Diplomatic mission to say: ‘Thank you’ Kennedy Kwasi Kankam, a member of parliament in Ghana, speaks to students in the African Cultural Club at Middlesex Community College.

Student Refugee Survived and Founded Success at Middlesex CC.

Massachusetts community colleges launch STEM Deans Council.

Donahues’ day as MCC dedicates Arts Center. The theater’s first full house.

Ribbon-Cutting Celebration to open the newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center.
Donahues’ day as MCC dedicates Arts Center

Middlesex Community College recently celebrated its newly renovated, breathing arts center, named The Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center, located at 220 Central St., at the corner of Green Street.

The educational and enjoyable afternoon Sept. 21 consisted of a ceremonial ribbon-cutting followed by speeches from college and community leaders, building tours and demonstrations by MCC theater, music and dance students. Nearly 200 savory business owners and family were mesmerized as they witnessed a lesson in the arts being taught in the theater, watched theatrical makeup being applied to actors in the dressing room, and listened to a jazz dance class in the Dance Studio, guitar lessons in a music classroom, and voice students performing in the Recital Hall.

The arts center was named after highly respected philanthropists Nancy Donahue and her late husband, Richard, a kind family man who was a lawyer, an assistant to President John F. Kennedy and adviser to Robert and Ted Kennedy, and a former president of Nike. The ever-so-effervescent Nancy continues to shine and sparkle, carrying on their work in philanthropy and volunteerism, and receiving numerous awards and accolades. She is a huge cheerleader at most social events.

Nancy related the guests a most interesting and heartwarming personal story. On that very same day, 50 years before, she had taken the train from Boston to Lowell to the then-Rialto Theatre, originally built in 1878 as the Boston & Maine Railroad Depot on the very spot that now houses The Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center.

Academic Arts Center has stood as a multipurpose facility in the heart of Lowell for nearly 160 years. The Academic Arts Center will house the college’s performing-arts programs, theater, music and dance, including a 187-seat Proscenium Theatre, a 101-seat Recital Hall, a 900-square-foot Dance Studio, a music practice room and classrooms.

For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/artCenter.

Seated in the front row of the theater are former MCC President Carole Cowan of Florida and Nancy Donahue of Lowell.

Frank Makarewicz and Nancy Donahue, both of Lowell.

MCC’s Lura Smith of Lowell and John Chernaly of Chelmsford.

From left, former MCC President Carole Cowan of Florida with members of the Donahue family of Lowell, Phillip, Daniel, Nancy and Beth.

Vanna Howard of Tewksbury, center, with Elise and Brian Martin of Lowell.

Cutting the ribbon.
Plaid Is rad — not a fad

Plaid and mixing patterns are huge this fall! Wearing this plaid, sleeveless jumpsuit, I added a leopard belt, and a little zing with a mustard suede pump! Since we were celebrating the 80s, I tied my cock with a black beret, which is also making a big comeback!

For the month of October, the Z List is going pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
Above: Sculptor and Tewksbury resident Mico Kaufman appears in the background behind one of his sculptures in this 2008 file photo. Kaufman died in 2016, and now some of his work may be donated to his hometown to be displayed, if town officials can find a home for it. Below: Kaufman’s sculpture of James Abbott McNeill Whistler outside the Whistler House Museum in Lowell.

Art for the Artist’s hometown?

By Karl Tett
kautil@lowellsun.com

TEWKSBURY — With the passing of renowned local sculptor Mico Kaufman nearly two years ago, his trust is looking to distribute his works of art.

Along with places like UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College, the trust is looking to the town of Tewksbury, where Kaufman lived for decades, as a place where some of the sculptor’s work can live.

Elsie Howell, Kaufman’s lifelong partner, said Kaufman wanted the town to have some of his pieces if there was space to display them.

“We have offered a collection and they will decide what they will take,” Howell said. “(Kaufman) had a reputation outside of Tewksbury, but there was

Please see ART/10
Kaufman art seeks home in Tewksbury

ART/From Page 1

no art in Tewksbury. Being a well-known sculptor, it was his mission to have fine art for the Tewksbury residents to have something special in their town.

First, an offer was made to sell some of Kaufman's art to the town, but the town was not interested in making a purchase.

"The trust is working on this as a way to preserve the art by those interested in the art," Town Manager Richard Montuori said. "They circulated back with the library and myself about donating some pieces."

Then, the number of pieces proposed for donation was too great for the town to consider, Montuori said.

"I said we couldn't take it all because we were limited in what we could display and how we could display it," Montuori said. "(Howell) needs to start with a letter outlining the items she is interested in donating."

The town has not yet made a decision on whether or not it will take some pieces to display. Montuori said the Tewksbury Public Library and Town Hall are places that the art, if accepted, may be displayed. Montuori said Kaufman's pieces vary in shape and size, so it is hard to say how many would be feasible for the town to accept. First, he said, the town is waiting for a letter from Howell showing which pieces they are looking to gift.

A number of Kaufman's pieces are already fixtures in town. His sculpture of Anne Sullivan teaching Helen Keller the word "water" is located at Town Hall. Kaufman's "Wamassit Indian" sculpture stands between Route 38 and Old Main Street. "The Muster" sculpture, depicting five firefighters and a fire hose, is at the South Tewksbury Fire Station. Some notable pieces, like his sculpture entitled "Homage to Women," are in the city of Lowell.

Tewksbury resident Doug Searl is not part of the official process between Kaufman's trust and the town, but said he finds it deeply important for some of Kaufman's work to remain in Tewksbury. "We're just trying to have that which might be historical and inspirational be retained in Tewksbury if Tewksbury wants it," he said.

In addition to UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College, parts of Kaufman's collection have been acquired by the Rolling Ridge Conference Center in North Andover. On Nov. 7, there will be a private sale of some of Kaufman's pieces, currently housed at Howell's home in Tewksbury.

Howell said it would be a great educational opportunity for the town to display Kaufman's pieces and incorporate more fine art into Tewksbury's history.

"It would be sad if the town that he lived in for 60 years did not have part of his collection," Howell said. "It's called maintaining history and those who made a difference that lived in the town of Tewksbury."

If the town does decide to house part of Kaufman's collection, the decision will go before the board of Selectmen to officially accept the gift on behalf of the town.

Follow Kori Tuitt on Twitter @KoriTuitt.
Middlesex board puts $1.1M toward student success

The Middlesex Community College board of trustees has allocated $1.1 million to the 2017-18 Student Success Grant Program, which makes a two-year Associate degree truly affordable.

For the fall and spring semesters, more than 1,820 currently enrolled students have received Student Success Grants to address their college costs.

"The MCC board of trustees is committed to keeping the door open to an affordable, high-quality education through eliminating the economic roadblocks our students face," Middlesex President James Malloy said. "Our Student Success Fund helps many students continue their education and successfully achieve their goals."

Student Success Grants are "last dollar" awards that pay for the cost of tuition and mandatory fees not covered by federal or state financial aid. By reducing the direct cost of attending Middlesex to zero, the college helps eligible students find success and achieve their dream of earning a college degree with less financial stress.

"Our Student Success Grants continue to affirm the college's commitment of working with our diverse and talented student population to help them develop career skills that will enhance the workforce and provide them with clearer paths to achieving their goals," trustees Chairman James Campbell said.

MCC's Student Success Grants provide assistance for financial-aid applicants to cover tuition, fees, books and supplies. Eligibility is determined through filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, each year. Renewal of the grant is subject to federal financial-aid eligibility requirements, enrollment in an eligible program of study, and continued financial need.

For more information about MCC's Student Success Grant program, contact Christopher Fiori, director of student accounts, at 781-283-3847 or email fioric@middlesex.mass.edu.

$10,000 grant for MCC for English

Middlesex Community College has received a one-year, $10,000 grant from the John H. & H. Nancy Thornecliffe Foundation to help immigrant/refugee youth improve their English language skills and academic readiness and complete the English Language Institute and Out of School Youth Development Center.

"This grant allows Middlesex to serve one of our most vulnerable populations — refuge and immigrant youth who are at risk of not completing high school," MCC President James Malloy said. "With assistance from the Thornecliffe Foundation, we will be able to help these young people improve their English, complete high school, and more on campus or join the workforce."

The grant-funded project will recruit 60 Lowell-area students, ages 16-24, to enroll in MCC's ESL and GED classes, and Maria Cunha, MCC's program director, said the students will be helped by refugees from Syria, Iraq and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"The targeted youth are either failing or not meeting high school due to lack of English or other academic skills.

The students will receive a combination of self-paced support services, including one-on-one assessment, tutoring, testing, and enrollment in academic and language remediation courses. The goal is to prepare them to sit for the high school equivalency exam or placement exam for college enrollment."
BEDFORD Middlesex Community College will host a free reading and talk by award-winning poet Richard Hoffman at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 24, in the Bedford Campus Center's Café East, 591 Springs Road. The Senior Writer in Residence at Emerson College, Hoffman has written four books of poetry as well as memoirs and short stories. Call 978-656-3363 or e-mail studentengagement@middlesex.mass.edu.

NANCY SHOHEFTWEST
These wine novices in a class of their own

Jim Campanini teaches a wine class at the Nesmith House in Lowell.

Students in Jim Campanini's wine class listen as the "Wine Novice" talks about his passion.

I want to congratulate my students for their attentiveness, energy and support. We couldn't develop elegant wine-education programs like this without your help. And the same goes for MCC and its staff, which brought this program to life and continues to support it with its own resources, including the fabulous Nesmith House location. This was our third wine-class collaboration since last year, and we're planning two special programs in the spring of 2019 — one on sparkling wines and the other on the ancient volcanic wines of southern Italy. Nero D'Avola, Nerello Mascalese and Taurasi are just a few that come to mind.

To show you that my students command the utmost respect, here are several exam questions they learned to master: If you don't know the answers, you should take the class.

Saluti!

Take the Wine Novice's quiz on Page S11. Answers? If you need them, sign up for his next class on Nov. 8.
Lowell photographers exhibit 'Urbanscape'

Lowell's urban legacy is explored in dramatic fashion in a new exhibition presented by The Humanities Center at Middlesex Community College. Entitled "Lowell's Urbanscape: A Legacy of Newcomers," it features 14 vivid black-and-white photographs of Lowell by Jen Bauer and Jeff Caplan.

It opened recently and is on view through next September in the Reflections Room at the Boots Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John Street, Lowell.

Bauer is chairperson and assistant professor in MCC's Department of Communications. Caplan runs Black Ant Photographic. Both photographers were born and raised in Lowell.

The museum is open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., through Nov. 24. Winter hours are noon-4 p.m., Nov. 25-March 31. Hours return to 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., from April through the exhibit closing next year. The museum is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Art/Exhibits

Middlesex Community College — 501 Springs Road, Bedford. Burlington Quilters Guild Annual Quilt Show, Sat., Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; raffles at 3:30.

Quilt show Oct. 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Oct. 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Middlesex Community College Campus Center, 591 Springs Rd. Bedford. The Burlington Quilters Guild hosts its 35th annual Quilt Show, Boutique and Vendors. Local quilters display their handiwork. Handmade items for sale, and raffle of queen size quilt and baskets. Admission is $7. Free parking. For info: burlingtonquiltersguild.org.

Poet Richard Hoffman Oct. 24, 12:30 p.m. Middlesex Community College Campus Center, 591 Springs Rd. Bedford. As part of its Visiting Writers Series, Middlesex Community College presents award-winning poet Richard Hoffman, author of several books of poetry and two memoirs, and senior writer in residence at Emerson College. Hoffman will read and discuss his work. For more information, call 978-656-3363 or email StudentEngagement@middlesex.mass.edu.
HAVERHILL — Outgoing Congresswoman Niki Tsongas will be honored at the next installment of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce’s Women in Business conference series. Tsongas is retiring from her seat in the 3rd Congressional District after a decade in office.

Other speakers at the upcoming luncheon event include Karen Ancreas, publisher of The Eagle-Tribune and North of Boston Media Group; Judy Burke, executive director of institutional advancement at Middlesex Community College; Purimma Dey, chief of strategic alliances and community outreach for IndusPAD innovation hub; and Evelyn Friedman, executive director of the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council.

Gerry Lynn Darcy, vice president of real estate for Lupoli Companies, will serve as moderator for the panel.

The Women in Business luncheon will be held from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22, at Michael’s Function Hall, 12 Alpha St., Haverhill.

Tickets are $30 for Chamber members and $50 for non-members. Register at http://www.merrimackvalleychamber.com.
Moloney touts UMass Lowell progress on enrollment, affordability

By Alan Melanson, amelanson@lowellsun.com

LOWELL -- As it edges closer to its 19,000 enrollment goal, UMass Lowell is working on formalizing community college and business agreements that will put an affordable education within reach of even more students and fill workforce needs. On Thursday, the university announced its first $5 million gift from an alumnus, meeting its $125 million fundraising goal, and will soon welcome Oprah Winfrey for a much-heralded visit.

"We're stronger than we've ever been," UMass Lowell Chancellor Jacquie Moloney said in an Editorial Board meeting with The Sun on Wednesday. For the past three years, UML has been cited by "The Chronicle of Higher Education" as one of the top 10 growing universities, with enrollment growth in undergraduate, graduate and online education programs, she said.

As it grows, Moloney said UML will stay focused on the region and maintain the culture that the school is known for. Many students are first-generation college attendees, working their way through school, and these populations will continue to be served, she said. Knowing the challenges these students face and that they may not earn their degrees within the traditional four years, UML set a goal to get 60 percent of students graduated in six years from the time they enter the university by 2020. The goal was met three years ahead of schedule, and continues to be surpassed, Moloney said.

"We're retaining our students at a higher rate, we're graduating them and we feel really great looking at these numbers," she said. Drilling down into student data -- and responding with programming and scheduling to meet their needs -- plays a big role in these successes, Moloney said.

Among the items Moloney discussed:

* Alumnus Brian Rist, president and founder of Florida-based Storm Smart Industries and already a scholarship contributor at UML, will donate $5 million to the university -- its single largest gift yet, Moloney said. Thanks to this gift, the university has reached its $125 million fundraising goal two years ahead of schedule, she said. The goal will now be raised to $150 million, Moloney said.

* The Lowell Connections program already assists Middlesex Community College students in entering programs at UML, but the institutions are looking to formalize their relationship and create a pathway for students to earn bachelor degrees. Moloney said it's part of efforts for the UMass system and community colleges to find new ways to work together, create greater efficiencies and maximize opportunities for students. She described a package deal that would include housing, courses at both campuses and an "honors-to-honors" component.

The deal would make a degree more affordable and help "to put it in a kid's mind, that you can get there, and what's the path," Moloney said.
* She said she meets regularly with executives from companies around the region to discuss their workforce and staffing needs. UML already has cooperative education arrangements with many businesses, giving students real world, hands-on learning opportunities, Moloney said. Over the past three years, co-op program participants have earned a collective $24 million through these jobs, she said. "While we're trying to graduate them in six years, we also feel it's important for them to take a semester or a year to take advantage of these jobs and this work," she said.

Moloney said she's looking to deepen these partnerships in ways that are even more mutually beneficial, including joint research opportunities and further student sponsorships. "Instead of one-offs, how about, take a group of co-op students and in exchange, we do some on-site training for you," she said as an example.

She said two major companies have signed on to be preferred partners, but she can't publicly name them just yet. * Part of UML's expansion plan has been to gut and update older buildings to meet changing needs, Moloney said. Dandeneau Hall, the former Pasteur Hall, which houses the mechanical engineering and computer science departments, was transformed and reopened this fall. Perry Hall, another engineering building, is being redone and will reopen in January.

After the state pulled back its initial funding to help with the Perry Hall renovations, UML will soon recoup the proceeds from the sale of its abandoned West Campus in Chelmsford to offset the costs, Moloney said. She said the university is working with the state Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance as to how the property will be disposed, and they have not yet settled on whether it will be auctioned off or go through the request for proposals process.

* Coburn Hall, the education and psychology building, will be next up for renovations, which are expected to take about a year, Moloney said. It comes as part of an overall expansion in the College of Education, she said. "The commonwealth needs more teachers, more diverse teachers, and that's a role I think we're uniquely positioned to fill," Moloney said. She said it will be important to find ways to financially support the education of this next generation of teachers, as well as "bridge the financial gap" for "high-need and high-risk" students.

* Moloney acknowledged the ongoing fight for higher adjunct salary and benefits, and said she believes what has been offered is reasonable. "We don't feel that a 46 percent increase on an already fair salary is a fair request," she said. Moloney said most adjunct lecturers at UML typically teach two courses or fewer and work less than 18 hours a week, and so are not eligible for state benefits.
2018 PHCC Educational Foundation Scholarship winners.

**TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Students Win $105K in Scholarships Through the PHCC Educational Foundation**

The PHCC Educational Foundation is proud to announce the winners of 2018 scholarships awarded through the Foundation.

Oct 15, 2018

FALLS CHURCH, VA – The Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors—National Association (PHCC) Educational Foundation is proud to announce the winners of 2018 scholarships awarded through the Foundation. Twenty-six students were awarded a total of $60,000 in scholarships funded by the Foundation, the South Jersey Mechanical Contractors Association, Gerry Kennedy, Anne Williams, the McGlame-Wordell Scholarship Committee, the PHCC Auxiliary of Texas, the PHCC Auxiliary of Massachusetts and PHCC’s Past National Officers. The students, their schools and studies are listed below.

Eighteen additional students have received 2018 scholarships thanks to $45,000 in funding provided by A. O. Smith, Bradford White, Delta Faucet Company, RIDGID and State Water Heaters. The winners of these awards will be announced under separate releases.

**The top Foundation scholarship winners for 2018 are:**

- Aaron Zicarelli from Madison, Wis. has been awarded the 2018 Charles F. Hiley Memorial Scholarship, a $5,000 award funded by the PHCC Educational Foundation and South Jersey Mechanical Contractors Association. He is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at Madison Area Technical College.
- Zachary Bonnema from Sioux Center, Iowa is studying HVACR installation, service & repair at Southeast Technical Institute and was awarded a $5,000 scholarship.
- Liam Chapman from Arlington, Mass. is studying Mechanical Engineering at Middlesex Community College and was awarded a $5,000 scholarship.
- Eric Young from Buena Park, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program and was awarded a $5,000 scholarship.

**The following students have been awarded $2,500 scholarships funded by the PHCC Educational Foundation:**

- David Drum from Encinitas, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC Academy of San Diego.
- Walker Dunn from Hoquiam, Wash. is studying HVACR installation, service & repair at Perry Technical Institute.
- Collin Engler from Dunmor, Ky. is studying HVACR installation, service & repair at Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College.
- Austin Magruder from Fort Collins, Colo. is studying HVACR installation, service & repair at the PHCC Academy of Colorado.
- Tyler Ray from Santa Fe, Texas is studying Mechanical Engineering at Texas A&M.
- Reymundo Torres from Santa Ana, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
- Aaron Wilson from Gypsum, Colo. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC Academy apprentice Program.

The following students have been awarded $1,000 scholarships funded by the PHCC Educational Foundation:

- Jorge Cortes from Fullerton, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
- Riley Larkin from Wentzville, Mo. is studying Business Management at the University of Missouri, Columbia.
- Quantavious Mathis from Savannah, Ga. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at PHCC Academy Online Program.
- Dennis Medina from Anaheim, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
- Max Reindinger from Mission Viejo, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
- Fred Rodriguez from Anaheim, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
• Sean Rodriguez from Santa Ana, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
• Shannon Short from Bellflower, Calif. is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
• Dev Tavares from Spring, Texas is studying Mechanical Engineering at Texas Tech University.

Other scholarships awarded by the Foundation and funded by PHCC members and organizations were:
• Zachary Blum from Wallingford, Conn. was awarded a $2,500 funded by Gerry Kennedy. He is studying HVACR installation, service & repair at the New England Institute of Technology.
• Jaylene Colon from East Taunton, Mass. was awarded a $2,500 Fran Williams Memorial Scholarship funded Anne Williams and the McGlame-Wordell Scholarship Committee. She is studying Construction Management at Roger Williams University.
• Erin Freitas of Natick, Mass. was awarded a $2,500 scholarship funded by the PHCC of Massachusetts Auxiliary and PHCC Educational Foundation. She is studying Business Management at Villanova University.
• Chase Curtis Coburn from Van Alstyne, Texas was awarded a $2,500 scholarship funded by the PHCC of Texas Auxiliary and PHCC Educational Foundation. He is studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Arkansas.
• Jose Garcia from Fullerton, Calif. was awarded a $2,500 need-based scholarship sponsored by the PHCC Past National Officers. He is studying plumbing installation, service & repair at the PHCC of Orange County Apprentice Program.
• John J. Gisonna from Monroe, N.Y. was awarded a $2,500 need-based scholarship sponsored by the PHCC Past National Officers. He is studying HVACR installation, service & repair at the Pennsylvania College of Technology.
Lowell woman a national scholar

LOWELL—Mortee Morris of Lowell, a student at Middlesex Community College, has been accepted to The National Society of Collegiate Scholars, the nation’s pre-eminent certified honor society for first- and second-year college students.

NSCS is an honors organization that recognizes, elevates and connects high-achievers during and beyond their college careers. It provides career and graduate-school connections, leadership and service experiences, practical and skills-based content, access to discounts and savings, and more than $1 million in scholarships, chapter funds and awards annually.

NSCS members’ deep commitment to service, integrity and scholarship positively impact their campuses and local communities.

Morris is studying Civil Engineering at MCC.
GREATER LOWELL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CELEBRATE GIVING EVENT

GLCF sees potential in hard work of students

By Aaros Curtis
acurtis@lowellsun.com

DRAUGHT — Lian Nieves was three weeks away from grad-
uating from Lowell High School when the reality set in that she would
soon be completing one of the greatest milestones in her life.

With the excitement of wrapping up her high school career came sleepless
nights and tears, the 18-year-old said.

The anxiety stemmed from the perceived reality she would not be
able to financially support herself in her dreams of going to college, hin-
tering her ability to achieve the life she wanted.

Nieves’ father had been diagnosed
with non-Hodgkin lymphoma two
years ago and was ordered to leave his
job. With the news, came the realiza-
tion that her mother — who has multi-
ple sclerosis — would be alone in sup-
porting Nieves and her brother. The
financial burden seemed impossible to
overcome for the family.

Nieves didn’t expect any help. She
said she always thought scholarships
were only for the gifted or the talented.

“Little did I know that the Greater
Lowell Community Foundation and
to donors have the needs of all the
potential graduates at heart,” said
Nieves, currently a student at Mid-
dex Community College, with
plans of going to UMass Lowell, and
becoming a pharmacist.

Please see GIVING/4
Seeing potential in hard work of students

They see we may all not be straight-A students, but they can see our potential, the future, and the desire of the average student, like myself,” she said.

Never shared her story with the roughly 200 people who gathered inside Lanz’s in Dracut on Wednesday night for the Greater Lowell Community Foundation’s Celebrate Giving event. The event was used to celebrate the impact of philanthropy in the communities the foundation serves.

William Mailoux, the other scholarship winner who spoke during Wednesday night’s event, described applying for college as “a nightmare,” considering the demands of the cost. He compared the scholarship he received through GLCF to winning the lottery.

“Someone is recognizing you for your hard work,” Mailoux said. “The scholarship that’s given to you, someone is saying, ‘Yes, you’ve done well and your hard work pays off.”

Mailoux expressed gratitude in the foundation and the donors in attendance.

“You act of kindness through words and dollars do help us realize, ‘Yes, the future generation can do this,” said Mailoux, who is majoring in mechanical engineering at UMass Lowell. “And by funding your helping hand, the future generation can also lend their’s.”

The Greater Lowell Community Foundation, around since 1997, is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people in the 20 communities they serve. The organization connects donors with local non-profits that serve the cause that matter most to them. More than $13 million has been distributed in scholarships and grants by the foundation during its 21 years of operations, according to Chet Szablak, chairperson of the GLCF and executive vice president of Enterprise Bank.

“The constant is the fact that people want to give,” said Jay Linnehan, president and CEO of GLCF. “People want to help. Lowell and the surrounding communities are very compassionate group of people who recognize the need of their neighbors.”

The theme of Wednesday night’s event was education.

“Education, in many respects, is part of the cure for many of the ills our society deals with,” Linnehan said.

According to Linnehan, roughly 20 percent of the population of the city of Lowell is at or below the poverty level.

“When you talk about poverty, for example, many of the people who are in poverty are there because they haven’t had the type of education needed to get a good job,” Linnehan said.

According Szablak, roughly 47 percent of what is distributed by the foundation each year is in the form of scholarships. He noted that equated to roughly $450,000 given out to approximately 250 Lowell High graduates in 2018.

“We are going to lose the talent that they have and that they could present in this global economy. We have to be competitive and we have to make sure that education isn’t just for those who can afford it,” Donahue said.

Donahue commended the foundation’s efforts.

“You get it,” she said. “You get that every dollar matters for the young people like Liam and William. So many, without that help, they may never get to school, they may never get that degree, they may never be be the scientist that discovers the cure to cancer.”

The funding provided by the foundation goes beyond education.

“Education, in many respects, is part of the cure for many of the ills our society deals with,” Linnehan said.

Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has “Thank you for changing everybody’s world.”

For more information on GLCF and how to get involved, visit their website at glcfoundation.org.

Follow Aaron Curtis on Twitter @aaroncurtis
Middlesex To Host Award-Winning Poet Richard Hoffman

As part of its Visiting Writers Series, Middlesex Community College will host award-winning poet Richard Hoffman who will read and discuss his work at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road. The event is free and open to the public.


Hoffman has published two memoirs, “Half the House” (2005) and “Love & Fury” (2014). He also writes fiction. His “Interferences & Other Stories” was published in 2009.

His work – poetry and prose – has appeared in Agni, Ascent, Harvard Review, Witness and other magazines.

Hoffman has been awarded a number of fellowships and prizes, including two Massachusetts Cultural Council Fellowships in fiction, The Literary Review’s Charles Angoff Prize for the essay, and a Boston Foundation Brother Thomas Fellowship Award. He is former chair of PEN New England.

MCC’s Visiting Writers Series is co-sponsored by the Creative Writing Program and the Office of Student Engagement. For more information, call 978-656-3363 or email StudentEngagement@middlesex.mass.edu.

Discover your path at Middlesex Community College. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in Massachusetts, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs – plus hundreds of noncredit courses – on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Middlesex CC At Bedford Campus Open House

Middlesex Community College will host a Bedford Campus Open House at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, in the Bedford Campus Center, 591 Springs Road.

“Our annual fall Open House gives students an opportunity to learn about everything Middlesex has to offer,” said Jillian Freitas-Haley, Director of Admissions.

Prospective students and their families, as well as adult learners interested in continuing their education, will have the opportunity to learn about MCC’s 70+ degree and certificate programs, noncredit courses, and online and flexible-learning options.

The Bedford Campus Open House will feature a series of break-out sessions tailored to meet student needs and interests. Students can explore specific areas of academic interest, meet with faculty and academic deans, learn more about the admissions process, and take a campus tour.

Advisors and administrators will be available to answer student questions and provide information about how to be successful at Middlesex. Students can learn about MCC’s many support services, such as academic and career counseling, dual enrollment, tutoring, disability support, and other special programs.

Students can also learn about the statewide Commonwealth Commitment initiative, a MassTransfer program, designed to ease the transfer process, and make getting a bachelor’s degree more affordable.

Attendees can also meet with financial-aid representatives to get information about financing their education. Students can even turn in college applications and schedule appointments for placement testing.

For more information, or to RSVP for MCC’s Bedford Campus Open House, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/oh or call 1-800-818-3434.

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Diplomatic mission to say: ‘Thank you’

By Kori Tutt
ktutt@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Kennedy Kwasi Kankam chose Lowell as one of his destinations for his first visit to the United States. Kankam, a member of Parliament in Ghana, said his trip to Lowell was prompted by hearing how the city has embraced the African cultures of its residents.

The trip was arranged by Gordon Halm, the executive director of the African Community Center of Lowell.

He said Kankam was interested in coming to the city following his attendance at the United Nations with the Ghanaian president a few weeks ago. He said it was his education that helped him get the opportunity to take that trip.

Kankam said his family and extended family in Lowell told him about the opportunities afforded to many Africans in the city.

“I decided to come and say, ‘thank you,’ to the good people of Lowell here and also to see how the two of us — my city and your city — can foster a mutual relationship for the future,” Kankam said.

Halm said Kankam had a busy schedule Tuesday. He met with Mayor Bill Samaras and Democratic candidate for the 3rd Congressional District Lori Trahan. He also made time to talk with Middlesex Community College and Umass Lowell students before heading out for a scheduled meeting.

Please see GHANA/4
From Ghana to Lowell to say: 'Thank you'

GHANA/ From Page 3

with Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. Kankam also attended Tuesday night’s Lowell City Council meeting, where he received a key to the city. Haim said it so important for someone of Kankam’s position in a stable country to spend time in the city.

“For him to come and see the students inspire him because he sees students are taking education seriously to better their lives,” Haim said. “It opens doors and gives you opportunities.”

When the city has helped to integrate African migrants into the community, Kankam said the mayor deserves to be thanked. He said it will be important in the near future to ensure that those who emigrate from Ghana to the U.S. can contribute to society in meaningful ways.

Kankam has been a member of parliament for less than two years, but said he has been in politics since he was a teenager. At Middlesex Community College, Kankam spoke with students in the African Cultural Club. He stressed the importance of education and mentioned a bill passed in Ghana last year allowing for free secondary education.

“What we have realized is without education you can’t do anything in the world,” he said. “When I talk about education, I’m not talking about just formal education. Education comes in so many forms.”

He said while they cannot stop people from wanting to emigrate from Ghana, one of the biggest goals is for them to pursue and have access to education.

“You being here are signs of good migrants,” Kankam said to the MCC students. “You are here to compete intellectually.”

@KoriTuit on Twitter
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Kankam said his family and extended family in Lowell told him about the opportunities afforded to many Africans in the city. "I decided to come and say, 'thank you,' to the good people of Lowell here and also to see how the two of us -- my city and your city -- can foster a mutual relationship for the future," Kankam said. Halm said Kankam had a busy schedule Tuesday. He met with Mayor Bill Samaras and Democratic candidate for the 3rd Congressional District Lori Trahan. He also made time to talk with Middlesex Community College and UMass Lowell students before heading out for a scheduled meeting with Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. Kankam also attended Tuesday night's Lowell City Council meeting, where he received a key to the city. Halm said it so important for someone of Kankam's position in a stable country to spend time in the city.
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Needham Bank names new Wellesley management team

Nadia Mahotiere and Derek Lee  [Courtesy Photo]

Posted Oct 9, 2018 at 6:27 PM

Needham Bank recently announced a new management team for their Wellesley branch.

Nadia Mahotiere was named vice president, branch manager/private banker. “I am very pleased to announce that Nadia Mahotiere has joined the bank as Branch Manager at our all-important Wellesley office,” said Eric Morse, executive vice president. “Nadia is enthusiastic and determined and we could not be more pleased to welcome her to the Needham Bank family.”

Mahotiere holds a Bachelor of Science in finance and accounting management from Northeastern University, where she was a dean’s list student. Following graduation, Mahotiere has held a series of positions of increasing responsibility with several financial institutions, including Citizens Bank, Bank of America and Citibank. Most recently she served as vice president, market manager at Salem Five Bank in Needham. She will report to Morse.

“I am very excited to be named as Needham Bank’s Wellesley branch manager,” said Mahotiere. “Wellesley is a vibrant, dynamic and caring community and Needham Bank’s brand of personalized customer service is a perfect fit for me.”

Needham Bank also announced that Derek Lee has been named the Wellesley office assistant branch manager, reporting to Mahotiere.

Lee, educated at Middlesex Community College in Bedford, began his banking career as a teller with Wakefield Community Bank. He subsequently joined Eagle Bank in Lexington, and became branch supervisor. Most recently he served as customer experience manager for Salem Five Bank in Needham.

“I have spent my career in community banking,” said Lee. “Needham Bank is the gold standard in our sector and I am delighted by this opportunity be a part of the bank’s plans for growing its Wellesley business and continuing to contribute in a positive way to the local economy.”
Middlesex Community College President James C. Mabry was joined by local officials and community leaders at the Ribbon-Cutting Celebration to open the newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center on the Lowell campus. Shown above (left to right): Nancy Donahue, philanthropist; James C. Mabry, MCC President; and Dr. Carole A. Cowan, former MCC President. (Photo by Kevin Harkins)

The newly renovated Donahue Family Academic Arts Center has stood as a multi-purpose facility in the heart of Lowell for nearly 150 years. It houses the college's performing-arts programs – theater, music and dance— including a 190-seat Proscenium Theatre, a 103-seat Recital Hall, a 900-square-foot Dance Studio, a Music practice room, and several Classrooms. For further information, visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/academicartscenter
MCC earns No. 3 U.S. rank in Hospitality

Middlesex Community College's online Hospitality Management Associate Degree Program has been ranked No. 3 in the United States by BestColleges.com.

"Hospitality is a growing and dynamic field, with a very strong job outlook for the coming years," said Kimberly Morrissey, Hospitality & Culinary Arts program coordinator. "We work closely with our students to help them reach their educational and career goals, and provide support and assistance to find the right job."

MCC's Hospitality Management Program falls under the Business Administration Associate Degree. Students receive managerial instruction in a variety of hospitality topics, including food and beverage management, hospitality management, convention and event sales, and planning and tourism management.

“Our online courses are designed to help students learn in a manner that fits their busy schedules,” Morrissey said. “Students are able to connect and learn from each other in an online setting, explore a variety of hospitality topics, and stay on top of trends in the industry.”

The program’s “Business Internship” course enables students to gain real-world experience with hospitality employers, including Marriott, Aramark and Disney.

“This course is really the highlight of the program for most students,” Morrissey said. “Students are able to apply their studies to their internships in the fast-paced world of hotels, restaurants, events and travel.”

Enrollment is open for summer and fall Hospitality Management courses. To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/hospitality, or call 800-818-3434.
MCC earns No. 3 U.S. rank in Hospitality

The Lowell Sun
UPDATED: 10/07/2018 06:35:36 AM EDT

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Framingham State opens food pantry for students

Framingham State University committed to opening a food pantry after a survey of students determined a need.

Framingham State University has become the latest college to open a food pantry for hungry students.

At its launch on Sept. 24, the food pantry was stocked with about 1,500 pounds of food and 232 personal hygiene items, according to the school. All of the items were donated by members of the Framingham State community.

Framingham State is the latest Massachusetts college to open a food pantry available to students at a time when more attention is being paid to how expensive tuition, fees and books are, in addition to meals. Middlesex Community College, Westfield State University, UMass Boston, and UMass Dartmouth are among those who’ve opened pantries in recent years, according to news reports.

Michelle Yestrepsky, the university’s coordinator of student support initiatives, launched the center. The effort began in 2014 when Framingham State formed a food insecurity committee to explore the issue. A survey of students found there to be a need for such a service.

All items donated to the center are logged, and students in need of food or other supplies can drop by and select from the items available.
food & drink

The Wine Professor is in for one night (OK, two)

The table is set for an evening of “The Incomparable Wines of Northern Italy,” a two-hour learning and tasting seminar at the elegant Nisimith House in Lowell, presented by yours truly as part of Middletown Community College’s adult continuing education program.

Ragghia’s class of 30 students is sold out, however, because of the number of inquiries received, MCC has graciously added another class scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 8, from 7 to 9 p.m. (To register, go to www.middletown.edu and type in “wine courses” in the search button.)

I’ve been excited about this “class” for a while. Along with the Wine Goddess, my wife Mary Lee, I’ve been sampling wines for weeks, winnowing down the list to seven selections that best represent the classic wine-growing regions of Piemonte, Toscana and the Veneto.

Four of the wines are classified DOCG, the top tier of Italy’s modern quality pyramid; three are at the next level, DOC; and one is an innovative IGT wine.

An added feature is the Wine Goddess’ simple but authentic food pairings that she prepares herself. The seminar’s objective is to assure that students leave with a better understanding and appreciation of Italian red wines. We’ll cover how each region has its own unique grape varieties, terroir and mesoclimates.

We’ll take a deep dive into the four pillars of great Italian wine — Super Tuscan, Brunello di Montalcino, Barolo, Amarone — by learning the grapes that go into each. We’ll experience the unique tastes by sampling representative foundation wines. For instance, Sangiovese — the king of all Tuscan grapes — is the primary source for Chianti, Chianti Classico, Brunello di Montalcino, Rosso di Montalcino, and Vino Nobile di Montepulciano. We’ll touch all bases with a 12-point Chianti Classico and a Brunello di Montalcino.

We’ll also learn about Veneto’s Valpolicella region and wine, which is crafted from Corvina Veronese and Rondinella grapes, and serves as the foundation for the famous medaglia d’oro Amarone. Students will come to know of the appassimento process — air-drying grapes before fermentation — by tasting Allegri’s innovative “baby Amarone” Palazzo della Torre IGT.

This wine has made Wine Enthusiast’s Top 100 list six times over the past decade.

These six wines are among those that will be discussed at The Wine Novice’s sold-out class at MCC tonight. Have no fear, a second class has been scheduled for Nov. 8.

Then there’s Nebbiolo, one of my favorite varieties. This classic Piemonte grape is the essential key to the masculine Barolo and the feminine Barbaresco. We’ll sample two site-sensitive versions and compare the differences.

And what would a study of Italian wines be without a taste of food-friendly Barbera, the winemaker’s go-to wine and the Piemonte’s most productive by volume (30 million bottles per year). I know you can’t all be there, so if you want to follow along on your own, following is the wine list (or you can register for the Nov. 8 class).

Vineyard region: “Ronato” Barbera; Valpolicella Classico Superior DOC; Allegri Chianti “Baby Amarone” Palazzo della Torre IGT.

Piemontic region: Michel Chiarlo Cyprian Nizza DOCG; Barbaresco; TravagliniGattinara Nebbiolo DOCG; Renato Ratti Ochetti Langhe Nebbiolo DOCG.

The above wines were purchased for $15 or less at New Hampshire and Massachusetts wine outlets, including The Wine Connection in North Andover and Vino Italiano in Waltham.

Robert Foley, one of Napa Valley’s most accomplished winemakers, will be pouring three of his top Switchback Ridge creations on Saturday, Oct. 13, from 1 to 5 p.m., at The Wine Connection in North Andover. This is one tasting you don’t want to miss. Foley’s highly acclaimed Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Petit Sirah will be available to sample. The event is free and open to the public. Owner Sam Mestas is will be offering one-day-only, special pricing on these gems.
food & drink

Some suggestions, whether you want to drink them now or later

WINE NOVICE/from Page 8

Cesari Amarone della Valpolicella 2010, $40: Italian drink this sumptuous, plummy, dry red wine during quiet conversation or when there is a need for silent meditation. It's amazing how the right wine at the right time can calm all thoughts and brighten all future prospects. Amarone is that type of wine.

Goldschmidt Singing Tree Chardonnay 2016, $13.99: I've finally found a Chardonnay that I can drink all year-round. It's from California's Russian River Valley, and winemaker Nick Goldschmidt lets the grapes do the talking. It's creamy yet not buttery. Persistent apple and lemon flavors are fresh and persistent. Get it at The Wine Connection.

Trivento Reserve Malbec 2016, $11, and Trivento Golden Reserve Malbec 2015, $21: As the nights get cooler, I turn to spicy, warm red wines with good structure and enduring tastes. Argentine's Mendoza Malbecs provide the right recipe for late-season grilling on the patio. These are easy-drinking red wines, full of dark cherry, cinnamon and pepper flavors. Trivento's $11 Malbec is an impressive starter. It's been selected as a "best buy" by Wine Enthusiast magazine. I liked it so much, I had to sample the Golden Reserve, which is aged longer, shows much more plum-cherry intensity, and is velvety smooth.

MCC may offer second ‘Vino Rosso’ class

Middlesex Community College has informed me that my seminar scheduled for Oct. 11 at the Nestluth House — "Vino Rosso: A Night of Incomparable Italian Red Wines" — has sold out. But don't despair. All new registrants going forward will be placed on a waiting list for a second seminar date if there is enough demand. Go to MCC's online website, plug in "Vino Rosso" in the search engine, and get all the details.

(hopefully)! Here's a short list.

14 Hands Hot to Trot Red Blend, $8.99: I mean, this Washington State red wine is such an indescribable deal, I don't know how the winery stays in business. The wine is consistently good and I buy it by the case. That's right. Wine Enthusiast gives the 2016 vintage 88 points. The red fruit is fresh and bright. If you see the 14 Hands Kentucky Derby Red ($19.99) still on the shelves in New Hampshire, buy some of that too. These wines are worth stocking up on for everyday drinking.

Campiglione San Felice Brunello di Montalcino 2013, $49.99: This vintage is being called outstanding, maybe even below the classic 2010, but I'm banking on 2013 to exceed early expectations. The retail price is $66, but Vino Italiano in Waltham had a special deal for early birders on this new release. Brunello is aged up to five years, by law, before its release to the public. Iain D'Asta, an Italian wine expert for Vinous, said this about the wine: "Nicely sweet and smooth on the palate, offering supple, ripe berry flavors complicated by mocha and coffee." He says this will drink best from 2022 to 2031. I'll pray for patience, but God forgive me if I pop this five years from now.

Dumiano Lecciupevigne Barolo 2015, $5.99: Its suggested retail price is $57.80 a bottle, and the listed price is what paid for it upon release at Vino Italiano. Winemaker Giuseppe Cavola is putting Dumiano on the map with 100 percent Nebbiolo bottlings. He selects fruit from five different vineyards and blends the best. According to Wine Advocate, "Lecciupevigne is fragrant and intense with a mounting sense of aromatic importance and persistence... In terms of a Barolo that is not from a single vineyard, this wine is at the head of the class. On the quality-versus-price ratio, it offers great value." Here's another for the cellar, but four years at the most.
MCC Food Pantry expands days, hours in Bedford and Lowell

After a 2018 campus-wide Wisconsin Hope Lab survey revealed that 41 percent of Middlesex Community College students identified as having struggled with food insecurity during the past 12 months, MCC is expanding the days and hours its food pantry is open on its Bedford and Lowell campuses.

“Helping Middlesex students alleviate the challenges associated with food insecurity and hunger will enable them to remain in school, be successful, and become engaged community members,” said MCC President James Mabry.

Opened in 2016, the MCC Food Pantry – in collaboration with the Merrimack Valley Food Bank – offers supplemental food to enrolled Middlesex students, staff and faculty. Under the direction of the Office of Student Engagement, the Bedford and Lowell campus food pantries are now open four hours a day, four days a week (two days in Bedford, two days in Lowell), during fall and spring semesters while classes are in session.

Lowell Campus Food Pantry, located inside the Lowell Student Lounge, 45 Middle St., is now open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, fall and spring semesters, while classes are in session.

Bedford Campus Food Pantry, located in Bedford House (Building 5) in Room BH 001, is now open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, fall and spring semesters, while classes are in session.

According to Jonathan Crockett, coordinator wellness programming, the MCC Food Pantry on each campus offers enrolled students food items packaged in cans, boxes and plastic. Both pantries also now have refrigerators, which allows limited distribution of perishable items, such as fresh produce and dairy. A variety of personal-care items, toiletries or paper goods are also available.

In addition, there is a “self-serve food cabinet” in the Cowan Center lobby on the Lowell campus, which allows donors and recipients easy access to non-perishable food whenever the building is open. And, in collaboration with Corporate Chefs, the MCC Food Pantry is also launching a limited breakfast/lunch food-voucher program, allowing access to prepared food for students and employees who need it.

The MCC Food Pantry is also distributing pre-filled bags of food and personal-care items to a variety of student-services offices on both campuses, to be provided directly to any students who need them throughout the year.

For more information about the MCC Food Pantry, contact Jonathan Crockett at foodpantry@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3785, or visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/studentlife/mccfoodpantry.

Volunteers stock the shelves of the Middlesex Community College Food Pantry, which is expanding the days and hours it's open to better serve enrolled MCC students, staff and faculty on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. [COURTESY PHOTO]
action unlimited  
saturday, october 6, 2018

Register Now For MCC's Accelerated Fall Mini-semester II
In addition to Middlesex Community College’s traditional 15-week semesters, the college offers Mini-mesters — accelerated, eight-week sessions. Registration is now open for Fall Mini-semester II, which runs Oct. 29 through Dec. 20. Financial aid is available for those who qualify.

“Our eight-week, accelerated Mini-semester II — which starts at the end of October and ends before the holidays — is one more way Middlesex is helping students discover they can fit education into their busy lives,” said Phil Sisson, Provost and Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs.

Accelerated courses in business, humanities, social sciences and STEM, among others, are available this session.

Most Mini-semester courses are offered online. They cover the same content, maintain the same academic standards, and contain the same number of in-class instructional hours as courses scheduled during the traditional 15-week semester.

For further information, and to see the full list of Mini-semester course offerings, visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/minisemesters/or call 1-800-818-3434.

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action unlimited  
saturday, september 29, 2018

MCC Music Faculty To Honor Lowell And Inaugurate New Recital Hall
A World of Music, Middlesex Community College’s free 2018 fall concert series, begins with “A Celebration: Honoring the City of Lowell Through Music,” to be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in MCC’s new Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center Recital Hall, 240 Central St., Lowell.

This special concert will feature Middlesex Music faculty and guests performing a program focused on — and inspired by — Lowell, to inaugurate the new Recital Hall on the Lowell campus. This event is free and open to the public, but space is limited and reservations are recommended. To RSVP, please visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/honoringlowell.

“Honoring the City of Lowell Through Music” will feature faculty members Raley Beggs, guitar; Orlando Cela, flute; Susan Dill, choral conductor; and Carmen Rodríguez-Peralta, piano; joined by Carley DeFranco, soprano, and Sovanna Khon on solo sa, a Cambodian instrument. They will perform short works by 19th-century composer George Chadwick, who was born in Lowell. Also featured will be music from Cambodia and Latin America, reflecting the influences of those cultures on the city.

The program continues with world premieres of short pieces celebrating Lowell by MCC faculty composers Richard Chowenhill, David Janssen, Pamela Marshall and Aaron Rosenberg. Their compositions were inspired by art, history or literature from Lowell.

And finally, a chorus made up of MCC students and alumni, plus the African Fellowship Choir of Lowell, will perform a few short selections.

Parking is not available on site. The nearest public parking facility to MCC’s Academic Arts Center is the Early Garage, 135 Middlesex St., Lowell.

Additional events in this fall’s A World of Music free concert series include: pianist Liana Paniyeva, performing at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26, in the MCC Concert Hall, Bedford campus; the Carlos Odría Ensemble, at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, in the Academic Arts Center Recital Hall, Lowell campus; “Music for Flute & Guitar,” at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, MCC Concert Hall, Bedford campus; and a Student Recital, at 12:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10, MCC Concert Hall, Bedford campus.

For more concert information, directions to campus & parking info, or to see video clips of previous MCC concerts, visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/worldofmusic

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Wellesley branch of Needham Bank names new management team

Nadia Mahotiere has joined the Wellesley branch of Needham Bank as Branch Manager at its 485 Washington St. location. Mahotiere holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and Accounting Management from Northeastern University.

In a related move, Derek Lee was named Assistant Branch Manager of that office. Lee, educated at Middlesex Community College in Bedford, began his banking career as a teller with Wakefield Community Bank and has since steadily risen in the banking ranks.

LHS hosts college fair

The Lowell Sun
UPDATED: 09/30/2018 05:35:37 AM EDT

LOWELL -- Lowell High School will host the 41st annual Merrimack Valley College Fair on Thursday, Oct. 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Riddick Field House.

About 140 colleges will be represented, and area schools, both public and private, are invited to attend.

Students and parents are encouraged to attend the fair to meet with college representatives to discuss admissions requirements, housing, student life on campus, athletics, financial aid, campus visits and more.

A workshop series will also be available to students and families during the fair to address questions regarding selective college planning, Massachusetts college admission standards, and tuition-discounted programs available to Massachusetts residents.

The workshop series will begin at 7 p.m., and will include the Harvard Club of Merrimack Valley College Outreach Program, Exploring MA State Admissions Standards with the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Middlesex Community College, and The New England Board of Higher Education’s Tuition Break for Massachusetts Residents.

The Merrimack Valley College Fair is an opportunity to connect with college representatives and obtain valuable information to help plan for the college process.
Massachusetts community colleges launch STEM Deans Council

Deans from all 15 of Massachusetts’ community colleges have formed a STEM Deans Council. Pictured from left are: Betty Lauer of Quinsigamond Community College, Laura Rubin of North Shore Community College, Leslie Bolinger Horton of Quinsigamond Community College, Donna Wright of Massasoit Community College, Doug Brown of Massasoit Community College, Janice Barney of Mount Wachusett Community College, Olugbemiga Adekunle of Holyoke Community College, Robert Dickerman of Springfield Technical Community College, Kathleen Sweeney of Middlesex Community College, Sarmad Saman of Bristol Community College, Carolyn Knopfker of Northern Essex Community College, Charles Kaminski of Berkshire Community College, Chitra Javdekar of Mass Bay Community College, and Donald Crampton of Cape Cod Community College. [COURTESY PHOTO]

GARDNER — A collection of STEM deans from all 15 of Massachusetts’ community colleges has formed a STEM Deans Council with the goal of cutting costs and building collaboration across the schools.

The need for this group grew out of the different nature of STEM deans oversight compared to other academic deans, said Janice Barney, MWCC dean of the School of Business, Science, Technology and Mathematics, who left her role on the state-wide Massachusetts Council of Academic Division Administrators (CADA) group to become a member of this new group. Barney was voted in to a one-year position as the vice chairwoman of the group at their Aug. 8 meeting with Doug Brown from Massasoit Community College elected to serve as the chairman.

While all deans are concerned with education, due to the nature of some materials used in labs and the hands-on nature of many STEM degrees, there are additional areas that STEM deans oversee, such as tracking chemical inventory and maintaining safety, according to Barney. “This is a chance for the STEM deans to talk about the additional duties and training of staff that are needed on campuses to ensure that everything flows smoothly. It is an opportunity to collaborate, share good ideas and raise awareness of any issues that we might have,” said Barney.

These meetings will give an official avenue for STEM deans to exchange information and cut costs through combined purchases and training, said Barney. STEM deans must ensure proper training of lab staff and are often their own purchasing agents. “If we unite together it might be possible to get training for 20 to 30 lab techs all at once for one group price,” said Barney. “That’s really where this group is focusing: safety and responsibility.”

The initial meetings of the group have been held at Mount Wachusett Community College because of its central location and new Asquino Science Center that contains a variety of modern equipment and lab space. However, said Barney, the plan is for the meetings to move around to different campuses within the community college system.
អាជីវកម្មរៀននៃ MCC ដ៏នូវអំពីថ្នាក់សាលាចិត្តសីតុងរបស់ពួកគេថែមទៀត

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Central St, Lowell ។ មានមេឃប្រឈមបំផុតនៅក្នុងការ។

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Philanthropist Nancy Donahue addressed the nearly 200 guests gathered to celebrate the opening of MCC’s newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center on the Lowell campus.

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Donahue Family Arts Center
Inaugurado / Inaugurated

Middlesex Community College President James C. Malloy was joined by local officials and community leaders at the Ribbon-Cutting Celebration to open the newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center on the Lowell campus. Shown here (left to right): Nancy Donahue, philanthropist; James C. Malloy, MCC President; and Dr. Carole A. Cowan, former MCC President.
Middlesex CC Opens Academic Arts Center on Lowell Campus

All photos by Kevin Harkins

Middlesex Community College officially opened its newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center on the Lowell campus with a ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring speeches by college and community leaders, building tours, and demonstrations by Middlesex theater, music and dance students.

The newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center at Middlesex Community College was formally dedicated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by state and local officials, college leaders, and students.

Middlesex Community College President James C. Mabry was joined by other dignitaries and guests to officially open the newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center on the Lowell campus.

The exterior of the building was renovated by Lowell National Historical Park, which transferred ownership to Middlesex in 2008. The college worked with architects Leers Weinzapfel (http://www.lwa-architects.com/) and Consigli Construction (http://www.consigli.com/) to create the Academic Arts Center.

To learn more about MCC’s Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center, visit www.middlessex.mass.edu/academicartscenter.

Enjoying the celebration were Eileen Donahue, City Manager, Carol A. Cowan, former president of Middlesex Community College, Laura Smith and State Rep. Rady Mom.

Middlesex student Dylan Rosario, of Lowell, demonstrated his guitar technique in a new performing-arts classroom as part of the ribbon-cutting celebration to open MCC’s newly renovated Academic Arts Center.

Middlesex students interacted with students and faculty at the grand opening of the renovated Academic Arts Center.

Former Middlesex Community College President Carol A. Cowan (left) and philanthropists Nancy Donahue celebrated the opening of MCC's newly renovated Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center on the Lowell campus.
A World of Music Concert Series

MCC Music Faculty to Honor Lowell and Inaugurate New Recital Hall

A World of Music, Middlesex Community College’s free 2018 fall concert series, begins with “A Celebration Honoring the City of Lowell Through Music,” to be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in MCC’s new Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center Recital Hall, 249 Central St., Lowell.

This special concert will feature Middlesex Music faculty and guests performing a program focused on - and inspired by - Lowell, to inaugurate the new Recital Hall on the Lowell campus. This event is free and open to the public, but space is limited and reservations are recommended. To RSVP, please visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/honoringlowell.

“Honoring the City of Lowell Through Music” will feature faculty members Riley Negri, pianist; Orlando Ceja, flute; Susan Dill, choral conductor, and Carmen Rodriguez-Ferns, piano, joined by Carley Defeo, soprano, and Shivam Khan on the cajon, a Cambodian instrument. They will perform short works by 19th-century composer George Chadwick, who was born in Lowell. Also featured will be music from Cambodia and Latin America, reflecting the influences of those cultures on the city.

The program continues with world premieres of short pieces celebrating Lowell by MCC faculty composers Richard Choosenthal, David Janssen, Pamela Marshall and Aaron Rosenberg. These compositions were inspired by art, history or literature from Lowell. And finally, a choir made up of MCC students and alumni, plus the African Bellows, heart of Lowell, will perform a few short selections.

Parking is not available on site. For more information, directions to campus & parking info, or to see video clips of previous MCC concerts visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/worldofmusic.

Discover your path at Middlesex Community College. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in Massachusetts, we educate, engage and empower a diverse community of learners. MCC offers more than 70-degree and certificate programs plus hundreds of noncredit courses on our campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and online. Middlesex Community College. Student success starts here!

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.”

“El éxito no es el fin, el fracaso no es mortal. Es el valor de continuar lo que cuenta.”

- Winston Churchill
Amy Bass to visit MCC's writers series

*The Lowell Sun*

UPDATED: 09/23/2018 06:34:36 AM EDT

LOWELL -- As part of its Visiting Writers Series, Middlesex Community College will host author Amy Bass on Thursday, Oct. 4, at 12:30 p.m., in the Federal Building Assembly Room, 33 Kearney Square, on the Lowell campus.

Bass is a professor of history at The College of New Rochelle and is widely published on the cultural history of sports. She will read from and discuss her work. The event is free and open to the public.

In her latest book, "One Goal: A Coach, a Team and the Game That Brought a Divided Town Together," Bass tells the true story of how Somali refugees and native-born kids in Lewiston, Maine, banded together to win the 2015 state soccer championship. Their accomplishments helped bridge racial and cultural divides.


The host of a weekly radio show on WVOX, Bass has also served for many years as senior research supervisor for NBC Olympic Sports. She won an Emmy Award for her work at the 2012 London Olympics.

MCC's Visiting Writers Series is co-sponsored by the Creative Writing Program and the Office of Student Engagement. For more information, call 978-656-3363.
Author Bass at MCC

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MCC To Host Sports Cultural Historian

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MCC’s Fall MILES Opening Session

Middlesex Community College will host best-selling author David S. Brody during the fall Opening Session of MILES (Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education for Seniors) at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road. The event is free and open to the public.

MCC’s MILES program offers stimulating, interactive daytime seminars and workshops — with no term papers, tests or grades — for active, older adults ages 55+.

This Opening Session provides community members an opportunity to learn more about MILES and the courses being offered — and is a good opportunity to meet instructors and peers. Light refreshments will be served.

Brody is a best-selling fiction writer and author of 10 novels. His children call him a “rock nerd” because of the time he spends studying ancient stone structures, which he believes offer evidence of pre-Columbus exploration of America.

A graduate of Tufts University and Georgetown Law School, Brody has appeared as a guest expert on documentaries that have aired on the History Channel, the Travel Channel, PBS and the Discovery Channel. All seven books in his “Temples in America” series have been Amazon Kindle Top 10 best-sellers. He lives in Westford with his wife, sculptor Kimberly Scott.

MILES Fall 2018 Session runs Monday through Thursday, Oct. 11 through Nov. 26, on the Bedford campus. Most study groups meet from 2 to 4 p.m., in one-, two- or five-week sessions, and are facilitated by individuals with expertise in their field, including some MCC faculty and staff. Workshops and seminars focus on a variety of topics, including art, the environment, health, history, literature, movies, nature and technology.

Each MILES course is $15 — with a maximum of $95 for the semester if you register for seven or more courses. All MILES participants enjoy free use of the MCC Fitness Center and library.

For the complete schedule of MILES courses, contact Lauren Ellis at 781-280-3669 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/MILES. To register for MILES courses, call 1-800-818-3434.

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NoteWorthy – 9/23/18

Joseph Girard-Mod on September 23rd, 2018

Community

The Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center

L-R: Nancy Donahue, philanthropist; James Malloy, Middlesex Community College president; and Dr. Carole Cowan, former MCC president.

MCC Opens New Academic Arts Center

On Sept. 21, Middlesex Community College heralded a new era as it opened the Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center. The newly renovated center, located in Lowell’s historic Board & Maine Building at 240 Central Street, houses the college’s performing arts programs, including theater, dance and music.

“The centerpiece of the new facility is a proscenium theater that will showcase theatrical programs and performances, including an upcoming winter production of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet.””

Following a ribbon-cutting celebration hosted by MCC President James Malloy, guests were treated to student and faculty performing art demonstrations, including guitar, dance, theatrical makeup and sword fighting.
MCC celebrates The Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center

By Dacey Zouzas, daceyzlist@gmail.com

UPDATED: 10/01/2018 02:45:48 PM EDT

From left, MCC students Linda, Franky and Nicole, with President James Mabry and his wife Judy of Bedford, and Music Chairwoman Carmen Rodriguez Peralta, and Dean of Arts and Humanities Ellen Nicholas, both of Arlington
Photo Gallery | MCC celebrates The Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center

From left, Former MCC President Carole Cowan of Florida with members of the Donahue family of Lowell, Phillip, Daniel, Nancy and Beth

"A broad education in the arts helps give children a better understanding of their world. ... We need students who are culturally literate as well as math- and science-literate." - Paul Ostergard, Vice President, Citicorp

Middlesex Community College recently celebrated its newly renovated, breathtaking arts center, named The Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center, located at 240 Central St., at the corner of Green Street.

The educational and enjoyable afternoon Sept. 21 consisted of a ceremonial ribbon-cutting, followed by speeches from college and community leaders, building tours and demonstrations by MCC theater, music and dance students.

Nearly 200 savvy business leaders, friends and family were mesmerized as they witnessed a lesson in swordsmanship onstage in the theater, watched theatrical makeup being applied to actors in the dressing room, and listened to a jazz dance class in the Dance Studio, guitar lessons in a music classroom, and voice students performing in the Recital Hall.

The arts center was named after highly respected philanthropists Nancy Donahue and her late husband, Richard, a kind family man who was a lawyer, an assistant to President John F. Kennedy and adviser to Robert and Ted Kennedy, and a former president of Nike. The ever-so-energetic Nancy continues to shine and sparkle, carrying on their work in philanthropy and volunteerism, and receiving numerous awards and accolades.
She is a huge cheerleader at most social events. Nancy related to the guests a most interesting and heartwarming personal story. On that very same day, 66 years before, she had taken the train from Boston to Lowell to the then-Rialto Theatre, originally built in 1876 as the Boston & Maine Railroad Depot on the very spot that now houses The Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center. Can you imagine? I’m sure not that in Nancy’s wildest dreams, 66 years later she would have this beautiful arts center dedicated in her and her husband’s names for the development of the arts and their appreciation for culture and education in the Merrimack Valley.

MCC’s newly renovated Richard and Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center has stood as a multipurpose facility in the heart of Lowell for nearly 150 years. The Academic Arts Center will house the college’s performing-arts programs, theater, music and dance, including a 187-seat Proscenium Theatre, a 103-seat Recital Hall, a 900-square-foot Dance Studio, a music practice room and classrooms.

For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/academicartscenter

MCC's MILES program opens Oct. 10

BEDFORD — Middlesex Community College will host best-selling author David S. Brody during the fall opening session of MILES, the Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education for Seniors, Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 2 p.m., in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road. The event is free and open to the public.

MCC’s MILES program offers stimulating, interactive daytime seminars and workshops — with no term papers, tests or grades — for active, older adults ages 55 and older. The opening session provides community members an opportunity to learn more about MILES and the courses being offered, and is a good opportunity to meet instructors and peers. Light refreshments will be served.

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For the complete schedule of MILES courses, call 781-280-3669 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/MILES. To register for MILES courses, call 800-818-3434.
Forum aims to help city welcome all people

By Robert Mills
rmills@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Lowell is an incredibly diverse city, but as recently as the 1990s, when Cambodian refugees started arriving, anti-immigration movements and even anti-immigrant violence have reared their heads in Lowell.

As Cambodians began making a life here, a movement sprang up in Lowell to make English the city's official language, and a non-binding ballot measure to do so garnered 70 percent of the vote in 1990, according to Bob Ferrant, a history professor at UMass Lowell.

In 1997, as hosting students to improve diversity in city schools was still a hot-button issue, a 13-year-old Cambodian child was pushed by an 11-year-old white child and tumbled into the Pawtucket Canal, where he drowned.

"Looking at the history helps us look at how far we've come, and how far we have to go," Ferrant said as he led a forum at Middlesex Community College on what it should take to be a welcoming community.

The forum was part of Welcoming Week Lowell — a first-time event that organizers hope to repeat next year as part of the Welcoming America movement that aims to make communities more welcoming.

"How do we control a more welcoming community for everyone, from newcomers to those who have been here for a while but who feel left out," asked Ferrant.

Ferrant said the discussion was City Manager Eileen Donoghue, Lowell Community Health Center CEO Susan Levine, and Community Teamwork Inc. CEO Karen Frederick.

From left: Lowell Community Health Center CEO Susan Levine; Community Teamwork Inc. CEO Karen Frederick, and Lowell City Manager Eileen Donoghue take part in a forum on what it means to be a welcoming community Thursday night at Middlesex Community College.
Donoghue, Susan Levine, CEO of the Lowell Community Health Center; Karen Frederick, CEO of Community Teamwork Inc.; Jamie Gabriel, chief human resources officer for Enterprise Bank; and Emma Tobin and Rogers Muyanja, of the International Institute of New England.

Each discussed ways in which their organizations have historically worked to be more welcoming to immigrant groups and to ensure their companies or organizations reflect the community at large.

Frederick and Levine both said their organizations have rules in place to ensure their boards of directors are representative of the community, with LCHC even going so far as to have the makeup of their patients determine the makeup of their board.

Donoghue said the city has worked, and continues to work, to ensure it reaches out to all communities in Lowell to recruit workers so that city government can look like the community it serves.

She said the city has recently reached out into such communities to spread word about job openings since many immigrants don’t know where to find such job postings.

“The challenge of reaching everyone in the city is real and one I and the City Council are absolutely committed to,” Donoghue said.

Levine said the day President Donald Trump issued his first executive order regarding immigration was one of the most stressful she has experienced at the health center for both patients and staff.

She said several speakers, including retired Police Superintendent Bill Taylor, helped assuage those fears, but that many still have deep concerns about being an immigrant in America today.

Frederick said she has tried to encourage CTI employees to have the difficult and uncomfortable conversations about conscious and unconscious biases that are needed.

Tobin said the International Institute has worked to help address mental health issues among immigrants who are now living in that type of environment.

She said the Trump Administration recently announced that only 30,000 refugees will be admitted to the U.S. this year, down from 110,000 under the Obama Administration.
PHOTO FINISH

Local photographer’s work on display at Greater Lowell Community Foundation

On Aug. 22, a summer artist exhibition was on display at the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, which hosted a reception for “Come Away With Me,” photography by Elaine Seidel. This breathtaking and moving exhibit helps support The Lowell Center for Hope and Healing. Elaine, raised in Chelmsford and now a Billerica resident, is articulate and passionate, and focuses on fine-art photography. Her work has been exhibited in many local venues, including The Whistler House in Lowell. She is also a published poet, has juried numerous shows, received awards from Chelmsford Art Society, as well as the Arts Institute of the Merrimack Valley, Artists Corner and Gallery Acton. Elaine also presents solo shows and has been featured in many publications.

At the reception, art aficionados sipped a cold beverage as they viewed a vast display of colorful images inspired by Elaine’s travels up and down the East Coast. Her work has been called peaceful, hopeful and mainly nature-based, with images of sand, sea, sky and New England’s forests and waterfalls, though it also includes abstracts and architectural images.

Her work is currently on display at The Artist Corner & Gallery in the Acton summer show “Peace,” at Plum Island Path and at The Arts League of Lowell Variations Show, “Three Red.” Elaine’s work is incredible and a must-see!

Since 1997, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation has been helping nonprofits access the necessary funding, resources, training, education and tools they need to address more effectively the social, educational, economic, environmental and/or cultural needs of our communities.

By matching and connecting your nonprofit organization with charitable donations, grants, endowments and scholarship funds, the foundation helps to ensure that you make a stronger, more lasting impact while improving the quality of life in the community. For more information visit www.gffoundation.org.

For more info on Elaine, email ElaineMSeidel@gmail.com. Her show runs through Sept. 27 at 100 Merrimack St., #202, in downtown Lowell.
Student Refugee Survived and Found Success at Middlesex CC

Fatima Al-Muntafik grew up in Iraq, a nation divided and scarred by war; she pieced her life back together again with help from MCC.

By Middlesex Community College, Patch Contributor | Sep 19, 2018 2:21 pm ET

Fatima Al-Muntafik grew up in Iraq, a nation divided and scarred by war. But she changed her life and got off to a fresh start in her new home with support from Middlesex Community College.

On April 6, 2003, when she was a senior in high school, Al-Muntafik's family home was destroyed by cluster bombs, killing her brother-in-law. Living in Iraq, she said, was "a struggle for survival and success." But she survived and succeeded.

As friends and family members were killed or fled to other countries, Al-Muntafik stayed in Iraq and completed her studies, earning two bachelor's degrees from the University of Baghdad. One degree is in Arabic Language from the College of Education, and the other is in Musical Arts from the College of Fine Arts.

"Despite all this (conflict), we were creating life and seeing beautiful details of music, art and literature in Iraq, which can be felt despite many attempts by religious parties and militias to obliterate this beauty," Al-Muntafik said. "I never thought that after all this I would leave Iraq."

But, she eventually became the victim of threats and harassment from both sides in the on-going conflict – details of which she declined to share, "Because it caused pain I cannot describe." She was targeted because she worked in the fields of arts and culture, and as a musician playing violin in the Baghdad Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Al-Muntafik fled to the United States with her mother, landing briefly in Philadelphia before settling in Lowell in July 2015. As a refugee in Lowell, she was referred to Middlesex by a teacher at the International Institute – a referral that changed her life.
She enrolled in MCC's free Prepare to Attend College (PAC) Program to improve her English skills. And, with the help of the college's Arts, Humanities & Communication Pathway, began studying in the Performing Arts – Music Option degree program.

A new home, and a new language caused Al-Muntafik to struggle at first, but she soon found her footing. The best thing about Middlesex is its diversity, she said, and the way everyone is so helpful and supportive – especially professors Marja-Leena Bailey, Pat Demaras and Jonathan Bennett, advisor Maria McDuffie, and librarian Carrie Salazar. "Those amazing people did a lot for me. Everything I'm doing right now is because they guided me."

As she steadily gained confidence, Al-Muntafik became a strong voice and leader in the college community. She served as an officer in the Middle Eastern Cultural Club, Spectrum, and the Social Justice Club. She was also a member of the Student Union Government Association, attended social-justice and leadership conferences, and continued her love of music by participating in the Boston Guitar Festival.

Having completed five semesters at MCC, Al-Muntafik decided last spring it was time to move on. She's now planning to earn a master's degree in religion studies, with a goal of becoming a religion and gender studies professor. She is currently looking into master's degree programs, but has not yet decided on a school.

"It was so hard to make that decision to leave, but I have to do it," she said. "MCC taught me a lot and now I can choose my way. Everyone at Middlesex helped me to find my way with support, love and respect – and gave me the belief I can do it."

"MCC is my home," Al-Muntafik added. "It is the best place to be, not only to study, but for everything. My culture, my social life and my best friends are all from Middlesex. I'm really lucky to have studied there."

For more information about MCC's free Prepare to Attend College (PAC) Program, visit the English Learner Institute webpage: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu... or call 978-656-3104.

For more information about the Arts, Humanities & Communication Pathway, visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu...

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