

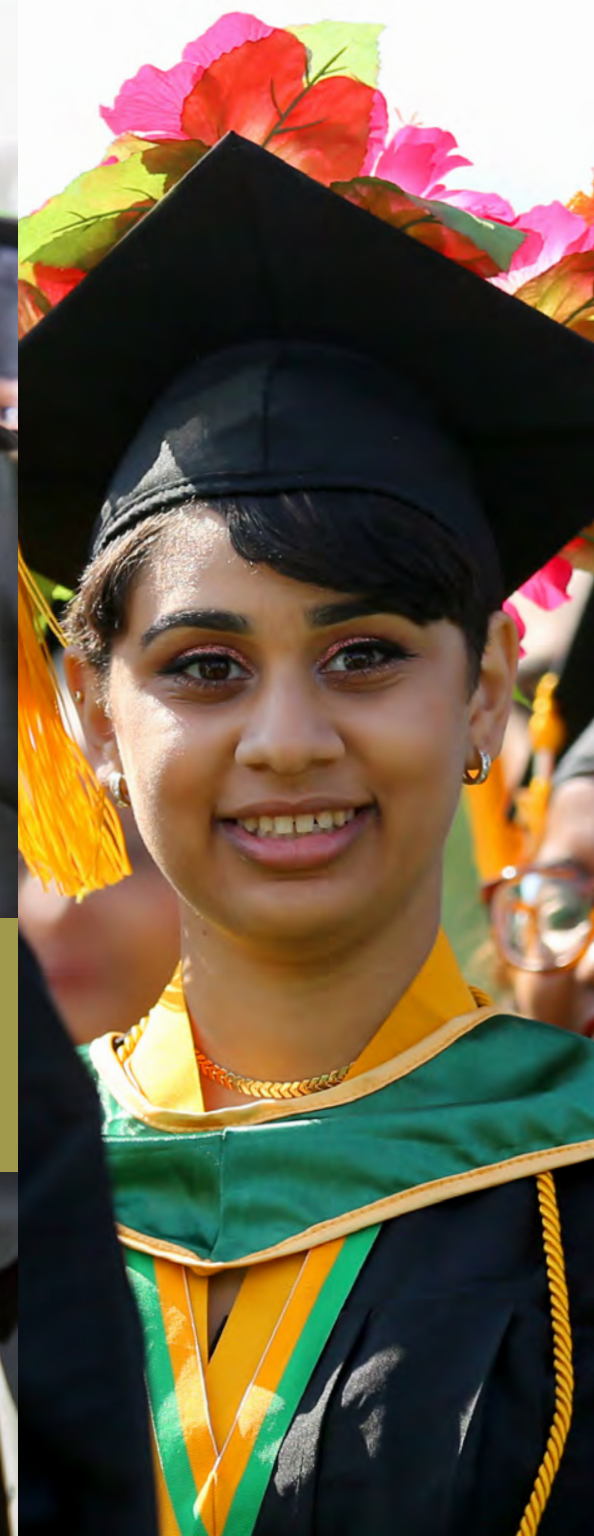


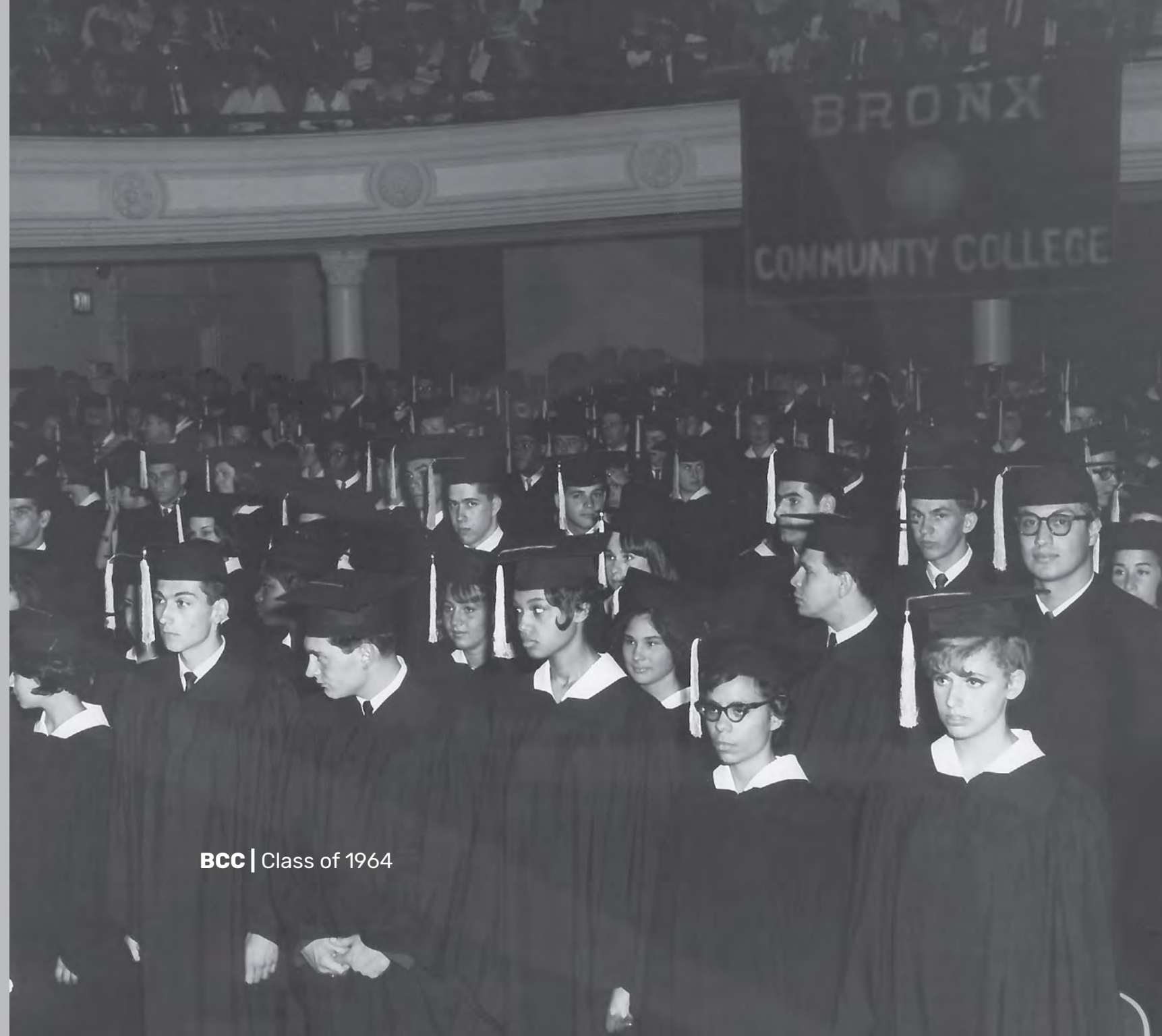
LOOKING BACK

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Annual Report 2017
*Celebrating 60 Years
of Service to Our Community*



MOVING FORWARD

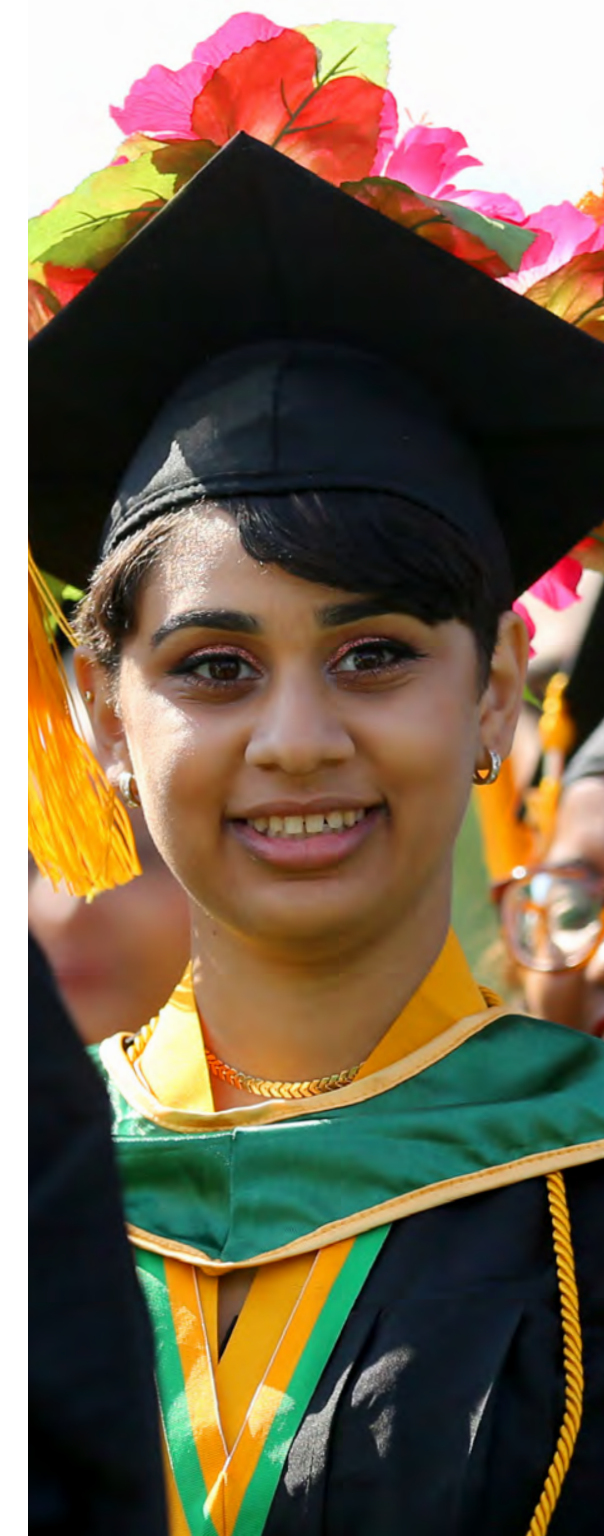




BCC | Class of 1964



Bronx Community College
of The City University of New York





A message from President THOMAS A. ISEKENEGBE

In 1957, the Russians launched Sputnik, the world's first artificial satellite. On April 11, 1957, the Bronx had a launching of its own when the legal building blocks for Bronx Community College were set. Today, we are the longest existing CUNY community college.

This year marks our Diamond Jubilee Anniversary. An occasion such as this is a good time to reflect on the distance the College has traveled over the years. Our 2017 graduating class was 2,200 strong in comparison to the 29 graduates of the 1961 class. In those early

years, higher education was viewed primarily as a privilege accessible to only a precious few and not an essential stepping stone to upward mobility. So while the Class of 1961 was overwhelmingly white and male, the Class of 2017 is 35 percent black, 60 percent Hispanic and 57 percent female.

On BCC's 60th birthday, we look back at our accomplishments as we move toward a brighter future of improving student outcomes. The ongoing expansion of CUNY's Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) will eventually help many, if

not most, of our full-time students to graduate in two to three years. The classes we now offer reflect the changing world they will enter, from drone photography to our Geospatial Center, where students train to create maps from satellite data.

BCC was born out of a commitment to develop the next generation of leaders in our city. In the following pages, you will read about the people and programs that continue this commitment.

Thomas A. Isekenegbe
President, Bronx Community College

AS TIME GOES BY...

1957

Bronx Community College is established to provide greater opportunities for Bronx residents. Its first president, Morris Meister, Ph.D., was the founder and principal of the Bronx High School of Science.

1959

Bronx Community College begins life in the old Bronx High School of Science building and on May 11, it is officially inaugurated. Classes start with 123 students enrolled in seven academic programs taught by a dozen professors.

1961

BCC is now one of three community colleges that are part of the newly founded City University of New York.

1967

Dr. James A. Colston is inaugurated, becoming the first African-American president in CUNY.



BCC'S SWEET 60TH

Faculty, students, alumni and friends of Bronx Community College gathered on the steps of New York City Hall last April to mark a special occasion: the official presentation of a City Council Proclamation acknowledging BCC's 60th anniversary. The proclamation read in part, "At this great milestone, we not only reflect on the incredible legacy of Bronx Community College, but also reaffirm our faith in its equally bright future for generations to come."

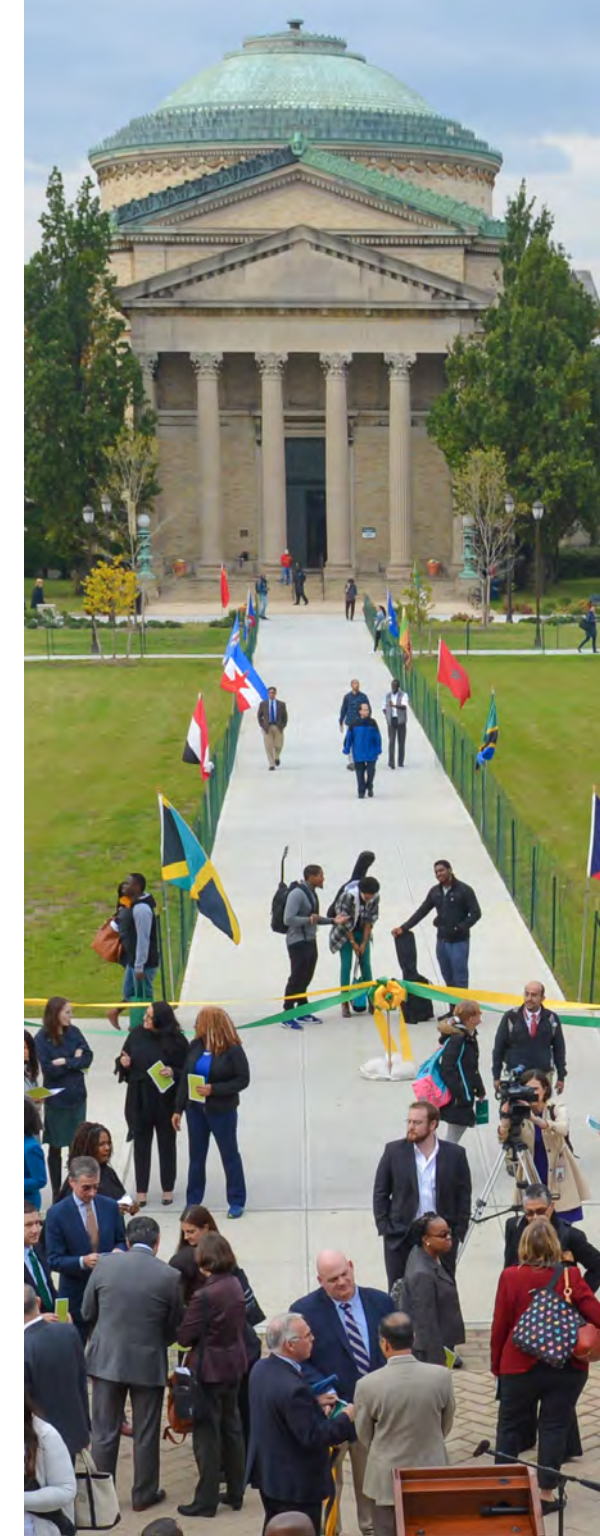
When BCC was born six decades ago, it was both a beginning and an end — the culmination of years of effort by local activists to expand the opportunities for higher education in the Bronx. Thus, BCC's very creation forged an enduring link with the community it would serve.

That community has changed in the years since, and BCC has changed with it. Open admissions in 1970 greatly increased the ethnic and economic diversity of the student

body. Today, BCC's goal is not only to open our gates to all who seek a degree, but to make sure they earn that degree in a timely manner — a challenge being addressed by our expanding Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) initiative.

Over these many years of growth and change, the College has benefited from an impressive roster of leaders. Our first president, Dr. Morris Meister, was founder of the renowned Bronx High School of

"At this great milestone, we not only reflect on the incredible legacy of Bronx Community College, but also reaffirm our faith in its equally bright future for generations to come."





Science and Dr. Roscoe C. Brown Jr., BCC's longest-serving president, was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, the legendary black fighter pilots of World War II. BCC's leaders have been as diverse as they are inspiring, hailing from Cuba, Nigeria, Poland and Puerto Rico, as well as far-flung locations in the U.S.

Launched at the old site of the Bronx High School of Science at Creston Avenue and 184th Street, BCC had spread across eight different locations by 1972. One year later, the College moved to its new home

high above the Harlem River on the site of New York University's former uptown campus. In 2012, North Hall and Library became the first major new campus construction since it became BCC — completing the vision of our central quad begun by the legendary architect Stanford White, who designed its earliest structures 120 years ago.

In May 2017, Bronx Community College celebrated its Diamond Jubilee. Flags and banners decorated the grounds, students chalked their thoughts and images

on campus walkways, the new BRONXCC Mobile App was unveiled, and an African Pride Parade marched to Colston Hall Patio, where there was food, music and, of course, a huge birthday cake.

But in a sense, Bronx Community College has celebrated itself every day for the last 60 years through the miracle of self-invention and discovery that takes place in its classrooms — business as usual at BCC, six decades ago, today and six decades hence.

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1973

Plans to construct a new campus are replaced by a move to University Heights. The historic campus, previously owned by New York University, boasts structures designed by one of the most prominent figures in the history of American architecture, Stanford White.

1975

BCC's associate degree nursing program is the largest in the nation, enrolling more than 1,700 students.

1977

Dr. Roscoe C. Brown Jr., a distinguished World War II hero, is named president.

1978

The first BCC 10K Run takes place.

1979

The Automotive Technology program is initiated.

SIXTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Over the past six decades, many people, programs and organizations have helped advance the College's mission. This includes alumni, community partners, donors, as well as retired and former faculty and staff, some of whom remain friends of the College to this day. The names of many people who deserve to be honored have been lost to history. Following is but a small sample of some who we recognize for providing critical institutional support, enhancing our reputation and standing in the community and, most important, for contributing to the success of our students.

Faculty and Administration

Dr. Roscoe C. Brown Jr. was already a hero when he became the third president of BCC, serving from 1977 to 1993. During World War II, he rose to Captain as one of the famed "Tuskegee Airmen" fighter pilots who received a 2007 Congressional Gold Medal for their wartime exploits fighting for democracy. Dr. Brown also fought for democracy at home, as a civil rights activist and adviser, distinguished scholar and a founder of the organization 100 Black Men. As our president, he launched the run and walk in 1978 that today is known as "Run the Bronx." President Brown greatly expanded the College's programs and our community outreach — so it is only fitting that the community paid tribute to his life this year by naming the post office on nearby Jerome Avenue in his honor..

Valerie Capers, dean emeritus of the Department of Art and Music, is a former BCC faculty member and chair of the Department of Art and Music from 1987 to 1995. The first blind person to graduate with bachelor's and master's degrees from the Juilliard School of Music, she remains an internationally acclaimed jazz pianist and composer.

Dr. Alice Fuller, dean emeritus of Faculty/Academic Affairs, dedicated over 45 years to BCC, serving as an instructor, chair of the Nursing Department, associate dean and College Personel and Budget (P&B) secretary. She was also chair of the Irish Committee and the BCC Picnic Committee.

Claude D. Grant ('72) was a BCC alumnus, faculty member, administrator and published

poet and magazine editor. Upon his retirement in 2009, a student scholarship was established in his name. He died in 2015.

Dr. Morris Meister, the founding principal of the Bronx High School of Science, was named the first President of BCC in 1957. Dr. Meister retired in 1966 and died in 1974.

Dr. Herman Stein, built the Liberal Arts and Science options at BCC and was instrumental in developing the chemistry curriculum. As a result, students with no chemistry or science background now have a path to a STEM-based major or career.

Dr. Carolyn G. Williams, president emeritus, became the fourth president of BCC. The capstone of President Williams' leadership was securing the funding and approval for North Hall and Library.



Valerie Capers



Alice Fuller



Claude D. Grant



Morris Meister



Herman Stein



Roscoe C. Brown Jr



Alumni

***Dr. Diana Bontá ('72)** president of the Bontá Group, is a nationally recognized leader in public health with over 40 years' experience in health care, public policy and corporate health philanthropy.

***Dr. Richard H. Carmona ('73)**, a physician and politician, served as the 17th Surgeon General of the United States.

***Lowell Hawthorne ('96)** is the founding president and chief executive officer of Golden Krust Caribbean Bakery & Grill, which today has franchises throughout the United States.

Kirssy Martinez ('15), the first CUNY DREAMer to be named a class valedictorian, graduated from BCC then went on to secure her bachelor's degree in 2017. She is a BCC Foundation Board member and today, a legal resident.

***Annabel Palma ('91)** is a member of the New York City Council (District #3). As chair of the Bronx City Council delegation, she has supported funding of the central quad reconstruction and other campus upgrades.

Chazz Palminteri ('74), an American actor, screenwriter and producer, is best known for his Academy Award-nominated role in *Bullets over Broadway* and was the writer of both the stage and screenplays for *A Bronx Tale*, the semi-autobiographical story about growing up on the streets of the Bronx.

***Joseph M. Ramos ('73)** is a former deputy commissioner of the New York City Department of Corrections and former assistant commissioner of the New York City Police Department. He is a devoted friend of the College and, along with

Roscoe C. Brown Jr., one of the three founders of Run the Bronx.

Nelson Christian "Chris" Stokes ('84) was a member of the original Jamaican bobsled team that made its debut in the 1988 Winter Olympics and was immortalized in the movie *Cool Runnings*.

***Dr. M. Monica Sweeney** completed her studies in nursing and went on to earn her medical degree. She has devoted many years to serving as an advocate for health equity and improving health care access for the disadvantaged. Currently Vice Dean for Global Engagement, a clinical professor and Department of Health Policy and Management chair at the School of Public Health, SUNY Downstate Medical Center. She is a member of the Board of the BCC Foundation.

Joel Weiss is an American actor known for his work on *Congo* (1995), *The Warriors* (1979) and *Another 48 Hours* (1990).

Kam Wong ('81) is the president and chief executive officer of New York's Municipal Credit Union (MCU), one of the oldest and largest credit unions in the country, with assets totaling \$2.6 billion.

Philanthropic/ Business Partners and Friends of the College

Richard Beattie, now retired, was formerly senior chairman of the law firm Simpson Thatcher. He has a distinguished legal career and history of civic engagement. He provided the initial funds to establish the Kalief Browder Memorial Scholarship fund to aid formerly incarcerated students.

Harriet and George Blank are cherished friends of the College. George Blank was a graduate of NYU's University Heights campus, now the home of BCC. The couple was instrumental establishing the Pershing Rifles, Company E-8/ Robert Fernandez Scholarship in recognition of the group's deep ties to the Bronx campus and the couple's affection for it continues to this day. In 2016, they received the BCC Foundation's Building on a Dream Award.

The Bram Auto Group has auto dealerships throughout the tri-state area. In 2014, the Automotive Technology program forged a relationship with the company that has led to paid internships and a curriculum that better aligns with industry needs. When BCC needed a hybrid car for one of its courses, Bram donated the vehicle.

The Burberry Foundation, established in 2008, seeks to help young people succeed at reaching their goals. The Foundation provides jobs and internships to students who have been part of BCC's Future Now program.

Daniel Hauben is the painter who was commissioned to create the paintings and murals now displayed in North Hall and Library. Today Hauben teaches a drawing class at the College.

Joseph Kelleher, President of Simone Metro Properties, has more than 30 years experience in property management. He is the president of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce and chair of Run the Bronx.

The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation provides vital support to BCC through its emergency fund for students in financial crisis. The Foundation also supports CareerPath,



Carolyn G. Williams



Diana Bontá



Richard H. Carmona



Lowell Hawthorne



Kirssy Martinez



Annabel Palma



Chazz Palminteri



Joseph M. Ramos



Nelson Christian "Chris" Stokes



M. Monica Sweeney

1982

Bronx Community College celebrates its 25th anniversary with a series of performances and symposia that include Bronx resident and Nobel Prize-winning scientist Rosalyn Yalow.

1985

The BCC Foundation is established to build an endowment fund that can provide investment income, thereby enabling the College to maintain a level of excellence beyond that provided by tax dollars.

President Brown obtains \$2 million of New York State funding to renovate the Hall of Fame for Great Americans.

1987

The SUNY Bronx Educational Opportunity Center is sponsored by BCC. Bronx EOC serves economically disadvantaged adults who need additional education or training for college admissions or entry into productive careers.

an initiative that seeks to support individuals seeking jobs as assistants and paraprofessionals in early childhood centers and classrooms.

The Robin Hood Foundation is New York City's largest anti-poverty organization. As an essential partner of BCC's Future Now program, it helps young people or those at risk of incarceration to stay on the path leading to a college degree.

The Lincoln Fund seeks to empower disadvantaged youth to overcome adversity through education. Its support focuses on the College's nursing program.

Robert A. M. Stern Architects, headed by the former dean of the Yale School of Architecture, is the principle designer of North Hall and Library. Completed in 2012, the building complements Stanford White's original plan for the College.

The Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation has been providing critical scholarship support for BCC's nursing students for over 30 years.

William Schwendler is a friend of the College whose father, the founder of the Grumman Corporation, graduated from the former NYU campus in 1924. Schwendler Auditorium, named in his father's honor, was rededicated in 2012. He was a 2016 recipient of a BCC Foundation Legacy Award.

The Thompson Family Foundation strongly supports historic preservation in New York City. In 2016, the foundation provided a matching grant to allow for an assessment of the condition of Stanford White's masterpieces, Gould Memorial Library and Hall of Fame for Great Americans.

Political and Civic Leaders

Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer, representing New York State, is a long-time supporter of the College. When BCC reached out to the senator to help secure a temporary visa allowing the father of Kirssy Martinez, a 2015 valedictorian, to travel from the Dominican Republic to the U.S. to attend the commencement ceremony, he was instrumental in making it happen.

Bronx borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. has been a staunch supporter of Bronx Community College, first as a state assemblyman and then as the Bronx borough president. As a CUNY alumnus, he knows first hand the need for elected officials to support and invest in public higher education.

The Bronx Legislative Delegation to the City and State has provided the College with millions of dollars in capital and other support to renovate and reconstruct our campus. Over the years, they have been devoted partners, without whom we would not be where we are today.

People are Talking About

Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP), a nationally-acclaimed CUNY-wide initiative, has demonstrated its effectiveness at dramatically reducing the time it takes students to graduate. With its 2016-17 expansion at BCC, the number of students eligible for one-on-one advisement, free MetroCards and other incentives is expected to increase to almost 5,000 in 2018-19 — around half of the student body.

The BCC Film and Video Festival, organized by the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences' Media and Digital Video Club and now in its 25th year, presents student-produced film shorts in a professional midtown Manhattan movie theater before an audience that includes industry professionals. Cash prizes and tools of the trade are awarded to the makers of the best films.

Kalief Browder enrolled in BCC after a three-year incarceration at Rikers Island, awaiting trial for a crime he didn't commit. The account of his experience and subsequent suicide was made into a television documentary *Time: the Kalief Browder Story*. A scholarship for formerly incarcerated BCC students has been established in his name.

The Early Childhood Center, founded in 1972 and one of the first of its kind within CUNY, offers student parents, low-cost, high-quality, early child care and education services. Located on campus, it helps reduce the stress that often forces students to discontinue their college education.

Future Now, established in 1998, has transformed the lives of hundreds of out-of-school or formerly incarcerated youths by assisting them with attaining their high school credentials, transitioning into post-secondary education and graduating in a timely manner with a college degree. All services are free. Many graduates have gone on to earn advanced degrees.

Run the Bronx was conceived nearly 40 years ago by President Emeritus Roscoe C. Brown Jr., who was not only a war hero but also a devoted marathoner. Today, the Roscoe C. Brown Jr. 10K and 5K Runs and 2-mile Walk attracts nearly 1500 participants to this Bronx tradition.

Single Stop, part of Single Stop USA, is a vital campus resource that assists students with accessing legal services, low-income housing and other benefits. Eligible students can receive food for their households.

*Recipient of a 2017 distinguished alumni award.



Joel Weiss



Kam Wong



Richard Beattie



Harriet and George Blank



Daniel Hauben



Joseph Kelleher



William Schwendler



Charles E. Schumer



Ruben Diaz Jr.



Kalief Browder





SHAHIN SULTANA, '17 CLASS VALEDICTORIAN Not For Men Only

"In my country, education for women is only in the constitution," says Shahin Sultana, the Bangladesh-born valedictorian of the BCC Class of 2017. "Realistically, higher education only serves males." But with a supportive family, including a father who was a teacher, Shahin was the top student in every class back home — a distinction she continued at Bronx Community College as a liberal arts biology major with a 4.0 GPA. Shahin was also a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honors society, named in the President's list, and a winner of the Guttman Transfer Scholarship and Hunter Transfer Achievement Scholarship.

Shahin's goal is to become a doctor. "When I was a little girl, I was always fascinated by the amazing ability of a doctor to cure someone from extreme illness and this observation helped me to choose a career as a physician. I work tirelessly to fulfill my dream."

Shahin's dream was sidetracked when a traditional early marriage halted her education at high school. But in 2009, she came to the United States, where **"a doctor changed my life again, helping me bring my son into the world. I always wanted to be one of them. I made up my mind to go back to school to fulfill my dream and be an example for my son."**

BCC BRIEFS



ASAP Expansion *Expands*

Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP), the comprehensive support system designed to increase the number of students who graduate and decrease the amount of time it takes them to do so, is now available to even more BCC Broncos.

In the last academic year — the first in ASAP's planned three-year expansion — only transfer and continuing full-time students at BCC with up to 16 credits could enroll in the program. Beginning with the fall 2017 semester, students with up to 30 credits have an opportunity to enjoy the benefits of ASAP over the next two years (provided they maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 and meet city residency requirements). This change adds close to one thousand students who can now take advantage of ASAP's free MetroCards and textbooks, one-on-one advisement and mentoring and other services that have proven to get students from their first class to their college degree in three years or less.

1993

Dr. Brown retires after serving as president for more than 15 years.

Dr. Leo A. Corbie, Ph.D., a native New Yorker and CUNY graduate, is appointed acting president.

The First Annual BCC Film Festival is held. Screening of student films takes place at Cafe 44 in Manhattan.

1996

Dr. Carolyn G. Williams takes office as BCC's fourth president and is the first woman to hold the position.

1998

BCC is one of four CUNY colleges to rank among the top six in the country in the number of associate degrees conferred on minority students in all disciplines.

2003

The Center for Sustainable Energy is established to use experiential education to build an urban community on the tenets of renewable energy and the emerging green economy.

PROFESSOR RONY GOURAIGE Counting on Success

BCC Mathematics Professor Rony Gouraige is a man of numbers — 3.9, for instance. That's the score he got in every category of the most recent BCC Student Evaluation Report (the top score is 4.0). Or the number 1 — as in the "One Professor" series of videos on You Tube that in 2012 featured BCC alumna Cynthia Morales proclaiming, "Thank you, Professor Gouraige for showing me that in life, like numbers, there are always an infinite amount of possibilities."

Yet surprisingly, teaching was Professor Gouraige's second career. "I worked in commercial banking for 12 years," he recalls. After receiving a master's in math, he came to Bronx Community College in 2004 and, while finishing his doctorate, worked his way up from substitute lecturer to associate professor. Today, he teaches everything from Probability and Statistics to calculus to remedial math.

"One of the things I've learned over many years of teaching is students have to believe that you care about them — that's when they become receptive to what you're trying to teach," Dr. Gouraige says with a smile. **"All these students who say they hate math — watch them when they solve a problem. There's a gleam in their eyes and smiles on their faces. All they saw was the pain. They never saw the success. Once you show them they can do it, that's 90% of the job."**



Psyched Up for "Get PSyCh'D"

February 2015 saw the launch of the Peer Support and Career Development program — "Get PSyCh'D" — that trains students interested in careers in psychology and human services to provide information about mental health issues to their BCC classmates. Get PSyCh'D also offers student-led workshops and forums on issues ranging from domestic violence to the stress of parenting.

The spring of 2017 offered something new. "Through our program, some of our participants got to serve as interns in the Lincoln Hospital Department of Psychiatry," says Emalinda McSpadden, Ph.D., a professor of psychology in the Department of Social Sciences and a co-director of the program.

"We really do feel that we are helping to create the next

generation of social workers and psychologists," observes Esther Levy, a clinical social worker in the BCC Office of Personal Counseling and the other Get PSyCh'D co-director. **"Students of color, students of limited means—we need to increase their representation in the field."**



Learning to Teach

In January 2018, the CareerPATH Teacher Assistant Training Program will celebrate its sixth anniversary of giving low-income students the skills needed to become teacher aides, assistants and paraprofessionals in New York City preschools. During the 2016-17 academic year, the program was funded by a \$125,000 one-year grant from the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation — and the Foundation was so impressed by the results, it gave CareerPATH another \$150,000 to continue its work in 2017-18.

The renewed grant will fund another 50 unemployed Bronxites to come to BCC and earn the Child Development Associate certificate — the passport to landing a job in the field. In addition to 120 hours of training, the program offers college credit for those interested in pursuing degrees and placement in an internship with one of the program's many local partners. Ten of last year's 50 students are already working as preschool professionals.





TERRENCE COFFIE A Lesson in Overcoming

Success did not come easily for Terrence Coffie. He graduated from BCC in 2014, a Phi Theta Kappa Human Services major, and went on to earn his B.S.W and M.S.W from New York University. Along the way, he picked up over a dozen awards and scholarships — including NYU's prestigious President's Service Award and the 2017 National Association of Social Workers Alex Rosen Student of The Year. Still, Coffie's greatest gift and accomplishment was his will and determination to beat the odds and not end up another statistic.

"When I began my academic career, I had already been incarcerated six times," he explains.

Since then, he has been committed to giving back. While at NYU, Terrence founded "Educate Don't Incarcerate," which mentors young men of color and the formerly incarcerated who are pursuing higher education. Today, he serves as the public relations director for the Ready, Willing & Able program, which has transitioned more than 22,000 men into the mainstream after incarceration and homelessness.

"When I enrolled in Bronx Community College," he recalls, "it became a place that gave me a new perspective on the world and my part in it."



Wheels of Fortune

As one of the most popular programs on campus, Automotive Technology has no problem filling seats — and now it's adding more of them.

In conjunction with the Consortium for Worker Education (CWE) and with funding from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation, Auto Tech is preparing to launch a three-year program that will provide members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers the same comprehensive automotive and diesel service technician training received by

BCC students enrolled in Auto Tech's one-year certificate program.

"It will cover everything from Introduction to Automotive Technology to 'Advanced Vehicle Diagnostics,'" says Clement Drummond, the program's director.

"This program clearly will bring additional career opportunities to the students. It will allow them to advance to six-figure salaries."

This will not be Auto Tech's first collaboration with CWE and

JPMorgan Chase. In August 2017, BCC offered a 60-hour Job Readiness program for recent high school graduates that taught the trainees the skills necessary to earn an entry-level position in an auto service center. BRAM Auto Group, which provides internships for BCC Auto Tech students in its dozens of area service centers, plans to offer the same to Job Readiness graduates.

At Bronx Community College, partnerships with local businesses are truly where the rubber meets the road.

2004

BCC's 7,417 students represent 105 countries of origin and fewer than half are U.S. born. Enrollment increases 21 percent, and 74 new faculty members are added since 2002.

2005

A preservation architect completes the Conservation Master Plan for the Stanford White Complex, which includes Gould Memorial Library, Language and Philosophy Halls and the Hall of Fame for Great Americans.

2007

BCC celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The City University of New York's Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) is launched. The initiative to boost two-to-three-year graduation rates will prove extraordinarily effective.

CUNY's Center for Sustainable Energy and the U.S. Department of Energy kick off the first Solar Cities Summit Conference at BCC.

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON DEBORAH C. MORRIS

A Lifetime of Teaching Healing

Nursing and Allied Health Science Department Chairperson Deborah C. Morris has BCC roots that go back to 1971, when she graduated from the department she now runs. Her remarkable professional journey will reach its conclusion at the end of the 2017-18 academic year, when Professor Morris retires after over 30 years.

She continues to teach the subject of her definitive college textbook, *Calculate With Confidence*. Continuously in print since its first publication in 1994, the book is now in its sixth American edition and has gone international with its first Canadian edition released last year.

She says the greatest lessons students need to master often can't be found in a classroom.

"Caring. I really don't think you can teach caring. I always say to my students, 'Care for the patient as you would want a nurse to care for you and those you hold dear.'"



In Pursuit of Excellence

Dr. Eduardo J. Martí, former interim president of Bronx Community College, presented the keynote address at the Fourth Annual Conference on Community College Excellence on January 19, which kicked off in the Hall of Fame Playhouse of BCC's Roscoe Brown Student Center. The theme of this year's conference was "Bridging the Gap: Evidence-based practices that lead to reflection, redesign and transformation." The conference provided an opportunity for colleagues from throughout the CUNY system to present on research and activities that improve student outcomes. BCC President Thomas A. Isekenegbe provided opening remarks.

Reaccrediting the Dream

Every 10 years, the College is evaluated for reaccreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). As part of that process, BCC conducts a comprehensive self-study, which is already underway.

Guided by a steering committee, there are nine self-study working

groups with 120 participants from every sector of the BCC community. These groups investigate how well the College is meeting MSCHE's seven Standards for Accreditation, from "Ethics and Integrity" and "Support of the Student Experience" to "Educational Effectiveness."

Particular attention will be paid to lessons learned from the current ASAP expansion.

The process will culminate in a report and a visit to the campus by a peer-led evaluation team in spring 2019. In a curious twist of fate, the MSCHE team that visited BCC for its last accreditation included Dr. Thomas A. Isekenegbe — now the president of the college he once evaluated.





CARL CALLENDER

An Opportunity Knocked

In 2012, Carl Callender was enrolled in BCC evening classes when he was approached with an offer from The Posse Foundation to attend Vassar College on a full scholarship. The Foundation is committed to placing underrepresented students in top-ranking schools and Vassar, a prestigious and competitive liberal arts college, was interested in enrolling more veterans. Carl, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, met the criteria.

“One of the biggest challenges was my age. Almost all Vassar students came straight from high school. Without the support of my fellow veterans, I definitely would have felt a little isolated there.”

Carl graduated in the spring of 2017 with a B.A. in Political Science and is now working at Black Veterans for Social Justice.

“My experience at Bronx Community College really supplied me with the confidence that I needed to make the leap to Vassar. The standard of the writing teacher I had at BCC — Kathryn Di Tommaso — was very similar to the standard of Vassar. It wasn’t a huge leap academically.”



Investing in the Bronx

Three Bronx New York City Council Members announced \$8,196,000 in capital spending for the borough in the Fiscal 2018 budget. The announcement was made on July 6 in the Rotunda of Gould Memorial Library — itself the recipient of \$2 million in City Council funds toward its restoration. Council Member and Chair of the Bronx Delegation Annabel Palma (District #18) was joined by Council Members Vanessa L. Gibson (District #16) and Andy King (District #12).

A Conference with Chemistry

While Memorial Day weekend marked the official start of summer, people from more than 20 states kicked off the season at the 217th Two-Year College Chemistry Consortium Conference, held this

year at BCC. The conference’s theme — “Creative Teaching Strategies” for students in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) fields — was explored in over 50 presentations, seven workshops

and panel discussions, and poster sessions by professors and students. On hand to give advice was an officer from the National Science Foundation. The event was chaired by Chemistry Professor Vicki Flaris.

2008

BCC is awarded a \$2.75 million, five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to expand and accelerate the equipping of classrooms to the prevailing technology-enhanced standards.

BCC’s Automotive Technology program is certified by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) and the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence.

2010

BCC holds a “topping off” ceremony to celebrate the halfway point in the construction of the College’s new North Hall and Library building.

BCC’s Nursing Program celebrates its 50th anniversary at Marina Del Rey in the Bronx, where participants shared stories about rewarding careers in the nursing field.



TIME: *The Kalief Browder Story*

The first two episodes of the Spike TV miniseries about Kalief Browder had its first Bronx screening on March 7 in Gould Memorial Library. While the charges against him were eventually thrown out, he had suffered greatly from his incarceration, and in 2015 took his own life. Kalief was a well-regarded BCC student at the time of his death and much of the documentary, which was executive produced by Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter with Harvey Weinstein, was made with the assistance of the campus community. The special screening was followed by a discussion that included the filmmakers and members of the Browder family. The BCC Foundation's Kalief Browder Memorial Scholarship provides financial support to deserving students who have been previously incarcerated.

FACULTY GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

Geospatial Center Wins Major National Science Foundation Grant

In July of 2017, the College received an award of \$899,490 from the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education (NSF-ATE) program to fund a three-year program at the BCC Geospatial Center of the CUNY CREST Institute. The grant will support training and internships for students from middle school to college in geospatial technology, which uses

computers to turn data from orbiting satellites into information-rich maps. The award will also fund professional development for educators from schools and colleges with an interest in the field. For this program, BCC is partnering with York College, New York City public schools, the state Department of Labor and members of the industry.

"Geospatial technology is a high-growth sector that is facing a critical shortage of skilled labor," says Professor Sunil Bhaskaran, founding director of the Geospatial Center and principal investigator for the program. "There is no better time for BCC to make contributions towards a national effort to build the workforce of the future."

Chancellor's Research Fellowships

Four BCC faculty members were awarded a Chancellor's Research Fellowship for the 2017-18 academic year. CUNY reviewers rated the proposals on the published program criteria:

1. Intellectual/academic/creative quality of the proposal
2. Quality and specificity of the project plan
3. Evidence the candidate has necessary resources to complete the research
4. Evidence of candidate's ongoing commitment to research/scholarship/creative work

Award Winners and Proposals:

Susan Amper (English) will offer an alternative interpretation to contemporary criticism of the narration of Edgar Allan Poe's "tales of terror," arguing that the stories' narrators are engaged in deliberate deception.





PROFESSOR LISA AMOWITZ

Dream Weaver

Professor Amowitz not only teaches graphic design, but during the last five years, she has also designed the covers of over 50 books. And for three of those books — the award-winning young adult novels *Breaking Glass* (2013), *Vision* (2014) and *Until Beth* (2015) — she also wrote what's between the covers.

More recently, Professor Amowitz has become one of the organizers of "The BCC Democracy Project," a campus-wide effort supported by the President's Office that explores the meaning of democracy through conversations, speeches and the arts. The "We the

People" art installation encourages viewers to make both their thoughts and the pencils they use to record them part of the artwork.

She is now involved in the development of an on-campus digital arts graphic design studio that will serve local businesses and create internships. "This has been a dream of ours."

Professor Lisa Amowitz has a way of making dreams happen.

Giulia Guarnieri (Modern Languages) will examine the oral autobiographical narratives of Italian immigrants housed at the Ellis Island Library through a linguistic lens with particular focus on narrative structures and modalities of spoken language.

William deJong-Lambert (History) will focus on the evolutionary synthesis of genetics and natural selection of the first decades of the 20th century for his book manuscript *The Fly Room: the Invention of Genetics and the Science of Evolution*.

Cormac O'Sullivan (Mathematics and Computer Science) will examine integer partitions in the area of number theory, clarifying how well a method formulated by 19th century British mathematician James Joseph Sylvester approximates partitions.

Scholarly and Creative Works

Charmaine Aleong and Stacia Reader (Health, Physical Education and Recreation) presented on "Integrating Inner-City Community College Students into a School-Based Health Promotion Program" at the Society for Public Health Educators Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, March 30-April 1, 2017.

Navin-Kumar Singh and Tonya Johnson, (Education and Academic Literacy) presented their paper, "Literacy Education of Minority/ Indigenous Children in a Globalized World: A Comparative Exploration of English-Only Policy," at the American Educational Research Association Conference, in San Antonio, TX, April 27, 2017.

Jon Lewis-Katz (English) was recently shortlisted for the 2017 Commonwealth Short Story Prize for his short story, "Shopping," and featured in the *Trinidad*

and *Tobago Guardian*, April 23, 2017.

Kevin Martillo Viner (Modern Languages) presented on the "Second-Generation NYC Bilinguals' Use of the Spanish Subjunctive in Obligatory Contexts" at the 7th Annual University of Alabama Languages Conference, University of Alabama, February 17, 2017. He also presented on "The Conditional Variables of Obligatory Spanish Subjunctive Use by Second-Generation NYC Bilinguals" at the Georgetown University Round Table (GURT) on Languages and Linguistics, Georgetown University, Washington DC, March 11, 2017.

Melissa Coss Aquino (English) was part of a panel, "The Bronx 'Book Desert': Fighting Back Through Public Libraries and New Bookstores," at the annual Bronx Book Fair, May 7 at Bronx Library Center. BCC student writers and editors

of *Thesis*, Rebecca Perez, Oyindamola Shoola and alumna Sasha Smith, were featured readers.

Thomas Cipullo (Arts and Music) was awarded the National Opera Association's Dominick Argento Chamber Opera Award for his composition *After Life* at the association's annual conference in Santa Barbara, CA in January 2017. His opera *Glory Denied* was presented at the Anchorage (AK) Opera in February 2017 and at the Nashville (TN) and Pensacola (FL) Operas in November 2016.

Mercedes R. Diaz (Communications) presented "The Role of Graphic Humor in Cuban Society" to the Rider University Global Studies Society, Rider University, Lawrenceville, NJ, February 28, 2017.

Prathibha Kanakamedal (History) was selected as a faculty co-leader for the Mellon Seminar in Public Engagement

2011

After a national search, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein recommends the appointment of Carole Berotte Joseph, Ph.D., as the fifth president of Bronx Community College.

The College holds a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the Early Childhood Center.

2012

The campus' classic Stanford White structures are declared a National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior, making BCC the only community college campus in America so recognized.

The 98,000-square-foot North Hall and Library, the first major construction since BCC moved to the former uptown campus of New York University, is dedicated.



DR. DEBRA GONSHER

A Special Point of View

Dr. Debra Gonsher is the chair of BCC's Department of Communications Arts and Sciences and co-founder of Diva Communications, a documentary film production company now observing its 25th anniversary. The films of Diva Communications have been nominated for 12 Emmys and won five – most recently this year for *Beauty of Their Dreams*, a powerful look at the struggle to educate girls and women in the developing world.

Her latest project, *The Brightness of Noon*, a two-part documentary, examines the intersection of faith, immigration and refugees. "People feel strongly that their faith commands them to not throw away people," Dr. Gonsher observes. The first part, which will air on ABC in Spring 2018, examines how communities are advocating for the rights of undocumented immigrants. It focuses on Bronx Community College alumna Kirssy Martinez. Dominican-born Kirssy, who lived in New York for many years without proper documentation, became a TheDream.US scholarship winner and one of two valedictorians of the BCC Class of 2015.

"I didn't know when I started working on this film that immigration would become this controversial an issue," notes Dr. Gonsher. By the time the completed work airs, Dr. Debra Gonsher will be on to her next challenge.

and Collaboration Research 2017-19, hosted by the Center for Humanities at the CUNY Graduate Center. The research project, a collaboration among an arts organization, doctoral students and faculty, will include an oral history project, public programming and exhibit under the umbrella theme of "Archives."

Stacia Reader, Elyse Gruttadauria (Health, Physical Education and Recreation), **Victoria King** (Health Services) and **Seher Atamturktur** (Biological Sciences) presented on "Creating a Health Professions Pipeline Program at an Urban Community College: Lessons Learned During the Pilot Year" at the Tri-State Best Practices Conference, Issues of Equity in Higher Education, Lyndhurst, NJ, March 4, 2017.

Timothy Sedore (English) presented his paper, "'Words, Breath, Text and Landscape': Virginia Civil War Monuments in the Context of Tennessee and Mississippi Monumentation," at a symposium at the Library of Virginia in Richmond, VA, February 25, 2017.

Susan Amper (English) will offer an alternative interpretation to contemporary criticism of the narration of Edgar Allan Poe's "Tales of Terror," arguing that the stories' narrators are engaged in deliberate deception.

Giulia Guarnieri (Modern Languages) will examine the oral autobiographical narratives of Italian immigrants housed at the Ellis Island Library through a linguistic lens with particular focus on

narrative structures and modalities of spoken language.

William deJong-Lambert (History) will focus on the evolutionary synthesis of genetics and natural selection of the first decades of the 20th century for his book manuscript *The Fly Room: the Invention of Genetics and the Science of Evolution*.

Cormac O'Sullivan (Mathematics and Computer Science) will examine integer partitions in the area of number theory, clarifying how well a method formulated by 19th-century British mathematician James Joseph Sylvester approximates partitions.

Publications

Acevedo, Jose. "Survivor Fitness: An Exercise Program for Young Survivors and Patients with Cancer." *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, Vol. 21, No. 2, April 2017.

Ortuño, Andrea. "Revisiting Allan Cunningham's Cabinet Gallery and a Last Supper Once Attributed to Murillo." *Source: Notes in the History of Art* 36, Fall 2016. 49-60.

Davis, A., Kaighobadi, F., Stephenson, R., Rael, C., and Sandfort, T. "Associations Between Alcohol Use and Intimate Partner Violence Among Men Who Have Sex with Men." *LGBT Health*, December, 2016.3(6): 400-406.

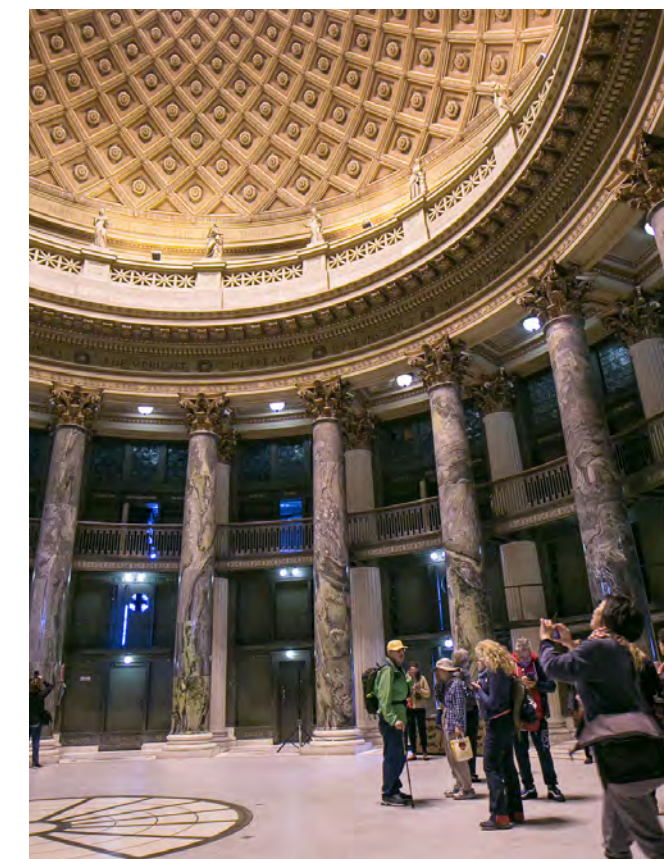
King, A., Kaighobadi, F., and Winecoff, A., "Brief Report: A Health Belief Model Approach to Men's Assessment of a Novel Long-acting Contraceptive."

Cogent Medicine, October, 26, 2016. 3(1), 1250320. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2331205X.2016.1250320>

Varghese, Marie. "Rearranging the Bones." *Imaniman: Poets Writing in the Anzaldúan Borderlands*. Edited by Irene Lara Silva and Dan Vera. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Press, 2016.



BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



A Masterpiece Remastered

BCC's Gould Memorial Library (GML), the crown jewel of Stanford White's creations on our campus, was completed in 1900 and named a National Historic Landmark in 2012. Today, it is the focus of a major undertaking to restore the iconic structure to its former glory so that it can be enjoyed for generations to come. Recent developments include:

- A \$500,000 New York State grant was secured for roof repair to combat water penetration
- Strengthening the structural support for the great bronze doors at the entrance and repairing the steps — funded by an emergency grant from the Landmarks Conservancy
- Launching the long-planned construction of another stairway to the Rotunda, which will increase the capacity allowed by the fire department
- A grant from the Porzelt Foundation to repair the stained glass windows around the Rotunda
- A study of the current condition of GML — the first step to its major renovation

2013

The first annual performance of Handel's Messiah takes the stage at BCC.

BCC receives grants for groundbreaking work in Geospatial Technology, a major step toward national recognition in the field.

2014

Chancellor James B. Milliken designates Eduardo J. Martí, Ph.D., interim president.

The Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Program of the Nursing and Allied Health Sciences Department is named number one among New York State's 77 practical nursing programs and schools.

KAM WONG

The First of the Trailblazers

How far can you go with determination and talent? BCC students received a special answer to that question on May 4, 2017 when the College kicked off its BCC Alumni Trailblazers Series as part of its 60th Anniversary. Distinguished alumnus Kam Wong ('78) took center stage and shared his journey with an auditorium packed with engaged students.

And what a story it was! Mr. Wong rose from a teenage restaurant worker helping his family make ends meet to president and chief executive officer of New York's Municipal Credit Union (MCU) — one of the oldest and largest credit unions in the country with \$2.6 billion in assets. In between, he made a stop at BCC where he studied accounting and which he credits for transforming his life.

Mr. Wong took questions from the audience and then announced that MCU was donating \$20,000 to the BCC Foundation. His powerful message resonated throughout the audience:

"BCC gave me a second chance."





TWO PRESIDENTS, One Historic Campus

The campus of Bronx Community College was originally the home of the uptown branch of New York University. In fact, Gould Memorial Library and other turn-of-the-century structures still bear the NYU name. But in March, past and present came together when NYU President Andrew D. Hamilton and his wife Jennie were given their first tour of our historic campus by BCC President Thomas A. Isekenegbe and Vice President Eddy Bayardelle. A high point of the visit was a behind-the-scenes look at Gould Memorial Library conducted by Samuel White, a great-grandson of GML architect Stanford White and a member of the board overseeing the effort to restore the landmarked building. Over lunch, the two college presidents discussed future collaborations between BCC and NYU, forever linked by common ground.



A Very Friendly Council Member

The pre-schoolers at Bronx Community College's Early Childhood Center had a special visitor on Monday, May 22 — New York City Council Member Annabel Palma (center), chair of the Bronx City Council delegation. The Center educates the children of BCC students while their parents

are taking classes elsewhere on campus. Council Member Palma, who represents the borough's 18th Council District, is a strong advocate of such programs throughout The City University of New York . She herself was a mother at age 17 and could have used that service when she attended BCC ('91). "I can

personally attest to the struggle of juggling motherhood while being a student," she says. **"I believe this center helps alleviate some of the pressures for others."**

Council Member Palma read *A Very Hungry Caterpillar* to an excited crowd of toddlers.

Reuniting Past and Present

Class reunions aren't unusual on our campus, but the one held on July 12 was unique. The gathering brought together alumni who wistfully recalled their student days — not at Bronx Community College, but at New York University when BCC's

grounds were the home of NYU's uptown campus. For some of the 100 graduates and their families attending the event, it was their first visit back to their alma mater's campus in decades.

A light breeze blew through the campus as the visitors enjoyed tours of their old haunts and an outdoor buffet at the Hall of Fame for Great Americans. Still nostalgic for their former campus, the NYU uptowners vowed to return.



OUR DONORS

The Bronx Community College Foundation is the recipient of numerous acts of generosity throughout the year. Contributions of every size, given by individuals and organizations assist in providing needed scholarships, program funding and a broad range of student resources that ensure access to education for those who need it most. We are thankful for every gift we receive and are reliant on new and renewed support.

The following represent gifts from those donors who provided leadership level gifts between July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017.

\$250,000 - \$499,999

Robin Hood Foundation

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The Pinkerton Foundation
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Luan Dang
Lynette C. Daniel
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Joseph Dinan
Shawna Doyle
Lindsay Ducey
Lamar Duncan

2015

Thomas A. Isekenegbe, Ph.D. is named BCC's sixth president and the first CUNY president born in Africa.

Kirssy Martinez, a TheDream.US scholarship recipient, becomes the first such scholar within The City University of New York named a class valedictorian.

Bronx Community College becomes the first CUNY school to benefit from the expansion of ASAP, the University-wide plan to boost timely graduation rates.

2016

Gould Memorial Library, the architectural masterpiece designed by Stanford White and built in 1900, is named to the Preservation League of New York State's 2016-17 "Seven to Save" list.

Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor visits the campus and meets with 100 children on "Dream Big Day."

State and local officials attend the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for BCC's newly renovated Quad.



Stephen Duncan
Joan Enoah
Craig Erwich
Brian Fahey
James A. Fahey
James V. Ferebee
David Figueroa
Teresa Fisher
Casiano Fontanez
Douglas E. Frazer
Eli Gbamokollie
James Gillson
GiveGab
Debra Gonsher
Francisco A. Green
Marcia Green
Christina M. Guy
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Denis McCarthy
Carolyn McCrea
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Victor T. Oliva
Crystal Overstreet
Kirsten Owens
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Jorge Pineiro Barcelo
Marianne Pita
Pitney Bowes Charity Giving Station
Jeannette E. Polowski
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Cassandra Ramharrack
Anne Reifenberg
Arline A. Richardson
Riverdale Memorial Post 1525
Inez Robinson
Ruth Rochester
Julia M. Rodas
Harold D. Rodriguez
Diego Rodriguez
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Geneva Shears-Maynard
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Tiffanie Williams
Stuart B. Wollman
Easter Z. Wood
Art Zuckerman

“On BCC’s 60th birthday,
we look back at our
accomplishments as we
move toward a brighter
future of improving
student outcomes.”

— Thomas A. Isekenegbe

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Eduardo Marti
*former interim president
Bronx Community College*

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Beyer Blinder Belle Architects



MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS AND EXPENDITURES

To further develop the College’s ability to better support its students, several major projects and renovations were undertaken during Fiscal Year 2016. These include upgrading our infrastructure for heating and cooling, power and communications, enhancing the campus landscape and improving access and support for ASAP.

The following projects were funded by New York City, New York State and through Resolution.
A funding from The Bronx Borough President and Bronx City Council Members:

**Campus -Wide Utility Upgrades
Phase IV – Under Construction
Total project cost: \$27 million
Expected date of completion: 2018**

This capital upgrade will replace utility piping at the west end of campus with new distribution piping for medium temperature hot water, chilled water, electrical and telecommunication data lines. The project will also complete construction of the new electrical service building.

**Swimming Pool Renovation –
Construction
Total project cost : \$3.8 million
Expected date of completion: 2017**

This capital project will repair damaged drain piping that caused the pool to close several years ago. The project will also repair cracks in the shell and deck of the pool, replace all the pool equipment and provide a new accessible bathroom and entrance ramp.

**Nichols ASAP Advisement Offices –
4th floor – Under Construction
Total project cost: \$822,000
Expected date of completion: 2017**

This project will renovate formerly vacant office space as the advisement office for BCC’s ASAP program. This will complement the ASAP project completed last year that created new advisement offices on the first floor of the building.

Bronx Community College-CUNY BCC Consolidated Preliminary Financials For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017

	Tax Levy Ledger 2	Tax Levy Ledger 3: Tech Fee	Total	% of Total
Expenditures by Major Purpose				
Instruction and Department Research	\$49,546,017		\$49,546,017	52.2%
Academic Support Services	3,556,075	569,392	4,125,467	4.3%
Student Services	8,381,758	1,458,825	9,840,582	10.4%
Maintenance and Operations	11,213,873		11,213,873	11.8%
General Administration	7,218,025		7,218,025	7.6%
General Institutional Services	12,292,859		12,292,859	12.9%
College Discovery	713,002		713,002	0.8%
Total Expenditures*	\$92,921,609	\$2,028,217	\$94,949,826	100.0%

Components of Endowment and Other Support

CUNY Investment Pool Endowment	\$621,066	\$621,066
CUNY Investment Pool Current Restricted	195,529	195,529
BCC Foundation Scholarships	603,727	603,727
Total	\$1,420,322	\$1,420,322

*Preliminary Tax Levy and Tech Fee Expenditures from CUNYfirst as of July 7, 2017
** CUNY Investment Pool and Foundation Scholarships are up to May 31, 2017

2017

The New York City Council presents a special proclamation celebrating BCC’s 60th anniversary as a public academic center that has transformed the lives of tens of thousands of students.

The first public screening of Episodes 1 and 2 of *Time: The Kalief Browder Story*, a six-part documentary about a 16-year-old student from the Bronx who spent three years at Rikers Island, is shown in Gould Memorial Library.

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BY THE NUMBERS



Annual Tuition:

\$2,400 per semester
full-time New York City /State Residents

\$210 per credit
New York City/State Residents



Top Ten Majors:		
Liberal Arts and Sciences (AA)		3,723
Criminal Justice (AA)		1,030
Business Administration (AS)		940
Nursing (AAS)		605
Liberal Arts and Sciences (AS)		393
Dietetics and Nutrition Science (AS)		342
Human Services (AAS)		280
Computer Science (AS)		255
Automotive Technology (AAS)		254
Education Associate (AAS)		248

MISSION

Bronx Community College serves students of diverse backgrounds, preparations and aspirations by providing them with an education that is both broad in scope and rigorous in its standards. We provide students with the foundation and tools for success, whether they choose to continue their education or immediately begin a career, and instill in them the value of informed and engaged citizenship and service to their communities.

VISION

Bronx Community College will actively invest in each student's success by engaging with them in an integrative and supportive environment that facilitates the development and achievement of their educational and career goals. Graduates will be prepared to understand, thrive in, and contribute to a 21st-century global community marked by diversity, change, and expanded opportunities for lifelong learning and growth.

VALUES

- Respect
- Integrity
- Engagement
- Excellence
- Empowerment

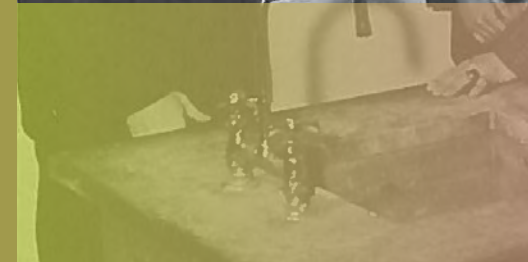
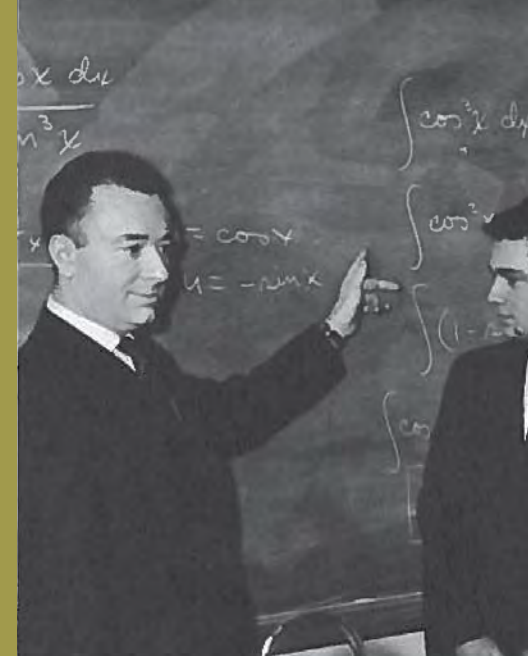




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Purpose: To encourage the use of
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