

# THE COMMUNICATOR

September 8, 2010

Dedicated to Informative Excellence

Issue 1 Fall 2010

## SGA Hits the Ground Running in 2010-2011

By William Murray

One of the most recognized of extracurricular experiences that exists on CUNY college campuses is student government. Students here at Bronx Community College involved in Student Government Association are elected by their peers to serve as the "official voice" of students to college administration. BCC's executives and senators also operate on campus-wide committees (judiciary boards, honor councils, etc.) in an effort to act and speak for the ideas and concerns of our fellow students. Some other SGA duties include officially recognizing and allocating annual budgets toward other organizations on campus, planning programs related to student interests, and offering various opportunities for student issues to be discussed in order to make campus community more successful, all of which is funded by student activity fees.

By early May, Bronx Community College's own Student Government Association results were in and the first executive office, Vice President, was voted on at Roscoe C. Brown in The Hall of Fame Playhouse. Isirikoufoulou Sibabi Akpo Kamou, aka "Isi," elected senator by the student body, was chosen by reps from the Inter-Organization Council (IOC) to chair SGA's Inter-Organizational Council (council of clubs). Isi and the other elected senators and executive campaigners went on to celebrate, bond, and bolster school spirit in mid spring at the Bronx Week Parade on Mosholu Parkway, organized by BCC's own Director of Public Affairs, Carol White.

In June, Bronx Community College's peer-elected members of Senate were called together for balloting to fill the four remaining Student Government executive vacancies. Director of Student Life, Ms. Melissa Kirk, and Assistant Director Manny Lopez kindly helped to conduct the operations. The appointments were made, and after a couple of trials, the 2010-2011 committee exec results are as follows: Dwight Peters, President; Issa Boubacar, Legal Legislator; Nneamaka Okorie, Secretary; and Ibrahim Moutawakilou, Treasurer (as well as the abovementioned, Isirikoufoulou Sibabi Akpo Kamou serving as Vice President).



Pictured from left to right: Dwight Peters, President; Isirikoufoulou Sibabi Akpo Kamou, Vice President; William Murray, Senator; Issa Boubacar, Legal Legislator; Melissa Kirk, Office of Student Life; Charles Harding, Senator; Mariama Touray, Senator; Mouta Ibrahim, Treasurer; and Julissa Lora, Senator.

To further boost morale and build camaraderie between members of Student Government, during the first of our parliamentary trainings facilitated by Ms. Kirk, several SGA members attended *The Annual Student Government Conference: New Leadership Challenge* at the College of Staten Island, which provided a unique chance for all newly CUNY-elected student government officials to collaborate and interact with a number of corresponding CUNY Student Government bodies and teaching staff. SGA competed in the yearly "CUNY Rocks" competition, collaboratively creating a poster and narrative about "What makes a good world citizen?" for which the BCC SGA were second-place victors. The following day, Peter Barbatis, vice president of Student Development and Enrollment Management, and David A. Taylor, dean of Administrative Affairs, congratulated us and spoke motivationally about the academic year ahead. Sooner than summer arrived, SGA already had the chance

to work together, learning from one another with respect to our individual leadership and advocacy.

We've begun to learn that having the status of SGA senator means not only service, but advisement and support to the administration on matters which affect you, our fellow students. Therefore, we encourage you to participate and involve yourself in campus life, beyond the classroom. SGA will support you in joining a club, expanding your campus experience with co-curricular activities, and help you identify campus, CUNY and community leadership opportunities. Interested and available students should connect with us to find out the many ways to get more involved with student life. We need you to help the student government introduce important campus matters or make decisions on those matters, and to truly be the meaningful difference here at BCC.

## Bronx Community College Student Wins Peter Jennings Award

Bully Camara, a BCC business major, won a Peter Jennings Scholarship Laurel Award for being an exemplary student in earning his general education diploma (GED). Originally from the West African nation of Gambia, Camara is 50 years old and the first person in his family to go to college. "I follow the adage, 'as long as there's life there's hope,'" said Camara. "I am very fortunate to have been able to work with the group of people who manage the GED program at BCC." As part of his award, Camara received a certificate, two books on Peter Jennings and \$1,000.

The Peter Jennings Scholarship Laurel Award ceremony was held in June 2010 at the CUNY television studio on 34th Street and Fifth Avenue. The \$1,000 scholarships are given to adults who have recently achieved their GED diplomas, written an essay through the CUNY Adult Literacy/GED Program, and continued their education at one of the CUNY campuses. Awarded to up to 10 individuals each year, the scholarships are given in honor of the late Peter Jennings, an ABC-TV news anchor who never graduated from high school. Early in his journalism career he was a strong believer in the need for students to earn a high school diploma as the necessary first step to move productively into higher education or the workplace.

The scholarships are paid in part by the Peter Jennings Foundation and the Assurant Company, a provider of specialized insurance products. The award was presented to Camara by Dr. Leslee Oppenheim, CUNY director of Language and Literacy Programs, and Rhonda Barnat, managing director of the Abernathy MacGregor Group Inc., a strategic communications firm that encouraged Jennings to initiate the awards program in 2003. Camara said he will use his money to buy books for next semester's classes.

As a student in BCC's Pre-GED program, Camara distinguished himself as a serious student on an educational journey. "Mr. Camara always knew what he wanted to do," said Joan Henlin, assistant director of BCC's GED program. "He arrived early and was well prepared for class every day. He was a highly motivated student who demonstrated a strong work ethic."



Dr. Leslee Oppenheim, CUNY director of Language and Literacy Programs, and Rhonda Barnat, managing director of the Abernathy MacGregor Group Inc., congratulated Bully Camara for earning a \$1,000 Peter Jennings Laurel Award Scholarship at Bronx Community College's Adult Literacy/GED Program.

Photo: André Beckles

While in Gambia, Camara stopped his schooling in the 10th grade to help his parents, who were farmers. He then made several attempts at starting his own business before moving to the United States. "The earlier business ventures I tried did not succeed," he said. "I know it was because I didn't have a college education. In middle age, I came to see that getting my GED was a necessary first step."

At BCC he was enthusiastic about learning, and he diligently completed his assignments. "When I passed my GED, I realized that I had a strong enough educational background to enroll in BCC," said Camara, who speaks seven languages (German, English, French, Mandingo, Wolof, Lingala, and Fulani). This past spring he finished his first semester. He received "A's" in all of his first semester business major courses except one, he shared.

"The GED process of earning the equivalent of a high school diploma, studying, and passing a five-part test opens new worlds for students whose academic preparation has been limited because of poverty, lack of opportunity, or interruption in their education," said Blanche Kellawon, director of Adult Education and Training Programs at

BCC. She attended the awards event with Camara.

The CUNY Adult Literacy/GED Program is supported through funding by the New York State Education Department and the Office of the Mayor of New York City. The program provides educational opportunities for a diverse group of approximately 1,000 students a year. Students range in age from 16 to 75, and come from many parts of the world.

The Peter Jennings Award ceremony was initiated by Jennings in 2003. He was 67 years old when he died in 2005. He was awarded the CUNY Chancellor's Medal for his extraordinary achievements in journalism and his contributions as a role model and catalyst for a better-informed citizenry.

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### *The Communicator* Editorial Policy and Disclaimer

*The Communicator* urges students to submit articles and editorials to the newspaper. We also encourage students to respond to the articles and editorials found in this newspaper.

The views expressed in by-lined articles and in published letters are solely those of the writer, and they do not necessarily represent the view of *The Communicator*.

We reserve the right to edit any article or letter submitted due to space considerations.

We reserve the right to refuse publication to any article or letter due to space considerations as well as those articles or letters deemed inappropriate because of profane language, non-verification problems, or slander.

No article or letter will be published unless the author submits his or her name, email address, and telephone number.

Please submit all articles and letters to the following email address:  
rowanandrewdavid@aol.com.

#### Notes:

No Word submissions will be accepted that are saved in Word 2007. Please save and submit in an earlier version.

JPEGs must be submitted as email attachments and should not be embedded in the Word copy.

### *The Communicator* Submission Insertion Dates Fall 2010

If you are interested in having an article, editorial, letter or announcement included in *The Communicator*, it must be received by the following dates:

#### Deadlines

**October**  
**Friday, September 24, 2010**

**November**  
**Wednesday, October 27, 2010**

**December**  
**Tuesday, November 23, 2010**

Please note that *The Communicator* reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission due to space considerations or if the submission is deemed inappropriate because of profane language, verification problems, and/or slander.

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## BCC Secondhand Smoke Program Fulfills Commitment to Smoking Community

*From the Co-sponsors of the Program*

Department of Health, Physical Education, and Wellness

Office of Health Services

Professional Staff Congress— BCC Chapter

Student Government Association

Per the request of the College Smoking Community, two outdoor smoking areas with protective overhanging structures have been designated with appropriate signage as follows:

1. Upper south side plaza of Meister Hall with ashtray, tables, and benches.
2. West side of Meister Hall with ashtray, table, and benches.

Both areas are centrally located within the campus and provide adequate protection from the upcoming challenging winter months. The areas also provide an environment that can accommodate numerous smokers.

Please remember that the *Friendly Reminder Approach* is implemented for the purpose of creating a program of fairness for both the non-smoking and smoking community members of the college. The program is working because of the support of the BCC Administration and the compliance of the majority of the smoking community.

Once again, thank you for your continued help in making this program a success!




# CLUBFAIR

**October 14, 2010**  
**10:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.**  
**MEISTER LOBBY & PATIO**

**LEARN ABOUT CLUBS ON CAMPUS - GET INVOLVED**

This program is sponsored by the Office of Student Life and is funded by student activity fees.  
For more information, please call 718.289.5194  
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## Campus News

### Welcome from President Carolyn G. Williams

It is a great pleasure to welcome our new students and to congratulate you on your choice of Bronx Community College to pursue your college education. I am sure you made this decision with careful thought, and among the reasons you chose to come to BCC is because you hope to fulfill the first steps towards your success on this campus. Be assured that we are committed to helping make your dreams come true.

I am also pleased to welcome back our continuing students. You have made the choice to return and to continue your educational pursuits. We are sure that the skills, knowledge and training you acquire in the classroom will give you the support and help you need to move to the next level, whether it be higher education or a productive career.

As you walk on to the campus this year, you will see the construction for the North Instructional Building and Library. While construction brings a modicum of chaos, know that this building symbolizes our commitment to providing an excellent academic and work environment for our students, faculty and staff. We have renovated the Bookstore and the Cafeteria to provide improved services to our students in a modern, aesthetically pleasing environment. We continue to equip our classrooms with cutting-edge technology and increase the number of computer labs/study spaces for your benefit.

In February 2010, we welcomed the new Vice President for Student Development, Dr. Peter Barbatis. Dr. Barbatis brings expertise and commitment to student engagement and services dedicated to making your experience on this campus, fulfilling and successful. We have already seen changes in student support services and activities that will be of benefit to you.

Our faculty, counselors and staff are dedicated professionals who bring expertise to the classroom and campus. They are continuously engaged in assessment and evaluation of academic programs, curricula and academic and student support services and committed to your success. I encourage you to get to know them. Your interaction with them will enrich your journey throughout your time at BCC.

Our campus community is diverse. Our faculty, staff and students represent countries of the world and we all work and learn in an environment that is respectful of differences. We are here together. As I reiterate each semester and especially, at Commencement – “We measure our success with your success.”

I look forward to the days ahead when, as I walk around the campus, I will have an opportunity to greet you personally.



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## Campus News

### Bronx Community College Early Childhood Center: A Student/Parent Perspective

By Vanessa Cook

The day I was inducted into the Bronx Community College family, through the methodology of an instantaneous process of my application, I did not know what to expect. During this fragile course in time, I was not privy to accurately reading the roster/block given to and sitting before me as an incoming freshman. In addition, I was oblivious to the building names, the campus layout, or where to find the classrooms to attend the sessions listed on my registration printout. Finally, yet importantly, I was not knowledgeable of the programs BCC had to offer students with children. Therefore, I was uncertain to where my precious son, Charles, would remain during the day while I attended class.

This has been months ago, but its course seems like only yesterday. Yes, I finally figured out how to read the roster/block; now I am well aware of where all the buildings are located along with retaining all of the names; and I am no longer in the dark, to the campus layout and to where the classrooms are located in which the sessions are to be held. I learned by trial and error. However, I did not want to take the risk of error (by choosing a center that is not conducive to learning) as it pertains to my son. Children are irreplaceable; they are a rare and priceless gem. Fortunately, for me, a young woman by the name of Yvette, who is currently employed in the BCC Admissions Office, told me about the Childhood Center located at 2205 Sedgwick Avenue. This young woman did not know that the information she related to me on that day would introduce my son Charles and me to a school that is unique in its own right.

“Learning through Play,” I did not understand this concept in its totality until I witnessed its amazing results with my son. His phonics and reading abilities tripled because of constant exposure to children’s art, music, and other activities offered by the Center. I was welcomed by the director and staff to participate and was made aware of all of the activities that the Center offered my child. One particular activity that captured my son’s interest along with mine was Zumba. This activity incorporates dance moves for exercise with the usage of musical instruments. During *Family and Friends Day* my son showed me the awesome skills he acquired; I was urged to join in, and that was a momentous occasion. What is amazing to me was the care that was administered by the Center when my son was weighed down with seasonal allergies. Time was taken, out of the staff’s already hectic schedule, to wipe my son’s eyes as they watered and became puffy due to pollen. They did not have to do this; I do not believe that it is constituted in their handbook to take excessive care as it pertains to wiping children’s eye’s or nose’s. They did it because they cared. If my son ever gets ill or wets himself, the Center is faithful and expeditious in calling me and keeping me informed with his progress throughout the day. I could not ask for more.

Time prevents me from illuminating all of the great times my son Charles and I have experienced, and are continuing to experience at the Bronx Community College Early Childhood Center. All I can exclaim is try this Center for yourself. Seeing first hand will make you a believer.

### Four BCC Students Selected to the PricewaterhouseCoopers Accounting Development Program



Halimatou Bah, Albert Gliff, Jalloh Omar, and Balty Watt (left to right) display their certificates of participation in the PricewaterhouseCoopers Accounting Development Program. The program took place from June 6 – 11 in Miami, Florida.

Albert Gliff, Balty Watt, Jalloh Omar, and Halimatou Bah participated in the PricewaterhouseCoopers Accounting Development Program sponsored by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Florida International University School of Accounting, and the Florida Institute of CPAs in June. The program was a six-day, five-night *intensive* college residency program held in Miami, Florida, at Florida International University. It was aimed at minority community college students who are interested in pursuing career opportunities in accounting. All expenses were paid by the sponsors.

The program is designed to 1) increase awareness of careers in accounting, 2) learn basic accounting concepts, 3) improve personal finance knowledge, and 4) guide the student through the process of transferring from a community college to a four-year institution. The curriculum included teaching accounting and business concepts through interactive classroom exercises, a firm site visit to a PWC client, a comprehensive case study where students apply concepts from all areas of accounting to which they are exposed during the week, and professional development through participation in mock interviews, an etiquette dinner and a presentation of their case solution.

Students also experienced campus living, learned about campus resources, and visited a Miami attraction. The highly competitive program selected a total of 32 students nationwide, from which only 16 are outside of the state of Florida.

The sponsors commended BCC on the number of students who attended the orientation session and number of applications submitted.

## College Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Department of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences

Dedication, enthusiasm and caring are all qualities that launched Bronx Community College’s (BCC) registered nursing graduates onto productive careers over the last 50 years. On June 18, 2010, many of those nurses returned to the Bronx to share stories of successful and rewarding careers in the nursing field.

Bronx Community College of The City University of New York held its nursing program’s 50th anniversary reunion at the Marina del Rey restaurant in the Bronx. The reunion brought together nurses, retired faculty, current faculty, radiologic technology and licensed practical nurse (LPN) alumni, and administrators from such hospitals as Jacobi Medical Center, Montefiore, Albert Einstein, North Central Bronx Hospital, Bronx Lebanon, New York Presbyterian, Lincoln Hospital and St. Barnabas Hospital.

Sponsors of the event were Jacobi Medical Center, North Central Bronx Hospital, New York Presbyterian, and Johnson & Johnson, a global American pharmaceutical, medical devices and consumer packaged goods manufacturer founded in 1886.

“There was a lot of warmth and affection in the room that evening,” says Lois Augustus, chair of BCC’s Department of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. The event gave the more than 100 nurses the chance to rekindle friendships and re-connect with people they have not seen in years. Throughout the evening, they laughed and talked about their experiences as students at BCC. They bubbled with memories of BCC’s rigorous training aimed at making them critical thinkers and competent and safe practitioners as registered nurses. Everybody shared career experiences since graduation. They presented pictures of their children and grandchildren, exchanged business cards and danced.

“We are proud to acknowledge your success,” said BCC President Carolyn G. Williams. “Bask in the glow of what you have achieved and are achieving every day. We uphold your success as a role model to our new generation of students.”

For Diana Mosely-Middleton, graduation from the nursing program in January 1970 helped her step into the nursing profession with the skills and confidence she needed to make a difference. “My choice of becoming a

nurse came from a vision I first had at a young age in Middletown, Ohio,” she said. After graduating from high school, she went to a school for practical nursing in Dayton, Ohio, passed the state exam and was licensed as a practical nurse. She later enrolled at BCC. “As a result of my diverse nursing experiences at BCC, I was prepared to meet the challenges of the world of work and pass the state exam to become a professional registered nurse,” said Mosely-Middleton. “No other community college could have offered so much and enabled me to realize my dream and goal to become a registered nurse.”

The history of Bronx Community College’s nursing program began over 50 years ago with the backing of a \$375,000 grant from the Kellogg Foundation and the State of New York to plan and operate a two-year program in nursing. Bronx Community College became the first in New York City to offer the associate degree nursing program and to add a liberal arts component to the technical training. The first class of 44 students was admitted in September 1960, with clinical training at Montefiore, Morrisania, and Jacobi Hospitals. Bronx Community College’s program, as a demonstration project, was closely watched throughout New York State.

BCC’s sister colleges quickly adopted similar programs. A severe shortage of professional nurses in the early 1960s in New York’s municipal hospital system led then Commissioner of Hospitals Ray Trussell to construct a 13-story nursing education and residence building on the grounds of the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center (now part of the Jacobi Medical Center). Rather than operate it as a training school for nurses on the old model, Trussell turned the building over to BCC and its nursing program moved there from 1964 until 1974.



Bronx Community College nursing alumni gather in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the College’s nursing program during a reunion reception held at the Marina del Rey restaurant in the Bronx. Photo: Charles Sabat

BCC’s associate degree nursing program secured large grants from the federal government. Innovative teaching and techniques utilizing audiovisual material and state-of-the-art technology were implemented. When Harlem Hospital was the first in New York to create a Burn Unit, the entire nursing unit was staffed by 22 Bronx Community College alumni. The first use of closed-circuit television for clinical training (now adopted worldwide) occurred at Montefiore Medical Center with BCC trained nurses.

Dean Alice Fuller, former chairperson of the department who has taught and served as an administrator at BCC for the past 43 years, stated, “To this day, the major goal of Bronx Community College nursing education is the development and promotion of critical thinking in students to help them become competent and safe practitioners as registered nurses.”



# Alumni News

## Farewell, BCC

By Raya Bayor (Class of 2010)

My name is Raya Bayor, and I graduated from Bronx Community College in May 2010. Even though I graduated, I keep with me lessons that I learned at BCC.

I received the Marsha Cummins Scholarship Award last semester, and it was a great honor to be recognized during my last semester at Bronx Community College. Dr. Marsha Cummins had taught at BCC as an English teacher. I heard a lot of great things about her and I wish I had the chance to meet her. I cannot thank the English Department enough for such an honor. This award did not just encourage me to improve my English by reading more, but it also gave me a boost of self-esteem. I really am grateful for the scholarship and the award. It made my first graduation a great experience, and as I move on to Hunter College, it will be a great motivation for me to reach for the best.

As a person who started my journey in the USA at BCC, I am proud to say that BCC really is a gateway to success. I had my ups and downs here, but the doors that were closed to me only led me to doors that took me on journeys that I did not expect the first day I stepped into BCC. I could not have achieved anything without all the wonderful people that I met on my journey. I will not start naming them, because the list will end, but thank you all from the custodial staff to the president of the college, Dr. Carolyn Williams. May God bless you and give you the strength to deal with all the load of work we put on you. You made me believe that each and every one of us can make our world better.

I believe that my experience also inspired many francophone students as well as ESL students at Bronx Community College. It is easy to hide behind barriers and the excuses always come handy to give up the battle but you know better that “anything is possible.” The beauty about college is that there are no competitions going on in class. Teachers, as well as students and departments, feel good when there are more As and no Fs every semester. If you have someone in class that struggles with the materials, even if you don’t have time to tutor and help the person, encouragements help more than hurtful comments. Also keep in mind that there are resources on campus that can help us improve and when you don’t ask questions and seek help, you are not only wasting money but also you are missing out on the true college experience. More importantly, keep in mind that anything is possible: “Yes we can, and there is no ‘but.’”

Welcome back, students, and let’s make this academic year better than the previous ones. I wish you all success and prosperity.



## David Dinkins Provides Keynote Address at Bronx Educational Opportunity Center’s 23rd Graduation

Former New York City Mayor David N. Dinkins, in delivering the keynote address at graduation ceremonies of the Bronx Educational Opportunity Center (EOC), wished more than 400 graduates success as they were about to move on to their future careers. Speaking at Bronx Community College on Friday, June 11, 2010, Dinkins addressed an enthusiastic crowd of family members, friends and loved ones, and faculty and staff. Mayor Dinkins movingly recounted the stories of the American heroes who broke down the barriers so these students could succeed, and went on to say, “This graduation is a very important sendoff from the training that you have received,” said New York’s 106<sup>th</sup> Mayor. “Life will not always be smooth. I urge you to use the discipline you have learned at the EOC to confront obstacles you encounter on your path.”

In the past 22 years the Bronx EOC has helped more than 20,000 New Yorkers receive their high school equivalency diplomas, enter college, enhance their careers, gain computer skills and certifications, and obtain employment. Students receive training in a broad range of careers, including medical assistant, emergency medical technician, and executive assistant. EOC also provides high school equivalency and college prep, internships, and job placement assistance.

Gilbert Ramos, a 1992 EOC emergency medical technician (EMT) graduate, spoke about how he used his training to become the best in his field. He is now the lead EMT instructor-coordinator for the New York City Fire Department and a certified instruction coordinator for New York State. He has trained over 3,000 EMTs and 13,000 firefighters.

“This graduation represents both your success in achieving your goal and your aspirations for your future,” stated BCC President Carolyn G. Williams. “Whatever you studied, you know that beginning this evening you



Bronx Community College President Carolyn G. Williams and former New York City Mayor David N. Dinkins, keynote speaker at Bronx Educational Opportunity Center’s 23rd graduation, applauded graduates.  
Photo: Charles Sabat

are more knowledgeable and you have acquired additional skills that will make you a vital member of the workforce. I do hope that your education does not end here. In fact, I would like for you to continue your education and I certainly hope you will enroll at Bronx Community College.”

“You now have the essential qualities that will help you move forward in life,” said George Sanchez, BCC senior vice president of Academic Affairs and former executive director of EOC. He told graduates that walking

through the doors of the EOC was a good investment. He also urged them to think about their next step – enrolling at BCC. “Nobody can take a college education away from you,” he said.

Also during the graduation ceremony, retiring EOC instructor Santiago Villafane was presented with the James O. Boykins Memorial Award. He received this special recognition for his generosity and devotion to improving the lives of students over more than two decades of service.

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# The Outside View

## Volunteering at UDEC's Enviromedia Mobile

By Beatriz Ramirez

It was a day the students and faculty members of BCC made the commitment to care for Mother Nature as a Colossal Earth Ball ascended into the sky that I discovered where I would volunteer this summer. On that sunny April day, BCC celebrated Earth Day with Urban Divers Estuary Conservatory (UDEC), a not-for-profit environmental and cultural organization based in New York City. The giant green Enviromedia Mobile, a state-of-the-art Mobile Urban Nature Center and Micro-Maritime Museum on wheels and those exotic birds corresponded as the perfect summer volunteer program I had been searching for.

I wanted somewhere I could spend my New York City summer fun making a difference in the community, continuing to educate myself and putting my commitment to a greener earth at work. And it was work ... but nothing worth having or doing is easy. I wanted to "be part of the solution not the problem," as the saying goes.

When classes ended that May, I contacted Ludger K. Balan, the executive environmental program director, scientific diver and licensed falconer of UDEC, a man full of cool little scientific facts that draws you in like the sting ray teacher from *Finding Nemo*. I was to become a volunteer setting up activity stations and giving public tours of the mobile museum, highlighting a number of exhibits: "The Lenape Dug Out Canoe of The Henry Hudson Era," a history of the Native Americans who lived in and nurtured the New York area way back when; "Honoring Legendary Diver Carl Brashear the Man of Honor" (see Cuban Gooding Jr. for reference), "Celebrating the 'ONRUS'" - artifacts of the first Dutch Ship to have sailed Brooklyn Harbor; and "AMA" - an exhibit about the Japanese women pearl divers, just to name a few.

UDEC hosts innovative public engagement programs throughout all five boroughs during the warm months of the year with weekend family fun outdoors adventures in waterfront recreation to provide environmental education, nature appreciation, community stewardship, and maritime culture.

My first assignment was the 18th Annual Ethnic Festival in El Barrio. With plenty of activities and music for the children and family, including our fabulous mobile museum, the festival also featured an array of Spanish Harlem's local ethnic foods of El Barrio market, a specialty of the area. Keeping the people connected and involved in the community and the land they inhabit was the theme on a whole. Our participation in engaging visitors about the significance of the surrounding waterways and how, as a community, they can make a difference to protect the watershed is an important lesson to teach an urban community so far removed yet so filled with nature.

My next assignment was at Canarsie Pier in Jamaica Bay. The folks at Canarsie Pier host a number of events in addition to a kayak and sailing program. These events are collaborative effort between the National Park Service and Bronx Community College, sponsored by the Office of Councilman Charles Baron and the Office Assemblywoman Inez Baron.

On a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, a family can have a barbeque, go fishing, fly or view some of the coolest kits you'll ever see, and best of all, set sail. On special



Ludger K. Balan, the executive environmental program director, scientific diver, and licensed falconer of UDEC presentation "Keeping Company with the Red Tailed Hawk." Photo: UDEC

occasions the Enviromedia Mobile was there, available for tours and joining in on the fun. It was a fun day the children not only touring in the museum but also flying kites we brought and doing silly things like attempting to make fire with the microscopes we use for something completely different. I learned so much from the people that day. At Canarsie you are bound to find local fisher men that could identify all of the life size versions of the fishes we exhibit in our museum and hear their "catching" stories.

The Field Trip to Schools was exhausting. Our school presentation was comprised of a guided mobile museum tours with "Quizart" and an urban wildlife appreciation workshop "Keeping Company with the Red-Tailed Hawk" - an introduction and close encounter with one of the city's urban wildlife inhabitants.

My favorite event by far was the Red Hawk Native American Powwow, not only because the night before the big festival, we camped out at the Floyd Bennet Field Park, where we were serenaded by Native American campers while we held diverse dialogs under the stars. The festival as a whole was quite an experience.

It is the largest Native American group to gather in New York City, for a week at least, according to the Red Hawk Native American Arts Council. Native Americans from across the country, from Aztec and Navaho Indians in New Mexico, to Taíno Indians by way of the Caribbean (now the biggest Native American community in New York) attended this event to celebrate their love of Native American culture and the love of nature.

Like any good festival there were good ole whole and organic ethnic foods. Most ingredients we see in regular festivals and in recipes we use today were first used indigenously by Native Americans. I wasn't surprised to see some of my favorite dishes there with some twists. The crew and I ordered Native American tacos which, needless to say, were a step up from any taco I have ever had (which is a lot to say 'because I've been to Mexico).

I'm a big fan of handmade jewelry and beaded stuff so I was in heaven. There were the most beautifully intricate art work and beading. During the ceremony and

dance competition, you could feel the drumming in your core. All the dancers were wearing elaborate traditional ceremonial dresses from their tribe. The entire event was mesmerizing, one which I will never forget. The people were so in tune with nature; land, water, creatures. They prayed for guidance to see the errors of their ways and how they can improve environmental issues. I've never seen children so interested in all of the artifacts and scientific observations we present in our museum. Our falconry exhibit was a hit for all those bird lovers. They are such peace-loving people. If you ever get a chance to go to a powwow anywhere in the nation, you will be sure to be amazed. [Editor's Note: The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Shinnecock Powwow was held on Long Island on Labor Day weekend, September 3-6, 2010.]

The Riverdale River Fest at Mt. St. Vincent College was the last event I attended with UDEC. The event featured an outdoor music concert, vendors, and yours truly, the Enviromedia Mobile. The highlights of the event were the Tall Sail Ships and Fire Boats for families to board on. It was an opportunity for Riverdadians to visit the Hudson River, which is largely inaccessible.

UDEC's fantastic and colorful birds of prey education and demonstration program received quite the attention of those on their way to the boats. A magpie, otherwise known as a jay bird, a raven, a crow, and two rescued European starlings were tied to a table outside the mobile. The crew took turns at different stations giving me the opportunity to feed the birds and answer questions, that really, our falconer, Ludger Balan was only qualified to answer.

The overall aim of the event was to generate support for the Hudson River Greenway. The Greenway Project of New York expands recreational opportunities for walking, jogging, biking, and in-line skating along waterfronts in the city's five boroughs.

During my time with UDEC I met so many fascinating people making a difference on our environment and communities. In addition to my summer fun and memories that I will carry with me always, meeting people who are working hard to make a positive impact is inspiring, and that is the most important thing I can take away from all of it.

The last of the ENVIROMEDIA MOBILE's "Summer Earth Fest" Series 2010 @ IKEA/Erie Basin Park is on Sunday, September 12th.

Bring a towel and enjoy the park! The monthly weekend series of waterfront recreation, environmental literacy, culture, and maritime enrichment for the entire family to enjoy ends here. Activities include public tours of the mobile museum, live music at the Open Piano on a Soap Box, kite flying, live underwater video observation, catch and release fishing, nature appreciation, and much more.

For details, please visit the Urban Divers Estuary Conservancy's website: ([www.urbandivers.org](http://www.urbandivers.org)) - "From the benthic environment, through the water column, to its surface ... from the very air that we breathe and in the soil from which we harvest ... UDEC is helping to put a little nature back in the urban environment."

## God Made Me This Way

By Rafaelina Siri

*To understand absolutely every point of view, of every kind of person. Of why they do the things they do. I stop and think how would I feel in a situation like theirs, most importantly the possible reasons of why, I lay them all on the table. I do not hate anyone, I do not judge anyone. Things that are of wrongdoing shouldn't be justified, but there are legitimate reasons. It is a weird world we are living in, everything reciprocates, everything is connected, everything makes sense even when they don't make sense. I understand every single thing even when I don't want to understand. I just know things, I feel them.*

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# Going Global



## Empowering Lives in the Bronx and South Africa: An Introduction to Noxolo's Story, "To Be the Best That I Can Be"

By Dr. Andrea Parmegiani

As I promised in my previous article, I have the pleasure of sharing with the readers of the Communicator the personal story of empowerment of a very special South African student whose name is Noxolo Mnguni.

I met Noxolo last February, while I was visiting the University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa). During my visit, I ran a series of workshops where I encouraged a group of twenty-five South African students to think about all the challenges they have overcome in their lives to get to college. Students discussed these challenges by sharing stories with each other and the rest of the class, and then by writing personal essays that celebrate the way they empowered themselves.

I returned to BCC in April, and I shared these personal essays with a group of students who were taking English 02 in a learning community. These students had also written similar stories of personal empowerment. Each BCC student was matched with a South African student; each pair exchanged essays, and began to correspond as pen-pals.

Noxolo's story is one of the many touching and inspiring narratives that arrived from South Africa. Noxolo grew up in a "township" near Durban, South Africa's third largest city. Townships are shantytowns that were created by the racist apartheid government to house black South Africans who were employed as cheap laborers by whites in the nearby cities or towns. While apartheid officially came to end in 1994 with the first democratic election, these shantytowns still exist. Unfortunately, living conditions there have not changed much since the end of apartheid.

Many people who live in townships still have to deal with extreme poverty, violent crime, and a school system that was designed to keep black South African undereducated, so that they would only be employable as cheap laborers. Again, apartheid has been officially gone for more than two decades, but its legacy is still present. Many students who attend township schools have to endure very difficult learning conditions: overcrowded classrooms, lack of books, lack of desks, underprepared teachers, etc. Very few students who attend these schools manage to get a high school diploma, not because they are not good students, but because a student needs to be exceptionally talented and motivated in order to be able to learn under these conditions.

Noxolo, like all the students I met last February at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, not only managed to graduate from high school, but she also managed to get accepted at a very prestigious university in South Africa. I have no doubt that Noxolo's story will help you get in touch with your inner power and inspire you "To Be the Best that You Can Be." And who knows, you might even feel called to share some thoughts on Noxolo's story with the readers of the *Communicator*, or share your own story. Empowerment is contagious.

## To Be the Best That I Can Be

By Noxolo Mnguni



My name is Noxolo Mnguni, a girl of 19 years of age, and I grew up in a small township called Umlazi near Durban, South Africa. I grew up living with my parents and my two younger siblings. I was a very blessed child with both parents supporting me and knowing that I belonged to someone.

We were a very fun loving family and I was happy when I was around my family. What I mostly admired about my parents was the fact that they would do anything in their power in order to make sure that my siblings and I received a better education that they had access to. My father was a security guard and my mother was a cashier at a super market, but that didn't stop them from giving us the best life ever. Everything changed when my parents got divorced. My father just did not want anything to do with us. He would not provide us with food or other necessities that he used to give us. I was seven years old that time, and my mom decided to take care of us all by herself.

Being a single parent and being raised by a single parent is not an easy thing but my mother managed. She made sure that we never went to bed on an empty stomach. She played a role of being a mother, father and a friend. I felt lucky to have someone like her as a mother. Time went by and when I was fifteen years old she got seriously ill and she passed away two months later after her sickness. She died of lung cancer and that was the most devastating thing that has ever happened to me. I felt like I should have done something to save her but there was nothing to do because she was already gone. After her death, life was no longer a walk in a park for me and my siblings and, at that time, I felt like I had no one to lean on.


My uncle and his wife took us to live with them since we had no one to take care of us. I was grateful for the fact that even though they had their own two children, they were able to make us feel part of their family. When I came in to live with them, they told me that they could not pay for my university fees since they were also taking care of my two siblings who are still at school. I had just finished high school the year before, but unfortunately, I could not go to university. As much as I wanted to accept this fact, it was very hard. Going to university had been my ultimate dream since I was in high school. It looked like I was left with no option but to accept this situation as it was.

Nevertheless, I told myself that nothing would stop me from going to university.

After I graduated from high school, I decided to go job hunting. As hard as it was, I did not surrender because I knew my purpose in life. Fortunately I got a temporary job as a cleaner at a super market. As I went to the train station every morning, I would see some students whom I attended high school with carrying their bags on their way to university. At first, I felt ashamed and disappointed at myself but I knew that one day I would reach my goal. I earned R250 [approximately \$35] every week and each month I saved R100 [approximately \$15] until my contract expired in June.

One of my cousins told me about the programme that intended to help needy students in order to get financial assistance. I applied for it and a letter came back informing me that I got the financial aid and residence. It was the best thing that has ever happened to me. I couldn't wait to register and become a student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. I paid the R500 for the registration fees with my savings from my job as a cleaner. I got the residence and the student card.

Right now, I am an Access student and I consider myself as a living example of an achiever. I did not let the fact that I'm an orphan get in my way of achieving my dream. I can say that losing my mother was a very painful experience but it has also inspired me to work hard and be the best that I can be.



**Children's Halloween Celebration**

October 29, 2010  
3-6 pm  
Colston Hall, Lower Level

Free and open to BCC students and their children  
The program will feature a story teller, musical chairs, a dance contest and lots of treats!

This program is sponsored by the Office of Student Life and is funded by student fees.  
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# Going Global



## College Team Works with South African Colleges

Faculty, staff, and administrators from Bronx Community College travelled this year to South Africa on behalf of the Partnership for Skills Development. The partnership supports 12 Further Education and Training (FET) colleges in South Africa by helping to upgrade students' readiness for the workforce. BCC is providing training to college lecturers and administrators that will help them to better address student development needs and increase student math and literacy skills. The 12 participating colleges are located in three South African provinces (Limpopo, Mpumalanga, and Northern Cape).

The group from BCC began by first reviewing data about each college's student support programs, retention initiatives, and language and math programs. After site visits to each of the colleges in Fall 2009, a three-day conference was held in Limpopo in February 2010, with representatives from each of the FET colleges present. The goal of the conference was to assist colleges in implementing the existing FET student support framework in order to improve student retention and facilitate skills development in math and language. A second purpose was to introduce the college teams to new approaches to instruction in math and English. The conference also served as an opportunity to encourage the colleges to build local topic-based networks among educators in each of the focus areas--math, literacy, and student support.

During Summer 2010, Bronx Community College returned to South Africa and offered math, literacy, and student support workshops to staff and administrators on the campuses of the seven colleges in



President Carolyn Williams (front row center) and Mopani South East College CEO Mrs. S.C. Sehlake (front row center) with other members of the BCC and Mopani teams after successful workshop at the main campus in Phalaborwa, South Africa, July 20, 2010. Photo: Dr. Peter Barbatis

the Limpopo province. "The workshops offered lecturers and student support personnel concrete strategies for improving student retention and providing support to math lecturers in curriculum areas where they may need improvements," said Barbara Schaier-Peleg, director of Bronx Community College's National Center for Educational Alliances and principal investigator for the Partnership for Skills Development project. "Based upon the participant evaluations, the sessions were regarded as extremely useful." Workshops at the other five colleges in the Mpumalanga and Northern Cape provinces will be scheduled at later dates.

The BCC PSKD team included, in addition to

Ms. Schaier-Peleg and President Carolyn Williams, Dr. Madeline Bates, Dr. Vrunda Prabhu and Dr. Jorge Pinero (math); Dr. Peter Barbatis, Ms. Melissa Kirk and Dr. Jason Finkelstein (student support); and Dr. Frederick De Naples and Professor Andrew Rowan (English).

The Partnership for Skills Development project is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and administered by the American Council on Education. The other partners in the project are nonprofit organizations Youth Build International and Jobs for the Future.

## CUNY-BC Winter in China

Four-Week Program (Dec 29, 2010–Jan 23, 2011) to Five Famous Chinese Cities: Beijing, Xi'an, Nanjing, Suzhou, Shanghai



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Students choose 3-6 credits of study from following:

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2. Business 3175--Asian Business
3. SPCH 1619--Intercultural Communication
4. SPCH 2623--Business & Professional Communication
5. CORE 3206--Development of the Silk Road
6. CORE 1010--Classical Culture (China)
7. Chinese 1010 & 1020--Beginners & Intermediate Chinese

### Program Cost: only \$2,898

Including round-trip international tickets & hotels, etc CUNY tuition is not included. STOCs scholarships and Financial Aid (Pell & TAP) are available

Application Deadline: Oct 15, 2010 (first come first serve)

- All courses are taught by Brooklyn College faculty, for CUNY-BC credit
- Group travel to 5 famous Chinese cities: Beijing, Xi'an, Nanjing, Suzhou/Hangzhou & Shanghai
- Field trips to sites of historical and cultural importance (TianAnMen Square, Great Wall, Forbidden City, Summer Palace, Terra Cotta Warriors, Buddhist Temples, Jewish Synagogue, Islamic Mosques, Classical Gardens, Silk Factory, Cloisonné Factory, Shanghai Bund, etc)
- Experience Chinese culture, interact with local people, have a feel of real Chinese life
- See the new Beijing and new China after the Olympics
- Side trips to Hong Kong, Tibet, Sanya, Yangzhou & Yellow Mountain

Check the website: <http://depthome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc-china>

All Qualified undergraduate and graduate students (both inside and outside CUNY) can enroll For more info, e-mail Professor Lu at [CUNYinChina@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:CUNYinChina@brooklyn.cuny.edu); Tel: 718-951-5225



BCC team at Hostos Community College on Monday, June 21st, after testimony by Raya Bayor and Roman Ferede about the College's student study and volunteer abroad programs to CUNY Board of Trustees. (From left to right: unidentified, Dr. Vicki Flaris, Paul Bronzi, Dr. Carolyn Williams, Roman Ferede, Andrew Goulbourne, Carol White, Dr. Peter Barbatis, Raya Bayor, and Eva Joyce) Photo: Andrew Rowan

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# Poetry Corner

## BCC Artist of the Month: Anthony Madrid



Many artists are on the rise, and *The Communicator* will focus once a month on talented students that are pursuing a career showcasing their talents or craft.

This month we feature Anthony Madrid, a 22-year-old poet who has already published poetry in this newspaper. He has also performed at the Poetry Lounge, an event the Office of Student Life presents every semester; he has also performed at the Nuyoricans Poets Café in the East Village.

Madrid has a website – [www.edensword.com](http://www.edensword.com) – where he features all his poetry and personal videos. They can also be found on [youtube.com/edensword](http://youtube.com/edensword). To get to know him better, I asked him a series of questions. Since he is very humble and charming, the interview was quite easy.

**Astharte De Los Santos:** How has writing poetry impacted your life?

**Anthony Madrid:** It has made me more humble because of the self reflection that is involved in expressing myself. I am glad I have an outlet that I can release my opinions of the joys and pain in my life.

**ADLS:** What does your poetry say about you?

**AM:** Everything about it is pretty blunt and straight forward I speak from the heart and usually love to say what's on my mind.

**ADLS:** Is your poetry the only thing you're working on?

**AM:** I am also working on a play right now called *Dreams of New Orleans* which is personal project of mine that is currently being developed.

**ADLS:** Your website features poetry performances. Have you ever performed live and, if so, which performance stands out?

**AM:** Well, I performed at the Nuyoricans Poets Café in May of this year. This performance stood out because it made me like I was on the right track as a poet.

**ADLS:** What is your favorite poem?

**AM:** My favorite poem has to be "The Last Rose." It is about heartbreak and letting go of a former love in my life. I am very content with my work; it is the latest one on the website. Check it out.

### The Last Rose

By Anthony Madrid

The tender feel of the flower that I possess,  
Will grow to a death that will unravel the end,  
The smell if it traces an emotion of lost faces,  
It opens up as a heart slows down the beating,  
Breathing races as if trying to catch up,  
Here comes the drop that is released by my eye,  
It pounds down on the ground and makes the earth shiver,  
Her smile is no longer, her tender care is a goner,  
I've walked this whole path with a rose in one hand,  
Heart in the other,  
Fingers pressed against the thorns,  
Blood trickling down,  
Leaving prints of the path I've walked,  
I continue my journey,  
Although hoping that you look @ where you left,  
I also wonder whether to wish,  
Wish for rain to wash away the blood stained path,  
That path that can give us another chance,  
But the look that you gave me last,  
Can no longer be trusted,  
So I let go of the rose,  
And place it on the ground as it were a tomb,  
I loved you very much but now our paths have lost touch,  
Good-Bye. To what was you and I

### Resonance By Beatriz (BeaBea)

I wear these flowers in my hair for you, but you don't notice  
I sleep on your forgotten dreams  
I stroke the shrine of lonely seams  
As I lay under my plum tree  
Out of the tree of life I just picked me a plum  
I thought I had seen it all under the sun  
Speaking frantic and all, in a steady decline until she falls  
or until the fall  
When I fall on Autumn leaves  
I have cushion for you thoughts, dissolved in excess  
hidden lies  
I'll muffle piercing neverminds  
Opening shades with silhouettes  
You scratched the pain with broken nails  
I'll wax your pain with everything that was...going...  
there...  
With eternal movements in my head  
A melody that returns after it's gone  
I returned to those dreams but you where gone  
When we where together, from what I could remember  
Sweet salt glows, as we slide down the hill  
Instant gratification of rippling images  
I thought I saw you there, as it seems sometimes  
I hear echo in the shade of indigo  
My head is hallow  
Suffering from interpretations of these estatic lines  
But,  
I loves you Porgy  
Don't let her take me, Porgy  
Don't let her handle me with her hot hands  
If you can keep me, I wanna stay here  
With you, forever, I got my man

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# Poetry Corner

## Poetry

BY MISS NO NAME

### Loathe.

In my place where I only know the inner worries of my heart.  
Where I only know the truth of my songs.  
The melodies of my joy.  
The kisses of my lovers.  
I will loathe in the juices of your fruit in the calmness in your voice.  
In the emphasis of your compassion.  
You've thought of me, you have.  
You need me I'm sure.  
I will still loathe in your strength and honor. In your voice I will take heed.  
In your worry I will honor you.  
I'm sorry it seems as though I'm selfish. Through wishful thinking I love,  
Gestures speak loudly. To me intimacy is hard. Hard to bear, hard to express  
Hard to comprehend. So I will loathe in my self misery for I am imprisoned for my  
Care of the world. I will loathe in my essays that drive me mad.  
I will loathe in my comfort that allows me to remain stagnant.  
I will loathe in my self hate and anguish,  
Whine and be a victim. I've been hurt, you know.....

### The things that we do

Many times we go on through the day leaving traces of abuse, of sorrow, joy or peace. Fear of tomorrow.....  
Never realizing we caused an impact upon whoever we come across. May your hand be more graceful as your touch comforts. May your will be genuine, so your rewards won't flee from you. May you see yourself and find peace with former self. Leave a trace of dignity and relate hope. That your struggles show a person of value and worth as oppose to a victim of circumstances. That your will manifest gratitude for the opportunities you have been presented. Accept your position in life if you can't make the efforts to change it. That your input and your struggles will lead into positivity. May your heart contain the goodness that it is to love, to be loved, to fight, to live, to cherish every moment. We work hard in labor, emotional anguish or obstacles so we must enjoy the small blessings, plenty.

### Take Care I'll See You Again.....

What a rainy day today so gloomy it is. I hear a knock on the door. It's my friend Lorna and she's really happy. She goes on and on about a party she went to she's very excited. She's always down, always depressed. I've been there for her before. I've suffered much with her. She's always going on and on about particular situations in life that have affected her greatly. I've been chosen as her confident as far as I know we are very close. She tells me that she has a secret. Never keeps anything from me. Today she seems so content I dare not ask why. I hope she continues in her happiness I must live through you today. I've already been dumped by my recent boyfriend. I have to offer today. Ironically you tell me about a guy you're seeing I am very excited wondering what next. You tell me that your friends from Math class invited you to a lounge to have a few drinks. You met up and about an hour into all the laughter, the drinks and the dancing. A cute guy signaled her to come closer, she get closer and immediately they made a connection. They spoke for the rest of the night and kept drinking. She even forgot about her crowd. She was in lust with him all night. They kissed profusely. Passions arise they were completely enamored for that night. A mixture of clouded judgment, passion and lust overtake her. Which she expressed with regret. She only knew his name Frank. She subtly took a picture while they were having drinks. My heart stopped. Very familiar face very familiar. Then I realized he was the gentleman from the clinic in Garede Street. I was there for my annual test. And I cried and supported him. I immediately told her about the incident that happen 2 years ago. I insisted she said she'll see em' again tonight and left disturbed. I cried prayed after I never saw her again. Until 3 years past frail, depilated and weak. Her choice lead her there I said take care I'll see you again.

## Poems

By Astharte De Los Santos

### Alive

Yes here I am currently living, my pulse indicates anxiety as usual.  
Palpitations of my eyes feel as a neurotic surge is about to overtake me.  
Aw crap here comes an emotion  
I'm not ready for.  
A reminder that I'm not as composed as I should be.  
So what I say.  
Chuckles.  
To live is to fight.  
Make yourself known present then a non-conformist I'll be!!  
To make a difference is to be alive, To be alive is to be used by the inclinations in  
Your heart, for the worries of your pleasures  
So live.

### My Depiction of Truth

In life I've had ups and downs. But never can I regret one mistake. I take everything  
I see and hear feel.  
As experiences towards the truth.  
What is the truth, why is it so important?  
Don't we choose lies better embrace whatever is given except conformity.  
Is it a single perception or vast assumptions.  
Is it emptiness or fulfillment.  
Once something is revealed can we actually accept it.....  
Progress and move forward  
Life as we know it satisfies why look for comfort in clarity.  
Can't we embrace comfort.  
Must we unsettle with reality yes we must  
Truth is truth, heals truth loves truth yearns for attention  
Earns respect power and honesty it earns diligence purity.  
It causes despair at times But it is what it is  
Truth.  
In fact it calms the soul creates peace.  
Peace of the heart, peace of the soul creates peace.  
Peace of the heart, peace of the soul. In love I am with you I am. You love don't you.  
So spare me, the truth is hard to bear, it rattles the core of my existence.  
Deepens my emotions, rubs me the wrong way get I feel favored, it actually saves me  
From.....

### Oye Caribena

Hey you don't know where your from, kissed by the golden sun. Your body ripe, as the fruit of the summer.  
You speak to no one let me hear your song. It sounds like Spanish. I like my Dominicans they love to cook and are very smart. Ride with me all over the city I'll show you many things if you smile and look pretty. Thank you, for your hugs and kisses, your skin so soft, sera jabon de cuaba, no your fancy it must be dove. So sweet you talk when were in private don't hurt the man now, outside your look is violent. You cursed and shout what happen now? I'm glad I met you I'm glad you brighten my day your beautiful that smiles keeps me going, a nurse, a doctor, a cleaner, a mother at heart. Caribena so mixed and pure I don't know who you are, are you Indian, African, Spanish, or French. What is that you speak another mixture or blend. Full of surprises to entertain you is my joy I love it, the fact that I may be your toy. Caribena so full of surprises so full of yourself. As you deserve to be.

### Follow the yellow Brick Road

What a road, very long and promising. As we walk towards our goals and dreams we have many aspirations that we have acquired after self reflection and pondering. What will I be what will I do. Many obstacles arise yet we have to find a way to overcome them. Dreams shattered only represent another way into our ambitions. Never give up. Keep fighting. Remember to uphold your integrity and never submit to your peers, but influence them. What a pleasure it would be to see the pride on your parents faces. Youth, you have been chosen to lead a generation that has been ignored and overlooked snippets of the past generations have built you. Remember be humble for your parents have overcome many things that have impacted your lives, make good out of bad. Have a vision and carry it out you can do all things.....  
Yes you can. As this new semester begins allow yourself

## SEVENFOLD

By William Murray

The seventh seal broken  
Sounds seven trumpets  
The seven trumpets  
Send seven bowls' contents

The fallen are watchers  
As-told-to Apocrypha  
They fertilized mortal wives  
Then giants were fathered

There are seven plagues  
Of New Testament's verses  
St. John the apostle  
Wrote on seven churches

There are seven lampstands  
The occult call chakras  
The Son of Man was amid  
Seven candelabra

The seventh seal broken  
Sounds seven trumpets  
The seventh trumpet  
Beset with bowl judgments

Seven omnipotent horns  
Seven omniscient eyes  
In His right hand, seven stars,  
Are angels at His side


Seven crests upon the dragon  
Seven heads of a sea beast  
There are seven personages  
And seven regencies

The seventh seal broken  
Sounds seven trumpets  
The seven trumpets  
List seven bowls' contents

There are seven mountains  
Seven vials of wrath  
There are seven thunders  
Dooms each seven hath

Believe the sevenfold canon  
He'll prepare you a mansion  
Vastly more than we  
Can ever ask or imagine

**The Office Of Student Life**  
Presents **The OCD WORKSHOP series**



Student Government, Clubs and other Leadership Opportunities. Get OCD Credit and find out how to GET INVOLVED with

**STUDENT LIFE ON CAMPUS!**

September 14, 2010 / 3-4 p.m.	November 18, 2010 / 3-4 p.m.
October 13, 2010 / 4-5 p.m.	December 2, 2010 / 4-5 p.m.

**ALL WORKSHOPS TAKE PLACE IN LOEW HALL ROOM 200**

This program is sponsored by the Office Student Life and is funded by student fees.  
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**MEISTER HALL RM 202**

**718-289-5201/5962/5194**

**WWW.BCC.CUNY.EDU/STUDENTLIFE**



# Campus News

## Bronx Community College Student Voters Can Make A Difference!

**Register before October 8, 2010!**

**Your vote in 2010 will help select the members of the New York State Senate and Assembly!**

In order to register to vote

- You must be a U.S. citizen or a naturalized citizen.
- You must be 18 by Election Day, November 2, 2010.
- You must have resided at your present address for 30 days

If you were registered at an address and then moved, you need to fill out a **new** registration form listing your new address.

**Voter registration forms are available on campus in Room 27 of Language Hall or the Office of Student Life in Meister Hall, room 202.**

Moisten and seal to "X" (fold in half)

### NEW YORK STATE VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

**TO COMPLETE THIS FORM:**

**Box 1:** Must be completed. If you answer NO, do not complete this form.

**Box 2:** Must be completed, however if you check NO, do not complete this form UNLESS you are a New York resident who will be 18 by the end of this year.

**Box 4:** Give your home address.

**Box 5:** Give your mailing address if it is different from your home address (post office box no., star route or rural route no., etc.)

**Box 8:** The completion of this box is optional.


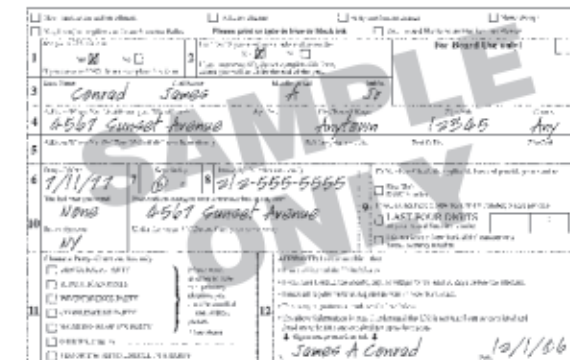
**Box 9:** Must be completed. If you have a current DMV number (Driver's license number or non driver ID number), you must provide that number. If you do not have a current DMV number, you must provide the last four digits of your social security number.

**Box 10:** If you have never voted before, write "None." If you can't remember when you last voted, put a question mark (?). If you voted before under a different name, put down that name. If not, write "Same."

**Box 11:** In order to vote in a party primary, you must be enrolled in one of New York's 5 constituted parties. Check one box only.  
\*Except the Independence Party which permits non-enrolled voters to vote in their primary elections.

**Box 12:** This application must be signed and dated in ink.

If you would like an application for an ABSENTEE BALLOT or would like to be an ELECTION DAY WORKER, please check the corresponding box below.

**IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Your identity must be verified prior to election day, so that you will not have to provide identification when you vote. Your identity can be verified through your DMV number (driver's license number or non-drive ID number), or the last four digits of your social security number, as requested in Box 9 of this application.

If your identity is not verified before election day, you will be asked to provide identification when you vote for the first time. Samples of the identification you may provide include a valid photo ID, a current utility bill, bank statement, government check or some other government document that shows your name and address.

If you include a copy of any identification with this application, be sure to tape the sides of this form closed.

<input type="checkbox"/> New registration and enrollment		<input type="checkbox"/> Address change		<input type="checkbox"/> Party enrollment change		<input type="checkbox"/> Name change	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I need an application for an Absentee Ballot		<b>Please print or type in blue or black ink</b>				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I would like to be an Election Day Worker	
<b>1</b> Are you a U.S. citizen Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>2</b> I will be 18 years old on or before election day: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>For Board Use only!</b>			
If you answered NO, do not complete this form.		If you answered NO, do not complete this form, unless you will be 18 by the end of the year.					
<b>3</b> Last Name		First Name		Middle Initial		Suffix	
<b>4</b> Address Where You Live (do not give P.O. address)				Apt. No.		City/Town/Village	
				Zip Code		County	
<b>5</b> Address Where You Get Your Mail (if different from above)				P.O. box, star rte., etc.		Post Office	
				Zip Code			
<b>6</b> Date of Birth		<b>7</b> Sex(circle) M F		<b>8</b> Home Tel. Number (optional)		<b>9</b> ID Number - Check the applicable box and provide your number	
						<input type="checkbox"/> New York DMV Number _____ <input type="checkbox"/> LAST FOUR DIGITS of your Social Security number _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I do not have a New York DMV number or a Social Security number.	
<b>10</b> The last year you voted		Your Address was(give your house number, street, city)					
In county/state		Under the name (if different from your name now)					
<b>11</b> Choose a Party—Check one box only				<b>12</b> AFFIDAVIT: I swear or affirm that			
<input type="checkbox"/> DEMOCRATIC PARTY <input type="checkbox"/> REPUBLICAN PARTY <input type="checkbox"/> INDEPENDENCE PARTY <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATIVE PARTY <input type="checkbox"/> WORKING FAMILIES PARTY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHERS(write in) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT WISH TO ENROLL IN A PARTY				Please note: In order to vote in a <b>primary election</b> , you must be enrolled in one of these parties. * See above			
				• I am a citizen of the United States. • I will have lived in the county, city, or village for at least 30 days before the election. • I meet all requirements to register to vote in New York State. • This is my signature or mark on the line below. • The above information is true. I understand that if it is not true I can be convicted and fined up to \$5,000 and/or jailed for up to four years. ↓ Signature or mark in ink ↓ X _____ Date _____			

Eng 4/07

Please do not write in this space

NOTE: DO NOT STAPLE OR TAPE  
"X" (fold in half to seal for mailing)



# Campus News

You must be registered by October 8th to vote in the November 2, 2010, General Election.  
Forms are available in LH, room 27,  
Student Activities (Meister Hall, room 202) and the Student Government Office Meister Hall room 214.  
Call 718-289-5158 for more information.

## NEW YORK STATE VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

### YOU CAN USE THIS FORM TO:

- Register to vote in New York State.
- Change your name and/or address if there is a change since you last voted.
- Enroll in a political party or change your enrollment.

### TO REGISTER YOU MUST:

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be 18 years old by December 31 of the year in which you file this form. (Note: You must be 18 years old by the date of the general, primary or other election in which you want to vote.)
- Live at your present address for at least 30 days before an election.
- Not be in jail or on parole for a felony conviction.
- Not claim the right to vote elsewhere.

Información en español: si le interesa obtener este formulario en español, llame al (212) VOTE-NYC [212-868-3692]

中文資料：如果你有興趣索取本中文資料表格，請電 212-868-3692

한국어: 한국어 양식을 원하시면 212-868-3692 으로 전화하십시오.

### DEADLINE INFORMATION:

- You can register in person at your County Board of Elections on any business day.
- If you want to vote in an election, you must mail or deliver this form to your County Board of Elections no later than 25 days before the election in which you want to vote.
- You must be 18 years old by the date of the general, primary or other election in which you want to vote.
- Your eligibility to vote will be based on the date you file this form.
- Your County Board will notify you of your eligibility.

[THE COMPLETED FORM MAY NOT BE FAXED]

### NEED MORE REGISTRATION FORMS?

You can get registration forms at most state agency offices and post offices or at any County Board of Elections.

Questions? Call your County Board of Elections or (212) VOTE-NYC [212-868-3692]. Residents of NYC may call toll free 1-866-VOTE-NYC

Hearing impaired people with TDD may call (212) 487-5496.

Visit our website – [www.vote.nyc.ny.us](http://www.vote.nyc.ny.us)

Call this number if you are interested in getting this form in Spanish, Chinese or Korean 212-868-3692.

Eng 4/07



BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
32 BROADWAY 7th. FL.  
NEW YORK, NY 10275-0067

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
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IN THE  
UNITED STATES





# Campus News

## GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

The 2010-2011 program for the *Global Perspectives* series begins in September with two events which focus on issues of peace and genocide prevention.

The full series will be announced in mid-September.

### International Peace Day

Thursday, September 23, 2010 / 12-2pm  
Schwendler Auditorium

#### OCD CREDIT

International Peace Day will feature Vincent Warren, Executive Director of the Center for Constitutional Rights, a national legal and educational organization dedicated to advancing and defending the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Mr. Warren has spearheaded a public campaign, “Beyond Guantanamo: Rescue the Constitution,” challenging illegal detention, rendition, warrantless wiretapping and racial injustice. He will discuss how we can advocate for a more peaceful world. Additionally, Professor David Blot will discuss conscientious objection and the National Registry.

Coordinated by Dr. Julie Bolt and Dr. David Blot, Department of English

### Genocide Workshop

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, October 4, 5 & 6  
Colston Hall, Lower Level

#### OCD CREDIT

Amy Fagin, an artist from Western Massachusetts, will conduct the workshop, “Beyond Genocide.” The workshop is based on her paintings (called illuminations) of the major genocides of the 20th century. The purpose is to make students aware of the enormity of the problem of genocide through learning historical facts about genocides depicted in the paintings.

For more information, please contact Dr. David Blot, Department of English.

Coordinated by Dr. David Blot, Department of English

Monday: 10am, 12, 2, 6, & 8pm

Tuesday: 8 & 10am, 2, 4, & 6pm

Wednesday: 8 & 10am, 12, 2, 4, & 6pm

## Bronx High School Students Interview Holocaust Survivors and Make History Come Alive

Bronx Community College gave Bronx high school students a taste of the rigors of college academics firsthand in an intense reading and writing summer program called College Now. Student experiences were spotlighted in an end of the summer reception at BCC. As part of the reception, Holocaust survivors were recognized for their participation in the program. The interview subjects also had a chance to view a video of some of the interviews and talk with students while they enjoyed refreshments.

During their time on campus, students were introduced to the culture of higher education and how to be self-starters in approaching assignments in the classroom, the library and at home. Instead of studying only from textbooks of World War II, they read stories written by survivors about their personal accounts, and the impact of the Holocaust. Students also visited the Holocaust Museum and wrote journals about their impressions from that trip.

Ellen Leiman, a Holocaust survivor, told students

that she enjoyed speaking to them and felt privileged to be a part of the five-week program. She, Ellen Zilka, and Samuel Marder were interviewed by students. “I was totally impressed with the students,” said Marder. “It is so important to learn about this history. I felt it was my duty to participate and talk about how I physically, emotionally and spiritually survived a death camp. Soon this generation will be gone and there will be no one to give firsthand knowledge.”

Desmond Bailey, a senior at Harry S. Truman High School, said, “When I first read the bare facts of the Holocaust, they didn’t move me.” After interviewing Holocaust survivors, Bailey stated, “I began to understand more clearly what they had experienced. Their emotional way of talking helped me to empathize with them. This had direct effects on my writing.”

Students who attended the five-week program came from Harry S. Truman, Samuel Gompers, and University Heights high schools, Academy for Language

and Technology, Monroe Academy for Business and Law, and the Eagle Academy for Young Men. “The goal of the class was to help students think more critically about their place in the world by becoming better readers, writers, and interviewers,” said Matthew Cotter, the instructor who taught the class and who will again teach the class in the fall and spring semesters. “Anytime you can draw meaningful connections beyond static texts you can improve the study of history. Oral interviews are one way to do that.” Students attended the program and completed reading and writing assignments three hours a day, four days a week. They received three college credits.

Michael Roggow, director of Collaborative Programs and Freshman Communities, summed up the College Now program: “This summer experience gave students an opportunity to listen to history as it comes alive and to understand historical movements in a different context.”



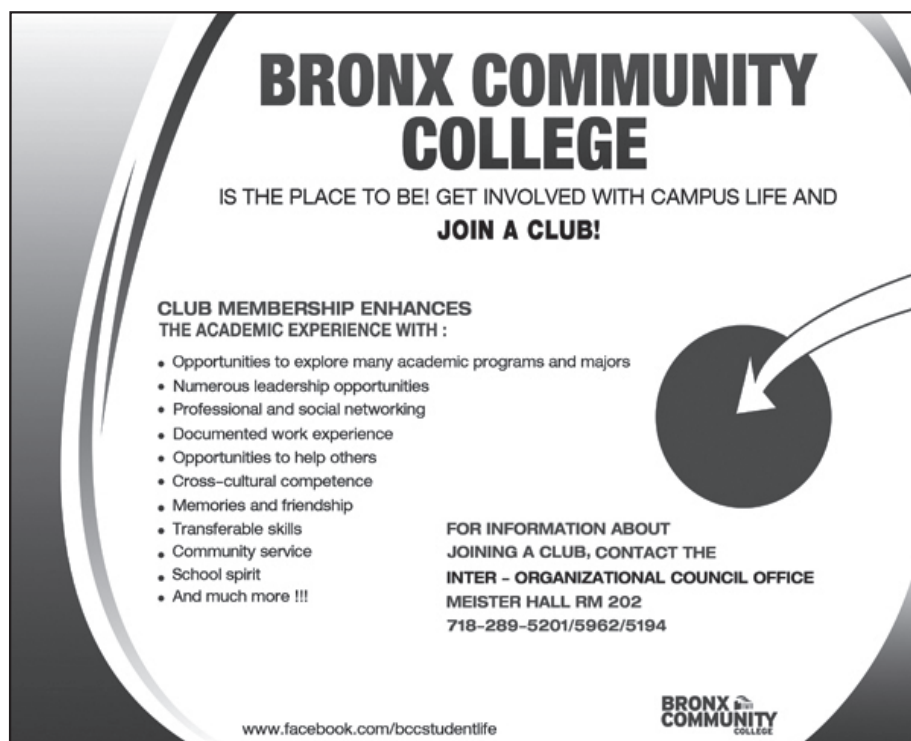
**Children's Halloween Celebration**

October 29, 2010  
3-6 pm  
Colston Hall, Lower Level

Free and open to BCC students and their children  
The program will feature a story teller, musical chairs, a dance contest and lots of treats!

This program is sponsored by the Office of Student Life and is funded by student fees  
For more information, please call 718.289.5194  
www.facebook.com/bccstudentlife

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- Numerous leadership opportunities
- Professional and social networking
- Documented work experience
- Opportunities to help others
- Cross-cultural competence
- Memories and friendship
- Transferable skills
- Community service
- School spirit
- And much more !!!

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT JOINING A CLUB, CONTACT THE INTER - ORGANIZATIONAL COUNCIL OFFICE  
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**THE COMMUNICATOR**  
Submission Insertion Dates  
Fall 2010

If you are interested in having an article, editorial, letter or announcement included in *The Communicator*, it must be received by the following dates:

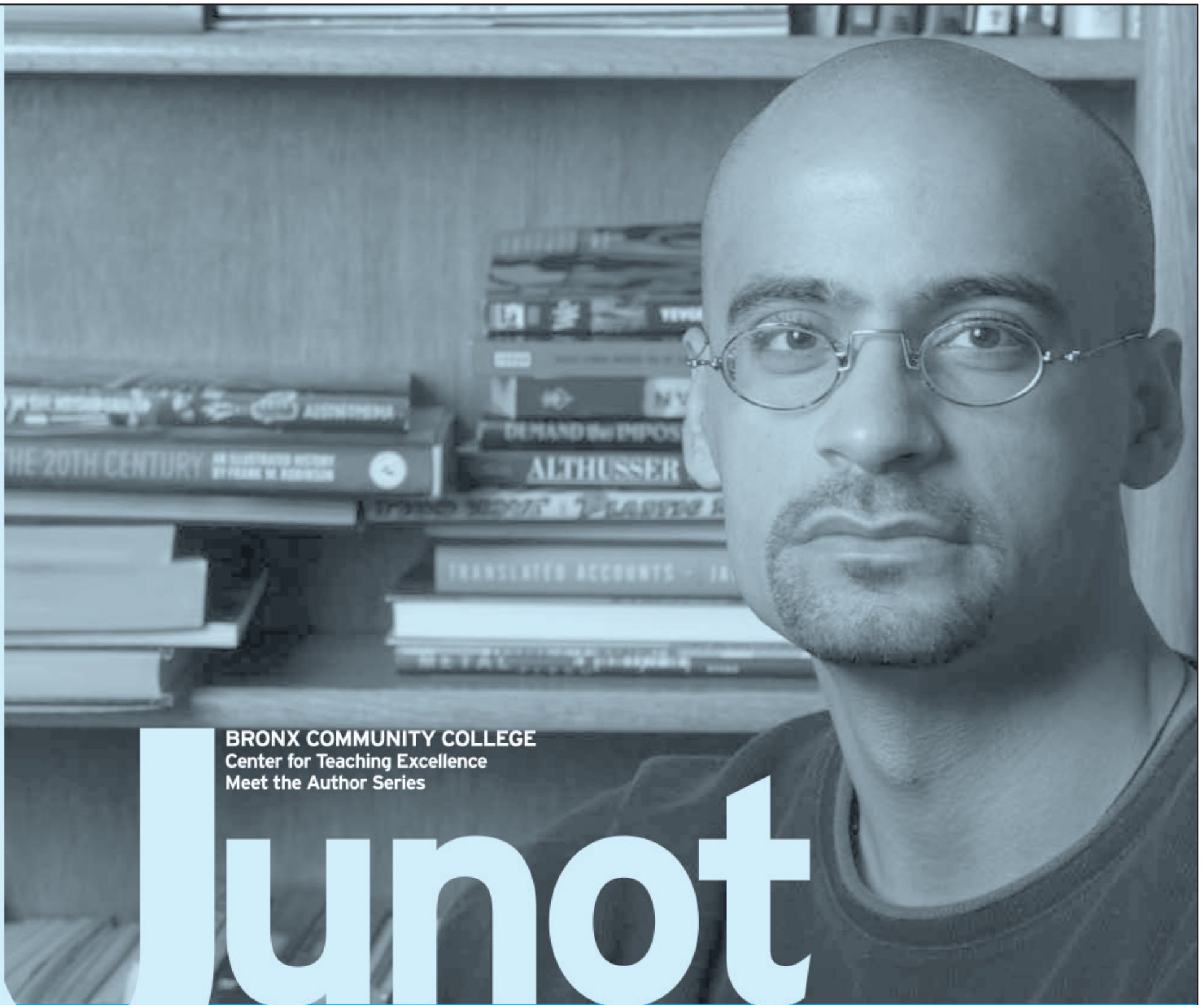
**October**  
Friday, September 24, 2010

**November**  
Wednesday, October 27, 2010

**December**  
Tuesday, November 23, 2010

Please note that *The Communicator* reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission due to space considerations or if the submission is deemed inappropriate because of profane language, verification problems, and/or slander.





BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Center for Teaching Excellence  
Meet the Author Series

# Junot Díaz

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010  
10AM-12PM  
GOULD MEMORIAL LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**

Junot Díaz is the author of *Drown* and *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, which won the John Sargent Sr. First Novel Prize, the National Book Critics Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award, the Dayton Literary Peace Prize and the 2008 Pulitzer Prize.

Use your QR reader  
to save this event to your  
smart phone



Reviews:

The Boston Globe - "Superb, deliciously casual and vibrant, shot through with wit and insight. The great achievement of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* is Díaz's ability to balance an intimate, multigenerational story of familial tragedy... The past and the present remain equally in focus, equally immediate, and Díaz's acrobatic prose toggles artfully between realities, keeping us enthralled with all."

Entertainment Weekly - "Terrific... High energy... It is a joy to read, and every bit as exhilarating to re-read."