

Melissa Sherling '12, Advocate for the Domestic Violence Program at the YWCA; Xin Ni, Business Administration major/Volunteer Advocate for the Y; and Demekia Santana, Children's Case Manager with the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter

Empowerment through a shared language

Sometimes there is a phone call that changes your life. In this case, a phone call changed the lives of two young mothers, connected only by a similar language from their native China.

When Xin Ni's phone rang at 3 a.m. recently, the call coming from a local hospital, she once again became a lifeline for a young woman who only spoke Mandarin.

The single mother brought her young son to the emergency room and had no way of understanding what the nurses and doctors were telling her and couldn't answer any of their questions. Feeling alone and frustrated, she called the one person she knew she could count on – Xin.

It's been this way since July when the woman arrived at the YWCA's Domestic Violence Shelter. According to Melissa Sherling, a 2012 graduate of SCCC who is now an Advocate for the Domestic Violence Program at the YWCA, "We were at a total loss as to how to communicate effectively," she said. "There are hotlines that can translate and we were utilizing that for

immediate needs, but we were hoping to find someone who could really help us."

That's when Melissa remembered the Language Lab on campus and contacted the College to find out if anyone spoke Mandarin. Through Patricia DiCarlo, of the Liberal Arts Division, Melissa placed one phone call to Xin, and the results have been life changing – for the YWCA client and for Xin, who is a Business Administration major and certified translator.

She immediately became an integral part of the process for the client to gain services and legal representation. But it didn't start off entirely smoothly. Xin's first task was to help fill out necessary paperwork, all part of the process of helping someone affected by domestic violence enter the court system and gain benefits offered by social services agencies.

But Xin, who moved to the U.S. in 2004 from Southwest China, had to learn about domestic violence herself

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"It's kind of secluded and laid back," Zaid Alwakfi, Business Administration (left). "I like how you can work in a group in the open and not inside a closed room," Mohammad Turaab, Math/Science (right).



"It's a nice workspace. You are more independent to do what you have to do," Kristin Brazell (left). "It's a good place to study. We study for all of our criminal justice tests over here," Lexi Reamer (right), both Criminal Justice majors.

Library unveils new Academic Studio

Last week a new space in the library, the Academic Studio: Writing and Research, was officially unveiled giving students an area to study, read, and work on class projects, with access to a writing consultant and librarian. College-wide workshops and readings will also take place in the studio, a collaborative project by Academic Affairs' Begley Library and Academic Services. It's located in the back of the library, on the first floor.

Flags at half staff to honor employee

With heavy hearts, the SCCC community mourns the passing of David Russell, who was a Senior Technical Assistant for Academic Computing in the Division of Information Technology. Dave was an alumnus of SCCC and had worked at the College since February 1998. He was responsible for performing routine maintenance on academic PCs throughout the campus in labs, classrooms, and faculty offices. Additionally, he performed this maintenance on the Academic Computing servers, assisted in the system administration of academic computing facilities, networking, documenting of applications, and the provision of user service in the student labs. *The College extends sincere sympathy to Dave's family and many friends.*

Welcome to new faculty and staff

Michael Munger joined the College this month as the Director of Campus Safety. Mike comes to SCCC from the University of Tampa, where he served as Supervisor of Safety for 20 years. He also worked as a private investigator and served for 12 years in the United States Army Military Police as a commissioned officer with top secret/special intelligence security clearance. Mike holds a bachelor's degree in Criminology from the University of Tampa, an associate's degree in the Administration of Justice from LA Metro College in Korea, a certification from the United States Army Military Police School, a certification from the Tampa Police Academy and a certification in Paralegal Studies from Rollins College.



Alisha Russo joined the College in September as the Director of the Liberty Partnership Program (LPP). Prior to SCCC, Alisha was a Career Services Manager of Youth Build Schenectady. In fact, she helped to establish a post-secondary initiative partnership between Youth Build and SCCC. In addition, Alisha is an experienced grant writer and has worked closely with the Schenectady City School District. She holds a an M.S. in Educational Psychology and Methodology and a B.A. in Psychology, both from the University at Albany.



ROYAL'15 Gala

Thursday,
November 12,
Glen Sanders
Mansion

The 2015 gala will attract more than 350 prominent business and community leaders as well as faculty, staff and alumni to Glen Sanders Mansion for an elegant dinner to honor friends of SCCC who have demonstrated commitment to our mission, vision and values.

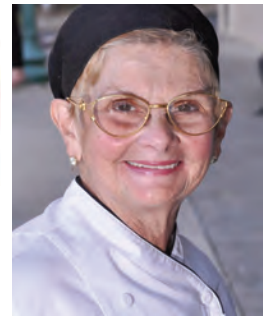
Tickets: \$100 / \$75 Faculty, Staff, Alumni and Retirees. To register, please visit <https://royalgala15.eventbrite.com> or call (518) 381-1324.

2015 Honorees

Joan Dembinski '10,
Distinguished Alumnus Award

Betty Carol Barlyn,
Distinguished Community
Volunteer Award

Stewart's Shops/The Dake Family,
Distinguished Community Partner
Award



Stewart's
Shops

Celebrate!

Faculty/staff development

Dr. Martha Asselin, Vice President of Student Affairs, has been chosen as a 2015 Woman of the Year by the Schenectady Business and Professional Women's Club (BPW), Inc. She will be honored during the BPW's 39th Annual Fashion Show and Celebration on Nov. 8 at Glen Sanders Mansion.

Antoine Harrison, Chief Information Officer in the Information Technology Division, has been appointed as a new member of the Board of Trustees for the Whitney M. Young Health Center, that offers comprehensive, quality health care without regard to income to those in the Capital Region. Antoine has been appointed for a seven-year term on the board. He was also asked to be a panelist for the University at Albany's 2015 Tech Summit which was held in July at the University of Albany. He presented

on "managing the chaos and the Internet of things."

Jasmine Pinn, Outreach Advisor with the SUNY College and Career Counseling Center, received a recognition from Westaff, a temp agency located in Colonie. Jasmine has partnered with Westaff by referring students to them for employment.

Stephen J. Tyson, Adjunct Faculty Member in the Liberal Arts Division, was co-curator of "Many Rivers," Black Dimensions in Arts's 40th Anniversary Exhibit. The show runs through Nov. 7 at The Saratoga Arts Center Gallery. In addition to SCCC, Stephen has taught/lectured at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, University at Albany, Union College and Siena College.

Clubs and organizations - which one is right for you?

There are more than 20 clubs and organizations at SCCC. Here's some information about a few. Check out the others here: www.sunysccc.edu/student/clubs.htm

Student Theatre

Ensemble (STE) is a friendly and diverse organization of SCCC students interested in learning about theatre and becoming involved with the theatre program at SCCC. Members of this club will be given the opportunity to participate in the spring production both on and off the stage, help plan trips to see shows throughout the Capital Region and NYC and interact with other art enthusiasts. STE meets Wednesdays during College Hour (11:20 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.) in Elston Hall, Room 245. Please contact Emily DiCarlo at dicarler@sunysccc.edu if you have any questions.



The Pride Alliance, a club for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender students and their allies meets on Mondays from 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. in Elston Hall, Room 236. For more information, please contact the club advisor, Associate Professor Kim Scheuerman, in Elston Hall, Room 202, 381-1259.

The Rotaract Club of Schenectady is the college equivalent of Rotary, one of the other largest service club organizations in the world. Rotaract brings organizations on campus to highlight needs in the local and international communities. Recently, Rotaract invited a Junior Achievement representative to campus to speak about the increased need for volunteers to teach local children in grades K-5. Junior Achievement provides training for students to individually or in small groups work with a teacher to instruct children on topics related to community needs, personal talents, money management, and building a business. If you are interested in the Junior Achievement program, please contact Hanna Simms at 783-4336 or hsimms@janeny.org.

If you're interested in joining the Rotaract Club, please contact Bob Frederick, Director of Career and Transfer Services/Club Advisor, in Elston Hall, Room 221-I or call 381-1368. Club meetings are held on Wednesdays from 11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. in the Stockade Building, Room 107.

Questions about transfer?

Do you want to transfer on for a bachelor's degree after SCCC? Students who have questions about transferring to another college or university can visit Bernie Dunn, Assistant Director of the Career and Transfer Services Office, Student Affairs, Elston Hall, Room 221-I.

A childhood of travels

At the time, Catia Laird de Polanco '06 wasn't as grateful as she is now for all of the moving around. From Missouri and Illinois to Alaska and Vermont she was "raised all over the U.S." traveling from place to place with her parents, both Methodist missionaries.



Even though she was only six when they moved there and seven when they left, Nome, Alaska, left the biggest imprint. "It was a life changing experience because I saw a lot of poverty and cultural discrimination and the impact that it had on the indigenous community there," Catia said. "Basically, missionaries went there in the late 1800s to convert the Inupiat, which largely eliminated the Inupiat's way of life. They weren't permitted to use their own language and traditions have been lost. There was a very deep loss of self that happened and seeing that shaped the rest of my life."

After Alaska, it was off to Laclede, Mo., where her parents took a vow of poverty and the family lived on a farm, raising animals and growing their own produce. Then, in 1999, they moved to Capital Region, the place she still calls home. "I've spent the most amount of time here," she said.

After graduating from Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons High School, Catia attended the University at Albany for a year and decided to enroll at SCCC where she adopted a system for studying while taking a history class with Dr. Dean Bennett, Associate Professor. She decided that she would study the material as if she would one day be the one teaching it, a self-fulfilling prophecy perhaps, as she is now an Instructor in the Division of Liberal Arts and counts Dr. Bennett among her colleagues.

In fact, she was teaching World Civilization, one of the classes she took with Dr. Bennett, when she first returned in August 2012 as a participant in the Internship Program for the Development of Minority Faculty. Catia now teaches Spanish classes and for her nothing quite compares to watching the progress of her students. "I love the look on a student's face when they finally understand a topic," she said. "That 'aha' moment when the light turns on and they're free. They get it and they can use it."

She shared words of advice for current students, "I would recommend that students make the most of their time here by challenging themselves because what they learn here will help them no matter what path they choose upon leaving. If they go to a four-year school, the challenges they accept here will better prepare them for that and if they choose to go into the workforce, it will do the same thing."

More about Catia Laird de Polanco – Catia holds M.A. and B.A. degrees in Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latino Studies from the University at Albany and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. there in Spanish with a concentration in Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latino Studies. She travels to Guatemala every year with her husband. "I did study abroad programs there. It's one of my favorite places to be. The people are so beautiful, humble and kind."

Campus Events

Edgar Allen Poe *Live!*

Monday, October 26, 7 p.m., Taylor Aud. Free. Dramatic, Entertaining, Educational: Listen to Campbell Harmon as Poe recite *The Tell-Tale Heart* and *The Raven*.

Hear "Poe" speak of his life and his influence on American literature and culture and have a chance to ask the Master of Macabre any questions.

Edgar Allan Poe was the first American writer to attempt to support himself solely on writing alone. He wrote the first modern detective story, the first modern science fiction story, and founded the modern horror genre. His famous, tragic love for his wife, Virginia, helped to inspire his landmark poem, *The Raven*. Speculation over the cause of his mysterious death in 1849 continues to this day. His writings still speak to us more than 160 years later and have inspired countless stage and film adaptations. *Sponsored by the Community and Cultural Events Committee.*



Musicians of Ma'alwyck – *Macabre Music: The Final Installment*

Preview, Wednesday, October 28, 11:20 a.m., Taylor Auditorium. Free.

Music drawn from the first four Macabre Music programs, including the signature *Danse Macabre*, plus a new work written expressly for the concert by Peter Fitzgerald, Music major. Instrumentalists include Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, violin; Petia Kassarova, violoncello; Norman Thibodeau, flute; Karlinda Caldicott, harp; Sasha Margolis, violin; Andrew Snow, viola, and C. F. Schwartz, baritone.



Arlene I. Ramsingh, Ph. D., presents *HIV, Huntington's Disease, Giant Axonal Neuropathy: Disparate Diseases But Common Themes*

Wednesday, October 28, 11:30 a.m., Stockade Building 102.

Dr. Ramsingh, a Scientific Consultant, was a Post-doctoral fellow at Yale University in Human Genetics, holds her Ph.D. in Molecular Virology from the University of Alberta, Canada, and earned her master's in Virology and her bachelor's in Microbiology from the University of Toronto, Canada.



Liberal Arts/Health and Human Services Career Event

Thursday, October 29, 10 a.m. - 1p.m., Elston Hall Student Commons

Meet a variety of organizational partners who will network and offer industry information/career opportunities.

Organized by Career and Transfer Services.

Controlling Anger Before It Controls You

Friday, October 30, 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.

Activity Forum, Elston Hall, Presented by Dr. Jeffrey Luria, New York State Licensed Psychologist/Psychoanalyst, from Central Bridge, N.Y.

Sponsored by Wellness and Support Services.

Leonard Hayes, piano, School of Music Adjunct Faculty Member/Teaching Intern

Friday, October 30, 7:30 p.m., Taylor Auditorium. Free.

Leonard Hayes presents an evening of classical music featuring the piano works by

Ludwig Van Beethoven, Franz Liszt, and George Walker. Currently, Leonard is attending the Eastman School of Music where he is pursuing a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Literature. He has previously studied at Lawrence University, and Interlochen Arts Academy, with additional studies at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam.





Matthew Delatorre-Velez, Roderick Jones, Stephen Piorkowski, Christina Heath and Nate Canfield-Lord. What do they have in common? They're all walking for wellness.

Wellness Walks, Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m. – to 1:15 p.m.
 Meet at the main Security Desk in Elston Hall.

Yoga, Fridays, 11:30 a.m.,
 Wellness Lounge, Elston Hall, Room 419.

Sponsored by Wellness and Support Services.



Get all your ducks in a row

Remember: Spring 2016 online registration for continuing students begins on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 8: 30 a.m.

Don't get closed out of your classes - register on Nov. 3! www.sunysccc.edu/academic/courses/courseof.html

Fall 2015 Publication Schedule

Deadline	Published
Monday, Nov. 9	Wednesday, Nov. 18
Monday, Nov. 30	Wednesday, Dec. 9

Empowerment through a shared language

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and understand how the paperwork was to be completed. "I assumed Xin would have seen something like this before and been aware of a domestic violence situation," said Demekia Santana, Children's Case Manager with the Y's Domestic Violence Shelter. "But she hadn't. So it was a good educational point for her also."



Xin Ni

Bravery and strength are just two of the traits that Melissa and Demekia now associate with the young client and mother of two. They both agree that her transformation would not have happened without Xin. "You are building her up in a major way," Demekia said, gesturing to Xin. "She has been empowered to try things now on her own. Xin's given her so much power just through conversation and now the client is trying to speak with her kids in English."

For Xin, a single mother of two children ages 9 and 5, this connection has helped shape the way she sees herself and her children. "I have useful knowledge now," she said. "I can help other people. I can educate my kids. It's good for me and for the people around me. I have the chance to help more people in this way."

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. If you or anyone you know is involved in a domestic violence situation, please call the YWCA's 24-hour hotline at 374-3386. For more information, visit www.ywca-northeasternny.org.

Archaeologists to discuss findings

The Community Archaeological Program (CAP) will share their findings with members of the College community and the public on Saturday, Oct. 31 at 1 p.m. in the Stockade Building, Room 101. Talks by SCCC-CAP faculty and students and artifact displays will highlight ongoing research on two significant archaeological sites in the Stockade.



Discussion will entail:

- 12 Union St. – Excavation and condition of a retaining wall for the deep trench (featured at the 55th Annual Walkabout on Sept. 26) where the "City Section" of Saratoga and Schenectady Railroad operated from 1832 to 1838.
- 32 Front St. – Ongoing analysis of finds from this French and Indian War period (1756-1763) site continue to produce interesting stories about the materials used by soldiers at the Schenectady fort and barracks. Among these are the story of the possible owner of the smoking pipe from Chester, England; objects for personal use and/or trade (shoe buckles, finger rings); and stylistic aspects of ceramics (delftware and Chinese export porcelain). *(Above is part of the bail handle for a 1750s wooden bucket; wrought-iron.)*

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 am – 9: pm
Friday 8 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

Career and Transfer Services

Elston 221-I/836-2807

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

Begley Library 210/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.)