



Curt Freed, Ph.D., President

February/March 2022

**Transform the student experience.**



MCC Burlington Center successfully hosted the first Girls ONLY! event on February 3, with approximately 20 attendees. The objective of the Girls ONLY! program is to provide exposure to careers in technical and manufacturing fields to high school aged girls. The presenters (local business owners) provided sessions on veterinary science, homeopathic / apothecary craft, and self-development/self-discovery.

Girls ONLY! participants received Challenge Cards to remind them that they are examples of modern-day “Rosie the Riveters.” In tribute to Rosie the Riveter and recently retired Valerie Rhoades (Director of Regional Community Outreach – Burlington), the first Challenge Card featured Margie ‘Tiny’ (Bowling) Rainbolt, Valerie’s mother and real-life Rosie the Riveter. Tiny lived in Burlington until her passing in November 2021. The girls were encouraged to demonstrate the characteristics that Tiny embodied: selflessness, kindness, strong character, a giving nature, and being a good example for others.



Twenty-two MCC students and concurrent enrollment seniors visited CSU on February 25 to learn about transfer opportunities, check the campus out, and attend sessions on resources.



MCC's Student Nursing Association (SNA) presented SARA House with a check for \$363 to help fund local work to support victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. SNA student representative, Mikayla Ocanas, initiated a penny war competition between first-and-second-year nursing students to raise funds and awareness of the local charity. Mikayla stated, "This was our charity of choice because as future nurses, SARA House has helped us understand the importance of our role to provide care to sexual assault or domestic violence victims."



Eleven students joined MCC's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society this spring. An induction ceremony was held March 23.

MCC Student Excellence Awards recipients include Julie Castaneda and Elmi Hussein (Rising Stars); Alex Muheto (Inclusive Excellence Champion); Mohamed Ibrahim, Cristina Olivo Ortiz, Anadelia Ortiz, and Citlaly Quiroz (PTK All-CO Academic Team).



Left to right, Top row: Julie Castaneda, Elmi Hussein, Alex Muheto. Bottom row: Mohamed Ibrahim, Anadelia Ortiz, Citlaly Quiroz. Not pictured: Cristina Olivo Ortiz.

MCC's SSAC and SGA representative, Citlaly Quiroz, participated in the National Student Advocacy Conference in Washington D.C. March 18 - March 22.

Lead English Faculty, Ewan Magie, launched a Creative Writing Club spring semester. The group is meeting twice monthly. Ewan is also helping facilitate a Colorado Writers Program in conjunction with the college's Center for Arts and Community Enrichment to host workshops and presentations by notable guest authors and poets.

**Transform our own workforce experience.**



Kelly Rasmussen, MCC Assistant Director of Financial Aid, was selected as the recipient of the 2022 Leading by Example/MCC Guiding Principles Award. Kelly was nominated by one of her peers for consistently displaying the attributes of integrity, respect, open and honest communication, and collaboration in her daily work.

MCC's Employees of the Year include Faculty of the Year, Jeffrey Coon; Instructor of the Year, Kevin Hemphill; APT Employee of the Year, Gwen Steffen; and Classified Employee of the Year, Jessica Trusty. In addition to being honored by CCCS and MCC, each will also receive Excellence Awards from the National Institute for Organizational and Staff Development (NISOD) and be given the opportunity to attend the NISOD annual conference.



Left to right, Top row: Jeffrey Coon, Gwen Steffen. Bottom row: Kevin Hemphill, Jessica Trusty.

MCC staff and faculty participated in Professional Development Day on March 4. The day featured speaker Matt Baca, a CU Boulder Faculty and comedian. Mr. Baca provided an interactive workshop on “Incremental Change Through Personal Kaizen,” which focused on four components of self-development: mental, physical, spiritual, and social. During the workshop, he provided strategies and resources to help staff determine the change they want to see in themselves and how to identify triggers and solutions. The afternoon session focused on teambuilding with a fun afternoon of bowling and card games.

**Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.**

MCC’s Center for Arts and Community Enrichment hosted a “Best of the Best” Student Art show featuring work by regional middle school, high school and MCC students. The People’s Choice award was presented to Aiden Zuniga, a student from Fort Morgan Middle School.

**Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.**

MCC is once again offering a PROMISE award to recent high school or homeschool graduates in the MCC service area, providing up to \$2,000 for full-time enrollment next year.

The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program hosted a virtual visit by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) February 1-3, 2022, as a part of its ongoing accreditation process. The college expects official accreditation action by ACEN in late summer/early fall. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program received full accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in November 2021.