

LOH - Look Over Here!

When audience members crossed the threshold of Ritz Lounge into the Black Box Theatre to see "This Is Modern Art," they were immediately immersed in the world of the LOH Crew. "The entire theatre was painted with original graffiti, designed specifically for this production by students from the art and theatre departments," said Derek B. Roland, director and adjunct professor of theatre at DCC. Hip-hop music filled the room and colorful images beamed from an overhead projector to intensify the effect.

Once the doors closed, the actors quickly stirred into action, engaging the audience through energetic dialogue and surprising movement throughout the space - including a steady stream of (faux) spray paint.

"This is Modern Art," staged by DCC's Performing Arts program and the Masquer's Guild Theatre Club from April 11 to 13, was evocative and thought-provoking, calling into question who decides what art is and the stature it holds. Bridget Donnelly, a second-year Performing Arts student, served as the assistant director. She said, "The experience gave me fresh insight into theatre-making. I had the opportunity to learn from the fabulously creative Derek Roland as he navigated the directing and teaching process, which was extraordinarily valuable. Equally valuable was getting to produce this work alongside my dedicated and hard-working peers."

The script, written by Kevin Coval and Idris Goodwin, is based on a true story about a team of graffiti writers who painted a 50-foot "piece" on the east wall of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2010. What's a piece? In the words of the lead graffiti writer, Seven, "that's a DOPE question...a piece is short for masterpiece...large, intricate, colorful and complicated."

"Many of the cast members and members of the production/creative team were residence hall students," said Director of Academic Housing Kaina Rivera who attended opening night with Residence Coordinators Karen Aponte-Sanchez and Jen Lorenzo. "It was great to see our students delve into the

history of graffiti and bring about the discussion of racialized self-expression."

Kevin Cavanaugh, professor of English, was also in the audience that night. He has been coordinating with Theatre Department Chair Dr. Thomas Costello for many years to teach the spring mainstage production in his English class. "The students enjoyed the modernity and relatability of the play," he shared. "They debated its main points - some seeing graffiti as mere vandalism and others defending its artistic qualities. I want to encourage my students to grapple with complex issues such as these. The arts are a great way to do that, while also building their connection to the campus community."



Awed on Washington Quad

DCC faculty, staff and students didn't need to travel to the path of totality to experience the wonder of the solar eclipse on April 8. Our Student Activities office coordinated with the Physical Science, Engineering and Technology Department (PSET) to set up a fun and educational eclipse viewing right on Washington Quad.

While the free protective eyewear was quickly snapped up shortly after 2 p.m., it was easy to find a friendly person willing to share. Associate Professor of Physics Dr. Manish Jadhav, Professor of Physical Science Timothy Welling and Physics Teaching Lab Assistant Ryan Bisson also encouraged participants to look through the telescopes. Student Activities researched and created posterboards displaying "fun facts" about the eclipse.

"This was the largest gathering I've been to in my time at DCC," said second-year communications student and Office of Marketing and Communications student aide Bridget Bell, emphasizing the sense of camaraderie she felt, with people gathered around – sitting under trees, laughing, smiling and gazing at the sky.

"The Student Activities office was thrilled to see students, faculty and staff come together in the Washington Quad for the eclipse viewing," said Assistant Director of Student Activities Sarah Billings Wheeler. "This rare celestial event provided an opportunity for us to pause and experience the natural cycles of our solar system, and we hope that we can find other opportunities to celebrate together as a community in the future."



Professor Jadhav said, "The anticipation of the April 8 total eclipse (almost total from our campus) was building for months in advance, and some people I know had even booked trips to the path of totality. I decided to focus on the astronomy lab instead. A large group of students, faculty and staff were able to experience the event through the eyepiece of our College's 8-inch Maksutov-Newtonian telescope. I (and I am sure others would agree) definitely felt the temperature drop around the time of maximum coverage. It was a truly memorable experience!"



Images above provided by Dr. Jadhav, captured through the Canon EOS-RP at prime focus of a Stellarvue 125 Access scope.

Anquinette Hayles



Part-time English Instructor Anquinette Hayles was honored by the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce (DCRCC) on April 11 at its annual 40 Under 40 Mover & Shaker awards ceremony. Born

and raised in Poughkeepsie, Hayles graduated from Poughkeepsie High School and took her first college classes at DCC as part of the New Visions program, which was offered in partnership with Dutchess BOCES. She went on to earn her bachelor's in English language and literature from the University at Albany in 2010 and master's in nonprofit and organizational leadership from Fordham University in 2017.

Hayles was appointed to the Dutchess BOCES Board of Education in 2023 and is now rounding out her fifth year at DCC. One of the things she enjoys most about working at DCC is having the opportunity to mentor students.

"I make a point to open up conversations about how their education connects to their future careers and to encourage them to take advantage of our resources," she shared. As an educator, education advocate, and first generation college graduate, Hayles said, "I feel privileged to work where I'm from and give back to the community that poured so much into me. I'm honored to represent my parents, my children, DCC, Dutchess BOCES and my city in receiving this award."

You can read more about Hayles's many community contributions and entrepreneurial pursuits in her [honoree bio](#) on the DCRCC website. Keep an eye out for her children's book, "What to Do With Crayons," which she co-wrote with her nephew and plans to officially launch on National Crayon Day next year.



Ready, Set, Go to College!

Back for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted plans in 2020, "Ready, Set, Go to College!" was held on March 19 in the Greenspan Cafeteria. The comprehensive half-day event, organized by the Office of Accommodative Services (OAS), is designed to support students with disabilities as they transition from high school to college. The program included a wide variety of workshops and presentations. DCC departments and Joyce M. Hawk of Hudson Valley Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Center-Westchester Institute for Human Development. High school juniors and seniors, joined by their chaperones, guidance counselors and family members, came from eight Dutchess County School districts along with one from Orange County.

The program began with a warm welcome from Dr. Jordan in which he emphasized the College's commitment to providing equal access and an inclusive collegiate community. "At DCC, we strive to be a student-ready college," he said. "This means that we endeavor to create an environment where everyone can thrive." Hawk, a community partner and one of the founding members of the workshop, gave two presentations – the first on college planning for students, and second on disability documentation for parents and professionals. The Financial Services and Conklin Hall teams also shared important information and resources with the attendees. Admissions played an instrumental role in the event, especially in arranging a "Falcon Quest," a guided tour of campus resources, and Scheduling was integral to the planning process.

One of the day's highlights was a panel discussion, featuring two DCC students with disabilities. They spoke about their experiences accessing academic accommodations and advocating for themselves as college students, sharing advice and insight about the many



opportunities to get involved, make connections and build a strong academic foundation here at DCC. OAS Director Linda Bertolozzi, who organized the event, shared, "It was wonderful to be able to bring this event back to our community. Leveraging the skills and talents of our DCC colleagues and community supporters, we were able to provide an invaluable experience to students with disabilities, helping them feel more comfortable and confident beginning their college journey here at DCC. Thank you to everyone who promoted the event and arranged for students to attend."

DCC alumni Elisha Brestovanksy ('10) also received the 40 Under 40 distinction this year. Now serving as tax director at PFK O'Connor Davies, she earned her AS in Business Administration at DCC, BS in Accounting at SUNY New Paltz and MBA at Mount Saint Mary College.

Director of Campus Safety & Project Management Barbara Warren

Barbara Warren began as safety coordinator at DCC in August 2022. She recently moved into a new position that aligns perfectly with her vast and unique skill set. In addition to overseeing Campus Safety, she is also responsible for supervising the activities and operations of the College's capital improvement projects – ensuring that they are completed in a safe, accurate and cost-effective manner. A friendly and outgoing colleague, she's probably introduced herself to you already, but there's much to learn from and about our energetic director of campus safety and project management.



Warren grew up in the Bronx and attended Ramapo College, where she completed her bachelor's in environmental studies. She has led an interesting and exciting life. From working on an Israeli Air Force Base (and quickly learning how to speak Hebrew) to handling a chemical warehouse fire in Mount Vernon, she's always been eager to tackle challenges and continually add to her extensive knowledge base.

As director of campus safety and project management at DCC, Warren is passionate about building strong connections and bolstering our safety culture. She collaborates with offices across the College and says this is one of the best things about her role. "I love my job," said Warren. "It's a pleasure to have the opportunity to contribute to this vibrant community, to develop and share resources to ensure everyone feels safe and comfortable here." She mentioned some specific examples, such as working with Conklin Hall to implement safety training for resident advisors, working on initiatives with Mental Health and Physical Services such as [JED Campus](#), and coordinating with the Office of Accommodative Services to develop a map of [accessible routes](#) on the main campus. The Office of Campus Safety and Security also released a comprehensive [Emergency Action Guide](#) last year. Warren enthusiastically explained that this guide "gives you everything you need to know, not just when you're here, but when you're at home and when students go into their careers." So, if you haven't done so already, make sure to check it out!

DCC Foundation Director of Development Anna Parra



Anna Parra began her new role as director of development at the DCC Foundation amid final preparations for the annual Bridge to the Future Gala. One might think this would be an overwhelming experience, but not for her. "It was the perfect way to jump in," she said. "I had the opportunity to work with the incredible team at the Foundation and collaborate with colleagues across campus. The event ran so smoothly, like a well-oiled machine!" Parra also enjoyed meeting board members and getting to know people in the community. "Relationship building is key to the work we do, and it was great to begin cultivating those connections right away," she shared.

Parra's extensive experience in fundraising, leadership, marketing and event management, along with her bilingual proficiency in Spanish, have prepared her to hit the ground running. In addition to cultivating a portfolio of current and prospective donors, she will manage three direct reports and have oversight of Foundation communications, events, grants, and day to day operations. Parra will also support the AVP for Institutional Advancement and Executive Director Diana Pollard in cultivating and stewarding new donors and business prospects.

Parra earned her bachelor's in finance/international business from Fordham University as well as a master's in communications and an advanced certificate in communications management and media from The College of New Rochelle. Her two most recent roles were president of Maria Regina High School in Hartsdale and president of Aquinas High School in the Bronx, where she grew up. Parra has lived in Peekskill for 20 years this July and has two children – a son who is graduating high school this year and a daughter in her freshman year.

Director of Advising Services Dianna Cruz

Dianna Cruz comes to DCC from Manhattan College, where she worked nearly 22 years, beginning as an office manager and quickly rising through the ranks. With the encouragement of her dean, who saw her



gift for supporting students, she transitioned to an academic advisor role in 2006. After completing her master's in counselor education/school counseling and guidance services from Manhattan College in 2011, she was promoted into leadership, serving as assistant dean then senior assistant dean of the School of Liberal Arts.

Cruz grew up in Yonkers and settled in Wappingers Falls in 2009. She began her undergraduate education at Westchester Community College in her mid-twenties as an adult learner with a son at home and a daughter on the way. Her daughter would later go on to attend DCC where she earned her associate degree in Visual Arts, and her son would land at Harvard.

Throughout her career and personal life, Cruz has gained extensive experience of both public and private institutions of higher education. She says that, especially now as student loan debt spirals out of control in the U.S., community college is the smart choice. Not only do students save thousands on tuition and receive a solid education, but they also have access to excellent resources to help with everything from college readiness to career exploration and transfer preparation along with extensive support to overcome personal and academic challenges.

Cruz shared, "I'm really happy to be at DCC. More than ever, community colleges are an important resource for young people and anyone who wishes to pursue higher education or career training. In this day and age, community college is the smart choice, and I would love to be able to increase awareness about this."

FCCC Visit and Report-Out



On April 2 and 3, DCC welcomed a visiting team from the Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) to help us evaluate our shared governance processes and offer suggestions for improvement.

As part of this "wellness check," the FCCC team completed a full schedule of conversations across our campus community. On April 3, they read out their findings, informed by the survey DCC faculty and staff completed last month and by the two days of conversations and forums.

Dr. Jordan introduced the self-study team at the report-out session and acknowledged the work that Chief of Staff and Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness Dr. Susan Rogers and Assistant Professor of Speech Margeaux Lippman did in orchestrating the wellness check. He was especially grateful to PSO, PSA and PELT leadership for their contributions and to the campus as a whole for taking time to participate in the wellness check. "This visit is the icing on the cake that we've been baking here at DCC," Dr. Jordan said, "as a way to make sure we develop intentional practices around shared and collaborative governance."

The team reported many positives, the greatest of which was our willingness to explore what we can do to improve our shared governance, and they highlighted opportunities for DCC to improve and grow. For more detail, please view the report-out PowerPoint presentation [here](#) (note, you will need to be logged into myDCC to view!).

A full written report will be shared with College in 45 days or less. FCCC visiting team member Jeff Steele stressed that these are recommendations only, and what we do with them is up to us. But team member Jacqueline Snyder felt we were in a good position to move forward, encouraged by our "being open to reflecting on what we are doing well and thinking about what we can improve."

Professional Service Alliance (PSA) Chair Thomas D'Ascanio said that he appreciated the visiting team for coming to DCC to evaluate our shared governance. "It is always vital to get an outside perspective on how governance is operated here," he added, "and I look forward to making improvements based on their recommendations."

Professional Staff Organization (PSO) Chair Michael Adams acknowledged the participation of faculty and staff in the Wellness Check. "I appreciate the hard work that went into organizing the FCCC Wellness Check at DCC and I'm grateful to all of my colleagues who participated in the process. I'm optimistic that the results will lead to conversations and actions to make governance at DCC stronger, more effective, and more inclusive."

A Model (UN) of Diplomacy

April brings rain, flowers and baseball, and for DCC, it also means a new group of students headed down to NYC for the National Model UN Conference. The coalition from DCC and Vassar College – known as The Hudson River Group – have been working together for the past 25 years. This year, our students represented the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (yes, that's its full name), and Assistant Professor Matthew Murray, who advised and accompanied the students from his GOV 263/264 class, it was "an assignment that was interesting and challenging in its own right, given developments in the region over the last six months."

The team debated, drafted working papers, and ultimately passed mock resolutions on topics as varied as protecting the rights of children in conflict zones, returning looted cultural artifacts, and promoting sustainable tourism.

The conference wrapped up in the Great Hall of the United Nations on April 5. The Hudson River Group did an excellent job, earning individual awards as well as an Honorable Mention award for the whole team.

DCC student Waseem Saroyia, a second-year liberal arts major, enjoyed the challenge of participation. "The NMUN Conference itself is a test for those who are willing to go the extra mile to accomplish tasks that will seem taxing but in the end are worth it," he said. Congratulations to all the students on their accomplishment!



Analyze This



DCC's **American Statistical Association (ASA) student chapter**, led by Math Instructor Henry Mendoza and Professor of Math Barbara Dolansky, participated in DataFest 2024, a three-day-long adventure in data wrangling held between April 5 and 7 at Vassar College. Eighteen teams, a total of 86 participants from colleges including Marist and West Point Military Academy, worked around the clock to find meaning in a complex data set and present their findings to a panel of judges. DCC participants shared their experiences and data at a campus report-out in Washington Hall on April 18.

"DataFest was very fun and challenging – nothing like I have ever done before," said DCC Computer Information Systems (CIS) student Gonzalo Martinez-Valeriano. "I had to learn a new coding language in just a couple of weeks. I gained new friends and obtained more knowledge," he shared. Another CIS student, Athlaia Brito Mesa, said she "learned that competition is not always about winning but about the journey." Also emphasized at the report-out was the relevance of data analysis to all majors and future careers.

A Horror Honorific



Sam Rebelein is a professional tutor in the Writing Center. He is also a published author whose first novel, "Edenville," was recently nominated for a prestigious **Bram Stoker award**. The Bram Stoker Awards®, named after the man who penned "Dracula," are bestowed on writers "for superior achievement" in the horror genre.

"I started writing horror to get the ugliness out on the page," Rebelein shared, explaining that he uses the form as an outlet for his fears, a way to transform them, and, paradoxically, to escape. He describes his book as being full of humor, calling it "an adventure into a strange and cursed land." Having grown up in the Hudson Valley, Rebelein said, he draws inspiration for his vivid landscapes from the twists and turns of the roads in this area and "random staircases in the middle of the woods." Creating the map at the beginning of his book, based loosely on parts of the region, helped him make his fictional world feel real.

Visit the Faculty Author Collection and look for the signed copy of "**Edenville**"; you will be entertained by his inscription. You can also buy your own copy and visit the Writing Center to have it signed! Keep an eye out for Rebelein's forthcoming collection of short stories, "The Poorly Made and Other Things," which will be out in early 2025.

Athletics Highlights

A Winning Team, On and Off the Court

Men's basketball had another outstanding season. They finished as the No. 1 Seed in the NJCAA Region XV and earned runner-up in the Region XV Tournament. Their final overall record for 2023/24 was 23-6. To top it all off, DCC's basketball coach, Robert Piano, was named Coach of the Year for the first time.

"Robert is the fastest coach in my tenure to reach 50 wins in men's basketball," said Director of Athletics Matt Paquet. "He has been with the team for three seasons, each more impressive than the last. Not only does he motivate the team to be the best they can be athletically, but he's also developed a collaborative model to support their academic success." Paquet shared that Piano has worked closely with the Center for Academic Excellence, the Math and Science Center, and the Writing Center to ensure players regularly participate in tutoring. Piano has also strengthened ties with the Counseling Center, Health Services, and the DCC Foundation to connect student-athletes to health and financial resources.

Prince Kamate, who plays point guard/wing, said, "It was no surprise that Coach Piano won Coach of the Year. He's a great person on and off the court. The way he builds relationships with us players is something not many people can do. I appreciate everything he's done for the team."

The Board of Trustees honored Coach Piano and the men's basketball team for their accomplishments at the March 27 Board of Trustees meeting. Joselito Rosario, who plays center, remarked on the experience: "It was an honor, and we all appreciated the opportunity to share the same room as the Board of Trustees, to be part of the DCC Falcons legacy."

Softball is Back!

DCC's women's softball has returned to competition for the first time in five years. The team is led by Coach Chip Watt and his daughter Cassidy, who played softball at DCC before transferring to SUNY New Paltz, where she earned her bachelor's in 2023. While the team had a difficult season, Cassidy is optimistic about next year. "We got our bats coming alive," she said. "Game by game, we saw progressive success." Nine freshmen are expected to return for the 2024/25 season, which will help the team build on the foundation they established this year.



This Year's Gala a Resounding Success!

Over 300 guests attended the DCC Foundation's annual Bridge to the Future Gala at The Grandview on Saturday, April 6. Foundation benefactors and Board members were joined by DCC trustees, faculty, staff and alumni in addition to volunteers and community members, who came together to recognize this year's honorees: distinguished alumni, John Genovese '74 and Edward Pittman '80, and community leaders, Geraldine Laybourne and Brian Doyle. They enjoyed delicious food and danced to oldies and modern tunes played by DJ and former Alumni Hall of Fame inductee Bill Beale '99. Rounding off the evening, 30 silent auction items were sold, raising additional funds for the many student, faculty and staff initiatives the DCC Foundation supports.



DID YOU KNOW

Why are my emails quarantined?

Prior to 2024, incoming quarantined emails (messages that are potentially malicious) were only visible to IT administrators. This caused confusion when certain legitimate or expected emails didn't arrive in your Inbox. Starting in 2024, the IT department improved email policies so that you would get notifications when messages are quarantined.

Only emails with significant potential for being malicious will be captured. Email alerts for these messages will come from quarantine@messaging.microsoft.com with the options for Review Message, Request Release and Block Sender.

You can now safely Review Message to verify its legitimacy, Request Release to allow IT to review the message before release and Block Sender if this is a legitimate quarantine and should be blocked.

According to Joseph Falcone, infrastructure systems specialist, "We hope this offers you improved visibility and confidence in our services as we strive to implement continuous improvements."

Prevented high confidence phishing messages

Sender: **Test-sender@test-sender.com**

Subject: **Test message**

Date: 3/22/2024 5:00:53 PM

[Review Message](#)

[Request Release](#)

[Block Sender](#)



Sat 3/23/2024 2:15 AM

quarantine@messaging.microsoft.com

Microsoft 365 security: You have messages in quarantine

Remember, the Help Desk can be reached at helpdesk@sunydutchess.edu. Can't email? Call **x4357** or **(845) 431-8005**.
If you get voicemail, please leave your contact information and a description of your troubles.
All voicemails are automatically generated into tickets.

Campus Notes

ENROLLMENT Updates

As of April 22, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success Scott Schnackenberg reported that both summer and fall enrollment are up. There are 1,032 students enrolled in a total of 6,459 credits for the summer term – 179 more students (+21%) and 1,440 more credits (+29%) than this time last year. There are 755 students enrolled in a total of 8,634 credits for the fall term – 97 more students (+15%) and 967 more credits (+13%) than this time last year. Fall applications are also up, with over 2,776 applications – 52 more (+2%) than this time last year.

Over 530 Attend Accepted Student Day

Accepted Student Day, held on Saturday, April 20, drew a steady stream of visitors to the main campus – 211 students and their families, for a total of more than 530 guests. Over 70 students made an appointment with the ACT Center to register that day (or shortly after), and another 25 students had appointments or had already registered. “Students were excited,” said Admissions Outreach Coach Vincent Pedi, “The vast majority of them were ready to register. They were on a mission to make a game plan to get off to a strong start at DCC!” Associate Dean of Enrollment Mike Roe shared that more students attended this event than any other since he began working at DCC in 2011. He stated, and AVP for Enrollment Management and Student Success Brian Sondey agreed, that moving the event to Saturdays, communicating with students in Slate, and bolstering digital marketing and communications efforts likely contributed to this increase. “I believe that this was an impactful experience for our prospective students,” said Roe. “And I am extremely grateful for my staff and the campus community as a whole for their efforts in making this event a success.”



An Intimate NYC Accepted Student Day

On Friday, April 12, our Admissions team accompanied a bus full of New York City students and their families for an Accepted Student Day tailored specifically to their particular interests and needs. After a warm welcome from Dr. Jordan, guests toured the main campus and heard from a panel of residence hall students who shared real-life advice on how to be successful living and learning at DCC. The ACT Center led an interactive activity to inspire students to follow their passions while parents went on a special campus tour and received helpful information from Financial Student Services and EOP. Assistant Director of Admissions Michelle Diano said, “Thank you to all who helped us make this day successful.”



Campus Notes

Congratulations, Marta Newkirk!

Assistant Dean of Student Services Marta Newkirk recently received a Special Recognition Award for 20 years of volunteer service with The United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region. She began this work in 2003 with the encouragement of retired DCC Dean of Students Howard Himelstein. Since then, Newkirk's responsibilities have progressed, from serving on the Community Impact Council to the Community Impact Committee. In 2022, she was elected to the Board of Directors while maintaining membership on the Community Impact Committee.

Newkirk shared, "It has been my pleasure representing DCC, which allows me to provide and share information about the United Way's programs and services with our students, faculty and staff – connecting them with resources, education, professional development and community service opportunities."



Aviation Open House Takes Flight

DCC's aviation program continues to gain altitude! On April 6, our open house drew over 100 potential students and their families, for a total of 180 guests, from NYC to Syracuse and as far away as Massachusetts, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Attendees met our faculty, learned about our programs, and saw presentations from our flight partners, US Aviation Academy and Independent Helicopters. Representatives from Student Financial Services and Academic Housing were also on hand, as well as our favorite flying friend, Falco, who roamed the hangar posing for pictures with families.



Associate Dean of Student Services Mike Roe said, "It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm from prospective students and families. Our current students were proudly sharing their DCC experiences and showing off the aircraft used in their programs. I'm so appreciative of our faculty, staff and students who came together to provide an amazing experience for our guests."

Open (Play) House

Despite the day's deluge of rain, over two dozen eager and excited families came to DCC on April 3 to check out the range of childcare options offered here. It was the first open house held in partnership between the Louis Greenspan Daycare Center and the June Roush Pierson Lab Nursery School, and guests had the opportunity to explore both spaces.

At the Day Care Center, attendees saw the classrooms, met the staff and learned about registration. Most of the families were looking for immediate care, but a few had an eye toward future enrollment.

At the Nursery School, three students completing fieldwork for our Early Childhood and Elementary Education (ECH/EED) programs interacted with the visiting children in a classroom setting as the Lab Nursery Educators spoke with families about their play-based teaching philosophy and the ECH/EED programs. Thank you to everyone who helped brighten an otherwise dreary day!



Campus Notes

Larger Than Life Drawings

"INDELIBLE," Associate Professor of Art Lindsey Guile's collection of large-format charcoal life drawings, opened on April 8 in the Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery. A reception was held on April 10, followed by an artist talk on April 18. In her illuminating talk, Guile spoke about being a visual storyteller, honoring and communicating the experiences of her models through her drawings, and, in so doing, helping them feel empowered in their bodies. "My goal of this work," said Guile, "is to hopefully have [the models] come to a show like this and look at themselves and see themselves in a different way, hopefully a more positive way. And when you come in here, maybe the drawing isn't you, but maybe you see something that resembles you and you find a new appreciation for something maybe you didn't have before."

One of Guile's drawings appears in a recent [New York Times article](#) – an interview with bestselling author and fat liberation activist Virginia Sole-Smith. Sole-Smith is a collector of Guile's work, and their research is closely related. If you haven't visited the gallery lately, now's the time. The show is up through May 17!



Gathering STEAM

This year's Women in STEAM panel was another great success. The Women's Activities Committee (WAC) teamed up with Workforce Education and Development to bring together women leaders from a broad range of professions – from ceramics to mechatronics. WAC also collaborated with Admissions to bring local high school students, incorporating the panel into a tour and information session, and drawing a connection between a DCC education and pathways to STEAM careers. The panelists were Tabitha Clevenger of PVE, LLC; Sandy Winder from Dutchess County Weights & Measures; and two women from DCC: Adjunct Professor of Ceramics Jessica Murphy and student Jesenia Peralta, a mechanical assembler working as a registered apprentice at SONO-TEK CORP and being trained through ELT classes at DCC.



Phenomenal Women

On the evening of April 10, the Association of Women at DCC (AWDCC), WAC and the Writing Center hosted the fourth annual Celebration of Black Women Authors to benefit Dress for Success Dutchess County. Nineteen members of the DCC community attended the Zoom event, including faculty, staff and students. Participants read essays, novel excerpts, poems and comedic writings on a range of topics: mother-daughter relationships, the joys of reading and libraries, racism in medicine, education and teaching, as well as racism and slavery. It was a literary adventure featuring works by authors such as Phillis Wheatley, Melania Luisa Marte, Jamaica Kincaid, bell hooks, Octavia Butler, Ntozake Shange, Gwendolyn Bennet and Claudia Rankine.



Campus Notes

Recognizing Our Professional Partners

The Office of Instruction and Learning held its annual Advisory Committee Reception and Recognition ceremony on April 4 in Ritz Lounge. The advisory committee is made up of experts from across industries who work with program chairs to help ensure DCC's curricula include instruction on relevant workplace topics and skills. Seventeen committee members were recognized for their years of service – contributing insight from the fields of music, human services, early childhood, architecture and construction management, business and accounting, technology and medicine.



From left are Vice President for Instruction and Learning Dr. Raymond Houston; Bryan Golden, recognized for 40 Years on the Computer Information Systems Advisory Committee; Professor and Program Chair of Computer Information Systems Dr. Frank Whittle; President Dr. Peter Grant Jordan; Carol Friedman, recognized for 5 Years on the Accounting Advisory Committee; A. Rief Kanan, recognized for 5 Years on the Accounting Advisory Committee; and Associate Professor and Program Chair for Accounting Ahmed Ismail.

A Rhyming Good Time

On April 4, dozens gathered in the Writing Center after hours for a Poetry Slam. The slam was streamed live over Zoom, so poets were able to share their work in person and virtually. Students, faculty and staff alike enjoyed each other's rhymes, free verse, rap, gospel and more – all while sharing snacks and candy graciously provided by Writing Center director Dr. Dana Gavin. Writing Center professional tutor Sam Rebelein called the Slam “perfect evidence of DCC’s diverse and thriving community.” Look out for more Writing Center events soon!



ePortfolios to Enhance Student Learning

As a faculty or staff member, you have a powerful tool at your disposal. **Digication** is an ePortfolio software, a flexible platform that allows you and your students to showcase your work. The intuitive interface allows students to easily create an online portfolio to demonstrate learning in your class, while also providing the opportunity for them to begin building a kind of CV, which they can show to employers, transfer institutions and more. You can also use the platform to create your own course or portfolio site. On April 5 in the TLC, Associate Professor of Art Holly McCabe and Prior Learning Assessment Coordinator Carl Norris gave a presentation, which outlined these benefits and guided by example. A Zoom recording is available [here](#). To sign up for a Digication account, go to sunydutchess.digication.com. Have questions? Reach out to Holly at holly.mccabe@sunydutchess.edu or Carl at carl.norris@sunydutchess.edu.



Campus Notes

Connecting College and Career

More than 70 employers and nearly 250 job seekers attended the DCC Career Fair 2024 on April 10 in Falcon Hall to share and receive information about internship, summer job and full-time professional opportunities.

The event, co-sponsored by DCC's Workforce Education and Development office and ACT Center together with DCWorks, facilitated valuable

connections between students, alumni, community members and local organizations. Workforce Pathways Coordinator Dr. Linda Haas Manley

organized the event, collaborating with several DCC departments and community agencies to make it a success. "We were fortunate to host

companies from a variety of industries," she said. "Some have already set

up interviews or made employment offers to students. Advance Testing Company shared the exciting news that two students they met at the fair will be working with them this summer! What's more, this employer and others have asked to visit campus because they want to hire more DCC students. What a wonderful outcome for our students!"



Personnel Updates

New Hires - Welcome to DCC!

Christina Ausiello, coordinator of annual giving & communications, DCC Foundation

Desmond Barnette, part-time instructor, Workforce Education and Development

Dianna Cruz, director of advising services, Academic Advising

Kristin Magnanini, part-time faculty, Nursing

Isaias Mavila, part-time faculty, Aviation Maintenance Technology

Ricardo Mercado, microcomputer/virtual support specialist, Computer Center

Olivia O'Doherty, instructor, Driving Impaired Program

Anna Parra, director of development, DCC Foundation

Michael Sawyer, head cleaner, Custodial Services

Miguel Silva, part-time cleaner, Custodial Services

Retirements - Don't Forget to Visit!

Anna Carbone, housekeeper, Custodial Services

Help us Build DCC's Digital Presence!

Need to update something on the website? Submit a web request at sunydutchess.edu/web-request.

Have a story or event to share? Past, present and future DCC stories and events - this is the material we need to engage our audience. Submit your ideas here: sunydutchess.edu/social.



Campus Notes

Faculty Promotions

Approval of Tenure

Meghan McCarthy, assistant professor, Business, Aviation and Construction Professions

Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

Teresa Burke, Allied Health and Biological Sciences

Kevin Lang, English and Humanities

Katherine Espinosa, Allied Health and Biological Sciences

Meghan McCarthy, Business, Aviation and Construction Professions

Mariana Melo, Department of Allied Health and Biological Sciences

Matthew Murray, Department of History, Government and Economics

From Associate Professor to Full Professor

Dr. Thomas Costello, Performing, Visual Arts and Communications

Tina Iraga, English and Humanities

Dr. Treesa Scaria, Nursing

Sabbaticals

Dr. Michael Boden, associate professor, History, Government and Economics, fall 2024 semester

Renee Lathrop, professor, Physical Sciences, Engineering and Technology, spring 2025 semester

