

alumNEWS

Spring 2016

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[alumNews Online]

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Changing Their Course, One Class at a Time

Whether they're called "returning adult students," "mature learners" or "adult learners," 49 percent of students at community colleges across the country are between the ages of 22 and 39, with 14 percent over the age of 40¹. Last semester, 15 percent of full-time students, 38 percent of part-time students and 24 percent of all students at SCCC were 30 years old and older.

At SCCC, support for the returning adult student ranges from the RESTART online club, to the Plus 50 Encore Completion Grant program the College launched in 2013, part of a nationwide initiative to recruit and support older students (50 years old and above) pursuing a new career.

The paths that led them to SCCC are often just as interesting as the students themselves and the goals and aspirations they have set. Samantha Vasquez and James LaRose are two such students, one with an eye toward working in the criminal justice system and the other planning for a second career after retirement.

There are times when she has to tune her family out and the house "will be a wreck," but it's been worth it for Samantha, a 31-year-old single mother with two young sons ages 7 and 3. "Once my homework's done and I've met the deadline, I pick right back up with it and with my kids," she said during a recent interview in between classes and working in the Career and Employment Services Office in Elston Hall. She credits her boys with serving as her motivation as she works toward completing her final semester at SCCC and graduating with her degree in Criminal Justice this May. "My boys are my life," she said. "I don't even think that I would have the drive that I have without them because I've lost my way too many times."

After leaving high school in 11th grade, Samantha, originally from Queens, N.Y., travelled upstate five years later for a job corp program. "I did a total life change when I started job corp. I started to find myself," she said. She had already completed a medical billing program, worked in the health care field and had planned on pursuing a degree in nursing, but her life moved in a different direction and she decided that criminal justice was her passion. She plans on pursuing her bachelor's degree in the fall, followed by her master's degree. She has her sights set on a Ph.D., but wants to first get experience working in corrections and the parole system, with a long-range goal of one day becoming a judge.



Samantha Vasquez



James LaRose

¹American Association of Community College Fast Facts, February 2016

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

You, as an alumnus of Schenectady County Community College (SCCC), play a vital role in the success of our College. We know that many of you are active, involved, and visible in the Capital Region as successful professionals and pillars within our community. We thank you for enhancing the reputation of SCCC as an institution of high quality learning. On the campus, you are visible role models for our students who see that with dedication and perseverance they can achieve their educational goals, just like you have done and demonstrated. Your enthusiasm and involvement through the SCCC Alumni Advisory Committee and your financial support provide our faculty and staff with encouragement and positive reinforcement in their significant efforts in helping our students succeed.

Thank you for your outstanding support.

Dr. Steady Moono
President



SCHENECTADY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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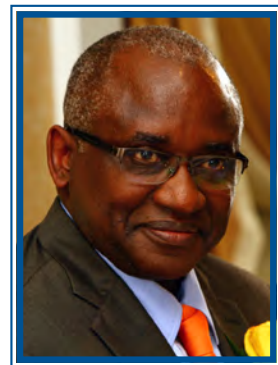
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A New Presence in Downtown Schenectady

There's a new hub for business training and personal/professional development in downtown Schenectady – the Kindl Building. The new location for the College's Office of Workforce Development and Community Education, 201 State St., has already been home to a series of classes for the new Introduction to Craft Brewing credential course, career and education pathway workshops, a Youth Build mental toughness program, sewing classes and meetings for local non-profit organizations that partner with the College.

The office provides industry demand-driven education, training and personal enrichment programs in areas including health care, archaeology, computers, and music and logistics for adults, kids, teens and adults. Customized training can be developed in conjunction with area businesses to improve employee productivity. The college's START-UP NY program is also housed at Kindl.



On an unseasonably warm day in November 2015, a crowd gathered in front of the Kindl Building as officials and members of the Kindl family participated in a symbolic ribbon cutting. The building was owned by Catherine Kindl whose husband, the late Fred Kindl, bought the 12,000 square-foot building in 1982 for the engineering firm he founded, Encotech, Inc. The Kindl family donated the building to SCCC in 2009, along with \$350,000 for restoration. Pictured are Rosemary Harrigan, Kindl family member, and Dr. Steady Moono, SCCC President, with state, county and College officials during the ceremony.



Something's Brewing...

SCCC's Office of Workforce Development and Community Education is tapping into the need for qualified brewers and jumping on the growth of the brewing industry (there are currently 238 breweries in New York state alone) by offering a brewer training course in partnership with Shmaltz Brewing Company, Adirondack Brewing, Saranac, Rare Form and the Greater Capital Region Workforce Development Boards. Introduction to Craft Brewing is a 13-week course designed to meet the growing workforce needs of craft breweries throughout the Capital Region and Upstate New York.

The first group of burgeoning brewers will complete the course later this month. They've learned everything from yeast fermentation and beer maturation to beer packaging and brewery safety with classes in the College's new Kindl Building and hands-on training at local breweries. The next session will start in September 2016.

Find out more about Introduction to Craft Brewing by calling the Office of Workforce Development at (518) 595-1101, ext. 2.



Representatives from winning nonprofits pose with Times Union Publisher/CEO George R. Hearst III, center.

Foundation a Big Winner in "The Big \$100,000 Giveaway"

After the *Times Union's* Capital Region Gives special section launched in November 2015, the public was invited to vote daily for their favorite among 37 local nonprofits. Nearly 25,000 votes were cast over three weeks, and the SCCC Foundation was chosen as one of the 10 nonprofits to receive \$10,000 in free advertising space in the *Times Union*.

A great "big" thanks to our friends at the *Times Union* and to all who voted!

An Authentic Taste of France in the Electric City

When Heather Chestnut was 55, she and her husband Andy had two grown children, she had already worked in musical theater for several year after earning her bachelor's in music education, spent a decade selling real estate and worked in retail, before realizing her dream was to bring her lifelong love of cooking into her professional life. She was also a college freshman.

After having prepared all of the dishes at the teachers' luncheons while her kids were in Westchester's Pelham School District, and then (after her family relocated back to the Capital District) serving as the Head Chef for Bethesda House in Schenectady for two years, preparing 100-150 meals daily, Heather enrolled full time as a student in the Culinary Arts degree program. She'd been cooking seriously since the age of 12, preparing family meals, and needed the program at SCCC to take her to the next level.

"I didn't know what certain things were called and how to make them," Heather said. "The program brought me full circle and it's given me the security that I really knew what I was doing."

Now, she's taken the biggest step of all after graduating from the program at age 59 in May 2013. She and her husband Andy are the owners of Chez Nous, Schenectady's only authentic, French-inspired restaurant. It's located on Union Street. "It's not a regular restaurant; it's fine dining," explained Heather during a recent tour of the c.1875 house they renovated into a French-style elegant and cozy dining spot. "The DSIC (Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation) had to put a different color on the map just for us, for fine dining."

The seed for the Chestnuts' foray into French cuisine was planted when they lived in Crespières, a village outside of Paris, from 1988-1991. Heather took cooking classes and was "just blown away by their techniques, the cuts of meat" and the foundation of fresh, local ingredients for each dish. Andy became knowledgeable about French wines. Recently, he became TIPS (Training for Intervention Procedures) certified by taking a class at the College. He's now the Director of Wine and Spirits (interrupting his career in clinical social work) and Heather is the Managing Director of Chez Nous, open since December 2015.

Their opening menu featured les huitres (oysters), pheasant pot pie, bisque homard (Maine lobster bisque), cassoulet (baked casserole of duck leg quarter), among other mouth-watering entrees. "It's all about the food," Heather said. "Everything is fresh. There is nothing pre-made frozen or in cans." They just debuted their spring menu. Their "French Country Harvestfare (TM)" concept aligns their offerings to the local growing season.



Changing Their Course, One Class at a Time

Continued from cover

For James, age 47, the year 2020 will signify the closing of one chapter of his life and the beginning of another. That's when he'll finish a 30-year career with the United Parcel Service (UPS) in Latham, N.Y., retiring as a service provider/package handler. At the same time, he plans to graduate with his degree in Chemical Dependency Counseling.

He put the wheels in motion toward a second career when he started at the College in Spring 2015, taking classes on a part-time basis while working full time. He charted his course so that in 2020 he'll be embarking on his second career. "I didn't want to be idle when I retired," he said. "I wanted to do something that's more fulfilling and of more service to the community."

After he graduates, James plans on working with those struggling with addiction. He describes his decision to become an adult learner this way, "I felt that if I could help people during the second half of my life, that would be a worthy project." A funny thing has happened along the way, as he's been taking one or two classes a semester. James has inspired some of his co-workers, who will also be retiring in 2020, to return to college also.

10th Anniversary of Dr. Chestnut's Scholarship

In addition to studying at SCCC, the Chestnuts have a strong connection to the College as a result of the legacy left by Andrew's mother, Erma Ruth ("Cal") Chestnut. Dr. Chestnut was a doctoral intern in 1969, SCCC's first year of operation. In fact, she was integral during the very first registration process when the first group of students began taking classes at the new institution. She returned to campus in 1976 and for the next 10 years, she served as Assistant to the Registrar, Director of Continuing Education, Acting Dean of Students, Director of Institutional Research, Special Assistant to the President and Affirmative Action Officer. She was a member of the Foundation Board from 1988-2003.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Dr. Chestnut establishing a scholarship in her name that is awarded each May to a full-time or part-time student in a degree program with a GPA of 3.2 or higher who graduated from Linton High School, Mont Pleasant High School or Schenectady High School.

Dr. Chestnut passed away in February 2008, but her belief in education as the gateway to success and in the students at SCCC is still present at the College through her scholarship.

Getting Big Laughs on *The Tonight Show*

If you watch *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon, you've seen former drama student Dion Flynn. He portrays President Barack Obama and the laughs just keep coming. Dion, who after SCCC went on to earn degrees from the University at Albany and NYU, and Jimmy Fallon are old friends from when both lived in the Capital Region in the 90s. (Fallon was a student at the College of Saint Rose.) Their video of Jimmy as Donald Trump and Dion as President Obama has racked up more than 8 million views.

Dion has gained a lot of exposure from his appearances on Fallon's show, has his own one-man show (*The Only Brown Kid in the Trailer Park*) and just got done shooting a pilot for A&E. Here, he sheds a little bit of light on his life now and the power of being "silly."



Q. In addition to your one-man show, what have you been working on?

A. I just returned from Los Angeles where I performed at the world-famous Hollywood Improv as President Obama. While in Hollywood, we also performed our two-man show *Clanging With Josh & Dion* starring Josh Radnor from *How I Met Your Mother* and PBS's *Mercy Street*. I'm currently shooting a short film titled *Life on The Run* directed by Roger Wyatt (from Saratoga Springs) on the subject of transitioning from one creative definition of yourself to the next. In this film we did a scene where I speak to my Obama impersonation as a separate entity. I'm seen in a split-screen interacting with myself. The solo show *The Only Brown Kid In The Trailer Park* has morphed into a college/business talk on how we all feel like we're outsiders and that's what makes us human, so don't use that as an excuse to stay apart, use it as a reason to join in. I have upcoming dates from Vermont to Vegas.

Q. Can you describe some recent appearances on *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon?

A. I continue to portray President Obama as well as new characters including recently, the fake fitness instructor Barry Bibbet, demonstrating, with these

new characters that the writers create for me to my great joy, that there is and will be a place for Dion Flynn on America's number-one late night show even after the Obama era passes. Amen.

Q. What else should we be on the lookout for?

A. I booked a role in a sci-fi pilot presentation for A&E titled *Channels*. It stars Abigail Spencer and is directed by Jim Byrkit (screenwriter for *Rango* with Johnny Depp). In association with David S. Goyer (screenwriter *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Batman Begins*, and *Man of Steel*), *Only Brown Kid in the Trailer Park* has attracted a mentor in the publishing world to shepherd from solo show to memoir.

Q. Some say humor has healing powers. How important is comedy and laughing to our well-being?

A. Years ago when I started asking, "What would you have me do?" and "What is your will for me?,"... I'd sit in meditation and get answers. I began Mind-Mapping (Buzan) those answers and the word that kept coming up was "silliness." I have always been silly. I love silliness. Nothing has the ability to quickly remind us that nothing need keep us down for too long than some good old-fashioned silliness. "Silly" can mean many things. Happy. Blessed.

Innocent. One definition for "silly" which I find most illuminating is: "feeble in mind, lacking in reason, foolish." That's what I want to be. Free from mind. Not to say I don't think or use my brain, I do. But to be free from the relentlessly obsessive mind, while in a state of blissful inspiration and nonsense, is the best zone for me. Silliness can only arise when there is a certain distance from the pain of a thing. We've all, every one of us, been through something dreadfully painful. If silliness can help people gain a moment of freedom from our own daily strictures, then I'm all for it. My next book after that will be titled *Sit Yourself Silly: How Meditation Helped Me Live, Love and Laugh*.

Q. What's a favorite quote or mantra?

A. "To know yourself as the Being underneath the thinker, the stillness underneath the mental noise, the love and joy underneath the pain, is freedom, salvation, enlightenment." – Eckhart Tolle

Remembering Toby Strianese

The students in the Dining Room and Banquet Management classes are all very different, but this semester they all have something in common: the “Toby Pin.” All of the students are wearing a small “rabbit style” cork screw pin on their uniforms. It’s the same style cork screw that Professor Toby Strianese, an expert in the pairing of wine and food, used in his Wines of the World classes and it’s another way that the School of Hotel, Culinary Arts and Tourism is honoring Toby, longtime professor and chair of the Division, who passed away on Dec. 26, 2015.



Toby influenced thousands of students during his 40 years at SCCC. His legacy will still be known by future students when they pass through the “Anthony J. ‘Toby’ Strianese Wing of Culinary Arts and Hospitality” in Elston Hall, following an official resolution passed by the College’s Board of Trustees in February 2016 to name the wing in his honor. Toby, who was chair of the division for 17 years, supervised the expansion of the wing in 2007 and an expansion to the culinary area in 1992 which included the construction of the original Casola Dining Room.

Always thinking about what would benefit his students, Toby instituted the Walt Disney World College Program in 1983, changing the lives of a myriad of students who had the opportunity to travel to Disney and work for a semester in resorts and restaurants there. In addition to his leadership at SCCC, Toby was the chair and a member of several boards including the New York State Restaurant Association Educational Foundation Board of Directors (Vice President) and the Board of Directors of the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association. He was also a recognized author of textbooks, with his wife Pam. But first and foremost, Toby was an exceptional educator, who was caring, thoughtful, compassionate and a mentor to countless students and alumni.



Students Egan McCoy and Justo Escun with Dr. David Brough '81, Dean of the School of Hotel, Culinary Arts and Tourism, are all wearing the “Toby Pin.”

A Legacy of Creativity & Caring

I first met Professor Toby Strianese as a freshman 35 years ago when I took his Quantitative Foods course. I vividly remember three things about him when he walked into the classroom on the first day: his serious face, his open, creative mind, and his caring demeanor.

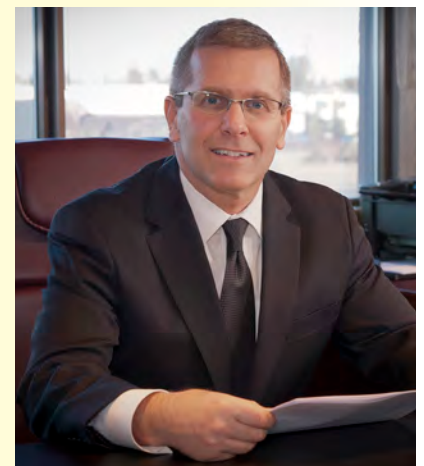
Later, I stopped by his office to meet him outside of his classroom. His serious face softened as we talked; my thoughts about his intimidating academic achievements faded as I discovered one of the most caring and receptive persons at SCCC.

Toby believed that each individual should be judged by his or her own merits and not by any external social indicators such as age, sex, or social class. True to form, over the years, I learned more about the man who continued to care for his students’ academics, professional careers and for their personal growth.

I learned that not only had he helped the careers of many students such as myself through his advice and warm support, but that many professors had become equally as indebted to him.

The world has lost a brilliant mind, his family a dear husband, father, brother and grandparent, SCCC a valuable professor and former Chair, and we all lost a dear friend. In his stead, Toby left himself in the lives of many people. I see his warmth and compassion toward students reflected in the professors he impacted, and I see his drive for a diverse, intense, and exciting education in the students whose lives at SCCC he helped guide. His influence lives on.

– **George Goldhoff '93**, Hotel Technology President and CEO of Pure Canadian Gaming



A Record-Breaking Donation

For the first time in its 43-year history, the SCCC Foundation received a \$1 million dollar donation from an anonymous donor in October 2015 to benefit the programs and facilities in the School of Hotel, Culinary Arts and Tourism. The Foundation extends its gratitude to this donor and all those who make a difference in the lives of our students through their support of the College.



Photo credit: Keira Lemonis photography

Alumna is on Cutting-Edge of Cake Design

Not many people can say that they knew what they wanted to do with their lives at age 15 and followed through with their dream. Sarah Rhoades '08 can.

Rhoades's confectionary creations, wedding cakes, birthday cakes, cupcakes, cookies and cannolis, have been savored throughout the Capital District. She's the owner of Sprinkleista Bakery on Jay Street in Schenectady and recently celebrated her first year in business.

"I've been baking for as long as I can remember," she said. "I always knew I wanted to open a bakery." She started pursuing her dream seriously at the age of 16 when she took her first college course, Elements of Baking, with Chef Sue Hatafsky. Elements was soon followed by Cake Decorating and she continued taking one class each semester while in high school.

After working in local bakeries and waitressing, Sarah, age 27, made her

dream a reality, opening Sprinkleista in March 2015 inside the same space occupied by Ambition Bistro. She specializes in cake design and is a member of an international cake collaboration group, staying on the cutting-edge in cake design. Her philosophy is simple. "The cool thing about this industry is that you never stop learning," she said. "The cake world is evolving so fast if you stop learning, you'll get left behind."

If you pick up a copy of *Save the Date in the 518*, a new bridal magazine, you'll notice fabulous wedding cakes, all created by Sarah. Designing cakes, especially for brides and grooms, has been rewarding for this small business owner. "The most rewarding thing is just making people happy," she said. "I love getting to see people's faces when they see their cakes... when I know that somebody's day was made because of something I made out of sugar. That's the best feeling."

Words of Advice Before Opening Your Own Business from Sarah Rhoades '08

"Be ready to hustle! It's not easy. I know everybody tells you how hard it is, but let me tell you again, it's hard. And be open to everything, take every opportunity you can. Sometimes opportunities come to your business in different ways than you would expect. I'm also really glad I took seven years after graduating to open. I know as soon as you graduate you want to start on your own thing, but taking the time to work in the industry and learn as much as possible is really important."

GO ROYALS!

The College community gathered together last month to applaud the achievements of the Women's and Men's Bowling Teams and Morgan Sullivan, a standout on the Women's Basketball Team.

1 - Assistant Women's Basketball Team Coach Zoe Naylor is shown with Morgan Sullivan, who was named All-Conference Player of the Year, voted upon by coaches in the conference, marking the first time a Royal has earned that distinction. She ended the season as the leading scorer for Region III, breaking the 1,000-point career barrier with 1,022. She also broke regional and College records for most points during a single game with 43. Next up for the Business Administration major with a 3.8 GPA after she graduates this May is to play as a guard for Division II College of Saint Rose this fall. She'll be the first female athlete to go D2 out of the Royals basketball program.

2 - The Women's Bowling Team with Coach Ray Ross and Dr. Steady Moono, President. In February 2016, in addition to winning the Region III Playoffs in Utica, N.Y., the women went on to be crowned NJCAA National Champions during competition in Buffalo, N.Y. They were led by Jordan Byrnes and Janelle Irwin. This is the third consecutive regional championship win for the women and their second national championship victory.

3 - The Men's Bowling Team with Coach Ray Ross and Dr. Steady Moono, President. The Men's Team won the Region III Playoffs in Utica, N.Y. in February 2016, making this the fourth consecutive season that the men were named Region III Champs. The men's team, led by Justin Carl, finished third during the NJCAA National Championships.

SCCC now has four NJCAA National Championships in bowling since 2013.

1



2



Women's Bowling Team: Janelle Irwin, Carly Poyfair, Deanna Lee, Jordan Byrnes, Julie Collins, Morgan Ruggeri, Kasey Kosier. Not pictured: Aliyah Liberatore

3



Men's Bowling Team: Michael Kamm, Billy McGaffin, Nick Peckowitz, Zachery Porter, Justin Carl, Corey Hommel. Not pictured: Patrick Hoey

Gala Honors Community Leaders, Alumna

More than 300 people packed the Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia in November 2015 to honor three leaders who have supported the College for many years. Betty Carol Barlyn, a resident of Schenectady County since 1972, received the College's Distinguished Community Volunteer Award. Joan Dembinski '10 received recognition as the College's Distinguished Alumna. The Dake Family/Stewart's Shops were honored as Distinguished Community Partner for their long history of supporting education in the Capital Region and their creation of scholarship opportunities for current students.

The lively evening featured a cabaret style cocktail hour followed by an elegant dinner. Music for the evening featured SCCC music students past and present providing a wide array of musical offerings. A make-your-own sundae bar paid tribute to Stewart's Shops while providing a unique way to enjoy dessert.



Honoree Betty Carol Barlyn is flanked by Donna and Yono Purnomo.



Alumna Joan Dembinski '10 was recognized for her outstanding support of the College.



Pictured here congratulating Stewart's Shops President Gary Dake on his award are SCCC Foundation Chair Jeanne Maloy and SCCC President Dr. Steady Moono.

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Scholarships are Key for This New Employee

Samantha Legere has hit the ground running since she joined the SCCC Foundation as Coordinator of Development, managing scholarships and grants. She's been connecting with students, guiding them through the scholarship application process by providing workshops with tips for writing their essays. She reflected on a recent workshop, saying, "The fun part is helping students through the process of applying, reading their incredible stories through their essays, and then being able to reward their efforts at SCCC with a monetary form of recognition." Previously, Samantha worked in program development and grant facilitation at the City Mission of Schenectady. She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Sociology from SUNY Geneseo and an M.B.A. from Union Graduate College, where she is currently completing a Certificate program in Human Resource Management. "In both work and life, I make sure to respect every person I come in contact with," Samantha shared. "It is important to remember that each individual brings something different to the table, and I am constantly reminding myself that it's not possible to learn without listening. Working with scholarships I am faced with many unique situations, and I try to treat others how I would like to be treated if I were in their shoes."

A New Scholarship, a Meaningful Tribute

At the 2015 *Food For Thought and All That Jazz*, guests were able to bid on a unique auction item. Naming it the "Make Your Own Scholarship," Vice President of Student Affairs Martha Asselin offered to match the highest bidder up to \$1,000 toward establishing a new scholarship under the SCCC Foundation's scholarship program. The winner was Matt Grattan who, along with his siblings, has established an annual scholarship designated for students enrolled in the Supply Chain Management degree program in memory of their father Richard F. Grattan, who worked for 38 years at what used to be Albany Frosted Foods – known today as Sysco. To honor his career with Sysco while supporting SCCC's Supply Chain Management program, Sysco has contributed to the fund as well. Beginning in the 2016-2017 academic year, the Richard F. Grattan/Sysco Scholarship will offer \$500 to a deserving student in the new program.

New Transfer Agreements for School of Music



Dr. William A. Meckley, Dean of the School of Music, and Dr. Penny Haynes, Vice President of Academic Affairs, sign a transfer agreement in October 2015 with Dr. T. Clark Saunders, Interim Dean of The Hartt School. With them are Music students (l. to r.) Kristin Gordon, Kattie Brighon, Vince Caccamo and Joe Pagano.

SCCC alumni, including those within the School of Music, have transferred on to earn their bachelor's degrees through transfer agreements the College has with four-year colleges and universities. The School of Music has added seven more schools to the list. In October 2015, the College inked transfer agreements with the The Hartt School at the University of Hartford in West Hartford, Conn., one of the most prestigious conservatories in the country. This was followed by a new agreement signed in November 2015 between SCCC and Nazareth College in the fields of music education and performance. In the past two years, SCCC has completed new or updated music transfer agreements with The Crane School of Music, SUNY Fredonia, SUNY Buffalo State College, The College of Saint Rose and Hartwick College.

For more information about upcoming alumni events or to join the **Alumni Advisory Committee:**



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Schenectady, NY 12305
(518) 381-1324
www.sunysccc.edu

Class Notes

LORI (KLOPOT) BUONOME '88, Culinary Arts and Hotel and Restaurant Management, has been employed as an Office Assistant II in the Office of Collection Support and Federal Reporting at the New York State Higher Educational Service Corporation (NYSHESC) for 23 years. She has been married for nearly 20 years and has two daughters. Lori reflects on her college days this way, "SCCC was my home away from home and my second family. I was so sad when my college years ended. It shaped me into who I am. I met the most wonderful people in my four years attending SCCC, from the friends I made to the wonderful professors and staff I had the pleasure of knowing."

KATHLEEN M. TOOMBS '94, Liberal Arts, is an attorney with more than 13 years of experience practicing primarily in the areas of elder law, Medicaid planning and application, trust and estate planning, estate administration, veteran's benefits and real estate. She earned her J.D. (cum laude) from Albany Law School of Union University in 1998, with a concentration in the field of Family and Elder Law, and was a member of the Justinian Society.



CARLOS ORTIZ '05, Culinary Arts, graduated from SUNY Delhi in 2010 with his B.B.A. in Hotel and Resort Management. He is currently a General Manager at Ruby Tuesday in the Capital Region. He is married with two children.

KIMBERLY BURROUGHS '12, Criminal Justice, earned her bachelor's degree from SUNY Delhi and earned her master's degree in Criminal Justice from Boston University. She is an advocate for victims of domestic violence in Schenectady County. She and her husband have six children.

CHRISTINE BOYLES '15, Liberal Arts: Honors Concentration, is pursuing her bachelor's degree in Psychology at SUNY Geneseo.



Women's Crew Team Sets Sail for Victory

SCCC is one of only two community colleges in the entire country that offers women's rowing and now the Women's Crew Team is the recipient of a sleek racing vessel of its own.

The Hudson Elite 8+ shell was originally purchased in 2008 by the Princeton University Men's Rowing team. After a series of owners, the shell eventually made its way north to the SGS Rowing Association, who generously donated the shell to the SCCC Women's Crew Team. The black shell is 57 feet long, with aluminum wing riggers. It accommodates a wide range of sizes and weights making it a perfect fit for the SCCC athlete. With a tune-up and paint job scheduled, the Hudson will soon be the flagship of the SCCC Crew fleet.

In addition to fostering solid and competitive local rivalries among Capital Region schools including the University at Albany, RPI, Skidmore and Union College, the team has been invited to return to the QRA, a prestigious, Olympic-caliber course on Lake Quinsigamond, to compete against several colleges in Massachusetts.

The team has goals of taking a solid finish in the New York State Championships and traveling to Philadelphia to compete in the Dad Vail Regatta once again, and next fall's exciting schedule includes races in Philadelphia at the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta and the Head of the Housatonic in Connecticut.

Keystone Society

The Keystone Society honors alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of SCCC who have named the SCCC Foundation in their estate plans. We thank and recognize the following individuals who have made a special commitment to SCCC. We are grateful for their vision, which will enhance the educational opportunities for future SCCC students.

- Anonymous
- Benita C. Allaire
- Dr. Stephen K. Astmann
- Helen H. Begley*
- Vladia C. Boniewski '71, SCCC Emeritus
- Professor Grayce Susan Burian, SCCC Emeritus
- Charles W. Carl Jr.*
- Professor Peter Cousins, SCCC Emeritus*
- Professor Mary Jane Dike, SCCC Emeritus
- Karen* and Walter Grattidge
- Karen Brown Johnson
- Dr. Margaret (Peggy) King
- Professor Jessica K. Malheiros, SCCC Emeritus, Founding Faculty Member*
- Ellie Moore
- Thomas Nelson, SCCC Emeritus, and Ann Henderson
- Thomas L. and Barbara M. Rider
- Janet P. Robbins, SCCC Emeritus
- Gretchen and Lewis Rubenstein
- Donald F. Schenk '74*
- Phyllis E. Gordon Stanton
- Esther Swanker

Keystone Society members are recognized on the Wall of Honor in the Begley Library lobby and in our Annual Report. If you have named the SCCC Foundation in your estate plans, you are considered a member of the Keystone Society. For more information, please contact the Development Office at (518) 381-1324.

* *In memoriam*

Recent Alumni Events

A Magical Evening

Alumna Sarah Rhoades '08 of Sprinkleista supplied Cinderella-themed cupcakes for guests to enjoy. A lively group of alumni and friends gathered at Aperitivo over the winter for hors d'oeuvres and networking before heading over to Proctors for Rodgers + Hammerstein's *CINDERELLA*.



Un-Corking Our Inner Artist

Alumni Paint Nite in March 2016 was a fabulous success. Two hours of instruction, coupled with Canvas, Corks & Forks' signature mac n' cheese bar, produced more than 30 new works of art.

Upcoming Alumni Events



Photo Credit: Eric Kalet

Alumni Day at the Track

The Saratoga Race Course continues to be one of the Capital Region's premier summer outings, and this summer SCCC alumni will be invited on an excursion to the track that includes a private tour of NYRA trainer Gary Contessa's racing stable. Stay tuned for more information about the SCCC Alumni & Friends Day at the Track.



SCCC Alumni ValleyCats Porch Party

Join us once again for the annual ValleyCats Porch Party for alumni and friends on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2016. Tickets include admission to the game with post-game fireworks, as well as a picnic dinner with hotdogs, hamburgers and more.

Please call the Alumni Office at (518) 381-1322 for more information.



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Alumni Services

The following services are offered to SCCC Alumni:

Academic Advisement

Staff work with individuals who have already completed a degree and are seeking advice on either a second degree or information about what other options exist.

Contact: Michael Mastrella (518) 381-1340 or mastremj@sunysccc.edu

ADA Transition Services

ADA Transition Services offers programs and presentations to heighten the awareness of disability issues. Alumni are always invited to serve on the ADA Advisory Committee.

Contact: Susanna Fenlon (518) 381-1345 or fenlonsj@sunysccc.edu

Begley Library/Computer Services

The Begley Library is available to alumni to utilize as guests with access to research services. Limited access to computers is also available to alumni who would like to utilize Begley's online catalog and online database resources. Contact: Lynne King (518) 381-1241 or kinglo@sunysccc.edu

Career and Transfer Services

Alumni are invited to all general career expos and have free access to the College Central job posting system, both of which are coordinated and managed by this office. Alumni can also inquire about making an appointment with a staff member.

Contact: Robert Frederick (518) 381-1368, (518) 381-1365 or frederrg@sunysccc.edu

The College Store

The College Store provides Alumni ID cards (\$5 charge), custom clothing/gifts through website partner MyLocker.net with a selection of merchandise customizable to alumni; special order books and merchandise. Contact: Christopher Henry (518) 377-1606, option 5 or henrycg@sunysccc.edu

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available to answer questions for alumni and provide assistance for student loan deferments, forbearance and consolidation assistance. Contact: (518) 381-1353

Registrar's Office

This office assists alumni in registering for credit or non-credit courses and providing official transcripts and verifications upon request. Contact: Ashley DeSantis (518) 381-1271 or desantan@sunysccc.edu

Student Affairs/Student Activities

This office allows alumni to participate in a variety of campus-wide events. Clubs and organizations invite alumni to participate in their events. Contact: Dr. Martha Asselin

(518) 381-1336 or asselimj@sunysccc.edu

