

Annual Report 2017-2018

NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



Norwalk Community College aspires to create a culture of inclusion and excellence through **intellectual inquiry, open dialogue, multi-cultural awareness,** and **lifelong learning.** By **embracing the diverse needs** of our students, faculty, staff, and community, the college will strive to provide an environment in which **individuals are empowered to achieve their highest potential.** – NCC Vision Statement

President's Message



Dear Friends and Colleagues,
Norwalk Community College (NCC) believes in the power of STEAM.

In the 18th century, steam power launched the Industrial Revolution, transforming global commerce and technology. Today, STEAM of a different kind is fueling another great frontier—emerging techno-industries requiring expertise in *science, technology, engineering, arts* and *mathematics*.

STEAM fields represent the fastest-growing industries in communications, healthcare, cybersecurity, data science, advanced manufacturing and more. These fields are evolving so quickly that employers are hard-pressed to find skilled workers.

By offering a comprehensive STEAM curriculum that embraces both arts and sciences, NCC is developing learners who can think creatively, solve problems, take thoughtful risks and imagine possibilities.

In short, they are prepared to become the innovators and leaders who will keep our country competitive in the global arena.

Community colleges like ours are increasingly in demand as gateways to middle-skill jobs in STEAM fields. According to the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, the U.S. economy will create 16 million new jobs by 2024 that will require some college education, though not necessarily a bachelor's degree. We are ahead of the curve when it comes to growing local talent to meet workforce needs.

NCC has partnered with IBM and the Norwalk Public Schools to found the Norwalk Early College Academy (NECA), Connecticut's first Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) school. Students in grades 9-14 simultaneously earn a high school degree and associate degree within six years. This year, the first cohort of NECA students graduated—a full two years ahead of schedule.

Also this year, NCC received a \$225,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to develop initiatives for closing the gender gap in engineering occupations and encouraging more women to study engineering in college.

Engineering and art students alike are enjoying the new NCC Makerspace that opened this year on the West Campus. Funded by the NCC Foundation, the Makerspace provides the latest tools and digital fabrication technologies to help students turn ideas into tangible products.

And NCC doesn't forget that STEAM has a strong arts, entrepreneurial and cultural component.

U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith visited the campus in the spring to talk about the creative process. NCC signed an articulation agreement with Temple University Japan

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Countries from where NCC students hailed during the last year. Thirty-two languages were spoken.

last fall to launch a study abroad program in Tokyo. NCC theater students staged a standing room only production of *The Addams Family Musical*, straight from Broadway. And the college continued to expand its Summer Entrepreneurs Institute to help students plan and operate a successful business.

I am gratified to watch our students strive and succeed. Their educational journeys, and the rich resources of this fine institution, are made possible through the support of our donors and community partners like you. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "David Levinson".

David L. Levinson, Ph.D.
*President, Norwalk Community College,
and Vice President, Connecticut State
Colleges and Universities*



NCC in the News

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Diplomas each NECA graduate received—one at the NECA graduation, one at NCC's commencement, and one at their Norwalk High School commencement



NECA graduates Ryan Stelly (left) and Amelia Navarro (right) are shown at NCC Commencement in May, where they received college diplomas a month before graduating high school.

First NECA Cohort Graduates

Twelve tech-savvy teenagers made state history in May when they became the first class to graduate from Norwalk Early College Academy, Connecticut's first IBM-affiliated Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) school.

This dual enrollment program for students in grades 9-14 was jointly established in 2014 by Norwalk Community College (NCC), IBM and the Norwalk Public Schools.

NECA students simultaneously earn a high school diploma from Norwalk High School and a tuition-free associate degree from NCC within six years. They finish college debt-free and with the skills to compete in well-paying technology fields.

The dynamic graduates are notable because they successfully completed their studies in only four years—two full years ahead of schedule.

“These first NECA graduates are trail-blazing young men and women,” said NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. “They have balanced high school and college studies at

the same time, and have developed highly marketable career skills.”

Some of the graduates will work at IBM, which provides NECA students with mentorships, internships and job interviews. Others will continue their STEM studies at a four-year college or university.

NECA is part of an exciting national collaboration among public high schools, community colleges and the private sector that aligns education to market needs to fill the many vacant middle-skill technology oriented jobs in emerging industries. Middle-skill careers require specialized training, but not necessarily a bachelor's degree.

“The clear benefit of NECA specifically, and P-TECH in general, is that industry drives the curriculum. No longer do academics need to figure out what employers want from their employees. Instead, employers are telling the academics, and we are implementing programs to meet those needs,” said Thomas Duffy, Chair of the NCC Computer Science Department.

P-TECH schools offer access and opportunity to college and careers, according to NECA Principal Karen Amaker. Students gain exposure to the world of work through participation in site visits, mentoring opportunities, skills mapping, career preparation and partnership in internships.

“We’re engaging more young women in STEM and STEAM fields than ever before. NECA’s enrollment is 40% female, well above the national average of 24% women in STEM careers,” Amaker said. “We’re diversifying the talent pipeline and increasing graduation completion rates: Over 50% of P-TECH students are completing their STEM degree in six years or less compared to the national average of 13%.”

Wanted: Women in Engineering

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded NCC a \$225,000 grant to develop initiatives for closing the gender gap in engineering occupations and encouraging more women to study engineering in college.

The three-year grant will fund an NCC program on “Recruitment and Retention of Women in Engineering and Engineering Technology (E&ET).”

“The gender gap exists in most E&ET programs nationwide, and NCC is no exception,” said Mobin Rastgar Agah, Ph.D., Coordinator of the NCC Engineering program. “While in the past year, there has been an improvement in enrollment of female students, women comprise only 2% of the E&ET program at NCC ... The goal is to increase the number of students in this program with a special focus on enrollment of women.”

In 2017, only 24.4% of workers in engineering and architectural occupations were

women, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Why so few? According to the American Association of University Women (AAUW), most people still associate science and math fields with “male” jobs and humanities and arts fields with “female” jobs. These outdated biases are damaging and discourage girls and women from cultivating an interest in STEM.

The AAUW also reports that females have fewer mentors and role models in these fields, fear harassment and discrimination in overwhelmingly male workplaces, and are deemed “less likable” when demonstrating competence in a “masculine job.”

“STEM is the nation’s fastest-growing employment sector and we want to introduce more female students to the tremendous job opportunities available to those who study engineering and technology,” said NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. “Workers in these fields command top salaries and are considered to be critical to our nation’s economic innovation and productivity.”

NCC will use the NSF funding to design strategies for recruiting and retaining female students, offer professional development for engineering and math faculty, and design an Intermediate Algebra course that targets female students and encourages them to pursue a degree in Engineering or Engineering Technology.

NCC Title V Federal Grant Update

In Fall 2016, the U.S. Department of Education’s Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Title V Program presented a \$2.3 million grant to NCC for new student success initiatives from October 2016 through September 2021. Title V is designed to expand and enhance the

academic offerings and program quality of colleges and universities educating Hispanic and low-income students. NCC’s Hispanic population has grown steadily from 20% of the student body in Fall 2006 to 37% in Fall 2017. This growth is primarily driven by increasing numbers of incoming first-time, full-time students identifying as Hispanic or Latino (46% of the incoming class in Fall 2017).

Now in year two, the Title V Student Success Collaborative at NCC continues to focus on increasing student achievement, persistence and retention through improved student services, dynamic instruction and enhanced academic support. The Student Success Collaborative consists of three components outlined below with the associated highlights from the past year:

Student Orientation, Advising & Registration (SOAR): During year one, Title V has focused on refining the onboarding experience for new students at NCC. In collaboration with the NCC Foundation and NCC staff, the Title V team piloted a text messaging platform to support students from admissions to enrollment. They then collaborated with Student Activities to redesign NCC’s on-site orientation program, with a focus on engaging students through interactive workshops focused on student services, first-year scenarios and community building. An online orientation system was also developed and will be piloted in Fall 2018 as a resource for students to access throughout the school year.

Success in Gateway Courses: Continuing with the theme of supporting new students, Title V supported a partnership to provide students in Freshman Seminar with five drop-in lessons designed to bolster student success in math. They also launched a peer academic support model known as Supplemental

Instruction, which is used nationally to support students in historically difficult courses.

Learning Commons: Title V continues to work with the College to identify ways to leverage physical and academic technology to support student collaboration and learning. In April 2018, NCC received bonding to redesign the B-wing, which is home to a rich array of student services, including the Academic Tutoring Center, Student Activities, Service Learning, the Career Development Center and more. Drawing inspiration from the LifeMap model at Valencia College & Bunker Hill Community College, NCC’s Title V commitment is to create a sense of identity in the wing where students can access resources for academic success, including collaborative study and learning spaces.

\$250,000 Grant for New Customer Service Certificate

NCC held a graduation ceremony in January for the first class to complete the new Retail Customer Service and Sales Certificate program.



From left to right: Douglas Adams, Senior Director of Brookfield Properties, NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. and graduate Rhonda Benn

The non-credit certificate provides entry-level workers with the customer service and sales skills to work in retail environments. Up to 500 students will benefit from this retail career pathway over the next few years.

The program is made possible by a \$250,000 grant to the NCC Foundation from real estate developer Brookfield Properties, developer of the SoNo Collection, an upscale mall currently under construction in Norwalk.

New Study Abroad Program

In 2017, NCC and Temple University Japan (TUJ) formed an educational partnership to give students and graduates the opportunity to study abroad at an accredited American university in Tokyo.

TUJ is Temple University’s international campus in Japan. It offers degree and non-degree programs taught in English and Japanese.

The partnership provides special benefits including early admission options, scholarship and aid opportunities and preferential access to housing in Tokyo.

“This new partnership provides NCC students with a unique academic and cultural experience and the opportunity to live in one of the most vibrant cities in the world,” said NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D.

NCC is the only community college in Connecticut to offer academic courses in the Japanese language. This year, Japanese Instructor Yumi McCarthy escorted a group of NCC students to TUJ, where they observed classes and learned about Japanese culture.



Professor Erica Kipp leads an environmental science class at NCC.

How Green is My Neighborhood

An NCC faculty member with a green thumb for gardening is beautifying Norwalk neighborhoods while teaching children and seniors about the environment.

Environmental Science Professor Erica Kipp is leading a new community program funded by a 2018 TD Green Streets and Arbor Day Foundation Grant. The grant was awarded to NCC to support innovative practices in community forestry and environmental education programming in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods.

In collaboration with the Norwalk Housing Authority and the Norwalk Mayor’s Office,

Professor Kipp has developed a horticultural therapy program for seniors and planted trees at a senior center. She has also helped children at a Norwalk housing complex plant seeds and trees in their neighborhood.

In-State Tuition for New Yorkers

NCC put out the welcome mat for New Yorkers this year by offering them lower tuition. A pilot program began in September which extends the Connecticut resident tuition rate to New York residents; a savings of 66%.

NCC’s proximity to major employment hubs in Stamford and Norwalk makes it attractive for New Yorkers who work in Fairfield

County or live close to the Connecticut border.

NCC was one of seven Connecticut public colleges and universities to offer in-state tuition to their New York, Massachusetts or Rhode Island neighbors.

Tuition Match Agreement

NCC is making it easier for graduates to continue on for a bachelor’s degree without leaving home.

NCC and Charter Oak State College, Connecticut’s online college, have signed a Tuition Match Scholarship Agreement in which Charter Oak provides the last two years of a bachelor’s degree to NCC grads and

“Math skills are considered essential to success in STEM fields. Historically, boys have outperformed girls in math, but in the past few decades, the gender gap has narrowed and today girls are doing as well as boys in math on average. Girls are earning high school math and science credits at the same rate as boys and are earning slightly higher grades in these classes.”

— “Why So Few: Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics,” A report by the American Association of University Women, 2010

charges them the community college tuition and fees in effect for that year. This offers students a substantial savings.

The agreement provides a financial incentive and flexible pathway for NCC students to complete their bachelor’s online, while working and/or raising a family.

63%

Students who received financial aid during Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters



Facilities Update

100

Students who used the new Makerspace on NCC's West Campus each month for their coursework

Bonding for Building

NCC has received \$5.1 million in state bonding for the design stage of renovations to the West Campus B-Wing. This funding will support the Title V grant's goal of increasing NCC's graduation rate by updating classrooms, academic technology and physical spaces.

The renovations will include creating a Learning Commons in the B-Wing, featuring collaborative study and learning spaces, and serving as a central hub for tutoring, advising, transfer support and career services.

Makerspace

In the new Makerspace on the West Campus, students turn ideas into tangible products.

The facility, funded by the NCC Foundation, provides space and equipment to support student creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship. It also introduces students to the latest digital fabrication technologies they will encounter in the workplace.

The Makerspace has gadgets and gizmos galore for makers of every type from the hobbyist to the aspiring biomedical engineer. Tools include a 3-D printer, laser cutter, milling machine, electrical building and testing equipment, hand tools and wood and plastic building materials.

The popular 3-D printer utilizes advanced manufacturing processes to produce solid objects from a digital file.

"This technology is used by inventors to quickly iterate a part and make design improvements, by aerospace companies to make complex engine and turbine parts, and by the biomedical field for printing medical implants," said Makerspace Coordinator Vladimir Mariano. "Three-D printers also are used in the jewelry and clothing industries."

NCC students taking computer aided design (CAD) classes design their parts on a computer and then manufacture them with Makerspace tools. Architecture students are using the laser cutter to save significant hours cutting wood for their architectural models.

Art students have used the space to create projects and engrave and cut different materials such as wood and acrylic. Engineering students have scanned a human hand and made a 3-D replica of it.

New Live Animal Vet Tech Lab



In the Live Animal Lab, Vet Tech students learn from anatomical models and live creatures.

As a suburban college without animal husbandry or agricultural programs, NCC does not have live animals on campus for its Veterinary Technology students to learn from. Although students do internships at farms and veterinary practices, Vet Tech Program Coordinator Anne C. Hermans, D.V.M., wanted them to have more "paws-on" experience.

The problem was remedied this year with the opening of a Live Animal Lab on the West Campus, and an invitation was extended to faculty and staff to bring in their pets.

Since opening, five species of "guest pets" have made 28 visits to the lab, including dogs, cats, a bearded dragon lizard, a leopard gecko and a chicken.

The Ann Chernow Art Collection

Forty-six years after the NCC Art Collection was established by artist Ann Chernow, it was renamed in her honor.

Chernow is an NCC Professor of Art Emerita. She created the College's collection of contemporary art in 1972. The collection has since grown to more than 800 prints, drawings, paintings and photographs by renowned artists including Miro, Christo and Calder. These important works are on permanent display in NCC corridors, offices and common spaces.

At a renaming ceremony in June, Chernow was feted by former colleagues and students. "Ann started this collection because she felt students were often intimidated by museums," said NCC Art Professor Joe Fucigna. "She wanted art to be part of their daily lives."



Professor of Art Emerita Ann Chernow, seated, is shown with NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D., left, and Art Professor Joseph Fucigna.

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College and public events held on campus during the 2017-2018 academic year

Academic Festival

“Creative Leadership for Peace” was the theme of NCC’s 21st annual Academic Festival, a daylong symposium open to the community. The festival presented 20 events focused on peace building and non-violent communication. Events ranged from an open forum on gun control and school safety, to a discussion of Plato’s views on retribution, to a presentation on nursing care for patients from different cultures. Presenters included both visiting experts and NCC faculty.



Academic Festival keynote speaker Amanda Benavides

Amanda Benavides, a Colombian peace activist and international consultant on human rights and peace education, was the keynote speaker for the festival. She discussed the challenge of peace education in Colombia, a nation where violent gangs and drug traffickers have displaced many indigenous peoples. She also led a workshop on integrating peace education into the school curriculum from kindergarten through college.

A talk by guest speaker S. Gul on “Memory and Desire” provided insights into his experiences growing up in war-torn Afghanistan.

Lisa Kenausis, a representative of the Center for Arms Control and Nonproliferation

in Washington D.C., discussed the potential for nuclear conflict with North Korea.

History Professor Steve Berizzi presented a discussion on Eugene Debs, an anti-war activist who was imprisoned for his criticism of U.S. participation in World War I.

Other events presented tools for meditation and tips for making difficult conversations easier.

The Power of Education

In February, Maysa Akbar, Ph.D., author of *Urban Trauma: A Legacy of Racism*, discussed her research on urban trauma and its connection to poverty, mental illness and crime.

An immigrant from the Dominican Republic who was abused and abandoned by her parents, Akbar talked about how education lifted her out of homelessness and despair.

This event was sponsored by The Committee on Diversity and Inclusion and Fresh Check Day.

Behold the Author

Behold the Dreamers author Imbolo Mbue spoke at NCC in November about her bestselling novel. The book explores contemporary issues including immigration, race, the 2008



Imbolo Mbue signs books following her presentation.

financial crisis and the search for meaning in a materialistic world.

Behold the Dreamers was an Oprah’s Book Club Selection for 2017 and was named a Notable Book of the Year by *The New York Times* and *Washington Post*. It has been translated into 10 languages.

Common Read Week

How would you handle a financial windfall? That’s the question students in all sections of Freshman Seminar pondered when they read this year’s Common Read book selection, *Lottery*, by Patricia Wood.

Wood visited NCC in October for Common Read Week, a series of events centered on the novel. *Lottery* is the story of a mentally disabled man who wins the lottery. How he and others around him react to the unexpected winnings encourages readers to examine issues of trust and values.

Common Read Week featured more than a dozen events including a panel discussion on returning military veterans, a seminar on personal finance, theater and choral performances and a mathematics discussion about the odds of winning a lottery.

U.N. Day Panel on North Korea

Congressman Jim Himes moderated a panel discussion on “North Korea: Where Do We Go From Here?” in October, during NCC’s observance of United Nations Day.

The event was sponsored by the Humanitarian Peace Club and focused on the United States’ tenuous relationship with North Korea and the specter of nuclear war.

Sonja Bachman, Team Leader for Northeast Asia of the U.N. Department of Political Affairs, discussed the U.N.’s efforts to prevent military



Panelists at a forum on North Korea are, from left, Congressman Jim Himes, Bill Hass, Sonja Bachman and Dr. Thomas Ward

aggression from North Korea. Thomas Ward, Dean of the University of Bridgeport’s College of Public and International Affairs, shared insights into “How Kim Jong-Un Thinks.” The panel also included Bill Hass, Chapter President of the U.N.-U.S.A Association of Fairfield County.

Poet Laureate Times Two

Few people meet a Poet Laureate in their lifetime. In May, the public was invited to a community conversation with two laureates: U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith and City of Norwalk Poet Laureate Laurel Peterson, an English Professor at NCC.



Professor Laurel Peterson, left, interviews U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith.

Smith was named the nation’s Poet Laureate in 2017. A graduate of Harvard University, she is Director of Princeton University’s creative writing program and author of three award-winning books of poetry, including *Life on Mars* (2011), which won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry.



Members of the cast of NCC’s Spring Play, *The Addams Family Musical*

The Addams Family

They’re creepy and they’re kooky. Mysterious and spooky. They’re the Addams Family, fictional characters created by cartoonist Charles Addams and later immortalized in movies and a Broadway musical.

Music and Theater students appeared in NCC’s production of *The Addams Family Musical* in April. The musical comedy was about two families, one quirky and the other conventional, who come together when their children wish to marry.

The production was directed by Music and Theater Professor Christine Mangone, Ph.D. and funded by the NCC Foundation.



NCC nursing students share the love at Fresh Check Day, held in April.

Fresh Check Day at NCC

Sometimes, students just need someone to ask how they’re doing. That’s why each year NCC holds Fresh Check Day, a mental health awareness and fun fair that encourages students to engage in healthy dialogue about suicide prevention and mental health issues.

The event features music, games, food and prizes. Students visit interactive booths that educate them about a variety of wellness topics and raise awareness of the mental health resources available to them on campus and beyond.

Immigration Forum

The termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) immigration policy has left more than 8,000 immigrant youth in danger of deportation and facing an uncertain future.

In April, NCC hosted the Public Forum on Immigration for undocumented NCC students and community members who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children.

A panel of immigration lawyers and representatives of Connecticut Students for

a Dream, a group advocating for the rights of undocumented youth and their families, answered questions about the future of DACA and the Temporary Protected Status policy.

Linguistic Festival

The NCC student body is multilingual and diverse. Our students, who come from 90 countries and speak 32 languages, got the opportunity to learn phrases in other languages when the NCC chapter of the Student World Assembly (SWA) held a Linguistic Festival in April.

“The mission of the festival was to offer a social platform where students can appreciate the linguistic diversity of the NCC community and also take pride in being multilinguals. Our slogan is #NCCGlobalCitizen,” said Robert Emigh, SWA Advisor and English as a Second Language Professor.



A student practices the Indian art of henna painting.

Awards + Achievements



NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D., center, (shown with State Senators Bob Duff and Beth Bye) was honored by the New England Board of Higher Education at the state capitol.

In April, NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. received the **2018 Connecticut Higher Education Excellence Award** from the New England Board of Higher Education at a ceremony at the State Capitol in Hartford. This award is presented to individuals and organizations for strengthening the relationship between higher education and the economic well-being of New England.

Earlier this year, President Levinson also received the **Transformational Leader Award** from the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County. The Society honored him for being “a change agent who has created an innovative, welcoming and rigorous learning culture at NCC and has provided learning opportunities for the entire community, from pre-school to elementary to high school to college to Lifetime Learners.”

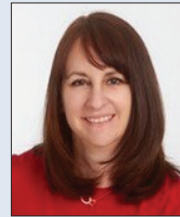
NCC Environmental Science Professor Erica Kipp received the **2018 Aquarion Environmental Champion Award** for her significant contributions to the improvement of environmental quality through the protection,

conservation, restoration and stewardship of natural resources. Her Environmental Science class focuses on the impact of human intervention on the environment and climate.



John Betkoski III, Vice Chairman of Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (left) presented the Aquarion Environmental Champion Award to Professor Erica Kipp (right).

Adjunct Instructor of English and Developmental English Meira Rosenberg won the **Tennessee Mountain Writers Excalibur Award** for her first novel, *Indiana Bamboo*, a book for middle school readers about a precocious 11-year-old sleuth. The award included a publishing contract with Iris Press and a cash award.



Adjunct Instructor Meira Rosenberg

NCC was selected for inclusion in the **2018-19 Military Friendly® Schools List** published by Victory Media. The annual list provides a comprehensive guide to higher education opportunities for veterans and their families.



Institutions earning the designation must meet high standards for student retention, graduation rate, job placement, loan repayment and student persistence.

In January, NCC was named the **2018 Best Online Two-Year College in Connecticut** by AffordableColleges-Online.org (ACO), an online resource for higher education information, resources and rankings.



ACO ranked NCC first among the 12 Connecticut community colleges, using a combination of multiple data factors including number of online programs offered, tuition, accreditation and student-to-teacher ratio. NCC offers both online and hybrid courses (online courses that include some classroom instruction).

The Workplace Wellness Program sponsored by NCC's Wellness Committee was awarded the bronze level **Workplace Health Achievement Award** by the American Heart Association for the second consecutive year. The program provides health education and fitness opportunities to faculty, staff and students to support healthier lifestyles.



Newman Civic Fellow

In February, NCC student Catalina Arenas was accepted to the 2018 cohort of Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellows. The yearlong fellowship program recognizes students who have demonstrated a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country. Its goal is to “support



Catalina Arenas

the next generation of public problem solvers in their personal, professional and civic growth.”

A Biology major, Catalina is president of the NCC Garden Club and is dedicated to teaching the NCC community about sustainability and the benefits of reducing the campus's carbon footprint.

Sci-Fi Storyteller

The fantasy world of planet “Terra Ancora” is the setting for *Astrid's Apostle*, the first novel by NCC graduate Matthew Michaelson (Class of 2014). Available on Kindle, the e-book was published this year by Lightswitch Press.

Matthew earned an A.S. in Management at NCC. He wrote the book on a whim, after his internet was down for a few days. He whiled away the time developing ideas for science fiction characters.

“I liked the characters I came up with,” Matthew recalls. “I was shy about showing it to my friends, but eventually made an actual novel out of it.”

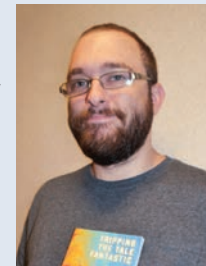


Short Story Writer

NCC student Jacob Waring is a short story contributor to the anthology *Tripping the Tale Fantastic: Weird Fiction by Deaf and Hard of Hearing Writers*. The anthology features 19 works by deaf and hearing-impaired authors.

Jacob's story, “The Tale of Two Prodigies,” is about two brothers who attempt to outdo each other with their scientific achievements. The anthology was published in October 2017 and was reviewed in Publisher's Weekly.

Jacob is a former Editor-in-Chief of *The Voice*, NCC's student newspaper.



Jacob Waring

Pet Products Inventor



Blythe Serrano

NCC student Blythe Serrano has invented a silicone pet collar that automatically lights up in the dark to make pets more visible. She was inspired to create the collar for dogs and cats after her cat died from being run over by a car in the middle of the night.

Blythe was homeschooled and is double majoring in Honors Liberal Arts and Engineering at NCC. “I became an engineering major because I've enjoyed building things since I was a little kid,” she said.

Blythe won the NCC Idea Pitch Competition in 2017, which led her to the college's Summer Entrepreneurs Institute. There, she learned about the essentials of starting

a business. She has since started her own company, 4 Paws Wearable, and has created a light-up dog sweater—a felt cape featuring 10 color-changing LED lights for nighttime walks.

Game Maker

Alumna Theresa Claire (Class of 2012) has developed a new card game called *Mixed Emotions* to help children recognize and talk about their feelings.

While an NCC student, Theresa participated in the Family Economic Security Program and discovered an interest in entrepreneurship. After graduating, she returned to NCC to participate in the Summer Entrepreneurs Institute.

Several years ago, the single mother was having trouble communicating with her three sons and was looking for a solution. With guidance from child psychologist Dr. Melanie Pearl, Theresa developed the game, which is based on extensive clinical research showing that emotional education helps to reduce anxiety and depression and increase test scores. Theresa launched a Kickstarter campaign to fund production of the game by Mirror Books LLC.

“At NCC, I learned how to take charge of my life,” she said. “My kids ... see all the hard work and sacrifice I made and are proud that this is something Mom created.”



Theresa Claire



College Financial Summary

Fiscal Year 2017-2018
(Ended 6/30/18)

Funding Sources

Norwalk Community College received funding through six major sources: the General Fund, tuition and fees, auxiliary services, the Educational Extension Fund, and private and federal funds.

The General Fund appropriations are authorized by the State of Connecticut Legislature. Tuition and fees are established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

Auxiliary services and the Educational Extension Fund are self-supporting. The revenue from auxiliary services is primarily generated by Child Development Laboratory School fees and bookstore commissions. The Educational Extension Fund revenue is composed of non-credit program fees and summer session fees.

Private and federal funds consist mainly of grants and student financial aid. The Norwalk Community College Foundation actively seeks private grant funding for scholarships, student success initiatives, faculty development and program support.

Tuition

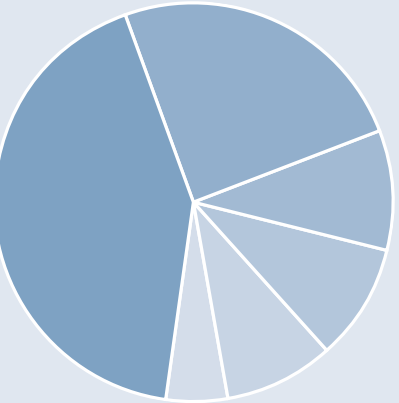
The Board of Regents sets tuition and fees at reasonable levels to promote access to education. In the 2017-2018 academic year, Connecticut residents paid \$569 for a three-credit course, and full-time Connecticut students paid \$2,138 for 12 credits or more. Annual tuition was approximately \$4,276.

The Board of Regents has waived tuition for qualified veterans and seniors aged 62 and

older. Federal, state and private scholarships and financial aid packages are available to help students.

Operations Budget

NCC's six major funding sources provided a \$53.2 million operating budget for the period of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Spending categories are shown below.



Instructional Programs, Library and Academic Support	\$ 22,589,189
Scholarships, Financial Aid	\$ 13,084,816
Student Services	\$ 5,173,849
Institutional Operations	\$ 5,114,014
Campus Facilities Operations	\$ 4,676,064
Auxiliary Operations	\$ 2,598,386

Grand Total: \$ 53,236,318

Norwalk Community College Foundation's investments in the College are driven by **data and long-term outcomes**. When we target our funds on the most effective programs, we **help more students achieve their goals**. In the coming year, we will assess the **effectiveness of our scholarship awards** with a research project to compile and analyze data to profile the **key touchpoints** that help students on their path to **graduation and life success**. — Norwalk Community College Foundation Board

From the Foundation



Dear Friends,

It was a banner year for the NCC Foundation! In June, we welcomed a new Executive Director, Carrie Bernier, who will help guide the Foundation as we strengthen our partnerships within the College and our community.

As we strive to help NCC students achieve their fullest potential, we identify the factors that most contribute to student success and then channel our support in those directions. Financial support through scholarships is a key factor, and we are pleased to report a 45% increase in scholarship awards this past year. Other metrics include academic coaching, mentoring and wrap-around support services. In addition, we partner with NCC to support **STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)** initiatives—a natural for the NCC Foundation as it is imbedded in so many of our student-centered programs:

Science at NCC continues to be on the cutting edge. With our state-of-the art Center for Science Health and Wellness (CSHW), we

continue to attract Fairfield County students who are dedicated to pursuing healthcare careers including nursing, physical therapy, respiratory care, veterinary technology and exercise science. With our investment in advanced technology, students have the most up-to-date testing and laboratory classrooms and our programs maintain industry accreditations. In 2017, we supported the Fear Free™ Live Animal Lab that allows Vet Tech students to complete clinical requirements on campus.

Technology enhances communication between the Foundation and the NCC community. In 2017, we funded SignalVine, a text-messaging platform used to communicate directly with students. Using SignalVine, we increased scholarship applications and awards. In the 2018-19 academic year, we intend to extend our reach with this successful system.

Engineering at NCC has grown to support the global demand for innovation in manufacturing. Funded by the Foundation, the Makerspace is a tech-savvy workshop where students can explore their creative ideas and efficiently produce engineering, architecture, exercise science, art and graphic design projects. This year, over 100 students used the facility each month, saving valuable time and bringing innovation to their academic experience.

The **Arts** at NCC benefit from our partnerships as well. With such diverse initiatives as the annual spring musical, Common Read, Lumina String Quartet, the art collection, and the Annual Student Art & Design Exhibition, we are engaging our students, faculty, administration, and community in campus-wide cultural enrichment events.

Math enrichment continues to be a wise investment in our students who need extra support. In 2015, we began funding the

Summer Bridge Math Intensive Program. This critical program is free to incoming students who do not qualify for college level math or English in their first semester at NCC. Over the past three years, 74% of participants have improved their math placement, saving them both time and money.

These are just a few examples of our **STEAM** story and how the Foundation empowers NCC students through academic and cultural enrichment. We owe our success to you, our generous donors. You are invaluable community partners, and we could not continue to invest in the education of our students without you.

With sincere gratitude,

Stuart C. Weismiller, *President*

Carrie L. Bernier, J.D., *Executive Director*

Foundation Leadership

2017-2018 Officers

President

Stuart C. Weismiller
Marketing Tactics, LLC

Vice President

Vincent A. Murphy
ProCeritas Consulting, LLC

Secretary

George A. Reilly
Rucci Law Group

Treasurer

Ellen H. Petrino
Mercer Investments

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Praxair, Inc.

Ana Chadwick
GE Capital

Robert M. Dixon
Norwalk

Joseph W. Donaldson
McClain Value Management, LLC

Laura Erickson
Riverside

Jon Gold
Edgehill Partners, LLC

Julie M. Johnson
Executive Leadership Coach

Vasso Gyftopoulos, RN
Norwalk Community College,
2010

Jacqueline G. Labatt-Simon
Stamford



Pictured Board Directors - Front Row (left to right): Amy Richman, Tameika Miller, Julie Johnson, Deborah McLean, Joan Barksdale, Stuart Weismiller, Ellen Petrino, Theodore Nussbaum, Jacqueline Labatt-Simon, Vincent Murphy. Back Row (left to right): Jon Gold, Joseph Donaldson, Ann Mandel, Carlton Goodnow, Carrie Bernier, Larry Santoro, Susan Weinberger, Eleanor Riemer, Ana Chadwick, Victoria Seeger, Heather DeDominicis.

Deborah C. McLean
Adjunct Professor, Columbia
(SIPA)

Tameika G. Miller
Marketing & Business
Development Executive

Lenore C. Mintz
Lea Mintz & Associates

Theodore J. Nussbaum
Mercer

G.M. O'Connell
Tango Modem, LLC

Amy Richman
Pitney Bowes, Inc.

Eleanor S. Riemer, Ph.D.
Hunt Street Associates

Larry Santoro
Investcorp

Lesley I.B. Schless
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Victoria J. Seeger
General Reinsurance
Corporation

Susan G. Weinberger, Ed.D.
Mentor Consulting Group

Joseph R. Zimmel
Greenwich

Emeritus Directors
Joan Barksdale
Darien

Edwin A. Bescherer
Dun & Bradstreet (ret.)

Carlton T. Goodnow
Goodnow Builders, Inc.

Ann S. Mandel
Darien

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David L. Levinson, Ph.D.
President, Norwalk Community
College

Carrie L. Bernier, J.D.
Executive Director, Norwalk
Community College
Foundation

Heather DeDominicis
NCC Faculty Representative

Romy Stewart
NCC Student Representative

Staff Members

Carrie L. Bernier, J.D.
Executive Director

Ann Marie Winsch
Director of Finance

Terri L. Nackid
Director of Annual and
Planned Giving

Rose Pierre
Scholarship Manager

Catherine Lucia
Grants Manager

Chevel Barrett
Events and Office
Manager

Mission-Driven Growth

The Mission of the Norwalk Community College Foundation is three-fold:

- We raise funds for Norwalk Community College programs and scholarships;
- We invest, administer and distribute funds so that students of all ages continue to benefit from challenging opportunities for self-improvement and intellectual growth; *and*
- We inspire and engage our community to share talents and resources.

We are proud to share with you our program highlights from the past year:

“Path” to Success

The first Path Program participants graduated from NCC at an amazing 90% rate. Of those who transferred to a four-year university, 66% have already graduated vs. the national average six-year graduation rate of 59%. We built upon the success of the first Path cohort, incorporated lessons learned into Path 2.0 and we are all ready to go for 2018-19 with nine new students enrolled.

REAL Mentoring Gives a Boost to NCC First-time, Full-time Students

The REAL (Reaching Excellent Academic Levels) Program was launched in the 2017-18 academic year. This unique program targets incoming NCC students who are the first in their families to attend college and historically face substantial barriers on the path to attaining a post-secondary education. REAL provides integrated services to meet their academic, emotional and social needs, including weekly one-on-one mentoring with individuals from our community.

Cohort 1 participants exceeded other first-time full-time NCC students who were not mentored:

- 50% in Math and English retention
- 60% in course progression
- 58% received a \$500 scholarship towards their 2018 fall tuition

We are geared up for the second cohort of students in Fall 2018. The program has been adapted to build upon the strengths of the first year, with enhanced training and focus on mentoring.

Makerspace Encourages Innovation

With our eyes on creating a space that encourages innovative and experiential learning for faculty and students, we launched the new NCC Makerspace. Use of the Makerspace by architecture students saved each student 20 hours of work over the academic year. We are tracking user rates and developing strategies to promote expanded use of this wonderful resource.

Meeting Local Employment Needs

Our Veterinary Technology program has successfully prepared NCC students to be workforce ready. In the Spring of 2018, with

100%

*Veterinary Technology graduates
employed in their field*

our support, the Fear Free™ Live Animal Lab opened, which allows students to complete a portion of their clinical requirements on campus. Since its opening, 28 guest pets of five different species have visited the Lab. Nine students graduated from the program in May. Enrollment increased to 48 students who are “roaring” to go in 2018-2019.

In partnership with Building One Community, we continue to fund the Home Health Aide (HHA) Certificate Program. Twenty-two proud certificate-holders graduated in May and 50% of them are now employed in their field.



*Proud 2018 graduates of the
HHA Certificate Program*



Foundation **Financial** Highlights

Fiscal Year 2017-2018
(Ended 6/30/18)

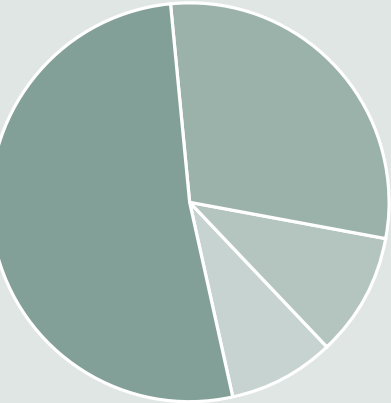
The Norwalk Community College Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1965. We distribute \$3 million annually for scholarships and stipends, programmatic support and college advancement initiatives.

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,582,779
Investments	26,775,040
Other Assets	292,346
Total Assets	\$ 28,650,165
Liabilities	
Grants Payable	\$ 593,180
Other Liabilities	197,721
Total Liabilities	\$ 790,901
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$ 954,452
Temporarily Restricted	10,757,662
Endowed Funds	16,147,150
Total Net Assets	\$ 27,859,264
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 28,650,165

The Foundation’s financial statements were audited by Marks Paneth LLP. The complete audited financial statements are available on our website; highlights are shown below.

\$3 Million in Support for Norwalk Community College in 2017-2018



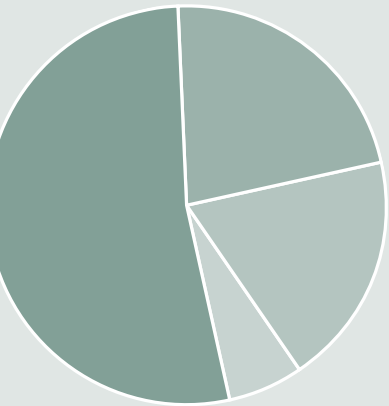
Scholarships	\$ 1,540,159
College Advancement	878,931
Stewardship	295,531
Development	254,919
Total	\$2,969,540

Investment Policy and Asset Mix

Our Investment Policy states: The primary emphasis of the Investment Policy is to safeguard and preserve the purchasing power of principal of the endowment and to provide a payout to be approved annually by the Finance Committee and the Board. These investment objectives must be achieved within acceptable risk parameters.

The endowment investment return was 8.6% in 2017-18 and the five year average annual investment return was 7.1%.

Endowment Asset Allocation



US Equities	55%
Fixed Income	20%
International Equities	19%
Alternatives	6%

Changing lives, one scholarship at a time



IMPACT | Ending student loan dependency

“I was ecstatic to see that I qualified for both Pell grants and a Foundation scholarship, which allowed me to go to the college for free.

I could no longer afford the tuition at my small private liberal arts school. I was happy to see that I wouldn’t have to pay a substantial amount of money out of pocket or with the use of loans.”

— Lashonda Oliver, 2017-18 NCC Foundation scholarship recipient

45%

Increase in scholarship awards

\$500K

More awarded this year in scholarships

Scholarship + Program Funds

We are grateful to our donors for establishing and supporting the following endowment and temporarily-restricted funds.

The 460 Foundation Scholarship
Access to Education Scholarship
Anonymous Scholarship Fund
Elizabeth Raymond Ambler Trust Scholarship
The America 911 Scholarship
Lois and Harlan Anderson Scholarship
Robert and Jeannie Kay Armstrong Scholarship
Everett Baker Library Development Fund
John A. Ball Scholarship
Joan and Ed Barksdale Scholarship
Mary Bauer Nursing Scholarship
Rose S. Becker Memorial Scholarship
Bigelow Foundation/Briggs Scholarship
James Bissell Memorial Scholarship
John Fiske Boorum Memorial Scholarship
Dr. Mary W. Brackett Scholarship
Katherine Hall Browne Memorial Scholarship
Doris Bucky Scholarship
Building One Community - Allied Health Skills Development Program
Ilene and Irving G. Calish, Sr. Scholarship
Mickey and Brooke Callanen Scholarship
Career Connections Program
Frank and Anne Cary Fund for Student Success
Lawrence Cavanagh and Eleanor Riemer Dream Scholarship
Charlotte Chen, Esq. Scholarship
Ann Chernow Art Scholarship
Kenton Clarke Scholarship
Carle C. Conway Scholarship
Center for Career Development
Jane Corbo Scholarship
Charlotte Cowie Human Services Memorial Fund
Crane Scholarship
Virginia and Malcolm Crawford Scholarship
Croaning/Van Dyke Scholarship for Child Development Lab Students

Cross Business Scholarship
James E. Deaver Memorial Scholarship
Katy and Professor John Dolhun Scholarship
Nancy Doyle Scholarship
Dream Transfer Scholarship Program
Dugan Family Scholarship
Jamie Earle Memorial Scholarship
Early Childhood Education Program
The Grove Ely Single Parent Fund
English as a Second Language (ESL) Program
Entrepreneurship Scholarship
Fernandez Family Scholarship
Dr. John K. Fisher Scholarship
Robert Garland Memorial Scholarship
GE Capital Scholarship
Josephine Lindenmeyer Gierer Scholarship
Marion and Justin Glickson Scholarship
Maurice Godin Scholarship
Goodnow Scholarship
Darlene Ryan Goodwin Scholarship
GOPIO-CT Scholarship
Albert L. Hadley Scholarship
Hammant Memorial Art Scholarship
Richard T. Hansen Memorial Scholarship
Harrington Family Scholarship
Mark Hattenbach Memorial Scholarship
Harry H. Hefferan, Jr. and Catherine Hefferan Scholarship
John H. Heher Memorial Scholarship
Claire L. Helsing Scholarship
Eileen Heckart Respiratory Therapy Scholarship
Hiranandani Scholarship
Leon and Fanny Hirsch Scholarship
Anne Ireland Memorial Scholarship
Stacy M. Israel Scholarship
Joseph Karpowich Memorial Scholarship
Debbie Klaff Katz Scholarship
Blanche Kent Archaeology Fund
Jules Lang Scholarship
Toni Anne Laufer Scholarship
Le Bal d'Ecole Scholarship
Frank C. Lee Memorial Scholarship
Marcia Jane Le Moulton Memorial Scholarship

LEAP Transfer Scholarship Program
Max R. & George J. Lepofsky Scholarship
Sachiko S. Liebergesell Scholarship
Lifetime Learners Institute Scholarship
President David Levinson LEAP Scholarship
Matthew LoRusso Scholarship
Calvin Loss Scholarship
Lumina String Quartet Makerspace at NCC
Jan Malone Scholarship
Mandel Family Scholarship
Margaret Jane McAuliffe Scholarship
James R. McCormack Memorial Scholarship
Carolyn and Gerry McGrath Scholarship
McLean-Kearney Family Scholarship
Benson Meth Scholarship
Donald and Virginia Miller Scholarship
Lewis R. Mintz Scholarship
Carl Mirbach Memorial Scholarship
Molly Scholarship
William M. Mommaerts Memorial Scholarship
Dr. Lia Mondo Scholarship
Near & Far Aid Scholarship
Thomas G. Norko Memorial Scholarship
Nursing/Allied Health
O'Hara Family Scholarship
Oristano Scholarship
Beverly Miller Orthwein Scholarship
The Food Pantry at NCC
Panwy Foundation, Inc. Service-Learning Scholarship
Hobart P. and Alice B. Pardee Scholarship
Pasculano Transfer Scholarship
Path Scholarship Program
William Pitt Scholarship
Raindancer Foundation Scholarship
John & Patricia Rayner Scholarship
REAL (Reaching Excellent Academic Levels)
RN to BSN Transfer Scholarship Program
Charles Royce Merit Scholarship
John E. Schmeltzer IV Memorial Scholarship
SoNo Collection Retail Certificate Program
Sylvia Schudy Scholarship
Dr. William H. Schwab Chair in Technology

Charles M. and Jessica B. Shaeffer Nursing Fund
Joseph I. Shulman Memorial Scholarship
Student Emergency Fund
Student Success Fund
John and Charlotte Suhler Scholarship
Summer Bridge Math Program
Jean Svalgard Memorial Women's Scholarship
J. Tierney College Advancement Fund
Pauline A. Toner Nursing Scholarship
Dr. Harry L. Trambert Memorial Scholarship
Charles J. Trantanella, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
Nicholas Trivisonno Scholarship
George C. Turner Memorial Scholarship
UBS Scholarship
Karen L. Veitch Memorial Scholarship
Veterinary Technology Program
John and Catherine Vigilante Scholarship
Olivia Vlahos Scholarship
Morrise Wagner Memorial Scholarship
Geneva Walsh Scholarship
Wetmore Family Scholarship
Michael G. Weyer Scholarship
Helen C. Whitten Scholarship
Michael Wilens and Carolyn Longacre Scholarship
Women in Management Scholarship
The Zimmer Family Foundation Scholarship
Various Academic Departments at NCC

Scholar Spotlight

\$5,901

Support Lillian Yanney received in scholarships and the Grove Ely Single Parent Fund

Each year NCC faculty and staff select two students as commencement speakers to represent the graduating class. Both of the 2018 speakers have overcome unique challenges, and have benefited from the opportunities and experiences available at NCC.



Lillian Yanney (left) and Sean Lam (right)

Lillian Yanney describes herself as “the person least expected to be standing on the dias to give a speech at graduation.” Lillian was born in Ghana, West Africa—a country rich in diamonds and chocolate, but lacking in opportunities for women. In 2006, she joined her mother and siblings in the United States.

In navigating her new life in America, Lillian was faced with another obstacle—she became a single mother to a child with respiratory problems. “I had to reprioritize and realign my personal life to fulfill my goals and the needs of my family. As my son started his education process, I started mine,” she explains.

While researching colleges, Lillian found one with a mission statement that “encapsulates diversity and promotes individual

growth and achievement, no matter your color, creed or background.” That institution was Norwalk Community College. Lillian excelled at NCC, graduating with a 3.7 GPA and earning an associate degree in Medical Office Management.

Lillian credits the Foundation with helping students like her to actualize their NCC academic objectives. “I will be forever grateful to the Carle C. Conway Scholarship, the Thomas Gardella Memorial Scholarship, and the Grove Ely Single Parent Fund. You are now part of my life,” she says. Lillian will take the next steps in her academic journey at Cornell University where she plans to obtain a bachelor’s degree in Applied Economics and Management.

Kin Yat (Sean) Lam started his education at NCC as a very reluctant student. As a teenager in Hong Kong, he studied hard for the public exam and was accepted at his dream college. Everything was falling into place as he had planned, until his father decided to bring the entire family to the U.S. Looking back, Sean reflects, “I spent six years of secondary school life preparing for the exam, and my father wanted me to give up the offer and move to the United States? Are you kidding me?”

Sean left his friends behind and came to the U.S. with his family. In hindsight, he recognizes how much his parents sacrificed by leaving Hong Kong to find a better education for their children. “It was really brave of them, and I am thankful for what they have done for me,” he says.

When he started at NCC, Sean was nervous about making friends and being good enough for scholarships. “I didn’t believe in myself, but I decided to take a leap of faith and just do it,” he explains. “When I stayed

\$9,950

Support Sean Lam received from scholarships and entrepreneurship awards

positive, I became an officer of multiple clubs and met a lot of great friends...and was awarded the Goodnow Scholarship and Entrepreneur Scholarship from the NCC Foundation.”

Early on at NCC, Sean expressed an interest in starting his own business. With encouragement and support from faculty, staff and the NCC Foundation, he went on to be a prizewinner in the 2017 NCC Idea Pitch Competition and participate in the Summer Entrepreneurs Institute. Sean’s business idea, *LocalFace*, is an advertising agency that will help local businesses acquire new customers by creating brand awareness on social media.

Sean was recognized nationally for his accomplishments at NCC—including graduating with a 3.99 GPA—as a 2018 Coca-Cola Academic Team Gold Scholar. In the coming months Sean will take time to focus on his business before returning to college in the spring of 2019.



Spotlight on Donors

Thank you to our donors for creating new scholarship funds this year!

Carl Mirbach Scholarship

The Carl Mirbach Scholarship was established with a \$30,000 gift in Carl's memory from CPG Architects in Stamford. The fund is awarded to eligible Norwalk Community College students in Architecture and Interior Design programs, beginning with the Spring 2018 semester.

"We are pleased that, with the involvement of many clients and friends, we made Carl's challenge to support NCC Architecture and Interior Design students with scholarships a reality."



From left to right: Karen Lika, Principal at CPG Architects; Professor Jacek Bigosinski, Rose Pierre, NCC Foundation Scholarship Manager; Cris Mirbach, Carl's son and NCC alumnus; Ann Rogers, Former NCC Foundation Executive Director; Jenny Paik, Principal at CPG Architects; Sandra Radosh, Carl Mirbach's life partner

Kenton Clarke Scholarship

The Kenton Clarke Scholarship was created with a \$10,000 gift from Kenton Clarke, the founder and CEO of OMNIKAL, to address the lack of opportunities for African American men entering technology fields. The scholarship will award \$1,000 to an African American male



From left to right: NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. and OMNIKAL CEO Kenton Clarke

student majoring in STEM-related fields, each year for the next 10 years. Kenton is a former Foundation board director and alumnus of Norwalk Community College.

"There is a shortage of building a strong pool of talent within this community," says Clarke. "The formation of this scholarship is just one step forward in building the pipeline for diverse talent in the technology industry. At the heart of STEM is entrepreneurship, as a majority of STEM majors become entrepreneurs and account for a huge percentage of the small business workforce."

Debbie Klaff Katz Scholarship

The NCC Foundation received a generous \$20,000 gift to create the Debbie Klaff Katz Scholarship. This fund will be distributed over five years, with up to \$4,000 awarded per year. It will be given to deserving women who are majoring in Business and identify as African American, Black or Latina. The Scholarship was created with a gift from Laurie Katz given

in memory of her mother, Debbie, who was part of the Klaff family in Norwalk.

"This scholarship is in honor of Debbie Klaff Katz who began her career at a time when it was unusual for women to have leadership roles in business," said Laurie Katz. "Over the course of her 50+ years as a leader in the business world in Southern Connecticut, she served as a role model, mentor and advocate for younger women seeking to enter and become leaders in the business world."



From left to right: Ann Rogers, Laurie Katz and Rose Pierre

Lawrence Cavanagh and Eleanor Riemer Dream Scholarship

Established by the Inisfad Foundation, the Lawrence Cavanagh and Eleanor Riemer Dream Scholarship will be awarded as part of the Dream Transfer Scholarship Program. The program provides scholarships to childhood immigrants who graduated from U.S. high schools and also graduate from NCC with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, but are not yet U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The program



Lawrence Cavanagh and Eleanor Riemer

provides awards of up to \$10,000 a year, renewable for a second year, and includes a mentoring component. Lawrence and Eleanor have been strong supporters of undocumented students and the Dream Transfer Scholarship Program.

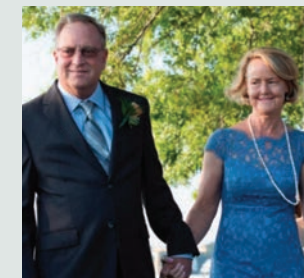
"We established a Dream Transfer Scholarship to support some of NCCs highest-achieving and most dedicated students in continuing their education and pursuing their American Dream," said Riemer. "We can think of no better way to ensure that our philanthropy has a real impact on individuals and our community."

Wetmore Family Scholarship

The Wetmore Family Scholarship was created with a \$10,000 gift from the G&C Marine Services, Inc. to support one full-time student at NCC.

"Mary Beth and I met at NCC many years ago," said Gary Wetmore. "I am a fourth generation Norwalk resident and have retired from

the Norwalk Police Department. I currently own a marine construction business and Mary Beth is a retired special education teacher. This city and community have been very good to our family for generations and we felt it would be proper to give back. Providing a scholarship to a local student was one way we hope we are helping someone."



Gary and Mary Beth Wetmore

Near & Far Aid Scholarship

A grant from Near & Far Aid led to the creation of the Near & Far Aid Scholarship for two full-time students identified through our Full-Year

Scholarship Program. Near & Far Aid helps to eliminate poverty in Fairfield County by funding programs that achieve lasting change.

"We are honored to support the scholarship program at NCC," said Jaclyn Picarillo, Near & Far Aid Board director.



From left to right: Maria Swayne; Joan Panagos, Near & Far Aid Grant Review Chair and Past Board President; Savannah Kayal

74%

Full-time students who need financial assistance to attend NCC. The NCC Foundation is here to help.



"I have proven myself since the first day I walked into NCC. I plan to keep doing so throughout my journey, because I will indeed be part of the change that I wish to see in this world." – NCC Foundation Scholarship Recipient



Thank you to our donors for supporting NCC student success!

In 2017, the Foundation changed its fiscal year end from December to June. Changing our fiscal year allows us to align with NCC's academic calendar and avoids having scholarship and student success initiatives straddle two fiscal years.

This listing reflects contributions received during the 18-month period from January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

A Year of Giving

Chancellor's Circle (\$300,000+) Douglas and Janice Arrol (Legacy)	Pitney Bowes Foundation Diane and Bruce Ritter Maureen and Edwin Schloss The Richard and Barbara Whitcomb Foundation	Haffenreffer Family Fund Allen Haight Mike and Hazel Hobbs Lone Pine Foundation, Inc. MBI, Inc. National Emphysema Foundation GM and Elizabeth O'Connell O'Herron Family Foundation - Anne and Jon Burleigh People's United Community Foundation Glen and Martha Poulter Mrs. Florence Preiser John and Patricia Rayner George and Lynn Reilly Ms. Ritta Rosenberg Eric and Lesley Schless J. Howard and Jo Stecker Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. White Whitney and Kyle Wilcox	Ann P. Rogers Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey A. Rubin Larry Santoro The Sexton Family Foundation
Regents (\$100,000+) Anonymous The 460 Foundation Carle C. Conway Scholarship Foundation Fairfield County's Community Foundation The Windmill Foundation, Inc.	Exceptional Fellows (\$10,000+) Anonymous (3) David & Eunice Bigelow Foundation Louise Blackman Family Foundation Mark and Deborah Blackman Erin and Joseph Catapano Kenton Clarke Ann Martin DiLeone Barbara and Jeff Erdmann The Maurice Goodman Foundation, Inc. The Goodnow Fund Claire L. Helsing Foundation Mr. Matthew LoRusso Mr. William Malone Ms. Deborah McLean and Mr. Keith Kearney Mr. and Mrs. James Metzger Near & Far Aid New Canaan Community Foundation Oppenheim Family Fund Jim and Marilyn Parke Pitney Bowes Inc. Praxair, Inc. Shipman & Goodwin LLP The Sternlicht Family Foundation Inc. Kathy Walsh and Gene Bernstein Gary and Mary Beth Wetmore	Honorable Fellows (\$2,500+) The A. James Bach and Vona Hopkins Foundation Bank of America Charitable Foundation Ed and Jane Bescherrer Judith B. Block Stephanie Brown Robert and Mary Campbell Ana and Tomas Chadwick Mrs. Henry S. Coleman Crane Fund for Widows and Children Bryan and Samantha Cross Bob Dixon and Lisa Cavanaugh Jean C. Ely David and Laura Erickson Josephine L. Gierer GOPIO-CT Deanna and Andre Guilbert Dr. & Mrs. David L. Levinson Liebergesell Foundation, Inc. The M&T Charitable Foundation Peter and Laurie Maglathlin Moran Towing Corporation Leonard and Caroline Peterson	Friends of the College (\$1,000+) Anonymous (2) Ms. Jacquelyne Alexander John Allis Anne and Peter Ardery William Banks III Mr. and Mrs. James R. Barker Bruce W. Benedict Steven S. Berizzi Jill and Jay Bernstein Natalie and Matthew Bernstein Otmar Boser (Legacy) David and Diane Boston William F. and Susan E. Brock Mr. Creighton English and Dr. Kathryn C. Senie Nancy Fleming Clay Fowler Jennifer Frazer and Steven Phillips The Goergen Foundation, Inc. Jon and Lisa Gold Rita and Leo Greenland Family Foundation Daniel Groff Mrs. Leslie M. Hardy Robert and Dolores Harris Family Fund The Darrell Harvey Family Foundation Inc. Ellen Sue Hattenbach David B. Himmelreich Jalna Jaeger Paul Jakubek Richard and Janice Juchniewicz Joan M. Karpowich Frank and Martha Kugler Steven Lieberman Peter and Laurie Loomis William and Janet Maley William B. and Elisabeth J. Maley
President's Circle (\$50,000+) The Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation Joan and Ed Barksdale Brookfield Properties Building One Community The Daphne Seybolt Culpeper Memorial Foundation, Inc. First Niagara Bank Foundation The Per and Astrid Heidenreich Family Foundation Inisfad Foundation, Inc. The William H. Pitt Foundation, Inc. The Zimmel Family Foundation	Dean's Society (\$20,000+) Anonymous Harlan and Lois Anderson Family Foundation Everett Bulkley Trust Mrs. Richard N. Cohen CPG Architects & Planners First County Bank Foundation, Inc. GE Capital General Re Corporation Ms. Julie Johnson and Mr. Doug Reid Dr. Laurie Katz Lifetime Learners Institute, Inc. Ann S. Mandel Robert S. and Mary Helen Morris Oristano Scholar Fund Ellen H. Petrino		



Alison and Sean Martin
Ambrish Mathur
Kevin and Nancy McCormack
Vincent and Beverly Murphy
NCC Nursing Class of 2017
Theodore J. Nussbaum
Eleanor O'Neill
Mrs. Patricia Parker
The J.M. Pierpont Charitable Fund
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Dawn Robertson
Joan Ross
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Linda, Tony, Jacob & Gena Rubin
Summer Hill Foundation
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Walmart
The Water Cooler Group
Dr. Susan G. Weinberger
Jane and Brian Williams
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Mr. and Mrs. William T. Calder
Jim Cameron and Mimi Griffith Fund
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Vasso Gyftopoulos
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Heather James
Jeffrey L. Kenausis
Richard and Christine Koch
Mr. Timothy G. Massad and
Ms. Charlotte J. Hart
Wendy and Jeff Maurer
John Megrue Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Moltz
Katharine B. Mountcastle
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Mr. and Mrs. Peter Orvis
Price Financial Group, LLC
Tom and Marianne Reifenheiser
Martha Rhein

Suzanne S. Salomon
C. W. Schellenger
Victoria Seeger
Hon. Michael E. and Marilyn L. Shay
Charles and Charlotte Stabinsky
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher A. Stack
Fortunato and Alba Stanziale
Gary and Rosemary Vervoort
John Walsh
Ken and Audrey Weil
Ernest A. Wiegand, Jr.
Terrie and Jay Wood

Medallion (\$100+)

Anonymous (3)
Linda and Gene Autore
Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Bain, Jr.
Guy Everett Baker
Madeline Barillo
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Bell
Ronald C. Bell
Sandra Bell
Ann Bello
Lois M. Benfield
Stephen and Polly Boeschenstein
Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Brown
Ms. Kimberly Bryant-Smith
Louise Buono
Marion L. Burke
LaVerne M. Burzynski
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Cacace
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Lea Mintz likes to joke that Norwalk Community College is her “fourth child.” She has been involved with Norwalk Community College since its inception in 1961. Her history with NCC spans five decades and includes service on the Norwalk Board of Education from 1966 to 1972, including a term as president. In 1965, Lea became a founding member of the Friends of Norwalk Community College which later became the NCC Foundation.

More than 50 years later, Lea continues to be a passionate and outspoken advocate for education. “I am proud to have played a role in bringing this wonderful community college resource to the greater Norwalk community. For ambitious men and women who face challenges on their path to success and productivity, NCC helps to further the goal of achieving higher education. I am grateful to the NCC Foundation for advancing innovative and high quality opportunities for students.”

When her husband passed away in 1996, Lea joined the Legacy Society and established the Lewis R. Mintz Scholarship to honor his memory. This commitment to future generations exemplifies Lea Mintz’s dedication to student success.

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