



FALL 2021

# INVEST IN PEOPLE

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Advance Futures, Transform The Region.

## Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) Foundation Mission:

To provide resources for advancing student success at Cuyahoga Community College and to transform the lives of those Tri-C serves.



Alex Johnson, Ph.D.  
President  
Cuyahoga Community College

## Our region needs skilled workers, and Tri-C students are ready to work

As our community emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic, our people need meaningful work, and our key industries need skilled employees.

*Team NEO estimates that more than 30,000 good-paying, entry-level positions in the region go unfilled because the local workforce needs the right training. These jobs offer family-sustaining wages in growing industries like manufacturing, health care and IT.*



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

Cuyahoga Community College prepares students to compete for jobs today that will become rewarding careers tomorrow. With your help, we can ensure that the cost of an education doesn't stand in their way.

Thanks to generous contributors like you, more **scholarships** are available than ever before, especially for those whose career paths begin with an industry-recognized certification. We will continue to expand financial aid to ensure that tuition is never a barrier for our students.

Opportunities to **learn and earn** help Tri-C students build on-the-job skills while pursuing their degree or certificate. Apprenticeships, internships and short-term micro-internship projects offer valuable, paid experience on a path to permanent employment.

Sometimes that final hurdle to beginning a new job is a costly one: personal safety equipment, certification exam fees or proper work boots can strain student budgets. **Workforce readiness awards** ensure our graduates have what they need to start their new jobs.

These investments in Tri-C students help build the next generation of skilled workers, large enough and diverse enough to answer our community's changing needs. Tri-C graduates are essential to building better jobs and a brighter future for Northeast Ohio.

**Thank you** for your support. Helping people learn and achieve works for all of us. ■



Lou Joseph  
Chairperson, Tri-C Foundation  
Board of Directors

**Largest number of graduates (4,263)** earned highest number of degrees and certificates **(4,910)** in Tri-C history

**3,506 scholarships** totaling **\$4.24 million** awarded to **2,966 students**

**Tri-C sets record with scholarship awards and degrees/credentials in 2020-2021**

## Dollar Bank invests in public safety scholarships

Dollar Bank has committed \$100,000 to support immediate scholarship assistance to students with financial need who are enrolled in a public safety training program, with a preference toward building equity in this workforce. Tri-C is proud to prepare more first responders than any other training site in Ohio. We are grateful to Dollar Bank for helping to build a pipeline of future public safety professionals who can fill these high-demand, essential positions. ■



## The Right Honourable Theresa May headlines May 13 Presidential Scholarship Luncheon

The Right Honourable Theresa May, former prime minister of the United Kingdom, reflected on the challenges and rewards of leadership as she helped the Cuyahoga Community College Foundation raise scholarship funds for students during the 2021 Presidential Scholarship Luncheon.

May served as keynote speaker at the virtual event on Thursday, May 13, which attracted 800 attendees.



*“We need more young people taking an interest in civic life and politics. Be yourself. Always try to do the right thing. Set goals and recognize there will be barriers and knocks along the way. If you set goals, you can get there. It’s your future.” —Theresa May*

Tri-C student Alexis Blue (pictured at lower right with Megan O’Bryan, Tri-C Foundation president) presented the Lady Theresa May Scholarship for Hospitality Management Students, established in the speaker’s honor to recognize her culinary hobbies.

Pat Pastore, PNC Bank regional president of Cleveland and a director on the Tri-C Foundation board since 2019, moderated the discussion with May (pictured at right with Alex Johnson, Tri-C president). PNC served as presenting sponsor. ■



## Medical Mutual donates \$1 million to address immediate student needs

During the Presidential Scholarship Luncheon, Medical Mutual announced a \$1 million commitment to create wraparound support and scholarships to help close skill gaps in high-growth, in-demand fields.



The gift will apply toward:

- Establishing the **Medical Mutual Workforce Training Endowed Scholarship** for students pursuing high-demand degrees and credentials who are ineligible for federal assistance
- Establishing the **Medical Mutual Student Response Endowment Fund** for student emergency expenses
- Expanding the **Western Campus Food Pantry**, scheduled to open in 2022

“This partnership with Tri-C and the Tri-C Foundation contributes to Medical Mutual’s mission and efforts to support the community,” said **Rick Chiricosta**, chairman, president and CEO of Medical Mutual and member of the Tri-C Foundation Board of Directors. “We are proud to make these investments in access and affordability, and we look forward to the continued accomplishments of Tri-C students.” ■

## New nurses pinned in outdoor ceremony

The Pinning Ceremony is a special moment for graduating nursing students. Among new nurses pinned during the Spring 2021 ceremony were Medical Mutual Scholars (from left): Alex Rivera; Matthew Davey, being pinned by faculty member Jessica Krowka; Liviya Moga; Medical Mutual community affairs manager, Christine Taylor; and Millenia Duncan.



The Medical Mutual Nursing and Health Careers Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 and has awarded 170 scholarships to date. ■

## “Getting involved” important to student leader

Jordan Wright is passionate about being an involved student. As she prepares to complete her Associate of Arts degree, the Collinwood resident and Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School graduate emphasizes how her activities beyond the classroom have prepared her for her job search.

“It’s important to get my degree and show that I can accomplish something,” she said. “I’m looking forward to entering the workforce and being able to help my family.

“I worked as transfer coach, helping other students plan and complete applications to continue their studies after Tri-C. I learned a lot



about being professional in my work. The staff helped to mentor me and answer my questions. I could see right away the benefits of getting more involved.”

Wright also helped plan a panel discussion for the National PanHellenic Council on the importance of getting involved as a student.

During her one-year appointment as Tri-C’s Board Student Scholar, Wright is serving as a bridge between the College’s student body and Board of Trustees, providing information about student needs, suggestions and concerns. She also represented the student body during the dedication of The Pantry: A Tri-C Connect Initiative on the Metropolitan Campus in June. The dedication honored Char and Chuck Fowler, whose major gift in 2020 supported the project. ■

## Maussers honor first-generation students

Herbert and Edith Mausser were committed to the role that education could play in creating a better life for themselves and their children. Their rural upbringings in pre-World War II Europe instilled in them the values of hard work and faith, but little opportunity.



Herbert and his brother — as well as Edith, her widowed mother and her five siblings — came to the United States in the early 1950s. They took advantage of every opportunity to work, learn English and build a new life in Cleveland. The Maussers worked tirelessly to ensure a bright future for their four children. They proudly watched their children “walk the stage” as first-generation college students earning baccalaureate degrees.

The Maussers appreciated Tri-C’s technical, transfer and honors programs as gateways to opportunity.

The Herbert and Edith Mausser Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund honors the couple’s wish to support first-generation college students pursuing a better life through education. ■

## Bank of America boosts Adult Diploma Program

Bank of America announced a four-year, \$600,000 partnership with Tri-C to help scale and support the College’s Adult Diploma Program (ADP), which focuses on career exploration, essential workplace skills and job placement. The grant is part of the bank’s newly expanded \$1.25 billion, five-year commitment to advance racial equality and economic opportunity.



“Bank of America is committed to supporting innovative ways to advance economic opportunity in Cuyahoga County and create positive change within the region,” said Jeneen Marziani, president of Bank of America Ohio and a Tri-C Foundation board of directors member. “Our collaboration with Tri-C will focus on advancing economic opportunity for Northeast Ohio residents by providing access to the resources Black and Hispanic-Latino individuals need to improve their job prospects in order to build a strong career pathway toward a successful future.”

The gift will help the program increase enrollment and completion rates — both of which were impacted by the pandemic — by enhancing career coaching efforts and access to workforce credentials while removing barriers to continuing education that include technology, transportation and child care. ■

# TRI-C JAZZFEST CLEVELAND

Live from Cain Park  
Sept. 11-12, 2021

**WALL-TO-WALL LIVE MUSIC FEATURING**  
A Moment in Cleveland, Bria Skonberg, Catherine Russell, Christian Sands Trio, Emmet Cohen Trio, Harp vs Harp: Edmar Castaneda & Gregoire Maret, Lakecia Benjamin and Pursuance, Marquis Hill, Samara Joy featuring Pasquale Grasso Trio and Spanish Harlem Orchestra.



Tickets on sale now [tri-cjazzfest.com](http://tri-cjazzfest.com)




Cuyahoga Community College Foundation  
700 Carnegie Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44115-2878

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CLEVELAND, OH  
PERMIT #3675

## Board members honored for service; new board members welcomed



*Kathy O'Neill (center) with husband, Bill, and Megan O'Bryan, Foundation president.*



*(From left) Lou Joseph, Foundation board chairperson; Howard Lewis; and Tri-C President Alex Johnson.*

Highlights of the 2021 Tri-C Foundation Board of Directors Annual Meeting on June 16 included tributes to Katherine T. O'Neill, named 2021 Heath Oliver Distinguished Director and Howard Lewis, who received the Chairperson's Award. Louis G. Joseph, president and CEO of The Brewer-Garrett Company, was reappointed Tri-C Foundation board chairperson. He has served as a Foundation director since 2001 and received the Foundation's Heath Oliver Distinguished Director Award in 2017.

Three new directors also joined the board: Tony Costanzo, director of external affairs for AT&T Cleveland/Northern Ohio; Monica Jackson, vice president of global inclusion and diversity for Eaton; and Gwen Robinson, director of community investment and engagement for KeyCorp. ■



*Tony Costanzo*



*Monica Jackson*



*Gwen Robinson*

This issue of *Invest in People* is generously provided by Consolidated Solutions.



[tri-c.edu/give](http://tri-c.edu/give) • 216-987-4868