

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2021



BROOKDALE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

— HERE WILL GET YOU THERE



Front and back cover photos by Gina Ziegler

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As we close the Fiscal Year 2020-21, the pages of this Annual Report reflect on the accomplishments of our Strategic Plan. In a year unlike any other, the Brookdale community was quick to respond to the challenges and uncertainties created by the coronavirus pandemic. The dedication of our Board of Trustees, faculty, and staff continued to move us closer every day toward achieving our goals. In so doing, they further helped in distinguishing Brookdale as one of the top community colleges in the country.

Brookdale Community College's Board of Trustees is extraordinary in its role as public servants. Every strategic decision they make centers around providing access to excellent, innovative, and affordable educational options to our students.

Their agile and compassionate leadership allowed Brookdale to keep the safety of our 9,566 students and staff a top priority during the pandemic. In addition, the affordability of a college education remains at the forefront of their strategic planning. As a result, they kept tuition and fees flat this year, allowing students facing financial hardships to continue their education.

Every accomplishment was evident in our dedication to academic excellence, enhancing student services, and promoting community success. Our

faculty transformed their curriculum to meet the new demands of online learning. Our students showed resilience and tenacity as they adjusted to new virtual learning spaces, and our staff, too, found ways to connect while working from home.

The strategic initiatives, new partnerships, and programs show how we continue to positively impact our students at Brookdale and provide a high-quality, transformative, and affordable education to our county residents.

With deep appreciation,



David M. Stout, Ph.D.

*President,
Brookdale Community College*



BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Latonya Brennan Reappointed to the Board of Trustees

Shrewsbury resident Ms. Latonya Brennan, CSRSM, received a warm welcome as she was sworn in as the newest member of the Brookdale Community College Board of Trustees during their monthly meeting in January.

She was appointed by the Monmouth County Commissioners on January 21, 2021, to fill the unexpired term of Trustee Dan Becht. Brennan had previously served on the Board, having been appointed by Governor Chris Christie.

Brennan has over 18 years of client relationship experience. As a result, she comes to the Board of Trustees team with a solid background in risk management for public entities.

While serving school districts at *New Jersey School Boards Association* and *New Jersey Schools Insurance Group (NJSIG)*, she acquired a unique understanding of public entity risk management needs. Brennan is also a past President of the Associate Business Members for the *New Jersey Association of School Business Officials*. In addition, she is a licensed New Jersey Property & Casualty, and Health Producer, and amongst a few insurance professionals who have earned the Certified School Risk Management (CSRSM) designation.



Board of Trustees

Hanna Walker

Ms. Hanna Walker served as the Graduate Trustee from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021. She also served as a valued member of the Student Success & Educational Excellence Committee, Audit Committee, Governance Committee, and Social Media Policy Sub-Committee.

In her role as graduate trustee, Walker represented the students very well and will be remembered for her care and concern for our students

during the pandemic. She regularly sought opportunities to engage our current student body and encouraged their membership to the Brookdale Trustee Advisory Committee. In addition, she will continue to represent Brookdale Community College as she serves on the New Jersey Council of County Colleges Students and Alumni Committee.



Cynthia Gruskos

Nominated For ACCT Regional Award

Cynthia Gruskos, senior assistant to the President and Board of Trustees of Brookdale Community College, was unanimously nominated for the Association of Community Colleges Trustees (ACCT) Regional Award for Professional Board Staff. A proclamation was given to her by the Chairman of the Board, Dr. Henry Cram, and President, Dr. David Stout. This recognition represents the high esteem she holds among her colleagues and the Board of Trustees.



FAST FACTS



- » 9,566 Total Credit Students
- » \$27,594,499 Financial Aid Awarded
- » 1,736 Associate Degrees Awarded
- » 68 Academic Programs, 4 Academic Certificates, and 9 Academic Credit Certificates of Achievement Offered
- » 6 Regional Locations – Freehold, Hazlet, Lincroft, Long Branch, Neptune, Wall
- » 8,322 Noncredit Enrollments
- » \$620,000 Foundation Scholarship and Grants Awarded
- » 140 Nursing Graduates
- » 457 Student Awards
- » 159 Phi Theta Kappa (National Honors Society) Members
- » 91 Early College High School Graduates from 9 Monmouth County High Schools: Asbury Park, Saint John Vianey, Raritan, Wall, Neptune, Keyport, Middletown North, Middletown South, Manasquan.
- » 124 Fully Online Classes Offered



Brookdale Community College Mission Statement

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

DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS

Rutgers Partnership

Through Brookdale Community College's partnership with Rutgers University, we can offer pathways to the premier, cost-effective associate's and bachelor's degree programs right here in Monmouth County. The partnership between Brookdale and Rutgers brings these higher education programs to our beautiful main campus in Lincroft at surprisingly affordable rates.

This partnership allows Brookdale graduates to transfer seamlessly into a Rutgers degree program where all coursework is completed in Lincroft.

Rutgers' bachelor's degree courses in Lincroft are taught by university faculty with smaller classes than Rutgers' main campus. The average class size is 25-30 students. This class size offers students more personal attention to help them better realize their full potential. In addition, students learn from Rutgers faculty members at a more convenient location when they take Rutgers classes at Brookdale Community College.



An Innovative Agreement with John Patrick University



The John Patrick University of Health and Applied Sciences (JPU), a nationally accredited university that offers AS, BS, and MS degree programs in the Radiological Sciences, and Integrative and Functional Medicine, signed a transfer agreement with Brookdale Community College, a state-of-the-art campus which offers open access to high-quality and cost-effective education and lifelong learning options to students.

This alignment allows unique opportunities in niche disciplines to include the BS in Medical Imaging (CT, MRI, Nuclear Medicine,

Sonography) and the Integrative & Functional Medicine disciplines.

The relationship allows students to accomplish their educational and career goals with more affordable and accessible access to bachelor's and master's degree programs. Additionally, after graduating with an AS from Brookdale, the students can effortlessly transfer to a bachelor's degree program at JPU with access to conveniently located regional sites across the country.



Brookdale Rider New Agreement Provides 35 Possibilities

In November 2020, Brookdale Community College signed a new program-to-program transfer agreement with Rider University. The agreement facilitates the transfer of credits toward a bachelor's at Rider. It also provides Brookdale students who earn an associate degree guaranteed admission into five more Rider programs.

The five new programs are popular music studies (general track), theatre (with concentrations in technical theatre and acting), game and interactive media design, and computer science. With this new agreement, 35 programs at Brookdale are now guaranteed to transfer to Rider.



Brookdale Community College Signs New Transfer Agreement with the University of Delaware

In January 2021, Brookdale Community College signed a new transfer agreement with the University of Delaware (UD). This new articulation agreement allows for Brookdale Human Services, Pre-Social Work Associate Degree graduates, with a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be automatically accepted into the baccalaureate program at UD. Brookdale graduates will be accepted as juniors at UD and can continue their education to obtain a Bachelor of Science Degree (BS) in Human Services Clinical Services Concentration or BS in Human Services Administration and Family Policy Concentration.

The Human Services program at Brookdale Community College had a 12% increase in admissions in the fall of 2020, and new opportunities have been created to achieve graduation goals in the virtual environment. The program at Brookdale is unique because the Human Services majors leave with 285 hours of fieldwork. The fieldwork is performed with human services agencies such as hospitals, mental health centers, social service agencies, substance-abuse counseling sites, and other facilities.

Students enrolled in Brookdale's Human Services program build a solid foundation through their Associate Degree with hands-on learning experiences and can transfer seamlessly into a competitive program at the University of Delaware. Brookdale Human Services faculty championed this agreement to support the success of the students.



Partnership with the National Association of Social Workers



“The Brookdale Pre-Social Work program is unique in the level of support one receives from faculty and fellow students, coupled with educational opportunity in the classroom, as well as in the field,” said Elizabeth Barone, Brookdale A.S. 2021 graduate.

The Human Services, A.S., Pre-Social Work Option at Brookdale Community College prepares students to transfer to a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program at a 4-year school. The required coursework is designed to help students understand

human and social systems and the ethics and values that guide human services practitioners in general and social workers in particular.

Brookdale created a partnership with the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-NJ) to help connect students with their professional organization before entering a BSW program. This partnership will offer students additional grounding in the social work profession, as they have opportunities to learn about the Code of Ethics, career options in Social Work, professional identity, and the

social work licensing process, not to mention opportunities to network with professional social workers.

NASW-NJ will be providing our students with five guest speakers from the social work field—from clinical practice to administration to grant writing—to help expand students’ knowledge of the profession. Our students also have free access to NASW-NJ programs, allowing faculty the opportunity to incorporate NASW-NJ webinars, programs, and conferences into their curriculum.



NEW PROGRAMS ADDED

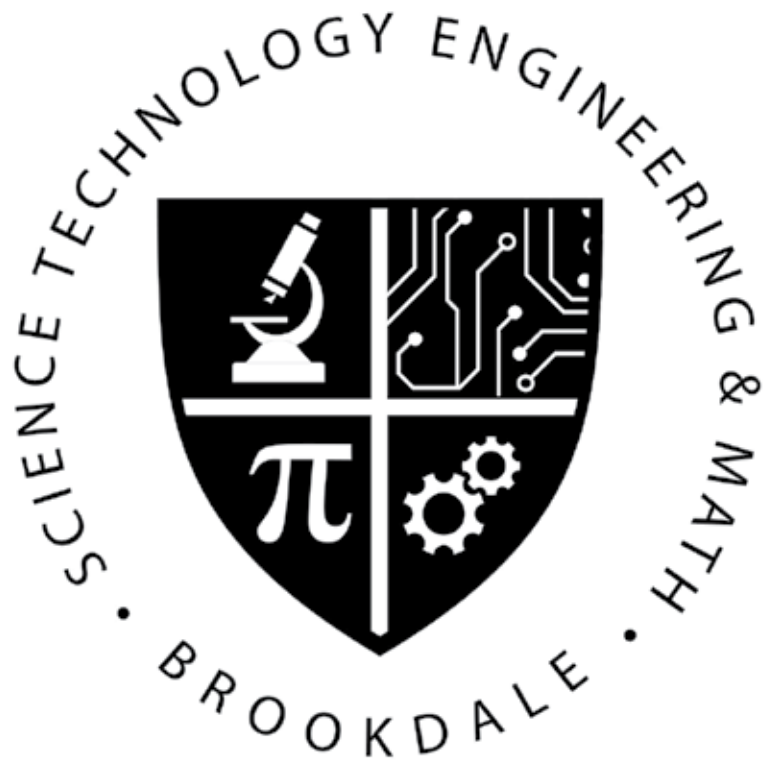
Data Science Option

In March 2021, Brookdale's STEM Institute added a Data Science Option to their Mathematics/Science Degree for the Fall 2021 Semester. This new program will put Brookdale at the forefront of a growing field and aligns with Brookdale Community College's mission to offer quality affordable educational programs that lead to transfer and career opportunities.

Big data has become an essential tool, and data-driven businesses are dominating the economy. Data scientists help companies break down big data into usable information and help them make the best decisions for their operations. Students in the Data Science Option will put their programming and data analyzing skills to test through a new course in statistics, Math 132. As a result, data science students will learn highly sought-after and applicable skills to become strong candidates in the competitive job market.

Over the last decade, there has been a massive explosion in companies' data generated and retained. As a result, data scientists are in demand in all industries—the average salary for jobs in this field range from \$83,878 to \$161,272. (Source Northeastern University).

Data Science is an interdisciplinary field for students interested in Math, Computer Science, Business, or Lab Sciences that translate to the degree that meets a growing demand for new jobs. This program will also appeal to non-traditional students who need to develop new skills to stay competitive.



Sports Management Class Added

Brookdale Community College introduced Sports Management to the fall curriculum as an elective for Business and Hospitality Management Degrees. Students will explore sports organizations and professions in the field and understand the management of the sports industry and sports facilities.

With local business leaders across the sports world, Brookdale's faculty will teach about emerging trends and related career opportunities

in the ever-evolving business of sports and marketing.

Students will identify the types of employment opportunities available in the sports industry after taking this class. In addition, they will engage with guest speakers, take tours of different facilities, and gain experience through the many internships offered.

"Sports arenas need hospitality majors to fill many needs," says Michelle Zuppe, Professor, Culinary Arts/Hospitality Management. "It is a good class for students to have who are looking for a job in the sports industry or want to advance to a bachelor's program to one of the many colleges and universities with Brookdale agreements. This course will help expose students to lots of options."



Brookdale Offers New Opportunity for Businesses Throughout Monmouth County

Monmouth County Workforce Development and Brookdale Community College have joined forces to deliver employee training for businesses throughout Monmouth County. Incumbent Worker Training Grants are available to help advance businesses and employees.

Lawrence J. Sternbach, Executive Director, Monmouth County Workforce Development, said, "This is about Monmouth County committing to support our business community, especially in light of the economic and health crisis. We are taking this opportunity to pivot towards recovery, and we are optimistic that we can support our

businesses that have struggled and face unprecedented challenges moving forward. Brookdale offers the perfect partnership in helping us connect with employers in customizing programs that can meet their needs providing experienced instructors that can deliver those programs and enhancing the skills of our workforce."

Brookdale offers a full complement of open enrollment programs for computer and technology skills, marketing, customer service, commercial driver's licenses, project management, and even a customized solution. In addition, there are training opportunities for all business sectors, including Healthcare,

Information Technology, Non-profits, Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism.

Employers can build and maintain a quality workforce by taking advantage of this County-funded Incumbent Worker Training program. This is an excellent opportunity for Monmouth County employers to get back on their feet or even expand.

This grant opportunity is ideal for that full-time employee interested in being trained while being paid and continuing to be employed. County Commissioner Deputy Director, Susan M. Kiley, said, "This is a good new way to help our constituents looking to get better at what they do or learn new things." 11

Software Development Bootcamps Brought To NJ

Software development claims its title as one of the most in-demand industries in 2021 and is projected to be the fastest-growing occupation in this decade. The Office of Continuing and Professional Studies at Brookdale Community College offered part-time coding Bootcamps to train adult learner with the skills needed to enter the field of technology.

The flexibility of the Bootcamp model allows students to enter a skilled workforce and secure a well-paying job in less than six months.

Coding Bootcamps offer an accelerated path to landing jobs in Java Developer, Software Engineer, Back End Developer, Application Developer, and Front End Developer careers with competitive base salaries. The curriculum is designed to teach the technologies and methodologies that industry employers look for when hiring entry-level developers without a computer science degree's time or financial commitment.

Students dedicate 1.5 hours to live, personally-tailored micro-lectures and an additional 13-18 hours of self-paced learning each week throughout the high-tech, high-touch program. Opportunities to enrich the learning experience are offered through weekly one-on-one meetings with mentors, a responsive Slack community, office hours, and career services. The small

class sizes support personalized learning and individualized attention while fostering the growth of a supportive professional network.

"We do not teach lessons. We teach students. Our Bootcamp programs, and the whole methodology of how we teach, revolve around giving students the individualized experience they need to be successful", said Nick Suwyn, President of Promineo Tech. "Because of our unique model, we can provide the dedicated support students need to learn software development at a significantly reduced cost compared to other Bootcamp out there."

The pandemic has pushed many people towards reskilling or upskilling to find employment or advance in their careers. These coding Bootcamps

offer a solution that is low risk and more affordable, costing three to four times less than similar programs.

Students will learn in-demand skills and be ready to enter the data-driven workforce within just 18 weeks.

Brookdale Community College is partnering with Promineo Tech, an Education-as-a-Service provider, to offer coding Bootcamps and related technical training. Promineo Tech's mission is to make technology education affordable, accessible, and low-risk for everyone so that anyone has the opportunity to improve their lives through learning. In addition, they teach people the skills needed to enter and be successful in high-demand technology fields such as the software development industry.



PROMOTING COMMUNITY SUCCESS



Brookdale Nursing Students Volunteer at Free COVID Vaccination Site

Brookdale Community College nursing students volunteered at the Monmouth County COVID-19 Vaccination Site located on the Brookdale campus.

Instead of working in a hospital setting for their clinical hours, students in the Nursing 272 class volunteered at the vaccine distribution center.

Graduates from Brookdale Community College's Nursing Program earn an AAS degree in Nursing and are eligible to take the National Council Licensing Exam for Registered Nursing (NCLEX-RN) to become a Registered Nurse (RN).



Bankier Library Awarded Resilient Communities Grant

Brookdale Community College's Bankier Library was awarded the Resilient Communities competitive grant awarded to only 25 public and academic libraries from the American Library Association (ALA) throughout the country. The grant was an initiative of the ALA to help libraries engage their communities in programs and conversations that address the climate crisis.

The following are some of the programs that were presented throughout the year. All were virtual events to engage the community.

91 Days; Countless Nights

Kevin R. Burkitt's photographic journey *91 Days; Countless Nights* documents the devastation of Superstorm Sandy's destruction from 2012 through 2015.

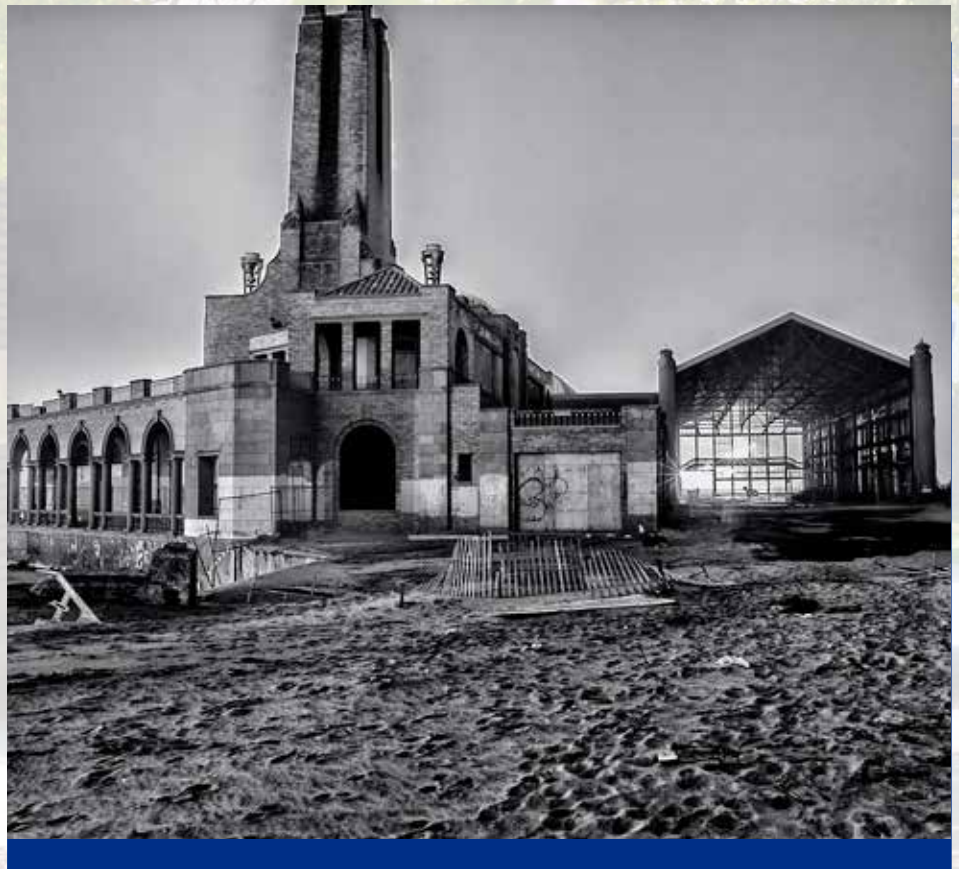
Each photo in this gallery was taken at night, processed in Lightroom 5, and then converted to Black and White using Nik Silver Efex Pro 2. Currently, there are over 110 images in the collection.

This project has been displayed at Morris Arts, Princeton Television, Main Street Gallery in Manasquan, and Brookdale Community College in the CVA Gallery.

Impact of Climate Change

In partnership with Monmouth University's Urban Coast Institute, Dr. Tom Herrington, Associate Director, spoke on the driven sea level rise on coastal communities.

Stronger Than the Storm is a novel that could be about any coastal town or village from the voices of our children. It is about the effect that a life-changing event has on their emotions and feelings that often gets overlooked as their adult cohort are busy rebuilding—presented in conjunction with Monmouth County Library by *Author and Professor at Brookdale, Deborah Mura.*



STIGMA FREE CAMPUS



First In Monmouth County

Brookdale is the First Monmouth County NJ College to Lead the Way to Mental Health Wellness!

At the beginning of the Spring Semester, Brookdale Community College made the first steps to lead the way towards a community of mental health wellness by declaring the college a Stigma-Free Zone. The goal is to create an environment to encourage students to get the resources they need without judgment and to stop the prejudice against mental illness and substance use disorder.

Brookdale Community College is the first college to join the stigma-free movement in Monmouth County officially.

Embracing this movement helps ensure that along with developing skills in a chosen field, students will develop leadership skills in treating everyone fairly, with dignity, and respect.

The Brookdale Board of Trustees passed a resolution to create an environment in which the students will feel free to seek treatment for mental

illness and substance use disorder without the fear of being stigmatized.

The Mental Health Association of Monmouth County and their national affiliate Mental Health America commend President Stout and the leadership of Brookdale Community College for becoming the first college to declare themselves a stigma-free zone. Thereby supporting an environment where all faculty, students, and families are comfortable reaching out for help should they need it.

Brookdale hopes to raise awareness for mental illness and substance use disorder, promote the use of inclusive language, and encourage those affected to seek services and feel supported. In addition, Brookdale will encourage the many mental health resources available, so no student needs to feel hopeless or alone.

Students will be encouraged to ask for help when needed so recovery can begin, hope is inspired, and the establishment of this Stigma-Free Zone avoids tragedies.



Monarch Waystation and Meditation Garden Created on Campus

The Innovation Network, referred to as TIN, is a student-led organization that applies project-based learning to real-world problems, and finds creative and efficient ways to think globally and act locally.

Since the Eastern Monarch Butterfly population has fallen again, down 26 percent from last year with an overall decline of 80 percent over the past two decades, the TIN members decided to build a Monarch Butterfly and Meditation Garden.

TIN fosters interdepartmental collaboration through community service, outreach programs, and network opportunities to enhance 21st-century project-based workplace skills. The goal is to create real-world experiences for students to enhance their academic learning.

The garden project offers several educational opportunities. It creates a monarch habitat where students can learn about the importance of pollination and native plants while also offering insight into the medicinal value of herbs such as sage, echinacea, rosemary, and lavender. Creating a

monarch waystation and meditation garden not only provides campus-wide educational experiences but also offers a spot for students to relax and enjoy the campus's beauty.

The club members designed the garden, obtained all the supplies through fundraising, and built it outside the Student Life Center. The first phase of the project was completed by the last day of the semester.

The community is welcome to discover and learn in the garden. Every plant will have a QR code next to it, and there will be additional QR codes with information about butterflies and links to a library of information. Included in these QR codes will be the common name of the plants, the scientific name of the plants, the medicinal properties of the herbs, and a fun fact why it is essential to the garden.



Mental Health & Wellness Virtual Programs



A speaker series was designed to support the Stigma-Free Initiative. Since stigma is the primary reason people fail to seek help for mental illness, the goal was to disseminate information to foster a stigma-free environment. The programs' goals were to free people from judgment and create an environment to feel safe to get help. In addition, the programs were to inspire public interest, open dialogues about stigma, raise awareness of the local mental health & substance use resources available, and encourage the community to break down barriers.

Included in the speaker series were Two Health at Home sessions by Dinneen Jackson, grants coordinator at Brookdale Community College, and Master Certified Health and Wellness Coach.

How to Cope with Test Anxiety During Midterms

This workshop provided students with coping mechanisms to manage tests and anxiety before and during the tests.

Self-Care for College Students: Learn How to Prioritize Wellness

This workshop examined self-care from the physical, mental, financial, environmental, spiritual, emotional, social, and physical perspectives to help determine what we value most to have a completely balanced life.

Additionally, there were two other workshops: **Eating Disorder Recovery: A Personal Journey of Healing and Helping Others** by Mychal Mills and Rodney Salomon of Konscious Youth Development & Service (KYDS). Their workshop demonstrated

the use of yoga, meditation, and practices in “self-love” to promote positive development outcomes; and **Stigma-Free Self-Care Recharging Your Battery: Discovering Your Best Self** by Kait McCarthy.



OUTSTANDING VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Remote/Live: An Exhibition of Work From the Fine Arts Studio Classes

At Brookdale, the Fine Arts Courses offered during the 2020 Fall Semester – painting, drawing, design, photography, color theory, photography, and 3D animation transitioned to a remote/live/online format in which students attended class on Zoom on a specific day and time and were asked to complete their projects within whatever space they could carve out of their homes.

As professional artists, the teachers strive to give their students technical knowledge, but also try to give them a sense of the reality of life as art makers.

The working artist is generally faced with a need for two fundamental things: time and space. For example, American artist Joseph Cornell completed the works in significant art collections and museums at a kitchen table in his mother's house in Queens, NY. Louise Weinberg, a curator at the Queens Museum, said of Cornell, "For a person who rarely traveled, especially out of this country, Cornell brought the world to his kitchen studio working under the ceiling he painted Giotto blue."

A virtual exhibition of Remote/Live art work was presented.



Aaron Wilson, Keynote Speaker at 7th Annual Minority Male Initiative



In February 2021, Brookdale Community College hosted the Seventh Annual Minority Male Initiative Conference (MMIC) in partnership with the Monmouth Ocean County Panhellenic Council.

The conference's objective is to allow minority male students to interact with professionals from various careers that may be of interest to them. In addition, the students will be able to network with the professionals and obtain information on what it takes to be successful in their career of interest. High school juniors and seniors joined Brookdale students at the conference.

This year's keynote speaker was Aaron K. Wilson. Wilson speaks across the country to help youth reach their goals by embracing their self-esteem, optimizing their talents, and working as a team! He is a singer-songwriter, actor, producer, and author. Additionally, he is the writer and star of the films "Life As Such" and "The Point Guard: The 15 Principles of Leadership to Unleash Your Dream".

Wilson used to have very low self-esteem. With the help of people lifting him and showing him authentic leadership, Wilson realized that the only way to conquer his insecurities and fears was to face them and become the leader he needed to be for himself. Wilson now makes it

his mission to help students realize the importance of having a positive self-image and mindset that will help them overcome their insecurities and embrace their purpose.

Wilson attended and graduated from Bryant University with a bachelor's in business administration. He has a unique way to engage youth with his energy, message, charisma, and music.

The conference included concurrent workshops. This year's theme was "Building a Foundation for Future Success," and was accomplished with breakout sessions, connecting students with professionals that have experience working in careers that fall within one of the five career clusters: STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), Mainframe Computing Communications Media (Broadcasting, TV Production, Graphic Design, Journalism, Animation); Health Science (Physical Therapy, Nursing, Physician, Athletic Training, Occupational Therapy, Radiology); Business and Social Science (How To Start Your Own Business, Accounting, Management, Finance, Marketing, Social Work, Education, Criminal Justice); Show Business & Entertainment (Theater/Film/Television, Acting, Play/Screenwriting, Stage, Directing, Film Directing).

New Jersey Natural Gas, First Energy, and Two River Theater sponsored this year's conference.



Five Years North Film Screening

While currently in film festivals, winning awards, Brookdale hosted a virtual screening of *Five Years North*, from March 29 to April 5, for Brookdale students, faculty, and staff.

On April 6, Director and Producer Chris Temple held a Q & A discussion of the film, sponsored by the Global Citizenship Project, Student Life and Activities, and International Education Center.

The film came about while Co-Directors Chris Temple and Zach Ingrasci were working on the award-winning documentary

“Living on One Dollar” in a Mayan Guatemalan village in 2010, where they initially met eight-year-old Luis.

After keeping in touch with the boy for several years, they discovered that at just 16 years old in 2017, Luis would be immigrating to New York City alone, undocumented, to help provide for his family.

Luis’ story inspired Temple and Ingrasci to create the *Five Years North* documentary on his new life working and studying in the United States. The film also follows Judy, the single

mother and Cuban-American ICE officer supervising Luis’ neighborhood.



Visiting Writers Series

Poet, teacher, and activist **Carolyn Forché** has witnessed, thought about, and put into poetry some of the most devastating events of twentieth-century world history. Author of six award-winning poem collections, a memoir, and numerous non-fiction books, Forché is perhaps best-known for coining the term “poetry of witness.”

In her recent memoir *What You Have Heard Is True*: she at last reveals the dark stories behind her famous early poems: she brings alive the brutality, complexity and idealism of El Salvador in the late 1970s, a time of revolution that echoes all too painfully in the present.

Oliver de la Paz is the author of five collections of poetry and is the co-editor of *A Face to Meet the Faces: An Anthology of Contemporary Persona Poetry*. He co-chairs the advisory board of Kundiman, a not-for-

profit organization dedicated to the promotion of Asian American Poetry.

His most recent book, *A Boy in the Labyrinth*: In a long sequence of prose poems, questionnaires, and standardized tests, interrogates the language of autism and the language barriers between parents, their children, and the fractured medium of science and school.

Jennifer Franklin is the author of *No Small Gift* and *Looming*. She directs and teaches at The Hudson Valley Writers’ Center and is coeditor of Slapering Hol Press.

Grave illness, profound disability, and stunning cruelty and betrayal are Franklin’s catalysts in *No Small Gift*: turning the chaos of her trauma into meaning, rediscovering a voice embedded under sutures and scars, making a whole from rent parts.



ENHANCING STUDENT SERVICES



Talk Campus

Brookdale Community College is committed to the well-being and academic success of its students. Therefore, the college introduced TalkCampus, a platform where students can access a welcoming and supportive community for mental health, combining real-time 24/7 safeguarding and escalation, trained peer supporters, and professional staff.

TalkCampus will complement Brookdale's existing counseling services and ensure support for students outside of the existing framework. The ease of access was one of the key features that appealed most to the Brookdale team, with students being able to access round-the-clock support from their smartphone in over 26 languages, wherever they are in the world.

While traditional support services have a vital role in student mental health, online peer support plays an influential role in early and ongoing intervention. A recent survey found that since using TalkCampus, 85 percent of students find it easier to ask for help when they need it, and 82 percent find it easier to cope with life.

Ask JB

Brookdale introduced the ChatBot to the website to help communicate with students on many aspects of college life, creating a virtual "one-stop-shop" for student queries.

This technology is being used in areas such as financial aid, advising services, and enrollment. After several months of using the ChatBot, Brookdale started to deploy the ChatBot with a much broader capability by adding text campaigns to assist students in meeting deadlines.

The ChatBot appearance of the Jersey Blue Mascot indicates to students that the bot can answer specific questions, and it also allows administrators to filter out and review which questions are directed to their department.

If the ChatBot cannot help, it will direct the student to someone that can.

The ChatBot is not replacing administrative staff but instead supporting them to make better use of their time. One of the critical drivers is a desire to increase efficiency and cut costs.



EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Brookdale Among Best in Nation

Brookdale Community College is ranked in the top 3% of community colleges in the United States for 2021 by AcademicInfluence.com. A two-year community college associate degree has never been a better route to a four-year college bachelor's degree than it is today.

"In higher education, we have opportunities to learn, research, teach, shape the future of our academic disciplines, and influence the larger world. This honor is a tribute to the faculty and staff of Brookdale Community College for the scholarly work they do with passion every day," said Dr. David Stout, Brookdale Community College President.

AcademicInfluence.com's criteria for the schools in this ranking included a minimum of 1,000 enrolled students, full accreditation, and exclusively two-year (or associate) degree programs. They state in their *50 Best Community Colleges of 2021* release, "The best community colleges provide

an effective springboard into higher education, offering students high-quality two-year degree programs in a wide range of disciplines. In addition, the top-rated community colleges offer a broad selection of associate degrees, affordable tuition rates, and strong partnerships with public four-year schools so that students can easily transfer their credits into accredited bachelor's degree programs."

Brookdale Community College offers one of the best transfer programs in the nation, maintaining formal agreements with many universities and close ties and pathway partnerships with institutions throughout New Jersey.

They also look at how influential the school's faculty is and then factor in the student body size. That metric is called "Concentrated Influence."

Brookdale is cited as being most influential in Communications, Graphic Design; Criminal Justice, Policing; Medical, Dentistry; Social Work, Empowerment; Business,



Marketing, Management, Accounting; Computer Science, Information Security, Programming, Networking; Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering; Law; Education and Nursing. Other areas of influence include Psychology, Political Science, History, Anthropology, Chemistry, and Environmental Science.

Their most influential alumni faculty include professors and professionals in Psychology, Communications, and Criminal Justice.

Brookdale Culinary Arts Ranked #9

Brookdale ranked #9 of the top 25 colleges offering the best culinary arts programs in 2020 by GradReports. Based on over 100,000 college degree programs and the starting salary data of over 5 million graduates, GradReports rankings represent the most comprehensive collection of data-driven college rankings available to date.

“We are thrilled to be named # 9 in the country! The Brookdale Culinary Arts program has amazing faculty and students. We are so proud of our ACF accreditation and developing the chefs of tomorrow for Monmouth County.

A special thanks to our Monmouth County community for their support and the hiring of our students,” said Michelle Zuppe, professor of Culinary Arts/Hospitality Management

The Culinary Education Center of Monmouth County is a unique collaboration between Brookdale Community College and the Monmouth County Vocational School District (MCVSD). The program’s mission is to provide a quality culinary education with transferrable skills that are marketable in an ever-changing industry.



Brookdale Awarded Best Psychology Degree

Intelligent.com, a trusted resource for online degree rankings and higher education planning, has announced the Top 50 Associate in Psychology Degree Programs for 2021. The comprehensive research guide is based on an assessment of 194 accredited colleges and universities in the nation. Each program is evaluated based on curriculum quality, graduation rate, reputation, and post-graduate employment.

The 2021 rankings are calculated through a unique scoring system that includes student engagement, the potential return on investment, and leading third-party evaluations. Intelligent.com analyzed 194 schools, on a scale of 0 to 100, with only 50 making it to the final

list. The methodology also uses an algorithm that collects and analyzes multiple rankings into one score to compare each school easily.

Two years in a row, Brookdale Community College has been recognized among the top-ranked institutions offering the best Associate of Arts in Psychology degree programs by Intelligent.com. In addition, the organization cited Brookdale for Best Transfer Program, ranking them the third-best overall program out of the final 50.

The path to becoming a licensed psychologist requires many years of study and several degrees. Brookdale students save money and accelerate their education by earning an associate

degree in psychology, preparing them for entry-level employment. In addition, the transfer program at Brookdale to further the degree is seamless, with several transfer options to higher institutions offered. Students who pursue any one of these programs can expect to gain employment much quicker than candidates without a degree.



Emeritus Employees

At the Spring Convocation in January 2021, Brookdale President Dr. David Stout announced the 2020 Class of Emeriti, recognizing numerous former employees for their exemplary contributions to the college at the virtual ceremony.

“Brookdale Community College’s reputation of educational excellence has been built through the hard work and dedication of outstanding employees over the past five decades,” Stout said.

He continued, “These emeritus employees’ contributions helped to establish Brookdale Community College as one of finest institutions in the United States of America.”

Stout stressed the honor and significance of earning emeritus status.

“The title of ‘Emeriti’ is the most esteemed title that Brookdale Community College can bestow upon a former employee,” he said.

President Stout reinforced the lasting impact the honorees will make to the College while speaking directly to them and to the families of those who have passed.

“You truly are Pillars upon which an amazing institution has been built, and it is my honor to present this to you,” he said. “Your names will forever be inscribed on that plaque that will hang at the College.”

▼ Photo of Sylvia Smith



» *Professor, Emeritus*

Jane Banks

Newana Barnes

Antonio Blaser

Sylvia Smith

Anthony Snyder

Barbara Tozzi

Linda Wang

» *Administrator, Emeritus*

Kimberly Heuser

Ann Tickner-Jankowski

» *Staff, Emeritus*

Thomas Hughes

» *Posthumous (retired)*

Lee Blaustein, *Administrator, Emeritus*

Fred Fraterrigo, *Professor, Emeritus*

Norma Klein, *Administrator, Emeritus*

Carol McCartin,
Administrator, Emeritus

Kay Merritt, *Administrator, Emeritus*

Seymour Seigler, *Professor, Emeritus*

» *Posthumous (passed while still in-service)*

Carl Francese, *Professor, Emeritus*

Michael Fowler, *Professor, Emeritus*

COMMENCEMENT MAKES HISTORY

Continuing and Professional Studies Completion Ceremony

Brookdale Community College's Continuing and Professional Studies (CPS) Completion Ceremony celebrated the achievements of the 110 students who completed a certificate or professional training course over the past two years. The theme of the night seemed to be the feeling of gratitude for the knowledge learned,

encouragement to continue, and the opportunity to achieve goals.

"Congratulations to all of you for making it here to the finish line," said Dr. David Stout, president of Brookdale. "This is what we live for here at Brookdale Community College. The only reason for our existence is to make sure that you can get from where you are to where you want to be."



Brookdale's Commencement 2021 Was One for the Record Books

For the second year in a row, Brookdale Community College celebrated the success of its graduates with drive-thru commencement ceremonies.

"Commencement 2021 was one for the record books," said Yesenia Madas, associate vice president of student affairs at Brookdale. "We had hundreds of students, their families, and even their pets attend one of two drive through processions."

To comply with the state's COVID-19 regulations while still ensuring graduates had a chance to be recognized, Brookdale once again held an outdoor ceremony that proved to be more intimate than traditional ceremonies. "The event was intimate but did not lack in personality," Madas said.

Graduates drove onto campus with their families and were greeted by faculty, administration, and staff cheering and holding signs of congratulations. The arrival time of the graduates was scheduled so that only one graduate got to experience walking across the stage at a time.

Graduates had the opportunity to experience hearing their name announced as they walked across the stage to receive their diploma. Since the graduates were staggered, their families were able to exit their vehicles and had front row, VIP access to the stage to experience and capture the moment.

"Students and their families were not shy about letting us know how much they appreciated the event," said Madas. "The Brookdale community is still talking about how special it was. That's what we do at Brookdale! We adapt and show up for our students."

The 2021 Brookdale Community College graduating class consisted of 1,645 students who earned degrees and certificates. Of those graduates, 481 students graduated with various honors and distinctions including distinguished scholars, members of the National Society of Leadership and Success, members of Brookdale's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and honors students. In addition, eight graduates were recognized with the Outstanding Student Award for their academic achievements, community service, and personal accomplishments.

Brookdale was proud to recognize alumni Kristina Henderson and Barton Henderson, owner and co-founder of Henderson Promos, LLC, for their dedication to helping others. Kristina and Bart donated over 100,000 masks during the COVID-19 pandemic to food banks and other non-profit organizations to help keep employees, volunteers, and the community safe.

In addition, Chaz Bono was the recipient of an honorary degree. An actor, activist, and author, Bono has a rich history of advocating for LGBTQ rights. He continues to be a strong voice for the LGBTQ community and is a passionate champion of equality for all Americans, especially those discriminated against and targeted because of race, religion, sex, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity.





EOF Virtual Graduation

The Education Opportunity Fund (EOF) virtual graduation ceremony was as celebratory as you can get, complete with dinner, DJ Spynfo, and dancing in your seats! The evening paid tribute to eighty-three 2020-2021 graduates and honored members of our Brookdale community who have championed the EOF vision and contributed to the program's success.

"This year has been unlike any year for all of us, unimaginable adversity yet overcome by sheer tenacity and resilience, time for celebration," exclaimed Richard Morales-Wright, director of Education Opportunity Fund (EOF). "As Brookdadians, our faculty, administrators, staff, and students have stood strong and have remained cautiously optimistic about the future. All of us have engaged in incredible work during these challenging times. We are so proud of our graduates!"

"We have the best EOF program in the state of New Jersey. I want to thank the EOF staff for pouring your heart and soul into ensuring our students are successful across the state," said David Stout, Ph.D. president of Brookdale Community College.

"EOF is one of my favorite programs because it is about underdogs," said Matthew Reed, Ph.D. vice-president of Academic Affairs. "When you graduate and move on, you are living truth, and today you are here proving that truth."

Special guests of the evening included the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, Dr. Hasani Carter, executive director of EOF.

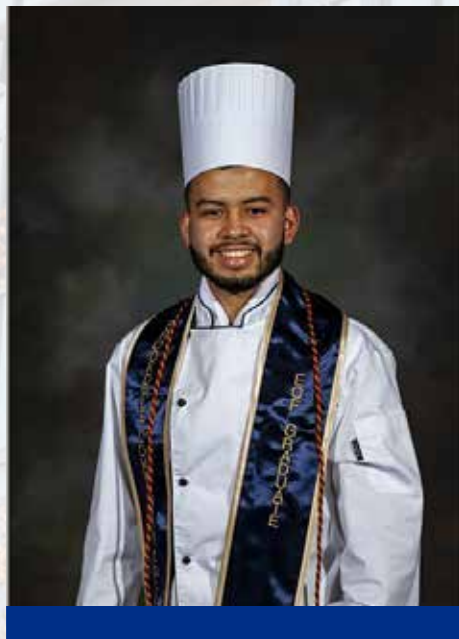
"EOF stands for informally, 'extension of family,' and membership has its benefits; EOF will support you through your graduate studies," he said.

In addition, many elected officials attended the graduation and spoke to the graduates, offering support and sharing stories of encouragement.

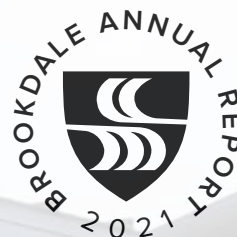
Keynote speaker W. David Tarver, founder and board president of Urban Entrepreneurship Initiative, shared the details of his book "Proving Ground: A Memoir" about his entrepreneurial journey from a childhood dream to international success.

In the Spotlight was **Rose Adu**, A.A.S. Paralegal Studies, from Parlin NJ., receiving the OSHE/ EOF Achievement Award. In addition, **Keyana Johnson**, A.A., Liberal Arts, from Lake Como, NJ, received the Outstanding Achievement Award. The OSHE Distinguished Scholars are **Christine Herrera**, A.S., Mathematics/Science (Science Option), and **Margaret Olanubi**, A.S., Business Administration, maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Rose Adu, past president of the Student Life Board, said about the EOF program, "They have this magic wand, and they take your dreams and create them into reality."



Health Science Pinning Ceremonies



The 2021 graduating class of Brookdale Community College's Health Science Institute was recognized for their accomplishments at the Nursing Pinning Ceremony on May 17 and Allied Health Pinning Ceremony on May 18.

The pinning ceremony has a long, rich history, and the practice is now standard in nursing schools across the country. The pin the graduates receive "links you to all of the alumni of this program who have gone

forward to be the best nurses in the United States," said Dr. Jayne Edman, dean of the Health Science Institute at Brookdale. "The symbolism is that we are pinned together, and it is a symbol of honor, courage, and commitment to caring," she said.

While the graduates are now linked to their colleagues, the experience of the 2021 graduating class was unique. In March 2020, all Brookdale classes and services pivoted to an online environment due to the

COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the change, these graduates were able to succeed and accomplish their goals.

This year, Brookdale had 72 nursing graduates, 27 radiologic technology program graduates, and 20 respiratory care program graduates. **Mikael Khachatryan** and **Erika Villani** were the recipients of the Outstanding Student Award for the Health Science Institute.



David Burke Guest Speaker at Culinary Awards Ceremony

The Culinary Education Center of Monmouth County held its awards ceremony at the Collins Arena at Brookdale Community College. A celebration has not been held there in two years.

President Dr. David Stout congratulated the culinary graduates for their persistence, hard work, and dedication. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, their studies were interrupted in the spring of 2020. However, they came back in the summer to finish the courses and persevered to graduate.

"You came to obtain a particular set of skills, and you are leaving Brookdale with so much more," Stout said. "I am proud to call you Brookdale graduates and proud that you are part of the Brookdale family."

Dr. Charles Ford, superintendent of MCVSC, said, "It is a true collaboration between Brookdale and Monmouth County Vocational School District that makes it such an excellent program."

Chef David Burke, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, was the guest speaker. He is considered a rock star of modern American cuisine, has won numerous awards, including being nominated twice for the James Beard Best Chef. In addition, he is a television personality who has a cookware line, has published two cookbooks, and has 19 restaurants. He is a strong supporter of both the culinary and hospitality programs at Brookdale.

Burke compared this year to being in the kitchen where there are always lots of surprises. Having grown up in Hazlet, he has Monmouth County roots, worked in the Eatontown mall, the Navesink Country Club, the Fromagerie in Rumson, which he now owns, called the Red Horse, his second time owning it. He said about making mistakes, "Learn from them, grow from them, do not be afraid of making them, because that is what is going to make you better." He gave some great advice to the graduates on the steps to take to achieve their career goals. "Today, the sky is the limit. It is an exciting place to be. Thanks to many things, it is a respected industry, people understand the hard work that goes into it, and the food network has helped," Burke said. "Pay attention to critics, listen to your heart, follow your dreams, work hard and stay healthy."

Graduate and student speaker David Large introduced himself as being from the class of Covid-19. "This was a spectacular program. Each instructor helped by giving insights into different facets of the business. I learned how to adapt and pay attention to detail," Large said. "I have gained so many friends in this program that has provided a family for me. I could not imagine going through this program without any of them."

The graduating class consisted of 71 students who earned degrees and certificates.

Thirty students graduated with various honors.

» **Community Service Awards:**

Paul Allen, Devon Albers, Mark Armellino, Ana Bianchi, Amanda Colette Borreo, Maximillian Cross, Dakota Garback, Justin Hanley, David Hurley, Emma Hutt, Thomas Keating, David Large, Erin Lietz, Emily Reid, Gladis Rubio, Aimy Sato, John Smertneck, Francesca Andrea Shadel

» **SkillsUSA:** Emma Hutt, Aimy Sato

» **Epicurean Club Award:** David Large, Devon Albers

» **Pastry Arts Club Award:** David Hurley

» **PTK Recognition:** Raeanne Kukulski

» **Certificates of Merit:** Thomas Keating, Emma Hutt, Dakota Garback

Student Recognition Awards

» **Maitre d' Award:** Kristin O'Shea

» **Excellence in Baking and Pastry Award:** Emily Reid

» **Chef Instructors' Award:** Jessica Monsorna

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Certificate in Culinary Arts and Pastry Arts

» **Bronze:** Gabrielle Schinnagel

» **Silver:** Christina Allan, Vincent Barba, Concetta Paige DeSimone, Maria Ramirez Dominguez, Raeanne Kukulski, David Large, Jessica Monsorna, Emily Reid, Francesca Andrea Shadel, Brianna Zeleznik

» **Gold:** Colette Borreo, Yvonne Ovalle

Associate of Applied Science in Culinary Arts

» **Bronze:** Paul Allen, Anna Bianchi, Dakota Garback, Kristin O'Shea, Emily Reid, Aimy Sato

» **Silver:** Emma Hutt, David Large, Thomas Keating, Emily Trzesinski, Melissa Wronko

» **Gold:** John Smertneck

Culinary Excellence Awards

» **White Cordon, 3rd place,** John Smertneck

» **Red Cordon, 2nd place,** Emily Reid

» **Blue Cordon, 1st place,** Aimy Sato



Monmouth County Students Earn College Degree Before Graduating High School

High school students throughout Monmouth County who augmented their traditional high school curriculum with college-level courses through Brookdale Community College's Early College High School (ECHS) program earned their associate degree before graduating high school.

"We are honored and excited to congratulate ninety-one high school students from nine schools throughout Monmouth County that graduated from College this year," said Brookdale President Dr. David Stout. "These partnerships have saved students both time and money in their pursuit of a college degree while preparing them for the highest level of success after graduation."

"Brookdale's ECHS Program not only serves as an invaluable conduit through which students can achieve academic and personal success, it also tangibly fosters the notion that education and enlightenment are society's most precious 'goods,'" said Cara Novak, associate director of Early College High School.

Through the ECHS program, graduates earned 60 college credits to obtain their associate degree that transfers easily to four-year colleges.

"This is an affordable option for students to get their college degree and accelerate their path toward a bachelor's," said Dr. Sarah McElroy, executive director of Career and Transfer Pathways at Brookdale.

The program is set up conveniently for the students. During the high school student's freshman and sophomore years, the Brookdale professors teach the college courses at the high school to complete the first 30 college credits. After that, students begin taking courses at Brookdale's regional locations in their junior year before becoming full-time Brookdale students and completing their senior year on the College's Lincroft campus.

The class of 2021 had the unique experience of a pandemic. Midway through the high school junior year and for all their senior year, they took their college courses virtually.

During the first two and half years, their relationships helped them get through to their college graduation.

The ECHS graduates, from all the high schools were together for graduation at Brookdale.

The ECHS academy prepares students to transfer to any university in the country.

Attending Boston University in the fall, Connor North from MHSN said "The Early College Academy was an immense challenge, but definitely worth it. I kept up my confidence of getting through the program, and it all paid off in the end." Classmate Michael Murphy attending the United States Naval Academy, said, "Tons of fun and so glad I did it, especially with such good friends. I really could not have asked for a more fun time out of what I initially thought was an unattainable task."



STUDENT SUCCESS



Brookdale Student Destiny Jarvis Awarded Gilman Scholarship

Destiny Jarvis was selected to receive the prestigious Benjamin J. Gilman Scholarship to study abroad. "Without receiving the Gilman, I do not know how else I would have been able to study abroad. It is like a dream," said Destiny.

The Congressional funded Gilman Program broadens the United States student population studying and interning abroad by providing scholarships to outstanding undergraduate Pell Grant recipients of limited financial means at a two-year or four-year college or university. This program provides new opportunities for students while gaining skills critical to our national security and economic competitiveness.

Graduating in December 2020 from Brookdale with an associate degree in Journalism, Destiny will continue her education at Rutgers University to gain her bachelor's degree. She will complete her study abroad program in the summer of 2021, studying Tropical Ecology in Heredia, Costa Rica. She said she chose to take a course in environmental studies to combine her love of science and journalism.

Destiny will continue her studies at Rutgers on the Lincroft campus through the Brookdale-Rutgers University Partnership.

The Gilman Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE).



Brookdale Student Miriam Abdelhamid Wins Interior Design Award

Brookdale Community College student Mariam Abdelhamid received the gold award at the New Jersey Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) in September 2020.

Students were required to research a disability that their client had and show solutions to aid their client while applying an aspect of their culture to the interior.

Abdelhamid explained her design was for a, “Japanese couple who have purchased a new space in Okinawa, Japan to accommodate the husband’s special needs. They need a home that functions for their new requirements, but they still desire a residence with style.”

Abdelhamid’s design’s goal was to create an adaptable space that brought the outside in and included traditional cultural aspects. The design elements and principles that led the design were curved linear lines, organic shapes, harmony, and rhythm. An analogous color scheme of neutral earthy tones of yellow, orange, and green was used in the design.

Designing furniture is one of Abdelhamid’s favorite aspects of interior design that she utilized in this project.

After receiving her associate degree from Brookdale in May 2021, Abdelhamid plans to study interior design at Kean University.



O'Donnell Named 2021 Guistwhite Scholar and Named Coca-Cola Academic Scholar++



Brookdale Community College honor student Heather O'Donnell was named a 2021 Guistwhite Scholar and received a \$5,000 scholarship for baccalaureate studies. Fifteen winners were chosen among 4,400 applicants nationwide, and their selection was based on academic excellence, leadership accomplishments, and engagement in Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) programs.

In addition, O'Donnell was named a 2021 Coca-Cola Academic Team Silver Scholar, received a \$1,250 scholarship, and was selected for the 2021 New Jersey All-State Academic Team, facilitated by the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges.

During her time at Brookdale, O'Donnell served as Vice President of service for the College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and took on leadership roles in several other campus organizations, including the Honors Association, Biology Club, and *The Current*.

While addressing critical global issues in her work for *The Current*, O'Donnell was recognized as a global citizen at the 2021 Global Citizenship Distinction Awards Ceremony this spring. As Features Editor of the student newspaper, she addressed climate change and human rights in many of her articles.



For her research paper titled "The Healing Power of Art for Alzheimer's Disease" completed for Professor Brandon Gramer's English 122 Honors class, O'Donnell received the 2020 Bankier Library Research Award, presented to Brookdale students who showed excellence in critical thinking in their research process. In her future career in public health, O'Donnell said she hopes to

focus on finding ways to improve the lives of Alzheimer's patients.

O'Donnell said her time at Brookdale was shaped by her involvement in research and campus clubs and organizations, which ultimately led her to discover her passion for public health. In addition, she said, "Being a part of PTK has truly enriched my experience at Brookdale and given me the tools I need for future success."

Global Citizenship Scholars

Global Citizenship Distinction (GCD) is an academic enrichment program open to all degree seeking students at Brookdale Community College regardless of major or GPA.

Brookdale faculty Dr. Thomas Berke, professor, Chemistry, Dr. Terry Konn, professor, Radiologic Technology, and Howard Miller, professor, Speech Communications were honored for founding Global Citizenship Distinction.

For ten years, students who meet specific criteria and engage in globally-focused course curricular and co-curricular activities earn Global Citizenship Distinction (GCD) at graduation, the highest Global Citizenship Project (GCP) honor for our students. Today, the Global Citizenship Project is embraced by the staff, community, faculty, and students at Brookdale, and offers over thirty globally enhanced classes representing all academic institutes.

The students who strived to educate others about global issues were selected as the Global Citizenship Distinction Scholars of 2021. They are Jamie Alison Kloor, Maeve Maguire, and Robert Mennella.

Jamie Alison Kloor has always been passionate about learning and living in diverse cultures and currently resides in Singapore, raising her young son. Her motto is “grow the seeds of change, shine the light of love, and create an inclusive community for all.”

Robert Mennella is a student veteran with two decades of military and federal law experience. “I was raised as a global citizen,” Mennella said. “I was so happy to see that Brookdale had a culture that fostered global issues and how everything is interconnected.”



Maeve Maguire took the time and effort to enrich her coursework to meet the Global Citizenship Distinction Initiative requirements. “I took a different approach to the GCD than Rob and Jamie,” said Maguire. “Instead of taking the globally enhanced classes, I took the projects and papers in my classes and brought a global focus to them.”

“We have reached a point of internationalizing our campus and our curriculum, and our activities,” said Konn. “Let us be very proud of that across the nation.” The GCP is really in the DNA of Brookdale now.

▼ **Maeve Maguire**



Elisa Masiero Top Community College Student in NJ



Brookdale Community College student Elisa Masiero was named a 2021 New Century Workforce Scholar and received a \$1,250 scholarship sponsored by The Coca-Cola Foundation and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Masiero received the highest score in New Jersey and was selected as the top community college student in the workforce development pathway program.

New Century Workforce Scholars are selected based on their academic accomplishments, leadership, activities, and how they extend their intellectual talents beyond the classroom. Over 2,000 students were nominated from more than 1,200 college campuses across the country. Only one New Century Workforce Scholar was selected from each state.

A native of Brazil, Masiero graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting before moving to the United States through a cultural exchange program.

"Upon completing the program, I had the great opportunity to continue my education at Brookdale Community College and excelled as a computer science student while breaking cultural and language barriers," Masiero said.



During her time at the College, Masiero graduated from LEAD, a workforce development program for immigrant women. In addition, as a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, she has volunteered remotely with Safest Drug, a nonprofit organization working to end medication injuries and deaths in

America. Recently, Masiero accepted a job offer as a growth associate at a New York City company.

After graduating from Brookdale in December, Masiero plans to continue her education at Stevens Institute of Technology, where she hopes to earn her master's degree in Data Science.

NASA Fellows

The NASA fellowship program at Brookdale addresses the STEM skills gap and promotes competence and critical thinking among the workforce for tomorrow.

Over the years, Brookdale has earned a prestigious NASA affiliate status, which means that the College can play an enhanced role in various NASA programs and has received nearly \$300,000 in grants. This year marks the seventh cohort program with eight fellows who will receive \$2,500 towards their fellowship and an additional \$225 to support some of their research expenses.

The following are the 2020-21 NASA Fellows and a description of their research project:

Antoinette White researched Glyphosate & Microbiome. White's research explored glyphosate's interaction with the microbiome and how mental health may be affected in the process.

Bobby Caze's fellowship was mentored by Ali Naqvi, who works at the cybersecurity team at Con Edison in NYC, and learned how companies provide cybersecurity. Caze's research was on the Vulnerability Scanner

and the variety of vulnerabilities that the Nessus Scan found.

Gary Roberts researched finding safer alternatives to traditional pressure treatment chemicals. As a result, he found alternative and more eco-friendly methods to treat wood for commercial and marine use.

Dr. Pendram Daneshgar from Monmouth University mentored NASA Fellow **Megan O'Hare**. O'Hare's project investigated whether the drinking water source for Monmouth County, Swimming River Reservoir, contains toxic metals. She collected samples from different water passages throughout Monmouth County, all of which branch from the reservoir. The samples were sent to a lab to be tested for toxic metals.

Dr. Robert Hughes mentored Nora Thompson, from Berkley, California, and usually mentor's postdoctoral fellows. Her research reviewed the role of the cardiovascular system in Alzheimer's Disease, including the pathology, diagnosis, and applications in treating the disease, based on scientific literature. With the guidance of her mentor, Dr. Hughes, Thompson

was able to help advance the current research on Alzheimer's Disease.

Prototyping with Microcontrollers was **Julio Santiago – Reyes'** research topic. He explored the capabilities of microcontroller boards to create a device that could assist the user in the performance of CPR.

Dorothy Speers researched Motion Tracking Technology in Precision Pistol Shooting for her project. She hopes that what she found will enable her to be a better coach and allow others to analyze their shooting techniques better.

NASA Fellow **Ashley Castillo Gutierrez** was mentored by Exelon Nuclear Engineer Doran Declan and Professor Eric Goll from Brookdale's chemistry department. Ashley moved to New Jersey from Peru to pursue a chemical engineering degree. Her research was about overcoming the challenges of nuclear waste. She chose this topic because she wanted to learn more about nuclear reactors in the USA.

Since its inception, the NASA grant program has assisted 30 Brookdale students in furthering their research studies.



Aimy Sato Awarded The Blue Cordon

“The Blue Cordon Award is one that each student has coveted from the time they entered the school’s halls with all the photos of the previous top-of-the-class alumni,” said chef Chad Schoonveld, instructor of culinary arts at Brookdale. The student who receives this award demonstrates philanthropy, leadership, outstanding academics, and work ethic in the culinary field.

Schoonveld introduced **Aimy Sato** at the Culinary Education Center of Monmouth County Recognition Exercises by saying, “She came to Brookdale’s program as a student taking on a new academic challenge. She showed immediate dedication and a promise to the program, and her achievement of organizational skills was unsurpassed.”

“What I liked most about the program is the lifelong friendships I created both with my industry friends and chef instructors,” Sato said. “It was a very fun experience, and I

learned basic skills needed to work in a real-life restaurant kitchen.”

Sato earned an Associate of Applied Science in Culinary Arts and made her way through the program year one and year two with growth in her personality and skillsets. She was also this year’s recipient of the SkillsUSA Culinary Arts Award. The SkillsUSA award is given to students who compete and demonstrate occupational and leadership skills.

As a well-rounded student, her academics were always of an extremely high caliber. As a result, she received both the Community Service Award and the Bronze Academic Excellence Award.

“To assimilate from another country is not always easy, but through the use of college support and her classmates and instructors at Brookdale, Sato became a shining star and an example of what we strive to achieve,” said Schoonveld.



Outstanding Student Awards

Outstanding Student Awards are given to two students from each Academic Institute for academic excellence, community service, and personal accomplishments.

Awarded by the Business and Social Science Institute

Susanna Falls, a psychology major, was active in the PTK Honor Society, serving as chairman. In the fall, she finished her associate degree and is currently a psychology student at the Brookdale-Rutgers University Partnership located on Brookdale's main campus in Lincroft.

Adam Meliani graduated with his associate degree in business. He served as the vice president of Finance, and lead fundraising events for Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. In addition, Meliani was also a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success at the College. Meliani plans to transfer to a four-year university where he will study finance. He is accepted into the Rutgers University-New Brunswick Business School and Rennes School of Business in France.

Awarded by the Humanities Institute

Cecilia Alcantar, a journalism major, is named to the 2021 New Jersey All-State Academic Team. She served as vice president of the Student Radio and Podcasting Club, Filmmakers Club, and as treasure of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. In addition, she was also a regular contributor to *The Current*, Brookdale's student newspaper. Alcantar was also influential in creating Brookdale's Student2Student program, where student mentors assist

other Brookdale students who are struggling to adapt to virtual learning or making the transition to college.

Bryce MacLeod Fagel, an English major, served as vice president and editor of Brookdale's literature, art, and design publication *Collage*.

Awarded by the STEM Institute

Robert Mennella, an environmental science major, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Environmental Club, Math Club, The Innovation Network, Students for Global Citizenship, Global Citizenship Distinction, and Women in Engineering, Science, & Technology. In addition, he was an officer in the Biology Club, Physics and Astronomy Club, Engineering Students Association, and Student Veterans of America. A United States Air Force veteran, Mennella developed the "Lunch with a Veteran" program at Brookdale to encourage students to interact with veterans and address



preconceived perceptions. In addition to his involvement in clubs and organizations on campus, Mennella also received a NASA Fellowship grant and completed a research project with the NY/NJ Baykeeper Association. The project focused on fighting beach erosion by creating living shorelines.

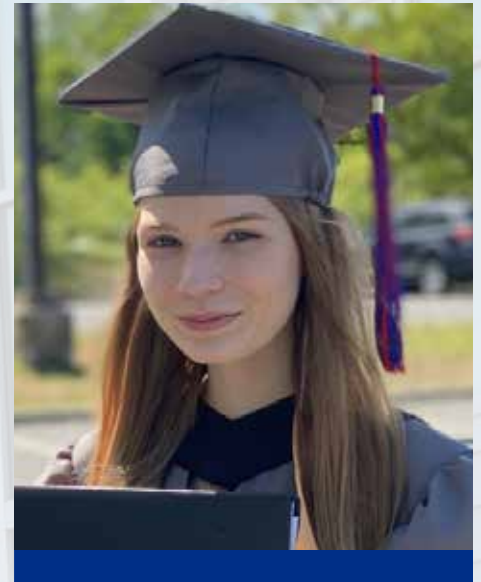
Nora Thompson first visited the Lincroft main campus of Brookdale when she was 16 to take the GED. She graduated with full honors with an Associate in Applied Science degree in biology. She was a member of the Biology Club and the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society and a NASA Fellow who hopes to pursue a career in healthcare.



Awarded by the Health Science Institute

Mikael Khachatryan, a nursing graduate, was in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, the Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society, and the Society of Leadership and Success.

Erika Villani, a nursing major, served on the executive board of the Student Nurse Association. She was also a part of the Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.



Alumna Writes First Poetry Book

In May, Frances Simmers, who graduated from Brookdale Community College, published her first book, "The Voice Inside Me."

The book of poetry was published during Simmers' last semester at Brookdale. "It is a book about self-care and what it means to find your voice amid the chaos surrounding you," Simmers explained. "It also shows others that despite what they are going through, they can survive to see the next day."

Simmers, who received her associate degree in psychology, had challenges to face while obtaining her education. "When I started at Brookdale, I was going through a lot on my own," she said. "Going to college was the one thing I dreamt of; however, growing up on my own since I was 13 without my parents, I did not think I could go to college with all the other responsibilities that I had going on." Nevertheless, despite the challenges, Simmers completed her degree at Brookdale with honors and was also a Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member. "I am proud I defied the odds, and I am the first person



in my immediate family to graduate from college," said Simmers.

Simmers will start at Rutgers University; she plans on becoming a criminal psychologist. She is also working on her second book of poetry.

Alumna Wins Fulbright

Brookdale '18 Graduate Victoria M. Cattelona, a 2021 graduate of Monmouth University's accelerated Master of Arts in Teaching program, has been awarded a 2021-2022 Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) to the Czech Republic from the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

"I wanted to share this news with Dr. Stout and Brookdale because I love Brookdale," Cattelona said. "Dr. Stout was an incredibly supportive when I was a student there and when I was on the Board of Trustees along with then Board Chair, Tracey Abby-White."

In addition, she also credits the mentorship of her Brookdale professors.

"I would never have considered a career in education without my studies and work for the College," said Cattelona. She served on the College's Board of Trustees between 2018 and 2019 and represented postsecondary students at national and international conferences.

As an honors political science major at Brookdale, she participated in the Democracy Conversation Project. Political Science Professor Jonathan Moschberger moderates the panel. He is one of her role models because of his strong interest in civic education and because she liked the way he incorporated current events when teaching history. English Professor Roseanne Alvarez is another professor with exemplary abilities she hopes to incorporate into her future teaching. Cattelona said, "I loved the issues

she presented in women's studies class, and I would like to be able to have students debate topics the way that we did in that class."

Through the Fulbright program, Cattelona will teach English and serve as a cultural ambassador for the United States as she shares knowledge and fosters meaningful connections across communities in the United States and the Czech Republic.



OPTIMIZING OPERATIONS



Nancy Kaari Appointed VP Advancement

Brookdale Community College President Dr. David Stout announced in February that Nancy Kaari joined the institution as Vice President of Advancement. This appointment completes the reorganization of the Foundation & Alumni Affairs, College Relations, Governmental Affairs & Community Relations, Strategic Partnerships, and Grant Development departments to improve collaboration.

"Nancy has had a long and successful career in advancement and administration in the nonprofit sector with the American Red Cross, and I am confident that her expertise will allow us to build upon our past successes," said Dr. Stout. "She is a proud community college graduate and is passionate about opening the doors of Brookdale to students from all backgrounds."

During her 20 years with the American Red Cross, Kaari served in numerous roles, including Executive Director, Regional CEO, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Disaster Services,

Director of Volunteers, and Biomedical Services Account Manager.

"We are delighted to welcome Nancy, our new Vice President of Advancement," said Brookdale Trustee Tracey Abby-White, Chairman of the Board's Finance & Facilities Committee. "Her challenging role includes helping us identify different sources of revenue. With Nancy's leadership, we are looking forward to a very healthy, prosperous year."

"I am thrilled to be joining the faculty, staff, and board members whose dedication has made Brookdale so well known for its educational excellence and commitment to an exceptional student experience," Kaari said. She looks forward to working with the entire college team to ensure our goal, that all students have access to everything Brookdale has to offer.

Throughout her tenure, Kaari was the recipient of numerous awards for her work, including the American Red Cross' Spirit of Excellence, Operation

Give Hope Now's Community Partner, United Way's National Relief and Recovery Partnership, Habitat for Humanity's Partnership in Disaster Recovery, and Monmouth University's Urban Coast's State & Coastal Leadership Award.

Kaari graduated Cum Laude from Ocean County College. She resides in Ocean County.



Director of Diversity & Inclusion Appointed

Angela Kariotis was appointed Brookdale's first Director of Diversity and Inclusion. This position will elevate and accelerate the College's twenty-first-century vision for inclusive excellence.

"We are fortunate to bring Angela Kariotis here to the College from Seton Hall. She already has a national name from her "Walking the Beat" initiative where she helps train police officers on diversity issues," said Dr. David Stout, president of Brookdale Community College. "Our employees have been working on many initiatives to enhance equity and inclusion throughout our community, but there is much more to do."

Kariotis will coordinate and advise on departments and academic programs throughout the College to develop, integrate and articulate Brookdale's commitments to a more

diverse and inclusive community. She will also manage the Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) program, creating innovative programs and services that attract and retain marginalized and economically challenged students.

Kariotis' recent position was with the Center for Faculty Development at Seton Hall, teaching anti-racist pedagogy, story circles between faculty and students for empathy, and training on managing difficult discussions in the classroom. In addition, she was co-director of the Diversity Coalition, a faculty group dedicated to campus equity, diversity, and inclusion, facilitating programming.

Kariotis received her Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Seton Hall University and a Master of Arts in Communication Studies from The University of Texas at Austin.



RESPONSE TO PANDEMIC



UVC Robots at Brookdale

Brookdale Community College invested in two germ-eliminating UVC robots that kill any pathogen in their way. The Tru-D® devices are a proactive step to ensure students, faculty, and staff who walk through the doors of the College that they are in a clean and safe environment. Brookdale is the first college in the

nation to purchase the **Tru-D** robot, short for "Total Room Ultraviolet Disinfection," demonstrating its commitment to remaining on the leading edge of technology and being proactive in providing the highest level of care in the prevention of COVID-19 as possible.



Brookdale Freezes Tuition

In January, 2021, Brookdale Community College announced that they will not increase tuition and fees for the next academic year.

The Brookdale Board of Trustees recognized the severe and far-reaching financial hardships caused by COVID-19. By keeping tuition and fees unchanged for the upcoming academic year, their hope is to help students and families who are struggling with the cost of higher education.

Brookdale President, Dr. David Stout, said, "This tuition freeze will help the members of our community access an affordable college education of the highest quality with well-established pathways leading to bachelor's degrees and desirable careers."

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Emily Clayton Named 2021 GSAC Woman of The Year

Brookdale Community College's Emily Clayton from Wall had a fantastic year as a Jersey Blue. She was honored as the New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NJIAIW), Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) - Woman of the Year Award for the Jersey Blues.

Before COVID-19 and the postponement of the 2020 women's soccer season, Clayton had a banner 2019 season for the Jersey Blues. To start, she cleaned up in the accolades department as a freshman defender while appearing in 16 games and scoring six goals.

In addition, Clayton was named GSAC Player of the Week for ripping two goals and being unstoppable in the backfield as the Jersey Blues clinched the Garden State Athletic Conference title against the Bergen County College Bulldogs.

Moving on, Clayton was prized First Team All-Conference, First Team All-Region, NJCAA All-Academic Second Team, GSAC Player of the Year, and named to the National All-Tournament Team after the Jersey Blues placed third in the NJCAA National Tournament.

Clayton and her fellow teammates also partnered with Student Life & Activities and Clean Ocean Action for a beach sweep along the shore of Asbury Park. The Jersey Blues filled large garage bags to their carrying weight to help protect and conserve our New Jersey beaches.

Clayton is undoubtedly spectacular on the field and in her community, but she is also an outstanding student with a 3.97 GPA!

The National Girls and Women in Sports Awards recognize outstanding student-athletes throughout NJ who have made significant contributions to their institution and community through athletic accomplishments, academic success, and community involvement.



Brookdale Jersey Blues Earn Fourth Champions of Character Award



The Jersey Blues have done it again! Announced at the Region XIX annual fall meeting on October 13th, 2020, the Blues were awarded the Champions of Character Award.

Over the past year, the student-athletes have volunteered their time doing good deeds such as beach sweeps, running for a charity in Santa suits, hosting and entertaining a local Cub

Scouts pack at a basketball game, and running a baseball clinic for a Little League in the area. The Jersey Blues previously earned the award in 2010-2011, 2012-2013, and 2018-2019.

The Champions of Character Award is given annually to a Region XIX institution that demonstrates outstanding results in the character development of its student-athletes

and coaches by embracing the true spirit of competition through the five core values of respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership, and sportsmanship. The institution also demonstrates outstanding involvement in the community, which results in positive character development through the sport.

Dayna Van Pelt earns John Stauff Scholar Athlete Award

A 2019-2020 Jersey Blue women's soccer player, Dayna Van Pelt, is not only a champion on the field but in the classroom as well. The NJCAA Region XIX announced that Van Pelt had earned the John Stauff Scholar-Athlete Award, which is given annually to a female student-athlete in Region XIX.

In her sole year as a sophomore defender in 2019, Van Pelt instantly made a name for herself on the field and earned second-team All-Region, All-Garden State Athletic Conference honors, and earned Defensive MVP of the Region XIX Tournament North Atlantic A Championship. In addition, she totaled three goals in the season, with one being the game-winner.

The qualify for the Region XIX John Stauff Scholar-Athlete Award, the NJCAA athlete must have achieved a minimum of a 3.5 GPA and have 36 credits on their transcript. They must also have All-Conference, All-Region, or All-American recognition. In addition, the player must also participate in community service by participating in a club or assisting athletic or other college departments.

Jersey Blues First Baseman Heads to Division I Big South Conference

Jersey Blues' first baseman and Business student, Ryan Gilmore, is headed to play Division I, Big South Conference baseball at Radford University for the fall of 2021.

In his one-season stint as a Jersey Blue in 2019, Gilmore, a Staten Island native, appeared in 42 games, batted .254, with 14 RBIs, and had a fielding percentage of .987.

Due to COVID-19 and missing the 2020 season, Gilmore will pick up where he left off to continue his final year as a Jersey Blue before becoming a Radford Highlander.

Radford University, located in Radford, Virginia, is a four-year institution that competes in the NCAA Division I Big South Conference.





- » Emma Bennett First Team All-American
- » Six Baseball Jersey Blues Achieve All-Region Team (3 All-Region First Team, 3 All-Region Second Team)
- » Two Men's Soccer Players All-Region XIX Second Team (Bryan Viegas & Ryan Gannon)
- » zTwo Women's Soccer Teammates Achieve NJCAA All-Academic Team Honors (Hailey Kret First Team & Emily Clayton Second Team)
- » Two Mens Soccer Earn NJCAA All-Academic Team Honors (Viegas Second Team & Pehlivan Third Team)
- » Three Jersey Blues Baseball Named to NJCAA 2020-21 All-Academic Teams (1 First Team, 1 Second Team, 1 Third Team)
- » 28 Names to Garden State Athletic Conference Spring All-Academic Team (7- Women's Soccer; 8 Men's Soccer; 13 Baseball)
- » Three Jersey Blues Men Earn Soccer All-GSAC Second Team
- » Two Selected to Women's Soccer All-GSAC First Team (Clayton and Bennett)
- » Two Women's Soccer Players First Team All-Region Players
- » 19 NJCAA All-Academic Team (women's soccer-5, men's soccer-5, baseball-9)



ADVANCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Internationally, Acclaimed Artist Presents Sculpture to Brookdale

In 1979, Brian Hanlon graduated high school and came to Brookdale Community College, where he met a man named Tony Blazer, who completely transformed his life. “He helped me develop a language through the art of molding clay. I will be forever grateful,” said Hanlon.

Hanlon wanted to give back to the College, so on November 2nd, the day before Election Day, Alumni and Artist Brian Hanlon dedicated his sculpture to the College located in the MAS main lobby. The sculpture represents a triumphant moment when all those brave women walked to Washington DC to enact the 19th Amendment.

“This important milestone deserves a historical and spiritual permanent marker. I hope the women who walk in and out of the building feel the impact of the statue and have the courageous spirit, like the women before them to succeed,” said Hanlon.

In the Student Life Center, on the southern end of the campus, is the Martin Luther King Jr Lounge. “We now have two markers of those moments in time when people had to fight to be fully recognized citizens of our American democracy,” said Dr. David Stout, president of Brookdale Community College, while thanking Hanlon for his generosity.

Hanlon met with the current students and graduates of Women In Leadership and Learning (WILL) to get the vision of his work as they planned

to create an installation to place on the wall behind the statue. He told them it was not a named figure but a multi-representative statue. The WILL members developed an installation that features the more marginalized voices and underrepresented figures from the movement and beyond. The members researched and collaborated with student artists to develop the installation.



Wellness Center Donation



The College received a \$500,000 donation from Caroline Huber, in which \$350,000 will establish a Wellness Center focused on mental health, wellness, and social justice. In addition, \$150,000 will establish a Caroline Huber Memorial Scholarship

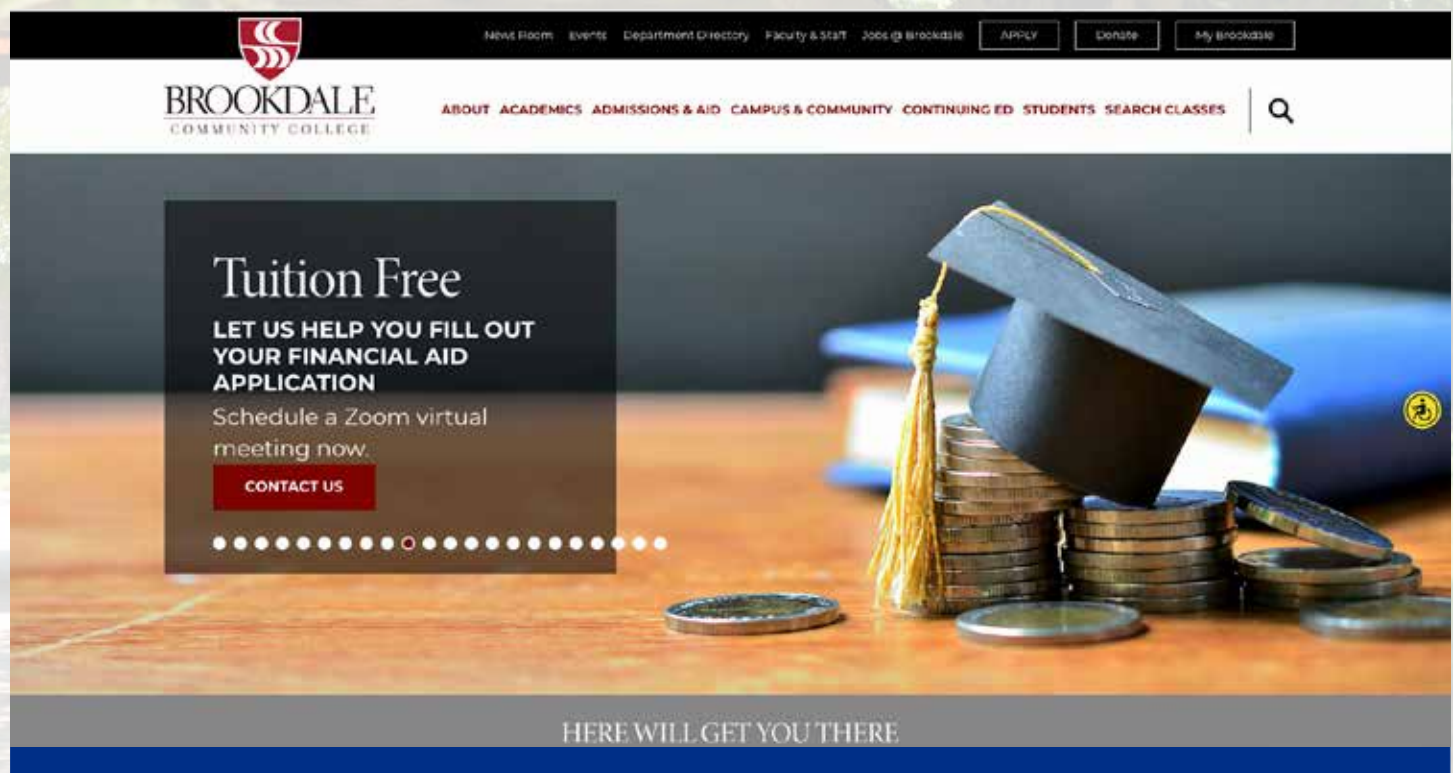
Fund for new incoming students in the Humanities program. The Center will include many partners throughout Monmouth County who are helping to develop the space and programs. In addition, we are welcoming ideas and input from our students.

Expanding Our Footprint

In August 2020, Brookdale launched a newly redesigned website. Over the past year, Brookdale's communications & marketing team (College Relations) has been working with the Splendor

Design Group and Ally Marketing web and communications staff to build a new website that better reflects our campus community and program offerings, improves navigation for

students, staff, and faculty, and provides a refreshed "digital front door" for new students interested in learning at Brookdale Community College.



Woman's Exchange Scholarship Donation

The Board of Directors of the Woman's Exchange of Monmouth County presented a check of \$350,000 to Dr. David Stout, president of Brookdale Community College. These funds will provide scholarships for over ten years to women, age 25 or older, living in Monmouth County, enrolling in continuing education courses. "The mission of the Woman's Exchange to 'help women help themselves' will now continue," said Monica Boscarino, president of the Woman's Exchange Board of Directors.

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees and all our students whose lives will be touched by this incredibly generous donation, I thank the Woman's Exchange for choosing to support Brookdale. This gift will ensure that the impact of the Woman's Exchange will live on for many years through the work of our Continuing & Professional Studies

career training programs. In addition, we pledge to educate the scholarship recipients about the Woman's Exchange Movement and to honor our mutual mission to support economic stability and independence," said Stout.

The Woman's Exchange of Monmouth County, a nonprofit 501(c3), was first located in Rumson before moving to Little Silver. It was established in 1934 during the depression era and provided artisans and crafters the opportunity to support themselves. For over 75 years, the Woman's Exchange has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars in donations to charities throughout Monmouth County. It has paid out over \$2.5 million to the artisans selling their handmade gifts.

"We are honored that the members of the Woman's Exchange of Monmouth County chose Brookdale Community College as the recipient of this most generous gift," said Nancy Kaari, vice

president of advancement at Brookdale Community College. "The scholarships created from this donation will provide financial support that will lift the burden that so many of our students who are pursuing their education face."



New Foundation Officers

The mission of the Brookdale Foundation is to help deserving students who neither qualify for state nor federal aid achieve their dream of a college degree so they can build a better future for themselves, their families, and our communities. The new officers of the board of trustees will lead us in our mission.

Serving as president is **Julia G. Zapcic**, Long Branch, President and Co-founder of A Shared Universe Studios, LLC, and Vice President of Client Relations and Business Development at the ultraviolet agency. **Dr. Susan E. Whyman**, a historian from Fair Haven with a Ph.D. from Princeton

University, will serve as vice president. Serving as treasurer is **Philip Ferraro**, Oceanport, First Vice President-Investments, at Wells Fargo Advisors, and serving as the Foundation's secretary is **Pericles Scaranni**, an entrepreneur from Holmdel.

Nancy Kaari, Vice President of Advancement, said: "Our new officers individually and collectively bring a wealth of knowledge, experience, and passion to the Foundation's mission and are committed to making students' dreams of a college education a reality."



Letter from VP of Advancement

So many of our students face hurdles that we can only imagine, financial struggles, food and housing insecurities, lack of transportation, access to technology, and childcare issues. Unfortunately, during this unprecedented time, COVID has only compounded these, making their challenges even harder.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and sponsors, together, we are helping students achieve their dreams of earning a college degree, helping them not only build a better future for themselves, but also for their families and our communities. We are proud to report that this year, the Foundation provided over \$620,000 in scholarships and grants to support students.

As you read through the pages, you'll see that whether you made an online donation, sponsored an event, awarded a grant, or funded a scholarship, your generosity has had a profound impact on a student. On behalf of those student, heartfelt thanks.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nancy Kaari".

Nancy Kaari,
VP Advancement

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Julia Zapcic".

Julia Zapcic
President

Brookdale's 41st Annual Education Open Golf Outing Honors Two Front Line Alumni

The Brookdale Community College Foundation hosted the 41st Annual Education Open Golf Outing in September at Eagle Oaks Golf & Country Club in Farmingdale, NJ, with proceeds to benefit the Invest in Student Success Scholarship fund. With these scholarships and grants, many students earn their associate degree at Brookdale, transfer to four-year institutions to achieve their undergraduate degrees or start their careers after completing a certificate program at Brookdale. Our supporters, donors, and sponsors are helping hundreds of students achieve their academic and professional goals.

Honored at the awards dinner, were Front Line Brookdale Alumni Nichole Schumann and Jorge Terreros, in recognition for their service and commitment to helping others impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nichole Schumann is a nurse working at the Christian Brothers Academy De La Salle Hall, a Long-Term Care Nursing Home. She has been working 12-16 hour shifts ever since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Some of the staff at her facility got sick and they were running on a skeletal team. Schumann stayed at the facility to be available 24/7 for the elderly residents she takes care of. She is a young married student handling her job as a front-line nurse, a student who stayed engaged with the virtual classroom, completed all her school assignments, and managed her home.

Jorge Terreros started as a student at Brookdale Community College in the Business Administration program and graduated in 2004. He went on to receive a master's degree at Rutgers. He has been working at Brookdale in many departments including Registration, as an Academic Advisor, Student

Success Coach, and he is presently the Director of the Branch Campus in Freehold. Terreros was honored for what he has done for Brookdale, our students, and his family and extended family during this difficult time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Golfers won individual and team prizes, including two hole-in-one contests for a two-year lease on a new Infiniti donated by Circle Infiniti in West Long Branch and a two-year lease on a Cadillac donated by Gold Coast Cadillac of Oakhurst. The evening featured awards presentations for individuals and teams, including special prizes for closest to the pin and longest drive, as well as blind skins games, a live auction which included a matched gift by Tito's Homemade Vodka, among other activities.





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- *Zeik, Margaret*

Donors- Invest in Student Success



- Abby-White, Tracey
- Alfieri, Ann Marie
- Almeida, Deborah
- Amundson, Katelyn
- Anderson, David
- Andriacchi, Debbie
- Applegate, Patrick
- Babula, Gregory
- Banzon, Mercedes
- Baron, Barbara
- Batchler, Brooke
- Bauer, Richard
- Becht, Daniel
- Bennett, Dana
- Bennett, Nancy
- Berman, Cindy
- Bhat, Rajaram
- Biala, Ewa
- Biran, Ben
- Boardman, Sally
- Bouggy, Matthew
- Boyington, Barbara
- Boylan, Mary Beth
- Brennan, Suzanne
- Brook, Hilary
- Burrill, Sara
- Burriss, Brian
- Campione, Frank
- Cassan, Robert
- Cattelona, Joseph
- Cattelona, Margaux
- Cattelona, Victoria
- Cheung, Anne
- Cleary, Patricia
- Conover, John
- Cram, Henry
- Crimi, Ellen
- Crupi, Paul
- D'Agostino, Karen
- Davis, Dyese
- DeSantis, Susan
- Desiderato, Sue
- DeVito, Dennis
- DeVoe, Lesley
- DiLaurenzio, Annalesa
- Donohue, Joan
- Donor, Anonymous
- Edman, Jayne
- Ehrlich, Alice
- Escobedo, Karen
- Estelle, Joyce
- Fernandez, Maria
- Ferraro, Madeline
- Fineman, Rosalind
- Fitzpatrick, Allison
- Fleischer, Barbara
- Flieger, Thomas
- Flinn, Donna
- Fox, Carey
- Gallo, Patricia
- Geiselman, Peter
- Giannotte, Nicolas
- Glazewski, Eleanor
- Granger, Tamsen
- Greco-Covington, Christine
- Harris, Andrew



- Helyes, Lisa
- Hinck, Philip
- Hoffman, Linda
- Holzer, Christian
- Horgan, Eleanor
- Horl, Barbara
- Hoy, Alana
- Hughes, AnnMarie
- Idavoy, Alex
- Itheme, Nicole
- Jankowski, Alexis
- Johnson, Edward
- Jones, Danielle
- Kaminski, Jennifer
- Kanthajan, Kornpipob
- Kapsak, Thomas
- Kaufmann, Francis Bret
- Kegelman, Nancy
- Kelly, Kim
- Kent, Robert
- Kimler, Robert
- Kleiner, Ann
- Komar, David
- Konn, Terry
- Kornienko, Sergey
- Kozak, Kathleen
- Kozlowski, Catherine
- Kwon, Heeja
- Lambert, Mary
- Lange, Earl
- Leahy, Sarah
- Letu, Christopher
- LeVine, Jess
- Leyes, Daniel
- Liano, Gregory
- Linaberry, Richard
- Lloyd, Alice
- Long, Nancy
- Loori, Helen
- Lowry, Katherine
- Lowry, Robert
- Lynn, Bonnie
- Maber, Marie
- Maki, Kelsey
- Manfreda, Teresa
- Mannino, Lisa
- Marich, Bruce
- Marshall, Arthur
- Maurer, Jennifer
- McBride, Michele
- McCarthy, James
- McElroy, Sarah
- McNeil, John
- Medoff, Jeslyn
- Mejias-Fuertes, Jackeline
- Minard, Michael
- Minis, Colleen






- *Moffitt, Sharon*
- *Morales-Wright, Richard*
- *Napoli, Alexander*
- *Natter, Margaret*
- *Naylor, Mary*
- *Neitzel, Laura*
- *Nigro, Dominick*
- *Noerpel, Nancy*
- *O'Grady, Denise*
- *Olaoye, Elaine*
- *Ortore, Janice*
- *Ortore, Steven*
- *Paci, Michelle*
- *Passarella, Bonnie*
- *Pellicane, Anthony*
- *Penta, Carmen*
- *Pratt, Karen*
- *Prignoli, Frank*
- *Raghunanadan, Samidheni*
- *Raleigh, Joan*
- *Rauso, Suzanne*
- *Reed, Matthew*
- *Richens, Lester*
- *Riepl, Timothy*
- *Rodrigues, Zulmira*
- *Rosenberg, Susan*
- *Rother, Franklyn*
- *Saada, GERALYN*
- *Salem, Robert*
- *Sattenspiel, Candy*
- *Scarangella, Susan*
- *Schoch, Phillip*
- *Schurgin, Ronald*
- *Scimeca, Jane*
- *Sensi, Patricia*
- *Shea, Kathleen*
- *Sherman, Dorann*
- *Sicuro, Scott*
- *Siederer, Martin*
- *Smuga, George*
- *Snowiss, Lee*
- *Sparaco, Anne Marie*
- *Stanmoni, Kathleen*
- *Stout, David*
- *Thomas, Janice*
- *Thompson, Paul*
- *Toms, William*
- *Torrado, Cinthia*
- *Turpin, Marcellus*
- *Van Lew, Kim*
- *Vloyanetes, Jeanne*
- *Voogt, Anita*
- *Vorbach, Thomas*
- *Walker, Hanna*
- *Walsh, Martin*
- *Washington, Girdie*
- *Waters, Alexandria*
- *Wigginton, Craig*
- *Williams, Louise*
- *Willson, Sr., Wallace*
- *Wilson, Fidel*
- *Wolfson, Margo*
- *Worthley, Kristin*
- *Zakhalyavko, Galyna*
- *Zapcic, Julia*
- *Zeiss, Timothy*
- *Zinn, Ichin*
- *AmazonSmile Foundation*
- *Art Society of Monmouth County*
- *Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri & Jacobs LLC*
- *Ellucian*
- *Johnson & Johnson*
- *Kearny Bank Foundation*
- *Monmouth-Ocean County Chapter Pan Hellenic Council*
- *New Jersey Natural Gas*
- *Shell Oil Company Foundation Matching Gifts*
- *The Stone Foundation of New Jersey*

FINANCIALS

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

FOUNDATION

REVENUE

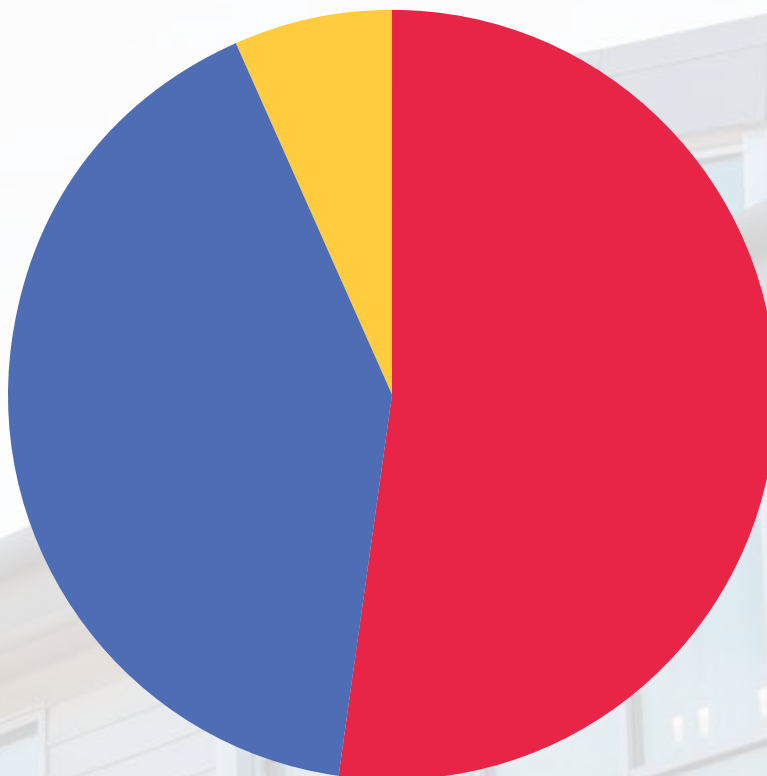
 Contribution	1,391,033
 Investment Income	1,098,194
 Special Events	173,335
Total Revenue	2,662,562

EXPENDITURES

 Programs & Services	1,187,369
 Operating	203,543
 Fundraising	96,772
Total Expenditures	1,487,684

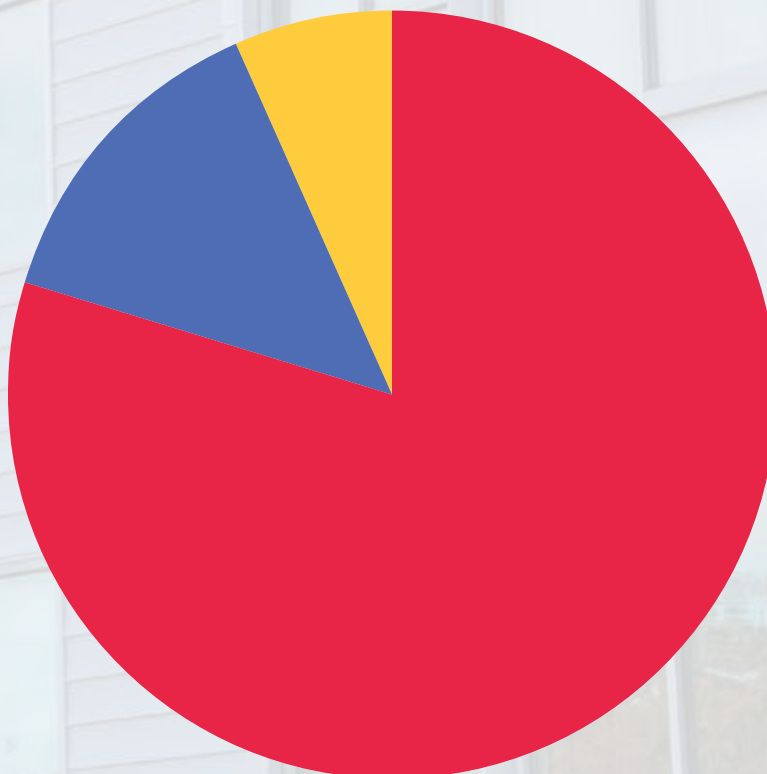
REVENUE

Total Revenue: 2,662,562









EXPENDITURES:












Total Expenditures: 1,487,684



OPERATING REVENUE

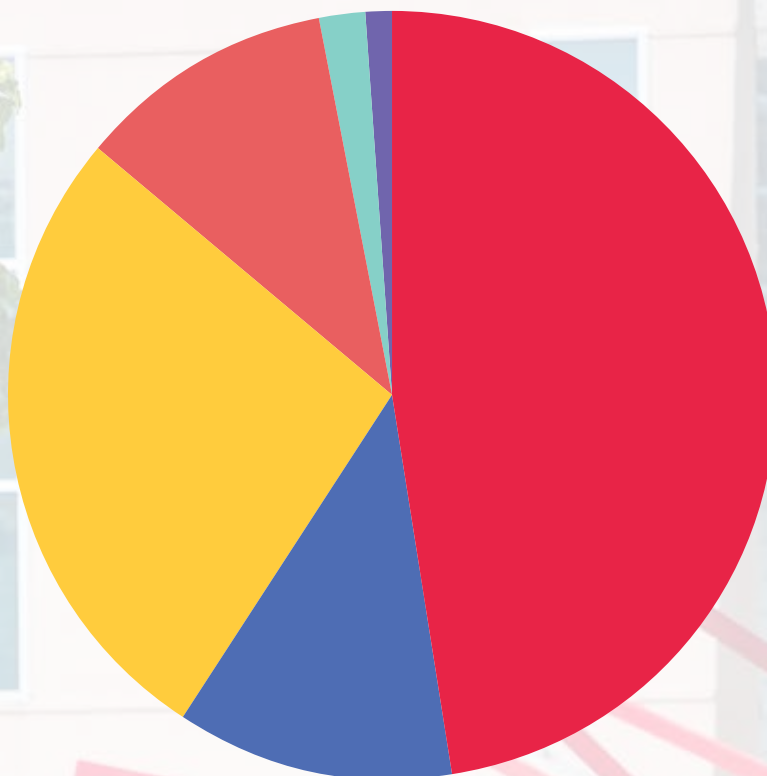
 Tuition	35,313,297
 State	8,712,697
 County	20,027,019
 Fees	7,977,157
 CPS	1,569,124
 Other Income	572,687
Total Revenue	74,171,981

EXPENDITURES

 Learning Division	27,963,337
 Student Success Div	5,141,846
 CPS	1,991,105
 President & BOT	500,565
 Finance & Ops	10,942,813
 Human Resources & Safety	1,682,340
 Planning & Ins Effec	378,112
 Advancement	1,189,183
 Utilities	1,581,438
 Benefits	13,762,675
 General	3,492,140
Total Expenditures	68,625,554

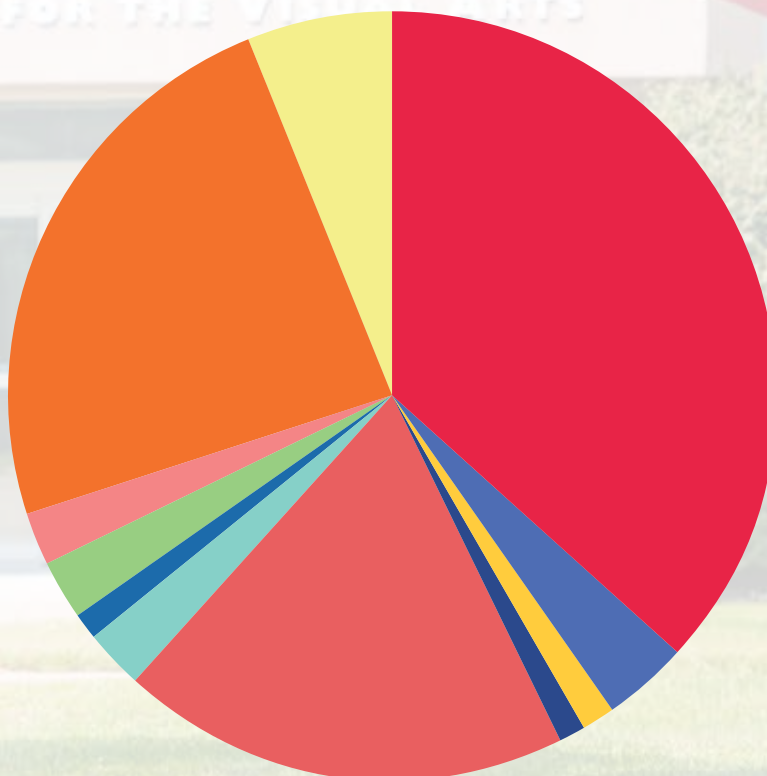
REVENUE

Total Revenue: 74,171,981






EXPENDITURES:

Total Expenditures: 68,625,554





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 Brookdale Community College

765 Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, NJ 07738 | 732-224-2345 | brookdalecc.edu

An equal opportunity/affirmative action institution