THIS MONTH at

MIDDLESEX

New Middlesex Community College Board of Trustees Members

MCC Commonwealth Honors Program Shows Steady Growth

2017 Celebrity Forum Scholarship Recipients

MCC Student Featured in American Dream Documentary

MCC Names 2017 NISOD Award Winners

Bedford Campus
591 Springs Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Lowell Campus
33 Kearney Square
Lowell, MA 01852

JUNE 9 - SEPTEMBER 25, 2017
Five AAC&U Member Institutions Named as 2017 Excellence in Assessment Designees

Five exemplary institutions, all AAC&U members, have received an Excellence in Assessment (EIA) designation recognizing their commitment to the comprehensive assessment of student learning outcomes as a means to drive internal improvement and advance student success. The EIA program—the first national designation of its kind—is sponsored by the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), a public college and university transparency initiative led by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), in partnership with the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) and the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA).

The designees are Bowling Green State University, James Madison University, Middlesex Community College, Rio Salado College, and Southern Connecticut State University. One institution, James Madison University, received the designation of Sustained Excellence in Assessment. These institutions join the first ten designees inducted in 2016.

"Congratulations to each of the award recipients. By integrating assessment into the fabric of their institutions, they have demonstrated an on-going commitment to fostering student success both inside and outside of the classroom," said AAC&U President Lynn Pasquerella.

For more information, see the press release and the Excellence in Assessment website.
Middlesex Community College recently announced the recipients of the annual National Institute of Staff & Organizational Development Excellence Awards.

Honorees for 2017 are Assistant Professor of Communications Jennifer D. Bauer, of North Andover; Professor of Math Linda Dart-Kathios, of Pelham, New Hampshire; and Assistant Professor of Business Stacie Hargis, of Lowell.

NISOD’s Excellence Awards, affiliated with the University of Texas at Austin, honor the contributions and achievements of community and technical college faculty, administrators and staff.

“The NISOD Excellence Awards give Middlesex the privilege of honoring faculty and staff for their dedication to teaching excellence and fine work in furtherance of student learning and success,” said Philip J. Sisson, provost and vice president of academic and student affairs.

“Recipients are recognized by the college community as exemplary educators who have demonstrated their leadership through significant accomplishments both in and out of the classroom. We are grateful for their efforts on behalf of our students, and are fortunate to have them as colleagues.” Excellence Award recipients were celebrated during NISOD’s annual International Conference on Teaching & Leadership Excellence in Austin, Texas. Created in 1978, NISOD is a consortium of community and technical colleges that share a commitment to supporting excellence in teaching, learning and leadership.

For more information, visit http://nisod.org.

MCC to host MILES opening session

Middlesex Community College, 591 Springs Road, Bedford, will host artist Cathy McLaurin at the fall opening session of its Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education for Seniors program at 2 p.m. Oct. 4 in the campus’ Café East.

The free event will explore the college’s MILES program, which offers interactive daytime seminars and workshops for active older adults ages 55 and older. Light refreshments will be served.

For information, call 781-280-3669 or visit middlesex.mass.edu/miles.

MCC to host information session for students with disabilities

Middlesex Community College, 591 Springs Road, Bedford, will host an information session for students with disabilities from 9 to 11 a.m. Oct. 5 at the campus center’s Café East.

The session will explore the college’s Transition Program, a two-year noncredit vocational certificate program for students with learning/cognitive disabilities. Guests will receive information on curriculum, application procedures, internship requirements and prospective job opportunities.

For information and registration, call 781-280-3676 or email slengern@middlesex.mass.edu.
Woburn Memorial High School Students get head start on their college degree
Wicked Local Woburn
... initiated collaboration with dual enrollment advisors and curriculum coordinators from Middlesex Community College (MCC) and WMHS Director of ...

Woburn Memorial High School Principal Jessica Callanan last year, initiated collaboration with dual enrollment advisors and curriculum coordinators from Middlesex Community College (MCC) and WMHS Director of Guidance Rosemary Donovan, to implement a dual enrollment program for junior and senior.

Students who are dual enrolled earn college credits while working towards their high school graduation requirements. The high school has, and continues to have, students taking dual enrollment courses on campus at MCC; however, for the first time, WMHS is offering students two dual enrollment courses within at school.

These courses are early childhood education and psychology, which were not previously offered through the high school curriculum. The prerequisite for dual enrollment is a college placement test that was administered to students during the spring.

Additionally, students are required to have a GPA of at least 2.5 while having a good attendance record.

Dual enrollment students pay a reduced tuition cost. MCC dual enrollment students pay $87 per credit for three credits when they take courses at WMHS. This is significantly less than the cost of most college credits, and less than students pay if taking courses on campus at MCC. To assist families with payments, MCC has a payment plan for students who may need extra time to pay for courses.

In addition to the three college credits students earn, they simultaneously earned between 2.5 and 5 credits towards high school graduation requirements.

WMHS Wellness Teacher Barbara Locke is teaching Early Childhood Education during semester 1, and 15 juniors and seniors are enrolled in this class.

Wellness Department Head Diane Ivester said, “It is a great addition to our Wellness program and ECE fits right into the wellness philosophy of educating the whole child.”

Kelly Foley teaches psychology during semesters 1 and 2, which has approximately 20 juniors and seniors enrolled.

Callanan said she looks forward to the possibility of offering additional dual enrollment courses with MCC in the future, if this proves to be a positive experience for students and families.

For more information, parents and caregivers call their child's guidance counselor, or visit middlesex.mass.edu.
Music powerful medicine at benefit

LOWELL — The sun finally broke free from the clouds, and the September social scene put its best foot forward. This past Saturday, it was the Lowell MassMutual’s annual Fall Gathering at its law firm, Gallagher & Cummins, on The Wetgills building.

This fun and family event benefited two remarkable organizations: the Tufts University School of Medicine and Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell. More than 150 guests attended, and the event raised more than $17,500 for the organizations.

The event was organized by Tufts University’s student group, AMSA, and their mentor, Dr. Amy Elizabeth, joined Executive Director Lisa Haugey on stage to share her insights on the growing field of health care.

The event also featured performances by local artists, including Spicy Diva, a local pop trio, and the Lowell Spinners, who played a mix of classic rock and contemporary hits.

From left, Tufts University Executive Director Lisa Haugey, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, and Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey.

From left, Tufts University Executive Director Lisa Haugey, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, and Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey.

Spicy Diva

Spicy Diva is a local pop trio that performs at events and private parties. They specialize in covering classic rock and contemporary hits, and they always leave their audience on their feet.

From left, Tufts University Executive Director Lisa Haugey, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, and Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey.

From left, Tufts University Executive Director Lisa Haugey, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, and Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey.

From left, Tufts University Executive Director Lisa Haugey, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, and Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey.
MCC Hosts Artist Cathy McLaurin At MILES Fall Opening Session

Middlesex Community College will host artist Cathy McLaurin at the fall Opening Session of MILES (Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education for Seniors) at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, 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.

A New Hampshire artist, McLaurin connects history and current social issues with notions of values, morals, national identity, philanthropy, kinship and legacy in her work. Through extended relationships with personal and institutional entities — along with research in archives and libraries — she challenges the systems that underpin complex social concerns.

McLaurin is Special Projects & Beland Gallery Director at the Essex Art Center in Lawrence. Her artwork is included in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, Otis College of Art & Design, and UCLA, among others.

MILES Fall 2017 Session runs Monday through Thursday, Oct. 11 - Nov. 14, on the Bedford campus. 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 movies, nature, art, literature, technology, health and environmental issues, and history.

Each MILES course is $15 up to a maximum of $95. 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/
Kudos for MCC PR staff

Middlesex Community College's Office of Marketing Communications has been recognized for outstanding work by regional members of the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations, the premier organization for two-year college communications professionals.

MCC received six Medallion Awards — four silver and two bronze — during NCMPR’s recent District 1 Conference, held in Newport, R.I. The annual Medallion Awards competition spotlights the best work among District 1 member colleges. More than 250 entries were submitted in 46 categories.

“To receive awards from our regional college-marketing peers is a wonderful recognition of the MCC communications team,” said Jennifer Aradhya, director of marketing communications. “We are proud to promote student success at Middlesex through our innovative work in broad marketing channels, including social media, video and public relations.”

The Office of Marketing Communications earned Silver Medallion Awards in the categories of Logo Design (Commonwealth Honors Program logo); Social Media Campaign (#MCCgrad Commencement campaign); Social Media Contest (UR 1st 30 Days Instagram Challenge); and Communications Success Story (Alicia Gentile: Dual Enrollment student who graduated from MCC and Nashoba Valley Technical High School in Westford).

The college won Bronze Medallion Awards in the categories of Video Shorts (Commonwealth Honors Program video) and One-Time Special Event (inauguration of President James Mabry).
Jake Gyllenhaal gets together with Boston Marathon bombing survivor Jeff Bauman, the man he ... Syracuse Journal-Democrat
... about his experience, and now splits his time doing public speaking and studying mechanical engineering at Middlesex Community College.
Movie review: Jake Gyllenhaal stars as marathon bombing survivor, Jeff Bauman, in 'Stronger' - The Ottawa Herald
Full Coverage

Flag as irrelevant

Jake Gyllenhaal gets together with Boston Marathon bombing survivor Jeff Bauman, the man he plays in ‘Stronger’

By Ed Symkus More Content Now
Posted Sep 14, 2017 at 1:18 PM Updated Sep 14, 2017 at 1:19 PM

Jeff Bauman was in the wrong place at the wrong time. He was standing at the finish line of the 2013 Boston Marathon, ready to cheer on his runner girlfriend, Erin Hurley, when the first bomb went off right by him. This resulted in both of his legs being amputated, a few inches above the knee. After a remarkable recovery, he now gets around, without even the aid of a cane, on a pair of state-of-the-art Genium prosthetic legs. He cowrote a book, “Stronger,” about his experience, and now splits his time doing public speaking and studying mechanical engineering at Middlesex Community College.

Jake Gyllenhaal had the kind of Hollywood contacts that got him a look at an early version of the ensuing script, expressed interest in playing the part of Jeff, then had to wait till a director -- David Gordon Green -- was chosen, and financing was put in place.

The former Costco worker and the star of “Donnie Darko” and “Nightcrawler” spent a lot of time together before filming began, helping Gyllenhaal figure out a way to capture the essence of Bauman in his portrayal of him. They again got together in Boston earlier this week to share their feelings about the film. There was some bromance in the air.

On finding out a film was going to be made from the book:
Jeff: The book came out in 2014, and shortly after that, I got a phone call from (producer) Todd Lieberman. I really didn’t think the movie was going to happen, but when I knew it was, it was great. We had a cool team going: David Gordon Green, (writer) John Pollona, and then Jake. Really? Jake?

On playing a real person:
Jake: I’ve done it before, in “October Sky,” “Jarhead,” and “Zodiac.” I wasn’t nervous on this one because John had written such a great script that made me laugh and cry at the same time. But I felt a huge responsibility when I took on the role. I don’t think I considered that tidal wave (of responsibility) coming at me. I thought about how moved I was by the script and the story, and how much I believed in the story.

On initially making contact, then finally meeting each other:
Jake: I texted Jeff before we actually met, then we met, then we talked and texted more.

Jeff: You were really busy, but you would come up all the time from New York and say, “Hey, I’m in town, do you want to do something?” That’s how we got to know each other.
Jake: I kept coming up during pre-production, for three or four days. It was back and forth from New York to Boston. I was racking up the miles on my truck.

On why Gyllenhaal was chosen to play Bauman:
Jake: It was the decision of a number of people. I think that Todd always believed that I should play the part, and I think David agreed. The part really registered with me. I think I’m really drawn, as a lot of actors are, to characters in crisis, and characters that have a lot of depth. I’m someone who believes in the beauty of dark places, because I believe also in great joy. I don’t think you can have one without the other.

On whether or not Gyllenhaal, in many silent moments and close-ups of his eyes, caught the inner torment that Bauman felt when the events were happening:
Jeff: Yeah, that’s the biggest thing and that’s what gets me. I’ve said before that I felt like he stole my soul. That’s really creepy! (laughs) I saw that the first time I saw the trailer.

On how doing this film changed Gyllenhaal’s outlook on life:
Jake: I think that I walked in being really intimidated by the story and knowing the intimidation that would be put on me playing him, that Jeff might feel my own fraudulence. But what I was greeted with was a huge open heart, somebody who trusted me in a way that had so much respect for what I do, that he answered my questions and connected with me, and gave me everything he could because he knew somewhere in him that I would do everything I could to do it right. I knew that I could never touch the experience that he had, because I don’t think anybody could really, truly get there. But I think about Jeff every day, in everything I do. I’m constantly reminded to shut my mouth, to think, “That’s not hard, that didn’t hurt.”

Jeff: Like when you stub your toe. (laughs)

Jake: Yeah, when I stub my toe (laughs). You know, I often find myself walking at a pace where I don’t really notice the things around me. But Jeff and I walk a lot of places now when we do stuff together, and just by the nature of the Geniums and the fact that he walks slower, when I’m walking next to him, I walk a little slower, I notice more, I smell more. And that’s the best lesson I’ve learned. So, he’s become a constant reminder to me to walk slower and look around and appreciate where I am.

“Stronger” opens on Sept. 22.

-- Ed Symkus writes about movies for More Content Now. He can be reached at esymkus@rcn.com.
**MCC NEWS**

**Middlesex Community College New Late Start open for enrollment**

Middlesex Community College is reminding students that enrollment for its New Late Start session is still open. The session, which begins Oct. 2, is an accelerated 11-week program offered three days a week in Bedford and Lowell, and online. Financial aid is available for those who qualify. For information, call 800-818-3434 or visit http://middlesex.mass.edu.

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**Middlesex Community College receives funding for biotech facility**

Middlesex Community College recently received funding through a $3 million capital grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center to build a state-of-the-art biotechnology facility on its Lowell campus. MCC’s new biotechnology facility, to be located on the fifth floor of the Talbot Science Building, will include a combined lecture room/laboratory, a Class 10,000 clean room, gowning area, and prep room. These and other upgrades will significantly expand the college’s capacity to prepare students to meet the workforce needs of the life-sciences industry. For information, visit http://masslifesciences.com.
MCC to build biotech facility

$3M grant to boost successful program

By Chris Lisinski
clisinski@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College will construct a new state-of-the-art biotechnology facility in one of its Lowell buildings thanks to a $3 million grant, officials announced Monday.

The facility, which will occupy the fifth floor of the Lowell campus's Talbot Science Building, will better prepare students to join the state's booming biotech industry, said MCC President James C. Mabry.

"It is a program where we have really strong faculty now," Mabry said. "This will give them better learning environments and up-to-date facilities so we can train our students on the latest equipment."

The $3 million grant, which will cover roughly 75 percent of the project's total cost, came from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center.

Mabry said the facility must now be designed and receive approval from the state before construction.

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MCC to build biotech facility with grant

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can begin. The exact timeline is not yet clear, but Mabry said it would likely be at least two years before the new section is up and running.

The facility will feature a combined lecture room and laboratory, a gowning area, a prep room and a Class 10,000 clean room — substantially more space than the single classroom currently dedicated to the program, according to Kathleen Sweeney, the school’s dean of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

“What the funding lets us do is move the lab up a floor and have it be a dedicated space for a biotechnology lab, which is appropriate given the kinds of things students will learn and do in biotech,” Sweeney said. “(The plan) is a better teaching and learning environment for students.”

Once completed, Mabry said the new features will likely attract a greater number of students to the biotechnology program, including some from outside MCC’s typical geographic area.

MCC was the first community college in the state to establish a biotechnology program, its leaders said, and allows students the opportunity to receive an associate’s degree and certifications in the field. Students learn how to use living cells for commercial purposes, and their experiences apply in a wide range of industries such as pharmaceuticals, agriculture and energy.

Mabry praised the program, which began with 25 students and today has almost 200 enrolled, as one of the school’s greatest successes and one that serves an important local industry.

“This program has done extremely well since we founded it,” he said. “Every single student that graduates gets a job. We have a 100 percent placement rate. Many go on to get additional degrees.”

One alumnus of the program, Robert Kenyon, now serves as Vice President of North American Manufacturing Operations for Biogen. Kenyon returned to MCC to deliver the 2017 commencement address, in which he praised the biotechnology program.

“Middlesex really set me up well,” he said in the address. “I was in school learning concepts about the business in the classrooms and in the labs, and then going to work at night and seeing it all in practice.”

Sweeney said the grant opens new opportunities for the future.

“We’re just so grateful,” she said. “It’ll just be a wonderful opportunity for our students.”

Follow Chris on Twitter @ChrisLisinski.
10 years after his death, Sully still helps others
MCC's Paul Sullivan Leadership Institute giving students great opportunities

By Rick Sobey
rsobey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Fiona Almeida just returned from yet another summer spent in India.
It was far from a glorious vacation, however.
She spent the months working with women and children by supplying access to reusable sanitary pads, providing information on menstruation and female reproductive health, along with other work for her project called Empower Women: Sanitary Solutions.
“It’s been such an incredible journey,” Almeida, 37, a graduate from the Paul Sullivan Leadership Institute at Middlesex Community College, said last week.

Inside, online

■ Saturday Chat: Kendall Wallace remembers a beloved colleague and media star
■ See a slide show and the tribute published in The Sun after his death at lowellsun.com.

“The quote from Gandhi, ‘Be the change that you wish to see in the

Please see SULLIVAN/ 6

Paul Sullivan working in the WBZ radio studio in this undated file photo. Sullivan died 10 years ago today, but his legacy lives on through Middlesex Community College's Paul Sullivan Leadership Institute.
Even after death, Sullivan giving back

SULLIVAN/From Page 1 next

world,’ that’s the motto I follow,” the Cambridge residen
t added.

Boy, would Paul Sulli-
van be smiling if he heard
about Almeida’s work and
attitude today, on the 10th
anniversary of his passing.

Sullivan — who was a
columnist and political edi-
tor for The Sun, a radio
talk show host, an adjunct
professor at Middlesex
Community College and
more — was the brainchild
of the Institute before he
died from cancer 10 years
ago today.

His idea was to breed
community leaders from
the college’s student popula-
tion. The diverse group
would interact with local
government and busi-
nesses, learning about
social justice, volunteerism,
communications, philan-
thropy, nonprofits, legisla-
tion and more. The stu-
dents would volunteer in
the community, work with
professional mentors and
attend community events.

Sullivan stressed that
he wanted “to not only help
identify leaders of tomo-
row, but to teach them
what it means to lead.”

Since the Institute
launched with those prin-
ciples in 2008, dozens upon
dozens of students have
been groomed for a positive
future. Around 120 stu-
dents have graduated from
the Institute in the last
decade, about 12 students
each year.

A new class starts on
Monday.

“I’ve always had leader-
ship qualities, but the
Institute gave me the
confidence to move forward
and take on that leader-
ship and put it into action,”
said Almeida, who gradu-
ated from the program in
2012. “It brought out the
pieces in me, and was one
of the most incredible and
life-changing experiences
for me.”

Almeida was born and
raised in South Africa
before coming to the U.S.
to “find the American
dream,” she said. She fig-
ured out she needed to
attend college, so she
choose Middlesex and
joined the Institute.

She met great leaders
and mentors during the
program, along with learning
all about what happens
in a community, especially
Lowell.

“The program really
defines Paul’s vision and
the types of community
work he was trying to
expose to students,” she
said. “It’s really special,
and allows students to
build not just the confi-
dence, but leadership
skills.”

After Middlesex, she
received a bachelor’s
degree from Wellesley Col-
lege and a masters degree
from Tufts University.

Almeida then obtained
grants for Empower
Women: Sanitary Solu-
tions.

“A lot of it has to do with
the skills I learned at the
Institute,” she said about
her program.

Almeida then obtained
grants for Empower
Women: Sanitary Solu-
tions.

Another graduate of the
Institute is Patrick Ken-
ney, 30, of Billerica. He
took part in the program in
its first year, 2008.

Kenney saw the pro-
gram as an opportunity to
develop leadership skills
and learn about public
service.

“It was a really valuable
experience, meeting with
all the different actors in
the community,” he said.

You learn about all the
ways to serve the commu-
nity, and be active and
engaged in the commu-
nity.”

The Institute ended up
shaping his career path as
he decided to go into public
service. He interned at the
Lowell city manager’s
office before heading to
UMass Amherst. Kenney
then became U.S. Rep.
Niki Tsongas’ constituent
services manager.

“It really started back
at Middlesex through the
Institute where we learned
how Paul had a passion for
community engagement
and politics,” he said. “And
it really just instilled that
civic engagement is a real
value and virtue we should
all take seriously.”

Follow Rick Sobey on
Twitter @sobeyLSun.
There's Still Time To Enroll For Fall With MCC's NEW Late Start

Middlesex Community College is still welcoming students for fall semester! Students who missed the regular fall-semester registration deadline can still enroll in MCC's NEW Late Start session. Late Start classes begin Monday, Oct. 2, in an accelerated, 11-week session. Courses are offered three days a week on campus in Bedford & Lowell, and online. Financial aid is available for those who qualify.

"We don't want to leave anybody behind," said Jillian Freitas-Haley, Director of Admissions. "This fall, we are offering a new Late Start session for students who still want to start or finish their degree at MCC."

Late Start classes 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.

Late Start students can earn credits in a wide variety of subjects, including humanities, science, English, math and more.

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

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, 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, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
MCC NEWS

Board of trustees adds three new members

Three community leaders were selected to serve on the Middlesex Community College board of trustees.

Linda Banks-Santilli, of Waltham, Laurie A. Elliott, of Lowell, and Kathleen M. Plath, of Tyngsboro, were appointed to the board by Gov. Charlie Baker.

Banks-Santilli is interim dean for the school of education, child life and family studies at Wheelock College in Boston, where she is also an associate professor of education. She holds an Ed.D., as well as a certificate of advanced study in learning and teaching, from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education; a Master of Arts in counseling psychology from Lesley University; and a Bachelor of Science in early childhood and special education from Wheelock College.

Elliott is finance director of the Greater Lawrence Sanitary District and chairperson of the district’s retirement board. She also serves as treasurer of Minuteman Regional School in Lexington.

Elliott has also served as town accountant for North Andover, and was a Lowell city councilor (1994-95). She earned a Bachelor of Science in business/accounting from Merrimack College, and an Associate of Science in accounting from the University of Lowell.

Plath is currently working as an independent business consultant. In her most recent position, she was CEO/president of Bio-Signal, a neuro-diagnostic device company. She was also co-founder and senior vice president of sales and marketing for specialists on Call Inc., the largest clinical telemedicine company in the U.S. She earned a Master of Science in administrative studies — High Tech and Healthcare Innovation from Boston University, and a Bachelor of Business Administration in marketing and political science from the Isenberg School of Management, UMass Amherst. She and her husband own Cobblestones, of Lowell and Moonstones, of Chelmsford restaurants.

Banks-Santilli, Elliott and Plath join current MCC trustees James J. Campbell, (chairman), of Lowell; Alec A. Belanger, of Billerica; Stephanie J. Cronin, of Dunstable; Cheryl E. Howard, of Reading; Steven Iem, of Lowell; Bopha Malone, of Bedford; Annie O’Connor, of Lowell; and student trustee Sierra DeWalt, of Ayer.

MCC announces dean’s list, merit list for 2017 spring semester

Middlesex Community College has released its 2017 spring semester dean’s list and merit list.

To be acknowledged on the MCC Dean’s List, students must be enrolled in at least six, but less than 12, credit hours, and earn a 3.2 GPA or higher without “D, F, I” or “IP” grades. The notation is made on the permanent record of each student named.

Developmental education course credit will not be calculated in determining total semester hour credit for dean’s list or merit list eligibility. The dean’s list and merit list are published for the fall and spring semesters.

To view MCC’s entire 2017 spring semester dean’s list and merit list, visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/studentinformationcenter.

To learn more: moynihan@middlesex.mass.edu.
An American dream in Lowell, on video

Documentary will highlight Iraqi refugee's life story

By Rick Sobey
rsobey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — Amber Janis listens intently to Reem Niyazi's Iraqi refugee story.

Janis' jaw drops. Her eyes grow wide.

She hears about the time Niyazi was reporting in Iraq when she was shot in the back twice, sending her into a coma for six months.

Or the week the Iraqi refugee was stuck in the Dubai airport; Niyazi began starting to doubt whether she'd ever return to America and her Lowell apartment because of the travel ban.

"Her story is unbelievable," says Janis, a producer for A+B Pictures. "She's got such a story of resilience, and has the most positive attitude of anyone I've ever met."

As a result, Janis and A+B Pictures selected Niyazi as a subject for their documentary series on immigrants. Niyazi, 33, is a student at Middlesex Community College.

The production company based in San Francisco has featured a Hispanic-American, and plan on a third documentary with an Indian-American or

Please see REFUGEE/10

Iraqi immigrant and Middlesex Community College student Reem Niyazi of Lowell, who was a journalist in Iraq and hopes to become one again, looks at newspapers in The Sun archives. A crew from A+B Pictures is making a short documentary about her.

SUN JIHA MALAKIE
Video crew capturing an American dream in Lowell

REFUGEE / From Page 1

Asian-American.
The goal is to "open people's eyes as to why immigrants are important, and why they shouldn't be vilified," Janis says.

"Immigrants are not coming here to take our jobs. They're here working hard to contribute to society," she says.

"We're all human and we all have struggles," Janis adds. "We should all be helping each other."

She wants viewers to "feel good" watching the series, and believes they'll be inspired.

Niyazi, 33, was a journalist in Iraq, and hopes to become one in America after finishing her education. As a result of her love for journalism, A+B Pictures filmed Niyazi at The Sun offices on Dutton Street on Friday afternoon.

She flips through The Sun's archives in a second-floor room.

"I want to be a journalist again," she says. "I have a passion for it, and it will be my career."

Niyazi says she is "so excited" to be featured in the documentary.

"My dream is coming back again," she says.

Niyazi had broken barriers as a journalist for an Arabic newspaper. She wrote political articles and advocated for women's rights in the publication Al Mada, a daily newspaper in Baghdad.

Then in 2007, she was conducting interviews in the middle of the city. She was shot in the back twice. Niyazi says she was ambushed for speaking out on women's issues.

She woke up from a coma. Doctors told her she might never walk again. Thankfully, she was transported to Belgium, where they have better therapists than in Iraq.

Even though she was attacked for being a journalist, her goal is to return to reporting. Her dream job is at BBC News.

"They're so good," she says.

Janis had initially reached out to a Boston newspaper for subjects for the documentary, but those immigrants did not want more publicity.

Janis was referred to the International Institute of New England, where they spoke to Cheryl Hamilton, Lowell site director and director of partner engagement.

"We have the perfect person for you," Janis recalls Hamilton telling her: Niyazi.

A+B Pictures has filmed at the International Institute on Warren Street in downtown Lowell, along with other spots around the city. They planned on filming with Niyazi's family this weekend.

The documentaries are about five minutes long. Niyazi's story is expected to be online in October.

"It's about humanizing the immigrant story," says Diana Garcia, a producer for the documentaries. "There's such a negative narrative now, so we're trying to counter that narrative."

Some of President Donald Trump's immigration policies have angered many across the country, leading to protests and lawsuits against his proposals. However, Janis said the production company is "as political as possible."

Niyazi was visiting relatives in Iraq for 18 days when she tried to return to her Lowell apartment in late January. She has a green card, yet Trump's executive order banned Niyazi from entering America. Finally, after seven days, the travel ban was lifted.

She moved to America five years ago. It took her three years to go through the refugee process. She arrived in Lowell knowing only two words of English.

"Whatever you want to do, just do it," Niyazi says. "Have no fear."

Editor's Note: Niyazi is a graduate from the Paul Sullivan Leadership Institute. Sun reporter Rick Soby was her mentor for a semester of the Institute. Follow Rick Soby on Twitter @rsoby1sSun.
Baker puts imprint on MCC board

REPUBLICAN GOV.

Charlie Baker has put his stamp on the Middlesex Community College Board of Trustees since taking office in 2015.

Baker appointed three new board members, and now has selected seven of the 11 board members.

Two new members are known in these parts: Laurie Elliott, the former city councilor and wife of City Councilor Rodney Elliott, and Kathleen Plath, wife of restaurateur Scott Plath.

Also appointed was Linda Banks-Santilli, of Waltham. Banks-Santilli is the interim dean, School of Education, Child Life and Family Studies at Wheelock College, which made headlines about possibly merging with Boston University.

The terms of Dracut Selectman Tami Dristilias, James Hicks, former Bedford and current Natick police chief, and Oscar DePriest, expired.

An MCC release gives this about Elliott and Plath:

- Elliott: Finance director of the Greater Lawrence Sanitary District and chairperson of the district's retirement board.
- Plath: Currently working as an independent business consultant. In her most recent position, she was CEO/president of Bio-Signal (BSG), a neuro-diagnostic device company.

There was a dust-up between two of Baker's Lowell political operatives over another candidate who was in the mix, Jeannine Fleming, wife of former Lowell cop Tom Fleming.

The other Baker appointees are James Campbell, former Lowell city manager; Alec Belanger of Billerica, son of former CVB director Belanger; Bophana Malone of Bedford, and Annie O'Connor of Lowell, whose husband, Terry Downes, has a new title at MCC: law center director. Downes was formerly director of MCC's Program on Homeland Security.

What might the future have in store for Mabry, who was hired by then Gov. Deval Patrick, a Democrat? It's very bright, Campbell said.

Like other community colleges, MCC has struggled with declining enrollment due to a robust economy and level funding from the state.

"Still, I think the college has weathered the storm better than most," Campbell said.

Campbell said he's also impressed with how Mabry, and his wife, Judith, have become "parts of the community," through involvement in such entities as the Lowell Plan, Project Learn and the Merrimack Repertory Theatre.

MCC offers Pharmacy Tech course

BEDFORD — Middlesex Community College's Corporate and Community Education & Training program is offering a Pharmacy Technician course. Classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., from Sept. 19 through Dec. 14, on the Bedford campus. To apply, email wrighte@Middlesex.mass.ed, or call 781-280-3570.
LOWELL — This is a city where family roots run deep. That was more evident to me this week when I chatted with folks who are among the leading faces of each side of the Lowell High issue.

The Sheehy family are advocates for keeping Lowell High School downtown and the Nelson family have become go-to people for moving the high school to Cawley Stadium in Belvidere.

This is really a contest of wills among neighbors who sincerely feel the cause is right and well worth the fight.

Molly Sheehy and daughter Maria are coordinating the huge task of securing thousands of signatures to have the question of the high-school site on the November election ballot.

Eric Nelson and his wife have emerged as leaders for Cawley.

Both families go back more than 100 years in Lowell.

The first Sheehy folks came to Lowell from Ireland around 1880 and grew and prospered in the city. Molly Sheehy was a native of Billerica and came to Lowell to attend college where she met and married the late Paul Sheehy.

She developed a great love for the city and its history. In her role at Middlesex Community College, she worked closely with Lowell High staff and was impressed with the way the school guided waves of immigrants in their quest for the American dream.

Eric Nelson is a graduate of Lowell High as were both his parents and his grandparents.

The Nelson family roots go back to Ireland and Sweden.

The Nelson family, like the Sheehys, have been active in the city for decades. Eric's dad, Walter, was the Lowell High football coach and athletic director.

Eric went from Lowell High to Harvard University and he and his wife lived in Cambridge before coming back to Lowell to buy a home and raise their family.

Both Paul and Molly were lifelong advocates for quality higher education. Paul served in both the Massachusetts House and Senate and was a Lowell city manager. He was a leader in the merger of Lowell State and Lowell Tech. That merger ultimately led to the creation of UMass Lowell. He was also instrumental in Middlesex Community College expanding in Lowell.

The Sheehy and Nelson families have been

Please see CHAT/4

Devoted families on both sides of LHS fight

CHAT/From Page 3

involved community leaders for many generations.

They happen to be on opposite sides on this $350 million-plus decision and are willing to pay the price that comes with standing up for one's beliefs.

If the effort to gather the signatures to place the high school issue on the ballot is a success, voters will have a chance to be heard on the controversy.

While the ballot question is non-binding it will at least be a guide to where the wider community stands.

The Nelson and Sheehy families are just samples of Lowell people who are serious about this project and its importance to the future of the city.

Hopefully when a final resolution is reached all sides can come together for the common good.
Enrollment dip at MCC continues

Decline follows state trend; meanwhile, UML numbers up

By Rick Sobey
rsobey@lowellsun.com

LOWELL — It’s no secret that community college enrollment is on a downturn across the state. This includes Middlesex Community College, where enrollment has declined by more than 9 percent since 2012.

As classes begin Tuesday, this trend will continue at the Lowell and Bedford campuses. President James Mabry said that overall enrollment is down between 1 and 2 percent this year. Lower enrollment is partly due to the unemployment rate and fewer high school graduates, he said.

At the same time, UMass Lowell has a completely different story across town; the university keeps on adding more students each year.

This year will be the largest incoming class in UMass Lowell history, with more than 3,200 freshmen and new transfers. The university also expects to reach 18,000 in total enrollment for the first time, an increase of about 55 percent, more than 6,000 students, since the fall of 2007.

"UMass Lowell is continuing to increase enrollment, bucking the national trend, because of its growing reputation for quality

Please see MCC/5
Enrollment decline at Middlesex continues

MCC/From Page 1

in academics, research and the overall student experience," Christine Gillette, director of media relations at UMass Lowell, said in a statement.

UMass Lowell is the second fastest-climbing university in U.S. News & World Report's Best National Universities ranking since it first made the list of Best National Universities in 2010. The university is also highly ranked for graduates' return on their educational investment.

On the other hand, some of the factors causing the community-college slump are a lower unemployment rate, more competition from private colleges and fewer students graduating high school, according to Mabry. Birth rates have declined over the years, resulting in a smaller pot of students.

"Fewer people are going back to college to retrain at this time, and there's been a smaller cohort coming out of high school," he said.

"The trend is continuing like the last few years, but it doesn't seem to be getting any worse at all," Mabry added.

There is light at the end of the tunnel for enrollment, however. Mabry pointed to an increased number of students from kindergarten through sixth-grade, especially in Lowell.

"They're busting at the seams," he said.

Looking at the enrollment numbers in the Lowell Public Schools from the 2007/2008 school year, there were 13,505 students across the system. That population rose to 14,416 students in the most recent school year — a 911 student increase, or close to 7 percent more students.

For instance, there were 971 Lowell first-graders in the 2007/2008 school year. That has jumped to 1,177 first-graders in the most recent school year — a 203 student increase, or a 21-percent rise.

The third-grade numbers are even more drastic. There were 1,000 Lowell third-graders in 2007/2008. Last school year, there were 1,263 third-graders — a 263 student increase, or a 26-percent spike.

In the meantime, before the younger students make it all the way through high school, MCC is dealing with the lower enrollment by focusing on retention.

"We want to make sure we retain everyone who comes to the college," Mabry said.

The college has a range of new initiatives to address retention, including a more extensive new student orientation, which took place on Wednesday and Thursday on both campuses.

Students at orientation on Thursday were looking forward to the fall semester.

Phoenix Pot, 18, will be studying health-care administration at MCC.

"I wanted to stay close to home," said Pot, of Lowell. "It's so convenient right here."

Scott Macedo, 18, will be studying psychology at MCC. Macedo, of Chelmsford, said there are a lot of good opportunities at the college.

Michael Gregorio, 18, grew up in Lowell but went to high school in Texas. He is now back in the Mill City, studying psychology at MCC.

"I always wanted to come back here," he said.

Follow Rick Soby on Twitter @rsobyLSun.
Middlesex Community College Offers Many Ways To Learn

Middlesex Community College provides students with many flexible course options to fit a variety of schedules and learning styles. In addition to traditional courses, MCC offers online, hybrid and Flexible Studies courses, as well as a number of Learning Communities. Traditional courses enable students and instructors to meet in a classroom, lab, or online setting for an established number of hours per week on a regular weekly schedule. Learning occurs through lectures, presentations, discussions and classroom activities.

Online courses enable instructors and students to interact online with a course-management system and email. Students can complete assignments online and during hours they choose. MCC offers 10 programs of study that can be completed entirely online, as well as many other programs that are 80 percent online. Hybrid courses combine face-to-face classroom experience with online instruction. These courses are a good option for students who may be hesitant about taking an entirely online course, or who may also want the traditional classroom experience.

Flexible Studies courses enable students to select convenient class times from many available course meeting times, and allow them to learn at their own pace — accelerating or taking extra time, as needed. Students work with an instructor who specializes in the subject.

To learn more about MCC’s flexible learning options, visit us online at www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middelsex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, 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, as well as online.

Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!

MCC Now Offers Two Cybersecurity Certificate Programs

Middlesex Community College is now offering two cybersecurity certificate programs: the Entry-Level IT Cybersecurity Certificate, and the new Advanced IT Cybersecurity Certificate.

Classes are held in MCC’s new state-of-the-art Cybersecurity Lab on the Lowell campus, and financial aid is available for those who qualify. MCC’s Entry-Level Cybersecurity Certificate program prepares students for employment in a variety of entry-level network administration positions, or to continue their education in this growing field.

New this fall, the Advanced Cybersecurity Certificate program is designed for students who have already worked a minimum of one year in the network-administration field. This program allows students to obtain the cybersecurity skills now required for a variety of positions in network-security administration.

Problem-solving and analytical thinking are emphasized throughout these certificate programs, with a hands-on approach to learning.

MCC’s Cybersecurity certificate programs conform to the National Initiative for Cyber Security Education (NICE) framework for academic programs, developed jointly by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.

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Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
MCC's College For Kids Offers Etiquette Classes For Young Adults

College for Kids at Middlesex Community College is not just for summer anymore! This fall, College for Kids is offering two new Etiquette Academy Programs for middle school and high school students. Classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 25, on the Bedford campus, and it's not too late to register.

Presented in partnership with the Etiquette Academy of New England, each etiquette program runs eight weeks. Each program is designed to help middle and high school students build confidence, and improve positive communication, learn proper manners, and gain leadership skills through interactive, thought-provoking role-play and group discussions. The final class of each program will be held at Seasons 52 in Burlington, where students can practice and perfect their newly acquired skills while participating in a multi-course meal.

Etiquette Academy for Middle Schoolers is offered for children in grades 5-8. This two-level etiquette program is designed to raise awareness about peer pressure, and improve communication with peers and adults. It will also help students learn more about responding appropriately and confidently in a variety of social situations.

Etiquette Academy for Young Adults is offered for students in grades 9-12. This two-part program will discuss what it means to be a good friend and a good partner, and will provide specific rules and actions a young adult can take to feel more secure in day-to-day life situations. Students will learn proper interview etiquette and positive communication, preparing students for job and college interviews. Students will also gain leadership and teamwork skills, and how to feel comfortable when speaking in front of an audience.

To learn more about MCC's Etiquette Academy programs, or to register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids or call 781-280-3663.

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Middlesex Community College. Student success starts here!
MCC's paralegal program ranked no. 3 by MA Lawyers Weekly

Middlesex Community College's Paralegal Studies Program was ranked No. 3 in the state by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly. Mass. Lawyers Weekly newspaper reports decisions issued by all the state and federal courts in Massachusetts and other statewide legal news. To see a complete list of its 2017 Reader Rankings, visit: http://masslawyersweekly.com/2017/08/18/2017-reader-rankings.

For information about MCC's Paralegal Studies Program, visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/paralegal or sugarmanh@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3768.

MCC named EIA designee

Middlesex Community College was named one of five members of the 2017 class of Excellence in Assessment designees, a national program aimed at recognizing colleges and universities conducting an assessment of student learning outcomes as a means to drive internal improvement and advance student success.

The Excellence in Assessment program — the first national designation of its kind — spotlights institutions integrating assessment practices across campus, providing evidence of student learning outcomes and using assessment results to guide institutional decision-making and improve student performance.

Sponsors of the EIA program are the Voluntary System of Accountability, a public-college and university transparency initiative led by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, in partnership with the Association of American Colleges & Universities and the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment.

The EIA designation was created to acknowledge on a national level the important work colleges and universities are doing through comprehensive assessment activities, and to highlight those practices so other institutions can draw upon them for their own efforts. As part of the application process, colleges and universities were asked not just to detail the specific assessment activities they've undertaken, but also the reason why such efforts are a priority for them.

The designees needed to demonstrate how aligned processes, building from classroom-based assessment, foster a coherent, collaborative approach to assessing student learning.

The EIA Designations are directly linked to NILOA’s Transparency Framework, and are the first national program designed to recognize institutions engaging in intentional campus-wide assessment. The evaluation process for the designation included a rigorous and systematic self-study and peer review by faculty members and staff who are assessment experts, and include feedback that enables campuses to improve their effectiveness and sharing of best practices. Accredited, degree-granting institutions working to implement and sustain comprehensive use of assessment of student learning outcomes are eligible to receive the designations.

For information about MCC's culture of assessment, sisomnp@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3571.

College for Kids to offer etiquette programs

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MCC's Cybersecurity certificate programs conform to the National Initiative for Cyber Security Education framework for academic programs, developed jointly by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 800-818-3434.
Middlesex Community College Offers FREE Refresher Workshops

Middlesex Community College offers FREE Reading, Writing, and Math Refresher Workshops for students who want to brush up their skills before they take the College Placement Test. Workshops are offered all summer on the Bedford and Lowell Campuses. Registration is now open and fall-semester classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 5.

"These workshops are a great opportunity for all students to be more successful throughout college," said Phyllis Gleason, MCC's Dean of Foundational Studies, First-Year Experience and General Education.

"A short two-hour refresher course can help students score higher on the College Placement Test so they can begin classes at their appropriate learning level, preventing them from taking classes they don't really need -- saving time and money," she said.

MCC's Reading Refresher Workshop helps students improve their reading skills and testing strategies to improve their score on the Reading Accuplacer Test. Topics covered during this workshop include finding main ideas, locating details, identifying patterns of organization, and making inferences.

The Writing Refresher Workshop helps students improve their writing skills. It covers topics such as formulating and supporting strong thesis statements, using appropriate grammar and sentence structure, and developing compelling introductions and conclusions.

MCC's Math Refresher Workshop reviews basic arithmetic skills, including standard operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals and percentages. A review of elementary algebra is also included.

For more information about MCC's free Reading, Writing, and Math Refresher Workshops or to register, visit https://middlesx.mass.edu/admissions/events.aspx or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Community colleges unite against hatred

The presidents of the 15 community colleges of Massachusetts unite to voice our opposition to the violence, bigotry, racism and hate we witnessed in Charlottesville, Virginia, this past weekend.

The students on our campuses across the Commonwealth reflect the rich diversity of our nation. Our philosophy of teaching and learning has, at its core, the principles of inclusive excellence and social justice. We embrace our shared values of global citizenship and prize the richness of cultural wealth in our diverse communities. We respect people from all nations, cultures, background, and experience and welcome them to join our community of scholars and learners, for therein lies the hope and the future strength of our nation and our world.

We reject, in the strongest possible terms, hateful rhetoric, harmful actions, or attempts to diminish the values or identity of our community members, while remaining committed to the fundamental right of free speech. These actions will not gain a foothold on our campuses. We will provide safe and secure environments for our students, faculty and staff. We will continue to embrace the diversity that makes our institutions strong.

Our community colleges are democracy's college.

The teaching and learning that happen at our 15 colleges speaks to the immense compassion and potential that is within our nation. In these times that test our resolve as leaders, we renew our pledge to our communities. You are all welcome and valued; your religion, race, ethnicity, language, citizenship, and gender are honored. We will continue to learn together. Hate has no place at our Massachusetts community colleges.

Enroll in Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide Certificate training

Enrollment is open for Middlesex Community College's Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide Certificate Training Program, which prepares students for an entry-level career as a nurse assistant.

Upon successful completion of this noncredit program, students will be eligible to sit for the Massachusetts nurse assistant certification exam.

This 100-hour program meets from 6 to 10 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 25 through Nov. 10 on the Lowell campus. It also includes two weekends (Nov. 4 and 5 and Nov. 11 and 12) of clinical training at a local long-term care facility.

Students will learn the skills needed to care for residents in long-term care facilities and hospitals, including personal patient care, patient rights, how to lift and turn patients, safety, infection control, vital signs, record-keeping, mental health care of residents and stress management.

To enroll, students must have a high school diploma or GED, give permission for a CORI/SORI background check, and be able to lift and move 50 pounds. Enrollment is open through Sept. 18, or until all seats are filled. To apply, email Ellen Wright at wright@middlesex.mass.edu or call 781-280-3570.

Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining for information about noncredit community education and training courses at Middlesex.

Cut costs by renting textbooks at MCC

Middlesex Community College students can save an average of 50 percent or more by renting textbooks through the college's bookstore locations on the Bedford and Lowell campuses and online.

Register by Aug. 28, for fall classes that begin Sept. 5.

Students have saved more than $500 million nationwide with Rent-A-Text, the largest in-store and online textbook rental program sponsored by Follett. Students who use Follett's Rent-A-Text program are guaranteed to get the right books for their classes and can use them as they normally would — highlighting and taking notes.

Rented textbooks must be returned to the bookstore by the return date printed on the receipt. In addition, students may opt to extend the rental for an additional fee or even purchase the texts.

To learn more or to find out if your textbooks are available for rent, visit www.follett.com or visit the MCC Bookstore on the Bedford campus, 591 Springs Road, or the Lowell campus, 38 Middle St.

Free tutoring, academic support services

Middlesex Community College's Academic Centers for Excellence (also known as ACE) provide free individual and group tutoring on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. Staffed by professional and peer tutors, ACE is open for walk-in help and by appointment Monday through Saturday throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Students can register by Aug. 28 for fall classes that begin Sept. 5.

In addition to professional and peer tutoring programs, ACE offers free eTutoring online 24/7. Students can access online tutoring services by visiting the ACE website www.middlesex.mass.edu/tutoringservices or at www.etutoring.org.

To learn more about MCC's Academic Centers for Excellence, or to schedule a tutoring appointment, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/tutoringservices.
Could free community college come to Massachusetts?

Bill's supporter acknowledges paying for it is an issue

By Gerry Tuoti
Wicked Local Newsbank Editor

After Rhode Island recently became the fourth state in the country to offer free community college to its residents, some are calling for Massachusetts to consider following a similar path.

"Massachusetts is known for being an innovator in education," said Sen. Michael O. Moore, D-Millbury, co-chairman of the Joint Committee on Higher Education. "I would hate to see us fall behind in this one area."

Earlier this year, Moore filed a bill to make Massachusetts community colleges free for residents of the state. The bill, S.2088, is just a few sentences long and doesn't delve into many specifics. It states that the commonwealth, not the individual community colleges, would be responsible for bearing the cost.

"I'm looking at redrafting the legislation in committee to have a true study done on the number of students, the true cost and whether it will actually benefit the economy of Massachusetts," said Moore, who filed similar legislation in 2015. "We need a much more in-depth conversation on this, and filing it brings it up for discussion."

Where is the money coming from?

At the 15 Massachusetts community colleges, tuition and mandatory fees were, on average, $5,798 per year in fiscal 2017. There were 88,596 full-time students, and 127,324 total students. The community colleges operate under an open admission policy, meaning residents with a high school diploma or GED are able to enroll without completing a selective application process.

"The problem is — and I'm very realistic about this — is how do we pay for it?" Moore said.

The nonprofit Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center released a report in 2015 that projected it would cost $127.2 million in additional net annual funding to eliminate tuition and mandatory fees for all in-state students currently enrolled at community colleges. That figure is in addition to the $192 million in existing grants, aid and public sources of student support already in place.

SEE COLLEGE, A9

BEDFORD MINUTEMAN | Thursday, August 24, 2017
Other states’ programs

In Tennessee, Oregon, New York and Rhode Island — the four states that now offer free community college to their residents — publicly funded “promise scholarships” cover the remaining costs after federal financial aid grants are factored in.

“That seems to be the popular route,” said Jennifer Poulos, associate director of the Boston-based Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy. “They seem to be very promising proposals, especially considering what we know about the importance of a post-secondary credential or degree.”

Depending on the state, “promise scholarships” may be limited to recent high school graduates and include requirements for the students to enroll full-time, maintain a certain grade-point average and remain in the state. New York is the only state that also offers tuition-free education at public four-year colleges.

A person with a two-year degree earns an average of $9,400 per year more than someone with only a high school diploma, according to the Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center. Graduates with four-year degrees earn an average of $21,100 more per year than people with just a high school diploma.

Noah Berger, executive director of the Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center, admits that under the current cycle of tight state budgets, it would be unlikely for a free community college proposal to gain serious traction. That could change, however, depending on the fate of a proposed state constitutional amendment that would charge a 4 percent surtax on incomes in excess of $1 million, earmarking the additional revenue for transportation and education.

“I think right now in the current budget context it would be very difficult, but in the next year there will be debate on a proposal to add money for transportation and education,” Berger said. “I think it’s hard to see how the state could make significant new investments in higher education without a new revenue source.”

Impact on local schools

James Mabry, president of Middlesex Community College, said that the biggest obstacle standing in the way of higher education is cost, and that by providing a sustainable way to fund higher education, more students will not only be able to enroll, but will thrive academically.

“Only about 10 percent of our students can afford to go to school full-time without working a job to help fund their education,” Mabry said. “Studies show that the longer students take to get their degree, the more likely they are to drop out because as time goes by, it increases the chances that something in their life is going to interrupt their education. If more students are going to school full-time, they will graduate faster and be able to work in their field or go on to a four-year college.”

One issue community colleges would face if tuition and fees were to no longer be paid by the students is that the colleges would have to increase their resources and facilities to deal with the presumed influx of new students. According to Mabry, the first year Tennessee enacted its legislation to help pay for community college education, their community colleges saw an increase of 33,000 students throughout the state. Mabry said that a recent trend downwards in community college enrollment would help ease any concerns in colleges being able to handle an increase that large.

“It is a problem I would love to have to deal with. Over the last five years there has been a decline in community college enrollment in Massachusetts, so I think all of the colleges in the state have the infrastructure to handle a large increase in the student population,” Mabry said. “Our core principle has always been open access to as many students as possible. Getting a high school diploma is not going to be enough for the jobs of the future; it isn’t enough for a lot of jobs right now. Higher education is only going to play a bigger role in the future of our country.”
Could free community college come to Massachusetts?
Milford Daily Nwes
UMass president Marty Meehan speaks in April at Middlesex Community College in Lowell. Wicked Local file photo | Gerry Tuoti. By Gerry Tuoti

THE ISSUE: Four states now offer free community college to their residents, covering tuition and mandatory fees. LOCAL IMPACT: It could likely cost Massachusetts an estimated $127 million annually to eliminate tuition and mandatory fees for in-state students currently enrolled in community colleges.

After Rhode Island recently became the fourth state in the country to offer free community college to its residents, some are calling for Massachusetts to consider following a similar path.

"Massachusetts is known for being an innovator in education," said Sen. Michael O. Moore, D-Millbury, co-chairman of the Joint Committee on Higher Education. "I would hate to see us fall behind in this one area."

Earlier this year, Moore filed a bill to make Massachusetts community colleges free for residents of the state. The bill, S.2088, is just a few sentences long and doesn’t delve into many specifics. It states that the Commonwealth, not the individual community colleges, would be responsible for bearing the cost.
“I’m looking at redrafting the legislation in committee to have a true study done on the number of students, the true cost and whether it will actually benefit the economy of Massachusetts,” said Moore, who filed similar legislation in 2015. “We need a much more in-depth conversation on this, and filing it brings it up for discussion.”

At the 15 Massachusetts community colleges, tuition and mandatory fees were, on average, $5,798 per year in fiscal 2017. There were 58,596 full-time students, and 127,324 total students. The community colleges operate under an open admission policy, meaning residents with a high school diploma or GED are able to enroll without completing a selective application process.

“The problem is — and I’m very realistic about this — is how do we pay for it?” Moore said.

The nonprofit Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center released a report in 2015 that projected it would cost $127.2 million in additional net annual funding to eliminate tuition and mandatory fees for all in-state students currently enrolled at community colleges. That figure is in addition to the $192 million in existing grants, aid and public sources of student support already in place.

In Tennessee, Oregon, New York and Rhode Island — the four states that now offer free community college to their residents — publicly funded “promise scholarships” cover the remaining costs after federal financial aid grants are factored in.

“That seems to be the popular route,” said Jennifer Poulos, associate director of the Boston-based Rennie Center for Education Research & Policy. “They seem to be very promising proposals, especially considering what we know about the importance of a postsecondary credential or degree.”

Depending on the state, “promise scholarships” may be limited to recent high school graduates and include requirements for the students to enroll full-time, maintain a certain grade-point average and remain in the state. New York is the only state that also offers tuition-free education at public four-year colleges.

A person with a two-year degree earns an average of $9,400 per year more than someone with only a high school diploma, according to the Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center. Graduates with four-year degrees earn an average of $21,100 more per year than people with just a high school diploma.

Noah Berger, executive director of the Massachusetts Budget & Policy Center, admits that under the current cycle of tight state budgets, it would be unlikely for a free community college proposal to gain serious traction. That could change, however, depending on the fate of a proposed state constitutional amendment that would charge a 4 percent surtax on incomes in excess of $1 million, earmarking the additional revenue for transportation and education.

“I think right now in the current budget context it would be very difficult, but in the next year there will be debate on a proposal to add money for transportation and education,” Berger said. “I think it’s hard to see how the state could make significant new investments in higher education without a new revenue source.”
EDITORIAL

Bravo, Lowell Folk Fest — and LeLacheur Park

By all accounts, last weekend's Lowell Folk Festival turned out to be one of the most successful in the event's 31-year history. The weather was ideal, the music and food outstanding, and the public responded, with about 150,000 festivalgoers visiting the Mill City over three days.

As Arthur Sutcliffe, chairman of the Lowell Festival Foundation, told The Sun: "I'm getting feedback that it was the best festival we've ever put on."

It would be difficult to dispute that observation.

It's a testament to the hard work done year-round by festival Executive Director Craig Gates and countless others, so that for that last weekend in July, everything goes off without a hitch. And while the fest featured mouth-watering cuisine from many cultures, the city's restaurants also benefited from the thousands who flooded Lowell's downtown.

According to Robin Dupell, Cobblestones' general manager, it was one of the busiest Folk Fest weekends ever for the restaurant.

While the Folk Festival provides Lowell an annual opportunity to showcase its unique urban charm, we wonder why the city can't offer similar, slimmed-down experiences throughout the year. Aside from WinterFest, there aren't many other opportunities to showcase the city's assets.

We agree with Rich Bolton, the new executive director of the Cultural Organization of Lowell, that it would be great for the city to host a monthly event similar to the one his organization has planned for Sept. 16 and 17, when Market Street will cater to pedestrian traffic only to celebrate Creativity.

Yes, it obviously would entail considerable planning and organization, but we're sure City Hall, the Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce, the Lowell Plan and the downtown business community would be willing to lend a hand. Perhaps even UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College would join in this effort.

Thinking big landed Lowell the largest free folk festival in the nation. That same spirit — on a smaller scale — could make Lowell a cultural destination city several times a year.

MCC plans free Admissions & Financial Services Night on Aug. 24

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College will host a free Admissions & Financial Services Night on the Lowell campus Thursday, Aug. 24, at 6 p.m., in the Federal Building Assembly Room, 60 Kearney Square. Prospective students and their families can learn about MCC's degree and certificate programs, noncredit courses, and online and flexible-learning options. Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/admissions nights, or call 800-818-3434.
Enroll Now for MCC’s Nurse Assistant Training Program

Enrollment is now open for Middlesex Community College’s Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide Certificate Training Program, which prepares students for an entry-level career as a nurse assistant. Upon successful completion of this noncredit program, students will be eligible to sit for the Massachusetts nurse assistant certification exam.

This 100-hour program meets from 6 to 10 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 25 through Nov. 16 on the Lowell campus. It also includes two weekends (Nov. 4 & 5 and Nov. 11 & 12) of clinical training at a local long-term care facility.

Students will learn the skills needed to care for residents in long-term care facilities and hospitals, including personal patient care, patient rights, how to lift and turn patients, safety, infection control, vital signs, record-keeping, mental health care of residents, and stress management.

To enroll, students must have a high school diploma or GED, give permission for a CORI/SORI background check, and be able to lift and move 50 pounds. Enrollment is open through Sept. 18, or until all seats are filled.

To apply, email Ellen Wright at wrighte@middlesex.mass.edu or call 781-280-3570.

Visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining for more information about noncredit community education and training courses at Middlesex.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community col-
MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEWS

MCC Offers Programs

Middlesex Community College’s Education Programs help prepare students interested in teaching as a career. Register by Monday, Aug. 28, and start fall semester classes on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Students may choose from the following degree or certificate programs:

The Early Childhood Education Associate Degree Program provides the educational background and supervised training for students interested in working with young children. The program emphasizes developmentally appropriate practice and has a child-centered focus. Students learn and apply theory with hands-on experience in a required practicum.

The Early Childhood Education Transfer Associate Degree Program is designed to prepare students to transfer into a bachelor’s degree program leading to teacher licensure. Supervised student teaching seminar practicum and/or Service-Learning placements in area schools provide practical experience for future teachers, and support and enhance the teacher preparation curriculum. This program qualifies for MassTransfer.

The Elementary Education Transfer Concentration Degree Program is also designed to prepare students to transfer into a bachelor’s degree program leading to teacher licensure. Careful planning with an academic advisor will ensure career goals and state requirements for licensure are met. Future teachers are encouraged to gain practical classroom experience through student teaching and/or Service-Learning opportunities. This program is eligible for MassTransfer.

MCC’s Early Childhood Education Certificate Program is a one-year intensive program of study that provides the educational background and supervised training for students interested in working with young children. It emphasizes developmentally appropriate practice and has a child-centered focus. Students learn and apply theory with hands-on experience in a required practicum in early care and education programs for children.

To learn more about MCC’s Education Degree Programs, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/education/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

Learn How to Finance Your Education at Middlesex

Middlesex Community College is committed to assisting students and their families in meeting the cost of a college education. Register by Monday, Aug. 28, for fall classes that begin Tuesday, Sept. 5 – it’s not too late to apply for financial aid.

The goal of MCC’s Financial Aid Office is to ensure there are no financial barriers preventing students from earning a college degree or certificate. The Financial Aid Office provides information about student aid programs, and financial aid advisors are available to assist eligible students in accessing these programs. Almost half of all Middlesex students currently receive financial aid. MCC participates in most federal and state grant, scholarship and loan programs. A list of the major financial aid programs, as well as specific information regarding terms, conditions and eligibility for each program, is available online at www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid or from one of MCC’s Financial Aid Offices.

Additional forms of financial aid, including student employment, federal Work Study programs, or scholarship opportunities may be available for those who qualify.

Financial aid awards are based on financial need, enrollment status in an eligible program, and availability of funding. MCC’s academic year for financial aid begins in the fall semester and concludes with the summer semester. Students who apply for financial aid must apply every academic year after Jan. 1.

MCC’s Financial Aid Offices are located on both the Bedford and Lowell campuses and are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information about MCC’s Financial Aid Office or financial aid opportunities, contact the Bedford campus Financial Aid Office at 781-280-3650 or the Lowell campus Financial Aid Office at 978-656-3242, or visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid/.

MCC Offers intensive English Institute on Lowell Campus

Middlesex Community College’s Intensive English Institute (IEI) provides rigorous English instruction and cultural immersion designed to foster success for non-native speakers of English who wish to pursue higher education in the United States. Placement into either advanced or high-intermediate course will be determined by a one-on-one evaluation. Students can register by Thursday, Aug. 31, for fall courses that begin Tuesday, Sept. 5.

“Our talented and hardworking English as a second language students deserve to have teaching and learning that will prepare them for their dreams and goals. As a result, our curriculum is informed by research and results in the field of language learning and our students will be exposed to material written by native speakers for native speakers,” said Marilyn Glazer-Weisner, Coordinator, World Language Institute.

The curriculum includes reading, writing, grammar, as well as speaking and listening exercises. The two-semester non-credit program runs 18 hours each week on MCC’s Lowell campus. The cost is $250, including textbooks. Take this essential step to ensure success in the pursuit of your higher education goals!

For more information, contact Marilyn Glazer-Weisner, Coordinator, World Language Institute at GLAZERM@middlesex.mass.edu, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/iei/ or call 781-280-3934.
QCC, MWCC ranked in bottom half of nation's community colleges

GRANT WELKER
The Quinsigamond Community College campus in Worcester. The college landed in the bottom half of a new national ranking.
Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester and Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner both land around the middle of a new national ranking of more than 700 community colleges.

Mount Wachusett ranked 409th, and was seventh among the 15 in Massachusetts, according to the rankings by the financial website WalletHub. It scored best for cost and affordability and lower for education and career outcomes, which factor in graduation and retention rates, and average salaries compared to the cost of attending college.

Quinsigamond landed at 434th, and 10th among Massachusetts community colleges. Its best score was for career outcomes, while it did poorer for cost and affordability and education outcomes.

Massachusetts public schools are often ranked as the best in the country, and the state is known for its prestigious colleges, but its community colleges had more middling reviews.

Cape Cod Community College ranked first in Massachusetts, at 269th overall, followed by Middlesex Community College, which has campuses in Bedford and Lowell, and Massasoit Community College in Brockton.

The top community college in the nation was Leech Lake Tribal College in Minnesota.
Middlesex Offers Free Tutoring and Academic Support Services

Lowell.com News

Middlesex Community College’s Academic Centers for Excellence (also known as ACE) provide free and flexible individual and group tutoring on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. Staffed by professional and peer tutors, ACE is open for walk-in help and by appointment Monday through Saturday throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Students can register by Monday, Aug. 28, for fall classes that begin Tuesday, Sept. 5.

The goal of ACE is to help students “learn how to learn” and achieve academic success by gaining an understanding of their personal learning styles. ACE provides a challenging and supportive environment, in which students can work independently or collaboratively to master learning strategies they can apply to their courses.

Tutoring is available in most subjects, including writing, reading/study skills, math, science, computer applications, accounting, business, economics, nursing and English Language Learner (ELL) courses.

In addition to professional and peer tutoring programs, ACE offers free eTutoring online 24/7. Students can access online tutoring services by visiting the ACE website www.middlesex.mass.edu/tutoringservices or at www.etutoring.org.

To learn more about MCC’s Academic Centers for Excellence, or to schedule a tutoring appointment, visit, www.middlesex.mass.edu/tutoringservices.
MCC Commonwealth Honors Program shows steady growth

The number of MCC students who recently graduated as Commonwealth Honors Scholars increased almost 20 percent. MCC’s Honors Program is attracting a growing number of students who elect to study at a more advanced level.

The Commonwealth Honors Program at Middlesex Community College is attracting a growing number of students who elect to study at a more advanced level. And the number of students who recently graduated as Commonwealth Honors Scholars increased by almost 20 percent.

Students who complete their degrees through CHP are guaranteed transfer to other Commonwealth Honors Programs at any state college or university, and can enhance their applications for other four-year public or private institutions.

“The 38 Honors Scholars who just graduated are outstanding students, and all are continuing their education to pursue bachelor’s degrees at excellent four-year institutions,” Middlesex CHP Director and History Professor David Kaivas said, adding that some have transferred to Smith College, UMass Amherst, Mount Holyoke College, Amherst College, Cornell University, UMass Boston, UMass Lowell, Boston University and Johns Hopkins University, among others.

MCC’s Commonwealth Honors Program is part of an integrated network of honors programs throughout the Massachusetts public college and university system. It offers a variety of honors course options, as well as opportunities for students to master research and presentation techniques, and engage in extra and co-curricular activities, including field trips and guest lectures.

To graduate with honors, Middlesex students are expected to complete a minimum of three honors' courses, one of which must be an interdisciplinary, team-taught seminar.
Spinners Partner with MCC for Scholarship and Internship Opportunity

by Ballpark Digest Editors on August 16, 2017 in Minor-League Baseball, News

The Lowell Spinners (Short Season A; NY-Penn League) are now partnering with Middlesex Community College (MCC) to create a new scholarship and internship opportunity to support MCC students.

The Lowell Spinners Annual Scholarship is part of the Spinners Scholars program, made possible by team owner Dave Heller and the Lowell Spinners. This annual scholarship was established to benefit students from the Merrimack Valley who exhibit a high level of integrity, academic excellence, an interest in sports, a demonstrated desire to improve their community, and a willingness to commit to making one’s future in the Merrimack Valley. The recipient will also participate in a paid summer internship with the Spinners organization.

Funding for the Lowell Spinners Annual Scholarship is provided by an annual contribution from the Spinners, which together with other applicable grants, ensures that neither the recipient nor his or her family will have any financial obligation for tuition and fees for his or her second year. The scholarship also includes a paid summer internship with the Spinners.

“Giving back to this wonderful community is of great importance to everyone at the Spinners, and one of the best ways to do that is to help our young people build a better future for themselves and their families, and that’s what the great team at Middlesex Community College does every day” said Spinners owner Dave Heller. “This scholarship incentivizes people to achieve excellence, helps them climb the ladder of opportunity to a better future, gives them first-hand experience in the world of sports, and makes our community a better place. That’s a grand slam!”

“Having wonderful community partners like the Spinners is a tremendous asset for Middlesex Community College and the entire Merrimack Valley,” said MCC president James Mabry. “Dave Heller and the entire Spinners organization are committed to making a positive difference in our communities and their support for students and student success is greatly appreciated.”

The Spinners Scholarship is open to second-year students of MCC who are U.S. citizens and residents of the Merrimack Valley. For more information about this and other scholarship opportunities available, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships/
MCC earns grant

$16,000 will help establish center for humanities on Lowell campus

LOWELL — Middlesex Community College will establish a Public Humanities Center on the Lowell campus, thanks to a $16,000 grant from the Mass Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The new center will develop outreach programs, foster community relationships, and create pathways for exploring the cultural mosaic of the Lowell area, according to Matthew Olson, dean of Humanities & Social Sciences.

"Greater Lowell is steeped in history and culture," Olson said. "The diversity of our community, the thriving arts scene and the active partnerships between the college and many community-based organizations make Lowell an ideal location for the new Public Humanities Center."

"The humanities traditionally include the study of history, literature, architecture, religion, music and languages," he added. "By bringing Middlesex Humanities faculty and students together with our community partners to provide broad-ranging educational initiatives, we hope to empower our community and stimulate the local creative economy."

MCC History Professor David Kalivas will be the center's director. In addition to a variety of humanities-based projects, immigration will be a central theme of the new center, Kalivas said.

"Our Public Humanities Center will work with community and educational leaders to develop cultural programs that enable local residents to learn more about their immigration roots," Kalivas said. "We plan to explore the broader patterns of community life, as well as individual cultures and histories, that make up the multi-generational character of Greater Lowell's immigrants and their descendants."
MCC Offers Degree And Certificate Programs In Human Services

Middlesex Community College’s Human Services Programs help prepare students for careers in a variety of positions in the diverse field of human services. Students can register by Monday, Aug. 28, for fall courses that begin Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Students may choose from the following degree or certificate programs:

The Human Services Associate in Science degree program includes a strong general-education component and the development of effective communication and counseling skills is emphasized. The cornerstone of the program is a field placement in which students have the opportunity to explore career options working with children, elders, people with physical and mental disabilities, minority and refugee populations, homeless individuals and families, and other groups in need.

The Human Services Transfer Associate in Science degree program provides students with the coursework needed to transfer to bachelor’s degree programs, primarily as human services and social work majors. This program qualifies for MassTransfer, which guarantees credit transfer to Massachusetts state universities and the University of Massachusetts.

The Direct Support in Human Services Certificate program provides students with the knowledge and skills to effectively support individuals who may have disabilities or who seek assistance from human-service agencies. Students are also prepared to enter the associate degree program in Human Services.

The Addictions Counselor Program (ACP) Certificate is a one-year, three-semester curriculum that provides the required coursework and fieldwork experience to be eligible for Massachusetts certification as a substance-abuse counselor. Students are provided an in-depth knowledge of alcohol/addictions treatment programs and current treatment modalities.

For more information about MCC’s Human Services Programs, contact Paulo Barriop at barriop@middlesex.mass.edu, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/education/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

For further information about MCC’s Addictions Counselor Program Certificate, contact Joseph Gardner at gardnerj@middlesex.mass.edu, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/education/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, 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, as well as online.

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BEDFORD EDUCATION ACHIEVERS
Peter Laskaris, of Bedford, was named to the spring 2017 dean’s list at Becker College.

MCC NEWS

Register now for fall at Middlesex Community College

There’s still time to register for fall semester at Middlesex Community College. Register by Monday, Aug. 28, for fall courses that begin Tuesday, Sept. 5, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses — and online.

Middlesex offers more than 70 degree and certificate programs. The college has many transfer options, and enrollment counselors are available to answer questions and get you started on the path to academic success. MCC offers free academic, career and financial-aid counseling, as well as free tutoring and extensive support services.

In addition to traditional courses, MCC makes it easy to enroll in online, hybrid and Flexible Studies courses. We offer 15 degree and certificate programs that can be completed entirely online, as well as many other programs of study that are offered 80 percent online.

A complete listing of fall 2017 course offerings can be found in MCC’s Fall Academic Advising Schedule, available online at http://middlesex.mass.edu/registration/earlyreg.aspx.

MCC Offering degree, certificate programs in human services

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MCC to offer pharmacy technician course

Middlesex Community College’s Corporate and Community Education and Training program will offer a pharmacy technician course. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 to 9 p.m. and run Sept. 19 through Dec. 14, on the Bedford campus.

This noncredit course consists of 60 hours of instructor-led classroom time, followed by an 80-hour externship in a pharmacy setting to prepare students to sit for the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam.

Topics covered in the classroom include pharmacy operations, pharmacy law, pharmaceutical calculations, routes of administration, medical abbreviations, medication dosage forms, interpreting drug orders, regulations and a review of the top 200 prescription medications.

The externship portion of the course is designed to give students real-world experience working in a pharmacy setting to reinforce the topics covered in the classroom. Students will also gain information about interviewing and what employers seek in candidates.

Students must have a high school diploma or GED and must complete a CORI/SORI check to qualify.

To apply, email Ellen at wrighte@middlesex.mass.edu or call 781-280-3570.

For information about MCC’s Pharmacy Technician course, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining.
Celebrity scholarships

MCC awards $30,500 in grants thanks to forum with Big Papi

The Middlesex Community College Foundation recently awarded $30,500 in scholarships for outstanding academic achievement to 18 Middlesex students as part of the 19th annual MCC Celebrity Forum.

Raonak Ezahan Shristy of Lowell was awarded the James C. and Judith G. Mabry Completion Scholarship. The award was established at the inauguration of MCC President James Mabry in 2015 and is awarded to a worthy student with the completion of an associate degree at Middlesex.

Noah Stapp of Westford received the Dr. Carole A. Cowan Scholarship, established in honor of Cowan, former MCC president, which provides financial assistance to a deserving Middlesex student who is a member of the Commonwealth Honors Program.

Sophie Brill-Weitz of Bedford received the Debra Chemelli-Evans Scholarship, established in memory of the daughter of William Chemelli, former chairman of the MCC board of trustees and a member of the MCC Foundation Board.

Seven students received Commonwealth Honors Program Scholarships: Lucy Arrigo (Ayer), Maria Aybar (Lowell), Cora Casteel (Waltham), Julia Deraske (Winchester), Dylan Pato (Lexington), Rebecca Primak (Andover) and Alex Sandin (Brookline, N.H.).

Eight students received Celebrity Forum Scholarships: Gianpiero DeMari (Tyngsboro), Anushri Madvija (Burlington), Rutul Patel (Woburn), Brianna Reyes (Pelham, N.H.), Bianca Sabatino (Tewksbury), Shelby Schaefer (Lowell), Brianna Tavares (Wilmington) and Khuong Thai (Lowell).

To learn more about the 2017 Celebrity Forum scholarships, contact Amy Lee, Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, at 781-280-3579 or allee@middlesex.mass.edu.

Since 1988, the Middlesex Community College Foundation has generated income through revenue from investments managed by the MCC Foundation Board of Directors; the proceeds of the college's annual Celebrity Forum, Annual Fund, and other programs and campaigns.
Middlesex CC Offers Innovative IT Cybersecurity Programs

Middlesex Community College’s Information Technology Cybersecurity Programs are among the first community-college Information Technology programs to focus intensely on this high-demand career field. Classes start Tuesday, Sept. 5, and it’s not too late to register!

Security of the nation’s computer systems & infrastructure is a critical and rapidly growing field. MCC’s degree and certificate programs align with frameworks for cybersecurity education established jointly by the NSA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Classes are held in our state-of-the-art Cybersecurity Lab on the Lowell campus.

Students may choose from the following degree or certificate programs:

The Information Technology – Cybersecurity Transfer degree program is designed to prepare students for transfer to a bachelor’s degree program or for employment in a variety of entry-level information-security analyst positions.

New this fall, the Advanced Cybersecurity Certificate program is designed for students who have already worked a minimum of one year in the network-administration field. This program allows students to obtain the cybersecurity skills now required for a variety of positions in network-security administration.

MCC’s Entry-Level Cybersecurity Certificate program prepares students for employment in a variety of entry-level network administration positions, or to continue their education.

All curriculums were created with guidance from the college’s Information Technology Advisory Board, which includes cybersecurity professionals from organizations such as MITRE Corp. and MIT’s Lincoln Labs.

To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.

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MCC Offers Dental Hygiene Local Anesthesia Certification Class
Registration is now open for Middlesex Community College's Dental Hygiene Local Anesthesia Certification course. This noncredit course is recommended for registered dental hygienists (RDHs) who would like to become certified in local anesthesia. MCC complies with the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Dentistry regulations for the administration of local anesthesia.

At completion of the course, the RDH will be able to administer safe, effective, and painless local anesthesia with confidence and competence, and be prepared to take the computerized CDCA exam. (Upon successful completion, students will be awarded a certificate and 56 CEUs.)

This course consists of a 40-50 hour online study (independent and self-paced) prior to clinical, interactive presentations, and a three-day clinical in which students will have 30 injection experiences, and a clinical final exam.

Clinical dates: Oct. 7, 8 and 9, 2017 - MCC Dental Clinic, 44 Middle St., Lowell
Online study period (self-paced): July 10-Oct. 3
Tuition: $1,399 (includes all clinical supplies, breakfast & lunch. CDCA exam is a separate fee)
Course number: CAR 751-80
For more information, call 781-280-3570 or email: wrightemiddlesex.mass.edu

To enroll in MCC's Dental Hygiene Local Anesthesia Certification course (CAR 751-80), call 1-800-818-3434.
MCC NEWS

MCC offering early childhood education programs

Middlesex Community College’s Early Childhood Education Programs help prepare students interested in teaching young children. Fall courses begin Sept. 5, and it’s not too late to register.

Students may choose from the following degree or certificate programs:

The Early Childhood Education Associate Degree Program provides the educational background and supervised training for students interested in working with young children. The program emphasizes developmentally appropriate practice and has a child-centered focus. Students learn and apply theory with hands-on experience in a required practicum.

The Early Childhood Education Transfer Associate Degree Program is designed to prepare students to transfer into a bachelor’s degree program leading to teacher licensure. Supervised student teaching seminar practicum and/or Service-Learning placements in area schools provide practical experience for future teachers, and support and enhance the teacher preparation curriculum. This program qualifies for MassTransfer.

MCC’s Early Childhood Education Certificate Program is a one-year intensive program of study that provides the educational background and supervised training for students interested in working with young children. It emphasizes developmentally appropriate practice and has a child-centered focus. Students learn and apply theory with hands-on experience in a required practicum in early care and education programs for children. To learn more: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/education/ or call 800-818-3434.

To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 800-818-3434.

MCC to host culinary arts program

Middlesex Community College’s Culinary Arts Program will host classes beginning Sept. 5, and it’s not too late to register.

Ranked No. 4 in the state by Best Choice Schools, MCC’s Hospitality Management — Culinary Arts degree and certificate programs help prepare students for careers in the specialized areas of the food and beverage industry.

Through small class sizes and personalized instruction, students gain practical experience in a culinary facility in Lowell. Industry-specific courses include “culinary theory,” “culinary skills,” “bakery and pastry skills” and “sanitation/servesafe training.”

For information: 800-818-3434; https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/hospitality/.
MCC to offer dental hygiene local anesthesia certification class

Registration is now open for Middlesex Community College's Dental Hygiene LocalAnesthesia Certification course. This noncredit course is recommended for registered dental hygienists who would like to become certified in local anesthesia. MCC complies with the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Dentistry regulations for the administration of local anesthesia.

At completion of the course, the RDH will be able to administer safe, effective and painless local anesthesia with confidence and competence, and be prepared to take the computerized CDCA exam. Upon successful completion, students will be awarded a certificate and 56 CEUs.

This course consists of a 40-50 hour online study (independent and self-paced) prior to clinical, interactive presentations and a three-day clinical in which students will have 30 injection experiences and a clinical final exam.

Clinical dates: Oct. 7, 8 and 9, MCC Dental Clinic, 44 Middle St., Lowell. Online study period (self-paced): July 10 to Oct. 3. Tuition: $1,399, includes all clinical supplies, breakfast and lunch. CDCA exam is a separate fee. Course number: CAR 751-80. For information, call 781-280-3570 or email: wright@middlesex.mass.edu. To enroll, call 800-518-3494.

MCC offering IT cybersecurity programs

Middlesex Community College's Information Technology Cybersecurity Programs are among the first community-college Information Technology programs to focus on this career field. Classes start Tuesday, Sept. 5, and it's not too late to register.

Security of the nation's computer systems and infrastructure is a growing field. MCC's degree and certificate programs align with frameworks for cybersecurity education established jointly by the NSA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Classes are held in the cybersecurity lab on the Lowell campus.

Students may choose from the following degree or certificate programs:

The Information Technology - Cybersecurity Transfer degree program is designed to prepare students for transfer to a bachelor's degree program or for employment in a variety of entry-level information-security analyst positions.

New this fall, the Advanced Cybersecurity Certificate program is designed for students who have already worked a minimum of one year in the network-administration field. This program allows students to obtain the cybersecurity skills now required for a variety of positions in network-security administration.

MCC's Entry-Level Cybersecurity Certificate program prepares students for employment in a variety of entry-level network administration positions, or to continue their education.

All curriculums were created with guidance from the college's Information Technology Advisory Board, which includes cybersecurity professionals from organizations such as Mitre Corp. and MIT Lincoln Labs.
Students Can Save with the Commonwealth Commitment

Middlesex Community College students taking advantage of the state’s new Commonwealth Commitment/MassTransfer Pathways program can save an average of 40 percent from the cost of earning a bachelor’s degree. Fall classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 5, and it’s not too late to register.

The Commonwealth Commitment is an innovative statewide college affordability and completion plan designed to help more students achieve the dream of a college degree.

Participating MCC students must enroll in the Commonwealth Commitment before they earn 15 course credits, attend full-time, and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0. After earning an associate degree in 2.5 years or less, students can transfer to a state university or UMass campus to earn a bachelor’s degree. Students will begin their studies at one of the state’s 15 community colleges, enrolling in one of 24 Commonwealth Commitment/MassTransfer Pathways major programs of study.

The Commonwealth Commitment commits every public-college campus to providing 10 percent rebates at the end of each successfully completed semester to qualifying undergraduate students. This is in addition to the standard MassTransfer Tuition Credit received upon entering a four-year institution from a community college.

There also will be a freeze on all tuition and mandatory fees upon program entry, which is valid until students successfully complete or leave the Commonwealth Commitment program.

Students at Middlesex can choose from a number of pathways, including Biology, Chemistry, Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, Business, Communications, Learn a New Language at Middlesex Community College

Middlesex Community College’s Flexible Studies Department now offers 15 world languages. Fall semester classes start Tuesday, Sept. 5, and it’s not too late to register.

Languages offered include Arabic, Chinese, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Hebrew and, now, the semester, Hindi.

The Flexible Studies format is adaptable to diverse learning styles, incorporating Web-based technologies, computer programs, audio-visual materials, and one-to-one and small-group instruction. Online materials are used in all courses to give students the added benefit of enhanced learning.

For more information about MCC’s Flexible Studies world language course options, or to register, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblenature/
Middlesex Community College programs beginning September 5th

Reach Your Educational Goals with MCC's Adult Learning Center

The Middlesex Community College Adult Learning Center (ALC) offers FREE noncredit courses for adult learners (ages 16 and up) who live and work in Massachusetts.

Students are admitted to the program, throughout the school year, September through May, on a space-available basis. The next group registration will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5.

"The Adult Learning Center helps prepare students for success in college, at work, and in the community," said Kathy Inns, ALC Director. Courses meet from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays (September-May), on the Bedford campus.

Supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, ALC classes are small, supportive, and provide instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. Students also have access to computer labs with specialized software to supplement classroom learning and improve basic computing/digital literacy skills.

Levels of instruction range from adult basic education to High School Equivalency Test (HSET® or GED®) preparation. Students seeking improvement of intermediate English skills are also welcome to enroll.

For more information about MCC’s Adult Learning Center, contact Allison Norton, Program Coordinator, at 781-280-3662, or norton@middlesex.mass.edu, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/adultlearning.

MCC’s Link Programs Offers Free Opportunity to Start College

Middlesex Community College’s Links Program is a tuition-free program designed specifically to help students start college. Applications are currently being accepted for the fall semester, and classes start Tuesday, Sept 5.

Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE), in partnership with MCC, Links provides an opportunity for eligible students to earn college and institutional credits FREE over the course of one or two semesters. The program also provides individual assessment of skills, assistance with career planning, and academic guidance and support, as students begin their college education.

Links classes are small and are comprised entirely of other Links students. They are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays on MCC’s Bedford campus with free shuttle service available from the Lowell campus. Enrolled students also have access to MCC facilities such as the libraries and Fitness Center—as well as a wide variety of student services.

Eligible applicants must have a high school credential (diploma, HSET® or GED®), be a Massachusetts resident, and place into Links courses via MCC’s College Placement Tests. Preference is given to students who studied in a DESE-funded Adult Basic Education Program. However, other students are encouraged to apply.

For more information about MCC’s Links Program, contact Katherine Links, Adult Learning Center and Links Director, at links@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3662, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/links.

Enroll Today in MCC’s Dental Laboratory Technology Program

Enrollment is open for Middlesex Community College’s Dental Laboratory Technology Program, which prepares students to become important members of a dental health team.

Classes start Tuesday, Sept. 5, and financial aid is available for those who qualify.

Middlesex has the only Dental Laboratory Technology Program in New England. The curriculum is comprised of lecture, internship and laboratory experience. Course lectures cover a variety of subjects, including dental materials, oral anatomy, and occlusion, as well as a study of infectious diseases.

The extensive laboratory component, which requires 1,000 hours, covers all phases of dental technology. That includes creating partial dentures, complete dentures, crowns and bridge, ceramics, and orthodontics. Students are also taught skills in waxing, impression, design, and fit and finish, as they pertain to all major areas of dental technology.

Past graduates of MCC’s Dental Lab Tech Program have enjoyed a 100 percent employment placement rate. A profitable range of employment options include working as technicians in dental laboratories, private dental offices, and dental clinics. No previous health or dental experience is required.

To learn more about MCC’s Dental Laboratory Technology Program, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.


For a detailed view of the curriculum visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/curriculum.

Middlesex Offers New Precision Machining Certificate Program

Start a career in advanced manufacturing with Middlesex Community College’s new Precision Machining Technician Program. Courses are offered 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Registration is now open and fall semester classes begin Tuesday, Sept 5.

This nine-month, 27-credit program prepares students for in-demand entry-level jobs in advanced manufacturing. Students will gain skills in mathematics, communications, technical problem-solving, and general machining. Students will also complete 300 hours of hands-on precision machining training at Nashoba Valley Technical School’s state-of-the-art Machining Lab.

"The precision machining industry continues to be a strong employer in the region," said Kathleen Sweeney, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. "However, this sector faces a shortage of trained workers as incumbent employees approach retirement."

"This certificate program prepares students for a variety of in-demand, entry-level employment opportunities with manufacturers, including those that serve the aeronautics, medical device, and robotics industries. Earning this certificate can be the first step in a career pathway that can lead to high paying mid- and upper level machinist, engineering, and management positions."

Students who successfully complete the program will be eligible to earn the OSHA 10 Hour General Industry Certification, and sit for the National Institute for Metalworking Standards (NIMS) certifications, which are highly valued by precision machining advanced manufacturers. Students who have prior experience may apply for Credit for Prior Learning.

To learn more about MCC’s Precision Machining Certificate Program, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.
happenings around the valley

Family Services of the Merrimack Valley Annual Fundraiser | May 12

Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce 101st Annual Dinner | June 8
DiBurro’s Function Facility - Haverhill, Mass.

Myra Kraft Community MVP Awards | June 8
Gillette Stadium - Foxboro, Mass.

L-r: Rosely Gonzalez, Family Services; Liz Sweeney, CEO and director of Family Services of the Merrimack Valley; Stephanie Sipley, co-chair; Lacey Dolben, co-chair; Nancy Boughton, committee member.

L-r: Eric LaFleur, Beverly Donovan, president/CEO of The Greater Haverhill Chamber; Tom Morin of Haverhill Bank and winner of the 2017 Charles E. Billups Award: Ron Trombley.

Patriots Chairman and CEO Robert Kraft, and Patriots and Pro Football Hall of Famer Andre Tippett, congratulate Tim Grover from Megan’s House Foundation for being selected as a 2017 Myra Kraft Community MVP Award second prize winner.

Merrimack Repertory Theatre ‘Set the Stage’ Gala | June 9

L-r: Robert Kraft receives the Tsongas Award (l-r: English professor Keith Mitchell, Vice Chancellor of University Relations Patti McCafferty, and MRT Artistic Director Shen Daniels.

MRT founder Nancy Donahue receives at the 2017 ‘Set the Stage’ Celebration.

Middlesex Community College

Milestone Award – 40 Years

Middlesex Community College

MCC has been providing affordable education to diverse students for decades. Their mission has grown to include an emphasis on inclusive learning, an workforce development as well as student and employee wellness. With more than 70 degree and certificate programs, MCC has achieved this milestone by providing a vital service to learners throughout the valley.

Middlesex CC Offers Innovative IT Cybersecurity Programs

Middlesex Community College's Information Technology Cybersecurity Programs are among the first community-college Information Technology programs to focus intensely on this high-demand career field. Classes start Tuesday, Sept. 5, and it's not too late to register!

Security of the nation's computer systems & infrastructure is a critical and rapidly growing field. MCC's degree and certificate programs align with frameworks for cybersecurity education established jointly by the NSA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Classes are held in our state-of-the-art Cybersecurity Lab on the Lowell campus.

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MCC's Entry-Level Cybersecurity Certificate program prepares students for employment in a variety of entry-level network-administration positions, or to continue their education.

All curriculums were created with guidance from the college's Information Technology Advisory Board, which includes cybersecurity professionals from organizations such as Mitre Corp. and MIT Lincoln Labs.

To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, 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, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!

Middlesex CC Offers Early Childhood Education Programs

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The Early Childhood Education Transfer Associate Degree Program is designed to prepare students to transfer into a bachelor's degree program leading to teacher licensure. Supervised student teaching seminar practicum and/or Service-Learning placements in area schools provide practical experience for future teachers, and support and enhance the teacher preparation curriculum. This program qualifies for MassTransfer.

MCC’s Early Childhood Education Certificate Program is a one-year intensive program of study that provides the educational background and supervised training for students interested in working with young children. It emphasizes developmentally appropriate practice and has a child-centered focus. Students learn and apply theory with hands-on experience in a required practicum.

To learn more about MCC’s Early Childhood Education Programs, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/education/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, 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, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Learn A New Language At Middlesex Community College

Middlesex Community College's Flexible Studies Department now offers 15 world languages. Fall semester classes start Tuesday, Sept. 5, and it's not too late to register.

Languages offered include Arabic, Chinese, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Latin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Hebrew and, new this semester, Hindi.

"Many employers are looking to hire people who can communicate in a variety of languages in addition to English," said Marilyn Glazer-Weisner, Coordinator of Flexible Studies. "In addition, many four-year institutions, including UMass Lowell, require students to take a minimum of four semesters of a world language to graduate. Students can take these courses at Middlesex, save a lot of money and be better prepared for the workforce."

The Flexible Studies format is adaptable to diverse learning styles, incorporating Web-based technologies, computer programs, audio-visual materials, and one-to-one and small-group instruction. Online materials are used in all courses to give students the added benefit of enhanced learning.

Students in MCC's Flexible Studies courses can select from a variety of course meeting times that best fit their schedule, use self-pacing to extend or accelerate their coursework, and can work directly with their instructor in one-to-one sessions, and in small groups with their classmates.

For more information about MCC's Flexible Studies world language course options, or to register, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblestudies.
He Fled Cambodia's Genocide. Now He's Fighting To Save His Ceramics Tradition In Lowell

WBUR

He also teaches general ceramics arts at Middlesex Community College and has a posse of loyal students who help at his outdoor kiln. That's where I ...

If you want to see something extraordinary, head to the city of Lowell and take a drive over to the National Historical Park maintenance building. You'll discover a hidden, deeply personal treasure: Cambodian potter Yary Livan's outdoor, wood-burning kiln. You can find him out there working, too, eight to 10 weekends a year.

Livan himself is a rare and valuable gem. He spent his life struggling to preserve his country's ancient traditions and culture. The 62-year-old is one of the only master ceramicists still at work after surviving the Khmer Rouge genocide in his homeland. And he's the only one known to be living and working in the United States.

Under a wall-less roof, Livan smiles as his clay-dried hands feed cut chunks of wood to the glowing blaze inside his smokeless kiln. He explains it'll take about half a day for the big, brick-and-mortar box to reach 2,200 degrees. That's the magic temperature required to transform earthen vessels and objects into vibrant, singularly-hued works of art.

The artist peers at me through thick glasses. His face is shaded by a United Nations baseball cap. The fire's crackling sound and charred smell gives Livan immense pleasure and, it seems, a sense of peace. He tells me he loves this kiln more than he loves his own house because he says "this is my dream."
Livan's kiln has to reach 2,200 degrees before he'll load in his pottery to be fired. (Andrea Shea/WBUR)
This artist is full of dreams, even after surviving a nightmare.

In the 1970s, Livan was studying painting, drawing and traditional ceramics at art school in Phnom Penh. (As a teen, he had been assigned that vocation by the government.) Then Pol Pot took over Cambodia. The brutal Communist dictator forced the population into rural labor camps and would ultimately orchestrate the systematic executions of more than a million people.

“We go to the killing fields, everyone,” Livan recalls in his Cambodian accent, “some people die, and some people surviving.”

Pot’s Khmer Rouge regime was charged with “cleansing” the country of religion, economic gain and all forms of individualism. It targeted Buddhists, intellectuals and artists. Creative expression was forbidden, but Livan remembers figuring out ways to sketch ideas for pots and sculptures in secret.

“I have some, a little bit of pencil. I keep quiet,” he remembers. “I never stopped practicing.”

Livan escaped Cambodia in 1984 and spent nearly two decades at refugee camps in Thailand. Then the artist was granted political asylum by the United States and settled in Lowell.
To this day Livan feels it’s his responsibility to keep making Cambodian forms and symbols — elephants, turtles, fish and flowers — that decorate the elaborate, historic temples in Angkor Wat.

One of Yary Livan’s more elaborate pieces on display in Western Avenue Studios in Lowell. (Andrea Shea/WBUR)

“If you protect the country, you have to hold a gun,” Livan says. “But not the gun only. I love to protect my culture by how I do all of this.”

“The tradition is incredibly endangered,” concurs Maggie Holtzberg. She’s the folklorist for the Massachusetts Cultural Council and spends her days preserving traditional arts and culture throughout the state.

Holtzberg says people and institutions rallied around the genocide survivor after the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association announced his arrival here in 2001.

“He had very little English, and at one point he said, ‘I love clay,’ ” the folklorist recalls. “I can’t imagine what that was like — and thank God he survived and was able to reconnect with the materials and the practice.”
Livan was able to do that in 2002 when Harvard University invited him to do a three-year residency to learn, in part, about contemporary ceramics technologies.
The artist was able to merge new and old approaches when the community supported the creation of his outdoor, smokeless kiln. Holtzberg was part of that collaboration, involving the city of Lowell, Middlesex Community College and the National Park Service. She also recommended Livan multiple times for the National Endowment for the Arts’ National Heritage Fellowship, which is the country’s highest honor in folk and traditional arts. He won it in 2015.

This spring and summer the Smithsonian’s Sackler Gallery in Washington, D.C., displayed two of Livan’s pieces that will be shown again in an exhibition opening on Oct. 14.

After visiting his smokeless kiln and workspace at Western Avenue Studios in Lowell, the Sackler’s Asian ceramics curator Louise Cort says she selected an elephant-shaped jar because it evokes work done in 11th-, 12th- and 13th-century Cambodia. She also chose a pot with a muted, cream-colored neck and purplish, blue and ruby-colored glaze.

“As you walk around and look at the different sides of the pot, or turn the pot in your hands, the color changes subtly in a way only a wood-fired pot can do,” Cort said.

Livan’s smokeless kiln produces unique, unpredictable organic colors, as seen in these various works. (Andrea Shea/WBUR) Cort says while Livan has mastered new techniques and technologies, he still maintains a rare link to the past.

“Yary Livan is one of the very few Cambodian potters who can still tell us how potters were trained in the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh before the Khmer Rouge era,” the curator told me.

Livan is well aware of that fact, and he worries about what will happen when he’s gone.

The Massachusetts Cultural Council shares his concerns, and supported him with grants so he could train apprentices on how to mold and meticulously carve tiles and ornaments with hand tools, the way Cambodian artisans did centuries ago.

This gave Livan hope until recently when his apprentice suddenly quit the program. The setback leaves the artist’s tradition hanging by the thinnest of threads — and it breaks his heart.
Livan's former apprentice carving a tile in a style that dates back to the 9th century. (Andrea Shea/WBUR)
I visit again on an afternoon a few weeks after it happened. Livan looks down at his clay-dusted studio floor and tells me, "I have no word more than to say than that I'm really sad about that. But I still keep going."

Now Livan's plan is to host free, traditional ceramics classes for Lowell's Cambodian community with the goal of finding his new apprentice. He also teaches general ceramics arts at Middlesex Community College and has a posse of loyal students who help at his outdoor kiln. That's where I meet John Kondra as he adds fuel the fire.

With black work gloves and his graying hair pulled back in a ponytail, Kondra tells me he has a deep respect and marvel for Livan's perseverance.

"I don't know how he functions. He must work 120 to 140 hours a week," Kondra says. "It's phenomenal. I'm surprised more young, aspiring artists don't look him up because you can't learn from a book, you just watch him."

In his studio Livan showed me a turquoise-glazed whistle he crafted out of clay. He pressed it to his lips and blew a pretty but mournful tune that blended with the chirps of birds outside his window.
When I think of the artist... of the life he's had, and of the way he feels now -- I hear that sound in my mind. And I picture him standing in front of his favorite Buddhist sculpture that sits in a shed just steps away from his kiln. A seven-headed dragon forms a rising cape that resembles a rattlesnake's hood, and it shields the enlightened being from behind. Livan told me it represents protection, and is a reminder that "people can get out from a bad thing to a good thing."

Cambodian ceramicist Yary Livan holds one of his creations. (Andrea Shea/WBUR)
Despite having a lot of students who aren't Cambodian, the master ceramicist tells me he's determined to find an apprentice who is. At the same time, Livan believes refugees who've experienced trauma might not want to remember. He understands that feeling, but worries that when people "lose their culture, they will lose [their] identity."

Lowell's Cambodian population is the third largest in the U.S. and Livan wants the community to feel proud of their culture. He's not alone. The city commissioned him to create a Cambodian refugee monument that will be unveiled this September.
This weekend, on July 29 and 30, Livan will fire his outdoor kiln as the Lowell Folk Festival takes over the town. (He'll be at the festival's craft area, too, doing demonstrations.)
The artist invites anyone to come, and says potters can bring their own clay works to be alchemized into something brilliant and surprising.

Oh, and if you happen to go on Saturday, be sure to wish Yary Livan a happy birthday. He'll be turning 63.

*This segment aired on July 28, 2017.*
MCG NEWS

MCC's Dental Laboratory Technology Program

Enrollment is still open for Middlesex Community College's Dental Laboratory Technology Program, which prepares students to become members of a dental health team.

Classes start Sept. 5, and financial aid is available for those who qualify. Middlesex has the only dental laboratory technology program in New England. The curriculum is composed of lecture, internship and laboratory experience. Course lecture covers a variety of subjects, including dental materials, oral anatomy and occlusion, as well as a study of infectious diseases.

The extensive laboratory component, which requires 1,000 hours, covers all phases of dental technology. That includes creating partial dentures, complete dentures, crown and bridge, ceramics and orthodontics. Students also have the option to complete a specialty in dental technology.

Past graduates of MCC's Dental Lab Tech Program have enjoyed a 100 percent employment placement rate. A profitable range of employment options includes working as technicians in dental laboratories, private dental offices and dental clinics. No previous health or dental experience is required.

To learn more about MCC's Dental Laboratory Technology Program, call 800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu.

Middlesex offers new precision machining certificate program

Start a career in advanced manufacturing with Middlesex Community College's new Engineering Technology Precision Machining Certificate Program. Classes are offered 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Registration is now open and fall-semester classes begin Sept. 5.

This nine month, 27-credit program prepares students for in-demand entry-level jobs in advanced manufacturing. Students will gain skills in mathematics, communication, technical problem solving and general machining. Students will also complete 300 hours of hands-on precision machining training at Nashoba Valley Technical High School's state-of-the-art Machining Lab. Students who complete this program will be eligible to earn the OSHA 10 Hour General Industry Certifications, and sit for 11 National Institute for Metalworking Standards certifications, which are valued by precision machining advanced manufacturers. Students who have prior experience may apply for Credit for Prior Learning.

To learn more about MCC's Precision Machining Certificate Program: 800-818-3434 www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.

This program is funded, in part, by a $220,000 grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, ALC classes are small, supportive and provide instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. Students also have access to computer labs with specialized software to supplement classroom learning and improve basic computing/digital literacy skills.

Levels of instruction range from adult basic education to High School Equivalency Test preparation. Students seeking improvement of intermediate English skills are also welcome to enroll.

For information about MCC's Adult Learning Center, contact Allison Norton, Program Coordinator, at 781-280-3662, or norton@middlesex.mass.edu or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/adultlearning.

Works by MCC art professor added to Smithsonian collections

Two artworks by ceramist Yary Liván, adjunct professor of art at Middlesex Community College, have been added to the permanent collections of the Smithsonian Institution's Sackler/Freer Gallery in Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian curator of ceramics Louise Cort visited the Lowell artist's studio and selected an elephant pot and a vase to be included in the Asian art galleries' permanent collections. Both pieces were fired in MCC's Cambodian wood-fired kiln.

Liván's works were also featured in "The Glazed Elephant: Ceramic Traditions in Cambodia," a recent exhibition at the Sackler Gallery exploring the ceramic tradition of the Angkor kingdom (802-1431). To celebrate his accomplishments, Liván participated in a series of public programs, including an artist talk and ceramic workshops for adults and children at the District Clay Center, a new ceramics facility in Washington, D.C.

In 2015, Liván was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship, the nation's highest honor in the folk and traditional arts. He received a 2012 Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship.
Middlesex students enter film festival

Middlesex Community College Film Production students Sunheng Tain of Lowell, Danylo Kowal of Winchester and Brennan Barrows of Lowell screened their short film, "Replaced," at the recent Independent Film Festival Boston's 2017 Student Shorts Showcase.

They made the film for a class assignment, and it was shown along with student shorts from Emerson College, Boston University, Tufts University, Bentley University, Endicott College, Fitchburg State University and MassArt. After the screening, the three participated in a question-and-answer session for the audience.

Kowal, Barrows and Tain recently completed their sophomore year at MCC. All three have diverse backgrounds and different career goals, but all come together because of their passion for media production.

Kowal is a Communications major focusing on film and television production. Barrows majors in Business Marketing, working toward his goal of becoming a creative director. Tain, an aspiring actor majoring in Liberal Studies, would also like to pursue a career in the film and television industry.

All three brought their varying experiences together to produce the short film "Replaced.

Check out the film at https://vimeo.com/213571531.

In Boston at the recent Film Festival Boston's 2017 Student Shorts Showcase are, from left, MCC students Danylo Kowal and Sunheng Tain, professor Jennifer Bauer and student Brennan Barrows.
MCC ‘Out of the Box’ Fashion Show

LOWELL — On July 13, Middlscrm Community College hosted its annual College for Kids “Out of the Box” Fashion Show at the city's UnchArted Gallery.

More than 30 fashionable guests sipped refreshing summer drinks and ate delicious and unique food while enjoying spectacular artwork displayed on all the walls from local artists while waiting for the fashion show.

For the past 12 years, well-known fashionista and talented, artistic, fun-loving fashion designer Eleni Zohdi has taught and enriched young girls' lives by building self-confidence and by teaching fashion and how to design dresses, T-shirts and more. About a dozen girls, ages 10-15, participated in the College for Kids Fashion Design program, which explores the tools, methods and principles of introducing young students to the fashion world.

Eleni teaches basic hand sewing, machine sewing and fashion drawing. These tools and techniques allow the students to develop their personal styles and express their creativity to the fullest. In addition, the young girls visited Lowell museums, fabric stores and boutiques, and ate at restaurants.

A special thank-you to Chintilly Place, which donates the dresses each year!

UnchArted Gallery owner Mike Dailey of Lowell and Lindsey Parker of Chelmsford

From left, Alison Handy of Tewksbury, Lori Barry of Lowell, Brenda and Don Benson of Chelmsford and Avery Adam of Westford

Fashistas, models and fashion designers show off their T-shirt design.

Model and fashion designer Melanie Kaplan, 12, of Tewksbury

Above: MCC program manager Lauren Ellis of Methuen with her daughter, fashion designer/model Eleni Zohdi

Far left: Demetra Culleton of Meorose and Wendy Jacob of Lunenburg

Top center: From left, Jennifer Chesnulovitch of Bedford, and Eleni Zohdi of Lowell

Bottom center: Dave Pottie and Amy Yacos of Burlington
Left: Fashion designer/artist/poet/fashionista Eleni Zohdi. Right: Young ladies, models and fashion designers show their own dresses that they redesigned from dresses donated by Chantilly Place.
Explore Robotics This Summer With MCC’s College For Kids

Kids can explore the fascinating world of robotics through College for Kids, Middlesex Community College’s summer programs for young learners.

Designed to provide kids, ages 8 to 15, with fun and challenging opportunities to explore careers, gain new knowledge and skills, and boost self-confidence, College for Kids runs July 10 through Aug. 17, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses. And, it’s not too late to register!

Kids can choose from three weekly sessions of “Lego Mindstorms EV3” this summer, offered on the Bedford campus:

“Lego Mindstorms EV3” (ages 8-12) – Middlesex has purchased new Mindstorms sets to explore and build with this summer! In this program, kids will learn the basics of robot building and programming. Kids are put into teams of four and presented daily challenges. They will design, build, and test their robots in a fun and competitive atmosphere. Students should bring their imagination as they work closely in a team to create a competitive robotic masterpiece. (Cost: $312)

Offered three weekly sessions in Bedford:

July 24-27 – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday (Course number: YTH 621 30)
July 31-Aug. 3 – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday (Course number: YTH 621 31)
Aug. 7-10 – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday (Course number: YTH 621 32)

All College for Kids programs are taught by public-school teachers, or by professionals who are experts in their field and have experience working with children. For the complete MCC College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids or call 781-280-3663.

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Admissions & Financial Services Nights on the Lowell campus. All are free and open to the public. Spanish language services are available.

June Admissions & Financial Services Night will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 22, in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square, Lowell.

July Admissions & Financial Services Night will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 20, in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square, Lowell.

August Admissions & Financial Services Night will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24, in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square, Lowell.

During these free sessions, 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.

Participants can receive guidance and assistance on the MCC application process, and learn about placement testing. Attendees can also meet with financial aid representatives to get information about financing their education.

MCC To Host Three Summer Admissions & Financial Services Nights

Summer is a great time to get started on your pathway to success at Middlesex Community College! MCC will host three upcoming

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After Canton disappointment, student with Down’s thrives out of town

By Paula Vogler

After attending a kindergarten program in the Canton Public School system 15 years ago, Audrey DeSisto was shocked to learn that her daughter, Devan, would not be allowed to register for first grade.

Devan has Down’s syndrome and DeSisto said she was told the district did not have staff or aides to teach Devan. Because she did not want her in an outplacement program, DeSisto said the family, including three other school age children, had to leave the town in which they and their parents grew up in and the house they had built.

“I couldn’t believe it,” DeSisto said. “I actually ended up having heart surgery. The stress was horrible.”

Because she worked with the state’s Department of Education on a Beta test program at Galvin Middle School, DeSisto asked the school department for a recommendation for a town that could meet Devan’s needs. The family moved to Andover.

Now 21, Devan has proven to be a remarkable young woman who attended Andover schools through her junior year.

“She was fully included in the classroom, not in a separate classroom,” DeSisto said. “She was invited to be on the junior varsity gymnastics team. She was very integrated into the high school and very well loved.”

She did attend Westford Academy during her senior year, but DeSisto said the school would not place Devan in a college program because school officials said students were kept in the program until they were 22.

“They wouldn’t let her go to her senior prom because they said, ‘we don’t have anybody to watch her,’” DeSisto said.

Devan went on to graduate from and receive a Certificate of Attendance from LABBB School/Lexington High School and a Certificate of Completion in the ICEI program at Middlesex Community College.

She also has started an internship program at CVS, works at a vocational job two days a week and is attending a part-time college class in the summer.

“She is a remarkable woman and person,” DeSisto said. “She actually doesn’t see herself as a person with disabilities because she’s done so much. In her eyes, she doesn’t consider herself different.”
MCC’s Adult Learning Center

The Middlesex Community College Adult Learning Center (ALC) offers FREE noncredit courses for adult learners (ages 16 and up) who live and work in Massachusetts.

Students are admitted to the program throughout the school year, September through May, on a space-available basis. The next group registration will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5.

“The Adult Learning Center helps prepare students for success in college, at work, and in the community,” said Kathy Innis, ALC Director. Courses meet from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays (September-May), on the Bedford campus.

Supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, ALC classes are small, supportive, and provide instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. Students also have access to computer labs with specialized software to supplement classroom learning and improve basic computing/digital literacy skills.

Levels of instruction range from adult basic education to High School Equivalency Test (HiSET® or GED®) preparation. Students seeking improvement of intermediate English skills are also welcome to enroll.

For more information about MCC’s Adult Learning Center, contact Allison Norton, Program Coordinator, at 781-280-3662, or nortonla@middlesex.mass.edu, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/adultlearning.

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Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!

Middlesex Offers New Precision Machining Certificate Program

Start a career in advanced manufacturing with Middlesex Community College’s new Engineering Technology Precision Machining Certificate Program. Classes are offered 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Registration is now open and fall-semester classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Students who successfully complete this program will be eligible to earn the OSHA 10 Hour General Industry Certifications and sit for 11 National Institute for Metalworking Standards (NIMS) certifications, which are highly valued by precision machining advanced manufacturers. Students who have prior experience may apply for Credit for Prior Learning.

To learn more about MCC’s Precision Machining Certificate Program, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 1-800-818-3434.

This program is funded, in part, by a $20,000,000 grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration. Grant # TC-26450-14-00-A-25.

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Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Nocella takes wheel of Middlesex CC finances

By Robert Mills, rmills@lowellsun.com

LOWELL -- Middlesex Community College brought in an accountant with more than 35 years of experience in the private and academic sectors to serve as the school's executive director of finance and chief financial officer.

Frank Nocella spent the past eight years serving as interim president and CFO of Sussex County Community College and CFO of Essex County College, both in New Jersey, according to a press release.

Prior to that, the certified public accountant spent 28 years working for International Paper as CFO and group vice president of finance and administration, according to a press release.

"I look forward to promoting economic sustainability in support of the college missing and providing the pathway to student success for our future community leaders," Nocella said in a press release.

Nocella began his career as at the giant accounting firm KPMG in New York City, and has a bachelors degree in accounting from Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey. He's a member of the American Certified Public Accountants and the New York & New Jersey State Society of Certified Public Accountants, according to a press release.

Nocella takes over for former CFO Gina Spaziani, who left the university last Summer.

"Frank Nocella is an excellent addition to the Middlesex team," said college President James Mabry. "He is an accomplished financial professional dedicated to building open and transparent budget practices, and helping faculty and staff meet the mission of Middlesex."

Follow Robert Mills on Twitter @Robert_Mills
MCC NEWS

MCC to offer tuition-free Links Program

Middlesex Community College’s Links Program is a tuition-free program designed specifically to help students start college. Applications are being accepted for the fall semester, and classes start Sept. 5.

Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, in partnership with MCC, Links provides an opportunity for eligible students to earn college and institutional credits free over the course of one or two semesters. The program also provides individual assessment of skills, assistance with career planning and academic guidance and support, as students begin their college education.

Links classes are small and comprise other Links students. They are held on

Tuesdays and Thursdays on MCC’s Bedford campus with free shuttle service available from the Lowell campus. Enrolled students also have access to MCC facilities — such as the libraries and Fitness Center — as well as a wide variety of student services.

Eligible applicants must have a high school credential (diploma, HiSET or GED), be a Massachusetts resident and place into Link courses via MCC’s College Placement Tests. Preference is given to students who studied in a DESE-funded Adult Basic Education Program. However, other students are encouraged to apply.

For information: innisk@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3665, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/links.

Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School accepting fall applications

Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School is now accepting applications for the fall semester which begins Aug. 30.

LMACS serves Lowell-area youth, between the ages of 16 and 21, who have left school prior to graduation or are at risk of dropping out. Graduates of the program receive a high school diploma.

A Middlesex Community College partnership program, LMACS is an accredited high school with the mission of enabling students to achieve academic, social and career success. The school places a strong emphasis on college education as a goal for its students.

The LMACS curriculum is built around traditional instructional areas, supplemented by psycho-educational courses and groups, a school-to-work component and daily advising. MCC courses are also offered through the college’s Dual Enrollment Program.

LMACS is a public school and does not charge tuition. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 to 11:20 a.m. Friday. The charter school is located in Lowell’s Pollard Exchange Building, 67 Middle St., across from MCC’s Health, Science and Technology Center. LMACS students have access to all Middlesex facilities, including science labs, mathematics and reading labs, library, computers and cafeteria services.

For information about how to earn a high school diploma, call LMACS at 978-656-3165.

MCC to host health career program info sessions

Students may learn about MCC’s health career degree and certificate programs at upcoming Health Programs Information Sessions.

A Lowell Campus Health Programs Information Session will be held from 3-4 p.m. Aug. 2 in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square, Lowell.

A Bedford Campus Health Programs Information Session will be held from 3-4 p.m. Aug. 17 in Bedford Campus Center, Café East, 591 Springs Road.

Middlesex offers degree programs in dental assisting, dental hygiene, dental lab technology, diagnostic medical sonography, medical assisting, nursing, medical lab technology and radiologic technology. They also offer certificate programs in dental assisting, medical assisting and medical lab technology.

MCC’s Associate Degree in Nursing is offered as a full-time day program, or a part-time evening/weekend program. Prospective nursing students must attend a mandatory overview of the Nursing Program Information Session.
SATURDAY CHAT

Colleges greatly enhance local life

LOWELL — UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College are among two of the most important assets in our region. This June when The Sun ran the list of graduates from the university and the college, I was pretty impressed with the number of students from Greater Lowell communities who got their degrees from the two local schools.

With the help of Patricia McCafferty from the university, and Patrick Cook from Middlesex, I got a breakdown of the numbers for each of our area communities.

Both McCafferty and Cook, by the way, are former reporters for The Sun.

The numbers show more than 2,100 area residents got diplomas this spring from the two schools.

College degrees greatly enhance economic opportunities for people as they enter the work force so all those folks now have the opportunity for a better and they got that opportunity close to home.

Residents of Lowell led the way with 427 getting degrees from the university and 335 graduating from Middlesex.

Billerica, Dracut and Chelmsford followed. Billerica saw nearly 200 residents get degrees, Dracut had 183 graduates and Chelmsford had 151 earn degrees.

Tewksbury had 133 graduate followed by Westford at 88, Burlington at 78, Wilmington with 67, Tyngsboro 65 and Pepperell at 41 students.

Double-digit numbers were also recorded for Concord, Acton, Pelham, N.H., Groton, Littleton, Ayer, Dunstable, and Townsend.

In addition to preparing the next generation for a brighter future, the two schools are a major economic factor as they are among the largest employers in the region and spend lots of money in the market for goods and services.

UMass Lowell has expanded dramatically over the last five years with new buildings and Middlesex is putting finishing touches on its performing arts center in downtown Lowell.

The university and the college are also playing expanding roles in arts and culture programs in the region.

Both run programs that bring that bring a lot of people to the city and are key partners in operating the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell and LeLacheur Park.

The new privately-owned dorms are also adding to the Lowell tax base.

While they serve the whole region, they are particularly critical components to the economic and social life of the city of Lowell.
Middlesex Community College Is A Leader In Online Education

For more than 15 years, Middlesex Community College has been a leader in online education. Fall semester begins Tuesday, Sept. 5, and it’s not too late to register.

MCC currently offers 15 degree and certificate programs that can be completed entirely online. And, another 10 degree programs be completed 80 percent online through hybrid course offerings, which combine online and face-to-face instruction.

"MCC's online courses are taught by highly trained faculty who are committed to ensuring that every student has an engaging and successfully experience," said Marilyn Galligan, Dean of Admissions.

Students who take courses online at Middlesex complete the same high-quality coursework as those who take courses on campus. And online students earn the same course credits—which are transferrable to bachelor's degree programs, said Galligan.

Some of MCC’s popular online degree programs include Accounting, Criminal Justice, Business, Hospitality Management, and Liberal Arts.

With online courses at Middlesex, you CAN fit education into your busy life! For more information about Middlesex online, visit: https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/fit/ or call 1-800-818-3434.

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Register Now For MCC's Technical Writing Certificate Program

Enrollment is now open for Middlesex Community College’s Technical Writing Certificate Program. This 120-hour, two-semester, post-graduate noncredit certificate program provides the skills necessary to write technical documents and effectively communicate about technical information.

Fall classes start Thursday, Sept. 7, and it’s not too late to register!

This program is a career-enhancement opportunity for individuals with well-developed writing skills, a bachelor’s degree, and at least three years of work experience. Classes will be held Thursday evenings.

September through May, on the Bedford campus.

Through lecture, online learning and projects, Technical Writing students will create a portfolio featuring samples of their work.

Students will learn how to conduct audience and task analysis, work with subject-matter experts, understand product documents and the product-development cycle. They will also learn to write clear procedures, review and revise technical information, manage projects, and make content useful. Mark-up languages, such as HTML and XML, as well as tools for authoring information for electronic and print distribution, will also be covered.

To learn more about the Writing Technical Information Certificate program, or to apply, contact Sheila Morin at morins@middlesex.mass.edu or visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining/techtwrite.aspx.

Middlesex Community College meets the evolving educational, civic and workforce needs of our local and global communities. As one of the largest, most comprehensive com-

9/25
MCC’s Link Programs Offers Free Opportunity To Start College

Middlesex Community College’s Links Program is a tuition-free program designed specifically to help students start college. Applications are currently being accepted for the fall semester, and classes start Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE), in partnership with MCC, Links provides an opportunity for eligible students to earn college and institutional credits FREE over the course of one or two semesters. The program also provides individual assessment of skills, assistance with career planning, and academic guidance and support, as students begin their college education.

Links classes are small and are comprised entirely of other Links students. They are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays on MCC’s Bedford campus with free shuttle service available from the Lowell campus. Enrolled students also have access to MCC facilities — such as the libraries and Fitness Center — as well as a wide variety of student services.

Eligible applicants must have a high school credential (diploma, HiSET® or GED®), be a Massachusetts resident, and place into Links courses via MCC’s College Placement Tests. Preference is given to students who studied in a DESE-funded Adult Basic Education Program. However, other students are encouraged to apply.

For more information about MCC’s Links Program, contact Katherine Innis, Adult Learning Center and Links Director, at innisk@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-286-3665, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/Links.

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Surfboard season
Family Fun at the Lowell Folk Festival
Lowell.com News
... venue in the midst of the Festival. The Family Fun Activity Area is presented by Middlesex Community College, Lowell General Hospital, and Xfinity.

Posted by Elliot Silver on Jul 12, 2017 | Community Updates | ShareThis

(Lowell, Mass.) — The 31st Lowell Folk Festival continues to provide the finest in traditional music, craft, floodways and more in downtown Lowell. Festival goers are in for numerous treats along Shattuck Street this year with numerous interactive opportunities presented by Festival supporters. Lowell National Historical Park rangers and the City of Lowell Recreation and Parks Department are on-hand Saturday and Sunday from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm.

Everyone is invited to try out the traditional games offered by the Recreation and Parks Department, which will include ring toss, bean bag toss, muffin tin game, and the ever popular box hockey which was invented in Lowell.

PERFORMANCES

Along Shattuck Street, the tree-lined Mack Plaza will host afternoon performances this year by:

The Donna Miceli Dance Center will have staff and students on hand on Saturday to instruct Festival Goers in how to do the National Dance Day Dance. National Dance Day was started in 2010 to get people more involved in physical fitness through dance. Instruction begins at 1:30 PM on Saturday. At 2:15 – 3:00, Donna will be coordinating a dance program featuring Benkadi Drummers & Dancers, Flamenco Boston Dancers, Tap & and so much more!

Robert Clarke (Juggler, Magician, & Funny Guy) will be doing his highly acclaimed act at 12:45 and 3:15 on the Shattuck Street Stage

Chunky’s Cinema will be there on Saturday & Sunday with their Corn Hole Prize Square and their Bio Truck! The Chunky’s Bio Truck is powered 100% by Trans-Fat Canola Fry Oil.

Canobie Lake Park will have a booth / stop by to try to win passes to this popular New Hampshire Amusement Park.

The Winchester School of Chinese Cultural will be there on Saturday & Sunday to teach Festival Goers how to make items out of origami.

Lowell Laborers Union will have a booth where they will be doing face painting and handing out balloons.

Lowell National Historical Park will have all kinds of arts and crafts for the kids to do.

On Sunday Ventriloquist Dana Perkins will be on hand with his Large Puppets to perform at 1:00 & 3:00 on the Shattuck Street Stage.

The Chaplin O’Shea Academy of Irish Dance will be performing Traditional Irish Dances at 2:00 PM on Sunday as well.
FAMILY FUN AT DUTTON STREET

At the Dutton Street Dance Pavilion Area Sponsored by Lahey Health, there will be two things that you don't want to miss!

The Boston Bruins B-FIT Team will be at the Lahey Health Booth to teach kids fun exercises to keep them fit and healthy!!! Come visit the Bruins and have some fun!

Peppersass, 150 Year Old Original Steam Locomotive from Mount Washington, will be on display and the Folks from the Mt. Washington Cog Railway will be on hand to give away Family Four Passes for the Cog!

Don't miss the many offerings of this family-focused venue in the midst of the Festival. The Family Fun Activity Area is presented by Middlesex Community College, Lowell General Hospital, and Xfinity.

Let us know your thoughts!
EDUCATION

MCC’s College for Kids to stage ‘Lion King Jr.’

There is still time to register for Middlesex Community College’s summer College for Kids “Children’s Theater” program.

Designed for kids, ages 10 to 15, this summer’s theater program will culminate in a student performance of “The Lion King Jr.” Students will learn all aspects of theater production, and can choose the roles they want to play, taking into account their own skills and interests.

“Children’s Theater” runs 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 10-28, at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., in Lowell. Additional times will be added as the program progresses, and additional meetings may be added as students prepare for the final production.

The final production of “The Lion King Jr.” is scheduled for July 28 and 29.

College for Kids programs at MCC are designed to provide children with opportunities to explore careers, gain knowledge, develop skills and boost self-confidence. Programs are offered for children ages 8 to 15 and run July 10 through Aug. 17 on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

To learn more about MCC’s College for Kids “Children’s Theater” program, or for a complete schedule of all summer programs and registration information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids or call 781-280-3663.

Register for fall at MCC

MCC’s fall semester classes start Sept. 5. MCC offers flexible schedules to fit needs, with day, evening and weekend options.

With online learning at Middlesex, the classroom can be as close as the nearest internet connection. MCC currently offers 10 associate degree programs and five certificate programs that can be completed entirely online, plus hundreds of online course offerings. Hybrid courses, which combine online and face-to-face instruction, are also offered.

Middlesex recognizes that many students, after completing their MCC coursework, intend to transfer and pursue a bachelor’s degree at another institution. For these students, Middlesex offers MassTransfer, a statewide transfer program to help streamline the transfer process.

To learn more, or to register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu or call 800-818-3434.
Middlesex CC
Awards 2017 Celebrity Forum Scholarships

Noah Stipp of Westford was awarded the Dr. Carole A. Cowan Scholarship. Established in honor of Cowan, former MCC President, this award provides financial assistance to a deserving Middlesex student who is a member of the Commonwealth Honors Program.

Sophie Brill-Weitz of Bedford was awarded the Debra Chemelli-Evans Scholarship. This award was established in memory of the daughter of William Chemelli, former chairman of the MCC Board of Trustees, and member of the MCC Foundation Board.

Seven students were awarded Commonwealth Honors Program Scholarships:

Lucy Arrigo (Ayer)
Maria Aybar (Lowell)
Cora Casteel (Waltham)
Julia Deraska (Winchester)
Dylan Pato (Lexington)
Rebecca Pricmak (Andover)

Alex Sandin (Brookline, N.H.)
Eight students were awarded Celebrity Forum Scholarships:

Gianpiero DeMari (Tyngsborough)
Anushri Madya (Burlington)
Ritul Patel (Woburn)

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Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Saturday Chat
Special showcases of LHS's strengths

Members of the LHS Class of 2017 have been accepted at 85 colleges. Some of the schools include Brown, Dartmouth, MIT, Bucknell, Hamilton, NYU, Tufts, Wesleyan, Penn State, George Washington, Rensselaer, as well as UMass Lowell and UMass Amherst.

Many in this year's class are heading off to college with credits earned while in high school, through dual-enrollment programs with UMass Lowell and Middlesex Community College.

The credits could save the students more than $200,000 in tuition.

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For more information about MCC's Link Program, contact Katherine Innis, Adult Learning Center and Links Director, at innisk@middlesex.mass.edu or 781-280-3665, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/Links.

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Thank you, Lowell

THANK YOU/From Page A2

Tangents, where I observed firsthand the important role that our elected Congressional representatives play in supporting local communities with constituent services and economic development.

My most recent role as the head of school at Lowell High School has probably been the most rewarding position I have held, bringing me back to my hometown and my alma mater, back to sharing my days with a large "family" of great teachers, administrators, support staff and students who are nothing but fantastic. Lowell High School is a special place full of promising young people who dream of succeeding and enjoying wonderful lives. These students deserve the best and the support of our community. I have no doubt this city, this state and this country are in good hands with this next generation of leaders.

Thank you, Lowell.
LOWELL — Lights. Camera. Action!

All the world was a stage on June 9, when Merrimack Repertory Theatre hosted its annual “Set the Stage Celebration” at UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center. More than 175 actors and patrons were rejuvenated as they listened to live music by The Real Cool Cats — and some even acted like they were dancing.

Patrons were greeted and ushered by MRT staff, board members and members of the volunteer group Friends of MRT, for a photo shoot with professional photographer Meghan Moore.

As the curtain opened, the award presentations began, with UMass Lowell receiving the Paul Tsongas Award, and Middlesex Community College receiving the newly created Achieve Award for Community Leadership. This was named for MRT-founder Nancy L. Donahue. Playwright Lila Rose Kaplan received the Artist in Residence Award. The crowd cheered for an encore, which was a speech by the talented Tyler Higgins, a member of MRT’s Young Company Program. Tyler is a junior at Greater Lowell Technical High School and participates in their drama program there.

This single event raised $100,398 for Student Matinees and Young Company Program. Bravo to all! For more information, visit www.mrt.org.

The Paul Tsongas Award, which went to UMass Lowell is accepted by Keith Mitchell, left, of Lowell and Patti McCafferty of Andover, while the Donahue Community Award is accepted by MCC’s Karen Oster of Nashua, and President James Mabry and wife Judith of Bedford.

MRT’s Staff, Board and Volunteer group Friends of MRT

DACEY ZOUZAS
The Z-List

Dacey Zouzas is TV host and producer of Dacey’s Dares. Check out the highlight reel at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cGzKcCE9yM. Follow her on Twitter @daceyzouzas, tour@daceyzouzas and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/daceyzouzas. Also, check out divas.us and www.MassachusettsWomen.org and follow @MassWomen on Twitter.
From left, Aspen and Geoff Webster of Austin, Texas, and Dan Pedro of West Roxbury

The Real Cool Cats provided the entertainment for the real cool party.


Jack Moynihan and Carolyn Walsh of Lowell

Splash into summer!

Surrounded by enormous papier-mâché flowers of all colors hand-made by MRT's team! I wanted to wear something artsy and fun so I picked this Diane von Furstenberg full and flowy pleated silk mini! I pick up the salmon color from my dress with a vintage pair of salmon snakeskin sandals! Wearing a choker, I attached a sentimental rhinestone letter Z, a gift from lifestyle designer Mark Caputo and Frannie. Special thank you photographer Meghan Moore for taking this fab photo.

After struggle, pride and graduation for Dracut brothers at Lowell charter

Lowell Sun

Both would like to continue their education at Middlesex Community College. On June 1, the Clark brothers donned black graduation robes with ...

After struggle, pride and graduation for Dracut brothers at Lowell charter

By Amaris Castillo, acastillo@lowellsun.com

UPDATED: 07/02/2017 08:42:48 AM EDT

Dracut brothers Brett and Curtis Clark bond over basketball

Lowell Sun

Your content starts in 19 seconds

DRACUT -- It's easy to mistake Curtis and Brett Clark for twins. The Dracut brothers are both tall and heavily built with squinty-eyed smiles. They sometimes talk in unison and joke around often.

Curtis, though, is older at 21. Brett is 19. Physical resemblance and DNA aside, there's another factor that ties the brothers together -- their graduation on June 1 from Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School. Academic struggles at Dracut High drove Curtis and Brett in 2014 to transfer to the public charter high school in Lowell. LMACS caters to students who have left their district high school prior to graduation and those significantly at risk of dropping out.

Curtis said he struggled in mainly math and history during his first two years at Dracut High.
Then came the multimillion-dollar renovation of the school in his third year, which he said caused overcrowding in his classes.
"When I was at Dracut High, I was just falling behind on everything," Curtis recalled. "I just needed to go somewhere new."

Brett said he began struggling in his sophomore year at Dracut High.

"Because they did the construction, the classrooms had
35-40 kids and I just couldn't learn," he said. "The smaller classes at the charter school helped because I got more focused. I didn't really struggle too bad, it was just that one year I fell off and I was like, 'Yeah, I can't do that.'"

On top of that, several major surgeries due to health issues pulled Brett out of school for some time.

Lisa Clark, Brett and Curtis' mother, says he's fine now.
Melissa Chen, a science instructor at LMACS who also served as Brett's adviser, said the younger Clark brother was always a very respectful student.

"For Brett, he never had issues academically. The times I did see him, he always did his work. He was a fantastic advisee and he was very dependable," she said. "It was just his attendance for the first couple terms that was difficult."

Chen said students are drawn to Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School because of class size.

"Our students come with their own struggles academically and socially so we try to accommodate them the best that we can," she said. "As they get to know us and trust us and see that we do want to help them, these students are then more invested in the school."
Erika Lanier, English instructor/ELL coordinator at LMACS, had the Clark brothers in her classes.

"Curtis was quiet and respectful. He took a little bit to get used to me as a teacher," Lanier said. "When students come to us, they don't always have good experiences in previous schools. He (Curtis) has a crazy sense of humor. They're both fabulous kids."

Lanier said the Clark brothers have similar personalities and they would often play off each other.

"There were so many times I would say something and they would both respond together and I'd be like, 'How are you not twins?'" she recalled with a laugh.

Case in point: the Clark brothers' recent sit-down interview with The Sun. When asked what it meant to graduate together, Brett and Curtis responded "It was really cool, yeah." The brothers erupted in laughter.

"Graduating felt awesome," Brett said. "It felt like I finally got something off my back because I was a year late."

When people read this story, Curtis said he wants them to see how much charter schools can help students who need it.

"If they're in a big school, they don't feel comfortable because it's a big class or they're just doing bad in school or they need a new place, that charter schools help you get through it all," he said. "They legit look out for you and make sure that you pass your classes and stay on top of you."

Both would like to continue their education at Middlesex Community College.

On June 1, the Clark brothers donned black graduation robes with golden yellow chords. Their mother, Lisa, said seeing her sons graduate together made her so proud.

"It made me know that they have the strength to reach the goal that they didn't know that they would be able to achieve," she said. "I'm so thankful that they fought their way through every challenge. Every parent's dream is, and should be, that their child excel and just reach every goal that they go for."

Follow Amaris Castillo on Twitter @AmarisCastillo.

Middlesex CC
Awards 2017 Celebrity Forum Scholarships
The Middlesex Community College Foundation recently awarded $30,500 in scholarships for outstanding academic achievement to 18 Middlesex students as part of the 19th annual MCC Celebrity Forum.
Raonak Ezahan Shristy of Lowell was awarded the James C. and Judith O. Mabry Completion Scholarship. This award was established at the inauguration of MCC President James Mabry in 2015. The scholarship is awarded to assist a worthy student with the completion of an associate degree at Middlesex.
Noah Stapp of Westford was awarded the Dr. Carole A. Cowan Scholarship. Established in honor of Cowan, former MCC President, this award provides financial assistance to a deserving Middlesex student who is a member of the Commonwealth Honors Program.
Sophie Brill-Weitz of Bedford was awarded the Debra Chemelli-Evans Scholarship. This award was established in memory of the daughter of William Chemelli, former chairman of the MCC Board of Trustees, and member of the MCC Foundation Board.
Seven students were awarded Commonwealth Honors Program Scholarships:
Lucy Arrigo (Ayer)
Mara Aybar (Lowell)
Cora Calseal (Waltham)
Julia Deraska (Winchester)
Dylan Fato (Lexington)
Rebecca Primak (Andover)
Alex Sandoz (Brookline, N.H.)
Eight students were awarded Celebrity Forum Scholarships:
Gianpiero DeMars (Tyngsborough)
Anushri Madiya (Burlington)
Rutul Patel (Woburn)
Brianna Reyes (Pelham, N.H.)
Blanca Sabatino (Tewksbury)
Shelby Schaefer (Lowell)
Brianna Tavares (Wilmington)
Khuong Thai (Lowell)
To learn more about the 2017 Celebrity Forum scholarships, contact Amy Lee, Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, at 781-280-3579 or leea@middlesex.mass.edu
Since 1988, the Middlesex Community College Foundation has generated income through revenue from investments managed by the MCC Foundation Board of Directors, the proceeds of the college’s annual Celebrity Forum, Annual Fund, and other programs and campaigns.
MCC’s College For Kids To Stage ‘Lion King Jr.’

There is still time to register for Middlesex Community College’s summer College for Kids “Children’s Theater” program.

Designed for kids, ages 10 to 15, this summer’s theater program will culminate in a student performance of “The Lion King Jr.” Students will learn all aspects of theater production, and can choose the roles they want to play, taking into account their own skills and interests.

“Children’s Theater” runs 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 10-28, at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., in Lowell. (Please note additional times will be added as the program progresses, and additional meetings may be added as students prepare for the final production.)

The final production of “The Lion King Jr.” is scheduled for Friday night, July 28, and Saturday afternoon, July 29.

College for Kids programs at MCC are designed to provide children with fun and challenging opportunities to explore careers, gain new knowledge, develop new skills, and boost self-confidence. Programs are offered for children ages 8 to 15 and run July 10 through Aug. 17 on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

To learn more about MCC’s College for Kids “Children’s Theater” program, or for a complete schedule of all summer programs and registration information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids or call 781-280-3663.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, 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, as well as online. Middlesex Community College:
MCC News

MCC president welcomes David Ortiz

Middlesex Community College President James C. Mabry welcomed David Ortiz, retired Red Sox designated hitter, to the Lowell Memorial Auditorium stage for the 19th annual MCC Celebrity Forum.

“Big Papi” was interviewed by WBZ-TV’s Dan Roche. Proceeds from Celebrity Forum support the MCC Foundation student scholarships.

Since 2004, $304,500 in Celebrity Forum Scholarships were awarded to 534 Middlesex students. In addition, the MCC Foundation annually awards more than $100,000 in other student scholarships. Presenting sponsor of all 19 Celebrity Forum events is The TJX Companies Inc.

Explore robotics this summer with MCC’s College For Kids

Kids can explore the world of robotics through College For Kids, a Middlesex Community College’s summer programs for young learners.

Designed to provide kids, ages 8 to 15, with opportunities to explore careers, gain knowledge and skills and boost self-confidence, College for Kids runs July 10 through Aug. 17, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

Kids can choose from three weekly sessions of “Lego Mindstorms EV3” this summer, offered on the Bedford campus:

“Lego Mindstorms EV3” (ages 8-12) – Middlesex has purchased new Mindstorms sets to explore and build with this summer.

In this program, kids will learn the basics of robot building and programming. Kids are put into teams of four and presented daily challenges. They will design, build and test their robots in a fun and competitive atmosphere. Students should bring their imagination as they work closely in a team to create a competitive robotic masterpiece. (Cost: $312).

Offered three weekly sessions in Bedford:

July 24-27: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday (Course number: YTH 621 30)

July 31-Aug. 3: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday (Course number: YTH 621 31)

Aug. 7-10: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday (Course number: YTH 621 32)

All College for Kids programs are taught by public-school teachers or by professionals who are experts in their field and have experience working with children. For the complete MCC College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/ or call 781-280-3663.

MCC Commonwealth Honors Scholar Program Grows

The Commonwealth Honors Program at Middlesex Community College is attracting a growing number of students who elect to study at a more advanced level.

And the number of students who recently graduated as Commonwealth Honors Scholars increased almost 20 percent.

Students who complete their degrees through CHP are guaranteed transfer to other Commonwealth Honors Programs at any state college or university, and can enhance their applications for other four-year public or private institutions.

MCC’s Commonwealth Honors Program is part of an integrated network of honors programs throughout the Massachusetts public college and university system. It offers a variety of honors course options, as well as opportunities for students to master research and presentation techniques and engage in extra and co-curricular activities, including field trips and guest lectures.

To graduate with honors, Middlesex students are expected to complete a minimum of three honors courses, one of which must be an interdisciplinary team-taught seminar. Students must also participate in the annual Honors Conference, a public opportunity for students to display and explain their research.

Registration for MCC’s fall semester is now open and classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 5. For information: 781-280-3553; https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/honors/.

MCC Awards Scholarships to Middlesex Students

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Raoanak Ezahan Shiristy, of Lowell, was awarded the James C. and Judith G. Mabry Completion Scholarship. This award was established at the inauguration of MCC President James Mabry in 2015. The scholarship is awarded to a deserving student with the completion of an associate degree at Middlesex.

Noah Stapp, of Westford, was awarded the Dr. Carole A. Cowan Scholarship. Established in honor of Cowan, former MCC President, this award provides financial assistance to a deserving Middlesex student who is a member of the Commonwealth Honors Program.

Sophie Brill-Weitz, of Bedford, was awarded the Debra Chemelli-Evans Scholarship. This award was established in memory of the daughter of William Chemelli, former chairman of the MCC Board of Trustees, and member of the MCC Foundation Board.

Seven students were awarded Commonwealth Honors Program Scholarships: Lucy Arrigo (Ayer); Maria Aybar (Lowell); Cora Casteel (Waltham); Julia Deraska (Winchester); Dylan Pato (Lexington); Rebecca Primak (Andover); Alex Sandin (Brookline, New Hampshire).

Eight students were awarded Celebrity Forum Scholarships: Gianpiero DeMari (Tyngsborough); Anushri Madviya (Burlington); Rutul Patel (Woburn); Brianna Reyes (Pelham, N.H.); Bianca Sabatino (Tewksbury); Shelby Schaefer (Lowell); Brianna Tavares (Wilmington) and Khuong Thai (Lowell).

For information: 781-280-3579 or leea@middlesex.mass.edu.
Parents Can Help High Schoolers Thrive in Summer College

Teens should stick to a schedule, something parents can help with by ensuring structure at home.

By Alexandra Pannoni, Digital Producer | June 26, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

Motivated teens could get a leg up on their academics by taking a summer college course, since they could potentially earn high school and college credit through dual enrollment.

But parents should know that the grade teens receive for a summer college course is recorded on their transcripts and follows them through their higher education career, if students take the course for academic credit. Doing poorly in a college course can also have a long-term effect on a teen’s confidence, says Patricia Bruno, dean of academic advising at Middlesex Community College in Massachusetts.

[Discover how to graduate college before high school.]

Parents can consider the following advice and pass along some of these tips to students to help them succeed in summer college courses.

1. Make and follow a schedule: Summer courses may be much shorter than fall or spring classes and cover the same amount of content.

Students should keep a schedule – for studying and downtime – and stick with it, says Lesa Skukan, assistant director of University of Pittsburgh’s college in high school program. Students should do everything that is supposed to be done before the next class, such as readings and other assignments, because it’s very easy to fall behind, she says.

Parents can help by ensuring students have some structure at home, Skukan says. Students should be able to commute to class easily and on time. They should also have time to complete their assignments after class. “Help the student to keep this class as the priority,” she says.

Students should expect to spend at least two hours studying for every hour spent in class, she says. “That might not be something they are used to or had to do in their high school, but there is certainly more content and more independent work that is required of them.”
2. **Take advantage of on-campus resources:** College faculty have different expectations than high school teachers, Bruno says. They are not going to chase after students for assignments, which may count for higher percentages of their grade, she says. Students are in charge of their own success.

Skukan says teens can meet with academic advisers to talk about how things are going and ask for advice. Teens should also meet with professors during office hours, she says.

If they are intimidated of approaching them, Skukan suggests they could strike up conversations by asking how professors became interested in their fields. "They love to talk about how they got there," she says.

Tutoring sometimes has a negative connotation, she says, but can be a good resource for students. Students usually have access to peer tutors – other college students who help students through a class or explain a topic, among other things.

Parents should encourage teens with these efforts, but Skukan says parents should also step back and let students make the call or reach out to faculty and staff on their own. But Bruno also says that parents shouldn't call their teen's professor for updates on the student's grades.

[Learn how to enroll teens in community college classes this summer.]

3. **Don't overbook the summer:** Families shouldn't plan a vacation during the summer session, since students will fall behind quickly if they miss a class, given the accelerated pace, Skukan says. She says teens should also think carefully before trying to do something else over the summer that requires a big time commitment, such as camp or a part-time job.

"A college course takes a lot of time, and they want to be successful," she says. Most of the parents she works with are supportive of the required time commitment. Skukan also recommends high schoolers only take one summer college class.

"It’s important that the student is interested and looking forward to the course," she says. "This should be fun," she says. "It’s going to be work, but it should be something they look forward to."

*Have something of interest to share? Send your news to us at highschoolnews@usnews.com*
MCC Celebrity Forum: An Evening with Big Papi

"I'm happy to be playing here. I hope we can get something going and beat the Yankees." David Ortiz after signing with the Red Sox, Boston Globe, Jan. 23, 2003.

LOWELL—On June 8, Middlesex Community College hosted its 19th annual Celebrity Forum, "An Evening with David Ortiz," at Lowell Memorial Auditorium, to benefit student scholarships.

The auditorium, all dressed up to resemble Fenway Park, was slammed with 1,500 baseball fans waiting in the stands to see their hero. "Big Papi" in the dugout, a VIP cocktail reception of 325 fans anxiously waited to meet and have their photo taken with the legendary player, who retired after last year.

Parc nibbled on traditional ballpark food, like miniature cheeseburgers and hot dogs, Cracker Jack, popcorn and pretzels, served by adorable young girls who dressed the part as typical ballpark concession-stand workers.

The stage was decorated with a huge infographic, and each dinner table was covered with tablecloths of pictures of baseball players, with centerpieces of enormous popcorn boxes filled with white hydrangeas, compliments of Elaine Crandall-Burt, design consultant for MCC, and lifestyle planner/designer Mark Caputo.

The popular, 42-year-old, David, Cleveland Indians, or just Big Papi—a proud Dominican American who had an undisputed talent for hitting larger-than-life home runs for the Sox.

The fans went wild when Big Papi took the field—on stage. How can you possibly describe Big Papi's persona—charismatic, magnetic, laid-back, polite, witty, humble, soft-spoken, with an infectious smile that could melt any Fenway snow cone.

He calmly answered questions in an interview by Dan Roche, award-winning sports anchor and reporter for WBZ TV News and WBZ TV News.

Needless to say, Big Papi hit a home run that evening with his God-given talent he has shared not only for the love of baseball, but for the so many people and children he has championed through his philanthropic work. He has certainly paid it forward!!

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

DACEY ZOUZAS is TV host and producer of Dacey's Divas. Check out the highlight reel at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=de-KcEaYeM. Follow her on Twitter @daceyzouzas. Tour Daceyzouzas and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/daceyzouzas. Also, check out divas.us and www.MassachusettsWomen.org and follow @MassWomen on Twitter.

Daceyzouzas is a TV host and producer of Dacey's Divas. Check out the highlight reel at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=de-KcEaYeM. Follow her on Twitter @daceyzouzas. Tour Daceyzouzas and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/daceyzouzas. Also, check out divas.us and www.MassachusettsWomen.org and follow @MassWomen on Twitter.

David "Big Papi" Ortiz relaxes on the Fenway-ized LMA stage with images of on a screen behind him.

From left, MCC President James Mabry of Bedford, Pauli Martinelli of Dracut, John Thibault of Chelmsford, Ja-K O'Connor of Lowell, Judith Mabry of Bedford, and Tiffany and Mike Hoffman of Bolton.
No batting, The Z-List

Who doesn't love the Red Sox? Wearing a flourish, ruffled, floral print silk "Parker" dress! The style is so versatile, short like a mini in the front and long in the back! Baseball fans dressed exceptionally, ladies in cocktail dresses of vibrant spring colors — some even wore Red Sox shirts with Ortiz's name and No. 34 on the back. Big fans dressed sharp stylish and cool, all in black, wearing jeans and a frayed jean jacket over a T-shirt and, of course, plenty of bling, including a designer watch and bracelet, huge diamond earrings and a sparkling smile!
What the movers and shakers say about Martin

James Campbell, former city manager

James Campbell, former city manager, has served in more important positions in the city than Brian has over his career. In 1968, then Lowell city manager James Campbell appointed Brian Martin as Assistant City Manager.

Jim Cook, Lowell Plan executive director

"He's tireless," said Cook, who also heads the Lowell Development Financial Corp. "He's always been about what's best for the city. He's all about the city. He's always been about what's best for the city."

Malory met Martin about 2 1/2 years ago when Malory first arrived in Lowell, and they worked closely on many projects at the time. Malory told. Malory said Martin is "somebody who is completely dedicated to the students at Lowell High School and makes every decision with their best interest in mind."

James Malory, Middlesex C.C. president

He added, "I would just say that Brian Martin is a first-class educational leader who serves to do the best for a very diverse community of students."

‘There was a clear destiny for Lowell’

Q&A From Page A12

During your tenure at the high school, you’ve lost two brothers and dealt with an illness of your own. How have you handled that?

It’s been probably the biggest challenge that I’ve had. We had a great period. And the things you can explain, it’s just the way it is. The way it’s going to happen, and you just have to keep on going, and you’ve got to deal with that. But it’s just part of life, part of being a human being. And you’ve got to stay back on your legs a little bit.

Can you share a moment, or the story of a student, that will always stick with you?

It would be a story about poverty. I got friendly with this young man, an African American immigrant who was just this beautiful kid. He came here every day at 6:30 to lift weights. He wasn’t really athletic, but he wanted to be. He loved to triple-jump — that’s all he wanted to do the whole year. So I decided when he goes to triple-jump, I’m going to go out there. So I go out to the stadium and I go to the triple-jump area, and I say, “How do you do that? They say, “He’s a little too big for the boys, and he’s doing his jumps and then he has to run back over to give him a kiss to his brother, who has to do another event. I said, “You’ve got to be kidding me.” That night, I went to the Vesper Country Club for an event, and I walked in and two students from Lowell High School were walking out that just had dinner on their parents’ Vesper card. And I said, “Wow, I would have never thought that you’d have kids in that situation.” That’s really what the high school is about. You have kids from Belvidere that were in Vesper that night, great kids, they’re terrific, and if a student needed sneakers they would have gone and bought them for him. But at the end of the day, I think what this school does is that, through the experience here, they share all the advantages and disadvantages that they have.

With retirement, will you be stepping out of the public eye?

The only thing that I’ve committed to staying on in is Project Learn. Because I’m one of the founders and they do a great work and it’s connected to the schools, but that’s one meeting a month. Am I going to step away? I am for a while. I’ve been working my whole life, so I’m going to take a least a year to rest and enjoy my grandchildren. I’ll support young people who want to run.

Interview conducted by Todd Feathers.
WHAT’S UP
AT MCC

The fall semester at Middlesex Community College starts Tuesday, Sept. 5. Here are some programs being offered.

The Flexible Studies Department offers 15 world languages, including Arabic, Chinese, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Latvian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Hebrew, and new this semester: Hindi. For more information to register, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/flexiblestudies/.

The Dental Laboratory Technology Program prepares students to become important members of a dental health team. To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu, or call 800-818-3434.

The Adult Learning Center offers free noncredit courses for adult learners, ages 16 and older, who live and work in Massachusetts. Students are admitted to the program throughout the school year; September through May, on a space-available basis. The next group is Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 9 a.m. For more information, call 781-280-3662, email nrtong@middlesex.mass.edu, or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/adultlearning.

Enrollment is open for the Technical Writing Certificate program. The 120-hour, two-semester, postgraduate noncredit certificate program provides the skills necessary to write technical documents and effectively communicate technical information. Fall classes start Thursday, Sept. 7. To learn more, email mminis@middlesex.mass.edu or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/career-training/technical-writing.aspx.

Health Career degree and certificate programs information sessions are Wednesday, Aug. 2, from 3 to 4 p.m., in MCC’s Federal Building Assembly Room; 50 Neary Square, Lowell; and Thursday, Aug. 17, from 3 to 4 p.m., in Bedford Campus Center’s Cafeteria, 591 Springs Road. Call 800-818-3434.

MCC a voter-friendly school

Middlesex Community College is one of 83 campuses nationwide — and one of two campuses in Massachusetts — to be designated a Voter Friendly Campus by Campus Vote Project, a national nonpartisan organization, and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.

The designation recognizes institutions for planning and implementing practices that encourage students to register and vote in the 2016 general election and in coming years. MCC is one of five U.S. community colleges selected to participate in a national initiative supporting civic learning and demographic engagement by NASPA.

“Middlesex abides by — and exceeds — the requirements of the Higher Education Act of 1965 that mandates availability of voter-registration forms to all students,” said Sheri Denk, civic-engagement specialist. “We are especially proud to have developed meaningful civic-engagement programming that helps our students explore their political beliefs, engage in the democratic process, and establish participatory habits to last beyond their college experience.”

Throughout last fall’s election cycle, MCC hosted and participated in a number of civic-engagement events. Events included a special event for Constitution Day, titled “The Supreme Court: Appointments and Decisions;” a student visit to the Edward Kennedy Institute of the U.S. Senate; organizing and participating in a number of campuswide voter-registration events; participating in National Voter Registration Day; and hosting a special event on Election Day.

In addition to numerous civic-engagement opportunities, MCC has developed a comprehensive website where visitors can learn more about local and national elections, and get access to other important voting information from nonpartisan sources. To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/everyvotematters.

To learn more about MCC’s Voter Friendly Campus designation, contact Denk at denks@middlesex.mass.edu.
MCC NEWS

College For Kids to offer summer adventures in fitness, writing

Designed to provide kids, ages 8 to 12, with opportunities to explore careers, gain hands-on knowledge and skills, and boost self-confidence, College For Kids runs July 10 through Aug. 17 on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

Kids can explore writing, as well as fitness, activities in these summer programs:

*Experience Writing* (ages 8-12): Students will gain a group of grammar concepts, creative writing techniques and essay format. Offered 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 17 to July 20 in Bedford. (Cost: $321; Course number: YTH 634 30)

*Sports & Recreation* (ages 10-15): Participate in a wide variety of fitness opportunities, including basketball, soccer, volleyball, croquet, badminton, ultimate Frisbee, Frisbee golf, ping pong, kickball, whistle ball, Four Square, hiking, flag football, capture the flag and more. Introductory in nature, activities will focus on recreation and fun, rather than competition. All skill levels and abilities welcome. Offered 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 17 to July 20 in Bedford. (Cost: $321; Course number: YTH 681 30)

All College for Kids programs are taught by public-school teachers, or by professionals who are experts in their field and have experience working with children. For the complete MCC College for Kids schedule and registration information, visit 781-280-3663. https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegelorekids/

Middlesex to host dual enrollment orientation sessions in June

Middlesex Community College will host two orientation sessions for the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy, which allows high school and home-schooled students to earn college credit while satisfying their high school graduation requirements.

*Bedford Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation*: Session will be held 5-6:30 p.m. June 29, in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road. As part of MCC’s Dual Enrollment Academy, qualified students may enroll in college-level courses offered online, during the day, evening or weekend at MCC’s Bedford or Lowell campuses. Flexible options are available to focus on science and math, engineering and technology, health professions or business administration. Also, welcome are students who want to get a head start on completing the general education courses required by most colleges and universities. A Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy advisor will be assigned to work with each applicant, their parent/guardian, and high school guidance counselor to design a program that is based on the student’s academic level and educational goals. To maximize success, MCC offers academic counseling, tutoring, computer labs and library services and encourages students to participate on-campus events and student clubs.

Dual Enrollment students pay reduced tuition costs. State residency is available to cover tuition and fees for a limited number of admitted Massachusetts residents enrolled in college-level courses that are transferable to an associate or bachelor’s degree program.


MCC earns Department of Education grant

Middlesex Community College was awarded a $257,500 grant from the U.S. Department of Education — the first installment in an expected five-year $1.2 million grant — to continue funding its precollege TRIO Upward Bound student support program, which targets low-income and/or first-generation to college high school students.

MCC’s Upward Bound program is a program of college preparation tailored to meet the specialized needs of students in grades 9-12. This credited academic program is designed to assist 55 TRIO-eligible students enrolled at Lowell High School. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

For information: www.middlesex.mass.edu/admissionsnights.
MCC is among the best online colleges

Middlesex Community College has been ranked No. 3 on the 2016-17 list of Best Online Colleges in Massachusetts by Affordable College Online.

"Middlesex is honored to be named one of the best online colleges in the state," MCC President James Mabry said. "We have been a leader in online education for more than 15 years. At MCC, we are dedicated to helping students overcome obstacles and transform their lives through education by offering high-quality online courses and programs that fit into their busy lives.

MCC offers 10 Associate Degree programs and five certificate programs that can be completed entirely online. Hundreds of online course offerings — as well as hybrid courses, which combine online and face-to-face instruction — are also offered.

Students who take courses online at Middlesex complete the same high-quality coursework as those who take courses on campus. And online students earn the same course credits, which are transferrable to Bachelor's Degree programs.

For more information about online education at Middlesex, visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/online or call 1-800-518-3434.

Affordable College Online collected and analyzed data from every accredited postsecondary institution in the United States to determine which colleges offer the most notable balance of academic rigor, student support, and affordability for online learning.
Middlesex To Host Dual Enrollment Orientation Sessions In June

Middlesex Community College will host two orientation sessions for the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy, which allows qualified high school and home-schooled students to earn college credit while satisfying their high school graduation requirements.

A Lowell Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Session will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 15, in the Federal Building Assembly Room, 50 Kearney Square.

A Bedford Campus Dual Enrollment Orientation Session will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 29, in the Bedford Campus Center’s Café East, 591 Springs Road.

As part of MCC’s Dual Enrollment Academy, qualified students may enroll in college-level courses offered online, during the day, evening or weekend on MCC’s Bedford or Lowell campuses. Flexible options are available to focus on science and math, engineering and technology, health professions or business administration. Also welcome are students who just want to get a head start on completing the general-education courses required by most colleges and universities.

A Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy advisor will be assigned to work with each applicant, their parent/guardian, and high school guidance coun-

selor to design a program based on the student’s academic skill level and educational goals. To maximize success, MCC offers academic counseling, tutoring, computer labs and library services, and encourages students to participate in on-campus events and student clubs.

Dual Enrollment students pay reduced tuition costs. State funding is available to cover tuition and fees for a limited number of admitted Massachusetts residents enrolled in college-level courses that are transferable to an associate or bachelor’s degree program.

For more information about the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy, visit https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/dualenroll/ or contact MCC’s Academic, Career & Transfer Center at 1-800-818-3434.

Middlesex Community College is your pathway to success. As one of the largest, most comprehensive community colleges in the state, 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, as well as online. Middlesex Community College: Student success starts here!
Middlesex Community College news

College for Kids offers summer programs

Kids can develop their creativity through College for Kids, Middlesex Community College’s summer programs for young learners.

For ages 8 to 15, College for Kids runs July 10 through Aug. 17, on the Bedford and Lowell campuses.

Kids can explore their artistic side with these art- and design-focused summer programs:

“Artwork in the Making” — Children, ages 8-12, are invited to create mixed-media and assemblage artwork in this four-day session. Kids will also work on an ongoing, collaborative outdoor art piece and visit the nearby deCordova Sculpture Park & Museum. Offered 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 10-13, in Bedford. Cost: $312.

“Fashion Design” — Geared toward kids ages 10-15, this course explores fashion tools and techniques to help students develop their style. Lowell is a city with textile history and tradition. Students will lunch at a local restaurant one day (additional $12 fee for lunch.) Each student will receive an original gown donated by a local bridal shop to transform, and a fashion show will be held on the final day. Offered 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday, July 10-13, in Lowell. Cost: $332.

All College for Kids programs are taught by public-school teachers, or by professionals who are experts in their field and have experience working with children.

For the complete MCC College for Kids schedule and registration information: 781-250-3663; https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids/ or call 781-280-3663.

MCC to build biotech facility on Lowell campus

Middlesex Community College will move ahead with plans to build a biotechnology facility on the Lowell campus. The project will be supported by a recent $3 million capital grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center.

Middlesex President James C. Mabry said the new facility will enable the college to further enhance and support its pioneering biotechnology technician degree and certificate programs. MCC’s Biotechnology Program holds a Platinum endorsement — the highest rating — from the Massachusetts Life Science Education Consortium. The first community-college biotech program, it was established in 1990.

Dr. Marilucy Bladon founded and still coordinates the program. At first, the program enrolled 25 students; it now boasts almost 200.

Under Bladon’s guidance, most of her Biotech students complete a certificate, are placed in paid internships, complete an associate degree and transfer to earn a bachelor’s degrees.

Alum Robert Kenyon, Biogen’s vice president of North American Manufacturing Operations, followed this pathway and has had a 23-year biotech career. He returned to campus to address the class of 2017 as commencement speaker and was presented the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Kenyon earned a biotechnology technician certificate in 1995 and an associate degree in 1997. In 2000, he earned a bachelor’s degree in biotechnology from Boston University. During his commencement address, Kenyon praised Bladon for her devotion to the program and her students.

Kenyon enrolled at MCC as part of a federal program for relocated defense workers. At the conclusion of the six-month program, he was placed in an internship on the manufacturing floor at Biogen. Eleven months later, he was hired full time, working the overnight shift. There were 30 people working in manufacturing at that time.

Today, Kenyon supervises Biogen’s manufacturing facilities and general operations sites in Research Triangle Park, N.C., home to approximately 1,300 employees.

MCC’s new biotechnology facility, to be located on the fifth floor of the Talbot Science Building on the Lowell campus, will include a combined lecture room/laboratory, a Class 10,000 clean room, gowning area, and prep room. These and other upgrades will significantly expand the college’s capacity to prepare students to meet the workforce needs of the life-sciences industry.

For more information about MCC’s new biotechnology facility, contact Kathleen Sweeney, Dean of STEM, at sweeneyk@middlesex.mass.edu.

For further information about the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, visit www.masslifesciences.com.
GOT WORK?
CALL BURKE
Girls Inc. honors Judy Burke
The Z-List, Page A3

Girls Inc.’s Celebration of Today’s Women

LOWELL — “Thank heaven for little girls, they grow up in the most delightful way! No matter where, no matter who, for without them, what would little boys do?”

On June 1, great celebrations were in order when Girls Incorporated of Greater Lowell hosted its 24th Anniversary Gala, “Celebration of Today’s Woman,” honoring the successful, positive and vivacious Judy M. Burke at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center.

About 250 meticulously dressed guests took advantage of the delightful evening as they enjoyed a cocktail reception on the outdoor patio, followed by a scrumptious dinner buffet and speaking presentation.

Girls Inc.’s motto is “Strong, Smart and Bold,” so it was an easy pick to honor Judy, who is all that and so very much more. Witty but sweet, Judy is a Lowell native, a product of the Lowell Public Schools and a graduate of UMass Lowell, and she came from humble beginnings.

Judy’s mom worked in the cafeteria at Greater Lowell Technical High School for more than 45 years, and her dad worked at Raytheon. Judy is executive director of institutional advancement at Middlesex Community College. She serves on numerous boards and is a Girls Inc. alumna who advocates for educational advancement and an improved quality of life for all. She is a true role model for the girls and young women of Greater Lowell.

This single event raised $50,000. For more information visit: www.girlsinc.org.
Dacey Zouzas is TV host and producer of Dacey’s Divas. Check out the highlight reel at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ds-KeCEaycM. Follow her on Twitter @daceyzouzas, tout@daceyzouzas and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/dzouzas. Also, check out divas.us and www.MassachusettsWomen.org and follow @Mass_Women on Twitter.

From left, Todd Smith and Dennis Malvers both of Chelmsford, and Patrick Cook of Lowell

Lilly Ros of Lowell, recipient of the Mary Sampas Literacy Award
Left: Scholarship recipients, from left, Hillary Lee, Tiffany das Chagas and Faith Dube, all of Lowell. Center: Joe and Ashley Patuto of Saugus. Right: Honoree Judy Burke and her husband Marc of Pelham.

Above: From left, Mary Lou Keenan of Lowell, Rachel Chaddock of Dunstable and Irene Egan of Burlington

Top Left: From left, Margaret Janis, Betty Dick, Andrea Jackson and Clementine Alexis, all of Lowell

Bottom Left: From left, Kate Tyndall of Dracut, Don Bedard of Lowell and Debbie Grossman of Dracut

Marianna Wood of Lowell and Michael Glicksman of Arlington
**MCC NEWS**

**MCC Celebrity Forum 2017 to feature David Ortiz**

David America Ortiz Arias, known as "Big Papi," will speak at Middlesex Community College’s 19th annual Celebrity Forum: An Evening with David Ortiz to raise money to help MCC students complete their educations.

For Celebrity Forum 2017, the retired Boston Red Sox designated hitter will be interviewed by WBZ-TV’s Dan Roche at 8 p.m. June 16 in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. All proceeds from the event support MCC Foundation scholarships for Middlesex students.

This year, 18 students will be awarded $30,500 in Celebrity Forum scholarships. Scholarship winners hail from more than a dozen area cities and towns, and their average GPA is 3.9. Seven have earned a perfect 4.0. And next year, many plan to transfer to schools such as Brandeis University, Bentley University, UMass Lowell, Amherst College and California Polytechnic State University.

Since 2004, $304,500 in Celebrity Forum Scholarships was awarded to 122 MCC students. In addition to Celebrity Forum Scholarships, the MCC Foundation annually awards more than $100,000 in student scholarships.

Tickets to An Evening with David Ortiz range from $34 to $55. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Lowell Memorial Auditorium Box Office at 978-722-8881; online at http://www.lowellauditorium.com; or in person at the LMA Box Office, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell. For group sales of 15 or more, contact Jocelyn Prieto at 978-934-7575; jocelyn_prieto@comcastspectator.com. For information: 781-280-3514; http://www.middlesex.mass.edu/CFY7.

**Middlesex to host Precision Machining Certificate Info Night**

Middlesex Community College will host a Precision Machining Certificate Information Night from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. June 14, at Nashoba Valley Technical High School, 100 Littleton Road, Westford.

Free and open to the public, this information session will help participants explore career opportunities in the field of advanced manufacturing. Participants will meet MCC’s precision machining program coordinator, take a tour of the state-of-the-art Machining Lab, and meet and network with industry representatives. MCC admissions representatives will be available to provide information on how to enroll in the program. Refreshments will be served.

MCC’s new Engineering Technology Precision Machining Certificate Program prepares students for entry-level jobs in advanced manufacturing. Classes are offered 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and begin Sept. 5. Enrollment is now open and seats are limited. In this nine-month, 27-credit certificate program, students will gain skills in mathematics, communications, technical problem-solving and general machining. Students will also complete 300 hours of hands-on precision machining training at Nashoba Valley Technical High School’s Machining Lab.

To RSVP for MCC’s Precision Machining Certificate Information Night: 978-661-3434; www.middlesex.mass.edu/precision. This program is funded, in part, by a $20,000,000 grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration, Grant # TC-26450-14-60-A-25.
MCC foursome selected to All-Massachusetts Team

LOWELL — Four Middlesex Community College students Cora Casteel of Waltham, Keegan Eller of Bedford, Mamita Magar of Lowell and Veben Tewolde of Peabody — were honored during a recent ceremony at the Statehouse as outstanding two-year college students and members of Phi Theta Kappa’s 2017 All-Massachusetts Academic Team.

Every year, the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office hosts the event to showcase the best and brightest students in the 16-college system. Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, the Coca-Cola Foundation, community-college presidents and community-college state associations annually co-sponsor the All-State Academic Teams.

Cora Casteel, a homeschooled student, enrolled at Middlesex at age 14 through the Middlesex Dual Enrollment Academy. She discovered her love of mathematics at MCC and has served as a supplemental instruction leader and peer tutor in the Math Lab.

Keegan Eller, enrolled in the Liberal Arts & Sciences Program, has been active in the Commonwealth Honors Program, and is on the social-media student Street Team through the Office of Marketing Communications.

Mamita Magar, a native of Nepal, is enrolled in MCC’s Nursing Program and is on the Dean’s List.

Veben Tewolde, originally from Eritrea, is enrolled in the Criminal Justice Program. She has been active in the African Culture Club and Multicultural Achievement Peer Program, and has served as a peer mentor to first-year students.
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70+ degree and certificate programs and hundreds of noncredit courses. Earn a degree, start a bachelor's or upgrade your skills.

OPEN HOUSE
Bedford Campus
Sat., Oct. 21
9:30 a.m.

For more information call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu #myMCC

merrimack valley magazine
Wednesday, October 4, 2017
UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center, 50 Warren Street, Lowell, MA 01852

The Greater Lowell Community Foundation presents

Celebrate Giving

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Jim Peyser
Massachusetts Secretary of Education
Assistant Secretary of Education, Jim Peyser directs the Executive Office of Education which is responsible for early education, K-12, and higher education in Massachusetts. Secretary Peyser is an expert in the policies governing the Commonwealth’s education systems: Department of Higher Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Secretary Peyser has served in the Managing Director of New School Ventures. A former K-12 principal, he is known for a grassroots approach that seeks to transform public education in high-needs urban communities.

SPECIAL GUEST: Project LEARN
Transforming the Lowell Public Schools with the standards for excellence in urban education. Project LEARN supports Lowell students for success in college, career, and life.

Celebrate with Us!

5:30 p.m. Registration
Cash bar & hors d'oeuvres
Nonprofit Exhibitors
6:30 p.m. Program begins

Tickets: $100 per person
Please RSVP by September 27, 2017
Purchase tickets online at www.glcfoundation.org/event/CG

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MIDDLESEX Community College

Student Success Starts Here

LATE START SESSION

Missed the registration deadline for fall classes?
It’s not too late! We’ve got you covered with Late Start.

Courses in this accelerated, 11-week session are offered three days a week on campus in Bedford & Lowell, and online. Students can earn credits in a wide variety of subjects, including humanities, science, English, math & more.

CLASSES BEGIN October 2

Financial aid is available for those who qualify.

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

#myMCC  📖  🌐
Biotech Offers Big Opportunities for Bay State Students

For Odeal Jacob Cruz, “biotech” was the magic word. “I was always good in math and science,” says Jacob Cruz, and after graduating from Medford High School, she expected to advance to college and eventual medical school. Instead, Jacob Cruz realized she wanted to do research, specifically in biotechnology. “I was always the person who would ask ‘why,’” she explains.

“Biotech allows me to find out why.”

While working full time as a nanny, Jacob Cruz earned an associate’s degree in biological science from Roxbury Community College, followed by a bachelor’s degree in biomedical laboratory and clinical sciences from Boston University’s Metropolitan College. While she was still at BU, Cambridge-based Ipsen Bioscience offered Jacob Cruz a job in its oncology lab, which began shortly after her graduation.

That outcome is typical for biotech students at every level, says Mariluci Bladon, coordinator of the Biotechnology Technician Program at Middlesex Community College. “We always emphasize that students can go as far as they want to go,” she says. Some earn certificates, others earn associate’s degrees. All will find work, Bladon says:

“[We] have 100 percent placement for students who complete the program.”

In fact, companies in the Bay State’s booming life sciences industry are so eager for biotech talent that they’ll pay employees to continue their education. “Many of our students get an associate’s degree, then come here and do the last two years,” says Constance Phillips, director of BU MET’s Biomedical Laboratory and Clinical Science Program, which leads to a bachelor’s degree. “More often than not they have a job and the company pays for it.” (BU also maintains an undergraduate biotech certificate program.)

Both programs — and others like them — work closely with local biotech companies and industry associations to make sure they’re equipping students with the right skills. In addition, programs typically require students to complete internships in the industry. “It was an extremely useful way to take what is learned in the classroom and apply it to a professional position,” says Lacy McGoort, a graduate of both the MCC and BU MET College programs. McGoort says her most recent internship, at global health care giant Novartis, helped land her a full-time job as a lab technician at MassMed, an Ashland-based biotech company.

Many other program graduates now work for Biogen, EMD Millipore, Genzyme, Pfizer, Shire, and other major employers. “Past students will often call us seeking people to hire,” Bladon says.

The field tends to attract students who are comfortable with technology and like either working with their hands or providing documentation, Phillips says. They also tend to be service-oriented, she adds: “They’re working primarily on new medical devices or drugs, and they feel they’re helping people.”

Jacob Cruz agrees, but adds that, given the industry’s often-lengthy approval timelines, it may take awhile to make a difference. “You may not be gratified today or tomorrow,” she says. “You’re making a difference for generations to come.”

WHERE TO GET YOUR START IN BIOTECH

The following institutions, all endorsed by the Massachusetts Life Sciences Education Consortium, offer associate degree programs in biotechnology:

- Berkshire Community College, Bunker Hill Community College, Middlesex Community College, Mount Wachusett Community College, Northern Essex Community College, North Shore Community College, Quincy College, Quinsigamond Community College, Roxbury Community College, and Springfield Technical Community College.
MCC’s Paralegal Studies programs prepare graduates for employment assisting lawyers in gathering and analyzing factual data, researching legal questions, and preparing legal documents. With three program options, you can choose the program that fits your goals and your schedule:

- **Paralegal Studies Career Option**
- **Paralegal Studies Transfer Option** (qualifies for MassTransfer)
- **Paralegal Studies Certificate program**

All programs have been approved by the American Bar Association.

For more information, call 1-800-618-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu

**Best Paralegal (Degree) Program**

1. Boston University
2. Suffolk University
3. Middlesex Community College
$64 in advance / $70 day of concert — Melissa Etheridge stormed onto the American rock scene in 1988 building a following with her confessional lyrics and smoky vocals in songs like "Bring Me Some Water," "No Souvenirs" and "Ain't It Heavy," for which she won a Grammy in 1992. Etheridge hit her commercial and artistic stride with her fourth album, Yes I Am (1993) featuring the massive hits, "I'm the Only One" and "Come to My Window," a searing song of longing that brought Etheridge her second Grammy Award for Best Female Rock Performance. In 1995, Etheridge issued her highest charting album, Your Little Secret, which was distinguished by the hit single, "I Want to Come Over." Her astounding success that year led to Etheridge receiving the Songwriter of the Year honor at the ASCAP Pop Awards in 1996. In 2007, she celebrated a victory in the "Best Song" category at the Academy Awards for "I Need to Wake Up," written for the Al Gore documentary on global warming, An Inconvenient Truth. In October 2004, Etheridge was diagnosed with breast cancer, a health battle that, with her typical tenacity, she won. Despite losing her hair from chemotherapy, Etheridge appeared on the 2005 Grammy telecast to sing "Piece of My Heart" in tribute to Janis Joplin. By doing so she gave hope to many women afflicted with the disease. In October 2016, Melissa Etheridge released Memphis Rock & Soul, her first album since 2014's critically lauded This is M.E. Recorded at Royal Studios in Memphis, the album has received stellar reviews from the likes of Entertainment Weekly, Parade, Rolling Stone, American Songwriter and more. Guitar World raved "the album is a triumphant application of Etheridge's signature rasp and substantial guitar chops to this classic genre," while Edge Media Network declared Melissa "is a singer who can fire it up like Janis Joplin, touch the heart like Elvis Presley and steam up the windows like her musical hero, Otis Redding." The album celebrates the artists, legacy and vital role Stax Records played in the Civil Rights Movement. Find more info at: melisaetheridge.com. One set. No opening act.

Dual Enrollment Studies the Environment

Students in the MCC DE Environmental Studies course have the opportunity to choose an environmental problem and study it independently. The Capstone Project is a long-term project culminating in a final report, communication of results, and participation in a STEM poster session at the Lowell Federal Building on the MCC campus.

Students Left to Right: Rachel Main, Miranda Blodgett, Brenda Main, Andrew Dimantopoulos

LHS students explore Bundestag, the German parliament building

Denny Savoy & Melanie Caban-Ramoure in the LHS Life Skills program at the Lyman River Interpretive Center.

Friendships at LHS

Lowell High School

$500,000 awarded in scholarships to 2017 graduates through the Greater Lowell Community Foundation partnership

1650 college credits in Dual Enrollment classes

85 different colleges to which students were accepted

34 clubs & activities

31 varsity sports

$200,000 saved in college tuition through Dual Enrollment programs with MCC and UML

English Composition, Environmental Studies, Intro to Engineering, Intro to Sociology, Intro to Psychology, Film, Video, and Society, General Biology

UML - Chemistry, UML - Principles of Biology

Est. 1881
Career Training class offerings at MCC

Learn more about MCC’s many noncredit professional development classes and certificate programs, including:

- Nurse Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- SHRM Human Resource Certification and HR Essentials
- Digital Media Marketing Certificate
- Digital Photography Certificate
- MS Excel and Computer Applications
- Social Media Certificate
- Technical Writing Certificate
- Cyber Security

Email: career_training@middlesex.mass.edu  www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining
ONLINE LEARNING

You CAN fit education into your busy life!

Classes START September 5

10 Associate Degree Programs
5 Certificate Programs
Hundreds of courses

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/online

Walk-In Enrollment Days
Register Now! August 14 to 28 in Bedford & Lowell
www.middlesex.mass.edu/walkin
"At Middlesex, I've learned that I am a leader. I've had the opportunity to get involved in the community and on campus. MCC showed me that I can do anything."

Maria Aybar — Class of 2017

REMINDER!
Classes Start Sept. 5th

Register by 8/28!

* Students should register no later than 8:30 p.m. on August 28

Walk-In Enrollment Days
August 14-28

Monday through Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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

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Classes start September 5

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You can fit education

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September 5 Classes Begin

Walk-in Enrollment Days

August 14 to 28 in Bedford & Lowell

You CAN fit education

Choose Middlesex because it

72

KHMERPOST USA


KHMERPOST USA

Issue 231 from Aug. 2017 - Sept. 2017
Classes Begin
September 5

"Since starting at Middlesex, I've learned how easy it is to get back into school. I was a little afraid that college was going to be too much, but it's easier than I thought."

Gregory Pecel - Class of 2016

Get the advising and support you need to succeed.

Walk-In Enrollment Days
August 14 to 28 in Bedford & Lowell
www.middlesex.mass.edu/walkin

Register Now!

Online Learning

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Hundreds of courses, 5 Certificate and 10 Associate Degree Programs Available

Classes START
September 5

In learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/online or call 1-800-818-3434
"Since starting at Middlesex, I've learned how easy it is to get back into school. I was a little afraid that college was going to be too much, but it's easier than I thought."

Gregory Pock — Class of 2018

Get the advising and support you need to succeed.

For more information, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu

Walk-In Enrollment Days

Register Now! August 14 to 28 in Bedford & Lowell

www.middlesex.mass.edu/walkin
10 REASONS TO CHOOSE MIDDLESEX Community College

#1 Affordable

#2 Small Class Sizes

#3 Exceptional Faculty

#4 Supportive Environment

#5 Two Beautiful Campuses

#6 Military Friendly

#7 Outstanding Programs

#8 Transferable Credits

#9 Honors Program

#10 Flexible Schedules

#myMCC f t i p y

For more information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/10
Classes begin September 5

"I chose Middlesex because it was convenient, more affordable than other colleges, and I was able to pursue a degree at my own pace while working full time and raising the three kids I had that would have been hard to do if I went to a university.

- Kristin Stevens, Class of 2011

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August 14 to 28 at Bedford & Lowell

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online

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5 Certificate Programs
Hundreds of courses

In learning more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/online
Classes Begin
September 5

"Middlesex Community College is extraordinary in its breadth of course offerings, the quality of its faculty and staff, and the value for your educational dollar."

Cara Conti • Class of 2017

Get the degree you need at a price you can afford.

For more information, call 1-800-919-3434 or visit
www.middlesex.mass.edu

Walk-In Enrollment Days
Register Now!
August 14 to 28 in Bedford & Lowell
www.middlesex.mass.edu/walkin
my MCC

The Middlesex college community congratulates

Brian Martin

on his retirement and thanks him for over 40 years of service to the students and citizens of Lowell.

70+ degree and certificate programs and hundreds of noncredit courses. Earn a degree, start a bachelor’s or upgrade your skills.

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MIDDLESEX Community College

Student Success Starts Here

70+ degree and certificate programs and hundreds of noncredit courses. Earn a degree, start a bachelor's or upgrade your skills.

• Affordable cost
• Small class size
• Transferable credit

... and much more

For more information, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu

#myMCC
ការបង្កើតបុគ្គលិកអាហារនៃអនុវត្តន៍អាហារបញ្ហាអនាខក្លា: ការសម្រេចស្តង់ដារអាហារអនាខក្លារ ដែលមានប្រយោគប្រសិទ្ធភាពក្នុងការត្រូវបានប្រតិបត្តិដោយសារធាតុជាតិក្នុងគំនិតសិទ្ធភាពអាហារអនាខក្លារ
Congratulations

NISOD Excellence Award Recipients 2017

Jennifer D. Bauer
Assistant Professor of Communications

I try to foster an open, inclusive classroom environment that encourages students to take risks. As I tell all of my students, we don’t learn from getting it right, we learn from getting it wrong. The important thing is to get up and try again.

Stacie Hargis
Assistant Professor of Business

Preparing students to be competitive in the 21st century workforce means shaping a mindset prepared to take on challenges, spot opportunities, and problem solve. As a facilitator of learning, my goal is to provide real-world activities that inspire students to seek out knowledge on their own.

Linda Dart-Kathios
Professor of Mathematics

Teaching gives me the opportunity to learn something new each and every day, whether from my colleagues or my students. I truly enjoy teaching and cannot think of another profession that is both satisfying and, more importantly, has such a positive impact on the lives of others.

BEDFORD

1-800-818-3434 • www.middlesex.mass.edu

LOWELL
KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING!
Register for Summer Classes

Summer Schedule Options

DAY SUMMER SESSION  July 10 - August 9
Classes meet 4 days per week in Bedford & Lowell

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSION  June 19 - Aug. 15
Classes 1 evening per week or online

MCC’s Hospitality Management - Culinary Arts Program was voted No. 4 in the state by Best Choice Schools

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit: www.middlesex.mass.edu/hospitality
Dreaming of a career in the culinary field?
MCC's Culinary Arts Program is the place to start! Our programs offer:

- Intensive hands-on culinary instruction
- Managerial & Business courses
- Internship placements
- Small class sizes

MCC's Hospitality Management - Culinary Arts Program was voted No. 4 in the state by Best Choice Schools

Personalized instruction in a state-of-the-art culinary facility in Lowell

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/hospitality
Start a career in Advanced Manufacturing with MCC's Precision Machining Certificate Program

- This nine-month certificate program prepares students for in-demand, entry-level jobs in advanced manufacturing.
- Earn college credit and gain skills in mathematics, communications, technical problem-solving, and general machining.
- Perform 300 hours of hands-on precision machining training in the new state-of-the-art Machining Laboratory at Middlesex Valley Technical High School, located in Westford, MA.
- Classes are offered from 8 to 3 p.m. and run Monday through Thursday.

To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/precision or call 1-800-818-3434.

This program is funded, in part, by a $500,000 grant awarded to the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration, Grant # DOL-ES-14-00-04-0-07.
10 REASONS

TO CHOOSE MIDDLESEX Community College

1. Affordable
2. Small Class Sizes
3. Exceptional Faculty
4. Supportive Environment
5. Two Beautiful Campuses
6. Military Friendly
7. Outstanding Programs
8. Transferable Credits
9. Honors Program
10. Flexible Schedules

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

Precision Machining Certificate Program

- A demand-driven, modern program
- Preparation for entry-level positions in manufacturing
- Skills in precision machining for CNC and manual operations
- Preparation for the National Institute of Metalworking Schools’ Camtasia examination
- CTE student enrollment grant

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu

Register by 8/28!

Walk-In Enrollment Days - Aug 14-28
Monday through Thursday - 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday - 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
myMCC REGISTER NOW! CLASSES BEGIN September 5

"At Middlesex, I've learned that I am a leader. I've had the opportunity to get involved in the community and on campus. MCC showed me that I can do anything."
Maria King - October 2017

Get the advising and support you need to succeed.

for more information, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu

Hospitality Management - Culinary Arts Degree & Certificate Programs

DREAMING OF A CAREER IN THE CULINARY FIELD?
MCC's Culinary Arts Program is the place to start! Our programs offer:
• In-depth hands-on culinary instruction
• Managerial & Business courses
• Internship placements
• Small class sizes

MCC's Hospitality Management - Culinary Arts Program was voted No. 4 in the state by Best Choice Schools

Personalized instruction in a state-of-the-art culinary facility in Lowell

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/hospitality

ONLINE LEARNING

Precision Machining Certificate Program

You can fit education into your busy life!

Hundreds of courses
5 Certificate Programs
10 Associate Degree Programs

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu
SUMMER at MIDDLESEX Community College

Student Success Starts Here

KEEP YOUR MOMENTUM GOING!
Register for Summer Classes

SUMMER
COURSE OFFERINGS

DAY SUMMER SESSION
July 16 - August 9
Classes meet 5 days per week, Monday - Friday

ONLINE/EVENING SUMMER SESSION
June 13 - Aug 15
Classes meet 2 evenings per week, Monday - Wednesday

To learn more, call 1-800-218-3474 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/summer

For additional requirements and information, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/register

*All online courses have a Technology Lab fee of $10.

Increase your skills with Career Training courses at MCC!

MCC offers many noncredit professional development courses and certificate programs, including:

- Biotechnology
  - Pharmacy Technology
  - Project Management
  - Serviceable Food Service Training
  - SHRM HR Essentials
  - Social Media Certificate Program
  - Technical Writing
  - Web Design Certificate Program

www.middlesex.mass.edu/careertraining

College for Kids 2017

Summer Programs for Ages 8 to 15
July 10 - August 17

Fun, engaging Summer Programs include:

- Aviation
- Coding for Kids
- Stop Action Movies

To learn more, visit www.middlesex.mass.edu/collegeforkids

www.middlesex.mass.edu #myMCC
"Deciding to attend MCC was the first step toward reaching my personal and professional goals. I couldn't be more grateful to the faculty and staff for providing outstanding opportunities and supporting me throughout my educational journey."

Dalia Lohano Carcia - Class of 2016

Walk-In Enrollment Days • Aug 14-28
Monday through Thursday • 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday • 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit
www.middlesex.mass.edu
#myMCC

Increase your skills with Career Training courses at MCC!

MCC offers many noncredit professional development courses and certificate programs, including:
- Nurse Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- SHRM Human Resource Certification and HR Essentials
- Digital Media Marketing Certificate
- Digital Photography Certificate
- MS Excel and Computer Applications
- Social Media Certificate
- Technical Writing Certificate

To learn more, call 1-800-818-3434 or visit www.middlesex.mass.edu