

Making a DIFFERENCE

A newsletter for friends and donors of Cumberland County Campus Educational Foundation

Fall 2023

Cumberland Foundation Scholarship Reception

The annual Cumberland Foundation scholarship reception held on September 19 honored over 100 scholarship recipients with over 250 in attendance to support Cumberland students. Each year, the Foundation awards nearly \$500,000 in scholarships to students from various academic backgrounds. The Cumberland Foundation and its donors are dedicated to making education possible and making a difference in Cumberland County.



"Opportunities from the Cumberland Foundation helps students achieve their career goals."

-Siani Cross, AC Electric and EOF Scholarship recipient



Pictured left to right:
Siani Cross, scholarship
recipient; Amanda
Sorschek, Assistant
Director, Educational
Opportunity Fund



"In May of 2022, I graduated with a degree in horticulture. I chose to study plants because I admire their strength and beauty. I was able to obtain a professional Horticulture internship at Walt Disney World. Epcot is a magical place to put my gardening skills to use. The joy on the visitors' faces as they enjoy the displays is amazing. When I return, I will be working to finish my business degree. I plan on using my passion and degrees to make a difference in the horticulture field." ~ Kayla Hayden, Scholarship Recipient

MEET OUR FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION BOARD OFFICERS



Robert DeSanto, *Esq.*, *Chair*
Christine Ward Garrison, *Ph.D.*, *Vice Chair*
David Hemple, *Treasurer*
Mary Gruccio, *Ed.D.*, *Secretary*

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Sharon Baxter | Jill Mortensen, D.O. |
| Donna Carolla | Shelly Schneider, Ed.D. |
| Anthony Carter | Sherry Kejzman Soutiere |
| Ginger Chase | |
| Mark D'Onofrio | |
| Keith Figgs, Ed.D. | |
| Lilly Kejzman | |

Upcoming Foundation Events



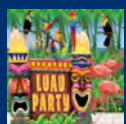
Designer Handbag Bingo
February 2, 2024



School Counts! Scholarship Reception
March 7, 2024



School Counts! Recognition
April 22, 2024



School Counts! Luau
April 6, 2024



Earth Day Celebration
April 21, 2024



School Counts! Golf Classic
June 6, 2024

Our Mission

The mission of the Foundation is to enhance the Colleges image within the community, foster lifelong relationships with donors and friends, and advance students in their career aspirations through scholarships and program support.

Our Vision

Our vision is to maintain open access to education for our Cumberland County students and work together to provide scholarship opportunities for our diverse communities.

Our Goals

The goals of the Foundation are to achieve its mission by:

1. Providing access to high quality education and
2. Sustainable employment through alumni relations and productive career paths for adults
3. Support programs and initiatives through fundraising, partnerships, and creating scholarships.

Foundation Contact Information

Maria LeBlanc, *Ed.D.*, *Executive Director*
Email: mleblanc@cumberlandfoundation.org
Web site: www.cumberlandfoundation.org
Phone: 856.807.5250
3322 College Dr.
Vineland, NJ 08360

Adult Center in Transition (ACT) Student Scholarship Recipient Testimonial

Each year the Foundation supports the ACT Program with scholarship and program support to assist students with their educational expenses. The ACT Scholarship helps to empower students by helping them find their passion through active listening. "The truth is, no matter how good we are, we can always be better. Our students' voices depend on it," said an ACT Scholarship Recipient.

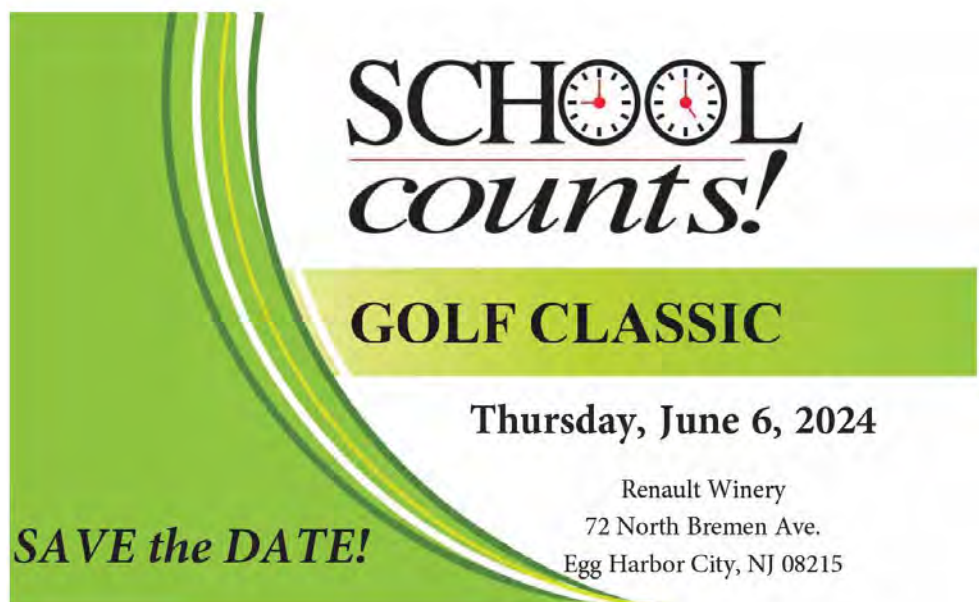
ACT students participate in job training throughout the year. One ACT graduate is now a general assistant of the program. Through her work as a general assistant, she has learned the importance of teamwork, communication, and emotional intelligence.



Foundation Board of Directors presented the ACT Program with a \$10,000 gift for scholarship support.



Upcoming Foundation Fundraisers



Foundation Sponsored Programs and Events

Clay College Receives New Kilns

On October 19, Foundation Board of Directors, Clay College faculty, staff, and Art program students gathered together at an appreciation event to showcase the new kilns gifted by the Foundation. The kilns will assist Clay College Art Programs and their students with their courses and projects.



Pictured left to right: Anthony Carter, Foundation Board of Director; Jackie Sandro Greenwell, Clay College Director; Dr. Shelly Schneider, Foundation Board of Director; Dr. Mary Gruccio, Foundation Secretary; Dr. Keith Figgs, Foundation Board of Director; Dr. Christine Ward Garrison, Foundation Vice Chair; Bob DeSanto, Foundation Chairman; Dr. Maria LeBlanc, Executive Director

On November 9, Foundation Board of Directors and Military Veterans Program representatives, administrators, employees and students unveiled the Military Veterans Wall of Fame honoring campus community veterans. The Foundation presented the Veteran Affairs Program with a \$5,000 gift to assist veteran students with their educational expenses. Many of our military veterans do not have the resources to complete a college degree. The Foundation is dedicated to helping the veterans of the Cumberland Campus.



Pictured left to right: Dr. Piccone, VP Cumberland Campus; Dr. Christine Ward Garrison, Vice Chair, Foundation; Dr. Maria LeBlanc, Executive Director, Foundation; Mr. John Ryder, Director, Veteran Affairs; Mrs. Danielle Carroll, Board of Trustee; Dr. Brenden Rickards, Provost



Foundation Sponsored Programs and Events

One Book Event: Remarkably Bright Creatures

This year's One Book event held in the Frank Guaracini, Jr. Fine and Performing Arts Center welcomed over 150 attendees including students, faculty, staff, and community members. The novel, Remarkably Bright Creatures, by Shelby Van Pelt was a required reading in selected Freshman Seminar and English courses. Students had the opportunity to meet the author, participate in a book signing event, and engage in academic discourse about the thematic structures within the literary work.



One Book Committee Pictured (left to right): Dr. Maria LeBlanc, Executive Director, Foundation, Sandra Reid, Nursing faculty; Judy Cirucci, Senior Instructional Designer; Toni DiTomo, English Faculty; Meredith Vicente, Senior Director, Special Services, Dr. Piccone, VP Cumberland Campus; (seated): Shelby Van Pelt



Author, Shelby Van Pelt, participated in a book signing and literary discussion.



Community members participated in a literary discussion.



Students, Foundation Board of Directors, staff and faculty gathered in the Frank Guaracini, Jr. Fine and Performing Arts Center for the One Book event.

Foundation Sponsored Programs and Events

Cumberland Foundation Partners with Cumberland County Center for Workforce & Economic Development and Atlantic City Electric for STEM Scholarships

The Foundation partnered with Atlantic City Electric and Cumberland County Center for Workforce & Economic Development to provide \$50,000 in scholarship support to Cumberland campus STEM students. AC Electric STEM students were recognized at the annual Foundation Scholarship Reception on September 19.

Pictured left to right: Ms. Jackie Romeo; Mrs. Christy DiLeonardo, Director, CWED; Ms. Jamie Gomez, Director of Employment and Training, CWED; Ms. Carol Musso, Cumberland Commissioner; Ms. Rachele Dorsey, Pepco Holdings, Workforce Development Manager; Dr. Mary Gruccio, Foundation Treasurer; Mr. Bob DeSanto; Foundation Chairman; Dr. Maria LeBlanc, Executive Director, Foundation



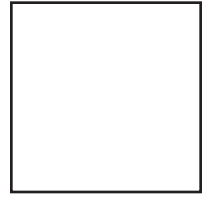
Pepco Holdings Workforce Development Manager, Ms. Rachele Dorsey, congratulates scholarship recipients at the September 21 scholarship reception.



Pepco Holdings Representatives supporting Atlantic City Electric STEM Scholarship Recipients at the September 21 scholarship reception.



Cumberland County Campus
Educational Foundation
3322 College Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360



Thank you to everyone who made
this season memorable!

Making a DIFFERENCE

