate in his class. Sam exemplifies characteristics such as focus, dedication, motivation, passion, and skill. His future plans align with the program's mission, aiming to

explore the world, delve into new cuisines, and push the boundaries of culinary arts.

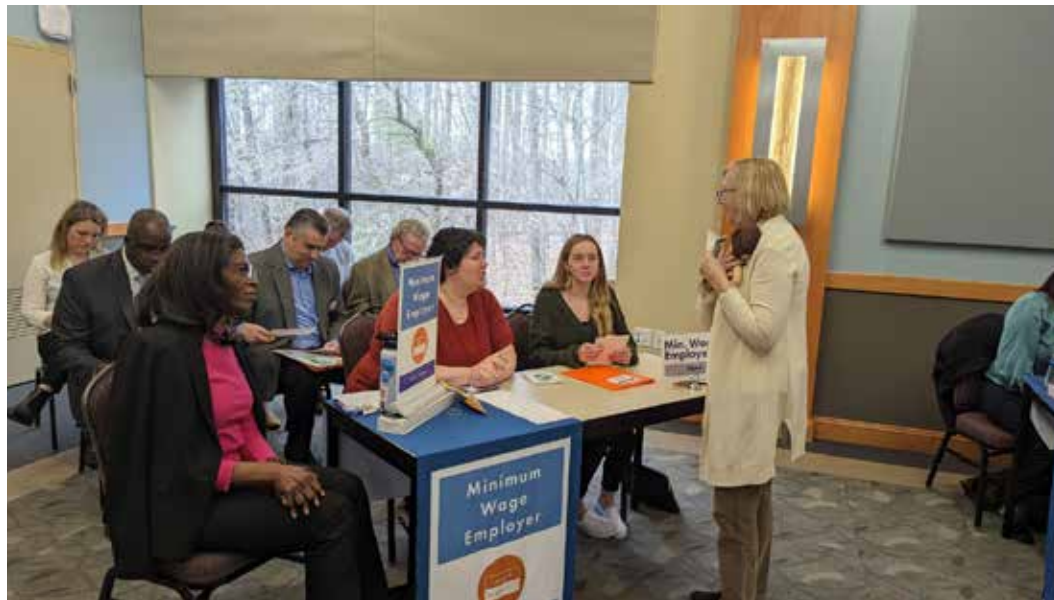
The Culinary Top of Class Awards is a celebration of academic excellence and highlights the exceptional qualities and accomplishments of Brookdale Community College's culinary and pastry arts students.



STATE ADDS SUPPORT FOR WELLNESS CENTER

Brookdale secured \$550,000 for the Caroline Huber Holistic Wellness Center from the state. State Senator Vin Gopal advocated for the funding, emphasizing the center's role in addressing the rising demand for mental health care. The Wellness Center, aligned with Caroline Huber's vision, focuses on mental health, wellness, and social justice, fostering a community network.

This year The Caroline Huber Holistic Wellness Center supported leaders from Brookdale Community College and Monmouth County and students in engaging in a poverty simulation called COPE, which stands for Cost of Poverty Experience. An Experience for Everyone, this simulation is designed to deepen our understanding of the Realities of Poverty. And, in partnership with Lunch Break, Clara's Closet opened a satellite location on the Brookdale Campus to provide help and hope, offering students and community members clothing and accessories with the opportunity to be self-sufficient and live healthier lifestyles.



CLARA'S CLOSET

Brookdale Community College, in collaboration with Lunch Break, Red Bank, NJ, has introduced Clara's Closet, a transformative initiative offering students and community members free access to essential winter wardrobe staples.

Since its inception, the partnership has not only provided much-needed apparel but has also fostered a sense of community and connection. Clara's Closet goes beyond basic clothing provisions, offering work and interview attire, accessories, and seasonal essentials like boots and coats.

This collaboration reflects the shared commitment of Lunch Break and Brookdale to provide help, instill hope, and guide individuals toward self-sufficiency and healthier lifestyles, showcasing the powerful impact of community partnerships in creating positive change.



FIRST EVER HISPANIC ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPO

The New Jersey Small Business Development Center (NJSBDC) at Brookdale organized the inaugural Hispanic Entrepreneurial Expo, showcasing businesses led by entrepreneurs who completed the Bilingual Entrepreneur Certificate Program at Brookdale Community College.

The Expo highlighted the significant contributions of the Latino community to the small business economy, featuring a variety of exhibit categories such as financial insurance, jewelry, food safety solutions, online boutiques, and more. Dr. Jackeline Mejias-Fuertes, the director of the Small Business Development Center, noted the program's success, with up to 98 percent of participants graduating.

The Entrepreneur Certificate Program, responsible for the success of these entrepreneurs, provides training in business planning, goal setting, financing, and marketing to individuals seeking to start or expand their businesses.



HAPPYVISM MOVEMENT SPREADS JOY AND ACTIVISM ON CAMPUS

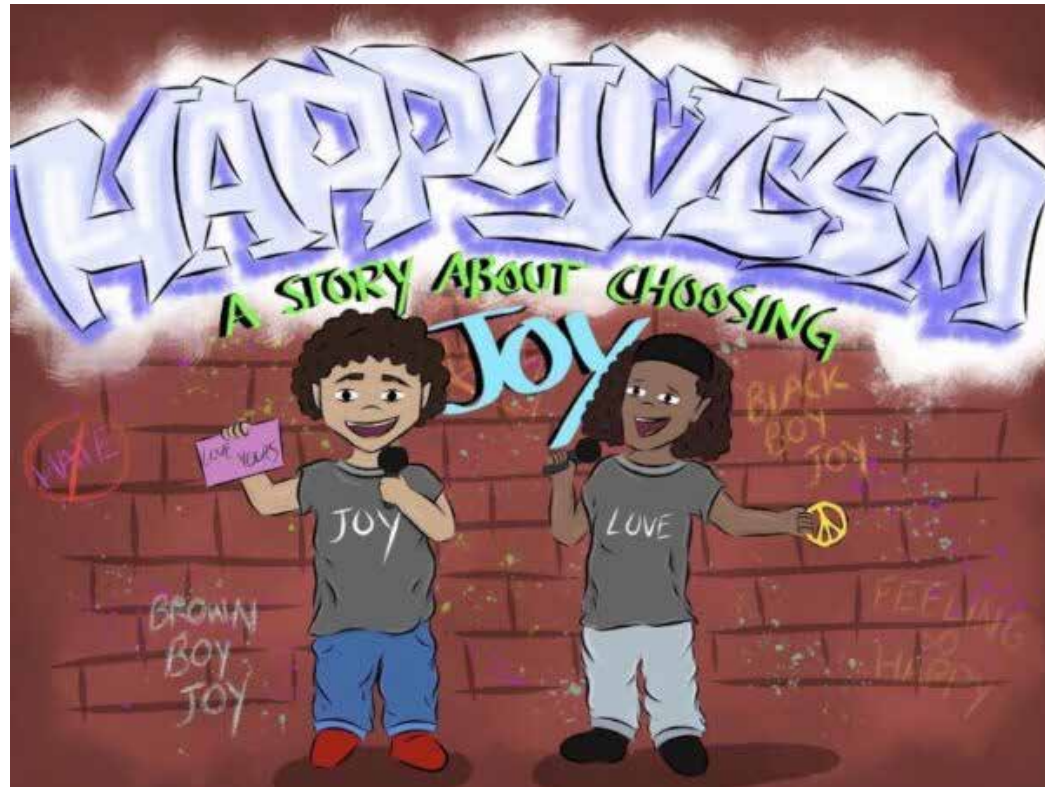
In a year marked by challenges and resilience, Justin Lopez, a dynamic individual joined our campus, who along with his partner Ryan Parker sparked a new movement called Happyvism. Rooted in the belief that joy and happiness can be potent forms of activism, Happyvism seeks to foster a sense of radical joy, justice, and possibility, especially within Black and Brown communities. This innovative project has transcended various artistic mediums, from music to video, and now a full-fledged movement aiming to create spaces of authentic human connection and joy.

The impact of Happyvism has reverberated beyond the campus grounds, with Lopez and Parker receiving recognition from prestigious institutions. Their appearances at the Harvard Graduate School, the UConn NEAG School, Stanford Graduate School of Education, and the University of Massachusetts underscore the significance and relevance of their movement. The duo has also been honored with the “Expressions of Peace” award from the Peace Center of Connecticut, acknowledging their commitment to creating positive change.

In collaboration with the Diversity and Inclusion Director Angela Kariotis, the Global Citizenship Project hosted this interactive event. The event engaged the audience in the principles and practices of Happyvism, guiding participants in exploring the themes of joy, justice, and possibility.

The Happyvism movement encourages everyone to join in spreading joy and activism in their communities. As Lopez and Parker strive to create spaces that celebrate joy as a

form of resistance, the event was a unique opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to engage with and be inspired by the transformative power of Happyvism.



ROCK OF AGES AT THE PAC

Rock of Ages rocked the PAC (Performing Arts Center) this spring with an exhilarating musical. Set against the vibrant 80s era, the dynamic storyline took the audience on an emotional rollercoaster with upbeat, slow, and seductive dances.

The opening scene featured kicks to splits, rhythmic movements, and creative prop use, including lively swinging of rags.

The show had everyone falling in love, tapping their feet, and dancing in their seats. Jess Bennett, a business major at Brookdale, and a lead dancer and Waitress #1 said, "I cherished the opportunity to live out my dream of performing on the Brookdale Performing Arts Center stage."



ENTANGLEMENTS BY AMANDA THACKRAY IN CVA GALLERY

The Center for Visual Arts Gallery at Brookdale Community College featured the Visiting Artist Series exhibition, “Entanglements,” showcasing ecofeminist artist Amanda Thackray’s works. The exhibit explored the connections between plastics, humans, and labor, including a site-specific installation funded by the Andy Warhol Foundation. Thackray’s extensive resume includes works in prestigious collections, including prestigious institutions such as The Metropolitan Museum of Art Watson Library, Mediatheque Andre Malraux in France, Yale University, and The Library of Congress.

The exhibition invited active participation through a free weaving workshop and a live artist weaving event followed by an artist talk. This immersive experience allowed visitors to engage with the artist’s process and contribute to the collective creation of a woven masterpiece.

The Visiting Artist program, established in 2013, brings professional artists to Brookdale, enriching the creative experience. Supported by donations, the program fosters artistic dialogue. The exhibition, workshops, and events, exemplifying the CVA Gallery’s commitment, welcomed donations through the Brookdale Community College Foundation for continued support. The public enjoyed free access, fostering engagement with art, environment, and community entanglements.



BROOKDALE HOSTS SMITHSONIAN EXHIBITION

Selected by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, Brookdale Community College hosted “Voices and Votes: Democracy in America” as part of the Smithsonian’s Museum on Main Street program. The exhibition delved into the nearly 250-year-old American experiment of a government “of, by, and for the people,” exploring how each generation questioned the pursuit of “a more perfect union.” The showcase featured historical artifacts, multimedia elements, and engaging discussions on democracy, citizens’ rights, and civic participation.

“Voices and Votes” delved into the dynamic aspects of democracy, addressing actions, reactions, visions, and revisions that shaped the American story. From the revolution and suffrage to civil rights and voting processes, the exhibition highlighted the ever-evolving narrative of democracy in America. Sections covered the origins of American democracy, struggles for voting rights, the machinery of democracy, the right to petition and protest beyond voting, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. The exhibition also included dynamic features such as historical and contemporary photos, educational videos, interactive multimedia activities, and historical objects like campaign souvenirs and protest material.

President Stout emphasized how “Voices and Votes” provided an opportunity to reflect on Monmouth County’s history and explore active participation in the governance of both the country and the local community. Throughout the exhibition, it served as a community meeting place for discussions about democracy, citizens’ freedoms and responsibilities, government participation, and more. The College also hosted public programs and educational

initiatives to enhance people’s understanding of their history, the joys and challenges of rural living, the impact of change on the community, and discussions about future goals.

The exhibition included a Suffragists Speak Reenactment by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Northern Monmouth County Branch (NMCB), a presentation on the political history of DACA and Advanced Parole by Brookdale Alum and NJ Advocacy Corps Organizer Itzel Perez Hernandez, a discussion on Geraldine Morgan Thompson’s impact on Monmouth County by Professor of History, Author, and Women’s Historian Jane Scimeca and works by the artists Gary Erbe and Dong Kyu Kim.

The U.S. Congress provided support for MoMS, and participating organizations included The Monmouth County Historical Association, Monmouth University Polling Institute, T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center, League of Women Voters of Southern Monmouth County, and Energizing Young Voters.



We have it in our power
TO BEGIN THE W



**VOICES
AND VOTES**

More than just waging a war of independence, American revolutionaries took a great leap of faith and established a new government based on the sovereignty of the people. It was truly a radical idea to entrust the power of the nation not in a monarchy but in its citizens. Each generation since continues to debate and shape this radical idea.

RIGHTS

JOIN



2023 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SAIL INTO SUMMER PROGRAM: A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

In collaboration with Voyagers' Community School, the Center for Adult Transition at Brookdale Community College introduced the SAIL program (Students Achieving Independent Living) and held its first graduation ceremony for this innovative pre-vocational program. The program provides opportunities for personal and academic growth for adult students aged 18 to 24 with developmental disabilities. The program, funded by a grant from the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education in New Jersey, was tuition-free and was offered again in the summer.

"We were excited to offer this much-needed program to individuals in this demographic," said Noreen Kane, the program manager of Lifelong Learning at Brookdale. "Our goal was to help participants increase their self and career awareness and acquire job-specific skills that would prepare them for employment."

The curriculum highlighted social awareness sessions, including people skills, social skills, character development, interpersonal skills, and vocational awareness and readiness sessions. Additionally, participants engaged in various activities, including STEAM design, podcasting, music projects, arts and crafts, gardening, landscaping, outdoor adventures, nature walks, games, therapy dog visits, and more. The program also included employment explorations, such as community service, career fairs, employer speaker series, and onsite employment visits. For the evenings, participants enjoyed a range of social events,

including dance parties, movie nights, carnivals, crafts and fireside chats.



CAROLINE HUNTER TALKS TO STUDENTS ABOUT EFFECTING CHANGE

Caroline Hunter's visit to our campus was truly remarkable and inspiring. Her courage in taking a stand against Polaroid's involvement in the oppression of Black people in South Africa served as a powerful reminder of the impact that individuals can have in effecting change.

Growing up in segregated New Orleans, Hunter studied chemistry at Xavier University and joined Polaroid in 1968 as a bench chemist. Discovering that Polaroid was selling equipment to the South African government for discriminatory purposes, Hunter and colleagues formed the Polaroid Revolutionary Workers Movement (PRWM) to push for change.

They initiated a revolution, demanding Polaroid cease operations in South Africa, denounce apartheid, and donate profits to African liberation movements. Facing backlash, Hunter was fired in 1970 for activities "detrimental to the best interests of the Company."

Hunter's impactful message emphasized finding one's purpose and using one's voice for positive change. Polaroid ceased sales in South Africa in 1977, and PRWM declared victory. In 1986, the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act imposed sanctions on South Africa, contributing to the downfall of apartheid in the early 1990s.

Post-Polaroid, Hunter became a teacher and assistant principal, receiving the Rosa Parks Award for her role in imposing sanctions against apartheid. Her story illustrates the power of one person to make a difference, encouraging others to persevere and achieve their goals. Hunter's

inspiring journey contributes to creating a better future for all.



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STOUT RECEIVES EDUCATIONAL AMBASSADOR AWARD

At its annual Awards and Installation Luncheon, the Greater Ocean Township Chamber of Commerce (GOTCC) recognized outstanding community service and honored local 2023 high school senior scholarship winners. Among the esteemed honorees, Dr. David M. Stout, President of Brookdale Community College, stood out as he received the 2023 Educational Ambassador Award.

Acknowledging Dr. Stout's remarkable influence at Brookdale and positive impact within the Greater Ocean Township business community, GOTCC Board President David Kolakowki and Awards & Installation Luncheon Chairman Robert Acerra commended his long tenure and dedication. Overseeing a college serving over 20,000 students in five locations, Dr. Stout was pivotal in securing Brookdale's position as the #1 Best Community College in New Jersey and the Best Transfer Program in New Jersey.

The event celebrated Dr. Stout's achievements, emphasizing his instrumental role in preparing students for successful transfers to four-year colleges and universities. His commitment and leadership were highlighted as critical factors in Brookdale's prominence in education. The luncheon marked a momentous occasion, showcasing Dr. Stout's significant educational contributions and positive impact on the Greater Ocean Township community.



JERSEY BLUES INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

The Boys and Girls Club of Long Branch concluded their students' participation in the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office Student Leaders of Hope Leadership program with an event at Brookdale Community College. During this special occasion, the graduating students were privileged to meet Men's Basketball Coach Paul Cisek and members of the NJCAA National Championship team, which included Andre Wells, Ronn Flood Jr., and Darnell Askew.

The visit to Brookdale served as an inspiring experience for the middle schoolers, who were addressed by the championship team leaders. These role models conveyed valuable lessons about the significance of hard work and dedication in achieving success.

Brookdale President Dr. David M. Stout expressed his gratitude to Coach Paul Cisek and the National Championship team, emphasizing that leadership extends beyond winning championships and involves making a positive impact on the community. The visit left a lasting impression on the Boys and Girls Club of Long Branch, encouraging them to believe in the power of perseverance and staying true to their dreams.

Leaders from various sectors, including Senator Vin Gopal, Long Branch Mayor John Pallone, and Monmouth County Prosecutor Raymond S. Santiago, joined forces with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office's Operation Hope in Monmouth Team to pilot the program at the Boys & Girls Club of Monmouth County, Long Branch Unit. The

collaborative effort aimed to make a positive impact on the students' lives.

The program's conclusion featured a graduation ceremony at Brookdale Community College, attended by community leaders, including representatives from Hope Sheds Light and NJ Reentry. The students received Student Leaders of Hope graduation certificates, wellness empowerment tools from Brookdale's Wellness Center, and a signed photograph of the Brookdale Championship Basketball Team. This holistic approach to leadership development left a lasting impact on the young graduates, empowering them to embark on their journeys with newfound skills and inspiration.





TEDX

The TEDxBrookdaleCommunityCollege event was a resounding success, thanks to the speakers' and crew's hard work, dedication, and passion. The inaugural event saw a lineup of talented and inspiring speakers who shared their stories and ideas worth spreading with the audience.

TEDxBrookdaleCommunityCollege presented topics centered on the Brookdale tagline: "Here will get you there." The talks were ideas on a wide range of subjects that fostered learning, inspiration, and wonder and provoked conversations that mattered, all responding to the prompt "Where is there." Where THERE drew attention to telling truths, getting to the essence of why the THERE story must be shared. Speaking for the voices that are often unheard or silenced by others.

The success of the inaugural event can be attributed to the co-chairs Ave Latte and Stephen Fowler, speakers, and crew for their outstanding efforts inspiring and uplifting others.

From the host, Geoff Shields, to the technical crew who ensured everything ran smoothly, every team member played a crucial role in making this event possible. Their unwavering spirit of innovation, creativity, and commitment to excellence left a lasting impact on all who attended.

The event showcased a diverse range of topics. Each speaker brought their unique perspective and insight to the stage, leaving the audience plenty to ponder and discuss.

The complete lineup of speakers at TEDxBrookdaleCommunityCollege included Brookdale students and faculty.

- Emma Cardillo - *You'll Regret This!*
- Maribeth Edmunds - *Giving Voice to Autistic Adults*
- Kim Fleming - *A Challenge Worth Accepting*
- Sina-Imose Freihling - *An International Student's Story*
- Marlena Brothers Frank, Performer, and Speaker - *The Remarkable Simplicity of Happiness*
- Matthew A. Kalos - *Are We 'There' Yet? Finding Identity in the Archaeological Record*
- Anthony Lagaipa , Performer - *Artist rendering of the Brookdale campus*
- Martin F. McDermott - *Work is a Direction, Not a Destination*
- Marc Natanagara - *Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, and the Future of Education*
- Elaine Henry Oyaole, Poet - *1st poem, Geraldine Livingston Morgan Thompson 1872-1967: First Lady of New Jersey and First Lady of Brookdale; 2nd poem, An Odyssey of Teaching and Learning*
- Jesse Tango - *There is Now*



TED^x
Brookdale
Community
College

TED^x
Brookdale
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CARLA VANZANT, A PHENOMENAL WOMAN

Brookdale's Director of Education Opportunity Fund (EOF), Carla Vanzant, was honored by the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore at their Phenomenal Women Under 40 event. She was recognized for her courage, confidence, and character. She is an exceptional woman who has gone above and beyond in all she does, including her outstanding accomplishments and commitment to business growth, professional excellence, and community service.

"This year's honorees are role models in our community and are being recognized for their leadership in the workplace, volunteerism, along with their dedication to fostering self-confidence and leadership skills in others," said Heather Coburn, Interim Chief Executive Officer of Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore.

Once a Girl Scout Brownie, Vanzant was honored for being a true change agent and community builder. With a Master of Arts in Applied Sociology in Nonprofit Leadership and Management, she has passionately worked to impact her community and this world by helping nonprofit and educational organizations across the country reach their full potential. She achieves this goal by providing consultation, mentoring, and empowerment services to nonprofit and community-based organizations.

In addition to her work in the nonprofit sector, Vanzant is also a champion of diversity, inclusion, equity, and access. Her work in this sphere centers around creating equitable spaces, combating diversity resistance, providing education, and building accountability systems.

In 2016, Carla co-founded Inspire Life, a nonprofit organization that provides high-quality camp and

educational experiences to students in the Asbury Park community and beyond, alongside her husband, Semaj. Inspire Life is a community-shifting organization that seeks to expose young minds to creative artistry while empowering them to lead.

Carla's passions include family, traveling, whales, and building flourishing communities.



STOUT NAMED TO TOP 25 MOST INFLUENTIAL IN HIGHER EDUCATION

President David M. Stout, Ph.D., was named to ROI-NJ's Influencers: Higher Education 2022 list. Each year, ROI-NJ lists the presidents with the greatest influence and impact on their schools and within the business community.

A longtime leader in the state, the school serves more than 20,000 students at its six locations throughout Monmouth County, including the picturesque 220-acre main campus in Lincroft.

Over the past year, Brookdale Community College was ranked #1 in offering the best community college programs in New Jersey, according to research by Best-Community-College.com. It has also been recognized for four top programs in the United States by Intelligent.com, and for two years in a row, recognized among the top-ranked institutions offering the Best Associate in Psychology Degree Programs, together with the Best Transfer Program, positioning itself as a frontrunner for preparing students for a four-year degree at a university or college. Additionally, Brookdale was recognized by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs as a top producer of Gilman International Scholarship recipients over the past twenty years in the Study Abroad category.

Each year, ROI-NJ.com selects leaders who positively impact the future of business throughout the state. This is the second time Stout has been selected as a leader and influencer in higher education by ROI-NJ, a leading digital and print business publication.



JANE SCIMECA RECEIVES THE 2023 BARRINGER AWARD

Brookdale Community College proudly announces that Jane Scimeca, a distinguished professor specializing in world history and women's history, has been awarded the prestigious Barringer Award for 2023. This esteemed accolade, named after the late Dr. Bob Barringer, Brookdale's third president, is presented annually to faculty and staff who exemplify the highest standards of excellence in education.

"Professor Scimeca's passion, expertise, and unwavering commitment to education inspire students, colleagues, and the entire community," said Brookdale President Dr. David M. Stout. "We take immense pride in her remarkable achievement, and wholeheartedly commend her for her exceptional contributions to academia and her unwavering dedication to student success."

With a Master of Arts degree in history and a graduate certificate in women's studies from Rutgers University, Scimeca brings unparalleled expertise to her teachings at Brookdale Community College.

Beyond her responsibilities as a professor, Scimeca serves as the host of "New Books in Women's History," a podcast featured on the New Books Network. She conducts thought-provoking conversations with authors and historians within this platform, exploring diverse facets of women's experiences, contributions, and roles across history. In the academic year 2022-23, she embarked on a sabbatical dedicated to crafting a biography titled "Mrs. Thompson Saves The Day," a compelling narrative centered

on the extraordinary life of Geraldine L. Thompson.

Scimeca has also made significant contributions to women's history through her writing. One noteworthy example is Professor Scimeca's article, titled "Pink is the New Red, White, and Blue," which gained recognition when it was featured in the Asbury Park Press in March 2017. Furthermore, she presented a thought-provoking paper titled "The Price of Liberty is Maternal Vigilance: Understanding Women's Political Engagement since the 2016 Election" at a conference hosted by Auburn University in 2020. And her role as a contributing Editor to the Encyclopedia of New Jersey and her frequent lectures on women's history in the community highlight her commitment to preserving and disseminating knowledge.

"Professor Scimeca's exceptional qualities and dedication to education stood out, making her the clear choice for the 2023 Barringer Award," said Vice President of Advancement Nancy Kaari. "Her tireless commitment to her students, influential leadership, and impactful contributions to the community make her an exemplary recipient of this esteemed honor."



BROOKDALE ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR GRADUATES FROM FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

Brookdale Community College Adjunct Instructor and Law Enforcement Officer of the Rutgers University Police Department Lt. Stephen L. Acquaviva has graduated as a member of the 285th session of the FBI National Academy. The graduation took place at the National Academy in Quantico, Virginia on March 16th, 2023. Lt. Acquaviva is the 4th officer in department history to complete this prestigious program. Nationally, less than one percent of officers can attend the program.

“Stephen’s remarkable achievement is not just a testament to his talent and hard work, but also to his deep commitment to making a difference,” said Brookdale Community College President Dr. David M. Stout. “By serving as a dedicated educator in our criminal justice program and public servant, he exemplifies the best of what we can achieve when we pursue our passions with purpose and compassion.”

Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy offers ten weeks of advanced communication, leadership, and fitness training. Participants must have proven records as professionals within their agencies to attend. On average, these officers have 21 years of law enforcement experience and usually return to their agencies to serve in executive-level positions.

The 285th session consisted of two hundred and forty-seven law enforcement officers from 47 states and the District of Columbia. The class included members of

law enforcement agencies from 28 countries, 4 military organizations, and 5 federal civilian organizations. FBI Director Christopher Wray delivered remarks at the ceremony.

53,908 graduates have completed the FBI National Academy since it began in 1935. The National Academy is held at the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, the same facility where the FBI trains its new special agents and intelligence analysts. When asked about his experience during the academy Lt. Acquaviva stated: “This has been the greatest experience in my professional career.”

Lt. Stephen Acquaviva is a proud member of Brookdale’s faculty and said “One of the main reasons why I decided to pursue a second career in academia was so that I would have the opportunity to work with a diverse generation of future criminal justice practitioners and educators in an instructional capacity. I view teaching and mentoring as central to my professional development activities and regularly self-assess my strategic plan. I have gained a unique perspective from the students, and I have learned to be more open-minded and accepting.”

Lt. Acquaviva holds a bachelor’s degree from Monmouth University & master’s degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University and is a dedicated law enforcement officer with 20 years of service.



PROFESSOR MICHAEL CURTIN PUBLISHES BOOK

Brookdale Community College Professor Michael C. Curtin released a groundbreaking book titled “Challenging the Misconceptions of the United Nations.” Leveraging his extensive experience in international relations, Curtin seeks to illuminate the true nature and significance of the United Nations, aiming to dispel negative perceptions and educate readers about its global role.

The book, born out of Curtin’s advocacy for the UN through his involvement with the United Nations Association of the USA, is a compilation of blogs reflecting on the UN’s enduring legacy. As the organization approaches its 80th anniversary, Curtin highlights its growth from 50 delegates in 1945 to 193 member states today, expressing confidence in its continued positive impact.

Curtin’s passion for the subject is evident in his meticulous research, culminating in completing the manuscript in December 2022 and its publication in January 2023. The book is now accessible on major platforms like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Target.

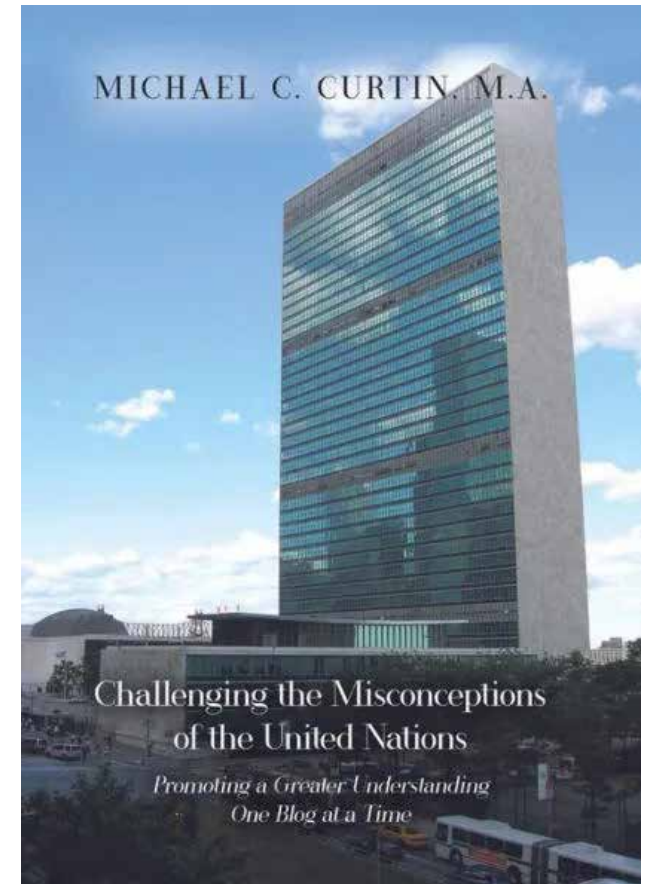
The author’s journey into writing began in 1991 when he joined the United Nations Association of the USA. His commitment to international relations led to a master’s degree from Seton Hall University School of Diplomacy and International Relations, influenced by his connection to the United Nations Association. Curtin now shares his expertise as an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, and Brookdale Community College, teaching courses on political science and

American government.

In his teaching roles, Curtin imparts his knowledge on political science, international relations, and the United Nations, emphasizing the importance of multilateralism and informed decision-making. His book challenges common misconceptions about the UN, acknowledging its imperfections, particularly in the Security Council. However, Curtin emphasizes that the UN is not a world government and respects national sovereignty.

Influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, the book provides insights into the context of those times through Chapter Notes. Curtin hopes to inspire a greater understanding and appreciation for the UN’s crucial role in shaping the world.

“Challenging the Misconceptions of the United Nations” is recommended for those interested in international relations and geopolitics, offering a comprehensive understanding of the UN’s impact on global affairs. Despite prevailing negative perceptions, Curtin stands behind his work, confident that it gives readers a fresh perspective on the United Nations.



DR. DAVID BASSANO PUBLISHES HISTORY TEXTBOOK

Brookdale Community College introduced a groundbreaking Open Educational Resource (OER) textbook, “World History Since 1945,” authored by Associate Professor David Bassano, Ph.D. This comprehensive textbook, designated for college undergraduates, will serve as the standard for Brookdale’s HIST-107 courses starting in Fall 2023.

The textbook covers global history from the end of World War II to the present, with each of its 30-page chapters intended for weekly reading in a 15-week semester. It includes rich illustrations, a recommended reading list, a glossary, and primary source documents for class assignments. The uniqueness of the textbook lies in its comparative approach to domestic histories worldwide, setting it apart from other OER history textbooks that primarily focus on international relations.

As an OER, the textbook will be freely accessible to Brookdale students enrolled in the course, aligning with the college’s commitment to expand OER options to reduce costs and increase student access.

Notably, this OER textbook will be made available to other colleges, positioning Brookdale as a leader in utilizing and producing OER materials. The textbook comprises an introductory chapter and fourteen additional chapters covering various topics, with two designated Special Topics to provide deeper insights into specific historical trends. The online platform allows students to download chapters

for offline access on devices like Kindle or phones.

Dr. Bassano emphasizes the subject’s significance and aims to make history memorable for students, envisioning “World History Since 1945” as a revolutionary tool that enhances the teaching and learning experience at Brookdale Community College and beyond.



2023 CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHERIFF'S OFFICE PROVIDES ENHANCED PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES TO BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In March, Sheriff Shaun Golden swore in eight former Brookdale Community College police officers as Monmouth County Sheriff's Officers, marking a significant step in the enhanced collaboration between the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office and Brookdale Community College. The partnership, approved by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners and Brookdale's Board of Trustees, aims to bolster the college campus's law enforcement and public safety functions.

Sheriff Golden expressed enthusiasm for expanding the relationship, emphasizing the sheriff's office's commitment to efficiently strengthening public safety at Brookdale. The sheriff's office already handles 9-1-1 calls and police dispatch for Brookdale Community College police officers, with the college equipped with advanced radio and communications technology.

Commissioner Director Thomas A. Arnone praised the collaborative agreement for its potential cost savings and improved services. Integrating eight sheriff's officers into Brookdale, along with additional resources such as equipment, vehicles, K-9 patrols, and homeland security initiatives, demonstrates a commitment to enhancing overall campus safety.

Dr. David M. Stout, President of Brookdale Community College, expressed gratitude for the partnership, foreseeing elevated safety through access to a larger team of officers

with advanced resources. The collaboration also involves recruitment and enhanced training of officers.

Brookdale Board of Trustees Chairman Paul Crupi emphasized the top priority of safety and security for students, faculty, and staff, expressing gratitude for the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office's role in providing enhanced public safety services on the campus.



EXCELLENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY

Brookdale Community College celebrated the installation of parking lot solar canopies at its Lincroft and Wall campuses through a ribbon-cutting ceremony. This clean energy initiative aims to reduce the college's electric bills, minimize its carbon footprint, and mitigate rising electricity costs, ultimately benefiting the county.

The project was made possible with the support of Commissioner Director Thomas Arnone and the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners. The solar canopies, developed in collaboration with Luminace, a leader in renewable energy, are designed for maximum power generation potential, offer aesthetic appeal, and provide shade and protection for students, employees, and vehicles. Some canopies will also feature electric vehicle charging stations.

The 5.4-MWdc solar project, owned and operated by Luminace, is expected to yield substantial savings for Brookdale over the next 15 years. Luminace's involvement highlights its commitment to providing turnkey decarbonization solutions, combining solar energy solutions with EV charging infrastructure at no upfront costs to the college. The initiative represents a significant step towards Brookdale becoming a more environmentally friendly campus



OCEANFIRST AWARDS BROOKDALE \$40,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The OceanFirst Foundation awarded \$40,000 to the Brookdale Community College Foundation, allowing them to provide 40 \$1,000 scholarships to deserving students to continue their college education in the 2022-2023 academic year.

“I am grateful for our partnership with OceanFirst Foundation, which has granted over 600 scholarships to Brookdale students throughout the years and whose careers they have helped to launch,” said Brookdale President Dr. David Stout. “I know receiving a scholarship is so meaningful because it means someone believes in you and is willing to put their resources behind you. I was a scholarship recipient myself and understand the transformative impact a scholarship can have.”

OceanFirst Foundation has a long-standing tradition of supporting higher education. In the thirteen years of the Ocean First Scholarship Program, \$3.7 million has been awarded to more than 2,500 students across OceanFirst Bank’s New Jersey footprint to help them pursue their dream of higher education.

Brookdale students receiving the scholarship expressed their gratitude and relief from the support. They can now fully participate in college life, turning it into a rich, broad experience.

OceanFirst Foundation is not only supporting students on their educational journey by allowing them to focus their attention on their continuing personal development needs, but they are also making a worthwhile contribution to their

future success.

“We are grateful to Ocean First for their longstanding generosity and support that enables the Foundation to provide numerous scholarships to our students annually,” said Vice President of Advancement Nancy Kaari.



HELPING STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS

The 43rd annual Brookdale Community College Foundation Education Open Golf Tournament, held on September 22nd, at the Eagle Oaks Golf & Country Club, had 107 golfers who celebrated Ellucian as this year's honoree. Ellucian, a dedicated supporter of the Foundation's Scholarship Fund, was recognized for its outstanding contribution and market leadership in shaping the digital future of higher education. With a robust portfolio of cloud-ready technology solutions and services, Ellucian serves over 2,700 customers in more than 50 countries, impacting over 26 million students.

Nancy Kaari, Vice President of Advancement, commended Ellucian for its support and highlighted the company's role in providing essential software solutions such as student information systems, finance and HR tools, financial aid, integration, analytics, recruiting, retention, and advancement software solutions.

The annual event recognized Ellucian's exemplary commitment and served as a platform to net over \$69,000 for the Foundation's Scholarship Fund. The Brookdale Community College Foundation Trust, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports student success, organized the event. The funds generated contribute to scholarships that enable students to pursue their educational dreams, further emphasizing the Foundation's mission to empower and uplift aspiring learners.





NEW TRUSTEES APPOINTED TO THE FOUNDATION

The Brookdale Community College Foundation announce its newly appointed trustees who will support and continue to bring scholarships and grant funding to the students at Brookdale Community College. They consist of volunteers from the greater Monmouth County community with diverse backgrounds in philanthropy, education, and business.

“Brookdale’s mission centers on the success of our students and our community in all its programs and services, respecting the marvelous variety of education goals and definitions of success,” said President Julia Zapic of the Brookdale Community College Foundation. “On behalf of the entire Foundation Board, we could not be more delighted to welcome this new class of Foundation Trustees. Each new member brings a wealth of experience, passion, and perspective to our work; to ensure equitable access to education opportunities in a campus culture that is inclusive and that honors everyone’s dignity throughout their Brookdale experience.”

The new trustees for a three-year term effective July 1, 2022, are Jennifer M. Anderson from Monmouth Beach, NJ, Founder of Work Play Give - Philanthropic Solutions; Dr. David Julius Ford from Ocean, NJ, Assistant Professor at Monmouth University and Licensed Counselor; Shanel Ronnai Ingram from Freehold, NJ, Founder & Owner of Shanel Ronnai, Inc. and Substitute Teacher; Francisco E. Rodriguez from Perth Amboy, NJ, Superintendent of Long Branch Schools; and Esteven Sanchez from Red Bank, NJ,

Clinical Assistant at Parker Family Health Center.

“We are delighted to welcome five highly qualified trustees who bring new skills to our board,” said Vice President Dr. Susan E. Whyman of the Brookdale Community Foundation. “Each of them has had an impact on places where our students live and work, and each of them has a passion to help students thrive.”

Brookdale Community College believes that higher education transforms individuals, families, and communities now and for future generations. It is a springboard to success and a proven pathway to economic growth.

A Brookdale education costs only a third of that of a public four-year college and a fifth of that of a private four-year college. Even so, finances are still an issue for many students. Brookdale students simultaneously juggle full-time and part-time jobs, family responsibilities, and college coursework. Many times, personal obligations take precedence over their education, forcing students to put their dreams of a degree to the side to focus on other needs. The Brookdale Foundation provides financial support by raising funds for these students to pursue their higher education goals and create a path to success.

The funds raised are made possible by the generous support of alumni, faculty, administration, individuals, companies, and organizations who value and recognize the vital role that Brookdale Community College plays in educating people of all backgrounds, abilities, and ages.



20
23

BROOKDALE FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BASH TO SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS

The Brookdale Community College Foundation hosted its annual Scholarship Bash on April 28, 2023, at Branches in West Long Branch, NJ, where distinguished individuals and organizations were honored. This year's honorees included Contemporary Motor Cars; The RAINE Foundation, Patricia and Matthew Dickens; Vito F. Cardinale, Cardinale Enterprises; and Barringer Award Winner, Professor Jane Scimeca.

The event was crucial in championing the Foundation's Scholarship Fund. This fund serves as a vital resource for Brookdale Community College students, aiding them in overcoming financial barriers and achieving success in their educational pursuits. Many students at Brookdale face significant challenges, such as financial difficulties, unstable housing, food insecurity, lack of transportation, and childcare concerns, all while juggling work and education. Unfortunately, these obstacles often force them to prioritize immediate living expenses over their educational goals.

This year's Scholarship Bash netted over \$293,000 for student scholarships, contributing significantly to the Foundation's mission. By continuing to generate funds, the Foundation aims to sustain its support for students, providing them with access to higher education and the opportunities necessary to realize their aspirations. The impact of these scholarships extends far beyond financial aid; they serve as a beacon of hope and empowerment for students striving to overcome adversity and achieve academic success.



LETTER FROM VP OF ADVANCEMENT

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am delighted to share Brookdale Community College Foundation's annual update. This year has been marked by significant achievements as we continue to deliver on our mission of making students' dreams of earning their college degrees a reality. Our commitment to creating a positive impact on our students and our communities remains steadfast, and we are grateful for the support of our dedicated partners, donors, and volunteers.

Thanks to your generosity, I am pleased to report that this year the Foundation was able to provide over \$600,000 in scholarships, grants, and program support for our students. These resources have alleviated financial barriers, providing much needed support services that address food insecurity and mental health. They have also helped provide peace of mind, enabling students to pursue their educational goals and aspirations. The stories of resilience and achievement from these students are a testament to the positive impact we can inspire through educational support.

On behalf of the students we serve, heartfelt thanks!



Nancy Kaari
Vice President, Advancement



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- Washington, Nancy
- Watson, Natalie
- Webster-Hansen, Christine
- Weiner, Lawrence
- Welcome, Trent
- Wells Fargo Bank
- Wende, Zackary
- Werse, Eddie
- Wesley, Nambrath
- West, Sherri
- Whyman, Susan
- Whyman, William
- Wigginton, Craig
- Wikoff, William
- William Hubner Household
- Williams, Lisa
- Williams, Louise
- Wilson, Fidel
- WJH Engineering
- Wolfson, Margo
- Wolman, Eric
- Worthley, Kristin
- Wright, Myrna
- Yacullo, Thomas
- YMCA of Greater Monmouth County
- Young, Bill
- Your Cause For New York Life
- Zaborowski, Debbie
- Zampogna-Krug, Ashley
- Zapcic, Julia
- Zapcic, Thomas
- Zeik, Margaret

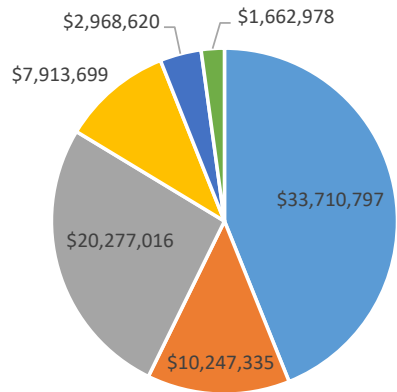


2023 FINANCIALS

COLLEGE

REVENUE

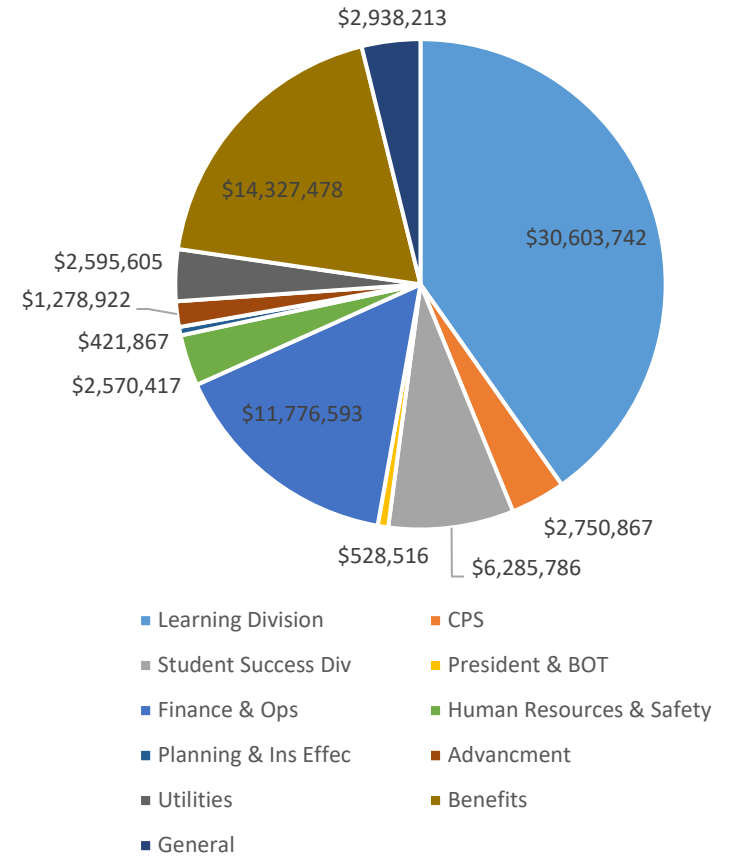
Tuition	33,710,797
State	10,247,335
County	20,277,016
Fees	7,913,699
CPS	2,968,620
Other Income	1,662,978
Total Revenue:	76,780,445



■ Tuition ■ State ■ County ■ Fees ■ CPS ■ Other Income

EXPENDITURES

Learning Division	30,603,742
CPS	2,750,867
Student Success Div	6,285,786
President & BOT	528,516
Finance & Ops	11,776,593
Human Resources & Safety	2,570,417
Planning & Ins Effec	421,867
Advancement	1,278,922
Utilities	2,595,605
Benefits	14,327,478
General	2,938,213
Total Expenditures:	76,078,006

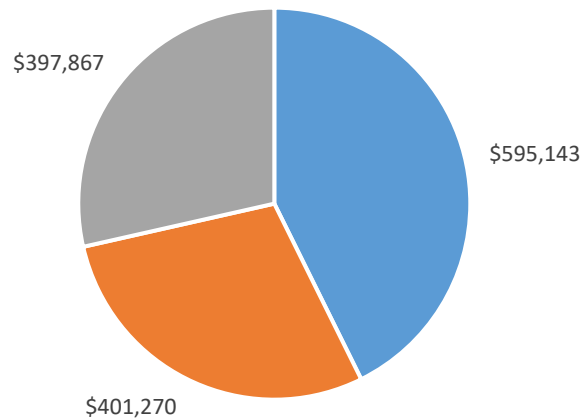


■ Learning Division ■ CPS
 ■ Student Success Div ■ President & BOT
 ■ Finance & Ops ■ Human Resources & Safety
 ■ Planning & Ins Effec ■ Advancement
 ■ Utilities ■ Benefits
 ■ General

FOUNDATION

REVENUE

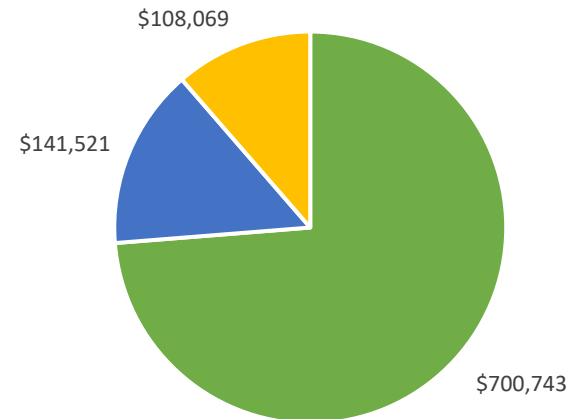
Contributions	595,143
Investment Income	401,270
Special Events	397,867
Total Revenue:	1,394,280



■ Contributions ■ Investment Income ■ Special Events

EXPENDITURES

Programs & Services	700,743
Operating	141,521
Fundraising	108,069
Total Expenditures:	950,333



■ Programs & Services ■ Operating ■ Fundraising





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