

UNITY COLLEGE NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE NIAGARA COUNTY



# NCCC

ANNUAL REPORT

A look back on 2014-15



UNITY COLLEGE NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE NIAGARA COUNTY



THE SMART PLACE TO START

# NCCC AT A GLANCE



## FALL 2014 ADMISSIONS PROFILE

Applications.....	6,576
Accepted Freshmen .....	2,499
Accepted Transfers.....	720
Registered Freshmen .....	1,384
Registered Transfers .....	560



## DEGREES AWARDED IN 2014-2015

Associate in Arts.....	229
Associate in Science .....	308
Associate in Applied Science .....	429
Certificates .....	108
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,074</b>



## FACILITIES

Acres .....	287
Buildings .....	10



## FALL 2014 ENROLLMENT

From New York State .....	6,387
From Niagara County.....	4,194
Outside Niagara County .....	2,193
Outside New York State .....	79



## 2014-2015 STUDENT COSTS

Full-time Tuition .....	\$1,944/semester
HOUSING RATE:	
Niagara Falls Campus....	\$2,550-\$2,856/semester
Sanborn Campus.....	\$3,076-\$4,264/semester



## ALUMNI

Total Alumni .....	39,000
Alumni in New York State.....	23,214
Alumni in Niagara County .....	15,472



## 2013-2014 EMPLOYEES

Full-time Faculty, Staff, Administration.....	311
Part-time Faculty, Staff, Administration .....	401



**3111 Saunders Settlement Rd.  
Sanborn, NY 14132**

Ph: (716) 614-6222  
Fax: (716) 614-6224  
www.niagaracc.suny.edu

## TABLE OF CONTENTS



▲ (Left to right) Valerie Odom, Kayla Mansfield, Tyler Dardcinnski, Matt Keating, Brandon Rivera, Brett Helmbrecht, Joey D'Angelo in front of Student Housing at the NCCC September Orientation.

## NCCC ANNUAL REPORT

Letter from the President	2
Board of Trustees	3
Spotlight	4
Highlights of NCCC	5
Niagara Falls Culinary Institute	6
Awards & Recognition	8
Academic Highlights	10
Around Campus	12
VE-Day Celebration	14
Commencement	16
Athletics	18
Financial Statements	20
Niagara County Legislature	21

## NCCC FOUNDATION

Board Welcome	22
Capital Campaign	23
Annual Scholarship Gala	24
Accomplishments	25
Donors	26
Presidential Partners	28
Board of Directors	29

## CONNECTIONS ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Class Notes	1
All in the Family	2
Annual Fund Donation	4
Alumni Spotlight	5



▲ Professor James Mezhir was honored for his forty years of service to NCCC at the annual Recognition Reception held at NCCI in November. (Left to right) NCCC College Trustee Vince Ginestre, NCCC President James P. Klyczek, Professor James Mezhir, NCCC College Trustee Chair James Ward, NCCC College Trustee Bill Ross.



▲ Math Professor Anne Jowsey and Rad Tech Instructor Elaine Beaudoin are all smiles as they participate in the Relay for Life on the Sanborn campus in March.

▲ Wonder Woman meets Super Tripp at Superhero Night at the Bisons Game

▲ (Back row left to right) "Wolfpack" members Candy Zadul, Corey Boice, (front row) Jessica McNair and Olivia Spitzer welcome new students at Orientation in January

## ACCREDITATIONS

### Institutional Accreditation

Middle States Commission on Higher Education  
3624 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
(267) 284-5000

### Baking and Pastry Arts

American Culinary Federation Education Foundation  
180 Center Place Way  
St. Augustine, FL 32095  
(904) 824-4468 | (800) 624-9458

### Culinary Arts

American Culinary Federation Education Foundation  
180 Center Place Way  
St. Augustine, FL 32095  
(904) 824-4468 | (800) 624-9458

### Medical Assistant

Medical Assisting Education Review Board  
20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1575  
Chicago, IL 60606 (800) 228-2262 and  
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs  
1361 Park Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756  
(727) 210-2350

### Nursing

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing  
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850  
Atlanta, GA 30326 (404) 975-5000  
www.nlnac.org

### Physical Therapy Assistant

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education  
1111 North Fairfax Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-1488  
(703) 684-2782 | (800) 999-2782

### Radiologic Technology

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology  
20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 2850  
Chicago, IL 60606-3182  
(312) 704-5300

### Surgical Technology

Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting  
6 W. Dry Creek Circle, Suite #110  
Littleton, CO 80120 (303) 694-9262 and  
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs  
1361 Park Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756 (727) 210-2350

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am pleased to provide you with the  
Niagara County Community College Annual Report.

“This past year has been a  
year of significant progress.”

**T**his three-part report includes the College’s annual report, the NCCC Foundation’s annual report, and the summer 2015 edition of the NCCC Alumni Association magazine, *Connections*.

This past year has been a year of significant progress. The Niagara County Community College Foundation began the Learning Commons Capital Campaign, which will transform the current Lewis Library into the heart of NCCC’s campus. Please read more about this magnificent project in the Foundation pages of this report.

The College and its faculty received numerous awards throughout the year. In November, nominated alongside 1,000 other community colleges, NCCC was selected as one of 10 finalists for the national Bellwether Award in the category of Workforce Development for its program entitled: *Retail Partnership Preparing an Educated and Experienced Workforce* at the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute. This was a tremendous opportunity for members of the Board of Trustees, staff and faculty members to join me to explain to community colleges from around the nation just what an enterprising and economic development driver the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute has become since opening its doors in September of 2012.

Also, it was such an honor to have New York Times Best Seller, Pulitzer Prize finalist, Princeton’s Roger S. Berlind Distinguished Professor of the Humanities, and Lockport native, Joyce Carol Oates give the keynote address at Commencement. She told students to be stubborn and optimistic - but she also mentioned something else.

She said, *“As graduates of NCCC, you might revisit the college when you can—check in with former instructors—perhaps take courses here—those exciting courses (in the arts?) you could not fit into your schedule when you were a student. And if you can, contribute to the college—no matter how modestly, it will be appreciated. You are not isolated, singular individuals but members of a community united by common goals. Your instructors, like your parents and families, are the wellsprings of your career. Don’t hesitate to express gratitude!”*

As president, I can tell you, Professor Oates is right. I extend an invitation to all of you reading this now to take a look at those arts courses or those community education and workforce development courses you have thought about taking but haven’t yet. Now is the time. And yes, no matter how modest, we do appreciate your contribution as it will serve students in our community.

The students worked tirelessly to gain new skills and contribute to the community. I invite you to read in the pages that follow how NCCC students, faculty and staff have been a part of the NCCC community and beyond this past year.

Sincerely,

Dr. James P. Klyczek  
President



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR



**James W. Ward**  
Chairperson  
2012-2018



**Henry F. Wojtaszek**  
Vice Chairperson  
2011-2017



**Bradley W. Rowles**  
Secretary  
2015-2021



**Gina I. Virtuoso**  
Financial Secretary  
2009-2016



**Vincent R. Ginestre**  
2011-2018



**William L. Ross**  
2005-2018



**Kevin C. Schuler**  
2006-



**Bonnie R. Sloma**  
2008-2022



**Sheila Smith**  
2009-2016



**Olivia M. Spitzer**  
Student Trustee  
2014-2015

# SPOTLIGHT ON SHEILA SMITH

*Public Relations Director, Gina Beam sat down with College Trustee, Sheila Smith in order to get a personal perspective on one of the decision makers affecting the lives of students, faculty and staff of NCCC.*



## Q & A

**Appointed 2009**  
**Current term expires 2016**

**Principal, Gaskill Preparatory School,**  
**Niagara Falls**

As Principal of Gaskill Preparatory School, Sheila is responsible for the management and implementation of district and state policies, regulations, and procedures. At the building-level, she oversees scheduling, curriculum and professional development, personnel management, emergency and facility operations. In addition, she is responsible for evaluations and oversees all school-wide instructional, data, financial, and student services and systems. Sheila also serves as district-wide administrator for the district's English and Language Arts Curriculum Committee.

From 2000-2010, Smith served as classroom teacher, Magnet School Theme Specialist; Director of Community (Adult) Education Center; Dean of Students; Math /Science Partnership Director, and as a Vice-Principal. From 2010-2015 served as Principal of Hyde Park Elementary School. Sheila has a M.S. in Educational Administration and Elementary Education from Niagara University and a B.S degree in Industrial Labor Relations from Cornell University.

**GB: Why did you join the Board?**

**SS:** Given my background in education, I have always been interested in looking at the full spectrum of education; meaning Kindergarten through post-secondary grades and the interdependence there is on one another. It is interesting to see the common trends and themes that transcend from K-12 and impact post-secondary education. These themes include ensuring academic readiness for all students, student access to the proper tools that will make them the most successful, and preparing students for global competitiveness which is one of the major tenets of Common Core.

**GB: What is your greatest accomplishment?**

**SS:** To this point in my life, it is being a parent. Being a parent allows me to have special insight into situations with my students. I see them from a holistic perspective. I look at my students pluralistically, through the lens of a practitioner that is teaching them academically and cognitively, and also through the lens of a parent that can teach and relate to them from a social and emotional place as it relates to my experiences with my family. I can listen with understanding and empathy.

As a member of the NCCC Board of Trustees, my greatest accomplishment is seeing the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute come to fruition and what a wonderful asset it has been for the city of Niagara Falls and Niagara County. There are many people that worked very hard to make NCCI a reality; it could not have been done without the former and current Board of Trustees and certainly without the leadership of Dr. Klyczek.

**GB: What do you feel is NCCC's greatest selling point, and why?**

**SS:** There is such a wealth of academic programs available for students just starting out on their college path or those that are looking for a new career. NCCC keeps its pulse on the community by offering relevant degree programs that are in demand today, such as culinary arts, winery operations, biotechnology and digital media.

**GB: What is your favorite part of commencement, and why?**

**SS:** I love seeing the students walk across the stage to reach one of the most important milestones in their lives. As a college student, finishing their program and graduating is one of the most important indicators of future success. It means you have learned to be organized, stayed focused, and prioritized. You have learned new leadership skills, balanced work with home responsibilities, improved interpersonal skills, honed your emotional intelligence and learned team work.

**GB: Do you have a hobby?**

**SS:** Making furniture and Interior Design.

**GB: What is your favorite meal at Savor?**

**SS:** Salmon Milanese. The salmon is always done to perfection, the heirloom tomatoes in the champagne vinaigrette are delicious and the cheesy risotto is the perfect accompaniment.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF NCCC

## NEW FACES



**Dr. Luba Chliwniak**  
Vice President  
Academic Affairs



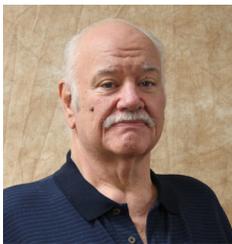
**Dennis Gasbarro**  
Assistant Director  
Buildings & Grounds



**Thomas Pinckney**  
Instructor  
Massage Therapy



**Kelly Polizzi**  
Typist  
Student Activities



**Paul Swartz**  
Cleaner  
Operations



**Molly Vigrass**  
Director  
Community Education



**Jillian Wilsey**  
Instructor  
Drafting

## RETIREES

**Dr. Susan Bland**  
Professor  
Humanities & Social  
Sciences

**Franklin T. Boeck, Jr.**  
Professor  
Science, Health &  
Mathematics

**Robert Brammer**  
Building Maintenance II  
Operations

**Gene Carella**  
Professor  
Science, Health &  
Mathematics

**Sandie Criddle**  
Principal Clerk  
Records & Registration

**Donnie Currie**  
Laborer  
Facilities

**Dr. Denise David**  
Professor  
Humanities &  
Social Sciences

**Rebecca Guarino**  
Switchboard Operator  
Admissions

**Kyle LoConti**  
Professor  
Arts, Media & Technology

**Cherie A. Mavissakalian**  
Professor  
Nursing

**Lillian Passanese**  
Professor/Librarian  
FRCAE/Library

**Dr. Salvatore Passanese**  
Professor  
Science, Health &  
Mathematics

**Dr. Michael Pikus**  
Professor  
Humanities & Social  
Sciences

**Debbie Say**  
Multilith Machine Operator  
Public Relations

**Dave Yaksich**  
Professor/Counselor  
Student Services

## SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD RECIPIENTS 2014-2015

The Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are honors conferred to acknowledge and provide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence. The awards provide SUNY-wide recognition in six categories: Faculty Service, Librarianship, Professional Service, Scholarship and Creative Activities, Teaching, and Adjunct Teaching. The dedication and high standards put forth by these employees exemplify the very best of NCCC.



**Russell E. Crispell**  
Excellence in  
Adjunct Teaching



**Connie Fritschi**  
Excellence in  
Classified Service



**Cherie A. Mavissakalian**  
Excellence in  
Professional Service



**Kari Schultz**  
Excellence in  
Adjunct Teaching



**Dr. Estelle Steiner**  
Excellence in  
Teaching



The Niagara Falls Culinary Institute,

# A world class facility



## NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND SUNY EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE OFFER PATHWAY TO BACHELOR'S DEGREE

NCCC President James P. Klyczek and SUNY Empire State College President Merodie A. Hancock announced in October that the colleges are partnering to offer students at Niagara Falls Culinary Institute (NFCI) a pathway to earn a B.S. in business, management and economics, with a concentration in culinary management, from Empire State College (ESC).

The agreement guarantees admission for NCCC students who complete their A.A.S. in culinary arts into Empire State College's bachelor's program. Coursework will be provided through a blend of traditional classes at NFCI and online learning.

## NIAGARA FALLS CULINARY INSTITUTE NOMINATED FOR BELLWETHER AWARD

NCCC was selected as one of 10 finalists among 1,000 community colleges, for the prestigious 2015 Bellwether Awards in the category of Workforce Development for its program entitled: Retail Partnership Preparing an Educated and Experienced Workforce at the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute (NFCI).

President James P. Klyczek and other College stakeholders presented NFCI's forward-thinking program model to the Community College Futures Assembly and a national panel of judges in Orlando, Florida. "Niagara County Community College is honored to be recognized by the Community College Futures Assembly for the contribution that the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute has made to the revitalization of the city's downtown," said President Klyczek.

The Community College Futures Assembly, convenes annually as an independent national policy forum for key opinion leaders to serve as a think tank in identifying critical issues facing the future of community colleges, and to recognize Bellwether Finalist colleges as trend-setting institutions.



Kara Weber, head pastry chef, shows off some of the popular Salted Caramel Tarts in La Patisserie pastry cafe at NFCI. In back, from left, are students Krystal Green, Jessica Faulhaber and staff pastry cook Stephanie Hauser. (Photo by Robert Kirkham/Buffalo News) ▼



The NY Times names the NFCI one of the **Top 52 places to go in 2014.**

“ The Niagara Falls Culinary Institute opened a high-end restaurant, deli, patisserie, and gelateria steps from the American Falls, Transforming the area’s dining scene overnight. ”

- NY Times: Travel January 10, 2014



“ Difficult parameters for a renovation. Great community connection and one of the most professional teaching spaces we have seen. ”

- 2014 Jury

American School & University 2014 Special Citation: Interior Renovation



“ Who would think that Niagara Falls Culinary Institute’s La Patisserie would be the spot to go for a wide range of beautifully curated pastries made in the French tradition? This is a rarity in Western New York. Try the delectable Almond Pain au Chocolat. ”

-Buffalo Spree

Buffalo Spree: Best Pastries



▲ Student Mary Bielman showcasing her pasta making skills.

### NFCI STUDENTS EXPERIENCE ITALY

Students from the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute ventured to beautiful Italy to discover the meaning of the Slow Food movement that continues to have influences around the globe. During this thirteen day excursion students visited local farms to view the “farm to table” process, tasted local cuisine, received hands-on pasta making lessons, and even learned a bit of Italian along the way!

“ The Taste of Italy tour allowed us (students) to connect with another culture through cuisine, using our knowledge and passion for culinary arts. We had the privilege of traveling through several regions of the country, and as NFCI graduates we were able to spot the differences in food preparation, and how it is connected to cultural diversity. ”

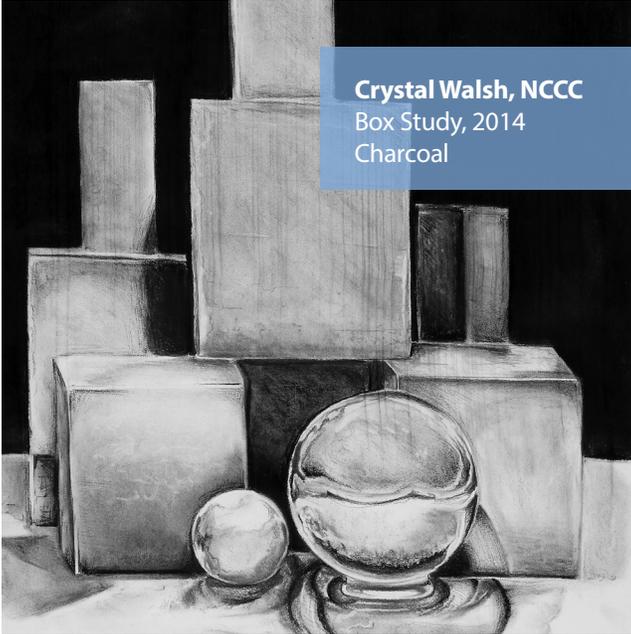
- Erin Holody, NFCI Student



▲ NFCI students in front of the Leaning Tower of Pisa with study abroad coordinator Madison Ackerman.

# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

## BEST OF SUNY STUDENT ART AWARDS



**Crystal Walsh, NCCC**  
Box Study, 2014  
Charcoal

Six student artists from Niagara County Community College were selected to be included in this year's Best of SUNY student art awards exhibition on display in Albany at the New York State Museum through September 6. The Best of SUNY exhibition features 84 works of art chosen by individual art departments across SUNY's campuses, including drawings, paintings, photography, sculpture and digitally produced works.

**The six student artists from NCCC are:**

<b>Devon Gildner</b>	<b>Mariah Scherrer</b>
<b>Greg Haase</b>	<b>Andrea Scott</b>
<b>Angelica McGhee</b>	<b>Crystal Walsh</b>

## ARTS, MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY



The Arts, Media & Technology Division held their Awards Reception on May 7 in the Dolce Valvo Art Center. Awards were presented to graduating students in all of the programs within the division.

**Excellence in Animation**

Devon Gildner

**Excellence in Audio Recording & Production**

Gregory Alt-Winzig

**Excellence in Computer Aided Drafting & Design**

Michael Sass

**Excellence in Computer Information Systems**

Jonathan Haller

**Excellence in Computer Programming Science**

David M. Cyman

**Excellence in Digital Media**

Lauren Sosnowski

**Excellence in**

**Local Area Networks**

Larry Monroe

**Excellence in Fine Arts**

Jesse Pace

**Excellence in Mechanical Technology**

Cheri Mioducki

**Excellence in Music**

Curtis Cook

**Excellence in Public Communication**

Amanda Vallone

**Excellence in Theatre Arts**

Emily Powrie



## OVERALL BEST IN SHOW AWARD AT PLANTASIA

The NCCC Horticulture program, under the direction of Program Coordinator Carolyn Stanko, and in partnership with the McKinley High School and Adult Continuing Education horticulture programs, earned the Overall Best in Show award at Plantasia, the premier garden and landscape show held each spring at the Hamburg, NY fairgrounds.

# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

## SCIENCE, HEALTH & MATHEMATICS



### Proficiency in Mathematics ▲

Rachel Krause and Nicolas Jerla were the 2015 recipients of the Dr. Kenneth "Ben" Raymond Proficiency in Mathematics Award. Dr. Raymond was an original employee of NCCC and continues to be a generous supporter of the NCCC Foundation, Inc.



### Excellence in Medical Assisting ▲

The Medical Assistant Advisory Committee Award for Excellence in Medical Assisting was presented to Aileen Dauphin at the graduate reception on May 7, 2015 by Science, Health & Mathematics Division Chairperson Dr. Salvatore Passanese and Dr. Abigail Mitchell.



### Radiologic Technology ▲

Professor and Program Coordinator Cynthia Meyers, and Instructor Elaine Beaudoin, presented sophomores Heather Hamilton (*top*) with the Dr. Glenn Jones Radiology Award for the highest clinical competencies and Marissa Bavisotto (*bottom*) with the James Mussel/Kevin Tagg Memorial Radiology Award for the highest academic achievement at an award ceremony held at the end of the spring semester.



### Excellence in Phlebotomy ▲

Two graduating students were presented with the top awards for the Phlebotomy program at a ceremony held at the end of the spring semester.

(*Front row from left to right*) Melanie Rose received the award for Academic Excellence in Phlebotomy, Madaleine Riggs received the award for Clinical Excellence in Phlebotomy.

(*Back row from left to right*) Dr. Abigail Mitchell, Program Coordinator, Dr. James P. Klyczek, NCCC President and Dr. Salvatore Passanese, Science, Health & Mathematics Division Chairperson.



### DEBBIE SORRENTINO RECEIVES JAMIESON AWARD

Debbie Sorrentino, Professor of Computer Science, was awarded the Dr. Carol Jamieson Award at a ceremony on December 9. Sorrentino was selected by the Advisory Board of the V. James Renda Faculty Resource Center for Academic Excellence. The award recognizes a faculty member who best exemplifies the outstanding traits Dr. Jamieson possessed: mentoring and support given to all faculty, continuous professional growth, the ability to inspire students, service to NCCC and commitment to academic excellence. Sorrentino has been a faculty member at NCCC since 1986 and was nominated and selected based on her college service work, her professional development activities and for enthusiastically engaging students in the learning process.

### PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

Bryce McMichael (2006), David Tobin (2007), Lillian Passanese (2008), Nancy Knechtel (2009), Dr. Salvatore Passanese (2010), Carolyn Cianciosa (2011), Cherie Mavissakalian (2012) and Marguerite Newton (2013)

# ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

NCCC PTA Program only  
NYS College to have  
**100%**  
Pass Rate  
on National PTA Licensing Exam

The 2015 graduates of the NCCC Physical Therapy Assistant program earned a 100 percent pass rate on the National Physical Therapy Assistant Examination (NPTE). The NCCC program is the only college in New York State with 100 percent pass rate on the national exam. The NPTE is the licensure examination to practice. The New York state average of first-time test takers was 92 percent, while the national average was 86 percent.

"I congratulate the Physical Therapy Assistant Program Coordinators Professor Susan Wehling and Professor Deborah K. Matuch, the PTA faculty, staff and students for their commitment to excellence," said Dr. James P. Klyczek, NCCC President.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MOCK TRIAL



▲ *The NCCC Criminal Law & Procedure class held a mock trial in May. From left is the "judge" Professor James A. Mezhir, the plaintiff's "attorney" Robert Frazier.*

Each May, Criminal Justice Professor James A. Mezhir sets up and structures a mock trial just like a real court, bound by the same rules to help his Criminal Law & Procedures (CRJ102) students learn about the roles that different people play in the judicial system. Students role play lawyers, witnesses, defendant, plaintiff, bailiff, and members of the jury. Six students sat on the jury to decide on the charge of arson in the second degree and rendered the not guilty verdict after all of the evidence was presented. "Participating in a mock court room trial, students develop critical thinking and public speaking skills, as well as a knowledge of legal practices and procedures" according to Professor Mezhir.

## NYSETA CONFERENCE HELD AT NCFI



▲ *(Left to right) Mark Voisinet, NCCC Computer Aided Drafting & Design Program Coordinator, Brenden Mehaffy, Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning for the City of Buffalo and Kyle LoConti, NCCC Arts, Media & Technology Division Chair at the NYSETA Conference.*

In mid-October, Niagara County Community College hosted the New York State Engineering Technology Association (NYSETA) conference at the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute in Niagara Falls. NYSETA is an association of collegiate level professors of engineering technology throughout New York State and Vermont. The conference also welcomes local professional engineers and architects to participate in the many PDH credits that are available.

Over 100 people participated in the conference including attendees, exhibitors, and speakers. The plenary session speaker was Brenden Mehaffy, Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning for the City of Buffalo, on the topic of "Buffalo Harbor Center Waterfront Development Project". The conference was sponsored by Western New York Science and Technology Advanced Manufacturing Park (WNY STAMP) and Cadimensions Inc.

“An interest in social change.”



▲ Assistant Professor John Strong (left) and Sean Reilly '14 (right) are congratulated by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Eunice Bellinger (center) on being named to participate in the SUNY Critical Issues in Higher Education Conference.

## NCCC REPRESENTED AT SUNY CRITICAL ISSUES CONFERENCE

Last fall, Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher announced that two of the fifteen student and faculty Fellows participating in the State University of New York's fourth annual Critical Issues in Higher Education Conference were from Niagara County Community College. These Fellows include NCCC graduate Sean Reilly, '14 and Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Education, John Strong. Both Reilly and Strong were chosen based on their interest in social change and an established desire to contribute more to their campuses and communities.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”



▲ (Left to right) Tad Krupa (Secretary of PR), Timothy Hunter (Treasurer), Brianna Schultz (Secretary of Notes), Sarah Moore (Vice President), Laura Zakrzewski (President).

## PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTION CEREMONY

On April 18th, forty-three students were inducted into the NCCC Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. Membership into this honor society requires students to maintain a GPA of 3.5 or greater in their chosen area of study. Congratulations to all new inductees!



## PSYCHOLOGY CLASS GOING TO THE DOGS



▲ Psychology Professor Dr. Gerbasi works with Dooley, Monty, Huckleberry and Curly (not shown) to demonstrate classical conditioning and operant learning to students in PSY110.

For the past fifteen years, NCCC Psychology Professor, Dr. Kathleen Gerbasi has invited “esteemed visiting” Professors Huckleberry, Dooley, Monty and Curly (all members of the species *canis familiaris*) to her PSY110 class to demonstrate examples of classical and operant conditioning. She has found that her students learn much better by having real live (and somewhat unpredictable) examples in class, than by rather dry textbook examples.

The dogs lick their lips at the sight of the whipped cream can demonstrating classical conditioning. As for operant learning, that is voluntary and based on reinforcement and punishment. This was demonstrated with a hula hoop, doing puzzles and running to the sound of the clicker all over the classroom. Monty, Curly, and Huckleberry ran to the sound of the clicker to get treats (positive reinforcement). In a true demonstration of operant conditioning, Dooley, the oldest dog, preferred to nap or get petted, rather than run around and get treats.

Check out the YouTube video filmed in a previous semester, titled Examples of Classical and Operant Conditioning with Dogs



# AROUND CAMPUS



## ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLUB HOLDS WOLF TANK

Following the format of the popular television show “Shark Tank”, the NCCC Entrepreneurship Club held its first ever “Wolf Tank” on November 19. Six student teams pitched their business ideas to three judges (wolves) for cash prizes, valuable experience and advice.

▲ *Student Ben McCarty presents to judges Jim Colton of Colton RV, Lynn Oswald of NCCC Small Business Development Center and Ron Primerano of Primerano Fitness.*

## NCCC HOSTS THE 18TH ANNUAL TECH WARS



▲ *Students participate in the “Capture the Flag” competition as part of the 2015 Tech Wars held at NCCC.*

The annual Tech Wars competition brought over 700 students in grades 6 - 12 from 30 school districts to campus on January 14th to compete in 21 different engineering and technology based events. Tech Wars gives students the opportunity to apply Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) knowledge to real world applications and have fun while doing it. Cleveland Hill High School was crowned the 2015 Tech War Champions, the overall winner for the high school division.

## ANIME CLUB HOLDS KAMINARICON 2015



In March the NCCC Anime Club held their first-ever convention: KaminariCon 2015 - featuring anime/gaming/comic book vendors, games, panel discussions and live entertainment.

Over 150 attendees, many dressed in costumes, played in gaming tournaments (Smash!, Yu-Gi-Oh, Magic, Pokémon, League of Legends), watched videos in the Anime Showing Room, strolled through vendors in Artists Alley, and watched a live performance of Japanese folklore dances.

The money raised from ticket sales was donated to the American Cancer Society to support the Relay for Life program.



## VETERANS HONORED ★ at Annual Ceremony

NCCC hosted its annual Veterans Day Ceremony in the campus Veterans Memorial Park led by Brandon A. Czerwinski, the president of the NCCC Student Veteran Association.

Keynote speaker, State Senator Robert G. Ortt, said he was proud to serve in response to the attacks of September 11th, 2001. "Everyone always says that America is the greatest country in the world. One of those reasons is because men and women, for generations, have been willing to serve in uniform...and put their lives at risk for the freedoms and liberties that we have here at home."

“Thank you for your service to our country, for protecting our freedom, and for keeping us safe.”

President James P. Klyczek said, "Approximately 200 veterans are enrolled in classes at Niagara County Community College, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and I, we are honored that they have chosen our institution for this phase of their life. Thank you for your service to our country, for protecting our freedom, and for keeping us safe."

The ceremony was attended by members of American Legion Post 1451, Purple Heart Chapter of Wheatfield, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 120, the 914th AMXS, Region One Patriot Guard, Wheatfield Chapter of the Legion Riders, members of Niagara County Community College faculty, staff and administration and the general public.



### DOLCE VALVO ART CENTER HOSTS EXHIBITS

(Top) Guests attend the opening reception of the Student Honors Show featuring artwork from Fine Arts classes selected by faculty.

(Bottom) Patrons view the colorful landscape painted by Buffalo artist Peter Fowler as part of the exhibit: New Paintings and Sculpture by Bruce Bitmead & Peter Fowler



▲ State Senator Robert G. Ortt with Region One Patriot Guard, Wheatfield Chapter of the Legion Riders

# ★ REMEMBERING THE ★ GREATEST GENERATION

Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Victory in Europe 1945-2015

“ Never was  
— so much  
owed by  
so many  
to so few — ”

- British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill  
August 20, 1940

Niagara County Community College, under the direction of Dr. Don Fisher and Dr. Matthew Clarq, hosted a series of activities dedicated to remembering, commemorating and reflecting on the experiences of the men and women who served in the armed forces and worked in the factories during World War II.



## WALL OF HONOR

One of the projects was a photographic “Wall of Honor”, that was located in the southern hallway of D building near the Dolce Valvo Art Gallery. This was a collection of wartime photos and every person represented in the exhibit was related to a member of the NCCC “family” (faculty, staff, administration or students). Throughout the semester, the campus community was able to view photographs and remember their loved ones and honor their sacrifices and service.

## NCCC HOSTS A SERIES OF WWII EVENTS THROUGHOUT SPRING 2015

### COURSES

As part of a broader effort to commemorate the end of the Second World War, several departments offered courses on different aspects of the war for the Spring 2015 semester.

### FILM SERIES

A free weekly film series was offered at NCCC that ran throughout the entire semester. Below are a few of the films featured in the series:

- Captain America: The First Avenger
- Casablanca
- Saving Private Ryan
- Inglourious Basterds
- The Monuments Men

### “BLOOD, TOIL, TEARS AND SWEAT”

Faculty and visitors presented on various topics including the atomic bomb, code-breaking, baseball, art, poetry, the movie industry and conducting family military research.

### CABARET

The NCCC department of Theatre Arts performed Cabaret to a sold out crowd, whose story followed a young writer through his days in Berlin, the infamous European hot spot for decadence and excess, as it faced the rise of the Nazi party.

# V-E DAY CELEBRATION AT NCCC



The campus at Niagara County Community College took on a historic feel on a sunny May afternoon as students, visitors and local veterans took part in a unique celebration recognizing the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe.

The Victory in Europe Day Celebration was the final event of a semester-long observance of the war's anniversary. The event included a chicken barbeque, a USO Show and fundraisers for Honor Flight Buffalo and WNY Heroes, Inc., which assists local veterans of all wars.

Guests saw characters such as Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosie the Riveter and the Three Stooges mingling throughout the fair and they were able to learn to swing dance, listen to patriotic music and attend a WWII history fair featuring activities and exhibits by area historical societies, veterans groups and civic clubs.

"It's been very rewarding seeing people from all across campus pitch in to help organize the events, from faculty and staff donating photos for our wall of honor to the building and grounds people making sure our conference was set up smoothly," history professor Matthew Clarcq said. "Everyone has recognized how important this commemoration has been."

“ ..This stubborn optimism,  
this predilection for trying  
one·more·time,  
I bequeath to the graduates of the class of 2015  
in fact, to us all.”

- Joyce Carol Oates , Author, Keynote Speaker  
NCCC Commencement • May 16, 2015



# 2015 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Author and keynote speaker Joyce Carol Oates urged NCCC graduates to focus on their strengths and “not to give up” at the 51st annual Commencement Ceremony held at the Seneca Niagara Events Center in Niagara Falls, NY. Oates, a Lockport native and author of more than 50 novels, including the national bestsellers “We Were the Mulvaney’s” and “Blonde” (a finalist for the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize), addressed the crowd of 2,400 driving home the point “success is luck... tell yourself not to give up... always try one more time.”

Three hundred seventy-five graduates walked the stage and received diplomas from NCCC President Dr. James P. Klyczek, Trustee Gina I. Virtuoso and Trustee Bonnie R. Sloma. The Master of Ceremonies was Board Chairperson James W. Ward and participating in the program were Board of Trustee members Henry F. Wojtaszek, Bradley W. Rowles, Vincent R. Ginestre, William L. Ross, Kevin C. Schuler, Sheila Smith.



## A speech that deserves an encore

- **Time Magazine Best Graduation Advice from 2015 Commencement Speeches: Joyce Carol Oates to Grads: Be Stubborn and Optimistic** (*Time.com*)

May 21, 2015

- **The 10 Best College Graduation Speeches of 2015** (*GoKicker.com*)

May 28, 2015

- **11 commencement speeches given by women this year that deserve an encore...** (*Women in the World Media in Association with the New York Times.*)

May 29, 2015

## PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION AWARD

Matthew Melcher, NCCC Student Senate President, was awarded the President's Medallion at the 2015 Annual Student Awards Banquet. The award is presented to a graduating sophomore who has contributed significantly to the development and expansion of co-curricular activities. It recognizes club involvement, participation on college committees, community service, campus leadership experiences, involvement in campus events and academic achievement. The recipient of this award also has the unique opportunity to introduce the keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony.

# NCCC ATHLETICS

## FALL 2014

### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

The women's volleyball program under the direction of Coach **Joe Daigler** won 19 matches and finished as runner-up to Monroe Community College at the Region III Division III Tournament. Sophomore outside hitter **Jordan Glosser** was selected as a First Team All-Western New York Athletic Conference and First Team All-Region III performer. Classmate **Haley Dumbleton** picked up Second Team All-Conference and Third Team All-Region honors. Both Glosser and Dumbleton will go down in the NCCC record books as just the third and fourth players in program history to record 500 career kills and digs.



*Freshman women's volleyball player Allie Bubar helped NCCC to a runner-up finish at the Region III Championships.*

### MEN'S SOCCER

Coach **Carl Clark** had the men's soccer team competitive throughout the season, finishing with four victories. Freshman goalkeeper **Ryan Holovics**, a Second Team All-WNYAC choice, made an eye-popping 130 saves in net. That total was good enough for third among Region III keepers.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer squad, led by Coach **Kathleen DiPasquale**, battled its way to two wins, including a 10-0 romp over Jamestown-Olean. The Thunderwolves were led by sophomore forward **Tara Beach**, who finished with a team-high five goals. Beach was named Second Team All-WNYAC.

PRESIDENT'S  
CUP

MALE  
ATHLETE  
OF THE YEAR

## WINTER 2014-15

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

The men's basketball team, led by Coach **Bill Beilein**, won 20 games for the third straight year, advanced to the Region III Division II Final Four and spent time in the NJCAA National poll. Sophomore **Sheldon Zablony-Crosby** spearheaded the Thunderwolves attack, averaging 20 points, five rebounds and four assists per game. Zablony-Crosby was named to the NJCAA All-American Third Team along with being a First Team All-Region selection.

### WRESTLING

Coach **Keith Maute's** wrestling program had yet another successful campaign, qualifying seven wrestlers for Nationals and finishing as Region III runners-up to Mercyhurst North East.

First Team All-Region III performers included: **DeShawn Oliver** (125), **Joe Dowdall** (149), **Zach Colgan** (165) and **Tom Confer** (184).

Earning Second Team All-Region honors was the trio of **Kyle McGregor** (133), **Jude Gardner** (157) and **Brian Kerwin** (197).

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Coach **Nate Beutel** led the women's basketball team to a second-consecutive 20+ win season and a berth in the Region III Division II Final Four for the third straight year. NCCC started the season 15-0 and at one point was ranked as high as 17th in the National Rankings. Sophomores **Jesse DeWaters** and **Tanisha Moyer** led the charge for the Wolfpack, both earning Second Team All-Region III honors.

FEMALE  
ATHLETE  
OF THE YEAR



*Sophomore Jordan Greene was an All-Region selection for the men's basketball team, which made the Region III semifinals.*

# AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS



Golfer **Will Lawton** receives the President's Cup from President **James P. Klyczek** at the annual Athletic Awards Night.



Vice President for Student Services **Julia Pitman** presents Male Athlete of the Year award to basketball player **Sheldon Zablotty-Crosby**.



Vice President for Student Services **Julia Pitman** presents Female Athlete of the Year award to basketball player **Jesse DeWaters**.

## SPRING 2015

### BASEBALL

The highly-successful baseball program had another strong year as Coach **Matt Clingersmith's** crew won 31 games and advanced to the Region III Division III Final Four. The team's pitching staff, led by freshman right-hander **Matt Matre**, was dominant. Matre picked up First Team All-Region III honors after going 6-1 with a 2.42 ERA and 55 strikeouts. Sophomore righties **Kyle Bell** and **Matt Keating** each added five wins, while classmate **Jake Collins** had three wins and freshman RHP **Alex Kubera** was 3-1 with four saves.



Freshman right-hander **Matt Matre** led a strong stable of arms for the Thunderwolves, who made the Region III Final Four.

### GOLF

Golf Coach **Matt Oleski** picked up Region III Coach of the Year honors after his team finished fifth at the Region III Championships and had the lowest stroke average since he took over three years ago. The T-Wolves also finished second at the NCCC Invitational and qualified an entire squad for regional play.

### WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

The softball program, under the direction of first-year coach **Nate Beutel**, took a step forward, winning seven games. NCCC began the season with a trip to Maryland and was in the playoff chase until the final days of the regular season. Offensively, NCCC had seven players hit over .300 with freshman third baseman **Morgan Bedford** leading the way at .420.

### MEN'S LACROSSE

Coach **Todd Faddoul's** men's lacrosse team's season was highlighted by a 14-10 home victory over Hudson Valley Community College. First Team All-WNYAC goalkeeper **Nick Garlock** stood on his head, stopping over 200 shots during the course of the season. Long-stick midfielder **Luke Hinton** was also named First Team All-Conference after netting nine goals and six assists.

### WOMEN'S LACROSSE

With a young roster, the women's lacrosse team, led by Coach **Sarah Kirchberger**, battled through a winless season. NCCC was led by First Team All-WNYAC selection **Kailey Dougherty**, who anchored the team's defense in front of goalkeeper **Victoria Stevenson**. A Second Team All-WNYAC choice, Stevenson finished the year with over 100 saves, putting her among the leaders in Region III despite playing just eight games.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT OF UNRESTRICTED REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE

<b>Revenue</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>
Student Revenue	\$21,081,412	\$47,013,698
State Aid	\$12,383,284	
Sponsor Contributions	\$8,871,000	
Chargebacks	\$4,317,045	
Other Revenues – Offset	\$360,957	
 <b>Expenses</b>		
Personnel Services	\$24,091,888	\$47,252,284
Equipment	\$1,421,046	
Contractual Expenses	\$6,911,473	
Employee Benefits (A)	\$14,827,877	
<b>Revenues over/(under) Expenditures (A)</b>	<b>(\$238,586)</b>	
Fund Balance (8/31/13)	\$12,231,532	
Fund Balance (8/31/14)	\$11,992,946	

(A) Does not include the expense associated with implementation of SGAS 45 regarding the accounting for other post-employment benefits of \$2,719,352 for fiscal year 2013-14, which also served to reduce the fund balance on August 31, 2014 to a deficit of \$33,753,594.

The Grants Office managed over \$1.9 million in grant funds during the most recently completed fiscal year which included \$1,206,798 in new funds. Twenty-five grant applications totaling \$1.75 million in funding request were made in 2014-2015.

<b>FUNDER</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	
Niagara County Workforce Investment Board	\$43,670	\$1,206,798
U.S. Department of Education	\$20,000	
SUNY Innovative Instruction	\$9,500	
NYS Department of Labor – Consolidated Funding: Unemployed Worker Training	\$63,375	
Statler Foundation	\$75,000	
Empire State Development	\$99,930	
NYSED Math Science Partnership	\$10,000	
NYSED Coordinated Collection Development Aid	\$8,183	
NYSED Perkins Title IV Career and Technical Education Act	\$400,162	
SUNY Small Business Development Center (SBDC)	\$317,800	
SUNY Graduation, Achievement, and Placement Program	\$48,700	
SUNY Workforce Development Training Grants	\$99,966	
NYSED Liberty Partnership Program	\$10,512	

# NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE



William L. Ross  
2nd District  
Chairman



Clyde L. Burmaster  
1st District  
Vice Chairman



Richard E. Updegrove  
12th District  
Majority Leader



Dennis F. Virtuoso  
6th District  
Minority Leader



Mark J. Grozio  
3rd District



Owen T. Steed  
4th District



Jason A. Zona  
5th District



Kathryn L. Lance  
7th District



Richard L. Andres Jr.  
8th District



Randy R. Bradt  
9th District



David E. Godfrey  
10th District



Anthony J. Nemi  
11th District



Wm. Keith McNall  
13th District



John Syracuse  
14th District



Michael A. Hill  
15th District

# NCCC FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT

For over 50 years Niagara County Community College has been committed to providing our students with an educational environment dedicated to excellence. The NCCC Foundation was established in 1987 to seek external funding for unmet financial needs at NCCC; including student scholarships. The symbiotic partnership of the NCCC Foundation and Alumni Association continues to fuel development and success for the College and its students.

“ The beginning of the 53rd academic year already shows great promise with new and exciting opportunities to positively impact NCCC. ”

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the NCCC Foundation and Alumni Association accomplished fundraising and outreach by hosting events, raising funds for scholarships, and connecting with many alumni and community partners. The Culinary Students once again showcased their talents and tantalized the taste buds of the guests at the Annual Scholarship Gala, the Alumni 5K Run/Walk had record breaking attendance, and two new Directors joined our Foundation Board. Our success would not be possible without our many generous donors, volunteers, student workers, and interns. Your continuous support is gratefully appreciated.

We invite you; the community, alumni, donors, faculty, staff, and students along for the ride as we embark on the Capital Campaign for the new Learning Commons, host alumni events, and continue to raise funds for scholarships.

If you are already involved, whether it be through attending our Annual Scholarship Gala and 5K Race/Walk, being a Presidential Partner, establishing a scholarship, donating to the Foundation, or volunteering for our events, we thank you for your continuous support! The Foundation and Alumni Office operate by Winston Churchill's motto, "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." We hope you would like to share your time, talents, and treasures for the benefit of the next generation.

*If you are interested in becoming more involved with the Foundation, we invite you to contact us to learn about ways you can leave a legacy at (716) 614-5910 or [dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu](mailto:dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu).*



*Jerald I. Wolfgang*  
**Jerald I. Wolfgang**  
Chairperson  
NCCC Foundation, Inc.

## NCCC FOUNDATION

Supporting Students Since 1987

3111 Saunders Settlement Road  
Sanborn, NY 14132

Ph: (716) 614-5910 • Fax: (716) 614-5913



*Deborah A. Brewer*  
**Deborah A. Brewer**  
Director  
NCCC Foundation, Inc.

# THE LEARNING COMMONS



Senator Rob Ort announces NYS contribution to the NCCC Learning Commons on April 16, 2015.

## The NCCC Foundation, Inc. is embarking on a significant fundraising initiative for the Niagara County Community College Sanborn Campus; the Learning Commons.

It will transform the conventional Henrietta G. Lewis Library; providing modern tools and integrated work environments that cater to multiple learning styles and group-focused work. It will be a place for faculty to collaborate and help students develop critical thinking skills while incorporating state-of-the-art technology, multiple student support services, and a home for both students and staff. This will support NCCC's overarching goals to improve student success and graduation rates.

On April 16, 2015 Senator Rob Ort announced that \$12.5 million has been secured from the State to create the Learning Commons at Niagara County Community College. "NCCC is an economic engine in Niagara County and an academic model for the community college system," said Ort. "They provide quality, affordable education and career training options to local residents looking for advancement. This capital funding will enhance the student experience at NCCC and ensure that we continue to attract high quality students locally and across the state."

On June 16, 2015 Niagara County Legislature Chairman William L. Ross announced that the Legislature approved the \$10 million funding for the Learning Commons Project!

“\$12.5 million has been secured to create the Learning Commons at Niagara County Community College.”

Ross, who also serves as a Trustee for NCCC, said the college "has been given a direction to raise an additional \$2.5 million." Ross said "the Learning Commons will be a venue that will provide student achievement by improving success, retention, and graduation rates. It will be the heart of our campus!"

NCCC President James P. Klyczek said, "This funding will make the Learning Commons project a reality for the students of Niagara County Community College."

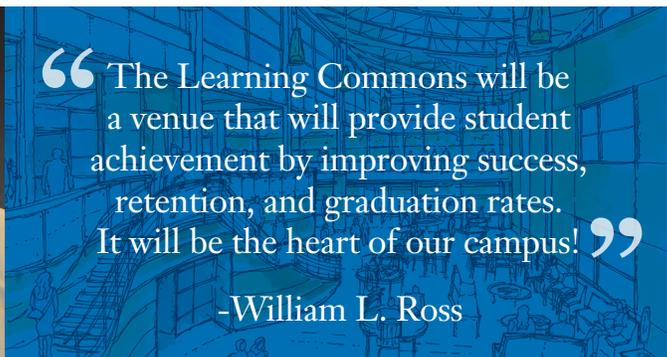
"We believe in NCCC and are offering you the opportunity to invest in the future of Western New York's youth, adults, businesses, organizations, and communities. In Niagara County, we are the community's college: Touching Lives, Building Futures. I invite you to join me in the development of

the new Learning Commons", said Peter I. Certo, Chairman, NCCC Capital Campaign.

For a complete scope of the Capital Campaign Learning Commons project, naming opportunities, or ways to contribute, please contact Foundation Director, Deb Brewer at 716-614-5911 or at [dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu](mailto:dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu). We thank you for your consideration.



**Peter I. Certo**  
Chairman  
NCCC Capital Campaign



**William L. Ross**  
Chairman  
Niagara County Legislature



On Saturday, October 18, 2014, the NCCC Foundation held the Annual Scholarship Gala. Nearly 400 guests gathered at the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute for a tour of *Tantalizing Tastes from Around the World* prepared by NCCC Culinary and Baking & Pastry Arts students under the guidance of Chef Mark Mistriner, Business & Hospitality Division Chair, and their culinary instructors. A remarkable silent auction, basket raffle, and drawings were held throughout the evening. Five new Distinguished Student Scholars from Niagara County were recognized and Patrick Sorge '85 was inducted into the Distinguished Alumni Gallery. Patrick is now part of the 70-member strong Distinguished Alumni Award recipients who exemplify educational achievements, career success, community involvement, and support to NCCC.



Thank you to the 2014 co-chairs,  
**David & Monica DiCamillo.**

**They raised over \$140,000 for the NCCC Foundation and scholarships.**

The success of the Gala is largely due to the numerous volunteers, donors and sponsors. We appreciate your continued support.

**Patrick Sorge '85**  
2014 Distinguished  
Alumni Inductee



## 2014 CORPORATE SPONSORS

Alliance Niagara Federal Credit Union  
American Concrete  
Barnes & Noble College Booksellers, LLC  
BFC Print Network  
Bonadio Group  
Buffalo Hotel Supply  
Cannon Design Inc.  
Catholic Health Systems  
Certo Brothers  
Chudy Paper  
Cohen & Lombardo P.C.  
Crown Benefits Group  
Damon Morey LLP  
Dental Care Associates, LLC  
Dessert Deli  
Erie County Medical Center

Ferguson Electric  
First Niagara Bank  
FreedMaxick CPAs, PC  
Greater Niagara Newspapers  
Harter Secrest & Emery LLP  
Hatch Associates Consultants, Inc.  
Hodgson Russ  
Hogan Willig, PLLC  
Hurwitz & Fine, P. C.  
IBEW Local 237  
JMZ Architects  
Kopczynski Family Foundation  
Lewiston Insurance Agency  
LP Ciminelli  
Lumsden & McCormick  
Manning & Napier

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney  
National Grid  
NCCC Faculty Association  
NCCC Student Services Division  
Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center  
Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters  
Park Strategies  
Reid Group  
S & H Enterprises  
Seneca Niagara Casino  
Summit Pediatrics  
Walsh Duffield Insurance Group  
Waste Technology Services  
Waterbourne Construction Advisors  
Wegmans

# NCCC FOUNDATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015



▲ The recipients of the 2014-2016 Distinguished Student Scholarships are (from left to right): Tadeus Krupa, Shannon Feeley, Bryan Wojcinski, Jennifer Szalay and Kevin Grzeskowiak

## ALUMNI

### Alumni Engagement

The Alumni Office began collecting and utilizing emails, building its fan base on social media websites, and reaching out to more alumni at college and community events. Please “like” the NCCC Alumni Association on Facebook and follow us on Twitter! Other engagements include presence at college and community events and a bi-annual mailing of the Alumni magazine, Connections.

### NCCC Alumni 5K Run/Walk

The Alumni Association held their annual 5K Run/Walk on Friday, May 1, 2015. A special thank you to the Rickans and all our sponsors for their support: Certo Brothers Distributing Co., Cristoforo Colombo Society, D&T Graphics, Dory Trading Post, Friends of NCCC Alumni, JBF Express Inc., Mark Cerrone Inc., NCCC Security Department, NCCC Student Senate, Pepsi Co, Road ID, Tom Tower Farms, US Foods, Tom Bishop '83, Marty Drake '75, Dan Jackson '99, Mike LaFever '70, Jim Turner '86, and Ronald J. Winter, Esq. '74 & Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. Thank you also to the volunteers who helped to make this year's Run/Walk a success.

▶ Over 190 runner and walkers participated raising almost **\$5,000** for Alumni services and student scholarships.

### Flower Sale 2015

The Alumni Association sold fresh flower bouquets to families and friends who wished to present them to our grads at the annual Commencement ceremony.

▶ Over **\$1300** was raised for Alumni services and student scholarships.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### Scholarships

Since 1987, donors have generously funded scholarships for NCCC students. Scholarships are often named to honor the memory of loved ones. Others are named in tribute to alumni, board members, faculty, retirees, organizations, and companies.

▶ This past year, the Foundation awarded over **\$160,000** in scholarships to over 200 students.

### Distinguished Student Scholarships (DSS)

The DSS awards are the most prestigious scholarships given to high school seniors in Niagara County. The award offers two years of tuition-free education at NCCC for students who exemplify superior academics, community service, and commitment to Niagara County.

### Establishing a Scholarship

Create a lasting legacy by establishing a scholarship. For more information, please contact Deb Brewer, NCCC Foundation Director, at (716) 614-5911 or email [dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu](mailto:dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu).

For details on all scholarship opportunities, please visit <http://www.niagaracc.suny.edu/scholarships>

### Alumni Fitness Memberships

The Alumni Fitness Membership ID cards are now able to be swiped at the fitness center; enhancing safety of each member and serving as a reminder to renew the annual membership. These memberships are available to all NCCC Alumni for a \$25 annual fee. Memberships include the fitness center, pool, classes, racquetball courts, and inter-recreational sports.

# NCCC FOUNDATION DONORS

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

Seneca Gaming Corporation

## DISTINGUISHED \$20,000+

Community Foundation  
of Tampa Bay, Inc.

Covanta Energy Corporation

Pepsi-Cola Niagara

The Statler Foundation

WNY Women's Foundation Inc.

## LEADERSHIP \$10,000+

Anonymous

Barnes & Noble College

Booksellers, Inc.

LP Ciminelli, Inc.

Edward & Frances Pawenski

Memorial Scholarship

## BENEFACTOR \$5,000+

Mr. Brian Baird

Certo Bros. Distributing Co.

Crown Benefits Group, Inc.

Ms. Jean D. Doctor

Ms. Katherine M. Dolce

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Hall

Harter Secrest & Emery LLP

Dr. & Mrs. James P. Klyczek

Liberty Mutual Group

Ms. Marie A. Marshall

Smokin Joes Indian Trading Post

Verizon Foundation

Wegmans

## PATRON \$1,000+

Alliance Niagara Federal Credit Union

Ascension Sheet & Metal Fabrication Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Beilein

Mr. & Mrs. Loren Beutel

Bonadio Group

Dr. & Mrs. David R. Bonnevie '74

Mr. & Mrs. James (Deb) Brewer

Bryan & Nicole Argo

Memorial Foundation

Buffalo Hotel Supply Co., Inc.

Buffalo Neurosurgery Group

Cannon Design

Mr. & Mrs. Gene A. Carella '70

Catholic Health Systems

Mr. & Mrs. Peter I. Certo '73

Mr. & Mrs. David R. Chamberlain

Cornerstone Community

Federal Credit Union

Maria Crea, MD

Mr. & Mrs. David J. DiCamillo

Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. Dombrowski

Empire State Diversity

Honors Scholarship

Erie County Medical Center

Ferguson Electric Construction Co.

First Niagara Bank

Thomas Gerbasi, MD &

Dr. Kathleen Gerbasi

Honorable & Mrs. Charles J. Hannigan

Mr. & Mrs. William S. Hein

Higher One

Hodgson Russ LLP

KeyBank

Kopczynski Family Foundation

Dr. & Mrs. Michael C. LaFever '70

Manning & Napier

Mr. John W. McClure

Mr. Dennis Michaels

Mrs. Marilyn Molyneaux

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Mount St. Mary's Hospital

National Grid

NCCC Security Office

NCCC Student Senate

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center

Northeast Regional Council

of Carpenters

Park Strategies, LLC

Mr. & Mrs. Steven

(Christina Cerrone '06) Pecoraro

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel (Ann Briody) Petock

Mr. & Mrs. James (Julia) Pitman

Mr. Dennis Quinn

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas R. Reese '74

Reid Petroleum Corp

Fred Rickan '81

Mr. Donald G. Sabato

Ms. Paula Sandy

Ms. Jayne Schaber

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Siddall

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Sinclair

Mr. Robert Dotton &

Dr. Frances Sorge-Dotton '70

Mr. & Mrs. David E. Tobin

Dr. & Mrs. Martin H. Drake '75

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis (Gina) Virtuoso

Walsh Insurance Group

Waterbourne Construction

Advisors, LLC

Western New York Nurserymen's

Association Foundation

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Winter '74

Mr. Jerald I. Wolfgang

## ASSOCIATES \$500+

Mr. & Mrs. James M. Abbondanza

Mr. & Mrs. Donald G. Armstrong

Mr. & Mrs. Marc Bernstein

Mr. & Mrs. William A. Bevacqua

Ms. Donna Bryk

Mr. & Mrs. Jason J. Cafarella '98

Mr. & Mrs. Vincent A. Cancemi '68

Mr. & Mrs. A. Joseph Catalano '90

Mr. & Mrs. Michael

(Ann Michele '72) Cerrone '73

Ms. Judy S. Cline

Dr. Roger Fiedler &

Dr. Mary Jane Feldman

Mr. & Mrs. Vincent R. Ginestre

Grigg Lewis Foundation

Ms. Jane N. Haenle

Hatch Associates Consultants, Inc.

Ms. Gwen Huck

Ms. Colleen M. Johnson '96

Mr. & Mrs. Hal Kingsley

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Krakowiak

Mr. & Mrs. Tadeus Krupa

Lewiston Insurance Agency Inc./

The Keller Group

Ms. Kyle A. LoConti

Maestra Productions Inc.

Mr. James A. Mezhir '68

Mr. Daniel S. Miller

Ms. Michele Mistriner '83

Monroe-Tresselt Scholarship

NCCC Athletic Department

NCCC Faculty Association

Niagara University

Ms. Bambi L. Njamfa

Dr. Cindy L. Oberjosh '77

Ms. Renee M. Onesi

Mr. & Mrs. William M. Paterson '65

Mr. & Mrs. Fred W. Rickan '81

Mr. & Mrs. Lester J. Robinson III '87

S & H Enterprises

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin C. Schuler

Mr. & Mrs. Kurt T. Schuler '78

Mrs. F. Robert (Geraldine) Sdao

Ms. Susan M. Siegmann '82

Mr. & Mrs. William Schickling

Dr. & Mrs. Leon Smith '65

Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Swiatek

Mr. & Mrs. Albert (Budd) Termin

Mr. & Mrs. James T. Turner '86

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald R. Winkley '78

Mr. & Mrs. Gerard J. Wojcinski '86

## BLUE & GOLD \$250+

Ms. Madison Ackerman '09  
Mr. & Mrs. Jean Adjemian '67  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas  
(Allison) Armusewicz  
Mr. John C. Assimotos '80  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Aureli  
Ms. Lisa M. Babcock & Dr. Laura Pless  
Mr. & Mrs. John (Nancy '84) Babis  
Mr. David Barrett '73  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael (Gina) Beam  
Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Bennett  
Dr. Mark Bonacci & Mr. Don Luce  
Mr. Andrew J. Bukowski '04  
Mr. Ken Candella  
Mr. Michael Capizzi  
Mr. Gerald Catalano  
CHA Consulting, Inc  
Chudy Paper Co. Inc.  
Mr. Angelo Ciraolo  
Cohen & Lombardo Attorneys at Law  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Collins  
Mr. Anthony D'Auria '79  
Ms. Judy DiCamillo  
Ms. Karen A. Drilling  
Ms. Janet Feeley  
Mr. Steve Fitzmaurice  
Mrs. Gemma Fournier '89  
FreedMaxick CPAs, PC  
Mr. Richard Frizzell '66  
Gerster Solutions  
Ms. Kristin Gibbon  
Mr. Joseph W. Grabka '84  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul D. Grzeskowiak '82  
Mr. Michael Hooper  
JBF Express Inc.  
JMZ Architects & Planners, P.C.  
Mr. & Mrs. Chuck (Donna '10) Kilroy  
Honorable & Mrs. Walter Klyczek  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Kopczynski  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven M. Lamkin  
Mr. J. Michael Lehman  
Ms. Robin M. Littere '12  
Lumsden & McCormick, LLP  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. MacDonald, Jr.  
Mark Cerrone Inc.  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel A. Messina '74  
Mr. Michael Mistriner  
Ms. Judith Mokhiber  
Dr. & Mrs. James Murphy  
Mr. Paul D. Murphy  
NCCC Student Services  
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm A. Needler  
Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club

Niagara Falls National Heritage Area  
Niagara USA Chamber of Commerce  
Ortt for State Senate  
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Palmer '85  
Ms. Katherine C. Phufas  
Mrs. Kathleen A. Polka  
Ms. Deborah B. Prohaska '74  
Ms. Lynn M. Puskas '74  
Mr. & Mrs. William L. Ross  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Schlenker  
Mr. & Mrs. Lee (Brenda) Simonson '74  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry M. (Bonnie) Sloma  
Mr. Patrick J. Sorge '85  
Dr. Ian Stapley  
Dr. Virginia M. Taylor '76  
Mr. Robert J. Travis '75  
Dr. & Mrs. Jerome (Lydia) Ulatowski  
Ms. Barbara Walck '12  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald J. Winter '74  
Mr. Jason A. Zona '96

## FRIEND \$100+

Mrs. Audrey Agnello  
American Concrete  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Anderson  
Dr. Eunice Bellinger  
BFC Print Network  
Dr. Nicole Bishop  
Mr. Daryl Bodewes  
Ms. Elisabeth T. Buck  
Ms. Kimberly A. Buerger '84  
Mr. & Mrs. David M. Burke  
Mr. Philip S. Burton '74  
Mr. Edward J. Ceccato '67  
Mr. John Cipolla '89  
Mr. Joseph F. Colosi  
Mr. Eugene Cook  
Cristoforo Colombo Society  
Mr. & Mrs. David Dabb  
Damon Morey LLP  
Mr. David Davignon '71  
Mr. Richard DeMita  
Mrs. Barbara M. DeSimone  
Dessert Deli  
Mr. & Mrs. John (Patrice) Elnicki  
Mrs. Karen Ferington  
Mrs. Stephanie Florczak  
Ms. Julie Frenz  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Frenz  
Mr. Harry Gong  
Mrs. Lessie Hamilton-Rose '70  
Ms. Lynda Haner-Mele '90  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hawkins  
HoganWillig Attorneys at Law

Mr. & Mrs. James Hubbard '69  
Hurwitz & Fine, PC  
IBEW Local 237  
Mr. Daniel L. Jackson '99  
Mrs. Patti Klinger  
Ms. Megan Klyczek  
Mr. John P. Kuhfahl  
Mr. David Louden  
Ms. Cindy Mack  
John J. McCarthy '04  
Ms. Lynn McIntosh  
Mr. William J. McLaughlin  
Ms. Connie Adams Messeng  
Mr. Robert J. Morris  
NCCC Business Hospitality Division  
NCCC Library  
Ms. Jingxia Ni '03  
Ms. Michelle Nolan  
Ms. Victoria Orzetti '71  
Ms. Lynn Oswald  
Dr. & Mrs. Michael J. Pikus  
Ms. Carol Riniolo  
Rotary Club of Central Niagara County  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Ruffolo '76  
Ms. Laurie A. Ryan '80  
Ms. Lynne M. Shuster  
Ms. Sheila Smith  
Mrs. Melissa A. Stolzenburg  
Mrs. Lori Townsend  
T.S. at 360 Operations, LLC  
Viola, Cummings & Lindsay LLP  
Ms. Kelly J. Walck '13  
Mr. & Mrs. R. Thomas Weeks  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Wienckowski  
Mr. Frank Wierzbowski  
Ms. Audra T. Wilson-Smith  
Mr. Vincent Wright '09  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Wojtaszek

**We thank you all  
for your generosity.**

*We have attempted to recognize each gift from July 1, 2014 - May 31, 2015 and regret any inadvertent omissions. Please contact the NCCC Foundation at (716) 614-5910 should you notice a discrepancy.*

# PRESIDENTIAL PARTNERS



The Presidential Partners program was formed in 1993 by the late President Gerald L. Miller. Foundation Board Members, NCCC Professor **James Mezhir** and **Ann Briody Petock** proudly serve as co-chairs. Presidential Partners are a generous group of individuals who realize the importance of education to our region's economic health and are committed to ensuring the continued availability of the high quality, affordable education and programs that NCCC has provided to this region for over 50 years.

Mr. & Mrs. James M. Abbondanza  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald G. Armstrong  
Ms. Lisa Babcock & Dr. Laura Pless  
Dr. Eunice Bellinger  
Mr. & Mrs. William Bevacqua  
Dr. Mark Bonacci & Mr. Don Luce  
Dr. & Mrs. David R. Bonnevie '74  
Mr. & Mrs. James (Deb) Brewer  
Mr. & Mrs. Gene A. Carella '70  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael (Ann Michele '72) Cerrone '73  
Mr. Peter I. Certo '73  
Mr. & Mrs. David R. Chamberlain  
Maria Crea, MD  
Mr. & Mrs. David DiCamillo  
Ms. Jean D. Doctor  
Ms. Katherine Dolce  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. Dombrowski  
Mr. Robert Dotton & Dr. Frances Sorge-Dotton '70  
Dr. & Mrs. Martin Drake '75  
Dr. Roger Fiedler & Dr. Mary Jane Feldman  
Mr. & Mrs. John F. (Vicki '68) Fuerch '68  
Ms. Susan Geissler '74 & Mr. Pete Henderson  
Thomas Gerbasi, MD & Dr. Kathleen Gerbasi  
Ms. Jane N. Haenle  
Ms. Colleen Johnson '96  
Mr. David Karwick  
Mr. & Mrs. Chuck (Donna '10) Kilroy  
Dr. & Mrs. James P. Klyczek  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack F. Kopczyński

Mr. Donald Mazzullo  
Mr. James A. Mezhir '68  
Ms. Michele Mistriner '83  
Mrs. Marilyn Molyneaux  
Dr. Cindy L. Oberjosh '77  
Dr. & Mrs. Salvatore (Lillian '71) Passanese '73  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven (Christina Cerrone '06) Pecoraro  
Mr. Adam W. Perry  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel (Ann Briody) Petock  
Mr. and Mrs. James (Julia) Pitman  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Reese '74  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul D. Reid  
Mr. Fred Rickan '81  
Ms. Paula Sandy  
Ms. Jayne Schaber  
Mr. & Mrs. William Schickling  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Schuler  
Mrs. F. Robert Sdao  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Siddall  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Sinclair  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry (Bonnie) Sloma  
Ms. Sheila Smith  
Mr. Jeffrey F. Swiatek  
Mr. & Mrs. James Turner '87  
Mr & Mrs. Dennis (Gina) Virtuoso  
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Ward  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Winter '74  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Wojtaszek  
Mr. Jerald I. Wolfgang

*If you would like information about becoming a Presidential Partner, please contact Deb Brewer, NCCC Foundation Director, at (716) 614-5911 or email [dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu](mailto:dbrewer@niagaracc.suny.edu).*

# NCCC FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**Jerald I. Wolfgang**  
Chairperson  
WNY Regional Education Center  
for Economic Development



**David R. Bonnevie, DDS '74**  
Vice-Chairperson  
Dental Care Associates LLC



**David I. Karwick**  
Treasurer  
Key Investments



**Donna J. Bryk**  
Secretary  
Walsh Insurance Group



**William Bevacqua**  
Member-at-Large  
Sdao Furniture, Retired



**David J. DiCamillo**  
Member-at-Large  
DiCamillo Baking Company Senior Corporate Accountant,  
Retired



**Gina I. Virtuoso**  
College Trustee

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Ann Briody Petock**  
Briody Health Care System

**Vincent "Jimmy" A. Cancemi '68**  
Cancemi Furniture

**Christina Cerrone Pecoraro '06**  
Mark Cerrone, Inc

**Peter I. Certo '73**  
Certo Bros. Distributing Co., Inc.

**Maria A. Crea, MD**  
Medical Director of G.N.O, Retired

**Dr. Martin H. Drake '75**  
NCCC

**Jane N. Haenle**  
NCCC, Retired

**Michael Hooper**  
Hooper Realty

**Chuck Kilroy**  
Seneca Niagara  
Gaming Corporation

**Jack F. Kopczyński**  
Ascension Industries, Inc.

**Robert MacDonald, Jr.**  
M&T Bank

**James A. Mezhir '68**  
NCCC

**Fred Rickan '81**

**Lester J. Robinson III '87**  
Northwoods Corp.

**William L. Ross**  
Niagara County Legislature  
Chairman

**Jayne Schaber**  
Connor Middle School

**Kurt Schuler '78** Niagara  
Sheets, LLC

**Geraldine Sdao**  
M&T Bank, Retired

**Gary Siddall**  
Delphi

**Steven Sinclair**  
The Wright  
Investment Group

**Melanie Tisdale '75**  
Tisdale & Coykendall

**James Turner '86**  
Erie County  
Medical Center

**Ronald R. Winkley '78**  
Niagara University



**NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

3111 Saunders Settlement Road  
Sanborn, NY 14132

NON-PROFIT  
ORG  
**US POSTAGE PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 13  
NIAGARA FALLS, NY



**STAY CONNECTED**

-  [facebook.com/NiagaraCountyCommunityCollege](https://facebook.com/NiagaraCountyCommunityCollege)
-  [twitter.com/NiagaraCCC](https://twitter.com/NiagaraCCC)
-  [youtube.com/NiagaraCCC](https://youtube.com/NiagaraCCC)

**THE SMART PLACE TO START**