

Black History Month Program: Leadership, Perseverance, Economics

Black History Month will feature three exciting, eclectic speakers plus an Expo showcasing performances by student groups.

“This is an excellent program,” said Ode Hoppie, assistant director of Student Activities. “They are entertaining, motivational and humorous. I think students will benefit and really enjoy the activities.”

Black History Month begins Monday, February 8 with a lecture by Joshua Fredenburg, a nationally recognized speaker, author, and consultant who provides expert advice on leadership, diversity, and healthy relationships in a practical, engaging, inspiring, and dynamic manner. He has reached thousands of emerging and seasoned leaders in 42 different states as a keynote speaker, workshop presenter and leadership trainer.

He is also the author of “A Call to Action; 14 Highly Effective Leadership Principles for Leaders of Millennials,” “Are You the World’s Next Top Leader?” and “50 Questions Before You Say I Do.”

In 2010, Mr. Fredenburg created the Circle of Change Leadership Conference, an award-winning annual leadership development conference for college students that provides emerging and seasoned leaders with the skills, resources and opportunity to learn.



Joshua Fredenburg

The program will be in the Corral Restaurant in the College Center at 11 a.m..

On Thursday, February 18, several student organizations, along with the Student Activities Office, will sponsor a Black History Month Expo featuring presentations and performances by student groups. These include the Step Team, The MCC Gospel Choir, and others. The event, at 2 p.m. in the Main Lounge of the College Center,

will highlight and celebrate the contributions of African Americans in areas such as politics, music and theatre. It will also educate the MCC community on historical figures and moments in African American history.

Christopher Grant will speak on Monday, February 29 at 11 a.m. in the College Center Corral. Mr. Grant appeared on USA Network’s show “Summer Camp,” a reality-based elimination show. He is dedicated to helping people overcome everyday challenges through fitness and humor. His presentation is an interactive and laugh-out-loud funny presentation on setting goals, following dreams and diversity in entertainment.

“There is absolutely nothing in this world that you cannot do,” he said. “The only person holding you back is you. Get out of your own way!”

Finally, on Monday, March 21, Kimberly Dark will speak on Gender, Race and Money at 11 a.m. in the College Center Corral. She is a writer, storyteller and speaker who will teach participants about trends – both historical and current day – in the distribution of wealth in America and how those trends affect all Americans. Participants come to understand “the 1 percent” and how to make connections to work toward a more just economy.

For more information contact Student Activities at 732-906-2569.

The eighth edition of "Middlesex: A Literary Journal" has been published, and the authors were honored at a reception in January. From left: Gregg Glory, Daniel Weeks, Dan Zimmerman, Hank Kalet, Mat Spano, Frank Finale, and Emanuel di Pasquale. If you would like a copy, please contact the English Department at 732-906-2591.



Continuing Education Noncredit Course: Start Your Own Online Business

MCC has a program that makes it easy to take high-quality, noncredit online courses. The College has partnered with ed2go to offer hundreds of online, instructor-led courses and has launched "Start Your Own Online Business."

Participants in this course will learn how to leverage the Internet to launch an online business. The course outlines a step-by-step approach that's easy to follow – from building a simplified

strategy to branding a business – so students can develop and launch an online business in no time.

"If your work or home life prevents you from committing to a regularly scheduled course and you are a self-directed learner who is motivated to master the material, online learning may be right for you," said Dr. Lynn Lederer, director of Professional and Community Programs at MCC. "Middlesex has been partnering with

ed2go for more than 15 years with great success. I recommend ed2go courses and programs to friends and family as well as to the general public."

This course is part of MCC's growing catalog of more than 300 instructor-facilitated online courses. Through well-crafted lessons, expert online instruction, and interaction with fellow students, participants in these courses gain valuable knowledge at their convenience. They have the flexibility to study at their own pace, combined with enough structure and support to complete the course. And they can access the classroom 24/7 from anywhere with an Internet connection.

New sessions of each course run every month. They last six weeks, with two new lessons being released weekly (for a total of 12). The courses are entirely web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. A dedicated professional instructor facilitates every course, pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback, and facilitating discussions.

To learn more, call 732-906-2556 or visit www.middlesexcc.edu/continuing-education.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

This Month at Middlesex is a publication of Middlesex County College
2600 Woodbridge Ave., Edison, NJ 08837

Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Ronald G. Rios, <i>Freeholder Director</i>	Charles Kenny
Carol B. Bellante, <i>Deputy Director</i>	H. James Polos
Kenneth Armwood	Charles E. Tomaro
	Blanquita Valenti

Middlesex County College Board of Trustees

Dorothy K. Power, <i>Chairman</i>	Laura Morana
Thomas Tighe, <i>Vice Chairman</i>	John P. Mulkerin
Mark J. Finkelstein, <i>Treasurer</i>	Robert Oras
Robert P. Sica, <i>Secretary</i>	Eileen Palumbo '78
Frank T. Antisell	Praful Raja
George J. Lisicki	Nicole D. Risoli '15
	Joann La Perla-Morales, <i>President</i>

Guess What?

You can go home again.



Alberto Alayón looks at the new South Hall building with pride. He knows every inch of it and can tell you when the windows will be installed, when the plumbing will be set up, when the electricity will be turned on. The senior project manager for EPIC, Mr. Alayón is MCC's representative in making sure the work is done right, and on time.

Thirty years earlier, he was taking classes on the same spot he is working at now. South I and South II, which were razed in the summer of 2014 to make room for the new construction, had been used for technology classes when he was a student. Mr. Alayón graduated in 1984 with an Associate Degree in Civil Engineering Technology.

"We had a great cadre of professors," he said. "Ray Nolan, Frank Rubino, Carl Kiesewetter and Jay Edelson, to name a few. They enjoyed teaching and they enjoyed the students. They made it a home for us. It was a very positive experience for me. I got a great education."

He graduated from MCC, and was

awarded an ROTC scholarship from the U.S. Army and continued his studies at NJIT in Newark. In 1987 he graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Civil Engineering Technology and received a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He worked briefly for EPIC before being called to active duty in the Army Corps of Engineers during Desert Storm. He spent five years on active duty with assignments in Germany and the U.S. followed by three years with the National Guard attaining the rank of

major, before returning to EPIC. He has been there for the last 25 years.

Continued on page 4

Above, Don Drost '79, left, the executive director of facilities management at MCC, with Alberto Alayón '84 in front of the new South Hall. At right, the two gave MCC engineering students a tour of the construction last fall.



College Presents Casino Night Fundraiser February 26

MCC is offering an enjoyable night of make-believe gambling on Friday, February 26 in the College Center on its Edison campus. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; the games begin at 6:30 p.m.

“This event will be a lot of fun,” said Veronica Clinton, director of development and alumni relations at the College and executive director of the MCC Foundation. “In an exciting casino atmosphere, attendees will get \$50 in fake chips that they can use to ‘gamble’ to win tickets to put in the tricky trays for terrific prizes and prize packages. Besides offering a wonderful time, this fundraising event will help the College continue its mission to support deserving students through greatly needed scholarships.”

The admission fee of \$75 includes full dinner buffet, open bar (beer and wine) and \$50 in fake gambling chips. Participants must be 21 years of age. The event is business attire.

Casino Night will include a visit by Alex “Cardman” Perricone, a 2011 MCC graduate, who will engage in card magic with the crowd.

“You have to see him to believe it,” Ms. Clinton said. “His artistry with cards is amazing.”

Sponsors include Paige and



Alex “Cardman” Perricone ‘11

Elizabeth L’Hommedieu, The Provident Bank Foundation, and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Casino Host sponsors; Summit Associates Inc., Buffet sponsor; Investors Bank and Middlesex County AFL-CIO Labor Council, dessert sponsors; Gerald and Jo Aimee Ostrov, Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union No. 9, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 456, Stewart Business Systems, Donald Drost, Universal

Mailing Service Inc., Gaming Table sponsors; Magyar Bank, Johnson & Urban LLC, Joanne Fillweber, Til and Kathy Dallavalle, and Kenneth and Genette Falk, Lady Luck sponsors; Mark McCormick, Patrick Madama, Joann La Perla-Morales, Susan Perkins, Donna Marie Gardner-Beadling, Phalguni Ghosh, Theresa Young, Ronald Goldfarb, Warren Kelemen, Roseann Bucciarelli, and Marla Brinson, Casino Host co-sponsors. Foundation Mission partners are Johnson & Johnson, The Provident Bank Foundation, Stewart Business Systems, and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. For additional information, please contact the MCC Foundation, at 732-906-2564. You can register online at www.mcc-foundation.org.

Correction

The January 2016 issue of “This Month at Middlesex” included the names of members of the faculty and staff who supported the MCC Foundation in fiscal year 2015 (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015). We apologize to the adjunct faculty members below whose names were omitted from the list:

Richard Ellison
David Lipton
Ed Ruhno

Alberto Alayón

Continued on page 4

Mr. Alayón resides in Pennsylvania with his wife Rose of 25 years and has two children.

This is his first project for MCC.

“I was excited to come back,” he said. “There’s been a lot of positive changes. Aside from the original Arsenal buildings, there were only six or seven College buildings then. It’s kind of coincidental that I’m working on the same ground that I stood at when I was a student. It brings back positive memories.”



The Student Association of Radiographers, SAR, coordinated a food drive to benefit the Hands of Hope Food Pantry in Edison. Seated, from left, Christine Rios, Lissette Martir, Alexis Delfa, Julia Koval, Shalene Sulit. Standing, Stewart Gitlin, Paul Meyers, Nick Rohal, Matt Moore, Bryanna Junkieski, Olivia Campell.