

## STUDENT SUCCESS AND COMPLETION FOUNDATION'S TOP PRIORITY



Mr. Rick Chiricosta,  
Chairperson,  
Tri-C Foundation

Community college is a game-changing proposition for its students. We offer an “all access pass” to higher education for those who might have barriers entering a four-year institution or a meaningful career.

Cuyahoga Community College is open to everyone. We meet students where they are, and provide a system of support

so they can complete their education in a timely manner and achieve their goals.

Ensuring students are on an efficient path to success and completion is a top priority of the Tri-C Foundation's Board of Directors. As students begin their fall classes across our four campuses, I am proud of the many initiatives supported by the Tri-C Foundation that help an ever-increasing number of students complete their education and move to four-year institutions or into employment.

We are laser-focused on ensuring the Foundation's resources are invested to help our students succeed. Support for scholarships and completion efforts allow Tri-C students to meet their education and training goals, leading to family-sustaining jobs that fuel our economy. Since eighty-five percent of our graduates remain right here in Northeast Ohio, their success is everyone's success!

Tri-C's leadership, faculty and staff have worked strategically and tirelessly to place students on an intentional path of progress, and the Tri-C Foundation is here to support them on their journey. I thank you for investing in Cuyahoga Community College, Where futures begin<sup>SM</sup>.

Rick Chiricosta  
Chairperson, Tri-C Foundation

## KeyBank Public Safety Training Center to enhance training for first responders



Mr. Bruce Murphy, EVP, Head of Corporate Responsibility at KeyCorp and member, KeyBank Foundation Board; Ms. Margot Copeland, Chair and CEO, KeyBank Foundation; Dr. Alex Johnson, President, Cuyahoga Community College and Mr. Jim Aronoff, Vice Chairperson, Tri-C Foundation

Cuyahoga Community College and the Tri-C Foundation celebrated the dedication of the KeyBank Public Safety Training Center on June 20, 2016, in recognition of KeyBank's generous support to enhance and expand the College's public safety education and training programs. More than 200 people attended the event, held at Western Campus in Parma.

“The partnership between KeyBank and Tri-C provides building blocks to create safer streets, safer neighborhoods and a safer community,” said Alex Johnson, president of Tri-C. “We are proud to be united in this vital effort.”

Recently, KeyBank awarded the Foundation a grant to support training for students pursuing careers as law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

ALEX JOHNSON



*Alex Johnson*

Alex Johnson, Ph.D.  
President  
Cuyahoga Community College

## Cleveland shines... and so does Tri-C!

Last month the Republican National Convention (RNC) brought national focus to Cleveland and it was a pleasure to serve on the Host Committee, along with many local business and community leaders. Many accolades were received from attendees as a number of events were held at College facilities. The Hospitality Management Center and Pura Vida served as the Host Committee's Program Center.

The College was well represented with employees serving as volunteers assisting visiting delegates. Tri-C garnered national media coverage for the robot designed and built by our Youth Technology Academy students to assist police with event security. The Convention provided a great opportunity for our city and Tri-C to shine.

As we begin another academic year, I want to acknowledge the results our team is achieving with regard to student completion. Our May 2016 Commencement represented one of the largest graduating classes on record, with 2,900 students receiving degrees and certificates. This was a direct result of the College's laser-focus on student success and completion. Nearly one quarter of the graduates benefitted from scholarship support. I thank you for helping to make this possible, by supporting the scholarship funds of the Tri-C Foundation. Our students and the region need our unwavering support to shine brightly in the future. ■

INVEST IN PEOPLE

## National award from Kisco Foundation launches Veterans Services Center at Western Campus

The Kisco Foundation has named Tri-C a recipient of its 2016 Kohlberg Prize, given annually to increase support for veterans attending community colleges. The grant was announced in Washington during a ceremony at the White House in July.

"The support from the Kisco Foundation will have a major impact on the lives of thousands of veterans in and around Cuyahoga County," said Alex Johnson, president of Tri-C. "The Kohlberg Prize enhances the College's ability to help more veterans secure rewarding careers and position themselves for successful futures."

The new Veterans Services Center at Western Campus will offer a full array of support services to help veterans reach their educational and career goals as they transition from soldiers to civilians and become contributors to the economic vitality of Northeast Ohio. Plans call for the Center to open in Spring 2017. ■



2016 Tri-C graduate Michael Culp and current student, Andrew Bisbee, both U.S. Veterans, travelled to Washington, D.C. with Rick DeChant, executive director, Veterans Initiative for the announcement of the Kohlberg Prize

## Inaugural class of honors fellows receives degrees

Thursday, May 19, 2016 was not a typical day for over 2,900 Cuyahoga Community College students, for this was graduation day. This day of celebration represented the culmination of hard work, perseverance, determination and the completion of a dream. As the Class of 2016 reveled in their successes, they represented one of the College's largest graduating classes and tripled the number of graduates who completed their degrees in two years in large part due to completion and honors scholarships supported by the Tri-C Foundation's generous partners.

The College family was tremendously excited to see the inaugural class of Honors fellows graduate. The Honors Fellowship Program is an investment in student success ensuring our students are able to complete their college degree and represents one of seven Scholars Programs at Tri-C. Support for the Honors Program Fellowship is provided through numerous scholarship funds.



Tri-C's Honors Program Fellows

"We are enormously proud of our Honors Fellows," said Herbert Mausser, assistant dean, Honors and Educational Learning Programs. "The Honors Fellowship scholarship offers highly committed and motivated students a chance to really go in-depth with their education, emphasizing leadership, creative thinking, research, and community involvement," said Mausser. Congratulations to all of our 2016 graduates. Welcome to the Tri-C alumni family! ■

## Professor's generous bequest supports engineering students



Dr. Margaret and Mr. William Taber

Shortly after Cuyahoga Community College opened its doors in 1963, Margaret Taber began her career with the College as a part-time engineering instructor. She earned her master's and her doctorate degrees during her tenure at Tri-C, rising through the ranks as assistant, associate and full professor before ultimately chairing the department.

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Taber was a respected philanthropist and active community volunteer. To honor her unwavering commitment to her community, in 2012 she received the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award. The YWCA stated, "Through her extreme tenacity, enthusiasm for life and reliability, Marge has become a true inspiration for many."

Through the Dr. Margaret and William Taber Memorial Endowed Scholarship, the Tabers' zeal for education and engineering will create a legacy of opportunities and help remove financial barriers for Tri-C's Engineering Technology students. The Cuyahoga Community College Foundation is very grateful to Dr. and Mr. Taber for this generous legacy commitment to benefit Tri-C's students. ■



## Tri-C's youth programs help prepare students for the workforce

Cuyahoga Community College is pleased to partner with Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Ohio Means Jobs in maintaining success in Cuyahoga Community College's Advanced Technology and Youth Technology Academies.

The Advanced Technology Academy helps out-of-school youth develop important workforce readiness skills and enroll in advanced technical training to develop in-demand skills and successfully enter the workforce for careers with upward mobility. These individuals are generally 18 to 24 years old and are neither working or attending school. Ninety-seven percent of program participants earn a credential and 85 percent gain employment.

For more than 15 years, the College's Youth Technology Academy has supported in-school youth in completing high school, while fostering college preparation and growing interest in the important career areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Participants – from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District – completed assessments upon entry into the program and were identified as at-risk for college success. After completing the program, 95 percent graduated from high school and 86 percent entered college.



On Saturday, April 30, 2016, Tri-C's Youth Technology Academy robotics team earned the FIRST Robotics STRONG HOLD Championship in St. Louis, Missouri. Nearly 650 teams from around the world competed, including Israel, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Australia, Turkey, Taiwan, China and the Czech Republic. Congratulations World Champs!

"Cuyahoga Community College's Youth Technology Academy is a critical partner for many of our District schools, providing students with critical academic support and exposure to technology which lead to graduation and successful connection to the workforce," says Eric S. Gordon, Chief Executive Officer of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. ■

## KeyBank Public Safety Training Center

*(Continued from page 1)*

and other in-demand public safety occupations in Northeast Ohio. The initiative includes a campaign to recruit minority and female candidates for first responder jobs, as well as outreach programs to U.S. military veterans, scholarship opportunities and the creation of a youth-focused camp, held in June.

"KeyBank and KeyBank Foundation made this investment at Cuyahoga Community College to train this next generation of first responders," said Margot Copeland, chair and CEO of the KeyBank Foundation. "These are the faces that will protect the residents of Northeast Ohio far into the future."

We appreciate the continued, generous support of KeyBank, enhancing our programs and benefiting our community and our region for future generations. ■



Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton, President Emerita was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the College's 2016 Commencement Ceremony, recognizing her long-term contributions to the College, the Tri-C Foundation and our community. Here, Tri-C President Dr. Alex Johnson congratulates her on her award

## Nursing Program educates nurses for tomorrow

As a national leader in nursing education, Cuyahoga Community College is committed to preparing students from underrepresented backgrounds for careers as registered nurses.

A recent grant funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration will help to improve persistence and retention rates for Nursing Program students who are from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds.

The one-year project includes scholarships for educational expenses, stipends for living expenses, academic support services, personal growth enhancement, college survival skills training, and supportive services tailored to



address the unique challenges that create barriers to successful program completion. It will provide resources that are proven to increase retention of students from minority, educationally and/or economically disadvantaged backgrounds and includes partnerships with Cleveland Council of Black Nurses and the Cleveland Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, whose members will serve as mentors to the participants. Cuyahoga Community College is proud to close the achievement

gap in student success outcomes and prepare dedicated caregivers who will deliver high quality healthcare in our diverse community. ■

### SPOTLIGHT: EMPLOYEE GIVING

## Seong-Ae Mun believes in student scholarships

After earning her undergraduate degree in Korea, Seong-Ae Mun came to the United States as a graduate student to attend the Rhode Island School of Design. In 1993, she began teaching visual communication and design at Tri-C's Western Campus and has never looked back.

While she loves each of the design courses that she teaches, Typography is her favorite. "English is not my mother tongue and graphic design is a universal language. I may not always be able to speak and understand the language, but with graphic design, I can always make it pretty."

As a former scholarship recipient herself – both in undergraduate and graduate school – she understands the critical need to help students receive their education without the fear of an overwhelming financial burden. Mun chooses



Ms. Seong-Ae Mun

to contribute to the Creative Arts Scholarship Fund to support student success. When asked why she believes in giving, Mun shared that when she received her first scholarship, "I felt validated. Students need a lot of help and support, and knowing that I had received a gift from someone I did not know encouraged me. I love knowing that I can give back in that same way."

She makes student success a priority in both the classroom and by helping students with scholarship support, but she is also equally engaged when her students find full-time employment. Whenever a graphic design student gets a full-time job, Mun treats them to lunch to celebrate.

The Tri-C Foundation sincerely appreciates all that Seong-Ae Mun does to support our students – both in and out of the classroom! ■



37<sup>th</sup> Annual

# TRI-C JAZZ FEST CLEVELAND

PRESENTED BY



## JazzFest heats up Cleveland

Music and fun were the headlines of the 37th Annual Tri-C JazzFest, Presented by KeyBank, which drew an estimated 25,000 to Playhouse Square June 23-25, 2016. The Foundation jump-started the fun on Thursday evening with *A Record-Breaking Night of Celebration and Song*, benefiting music scholarships for Tri-C students, in the Ohio Theatre Lobby. More than 300 guests celebrated the unveiling of the JazzFest Legends Wall honoring music legends.



Ms. Margot Copeland, Chair and CEO, KeyBank Foundation with Dr. Alex Johnson, President, Cuyahoga Community College at *A Record-Breaking Night of Celebration and Song*

The celebration showcased the 2016 JazzFest Legends: jazz and salsa musician, Mr. Sammy DeLeon; former Tri-C president, Dr. Nolen Ellison; president emeritus of Tri-C, Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton; and record-producer/jazz icon, Mr. Tommy LiPuma. LiPuma's Big Birthday Bash, celebrating his 80th birthday, followed in the Connor Palace Theatre.



*Keyed-Up for JazzFest* drew hundreds of guests to Playhouse Square for a fun, parade-style festival



On Friday, Keyed-Up for JazzFest, presented by KeyBank, was the focus under the chandelier for a fun, free, parade-style celebration that kicked off the weekend's festivities. Later that afternoon, approximately 60 students drew rave reviews on stage during the JazzFest JazzCamp Showcase.

The festival's artistic highlights included opening night, Chick Corea, Terence Blanchard, Dominick Farinacci and Melissa Aldana. Cooking demonstrations by faculty and Chef Paul Ondo, Tri-C alumnus, sizzled in the Hospitality Management Tent.

During the Smooth Jazz Concert, Dr. Alex Johnson recognized KeyBank for its generous support and announced the establishment of the KeyBank Creative Arts Endowed Fund for Tri-C students. ■

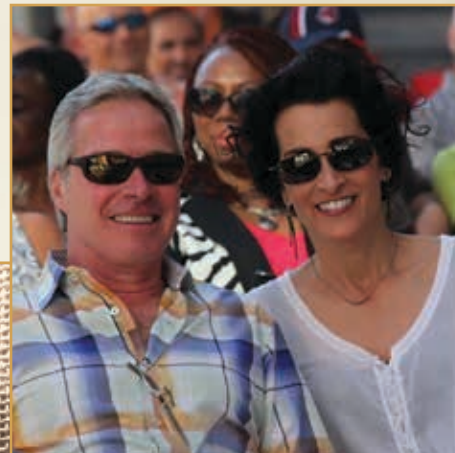


Mr. Jules Belkin with Executive Vice President, Chief Marketing/Communications Officer, Medical Mutual of Ohio, Mr. Jared Chaney



Mr. Victor Ruiz, Chair, Cuyahoga Community College Board of Trustees with Ms. Megan O'Bryan, Vice President, Development & Tri-C Foundation at A Record-Breaking Night of Celebration and Song

Tri-C Foundation Board Member Mr. Jim Strassman, President, Strassman Insurance Services, Inc. and Ms. Debbie Strassman enjoy a concert on the Strassman Insurance Stage outdoors



2016 JazzFest Legends: jazz and salsa musician, Mr. Sammy DeLeon; President Emeritus of Tri-C, Jerry Sue Thornton, Ph.D.; record-producer/jazz icon, Tommy LiPuma; former Tri-C President, Nolen Ellison, Ph.D., with Tri-C President, Dr. Alex Johnson



# GUEST COLUMN

**CHRIS HYLAND**



Chris Hyland  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer  
Hyland Software, Inc.  
Director, Tri-C Foundation Board

## Technology enhances student success

At Hyland Software, we value the role that technology plays in student success. For years, Cuyahoga Community College has been an innovator in identifying partners to enhance the student experience. The College's students and, exponentially, our entire region have benefited from these collaborations.

A recent successful project is the College's *One Door, Many Options for Success* initiative, generously supported by The Cleveland Foundation. The partnerships among the College, funders and businesses have resulted in a redesigned student experience and an increase in the number of students who graduate with reduced time to completion. The College is transforming the student experience that leverages structured pathways and customized student success services.

At Hyland, we are proud of our role in the One Door initiative, developing the "OneRecord" platform for students, which aggregates student information from various College systems into one holistic view and puts student success into the hands of everyone at Tri-C. Previously, the College used multiple platforms to view and provide information to ensure student success. One Record puts student success tools under one umbrella, accessible to the entire College team.

The impact of the implementation of OneRecord will be less financial burden for students stemming from reduced time to complete their degrees and a pipeline of qualified workers meeting the talent and skills requirements of employers. This provides individuals with opportunities for increased lifetime earnings. As a new member of the Tri-C Foundation Board of Directors, I am proud of our company's work with the Tri-C family and the impact it will have upon student success and our region for the next generation and beyond. ■

**37<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**TRI-C JAZZ FEST CLEVELAND**  
Presented by  
**KeyBank**

Thank you to this year's **JazzFest** sponsors:

**KeyBank** | **STRASSMAN Insurance Services** | **ART WORKS.** | **National Endowment for the Arts** | **OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**SAVE THE DATE: JazzFest 2017 - June 22 - 24**



## Ariane Kirkpatrick – building a construction legacy

Ariane Kirkpatrick grew up at Tri-C. As a toddler, she accompanied her mother to classes at the Eastern Campus and witnessed her graduation from Tri-C. Fast forward a couple decades and it was Ariane who walked across the stage, earning her associate degree from Tri-C in 1991. “I have been around the College my entire life,” Kirkpatrick says. “Tri-C literally changed my life and is a big part of who I have become.”



Ms. Ariane Kirkpatrick

The owner and president of the Cleveland-based AKA Team – a multi-faceted company including construction management, a self performance division, commercial waterproofing – has grown the company from an initial \$6,000 cleaning contract to \$6 million in annual service contracts and a team of nearly 50 employees. She attributes her success to the company’s motto of focusing upon details and follow-through.

Growing up, she was amazed at the construction happening in her Cleveland neighborhood. As a high school student, she secured special permission to enroll in a drafting class at Warrensville, the only female in the course. She loved drafting,

architecture and construction but believed it could just be a hobby, since those were jobs for “boys.”

At Tri-C, her academic excellence earned her membership in Phi Theta Kappa, a national honor society which recognizes and encourages scholarship among two-year college students. Following graduation, she transferred to Cleveland State University to earn her bachelor’s degree in non-profit administration. Before long, she found herself serving as chief of housing for the City of Warrensville Heights, performing building inspections for commercial and residential buildings, while also operating a restaurant. In 2009 she followed her dream and put all of her efforts into the construction industry, forming AKA.

“It is important to be involved in your community and to be intentional with your actions,” Kirkpatrick says. Recalling her Tri-C experience, she says, “Giving back is so important. It is a joy in life to know you are helping students succeed. Sometimes a scholarship is all a student needs to buckle down and change his or her future. Follow your dreams. They really can come true!” ■

## Tri-C alumni: have you reconnected with us?

With the start of a new academic year, the Tri-C Foundation is inviting alumni to reconnect and re-engage with us! Maybe you are willing to share your professional expertise by speaking with current students? Perhaps you have a recent professional award or promotion to share in our new *Alumni Notes* section of our web site? Or maybe you want to share your story in our alumni e-news? We would love to hear from you. Please drop us a line at [alumnirelations@tri-c.edu](mailto:alumnirelations@tri-c.edu) to share your news and stories or to sign up for our alumni e-news, if you are not already receiving it. We invite you to join our Cuyahoga Community College Alumni Group on Facebook. We look forward to hearing from you! Visit us soon at [www.tri-c.edu/alumni](http://www.tri-c.edu/alumni). ■



## VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

MEGAN  
O'BRYAN



Ms. Megan O'Bryan  
Vice President, Development &  
Tri-C Foundation

### Breaking barriers

The definition of a “traditional” college student has shifted throughout the years and now more closely matches the demographics of community college students. These students often have more life-experience and are working multiple jobs and supporting a family while attending classes.

The Tri-C Foundation knows our students work hard to break barriers and succeed at completing their education. Our students are often first generation college students, veterans, women in transition, high school students, immigrants and minorities who choose Tri-C as their smart path forward. These students come to us with a variety of needs, and the Tri-C Foundation is steadfast in providing them with scholarships and securing funds for important college strategies that lead to their success and timely completion.

Investing in the students of Tri-C makes good sense. We maintain the lowest tuition in the region, meaning your support for student success goes a really long way. The College's strategic focus on student retention, completion and inclusive excellence is showing great results as evidenced by the growing number of students who are awarded degrees and certificates with each graduating class. Ninety percent of Tri-C graduates from career programs secure jobs, 83% of which are in their field of study.

Our students at Tri-C need your support more than ever. We are grateful for the many donors and friends profiled in this newsletter who are making a direct impact on the lives of our students. Your support helps us increase the number of students who walk across the commencement stage and into a bright, healthy and prosperous future. ■

## Industry partnership fosters hospitality excellence

For nearly a decade, Northern Haserot has been a generous partner to Cuyahoga Community College through its support of scholarships for hospitality management students. This summer, they established the Northern Haserot Hospitality Management Endowed Scholarship Fund of the Tri-C Foundation to develop future leaders in the hospitality industry.

“This generous gift will have a significant impact on the lives of our students as they pursue in-demand careers in the hospitality industry,” said Dr. Alex Johnson, Tri-C president.

With this new commitment, Northern Haserot will pair its chefs and industry professionals with the college's hospitality students for classroom and kitchen studio experiences.



Mr. Doug Kern

“This innovative partnership affirms Northern Haserot's commitment to Tri-C's Hospitality Management students and to our region,” said Doug Kern, CEO of Northern Haserot, and member of the Tri-C Foundation Board of Directors. “We understand the vital need for scholarship support and are thrilled to partner with Tri-C's Hospitality Management Center, which has become a leader in quality educational programs in Northeast Ohio.”

Cuyahoga Community College will be naming the *Northern Haserot Demonstration Studio* in the College's Hospitality Management Center at Public Square in recognition of their long term support. ■





Mr. Chris Hyland

## Welcome new directors

**Mr. Chris Hyland** is executive vice president and chief financial officer of Hyland Software, Inc. He earned his bachelor's degree in economics from Ohio Wesleyan University.



Mr. Victor Ruiz

**Mr. Victor Ruiz** is executive director of Esperanza Inc. He is a graduate of Baldwin Wallace University, and received his Master's in Education with a focus on school counseling from Cleveland State University. He also serves as Chair of the Cuyahoga Community College Board of Trustees. ■

## Foundation celebrates legacy of service

With a vibrant Board of Directors that reads like a Who's Who in Cleveland, The Tri-C Foundation is very appreciative of the commitment that our Directors have made to support the College, the Foundation and the students we serve. Nearly one third of the more than 60 Foundation Directors have celebrated tenure of 10 years or more. This year we recognize **Mr. Steven J. Demetriou**, president and chief executive officer of Jacobs Engineering Group and **Ms. Lorna Wisham Orr**, senior advisor, federal affairs at FirstEnergy Corp. for their decade of service to the Foundation. ■

## 2016 distinguished director

**Ms. Tracy Oliver**, director of media and local affairs for Dominion East Ohio, has been honored as the Foundation's 2016 Heath Oliver Distinguished Director, in recognition of her exemplary service to the College and its students.

Ms. Oliver has dedicated herself to making higher education accessible to Greater Cleveland residents and repeatedly championed grant requests from the Tri-C Foundation, providing opportunities for students, particularly through the Dominion Higher Educational Partnership. Serving the Foundation Board since 2003, she has served as board secretary, chair of the Committee on Directors and an Executive Committee member and is currently serving as a member of the Committee on Directors.



Ms. Tracy Oliver

The Heath Oliver Distinguished Director Award was established in memory of longtime Foundation Board Director Heath Oliver, president of Bardons & Oliver, and a valuable member of the Board from 1988 until his death in 2009. ■

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## SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS AT TRI-C



**EVAN CHMURA**  
*Business Management  
Scholarship Recipient*

“I am deeply grateful to the Tri-C Foundation and its donors for giving me the opportunity to participate in the Honors Fellowship program. This opportunity has opened many doors for me

academically, financially, and socially and I look forward to learning from the faculty and my peers at Tri-C as I work towards my degree. Thank you for your support!”

[www.tri-c.edu/donate](http://www.tri-c.edu/donate)



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## CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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### 2016 PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON



- KEYNOTE SPEAKER -

**Ted Koppel**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016

11:25 A.M. - 1:05 P.M.

RENAISSANCE CLEVELAND HOTEL

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