

The Buzz

SUNY Broome News

Posts published from October 1, 2014 to October 31, 2014, from news.sunybroome.edu/buzz.

Open wide: SUNY Broome dental hygiene clinic plays role in community, careers

October 30, 2014

Categories: Featured News



Lines of patients reclined in chairs, attended by masked clinicians in blue scrubs. It's a scene familiar to anyone who has been in a dentist's office, down to the colorful wall posters extolling the virtues of brushing and flossing.

There are some crucial differences, however: this clinic is located in the Decker Health Sciences Building on the SUNY Broome campus. White-coated faculty members stop by to review the appointment process at every step — and the care is absolutely free to SUNY Broome students and low-cost to community members.

Decades-old but continually updated, SUNY Broome's Dental Hygiene clinic provides crucial training to the region's future dental hygienists — as well as an important community service. Care for Medicaid patients is free, while the cost for children's care is \$20, adults \$30 and senior citizens \$20 – for *all* appointments during the course of the

semester. There is a trade-off, however: appointments typically take three hours — considerably longer than an appointment at the average dentist's office — so that the students' work can be checked and evaluated.

Services include oral cancer screening, X-rays (radiography), dental cleaning, the application of sealants and fluoride treatment. While there is a supervising dentist, the clinic cannot perform dental work such as fillings.

"Last year, we saw more 1,700 community patients. Our fees are minimal," said Professor Maureen Hankin, also the chair of the Dental Hygiene Department. "We provide over \$225,000 worth of dental hygiene services to the community."

The clinic treats patients of all ages. There are special events, as well. For example, the annual Veterans Day Clinic will run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Nov. 11, providing care at no cost to local veterans.

"We have patients that have been coming here 30 years or more," noted Clinical Instructor Carole Stanley. "They are helpful to us because they're giving our students an opportunity to practice."

Practice makes perfect

Dental hygiene has a long history at SUNY Broome, dating back to the construction of the Dickinson campus in 1956. That's when the first dental hygiene class began, with classes held at the former Kalurah Temple in downtown Binghamton before relocating to the new campus the following year. The first class of dental hygienists graduated in 1958.

After years in the Science Building, the program moved to the Decker Health Sciences building in 1998. The technology has developed significantly from that first class in the Kalurah Temple. The 26 fully-outfitted treatment units rival those found in any dental office, and almost all were full on a recent clinic day.

The clinic is totally computerized and mostly paperless. Digital Radiography sends X-ray

images directly to the computer, and will ultimately replace the dark room.

The dark room still exists, however, and Jamie Rosenkrans of Binghamton and Lindsey Bennett of Watertown – both second-year students doing a rotation as radiography assistants – ducked behind a black curtain to point it out. The technology at dental offices can vary widely, and students are preparing for whatever workplace they find themselves in, they said.

The program was re-accredited last year by the American Dental Association, which certifies that the clinic has met the standards for competency. It received the highest rating: accreditation without reporting, which means the program doesn't have to submit any additional reports until the next seven-year accreditation cycle.

Rotations familiarize the program's 34 senior students with every aspect of a dental hygienist's work, from conducting cleanings and exams, taking radiographs and sanitizing equipment to set-up of various stations and manning the reception desk.

In the fall, only second-year students work on patients. First-year students begin clinic rotations in the spring, and all students are required to log a certain number of hours in the clinic.

They don't mind.

"This is the most important part because it's hands-on," explained Jenna Croucher of Binghamton, a second-year student. "It's what you're going to be doing in your career."

Students also visit United Methodist Homes' Hilltop Campus in Johnson City as part of an externship, where they work with elderly patients, noted Cynthia Ball, a second-year student from Cortland. It gives students the opportunity to work with patients in a different environment, and adjust to different patient needs and abilities, added second-year student Lirong Wu of Ithaca.

Both Ball and Wu commute to SUNY Broome – an admittedly long drive. There are only 11 dental hygiene schools in New York State, and none in their home communities. Wu

added that she was drawn by the program's strong reputation.

So was Lindsey Bennett of Watertown. The programs at SUNY Canton and Monroe Community College were closer to her hometown, but she knew graduates from SUNY Broome and opted for Binghamton instead.

"It's a very good program here," she noted.

The clinic plays a crucial part in crafting that reputation and, ultimately, in shaping future careers.

"This is the most important thing we do. Until you physically do it, you don't understand," Ball emphasized. "Practice makes perfect."

"It makes us more ready for the real world," Wu added.



Second-year student Jenna Croucher sanitizes the clinic's equipment.



Called "Dexter" by students, these heads train future dental hygienists how to take radiographs.



Second-year students Jamie Rosenkrans of Binghamton and Lindsey Bennett of Watertown were doing a rotation as radiograph assistants.

Young Hornet: 14-year-old student finds home at SUNY Broome

October 29, 2014

Categories: Featured News



Johannes Nightingale hasn't formally picked a major yet, but he has big plans.

"I want to start a company of my own. I've been thinking that I want to build the next Apple or Microsoft, but without the drawbacks," the SUNY Broome student recently mused. "Nothing high-priced. I want it to be as good as it could possibly be."

Of course, those plans can change – Johannes just turned 14, after all, and is still figuring out what he wants to do. And while he's younger than his peers, he's been attending classes on campus since the age of 12 and is currently a full-time SUNY Broome student.

He's also the recipient of a scholarship from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's Young Scholars Program. Each year, more than 1,000 high-achieving seventh-graders apply nationwide for 60 spaces in the scholarship program. Recipients – who are each paired with an educator mentor — receive financial support for a variety of opportunities and resources, such as summer programs, distance learning courses, technology, tutoring and enrichment activities.

His journey began with a music theory class. Johannes, a resident of the Chenango County community of Coventry, was studying flute with a professor at Binghamton University. She recommended that he take a music theory class at SUNY Broome to aid

his studies, and so he enrolled – along with his mother, Regina Mason. She had always wanted to learn more about the subject, she noted.

Johannes, who is homeschooled, loved the experience and is now enrolled in SUNY Broome's Early College program. He's currently in his fifth semester on campus, his third full-time, and took a placement test to enroll in regular college courses.

This fall, he's taking computer programming, math, English, history, chamber singers, flute and piano, he said.

Early on, Regina was required to enroll in the classes herself and attend with her son. Now, she only attends new endeavors and Johannes goes to half of his classes on his own.

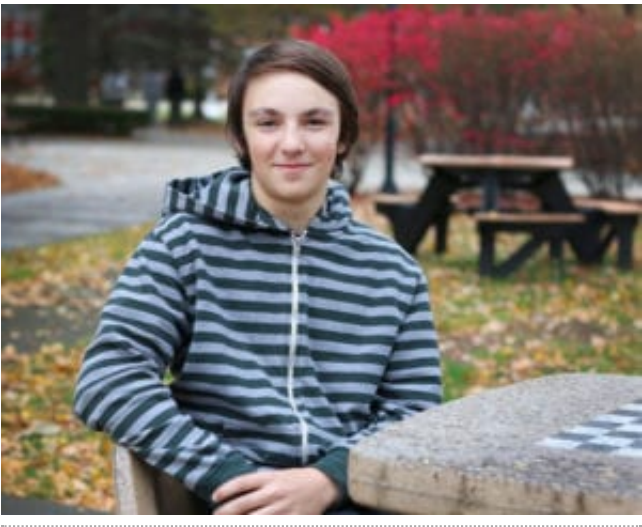
While he's a good deal younger than his fellow students, that hasn't held him back when it comes to forging connections. You might see him grab a chess game with a friend in front of the library, or engage in other activities on campus.

"I really like it. I get along with college students a lot better than people my own age," he said. "I feel normal here. I hang out with college friends."

Outside of class, Johannes participates in trail biking, which involves navigating through an obstacle course with large rocks and other features. He writes music, mostly vocals and keyboard, and enjoys exploring electronics by taking devices apart and seeing how they work.

No matter where his career takes him, Johannes said he feels like he's part of the SUNY Broome family.

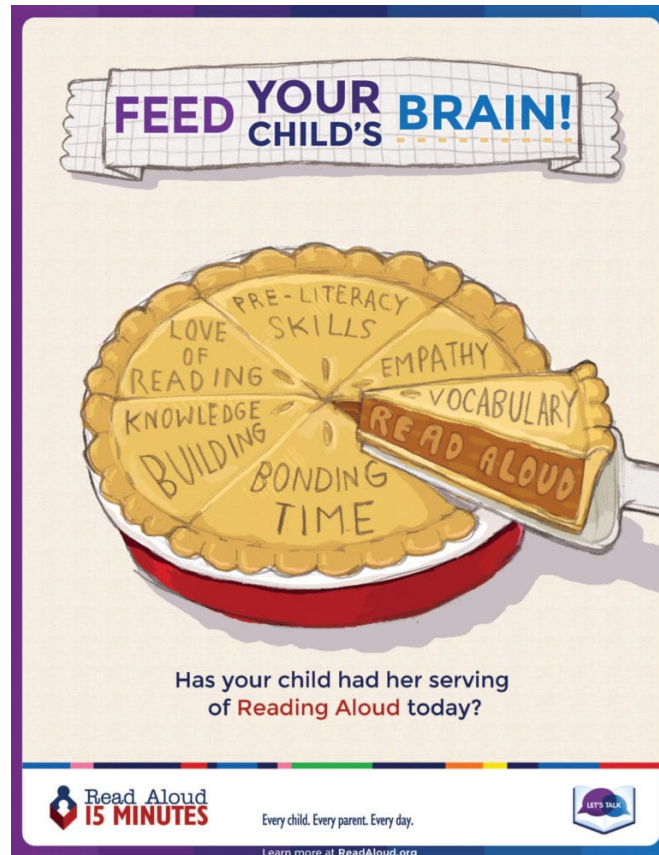
"Originally, he was here to take one theory class, but he fell in love. It was a perfect fit," Regina Mason added. "Now he's home."



SUNY Launches Partnership with Read Aloud 15 Minutes

October 23, 2014

Categories: Buzz



State University of New York Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher today announced that the university system is partnering with Read Aloud 15 Minutes, a national organization that works with schools and communities to increase the time parents spend reading to children.

"As children across the country start school this week, more than one-third of kindergarteners are underprepared, a factor that can affect their ability to learn at every stage of their education," said Chancellor Zimpher. "SUNY's partnership with Read Aloud will complement our work to mend New York's education pipeline and ensure that more of today's youth are on the right path for success throughout school, and ultimately in college and career."

Read Aloud Executive Director Bob Robbins said, "We are excited to have SUNY help

parents with young children throughout New York State join our growing league of academic scholars, business leaders, government officials, day care workers, teachers, community workers, parents, and friends who are working to make reading aloud for 15 minutes every day, starting at birth, a parenting standard. Together, we will help more children begin kindergarten ready to learn, get the most out of their education, and become productive citizens.”

Read Aloud partners are united behind the idea that 15 minutes of daily reading aloud from birth to age 8 can change the face of education, nationally. In partnering with Read Aloud, SUNY campuses throughout New York are reaching out to community groups, early childhood education providers, and schools to encourage them to join the Read Aloud movement.

According to Read Aloud:

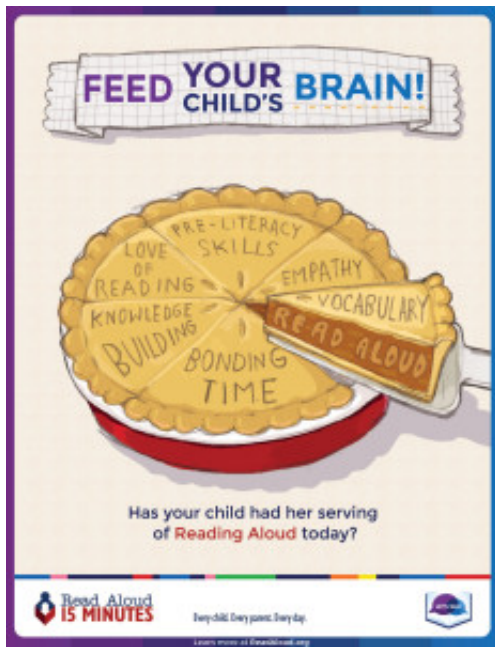
- Reading aloud is the single most important thing a parent or caregiver can do to help a child prepare for reading and learning.
- Nationally, 37% of children arrive in kindergarten without the skills necessary to begin their learning journey.
- If a child is not reading at grade level by the end of the first grade, then there is an 88% probability the child will not be reading at grade level by the end of the fourth grade.
- Even in higher-income households, nearly 40% of families do not read aloud every day.
- More than half the children in this country — 13 million children — will not hear a bedtime story tonight.

Additional information about SUNY’s partnership with Read Aloud is available at:

<http://www2.readaloud.org/SUNY>.

Since the launch of its strategic plan, *The Power of SUNY*, in 2010, the university system has expanded the number of cradle-to-career communities across New York as it helps

to build a seamless education pipeline for New York in which every child gets the support they need in and out of school. SUNY's partnership with Read Aloud is another example of how higher education can lead the way in improving outcomes for all students.



Vestal's very own Van Gogh: Tess Zizak

October 22, 2014

Categories: Featured News



The woods behind the Weis store in Vestal may not stand out to the average person – it was the perfect subject for 19-year-old artist Tess Zizak. She took a scene that most people wouldn't consider to be more than a background and created an eerie image that looked like it could have been the setting of a Stephen King novel.

Zizak is far from your average young adult. In addition to being a full-time Visual Comm student at SUNY Broome and a hardworking hostess at Nick's Italian Restaurant in Endicott, Zizak has a very unique talent when it comes to art.

"Her paintings look they were done by a much older person," Binghamton University senior Danielle Gray said. "There is a lot of capacity in them and they seem like the artist has had a lot of experience."

Zizak grew up in a family of artists; both her aunt and cousin make portraits that are identical to photographs. Yet, Tess went in a different direction with her art and followed the road of abstract and expressionist pieces. The first subject she ever learned to draw were trees, under the instruction and guidance of her mother. Her favorite drawing is Van Gogh's *Starry Night* and she has adapted his post-Impressionist style for many of her works.

In her third semester in Broome and with plans to possibly go to Binghamton University next year, this young painter is kept very busy and said most of her art work has to be done at midnight – the only time she has for herself. Sometimes, she'll stare at a blank page for hours, making random lines and shapes until she is inspired.

"A lot of my work is done very impulsively" Zizak said.

Once, she made her father pull to the side of the road when she noticed a barn she wanted to capture. That move paid off; that barn ended up appearing in her gallery at the Starbuck's in Vestal. She's already had her work appear in three galleries, one of them at a reception held by SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm.

For all her major works, Zizak uses an art room set up at her grandparents' house. One night over last year's winter break, she suddenly felt inspired to paint the galaxy on the ceiling – similar to Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel. Yet, unlike the Renaissance artist, she didn't have the luxury of a plank hanging from the ceiling to lay on — just a chair and a paint tarp on the floor. Zizak laughed when she explained how difficult and time consuming the process of creation is. But a little inconvenience wasn't going to stop this artist from following her vision; she's still working on the project, using glow-in-the-dark and acrylic paint. Painting with your canvas overhead is exhausting, but the future masterpiece seems well worth the effort.

Zizak's favorite medium for painting is oil. It's difficult substance, but results in a rich and vivacious color. This is perfect for Zizak's pieces, because she tries to portray emotion through the colors and brushstrokes. Her most important art tool is her pallet knife, a flexible blade used for applying paint that she used for her barn piece as well as her portrait of Paul McCarthy.

When asked to sum up what she wants people to see when they see her work, she answered confidently: "Emotion. I want them to feel something." Most of her art is inspired by strong emotions and music. She always listens to music while doing art, whether that art is for a school assignment or a personal project. Her favorite Pandora station is the Beatles, and she has many portraits of the Fab Four. Unlike her nature pieces, these are detailed and realistic pictures, although they still carry Zizak's

trademark emphasis of shading and darker hues.

Zizak's favorite painting, called "Imagine," featured John Lennon's profile with the song's lyrics in the background and the title written vertically opposite to his face.

Unfortunately, this piece was stolen at the end of the 2014 Spring semester while it was on display in the Technology Building on campus. Zizak was compensated \$175 for her lost artwork, but still misses it.

Between the portraits and nature scenes, Zizak also has an impressive collection of abstract work. One favorite is a piece she did in high school using Indian Ink. It starts as one dark line that branches off into a cluster of spots, and other lines that break off. "If I *had* to say it was something, I'd say it was a flower of some sort," Zizak said.

How does she know when an abstract piece is finished?

"When it feels balanced," she said. "If you did anything else to it, you would disrupt it."

There is no denying Zizak has a very bright future ahead of her. She's an old soul with an extraordinary gift and the ability to capture the images in her mind on paper. She said she would like to go into art therapy after college, but hopes to one day own her own studio. Wherever her talent takes her, Vestal is very fortunate to have her start her career here.

Writer Mary Bell is a SUNY Broome student.



SUNY Broome student artist Tess Zizak and her work



Chamber Singers to Perform with Southernstiersmen

October 21, 2014

Categories: Buzz



The SUNY Broome Chamber Singers, a 21-voice member select group under the direction of Fitzroy Stewart, has been invited to perform at the opening concert of Binghamton's Southernstiersmen Barbershop Chorus, kicking off their 2014-2015 concert season. The Chamber Singers will perform three selections demonstrating varied styles of choral literature.

The performances will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2014 in the auditorium of the African Road Middle School, 600 South Benita Blvd., Vestal, New York 13850. Two performances are scheduled at 1:30 and 7 p.m. Tickets at the door are \$15; however, pre-sale tickets are \$13 and may be obtained from any of the Chamber Singers.

Four SUNY Broome programs added to Open SUNY initiative

October 16, 2014

Categories: Featured News



State University of New York Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher today announced that 56 degree and certificate programs from 13 campuses have been added to Open SUNY, the university system's signature online learning initiative.

SUNY Broome has four new programs in Open SUNY. They join SUNY Broome's Clinical Laboratory Technician AAS degree program, which began during the first wave of Open SUNY. These new, fully-online degree programs will be offered to students throughout SUNY and worldwide.

The new programs are:

- Human Services: AS
- Business Information Management AAS
- Histological Technician certificate
- Computer Security and Forensics AAS

"We are once again proud and honored to be recognized by SUNY for our outstanding academic programs through this second selection to Open SUNY," said SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm. "Congratulations to our fantastic SUNY Broome faculty and staff involved in the program submission and selection."

"We're very proud to once again be a leader in the Open SUNY Initiative by having four

programs added," said Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer Francis Battisti. "I believe that this attests to the academic quality of our programs and demonstrated the skill of our superb faculty."

Launched in January, Open SUNY will increase access, completion, and success for students while increasing SUNY's enrollment by 100,000 students and meeting the employment needs of New York's businesses. For the first time, Open SUNY now includes certificate programs, as well as associates, bachelors and masters degrees.

With the new programs, student enrollment in Open SUNY will triple, reaching as many as 6,000 students next semester. Additionally, the innovative Center for Online Teaching Excellence has attracted more than 750 faculty fellows in its inaugural year.

"Open SUNY embodies all of the ideals we aim to uphold in service to our students – increased access to quality higher education and improved avenues for degree completion and career success," said Chancellor Zimpher. "The growth of Open SUNY in its inaugural year is remarkable. We are more confident than ever that, at full scale, Open SUNY will emerge as the world's largest online learning environment."

SUNY Broome's Human Services Program is designed for students interested in transferring to four-year institutions to earn a baccalaureate degree in the area of human services, counseling or social work, and for students preparing for careers as paraprofessionals in educational and human services agencies upon completion of the Associate in Science degree. The degree requires the completion of an internship in the final semester, which can be done in the communities where the students reside.

Graduates of the Computer Security and Forensics degree program will be able to implement digital data security solutions for businesses that rely on computers, digital information or the Internet.

Histological technicians are healthcare professionals that prepare, mount, cut, and stain tissue sections used by pathologists to diagnose disease or other abnormalities, such as cancer. They have diverse and multi-level functions in the areas of analysis and clinical decision-making, information management, regulatory compliance, education, and

quality assurance/performance improvement wherever anatomic pathology testing is researched, marketed, developed or performed. They perform, develop, evaluate, correlate and assure accuracy and validity of laboratory testing and procedures; direct and supervise anatomic pathology laboratory resources and operations; and collaborate in the diagnosis and treatment of patients.

The Business Information Management degree is ideal for aspiring administrative assistants, website managers or publishers of in-house company publications.

“Providing quality online education to those interested in pursuing a degree in the field information management is critical to this high needs area,” said Department of Business Information Technology Chair Sandra Wright. “Online education appeals to dislocated workers who need to hone their technology skills in order to be competitive in today’s work force, as well as traditional students who are comfortable learning and working in a virtual environment and seeking opportunities for education and for work beyond traditional geographic borders.”

A complete list of the 56 new programs being added to Open SUNY, as well as further information for prospective students, is available at open.suny.edu. The new programs join those announced in Chancellor Zimpher’s 2014 State of the University Address, bringing the total to 62 Open SUNY programs offered by 17 campuses.

Through a comprehensive set of support services unique to Open SUNY, online students and faculty are able to connect in the same way traditional, on-campus students and faculty connect. For Open SUNY students, these new support services include:

- A 24/7 HelpDesk that assists students with technical questions;
- Online academic tutoring, also available day and night;
- A personal student concierge who connects students to representatives from their home campus when needed; and
- Expanded access to applied learning opportunities that enhance student

knowledge and give students a competitive edge by providing them with hands-on work experience in their field prior to graduation. SUNY is committed to providing every student with an applied learning opportunity, including all those attending exclusively online through Open SUNY.

For faculty, SUNY has established a Center for Online Teaching Excellence (COTE), a professional development community where faculty of all levels of experience in online education from across the system have an opportunity to learn more about new online teaching practices and share ideas and techniques with colleagues across SUNY. To date, more than 750 faculty from across SUNY are using the Center.

Open SUNY support services complement the system's existing online offerings, which include more than 400 degree programs and 12,000 course sections. To aid in degree-planning and student completion, the Open SUNY website includes a searchable database of these offerings for students, faculty and advisers. Ultimately, SUNY will migrate its entire online portfolio to the Open SUNY platform.

"In addition to enhancing the online programs offered across SUNY's 64 campuses, Open SUNY aims to create an environment where students can begin their online education at any stage and have access to a ladder of opportunities through earning a masters or doctorate," said SUNY Provost Alexander N. Cartwright.

Author Kevin Scott Hall to lead seminar on memoir-writing

October 15, 2014

Categories: Buzz



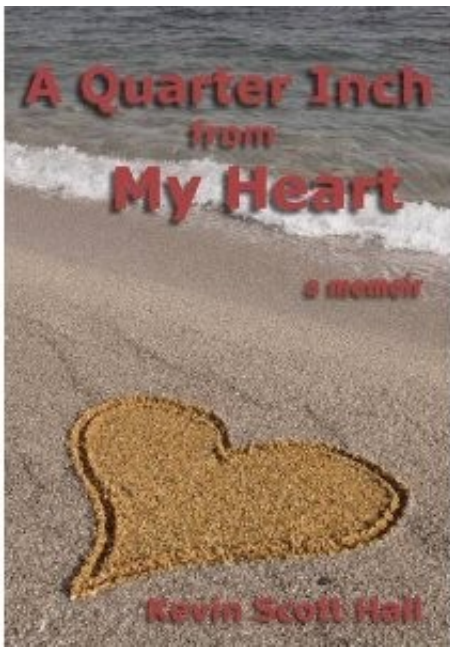
Meet author [Kevin Scott Hall](#) at two special events Oct. 16 at SUNY Broome.

Hall, also a singer/songwriter and former actor, will read from his acclaimed memoir, "[A Quarter Inch From my Heart](#)" at 11 a.m. in Decker 117.

Then, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the same location, he will offer a seminar on the craft of writing memoir. Hall will discuss the differences between memoir and autobiography, explain the importance of structure, offer writing prompts, and answer questions about his process.

Both events are open to students and the campus at no charge.

The event is sponsored by the President's Task Force on Diversity.



SUNY Broome welcomes this year's Presidential Honors Scholars

October 9, 2014

Categories: Featured News



At the top of the Decker building stairwell, SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm introduced himself to the eleven students gathered there.

"I'm the president, but you probably know that," he said to this year's recipients of the Presidential Honors Scholarship, which provides full-tuition awards to the region's best and brightest student leaders. He noted that the first-year students had a leg up on him at that age: he only had a dean's scholarship, he joked.

This year's recipients and their alma maters are Katelyn Allabaugh, Whitney Point High School; Kaitlin Coleman, Newark Valley High School; Olivia de la Vega, Owego Free Academy; Jacob Fitch, Candor High School; Justin Friend, Union-Endicott High School; Samantha Guth, Chenango Forks High School; Katie Hotchkin, Bainbridge High School; Patrick Kane, Seton Catholic High School; Josh Lewis, Vestal High School; and Marisa Tubaugh and James Williams, both from Windsor High School.

The recipients were welcomed to campus during an Oct. 8 ceremony in the Klee Center of the Decker Building. The Conrad and Virginia Klee Foundation, along with an anonymous donor, provided the initial funding that led to the establishment of the scholarship in the fall of 2007, under the leadership of former Broome Community College Foundation executive director Judy Siggins and prior SUNY Broome President

Larry Spraggs.

“You’re now joining a very exclusive club, comprised of the most academically talented students anywhere,” Dr. Drumm told students.

Like their predecessors, this year’s Scholars completed a rigorous academic curriculum in high school that included AP, Honors, and college coursework. They were also active in their school and community in other ways, ranging from part-time employment, community service and academic clubs to mentoring programs and athletics.

They were chosen from a pool of 40 applicants, and SUNY Broome was their first-choice school.

“It’s a small school but a great school,” Tubaugh said of her decision to attend SUNY Broome.

It was a family affair for the graphic design major; most of her siblings went to the college, as did her mother. The same could be said for Kaitlin Coleman, whose brother Ryan was a Presidential Honor Scholar last year and whose mother is also currently enrolled – and also seeking to become a registered nurse, like her daughter. Her two older siblings are also SUNY Broome graduates.

The Scholars also play a role as student ambassadors, setting an example for their peers and showing what a great school SUNY Broome is, Coleman noted.

A former scholarship recipient, Keith Gardner said that his experience at SUNY Broome not only prepared him for his transfer to Binghamton University – where he will finish a degree in computer science in 2015 – but gave him the opportunity to make friends. Gardner, who graduated from Owego in 2012, became a tutor in the Learning Assistance Department during his first semester and worked as a student ambassador.

Since his graduation from SUNY Broome, he’s had a whirlwind of opportunities. He conducted research at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst three days after graduation, wrote code for Lockheed Martin during an internship and participated in a

Hackerthon at Cornell University. The day after the reception, he had an interview scheduled with Google. His goal is to earn a Ph.D. in either physics or computer science.

At a recent job fair, a reviewer looked over his resume, Gardner related to students.

“You did the smart thing and went to Broome,” he told Gardner.

Start-up funding and ongoing support for the Presidential Honors Scholarship Program has been provided by the Conrad and Virginia Klee Foundation and other donors to the BCC Foundation. Delta Engineers, William H. Lane, Inc., Lockheed Martin (MS2), M&T Bank, Matco Electric Corporation, Mirabito Energy Group, NBT Bank and Mang Insurance have also made commitments to provide full-tuition scholarship support to the students. Other supporters include: Chemung Canal Trust Company, Community Bank, N.A., and LeChase Construction Services.

Tubaugh said she deeply appreciated the donors, who helped make this and other scholarships possible.

“It’s really great that they’re doing this for the kids — motivating people to work harder,” she said.

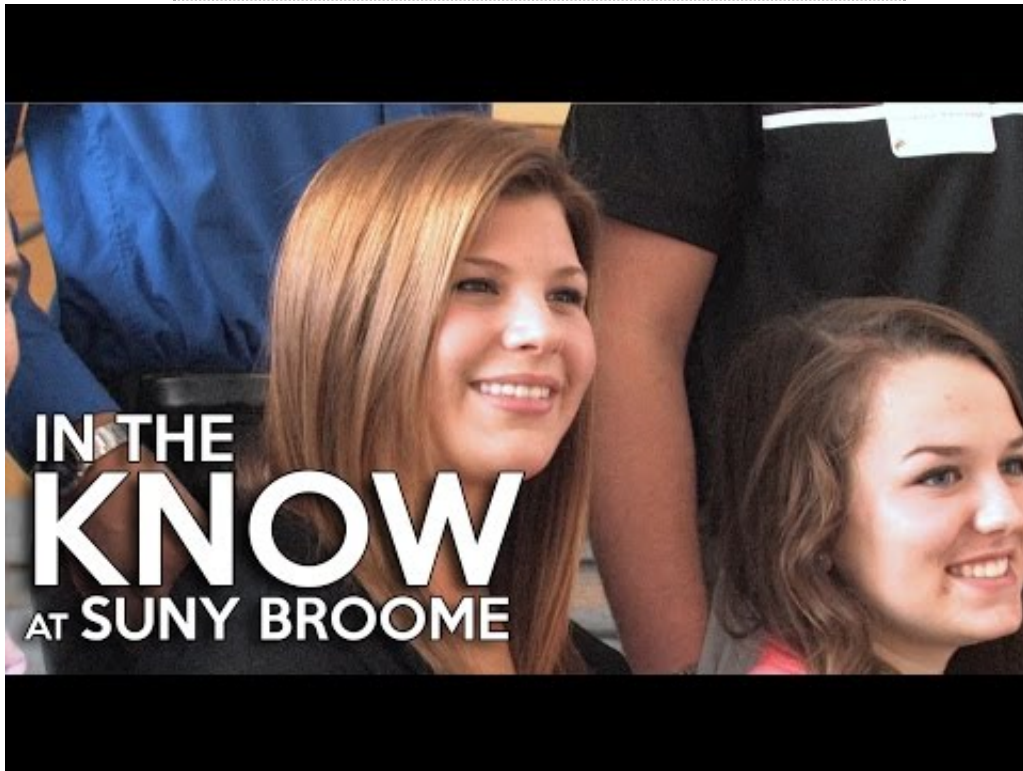
If you are a Broome or Tioga county high school senior interested in a Presidential Honors Scholarship application, contact SUNY Broome’s Admissions Office at (607) 778-5001 or the BCC Foundation at (607) 778-5182.

[See a photo gallery here.](#)

SUNY Broome Celebrates 2014's Presidential Honor Scholars



https://youtube.com/watch?v=rBehk_rL5JA



State apples and a chance to pose in fun photographs with their friends.

First-year student Jordan Bailey took the opportunity to learn who is advisor is so he can register for the spring. He also signed the poster urging students to commit, complete and compete, part of New York Community College Completion Day.

"It shows everyone's commitment to graduate," he said.

First-year student Matt Foster, an education major, checked out several of the tables. He's interested in becoming a tutor himself, and recommended that the fair be repeated each semester.

"I think it's important to know what's going on," he said.

[Click here for a photo gallery.](#)

The 2014 Academic Services Fair at SUNY Broome

 <https://youtube.com/watch?v=JoT4KV5MOKU>



SUNY Broome helps bring technology training to Haiti

October 7, 2014

Categories: Featured News



Children in Haiti are going high-tech, thanks in part to the efforts of SUNY Broome.

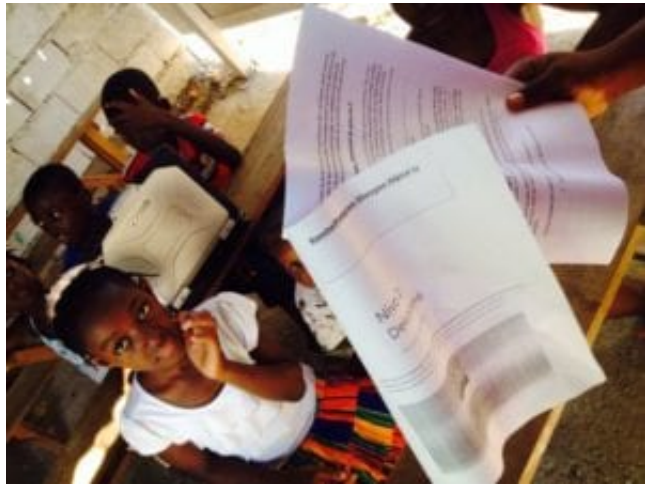
SUNY Broome Biology Prof. Jennifer Musa, co-instructor of the college's Health for Haiti program, brought six refurbished Panasonic Toughbook computers to the island nation during a July trip. The computers were donated by Geodis in Endicott, and were distributed to Haitian children in orphanages and a tent city school.

The pictures below are from a computer literacy lesson for kids from a tent city outside Port au Prince. The lessons were provided by the Bridging the Digital Divide Program, launched in 2010 by SUNY Broome and Binghamton University's Center for Civic Engagement. Geodis, also a major BDDP partner, provides computer equipment and reverse logistics to the program.

The translation of the lessons was done by SUNY Broome student Shaina Louis.

Currently, computer literacy training is being offered at three locations in Haiti. In mid-October, a fourth location will open in Cite Soleil.

It costs about \$150 a month to pay a teacher and about \$50 a month for Internet, Musa said. If anyone has ideas for finding funds or sponsors for the computer schools, contact her at musajm@sunybroome.edu.



Endwell Rotary scholarship will allow SUNY Broome student to lend a hand in Haiti

October 7, 2014

Categories: Featured News



Nancy Walling will head to Haiti and lend a hand to those in need – thanks to the generosity of others.

The Endwell Rotary and Rotary International have awarded the SUNY Broome student a \$1,500 scholarship to support her participating in the 2015 Health for Haiti class this January.

Walling, a mother of three and licensed practical nurse for 20 years, had applied for the 2014 course but was to go due to the travel expenses. The Willet resident has returned to school with the goal of becoming a registered nurse.

“I want to help in any way I possibly can,” Walling said about the upcoming class. “Immunization, teaching them hygiene – whatever I can do.”

This is the first time the Rotary has awarded a Health for Haiti scholarship, said Endwell Rotary President Jeff Smith. The club supports multiple charitable projects, including several international ones: efforts to eradicate polio worldwide, a pipeline to bring water to a rural village in Uganda, and a clean water project for a village in Haiti.

“We are all very impressed with the new accredited program at SUNY Broome and the

level of interest shown by the students and the faculty,” Smith said. “It’s exactly the kind of thing we look to support.”

Health for Haiti runs during the 2015 winter term. The major focus of the global service learning course is to organize student and faculty efforts to provide practical assistance to the people of Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. By partnering with local, experienced volunteers, students can use their training to provide simple health education and medical services at clinics, and can participate in projects aimed at providing clean water and basic computer literacy skills.

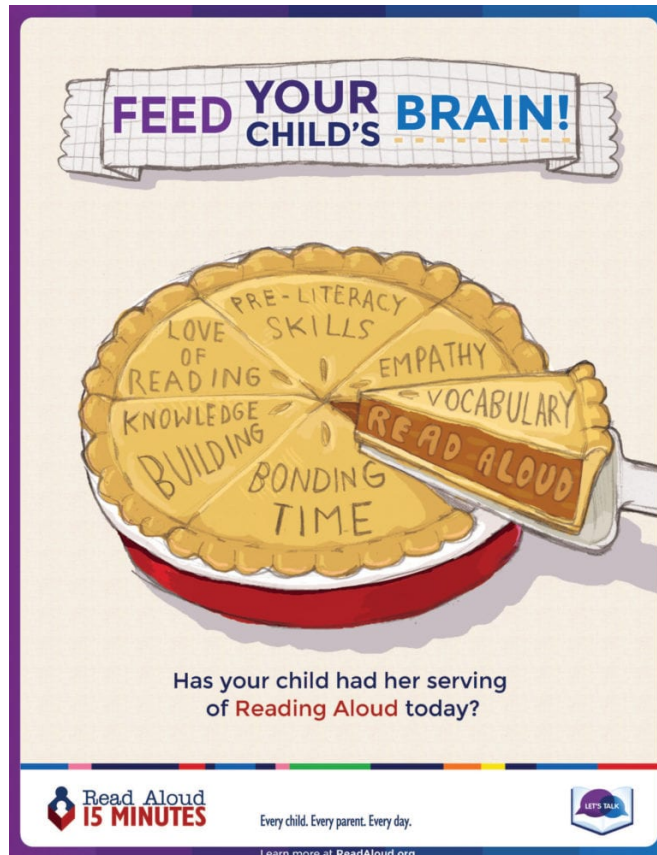
For more on Health for Haiti, visit www.healthforhaiti.wordpress.com.



Feed your child's brain: Read!

October 7, 2014

Categories: Buzz



Do you have a young child in your life? Make sure to read to them at least 15 minutes a day.

According to the Read Aloud 15 Minutes national campaign, more than one in three kindergartners start school without the skills necessary for lifetime learning. Reading to children increases vocabulary and language skills, promotes bonding, shares information and instills a life-long love of reading.

Less than half of young children are read to daily by their parents, according to the group.

For more information, visit www.readaloud.org.

FEED YOUR CHILD'S BRAIN!



Has your child had her serving
of **Reading Aloud** today?



Every child. Every parent. Every day.



[Learn more at \[readaloud15minutes.org\]\(http://www.readaloud15minutes.org\)](http://www.readaloud15minutes.org)

Learn math by playing games

October 6, 2014

Categories: Featured News



Consider MAT/CAS 109 for your Math Elective this spring! Ask your advisor.

Play Texas Hold 'Em, spin the roulette wheel and learn math at the same time in an actual casino setting.

SUNY Broome's Mathematics of Gaming course teaches arithmetic, algebra, probability and statistics – using the backdrop of traditional casino games and horse racing. Students will also learn gaming strategies involving both mathematical reasoning and psychological components, such as risk versus reward, wagering and bluffing.

There's even a literary component: students read and discuss the short novel "The Gambler" by Fyodor Dostoyevsky.

The prerequisite is MAT 090: Foundations for College Mathematics, or its equivalent.

Math with real-world connections? That's a game everyone wins.

Play Games, Learn Math at SUNY Broome!

 <https://youtube.com/watch?v=2lacHosO9V8>



SUNY Broome students receive \$3K scholarships to pursue training as firefighters

October 3, 2014

Categories: Featured News

Tags: Business and Professional Studies Division



A pair of SUNY Broome students will each receive a \$3,000 scholarship to further their training as professional firefighters.

Nicholas Coddington and Ryan Crispell have been named recipients of the Elbert Stillwaggon Memorial Scholarship. Sponsored by the New York Propane Gas Association, the annual scholarship is awarded to full-time second-year students who have demonstrated financial need, with preference given to those interested in propane technology.

Nicholas Coddington is a volunteer firefighter with the Conklin Fire Department, where he also serves on the Swift Water Rescue Team. He's also on the Dean's List.

Ryan Crispell is a volunteer firefighter with the Apalachin Fire Department, an Eagle Scout, a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America, and a member of the Alpha Beta Gamma International Business Honor Society at SUNY Broome.

Coddington said he's interested in furthering his education at the New York State Frederick L. Warder Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls, or the University of Maryland's Fire Science program. He's been volunteering with the Conklin Fire Department for four years and its water rescue team for two.

While it can be challenging to juggle the demands of emergency response and ongoing training with his college work, he wouldn't have it any other way.

"It's always been my dream to become a professional firefighter," he said, adding that his uncle was a career firefighter.

Becoming a volunteer firefighter, Coddington said, was the best decision he ever made. He recommends it to anyone who has an interest in helping their community or knowing what to do in case of an emergency.

"I've helped a lot of people," he said. "I serve my community."



Nicholas Coddington

Tutoring services: Writing Center, Math Lab and one-on-one tutoring

October 3, 2014

Categories: Featured News



SUNY Broome students facing challenges in their coursework don't have to struggle alone.

The Learning Assistance Department offers free tutoring to all students, both drop-in tutoring and one-on-one sessions by appointment. Tutors guide students in becoming active learners and provide strategies and skills important for course success. There's no limit to how often students can use the free service, which is applicable to all courses and subject areas.

Drop-in tutoring draws an average of 1,000 students per year. Typically, 100 to 120 students schedule one-on-one tutoring per semester, said tutoring program coordinator Loreta Paniccia. There are typically 80 to 90 tutors each semester; 15 to 20 are professional, and the remainder are students.

As an open admissions college, tutoring services are critical to helping students succeed – and stay enrolled, Paniccia said.

“Research shows that people attached to tutoring are retained,” Paniccia explained.

While students can receive tutoring in any subject, the department also offers

specialized services in math and writing, areas many students find challenging.

The Math Lab provides unlimited walk-in tutoring and one-on-one tutoring sessions, as well as computer-aided assistance. The lab serves students of all ability levels, taking any of the college's mathematics courses.

"Inexperienced students may be embarrassed to ask questions during class, but they understand the function of the Math Lab and are comfortable asking questions as needed," write Math Lab coordinators David Michalak and David Weintraub.

Tutors include not only peers but faculty members and professional tutors. Many full-time members of the Math Department spend an office hour in the lab each week, and several part-time faculty members work with the staff to provide individual and small group assistance.

Besides tutorial services, students are encouraged to the lab's media collection to augment class lectures. They may borrow retired textbooks for additional exercises. The Math Lab also has six computers that include the general software a student finds on campus, as well as full Internet access. Course-specific software also allows students to work with or without a tutor.

The Math Lab typically serves more than 500 students each semester, with the total number of visits averaging around 4,000. The typical student visit lasts approximately one hour and 45 minutes. Nearly 28 percent of appointments in the 2013-2014 year dealt with elementary math, followed by calculus at nearly 23 percent, pre-calculus at nearly 19 percent and statistics at nearly 17 percent.

Students who struggle with writing in any of their courses can take advantage of the Writing Center. Tutors – 10 professionals and four peers — work by appointment, either with students individually or in small groups of two or three. Limited online tutorial feedback is also offered for students who are only enrolled in online, off-campus, evening or weekend courses, who are not on campus when the center is open.

In addition to course work, tutors also help students with resumes, college application

essays and letters.

The Writing Center typically sees 1,100 to 1,300 visits per semester, and most appointments are a half-hour long, said Writing Center Coordinator Michael Grubb. That amounts to 350 to 400 individual students per semester. More than 70 percent of students are seeking help in Liberal Arts courses, with Health Sciences at a distant second at nearly 16 percent.

Students who filled out evaluation forms – 315 in Fall 2013 and 339 in Spring 2014 – were overwhelming positive. About 98 percent of respondents said they would consult with their tutor again or recommend the service to others, and a similar number agreed that they had a clear plan of action to make progress with their writing after their Writing Center sessions.