



Continuum

A publication of Onondaga Community College, the OCC Foundation and the Alumni Council

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Capital Campaign Raises \$6 Million

New \$7.5 million “Super Goal” Dedicated Exclusively to Scholarships

Six million dollars reached and a new Super Goal is set. That was the news announced by Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D., at a January press conference for the College’s Capital Campaign, Reach Beyond. Dr. Sydow was joined by Campaign Co-Chairs Allen J. Naples, President, Syracuse Region, M&T Bank and Robert U. Roberts, President and CEO, SRC, Inc., Thomas Burton, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, and campaign supporters, community leaders, and volunteers. Together, this important fundraising milestone was celebrated and the many individual and corporate donors and campaign volunteers in the community were thanked.

Nearly two-thirds of the Reach Beyond campaign will support the Presidential Scholars Program, the centerpiece of the

campaign. When fully funded, the program will provide full tuition to any Onondaga County high school senior graduating in the top 20 percent of his or her class. But as more and more local students and their families turn to Onondaga for their higher education – more than 12,000 alone for fall 2009 – the need is greater than it has ever been.

“Most jobs now require at least a two-year college degree, and that trend will continue into the foreseeable future,” said

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To watch video from the press conference, go to sunyocc.edu/reachbeyond.

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Onondaga Athletics: Making History - Again

Onondaga Community College never saw a basketball team like this. A 35-1 record, two post-season tournament championships, among the top teams in offense, defense and field goal percentage – the 2009-2010 team is the best in school history.

“This is hands-down the best basketball team I’ve coached in my eight years here,” says Head Coach Mike Wheeler. “I thought we were talented last year, but I think this team is even more talented. I’m proud of these girls.”

The Lazars ended their season with a second place finish at the NJCAA National Tournament in Rochester, MN. The blue-and-white also captured the Mid-State Athletic Conference Championship and Region III Championship. Additionally, Wheeler received Coach of the Year honors from both the conference and region.

“Our team chemistry is what got us this far – just the way the girls play together,” Wheeler says. “They’re unselfish, disciplined, and do whatever it takes to win. Eight of our players returned from last year’s national tournament run.”



Onondaga kicked off its season by capturing the Elite Limousine Tip-Off Tournament Championship in Bethlehem, PA. It carried its winning ways into the New Year with three straight victories over Division I schools at the Broward College Holiday Classic in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

The team’s success continued as it averaged nearly 80 points per game during the second half of the season. Finishing the

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Message From the President

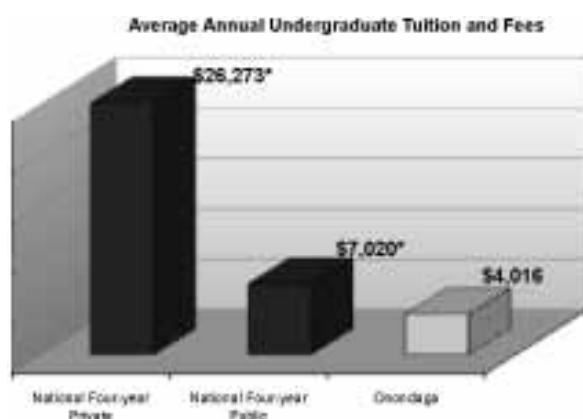
A growing number of Americans want to earn a College degree—as a gateway to a career, a pathway to economic mobility, or an avenue for personal enrichment and growth.

Yet public confidence in our national system of higher education is declining. Rising college costs and a bewildering array of options—from small liberal arts colleges on bucolic campuses to gargantuan online university enterprises—can result in considerable stress and anxiety for families seeking the best value in higher education. Tuition and fees at both private and public colleges and universities have steadily risen in recent decades, and increases in cost have driven record student loan debt, which is another major worry for working families.

Community colleges, in general, and Onondaga Community College, in particular, have maintained affordable tuition and fees because access remains core to our mission. In fact, over the course of nearly five decades, OCC has earned a reputation for fiscal discipline and cost efficiency.

Many Onondaga graduates begin their careers or transfer to a four-year college completely DEBT FREE.

At a cost of approximately \$4,016 annually for tuition and fees, Onondaga represents an affordable pathway to a four-year degree, and Onondaga graduates begin their careers or their baccalaureate degree programs having already earned a meaningful credential, an associate's degree, along the way.



Yet public confidence in higher education goes beyond questions of cost to questions of relevance, responsiveness and quality.

Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Onondaga Community College offers 50 programs of study, each of which is regularly reviewed and updated in the interest of quality assurance.

The systemic improvements we make today will help to ensure that Onondaga continues to fulfill its promise to students and the community, making affordable access to higher education a reality, and providing individuals of all backgrounds and life situations with the opportunity to experience the transformative power of higher education.

Sincerely,

Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D., President

Board Approves Contract Extension for President

In January, the College's Board of Trustees unanimously voted to extend College President Debbie L. Sydow's employment contract for five more years. Dr. Sydow has served as president since July 1, 2000. This extension agreement covers the period from July 2011 to July 2016.

"The transformation of Onondaga Community College since Debbie Sydow's arrival a decade ago has been nothing short of phenomenal," said Board Chairman David W. Murphy. "This College has made tremendous progress on all levels, including student enrollment, capital investment, and fundraising, all of which has positively impacted the local economy and community. Now more than ever, it's critical that we have the right leadership. A college

president with Debbie Sydow's credentials and track record is highly sought after, so we are very pleased that we have secured a long-term agreement that will keep her at Onondaga Community College to oversee its next phase of transformation. It's a win for the College and a win for the community," added Murphy.



SSO Concertmaster Teaching at Onondaga

Onondaga Community College is proud to welcome Syracuse Symphony Orchestra (SSO) Concertmaster Andrew Zaplatynsky to the Music department. He is teaching violin as well as a String Repertoire class at Onondaga.

A member of the SSO since 1981, Andrew Zaplatynsky was born in Germany, and earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Since 2005, he's been a visiting professor at the School of Music of the Fundación Universitaria Juan N. Corpas (Bogotá, Colombia), where he teaches each summer. He's also an active member and a past president of the Syracuse Sunrise Rotary, and a founding Board Member of the Onondaga County Public Library Foundation.

"I can truly say that some of the happiest hours of my week are spent at Onondaga. I have great colleagues and wonderful young people that inspire me," said Zaplatynsky.



Remembering Former Trustee William Towsley

Former Onondaga Community College Trustee William Towsley passed away on March 10 after a long battle with cancer. Mr. Towsley served on the Board of Trustees from 2006 - 2008.

"He provided enormous guidance, experience and direction to the college especially focused on student scholarships and finding ways to make education more affordable,"

said Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. "He was a man of action; a gentleman of the first order. I will miss him."



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Message From Board Chair David W. Murphy

For more than a decade, Onondaga Community College has not received the statutory level of state funding (40 percent) prescribed in New York State Education Law. As the Governor and New York State Legislature struggle

with unprecedented fiscal challenges, the state's ability to invest sufficient public funds in core public assets like community colleges, which contribute to the immediate and long-term economic strength of our region, grows even more precarious.

Fortunately for the taxpayers of Onondaga County, over the past decade Onondaga Community College's decision makers have consistently and unabashedly applied common sense and sound business practices when it comes to managing public funds. Particularly now, in the face of dramatic cuts in public funding for higher education, College decision makers will act with even greater resolve to make the hard decisions—the right decisions—to ensure that local residents have access to an affordable, high quality college degree at Onondaga.

Given its fiduciary responsibility, the Board of Trustees is obligated to students and the community as a whole to make tough decisions that advance the College's mission and strategic goals, even if those decisions are unpopular at a particular moment in time. The recent decision to close the College's deteriorating swimming pool is just one such example. Another is to invest whatever time is necessary to negotiate a successor contract with the OCC Federation of Teachers and Administrators (OCCFTA) that is financially feasible and sustainable.

The case for applying common sense and sound management practices to the business of higher education has been proven. Evidence of the College's success is irrefutable. Since 2000, enrollment has grown by nearly 65 percent, outpacing virtually all other SUNY colleges and universities. Community programming like Jazz Fest and the Scholastic Arts exhibition bring more than 60,000 people to campus annually. And the College's net cost per student is among the lowest in the State University of New York (SUNY) system, establishing this college as one of the best fiscally managed institutions of higher education in the state.

Over the past decade, Onondaga Community College has emerged as a tremendous public resource that many local citizens and corporations rely upon. Hundreds of local business and community leaders got their start at Onondaga, and our alumni are represented in virtually every industry in Central New York. The Onondaga Community College Board of Trustees and the President are intent upon ensuring that this enormously valuable public resource remains strong in the decades ahead.

Sincerely,

David W. Murphy
Chairman

Onondaga Trains Next Generation of Utility Workers

Announces New Partnership with National Grid

At a press conference in March, Onondaga Community College's Provost Cathleen C. McColgin, Ph.D., joined with Kathy Lyford, vice president of electric operations, Central Division at National Grid to announce a new "Utility Worker Certificate" program available through Onondaga. The one-year program, taught by Onondaga faculty and instructors from National Grid, will prepare the next generation of utility workers – particularly in the growing field of smart grid technology. The timing for this new program couldn't be better. In the next decade, the U.S. energy industry is anticipating dramatic worker shortages as baby boomers begin to retire.

"The new Utility Worker Certificate provides specialized, hands-on training to prepare workers for energy industry jobs that are in demand now, and more importantly it prepares them for jobs that will be here in the future," said Dr. McColgin. "On behalf of the College, I'm delighted to announce this partnership with National Grid. Through their solid leadership, they serve as a role model for businesses in Central New York and beyond."

For Jeff Lynch and Adam Lindsey, this program came along at the perfect time. Last year, Lynch was laid off from his assembly line job at Magna (New Process Gear). Looking for career stability in a growing industry, both are enrolled at Onondaga and will soon



Laid-off Magna (New Process Gear) employee Jeff Lynch '11, shown here at the National Grid training facility.

complete requirements for the one-year Utility Worker Certificate program. "I take great pride in chasing a dream career that I've always wanted," says Lindsey.

Since the program trains students for jobs that are in high demand at National Grid – like building power towers and helping to restore power during outages – both remain hopeful in finding a job when they finish.

"This program was a big draw for me," says Lynch.

"And the fact that I have a good chance of landing a job with National Grid when I'm finished makes it a win-win."

For more information about the Utility Worker Certificate, visit sunyocc.edu.



Onondaga Community College Provost Cathleen C. McColgin, Ph.D. (second from right) at the National Grid training facility with (l-r) Kathy Lyford, vice president of electric operations at National Grid; Onondaga Community College student Adam Lindsey; and Jim Kelly '96 and Jeff Steiner, both of whom are managers for National Grid and instructors for this program.

Workforce Development

The staff of Onondaga's Workforce Development office has never been busier. They're taking calls from local employers looking to improve their bottom line by retraining their employees onsite. They're partnering with local organizations to bring much-needed training to the area. And they're creating customized programming from scratch. In short, they're constantly evolving to meet the changing needs of employers and workers. All in a concentrated effort to help grow the local economy.

NEW: BROADBAND ACADEMY: TRAINING FOR AN EMERGING WORKFORCE

The Broadband Academy came about following the Recovery Act which appropriated more than \$7 billion to expand broadband Internet access and bridge the digital gap for communities in this country that have limited or no access to technology. Of the \$7 billion, nearly \$40 million was recently released to ION Hold Co., LLC, in partnership with the Development Authority of the North Country of New York. This grant will help build middle-mile fiber infrastructure in rural upstate New York, sparking the need for intensive training for this emerging workforce.

Job (Re)Training – More Important Than Ever

New Jersey-based C-Tech Associates, Inc. approached David Wall, director of Onondaga's Workforce Development, and asked the College to be one of the first training sites for a 200-hour program that will prepare workers to install rural broadband in all of upstate New York. This includes Buffalo to Albany, the North Country to Binghamton, and Central New York.

"Increased digital broadband means greater communications capabilities for individuals, businesses and communities," said Wall. "We're pleased to offer this unique training program in partnership with C-Tech."

Through a partnership with CNY Works – the local nonprofit corporation that provides a single point of entry for workforce information – people who have recently been laid off can discover retraining programs like the Broadband Academy that will position them to return to the workforce.

The upcoming Broadband Academy at Onondaga will begin two intense, five-week training sessions this spring. Details can be found on the Community Ed page of www.sunyocc.edu.

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FACULTY / STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Agatha Awuah, Institutional Research and Planning, co-presented "After the Middle States Visit" at the SUNY Association for Research and Planning Officers conference last year.

Malkiel Choseed, English/Reading/Communication, presented "A Writing Program in Name Only: Using the WPA Outcomes Statement to Stimulate Program Building" at the Two-Year College Association in Nov. 2009 in Boston, MA. He also presented "(Re)Creating a Writing Program: Instituting and Negotiating Change Using the WPA Outcomes Statement" at the Modern Language Association in Dec. 2009 in Philadelphia, PA.

Ramesh Gaonkar, Electrical Technology, was selected as an evaluator for an ABET accredited visit to Yanbu Industrial College in Saudi Arabia.

Bruce Hamm, Workforce Development, was named an ex-officio member of the Onondaga County Bar Association Board of Directors.

Susan Lamanna, Nursing, received the Excellence in Nursing in a Community Setting award from the St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center College of Nursing Alumni Association.

Mary E. McMann, Ph.D., Counseling Services, received a Nontraditional Student Supporter Award from Onondaga Community College during its Nontraditional Student Week award ceremony in November.

Andy Schuster, Art, recently had one of his sculptures, "Drawing in Air," open at the Delavan Art Gallery in Syracuse, NY.

Wendy Tarby, Institutional Research and Planning, co-presented "After the Middle States Visit" at the SUNY Association for Research and Planning Officers conference in June.

Gary Trento, Art, exhibited drawings at the Mystic Mountain Workshops in New Woodstock, NY from June 2009 to February 2010. Gary also featured a retrospective of paintings and drawings at the Ann Felton Multicultural Center's Gallery in Fall 2009.

Harry Tuttle, Modern Languages, presented two papers at the Syracuse University Language Educators' Conference in February 2010: "Formative Assessment Improves Students Foreign Language Speaking" and "Bring Culture into the Foreign Language Through the Internet."

David VanArsdale, Social Sciences, co-authored "The Proliferation and Consequences of Temporary Help Work: A Cross-Border Comparison." The article was featured in the Autumn 2009 edition of *Just Labour*, a Canadian journal of work and society.

Eunice Williams, Diversity Services, was recently appointed a board member of the Interfaith Religious Food Consortium. Additionally, the SUNY Strategic Planning Process selected her as a delegate for its "Group of 200."

The Office of Residence Life received the Commission for Student Development in the Two-Year Colleges Award from the American College Personnel Association (ACPA). An article authored by the Residence Life team was recently published in *Community College Times*.

SUNY Cortland Welcomes Onondaga Students

Timothy Pease has taken the most he can out of Onondaga's environmental technology program. Being an active member of the Geoscience Club, participating in the Central New York Earth Sciences Student Symposium, remaining in high academic standing – he's the ideal sciences student.

Pease will graduate this upcoming May and, like many Onondaga students, is looking to transfer to a four-year school. He's exploring one of the most popular options among recent math and sciences graduates: SUNY Cortland.

Dr. Robert Darling, professor of geology and chair of the geology department at SUNY Cortland, welcomes Onondaga students like Pease with open arms. He says they

are enthusiastic about their field of study, ask thoughtful questions and participate in the classroom like no other.

"Onondaga students are a little more mature than some of our traditional students and hence are better prepared

to meet the challenges of a bachelor's program," Dr. Darling says. "Many of our Onondaga students take leadership roles in our department and consequently, our traditional students often view the Onondaga students as role models."

"They are absolutely unintimidated about going into the field," he says. "Our discipline is field-based, so we spend a great deal of time in the out-of-doors. Onondaga students are usually first in line when we go in the field."

—Dr. Robert Darling, Chair and Geology professor, SUNY Cortland

Dr. Darling credits their success to Onondaga's student-centered, experiential-learning based programs in the sciences. They come into bachelor-level courses with a solid foundation and a "work hard, play hard" attitude.

"Onondaga students come into our programs with a great deal of confidence," he says. "They seem to have focused career goals."

But they're more than just leaders in the classroom. When it comes to fieldwork, Dr. Darling says Onondaga students are well-versed thanks to their previous experiences at the College.

"They are absolutely unintimidated about going into the field," he says. "Our discipline is field-based, so we spend a great deal of time in the out-of-doors. Onondaga students are usually first in line when we go in the field."

To learn more about sciences programs and transfer agreements at Onondaga, go to www.sunyocc.edu and click "Academics."



Timothy Pease '10 with students in Onondaga's Geoscience Club.

Marked Progress at Regional Higher Ed Center

If you've driven along Velasko Road and Route 173 near the College recently, you've no doubt seen the construction vehicles. Work has begun on an asbestos abatement on the red brick building that sits on the 40+ acre site of the former County Poor House acquired by the College in 2008.

Constructed in the 1920s, the red brick building is the future home to the College's Regional Higher Education Center (RHEC), which allows Onondaga students to continue their studies in bachelor or master's degree programs right on the Onondaga campus. Partnerships are already in place with local four-year institutions including Keuka College, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Cobleskill and Cazenovia College.

"By providing one central location that includes all administrative and classroom space in one location, the RHEC is following the very successful model of Student Central – the one-stop hub located in the Gordon Student Center," said James Sunser, associate vice president of continuing and extended learning. "Having all of these services in one location will provide our partner institutions with the resources necessary to ensure their programs can operate at the highest level."

The first two floors of the red brick building are expected to be completed and ready to open in early 2011.

To learn more about the Regional Higher Education Center, go to sunyocc.edu and click "Community Ed."



The first two floors of the Regional Higher Education Center are set to open in early 2011.

Lady Lazers

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regular season undefeated for the first time, the Lazers posted a big win over Cayuga Community College to capture the conference championship.

“The girls play hard, they play well together, and they just have fun on the court,” Wheeler says. “They always want to pass the ball and get their teammates on the scoreboard.”

Later in month, Onondaga stormed its way through the Region III Tournament with three straight wins against the area’s most competitive teams. By defeating Cayuga Community College once again in finals, the Lazers earned their second consecutive Region III Championship and a bid in the NJCAA Tournament.

“This is a great group of girls. We all get along very well, we all work hard, and we all want to be successful,” says Captain Jen Collis. “We want to win – we share that common goal.”

The Lazers, ranked #1 in the nation and top-seeded in the tournament, kicked off nationals with a victory over Northland Community and Technical College. They then posted another win over Anoka-Ramsey Community College in the Final Four and advanced to the Championship Game.

For a slideshow of Onondaga’s season, visit the sunyocc.edu and click “women’s basketball” on the Athletics page.



Why Choose A Community College?

By Professor Kent M. Ford

Numerous students are both qualified and able to pay for attendance at a four-year college or university, but as smart consumers they often elect to complete their freshman and sophomore years at a two-year college.

Why would bright and capable students deliberately choose a community college over a university? Simple: They know the quality of instruction is generally better at a community college. Students are taught by professors who are not only experts in their field, but who are specifically hired and promoted for effective teaching. They are truly teaching professionals who enjoy teaching and helping others.

At many universities, freshman and sophomore courses (as well as some upper-division courses) are often taught by graduate students who are still learning their subject as well as learning how to teach. Add the fact that many of these student-instructors are also in the process of learning to speak fluent English, and it can make the experience all the more difficult. When experienced professors do teach lower division courses, it is sometimes done with a tinge of resentment. After all, these professors were hired to do research, not teach beginners.

With such a contrast in values with respect to teaching quality, it is not surprising that on average, a student will get a better education at a two-year college. Having taught at three community colleges and two universities (as well as having been a student-instructor myself), I know this to be the case. Many of my students have also shared with me these same observations.

Community colleges are a great buy and a smart choice for those who want to stay out of debt, minimize their debt, or save the difference for graduate school.

Kent M. Ford is an associate professor of economics at Onondaga. He holds a master’s degree in financial economics from the University of San Francisco and has been teaching at Onondaga for seven years.

SRC Arena



The new SRC Arena will serve as the location for major college and community events, including athletics, the arts, ceremonies and other regional opportunities.

Plans include:

- Flexible seating for up to 6,500 people
- Six-lane track
- Three basketball courts (with removable flooring for volleyball and tennis games)
- 5,000sf fitness center
- Multi-purpose rooms for classes, meetings and community use

Groundbreaking for the new SRC Arena is planned for later this spring. Conceptual drawing courtesy of Cannon Design.

Onondaga has 14 intercollegiate teams including men’s and women’s cross country and golf this fall. There’s also been tremendous growth in the dozen of intramural sports offered including 5 on 5 basketball, ping pong, indoor soccer and flag football.

Did you know?

Nearly 1 in 5 Americans who earned doctorates in 2008 attended a community college?

(Source: 2008 Survey of Earned Doctorates, Chronicle of Higher Education, January 2010)

Alumni interested in being featured in this column should send their news to murphy@sunyocc.edu or visit the alumni homepage at sunyocc.edu

Karen BeVarD Steenberg '64 is employed with the S.L. Nusbaum Realty Company in Norfolk, VA. She also volunteers with the United States Tennis Association and helps coordinate its Relay for Life fundraisers. In 2000, she was named the Virginia Tennis League's coordinator of the year.

Dennis J. Hebert '67 is a certified life underwriter, ChFC, CLTC, and registered financial consultant at Hebert Financial Strategies. He recently took part in a community call-in initiative sponsored by the Financial Planning Association of Central New York and provided advice during Financial Planning Week in October 2009.

Judith A. LaManna Rivette '69 recently wrote a new book, "Raspberry Wisdom." The piece features recipes, drawings and inspirational verses. Judith is now the author of six books including several "Solvey Stories" publications and "State Fair Stories: The Days and the People of the New York State Fair."

Thomas M. Jurkiewicz '73 is an agent for Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company in Syracuse, NY. He was recently certified by the company for his exemplary commitment to customer service. Thomas has been an agent for more than 30 years and has an office in Westvale, NY.

Eileen M. Brody '74 earned her bachelor's degree in music from SUNY Potsdam and her master's degree in music from the University of Notre Dame. She is a former music director and campus minister for Dartmouth University.

Bradley S. Silverbush '75 handles real estate litigation with the Rosenberg & Etis, P.C., law firm in New York, NY. His work focuses on building owners and management companies involved in legal disputes. As a private attorney, he assisted the Special Projects Bureau of the New York County District Attorney's Office. Due to his success with the program, he now serves as counsel for the American Academy for Professional Law Enforcement.

Edward M. Michalenko, Ph.D. '77 is president of the Onondaga Environmental Institute established to advance environmental research, education, planning, and restoration in Central New York. The institute is currently assisting in the revival and clean-up of Onondaga Creek in Syracuse, NY.

Mark J. McLees '79 was recently appointed to Chief of the Syracuse Fire Department by Mayor Stephanie Miner after 25 years of service to the department. Mark began his career as a volunteer firefighter with the Onondaga Hall Fire Department. He has taught many fire safety courses, written numerous articles on fire science and safety, and is a feature writer for Firehouse Magazine. Following the Sept. 11, 2001 tragedy, Mark and a dedicated group of Syracuse firefighters traveled to the site to help.

John V. Stubbs, Jr. '79 received an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Level 2 award from the Syracuse Fire Department in June 2009.

Mr. Mark M. Farsaci '80 was recently named financial services representative for the Greater Syracuse Agency in Syracuse, NY.

Jacque T. Washington '82 recently performed for 7th and 8th graders at Onondaga Hill Middle School during their annual African American Read-In. A nationally recognized jazz vocalist and entertainer, she has performed numbers from "Trav'lin: A Musical Journey in Blues and Jazz." When she's not performing, Jacque works as a psychiatric social worker in Ithaca, NY.

Raymond V. Grimaldi, Jr. '83 is a partner at Grimaldi & Helkin CPA firm. He recently took part in a community call-in initiative sponsored by the Financial Planning Association of Central New York and provided advice during Financial Planning Week in October 2009.

Focus on Scholarships

by Thomas A. Burton, Executive Director, OCC Foundation

A sincere "Thank You" to all who so generously responded to our special scholarship appeal last fall. To meet the growing financial needs of Onondaga students during challenging economic times, the OCC Foundation recently reached out to alumni and friends to support the General Scholarship Fund and the result was overwhelming.

As a result of this special appeal, more than 300 friends of the College generously stepped forward to help. For many, it was their first gift to the Foundation, and it couldn't have come at a more important time. For all those who recognize the need to support students through scholarships, the Foundation and our students extend sincere appreciation.

OCC Foundation Board Approves Vital Funding

Year after year, the OCC Foundation is the recipient of thousands of gifts from very generous friends of the College. These gifts come for various reasons, support many initiatives and meet many needs.

One of the most basic needs met by this critical support is the immediate financial need of Onondaga students who have been negatively impacted by the recession, unemployment and additional strain on already tight family budgets. Whether it is a scholarship that allows a student to attend Onondaga, or scholarships that lets an already enrolled student stay at Onondaga and not drop out, scholarships are the lifeblood of financial aid and more than 85 percent of our students receive financial aid of one kind or another.

Unfortunately last year, volatile financial markets made it a challenge for the Foundation to maintain its steady increase in scholarship aid for the current academic year. Investment losses on some scholarship funds resulted in having to place many endowed scholarships on a temporary hold, reducing even further the number of scholarships offered to students this year.

The OCC Foundation board of directors is committed to its mission of providing Onondaga students with financial support, support which is needed now more than ever before. So, to counteract the necessary reduction in scholarship

spending, the Board unanimously approved the use of the Foundation's own unrestricted fund balances to provide a record \$150,000 in scholarships and awards for the upcoming academic year (2010-11). This decision will have an immensely positive impact on hundreds of students who will be matched with scholarships and awards. A listing of scholarships is available online at sunyocc.edu.

It is the work of the Foundation to steward donor dollars to maximize their impact on Onondaga students, but it is the generous gifts themselves that are so vitally needed and will make a tremendous difference in the lives of Onondaga students. We welcome your support and encourage you to visit the OCC Foundation link at sunyocc.edu and make a gift today.



Jerry Barsha

New Scholarship Established: the Jerry Barsha Memorial Scholarship

A scholarship to memorialize long-time Electronic Media Communications faculty member Jerry Barsha is the newest addition to the growing list of OCC Foundation scholarships. Jerry inspired hundreds of students over his nearly 35-year teaching career at

Onondaga and was a familiar voice and respected figure in Syracuse for more than 30 years. He worked in various areas in radio and television including time as news anchorman at WSYR and WSTM. He was awarded the Syracuse Press Club's Lifetime Achievement Award and is enshrined on the club's Wall of Distinction in the John H. Mulroy Civic Center. This scholarship will provide valuable support for students who choose to pursue a career through the Electronic Media Communications program and will be a lasting reminder of Jerry's passion to teach and inspire the lives of others.

"They Can't Stop Me! – 5K Walk/Run"

Saturday, September 23

Call Amy Barsha at (315) 682-8450 for details.

Help Support the Presidential Scholars Program



Mason Drastal '09 now attending American University in Washington, D.C.

It's a fact. More and more high-achieving students are choosing to attend Onondaga Community College. But the economy is making it difficult for students and their families to afford a college education.

We need your help.

The College's Capital Campaign needs an additional \$1.5 million to help fund this critical scholarship program. Over the next few months, we'll be reaching out to you and asking you to consider joining with others in the College community in supporting this vital initiative. Read more about the Presidential Scholars program on page one, or go to sunyocc.edu/reachbeyond. Or, call the Office of Institutional Advancement at (315) 498-6060.

The Legacy Society

Developing a will is a critical step in protecting your assets and securing your family's future. As you plan your will and contemplate the future of our community, please consider leaving a gift to Onondaga Community College.

Planned giving ensures that future students at Onondaga achieve their dreams of higher education and remain on a path to success. For the past 28 years, the OCC Foundation has helped thousands of students ease the financial burden of a college education. A gift to the OCC Foundation helps secure the institution's place as a resource and leader in the community.

Visionary individuals who choose to honor the College with a planned gift or through their estate plans are invited to the join the Onondaga Community College Legacy Society. The society, a leadership giving program, recognizes those making a lasting commitment to the college.

"Onondaga gave me my life here, and now I want to give back to Onondaga," says Crystal L. Etzel, Ph.D., professor of English and chair of the English department. "Being part of the Legacy Society is my thank you note for the life I have been privileged to live."

"Through their commitment to Onondaga's future, Legacy Society members honor the College's role in contributing to a high quality of life, a well-educated citizenry, and a vital economy throughout Central New York," says Thomas A. Burton, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the OCC Foundation.

The College proudly honors the following distinguished members of our community who are charter members of the Legacy Society:

Helen B.Q. Anderson	Martin and Mary Lewis
Paul B. Bertan, Ph.D.	Ransom G. MacKenzie
Alan and Margery Burstein	Donald M. Mawhinney Jr.
Loretta J. Carney	Nancy K. McCarty
Roderick and Crystal Etzel	Mary C. Murphy
Norma E. Foody	Lor and Steven Speech
Donald C. Helmer	Edith S. Stoddard
Louis M. Izzo	Debbie and Harry Sydow
Ann T. Kronner	Suzanne K. Tarolli

"These very special donors help guarantee that quality higher education will be available and accessible for all Central New Yorkers, empowering future generations of students to explore and discover their inherent potential and to pursue their academic dreams."

Several methods are available for making gifts to support Onondaga's mission. For more information on planned giving and becoming a Legacy Society member, contact Thomas Burton at (315) 498-6060 or burtont@sunyocc.edu.

Alumni NewsNotes

Michael J. Nash '83 is a principal at KS&R in Syracuse, NY. He moderated a panel discussion on the challenges of conducting global market research at the American Marketing Association's annual marketing research conference in October 2009.

Brian D. Gross '86 attended Syracuse University after Onondaga and graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, MA with a Master of Science in biomedical engineering. He is a principal scientist and clinical systems architect for the Healthcare Informatics and Patient Monitoring Business Group at Philips Healthcare.

Brad F. Maione '86 was recently named director of public information for the New York State Department of Tax and Finance. He previously served as director of public information for the New York State Office of General Services and as press officer for the Office of the Governor.

Timothy J. Baker '88 is shift supervisor at the National Grid Emergency Dispatch Center in Syracuse NY. He is also chief of the Mottville Fire Company, where he has been active for 32 years.

Kimberly A. Dwyer '89 participated as a guest speaker at the 2009 Architecture Alumni Panel Discussion conducted in October by Onondaga's Architecture and Interior Design program.

Jeffrey A. Hackham '89 is general manager and promoter for the Canandaigua Race Track in Canandaigua, NY. Prior to returning to Canandaigua, he served as marketing consultant at Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead, FL.

Robert M. Liedka, Jr. '89 was recently appointed branch manager of the Cicero, NY branch of Wilber National Bank. Prior to this appointment, Robert served as branch manager at Partners Trust Bank and HSBC Bank USA.

Lisa M. Goodwin '91 is town clerk for the Town of Onondaga and was recently presented with the 11th annual John H. Mulroy Leadership Award from the Town of Onondaga Republican Committee.

John R. Linnertz '91 received the Police Benevolent Association Merit Award from the Syracuse Police Department in June 2009.

Lloyd W. Quick Jr. '91 was recently named head baseball coach at Onondaga Community College. He also serves as head baseball coach for the New York State Red Storm, an Albany based travel team. Additionally, Lloyd has been an associate coach at Mohawk Valley Community College and was head coach of the varsity baseball team at Vernon Verona Sherrill High School.

Don M. Schultz '91 received the Police Benevolent Association Merit Award from the Syracuse Police Department in June 2009.

John A. Granato II '92 was recently named first vice president of programs for the National Kitchen and Bath Association. John works as a designer and owns Master Designs By JA Granato in Camillus, NY.

Thomas M. Skardinski '94 received the Meritorious Service Award from the Syracuse Police Department in June 2009.

Kenneth M. Pacelli '95 was recently named president of the Eastwood/East Syracuse Kiwanis Club after many years of service to the organization and community.

Ali Prettyman II '95 was recently recognized for 10 years of service at Syracuse University, where he works as program coordinator in the Recreation Services department.

Kyndall N. Pritchard '95 received her license in health care risk management and is currently a stroke program coordinator and risk management specialist at Coral Springs Medical Center in Florida. She also serves as the chair of the nursing retention and recruitment committee at Nova Southeastern University and was accepted into its graduate nursing education program.

Alumni Breakfast at the College's Bistro



Nearly 40 Onondaga alumni were welcomed back to their alma mater by Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. at a special breakfast in October at the College's Bistro. Shown here (L-R) are Onondaga alumna Deborah Aquilino '73 and her husband, Vincent. The Aquilinos are the owners of the A+ Software Web Application Development.

Thomas P. Wilbur, Jr. '95 received a Medal of Valor from the Syracuse Fire Department in 2009.

Daniel P. Downes '96 received a unit citation from the Syracuse Fire Department in 2009.

Mary G. Giannone '96 is employed with Colon Rectal Associates of Central New York and was recently married to Michael Robert Giannone.

Robert C. Scudder '96 serves as a safety superintendant for the Grand River Dam Authority in Chouteau, OK. He is a certified safety professional, HAZMAT specialist, and has professional affiliations with the American Society of Safety Engineers, the American Conference of Industrial Hygienists and American Industrial Hygiene Association.

Niles F. Bell '97 is retired from Chrysler Corporation and volunteers at Francis House in Syracuse, NY.

Christopher R. Boullosa '98 was recently promoted to supervisor at Dimarco, Abiusi & Pascarella Certified Public Accountants in Syracuse, NY. As a licensed public accountant, Christopher has expertise in corporate taxation and specializes in the real estate and construction industries.

Gary J. Leonard '00 was employed as an assembly supervisor at Inficon in Syracuse, NY. After nearly a decade of service, Gary has been promoted to production manager for its Service Tools Business Line

Shannon L. Krohl '01 was promoted to marketing supervisor at Fidelis Care in East Syracuse, NY. She previously served as an outreach specialist.

Katie I. Weitz '03 is a graduate of the New England Culinary Institute and was recently appointed as an instructor's assistant in the hospitality management program at Onondaga Community College.

Gabriel B. Deng '04 is founder and director of Hope for Sudan, a nonprofit humanitarian organization dedicated to providing educational opportunities and health services to the Sudanese people. He was recently featured in the documentary "Rebuilding Hope," a film capturing the story of the Sudanese "Lost Boys." He returned to Onondaga in November to share his work with current Onondaga students.

Frank A. Alagna, Jr. '06 earned a bachelor's degree in legal studies from Syracuse University. He is currently a computer instructor at NAAEC and also works as a boxing instructor with the Syracuse Golden Gloves.

Sara E. Decker '06 is co-founder of myhourssuck.com, a social networking site based for people who work late or odd hours in Syracuse, NY. The site was started in 2008 and attracted over 3,500 members in just a few months.

Elton L. Davis '08 received an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Level 2 award from the Syracuse Fire Department in 2009.

Mentors Wanted

Mentors are now being recruited for the USA Mentoring Program matching Onondaga alumni, students and employees with local elementary students.

Contact Gloria Heffernan in the Career and Learning Center at (315) 498-7207 for more information.

ALUMNI PROFILE: James Williams II

Art is much more than a profession to Onondaga alumnus James Williams II. It's an outlet. It's a means of happiness. It's a way of life.

"Many people use journals or different means to let their voice out," he says. "Art for me was my own thing that I could use to describe how I felt, describe what I was thinking, or to take my imagination and bring it to a higher place."

Williams shared his passion with the campus community during the early winter months. Through the end of February, the Gallery at the Ann Felton Multicultural Center featured a collection of his work highlighting his life's journey as an artist.

"It's great to be honored with such an opportunity to show my work at Onondaga," Williams says. "I had a lot of professors here that pushed into me a lot of values, a lot of ways to look at art. This is a good opportunity to come back and give back what Onondaga gave to me."

"What I got at Onondaga were the essentials I needed to move forward as an artist," he says. "The education I got here was perfect for me. It helped me reach the point that I'm at today."

—James Williams II, artist and Onondaga alumnus

Williams' desire to create started young. His mother gave him a drawing pad at an early age to pencil sketches and cartoons with. As he grew older, Williams found his calling in illustrations and paintings.

"I got more serious in high school when I began to see more fine art and study it from a commercial sense," he says. "Then I came to Onondaga Community College, and that's when I became more interested in mastering my art."

While attending Onondaga, Williams raised his interest in art to the next level. He learned the fundamentals that he still uses today, saying that he took something important out of each class.

"What I got at Onondaga were the essentials I needed to move forward as an artist," he says. "The education I got here was perfect for me. It helped me reach the point that I'm at today."

After earning his associate degree in graphic arts, Williams transferred to SUNY Cortland to pursue a bachelor's degree.

"I think identity is something important to us. It's what holds us in relationships with what we look for," Williams says. "In most of my work, identity is subtle. My work really has to do with storytelling, and I usually identify through my storytelling."

While pursuing graduate study at the Maryland Institute College of Art, Williams was selected as one of 15 recipients to receive a \$15,000 MFA grant from the Joan Mitchell Foundation. The program helps painters and sculptors further their artistic careers and transition from academic to studio work upon graduation.

"Passion is what really drives my work," he says. "If I don't have a passion for something, it becomes nothing to me. The work I featured at Onondaga are the things I care about, and I hope people can see that in my paintings."

His advice to current Onondaga art students? Relax, don't worry too much and have fun with your work.

"Grab as much as you can at Onondaga. There are a lot of opportunities to use here," Williams says. "Begin to master whatever you plan on doing and everything will come into place."

To watch a video interview of James Williams, go to News and Events at sunyocc.edu

Onondaga art students continue their education at a number of four-year institutions, including:

Fashion Institute of Technology
New York University
Pratt Institute of Art
SUNY New Paltz
Syracuse University
University at Buffalo

PowerStart Aimed at First-Year Students

Nationally, the time when students are at greatest risk of dropping out of college occurs during their first year. Mostly because of “transition issues,” according to Anne Shelly, Ph.D., program director of the Title III “PowerStart” program at Onondaga. These issues include adjusting to life away from mom and dad, dealing with difficult roommates, tackling a tough class, and feeling alone in a strange new world.

The College is committed to ensuring that students not only enroll in classes, but that they have the life skills they need to be successful.

The Title III “PowerStart” Program, funded through a Department of Education grant, launched this fall. It connects and engages with students in their first year through three key components: the First Year Seminar, First Year Advising, and First Year Experiences.

“Regardless of how students come in the door, we are the transition point to a career or to life beyond Onondaga,” says Dr. Shelly.

The First Year Seminar is a seminar course that helps students

“The goal is to get students to begin articulating their career goals the minute they walk in the door. If they know what they want, we can help them achieve it.”

—Anne Shelly, Ph.D., program director, “PowerStart” at Onondaga

understand what’s expected of them and how they can be successful during their first year. First Year Advising is based on a developmental advising model, according to Shelly. “The goal is to get students to begin articulating their career goals the minute they walk in the door. Essentially, we want them to begin with the end in mind – whether they want to go on to a four-year degree, or move right into the workplace. If they know what they want, we can help them achieve it.”

The First Year Experience is a comprehensive calendar of events designed to support students at critical times during their first year. For example, research indicates that during the first 30-60 days at a college, students experience test-taking and time management anxiety. Opportunities such as online tutoring, time management and study skills workshops let students know that they aren’t alone.

“The PowerStart program is less about the content of certain programming and more about the process,” says Shelly. “We let students know what



resources are available to them. And if those resources aren’t in place, we find a way to create them. But it’s up to the student to self-assess, to develop critical thinking skills and to ultimately take responsibility for their lives.”

Workforce Development

continued from page 3

TRAINING FOR PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

Several employees from local Syracuse hospitals recently completed “Lean Six Sigma” training for health care at Onondaga. Funded by a grant from Community College Workforce Development, the Lean Six Sigma for Health Care program is taught by faculty from Rochester Institute of Technology and is an intense three-day program highlighting process improvement, accuracy and quality.

Who attends? Administrators, quality assurance managers and supervisors and anyone concerned with improving the bottom line and helping the business function better. Crouse Hospital, Community General Hospital and SUNY Upstate Medical Center have all sent groups of employees to these training sessions, which are project-driven. In this way, the team works together on a problem or situation unique to their work environment, and comes up with a solution that they can immediately implement.

TRAINING FOR VETS THROUGH CORNELL UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF ONONDAGA COUNTY

Onondaga is one of many local colleges working with the Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County (CCE Onondaga) to support its Different Shade of Green program, which offers job training for up to 120 veterans and their dependents for jobs in environmentally sustainable fields.

“With the breadth and depth of their military experience, veterans can be key players in our emerging workforce, but they must still acquire trade-specific skills to compete in our difficult regional economy,” said Anastasia L. Urtz, executive director of CCE Onondaga.

Turn to page 10 to read more about this partnership and others that provide critical training to our student-veterans.

CUSTOMIZED TRAINING ONSITE

Centro (Central New York’s transit system) requested that Onondaga develop a 60-hour, non-credit certification program for technicians responsible for working in the garage at Centro repairing and maintaining its fleet of buses and transportation vehicles. As with most public transportation companies, Centro’s employees work a variety of shifts. One of the hallmarks of customized training is that it is meant to be delivered in flexible formats. So, this latest round of training was designed to reach three groups of employees – one group per shift.

HELPING THE UNEMPLOYED PREPARE FOR THE NEW WORKFORCE

Onondaga is being subcontracted by the Manufacturers Association of Central New York (MACNY) in partnership with Greater Syracuse Works and the Westcott Community Center to provide a new Industry Certification Training (ICT). The training is to prepare workers for high-demand and emerging fields in health care, advanced manufacturing, asbestos removal, business technology and green construction.

JOBsplus! assists the unemployed find the training they need for the jobs that are in demand and is one of several local organizations responsible for identifying qualified participants for this national certification program.

“With the partnerships with Greater Syracuse Works, Westcott and MACNY, I believe we’ve forged something unique,” said Wall. “I’m grateful that they acknowledge us as such a strong training partner.”

With the uncertainty of the economy making headlines every day, Onondaga’s Workforce Development will continue to train and retrain the citizens of our community to provide workers who are well-prepared to meet the changing needs of the workforce.

Highest Paying Jobs That Do Not Require a College Degree

\$22.78 PER HOUR:
Telecom Equipment Installers/
Repairers

\$23.33 PER HOUR:
Line Repairers and Installers

(source: *Forbes Magazine* 11/08)

19 out of the 30 fastest growing occupations through 2016 will not require university degrees. Here are some of the occupations that match with Onondaga’s degree programs:

- Network systems and data communication analysts
- Social and human service assistants
- Home health nursing and psychiatric aides
- Database administrators
- Substance abuse and disorder counselors
- Physical therapist assistants

(source: U.S. Dept. of Labor)

Vets Grant Means More Training, Improved Services

It's been a year of progress for Onondaga Community College's Office of Veterans' Affairs. A \$100,000 grant and a new workforce development program continue to help the office meet the needs of the community's veteran population.

In April 2009, the College was selected as one of 20 institutions nationwide to receive a Success for Veterans Awards Grant from the American Council on Education and the Wal-Mart Foundation. With the grant, the Office of Veterans' Affairs expanded its outreach through an enhanced Web site, increased its future capacity for counseling and psychological services, and planned a series of events designed to support the veteran population.

"The Office of Veterans' Affairs was honored to be awarded the grant," says Paul Holzwarth, veterans coordinator at Onondaga. "It makes it possible for us to increase our efforts to improve the campus climate to be more welcoming to Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq combat veterans, to increase the awareness and knowledge of college employees regarding the unique issues faced by veterans, and to enhance the services offered to our student-veteran community."

Additionally, Onondaga is one of many area colleges working with the Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County (CCE Onondaga) to support its Different Shade of Green program. The program offers job training for up to 120 veterans and their dependents to provide skills for employment in Central New York's expanding green economy. Environmental technology, renewable energy systems and green construction are some of the fields for which the program provides training.

"The Community and Extended Learning Division and the Career and Applied Learning Center will provide basic computer skills, training in Microsoft Office, and career



planning workshops for program participants," says Bruce Hamm, assistant director of workforce development at Onondaga. "This basic training will enable veterans to continue on in various green training options that will eventually prepare them to be employed or begin college."

For more information on the College's Office of Veterans' Affairs, visit www.sunyocc.edu and click on "student life."

Office of Veterans' Affairs

- Serves more than 250 veterans each semester
- Is a direct link between student-vets and regional VA Office
- Has served the community for more than four decades
- One of the largest of its kind among colleges in New York state

Gifford Foundation

For more than a decade, Onondaga Community College has worked with the Rosamond Gifford Charitable Foundation to create scholarships awarded to economically disadvantaged students each semester. These scholarships provide financial assistance to be used for tuition, fees, books, and other learning materials at the College.

The Gifford Foundation remains one of Central New York's foremost philanthropic organizations. With a strong commitment to education and community, the foundation is dedicated to using its financial and human resources to enhance the quality of life in CNY.

In 2008, the OCC Foundation established the Gifford Foundation "Jump Start Fund" to assist students struggling to maintain enrollment due to unexpected financial crises and dire circumstances. These funds are distributed to students in need throughout each semester and stand available on an emergency basis within 48 hours of request.

"The availability of the Rosamond Gifford Scholarship funds has greatly impacted the lives of those students who have been assisted," says Nancy Connery, assistant director of financial aid at Onondaga. "The money has helped many of the students stay in school who otherwise would have had to withdraw because of lack of funds for their basic necessities."

Michell Pluff-Koons, a human services major, is one student who found herself facing immediate financial hardship. With the help of a professor, she applied for the Jump Start scholarship and was able to continue her studies at Onondaga.

"I can't even articulate the importance of this gift to me and my family," she says. "I couldn't be more appreciative. My family wasn't in a good place, and we didn't know what to do or what was available. Onondaga was there to help us in our time of need."

To learn more about the OCC Foundation, go to sunyocc.edu or call (315) 498-6060.

JOBSplus! Celebrating 15 Years



Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. with Janice Mayne, director of JOBSplus! at the recent 15th anniversary celebration.

JOBSplus!, in downtown Syracuse, is celebrating 15 years of service to the College and the community. In partnership with the Onondaga County Department of Social Services, JOBSplus! offers coursework and counseling to help jobseekers get jobs and keep them. From skill-building workshops to resume preparation and other workplace-specific activities, JOBSplus! is among the premiere programs of its kind anywhere in the country.

"Through the Rosamond Gifford Scholarship Endowment, students of today and tomorrow at Onondaga are offered the opportunity to overcome difficult obstacles and meet the financial challenges associated with earning a college education," said Thomas Burton, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the OCC Foundation, Inc. "Recipients of Gifford scholarships and awards not only benefit financially but are inspired to succeed. Knowing others have chosen to invest in their dreams can have a tremendous impact and long lasting results and the potential to benefit our entire community and beyond for generations to come."

Arts Across Campus Preview

Arts Across Campus at Onondaga kicked off the new year with more art exhibits, lectures and performances from some of the best local, national and international talent.

Upcoming exhibits and performances include:

Gallery Exhibit: Kim Mayhorn

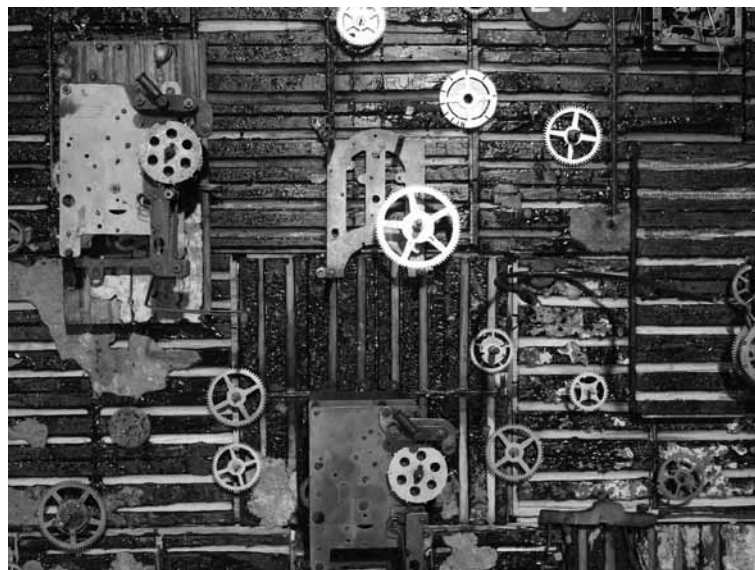
March 1 – April 16, Reception: April 15, 11 a.m. - noon

Selected by Essence magazine as “30 Women to Watch,” Kim Mayhorn is a multimedia artist whose works encompasses installation, video and theatre. She was awarded her first solo show at HERE Arts Center in New York City titled “A Woman Was Lynched the Other Day.” This work has been exhibited at The Bronx Museum of the Arts, NY and the African American Museum in Philadelphia, PA.

Atrium Exhibit: Student Art Show

April 5 – 19

Exhibition of student work from the Art and Photography Department. It is an annual exhibit that showcases some of the best work produced by Onondaga students in the preceding academic year.



Kim Mayhorn's work titled "Angst For A Paradise Lost"

Gallery Exhibit: Feats of Clay

April 20 – May 6

Feats of Clay spotlights the varied and creative ceramics art education programs in high schools throughout Onondaga County and Central New York. The continued success of Feats of Clay rests with the talented and dedicated high school art teachers and art students.

For more information on upcoming Arts Across Campus events, visit the Arts and Culture page at sunyocc.edu.

Introducing: Campus Audio Tours



Visitors can now access an Onondaga Community College tour guide right in the palm of their hands. Thanks to the campus' new cell phone audio tour, prospective students, their families and visitors can explore all the College has to offer at their own convenience.

To start a tour, simply pick up a campus map at the Gordon Student Center or download one from sunyocc.edu. Then, dial (315) 552-9154. Walk to each destination on the map and punch the corresponding numbers in on your phone. Lift the phone to your ear and listen to the information provided about each destination. It's that easy.

The tour covers 10 of the most popular spots on campus – from the David W. Murphy Field to the Whitney Applied Technology Center. The tour was recorded by Onondaga's own student ambassadors. Visitors can also leave comments and questions by pressing zero at the end of the tour.

The tour is powered through OnCell Systems. Standard calling and coverage rates apply.



Capital Campaign

continued from page 1

Dr. Sydow. “Even as we celebrate this important fundraising milestone, additional state cuts to higher education are being proposed. That’s the reason it is imperative that we continue our fundraising efforts to ensure that our community’s high school seniors who want to go to college, can go to college.”

In addition, a new campaign “Super Goal” of \$7.5 million was announced. The additional \$1.5 million will provide funds specifically dedicated to providing critically needed student scholarships through the Presidential Scholars Program.

“The value of removing the financial barrier to all high school seniors in our community who want to go to college will pay

off a hundred-fold with a well-educated workforce that is absolutely essential for a strong economic future in Onondaga County,” said Naples.

“An investment in the Presidential Scholars Program is an investment in the future of Central New York.”

—Allen J. Naples, President, Syracuse Region, M&T Bank.

Reach Beyond is only the second capital campaign in the College’s history and the first in nearly a decade. In addition to the Presidential Scholars Fund, the Campaign supports an expanded Children’s Learning Center; an innovation and training fund for faculty and staff development; and the new SRC Arena which will open in late 2011.

“Education is absolutely fundamental to the growth and prosperity of Central New York,” said Roberts. “It is essential that the next generation of leaders has the vital resources they need to be successful.” SRC has contributed \$1,525,000 to the campaign for student scholarships – the largest cash gift in the history of the College.

“All local citizens, regardless of financial circumstances, must have access to higher education if we are to advance the local economy.”

—Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. President, Onondaga Community College

“I can’t express how pleased I am that our community has shown such tremendous support for the Reach Beyond Campaign,” said Naples. “Community leaders like Bill and Penny Allyn, Doreen Garrett, President of Otis Technology

and The Drescher family know that investing in higher education for our local high school graduates is essential in creating a strong and vital workforce.”

To learn more about Reach Beyond, to view the complete list of donors, or to make a contribution, go to sunyocc.edu/reachbeyond. Or, contact Thomas Burton, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at (315) 498-6060.

Recent gifts that helped bring the *Reach Beyond* campaign to the \$6 million mark were:

**\$250,000
from Otis Technology, Inc.**

**\$250,000
from P. Drescher Co. Inc.**

**\$500,000
from *William and Penny Allyn**

*The gift from the Allyn family brings total campaign giving from the Allyn family and The Allyn Foundation to \$1,000,000—the second million dollar gift in the history of the College.

To date, nearly 200 donors have contributed to *Reach Beyond*.

Little Hands Give Hope to Haiti



Preschoolers at the Children’s Learning Center baked and sold cookies as a fundraiser for Haiti

Four-year-old Lucas works the cash register like a pro. Next to him are colorful, handmade posters with the words “Help for Haiti – Preschool Bake Sale” scribbled in crayon. Even though he doesn’t quite understand the value of money, he knows that what he’s doing is important. He and his young friends are raising money for the Red Cross to help people in a country far away from Syracuse.

Thanks to the teachers at the Children’s Learning Center, Lucas and other preschoolers turned the tragedy in Haiti into a learning experience. For three days, the children baked cookies – pumpkin and oatmeal - in preparation for a two-day bake sale for Haiti.

Math skills were reinforced as they carefully counted and measured ingredients for the cookies.

Motor skills were honed as they packaged their finished products in little baggies – labeled “3 cookies for 1 dollar.”

And manners were reinforced as they prepared for their first customers.

But the most important lesson was that the children learned how to work together on a project to help other people. At the end of the two-day sale, they had sold 300 cookies for a total of \$100 – and thanks to the generosity of some cookie patrons, they were able to donate \$150 to the local Red Cross.



Left: Four-year-old Joshua sells a bag of cookies to Helayne Dillon.

Top: Four-year-old Lucas (behind the register) sells cookies to toddler Sumaiyra, age 2½, as fellow preschoolers and teachers look on.

Onondaga Community College Baseball Alumni Reunion

Saturday, April 17, 2010

Alliance Bank Stadium

Meet and Cheer on the 2010 Men’s Baseball Team!

Onondaga CC vs. Niagara CC
Doubleheader begins at 1 p.m.
Reunion to follow at 5:30 p.m.

Contact the Alumni Office at (315) 498-6058



Onondaga is on
Twitter and Facebook



You can now follow Onondaga Community College on Twitter. Just go to www.twitter.com/OnondagaCC to find out about upcoming news and events.

Become a fan of Onondaga on Facebook as well. Just log onto www.facebook.com and search Onondaga Community College.

Continuum is published for Onondaga supporters, friends, alumni and the Central New York community.

Send inquiries to: Public Affairs, Onondaga Community College, 4585 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215 or call (315) 498-7252.

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Go to:

sunyocc.edu/continuumpublication
and fill out a quick survey.

We want to make sure we’re not only
meeting but exceeding your expectations.

In Memoriam

OCC Trustees:
William Towsley

Faculty, Staff & Administrators:
Francis L. Mollach

Alumni:

John W. Anderson ‘85	Noel L. McGraw ‘68
Nancy A. Annese ‘95	Mark S. Miller ‘78
Christina M. Carroll Bazydlo ‘75	Carol H. Healy Monahan ‘81
Nathan J. Burke ‘93	Bruce L. Remillard ‘75
Michael Donovan ‘93	Glenn L. Saunders ‘01
Donovan E. Dreher ‘92	Robert L. Stephens
Helen L. Falcone ‘94	David W. Throne, Ph.D. ‘70
Wilfred A. Lamoureux, Jr. ‘72	Paul A. Williams ‘00
Debora L. MacDowell-Wicks ‘97	Sharon L. Yackel Winter ‘76
Ross D. Mangicaro ‘73	Thomas E. Wood ‘75