



FY22-23 PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

ON RESEARCH AND CREATIVE PROJECTS





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Letter from President Vincent Boudreau

Dear Friends and Supporters of City College,

I'm pleased to present you with the FY22-23 President's Annual Report on Research and Creative Projects. It describes a wide range of activities that together depict a college rising to the needs of the moment, in step with our historic mission.

I say "rising" specifically because, while we approached something like normalcy last year, we are closer still today. Students and faculty both now move back and forth between in-person and online modes of instruction, but with a significant difference from our recent past. Today, the decision to teach in person or online has little to do with safety or public health concerns, and more reflects our desire to combine the powerful learning community of classroom instruction with our desire to reach students who may have difficulty scheduling one or more classes. As a result, the campus today is every bit as full and vital as ever it was, and that's a welcome change.

A new generation of students is discovering what it means to be part of a campus community, and we've been eager to meet their expectations and needs. We have a newly inaugurated Office of Experiential Learning, where students can identify opportunities to conduct research, to intern, to undertake service placements, and to study abroad. Our summer Opportunities in Research

and Creative Arts (ORCA) program, now an established part of college life here, gives students the chance to immerse themselves in a scholarship-supported intensive summer research project under the mentorship of a faculty member. The poster sessions the students produce at the end of their work are among the most sophisticated and impressive I have ever seen on a college campus.

"A new generation of students is discovering what it means to be part of a campus community, and we've been eager to meet their expectations and needs."

The College is also taking more explicit stock of our national and city needs in developing our programs, and it shows in some of our new efforts. For example, over the past several years, the city's leadership decided to invest in efforts to cultivate a gaming industry in New York—an industry that contributes six times more to our national GDP than the motion picture industry. Fueled by a grant from the mayor's office, CCNY established a gaming program that combines eSports competition (especially as a way to recruit the interest of prospective CCNY applicants) and a curriculum leading to a major. This initiative will make CCNY the educational provider for one of the city's key economic development

initiatives. The courses we open for this major, by the way, fill up in a matter of hours.

This past year, CCNY, in partnership with CUNY's School for Labor and Urban Studies, launched an institute called Leadership for Democracy and Social Justice. The institute is designed to be a place where established advocates for social justice—writers, lawyers, organizers and elected officials—can work with and develop the talents of CCNY students interested in contributing to a more democratic and just American society. The institute will feature senior visiting fellows and a robust array of scholarships for CCNY students.

Sincerely,

Vincent Boudreau
President



Letter from Provost Tony Liss

Dear Friends and Supporters of City College,

As I write this letter, we are just entering the second week of the Fall semester and campus has returned to vibrancy after quiet summer weeks. The cycle repeats every year, but never fails to feel new and exciting. This past year we have had a renewed focus on enrollment and retention and I am proud of the progress we have made on these fronts.

Progress did not happen by itself. First and foremost is the team we have built over the past few years to support our student success efforts: Joanna Kucharski came to the College two years ago as the director of admissions, Naomi Nwosu-Stewart joined us as assistant vice president for enrollment management in January 2022, Nikisha Williams was hired three years ago, with Foundation support, as the executive director of institutional research and, most recently the Foundation-supported advisors who have been deployed throughout the College.

The new admissions team has significantly strengthened our freshman and transfer enrollment by completely revamping the admissions process, moving the schedule earlier and integrating it closely with the academic divisions.

Driven by analysis from the executive director of the Office of Institutional Research, we have made great progress in understanding key markers for the success of students once they are enrolled. For example, the retention rate for students who declare a major

by the start of their sophomore year is dramatically higher than those who take more time. As a result, Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, and our academic divisions have a new, collaborative focus on helping students to declare a major as soon as possible. The new Foundation-supported advisors are absolutely key in this process and have been deployed both to help undeclared students find their way, and to provide support once they transition to their new home department.

Navigating the bureaucracy of financial aid, the Bursar and registration can also be significant roadblocks to student success. To help students efficiently manage their way through the bureaucracy we have opened OneStop in the NAC lobby. OneStop is staffed by cross-trained experts from the three offices, so that students can have all of their related issues resolved in one place rather than being sent from office to office.

"Progress did not happen by itself. First and foremost is the team we have built over the past few years to support our student success efforts"

There is, without a doubt, plenty of work still to do and this year we are laser focused on retention. But there is optimism among the academic divisions that we have made important and successful changes and are headed in the right direction.

I am happy to report three successful searches for senior administrators at the

College to further build our team. Last spring, we closed the search for the dean of Humanities and the Arts, a search with three exceptionally strong finalists. Renata Miller, who had been interim dean, is now the permanent dean of Humanities and the Arts. We also have a new associate dean and chief librarian, Mario Ramirez, who joined us from California State University Los Angeles. And Ramón de los Santos joined us from LaGuardia Community College as our new assistant vice president for Student Affairs.

Every year I write this letter, I am reminded of what a privilege it is for me to work at City College and with the dedicated staff and faculty who make this place so inspiring.

Sincerely,

Tony Liss
Provost



Letter from Vice President and Executive Director Dee Dee Mozeleski

Dear Friends and Supporters of City College,

Each year, I begin this letter wondering what you'll find most interesting about our past year together. The hardest part of drafting this is that the word count I'm given never seems to do justice to the work being done at City College all year. I imagine that every person, when asked to write something, believes that the limitations put on them by the size of a page is restrictive but, in the case of this report, I find it truly difficult to shine a light on all that happens here because so much of it happens outside of the big press releases or the large public events.

Much of what we do is done while looking at the College through its historic lens: What does it mean to serve the 'whole people' and how do we know if we are doing justice to the founding principles of this great experiment?

Earlier this year, this was really brought home for me in a new way because of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on affirmative action. Every year, when I meet new colleagues, I ask them to tell me their thoughts about City College, but without using the word 'diverse.' I never fail to hear a pause as someone begins to tell me about our advocacy work, our commitment to developing leadership skills, our goal of service to others, be it through our academic programs or through our community impact initiatives because the easiest way to describe us is exactly the thing I want them not to focus on for a few minutes. Yes, we are diverse, in ways that stand outside of what we sometimes think of when quantifying

what diversity means, and that is exactly why City College is such an important and necessary institution of higher learning.

That our students, staff and faculty represent exactly what it means to build truly diverse and thoughtful societies is evident in our classrooms, and in our research labs, and in every part of our campus where people come together to solve challenges, to work together and to develop new ways of thinking. And that we have always done this work in ways that have sometimes pushed against boundaries set by laws in place at any given time is exactly why our work matters so much.

And yet, it is not just our campus family that makes us different. It is also the many partnerships we have with so many of you, our friends, supporters, indeed, our ambassadors and advocates, who look to City College and see exactly what access to an excellent education can do to change every part of our world.

We are grateful to every donor who makes it a priority to support our students, whether it is through internships, scholarships, mentoring programs or research support. And we are equally thankful to everyone who sees the importance of partnering with our faculty and administration to ensure that a world-class education is always within reach of our talented students.

In so many ways, higher education is going through a truly fundamental series of changes not seen for a century or more. That you choose to make City College the place where you give your support and your friendship is something we are all grateful for each day.

***"In so many ways,
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As you read through the pages of this report, and you see the ways in which City College reaffirms its commitment to society each day, know that we do this work with each of you and for that, we are grateful.

Sincerely,

**Dee Dee Mozeleski
Senior Advisor to the President &
Vice President and Executive Director
The Foundation for City College**

Student Body

TOTAL #
STUDENTS**14,403**

(AS OF FALL 2022)

UNDERGRAD

11,481

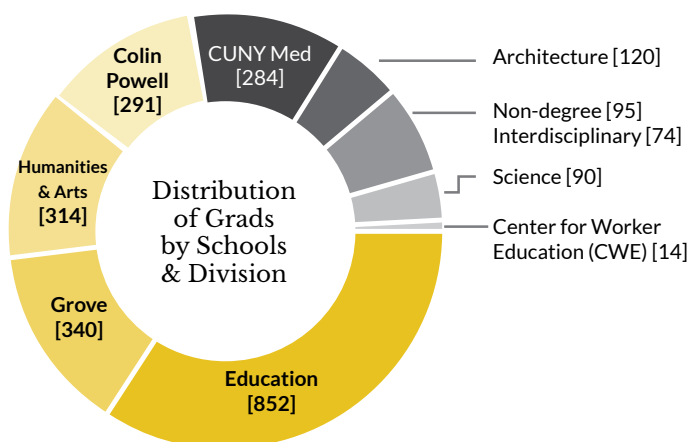
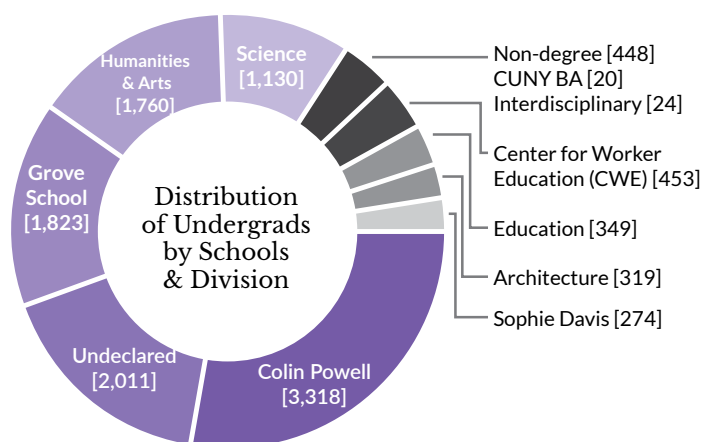
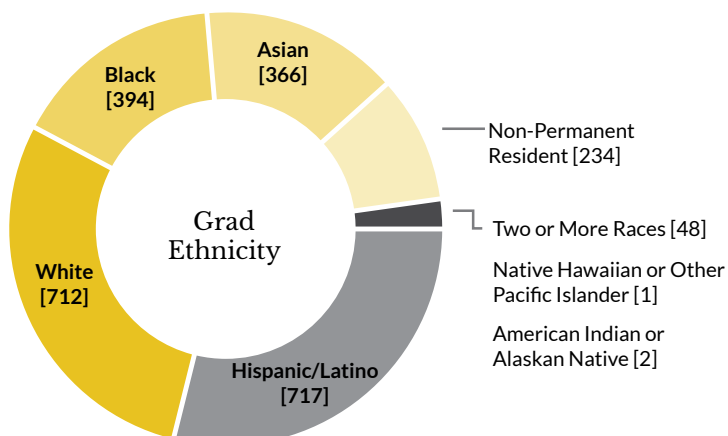
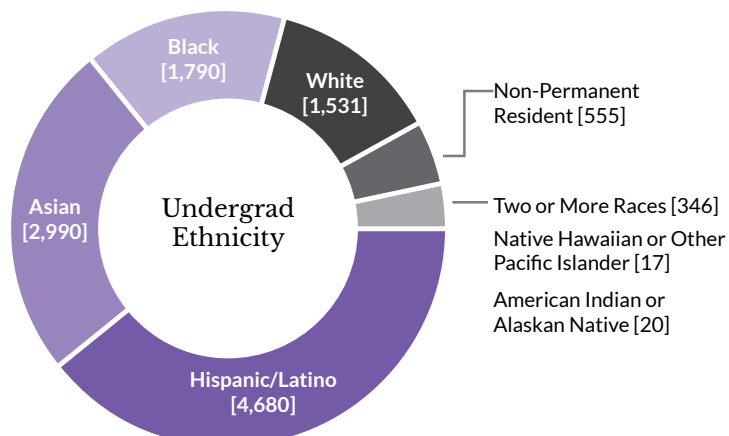
GRAD

2,268MASTERS: 1,767
Ph.D: 217

MD: 266 / MS: 18

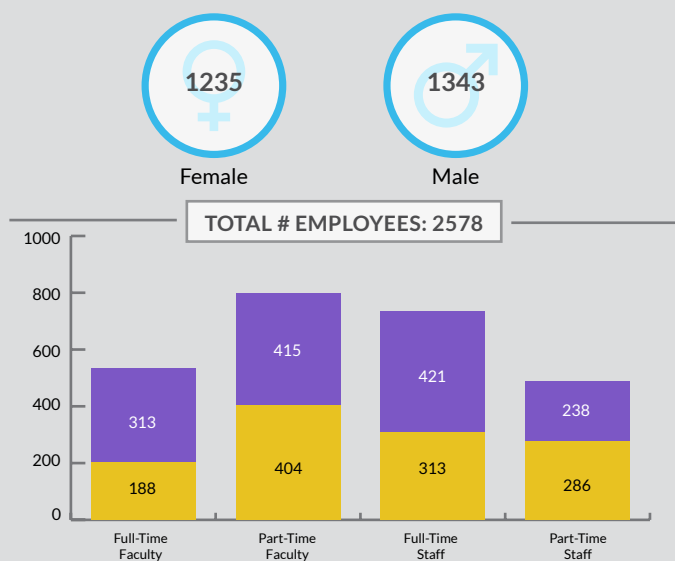
NON-DEGREE: 543
ADVANCED

CERTIFICATE: 111



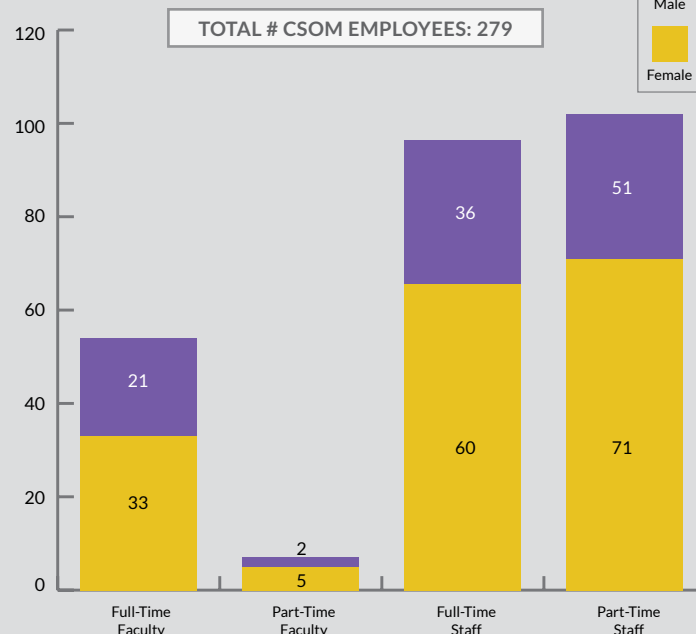
Source: CUNY Census data. Headcount represents all students enrolled in the Fall 2022 semester (both degree and non-degree seeking)

EMPLOYEE BREAKDOWN

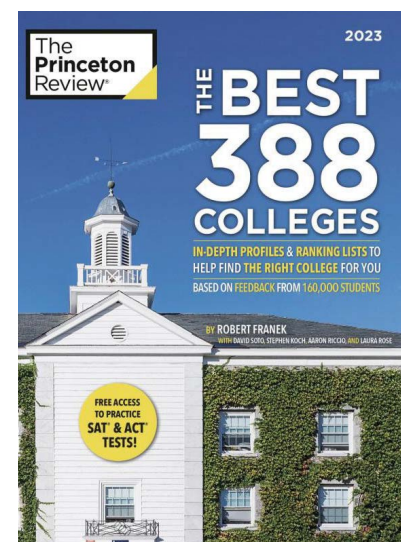
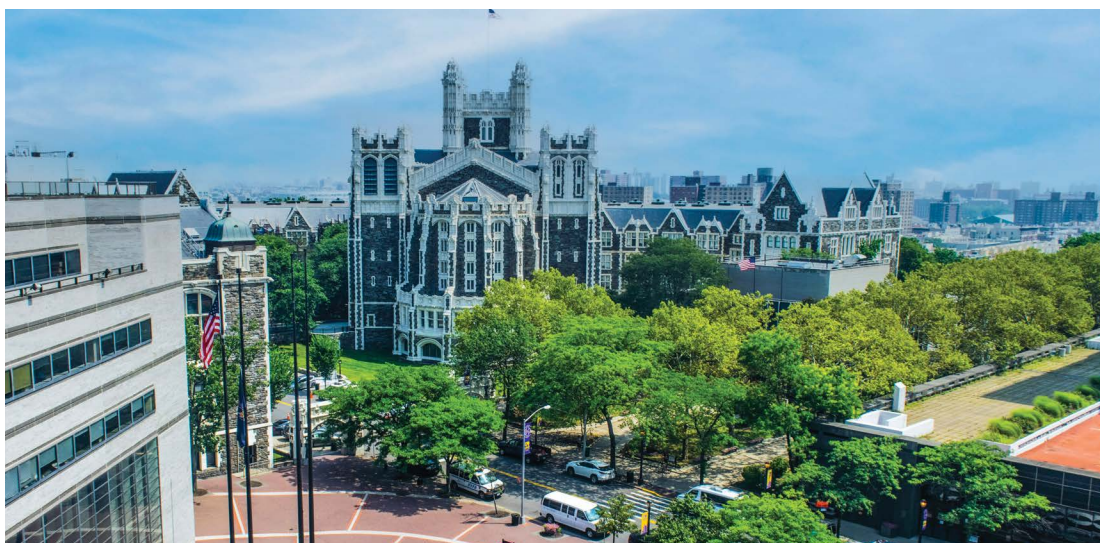


Source: CCNY HR data are extracted from IPEDS in August 2022.

CUNY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



PRINCETON REVIEW RANKINGS



CCNY is a Princeton Review "Best College"

The City College of New York is one of the nation's best institutions for undergraduates according to The Princeton Review®. The education services company profiles and recommends CCNY in the new edition of its annual college guide, "The Best 388 Colleges: 2023 Edition."

The Princeton Review chose the colleges for the book based on data it collects annually from surveys of 2,000 college administrators about their institutions' academic offerings. For its selection of profiled schools for the book, the company also reviews data from its surveys of college students attending the schools. Only about 14 percent of America's 2,700 four-year colleges are profiled in the book.

"We salute The City College for its outstanding academics, and its many other impressive offerings. We're delighted to recommend it as an ideal choice for students searching for their 'best-fit' college," said Rob Franek, The Princeton Review's editor-in-chief and lead author of "The Best 388 Colleges."

In the CCNY profile, Princeton Review editors praise the school for its "quality and challenging education," and quote CCNY students surveyed by the company. The students hailed CCNY's "broad curriculum," with special mention for its "rigorous sciences" and an engineering school that is "one of the best public schools."

The Princeton Review does not rank the colleges in the book hierarchically from 1 to 388. However, the book has 50 categories of ranking lists. Each list names the top 25 schools (of those in the book) in its category. The ranking lists are tallied based on The Princeton Review's surveys of 160,000 students at the 388 schools in the book. The company's 85-question student survey asked students to rate their colleges on dozens of topics and report on their campus experiences at them.

...and CCNY Features in Guide to Green Colleges, too.



For the fifth straight year, The City College of New York ranks among the nation's most environmentally responsible colleges, according to The Princeton Review®.

CCNY is featured in its online resource, "The Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges: 2023 Edition."

The Princeton Review chose the schools in the guide based on its survey of administrators at 713 colleges during the 2021-22 academic year and surveys of students attending the colleges. The company editors analyzed more than 25 survey data points to select the 455 schools chosen for the guide.

"We strongly recommend The City College to the increasing number of students who care about the environment and want their 'best-fit' college to also ideally be a green one," said Franek. "CCNY demonstrates an exemplary commitment to sustainability and to green practices—and it offers excellent academic programs."

Franek noted that The Princeton Review has seen an increasing level of interest among students in attending green colleges. Of the more than 10,000 college applicants the company polled for its 2022 College Hopes & Worries Survey, 77 percent said having information about a college's commitment to the environment would affect their decision to apply to or attend a school.

The school profiles in "The Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges" report on the colleges' uses of renewable energy, their recycling and conservation programs, the availability of environmental studies in their academic offerings, and their career guidance for green jobs. The profiles also include information on the schools' admission requirements, cost, and financial aid.

CCNY has a green rating of 81/99, and is cited for offering a sustainability-focused degree and having a public GHG (greenhouse gas) inventory plan.

The Princeton Review has published its "Guide to Green Colleges" annually since 2010. City College has appeared in the guide every year since 2018.



CCNY Ranks #1 Nationally for ROI

Degreechoices, a team of education researchers working to provide valuable financial advice and guide prospective students to find schools and careers that best suit their needs, ranks The City College of New York #1 of all national universities in the United States for economic return on investment (ROI).

In addition, CCNY placed highly in other Degreechoices categories for ROI, namely:

- **#1 of all national universities in New York;**
- **#4 of all colleges in New York;**
- **#4 of all Hispanic-serving Institutions (HSIs) in the US; and**
- **#4 of all HSIs in New York.**

“These outstanding achievements see CCNY beat leading institutions at the top of the rankings, such as Princeton, MIT, Stanford, Harvard and Yale,” said Carly Brown of Degreechoices.

CCNY’s two #1 positionings are in the ranking category which looks at colleges which are classified as national universities only, she explained. The #4 positionings are in ranking categories which consider all types of college (except for community, online, and for-profit), and not just national universities alone.

This sees Baruch, Hunter, and Lehman take positions #1-3 in HSIs nationally, HSIs in New York, and all colleges in New York due to their lower economic score (lower = better for economic score).”

Degreechoices calculates return on educational investment by taking median student earnings 10 years after the first year of studies and deducting the median net cost of the degree (after aid) from these earnings. It then deducts the earnings that the student likely would have had with just a high school diploma.

For CCNY graduates, the ROI is across degree types and majors. It helps secure their future and that of their families. The rankings are the outcome of Degreechoices’ quest to answer the question: “Is college still worth it?”

“We analyzed data on over 2,000 colleges and found that graduates from over 500 schools took more than 10 years to recoup their educational investment, and 25 percent of the total schools surveyed provided negative value, meaning their students would likely have been better off financially having not gone to college in the first place,” said Brown.

Data from two U.S. Department of Education programs, the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and College Scorecard, were used.

“Many ranking systems focus on assigning value to different schools based on a myriad of non-economic factors—student to teacher ratios, incoming student average test scores, endowment size, and peer reviews to name a few. Our ranking system is different because it is focused entirely on median economic output, or which schools and programs offer students a better chance of higher economic success,” added Brown.

“Our findings have led to the conclusion that, for most degree programs available on the market, the answer is yes—the value

of higher education is indeed worth the investment.”

CCNY Shines in U.S. News & World Report Rankings

The City College of New York jumped in several categories following the release of the U.S. News & World Report 2022-2023 Best Colleges rankings. CCNY is a top performer in social mobility (#12) and top public schools (#72) with an overall #151 ranking out of 443 national universities.

The following is a list of CCNY’s rankings:

- **#12 in Social Mobility - National Universities**
- **#72 Top Public Schools - National Universities (tie)**
- **#104 Best Undergraduate Engineering - Doctorate (tie)**
- **#151 overall in National Universities (tie)**
- **#158 Best Undergraduate Computer Science**

In addition, the college ranked #159 in Best Value Schools and climbed five places from #17 in 2021 to #12 in social mobility. City College also jumped from #87 previously to #72 in top public schools and had an overall rating of #176 in 2021, which rose to #151 this year.

The rankings are based on in-depth analyses that use a wide variety of data points.

U.S. Secretary of State Salutes CCNY's Designation as a Fulbright Hispanic-Serving Institution Leader



U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken lauded The City College of New York's designation as a 2022 Fulbright Hispanic-Serving Institution Leader.

"As one of 43 Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) honored for demonstrating noteworthy engagement with the Fulbright Program by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), City College of New York exemplifies a deep commitment to international exchange and to building lasting connections between the people of the United States and the people of other countries," Blinken wrote in a letter to President Vincent Boudreau.

"The State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs established the Fulbright HSI Leader designation in 2021 to recognize the strong partnerships between the Fulbright Program and selected HSIs, and to encourage all HSIs to increase engagement with Fulbright. This initiative is part of our longstanding commitment to build diversity and inclusion within the Fulbright Program and within all of our international exchange programs," Blinken added.

CCNY was named in that first cohort of 2021 HSI leaders in the "Doctoral Institutions" category, along with

17 other colleges and universities nationally.

"Because Fulbright HSI Leader status is based on participation across the range of Fulbright awards and on-campus engagement, I thank your entire team for their hard work. I encourage you to expand the impact of Fulbright on your campus by utilizing all of our short- and long-term opportunities for your faculty, students, and administrators. To assist you in sharing this good news throughout your campus and community, we are sending resources to your institution's communications office and to Fulbright Program stakeholders on campus," wrote Blinken.

"As a diplomat, I love the Fulbright Program because it supports changemakers and fosters global cooperation. Fulbrighters make the world a better place in classrooms and countries worldwide."

U.S. News Ranks CUNY MED's Physician Assistant Program Among Nation's Best

The Physician Assistant Program at the CUNY School of Medicine at The City College of New York (CUNY MED) is one of the Top 50 P.A. programs in the nation, according to U.S. News' 2023-2024 Best Health Schools Rankings.



CUNY MED's program is tied with 15 other schools, including Boston University, Hofstra University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the University of Pittsburgh.

"When prospective students are considering their options for graduate school, the Best Graduate Schools rankings are designed to help them identify schools that excel in the program they want to study."

***- LaMont Jones
Senior Editor, U.S. News***

The rankings were compiled from 211 physician assistant programs accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, and are based on in-depth analyses that use a wide variety of data points.

Other CCNY programs ranked highly by U.S. News include: the Grove School of Engineering, ranked #60 in chemical engineering and tied at #112 overall (a rise of 28 positions from last year); fine arts in the Division of Humanities and the Arts, tied at #64; clinical psychology and psychology, both in the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership, tied at #101 and #111, respectively; and earth sciences in the Division of Science, tied at #149.

"When prospective students are considering their options for graduate school, the Best Graduate Schools rankings are designed to help them identify schools that excel in the program they want to study," said LaMont Jones, senior editor of education at U.S. News. "With many options available, U.S. News provides a wealth of data in an easy format to help each student make the best decision."

The David Aronow Foundation Gifts \$75K for Internships



David Aronow '13

The David Aronow Foundation has partnered, once again, with The City College of New York for a fellowship named after the Class of 1913 alumnus David Aronow. The David Aronow Fellowship at City College will provide a \$3,000 stipend to students with unpaid internships.

Aronow was the youngest of five surviving children in an immigrant family, and the only member of his generation to have the chance to go to college: City College. He established his foundation in 1947, and it has contributed to educational, humanitarian, cultural and scientific causes for over seven decades.

"We at The David Aronow Foundation trust that this fellowship establishes David Aronow's gratitude to CCNY and that it provides a critical link between higher education and professional experience and aspirations," said Vida Leong, president of The David Aronow Foundation.

The gift, totaling \$75,000, will continue to support the completion of internships by CCNY students. The Aronow Foundation's existing partnership provides annual stipend awards to CCNY students through the College's Career & Professional Development Institute.

"The Aronow Family has been committed, for generations, to the mission of City College, starting with the naming of the Aronow Theater," said Dee Dee Mozeleski, vice president of the Office of Institutional Advancement, Communications, and

External Relations, executive director of the Foundation for City College and senior advisor to the president. "We are fortunate to continue this relationship with the Foundation and its members and believe that the work we do together today is a direct reflection of David Aronow's belief in the social mobility impact City College has always had on our students and their futures."

More information about the foundation's partnership with CCNY can be found online at: <https://davidaronow.foundation/ccny>.

Alumni of "The Paper" Establish Social Justice Journalism Scholarship



Madeline Cortes Reyes and Krystal Suriel

A major gift has established "The Paper" Endowed Scholarship Fund for Social Justice for students interested in journalism and engaged in social justice projects, and who require additional monetary support to complete their academics and extracurricular activities that strengthen their community.

Junior Madeline Cortes Reyes and senior Krystal Suriel, both first-generation college students, are the first recipients of the Scholarship. Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship award for the 2022 academic school year.

"I would like to see my community's stories being told because we exist and we are a monumental part of society," said Cortes Reyes, who is majoring in studio art, for which she has had a passion since childhood. "The newspaper has given me the opportunity to connect with other like-minded people."

"It's my mission to educate others through my writing," said Suriel, who is interested in popular culture and the

entertainment business. "Social justice activism is one of the best ways to create change because so many of these issues intersect."

Established by the founders and alumni of "The Paper," an independent student publication founded in 1970, the scholarships are open to all CCNY undergraduates enrolled in the SEEK Program, and may be expanded College-wide later. Awards are based on criteria that include a commitment to social justice, good academic standing, a written essay and an interview with a panel that includes members of "The Paper" Scholarship Committee.



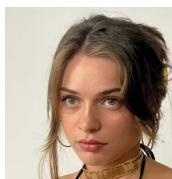
The staff photograph from spring semester 1971 taken in "The Paper's" office located in old Finley Hall.

Created by a group of multiracial students at CCNY during a period of social upheaval in the U.S. that included the Civil Rights movement, the Vietnam War and its anti-war demonstrations, and the struggle for student rights, "The Paper" (formerly "Tech News") reported on not just college-related issues, but sought to give voice to the underserved in and around the Harlem Community, nationally (including a groundbreaking story on the 1971 Attica Prison uprising), and internationally.

"Many people went on to accomplish great things in their careers as a result of a top-notch City College education, and the privilege of working with achievers on 'The Paper.' This scholarship is our way of saying thanks, and offering encouragement to current students," said Albert De Leon '72, who served as the publication's editor-in-chief in 1972.

CCNY Awards Junior Sara Molano its First Ella Fitzgerald Scholarship

A major gift endowed by the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation



Sara Molano

established The Ella Fitzgerald Memorial Scholarship. The inaugural Scholar is Sara Molano, a junior who transferred from the New School to pursue her passion and accept the Scholarship.

Recipients may major in two subjects, as long as one of them is jazz studies with a vocal concentration, and must maintain a grade point average of 3.0.

Molano, a native of Venezuela who grew up in Boston, cites Billie Holiday and Amy Winehouse as her primary influences. "I've been singing since I was five. To think that I could sing and make a living at it—that would be the ultimate," she said.

"City College has a great music program and it provides access to students from diverse backgrounds," said Randal Rosman, the Foundation's vice president of programs. While scouting for potential beneficiaries, he was contacted by Assistant Professor of Jazz Vocal Studies Suzanne Pittson. She spoke of the many talented jazz students at CCNY, many of whom often have difficulty funding their studies while committing their time to developing their musical skill.

"Receiving this scholarship is a dream come true and will give us the opportunity to further cultivate and foster the talent in our program," said Pittson, the associate director of the B.M. Jazz Studies program, who will serve as Sara's mentor. "Based on her audition, Sara exhibited maturity, talent and musicianship."

"We're enormously grateful to the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation for their generous support of students in our Jazz Studies program," said Dean Renata Miller of the Division of Humanities and the Arts. "Our B.M. and M.M. programs in jazz studies build on Harlem's central role in the history of the art form, and our students enjoy the benefits of and participate in Harlem's musical vitality, so it's particularly fitting that we celebrate the legacy of a Harlem jazz great by supporting the development of new musical voices."

Ella Fitzgerald (1917-1996), nicknamed the First Lady of Song, is one of the most celebrated American artists of

all time. Her music sold more than 40 million albums, and she won 13 Grammy Awards. She recorded more than 200 albums and around 2,000 songs, and performed thousands of times between 1934 and 1993, including a memorable concert at the Lewisohn Stadium in 1965 and at the opening of Aaron Davis Hall in 1979.

Fitzgerald collaborated with music greats including Chick Webb, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and Louis Armstrong. Her numerous awards and honors include an honorary doctorate in music from Howard University, the NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation was created and funded by its namesake in 1993 and awards more than 30 scholarships around the country. "The Ella Fitzgerald Scholarship at CCNY draws attention to Ella's love of education and young people," said Rosman. "It is especially meaningful because it is close to where she grew up."

Gerstner Philanthropies Supports Helping Hands Emergency Fund



The City College of New York is pleased to announce that Gerstner

Philanthropies has made a gift of \$166,667 to support the Helping Hands Student Emergency Fund at CCNY. Helping Hands provides one-time assistance to students facing one-time emergencies with the goal to help college students continue through to graduation.

"We are excited to be expanding our support to five CUNY colleges with strong social mobility outcomes, particularly as impacts from inflation put more students at risk of economic instability," said Alice Goh, program director of Gerstner Philanthropies.

Helping Hands offers a variety of ways to support students when a destabilizing event occurs, such as eviction, job loss, a natural disaster or illness. Common assistance comes as coverage of rent,

utility bills or medical costs, but the program may also cover more tangible needs, such as essential furniture, emergency food or clothing, depending on the circumstances. Whatever the emergency, Helping Hands is meant to do just that—provide a helping hand. Grants are made directly to third parties eliminating student difficulties in accessing bank accounts. Students are eligible to apply for one grant per academic year with a maximum amount of \$3,000. The grant will assist students for the remainder of 2023.

"We are grateful to be able to partner with the Gerstner Philanthropies team, which allows us to expand on the important work of providing emergency support to our students to maintain momentum in their college career."

***- Dee Dee Mozeleski
Vice President of OIACER,
Executive Director of the
Foundation for City College and
Senior Advisor to the President***

"We are grateful to be able to partner with the Gerstner Philanthropies team, which allows us to expand on the important work of providing emergency support to our students to maintain momentum in their college career. Student retention is a key goal of City College," said Dee Dee Mozeleski, vice president of the Office of Institutional Advancement, Communications, and External Relations, executive director of the Foundation for City College and senior advisor to the president.

In 2023, Gerstner Philanthropies has given nearly \$8 million through Helping Hands and aims to impact over 12,000 individuals through the program this year. Gerstner Philanthropies also supports programs centered on biomedical research, educational opportunities for underserved communities, and environmental sustainability.



Anonymous \$18,500,000.00	Jewish Communal Fund \$215,500.00	Democracy Fund \$100,000.00	Robert Sterling Clark Foundation \$55,000.00
The Jerome J. Levy Foundation \$2,404,271.77	Anonymous \$201,000.00	Ichigo Foundation \$100,000.00	WX, Inc. \$54,000.00
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation \$2,250,000.00	The Teagle Foundation \$200,000.00	The Charles and Ann Johnson Foundation \$100,000.00	Howard V. Campbell \$51,000.00
Ugelow Living Trust \$930,902.25	U. S. Department of Education \$200,000.00	Lillian R. Schneider \$100,000.00	Nancy Mandell \$50,444.57
Standard Chartered Bank \$528,740.00	The Alfred Harcourt Foundation \$198,704.00	Viola Foundation \$100,000.00	Sara Latta and Tony Liss \$50,250.00
Anonymous \$505,000.00	The Herman H. Flum Trust \$196,920.23	Anonymous \$97,000.00	Aaron L. Spital \$50,100.00
The Ford Foundation \$500,000.00	Colin L. Powell and Alma Powell \$177,317.59	The J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation \$84,000.00	Ajay Babbar \$50,000.00
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation \$500,000.00	The Estate of Jacob Feinstein \$157,443.92	The Gottsesman Fund \$81,250.00	Anil Babbar \$50,000.00
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation \$500,000.00	Charles H. Revson Foundation \$150,000.00	Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund \$81,000.00	Anonymous \$50,000.00
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation \$500,000.00	The Winston Foundation, Inc. \$150,000.00	The David Aronow Foundation, Inc. \$79,260.00	Laura Speyer and Joseph Goodman \$50,000.00
Eugene Surowitz \$500,000.00	Bloch Family Foundation, Inc. \$150,000.00	Michael E. Green, Ph.D. \$79,000.00	Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, Inc. \$50,000.00
The Grove Foundation \$300,000.00	Prasad U. Nimmagadda \$150,000.00	The Estate of Gregory Stein \$75,000.00	The New York Community Trust \$50,000.00
Heising-Silmons Foundation \$300,000.00	Thomas W. Smith Foundation \$140,000.00	Dr. Martin B. Sherwin \$71,411.00	William S. Paley Foundation \$50,000.00
The Alzheimer's Foundation of America \$250,000.00	Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund \$134,789.88	The Student Aid Association of City College \$65,000.00	The Rudin Foundations, Inc. \$50,000.00
Dalio Foundation, Inc. \$250,000.00	Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Schuchman \$125,000.00	The Estate of Lee H. "Hugo" Schank \$64,952.48	Santander Bank, N.A. \$50,000.00
Donald A. and Cynthia Degazon \$250,000.00	Greater Washington Community Foundation \$125,000.00	GS Humane Corporation \$62,000.00	The Estate of Harold M. Spielman \$50,000.00
The Peter and Sidi Gluck Trust \$250,000.00	Dr. and Mrs. Arnold F. Stancell \$120,000.00	The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation \$60,000.00	Robert Tuschman \$50,000.00
The Lucian Caste Charitable Foundation \$230,000.00	The Gray Foundation \$120,000.00	May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation Inc. \$55,000.00	The Wuensch Living Trust \$50,000.00
Innovaveering, LLC \$216,412.32	Ceragem \$100,000.00		
	Darby Foundation \$100,000.00		

Theodore L. Cross Family Charitable Foundation \$40,000.00	Futures Unbound \$25,000.00	Agriforce \$15,000.00	Michael C. Mark \$10,970.51
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Theresa Krell \$40,000.00	Lynn Kapiloff \$25,000.00	David M. Bendich \$15,000.00	Jane H. Bachner \$10,000.00
NACME-National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering \$39,365.00	Walter I. Kinstler \$25,000.00	Peter C. Compo \$15,000.00	David and Minnie Berk Foundation Inc. \$10,000.00
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Jacobson LLP \$39,000.00	McGuire Woods \$25,000.00	FX Collaborative Architects LLP \$15,000.00	Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation \$10,000.00
The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation \$37,500.00	Mr. and Mrs. Marc W. Salganik \$25,000.00	Infrastructure Engineering Foundation \$15,000.00	Joan N. and Norman Bluestone Foundation, Inc. \$10,000.00
The Estate of Robert Horan \$36,348.45	Linda Schoen-Giddings \$25,000.00	Diana Granat \$15,000.00	Patricia Cantor \$10,000.00
Braven Environment \$35,000.00	Mr. Sy Sternberg and Mrs. Laurie Sternberg \$25,000.00	Dominick N. Mazzone \$15,000.00	Nina Diamond \$10,000.00
Marin Community Foundation \$35,000.00	BASF Corporation \$22,500.00	Margaret F. Mudd \$15,000.00	Lillian Feder Foundation \$10,000.00
Leonard-Litz Foundation \$35,000.00	MacMillan \$21,945.00	Upcycle Solutions, LLC \$15,000.00	The Helene Foundation \$10,000.00
Schwab Charitable Fund \$33,050.00	Central Indiana Community Foundation \$20,000.00	Kingdom of Netherlands \$14,900.00	Beverly J. Hodgson \$10,000.00
Service Employees International Union (SEIU) \$32,000.00	Alan Du \$20,000.00	Ferdinand J. Carrillo \$14,380.00	Hudson Specialties Inc. \$10,000.00
Ernest and Marilyn Businelli \$30,900.00	Dr. and Mrs. Paul Fenster \$20,000.00	American Society of Mechanical Engineers \$14,000.00	Lucia Kelley \$10,000.00
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Von Zerneck \$30,600.00	The Joseph and Claire Flom Foundation \$20,000.00	American Endowment Foundation \$13,500.00	Daniel J. Kornstein \$10,000.00
Informa UK \$30,301.00	Linda Gottesman \$20,000.00	Mark Halperin \$13,500.00	Edward P. Krugman \$10,000.00
American Chemistry Council \$30,000.00	Hollander Design Landscape Architects \$20,000.00	Quest A Community for Lifelong Learning \$13,500.00	Michael D. Morganstern \$10,000.00
Brewster Family Foundation \$30,000.00	Dr. and Mrs. Mark E. Kozminsky \$20,000.00	The City College of New York Alumni Association \$13,000.00	Noel J. McDonald \$10,000.00
Group M \$30,000.00	Koret Foundation \$20,000.00	Helen Epstein \$13,000.00	David S. Newman \$10,000.00
Dr. Yick Moon Lee \$30,000.00	Bobby C. Lawyer \$20,000.00	Lawrence F. Shackman \$13,000.00	Professional Women in Construction \$10,000.00
The Lincoln Fund \$30,000.00	Melvin S. Litoff \$20,000.00	Jun Wu \$12,900.00	Penguin Random House, LLC \$10,000.00
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Margot T. Elkin \$26,500.00	Ropes & Gray LLP \$20,000.00	Elizabeth Weikes \$12,500.00	The Richard Ravitch Foundation \$10,000.00
Donna B. Young \$25,257.08	Peter Scola \$19,833.25	Ostrovsky Family Fund \$12,000.00	ReedSmith \$10,000.00
California Community Foundation \$25,000.00	David J. Deutsch \$18,600.00	The Psychological Center \$11,884.13	Herbert R. Rubin \$10,000.00
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Cohen \$25,000.00	Anonymous \$17,768.07	The Kleinrock Schuler Family Charitable Foundation \$11,500.00	Emmanual and Orsa Velivasakis \$10,000.00
DFI Educational Trust \$25,000.00	ExxonMobil Foundation \$16,585.00	Rita V. Hirsch \$11,113.20	Robin Villa \$10,000.00
Dan US Media HQ \$25,000.00	Gabriella de Beer \$16,057.00	Anna R. Marinaccio \$11,000.00	Howard L. Zimmerman \$10,000.00
	Ridgewood Foundation \$15,400.00	Judith Rodriguez \$11,000.00	

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*Each year, we work to
 create a comprehensive
 list of giving to the College.
 We are grateful to all of
 our supporters and work
 to ensure that our annual
 gifts list is accurate. If you
 see any errors, or would
 like a correction made to a
 future issue of this Report,
 please feel free to email us:
give@ccny.cuny.edu*

*The list is from gifts recieved
 from 7/1/2022-6/30/2023*

EXTERNALLY FUNDED GRANTS FOR FACULTY RESEARCH AND TRAINING GREATER THAN \$250K IN FY23.

Name	Department	Project Details	Amount
CITY SPONSORSHIP			
Teresa Badosz	Chemistry	Characterization and Study of Granular Activated Carbon	\$1,531,197.00
Michael Bobker	CUNY Institute for Urban Systems	Energy Data Lab, NYC Building Operator Training Program & Sustainability Help Center	\$10,293,788.00
		NYC Building Operator Training Program	\$253,782.00
		Sustainability Help Center	\$624,908.00
Ramona Hernandez	CUNY Dominican Studies Institute at City College	Dominican Studies Institute	\$1,005,000.00
John Fillos	Civil Engineering	Research And Development Projects To Optimize Waste-water Treatment Plant Operations	\$1,166,667.00

FEDERAL SPONSORSHIP

Marom Bikson	Biomedical Engineering	kHz Frequency Spinal Cord Stimulation: Novel Temperature-Based Mechanisms of Action	\$507,685.00
Michael Bobker	CUNY Institute for Urban Systems	Data-Driven Commercial Building Energy Code Compliance and Technology Inventory for New York City	\$255,621.00
Peter Brass	President	Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment	\$280,674.00
Hazel Carter	Learning, Leadership, & Culture	CCNY TRIO Education Talent Search	\$277,375.00
		TRIO - Upward Bound	\$378,856.00
Doris Cintron-Nabi	Provost	CiPASS-ExL: City College Initiative to Promote the Academic Success of Students - Experimental Learning and Industry Engagement for Workforce Readiness	\$589,592.00
		City College Initiative to Promote the Academic Success of STEM Students - Experiential Learning & Career Engagement Initiative (CiPASS-ExLCEI)	\$995,709.00
Elvin Niell	Mechanical Engineering	GOALI/Collaborative Research: Nonlinear Energy Dynamics of Aerodynamically Coupled Oscillators	\$274,446.00
Mark Emerson	Biology	Transcriptional Regulation of Cone Photoreceptor Genesis	\$380,725.00
Adriana Espinosa	Psychology	An Intersectional Examination of Early Tobacco Use among White and Black Adolescents	\$467,205.00
Jing Fan	Mechanical Engineering	Coupled Microscopy and Rheometry for Complex Material Design and Analysis	\$592,466.00
Victoria Frye	Community Health & Social Medicine	Estimating the Impact of a Multilevel, Multicomponent Intervention to Increase Uptake of HIV Testing and Biomedical HIV Prevention among African/American/Black Gay, Bisexual and Same-gender Loving Men	\$747,704.00
Karen Hubbard	Biology	CCNY-MSKCC Partnership for Cancer Research, Education and Community Outreach	\$1,933,274.00
Francine Katz	Chemistry	Exogenous Regulation of Acute Lung Injury	\$268,333.33
Akira Kawaguchi	Computer Science	IRES Track 1: International Research Experiences in Learning Based Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAVs) with Real-World Implementations	\$299,999.00
Alexander Khanikaev	Electrical Engineering	Topological Photonics for Robust Light-Matter Interactions	\$280,000.00
Reza Khayat	Chemistry	Mechanism of Membrane Fusion Involving the Gram-Negative Bacteria Outer Membrane	\$378,250.00
Angelo Lampousis and Dee Dee Mozeleski	Office of Postsecondary Education	Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Development Initiative	\$1,500,000.00
Hernan Makse	Earth & Environmental Science	Collaborative Research: HNDS-R: Dynamics and Mechanisms of Information Spread via Social Media	\$328,068.00
Prabodhika Mallickaratchy	Chemistry	Discovery and Development of Artificial Nucleic Acid Ligands to Probe Cellular Interactions	\$612,299.00

Name	Department	Project Details	Amount
FEDERAL SPONSORSHIP (CONTINUED)			
John Martin	Molecular, Cellular Sciences	Lesion and Activity Dependent Corticospinal Tract Plasticity	\$343,438.00
Robert Melara	Psychology	Bridges to the Baccalaureate Research Training Program (T34) for Racial/Ethnic Minorities at the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) and the City College of New York (CCNY)	\$346,325.00
Carlos Meriles	Physics	Understanding and Controlling Rydberg States in Solid-State Platforms for Quantum Technologies	\$500,000.00
		GOALI: Exploiting Dark Spins for Color-Center-Based Nanoscale Sensing and Imaging	\$449,978.00
		NSF-DFG Confine: Spin-Probe-Enabled Sensing of Fluids in Confined Geometries and Interfaces	\$600,000.00
		Acquisition of a Dilution Refrigerator for the Investigation of Quantum Emitters	\$468,250.00
Robert Messinger	Biology	19-MIROG-0057, NASA-CCNY Center for Advanced Batteries for Space (ABS)	\$954,000.00
Jeffrey Morris	Levich Institute	Collaborative Research: Statistical Mechanics of Dense Suspensions - Dynamical Correlations and Scaling Theory	\$294,603.00
Fred Moshary	Electrical Engineering	Collaborative Research: The Hispanic AGEP Alliance for the Environmental Science and Engineering Professoriate in Community Colleges and Associate Degree Programs	\$350,000.00
		NOAA Cooperative Science Center for Earth System Sciences and Remote Sensing Technologies-II	\$4,500,000.00
Parameswaran Nair	Physics	Collaborative Research: Entanglement, Geometry and the Physics of Fields, Strings and Gravity	\$254,999.00
Steven Nicoll	Provost	PFI-TT: Injectable Cellulose-Based Hydrogels for Soft Tissue Bulking	\$266,000.00
Hysell Oviedo	Biology	Development of Hemispheric Specializations during Auditory Cortex Critical Periods	\$386,730.00
Lucas Parra	Biomedical Engineering	Machine Learning for Risk-Adjusted Breast MRI Screening	\$642,504.00
		Interaction of Motor Learning with Transcranial Direct Current - Efficacy and Mechanisms	\$574,619.00
Stefan U. Pukatzki	Biology	The Role of Type VI Secretion in Cholera Pathogenesis	\$1,950,806.00
Lesia Ruglass	Psychology	Translational Research Training on Addictions for Racial/Ethnic Minorities	\$335,921.00
Amr Soliman	Community Health & Social Medicine	Cancer Epidemiology Education in Special Populations (CEESP)	\$392,647.00
Ruth Stark	Chemistry	RaMP: On-Ramp to the Molecular Machine Shop: Postbaccalaureate Training in Biochemistry, Biophysics, and Biodesign	\$2,999,169.00
		G-RISE at The City College of New York	\$702,769.00
Nancy Stern	Education	Building Secondary English Learner Educator and Administrator Leadership (B-SEAL)	\$598,975.00
Sun Yi	Electrical Engineering	Phase II CREST Center for Interface Design and Engineered Assembly of Low-dimensional Systems (IDEALS II)	\$800,000.00
Jie Wei	Computer Science	Center for Underrepresented Research in Addiction (CURA)	\$299,999.00
Rosemarie D. Wesson	Dean Of Engineering	ADVANCE Adaptation: Advancing Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in STEM (AIDE-STEM)	\$999,839.00
Ryan Williams	Biomedical Engineering	Integrating Real-Time Multi-System Cytokine Signaling in Chronic Disease	\$539,934.00

Name	Department	Project Details	Amount
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PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP

Sanjoy Banerjee	Chemical Engineering	Zinc-MnO ₂ for High-Energy-Density Rechargeable Aqueous Energy Storage	\$253,679.00
Marco Castaldi	Chemical Engineering	The Interdisciplinary ESE Academic Program Support	\$265,000.00
Jing Fan	Mechanical Engineering	High-Throughput Production and Screening of Protein Crystals Using Microfluidics in Microgravity	\$250,000.00
Alex Gilerson	Mechanical Engineering	CISESS: CUNY-Validation of Ocean Color VIIRS SNPP and VIIRS NOAA-20 Satellite Sensors on the Coastal LISCO AERONET Site and in Ocean Cruises	\$765,886.00
Junghoon Kim	Physiology & Pharmacology	Longitudinal MRI Investigation of Traumatic Microvascular Injury	\$346,804.00
Laurent Mars	Dean of Science	Division of Science Research Support - CCNY Special Bursars Account	\$369,977.00
Maria Tzortziou	Earth & Environmental Science	New York Sea Grant Research 2021-2025 and Environmental Justice Needs Assessment	\$330,842.00

STATE SPONSORSHIP

Michael Bobker	CUNY Institute for Urban Systems	REV Campus Challenge - Energy to Lead Competition 2020	\$333,646.25
Hazel Carter	Learning, Leadership, & Culture	Liberty Partnership Programs	\$300,000.00
Doris Cintron-Nabi	Provost	Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP)	\$580,500.00
Tatyana Kleyn	Elementary/Early Childhood Education	CUNY Initiative on Immigration and Education (CUNY- IIE)	\$1,170,389.00
John Martin	Molecular, Cellular Sciences	PART and IDEA in Spinal Cord Injury Research (Round 5)	\$322,800.00
Fred Moshary	Electrical Engineering	Ground-based and Satellite Remote Sensing of Atmospheric Dynamics and Constituents at Multiple Scales and Dimensions for an Integrated Approach to Air Pollution Characterization and Modeling	\$339,297.00
Millicent Roth	Psychology	City College Academy for Professional Preparation	\$465,880.00

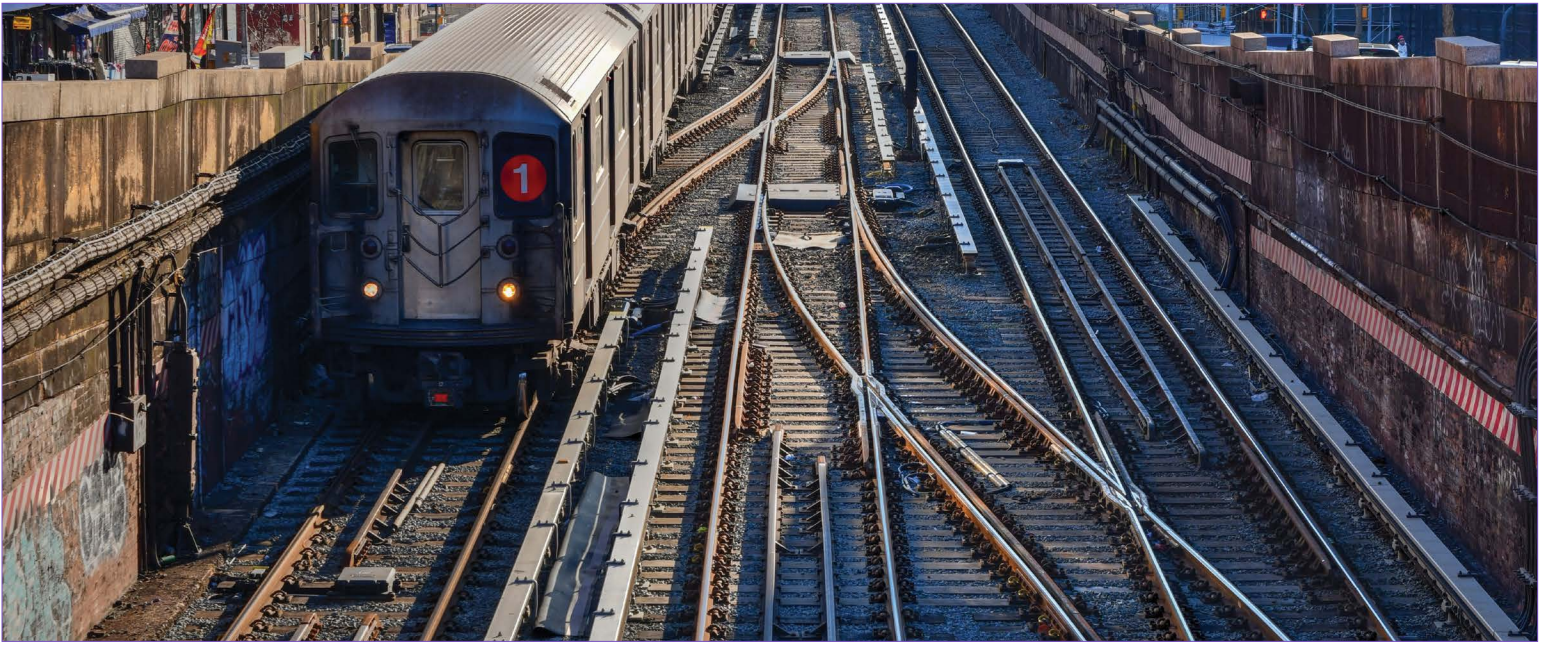
Research and training grants may represent multiple awards from various agencies. This is a partial list of all active awards managed by the GSP Office.

TOTAL FUNDS MANAGED FOR FY22 IS: \$77,430,386.21

SPONSOR	PROJECT COUNT	BUDGET AMOUNT
City	12	\$ 14,943,416.99
Federal	107	\$38,978,344.10
Private	132	\$19,801,532.87
State	10	\$3,707,092.25
TOTAL	261	\$77,430,386.21

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL AWARDS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CCN.CUNY.EDU/GIVING

USDOT Awards CCNY \$15M to Improve Infrastructure



Camille Kamga (left) and Alison Conway, director and deputy director of CCNY's University Transportation Research Center

The City College of New York is the recipient of two grants totaling more than \$15 million under the U.S. Department of Transportation's University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program. The Congressionally mandated UTC program was created in 1987 to support the formation of university consortia to advance transportation research, technology development, and education and workforce development in the United States.

CCNY's University Transportation Research Center (UTRC) will lead the regional UTC for USDOT Region 2, which includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Center for Social and Economic Mobility for People and Communities through Transportation (SEMPACT) will be housed at CCNY and will receive \$3 million annually for five years to support research in four key areas:

- Accessible tools for informed transportation decision-making;
- Inclusive advanced technology applications;

- Climate resilient infrastructure; and
- Green and resilient supply chains—as well as education, workforce development, and technology transfer activities.

"As New Yorkers, we understand the great need to ensure the safety, efficiency, reliability and sustainability of the region's transportation systems. CUNY is proud to play a role in the advancement of research, technology and workforce development for this critical sector," said CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez.

"Transportation, research and education have always been an area of paramount concern at The City College," said CCNY President Vincent Boudreau. "Elevating our campus to a regional transportation hub allows us to play a stronger role in workforce development in the transportation sector and to more efficiently leverage the capacity of our partner institutions in elevating American transportation."

New York City Deputy Mayor Meera Joshi applauded the awards to CCNY's UTRC and said the center will serve New Yorkers well with new research funding to address critical questions and issues with our transportation infrastructure. "This investment underscores the collaboration between our federal partners at the U.S. Department of Transportation and our partner universities and governments across the region," she said.

Alison J. Conway, UTRC deputy director and research lead at CCNY, hailed the

collaboration with the Mayor's Office and the New York City DOT. "They will be important partners in the center's work to connect with community stakeholders, to develop solutions to the transportation challenges that New Yorkers face every day, and to move those solutions into practice," said the Grove School of Engineering associate professor.

UTRC Director and Grove School Associate Professor Camille Kamga said CCNY looked forward to "working with stakeholders in our Region to not only perform meaningful research that support innovations to improve our transportation system, but also to develop the next generation of transportation professionals to serve our communities."

Key education programs will be conducted in collaboration with the CCNY Stem Institute, the Charles Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative and CUNY's Bronx Community College. In addition to CCNY and BCC, the SEMPACT consortium includes the New Jersey Institute of Technology, New York University, Princeton University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rutgers University, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Stony Brook University, the University at Albany, and the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez.

In addition to leading SEMPACT, CCNY will also be a partner in the Center for Understanding Future Travel Behavior and Demand, a national UTC that is a consortium of eight universities led by the University of Texas at Austin.

City College Receives \$1.325 Million for Convergent Research and Training



Jeffrey S. Garanich

The Grove School of Engineering, along with four partner institutions, received a \$1.325 million grant from the National Science Foundation for talent and workforce development, and research training, as part of a collaborative project to prevent infections in tissue-engineered organs, implants, and other medical devices.

The study, “Collaborative Research: GCR: Infection-Resisting Resorbable Scaffolds for Engineering Human Tissue,” is being carried out by cross-disciplinary partners at Stevens Institute of Technology (the lead institution), Syracuse University, Binghamton University, and the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School, in addition to The City College.

The project is part of the Growing Convergence Research program at NSF, which was launched in 2016 to bring together diverse researchers from different disciplines to pursue a scientific challenge. The funding is part of a larger, five-year \$3.6 million two-phase project that leverages the research and training expertise from the five universities to engineer next generation materials that prevent device infection while promoting tissue formation.

The CCNY effort is led by Jeffrey S. Garanich, executive director of City Innovations Collaborative (CInC), and by Professor of Biomedical Engineering Steven B. Nicoll, the director of the Connective Tissue Engineering Laboratory in the Grove School.

The resources of the master's degree program in translational medicine, known as the MTM, and the newly-formed City Innovations Collaborative, or CInC, will be utilized to commercialize the life sciences technologies developed through this convergent initiative.

Student trainees will have the opportunity to gain relevant experience in life sciences technology commercialization through internships organized by CInC. In addition, hands-on experience in designing prototype antimicrobial materials will be provided by the Laboratory.

An important feature of the GCR grant is a summer Research Experience for Undergraduates program that will allow student exchange between the partnering institutions.

Another highlight of the grant is a faculty immersion program, which will foster collaborative research efforts by enabling the principal investigators to spend time at the partner institutions. A new inter-institutional course on medical device infection, co-taught by the GCR faculty and open to students from each of the five schools, will also provide opportunities for intellectual exchange between the GCR partners.

State Grant of \$4.5M to Complete Life Sciences Incubator



The City College of New York received an Empire State Development grant of \$4.5 million for its City

Innovations Collaborative life sciences incubator facility.

The grant, announced by Gov. Kathy Hochul, is the final component needed to complete the construction of the \$34 million facility-known as CInC in West Harlem's Manhattanville Factory District.

CInC is a new regional innovation engine created by CCNY to seed, cultivate, and sustain a thriving regional life science ecosystem for New York

City communities who have been historically underrepresented in this space. CInC will be an anchor tenant in the building, which is adjacent to the City College campus, and will support commercialization efforts for several new ventures concurrently.

These efforts will be aided by the work of the MTM.

The success of the now eight-year-old MTM was accelerated by a \$2.4 million gift from Seymour Moskowitz '54 and Pearl Moskowitz in January 2020. The donation, one of many by the Moskowitzes over the years, enabled MTM to expand its education and training of cross-functional teams that address unmet healthcare needs.

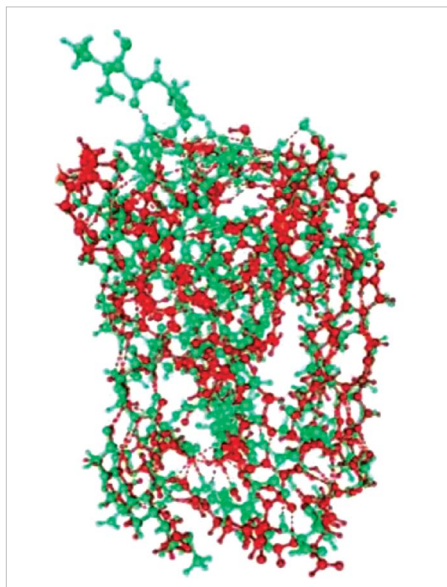
CCNY's existing partners include the New York City Economic Development Corporation, which provided a \$15 million award last summer, and West Harlem-based Janus Property Company. In addition to providing substantial capital for the project, Janus is transforming the former Taystee bread factory at 450 W. 126th St. into the Taystee Life Sciences Building, a purpose-built facility for the life sciences.

CCNY has also received operational support from the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Build to Scale program.

CInC's collaborative model will focus resources from many diverse stakeholders, including universities, governments, industry, investors, foundations, entrepreneurs, and patient advocacy groups. Selected innovation development projects and ventures should have the potential to drive positive health, societal, and economic impact for New Yorkers, particularly those from surrounding communities such as Harlem.

“CInC was created to support the development of a robust life sciences innovation ecosystem in West Harlem and across New York City,” said Jeffrey Garanich, executive director of CInC. “We will bring together stakeholders from throughout the innovation development process to collectively do the work no single organization can do alone.”

Physical Chemists Michael Green and Alisher M. Kariev Receive Award to Study Ion Channels



A green potassium channel

Chemist Michael Green along with his colleague, Alisher M. Kariev, received one of 20 national 2023 research awards granted from the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory. Green and Kariev will study the mechanism of ion channels, proteins that span cell membranes, and provide the means by which electrolytes such as sodium and potassium enter and leave cells. Green's research will study how sodium and potassium ions interact with water molecules and with the channel protein. These interactions involve hydrogen bonds—the bonds holding water molecules together. The hydrogen bond networks in ion channels are the principal focus of Green's planned work. Ion channel processes are an integral part of every living cell. In the human body, ion channels are responsible for transmission of nerve impulses, among other functions. Malfunctions of ion channels are linked to many disorders and diseases, from hypertension to Parkinson's disease. EMSL will provide Green with 50,000 node-hours of computer time on the new Tahoma computer. Green and his lab are a computational group exclusively. EMSL at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is run by the U.S. Department of Energy.

NIH Awards Ruth Stark \$800K for "Biology of Fungal Melanization" Study



Professor Ruth E. Stark

CUNY Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Ruth E. Stark was the recipient of a \$805,865 grant from the National Institutes of Health to study ways of developing new antifungal therapies that target melanization pathways. She and two researchers from Johns Hopkins University and Albert Einstein College of Medicine are multiple principal investigators on a \$4,079,890 grant from NIH's Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases entitled "The Biology of Fungal Melanization."

"Melanin is a very important pigment in the biosphere and is involved in numerous biological processes, from protection against sunlight to energy harvesting," said Stark, the director of CUNY's Institute for Macromolecular Assemblies. "It is made by many pathogenic organisms, including several pathogenic fungi." Melanin contributes to fungal virulence by undermining host defense mechanisms and increasing fungal resistance to certain antifungal drugs. "This proposal will take a multidisciplinary approach to the problem of melanogenesis in the fungal pathogen *Cryptococcus neoformans* by seeking to understand how melanin is made, with the goal of discovering new science that can lead us to novel therapies that target melanization pathways," she added.

Samah Saeed Is Beneficiary of \$4.6M DoE Grant to Advance Quantum Computing



Professor Samah M. Saeed

Computer engineer and scientist Samah M. Saeed is the co-recipient of a \$4.6 million U.S. Department of Energy grant to advance quantum computing. The funding is for her project, "Toward Efficient

Quantum Algorithm Execution on Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum Hardware." An assistant professor of electrical engineering in the Grove School of Engineering, Saeed will focus on resolving the issues currently affecting the development of quantum computing. "The future of computing is quantum, an emerging computing paradigm that will offer a computational speedup for critical applications," said Saeed. "Near-term quantum computers, referred to as Noisy Intermediate-Scale computers, are expected to have a transformative impact on applications demanding intense computation, such as machine learning and physical and chemical simulations."

While these computers are very promising, Saeed added, they are fragile and operate in the presence of errors. As a result, there is a gap between current and near-term quantum hardware capabilities and quantum algorithms, which should be addressed to exploit the power of quantum computers.

The project will build a strong foundation in quantum information science and quantum computing at CCNY through collaboration with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. It will provide an extensive two-pronged training program involving onsite training at CCNY open to the entire college community to increase participation of underrepresented groups in the quantum computing workforce and summer research at LBNL. The idea is to enable interaction with a broader team of quantum-focused researchers with a diverse background including physics, computer science, and applied mathematics at LBNL.

Computer Scientist Jie Wei Leads USAF-funded Project to Improve Situational Assessment and Awareness



Professor Jie Wei

Jie Wei, professor of computer science, is the recipient of a \$299,000 grant from the United States Air Force Office of

Scientific Research to improve situational assessment and awareness (SAAW), which is critical to military operations, humanitarian assistance and disaster response (HADR) applications. The three-year project, in collaboration with Professor Haibin Ling of SUNY Stony Brook's Department of Computer Science, is entitled "Efficient, Robust and Explainable Situational Assessment and Awareness AI/ML System Using Multi-Modal Sensing and Deep Learning Approaches."

Wei and Ling will focus on enhancing artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) methods through data and computing efficiency so that the system can perform well with small data size and readily available computers, which are the norm in most AI military and HADR missions; a robust defense against noisy data, human errors, and intentional adversarial attacks when the AI/ML system is deployed; and models and systems that will provide means to justify and certify decisions with various techniques so that they are not simply black boxes but transparent, interpretable, justifiable and certifiable.

"This will lay out a solid foundation for our team at CCNY and SUNY Stony Brook to further collaborate with AF researchers," said Wei.

Pouyan Ghaemi's Team Scripts Breakthrough Quantum Algorithm

City College of New York physicist Pouyan Ghaemi and his research team are claiming significant progress in



An IBM Q System One Quantum Computer

using quantum computers to study and predict how the state of a large number of interacting quantum particles evolves over time. This was done by developing a quantum algorithm that they run on an IBM quantum computer.

"To the best of our knowledge, such particular quantum algorithm which can simulate how interacting quantum particles evolve over time has not been implemented before," said Ghaemi, associate professor in CCNY's Division of Science. Entitled "Probing geometric excitations of fractional quantum Hall states on quantum computers," the study appears in the journal of "Physical Review Letters."

"Quantum mechanics is known to be the underlying mechanism governing the properties of elementary particles such as electrons," said Ghaemi. "But, unfortunately, there is no easy way to use equations of quantum mechanics when we want to study the properties of large number of electrons that are also exerting force on each other due to their electric charge."

His team's discovery, however, changes this and raises other exciting possibilities.

"On the other front, recently, there has been extensive technological developments in building the so-called quantum computers. This new class of computers utilize the law of quantum mechanics to preform calculations which are not possible with classical computers. We know that when electrons in material interact with each other strongly, interesting properties such as high-temperature superconductivity could emerge," Ghaemi noted. "Our quantum computing algorithm opens a new avenue to study the properties of materials resulting from strong electron-electron interactions. As a result, it can potentially guide the search for useful materials such as high temperature superconductors."

The research was done at CCNY, and involved an interdisciplinary team from the physics and electrical engineering departments, in collaboration with experts from Western Washington University, Leeds University in the U.K., and Schlumberger-Doll Research Center in Cambridge, Mass. The research was funded by the National Science Foundation and Britain's Engineering and Science Research Council.

Partnership for Cancer Research Grant Funds New CCNY Student Interpreters' Outreach to Mandarin-speaking Patients



Professors Carlos Riobó and Adriana Espinosa

A cohort of City College of New York students is set to help make cancer treatment for Mandarin-speaking Chinese New Yorkers more accessible. This follows an approximately \$200,000 Fall 2022 pilot grant from the CCNY-MSKCC Partnership for Cancer Research, Education, and Community Outreach for a two-year pilot program led by CCNY faculty Carlos Riobó of the Division of Humanities and the Arts, and Adriana Espinosa of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership.

The interdisciplinary project—which also includes participants from CCNY's Division of Science and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC)—is titled “Interpreting to Increase access to Psycho-Oncology Care.” Its overarching aim is to improve the health and social outcomes of minority and underserved populations in the New York metropolitan area, particularly immigrants with limited English proficiency.

“We are looking to create protocols for translating so that we’ll have student interpreters in the field who are fluent in Mandarin and English, at a time when members of Asian communities have suffered pandemic-related stigmatization” said Riobó, professor and immediate past chair of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures. “Students will be trained in the best practices of interpreting for cancer care, and they’re going to be translating and interpreting between the physician and the patient

both in-person and via virtual medicine.”

Riobó is leading the recruitment of 15 City College students, both graduate and undergraduates, who will be trained as interpreters and/or transcribers. Most will come from the Asian Studies program and Riobó's Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures, with other recruits from CCNY's Colin Powell School, Grove School of Engineering, and the CUNY School of Medicine at The City College.

A primary requirement is that the students be fluent in both Mandarin Chinese and English. Once trained in person at MSKCC, they will be deployed via telemedicine to assist patients from all five boroughs of New York City.

According to Espinosa, an associate professor of psychology, “a unique component of this fascinating project is that it brings together expertise across multiple fields, such as science, social science and humanities, and provides students with trailblazing skills that broaden their human capital.”

The pilot grant continues CCNY's participation in cancer work, deriving from a National Cancer Institute parent grant. A previous grant in 2016 enabled five CCNY undergraduates to study medical interpreting and learn about translational cancer health disparities.

The long-running CCNY- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Partnership dates back to 2002. Two years ago, the collaboration, whose mission is to develop future cancer researchers, received a \$14 million five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health.

Mellon Foundation Awards Spitzer School \$1.5M for Multidisciplinary Community-based Incubator

The Mellon Foundation awarded a three-year \$1.5 million grant to support a new multidisciplinary Place, Memory and Culture Incubator (PCMI) in the Bernard & Anne Spitzer School of Architecture. The incubator's focus will be community-based partnerships and projects in Harlem that engage built environment

design and the humanities through a social justice lens.

President Vincent Boudreau thanked the Mellon Foundation for the grant and lauded the Foundation's long-running support of CCNY programs, faculty, and students. This is the first Mellon grant for the Spitzer School.



CCNY Spitzer student presentation workshop with National Negro Opera House, Pittsburgh

“This latest project recognizes the historic positioning of the Spitzer School of Architecture in the Harlem community as well as our commitment, in the architectural field and elsewhere in the college, to acknowledging, preserving and democratizing access to the important physical and cultural legacies of this place,” said Boudreau.

The incubator, he added, will provide a space and a methodology for members of the CCNY community, both academic and neighborhood, to engage with one another in the production of more representative and authentic histories.

Spitzer School Dean Marta Gutman said the PMCI will transform the ways in which architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design students engage communities, urban sites, and the past. Participating design studios may focus on recording, visualizing, and preserving heritage and projecting innovative, resilient cultural and spatial futures. She thanked the Mellon Foundation for providing the spark to light this ambitious project in full force.

The significant Mellon support will allow the Spitzer School to “diversify faculty, embed the humanities and the arts in the design studios, and create a new model for university and community partnerships based on reciprocal collaboration. Knowledge about place,

memory, and culture will be co-produced with community partners and shared with the Harlem community via exhibitions, a symposium, a digital archive, and community-based public arts programs and installations," said Gutman.

She will join Assistant Professor of Architecture Jerome Haferd in directing the PMCI.

The PMCI's potential community partners include Broadway Mall Association, Harlem African Burial Ground, and Save Harlem Now!, among many others. In a letter of support for the proposal, President Valerie Jo Bradley of Save Harlem Now! stated, "We are particularly impressed with the proposal's goal of creating an informative and accessible digital archive, providing funding and institutional support to community partners, and offering communities and universities an innovative model for collaboration among multiple stakeholders. Harlem is rapidly changing, and we need graduates with experience working in and with their local community to develop new design approaches informed by the cultural landscape that makes this place special and unique."

NSF Awards CCNY \$1M to Advance Inclusion, Diversity and Equity in the STEM Workforce

The City College
of New York



**ADVANCE
ADAPTATION**
Advancing Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in STEM (AIDE-STEM)

An interdisciplinary City College of New York team is the recipient of a \$999,839 National Science Foundation ADVANCE award for its proposal, "ADVANCE Adaptation: Advancing Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in STEM (AIDE-STEM)." The award is over three years.

The NSF ADVANCE program contributes to the National Science Foundation's goal of a more diverse and capable science and engineering workforce.

"The overall goal of this Adaptation project is to continue building on the blueprint initiated during the (NSF) CCNY Catalyst Award for meaningful institutional transformation that fosters an equitable and supportive professional environment for all faculty, but with a particular emphasis on women and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) STEM faculty," said Rosemarie D. Wesson, associate provost for research and professor of chemical engineering in the Grove School of Engineering. "While the Catalyst Award sought to understand unique challenges that women and BIPOC faculty encounter during their progression through the professorial ranks, this grant is focused on implementing initiatives that will generate long-lasting cultural changes to support all faculty during their academic progression."

NSF ADVANCE "Catalyst" awards provide support for institutional equity assessments and the development of five-year faculty equity strategic plans.

CCNY's ADVANCE IT-Catalyst project, "Blueprint for Increased Representation and Advancement of Women in STEM," sought

to protect the advancement of women and underrepresented minorities as CCNY moves toward becoming more research intensive. It also sought to understand the underlying challenges women faculty in Natural Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Math and Social and Behavioral Sciences face in achieving success in the professoriate.

"The persistent underrepresentation of women and BIPOC faculty in STEM at CCNY and across the nation undermines the attainment of a diverse workforce and national prosperity," said Wesson. "The reasons for the persistence are complex, and solutions to address them will require new and multi-faceted integrative approaches rooted in primary forces that drive the academy."

Led by Rosemarie D. Wesson, the CCNY team comprises:



Rosemarie D. Wesson
Associate
Provost for
Research &
Professor
of Chemical
Engineering,
Grove School
of Engineering



Christine Li
Professor of
Biology,
Division of
Science



MC Binz-Scharf
Associate
Economics
and Business
Professor, Colin
Powell School for
Civic and Global
Leadership
for Civic
and Global
Leadership



Maritsa Poros
Professor of
Sociology, Colin
Powell School



Irina Carlota Silber
Professor
and Chair of
Anthropology,
Gender Studies,
and International
Studies, Colin
Powell School for
Civic and Global
Leadership



Karen Hubbard
Professor of
Biology, Division
of Science

Leading LGBTQ+ Foundation Announces Multi-year Grant to Support LGBTQ+ Programming



CCNY students, staff, and faculty marching in the 2022 NYC Pride Parade with CUNY and the CUNY LGBTQIA+ Consortium.

The Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership received a generous \$100,000 multi-year gift from the Leonard-Litz LGBTQ+ Foundation to support the expansion of CCNY's LGBTQ+ Student Center and the Mixner LGBTQ+ Equality Fellowship program.

"We serve precisely those in our society who come from communities that have historically been denied power," said Andrew Rich, the Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean of the School. "Our investment in student learning, training, and success has been the foundation for new initiatives at CCNY designed to support our LGBTQ+ students, who are finding their voices, their values, and their power while studying here."

The Leonard Litz LGBTQ+ Foundation, a private foundation based in Connecticut, was established to fund organizations working to advance the interests and well-being of the LGBTQ+ community, with a specific focus on LGBTQ+ communities of color, and transgender and gender-nonconforming people.

"This one is also personal for me," said Elliot Leonard, one of the founding trustees of the Foundation, and a CCNY alumnus. "CUNY helped me get to where I am today, and I am grateful that they're still creating opportunities for young people of all backgrounds to have access to social and economic mobility in a time of increasingly prohibitive higher education costs."

"Higher education is not just academic," added Colin Hosten, executive director of the Foundation. "For LGBTQ+ students, in particular, the opportunities these programs will offer to connect with new friends, advisors, mentors, and a supportive community on campus could make a meaningful difference in their future success."

"We serve precisely those in our society who come from communities that have historically been denied power."

- Dean Andrew Rich, Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership.

"The entire CUNY community is inspired by the generosity of the Leonard Litz LGBTQ+ Foundation, and looks forward to partnering with them in the important work of building power within our LGBTQ+ students to help them affect community change," said Rich. "We acknowledge with thanks the essential role of Mitch Draizin, president of the CUNY LGBT Advisory Council, in introducing the Leonard-Litz Foundation to CUNY and CCNY and for his leadership of efforts across CUNY to provide more intensive support for our LGBTQ+ students."

School's First Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation Scholarship Awarded



Carlos Cardoso, Beyer Blinder Belle partner

exceptional ability and financial need. BBB partner Carlos Cardoso B Arch '92 led the establishment of the \$10,000 scholarship, emphasizing that financial assistance toward tuition and living

Architectural firm Beyer Blinder Belle (BBB) created a scholarship at The Foundation for City College for the Spitzer School to support students who demonstrate both

expenses at Spitzer is integral to fostering a diversity of talent. Although the Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation underwrites a travel fellowship open to U.S. architecture graduate students, Cardoso envisioned something more tailored to Spitzer students' needs.

"We recognize that while travel can be rewarding, we also wanted to create a scholarship that supports a Spitzer School of Architecture student's educational cost," said Cardoso.



B Arch Student Mosammet Chowdhury

The inaugural BBBF scholarship winner was fifth-year B Arch student Mosammet Chowdhury. Born in Bangladesh and raised in the Bronx, Chowdhury believes nature and the needs of migrants coming into the country have a lot to do with the architect's role in design.

"Nature has discovered sustainable and long-lasting designs through billions of years of evolution and continues to do so," said Chowdhury who, as the first member of her family to attend university and pursue a professional degree, has overcome significant obstacles toward realizing her dream. "These are the new Americans who will shape the architecture of the country," said Spitzer School Dean Marta Gutman.

The Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation will underwrite the \$10,000 stipend for three years.

BBB also intends the scholarship to support an introduction to the professional practice of architecture, offering recipients "another family to reach out to," said Cardoso.

Founded in 1968, Beyer Blinder Belle has offices in New York, Boston, and Washington. The 170-person firm is acclaimed for revitalizing some of America's most iconic public buildings and cultural institutions. The Beyer Blinder Belle Foundation's mission is inspired by the core values of BBB and through fellowships, grants, and other initiatives, engages in the full cycle of design.

Attentive Energy Proposes \$10M Renewable Energy Program



The announcement of the \$10 million commitment was made at the Grove School of Engineering on March 16. Representing CCNY were President Vincent Boudreau (back row, fifth from left), Grove School Dean Alexander Couzis (back row, fourth from right) and Vice President Dee Dee Mozeleski (back row at far right).

Attentive Energy One, a joint venture between TotalEnergies and Rise Light & Power, has expressed support for providing as much as \$10 million to The City College of New York to establish a new renewable energy training program as part of its 1,400 megawatt offshore wind proposal to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) in January 2023.

The Attentive Energy One project will build an offshore wind farm, which will deliver clean energy to more than 700,000 homes via the Ravenswood Generating Station in Long Island City, Queens, permanently replacing 400 megawatts of fossil fuel generation. The associated investment at the Grove School of Engineering will create a renewable energy laboratory, small business support network, and incubator space on campus.

Projects such as Attentive Energy One are critical to reach New York State's aggressive climate goals. They also provide tremendous economic opportunities for New Yorkers to access high-quality green jobs; public colleges like CCNY will play a critical role in creating and shaping new green energy curriculum, providing certification programs and building a pipeline into the emerging offshore wind sector.

The proposed program includes:

- Workforce Training: CCNY's comprehensive high school-to-career

pipeline will serve as an anchor institution within the three-tiered workforce development network proposed by Attentive Energy One, which also includes other public colleges, skilled-trades training programs, and community-based organizations in all five boroughs.

- Research & Development: Incubating and accelerating developments in battery energy storage, electric transmission, and other climate tech enterprises. The City College's Zahn Innovation Center is collaborating with the CCNY Makerspace and the Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative on this pillar. The Zahn Center empowers students and the CCNY community to embrace the entrepreneurial and innovation mindset by providing tools and resources to transform disruptive ideas into sustainable ventures.
- Small Business: Technical assistance and capacity-building support for Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs), Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOBs), worker-owned cooperatives, and other local businesses that are seeking to enter the renewable energy supply chain.

Attentive Energy One previously announced \$15 million in funding for its New York State Supply Chain Development Partnership in March, a large portion of which will serve as a grant

and loan fund for diverse businesses to ramp up capabilities to serve the offshore wind market.

"The research and training resources of public colleges like CCNY must be mobilized if we are to address challenges like climate change effectively and with justice," said President Vincent Boudreau. "The Ravenswood project is a key moment in our Grove School of Engineering's efforts to rededicating itself to the resolution of some of the most pressing such problems, both by generating green energy and by making sure that good jobs in this sector are available to members of our Harlem community and communities like Harlem."

"Attentive Energy is excited to partner with The City College of New York and support the development of the future clean energy workforce through the City's only public engineering college, the Grove School," said Damian Bednarz, managing director of Attentive Energy.

"Just as our workforce has powered New York City for decades, the Grove School has delivered high-quality, public education in engineering for decades. This investment will spur innovation, diversify the engineering sector, and fuel our transition to renewable energy," said Clint Plummer, CEO of Rise Light & Power.

This investment proposal is a cornerstone of Attentive Energy's \$300 million economic benefits plan.

Climate Change Theme at 8th International Conference on Historical Links Between Spain and the Americas



The 8th International Conference on Historical Links between Spain and the Americas took place

May 3-5, with the year's theme being, "Climate Change and Trans-Atlantic Transformations." Kaveh Madani, recently appointed director of the U.N. University Institute for Water, delivered the keynote address, "Climate Change, Water Bankruptcy and Human Security," at the opening ceremony.

Topics varied and many talks were given in Spanish. CCNY civil engineer and Professor Nir Krakauer, affiliated with the CUNY-CREST Institute and NOAA-CESSRST, gave a talk on "Implications for extreme heat of the changing temperature probability distribution."

The call for papers embraced different disciplines and areas of study, emphasizing interdisciplinary approaches to the connections between Spain and the Americas.

A panel of CCNY participants hailed from a diverse academic backgrounds, including both the School of Architecture and the Graduate Landscape Architecture Program, CUNY-CREST Institute and NOAA-CESSRST, CUNY Building Performance Lab, Smart Grid Interdependencies Lab, the Sociology Department and the Computer Science Department. The topic was "Energizing Equity: Co-creating Scalable Urban Resilience via Climate Solidarity."

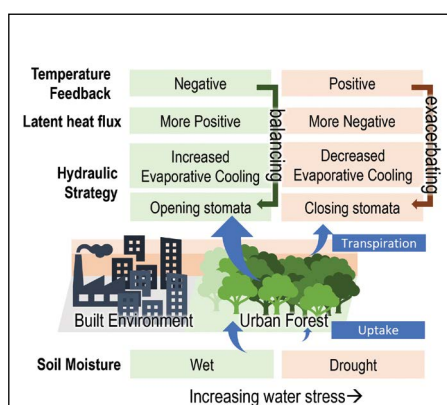
The conference called for critical consideration of the disproportionate impacts of environmental degradation on vulnerable populations—including race, gender, class, or other oppressive social hierarchies. "Climate She Wrote: Climate Science, Communication and Activism by CCNY Female Faculty and Staff" with Emily Raboteau, Ana Carnaval, Maria Tzortziou, Shakila

Merchant and Jean Krasno was one such panel discussion.

On the last day of the conference, there was a focus on documentarians including CUNY TV's Diana Vargas, filmmaker Veronica Vigil, and activist and Skylight films Co-founder Pamela Yates. A screening of the film "The Land of Azaba" was followed by a panel discussion with co-directors and co-producers Andrea Weiss, professor of film and video at City College, and Greta Schiller, and Carlos Sanchez, from the Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre.

The Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for Worker Education, the Instituto Cervantes New York and the Instituto Franklin of the Universidad de Alcalá, with the support of CUNY Remote Sensing Earth Systems (CREST), sponsored the Conference.

Geoscientists Nick Steiner, Kyle McDonald Join NASA Mission to Combat Climate Change



Land Surface Temperature (LST) data acquired by NASA's ECOSTRESS instrument on Aug. 20, 2021. Right image: Optical satellite imagery of New York City from PlanetScope, © Planet Labs PBC, captured on June 23, 2021. All rights reserved.

Earth and atmospheric scientist Nick Steiner and colleague Kyle McDonald will join the science team for the NASA Earth Venture mission, Ecosystem Spaceborne Thermal Radiometer Experiment on Space Station (ECOSTRESS) in a project to measure the capacity of the greater New York urban forest to mitigate the local effects of climate change.

Climate change threatens the survival of forests worldwide. Severe localized heat waves affect urban forests disproportionately because of the heat island effect which occurs when temperatures in urbanized areas surpass surrounding non-urban areas.

Their project, "Remote sensing of urban ecosystem function in the megacity: Fine resolution characterization of water stress in New York City urban forests with ECOSTRESS," will measure temperature reduction in New York parks as a proxy for heat mitigation.

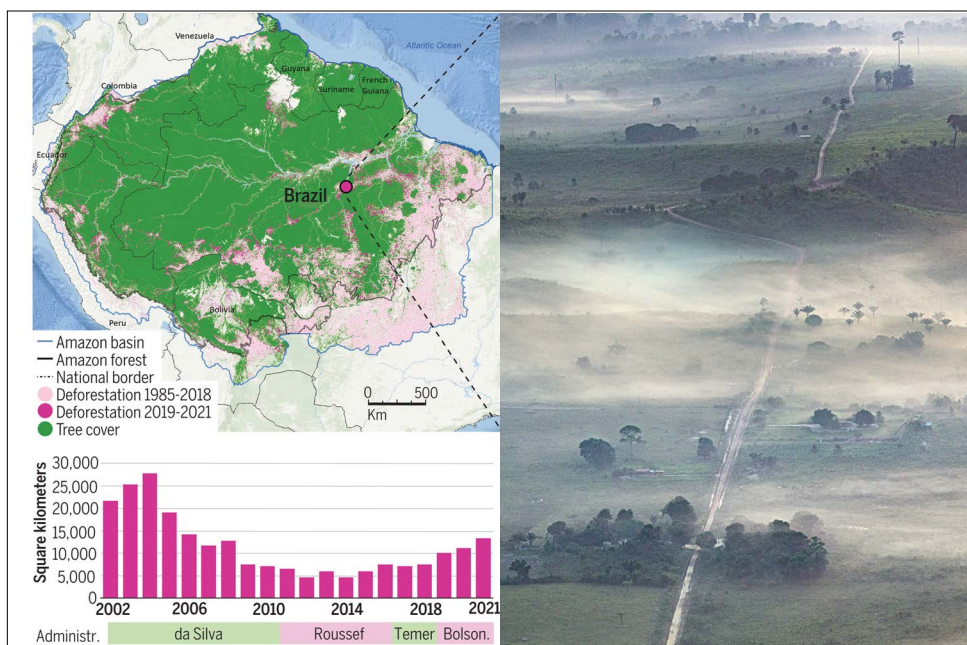
Urban heat waves are a leading cause of global weather-related fatalities. In the U.S., the impact of urban forest health on human health is becoming increasingly pronounced. By 2050, 90 percent of the U.S. population will live within greater urban areas. In New York City, people of color are more likely to suffer from heat-related stressors and are more likely to fall ill and die during heat events as a result of the unequal geographical location of forests, parks and green spaces among urban neighborhoods.

Steiner will measure sap flow and soil moisture in situ in New York City forests in order to correlate temperature reduction as measured with transpiration and water stress over the course of the seasonal progression and extreme temperature events. Under drought conditions, trees modulate their water stress by using increased transpiration (opening their stomata) or decreasing transpiration (closing their stomata) depending upon climatic conditions and soil moisture. This alters the rate of evaporative cooling and latent heat flux in the local environment.

Launched in 2018, ECOSTRESS was designed to identify critical thresholds of water use and water stress in plants and to detect the timing, location, and predictive factors which lead to increased or decreased water uptake by vegetation in green spaces. The ECOSTRESS sensor is currently on the space station and will operate through 2023 with the possibility of extension.

The project, which runs from 2022 to 2025, is a collaboration between the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, the New York Botanical Gardens, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology.

Biologist Ana Carnaval Sounds Alarm: The Amazon is in Peril



(Top left) Location of wildfires 1985 to 2021. (Right) Burned primary forest near Rurópolis, State of Pará, Brazil, 17 September 2020. (Bottom left) After millions of years serving as an immense global carbon pool, the Amazon rainforest is becoming a net carbon source to the atmosphere. From Dr. Carnaval's article in 'Science' magazine'

The global climate crisis has altered every ecosystem on planet Earth. In the Amazon, the rate of change is accelerating.

The Amazon is home to more than 10 percent of all named plant and vertebrate species. It is the core of the biogeographic realm that is home to about one-third of all known species. Habitat conversion, driven by logging, forest fires, and canopy clearing, threaten this biodiversity. Global warming, climate variability, and extreme weather events amplify these threats.

Biologist Ana Carnaval and collaborators from multiple institutions in North America, South America and Europe have determined that these anthropogenic events are pushing the entire Earth System across a critical threshold to a qualitatively different global climate scenario. Their study, "Human impacts outpace natural processes in the Amazon," appears in the journal "Science."

"To fail the Amazon is to fail the biosphere, and we fail to act at our own peril," the study stated.

Carnaval and her colleagues compared rates of anthropogenic and natural environmental changes in the Amazon to other regions of South America. They then compared these rates with other

processes in the larger Earth System. They compiled South America data from the Science Panel for the Amazon Assessment Report, which details the dimensions of the Amazon as a regional entity of the Earth System and documents Amazonian biodiversity, ecosystem function and cultural diversity.

Among other key takeaways, they found the rate at which modern human activity drives extinction in the Neotropics is between 1,000 times and 10,000 times higher than the natural rate as estimated from the fossil record.

The Amazon is transitioning from a largely natural to a degraded landscape. After millions of years of serving as a global carbon pool, the Amazon rainforest is poised to become a net carbon source. In some areas, forest respiration and burning are outpacing photosynthesis.

Carnaval and her colleagues believe the global community must enhance conservation through legal protections and punish illegal activities for areas under public, private, community, and Indigenous management. They call for international financial institutions to suspend funding for mega-infrastructure projects such as roads, bridges, railways, dams and mines in Amazonia pending independent regional environmental assessment.

Kaveh Madani Leads Water Think Tank at U.N.



Professor
Kaveh Madani

Kaveh Madani, research professor at The City College of New York-based CUNY Remote Sensing Earth Systems Institute (CUNY CREST), is the next leader of the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH). His appointment was announced by the U.N.

Madani assumed the position of UNU-INWEH Director in early 2023 and maintains his CUNY CREST affiliation with the Grove School of Engineering.

Known as the U.N.'s water think tank or water university, UNU-INWEH is the United Nations' academic arm focusing on addressing pressing global water security challenges around the world. The institute was created in 1996 in response to an emerging concern about the growing global water crisis and its harmful impact on human and environmental health and sustainable development.

"Dr. Madani has been instrumental in shaping CUNY CREST's growing research, capacity building, outreach and advocacy efforts in the domain of environmental justice and to reduce the vulnerability of disadvantaged communities in the United States and around the globe due to the climate and weather related extreme events", said Reza Khanbilvardi, CUNY CREST executive director and professor of civil engineering in the Grove School. "His new leadership position further strengthens CUNY's ongoing collaboration with the U.N. and increases our positive global impact on water science and policy, especially in the global south."

An environmental scientist, and activist, Madani joined CCNY from Yale University in 2021. He has a unique combination of experience in high-level policymaking, prominent practice-relevant research, and high-impact societal interactions. He is an international authority on modeling and managing complex human-nature systems who's previously served as a vice president of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) Bureau, overseeing the world's highest-level decision-making body on environment.

Campus Building Decarbonization Efforts Underway with U.S. Department of Energy



CCNY site visit by U.S. Department of Energy delegation. Top group photo: Kelly Speakes-Backman (eighth from left), Jorge E. Gonzalez (ninth) and Alexander Couzis, dean of The Grove School of Engineering at CCNY (tenth).

In response to the pressing need for decarbonization in the building sector, The City College of New York started a joint effort with the U. S. Department of Energy's Building Technology Office and the City of New York Office of Climate and Sustainability for the development of advanced heat pump systems. The project was facilitated by the Minority Serving Research & Development Consortium.

On July 21, multiple stakeholders in the effort, including Kelly Speakes-Backman, former principal deputy assistant secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the DOE, visited CCNY to showcase their commitment to expand collaborations with minority serving institutions in their research portfolio and in support of decarbonization strategies. The Mayor's Office of Climate and Sustainability, and the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) will also join the conversation of decarbonization efforts and related technologies.

Buildings represent a large source of energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and are a major space for decarbonization. The main goal of this initiative is to develop commercially feasible heat pump

systems for the multi-family buildings in cold climates. In December 2021, New York City passed a bill to decarbonize the building sector by 2050. The fossil fuels used in space heating and cooling account for 60 percent of GHG emissions from buildings and 30 percent of citywide GHG emissions.

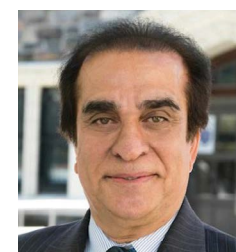
"This effort is in support of decarbonization of the building sector, particularly for electrified systems for the winter seasons. Both New York City and New York State have pledged to decarbonize the building sector in the next 10 to 20 years as a strategy to reduce carbon emissions," said Jorge Gonzalez-Cruz, CCNY presidential professor currently on leave, the founding editor of ASME J. of Engineering of Sustainable Buildings and Cities, and professor of empire innovation at the Atmospheric Sciences Research Center, University at Albany, SUNY. "It will allow for electrical based space cooling, heating, and hot water with minimal impact on the environment."

Previously, heat pump systems were better optimized for moderate climates, where there is a greater need for cooling than heating. In colder climates like the Northeast, it has traditionally been difficult to build an efficient system

that is both affordable and attractive to customers with heat pump systems powered by gas or oil.

"Through energy efficiency measures, we have tremendous potential to increase building performance and reduce costs without compromising the historic integrity of many of the buildings found here in New York City," said Speakes-Backman.

CCNY Joins \$6M NOAA-funded Climate Adaptation Network



Professor Reza Khanbilvardi

CCNY joins a group of other prominent institutions in a new CAP (Climate Adaptation Partnerships) program supported by a \$6,037,4681 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Program Office (NOAA-CPO). Caribbean Climate Adaptation Network (CCAN) is part of a broader network of 12 teams funded by NOAA's CAP,

formerly known as the Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) program, across the U.S.

Titled: “(CCAN): Building equitable adaptive capacities of the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico,” the award is for a five-year CAP team in the U.S. Caribbean region, with the University of Puerto Rico (headed by Pablo Mendez-Lazaro, CCAN-PI) as the lead institution.

Reza Khanbilvardi, NOAA chair professor of civil engineering in the Grove School of Engineering and executive director of the CUNY CREST (Earth System Sciences and Remote Sensing) Institute, is the CCNY lead investigator on the team.

The team’s goal is to advance equitable adaptation in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands through sustained regional research and community engagement. They will focus on multiple climate and society issues and develop a set of interconnected projects that build the capacity of regional partners to act on those issues.

Khanbilvardi, who has more than 20 years experience in conducting research in hydrological extremes, inland flood modeling, and its impact on critical infrastructures in Puerto Rico, said: “While most of our work in the past focused more on western Puerto Rico, the challenge is now much bigger, as the focus will be on the entire Island of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.”

The team, which includes CCNY graduate students, will focus on key components of the project that include development and implementation of management strategies related to extreme hydrological events, such as precipitation and inland flooding, including assisting in the development of strategies to be adapted by local communities in response to climate-related impacts and disturbances for both Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

During the next five years, CCAN scientists will utilize NOAA and other available data products to increase local climate adaptive capacity and resilience in small and underserved and underrepresented communities.

“Through this CAP, the team will also support education and professional development in NOAA mission areas,” said Khanbilvardi, the founding director of the NOAA Cooperative Science Center at CUNY from 2001 to 2021.

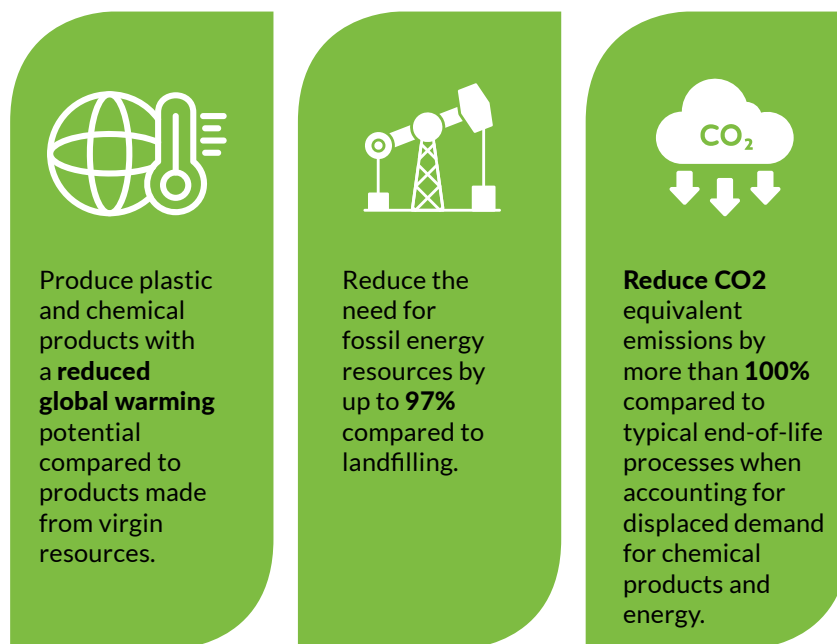
Other partnering institutions are The University of the Virgin Islands, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, University of South Florida, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, The University of Texas, Austin, The University at Albany SUNY, New York University, U.S. Forest Service (USDA), and Caribbean Coastal Ocean Observing System.

Grove Study: Advanced Plastics Recycling Yields Climate Benefits

The Grove School of Engineering released a report examining advanced recycling and concluded that it helps to avoid climate impacts, to reduce demand for energy resources, and offers key tools for expanding the circular economy. The report, “Quantitative Comparison of LCAs on the Current State of Advanced Recycling Technologies,” was authored by Marco J. Castaldi, professor of chemical engineering and director of CCNY’s Earth Engineering Center (EEC), and EEC research associate Lauren Creadore.

It examined 13 recently completed life cycle assessments (LCAs) and found that advanced recycling can transform hard-to-recycle plastics into products with a smaller carbon footprint than those made from new resources. The processes also reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions compared to conventional end of life methods, such as landfilling and waste-to-energy. Use of advanced recycling contributed to circularity for plastics in all 13 LCAs.

Specifically, the report found that advanced recycling technologies can:



“As advanced recycling becomes increasingly efficient, it is poised to play a major role in achieving global sustainability goals,” said Castaldi. “It can transform hard-to-recycle plastics into a multitude of high-value feedstocks, reducing the need for fossil resources and limiting the environmental impact of waste management. Equally important, the data suggest that our transition to a more circular economy will dramatically improve climate outcomes.”

“There’s been significant investment and interest from companies and policymakers in advanced recycling,” said Bob Hall at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers’ Research Committee on Energy, Environment, and Waste. “Scientific studies like this one from CCNY, coupled with engineering ingenuity can help inform and responsibly move us towards a more sustainable and circular future. As these technologies mature, it is imperative to conduct additional studies on advanced recycling that adhere to international LCA standards.”

Michael Sorkin and Marshall Berman Honored for love of Architecture, Urbanism, and Libraries



Left: Joan Kopjec, Professor Elisabetta Terragni and Shellie Sclan-Berman with Dean Marta Gutman. Right: Professor Michael Sorkin.

"Michael & Marshall: Celebrating Friendship, Life & Scholarship" was held in December 2022 to celebrate the lives of CCNY Distinguished Professor of Architecture Michael Sorkin and CCNY Distinguished Professor of Political Science Marshall Berman. Berman died in 2013 and Sorkin in 2020. The evening was a reason to rejoice and reflect on the two larger-than-life personalities as writers, scholars and men dedicated to the cause of public education.

The event showcased the opening of the Sorkin Reading Room, and the generous donation of Berman's archives by his wife Shellie Sclan-Berman, which are located in the adjacent CCNY Architecture Library.

"The reading room will be used by researchers interested in Michael Sorkin's criticism, pedagogy, and design practice," said Joan Copjec, Sorkin's wife and the main proponent of the project. "The room itself, designed by Michael's colleague, Professor Elisabetta Terragni, is beautiful and calm."

Located close to St. Nicholas Park, the space is light-filled with a long seminar table to encourage conversation and debate. Lining shelves he designed for his office, Sorkin's books are organized according to his personal system, introducing readers to his way of thinking about urbanism, architecture, and cities.

"Michael Sorkin was a creatively provocative and animating force in architecture and at CCNY's Spitzer School. A reading room to carry forth the spirit of intellectual excitement that he embodied is an absolutely appropriate tribute to his

legacy at our college," said President Vincent Boudreau.

A crowd filled the reception as jazz played, hors d'oeuvres and wine were served, and speeches were made by President Boudreau, Provost Tony Liss, Spitzer School Dean Marta Gutman, Copjec, and Sclan-Berman.

A Marxist humanist philosopher and writer, Berman was known for his inspired teaching of political science and urban studies at the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership, the Graduate School, CUNY, and the Spitzer School. The donated archives include papers he used to prepare to teach his courses. He continued to teach until his death at age 72.

A writer, activist, architecture critic, urbanist and principal of Michael Sorkin Studio, Sorkin joined the Spitzer School as a professor of architecture and director of the Graduate Program in Urban Design in 2000. He built a competitive program with top academics specializing in urban issues, and founded the annual Mumford Lecture, inviting distinguished urbanists to speak publicly about cities. In 2008, he was made a Distinguished Professor.

"Hundreds of people came to celebrate Michael Sorkin and Marshall Berman, testimony to the extended communities that make Spitzer all that it is," Gutman said of the event. "I'm a historian, and it pleases me no end that Spitzer is building its library and archives, the foundation on which every great architecture school sits."

"Marshall Berman was a towering intellect and also a close colleague and friend over my decades at CCNY; he often said that he'd never leave the College. Now, in the close company of his friend Michael, he never will," said Boudreau.

The 51st anniversaries of the Graduate Programs in Urban Design and Landscape Architecture was also celebrated, and the night served as the launch of a fundraising campaign by Gutman to endow the Michael Sorkin Visiting Distinguished Lecturer at the Spitzer School.

"New York Times" Journalist Emily Badger Delivers Mumford Lecture

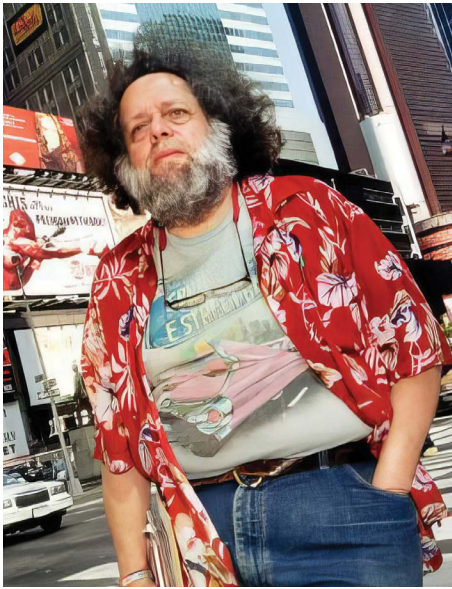


Emily Badger "The New York Times," urban policy writer, gave the Lewis Mumford Lecture in April 2023, entitled "Pressing Change in the Increasing Inflexible City."

Despite the mounting pressure for flexibility in the urban environment, many U.S. cities have become increasingly inflexible to change, largely through decades worth of building and zoning codes layered upon good intentions and not-in-my-backyard politics, she said. Adapting cities for the future—from the level of individual buildings to citywide policy—will require understanding and confronting a decades-long legacy of inflexibility. Her talk also focused on how cities must change as the nation emerges from the pandemic.

Badger writes about cities and urban policy for The Upshot from "The Times" Washington bureau, where she covers the interconnections between housing, transportation, and inequality.

Marshall Berman Archive Gifted to Spitzer School



Professor Marshall Berman

The Spitzer School of Architecture was given an extraordinary gift: the collection of books and archives belonging to Professor Marshall Berman (1940-2013) that he used to prepare to teach his courses at City College, principally at the Spitzer School. The collection will be housed in the CCNY Architecture Library in the Spitzer School of Architecture building. Berman, a distinguished professor of political science in the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership and the Graduate Center, CUNY, taught political theory and urban studies.

The collection's dedicated space will be adjacent to the new Michael Sorkin Reading Room.

Born and raised in the Bronx, Berman joined the CCNY faculty in 1967 after he completed his Ph.D. at Harvard University. He wrote frequently for publications, such as "The New York Times Book Review," "The Nation," and "Dissent."

Berman's best-known book, "All That's Solid Melts Into Air: the Experience of Modernity," was a bible to many academics, especially in architecture. It was in the introduction to this book that he coined the triad that is now part of academic lexicon: Modernity, modernization and modernism.

"I love City College, and the Spitzer School. Marshall was so happy there."

- Shelly Sclan-Berman

While going through Berman's famously copious belongings, his wife Shellie Sclan-Berman came across papers pertaining to his courses, such as City and Self.

"I love City College, and the Spitzer School. Marshall was so happy there," said Sclan-Berman. She contacted Spitzer Dean Marta Gutman about the find, and offered them to the school.

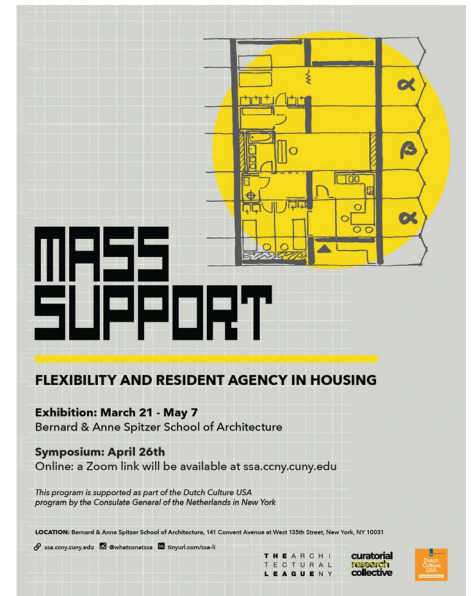
According to Nilda Sanchez-Rodriguez, chief architecture librarian and associate professor, the collection is to be cataloged and digitized. "We are so excited to get his collection and get visitors in to view his work," she said.

It's imperative to Sclan-Berman that researchers have access to documents to engage with and continue Berman's work.

U.S. Debut of "Mass Support," First Spitzer School Exhibition Since 2018

The exhibition "Mass Support: Flexibility and Resident Agency in Housing" made its U.S. debut in the Atrium Gallery. The exhibition ran from March 21 to May 7, and was a joint presentation by the Spitzer School, The Architectural League of New York, and the Curatorial Research Collective of the TU/e, with support from the Dutch Culture USA program of the Consulate-General of the Netherlands, New York. It was the first in-person show at the Spitzer School since 2018.

"Mass Support" explores the legacy and contemporary relevance of the Stichting Architecten Research (SAR), a Dutch architectural think tank active between 1964 and 1990 that proposed a radical way of thinking about mass housing, one that fused the efficiency of industrial construction with the flexibility of



user customization. Initially led by Dutch architect N. John Habraken, the SAR suggested new functions for the construction industry, for households, and, crucially, for architects.

An online symposium, a companion to the exhibition, accompanied the exhibit. It focused on flexibility, resident input, and modular building in contemporary architecture, exposing participants to the under-examined interface of robust community engagement and innovative construction technology.

According to Cassim Shepard, distinguished lecturer at the Spitzer School of Architecture, and part of the curatorial team, "Given the urgency to increase the supply of housing across the country, we need to examine how to combine innovative construction technologies with a deep commitment to responding to the needs of distinct households and communities."

This exhibition—a new iteration of a show that premiered in the Netherlands at Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) in summer 2022—charts a path forward. It highlights 10 recent projects that resonate in different ways with the legacy of the SAR's path breaking work—from new models of social housing in Berlin and Barcelona to new applications of prefabricated construction in Beijing and Brooklyn.

Frank Melendez wins Italian Fellowship



Professor Frank Melendez

Associate Professor Frank Melendez of the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture is the recipient

of an international fellowship from the Italian organization Nature, Art & Habitat Residency (NAHR). He is one of seven fellows who were awarded a one-month summer residency in the Taleggio Valley, a rural region in the Italian Alps.

The theme for the 2023 Fellowship was "AIR." Fellows explored the function, mechanism, importance, and state of air from a range of perspectives, and reflected on the impacts of air pollution and air quality degradation. During this time, Melendez focused on research to develop connections between architecture, clay, lichens, air, and technology.

The NAHR Fellowship offers a lively space to for artists to come together, while taking advantage of the surrounding natural landscapes, and Italy's rich material culture that combines vernacular traditions with innovative approaches to space, place, people, and their communities

Artists spent time in the unique area, experiencing the environment, visiting sites, and connecting with local communities, while experimenting and working with traditional and innovative materials, technology, promoting their works in public happenings, as well as producing the final documentation for the open studio weekend and for NAHR archive. All works represented the resiliency of nature in the following four domains: Regenerative Economy; Bio-Inspired Design and Architecture; Body Performing Nature; Designed Futures, Technology and New Media.

In other news, Melendez participated in an exhibition titled: "rE-ordering architecture: Making Machine and Material Kin" at the Usagi NY Gallery in Brooklyn. The exhibition consisted of digitally fabricated clay columns, each representing a new 'order'— a seed

or fragment of a future entwinement between architecture and environment.

The exhibition was part of the NYCxDESIGN Festival 2023.

Proposed Course Wins Inter-university Climate Challenge Award



Professor Nandini Bagchee and Adjunct Lecturer Pedro Cruz Cruz

Professor Nandini Bagchee and Adjunct Lecturer Pedro Cruz Cruz won a course development prize from Columbia University's Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA). The course, titled "Archipelagic Estates of Puerto Rico: Islands and Island Cultures in light of Climate Change," was one of five winners of the 2023 Course Development Prize in Architecture, Climate Change, and Society. Winners receive cash and support to implement their courses at their ACSA-member school within the next two years, and their course proposals were presented at the ACSA 111th Annual Meeting.

The idea for the course was conceived one month after the 2022 hurricane Fiona inundated the island's coastal communities, and five years after Cruz departed Puerto Rico in the wake of the devastation of hurricanes Irma and Maria. For Cruz and students at The City College from the diaspora, the course provides an opportunity to come full circle and think about the future of the Caribbean. The course will research the long-term effects of hurricanes and sea level rise to the southern coastal communities of Puerto Rico and look for viable models of habitation while building on the traditional cultures of self-reliance.

The south, once the center of agro-industrial production, is now the locus of polluting coal and gas power plants.

The deteriorating infrastructures of consumption and production will have to be removed or remade in a post-carbon era of an ecologically sustainable urbanism.

"I see this as a great opportunity to investigate new pedagogies of teaching about the big environmental challenges confronting our discipline by combining local knowledge with design."

- Professor Nandini Bagchee

The ongoing colonial status of Puerto Rico and lack of democratic representation has generated a resilient culture of self-organization and survival through mutual aid in the marginalized communities of southern Puerto Rico. Disruption will be seen positively in this curriculum as a tactic to combat the lack of support from local officials and federal policy.

"I see this as a great opportunity to investigate new pedagogies of teaching about the big environmental challenges confronting our discipline by combining local knowledge with design," said Bagchee.

Critical tools of architectural drawing and modeling will be used while engaging in a dialog with an interdisciplinary cohort of anthropologists, environmental scientists, and spatial practitioners. Drawing from a network of local and diasporic coalitions, research will build upon the work of grassroots organizers and institutions connected to the southern geography.

"Part of what makes the course meaningful is the cross-Atlantic dialog between faculty and students at the Spitzer School of Architecture and a host of community organizers and educational institutions in Puerto Rico," said Cruz, who is a 2022 M Arch graduate of the Spitzer School.



Professor Jerome Haferd

Jerome Haferd Receives #BlackVisionaries Grant as Part of Group Efforts

Assistant Professor of Architecture Jerome Haferd, through his affiliation with Dark Matter U. (DMU) as a member of its leadership team, received a #BlackVisionaries \$100,000 grant to be used for the group. DMU is a democratic network of design professionals and academics that considers and centers multiple subjectivities and co-creates new forms of knowledge production, BIPOC mentorship, and spatial imagination to serve broader, often overlooked constituencies.

Instagram and the Brooklyn Museum awarded ten national grants out of a field of 2,000 applicants. This project is a way to invest in Black voices and organizations working in art and design for a total of \$650,000. #BlackVisionaries is led by Creative Chair Antwaun Sargent.

"The importance of programs and awards like #BlackVisionaries cannot be understated. Dedicating material resources and funds to support and celebrate BIPOC voices is central to the mission of Dark Matter U. Design is culture. As interdisciplinary designers and architects, we believe that diversity, design and Black/POC imagination are literally crucial to the

creation of a new society and built environment," said Haferd.

DMU is a BIPOC-led, anti-racist design justice network seeking the radical transformation of built environment education and practice toward a just future.

"The importance of programs and awards like #BlackVisionaries cannot be understated."

- Professor Jerome Haferd

Haferd's participation in DMU is a crucial link to his teaching at CCNY. "Dark Matter U. is core to the mission of uplifting diversity at Spitzer and CUNY," said Haferd, explaining that the Spitzer School has collaborated with DMU on a co-taught course between Yale University and City College, as well as a teach-in in fall 2021. DMU also participated in the 2022 Lisbon Architecture Triennial working with students from the Spitzer School.

The grant came at a particularly important moment for DMU. "The #BlackVisionaries Grant will help to position Dark Matter U. on its next phase—obtaining funding and support to help sustain this organization," he said, of the volunteer-led group.

...and Creates Public Art for Harlem Park

Haferd also designed a new installation for Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem. The interactive work, entitled "Sankofa," was up until October 2023 and reopens in Spring 2024. The grand opening was held on June 18 in the park which is located on Madison Avenue from East 120th Street to East 124th Street. More than 200 people attended the opening, including New York state Sen. Cordell Cleare.

"Sankofa" is the first of several installations and multi-year, multi-structure vision plan design by Haferd and funded by the Mellon Foundation as a part of the Culture, Creativity, & Care Initiative at Marcus Garvey Park led by Harlem Grown, a nonprofit dedicated to educating youth on living healthy and sustainably. Haferd is the lead designer for the Initiative with plans to open more installations throughout the spring and summer of 2023 and 2024.

According to Haferd, "After 2024, 'Sankofa' will be repurposed for future potential uses, ideally in the Harlem community, for example in street dining, another park, or a Harlem grown-site. The design and materials were developed for it to be repurposed."

Jerome Haferd / BRANDT : HAFERD, Haferd's Black-led public art and architecture studio located in Harlem, designed the work with input from the local community. The name "Sankofa," derived from Akan African folklore, and translates to "in order to know our future we must look to our past." Haferd conducted research with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, the New York Public Library, and local residents for archival material that is featured in the design. For more about the installation, The Architect's Newspaper wrote about it.

The design and installation team was comprised of Spitzer adjunct faculty member Pedro Cruz Cruz, M Arch '22, Gabriel Moyer Perez, current B Arch student, the team's project manager, M Arch students Suraya Babb and Shadeen Dixon, and B Arch '22 alumni Violet Greenberg and Tiffany Gonzalez.

Bloom Energy Introduces First Cohort of Innovation Fellowships



The Colin Powell Bloom Energy Innovation Fellows with (front row, left to right); Colin Powell School Dean Andrew Rich; Bloom Energy CEO KR Sridhar; Colin Powell School Board of Visitors Chair Linda Powell; and CCNY President Vincent Boudreau.

In partnership with Bloom Energy, the Colin Powell School introduced the first cohort of Colin Powell Bloom Energy Innovation Fellows in June. The 11 Fellows gained extensive work and professional development experience through a cohort-based program at Bloom's San Jose, Calif. headquarters this past summer. The program provided students with experience in various business areas at Bloom Energy, a leading manufacturer in the fuel cell industry, including: mechanical, electrical and manufacturing engineering; human resources; marketing; finance; legal; business and data analytics; and information technology.

Bloom Energy and CCNY created this internship program to invest in the future of the clean energy workforce and to honor General Colin Powell, a 1958 graduate of CCNY and a Bloom Energy Board member, as well as the company's chief mission and values officer. By training students for success in the clean energy field, Bloom and CCNY are carrying out Powell's vision of fostering the next generation of diverse global leaders.

To kick off the program, a ceremony was held in the rotunda of New York City Hall attended by Dean Andrew Rich, Linda Powell, Gen. Colin Powell's daughter, and the chair of the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors, Bloom Energy CEO KR Sridhar, President Vincent Boudreau, the 11 Fellows, and guests.

"Over the last two decades, Bloom Energy has become one of the leading producers of platforms for distributing lower carbon energy," said Rich.

Powell recalled that her father spoke about his students often with Sridhar. "He believed in Bloom's mission to expand the uses of technology, to leverage our innovative spirit to produce cleaner energy and a better environment," she said. "Dad would be thrilled with this new fellowship program, and I am so proud that we are continuing his mission—one of his most important missions—to provide our students with quality of access to a wide range of opportunities."

In his remarks, Boudreau noted Powell's enthusiasm for new technologies. "General Powell had a tremendous affinity and excitement for new technology," he said.

Sridhar spoke of his respect and affection for Gen. Powell during their long association. "He really believed in the mission of clean energy for people around the world," he said.

Seeing himself in the 11 student Fellows, he said, "They remind me, in many ways, of me," as many of them were people of color and immigrants. "Carrying a suitcase and coming here in search of my fortune. Only in this country."

Economics junior Kazi Ahmed said that he was inspired to attend CCNY by his sister's achievements as a CCNY

student. "The opportunity to immerse myself in this environment, connect with like-minded individuals, and contribute to Bloom Energy's mission of driving renewable energy practices fills me with enthusiasm and determination," he said.

Another economics junior, Steven Fernandez, spoke of his family's journey from rural Dominican Republic in search of a better future. He supported the accounting team at Bloom as a finance intern. "I aspire to leverage my skills for the benefit of my community and economic development, helping individuals and corporations make good and ethical decisions that promote equity, equality, and growth," he said.

The other fellows are: Amreen Nasir, an business administration major and university relations intern; Aysha Asif, a business administration junior and marketing intern; Henry Suarez, a computer science junior and IT automation intern; Jannatoul Ferdous, a mechanical engineering junior and engineering intern; Laiba Laisee, a mechanical engineering senior and mechanical engineering intern; Lhakpa Sherpa, a psychology junior and human resources intern; Nyi Zin, an electrical engineering junior and electrical engineering intern; Nymul Islam, an economics junior and supply chain intern; and Ondrea Kanwhen, an electrical engineering junior and product management intern.

Public Service Career Hub Wins National Award



Maya Guiterrez, founding director of the Public Service Career Hub

The Colin Powell School's Public Service Career Hub was given the American Association of University Administrators' Exemplary Model Award for 2023. Created in September 2021 with the support of a generous grant from the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation, the Career Hub helps students prepare for public service careers by providing them with assistance in obtaining internships and jobs.

"The model for the Hub differs from other centralized career services that rely primarily on private sector recruiters," said Maya Guiterrez, its founding director. "It represents an opportunity to develop public service-oriented career services that provide a road map to internships and careers in social justice organizations and across government and public service."

The Hub, housed within the School's Office of Student Success, was recognized by AAUA for its efforts "to make educational opportunities available to groups of students who may not originally have the assets, the contacts, and the preparation to experience the value of internships, fellowships, and fieldwork that can be the signature activity of their academic careers," said AAUA Awards Vice President Jerry Neuner. He cited as particularly commendable the "extensive analysis of the structural and personal challenges that are faced by many students of color, immigrant status, first generation status, and low incomes," as well as "quantitative evidence of success, primarily headcounts of those who have been served."

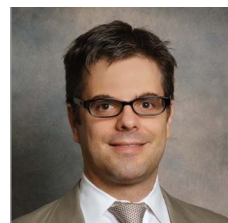
"Preparing students for careers in public service is one of the primary goals of the

Colin Powell School," said Andrew Rich, the Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean of the Powell School. "This award is a testament to the Career Hub's innovative model and early success. I am grateful to the Petrie Foundation for its partnership and to Maya Gutierrez for her leadership in developing a model that is readying our students for enriching careers in public service."

"We are delighted to support the Social Justice and Public Service Career Hub at The City College of New York's Colin Powell School, and we congratulate them on their outstanding accomplishment in helping more City College students realize their long-term career goals," said Cass Conrad, executive director of the Petrie Foundation. "Too often, students, especially first-generation students, don't know where to look or even how to think about careers in public service. The new Career Hub provides a roadmap and the support needed to pursue careers in social justice organizations and across government and public service."

The AAUA awards are chosen from among nominations made by faculty, staff, and administrators from colleges and universities from across the country. They are made for initiatives that reflect creative solutions to common problems that may have been posed by accrediting bodies, legislation, governance, or the institution's own internal strategic objectives.

Psychologist Eric Fertuck and Colleagues Identify Neural Signature for Borderline Personality Disorder



Professor Eric A. Fertuck

A new study of a brain region called the rostro-medial prefrontal could potentially advance diagnosis and therapies for Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD).

Entitled "Rejection Distress Suppresses Medial Prefrontal Cortex in Borderline Personality Disorder," the research appears in the journal "Biological

Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging."

Researchers from The City College of New York, Columbia University, and New York State Psychiatric Institute, led by CCNY psychologist Eric A. Fertuck, discovered that the rostro-medial prefrontal specifically becomes more active when people are rejected by others at greater rates. However, individuals with BPD—characterized by interpersonal sensitivity to rejection and emotional instability—do not display rostro-medial prefrontal cortex activity when rejected.

The brain reacts with rostro-medial prefrontal activity to rejection as if there is something "wrong" in the environment. This brain activity may activate an attempt to try to restore and maintain close social ties to survive and thrive. This region of the brain also is activated when humans try to understand other peoples' behavior in light of their mental and emotional state.

"Inactivity in the rostro-medial prefrontal cortex during rejection may explain why those with BPD are more sensitive and more distressed by rejection. Understanding why individuals with this debilitating and high risk disorder experience emotional distress to rejection goes awry will help us develop more targeted therapies for BPD," said Fertuck, associate professor in the Colin Powell School and in the CUNY Graduate Center.

On the significance of the study, Fertuck noted that while previous findings in this area have been mixed, "what we've done is improve the specificity and resolution of our rejection assessment, which improves on prior studies."

Research continues with several investigations underway examining the role of social rejection in different mental health problems including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and social anxiety.

Fertuck heads the Social Neuroscience and Psychopathology (SNAP) lab in the Colin Powell School. The lab advances a collaborative program of research at the interface of the clinical understanding of BPD and related psychopathology, psychotherapy research, experimental psychopathology, and social neuroscience.

Inaugural Colin L. Powell Distinguished Leadership Award to Cesar Conde



Linda Powell, Chair of the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors, presents the inaugural Colin L. Powell Award for Distinguished Leadership to Cesar Conde, Chair of the NBCUniversal News Group.

Cesar Conde, chairman of NBCUniversal News Group, was the inaugural recipient of the Colin L. Powell Distinguished Leadership Award.

The award recognizes individuals who have reached the highest level in their fields, and who embody the leadership values that General Powell, a 1958 graduate of The City College, demonstrated throughout his career: integrity, humility, humor, pragmatism, and common sense. These values were articulated most famously in Powell's Thirteen Rules of Leadership, which culminate with "Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier." These words are memorialized on the award medallion.

"General Powell played such an important role in the lives of so many people," Conde said. "The School's legacy of providing educational opportunities and training, particularly to immigrants and first-generation Americans was so important to General Powell. I am honored and humbled to accept this award in his name."

In presenting the Award to Conde at an April ceremony in New York, Linda Powell, chair of the Colin Powell School's Board of Visitors and the daughter

of the late general, national security advisor and secretary of state, cited Conde's professional accomplishments, his commitment to excellence, and his dedication to raising up others.

"Cesar Conde is a visionary and innovative leader who has dedicated his career to shaping the future of media and empowering diverse voices in the industry," said Powell. "He has made it his mission to create a more inclusive and representative media landscape."

Before becoming the first Hispanic to lead a major English-language television news organization, Conde held numerous responsible positions within NBCU, including chairman of NBCUniversal International Group and NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, and president of Univision Network.

Conde served as a White House Fellow for then-Secretary of State Powell in 2002-03. An honors graduate of Harvard University, he also holds a master's degree in business administration from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

"Cesar embodies the values of service and leadership that were so important

to General Powell and that are important to the Colin Powell School," said Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean Andrew Rich. "Like General Powell, he is the son of immigrants; his father from Peru and his mother from Cuba. He is someone who has risen to the highest level in his field. His journey is the same as that of so many of our students, 50 percent of whom are the children of immigrants. His is a model to admire and to inspire."

"General Powell's vision and passion is fully reflected through the Colin Powell School activity," said Marco Antonio Achón, who conceived the event. Achón is a Colin Powell School Board of Visitors member, co-head of Santander Corporate & Investment Banking U.S. and general manager of Banco Santander New York Branch. "We want the school to grow with perpetual optimism as a force multiplier as Colin Powell said. We are very happy at Santander to support the Colin Powell School and have the Santander fellows program," he said.

The event was made possible through the generous support of Santander.

Espailat, Schumer and Gillibrand deliver \$800K Federal Grant to Launch new CUNY DSI-led Cultural/Historical Initiative



U.S. Representative Adriano Espaillat

The CUNY Dominican Studies Institute (CUNY DSI) received \$809,092 in federal funding for the creation of a City University of New York Cultural/Historical Legacy Initiative (CUNY CHLI) that will generate culturally and historically rich curricula and enrichment programs for K-12 students in partnership with the New York City Department of Education.

CUNY CHLI will provide special training and faculty development programs for teachers and educators. It will use assets and inputs from The City College of New York-based CUNY DSI Archives, Library, and Research Unit to produce educational training and resources that promote and preserve the formidable cultural and historical legacies of Dominican, Latinos/a/x people in the United States. One CUNY CHLI thrust will be to produce a series of children's books and audiovisual documentaries featuring unsung heroes of Dominican history and culture.

"I am thrilled to receive such an important grant that will allow us to work even more closely with the next generations who, now more than ever, need to know about the contributions of their ancestors and their parents to U.S. society, so they continue on the same path," said CUNY DSI Director Ramona Hernandez. "This is really a dream program for us."

CUNY CHLI will also enhance CUNY DSI's High School Archival Program. It provides hands-on archival experience

and research opportunities through paid internships for high-school students from New York City and beyond, who can also earn course credit for their participation via CCNY's Bridge to College Program partnership with the New York City Department of Education.

"We are deeply grateful to Representative Adriano Espaillat, Senator Chuck Schumer and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, all long-time friends of City College and the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute. This support is thanks to them, and they have brought vital vision and leadership to this new and exciting initiative," said Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean Andrew Rich. "By fostering culturally responsive curricula for K-12 students and training programs for their teachers, CUNY CHLI will benefit immigrant communities in New York City and throughout the country."

Dominicana Activist and Social Researcher Ruth Pion Vizcaino is CUNY DSI's First Threatened Scholar Fellow



Ruth Pion Vizcaino

Ruth Pion Vizcaino, a social researcher, anthropologist and activist focusing on racial justice and gender equality in her homeland, is the CUNY DSI inaugural Threatened Scholars Fellow. She spent the fall semester at CUNY DSI benefitting from a safe space to continue working in favor of promoting cultural inclusiveness in the Dominican Republic. Funded by the Mellon Foundation, the Threatened Scholars Fellowship Program was launched at CCNY this year. Two other Fellows in the 2023-2024 cohort will be announced later.

"We are pleased to welcome Ruth Pion Vizcaino to The City College of

New York and grateful that the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute is able to support her important work on racial justice and gender equality," said Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean Andrew Rich. "The vital work of scholars and activists to develop and share knowledge and understanding without obstruction has never been more important, and we thank the Mellon Foundation for making this program possible. It serves as an important beacon for intellectual freedom and creativity in Dominican Studies."

Ramona Hernandez, director of CUNY DSI, said Vizcaino would join a group of scholars working in Dominican and Latin American/Latino studies at CCNY. "She will have the opportunity to expand her scholarly work in a productive environment," said Hernandez.

While at CCNY, Fellows will continue their research. They may teach one class open to undergraduate CCNY students, engage in scholarly activities, and participate in public events and conferences. Their experiences will be recorded as part of a documentary series about threatened scholars, and intellectual and academic freedom. According to Pierre Losson, the CUNY DSI associate director, the Threatened Scholars Fellowship Program seeks to broaden the scope of current conversations on censorship and suppression of civil liberties by examining the limits on people's freedom to think and speak in fully established and long-lasting democratic nations, such as the Dominican Republic.

"The call for applications was aimed at scholars, artists, journalists, and other producers of knowledge, who feel harassed, vulnerable, and in fear of losing their livelihood because their work challenges the status quo and the prevailing social order in Dominican society," said Losson. "These threats may include the risk of losing job promotion, denying or delaying of loans sponsored by the government, discredit and harm of reputation in social media, loss of employment for unknown or unclear reasons, social isolation, and police harassment and brutality for participation in peaceful demonstrations, among others."

The program takes place over three academic years, from Fall 2023 through 2026.

Visiting Fulbright Scholar Margo Groenewoud Brings New Caribbean Insights to CUNY DSI



Margo Groenewoud

Social historian Margo Groenewoud, an expert in the 20th century Dutch Caribbean at the University of Curaçao, is the 2022-2023 Fulbright Scholar in Residence at CUNY DSI. Groenewoud's interests are in postcolonialism, social justice, cultural history and digital humanities.

As a research fellow, Groenewoud will expand upon investigations of connection and kinship within the Dutch Caribbean and broader Caribbean to include the Dominican Republic. Through archival research at CUNY DSI, in the Dominican Republic, and oral history research, she will shed new light on the 500+ year old relationship between Dominicans and Dutch Caribbean. Her research will culminate in a CUNY DSI Research Monograph that contextualizes and analyzes Dutch-Dominican engagements specifically from 1916 to 1961.

She recently finished her work as researcher with the "Traveling Caribbean Heritage Project," studying elements of heritage and belonging in the realities of Dutch non-sovereign Caribbean states, with particular attention to digital humanities policies and praxis. The project is funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research.

Groenewoud earned a Ph.D. degree in the humanities from the University of Leiden in the Netherlands, which was founded in 1575 and is one of Europe's leading international research universities. A senior lecturer and

researcher in the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences at the University of Curaçao Dr. Moises Da Costa Gomez, she works at the intersection of the humanities and social sciences. She also serves as a member of the University of Curaçao Research Institute's Board of Directors.

Dominican Employment and Income Surge, Study Finds



Director of CUNY-DSI Ramona Hernández

Dominicans in the United States have made a substantial leap forward in socioeconomic progress over the last two decades, concluded a new research report by CUNY DSI.

The average household income per person among Dominicans in 2019 was 43 percent higher than in 1999 when adjusted by inflation, the study found. This caused a sharp drop of poverty rates as well. In 1999, as much as 27.5 percent of all Dominicans in the U.S. lived in poverty. By 2019 this had dropped to 19 percent. Although still unacceptably high, the decline in poverty rates among Dominicans over the last 20 years is the largest of the various racial and ethnic groups in the U.S.

The big change, according to the study, centers on labor force participation that boosted the employment rates and income gains of Dominicans nationally.

"For both men and women, the labor force participation rates among Dominicans have been climbing rapidly during the last two decades," said co-author Ramona Hernández, director of CUNY-DSI. "Back in 2000, the labor force participation rates among Dominicans were substantially lower than those prevailing in the overall American population. Today, they are

significantly above those for the overall population of the U.S."

She noted that the proportion of Dominican men in the labor force in 2019 was 74.4 percent, higher than the overall male national labor force participation rate of 68.6 percent. Among Dominican women, 64.7 percent were counted in the labor market as of 2019, above the overall national rate for women of 58.8 percent.

"In fact, Dominican women have the highest female labor force participation rate in the country, higher than the average for any other major racial and ethnic group," said Hernández.

Education is the key driver in this Dominican success story, propelled by the increased schooling of Dominicans born in the United States. U.S.-born Dominicans have now surpassed the overall U.S. population in educational attainment according to the study. For women, in the period of 2015-2019, as much as 34.6 percent of U.S.-born Dominicans had received a college degree and 31.6 percent had completed some college education (but not a college degree), which adds up to 66.2 percent who had some college education or more. For the overall female population in the U.S., the equivalent proportions are 32.5 percent for college graduates and 23.5 percent for those with some college, adding up to 56 percent.

For U.S.-born Dominican men, 23 percent had a college degree and 29.2 percent had completed some college education (but not a college degree), adding up to 52.2 percent with some college education or more. This is approximately the same as for the U.S. male population overall, with 53.2 percent having some college education or more.

U.S.-born Dominicans have significantly higher enrollment rates in school or universities than U.S.-born Hispanics in general and all the major Hispanic subgroups except Cubans.

The study was co-authored by Hernández, Columbia University economist Francisco L. Rivera-Batiz, and CUNY-DSI researcher Sidie Sisay. Using recently released U.S. Census Bureau data, it is the first up-to-date detailed study of the socioeconomic status of Dominicans in the U.S.

2022 Highly Cited Researchers List Included Professors Alù, Anderson and Khanikaev



From left: CCNY's Andrea Alù, Robert Anderson and Alexander Khanikaev appear on the 2022 list of the world's Highly Cited Researchers.

Distinguished Professor Andrea Alù, Professor of Biology Robert Anderson, and Alexander Khanikaev, professor in the Grove School of Engineering represent The City College of New York on the 2022 Highly Cited Researchers (HCR) list.

The highly awaited annual list identifies elite researchers worldwide who demonstrated significant influence in their chosen field or fields through the publication of multiple highly cited papers during the last decade. This recognition draws from the publications that rank in the top 1 percent by citations for field and publication year in the Web of Science™ citation index.

In 2022, fewer than 7,000, or about 0.1 percent, of the world's researchers, in 21 research fields and across multiple fields, have earned this exclusive distinction. This year's HCRs list includes 24 Nobel laureates.

The methodology that determines the "who's who" of influential researchers draws on the data and analysis performed by bibliometric experts and data scientists at the Institute for Scientific Information™ at Clarivate.

A Highly Cited Researcher since 2017, Alù is distinguished professor and founding director of the Photonics Initiative at the CUNY ASRC on the CCNY campus, Einstein Professor of Physics at the Graduate Center, CUNY,

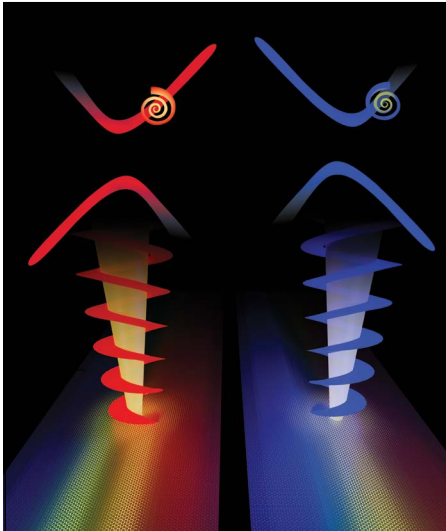
and electrical engineering professor in CCNY's Grove School. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the Materials Research Society, the Optical Society, the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers, and the American Physical Society. He has received several scientific awards, including the Blavatnik National Award for Physical Sciences and Engineering, the IEEE Kiyo Tomiyasu Award, the ICO Prize in Optics, the NSF Alan T. Waterman award, the OSA Adolph Lomb Medal, and the URSI Issac Koga Gold Medal.

This is the fourth year running that Anderson has made the HCR list. He conducts biogeographic studies at the interface between ecology and evolution, drawing upon diverse data sources (fieldwork, morphology, climatology, remote sensing, physiology, and genetics). In interdisciplinary collaborations, he has developed the use of machine-learning principle Maxent for modeling species niches and distributions. These models are broadly applied in conservation biology, invasive species, zoonotic diseases, and the effects of climate change on biodiversity. In addition to his faculty position at CCNY and the Graduate Center, CUNY, he is a Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History and a Blavatnik Science Scholar.

Khanikaev pioneered topological photonics, a relatively new subject of research. His work promises to revolutionize approaches to manipulate electromagnetic waves from radiofrequencies to optics, which can benefit a broad range of applications from lasers and telecommunications to quantum computing. Khanikaev's research has earned him election as a Fellow Member of Optica (formerly known as The Optical Society of America), and as the recipient of the rarely bestowed 'Special Creativity' award from the National Science Foundation. In addition to CCNY's Grove School of Engineering, his affiliation includes the Graduate Center, CUNY.

David Pendlebury, senior citation analyst at the Institute for Scientific Information at Clarivate said, "It is increasingly important for nations and institutions to recognize and support the exceptional researchers who are driving the expansion of the world's knowledge. This list identifies and celebrates exceptional individual researchers at The City College of New York who are having a significant impact on the research community as evidenced by the rate at which their work is being cited by their peers. The research they have contributed is fueling the innovation, sustainability, health and security that is key for our society's future."

Researchers Use Structured Light on a Chip in Another Photonics Breakthrough



Channels for guiding structured light – a prototype of silicon photonic chip with information encoded in the spinning structure of optical modes. Image created by Dr. Svetlana Kiriushchikina.

In two recent works, published back-to-back in the top journals “Science Advances” and “Nature Nanotechnology,” researchers from Alexander Khanikaev’s group have created structured light on a silicon chip, and used this added structure to attain new functionalities and control not available before.

Light exists in more exotic forms than we experience in everyday life. Beams can be shaped to take the form of spirals; so-called vortex beams, endowed with unusual properties. Such beams can create dust particles to spin, just like they indeed move along some intangible spirals. Light modes with such added structure are called “structured,”

To this aim, two-dimensional optical metamaterials—where multiple light waves come together and combine to create the most complex forms of light—referred to as metasurfaces, and hosting a special kind of structured light spinning around just like vortex beams were created.

By experiments carried out in Khanikaev’s laboratory, researchers

demonstrated a new kind of trap to confine structured optical modes and to guide them on the chip.

As reported in “Nature Nanotechnology” applying similar slow change in the pattern in one direction, researchers have created waveguides for structured light. These channels allow guiding optical signals while preserving the internal structure of light. This is similar to the flow of currents in wires, if wires could have two flavors of charges.

Such currents have been of enormous interest in electronics recently, and a completely new class of electronic devices, commonly referred to as spintronic or valleytronic, was envisioned. In such devices it is not the flow of charge by itself that would transfer signals, but spin or valley of electrons, which promises a plethora of advantages in comparison to conventional electronic devices.

Khanikaev’s work envisions a similar concept, but with light rather than electrons. In contrast to electronic systems, optics and photonics have one significant advantage—optical modes do not suffer from decoherence to the same degree as electrons, which can be vital for quantum technologies. The demonstrations by Khanikaev’s group can be useful for quantum applications for several reasons. Thus, the added structure of optical modes can be used to encode quantum information in the form of quantum bits. This information can then be transported on a chip or emitted into free space for communicating quantum information between remote systems.

Moving in this direction, the Khanikaev group is currently working on implementing these ideas with quantum states of structured light and realizing quantum logic in their photonic nanostructures.

Anil Agrawal Elected ASCE Distinguished Member

Anil K. Agrawal, Herbert G. Keyser Professor of Civil Engineering, is one of 10 top professionals elected American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) distinguished members.



Professor Anil K. Agrawal

Agrawal is recognized by his peers worldwide as a pioneering researcher in bridge structures. His distinguished membership is for “significant and definitive contributions in extreme hazards

and mitigation for bridges and service to the Society as editor of ASCE’s Journal of Bridge Engineering.”

He served as editor-in-chief of the ASCE’s “Bridge Engineering” (2009-2021), which in 2017 was ranked #18 among structural engineering journals by Google Scholar metrics. This success garnered him 2019’s Richard R. Torrens Award for outstanding performance.

In addition, Agrawal chaired the Society’s SEI Committee on Bridge Inspection, Rehabilitation, and Monitoring, as well as the SEI Committee on Structural Control and Sensing. He has also headed the Engineering Mechanics Committee of the ASCE Metropolitan Section since 2013.

He is the recipient of several prestigious awards, including CUNY’s Performance Excellence Award in 2000 and ASCE’s 2019 Arthur M. Wellington Prize for the paper “Heavy Truck Collision with Bridge Piers: Computational Simulation Study,” as well as the Society’s Ernest E. Howard Award last year.

Aside from other recognitions attesting to his stellar character and teaching excellence, the models Agrawal developed have resulted in over 100 dissertations. His work on impact on bridges by over-Height vehicles is being followed by researchers around the world. In 2022 he was awarded a patent on his Laser Ranging Over-Height Vehicle Detector System (LRA-OHVD) by the U.S. Patent Office. During the past 24 years he has received some \$15 million in research funding.

Distinguished membership is the highest honor that ASCE can bestow upon a member. It is reserved for civil engineers who are either ASCE members or fellows and have attained recognized superiority in position, character, and achievement through significant contributions to the profession.

CUNY CREST, Bronx CC Forge Ties to Aid Indian Climate and Sustainability Efforts

The City College of New York-based CUNY Remote Sensing Earth System Institute (CUNY CREST) and Bronx Community College are set for myriad collaborations with Indian academic institutions around STEM, remote sensing, climate change-related issues, sustainability, and related fields after signing a unique partnership.

President Vincent Boudreau and his BCC counterpart, Thomas A. Isekenegbe, inked an agreement establishing the India Initiative of Research and Education Collaborations of the CUNY CREST Institute (IICCCI). New York Mayor Eric Adams issued a proclamation heralding the agreement. A delegation from the Indian educational partners were present at the signing.

IICCCI's mission will be to foster robust and inclusive cultural-social-academic synergism between CUNY and Indian academic institutions, government and private enterprise by including Indian, and Indo-Caribbean Diaspora in the United States.

IICCCI's primary focus will be India-related activities that will align with the CUNY CREST Institute's strategic mission, including research and application, education and training, and social science and environmental justice, and sets the stage for CUNY CREST and BCC to partner in tackling climate change and its devastating impact on the Indian subcontinent. This summer was particularly catastrophic with unprecedented heat waves, monsoon rains and some of the worst floods in South-East Asia in more than a century.

"It's important to understand this as a global problem," said Shakila Merchant, deputy director of the CUNY CREST Institute. "So, we have to come together as a global community to tackle this global problem."

One of the overarching goals of IICCCI, she noted, is to train early career professionals to research further into climate change and its ramifications.

The Initiative's initial Indian educational partners include four institutions in Maharashtra state, whose top officials



CUNY CREST officials and members of the Indian delegation outside CCNY's Grove School of Engineering, where CUNY CREST is based.

were in New York for the signing ceremony. The institutions are: SNDT Women's University, which was founded in 1916 as the first all-women's university in India and South-East Asia; Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Technological University (DBATU); Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU); and Maharashtra Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (MAFSU).

Merchant, CUNY CREST Executive Director Reza Khanbilvardi and Senior Scientist Tarendra Lakhankar visited India in September to meet with additional partners.

Chemical Engineer Jeff Morris Wins Top Rheology Award



Professor Jeff Morris

One of the world's leading experts in the field, Jeffrey Morris is the recipient of the 2023 Bingham Medal from the Society of

Rheology. The Medal is the 93-year-old SOR's highest award and is given annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of rheology.

The Society cited Morris "for his transformative research on the flow of suspensions, particularly of the mechanics of discontinuous shear thickening, and his application of rheology to practical problems in suspension flow, including his novel work on the rheology of hydrate-forming emulsions."

A chemical engineer and the director of the Benjamin Levich Institute for Physico-Chemical Hydrodynamics in the Grove School, Morris was honored in August at the International Congress on Rheology, in Athens, where he presented the keynote Bingham Lecture

The Society of Rheology is an American professional society formed in 1929 to represent scientists and technologists working in the field of rheology, the science of the deformation and flow of matter.

This is the second major honor bestowed on Morris in 12 months. He received the 2022 Weissenberg Award from the European Society of Rheology becoming the first non-European to win the award and joining an elite group of rheologists who have been recognized in previous years.

AUFWI Pelican Award Honors Educator Hazel Carter



Professor Hazel M. Carter

Hazel M. Carter, an expert in education reform pipeline programs in the School of Education, is the 2023 winner of the Pelican Award presented by the American Foundation of The University of the West Indies (AFUWI) and The University of the West Indies Alumni Association New York chapter. An AFUWI board member, Carter received the honor on April 20 at the foundation's 26th annual "The Legacy Continues" awards gala in Manhattan. The event is AFUWI's primary fundraiser to support its scholarship fund for the best and brightest young minds in the Caribbean facing financial hurdles to higher education.

"This year is historic, as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of The University of the West Indies," said Ann-Marie Grant, executive director of AFUWI. "The UWI community proudly stands as an example of the resilience and industry of the people of the Caribbean region. It has fostered and nurtured the many outstanding accomplishments of a minute number (0.36 percent) of the world's population, which has had an enormous global impact that belies the region's size on the world stage," Grant added. "But, more importantly, The UWI reflects the hope and aspirations of Caribbean people, many of whom are descendants of indentureship

and slavery, as they look to create an equitable and prosperous Caribbean society where its citizens can live, work, and raise their families."

Associate professor and program director of educational leadership, Carter's expertise includes education reform pipeline programs, program design, evaluation and grant writing. She is currently the principal investigator for City College's Urban Scholars Program. As a director of several pipeline programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the Ford Foundation, Kellogg Foundation and Lumina Foundation, she has successfully prepared middle and high school students for completion of post-secondary education and helped increase the number of minorities in teaching. Her books, "Creating Effective Community Partnerships: A Guide for School Leaders, and Leadership of After School" and "Supplemental Education: Creating Seamless Pathways to Postsecondary Life," encourage educators to embrace the community while focusing on the often overlooked and underutilized college and university partnerships.

Carter prepares teachers to be school building leaders and school district leaders and has worked with the New

York State Department of Education in reforming several teacher and leadership certification programs. Carter has been cited by the U.S. Congress for her work in community engagement, and recognized by CUNY as a recipient of major institutional grants for public service.

Among her other honors are a community service award from the Trinidad and Tobago Alliance, North America, and the Trinidad and Tobago Heritage Award from the New York City Council. In addition to sitting on the AFUWI board, her other affiliations include: the UWI Alumni Association-NY chapter, New Alternatives for Children, Global Women's Fund, the International Consortium of Caribbean Professionals, and the American Educational Research Association. After graduating from UWI, Carter earned an M.S. in nonprofit management from the New School, and her Ph.D. in higher education administration from New York University.

The honor recognizes distinguished UWI alumni who have achieved unprecedented success in their chosen field or industry, operate with integrity, and serve as exemplary role models to The UWI community globally, particularly to its current students.

Science Career Panel Highlights Options Beyond Teaching



Nick Martinez, associate director of youth initiatives at the American Museum of Natural History

A Science Learning and Public Engagement Career Panel was held in March, where graduates and students of the new major in Science Education and Public Engagement in the School of Education shared their insights and experiences.

Co-hosted by the School of Education's Science Education program and the Macaulay Honors College, the event brought together six panelists, each of whom brought a unique perspective on career opportunities for those interested in science education that include, but can go beyond, teaching.

One of the panelists, Dave Johnston, the director of professional development at the Wildlife Conservation Society, earned a master's degree in science education from CCNY. Yael Amron, director of operations at Carlton Energy Consulting, which helps property owners and building managers comply with building energy efficiency regulations, and Alex Klein of GROW NYC's Zero Waste Schools Program, which helps New York City schools create effective composting and recycling programs, are graduate students in the Sustainability in the Urban Environment program.

The panel also included Diana Yauri, a CCNY senior majoring in Science Learning and Public Engagement with a

concentration in the environment, and Rafael Cruz, a CCNY junior majoring in the program, also with a concentration in the environment. In addition, Cruz is pursuing an accelerated master's degree in science education.

Also on the panel was Nick Martinez, associate director of youth initiatives at the American Museum of Natural History. "The courses needed to fulfill this major can lead to a wide variety of career options," said the program's director, Associate Professor of Teaching & Learning/Biology Yael Wyner. "The diversity of experiences represented by this panel offered attendees a chance to learn about opportunities that they may not have considered."

CUNY-IIE Opens Brick and Mortar Location for Services to Immigrant New Yorkers



Some of the members of the CUNY-IIE leadership team: Ariana Mangual Figueroa, Daniela Alulema, Tatyana Kleyn, and Nancy Stern at the ribbon cutting for the initiative's new space at CCNY.

The CUNY-Initiative on Immigration and Education (CUNY-IIE), co-founded just before the COVID-19 pandemic by School of Education professors Tatyana Kleyn and Nancy Stern, and Ariana Mangual Figueroa of the CUNY Graduate Center, which has operated virtually, is now a brick-and-mortar operation with space in CCNY's North Academic Center's room 6/204.

The CUNY-IIE office houses the CCNY Dream Team space and a library that houses a collection of K-12 children's and young adult literature on

immigration, books for educators, and CUNY-IIE reports and resources. There's also conference space for training sessions for educators, meetings, and small public gatherings.

Applauding this new expansion, Kleyn said: "I cannot tell you how excited we are to have this designated space to hold our CUNY-IIE speaker series events, mini courses for teachers and administrators, summits for educators from our partner schools, meetings with our team and as a safe and consistent space for the CCNY Dream Team."

The five-year project is funded by the New York State Education Department and works to ensure the educational needs of immigrant New Yorkers across the state are being addressed. Led by project director Daniela Alulema, the CUNY-IIE team includes more than 20 members who are CUNY faculty and graduate students as well as current and aspiring educators in New York City and upstate New York.

"In the remaining two years of the initiative, CUNY-IIE will continue to develop resources and expand its reach and engagement with its various stakeholders, including current and aspiring educators, policymakers, and community leaders," said Alulema.

CUNY-IIE aims to inform policy, research, and practice that impact immigrant students in collaboration with education and community leaders. "We also learn about current immigration issues, act in ways that center our collective humanity, and advocate for equitable policies for all people regardless of immigration status," said Alulema.

By developing multimodal resources, conducting independent research, hosting events, and offering professional learning opportunities to educators across New York State, it is able to successfully carry out its mission. For example, a recently released report, titled "A Framework for Immigrant Liaisons," documents a pilot program developed by the New York State Youth Leadership Council and its educator team, Teach Dream, in starting the first immigrant liaison program in New York. An immigrant liaison is a position in a school created to offer support for immigrant students, families, and caregivers, especially those who are undocumented.

CUNY School of Medicine Celebrates Second Annual Match Day



Dean Carmen Renée Green and CUNY Med M.D. students on Match Day

M.D. candidates from the CUNY School of Medicine joined medical school students throughout the country to learn where they were matched for their residencies on March 17 Match Day, as it is known, in the Great Hall in front of invited guests, colleagues, faculty, staff and alumni.

Match Day is run by the National Resident Matching Program, which releases results to applicants seeking residency positions in the U.S. This was the second year that CUNY Med continued its Match Day tradition, instituted last year by Dean Carmen Renée Green.

Medical schools throughout the country participate in their own unique Match Day celebrations and traditions that often include colorful maps of the U.S. and student signs.

"Match Day is the culmination of our students' intense commitment to their medical education and the reward for all of their hard work these past seven years," said Victor Schwartz, senior associate dean for Wellness and Student Life at CUNY Med. "It is a special day at CUNY Med that is filled with emotion as students, and our faculty and staff, reflect on all that our future medical healers and leaders have accomplished."

Students who chose to publicly announce where they have matched wrote their name on a slip of paper and dropped it into a fish bowl. Their names were drawn, and students shared their placements with the audience from the podium. The last student to present won a cash prize donated by the faculty and staff.

"The specific contribution of our medical school lies in our ability to provide culturally competent primary care physicians to underserved communities," said President Vincent Boudreau. "Every year, Match Day demonstrates how enthusiastically the medical community embraces the work of this school. The CUNY School of Medicine was established to change the way medical care is delivered in communities like Harlem and the South Bronx and every year, this day provides a measure of our success."

Dean Carmen Green Named to Forbes 50 Over 50 List

Forbes magazine's list of 50 women over 50 recognized for their impact included Carmen Green, dean of the CUNY School of Medicine, who is cited by the



Dean Carmen Green

publication for her medical leadership over the past 30 years.

"Green is a leading researcher on inequities in pain care and, throughout her career, has been a vocal advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion in medicine," said Forbes. "In 2006, she was selected for the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship and helped draft the National Pain Care Policy Act, which went into the landmark Affordable Care Act signed into law by President Obama in 2010."

Green was named dean in 2021. She previously worked at the University of Michigan, where she completed anesthesiology and pain medicine fellowships. She then held senior faculty positions at the medical and public health schools at University of Michigan for many years.

Pathways Program Receives Additional State Funds



CUNY Med students in Pathways to Careers in Medicine and Research Program will benefit from millions in increased state funding for new and existing initiatives.

The CUNY School of Medicine at The City College of New York's Pathways to Careers in Medicine and Research Program received increased funding due to Gov. Kathy Hochul and New York state's commitment of more than \$2.4 million to diversity programs managed by the Associated Medical Schools of New York, which is funded in part by the New York State Department of Health.

This funding is expected to reach more than 800 students through new and existing diversity initiatives, including Bridges to Medicine, AMSNY's successful post-baccalaureate program at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University.

"A core CUNY Med value is that representation matters and we have worked hard to successfully diversify the health profession's pipeline with numerous pathway programs, such as our Pathways to Careers in Medicine and Research

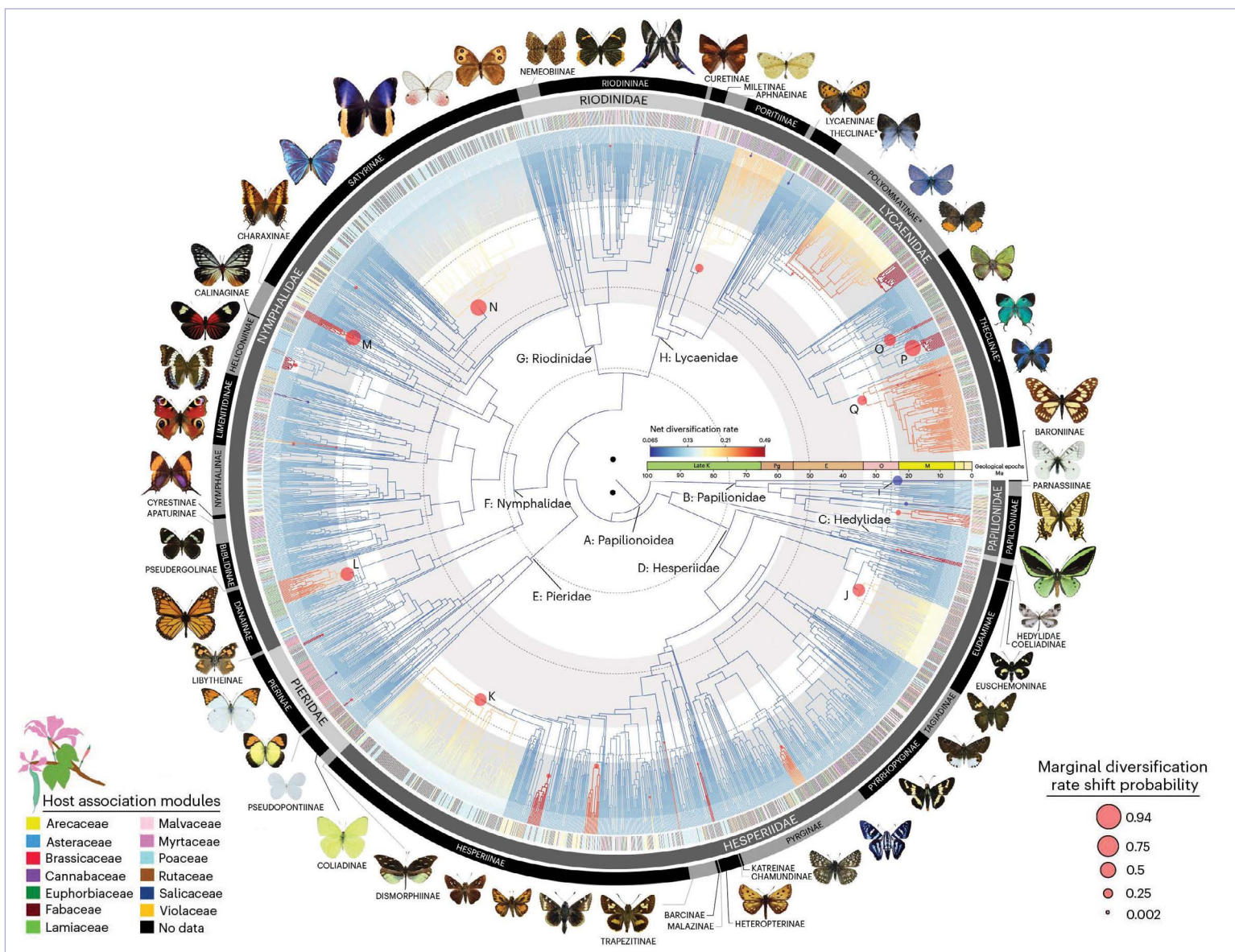
Program, and by strategically removing barriers to entry," said Carmen Renée Green, dean of CUNY Med. "Through CUNY Med's holistic admissions process, we are a national leader [ranked #5 in the nation and #1 in New York State] in producing excellent health professionals who are underrepresented in medicine and in helping transform the DEI landscape in medical education moving forward."

AMSNY, a consortium of the 17 public and private medical schools in New York state, launched its first diversity pipeline programs in 1985 and has continually provided opportunities for underrepresented students to prepare for and enter medical school. The state Department of Health has provided funding for these programs since 2002 in an effort to help broaden the demographics of people entering the medical profession in New York.

The goal of the CUNY School of Medicine's Pathways to Careers in Medicine and Research Program through AMSNY is to enhance research methodology techniques, science and academic skills and clinical experiences of students in preparation for medical, science and other health professional graduate schools.

The program places undergraduate students with faculty mentors who have received competitive grant awards for basic sciences research. The students become part of the mentor's research teams and thus learn early in their careers the protocols and procedures necessary to perform research. These students continue their educational experiences through advanced degrees in basic sciences and medicine.

Butterfly Tree of Life Reveals an Origin in North America



Researchers used DNA from over 2,000 species to estimate the evolutionary history of butterflies and infer their movements through time.

About 100 million years ago, a group of moths with legume-eating caterpillars started flying during the day rather than at night. That chance event led to the evolution of all butterflies.

Before reaching these conclusions, researchers from dozens of countries assembled the world's largest butterfly tree of life using DNA from more than 2,000 species representing all butterfly families and 92 percent of genera. Using this framework, they traced the movements and feeding habits of butterflies through time in a four-dimensional puzzle that led back to North and Central America. According to their results, published in the journal "Nature Ecology and Evolution," this is where the first butterflies took flight.

For senior author David Lohman, associate professor of biology, the project was a long time coming.

"We live in the age of 'big data,' and this revolution has impacted biodiversity science profoundly," said Lohman. "The problem is that comprehensive, global datasets only exist for vertebrates and a few plant groups. Insects are about half of all species, but there was virtually no 'big data' for bugs."

There are over 19,000 butterfly species, and piecing together their evolutionary history required information about their modern distributions and associated host plants.

To kick-start the massive task of

assembling data needed for a global analysis, Lohman assembled a core team of researchers from Georgetown, Harvard and Yale Universities and the University of Florida. From there, they recruited colleagues from all over the globe to form a network of butterfly biologists called ButterflyNet. With the collective expertise of these 80+ scientists from 28 countries, they set about amassing the biological data and samples into central repositories.

The team concluded that butterflies first appeared somewhere in western North America.

Once they became established around the globe, butterflies quickly diversified alongside their host plants.

"We live in the age of 'big data,' and this revolution has impacted biodiversity science profoundly... The problem is that comprehensive, global datasets only exist for vertebrates and a few plant groups. Insects are about half of all species, but there was virtually no 'big data' for bugs."

- David Lohman, Senior Author, Biologist and Professor

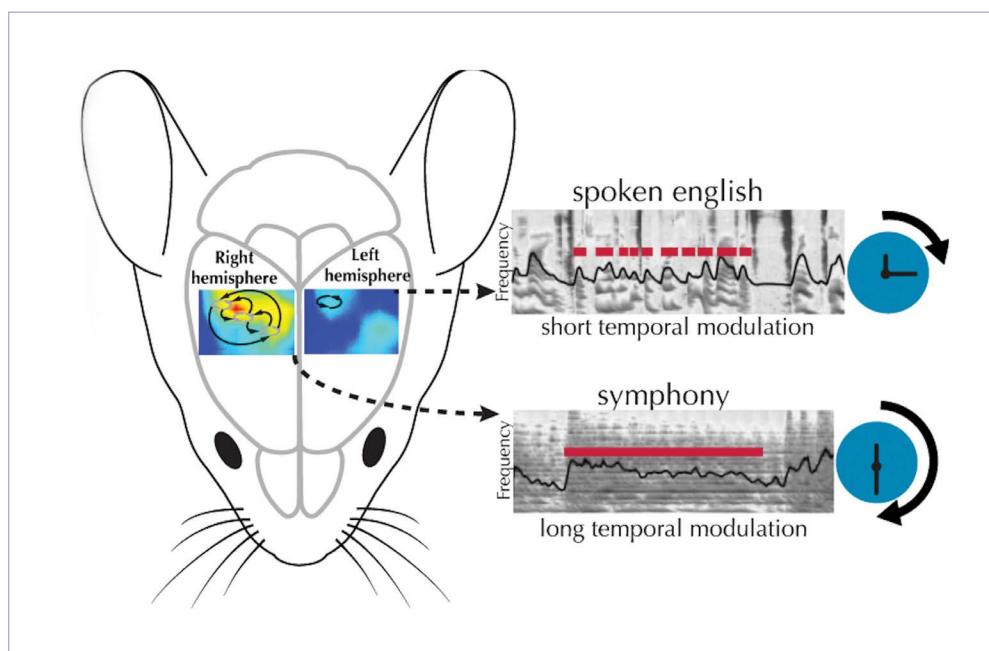
The ButterflyNet team extracted records of caterpillar diets from their database to explore the relationship between plants, insects, and evolution.

"Among other conclusions, we were able to support a longstanding hypothesis that legumes were eaten by the ancestor of all butterflies."

In summary, Lohman said, "This study demonstrates the power of international teamwork and cooperation. Not only have we learned much about the evolution of a large and charismatic insect group, but we now have datasets and an evolutionary framework for butterflies that will stimulate additional global studies on their biology and conservation."

Hysell Oviedo Finds Differences in Mouse Auditory Processing Between Two Brain Hemispheres

Division of labor between left and right brain hemispheres is a feature of vertebrate brains. The evolutionary advantage of dividing processing tasks is the ability to process different types of information at once, and to perform parallel tasks, like those



involved in driving a car. Speech and melody are both processed in the left and right auditory cortex of the brain, respectively. However, it has been unclear how these brain areas carry out different functions.

Human studies have demonstrated that the left superior temporal gyrus mediates language processing and responds mainly to the rapidly-occurring components of spoken language. In contrast, the right superior temporal gyrus responds to information above the level of individual words like pitch and loudness. Studies of human language suggest the differences in signal processing in each hemisphere determine this division of labor.

Neurophysiologist Hysell Oviedo and colleagues studied auditory processing in mice in order to better understand the brain circuit features and neural computations between these lateralized processes. The study appears in the journal "Plos Biology." Their results demonstrate a link between stronger synaptic connections and longer network time scales in the right hemisphere.

"The human brain's remarkable ability to simultaneously understand the lyrics of your favorite song and appreciate its musical qualities is poorly understood," said Oviedo.

Oviedo and her colleagues screened mouse cortical connectivity and measured temporal integration differences between the left and right auditory cortex. They mapped activation

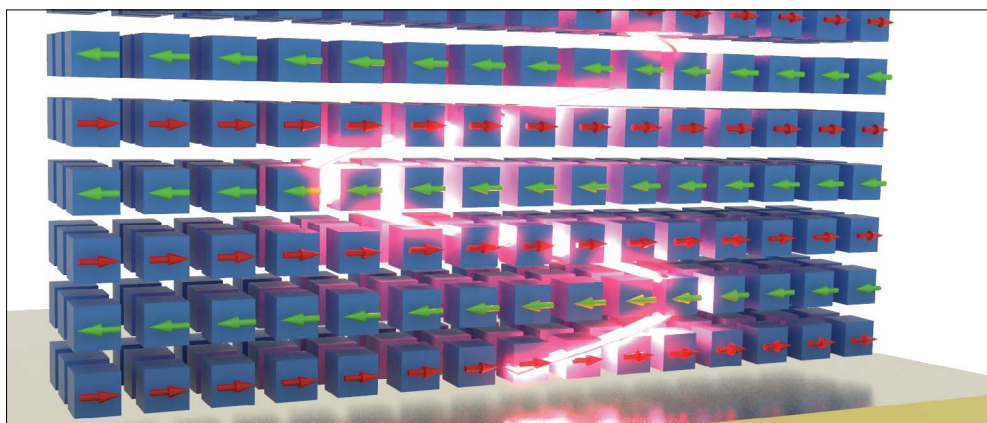
of principal neurons in all cortical layers and found stronger activation in the superficial layers of the right auditory cortex compared to the left. The team also used novel statistical methods to demonstrate a link between stronger self-excitation and longer temporal integration. These findings indicate longer processing times in the right auditory cortex, a key feature in decoding slower components of speech and music.

"The human brain's remarkable ability to simultaneously understand the lyrics of your favorite song and appreciate its musical qualities is poorly understood."

*- Hysell Oviedo
Neurophysiologist and Professor*

"These findings are an important advance in our understanding of language processing in the brain and could provide some insight into deficits observed in communication disorders," said Oviedo. "Our results are particularly relevant to dyslexia, which appears to involve disruptions in the brain's temporal processing of language. We now have a rudimentary understanding of what neural mechanisms could potentially be affected."

Vinod Menon Leads Researchers in Creation of New Magnetic Quasiparticle



Optical resonator enhanced coupling of photons and spin-correlated excitations in a van der Waals magnetic crystal. Image created by Rezlind Bushati.

From The City College of New York's Center for Discovery and Innovation and the Physics Department comes news of a new type of magnetic quasiparticle created by coupling light to a stack of ultrathin two-dimensional magnets. This achievement sprouting from a collaboration with the University of Texas at Austin lays the foundation for an emergent strategy to artificially design materials by ensuring their strong interaction with light. The development is reported in the current issue of "Nature Nanotechnology," in a paper entitled "Spin-correlated exciton-polaritons in a van der Waals magnet."

"Implementing our approach with magnetic materials is a promising path towards efficient magneto-optical effects," said physicist Vinod M. Menon, whose group led the study. "Achieving this goal can enable their use for applications in everyday devices like lasers, or for digital data storage."

Florian Dirnberger, the lead author of the study, believes that the work exposed a largely unexplored realm of strong interactions between light and magnetic crystals. "Research in recent years has brought forth a number of atomically flat magnets that are exceptionally well-suited to be studied by our approach," he said.

Looking ahead, the team plans to extend these investigations to understand the role of the quantum electrodynamical vacuum when quantum materials are placed into optical cavities. "Our work paves the way for the stabilization of novel quantum phases of matter that have no counterpart in thermodynamic equilibrium," said Edoardo Baldini, assistant professor at the

University of Texas at Austin.

The research was funded by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Army Research Office, and the CREST-IDEALS Center at CCNY.

Kevin H. Gardner Receives Top Biophysical Society Award



Einstein Professor Kevin H. Gardner

Kevin H. Gardner, Einstein Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is the recipient of the Biophysical Society's 2023 BPS Award for the Biophysics of Health and Disease. Gardner, who also heads the Structural Biology Initiative at the CUNY Advanced Science Research Center located on the CCNY campus, was honored at the Society's 67th Annual Meeting in San Diego, California in February.

Gardner has been recognized for his development and application of magnetic resonance methodology to elucidate the regulatory mechanism of molecular switches, leading to the development of "PAS domain inhibitors" for cancer therapies and the exceptional translation of this understanding to the development of an effective cancer drug. The first of these, Merck's belzutifan, received FDA approval for clinical use in treating a class of genetically-inherited cancers in 2021.

"I am tremendously proud of the hard work, done by many in both academic and industrial laboratories, that have turned this innovative, high-risk idea into a first-in-class drug to treat certain cancers. It is an achievement like this which underscores the importance of interdisciplinary research in my mind," he said.

The BPS Biophysics of Health and Disease Award honors significant contributions to understanding the fundamental cause or pathogenesis of disease, or to enabling the treatment or prevention.

"The ultimate goal of biomedical research, no matter how fundamental, is to eventually have an impact on human health," said BPS President Gail Robertson of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "Dr. Gardner has achieved this lofty goal. He has taken basic biophysical research to the bedside, leading to life-saving technologies with real world applications."

Gardner integrates a mix of structural biology, biochemistry, and other approaches to investigate how protein-based switches work in cell signaling. He is a vocal proponent of interdisciplinary research and science communication, and applying both of these strategies to bridge the academic and entrepreneurial communities.

Gardner received his B.S. in biochemistry from the University of California, Davis before obtaining his Ph.D. degree in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale University for his research with Joseph Coleman on the development of new NMR methods to study metalloprotein structure and dynamics. Continuing his training in structural biology, he did a postdoctoral fellowship with Lewis Kay at the University of Toronto, developing novel isotopic labeling and other methods for the study of large proteins and their complexes with solution NMR. Prior to joining CCNY in 2013, Gardner then went to the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, where he established a structural biology research group within the Departments of Biophysics and Biochemistry, exploring the regulatory mechanisms of several classes of sensory proteins and discovering ways which these can lead to novel therapeutics and biotech tools.



Dean Renata Kobetts Miller

Renata Kobetts Miller Named Permanent Dean of Humanities & the Arts

Author and Professor Renata Kobetts Miller has been appointed dean of the Division of Humanities and the Arts. She was previously named interim dean in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic when teaching had to pivot quickly to online learning. During that time, Miller secured federal funds to support staff and update technology.

The Division of Humanities and the Arts teaches more students across the entire College than any other division. Its more than 430 full-time and part-time faculty also serve over 2,000 undergraduate majors, 600 minors, and 350 graduate students.

“Renata Miller has played a leadership role in our Division of Humanities and the Arts for years, both as a deputy dean and an interim,” said President Vincent Boudreau. “She carries a deep knowledge of the College into her new position, and a broad understanding of the talented faculty that she will lead. The College is fortunate to have her in this new position and I am gratified that she’s agreed to take on her new responsibilities.”

Miller is no stranger to New York or to CCNY. The daughter of two New York City public high school educators, she attended Townsend Harris High School in Queens, before getting her B.A. at Princeton and her Ph.D. at Indiana University. She returned to New York City in 2002, to begin a Pforzheimer Fellowship in British

Literature at City College. The following year, she began her career as an assistant professor at CCNY. It wasn’t long before she was recognized for her organizational abilities and vision. She became the English Department’s deputy chair in 2003, associate academic director of the Kaye Scholars Program in 2005, and director of both the M.A. in Literature and freshman English in 2006, until she was subsequently elected as English department chair in 2012, for two terms through 2017, when she was appointed deputy dean.

As deputy dean, she brought in almost \$600,000 in grants to offset state funding cuts, to develop new programming, and reimagine what humanities could mean going forward. She implemented the first large-scale change to the English undergraduate curriculum in decades. With Dean Andrew Rich of the Colin Powell School, she instituted the inaugural City College Community Read. During her tenure as interim dean, Miller and then Black Studies Director Vanessa Valdez brought in an NEH grant of \$500,000 to develop the Black Studies program.

Miller has given talks at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Convention, taken part in dozens of panels and presentations, and was the recipient of the President’s Award for Outstanding Service in the Division of the Humanities and Arts in 2016. She sits on editorial panels and committees, including the Program Committee of MLA, and as founding board member of the forum and journal entitled “Global Nineteenth-Century Studies.” The author of two books, her most recent one, “The Victorian Actress in the Novel and on Stage,” was published in 2019.

Two-time Pulitzer Winner Lynn Nottage receives Langston Hughes Medalist



Lynn Nottage

Renowned playwright and screenwriter Lynn Nottage was the recipient of The City College of New York’s Langston Hughes Medal. The first woman in history to win two Pulitzer Prizes for drama, she received the Langston Medal at CCNY’s 44th annual Langston Hughes Festival on Feb. 9.

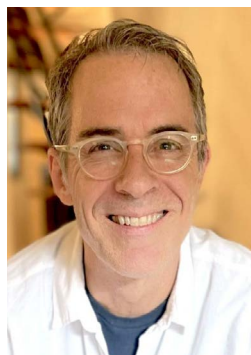
The medal is awarded to highly distinguished writers from throughout the African American diaspora. It recognizes honorees for their impressive works of poetry, fiction, drama, autobiography and critical essays that help to celebrate the memory and tradition of Langston Hughes.

Nottage received her first Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2009 for her play “Ruined.” She was awarded a historic second Pulitzer for drama in 2017 for her play “Sweat.”

Nottage’s plays have been produced widely in the U.S. and globally. Her recent work includes the book for “MJ the Musical” (Broadway), the libretto for the “Intimate Apparel Opera” (LCT), and “Clyde’s” (Broadway, 2ST, Goodman Theater), and co-curating the performance installation “The Watering Hole” (Signature Theater).

Nottage is the recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship (among other awards), an associate professor at Columbia University School of the Arts, and is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

Author Andreas Killen Named New Stuart Katz Professor



Historian Andreas Killen

Internationally renowned historian Andreas Killen has been selected as 2022-2023 Stuart Z. Katz Professor in the Humanities & the Arts.

The endowed professorship is supported by a \$1 million gift

to City College by distinguished alumnus Stuart Z. Katz, a 1964 graduate. The appointment is for one year. A lecture and Installation ceremony took place in the Great Hall on Nov.

Killen has been a faculty member at CCNY since 2005. His research and teaching traverse the history of the modern era, focusing on the convergences between science, politics, and culture.

Killen's first book, "1973 Nervous Breakdown: Watergate, Warhol, and the Birth of the Post-Sixties America," was selected for the American Library Association's 2008 award for best book in social and behavioral sciences.

The critical success of "1973 Nervous Breakdown," which includes a chapter about the new phenomenon of reality television, led to Killen's engagement as a consultant on a 2011 HBO film, "Cinema Verité," a fictionalized revisiting of the landmark 1973 PBS television series "American Family," which Killen describes as the "first-ever reality television series."

A subsequent book, "Homo Cinematicus: Science, Motion Pictures, and the Making of Modern Germany," explored the influence of cinema on German society. Killen has received awards from the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, the National Science Foundation, and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (or DAAD).

As Katz Professor, Killen plans to work on a new project which he characterizes as a spinoff of the research for his

forthcoming book, "A History of the Brain in the Early Cold War," that will be published by HarperCollins in Spring 2023.

"The subsequent story, during the second half of the 20th century, deals with further intriguing research going on into the brain," said Killen. He wants to focus on the impact of brain science on the treatment of mental illness and disorders like epilepsy.

Author Laskin Wins Second Freedom Through Literacy Award



Pamela Laskin

Pamela L. Laskin, director of the Poetry Outreach Center, celebrated her second consecutive Freedom Through Literacy Board Option Award from the Pennsylvania-based Judith's Reading Room.

The international honor is for her latest work, a series of picture books that capture the world of those who are differently-abled, particularly those without speech.

Laskin's work is heralded by Judith's Reading Room, a charitable organization founded in 2010 to enrich lives and societies by proactively encouraging freedom through literacy. She is touted for her "persistence in presenting differently-abled people" and "helping establish human dignity with a focus on what can be done, not what can't." When her books are published and distributed in public schools, "a diverse population will no longer be marginalized."

The award money enabled Laskin to focus on finishing the picture book series. She also worked on "What I Forgot to Tell You," a middle grade novel with a special needs focus, that is under consideration by a publisher.

"Books have been written about children with special needs, but what makes my project innovative is that the books are written from the point of view of the young people who ARE differently-abled," said Laskin.

She first received the Freedom Through Literacy award last year for her work to enable children to unload their grief and to empower voices through poetry.

The international award was established by Judith's Reading Room in 2015 to identify and honor individual champions of literacy from all disciplines around the world—teachers, librarians, authors, researchers, educators—anyone who has done exemplary work to instill in others a love of reading.

An award-winning poet, children's book author, and English lecturer at CCNY, Laskin is the editor of two anthologies, "Life on the Moon: My Best Friend's Secrets" (Linus Publications, 2009), and "The Heroic Young Woman" (Clique Calm, 2006). She is the author of two young adult novels, "Ronit and Jamil" (Harper Collins, 2017), and "Why no Goodbye?" (Leapfrog Press, 2019). The latter won the International Fiction Prize.

A nonprofit literacy organization based in eastern Pennsylvania, Judith's Reading Room was founded in 2010 in memory of Judith F. Krug, a librarian and cousin to the organization's founders. Krug served as director of intellectual Freedom for the American Library Association.

Poetry Festival Features Gloria Mindock



Gloria Mindock

Poet Gloria Mindock was the guest poet at the 51st annual City College Poetry Festival in May. Dubbed "the Woodstock of the Spoken Word," the festival is New York's longest-running poetry celebration.

"The City College Poetry Festival is the democratic voice of poetry in New York City public schools," said Pamela L. Laskin, director of the CCNY Poetry Outreach Center which produces the festival. "Its assumption is that there are many poets, and they all have terrific stories to tell. This would make Walt Whitman proud."

More than 150 students from as many as 50 schools recited their poems at the festival. Winners of the festival's citywide high school poetry contest recited

their poems, and the top three winners received the Poetry Prize. The festival presents a special award for the best poem in a language other than English.

The following schools took part: High School for Fashion Industries, Stuyvesant High School, Hunter College High School, Bronx High School of Science, Academy of American Studies High School, The Urban Academy of Media Studies, Special Music High School, Susan E. Wagner High School, Business Technology Early High School, John Dewey High School, Franklin Delano High School, High School of American Studies at Lehman College, Frank McCourt High School, Kingsborough Early College Secondary School, and two winners were selected from first-time participating high schools, Martin Van Buren High School and The Brooklyn Latin School.

“Children always look forward to (it),” said Deborah Newman, a former teacher at P.S. 368 in Brooklyn, who has attended the festival for over 13 years. “It’s a blessing, something that is real to them, and it’s an entire year of poetry for the children, leading up to this celebration. The teachers and the administrators love it, too.”

Some of the children who participated in the festival’s early years are now teachers who bring their classes. “In 1975, I introduced a third grade student to the audience of 400 cheering students, teachers, friends and family; in 1996, this same individual returned to the festival at City and introduced the readers from her fourth grade class,” recalled Barry Wallenstein, CCNY professor emeritus and former festival director. “Over the past four decades, this event has become a place of reunion and affirmation for City College alumni, returning teachers, student-poets and friends of the College.”

Mindock read her work and she handed out copies of her poetry book, “ASH” (Glass Lyre Press, 2021). She is the founding editor and Publisher of *Ērvená Barva Press*. She is also the author of “I wish Francisco Franco Would Love Me” (Nixes Mate Books, 2018), “Whiteness of Bone” (Glass Lyre Press, 2016), “La Portile Raiului” (Ars Longa Press, Romania, 2010) translated into the Romanian by Flavia Cosma, “Nothing Divine Here” (U Șoku Ștampa, 2010), and “Blood Soaked Dresses” (Ibbetson, 2007).

In addition to the readings by students, two featured guest children’s poets,

Nidi Gandhi and Natima Harry, attended and read their work, both of which the children enjoyed. The afternoon included poetry readings from poets across NYC, as well as City College undergraduate and graduate students.

“Poetry in Performance 51,” the commemorative anthology compiled each fall and freely distributed to all participating public schools, was once again made available online and as a book.

Harlem Storytelling Symposium Celebrates the Interdependence of Arts



Compagnia de' Colombari Founder Karin Coonrod

The Master of Fine Arts Program in Creative Writing culminated its symposium “Archives as Muse: A Harlem Storytelling Project” with a panel, a viewing of “Whitman on Walls!” by theater troupe Compagnia de' Colombari, and a poetry reading on April 25. The multimedia event was free and open to the public.

The panel was moderated by Michelle Valladares, director of the MFA program, and included Compagnia de' Colombari Founder Karin Coonrod and actors Juliana Francis Kelly and Dietrice Bolden in a discussion about the theater company’s projects, such as “Merchant of Venice” and “Whitman on Walls!” (“WoW!”). An international theater company based in New York City, it is founded on the twin principles that

the magic of great theater can happen anywhere and be made accessible to everyone.

Both “Archives as Muse” and “WoW!” celebrated the renaissance of the arts in confluence—poetry, music, film, and the immediate reaction to archival work by contemporary poets. “WoW!” is a work that creates waves whenever it is performed and signifies the symposium: archives as muse put into practice.

Created during the pandemic, “WoW!”’s short videos feature musicians performing original compositions while Compagnia de' Colombari’s actors recite poetry, sing, voices often overlapping, in a montage edited to heighten the senses and bring layered meaning to poet Walt Whitman’s words.

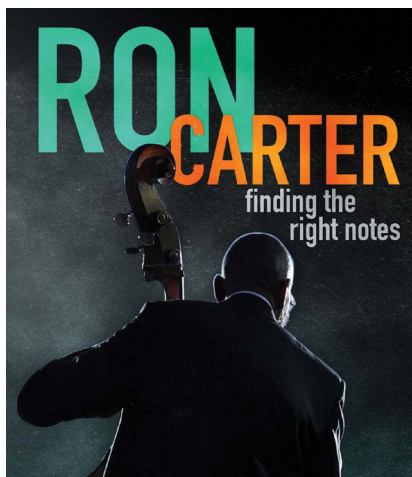
After each video, poets from the MFA program and alumni read their work in response.

Coonrod drew from Whitman’s 1855 poem “Song of Myself,” with its 52 sections and more than 1,300 lines. “We specifically use this first edition because it is radical and fresh,” said Coonrod. “Focusing on Whitman’s intimacy with his reader, we grabbed the opportunity to be intimate with our audience and go into their living rooms with his words. Whitman is like a provocative lover to his reader. I was interested in catching his provocation towards interdependence and bringing it right to an audience: redefining what it is to be an American. A declaration of interdependence.”

Filmed across the globe, the performers include Kelly, Bolden, and Broadway actress Linda Powell, chair of the Board of Visitors at The City College’s Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership and daughter of the late Gen. Colin Powell, opera singer Sarah Heltzel (New York City Opera’s “The Garden of Finzi-Continis”), David Patrick Kelly (“The Crow,” “48 Hours”), Michael Potts (“Show Me a Hero,” “True Detective”) and many others.

“Archives as Muse: a Harlem Storytelling Project” was funded by the LUCE Foundation.

Documentary About Musician Ron Carter Premieres on PBS



A new documentary about bassist Ron Carter aired on PBS.

"Ron Carter: Finding the Right Notes," a documentary about legendary jazz bassist and City College of New York Distinguished Professor Emeritus Ron Carter premiered on PBS on Oct. 21.

Carter taught in City College's Jazz Studies program from 1982 to 2002, and is among the most original, prolific, and influential bassists in jazz music. He has recorded over 2,200 albums, and was recognized by Guinness World Records as the most recorded jazz bassist in history.

Directed by seven-time Emmy award-winner Peter Schnall of Partisan Pictures, the movie is a portrait of a musical trailblazer who was turned away from the segregated world of classical music only to forge his own path in jazz.

Carter made a name for himself with Miles Davis' second quintet (1963-1968), and accompanied greats such as Chet Baker and Lena Horne. Eventually, he did find a way back to classical music, writing and recording pieces for string quartet and arranging Bach chorales for basses.

"No one is gonna tell me what I cannot do," states Carter in the film. "They may tell me I can't work there. They may tell me I can't go in their front door. But they're not telling me what I can't do."

The movie features a star-studded roster of musicians including Herbie Hancock, Sonny Rollins and Stanley Clark. The movie shows new concert

footage of Carter performing songs, including "Sweet Lorraine" with his former student jazz pianist Jon Batiste. It also depicts Carter visiting students at Fiorello H. Laguardia High School of Music and Art and Performing Arts, fielding questions and giving advice, his honesty, empathy and extraordinary skill winning over his young audience.

"They may tell me I can't work there. They may tell me I can't go in their front door. But they're not telling me what I can't do."

- Ron Carter, Musician and Composer

"Through six extraordinary years of filming and traveling together, Ron never ceased to amaze me with his warmth and grace," said Schnall, who has won seven Emmys and a Peabody Award, and is known for the recent five-hour MSNBC/NBC Studios series, "Obama."

"Spotlight: Writers on Iran" Series Ends with Author Salar Abdoh, Journalist Chris Hedges



Salar Abdoh

The MFA in Creative Writing program hosted the final event in its "Spotlight: Writers on Iran" series with author and Creative Writing Professor Salar Abdoh speaking about his novel "Out of Mesopotamia" in conversation with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Chris Hedges in November 2022.

A New York Times Editor's Choice selection and Best Book of the Year by "Publishers Weekly," "Out of Mesopotamia" is informed by Abdoh's firsthand experience on the battlefronts of Iraq and Syria. It captures the horror, confusion, and absurdity of combat from a seldom-glimpsed perspective that expands our understanding of the war novel. The story depicts Saleh, a middle-aged Iranian journalist who moonlights as a writer for one of Iran's most popular TV shows, but cannot keep himself away from the front lines in neighboring Iraq and Syria.

Abdoh's newest book, "A Nearby Country Called Love," was published in November 2023. It received positive reviews in "The New York Times" and "The Washington Post." Publisher's Marketplace selected it as a Buzz Book for Fall 2023. He is a regular contributor to "The Atlantic" magazine.

Cultural critic and author Chris Hedges was a foreign correspondent and bureau chief in the Middle East and the Balkans for 15 years for "The New York Times." A member of the team that won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting for "The New York Times" coverage of global terrorism, he also received the 2002 Amnesty International Global Award for Human Rights Journalism. He is host of the Emmy Award-nominated RT America show "On Contact."

The "Spotlight: Writers on Iran" series featured award-winning novelists and academics Mikhail Dekel, Dalia Sofer and Amir Ahmadi. "Spotlight" is an ongoing series presented by CCNY's Division of Humanities and the Arts and the MFA in Creative Writing which engages public figures in the most pressing conversations of our time, through the lens of literature and the arts.

Free Digital Archive Available to Educators

A digital publication was released of a collection of letters and essays by Wilfred Mendelson, "Mendy" (1915-1938), one of 13 City College students, faculty and staff volunteers who died fighting in support of Spain's democracy during the Spanish civil war (1936-1939). Four years after Mendelson's death, his classmates and fellow volunteers memorialized him with the

publication of "Let My People Know: The Story of Wilfred Mendelson ("Mendy"), Student Leader, Organizer, Journalist, Anti-Fascist Soldier Who Fell in Spain July 28, 1938."



A candid photo of Wilfred "Mendy" Mendelson taken on the deck of the S.S. Manhattan on May 19, 1938.

Iberian Cultural Studies Associate Professor Isabel Estrada found the uncatalogued book in the Cohen Library prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. The digital edition was edited and annotated collaboratively by Estrada, NEH Digital Humanities Fellow Stefano Morello and students in the Spring 2022 course "Activism and the College Experience" at CCNY. The course sought to examine political activism on the CCNY campus in the context of the transnational conflict between totalitarianism and democracy that preceded World War II, while introducing students to digital humanities tools and methodologies.

Educators are invited to use the text from this collaborative critical edition as an open educational resource to teach about the Spanish Civil War, its perception from the U.S., as well as past and present forms of student political activism.

Graduate student Melanie Matonte received funding from the Opportunities in Research and Creative Arts program at CCNY, and later presented the collection at the Seventh ORCA Undergraduate Research Symposium this month.

Mendelson attended CCNY from 1931 to 1935, when he was expelled for his

subversive political activity. The book's touching dedication to Mendelson's parents is taken from a letter he wrote to them from Spain dated June 22, 1938: "You made me whatever I am today and I will always be proud of your teaching." He died the following month in an offensive to recross Spain's River Ebro.

Contributors to the project in addition to Estrada, Morello and Matonte, included Stefan Hamilton, Scarlet Almanzar, Adonis Anderson, Kimberly Geraldino, Tafriha Nowsheen, and Amando Villano Clemente.

The Humanities and the Arts Dean Renata Kobetts-Miller and co-PI Professor Thomas Peele supported the class through an NEH grant, 'Building a Digital Humanities Minor at CCNY.'

Branding + Integrated Communications Program Makes PRNEWS A-list



PRNEWS has chosen the Master of Professional Studies (MPS) in Branding + Integrated Communications (BIC) for its 2023 Education A-List. PRNEWS is the industry standard for business intelligence, education, recognition and peer-to-peer networking for Fortune 1,000 agencies and professionals.

The BIC program is one of 50 schools nationwide, including top private schools such as New York University, Syracuse University, University of Southern California, and Georgetown University, to be chosen, and the list is the definitive guide to the best and most innovative higher learning institutions for career advancement in PR and Communications in the U.S.

"Certainly, the MPS in Branding + Integrated Communications (BIC) is different from most of the programs on our list. Yet the more we considered its course offerings and the value it brings not only students, but, in the future, members of the Harlem community, through the BIC Center of Communications for Social Good (SoGo), it seemed a natural for our list of top-notch PR educational institutions," said Seth Arenstein, editor of PRNEWS.

"As the only graduate program to teach public relations as a multi-disciplinary part of branding and integrated communications, BIC is thrilled to be recognized for innovation by PRNews in this powerhouse Education A-List for 2023."

***- Nancy R. Tag
BIC Program Director***

BIC was founded in 2013 and is a 36-credit program with four integrated tracks of specialization: Creative, Management/Brand Strategy, Public Relations, and Media, which was launched in 2022. The program also offers topical one-semester courses that impressed the PRNEWS panel, such as Tech for Non-Techies, Social Impact Lab, Social Mediums, Messaging and the Law, Climate Optimism and Branding. In addition, SoGo aims for a blended and collaborative workforce to foster community experimentation through knowledge transfer of thought leaders for more innovative outcomes.

"As the only graduate program to teach public relations as a multi-disciplinary part of branding and integrated communications, BIC is thrilled to be recognized for innovation by PRNews in this powerhouse Education A-List for 2023," said BIC Program Director and Professor Nancy R. Tag.

ANLE Honors Professor Raquel Chang-Rodríguez



Raquel Chang-Rodríguez

Distinguished Professor of Hispanic Literature and Culture Raquel Chang-Rodríguez is the latest leading academic to be elected as a member of the North American Academy of the Spanish Language (ANLE), an affiliate of the Spanish Royal Academy. She was

recognized by ANLE for her contributions to Spanish American literary and cultural studies and her many publications including those on the Spanish presence in early La Florida.

ANLE serves 60 million Spanish speakers in the U.S. It is also one of 23 academies on four continents serving 600 million Spanish speakers.

In 2006, Chang-Rodríguez coordinated the collection "Franqueando fronteras: Garcilaso de la Vega y 'La Florida del Inca,'" which was released simultaneously in the U.S. and Peru (English translation: "Beyond Books and Borders: Garcilaso de la Vega and 'La Florida del Inca'"). A second collection was titled "Between the Sword and the Pen: Inca Garcilaso and his 'Royal Commentaries'."

In addition, Chang-Rodríguez edited "Seventeenth Century Literary Culture in New Spain," the second volume of a new history of Mexican literature. She recently co-edited with fellow CCNY Professor Carlos Riobó "Talking Books with Mario Vargas Llosa: A Retrospective," and currently directs a five-volume project sponsoring a new literary history of Perú.

Chang-Rodríguez has contributed to national and international projects such as "Latin American Writers," "History of Literature in the Caribbean," "Diccionario Enciclopédico de las Letras de América Latina," "The Encyclopedia of Latin American History," "Storia della civiltà letteraria," and the "Guide to Documentary Sources for Andean Studies, 1530-1900."

In 1992, she founded the "Colonial Latin American Review," a prize-winning, interdisciplinary journal that she directed until 2003.

TAFFNY Celebrates 10 Years of the Americas' Cultures



The 10th edition of The Americas Film Festival New York (TAFFNY) opened June 15 with the New York premiere of "As Bestas" (The Beast) by Oscar-nominated director Rodrigo Sorogoyen at the Instituto Cervantes New York. TAFFNY closed on June 22 with an awards ceremony for short films in competition at the National Museum of the American Indian followed by the N.Y. premiere of "Fancy Dance" by Seneca/Cayuga filmmaker Erica Tremblay.

A cultural initiative of the CCNY CWE, TAFFNY presented eight feature films and more than 30 shorts, celebrating the rich diversity of the stories, languages and cultures of the Americas. All events were free and open to the public, and all foreign language films were subtitled in English.

Juan Carlos Mercado, dean of CCNY CWE and TAFFNY's founder, said of this year's festival: "We are celebrating 10 years and reaching this milestone; we can say with certainty that we are an artistic reference in the vast cultural richness of the city. With TAFFNY we continue to fulfill our mission of CUNY and City College, which is to support emerging talent in the Americas."

"Every year we find in the filmmakers and their films, the endeavors and concerns of the societies in which they live," said Diana Vargas, TAFFNY's artistic director. "On this occasion we wanted to emphasize issues such as migration, women in their struggle and the communities of native peoples who each time have a stronger voice to claim their visibility."

The Americas Short Film Competition is dedicated to the promotion and exhibition of short audiovisual works by emerging filmmakers that portray the contemporary concerns of filmmakers living in the region.



BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

"Xejuyup Mas Que un Club" ("Xejuyup More Than a Club"), directed by Rodrigo García Chapetón (Guatemala)



BEST EXPERIMENTAL SHORT

"Yuli," directed by Patrick Dione and Miki Gingras (Canada and Colombia)



BEST FICTION SHORT

"El Traje de Karina" ("Karina's Suit"), directed by Frank Benitez (Colombia)



SPECIAL JURY MENTION, DOCUMENTARY

"Cadena en Cadena" ("Stitch by Stitch"), directed by Rachel Thompson (U.S. and Mexico)



SPECIAL JURY MENTION, FICTION

"Estrellas del Desierto" ("Desert Lights"), directed by Katherina Harder Sacre (Chile)



Playwright Séamus Scanlon Wins Drama Festival



Séamus Scanlon

CCNY CWE Librarian Séamus Scanlon won the 2022 All-Ireland One-Act Drama Festival for his play "Dancing at Lunacy."

The play was first staged in 2012 at The Cell Theater and directed by Kira Simring alongside "Blood" by Larry Kirwan as part of the Irish Cell. Two years later the play was part of "The McGowan Trilogy," a series of one-act plays by Scanlon that tells the story of Irish revolutionary Victor McGowan, who ignores court martial protocol in "Dancing at Lunacy."

The trilogy was a multiple award winner at the 2014 First Irish Drama Festival. Subsequent productions were staged in Hastings, England and Galway, Scotland, and in 2018 the Japanese-language-version was staged in Aichi, Hyogo and Tokyo.

The All-Ireland play festivals have run for over 76 years in Ireland and are an integral part of the Irish artistic scene. The Drama League of Ireland is a 32-county body founded in 1966 and oversees the development of drama in all of Ireland.

Student Recruitment in the Digital Game Development Program Exceeds Expectations



The new B.S. degree program in Digital Game Development had its first year of success with two courses in Fall 2022 and four courses in Spring 2023. The major was created and funded by the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME) with a \$2 million investment in the Gaming Pathways Program which includes a variety of ways to reach youth interested in pursuing gaming careers.

The first cohort consisted of 40 students. The courses available to them in Fall 2022 were Game Design Fundamentals and Identity and Representation in Games. Registration was closed for each course after the first 20 students were enrolled.

Game Design Fundamentals taught the core concepts of game design such as mechanics, difficulty, meaningful choice, system design, and fun.

Identity and Representation in Games was a discussion-based class exploring how games have dealt with questions of identity. The class looked at specific games and writings about games that ask questions about the role of race, gender, sexuality, and class and critically examined how games have dealt (or not dealt) with these issues. A variety of speakers from different parts of the industry were guest lecturers.

Director of the Digital Game Development Program and Distinguished Lecturer Nick Fortugno taught both classes which filled up only days after they were posted online for

registration and 10 days before school started.

For Spring 2023, Game Design Fundamentals was offered again in addition to three new courses offered. They were:

Intro to Game Programming 1 introduced students to digital game development through the game engine Unity. Students learned the basics of the Unity interface and the fundamentals of programming in C#.

Game Studio was a junior/senior level class that gave students a chance to work on an original game product. Over the course of the semester, students worked in teams of designers, artists, and programmers to develop a digital game product. Students learned team-based production processes including agile development techniques, code repository use, and schedule creation. Students were required to have prior experience with 2D and/or 3D asset creation, programming in a suitable game language (i.e., Unity, Unreal, JavaScript, Python), or equivalent game development skills, and needed instructor consent to register.

Games and Their History looked at contemporary games from a historical lens by analyzing how modern games directly reference historical precedents. The goal of the course was to analyze successful modern games aesthetically and culturally through close readings and seeing how games evolved from previous games throughout history.

The class incorporated lectures, reading, discussion, and weekly play of games. Students kept a gameplay journal and wrote game analysis essays. Students learned how game mechanics intersected to form a particular genre and how game systems could be combined to create original concepts.

Student demand increased with 100 students registering for one or more of the four courses offered in the Spring 2023 semester. Nine of the students were from other CUNY colleges and used the CUNY e-permit process to take courses at CCNY.

Registration for the Fall 2023 continues the pattern of increased enrollments. More than 120 students have enrolled in the four courses offered, and 28 of the students took two courses and one enrolled in three of the four courses. Student demand to take Game Design Fundamentals and Intro to Game Programming I continues to be strong with both courses having three sections with 60 students enrolling in each of the two courses. The majority of students (76 percent) were either Freshman or Sophomores, and increased over the Spring 2023 when 51 percent were Freshmen or Sophomores.

"It's been really exciting to see it start to develop," said Fortugno. "We've had three full classes of game design within the first year and that's with no recruitment. That was all preexisting. It's exciting that the students are very, very engaged. They are interested and enthusiastic and passionate, but also

very diligent. They are tackling problems of design and programming and they are trying very hard. Game design is a slow process filled with failure, and they have to have a certain kind of persistence even in the earliest steps. This fall, those students taking second level classes, maybe 80 percent know each other, and there is now a cohort and that is really exciting.”

Planning for Spring 2024 courses is underway and will continue the process of additional new courses which is expected to include two game art courses.

The first public opportunity of its kind in New York City, CCNY is already playing an important role in expanding the digital gaming industry as per Mayor Eric Adams’ a economic recovery plan “Rebuild, Renew, Reinvest,” which includes upping the video gaming industry’s contribution to the city’s economy. CCNY’s Digital Game Design Program is part of a larger New York City supported Digital Gaming Pathways Project, supported by the New York City Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment.

Waffle Games Reopens in Person at CCNY



Digital Poster for the 2023 Waffle Games

Students were able to partake in the Waffle Games 6.0, a gaming convention and conference by EGD Collective, which after three years of a virtual-only experience, took place in-person on April 15 for the first time at CCNY and online April 16. Waffle Games 6.0 was a celebration of the digital gaming industry, what it means to be involved in gaming, its role in students developing personal and professional skills, inspiring students to chase their dream of participating in and changing the industry. It gets its name from waffles being served at the event.

The event was free and open to the public and took place in the North Academic Center (NAC) building on April 15. On April 16, the games were hosted online and broadcast virtually through Eventee with portions streamed to Twitch throughout the day.

The event at CCNY was attended by 686 individuals. Based on limited registration data, EGD, a non-profit gaming collective that promotes leadership skills, estimated that approximately 26 percent of those attending were from CUNY with 15 percent from NYU and five percent from Columbia. A total of 14 CUNY schools were represented. In total, students from 68 different colleges attended.

Over 40 speakers curated by the event committee, composed entirely of college students and recent graduates, gave talks representing “World of Warcraft,” Unity and Nuverse Games. In addition to career exploration and technical sessions to develop and expand fundamental skills, sessions dove into industry inclusivity, esports, the metaverse, education and socially oriented experiences. Exhibitors ranged from student projects to local game studios.

Also, competitive tournaments, board games, an escape room-style experience, a theatrical interactive panel, and a room with donated clothing and essential items for students in need were set up during the convention. A total of 90 students and recent graduates volunteered either in person or virtually over the two-day event.

“We all have the power-and responsibility-to do right by games, the people that make them, and the people that play them. Technology, media, and the arts have the ability to change the world, and by extension, so do we,” said Kyra Wills-Umdenstock, the founder and CEO of EGD Collective. “Waffle Games is one piece of the puzzle in our revolutionary approach to addressing the issues facing our industry and young people.”

The event was sponsored by the Gaming Pathway Program, and additional support was provided by the Digital Game Development Program at City College and the Harlem Gallery of Science.

RIWI Opens with Site Safety Training



The Andromeda Academy of Construction Trades was one of 20 participating organizations that trained aspiring construction professionals in site safety as part of the RIWI.

As part of the Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative’s workforce development efforts, 20 participants completed the 40-hour Site Safety Training (SST) in accordance with New York City’s Local Law 196 on Nov. 5. The course was coordinated by three OSHA Outreach Trainers: Jake Toth, CHST, director, Andromeda Academy of Construction Trades; Mike Matthys, CHST, COSS, QSSP, Compliance Safety Consulting; and Angelo Lampousis, interim executive director of the Rangel Initiative.

The South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (SoBro)’s Coordinator of Career Services Christine L. Blanch led the successful recruitment effort, along with her team-Vanessa Cornish (compliance manager of Young Adult Career Services), Diego Ramirez (intake and program assistant), and Lauren Patterson (employment specialist).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provided CCNY with funding for the course under a three-year (2021-2024) Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. Recently renamed the Brownfields Job Training Grants program, the grant is now managed at CCNY by the Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative. This is the first year of training at RIWI.

Gov. Hochul, Labor Sec. Walsh, U.S. Rep. Espaillat Praise New Rangel Workforce Initiative



Governor Hochul tours the Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Development Initiative with U.S. Labor Secretary Martin Walsh (far left), U.S. Representative Adriano Espaillat (center) and President Boudreau (far right).

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul and U.S. Secretary of Labor Martin J. Walsh gave high marks to The City College of New York-based Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Development Initiative (RIWI) as it embarked on its first major project to address the lack of modern infrastructure jobs throughout New York City.

On Sept. 9, Hochul, Walsh, former U.S. Rep. Charles B. Rangel, U.S. Rep. Adriano Espaillat, President Vincent Boudreau and other officials toured RIWI, as part of a series of visits arranged by Espaillat to projects for which he has been an advocate in his congressional district.

Espaillat also secured an additional \$2.2 million for RIWI for the FY23 cycle. The congressionally directed spending award was from Sen. Chuck Schumer, Sen. Kristen Gillibrand and Espaillat. Initially, he secured \$1.5 million in federal support as part of an \$11.5 million package in community project funding.

"This is very much top of the line in terms of an opportunity, using this outstanding educational institution to be the vehicle to transport young people to a better future. And how do we do that? We train them in infrastructure jobs," said Hochul. "I'm very excited

about this and thank you for taking the lead," she told Boudreau.

Walsh praised the initiative and added: "When we think about where we are in the United States of America, Congress is active, (Senator Chuck) Schumer has done an amazing job passing these bills, and now it's really down to The City College to make sure we are preparing young people to access those jobs."

Said Boudreau: "This initiative harnesses our expertise in engineering, architecture and sustainability to the needs of the moment more directly than ever before. America must mobilize to accomplish the reconstruction of our infrastructure and that mobilization is a great opportunity to develop a more representative workforce. I'm pleased that CCNY is equipped to answer the call, and so grateful to Congressman Espaillat, Governor Hochul and Congressman Rangel for their faith and support."

RIWI is the brainchild of Robert E. Paaswell, distinguished professor of civil engineering in CCNY's Grove School of Engineering. Named for Rangel and launched in the spring of 2022, the program aims to address the lack of modern infrastructure jobs in the 13th Congressional District and will equip

historically underserved communities with analytical and operational skills for those jobs through innovative curricula, simulation-based training, and experiential learning.

A trailblazer who left Congress in 2017 with a huge legacy in his relentless push for inner city development, Rangel called RIWI a national model for similar programs. He said having an initiative at CCNY that offers young people an affordable academic option to attain the training for careers in fields of transportation and infrastructure development will give equity opportunities in an often-overlooked community.

"Now that students will be able to commence their studies here is a great step in developing a workforce attuned to the needs of the future, especially among the underserved, under-educated and under-employed," said Rangel, a statesman-in-residence at The City College. "This initiative is an exciting model for like-programs in academic institutions throughout the country. A great step for students and a truly exciting program for the future."

Espaillat, Rangel's successor, has been instrumental in RIWI's coming to fruition.

"Our federal, state, and nonprofit partnerships have worked collaboratively to boost the local economy, and under Secretary Walsh's leadership, we have seen record low unemployment and record job growth," said Espaillat. "I am delighted to welcome Secretary Walsh and Governor Hochul to see all the important initiatives and innovative labor hubs in my district."

"I'm pleased that CCNY is equipped to answer the call, and so grateful to Congressman Espaillat, Governor Hochul and Congressman Rangel for their faith and support."

- Vincent Boudreau, President, The City College of New York

Paaswell and Michael Bobker, director of the CCNY-based CUNY Institute for Urban Systems' Building Performance Lab, developed RIWI's unique strategy and content and recently welcomed its new interim director, professor Angelo Lampousis.

RIWI received an initial lead award of \$400,000 from CUNY. The initiative joined the Second Avenue Subway Phase II construction project, providing workforce and training opportunities. Other forthcoming opportunities include the Gateway Program and the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill passed by Congress.

Moynihan Center Introduces Inaugural Public Scholars Fellows

The Daniel Patrick Moynihan Center announced its inaugural cohort of the Moynihan Public Scholars Fellowship. The Moynihan Public Scholars program is made possible with generous support from the Leon Levy Foundation and the Achelis & Bodman Foundation.

"This inaugural cohort exemplifies the Moynihan Center's commitment to bold ideas, open debate, and scholarship that serves the public interest," said the program's executive director, Professor of Political Science Carlo Invernizzi Accetti.

The Inaugural Moynihan Public Scholars Fellows



Christina Greer, associate professor of political science at Fordham University, is working on a comprehensive history of African American electoral leadership in New York City and New York State.



Daphne Lundi, deputy director for Living Streets & Public Spaces at the New York City Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice, will leverage her experience as an urban planner, policymaker, artist, and designer to develop a framework for how science fiction writing can and should inform city planning.



Yascha Mounk, professor of the practice of international affairs at Johns Hopkins University, known for his work on the crisis of democracy and the defense of philosophically liberal values will develop a left-liberal critique of the identitarian turn in Western liberal democracies.



Laurence Pevsner, director of speechwriting for U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Linda Thomas-Greenfield, explores how public apologies shape our politics and our lives, and makes the case for why the world needs to get better at saying sorry, through a series of essays culminating in a book project.

"The Moynihan Public Scholars will demonstrate that rigorous research, public service, and popular communication can and must go hand in hand," said Distinguished Lecturer of Political Science Michael Miller, the managing director of the Moynihan Center.

Each Scholar receives an unrestricted award of up to \$100,000 and spends one year at CCNY writing, teaching, and engaging in public conversations on critical issues in public affairs. The Fellowship is administered by the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Center, which was established in 2023 with the purpose of supporting new leaders to make a difference in public affairs.

The Daniel Patrick Moynihan Center at CCNY advances the twin goals of public scholarship and public service. Taking inspiration from Senator Moynihan's celebrated career, the Center cultivates leaders who cross the boundaries between critical thinking, public service practice, and popular communication. Through signature fellowship programs and a rich slate of public events, the Center works to ensure that the next generation of public scholars and public servants reflects the diversity of viewpoints and lived experiences represented at City College and beyond.

2023 Commencement Speaker Lawyer Bryan A. Stevenson



Civil rights attorney Bryan A. Stevenson, founder and executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, was the keynote speaker at The City College of New York's 170th commencement

ceremony on June 2. He received the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa.

Stevenson was recognized for his outstanding career in law, and his dedication to criminal justice reform and social justice.

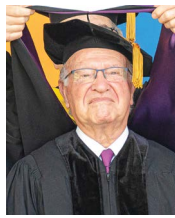
Growing up in an era of "informal segregation" in rural southern Delaware, he went on to graduate from Eastern University, magna cum laude, the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government and Harvard Law School.

He founded the Equal Justice Initiative, of which he remains executive director, in 1989 to provide legal representation to people who believe they have been illegally convicted, unfairly sentenced, or abused in state jails and prisons. Since the EJI's founding, he and his staff have won reversals, relief, or release from prison for more than 135 wrongly condemned prisoners on death row, and have won relief for hundreds of others wrongly convicted or unfairly sentenced. EJI also provides research and recommendations to assist advocates and policymakers in the work of criminal justice reform.

He has garnered numerous awards for his work, including the MacArthur Fellowship and the American Civil Liberties Union's National Medal of Liberty.

Commencement Honors Architect Joseph L. Fleischer '65, '66

Also at Commencement 2023, City College honored architect Joseph L. Fleischer, '65, '66 with the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa. Fleischer was recognized for his



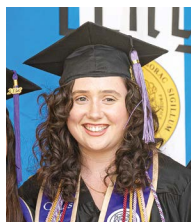
outstanding career in architecture and his dedication to CCNY. In the course of his 45-year career, he has designed facilities across the U.S. and around the world,

and his work has been recognized with numerous awards.

He has remained actively involved at CCNY, serving as president of the Alumni Association of The City College of New York for three years and has served on The Foundation for City College Board since 2021. He and his wife, Carolyn Fleischer '68, set up a fund to both the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture, and the School of Education through the College's 1847 Society. In 1999, the Alumni Association awarded him its prestigious Townsend Harris Medal for Professional Achievement in the field of architecture.

He is the recipient of the Architecture Group's Professional Achievement Award, as well as the Alumni Association's Service Award. He is a Lifetime Member of the Alumni Association's Executive Board.

2023 Class Valedictorian Catherine Hernandez



Catherine Hernandez, an anthropology major in the William E. Macaulay Honors College, was Class of 2023 Valedictorian. The daughter of a 1993 CCNY alumnus,

Hernandez graduated summa cum laude with a 3.98 GPA. She received a B.A. degree in anthropology with a minor in art history and Jewish studies.

Hernandez proudly considers herself "a product of City College from the moment I was born," because of her alumnus father, Francisco Hernandez. A Cuban immigrant, he arrived at CCNY in 1991 with only enough tuition money to take one class per semester. However, financial aid and scholarships would see him earn a bachelor's degree, then enter law school after graduation, and begin a career as an immigration lawyer.

"For both me and my father, CCNY has been a place that allows immigrants and

first-generation Americans to not only succeed but have the agency and power to aid in tearing down the systems that oppress their communities," she said. "It's my honor to represent this legacy of social mobility and social justice."

As an undergraduate, Hernandez participated in two overseas archaeological projects in Ecuador and Barbados, and developed a focused, activist-oriented research interest in Indigeneity, cultural patrimony, and repatriation. In her research and career, she hopes to implement community-based archaeological practices and to liaison with descendent communities to ensure that they have agency over the ownership of their patrimony and the portrayal of their heritage in the museum setting.

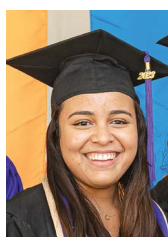
At CCNY, Hernandez participated in the Colin Powell Fellowship in Leadership and Public Service, the Racial Justice Fellowship, and the Rockefeller Fellowship. She dedicated herself to the promotion of intersectional feminist ideology as co-president of the Macaulay Feminist Society NYC Collegiate Sexual Violence Prevention Changemaker.

Hernandez's other accolades include the Lloyd Blankfein Scholarship, the Macaulay Opportunities Fund's highest honor. The scholarship provided \$5,000 in funding for research abroad. She also received the Rose and Herbert Rudin Award, a \$2,000 research grant, twice. She used the two grants to fund independent archival research and participate in the Walkers Estate Field School in Barbados.

Hernandez held internships at MoMA PS1, the Morgan Library and Museum, and worked as a program facilitator for Art and Resistance through Education (ARTE). The Manhattan resident's plan following graduation is to take a gap year to apply for Ph.D. programs in archaeology.

2023 Salutatorian Kimberly Pereyra Monero

Kimberly Pereyra Monero from the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership was the Salutatorian. A Brooklyn resident who emigrated to



the U.S. from the Dominican Republic at age 15, she was a political science

major and community change studies minor, and graduated with a B.A. degree and 3.90 GPA.

Mentors hailed her academic excellence, civic-minded leadership and community involvement. "For me, CCNY became a place of diversity, a place that teaches you how to be resilient, authentic, and how not to give up," she said.

A dynamo at CCNY, she dedicated three of her four years as an undergrad volunteering for Youth Over Guns, a community organization that advocates against gun violence. She held internships with the U.S. Water Alliance, the Leadership Justice Center, and the New York City Public Advocate's Office, and Vocal N.Y.

Pereyra Monero was a Jeannette K. Watson Fellow (a three-year, citywide fellowship centered on public service), a Colin Powell Fellow, and a Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, & Flom LLP and Affiliates Legal Honors Scholar. She was the 2022-2023 recipient of The Daphne and Stuart Wells Public Service Scholarship and was a finalist for a Harry S. Truman Scholarship.

Pereyra Monero worked as a project assistant at The Leadership Justice Center for Democracy and Social Justice, an institute devoted to fostering the next generation of social justice leaders. Her post-graduation plan is to attend law school.

CCNY Places More LifeSci NYC Interns Than Any Other School

LifeSci NYC Internship Program's 2022-23 cohort placed 25 students from CCNY, the most from any single university who were placed into internships as of Sept. 1, 2022 through Aug. 31, 2023. Altogether, the cohort included 148 students and recent grads from 40 different colleges and universities, working at 63 different NYC life sciences employers. They include 40 seniors, 35 master's students, 27 juniors, 18 sophomores, 12 freshmen, 11 recent graduates (Class of 2021 or 2022), and five Ph.D. Students. CCNY students comprised 192 of the applicants, compared to 160 applicants last year. A total of 2,596 students and recent graduates applied, compared to 2,258 applications in 2021-22.

A list of the 25 CCNY students and the companies they placed with:

NAME	2022-23 CLASS	MAJOR	COMPANY PLACED	JOB TITLE
Jeremy Aguilar	Senior	Biology	Biolabs@NYULangone	Administrative & Marketing Associate Intern
Abdelrahman (Abdel) Ahmed	Junior	Biomedical Engineering	New York Stem Cell Foundation	Diabetes Research Intern (Laboratory)
Wesam Bahrawi	Senior	Biology	Columbia Department of Medicine	Division of General Medicine Population Health Research Intern
Abdoul Bouda	Master's	Translational Medicine	Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness	TYSA Data & Evaluation Intern
			OpticSurg	Public Relations and Business Development Intern
Deepankar Chakraborty	Senior	Computer Science	ERBuddy, Inc.	Digital Health Fullstack Developer Intern
Arjun Dibya	Freshman	Biology	Columbia Department of Medicine	Center for Human Development / Animal Models of Human Disease Intern
Jennifer Enriquez	Master's	Translational Medicine	Lilu, Inc.	Functional Genomics Intern
Fariha Farah	BS, June 2022	Biology	Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation	Development Intern
Luca GoldMansour	BA, June 2022	Political Science	Peg Tyre	Research Assistant
Doris Hernandez	Junior	Chemistry	BioBus	Junior Scientist - Teaching & Research
Sabrina Jezerca	Senior	Biology	Columbia Department of Medicine	Clinical Behavioral Research Division of Cardiology Intern
Matthew Kantorski	Junior	Biotechnology	Biotech Without Borders	Frugal Protein Expression Intern
Hana Kassem	Senior	Biomedical Engineering	Fesarius Therapeutics	R&D Intern
Thomas Klinger	Junior	Biochemistry	Columbia Department of Medicine	Center for Translational Immunology - Aging Research Intern
Yashaswi Manneru	Sophomore	Biology	Columbia Department of Medicine	Human Development Columbia Center for Human Development Intern
Sebastian Maurice	Junior	Biomedical Engineering	New York Genome Center	MacMillan Center for the Study of the Non-Coding Cancer Genome (CSNCG) Intern
Diana Mendez	Senior	Biology	BioBus	Junior Scientist - Research and Teaching
Yonesy-Ryan Nunez	Senior		Columbia Department of Medicine	Bioinformatics Division of Rheumatology Intern
Kayla Pena	Master's	Translational Medicine	Surgivance	Experimental Imaging Intern
Raysa Rosario Martinez	BS, June 2022	Biology	Helaina	Lab Technician
Mubdi Shah	BE, Dec 2022	Chemical Engineering	Surgivance	Experimental Imaging Intern
Elina Shakur	Sophomore	Biochemistry	Columbia Department of Medicine	Center for Translational Immunology - Aging Research Intern
Amy Sultana	Senior	Biology	Generation Mental Health	University Mental Health Fellowship Launch Intern
Afaf Ulay	Senior	Biomedical Engineering	Columbia Department of Medicine	Center for Human Development - Stem Cell Biology Intern

In addition, we placed the following students who previously graduated from CCNY:

UNIVERSITY	NAME	2022-23 CLASS	MAJOR	COMPANY PLACED	JOB TITLE	PRIOR DEGREE
Columbia University	Rodayna Hamouda	Master's	Biomedical Engineering	Fitbiomics	Research Associate	B.S., CCNY, 12/21
Columbia University	Elizabeth Koretsky	Master's	Biomedical Engineering	CytoDel	Lab Technician Intern	B.E., CCNY, 12/22
Columbia University	Anupriya Roul	Master's	Biomedical Engineering	ERBuddy, Inc.	Digital health mechanical engineering intern	B.E., CCNY, 12/22

BIC Students Awarded The LAGRANT Foundation Scholarships



LAGRANT Foundation recipients from BIC

Eight CCNY Branding + Integrated Communications students from the Classes of 2024 and 2025 were awarded prestigious The LAGRANT Foundation (TLF) Scholarships. The students are Kamillah Collins, Roderic David, Stephana Eghan, Bianca Fernandez, Jade Holiday, and Jason Liu, Class of 2024, and Dana Dang and Britney Huston, incoming Class of 2025. BIC students have been recipients of a TLF scholarship every year since the launch of the BIC Program in 2013 and has fielded more scholarship winners than any other school in the country. BIC's eight awardees represent more than a quarter of the graduate students selected for the awards.

The LAGRANT Foundation recognized this year's scholarship recipients during three ceremonies beginning in New York on May 8, in Portland, Ore. on May 15, and ending in Minneapolis on May 22. All recipients received \$3,500 scholarships. Throughout the multi-day event in New York City, scholarship recipients participated in exclusive professional development and networking opportunities hosted by General Motors, Omnicom Public Relations Group, Bayer U.S., Procter & Gamble, Ralph Lauren, Nike, Wieden + Kennedy, IW Group, Medtronic, Weber Shandwick and United Health Group.

Celebrating its 25th year, TLF awarded a total of \$250,000 in scholarships this year to a select group of ethnically diverse

college and university students across the nation. Students from Georgetown University, Columbia University, University of Chicago, and University of Southern California, among others, were also given awards.

A recent ADCOLOR Futures award winner and 2019 MAIP Fellow, Collins is a senior strategist at Ogilvy and a graduate of CUNY City Tech, Class of 2020.

David, a 2015 B.F.A./B.A. graduate of The New School, double majored in Communication Design at Parsons and Culture & Media at Eugene Lang. He is a senior manager at Hearst.

Eghan is part of BIC's inaugural media track and a manager of media planning at dentsu X. She is 2017 graduate of CCNY's AdPR Program.

Fernandez received her B.A. in Latin American and Caribbean Studies at SUNY/New Paltz in 2015 and works as an associate at GoldenSeeds.

With a 2020 B.B.A. from Brooklyn College, Holiday works as a media analyst at Fox.

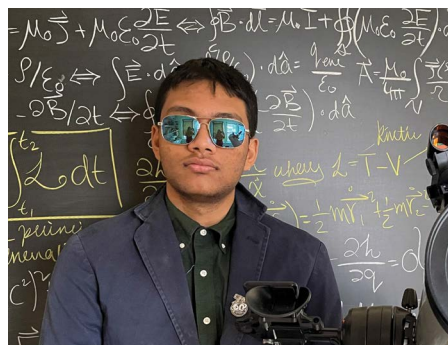
Liu, also a graduate of CCNY's AdPR Program, Class of 2016, works at McCann as a media planner.

Holiday and Liu are both enrolled in BIC's inaugural media track.

In spring, Dang graduated from Texas A&M with a B.S. in psychology.

Huston, a native New Yorker, received her degree in digital media production from SUNY New Paltz in May.

Student Publishes First Paper in Peer-reviewed Physics Journal



Physics senior Refath Bari

Physics senior Refath Bari published his first academic paper, "Simulating the Action Principle in Optics," in the peer-reviewed journal, "The Physics Teacher." An undergraduate publishing a paper in a prestigious peer-reviewed journal is a rarity.

Light appears to obey one law at one moment and a different law at another. The Principle of Least Action, (PLA) is the single unifying principle in how light behaves. Light gets where it's going via the fastest route possible, which is not always a straight line. Bari began delving into the PLA in 2021.

"As physicist Richard Feynman said, it's almost as if light 'smells all paths' and selects the path that takes the least action."

- Refath Bari

Two years later, he published his first academic paper. With this paper, he wanted to describe the PLA and create a mathematical tool to simulate the PLA that solves numerically the famous brachistochrone problem, posed by Johann Bernoulli in 1696: What is the path of quickest descent between two points in an arbitrary gravitational field?

Bernoulli's insight demonstrated that the mechanical problem of determining the quickest path was equivalent to the optical problem of determining the path light pursues in any non-homogenous medium, such as the Earth's outer atmosphere.

The economy of light is like commuting on a busy freeway. Sometimes the fastest route is not the freeway in the midst of a traffic jam. The circuitous surface road may get you there in half the time.

"As physicist Richard Feynman said, it's almost as if light 'smells all paths' and selects the path that takes the least action," said Bari.

Bari created a computational tool to give students an intuitive feel for the PLA. He wrote a program which students could use to simulate the consequences of PLA in geometric optics. "It demonstrates that what we think we know about light is not the whole story," said Bari.

Physics Senior Chosen as Top Presenter at the American Physical Society Conference



Physics senior
Charanjot Singh

Undergraduate researcher Charanjot Singh, a senior majoring in physics, was named Top Presenter in his session at the American Physical Society Conference in Las Vegas in March. It was

his first presentation at a professional conference. His presentation was titled "Strain engineering effects on the optical properties of bilayer MoS₂."

Singh studies the properties of atomically thin-layer materials such as molybdenum disulfide (MoS₂), a compound composed of molybdenum and sulfur, because of its unique reflective and luminescent properties. Specifically, he is interested in multilayered atomically thin heterostructures—semiconductor structures in which the chemical composition changes with position—studying their optical properties under strain, as well as in structures that trap light. Such heterostructures are expected to help build enhanced optical sensors and other optoelectronic devices such as lasers and LEDs.

"Charanjot has been carrying out research in my lab now for over two years and has established himself as an expert in the fabrication of atomically thin material-based structures," said Singh's advisor, Physics Professor Vinod Menon. "His motivation to do research and passion for physics have been the key to his success."

Singh grew up in Punjab, India. As a boy, he was fascinated with gadgets and with how things worked. He dissected scrap materials like light bulbs and broken appliances to build mechanical gadgets. "I took out the motors and chips and capacitors and duct taped things together," he said. At age nine he constructed a remote-controlled toy car. He went on to operational miniature fans, one for each family member, for relief during the extreme summer heat.

Singh first learned of City College and its importance in the scientific world when he was in high school and heard CCNY physics professor Michio Kaku talking about particle physics on a podcast. In 2019, Singh arrived at CCNY as a freshman. Since then, Singh moved from tweaking broken appliances to figuring out how things work at the molecular level.

Spitzer MLA Students Receive Hollander Design Fellowships



Nine Spitzer Master of Landscape Architecture Students won Fellowship awards.

Cassandra Castano won the three-year 2022 Hollander Design Fellowship for students of the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) program at the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture. Ximena Diaz Velasco and Sonia Uthup each won a one-time award of \$4,000. All three students are in their first years, as per the eligibility requirements, as the fellowship is meant to support students for the duration of their studies.

Hollander Design Landscape Architects was founded by Edmund Hollander, FASLA, president of the firm. It is one of few landscape architecture firms on Architectural Digest's AD100 list. The Fellowship was established in 2020 to encourage and support New York City students from demographics and communities that are historically underrepresented in landscape architecture to pursue the field. While Hollander has committed to a Fellowship per year since 2020, the additional one-time awards are due to the firm's generosity, and the belief in its mission to diversify the industry, and due to the extremely strong pool of applicants.

"We at Spitzer are so grateful to Ed Hollander and his colleagues at the Hollander Design Landscape Architects for sponsoring the The Hollander Design

Fellowship at the Spitzer School of Architecture," said Dean Marta Gutman. "It recognizes landscape architecture students who are so impressive and alleviates their needs which are so compelling."

Castano, an assistant landscape ecologist at the environmental planning firm NPV, received an award of \$4,000 per year for the three years of the MLA program. She grew up in Brentwood, a predominantly Hispanic community on Long Island, and now resides in East Patchogue. This was her first CCNY award. She wants to "increase biodiversity, improve urban climate resilience, and unify the relationships between humans and nature by working in tandem with earth's natural systems."

"We at Spitzer are so grateful to Ed Hollander and his colleagues at the Hollander Design Landscape Architects for sponsoring the The Hollander Design Fellowship..."

- Dean Marta Gutman

Diaz Velasco hails from Pachuca, Mexico, as well as York, Penn. She currently resides in Hamilton Heights and was the recipient of a Spitzer Tuition Scholarship. She "seeks to craft a career designing public spaces that build and engage multispecies communities as a way to catalyze social and environmental change."

Uthup is also a recipient of a Spitzer Tuition Scholarship and the ASLA-NY Diversity Scholarship. She is a Malayalee Texan who grew up in Houston, and is now living in Brooklyn. Uthup plans to study vernacular knowledge to design with community-led initiatives to create place-specific public spaces, particularly libraries and parks, that embody the post-revolution potential of a life of dignity for all beings.

Awarded the Fellowship in 2020, Matthew Brown Velasquez was the first recipient to graduate with the assistance of the Fellowship's full three years. Gaël Oriol received the Fellowship in 2021.

Undergraduate Gilles Seulio Earned PPIA Junior Summer Institute Fellowship



Political Science senior Gilles Seulio

Political science major Gilles Seulio was accepted to the Public Policy and International Affairs Program (PPIA) Junior Summer Institute at the University of Washington Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy

and Governance, where he and other participants studied, took field trips, and engaged with community leaders, regional leaders, and elected officials during the summer of 2023.

Originally from Cameroon, Seulio is now a senior in the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership. He became interested in public service in 2008 while attending high school in Douala, when violent protests broke out following a transit workers' strike. Police began shooting people. Seulio recalls having to run home from school in a 20-minute terrified sprint. At that moment, he became interested in politics. "I wanted to understand why it happened and what could have been done to prevent it," Seulio said.

PPIA is a not-for-profit organization supporting efforts to increase diversity in graduate studies in public policy and international affairs. The Fellowship is designed to prepare students for a master's or a joint degree in public policy, public administration, international affairs, or a related field. The fellowship is awarded to juniors majoring in political science. Students study on the campus of one of six participating universities: Carnegie Mellon University, Princeton University, the University of California, Berkeley, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, and University of Washington.

The fellowship award provides full tuition, some travel expenses, a stipend, university housing, meals, books and related course materials. Individual schools may offer additional assistance, such as GRE preparation. PPIA graduates also receive a minimum one-time \$5,000 scholarship if they are admitted for a master's degree at any PPIA graduate school.

In 2022, Seulio received the Colin Powell Fellowship in Leadership and Public Service, as well as the New York Leaders Fellowship awarded by the Moynihan Center that prepares students for a career in public service.

Architecture Student Husan Ahmed Wins Scholarship



Architecture candidate Husan Ahmed

Husan Ahmed, Bachelor of Architecture candidate, was the recipient of the Center for Architecture's 2022 Common Bond Scholarship. The Center for Architecture is the storefront for the American Institute of Architects, New York chapter (AIA New York). Ahmed was feted at the Center for Architecture Gala: Common Bond at Chelsea Piers, where he was one of three scholarship winners presented with a cash prize of \$3,500 and a chance to mingle with professionals in his chosen industry.

"Husan is amazing—engaging, open, full of good will, hope, and visions for our world. He received such a warm welcome at the Gala, which culminated with a standing ovation and being wooed by architects bearing business cards," said Spitzer School Dean Marta Gutman.

The 24-year-old's future goals match his charisma, that of becoming a "great architectural concept designer."

"I hope to one day push the boundaries and inspire large urban cities like New York to incorporate more natural elements into our designs," said Ahmed, who believes that sustainable architecture is necessary to keep the planet healthy, and aids our connection to it. "The space we inhabit should inspire a healthier lifestyle both on an individual level (physically and mentally) and on a larger planetary scale. I strongly believe that as a species, we're slowly losing our sense of harmony with the ecosystem and each other."

Ahmed, who plans to graduate in Fall 2023, has already fulfilled the requirements of a minor in Studio Arts, two years of liberal arts, and is in the

fourth year of the five-year architecture curriculum.

The Common Bond scholarship acknowledges the outstanding accomplishments of the students honored, but also invests in the future of an industry that struggles to retain talent due to high education debts post-graduation that force many promising designers out of the profession.

Born in rural Sylhet, Bangladesh, Ahmed immigrated with his family in 2003. Now, he calls the diverse north Bronx neighborhood of Norwood home. "Although I wasn't born here, I'll always consider it home. I hope to give back to the community someday as the population mainly consists of other immigrant families just like mine," he said.

As part of the scholarship selection process, students submitted essays and portfolios. Ahmed's essay was about the ways in which recent obstacles he and his family faced "opened his eyes to the direct impact that our inhabited spaces have on our health."

Randy Garcia Awarded Top Scholarships Japanese Language and U.S. Relations



Anthropology major Randy E. Garcia

Randy E. Garcia, an anthropology undergraduate in the Colin Powell School for Civic and a Global Leadership and Division of the Humanities and Arts B.A./M.A. history student, headed to Japan thanks to his win of scholarships

at the highly competitive Middlebury Language School Japanese Immersion Program, and the inaugural Japan-United States Friendship Commission Summer Institute (JUSFC).

The young Dominican immigrant's Asian study tour began with participation in the new JUSFC Summer Institute, an immersive two-week program designed to promote diversity and inclusion in U.S.-Japan relations, from May 24 to June 10 in Washington, Tokyo and Kyoto.

The fully funded trip included airfare,

travel within Japan, and entry to field trips. "Additionally, JUSFC offers a stipend of \$2,500 per student to cover meals and incidental expenses," said Garcia, an Inwood resident.

The mission of the JUSFC, a United States federal agency, is to develop the next generation of leaders for the U.S.-Japan partnership. The partnership encompasses many fields, including students from the natural and social sciences, humanities, and arts, with professional interests in policy making, diplomacy, business, and nonprofit sectors.

After the trip to Japan, Garcia went to Middlebury, Vt. to learn the language in the Middlebury Language School Immersion Program, from June 23 to Aug. 18. Middlebury hosts the summer home for some of the most talented teachers, scholars, and artists. The program itself touts its dedicated faculty as "some of the world's leading academic professionals."

On his future, Garcia said: "Currently, I am thinking about obtaining a Ph.D. in Japanese history, and to continue developing my research on the impact of the triangular relations between the United States, Japan, and Latin America on Japanese emigration into Latin America between the 1900s to the 1950s."

Garcia's honors include a Mellon Mays Fellowship, the Barbara Brooks Award, "given to an outstanding paper in East Asian History;" and the Louis Neugeborn Memorial Scholarship.

Ryan Walsh and Marieme Jiddou Win Language Scholarships

Graduate student Ryan Walsh and senior Marieme Jiddou from the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership were recipients of highly competitive Critical Language Scholarships from the U.S. Department of State.

The CLS program provides overseas foreign language instruction and cultural immersion experiences for American undergraduate and graduate students in 14 critical need languages to promote rapid language gains and essential intercultural fluency in regions that



Graduate student Ryan Walsh and senior Marieme Jiddou

are critical to U.S. national security and economic prosperity.

As a CLS recipient, Walsh studied Turkish at Ankara University TÖMER in Türkiye from June 15 to Aug. 10. Walsh enrolled at CUNY Law this fall to pursue a juris doctor with a focus on international law. He is currently working on his master's thesis in international affairs while interning for the State Department. Additionally, he is a Colin Powell Graduate Fellow in Leadership and Public Service exploring the intersection of social justice issues, historic preservation, and the international system. The San Antonio native holds an M.S. in historic preservation from Columbia University and a bachelor's degree in environmental design from Texas A&M University. Walsh is a former New York City public school teacher, Peace Corps Volunteer, and Ironman triathlete.

Marieme Jiddou, a graduating senior majoring in international studies, studied Arabic. An immigrant from Nouakchott, Mauritania, in northwest Africa, her scholarship is for the CLS Spark program, an eight and a half week intensive virtual program hosted through the University of Alexandria in Egypt. This program, which ran from June through August, was entirely online. Like Walsh, the Bronx resident's future plans include studying law—she would like to focus on immigration law—and a career as a U.S. foreign service officer.

Grove School Senior Ewelina Randall Wins International Award

Ewelina A. Randall won the prestigious international undergraduate award from the Society for Applied Spectroscopy as a senior at the Grove School of Engineering. The honor is presented to top junior or senior undergraduate students globally in recognition of outstanding research in the area of spectroscopy. The award

comes with a one-year membership to the Society of Applied Spectroscopy and a certificate.

For more than 60 years, the Society has been committed to education and to providing quality benefits to members worldwide. Its objective is to advance and disseminate knowledge and information concerning the art and science of spectroscopy and other allied sciences. It publishes the internationally recognized and peer-reviewed journal "Applied Spectroscopy."



Mechanical Engineering major Ewelina Randall

Randall, a Polish-born mechanical engineering major residing in Brooklyn, was nominated for the award by her research advisor, Daniel Heller, head of the Cancer Nanomedicine Laboratory at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

"This is for my work in the construction of hyperspectral microscopy of visible and near infrared fluorescence and the development of near-infrared nanosensors that transduce information via spectral changes in living cells and animals," said Randall, whose career goal is to continue contributing to nanoengineering research that falls within the field of cancer nanomedicine, sensing and early detection of diseases.

Randall was the Travel Award Recipient for the 241st Electrochemical Society Meeting and presented her research, "B02-0693 - Organic Color Center-based Optical Nanosensors to Monitor Lysosomal Activity," during the poster session at the ECS conference in Vancouver, Canada, in June 2022.

Randall also received the following Grove School awards: the Pearl Tsung, Mehashi Yeheskel JiJi; Kenneth and Gloria Levy Awards; and the Marius Ivascu Aviation Foundation Award sponsored by the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan.

She was chosen to participate in the Health and Climate Solutions REU program at Columbia Chemical Engineering in Summer 2022.

Truman Scholarship Given to Senior Ayesha Khan



Ayesha Khan, Class of 2023, was named a Harry S. Truman Scholar. She is one of 62 exceptional students from 60 U.S. colleges and universities selected as 2023 Scholars by the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation. Khan is CCNY's seventh Truman Scholar since 2005.

The highly competitive Truman Scholarship is the premier graduate scholarship for aspiring public service leaders in the nation. Selection is based on a combination of career and graduate study interests, community service and academic achievement.

"We have confidence that these 62 new Trumans will meet their generation's challenges together," said Terry Babcock-Lumish, the Foundation's Executive Secretary and a 1996 Truman Scholar from Pennsylvania. "Selected from across America, the 2023 Truman Scholars reflect our country as innovative, purposeful, patriotic problem-solvers, never shying away from a challenge."

Truman Scholars demonstrate outstanding leadership potential, a commitment to a career in government or the nonprofit sector, and academic excellence. Each Truman Scholar receives funding for graduate studies, leadership training, career counseling, and special internship and fellowship opportunities within the federal government.

Born of Indian immigrant parents, Khan received a B.S. in biomedical sciences from the Sophie Davis Biomedical Education Program in the CUNY School of Medicine. She's also completed a minor in public policy from the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership and will earn her M.D. from CUNY School of Medicine in 2027.

Khan's other honors include the Edward Koch Fellowship and the Colin Powell Fellowship in Leadership and Public Service. She wants to address health needs and provide primary care for underserved communities, especially global communities adversely affected by the climate crisis. She helped start a medical clinic in her family's rural village in India, increasing access to primary health care for local farmers. Khan also plans to pursue an MSc in international health and tropical medicine to learn how to better address health challenges in resource-limited communities, especially those facing the brunt of climate catastrophes.

The Truman Scholarship Foundation was established by Congress in 1975 as a living memorial to Harry S. Truman, the 33rd president of the United States. Its mission is to find and recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential.

Fund Rewards Women Over 35 Who Go Back to School

Three City College of New York students are recipients of the Women's Forum Education Fund Award, which supports women over the age of 35 who have overcome adversity to resume their education. The unrestricted \$10,000 grants are awarded directly to the recipient for any costs associated with advancing her education.

The awardees are:



Doreen Ahumah, Class of 2023, is a double major in childhood education at the School of Education and psychology at the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership. As a single parent who lost her husband in 2018, she is the sole provider for her family. Originally from Ghana in West Africa, Ahumah used the scholarship at a time when she was in financial distress and needed to find a new apartment to raise her two young boys. Ahumah is prepared to teach and is the secretary of the Teachers for Tomorrow Club.



Rainbow Sarah Farr, Class of 2023, is an early childhood education major in the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for Worker Education. Due to an illness, Farr is unable to work and the scholarship helped her with rent, food, medication and school fees so that she could complete her degree. She credits her professors and advisors for supporting and advocating on her behalf as well as giving her the confidence to be a better teacher and leader. The Bronx native is a member of the National

Society of Leadership and Success and has received the Quest Peter Cott and Ken Leedom Memorial Scholarship and The Quest Scholarship.



Darresa Rodriguez, Class of 2023, is an urban studies and public administration major at CWE. As a first-generation student who dropped out of high school to work, she thought a college education was not possible. Through the individualized support from CWE as well as the scholarship, Rodriguez is able to support her daughter while pursuing her education. She is in the Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society and in the Legal Studies Honors program.

She also received the Quest Scholarship Award, Quest Peter Cott and Leedom Memorial Scholarship and an LCU Housing Grant. She intends to pursue a master's degree in the study of the Americas with a human rights concentration at CWE to prepare for law school in 2024. In her spare time, she is an avid long-distance runner in the Bronx.

Exhibition Debuts Alumnus Stephen Somerstein's Historic Photos



Stephen Somerstein giving a live commentary about his photography to visitors at CCNY's Shepard Hall.



Fifty-eight years after capturing numerous iconic photos of the 1965 Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, Civil Rights March as a student photojournalist, alumnus Stephen Somerstein '66 returned to his alma mater for the first ever public exhibition of his historic images at The City College of New York. The exhibition, "Witness to History: Selma 1965 Photography of Stephen Somerstein," was open to the public and ran from March 21 to May 14 in the Lincoln Corridor of Shepard Hall.

The opening day reception on March 20 included a conversation between Somerstein, a retired physicist and Vanessa K. Valdés, associate provost for community engagement. They provided running commentary during a slide show of the exhibition's images.

Somerstein narrated how he came to cover the march, the camera equipment he used and challenges he faced with limited rolls of film. He also discussed his photographic approach to tackling this enormous historic event and how he parsed its essential features to create a body of work faithfully emblematic of the event.

Somerstein, a self-taught photographer, was both picture and managing editor of "Main Events," a CCNY student paper, when he took a bus to Alabama to cover one of the pivotal events of the Civil Rights movement. By highlighting racial injustice, the Selma to Montgomery marches led by the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. contributed to passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, a landmark achievement of the movement.

Fifty-five of the approximately 400 images Somerstein took on the final day of the march—mostly black and white, a few in color—were on view at CCNY. In addition to King, they capture some of the major figures of the movement, including James Baldwin, Bayard Rustin, A. Philip Randolph, Rosa Parks, Joan

Baez and Coretta Scott King.

It wasn't Somerstein's first time to capture King on film. Two years earlier the then Bronx resident had photographed King at CCNY when he delivered the keynote address at the 1963 commencement in the old Lewisohn Stadium, where the North Academic Center now stands.

After graduating with a B.S. in physics, Somerstein went on to a successful career as an aerospace engineer at Harvard and senior scientist at Lockheed Martin. He designed instruments at the latter, which was deployed on the recently launched James Webb Space Telescope.

Revisiting his photographic work in Alabama years later, Somerstein used the images to produce, in cooperation with CUNY media relations, an Emmy Award-winning video in 2013. A selection of images later were on exhibit at the New-York Historical Society in 2015.

MFA Filmmakers' Work Premieres at DOC NYC Festival



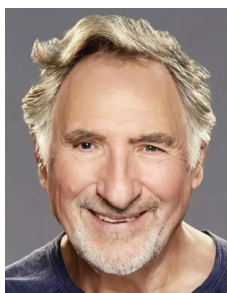
City College of New York MFA Film graduates Yolanda Pividal '06, Nemo Allen '21 and Araque (Juan) Blanco '21 had their films selected to appear in the DOC NYC 2022 Festival from Nov. 9-27. DOC NYC is an organization that celebrates and supports the flourishing cultural movement of documentary storytelling. The festival helps to introduce new talent and highlight the year's top films.

Pividal's film, "A Witch Story," appeared as part of the Fight the Power-themed films. Pividal was co-executive producer, director, co-producer, co-cinematographer and editor on the film. The 70-minute film is about Alice Carrier, descendant of Martha Carrier, who was hanged for witchcraft in Salem in 1692. Carrier explores the infamous witch trials uncovering a thread that connects the violent past to violence waged against women today.

Allen's "El Bastón" appeared in the festival's Shorts Programs as does Blanco's "The (Other) 700." Allen produced, directed and edited the film. In the 15-minute "El Bastón," a mother and son, both filmmakers, look for answers as they document, decades apart, the struggles of Colombia's Indigenous Nasa tribe finding, instead, reserves of inner strength and resilience.

Blanco produced and directed the film "The (Other) 700," and was co-editor and co-cinematographer on it. It is about a loose community of delivery workers who gather every day at the intersection of Broadway and Thornton Streets in Brooklyn, to hang out and share their experiences while waiting for their next job. This slice of life film focuses on a microcosm of street philosophers, who share their beliefs, goals and motivations, and offer a reflection of the high-speed capitalist system in which they are trapped but need to survive.

Hollywood Great, Alum Judd Hirsch, Earns Golden Globe Plaudits



Class of 1960 alumnus Judd Hirsch celebrated another major Hollywood honor. The legendary actor's latest film, "The Fabelmans," won Best Motion Picture in the

drama category at the 2023 Golden Globes awards. Steven Spielberg also won best director for a motion picture (drama) for the semi-autobiographical film loosely based on his adolescence and first years as a filmmaker.

In "The Fabelmans," Hirsch is hailed by critics for his scene-stealing performance and making an outsized impact playing a character loosely based on Spielberg's eccentric great-uncle. "The Fabelmans" topped four other highly acclaimed films: "Avatar: The Way of Water," "Elvis," "Tár" and "Top Gun: Maverick," for best motion picture.

Hirsch is best known for his Emmy-winning role in the sitcom "Taxi" and Oscar-nominated turn in 1980's "Ordinary People." Last year, he narrated a video retrospective of his alma mater on the occasion of its 175th anniversary.

Hirsch is the product of CCNY's renowned film program established more than eight decades ago, and arguably the oldest, continuous film program in the U.S. Other famous alumni include Woody Allen, Tony Curtis, Ben Gazzara, Stanley Kubrick, Edward G. Robinson, Richard Schiff and Eli Wallach.

Katherine J. Scardino '22 Awarded Fulbright Scholarship

Katherine J. (Katie) Scardino left in August for Mexico to start her nine-month Fulbright Scholarship. The September 2022 graduate of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership, who majored in psychology and minored in Spanish, was first told that she had been awarded the prestigious scholarship in April, without any specifics. She received notice of



her placement on Aug. 10, giving her only three weeks to obtain her visa before leaving to take up her positions as an assistant to an English language professor and a leader of English

conversation clubs at the Instituto Tecnológico de Oaxaca. In addition to her academic responsibilities, she will develop a personal project of fostering cross-cultural connections within the community.

After CCNY, "I didn't really know what I wanted to do next," she said. "I was considering law school, when a few professors suggested that I apply for a Fulbright."

That would not have been too much of a stretch for someone who had already studied abroad, spoke Dutch and Spanish, captained the CCNY's women's fencing team, and was open to new experiences. She was originally accepted to a Spanish Language and Andean Culture program at the Universidad de San Francisco de Quito, Ecuador, for the Spring 2020 semester, but the COVID-19 pandemic prevented that opportunity. In her last semester, Spring 2023, she traveled to Logrono, Spain, where she was offered a full scholarship with free tuition, flights, housing, books, and insurance.

Pedro J. Cruz Cruz Wins International Architecture Award



City College of New York's Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture alumnus Pedro J. Cruz Cruz, M Arch '22, won an award at the 2022 Lisbon Architecture Triennial in Portugal. The Triennial is a non-profit organization whose mission is to investigate,

stimulate and promote thought and practice in architecture. The theme, Terra, looked into communities throughout the world to embrace our common home, planet Earth, and ran through Dec. 5.

Now an adjunct lecturer at the Spitzer School, Cruz won the highly competitive Millennium bcp Universities Competition Award for his project "El Teatro del Pueblo," a much-revised version of his second-year studio project, in the main exhibit's Multiplicity section. It is a work of urban ethnography, using oral histories and filmmaking as an architectural research method, that documents street vendors in Corona Plaza, Queens, and emphasizes how vendors have been historically marginalized.

Cruz submitted the project, after updating his research, with a portfolio and a 12-minute video, and was awarded a certificate and a prize of €1,000.

Also representing CCNY at the Triennial was Adjunct Associate Professor Vyjayanthi Rao, as a member of the Multiplicity curatorial team, and Assistant Professor Jerome Haferd, co-leader of the Dark Matter University Team, also for Multiplicity.

The 28-year-old Cruz moved from Puerto Rico in 2018 when Hurricane Maria's aftermath caused him to reflect on his aspirations as an architect. The resident of Washington Heights was the recipient of the Social Practice CUNY and Fund for the City of New York Community Planning fellowships during his M Arch studies.

"It was amazing to have the opportunity to have my work exhibited and recognized. Being selected as one of the winners during the event caught me entirely by surprise and felt unreal. It was an incredible experience and made me feel even more proud to represent such an excellent public institution that has given me many growth opportunities," said Cruz.

With his mentor, Associate Professor Nandini Bagchee, Cruz co-teaches the upper-level architecture year-long studio "Building Culture," which explores emerging cultures of solidarity and self-reliance. Cruz also works as an architect at Marvel, where he learns about community engagement, planning and coastal resilience in New York and Puerto Rico.

Kay Bell Crowned Bronx Poet Laureate



Kay Bell, who received her B.A. in 2015 in English and her M.F.A. in Creative Writing in 2019, was crowned the 2023-2025 Bronx Poet Laureate. During her reign, she will promote the history of poetry in the Bronx and ignite a passion for poetry and creative expression throughout the borough through various community engagements. Bell is also an adjunct assistant professor in the CCNY Department of English and academic advisor in the Division of Humanities and the Arts.

"I am confident that working closely with the Bronx community as Poet Laureate will give me the opportunity to deepen my empathy for my students and provide deeper reflection for my writing," said Bell. "This will be a result of me going into the position to learn as much as I educate."

The South Bronx resident published her first book of poetry, "Diary of an Intercessor," (Finishing Line Press, 2021). Her poem "Girl" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

"I know genuine collaboration will take place in all aspects of my career and work. To quote bell hooks: 'As a classroom community, our capacity to generate excitement is deeply affected by our interest in one another's voices, in recognizing one another's presence,'" said Bell. "I am deeply passionate about the voices within the Bronx Community and know those are some of the same voices in my classroom and advising office. I am ready to continue listening, giving and growing together in all aspects of my work as an educator and writer."

Ahmed Helal Wins Competition Using Wood to Combat Climate Change



Ahmed Helal, B Arch '22, a recent graduate of the Spitzer School of Architecture, won the 2022 Vectorworks Design Scholarship. Helal's project,

"Mass Timber," was one of 22 projects from 11 countries in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, interior design and entertainment, that was chosen out of a field of more than 1,000 submissions.

His winning entry, "Mass Timber," takes on climate change through use of materials to create change in the construction industry.

"The proposition here is to look at timber not simply as a substitute structural material, but as a holistic building system that provides alternative ways to think about building structure as well as building strategies. Insulation, provision of heat and cooling, humidity control, finishing, etc., If those functions get merged into one system, timber will have much more value not only from its potential ecological and environmental impact, but also from a capital standpoint as there will be clear reasons and motivations to consider timber, which can substantially transform the construction industry," said Helal.

Richard Diehl founded Vectorworks, Inc., the company that created the first 3D modeling software programs and the first cross-platform CAD application.

In 2022, Helal won the John A. Notaro Memorial Scholarship for his proposal, "Monumentality and Public Space," questioning the existing architecture of Untermyer Park and Gardens in Yonkers, N.Y. He is an architectural designer in NYC at Robert A.M. Stern Architects.

Cristina Jiménez Moreta and Shanelle Matthews Become Distinguished Lecturers

Two national leaders in movements for social change have been appointed to full-time distinguished lecturer positions at the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership. The positions were made possible by Leadership for Democracy and Social Justice (LDSJ), a new CUNY institute dedicated to developing the next generation of social justice leaders, based at the Colin Powell School and the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies.

Cristina Jiménez Moreta is a community organizer, political strategist and storyteller, and 2017 MacArthur Fellowship recipient. Jiménez Moreta moved from Ecuador with her family at the age of 13. While a student at CUNY Queens College, Jiménez Moreta, who was undocumented, became an immigrant-rights leader. She was co-founder of United We Dream, the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country. Under her leadership, the national politics and narrative around immigration shifted, culminating in the 2012 signing of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) into law.

"A truly inclusive and multiracial democracy is possible if those most affected lead the movements for change," said Jiménez Moreta. "As a CUNY alumna, I'm honored to join the Colin Powell School and LDSJ to train the next generation of changemakers and give back to the community that supported my growth as an undocumented immigrant student and social justice leader."

Shanelle Matthews is communications director for the Movement for Black Lives and former faculty of Resistance Narratives at The New School. She is co-editor of a forthcoming anthology detailing world-building narrative campaigns and strategies led by social movement communications workers in the 21st century.

"It's an honor to be on the frontlines demanding justice and liberation. I found my purpose in building narrative infrastructure for the Movement for Black Lives and other 21st-century

social movements," said Matthews, "and I'm overjoyed to share all I've learned with the CCNY community and to collaborate with the next generation of movement workers committed to building power for our shared liberatory future."

"Jiménez Moreta and Matthews will teach, mentor, and advise our students," said Dean Andrew Rich. "We are grateful for their commitment and to LDSJ for making the positions possible."

"[The appointees] bring decades of experience leading the most important social movements of our generation. We're excited to have them join us to impart their knowledge and experience," said LDSJ's Co-Executive Directors Jennifer Disla and Chris Torres.

Jiménez Moreta and Matthews will be based in the Colin Powell School's Department of Anthropology, Gender Studies, and International Studies (AGIS).

"We're thrilled to welcome two transformative leaders whose vision guides the work ahead," said Irina Carlota Silber, chair of AGIS.

Former Health Commissioner Named Sternberg Family Professor



Dave A. Chokshi, the former commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, has been appointed the inaugural Sternberg Family Professor of Leadership.

This endowed professorship, first announced in April 2022, was established with a gift from Seymour (Sy) Sternberg '65, '10 (hon.) and Laurie Sternberg in honor of the late General Colin Powell. As the Sternberg Family Professor of Leadership, Chokshi will play a central role in the development of leadership studies at the Colin Powell School and in the scaling of a range of student leadership development initiatives across the School and the College. He will also teach and mentor students interested in becoming leaders

in public health, health equity, and movements for health justice.

"As an institution, CUNY makes real the notion of 'being the change one wants to see in the world,' and the Colin Powell School is particularly focused on shaping the principled and excellent leaders we need for that world," said Chokshi. "It is a privilege to join these communities as the inaugural Sternberg Family Professor of Leadership."

During his tenure as New York City's 43rd health commissioner, from August 2020 to March 2022, Chokshi led the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including its historic campaign to vaccinate more than six million New Yorkers, which saved tens of thousands of lives.

A practicing primary care internist at Bellevue Hospital since 2014, Chokshi also holds clinical professorship appointments at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine's Departments of Population Health and Medicine and is a senior scholar at the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy. He has published articles in leading academic journals, including the "New England Journal of Medicine," "The Lancet," and the "Journal of the American Medical Association." He received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania, his undergraduate degree from Duke University, and he earned a master's degree in global public health at Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

"Dr. Chokshi is a distinguished leader and an accomplished scholar. He is precisely the kind of person we hoped to attract for this new endowed professorship," said Dean Andrew Rich. "My sincere thanks, again, to Sy and Laurie Sternberg for making this position possible."

"Dr. Chokshi has extraordinary qualifications, and I am pleased that he has agreed to serve as the inaugural Sternberg Family Professor of Leadership. His credentials and his experience will be assets to the College, and I look forward to the role he will play in expanding opportunities for our students," said Sy Sternberg, the former chairman and CEO of New York Life Insurance Company, the largest mutual life insurance company in the U.S. and one of the largest life insurers in the world.

Vanessa K. Valdes Co-curates Exhibition at The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Juan de Pareja Afro-Hispanic Painter



Vanessa K. Valdés, associate provost for community engagement, co-curated the Metropolitan Museum of Art's exhibition "Juan de Pareja, Afro-Hispanic Painter." The exhibit ran from April 3 to July 16 and was co-curated by David Pullins, associate curator in The Met's Department of European Painting.

This exhibition offered an unprecedented look at the life and artistic achievements of seventeenth-century Afro-Hispanic painter Juan de Pareja (ca. 1608–1670). Largely known today as the subject of the Met's iconic portrait by Diego Velázquez, Pareja—who was born in Antequera, Spain—was enslaved in Velázquez's studio for over two decades before becoming an artist in his own right.

"The story of Juan de Pareja and of communities of African descent throughout early modern Europe is relatively unknown. As a scholar of Afro-Latin American and Afro-Latinx studies, it was my honor to assist in bringing his story to the public. It is my deepest privilege to continue sharing the story of Arturo Schomburg, this Black Puerto Rican man whose life's work was the recovery of global Black history," said Valdés. "My hope is that with this exhibition more people not only learn about these men, but are inspired to visit the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem as well as visit these countries, go to the archives, and share this knowledge. There are so many histories of Black peoples languishing in archives around the world: we have so much left to learn."

This presentation is the first to tell his story and examine the ways in which enslaved artisanal labor and a multiracial society are inextricably linked with the art and material culture of Spain's "Golden Age."

A fully illustrated catalog, "Juan de Pareja, Afro-Hispanic Painter in the Age of Velázquez," accompanies the exhibition. Published by the Metropolitan Museum of Art and distributed by Yale University Press, it is available for purchase from the Met store. Valdés wrote the essay, "Arturo Schomburg, Juan de Pareja, and Afro-Hispanic Studies," which appears in it.

The Met offered a variety of programming, including gallery talks, a panel discussion with scholars that focused on the topics of institutional histories, collecting strategies, and the potential to rewrite history through the presentation of objects that reshape the canon.

92NY Names Valdés 2023 Woman inPower Fellow

Vanessa K. Valdés is one of 30 "rising leaders" in the 2023 Class of Women inPower, a fellowship program aimed at advancing women to the highest levels of leadership across all sectors. The recognition is from the 92nd Street Y's Belfer Center for Innovation & Social Impact.

The Fellows were selected from a competitive pool of hundreds of applicants. They include leaders from a wide variety of backgrounds and professions, including business, nonprofits, law, medicine, media, human resources, finance, arts, education, philanthropy, and startups.

The program provides women-identifying leaders with professional development, executive mentorship, CEO workshops, and participation in an active community of leaders. The program encourages Fellows to think ambitiously about not only their career path and success, but creating a healthier and more egalitarian society for all.

Previously director of The City College's Black Studies Program, and interim dean of the Macaulay Honors College at CUNY, Valdés began to serve as associate provost for community engagement at CCNY in Fall 2022. In this role, she engages with community leaders on issues and programs of mutual interest and benefit to the CCNY.

A graduate of Yale and Vanderbilt Universities, Valdés is a professor of Spanish and Portuguese. Her research interests focus on the cultural production of Black peoples throughout the Americas: the United States and Latin America, including Brazil, and the Caribbean. She is the author of "Oshun's Daughters: The Search for Womanhood in the Americas," and "Diasporic Blackness: The Life and Times of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg." Her latest book, "Racialized Visions: Haiti and the Hispanic Caribbean," is an edited collection that re-centers Haiti in the disciplines of Caribbean and, more broadly, Latin American studies.

City and State Names President Vincent Boudreau to Power List



President Vincent Boudreau was named to City & State's 2023 Higher Education Power 100 list for the third consecutive year in a row. The list recognized the 100 most influential people in academia statewide, including leaders of some of New York's best-known colleges, universities and professional schools.

Boudreau's legacy of leadership began with his appointment as the founding dean of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership at CCNY. He was appointed City College's 13th President in December 2017.

In including Boudreau in the 2023 list, City and State special projects editor John Celeck noted: "Boudreau was picked because his leadership and tenure are pivotal to higher education statewide."

Degree Choice, a ranking agency for colleges and universities, evaluates CCNY alongside other institutions across the country in the category of national universities—colleges and universities with Ph.D. programs. In 2022, CCNY ranked #1. Princeton and MIT were #2 and #3 respectively.

"If you look at social mobility factors, where a student's earning power is when they start college compared to

where they are when they finish, CCNY students outpace their peers," said Boudreau.

"Boudreau was picked because his leadership and tenure are pivotal to higher education statewide."

- John Celeck, City and State Special Projects Editor

Boudreau also points to the emphasis placed on workforce development made possible through initiatives like CCNY's Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative.

"There's an insufficient national workforce available to participate in the reconstruction of America's infrastructure, and that workforce is far less diverse than it should be," said Boudreau. "At the Rangel Center, we're working to change that. For instance, we have a program to train drone operators for use in infrastructure assessment work. We'll start licensing drone operators as early as March 2023."

Boudreau's energy and commitment to CCNY programs also draws the attention of donors. At the start of his administration, annual fundraising totals were between \$12 and \$17 million per year. Those numbers have steadily increased since they rebuilt CCNY's fundraising machinery. The college raised more than \$61 million in 2022.

Dee Dee Mozeleski is a 2023 Crain's Notable

Dee Dee Mozeleski, vice president of the Office of Institutional Advancement, Communications, and External Relations, executive director of the Foundation for City College and senior advisor to the president, is a 2023 Crain's New York Business' Notable Leaders in Advertising, Marketing & PR.

The editorial feature recognizes top leaders in advertising, marketing and



public relations in the New York metro area. In 2021, Mozeleski was named a CASE District II Professional of the Year and a Crain's New York Business Notable in Nonprofits and Philanthropy.

Mozeleski has spent more than 30 years working in service to public higher education institutions, cultural programs, international agencies and government organizations. At City College, she is a member of the college's senior leadership team, the president's cabinet and serves on a variety of special committees, including the Task Force for the Future of City College.

Her responsibilities include philanthropic management of the Foundation for City College, stewarding and expanding the college's public profile, including the public launch of CCNY's 175th anniversary campaign, workforce development activities, community engagement projects and management of campus emergency needs programs including Benny's Food Pantry—which has continued to serve all CUNY staff and students beyond its initial expansion during the Covid-19 pandemic.

She is credited with merging two formerly independent organizations into one unified foundation, with a current total investment portfolio of more than \$345 million. This work happened during a College-wide transformation both internally and externally through public engagement. It is through her management that the College has been able to tell their true story of impact on students and alumni.

The Outdoors Project Hosts Inaugural Wilderness First Aid Course



On June 15-18, The City College Outdoors Project, an outdoors initiative run through the Office of the President, had

its first Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course. The program invited students, staff, and faculty to the Appalachian Mountain Club Highland Center at Crawford Notch in the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire and Maine. The course helped our CCNY cohort prepare for various medical situations that may arise when one is in the backcountry and there is no ambulance, you are short on supplies, the wait for help is unknown and moving the patient a short distance might take hours. Even more important, WFA teaches how to avoid these situations through increased awareness and preparation for backcountry trips where medical resources are not readily available.

The two-day course is based on modern emergency medical care practices modified and specialized for backcountry environments. It covers a full range of situations, from scrapes and blisters to life-threatening emergencies. Participants learned accident scene management and how to communicate effectively with an emergency rescue party.

It also included a separate CPR course. By the end of the course, all participants received a two-year WFA Certification. WFA training instructor Jean Lee is highly experienced in the outdoors, WFA certified, EMT/Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) certified (or higher), and CPR certified. She made the CCNY cohort feel welcome and heard.

Ashley Mastroddi and Akasha Solis, Outdoor Club special projects managers, and Dee Mozeleski, vice president of the Office of Institutional Advancement, Communications and External Relations, arranged transportation for the CCNY attendees, which aimed at providing accessibility and ease on the nine-hour drive.

The mission at the Outdoors Project is to create accessibility and greater representation in the outdoor community. Outdoor organizations are only now starting to include people of color. The project aims

What Participants Say About the Outdoors Project

"I enrolled in this course because I commonly do field work in the wilderness for my research. The wilderness first aid training provided by the SOLO instructor fit the need for me to ensure that I am institutionally aware when I am working in the wilderness. The skills covered are relevant to situations in the city as well as the wilderness. I recommend this training for anyone wanting to learn basic first aid for a variety of situations."

- Kyle McDonald

"We started off as strangers but ended up a community with a shared love of the outdoors and Uno cards. We all learned so much and I feel better able to handle myself and others in an emergency situation. Since returning, I've shared my experiences with any colleagues and supervisors who will listen. A big thank you to everyone who made this trip possible."

- Arieni Hernandez

"While many of us in the program are from NYC, the stay and the bonding filled in a dormitory life that we have been missing out during our college years."

- Li Kuan Phang

to uplift underserved communities from all religions, backgrounds, ethnicities, and the LGBTQIA+ community, to provide the CCNY community with experiences where they can bond with one another, create a lasting community, and connect with the outdoors.

Students with Biology, Pre-Med, Environmental Engineering, and Psychology majors attended. Public Safety Officer Jeffrey Fox also attended. Accounts Payable staff, Arieni Hernandez, faculty member and NASA Scientist Terry Elkes, and Professor of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Kyle McDonald all attended.

For more information, visit <https://www.ccnycuny.edu/ccny-outdoors>.

Harlem Writers Retreat Finds Inspiration Outdoors

The Outdoors Project also supported the Harlem Writers Retreat at the Stephen & Betsy Corman Harriman Outdoor Center near Bear Mountain in October 2022 and again in May 2023, where a total of 36 students participated. The retreat is designed to both offer students an escape from the city and deepen their connection to the natural environment while honing their craft as writers. Dubbed "Harlem in the Woods," the retreat inspires and connects students to the great outdoors at no cost due to the financial generosity of the Appalachian Mountain Club, the CCNY Outdoors Project and the Office of the President through the College's "Democratizing the Outdoors" Initiative.

Professor Michelle Y. Valladares, director of the MFA Program in Creative Writing, organizes the retreat that brings together students with different areas of expertise including MFA in creative writing, literature, language and literacy, and Ph.D. and M.A. students in Biology and Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, as well as students participating in Professor Emily Raboteau's Climate Writing course, which is available through the MFA Program in Creative Writing. Students swam, kayaked, and were given plenty of time to relax and immerse themselves in nature.

On the May trip, Professor Ana Carnaval, a biologist whose research primarily focuses on coastal forests joined to deliver a lecture on sugar maples, led everyone on a nature walk where she offered insights on the senescence of tree leaves in the fall, the symbiosis that comprises lichen, the poison glands of a frog that crossed her path, and much more.

Four Beavers Recognized as CUNYAC Scholar-Athletes of the Year

The CUNY Athletic Conference held the 36th Annual Michael Steuerman Scholar-Athlete Awards Dinner, honoring the conference's 2022-23 scholar-athletes. In a tradition that began when the conference was founded in 1986-87, the CUNYAC annually recognizes four of its graduating student-athletes, rich in academics and athletics, as its Scholar-Athletes of the Year. The City College of New York had four student-athletes earn Honorable Mention recognition.



Amir Assani, Scholar-Athlete of the Year - Honorable Mention Men's Basketball

Amir Assani is a two-year member and team captain of the CCNY Men's Basketball team with a 3.632 grade-point average, majoring in Psychology. He has played a pivotal role in rebuilding the men's basketball program, helping the team reach the postseason in each of the last two seasons. In 2023, he was named to the CUNYAC All-Sportsmanship Team and was selected to the College Sports Communicators Academic All-District Team. Off the court, Assani has held several internships with local organizations, focusing on social responsibility and youth engagement. Assani is a member of CCNY's African Student Union and a CCNY Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representative.



Cassidy Canberg, CUNYAC Scholar- Athlete of the Year - Honorable Mention Women's Soccer

A two-year team captain, Cassidy Canberg owns a stellar 3.716 grade point average with a major in Business Management and Administration with a minor in Biology. As a member of the women's soccer team, Canberg led the Beavers to three postseason appearances, reaching the CUNYAC Championship game on two occasions. A two-time CUNYAC All-Star, Canberg was named the CUNY Women's Soccer Player of the Year and a First Team All-ECAC selection in 2021. Off the pitch, she's a member of the Financial Literacy & Stock Market Club and the Economics Business and Finance Society.



Habibu Gado, CUNYAC Scholar-Athlete of the Year - Honorable Mention Men's Track and Field

A team captain, Habibu Gado has a stellar 3.75 GPA with a major in Psychology and a minor in Theater. As a member of the CCNY Men's Track & Field program, Gado has led the Beavers to three straight CUNYAC Indoor Championships, earning Most Valuable Performer accolades at all three meets. He was named CUNYAC Rookie of the Year in 2020, Track Performer of

the Year in 2021 and 2023, and Field Performer of the Year in 2022 and 2023. Off the track, Gado has volunteered and interned at the SUNY Downstate SPRINTER program, researching health disparities.



Alexa Rodriguez, CUNYAC Scholar- Athlete of the Year - Honorable Mention Women's Fencing and Lacrosse

Alexa Rodriguez owns a stellar 3.722 GPA with a major in Psychology with a concentration on Drug and Substance Abuse. This season, she was named a finalist for the EWFC Women's of the Year Award. Off the court, she is an active member of SAAC, serves as the graphic designer for the Beaver Nation Network Sports Marketing Club, and is part of CCNY's BA/MA CASAC Program.





12

Major Award
Winners
CUNYAC

48

Student-athletes named
to Fall CUNYAC Honor
Roll

72%

of all student-athletes
earned a 3.0 GPA
or Higher

127

Student-athletes named to
Winter/Spring CUNYAC
Honor Roll

3.21

Departmental GPA

2

CUNYAC
Championship

52

All-Conference
Recipients

10

College Sports
Communicators
Academic All-District
Recipients

- Senior Nicholas Karkut was named the 2022 CUNYAC Senior College Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year.
- CCNY had three student-athletes earn Honorable Mention recognition, with seniors Sardar Khanbilvardi, Michelle Hu, and Claudia Serna receiving honors.
- The CCNY baseball program earned the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Team Academic Excellence Award for the second straight year, boasting a 3.41 grade-point average.
- The CCNY Men's Basketball program earned the NABC Team Academic Excellence Award for the second straight year.
- Five student-athletes were named to the NABC Honors Court.
- 15 student-athletes were named to the 2022-23 Vice Chancellor's Honor Roll, honoring senior scholar-athletes with a grade-point average of 3.2 or higher.
- CCNY finished third in the 2022-23 CUNY Athletic Conference Commissioner's Cup Standings.
- 13 out of all 14 CCNY Varsity Athletic programs qualified for the postseason competition.
- Baseball won CUNYAC Baseball Championship; their programs first title since 1994.
- Men's Indoor Track & Field won their 11th straight CUNYAC Championship.
- Women's and Men's Cross Country teams placed second at the CUNYAC XC Championships.
- The men's Outdoor Track & Field team placed second at the CUNYAC Outdoor Championships.
- Men's Volleyball advanced to the semifinals of the CUNYAC Championship Tournaments and clinched a berth into the ECAC Championship Tournament.
- Women's Soccer advanced to the CUNYAC Championship game.
- Women's Volleyball and Men's soccer advanced to the quarterfinals of the CUNYAC Championship Tournaments.

Benjamin Ferencz '40 (1920-2023)



Centenarian Benjamin B. Ferencz, a distinguished 1940 City College of New York alumnus and the last surviving prosecutor from the post-WWII Nuremberg trials, died in Boynton Beach, Fla., on April 7, 2023. He was 103.

Three years ago, Ferencz had turned 100 a month earlier when he delivered the keynote speech at The City College's first ever "Virtual Salute" in celebration of its Class of 2020. He received the honorary degree Doctor of Laws from his alma mater, and is believed to be the oldest honorary degree recipient from CCNY.

The honorary doctorate was the second major accolade for Ferencz from his alma mater. He received The City College President's Medal in September 2019.

The Medal is awarded for distinguished achievement and public service. Past recipients include: Nelson Mandela; Nobel Laureates Robert Aumann and Leon M. Lederman; Coretta Scott King, Gen. Colin L. Powell, US Army (ret.), astronaut Mario Runco Jr., and U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton. The 2002 Medal was awarded to the men and women of New York City's uniformed services for their heroic service on and after Sept. 11, 2001.

Ferencz was a physically active man who did 100 pushups daily past his 100th birthday. He was a lifelong advocate

for human rights and the rule of law. In his address to CCNY's Class of 2020, he shared with graduates some of his remarkable experiences in the 80 years since his own graduation from in 1940. "Experiences, which I hope will be inspirational and will guide the Class of 2020 during difficult times now and in the future," he said.

Ferencz, whose family came to the United States from Romania when he was 10 months old, attended Harvard Law School after graduating from CCNY. He earned his law degree in 1943 and fought in World War II.

George Lois (1931-2022)



George Lois, art director, designer and advertising man died on Nov. 18, 2022. A long time friend and backer of The City College of New York, Lois was born in the Bronx in 1931 and graduated from the High School of Music and Art when it was located on the CCNY campus. He was accepted to the Pratt Institute. He left during his second year to work for designer Reba Sochis. He was drafted into the army six months later, where he fought in the Korean War.

Upon returning from Korea, Lois went to work for the advertising department at CBS. He married his wife Rosemary in 1952. They made their home in New York City.

In 1960, Lois recruited Julian Koenig and Fred Papers to form PKL. It was the first advertising firm to be taken public.

Lois created his own agency, Lois/USA in 1961. In 1963, Lois was named Art Director of the Year by the New

York Art Directors Club. From 1962 to 1972, Lois designed ninety-two covers for Esquire magazine. He went on to create campaigns for name brand clients such as Minolta, Tourneau and The Four Seasons. In 1968, Lois created a campaign for Braniff International Airways, whose tagline, "When You Got It, Flaunt It," accompanied by the ad featuring Andy Warhol and Sonny Liston, revolutionized advertising. He is credited with creating several other ground-breaking campaigns, "The Big Idea" and "I Want My MTV" among them.

Lois was inducted into The Art Directors Hall of Fame and The One Club Creative Hall of Fame. He received Lifetime Achievement Awards from the American Institute of Graphic Arts and the Society of Publication Designers. Advertising Age magazine named him one of the "100 Most Influential Advertising Practitioners of the Twentieth Century." He received the American Institute of Graphic Arts Gold Medal in 1996, and the Society of Publication Designers Herb Lubalin Award in 2004.

Lois was a regular guest lecturer in CCNY's Ad PR program's advertising classes. He also served on the advisory board of the CCNY Branding and Integrated Communications Program.

In January 2016, The City College of New York received the "The George Lois Big Idea Archives," a collection comprising films, TV and radio commercials, print ads, posters, scripts, correspondences, photos, memorabilia and numerous other items from a remarkable career spanning more than 65 years. Spearheaded by Professor Ed Keller, the archives are open to the public and available for educational and research purposes. To donate to the Archives, go to <http://www.georgelois.com/big-idea-archives.html>.

Lois's favorite cover design was for Esquire magazine featuring the legendary boxer Muhammed Ali posed as the third century martyr, St. Sebastian, who was shot through with arrows because of his faith.

The son of Greek immigrant parents who ran a florist business, Lois said of CCNY: "CCNY most reflects my attitude...that my mission in life is not to sedate, but to awaken, to disturb, to communicate, to command, to instigate, and even to provoke."

Lois is credited with having refashioned the role of the art director from back room journeyman to masthead linchpin.

James de Jongh (1942-2022)



James de Jongh, professor emeritus of the CCNY English Department and CUNY Graduate Center, died on May 5, 2023 in the Bronx at 80. He was a scholar of the Harlem Renaissance, diasporic literature, modernism, and contemporary drama, as well as a playwright. Robert deJongh Jr., a nephew, said the cause was cardiac arrest, according to "The New York Times."

Director emeritus of IRADAC, the Institute for Research on the African Diaspora in the Americas and Caribbean, de Jongh's work and influence utterly transformed academic thinking about African-American literature, including ways to measure its global origins and global reach. The faculty and administration are lucky to have worked with such a scholar and teacher, and he will be missed greatly.

James Laurence de Jongh was born on Sept. 23, 1942, in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, to Percy and Mavis E. de Jongh. His father was the commissioner of finance for the government of the Virgin Islands and his mother was an assistant director for the U.S. Customs Service, as well as running a poultry farm and plant store.

After attending school at Saints Peter & Paul Catholic School on St. Thomas, he left for the mainland. He earned his B.A. in 1964 from Williams College. At

Williams, he started his love affair with the theater, acting in plays. He went on to receive his M.A. from Yale in 1967. He kept up with the theater and acting, and taught at Rutgers University for a year in 1969 before finding his academic home a year later at CCNY. He received his Ph.D. in 1983 from New York University. In 1990, he joined the CUNY Graduate Center, and in 2011 he was made emeritus.

He is the author of a book of literary criticism, "Vicious Modernism: Black Harlem and the Literary Imagination" (Cambridge U. Press, 1990 and 2010) and "The Poet Speaks of Places: A Close Reading of Langston Hughes' Literary Use of Place" in "A Historical Guide to Langston Hughes" (Oxford U. Press, 2004).

Anne Spitzer (1928-2023)



Anne Spitzer, a passionate educator, philanthropist, and supporter of CCNY, died on June 10, 2023. She was 95. She was the beloved wife of City College alumnus Bernard Spitzer (1924-2014). Together their commitment made possible the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture at CCNY, the flagship public school of architecture in New York City, as well as many other programs. A mother, a grandmother, and great-grandmother, she embraced life with a zeal that was contagious. She loved time with her family and friends, and enjoyed a rewarding and varied career as a high school teacher, college instructor, as a guidance counselor and philanthropist.

With an intellect and smile that knew no bounds, she brought a vitality and joy to her friends and family over the

decades, at the dinner table, on the ski slopes, conquering hiking trails, across the tennis net, or while experiencing the many cultural wonders of NYC and of the world.

Born on the Lower East Side of Manhattan in 1928, she consumed books and education, and began her academic career at Brooklyn College at age 16. A year later, at the age of 17, she married Bernard Spitzer, with whom she shared 69 years of marriage filled with excitement and exploration until his passing in 2014.

Spitzer went on to finish her undergraduate degree, and then earned a graduate degree from Syracuse University, both in literature. Mid-career, she decided to become more involved with her students, received a master's in guidance and counseling, and worked with students both in the classroom and out at Horace Mann, Hunter College, and Marymount Manhattan College.

Spitzer was among the women early on who worked to balance family and career. She raised three children, taking great pride in their accomplishments and chosen paths. She was an equal partner to Bernard as he grew his real estate business and became more immersed in the culture of New York.

She and Bernard created a trust dedicated to creating opportunities for those less fortunate, and to a just and equal society. They supported, among others, Shakespeare in the Park, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, The Michael J. Fox Foundation, the Museum of Natural History, The Brennan Center for Justice, and numerous women's health organizations.

They were true New Yorkers, relishing the grit as well as the beauty of the city. They were thankful for the opportunity that they had been granted by public and private institutions that rewarded their hard work and intellect, while mindful that chance and good fortune had played a role in their successes. This same opportunity was what they desired for all.

She is survived by her three children, Emily, Daniel and Eliot, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Eva Grove (1935-2023)



Eva Grove passed away on May 31, 2023 after a short but fierce illness. She died at home, supported and surrounded by those she loved.

Born on Nov. 28, 1935 in Vienna to Selma and Karl Kastan, she spent her childhood years in Bolivia where she fled with her family after Kristallnacht, and later immigrated to the U.S., where they settled in Queens, N.Y.

Her life was dedicated to giving back. She was inspired by her parents and guided by the motto of her alma mater, Hunter College: "The Care of the Future is Mine."

She met her husband Andrew, a fellow refugee, and married in 1958. He graduated in chemical engineering from City College, top of his class. After his success in computers in California, the couple gave back to City College by endowing The Grove School of Engineering.

She and Andrew founded The Grove Foundation, of which she was secretary. She enjoyed being an active founder and Board member and she sat on the immigration committee where she collaborated with staff and participated in the Civic Engagement program.

She facilitated adoptions as a Santa Clara County, Calif. social worker. She volunteered, once receiving the Golden Speculum Award from a local chapter of Planned Parenthood. She tutored immigrants, preparing them for their citizenship interviews. She canvassed, marched, wrote postcards, op-eds and letters and served on the board of her beloved Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC).

When asked about her religion, she would say, "recycling." Her final wish was to be composted so that she could turn to soil for a forest and "become part of the world again."

She was a skier, a hiker, a biker and a baker who specialized in adding raisins to just about everything. She baked birthday cakes for those she loved. When not involved with the community and acts of philanthropy, she worked in her garden, mainly tending her roses and tomatoes. She liked to knit and read, and she did her best to inject some variety into her walks around her neighborhood.

She touched people with her quirky approach to daily life: her prolific use of her label maker, her collection of jams, her example of dancing at every occasion and her spirit of participation, which included a competitive game of musical chairs on a beach last August. She didn't win the game, but she was surely the crowd favorite.

Eva was preceded in death by her husband in 2016 and is survived by her two daughters and six grandchildren. She leaves behind old friends, her neighbors on Garland, her walking companions, her card playing best pals, the staff of her Foundation and her extended family.

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CCNY LICENSE PLATES AVAILABLE AT DMV



Unlock your college spirit with our exclusive CCNY license plates! You can now stand out in New York traffic and let your dedication shine on the streets. Celebrate CCNY's 175th anniversary with us by showing off the iconic CCNY purple and its logo capturing the essence of academic excellence. They are available to alumni, staff, students, faculty, and anyone who wants this must-have accessory. Drive with CCNY pride! Visit the DMV website: <https://dmv.ny.gov/plates/city-college-new-york> The plates are available in residential, personalized and commercial plates.

The idea came about at the start of planning for the 170th anniversary. The college was looking for unique ways to expand the campus's public visibility, including the establishment of "Gear Up Tuesdays," which encourages the college community to wear their favorite CCNY clothing and/or accessory every Tuesday.





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