



CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
**Alumni**RELATIONS  
NEWSLETTER



**February 2024**



## **The Foundation for Future Endeavors Tri-C Alumna Credits, Tri-C**

Meet Christine Downes, a driven and accomplished professional whose educational journey at Tri-C laid the foundation for her successful career. Her story is a testament to the power of education and the opportunities that can arise when given a chance. [Read more.](#)

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## Artisan Chocolatier Finds Choc-Full of Resources Through 10KSB

Kristin Barnes has a knack for finding the sweet side of life. Just look at her hobby-turned-business, the artisanal chocolate store Sweet Bean.

Barnes found her passion in a chocolate-making class — offered by a local shop through Groupon — while living and working in Boston. Growing bored with her corporate marketing job, she found joy in her new hobby, which quickly grew into the beginnings of a side business. [Read more.](#)



**Fifth Annual Tri-C®  
Alumni Family Day**

**Tri-C Women's  
Basketball  
Game**

**Saturday, Feb. 24**  
Eastern Campus  
Tipoff: 3 p.m.





### You Are Invited! Tri-C Alumni Family Day

Join us as we cheer the Tri-C women's basketball team on to victory over Terra State Saturday, February 24 at Tri-C's Eastern Campus Gymnasium (located in the Student Services building) 4250 Richmond Rd., Highland Hills, OH 44122.

Bring your family, and wear something teal to show your Tri-C pride. Enjoy light refreshments, prizes and giveaways while supplies last. Tipoff is at 3 p.m.

This event is free, but registration is required. [RSVP by Feb. 16 here](#), or contact Michael Culp at [alumnirelations@tri-c.edu](mailto:alumnirelations@tri-c.edu) or call 216-987-4592. See you there!



## Tri-C Night at the Cavs

Get ready for some NBA basketball! Join fellow alumni, the Tri-C family, and friends to watch the Cavs take on the Miami Heat at the Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse Wednesday, March 20, at 7 p.m., tickets \$39 (limit 6).

- Seats are located in the Loudville upper-deck section
- Tickets are non-refundable but are transferable
- Tickets and instructions will be emailed to you one week prior to the game
- Park on your own; however, we will provide information for lots available

### Special promotion:

Children and teens ages 5-16 will have a chance to high-five both Cavs and Heat players as they are introduced, and stand alongside the players during the National Anthem (children will be randomly selected).

You'll find more information and can [purchase tickets here](#), by **Feb. 20**. See you there!



## Tri-C Metropolitan Campus Optical Dispensary Now Open

The Metro Campus Optical Dispensary is a student-managed organization where students in the Optical Technology program gain hands-on experience under the direct supervision of licensed opticians. The Optical Dispensary is open to all Tri-C students, alumni, family and friends living Cuyahoga County.

Patients must bring a current prescription no older than two years, as prescribed by an ophthalmologist or optometrist. [More information.](#)

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## Tri-C Releases Community Impact Report

Since opening its doors in 1963, more than 1.2 million students have passed through Tri-C's doors, and the College has remained committed to supporting Northeast Ohio by meeting the needs of its residents and businesses.

The impact of Tri-C is not confined to its campuses. It reverberates throughout the region, shaping the future of the community one student, one program and one partnership at a time. [Read more.](#)

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## Latest Tri-C Times Issue Explores College's Presence Beyond its Campuses

The Winter 2024 issue of *Tri-C Times* offers readers a map of the many roads that lead from the cities and neighborhoods throughout the region to Tri-C.

In this issue:

- Learn about Tri-C's Access Centers, workforce partnerships that provide training for employees at partner organizations, community programs and partnerships, and outreach initiatives for middle and high school students. Read about the College's Veteran and Military Connected Services program.

- Meet U.S. Navy veteran Randal Figueroa, who came to Tri-C after his military service to earn a college degree on his way to a career in construction management.
- Learn about Bhavna Thakkar, an inspiring and passionate associate professor of psychology at the Westshore Campus and how her global travels have shaped her experience as an educator.

*Tri-C Times* is an award-winning publication produced by the College's Integrated Communications department.

[View past issues](#)



## 4th Annual Women's Summit at Tri-C

We are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to you for the 4th Annual Women's Summit, themed "Catch the Fire: Women as Agents of Change in the Workplace." This empowering event will take place on Friday, March 1st, starting at 9 a.m., at Corporate College East, Warrensville Heights.

Attendance is FREE of charge and open to all genders. However, due to limited seating, registration is required by Thursday, February 22nd. [For more information and registration here.](#)

Let's come together to ignite the flames of change and empower women as catalysts for progress in the workplace. We look forward to seeing you at the Women's Summit on March 1st!

## Tri-C Sings: A Celebration of Gospel Music

Cuyahoga Community College will celebrate Black History Month through song. You are invited to join us Thursday, February 15 from 6-7:30 p.m. for a special gospel performance by the Cleveland Chorale and the Tri-C Joe Clark Gospel Choir at the Metropolitan Campus Auditorium.





Tickets to Tri-C Sings are free but registration is required. [For more information and to register here.](#)

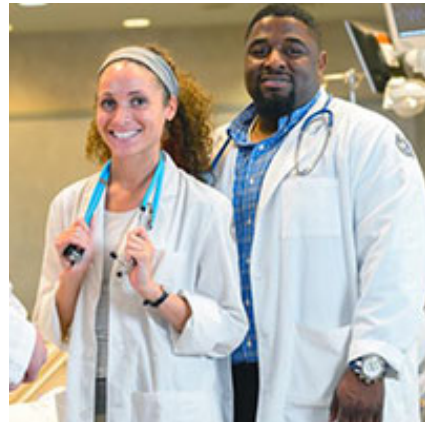
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## Tri-C Dean Addresses Nursing Shortage On Ideastream

In 2023, the Ohio Nurses Association declared a “code red” due to the ongoing nursing shortage in the state. The shortage is largely blamed on the pandemic and the burnout nurses felt from the long hours and an overwhelming number of patients.

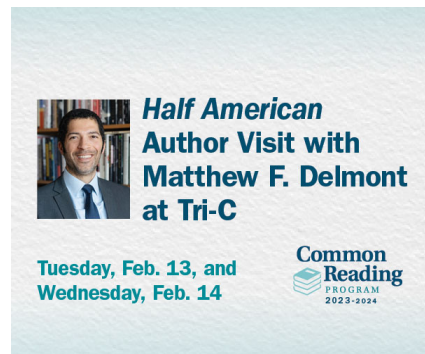
Wendy Batch-Wilson, DNP, dean of the Nursing Center of Excellence at Tri-C, recently discussed the trend of nurses leaving the field on Ideastream’s The Sound of Ideas. [Read more](#)

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## Tri-C To Host "Half American" Author Matthes F. Delmont

You are invited to join Tri-C as we welcome Matthew F. Delmont, author of *Half American: The Epic Story of African Americans Fighting World War II at Home and Abroad*, to the College Feb. 13 – 14. *Half American* was selected as the Common Reading book choice for 2023-2024. [More details.](#)



## February Momentum

Momentum is a series in which Tri-C President, Dr. Michael A. Baston, highlights exciting things happening at your alma mater and offers a glimpse into the coming month. Take a look at the new [February edition here.](#)



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**STAYCONNECTED**



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