

Tri-C TIMES

Welcome

Follow four students through
their first-year experience

DESIGNS ON THE FUTURE
Graphic Design students
partner with local nonprofits
for real-world experience.

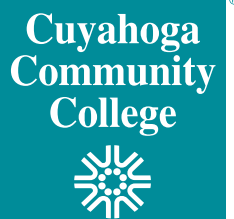
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
Fast Track Training Program
paves the way to quality jobs.

*Long Days, Warm Nights...
Let's Do It Again*

The 36th Annual
Tri-C JazzFest
June 25-27, 2015

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Message from the President

Just over a year ago, I began my tenure as president determined to transform the culture of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) by refocusing faculty, staff and student efforts on the three most important outcomes in any learning-centered environment: access, learning and completion. Since then, the College has made significant strides, reaching several important milestones and implementing countless new activities and programs that promote student success and completion.

So far this year, Tri-C has awarded degrees and certificates to more than 3,500 students — the largest number of graduates in the history of the College. We exceeded our projected graduation rate of 5 percent and are well on the way to attaining our goal of 6.8 percent in 2015. In addition, Tri-C's High Tech Academy graduated 92 students this year, six of whom were awarded associate degrees upon graduation from high school. This level of academic achievement may not have been possible without the \$1.5 million in scholarships awarded to Tri-C students within the past year.

Efforts to reprioritize the College's 2014 budget led to savings of \$10 million, with \$5 million redirected toward student-centered programs designed to eliminate common barriers to academic success. As a result, two exciting new initiatives were implemented this fall: the tuition-guarantee program and the First Year Experience (FYE) program. The tuition-guarantee program is an incentive for first-time, full-time students to enroll for three consecutive years in order to "lock in" their tuition rate, while the mandatory FYE program connects new students to resources essential to their success through New Student Orientation and Convocation as well as the First Year Success Seminar, during which each student develops his or her own academic plan.

On the workforce development front, 18 new certificates have been created in the past year, and the Workforce and Economic Development Division produced 334 graduates. Our Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program is recognized as the most productive in the country, with an average of 36 graduates per cohort (five cohorts with 180 graduates). We expect to see even more progress in the coming year as a result of the newly established Right Skills Now, Steelworkers of the Future and IT Future Works programs.

Engaged leadership throughout the College, particularly the College-wide Student Success Council and the campus-based Success and Completion teams, will ensure that we are able to meet and exceed our goals in the new academic year.

I thank you for your continuing support and invite you to join Tri-C as we forge a new path toward a better and brighter future for Northeast Ohio.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alex Johnson, Ph.D.
President



Robert Scuba (left) and Zac Toth navigate their first-year experience at Tri-C.

Tri-C Times is published by the Cuyahoga Community College Integrated Communications department for its friends and constituents. Feedback and story ideas are welcome. Send correspondence to Tri-C Times, 2500 E. 22nd St., Cleveland, Ohio 44115; or call 216-987-4322; or email mary.gygli@tri-c.edu.

FALL 2014

Advanced Technology
Training Center
3409 Woodland Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Brunswick University Center
3605 Center Road
Brunswick, Ohio 44212

Corporate College® East
4400 Richmond Road
Warrensville Hts., Ohio 44128

Corporate College® West
25425 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, Ohio 44145

District Administrative Services
700 Carnegie Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Eastern Campus
4250 Richmond Road
Highland Hills, Ohio 44122

Hospitality Management Center of Excellence
at Public Square
180 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Jerry Sue Thornton Center
2500 E. 22nd St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Metropolitan Campus
2900 Community College Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Tommy LiPuma Center
for Creative Arts
2809 Woodland Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Truck Driving Academy
Heritage Business Park
23555 Euclid Ave., Suite 105
Euclid, Ohio 44117

Unified Technologies Center
2415 Woodland Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Western Campus
11000 Pleasant Valley Road
Parma, Ohio 44130

Westshore Campus
31001 Clemens Road
Westlake, Ohio 44145

COVER STORY: WELCOME

Better preparation, crucial services and tools for success are all part of a plan for helping first-year, full-time students make strong connections to ensure they not only stay in school but also thrive here.

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GRAPHIC DESIGN



Graphic design is a form of visual storytelling where a few well-crafted images can speak in a language more powerful than words.

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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Partnership between Tri-C, Swagelok and MAGNET paves the way for high quality jobs.

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Photo on cover: Enrollment Center at Cuyahoga Community College, Eastern Campus.

Judi McMullen, Vice President, Human Resources, wins HR Executive of the Year Award



Congratulations to Judi McMullen, who was the recipient of a *Crain's Cleveland Business* 2014 Archer Award, which recognizes talented human resources professionals who consistently "hit the mark" by building their company with a combination of the best people, talent, development and culture in the Northeast Ohio region.

McMullen was honored in the HR Executive of the Year category. She was lauded for her 25 years of experience and her ability to engage faculty and staff in the College.

Tri-C K9 Officer Argus Retires

Cuyahoga Community College's top dog, Argus, retired in September, turning in his badge after more than seven years with Campus Police and Security.

He was recognized at a retirement ceremony for his stellar work as a law enforcement officer and goodwill ambassador.

Donated to the police department as a puppy in 2007, Argus spent most shifts at the Metropolitan Campus riding with his partner, Patrolwoman Anne Berry, and appearing at other campuses when duty called. The 97-pound German shepherd was trained to sniff out explosives, track suspects and chase down anyone foolish enough to flee the law. He also excelled in the delivery of wet kisses throughout the Tri-C community.

Argus will enjoy his retirement years at the home he shares with Berry.



ISSUE 6 to sustain Tri-C's educational and economic impact

As an affordable, high quality college, Tri-C is crucial to the success of our local economy and families. But declining state and local funding is placing our ability to continue to meet our mission in peril. That is why Tri-C must renew a 10-year, 1.2 mill levy this November and add 0.9 mills, an increase of \$2.63 per month for the owner of a \$100,000 home. This levy is a necessity to:

- Keep college education affordable and accessible for Cuyahoga County's students and families
- Protect the local economy and workforce competitiveness with up-to-date education and training
- Enable students to earn two years of college credit affordably, seek bachelor's degrees, and graduate with far less debt
- Maintain access to high quality technical degrees, university transfer courses and job training with up-to-date technology

Tri-C has cut millions to save money and focus our resources on student success. Without the levy, Tri-C would have to cut \$40 million more annually, which would require serious reductions in programs and access to higher education. That would be devastating to our community and the 60,000 students who attend Tri-C annually.

The proposed levy will sustain Tri-C's educational and economic impact. We believe the additional investment of \$2.63 per month (on a \$100,000 home) is essential for the hard-working students, families, businesses and economy Tri-C has served effectively for more than 50 years.

Please vote on Nov. 4.



Students Publish 2014 Literary Annual

A poet writes four succinct lines about childhood. A photographer captures a flight of pigeons speckled against a grid of skyscraper windows. A writer spins a tale of a man whose granted wish leads to a shocking result.

This and more can be found in the 2014 issue of *Breakwall*, the literary annual that's produced by Tri-C students. The new issue, compiled in spring and recently released, features the work of 25 poets, writers and photographers. The journal, printed by students at the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, is distributed free in common areas around all four College campuses.

Submissions for the 2015 issue will be accepted through Dec. 12, 2014. All current and former Tri-C students are invited to submit work. Details can be found on the submission form in the back of the current issue of *Breakwall*.

Photo credit: The 2014 volume of *Breakwall* features a cover image by photographer Brittany Gifford.



The Pursuit of *Excellence*

Convocation offers the chance to celebrate achievements, look to the future.

On Aug. 18, Cuyahoga Community College's faculty, staff and administrators gathered at the Western Campus for Tri-C's annual Convocation, which President Alex Johnson, Ph.D., described as "an exhilarating start to the next phase in [our] continued pursuit of excellence in student outcomes."

Held each fall, Convocation functions as a forum in which to celebrate both institutional and individual achievements of the past academic year while outlining fresh goals and expectations for the year to come.

This year, Dr. Johnson reiterated the five key priorities established in his first year as Tri-C president while sharing examples of progress in the areas of community engagement, marketing and communications, financial stewardship and workforce education, each of which contributes to the College's number one priority: student success and completion.

He also shared his enthusiasm for the newly implemented First Year Experience program as well as plans to further improve student outcomes through faculty interventions, alternative placement options and the continued refinement of existing





programs as part of the College's focus on evidence and inquiry.

As part of his opening remarks, Dr. Johnson also recognized the new executive vice president for Workforce and Economic Development, William Gary.

Sandy Shugart, Ph.D., president of Valencia College in Orlando, Fla., delivered the keynote address, "Designed for Learning: How the DNA of Higher Education Undermines Learning and How to Overcome It." Valencia College is one of the most celebrated community colleges in America, known for high rates of graduation, transfer and job placement.

The highlight of each year's Convocation is the presentation of the President's Award of Achievement, the Professional Excellence Award, the Ralph M. Besse Award for Teaching Excellence and the Innovation of the Year Award. This year's winners included the nursing department faculty and staff and the Tri-C Foundation board.

The afternoon program included Faculty Counterparts and Governance Committee meetings as well as a joint American Association of University Professors and Faculty Senate meeting and a reception for new employees and award winners.

Award Winners:

President's Award of Achievement

Buildings and Grounds staff

Nursing department faculty and staff

Cuyahoga Community College
Foundation board

Craig Foltin, Ph.D, executive director/CFO,
Administration and Finance

Belinda Miles, Ph.D., executive director/
provost, Access, Learning and Success

Mary Hovanec, associate professor,
history, Western Campus

Professional Excellence Award

Mark Frys, campus director, Enrollment
and Student Affairs, Eastern Campus

Angela Odom, office assistant, Student
Affairs, Metropolitan Campus

Audrey Kukwa, lab technician, Veterinary
Technology program, Western Campus

Gary Arnosk, integration technician, the
Learning Commons, Westshore Campus

Ian Wilson, manager, Truck Driving
Academy, Workforce and Economic
Development Division

Angela Johnson, executive director,
Enrollment Operations, District Office

Ralph M. Besse Award for Teaching Excellence

Full-time faculty:

Carlynn Bouie, assistant professor,
mathematics, Western Campus

Clara Hall, associate professor, American
Sign Language, Western Campus

George Kanieski, assistant professor,
English, Western Campus

Adjunct faculty:

Theodore DeCarlo, interior design, Eastern
Campus

Erika Jefferson, political science, Eastern
and Western campuses

Angela Mastronardi-Kuk, biology,
Westshore Campus

Jaclyn Saggio, early childhood education,
Western Campus

2014 Innovation of the Year Award for "Guiding New Students to Completion through Peer Mentoring"

Judy Lariccia Grant, student success
specialist, Western Campus

Welcome!

Tri-C Times follows four students through their first-year experience

Never in the history of higher education has there been a stress-free freshman year.

But maybe it doesn't have to be terribly stressful. Maybe better preparation and a little human contact can make the difference between failure and success.

That's the thinking behind the First Year Experience (FYE) program at Cuyahoga Community College, a new plan to help first-year, full-time students make strong connections to school. In a nutshell, FYE commits new students to attending in-person orientation, new student convocation and a 1-credit-hour success seminar that acquaints them with crucial services and tools for success.

In addition, each new student connects with a peer counselor for help and advice that only other students can provide.

The strategy arose after a committee of students, faculty and administrators gathered to forge a plan for ensuring that more freshmen stay in school, said Denise McCorry, dean of student affairs.

"We tried to listen deeply to the students at the table," she said. "That was a recurring theme, that students didn't feel as connected to the College. They didn't know where to go, who to talk to."

Forging connections is difficult for any first-year student, but the commuter-college experience presents extra challenges. Unlike students at residential colleges, the commuter student typically leaves campus when classes are over and goes home to other responsibilities and relationships. There are fewer built-in pathways for making friends, finding one's way around campus and tapping into the collective knowledge of the student body.

That's why the peer-mentor part of FYE is crucial, McCorry said. Peer mentors make a point of contacting the newbies to let them know about extra curricular events. They're also ready to reach out if a student suddenly seems to be dropping off the map.

The overall goal, McCorry says, is to make knowledge of key resources and events inescapable. For example, she says, after a few weeks of FYE immersion, "There should be no reason you wouldn't know what your athletic teams on campus are."

With that in mind, *Tri-C Times* connected with four new students with the hope of following them through their first year. Here they share their experiences as high school scholars, what they hope to do for a living and the goals they've set for their first semester.





A young woman with dark hair, wearing a brown headscarf and a black top, is sitting on a wooden bench outdoors. She is smiling and looking towards the camera while holding a blue pen and writing in a large, open notebook. She is wearing a patterned skirt. The background shows a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a building.

Jameelah Rahman, 19, CLEVELAND

Jameelah Rahman is surrounded by success. Her mother has two master's degrees. Her stepfather is a doctor. Her sisters graduated from Howard University and Ohio University and went on to their own careers. Three brothers joined the military.

As Rahman acknowledged with a sweep of her hands, "It's all high expectations, all around me." And she has high expectations for herself, too — as well as a plan.

At Cleveland School of the Arts, where she studied dance, Rahman was given great opportunities to learn and perform, but she says her academic preparation might have been stronger. So she's diving into studies at Tri-C with her sights on early childhood education and a goal of earning her associate degree here, then transferring to Howard.

She still takes dance classes, through Karamu House, and hopes to have a professional dance career. She loves ballet, contemporary dance and jazz. Everyone needs a backup plan, however, so she wants to train for a career that doesn't depend so much on good luck and strong bones.

"My plan is to get straight A's," she said. "I'm going to have to work at it."



Robert Scuba, 18, CLEVELAND

Most of Robert Scuba's friends went away to four-year colleges this fall. Scuba didn't. And he has two confessions.

First: "I don't hate my parents."

Second: "I didn't really want to go away from home for the first year."

Scuba wasn't driven to have the residential college experience right away. He knows he'll have it eventually, and in the meantime the St. Edward High School graduate is getting — along with 13 other students — a Tri-C Honors Program Fellowship. The award covers tuition, fees and books as Scuba works toward his associate degree. That sets him up nicely to transfer to a four-year university to further his studies in either biochemistry or mathematics — he hasn't yet decided which.

Scuba is confident in himself academically, though he suspects he'll find more challenges when taking required courses that lie outside his areas of interest.

But the goal he has set for himself during the first semester is social, not academic. "I'm going to Tri-C not knowing anyone, so I have to rebuild a friend base," he said.

Asked whether he has a plan for meeting people, Scuba replied, "They have clubs here, right?" (Tri-C's Western Campus, Scuba's home base, has more than 20 clubs as well as sports teams to join.)

Beyond that, he said, "There are people you meet in classes that you want to hang out with."

Scuba's long-range goal is to land a career that engages him on a day-to-day basis. "The perfect job is the one you want to go to when you wake up every day."



Zac Toth, 19, PARMA

Zachary Toth knows how to do school. He earned a 4.0 cumulative GPA at Parma High School, was class president and president of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society and managed a grueling non-stop sports schedule, playing varsity football for four years (quarterback) and varsity basketball for three.

So when Toth says with certainty, "I want to be a high school history teacher and a football coach," you might sense he has a plan. And you would be right.

Toth, one of 14 recipients of a Tri-C Honors Program Fellowship, will have the first two years of college paid for before he transfers to John Carroll University. He wasn't opposed to going away to a four-year school immediately, but as the last of five children in his family, he wanted to be smart about the money.

Other family members had paved the way for a Tri-C experience, he said. His parents met as Tri-C students; his sister earned her associate degree here, too.

He's looking forward to indulging his passion for American history, which was both naturally ignited in him and stoked by an especially good teacher in high school. He's confident he can handle the classes, and he's a time-management expert.

Still, he knows college represents a big jump in independence. "You're on your own," he says. "You don't get to bring mommy or daddy with you."

David Lee, 19, LAKEWOOD

During the middle of his career at Lakewood High School, David Lee recognized it was time to get more serious about his studies. Too many friends and relatives were traveling down the wrong path, and he didn't want to join them. So he started showing up for class. He stopped smoking. And this year, he's a freshman with plans to earn his associate degree through Tri-C's automotive technology program.

Ask Lee why he settled on auto tech, and he explains in practical terms.

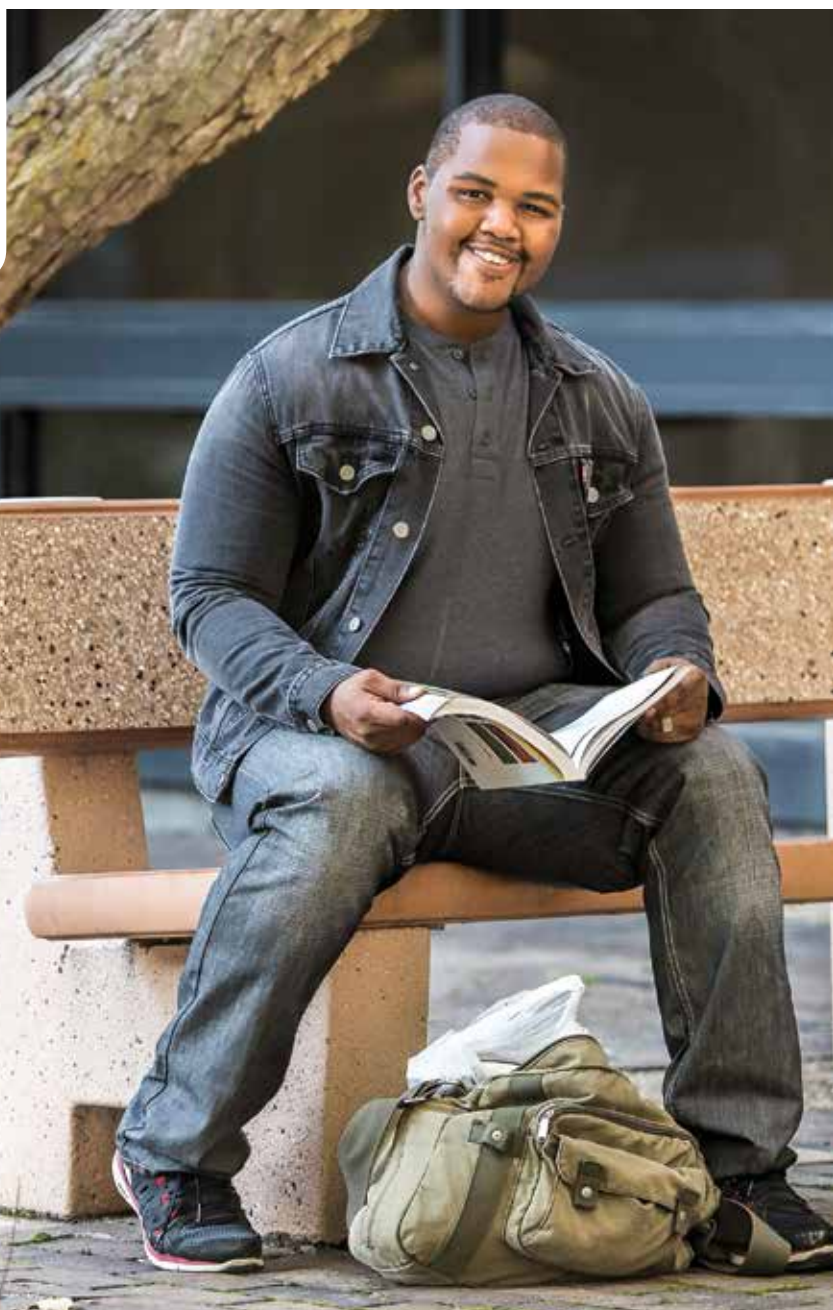
"My whole life, I've taken the bus," he said. "I told myself, I'm going to get an education and get a nice car so I don't have to take the bus anymore. I have a cousin who's a mechanic. This is just a lucrative field."

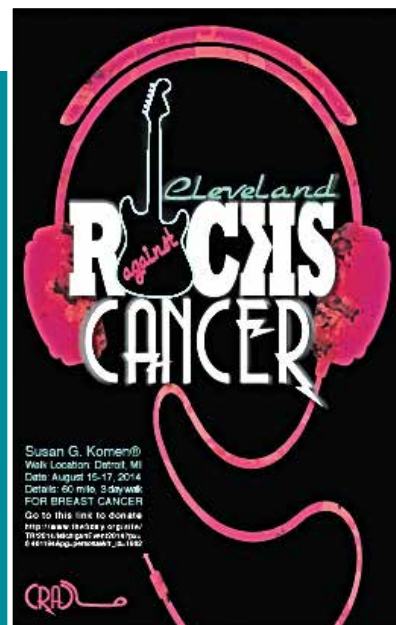
Lee took a couple of summer classes, but now he's a full-time student. His goals for the semester: Find a job, earn straight A's, "get my body in better shape" — he's a regular in the weight room at the recreation center — and find a steady girlfriend.

If that sounds like a lot to tackle, Lee says it's all doable. "You just work at it day by day," he says.

Lee says his biggest concern about college was that he'd heard the teachers don't care whether or not students do well. His experience so far has been just the opposite, he says. When they realize students are serious about learning, they'll go above and beyond.

"The teachers will help you succeed," he said. "They want you to succeed."





DESIGNS *on the* FUTURE

Graphic design students partner with local nonprofits for real-world experience

Graphic design is a form of visual storytelling, where a few well-crafted images can speak in a language more powerful than words. Cuyahoga Community College's graphic design program helps students harness that power for themselves, with the story they're telling going straight into their portfolios.

While Tri-C's program gives students the general knowledge and studio skills needed for a career

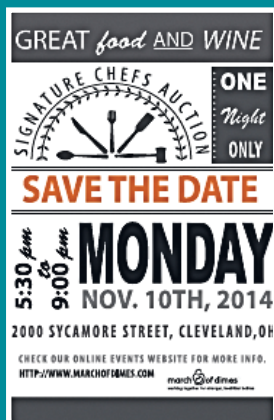
in a challenging and competitive space, that's just a small part of the tale graduates are going to convey, said Suzanne Meola, assistant professor with the College's visual communication and design program. Over the course of earning an associate degree in applied business with an emphasis on design, students work on to develop real-life marketing campaigns for local nonprofits.

"These projects can be the students' dialogue when they're showing off to

employers," Meola said. "They now have a story to share."

With a focus on the collaborative atmosphere students will encounter post-graduation, Tri-C supports "live projects" involving charitable organizations like the March of Dimes and Susan G. Komen Northeast Ohio. Students also have done design work for Cleveland City Dance and a high-school robotics competition hosted by Tri-C. Presenters pitch their designs to officials from both the College and the respective organization, with the best of the bunch produced and used in the nonprofit's event.

For March of Dimes, students designed logos, signage color schemes and more for the group's signature



chefs auction, which features Cleveland's top culinary talent raising money by cooking their favorite dishes. One student came out as the winner after integrating a colorful table setting into a program booklet.

"That became a gorgeous portfolio piece for the student," Meola said.

Achieving some real-world work is just one advantage of the nonprofit project, noted the professor. It also offers participants a chance to show the fruits of their labor in a professional setting away from the safety of other students.

"Students don't get many presentation opportunities," Meola said. "They may get nervous, but they're also getting constructive criticism."

The project's competitive nature gives the proceedings an edge, albeit an affable one, while teaching the critical graphic design lesson of always moving a client's agenda forward, she said.

"Our students get inspired by each

other's projects," Meola said. "It helps raise the bar."

Meola saw the results of friendly competition first-hand when students created graphics for Cleveland Rocks Against Cancer, an event sponsored by Susan G. Komen Northeast Ohio. Music-related designs were the norm for the 60-mile, three-day walk. The winning student's presentation included an homage to a grandmother diagnosed with breast cancer.

"She was talking about [her grandmother's] personal story," Meola said. "It was very poignant."

An interesting story is especially compelling when told from various viewpoints. Tri-C's graphic design students range in age from 18 to 80, with a few high-school kids earning college credit mixed in for spice. Whether new to college or embellishing a skill set, students might matriculate to jobs in typography, illustration and brand design. The

major carries a further emphasis on "new media" like animation, 3D rendering and game creation.

The degree's visual communication and design concentration has helped students place with global marketing agency Rosetta and furniture seller Arhaus. One grad's art-infused dreams took her all the way to Los Angeles, where she's now working for a marketing/graphic design firm.

Meola, who worked for General Electric, various manufacturing firms and as a freelancer before arriving at Tri-C, knows how convoluted the narrative of a student's career can get before it establishes the right pace. She's glad to send her charges into the job universe with a robust, interdisciplinary portfolio as compelling to potential employers as any good book.

"What our students need most after graduating is experience," Meola said. "It's great to hear all their stories."



Fast-Track Training Program **FOR MANUFACTURING JOBS**

Partnership between Tri-C, Swagelok and MAGNET paves the way for high-quality, available jobs

Cuyahoga Community College, Swagelok Co. and the Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network (MAGNET) announced in May an alliance on a fast-track training program to prepare students for high-quality — and available — manufacturing jobs.

The Right Skills Now initiative at Tri-C provides eight- or 14-week training sessions with the opportunity to earn an eight-week paid internship at Swagelok, a global developer and provider of reliable fluid system solutions headquartered in Solon. Students who successfully complete

the program and internship will be offered a full-time position at Swagelok.

According to William Gary, executive vice president of the Workforce and Economic Development Division of Cuyahoga Community College, “the Right Skills Now program exemplifies exactly what we are working hard to provide at Tri-C. It offers a hands-on learning environment and teaching skills that are in demand in today’s manufacturing environment, then transitions newly trained workers immediately into the workforce.”

Swagelok needs nearly 70 machine operators to fill openings at its

plants in Solon, Highland Heights and Strongsville. The company also anticipates an additional 50-60 hires a year to support growth and to replace retirees.

“The training and development of a high-skilled manufacturing workforce is a priority at Swagelok,” said Sally Turner, the company’s vice president of human resources. “We know that this area offers a pool of motivated, hard-working individuals, and we’re excited to collaborate with Tri-C to take an innovative approach to training in our region.”

The Right Skills Now program at Tri-C is an acceleration of the



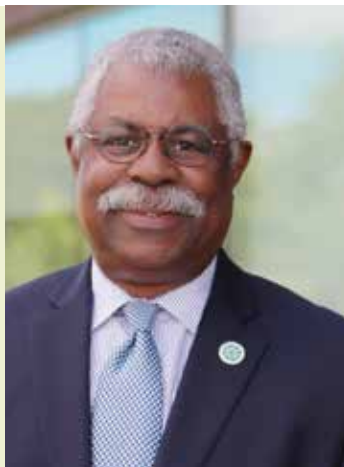
skills-certification system endorsed by the National Association of Manufacturers. Those who successfully complete the program earn two nationally recognized credentials: the National Career Readiness Certificate and certification from the National Institute for Metalworking Skills.

The program focuses on CNC turning and milling skills; precision measurement; tools and gauges; bench work; layout; drawing; quality assurance and material composition.

Finding workers with those valuable skills has become increasingly difficult in Northeast Ohio and the nation. An older workforce and retirements have helped to create a “talent crisis” in the manufacturing industry.

“The Right Skills Now program is an excellent model of the kind of partnerships that are needed to address the workforce challenges that many manufacturers are confronting,” said Dan Berry, president and CEO of MAGNET. “The program will help individuals quickly transition into career positions with Swagelok. MAGNET is pleased to be a partner, and applauds Swagelok and Tri-C for taking the steps necessary to implement this innovative training model here in Northeast Ohio.”

For more information, visit www.tri-c.edu/Swagelok or call 216-987-3040.



Manufacturing Opportunities

Workforce and Economic Development Division welcomes new executive vice president

William Gary understands the need for workforce education. For more than three decades, he has honed a niche career in private and public sector management. He has worked in resources management,

business development, government relations and legislative affairs. He has worked in steel manufacturing, health care, information systems, telecommunications, aviation and manufacturing. He has seen first-hand the critical need to match skilled workers to evolving job opportunities in order to foster a thriving economy.

“I look forward to contributing to Tri-C’s mission of expanding and strengthening the economy of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio, preparing and qualifying individuals with the skills to meet the job requirements of employers,” Gary said, “There is nothing more satisfying than being part of an institution that is recognized and respected for its commitment to student success, supporting businesses engagement, community and economic growth.”

In July, Gary joined Cuyahoga Community College as executive vice president, Workforce and Economic Development Division (WEDD).

Gary’s responsibilities include managing and coordinating all WEDD programs and activities and assisting President Alex Johnson with community and business outreach initiatives.

Prior to joining Tri-C, Gary served for 14 years as vice president of workforce development for Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), the nation’s second-largest community college and Virginia’s largest institution of higher learning.

Before joining NOVA, Gary served eight years as vice president/ chief operating officer for NavCom Systems, Inc., an aviation, telecommunications and manufacturing company. He worked for Computer Sciences Corporation for 15 years as director of human resources and director of government relations/legislative affairs, and he held senior management positions with Johnson & Johnson as director of personnel and Lukens Steel Company as a technical recruiter.

He is a past president of the National Council on Workforce Education (NCWE), a national association of community colleges and workforce and education professionals, and an affiliated council of the American Association of Community Colleges. He was NCWE’s first African-American president.

Gary earned his bachelor’s degree from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga., and his master’s degree in industrial relations from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J.

The *Smell* of Success

Hospitality management students offer coffee and granola for retail sale



Hospitality management students smell and taste a coffee blend.

Most college students are familiar with a good brew. Faculty and students in Cuyahoga Community College's hospitality management program sure are, but not necessarily of the cold-one kind.

Students at the newly christened Hospitality Management Center of Excellence at Public Square recently unveiled the Presidents Blend, a custom coffee blend that is offered for retail sale.

These are grounds for celebration.

If you like granola with your morning coffee, they have you covered. Tri-C has also begun offering a custom granola that's low-calorie, relatively low in fat and, according to chef Karen Monath, assistant professor in the hospitality management program, "the best granola I have tasted."

"We got the jars with a big enough mouth to fit your whole hand in . . . It's addictive," said Monath, who headed up the granola and coffee projects.

The granola, which is sold by the pound in campus bookstores, Bistro 87 at Metro Campus and Café 4250 at Eastern Campus, includes cranberries, raisins and pumpkin seeds.

The coffee is being produced with Huron-based Storm Mountain Coffee. Blends were evaluated on taste and cost.

"I learned a lot in the process of doing it," Monath said. "It pops when you roast it. It sounds almost like popcorn."

When students settled on their favorite blend, it had to be tweaked because it was identical to Storm Mountain Coffee's top-selling coffee.

Monath is "very, very happy with it. If you put sugar and milk in it, it's like dessert — smooth, not bitter."

The two initiatives help satisfy both taste buds and the hospitality program's Center of Excellence standing. The Ohio Board of Regents confers the status on college programs, branding them as areas of study and



Tri-C President Alex Johnson and Karen Monath, assistant professor, enjoy the first bag of Presidents Blend coffee.



Student Dominic Surace roasts coffee beans

research at which a college excels. Developing entrepreneurship and collaborations with businesses helps solidify Center of Excellence status.

“The main thrust — the thinking behind it — is to teach [students] something about entrepreneurship,” Monath said. She said students are developing plans to offer gift baskets combining coffee and granola, possibly around the holidays.

On Aug. 22, the students and Monath presented Tri-C President Alex Johnson with a bag of coffee. He promptly ordered more.

In fact, she said the 120 pounds of coffee they initially roasted were sold by noon that day.

Money raised from coffee and granola sales goes to the Hospitality Management Development Fund and the Hospitality Management Scholarship Fund.

Klaus Tenbergen Sees Potential Everywhere

HMC welcomes new associate dean



Once, when the gas went out at a restaurant where he was working in South Africa, chef Klaus Tenbergen used some good old fashioned ingenuity to poach salmon. He wrapped it up and put it in the dishwasher.

“It was great,” Tenbergen, 53, said.

Tenbergen is the type of person for whom the word ‘kinetic’ was created. He started as associate dean of the Cuyahoga Community College Hospitality Management Center of Excellence at Public Square in June, and he has been on a whirlwind tour since.

“I am an opportunist,” Tenbergen said in his distinctive German accent.

And he sees opportunity everywhere at Tri-C. First and foremost, he intends to cement the hospitality program’s Center of Excellence status, conferred by the Ohio Board of Regents. The first step is to define exactly what it means for a community college to be a Center of Excellence. Next up is exploiting what that means in every possible way. This will involve, for example, forging partnerships with local businesses and farmers.

Tenbergen said he loves administrative work, but more importantly, he loves doing things; the man gathers no moss. In his short time at the College, he has helped spearhead an initiative to sell Tri-C’s own coffee and granola blends (see story at left). In addition, he introduced a program called Taste, which stands for “take a student to eat.” It’s a mentoring program in which students spend the day shadowing a local chef.

Tenbergen, who was born in Oberhausen, Germany, arrived at Tri-C almost by accident. He replied to a job posting just to test his marketability. He quickly fell in love with the hospitality management program, however, and soon, he was making the move to Ohio City from California, where he was working in the culinary department at California State University, Fresno.

“I said, ‘Watch out. I am going to be all over this,’” Tenbergen said. “I knew right from the get-go there was a lot of impact I could have. The program has enormous potential.”

Hip-Hop Homecoming weekend



On Friday night, DJ Swamp — a former Clevelander who won national DJ contests and toured with musician Beck — presided over a dance party in the Mainstage Theatre before '80s artist Biz Markie took the stage. DJ Swamp tossed LPs and hankies to the crowd, and literally sent sparks flying from a pair of Pioneer turntables. Biz Markie mixed party music, including a riff from his hit “Just A Friend,” while the crowd busted moves in lines and circles.

On Saturday, Progressive Arts Alliance led four hours of kid-oriented workshops and performances in graffiti art, breakdancing, turntabling and beat box.

The weekend was organized by Michael Schoop, Ph.D, metro campus president; Paul Cox, dean of Creative Arts; Jimi Izrael, adjunct faculty member and artist-in-residence; and Terri Pontremoli, director of JazzFest and Performing Arts.

When Tri-C speech professor Henry Young considers language, he doesn't think of it as good or bad.

“Language is either effective or ineffective,” Young said. “In rap, the language is very effective.”

That language was at the heart of the three-day Hip-Hop Homecoming celebration on the Metropolitan Campus Sept. 25-27. Events included two panel discussions, including one in which Young discussed hip-hop culture with moderator Valerie Brown, Ph.D.; sociology lecturer Simona Epuran; English professor Trista Powers; and author Akil Marshall.

Tri-C Reaffirmed for Membership in League for Innovation

Cuyahoga Community College has been reaffirmed for board membership in the League for Innovation in the Community College.

The decision extends Tri-C's leadership role in the League, an international, nonprofit association dedicated to the community college movement. Cuyahoga Community College served as a founding member of the organization in 1968.

"The League provides a solid foundation for community colleges as they strive to promote student success," Tri-C President Alex Johnson said. "We're honored to be part of an institution dedicated to innovation in higher education."

Tri-C has worked with its League colleagues to bring pioneering educational initiatives into community college classrooms. The organization includes more than 800 member colleges, 160 corporate partners and a host of other government and nonprofit agencies.

The League hosts conferences and institutes, develops Web resources, conducts research, produces publications, provides services and leads projects and initiatives designed to make a positive difference for students and communities.

Tri-C's reaffirmation process began after Dr. Johnson became Tri-C's fourth president in July 2013. The League requires institutions to go through a rigorous self-examination for reaffirmation following a change in leadership.



Alcoa Foundation Grant Makes Tons of Difference at Cuyahoga Community College



A grant from the Alcoa Foundation paid for 75 outdoor recycling bins that captured an estimated six tons of plastic bottles, aluminum cans and other recyclables during their first year of use at Tri-C campuses and education centers.

The bins are strategically placed between parking lots and buildings, targeting walkways where trash cans routinely filled quickly — often with recyclable materials.

"We provided people another opportunity to recycle, and they took advantage of it," said David November, sustainability manager for Tri-C. "These outdoor bins undoubtedly saved many recyclables from being tossed in trash cans and ending up in landfills."

Tri-C's goal is to divert 50 percent of its waste by 2025 through recycling, composting or reusing. In addition to items left in bins inside and outside buildings, the College recycles scrap metal, yard waste, food waste and numerous other materials.



Healthy Programs

Health-careers programs lead state in associate degrees conferred; nursing receives continuing accreditation status

Many years ago, Cuyahoga Community College saw the fast-growing need for qualified health care workers in Northeast Ohio and began building the facilities and recruiting the staff to address that need.

The College is now ranked No. 1 in Ohio and 13th in the nation in associate degrees conferred in health professions and related programs. Tri-C's many and varied health care programs are helping the region move toward economic recovery.

Within the flagship health-careers program, Tri-C's nursing program

distinguishes itself. Twenty six percent of all degrees and 75 percent of all certificates granted by Tri-C are in nursing or health careers. Tri-C ranks seventh among all colleges in the nation and No. 1 in Ohio in awarding associate degrees in nursing. Further, 95 percent of Tri-C nursing graduates report being employed and 94 percent of those are employed in their field of study.

The College offers premier nursing facilities at the Eastern, Metropolitan and Westshore campuses, including a simulated hospital unit and Human Patient Simulators — computer-driven mannequins that represent all the physical characteristics of a patient.

In August, the nursing program was granted continuing accreditation status through 2022 by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. The national accreditation, which followed a rigorous, months-long review process, signifies that the College's Division of Nursing meets the highest educational standards required by the industry.

Many of the state's finest hospitals — Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, MetroHealth, St. Vincent Charity Medical Center and the Louis Stokes Cleveland V.A. Medical Center — have a sizeable contingent of Tri-C graduates on their staffs.

Meet Me @ Tri-C:

Tyler Bartley

Tyler Bartley, 25, recently graduated from Cuyahoga Community College's Truck Driving Academy. He hadn't even picked up his certificate before job offers started coming in, he said.

TRI-C TIMES: Why did you choose Tri-C's Truck Driving Academy?

TYLER BARTLEY: I picked Tri-C's Truck Driving Academy because of the friendly staff I encountered when I was seeking information about the program.

TCT: What has surprised you most about the profession of truck driving?

TB: What surprised me the most about becoming a professional truck driver is the camaraderie that professional truck drivers share with one another. It just seems like everyone has a mutual trust and friendship among one another in the industry.

TCT: How do you think that Google's self-driving cars will affect the truck driving profession?

TB: The Google self-driving cars will definitely have an impact on the truck driving industry at some point. It's just hard to tell when and how it will do so considering that autonomous cars are still in the early stages of development.

TCT: What do you do in your free time?

TB: In my free time, I like to lift weights, fish and hunt.

TCT: What kind of car do you drive?

TB: I currently don't have a vehicle, but my last car was a Subaru Outback.

To keep up with Tri-C students and graduates, check out Meet Me @ Tri-C, a periodic feature on the Tri-C Trending blog at tri-c.edu/trictrending.





2014 Presidential Scholarship Luncheon Raises Funds for Veterans Initiatives and Students

Former President George W. Bush Honors Veterans at Tri-C Foundation Presidential Scholarship Luncheon

Former President George W. Bush served as keynote speaker at the Cuyahoga Community College Foundation's 2014 Presidential Scholarship Luncheon, which raised a record \$1.6 million to benefit veterans initiatives and student scholarships.

More than 1,200 people attended the sold-out luncheon at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel on Sept. 11 to raise funds for those who might otherwise be unable to afford a college education.

"The George W. Bush Scholarship Fund was established by the College as a new vehicle to benefit Tri-C students, including veterans and their families," said Tri-C President Dr. Alex Johnson.

The luncheon featured a moment of silence to remember the lives lost in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Bush reflected on the events of that day during a question-and-answer session moderated by Dr. Johnson.

This year's luncheon put a special emphasis on veterans' initiatives, which are also a focus of the Bush Institute. The institute's Military Service Initiative honors the service and sacrifice of veterans and military families by improving their well-being and unleashing their potential.

Bush commended Tri-C for its veterans' programs. "You are doing an excellent job of educating vets and helping them find jobs," he said of the College.

"The generous supporters of this event share our belief that education is the way to a brighter future," said Richard A. Chiricosta, chairperson of the Tri-C Foundation. "The many scholarships the luncheon funds change countless lives for the better."

Tri-C support services to veterans and their families will be expanded and enhanced in the future thanks to a significant gift from Norma Lerner and The Lerner Foundation. The gift — announced during the luncheon — will establish the Alfred Lerner Veterans Services Center at Tri-C's Eastern Campus in Highland Hills (see related story at right).

Bush joins a list of distinguished speakers to headline the Presidential Scholarship Luncheon, including former President Bill Clinton; former British Prime Minister Tony Blair; and Madeline Albright, Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice, former U.S. secretaries of state.



Alfred Lerner Veterans Services Center Coming to Eastern Campus

The Cuyahoga Community College Foundation and Cuyahoga Community College express sincere appreciation to Mrs. Norma Lerner and The Lerner Foundation for supporting the community's veterans. Generous support provided by The Lerner Foundation will enable the College to expand and enhance services to thousands of veterans and their families by establishing the Alfred Lerner Veterans Services Center at the Eastern Campus, located on Richmond Road in Highland Hills. "Mrs. Lerner's generous support will continue to help veterans and their families build a bright future through the opportunity of educational excellence," said Dr. Alex Johnson, president of Tri-C.

The center will bring together educational, counseling and technology services in an engaging and inviting environment dedicated to the success of the community's veterans. The Alfred Lerner Veterans Services Center will honor Mr. Lerner's legacy and have a major impact on the lives of thousands of veterans who will become skilled workers and contributors to the economic vitality of Northeast Ohio.

The Lerner Foundation was created in 1993 by Alfred and Norma Lerner. Norma Lerner is a trailblazer in philanthropy, dedicated to making a difference in the lives of others through generous donations to advance medical research and to provide educational opportunities. The foundation is grounded on the premise that there is no greater cause than furthering and developing new research to help people get the best health care and education possible.

"When many of our beloved troops return home from serving our great nation only to face the seemingly insurmountable struggle of transitioning from military assignment back to civilian life, we have an obligation, a duty, to be there for them. It is our responsibility, our privilege, to assist, in every way we can, the much needed programs for our veterans," said Norma Lerner, president of The Lerner Foundation.

Alumnus William Stuehr Gives Back to Tri-C

William Stuehr, Tri-C Class of 1974, had been thinking of a way to give back to the College for some time. However, life is busy, and he was unsure whom he should contact to make a gift.

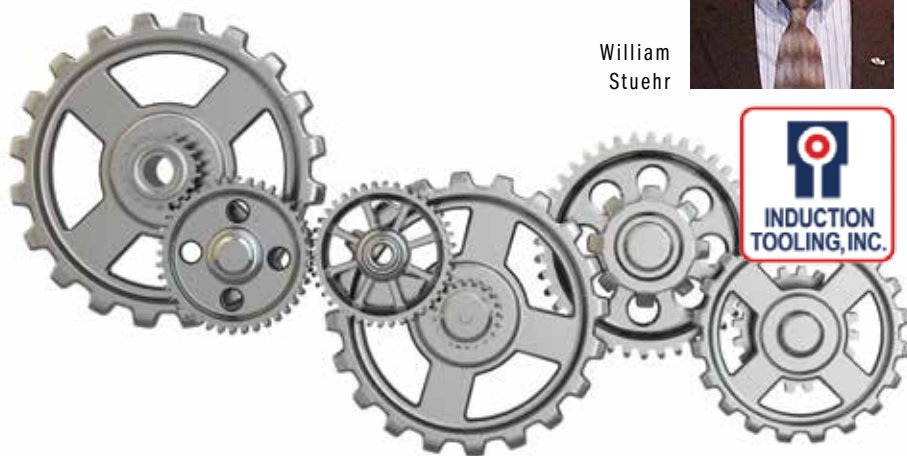
Recently, however, Stuehr attended a chamber of commerce meeting where he met Radiah Douglas, a Tri-C community relations manager from the Western Campus. Douglas connected Stuehr to the Tri-C Foundation — and the rest is history.

Stuehr's story is not unlike other Tri-C alumni. After high school, he worked for a military supplier until he was drafted at age 21. He served in a non-combat role in the JAG Corps in Washington D.C. during the Vietnam War. As his term of service drew to a close, Stuehr explored his options back home. Given the high number of college draft deferments at the time, he was grateful that Tri-C had an opening. Stuehr enrolled in January 1970, working full time at an engineering-related job by day and taking business and engineering classes at night.

In 1974, Stuehr's hard work paid off and he graduated from Tri-C with an associate degree. Within a few years, equipped with the business and engineering skills he learned at Tri-C, Stuehr opened his own business, Induction Tooling, Inc., in his parents' garage.

In 1979, the business moved to a small rental facility. Since then, Induction Tooling has grown and expanded the number of employees

More than 940 veterans enrolled in classes at Tri-C in spring, 2013



William Stuehr

and size of its facilities three times. The North Royalton-based company designs and manufactures induction tooling for automotive, aerospace and medical industries around the world. It is also a supplier for the green energy industry. Stuehr is proud to keep his company based in Northeast Ohio.

Stuehr remains thankful that Tri-C was available to help him start the next chapter of his life. Today, he is sure to shake veterans' hands and thank them for their service.

Stuehr's experience as a veteran and

Tri-C alumnus inspired him to create a multi-year gift to help veterans enrolled at Tri-C today.

"We thank William for his loyalty to both veterans and Tri-C. We are glad the College could serve him as he served our country," said Gloria Moosmann, Vice President of Resource Development.

To make a gift to The Tri-C foundation or to share your alumni story, visit www.tri-c.edu/alumni or contact John Nolan, director of alumni relations, at 216-987-4870 or john.nolan@tri-c.edu.

Where are *you* now?









Alumni Initiative Update






Thanks to everyone who completed the alumni survey. The College received a great response and we've kept the survey on our Web page (www.tri-c.edu/alumni) so that if you haven't had a chance to fill it out, you can still let us know "where are you now?" With this information, we have a better sense of what our graduates have done since leaving Tri-C and what we can do for better engagement in support of the College and our alumni.

Many of you used the survey as an opportunity to share the value of your Tri-C education in transitioning to a four-year institution or entering the workplace and advancing in your career. Others gave suggestions that will be shared with academic departments and non-academic programs. And many reported that they were grateful for their experiences at Tri-C and wanted to give back.

There are many ways to give back to the College, including helping us identify and attract students, providing internship opportunities to current students, hiring our graduates and providing financial support for student scholarships. If you have suggestions or questions, you can also email us at alumnirelations@tri-c.edu.

We look forward to ongoing engagement with our alumni. We appreciate your input to Tri-C, where futures begin.

 Amber Colbert Nursing	 Where are <i>you</i> now? 	 Jason Medrano Visual Communication & Design	 Sara Hartley Nursing
 Edwin R. Sanchez Mechanical Engineering Technology		 Deena Marano Diagnostic Medical Sonography	 Michael McMillon Associate of Arts

Did <i>you</i> know...		Tri-C serves more than 60,000 students in more than 140 certificate and degree programs each year.	 Jason Medrano Visual Communication & Design
 Deena Marano Diagnostic Medical Sonography	Tri-C ranks 8th among all two-year colleges in the nation, and No. 1 in Ohio , in awarding associate degrees in nursing.		
	 Michael McMillon Associate of Arts	 Sara Hartley Nursing	For the sixth consecutive year, <i>GI Jobs Magazine</i> has named Tri-C a "Military Friendly School."

The *Art* of the Matter

Students honor the legacy of U.S. veterans with poster display

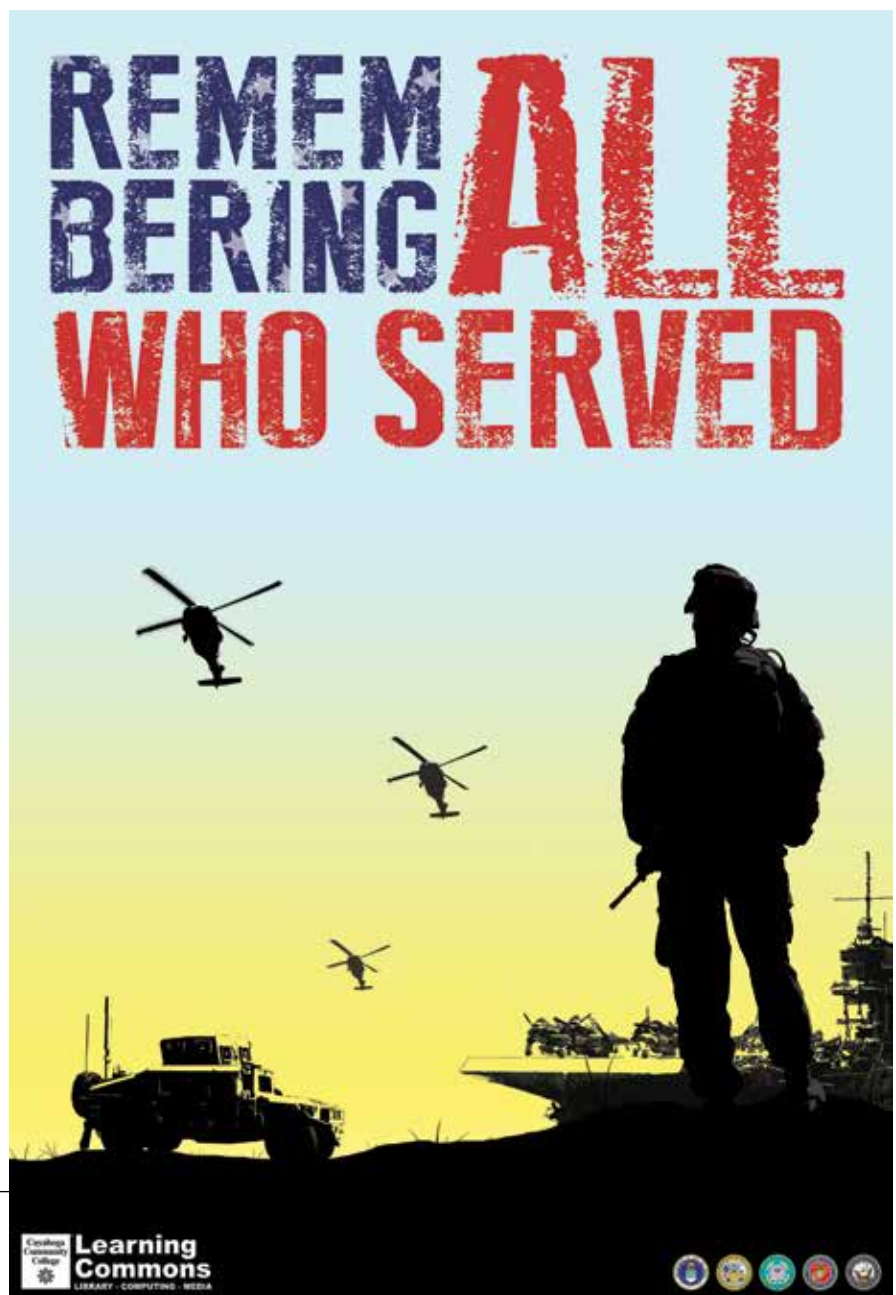
Visit the Learning Commons on any Tri-C campus in November, and you'll catch a double dose of "real." Photography students designed the posters on display in the libraries using real-world business practices, and the images pay homage to the very real service of men and women of the U.S. armed forces.

As part of a digital imaging class in spring 2014, students Manuel Torres, Jonathan Botero and Noah Bowers used photo illustration techniques to design posters as part of a project called "Remembering All Who Served."

Jonathan Wayne, associate professor of visual communication and design, came up with the project during the early years of the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, when he noticed how many people were involved in the conflicts or had relatives who were. It seemed almost everyone had "skin in the game," as he put it.

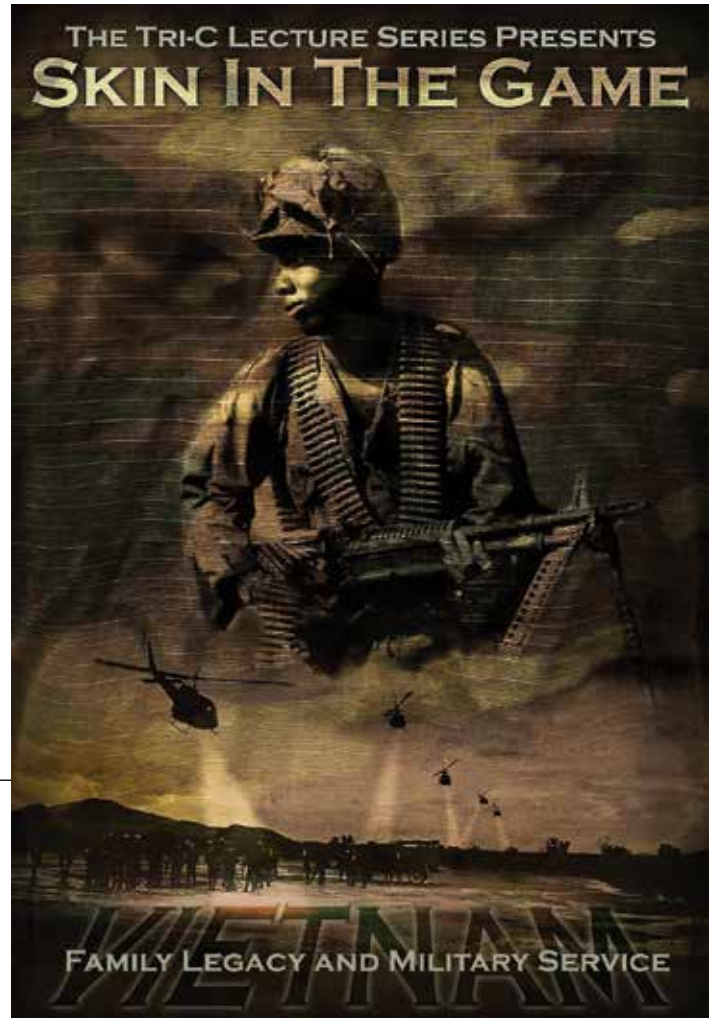
He decided to use that theme as a class assignment. "It's a tribute to veterans, and the theme is military service and family legacy," Wayne said.

Jonathan Botero





Noah Bowers



Manuel Torres

Peter Jennings is a librarian at the Western Campus and a tenure-track faculty member who started his college education at Tri-C — studying photography with Wayne. Eventually, Jennings earned his master's degree in library science at Kent State University. He also serves in the Coast Guard Reserve.

Last year, Wayne and Jennings teamed up to make the poster assignment more of a community project with a plan to exhibit the prints for Veterans Day. Jennings became the client to whom Wayne's students had to pitch their designs. "We have some great students here," Jennings said. "They produce some great work."

Bowers said he was drawn to the project because he loves vintage graphics. His posters feature grainy textures and a washed-out sepia palette. The central photograph in one poster is a Korean War-era paratrooper. The second features a pair of World War II-era African-American soldiers in uniform walking toward the camera.

"I definitely wanted to point out that not only are they doing the country's service, but that was a

harder time to be in the military as a person of color," Bowers said.

Torres focused on the Vietnam War era for his poster, and highlighted a Black soldier as its central image. He loved the project, he said. "I wasn't just trying to put something on the screen and complete an assignment. I felt I was in tune with history. I related emotionally."

Torres said the project gave him a reason to think more deeply about what it means for people of different races, genders and backgrounds to come together to serve. "We all become one. It's not where you're from or where I'm from, it's about becoming one."

[#mytricstory

What is your favorite thing about working with Tri-C Students?

"You know, my favorite job in the whole world is being a mom, and this gives me a chance to be a mom to 1,000."

— Lee, #JavaCity, West #MyTriCStory



"This is a second career for me. I drove for UPS for 33 years."

What is your biggest struggle going back to school after 33 years?

"Age and not being real computer literate, but I've been doing real good so far. The teachers have been nice to me. I got a 4.0 my first semester and the second one I got a 4.0 too. So they've been real nice to an old guy."

(They aren't being nice, Norman; that's a result of hard work — editor's note).

— Norman, Criminal Justice, Eastern Campus #MyTriCStory

To see more examples of #mytricstory, like Tri-C on Facebook @facebook.com/tric.edu

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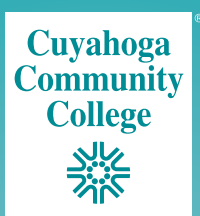
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