



Sarah Van Epps-Croto '06, Head Teacher for Gateway Montessori Preschool, works with Damien Penaloza and Brooke Decenzo.

Once observing, now leading

Sarah R. Van Epps-Croto's philosophy about education is this: "Every child is different and they develop and learn in different ways. I think it's important that teachers keep that in mind and shape the curriculum to how each student learns."

The 2006 SCCC graduate returned to the College this summer as the Head Teacher for SCCC's Gateway Montessori Preschool. She designs "works" or educational activities for students ages 2 1/2 to 5 and oversees interns from the College's Early Childhood program.

At the Montessori school, the youngsters freely walk from science areas to art and technology. Some of them, as young as 4, are even authors. Using computers, they gather three facts about something, whether it be an animal or spaghetti or anything in between. They make their own book, writing down the three facts and then present it to the rest of the group during circle time.

While she was studying Early Childhood at SCCC, Sarah, who went on to earn her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education 1-6/Psychology in 2008 from Russell Sage College, did observations in the Montessori Preschool and is now supervising interns from the same program. Her former professor and mentor Tamara Calhoun is now a colleague.

Sarah is excited to share the Montessori method. "The children are independent and they learn to clean up after their own activities. They learn to be responsible and respectful to other students and their work."

"Always dream high. Dreams do come true by hard work and dedication. I applied for a scholarship last year and never had the belief I would get one, but I got three of them. The scholarships gave me the boost to focus more on my studies and work less. It is a good thing to have something extra in your pocket."

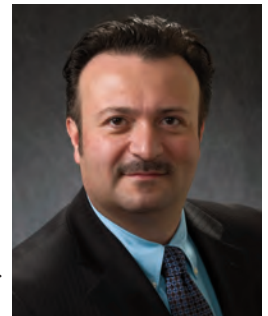
Abdul Rafiqi, Science, scholarship recipient



College announces keynote speakers for Commencement 2015

A well-known local businessman whose product makes bus routes in more than 1,700 schools districts in North America run smoothly and a student leader who helps others lead healthy lifestyles will deliver remarks during Commencement in May.

Antonio Civitella began his career as a computer software intern, developed the company's signature product, purchased the company and now is Chairman and CEO of Transfinder. He will deliver the keynote address to the Class of 2015 at Proctors on May 21 during the College's 45th Commencement.



In 2013, Transfinder celebrated its 25th year in business and completed a new \$7 million corporate headquarters in downtown Schenectady. Civitella was named Entrepreneur of the Year by his alma mater, Siena College, and Newsmaker of the Year by the *Business Review* last year.

Jesse Stewart, a Computer Networking Systems and Cyber Security major, will be this year's featured student speaker. He is President of the Student Government Association and Associate Director of Government Relations for Community Colleges for the SUNY Student Assembly.



He earned his associate's degree in Business Administration with honors from SCCC in December 2014. Jesse has been a member of the Faculty-Student Association, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, CDTA Sustainability Committee and the Presidential Search Committee. He is a member of Phi Theta Kappa national honor society, has been named to the President's and Dean's Lists and has played on the baseball and bowling teams while working two part-time jobs. In addition, Jesse is a wellness coach at the YMCA. After graduation, he plans to transfer into a baccalaureate program at a four-year institution.

Need Money for College?

The SCCC Foundation Scholarship Program will award scholarships to more than 100 students for 2015-2016. These scholarships vary in amount and are based on a variety of factors. Scholarships are for returning and graduating students and most awards range from \$500-\$1,500.

Apply online at: www.sunysccc.edu/scholarships by Friday, March 27.



Under the oars -

Former and current members of the Women's Crew Team make an interesting canopy for Head Coach Cody Rule and his new bride Jillian Herbert '11 to walk under last May in Schenectady.

Rule has led the SCCC rowers as Head Coach since Spring 2014 and was Assistant Coach for two years prior to that.

SUNY recognizes music adjunct with Chancellor's Award

Students have been known to give Cliff Brucker, longtime Adjunct in the School of Music, a standing ovation at the end of the semester. This time, it was SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher who applauded Brucker, recently recognizing him with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching.

Brucker was selected to receive the statewide honor because of his ability to adapt to student needs and interests in the classroom and his mastery of teaching techniques.

Since he first joined the School of Music in 1999, Brucker has taught hundreds of aspiring musicians, educators, recording engineers and music business professionals, consistently inspiring them with his work in the classroom and through his success as a well-known area musician.

His piano, percussion and music appreciation courses have been places where he fosters the growth of students just finding their foundation in their musical repertoire.

Dr. Martha Asselin, noted that the honor was well-deserved. "Along with our full-time faculty, our adjunct faculty play a critical role in the education of our students," she said. "Each brings a unique skill set into the classroom, and in the case of Cliff Brucker, a wonderful talent for music and the ability to excite and teach students about his passion."

In addition to teaching at SCCC and the College of Saint Rose, Brucker has been a professional musician for more than 40 years as a pianist, keyboardist, drummer and percussionist. He regularly performs with the Albany Symphony Orchestra, Capital Region Wind Ensemble and the Empire Jazz Orchestra and has performed with Aretha Franklin, Buddy Greco and Bob Mintzer.

Brucker holds an M.S. in Music from The College of Saint Rose and a B.M. in Music from The Crane School of Music at Potsdam State College.

Recipients of the awards receive a Chancellor's Excellence Medallion. Brucker will be recognized, along with other SUNY Chancellor's Award recipients, at a special College-wide ceremony in May.



Start Up NY - Matt Grattan, Executive Director of Workforce Development (far right), represented the College as a leading institution in Governor Andrew Cuomo's Start Up NY Program during a recent event at the Legislative Office Building in Albany. Through Start Up NY, tax-free areas will be established at the College's Kindl Building on State Street. Grattan is pictured with Kristina Harrington, Senior Administrative Assistant, and Jeff Boyce, Director of Research-Supported Economic Development, both with the SUNY Research Foundation.

Influential artist

Stephen J. Tyson, Adjunct in the Division of Liberal Arts, delivers opening remarks for "Avel deKnight: Visionary Master" at the Manhattan campus of Berkeley College. DeKnight, a cousin of Tyson, was an influence on the development of his artwork.

Tyson, who teaches art classes at SCCC, holds an M.F.A. from the City College of New York and was twice-selected as a Fulbright Fellow to study in Africa.



A generous donation - Stewart's District Manager Deryck Singh (center) and Duane Englehart, Manager of the Brandywine Avenue store, present a check for \$2,500 to the SCCC Foundation. Accepting were Dr. Martha Asselin, Acting President, Jeanne Maloy, Chair of the SCCC Foundation Board, and Michael Wollman, Immediate Past Chair of the Foundation.



Instructor Katrina Rowe, Business Administration major Heather Grogan and Instructor Rich Lasek all volunteer with the College's first tax assistance center.

Need help with your taxes?

As tax season starts to heat up and everyone is eyeing that April 15 deadline, students and faculty in the Division of Business, Criminal Justice and Law are offering free assistance for filers.

The Division has a new Facilitated Self Assistance Center where filers can complete their taxes online using a tax software program. Students and faculty who have become IRS Certified Volunteer Income Tax Assistants will be available to answer tax questions also.

The center is open on Wednesdays from 2 to 5 p.m. through Wednesday, March 11, in Stockade Building Room 301.

Questions may be addressed to Katrina Rowe, Accounting Instructor, at rowekm@sunysccc.edu.

Note: Assistance is not limited to certain tax forms, but it is only free if the tax return is for \$60,000 or under. Those over \$60,000 may still use the software but there will be a fee which is based on a sliding scale.

Consider SUNY Delhi@SCCC after graduation

by Beth O'Reilly, Secretary I, SUNY Delhi

It's that time of year again — when talented SCCC graduates are going to walk across the stage, smile with pride, and utter the words "I did it!" Graduation is indeed an exciting time for those involved. However, it can carry some worrisome thoughts such as "now what?" and "where do I go from here?"

Luckily, SCCC has partnered with SUNY Delhi to offer bachelor's degrees in Criminal Justice, Hospitality, and Business and Technology Management right here on the SCCC campus. SUNY Delhi@SCCC also offers the option of evening classes once a week. Two of the three programs hold approximately 60 percent of the classes online, while Criminal Justice offers a 100 percent online course option (in addition to on campus). SUNY Delhi's online programs, which include an RN to BSN program, have been nationally-recognized by *U.S. News and World Report*.

To learn more, visit the SUNY Delhi Office in Elston Hall 319 during office hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., call 381-1317 or e-mail me at oreilleg@delhi.edu for further information.



At the controls - Kristin Gordon at the Pro Tools HD mixing console in the Vianna-Brignola Recording Studio.

Student earns Vanguard Award

Kirstin Gordon, a Music Audio Technology/Performing Arts: Music major, was recently chosen for an award given to outstanding students in academic programs not traditional for their gender. Kristin was one of just eight students from colleges across the state to received the Vanguard Student Recognition Award.

Every weekend Kristin is putting into practice what she's learning during her classes at SCCC as an intern with Nick Relation Recording, based out of Schenectady. She works on sound and lights at Public Parish House in Albany.

She recommends having a "thick skin" as a female in the male-dominated recording industry. "During every show at least one member of one band makes a comment or gives me a disapproving look. They're analyzing me twice as hard," she said. "I have to work that much harder to prove to them that I did a professional job for them and kept my composure."

She describes live sound this way: "It's an art form. You need to know not only how to route everything and how electricity works and how to have a signal chain going...(you also) need to know how to make someone sound good," she said.

In addition to her work off campus, Kristin has been asked by music faculty members to run sound for their recitals. She is a tutor for music majors taking piano and other music classes and has been named to the President's List.

The Vanguard Award is administered by the New York State Nontraditional Employment and Training (NET) Program, who said, "We want to congratulate each of the finalists on their accomplishments, and commitment to their chosen field! They are truly role models who demonstrate beyond the call of duty dedication, wisdom, maturity and insight."

Kristin and the other award recipients will be honored during a dinner at the 2015 Association of Career and Technical Education Administrators Conference later this month in Albany.

TRANSFER FAIR

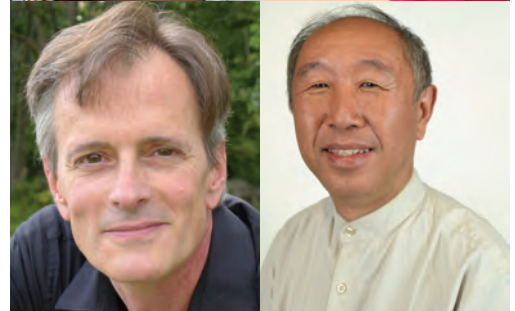
Thursday, March 5, 12 - 2 p.m.

Student Commons, Elston Hall

More than 25 college representatives will be available to discuss transfer options.



Vocal Chamber Ensemble



Chamber Music Series 45th Anniversary Concert
Tuesday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Taylor Auditorium. Free.

Featuring
 Vivaldi's *Gloria* performed by the Vocal Chamber Ensemble
 under the direction of Dr. Yiping Wu
 World premiere of *Oot-kwa-tah* by Professor Brett Wery
 Vivaldi's *Concerto for Two Trumpets* featuring Allyson Keyser and
 Artist-in-Residence Rex Richardson
 Guest Artists include: Hyperion String Quartet, Kerry Ryer-Parke,
 soprano, and Lucille Beer, mezzo soprano

Pre-Concert Talk: Renowned composer Ralph Raymond Hays will speak
 with Professor Wery about his celebratory piece of music in Room 215 of the
 School of Music at 6:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.
 Tickets to the pre-concert talk are \$45 and can be purchased by calling the
 Foundation Office at (518) 381-1324.

Clockwise from top right: Hyperion String Quartet; Kerry Ryer-Parke; Lucille Beer; Dr. Yiping Wu; Mark Evans; Allyson Keyser; Brett Wery; and Rex Richardson.

Sheer Madness
 From Federal Prosecutor to Federal Prisoner
 Author Andrew McKenna speaks about his journey and
 descent through the horrifying perils of addiction.
 Wednesday, March 11, 11:30 a.m., Van Curler Room

Sponsored by the TRIO Program.

He chronicles a fall from grace, plummeting from federal prosecutor to federal prisoner after a crazed binge in which he robbed six banks and two supermarkets across five counties.

Music of Sparke, Wagner, Fine, Debussy, and Schuman
 With timpani soloist David Nyberg performing Michael Daugherty's "Raise the Roof"

Tickets: \$8 - adults, \$6 - students.
 SCCC students free with ID.
 For tickets, please call the School of Music at 381-1231 ext. 2,
 or e-mail: werybl@sunysccc.edu

Capital Region Wind Ensemble
TOWERING TUNES
 Sunday, March 22, 3 p.m.
 Taylor Auditorium

Wanted: Student writers/photographers

The **BINNEKILL**, SCCC's monthly newsletter, seeks student input. Want to write a story or submit your photos? Please see Heather Meaney in Stockade 120 or e-mail meaneyhl@sunysccc.edu.

Spring 2015 Publication Schedule

Deadline	Published
February 18	March 4
March 25	April 8
April 22	May 6



Oh! The Places You'll Go! - Kids in the YWCA Children's Center on campus had a special visitor this week when Dr. Martha Asselin dropped by to read a Dr. Seuss book as part of Read Across America Day. Following along are: Karter Medina (on lap), Londynn Edwards, Callum Green and Askari Hodge.

Puree of Celery Soup

Submitted by Ryan Dunn,
Culinary Arts major,
President, Slow Food Club



Step out of the freezing cold weather and warm yourself up with a crisp, warm bowl of celery soup. This refreshing dish will transport you into the spring and summer months to come.

1 bunch organic celery, chopped with tops
1 potato, peeled and chopped
1 Bay leaf
½ C Celery root chopped
1 med. yellow onion, chopped
2 t Celery Seed
3T Safflower oil
4 Qt. Vegetable stock
Sea salt and white pepper to taste



Method:

Heat the oil in a heavy soup pot. Add the onion, celery seed, celery root, white potato and bay leaf. Sauté until softened and translucent for about 2-3 minutes. Add the vegetable broth, lower the heat and simmer for about 10 minutes until the celery and potatoes are softened. Remove from the heat and puree in a blender or food processor. Be careful as the soup is still warm and may splatter. Be sure to keep the lid of the machines fitted tightly. After blended, return the soup to the pot, simmer and adjust the seasonings.



Members of the Rotaract Club hold a planning meeting for Mission Dance. Front row: Brittany Palazeke, Emma Pasquali and Brittney Czub. Standing, Advisor Bob Frederick, Matthew Schultz, Wanya Berry, Sajid Khan, Eric Emmons and Rotary Club Liaison Fred Daniels.



Mission Dance Find Your Groove to Help Others Move

Saturday March 28, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Schenectady High School

Learn to dance and help the Schenectady City Mission's Drive to Success program that provides free transportation for the under-resourced to get to work on time.

For just \$10, choose from ballet, hip hop or zumba!

Tickets: Look for the Rotaract table in the lobby of Elston Hall soon.



Campus Resources

Academic Advisement

Elston 222/ext. 1277

Monday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Thursday	8:30 am-6:30 pm
Friday	8:30 am-4:30 pm

Academic Computing Lab

Elston 529, 530/ext. 1213

Monday-Thursday	8:30 am-10 pm
Friday	8:30 am-4 pm
Saturday	9 am-3:30 pm

Accounting/CIS Tutor Lab

Elston 330/ext. 1041

Monday-Thursday 9 am-3 pm

ADA Transition Services

Elston 222/ext. 1345

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Admissions

Stockade 120/ext. 1166

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Albany Site

Second Floor, 112 State St., Albany

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Services: Classes, Financial Aid, COMPASS Testing, Advisement via Skype, Computer Lab, Photo IDs, Student Lounge and Study Areas

Athletics

Elston 222/ext. 1356

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Begley Library/ext. 1235

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am – 9: pm

Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday 11 am – 5 pm

Closed Sundays

Business Office, Student

Elston 219/ext. 1346, 1347

Monday 8:30 am-4:15 pm

Tuesday 8:30 am-4:15 pm

Wednesday 8:30 am-4:15 pm

Thursday 8:30 am-4:15 pm

Friday 8:30 am-4:15 pm

(Note - The office is closed daily from 1-2 pm.)

Career and Transfer Services

Elston 222/ext. 1365

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

The College Store

Elston 109/ext. 1332

Monday-Wednesday 8 am-6 pm

Thursday 8 am-4 pm

Friday 8 am-2 pm

The Commons Elston/ext. 1330

Monday-Thursday 7:30 am-8 pm

Friday 7:30 am-2 pm

College Central Network

SCCC's career management system

www.sunysccc.edu/ces

Educational Opportunity Programs/Access

Elston 222/ext. 1279

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Financial Aid

Elston 221/ext. 1352

Monday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Tuesday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Wednesday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Thursday 8:30 am-6:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Gateway Montessori

Gateway 124/ext. 1455/1295

Monday-Friday 9 am-11:30 am

(Call for program information.)

Language Lab

Elston 520/ext. 1373

See lab for hours.

Learning Center Writing Lab

Elston 523/ext. 1246

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am-7 pm

Friday 8:30 am-4 pm

Saturday 10 am-3 pm

Math Lab Elston 518/ext. 1435

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am-7 pm

Friday 8:30 am-4 pm

Saturday 10 am-3 pm

Registrar's Office

Elston 212/215

381-1348, 381-1349/ext. 1148

Monday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Tuesday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Wednesday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Thursday 8:30 am-6:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Student Affairs, Vice President

Elston 222/ext. 1344

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Student Government

Elston 220H/ext. 1388

By appointment or walk-in

Testing Center

Elston 427/ext.1293

TestingCenter@sunysccc.edu

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am to 7 pm

Friday 8:30 am-3 pm

TRIO Student Support

Services Elston 328/ext. 1465

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Tutor Services

Elston 328-C/ext. 1461

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Veterans Affairs

Elston 223/ext. 1284

Open daily. See office for hours.

Wellness and Support Services

Elston 222/ext. 1365

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Workforce Development

Stockade 120/ext. 1315

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

YWCA Children's Center

Gateway Bldg./ext. 1375 or 1389

Monday-Friday 7:30 am-5:30 pm

(Evening hours available depending on enrollment.)