



SEAHAWK JOURNAL

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ANSWERING THE CALL

Cecil College nursing faculty and students answer the call for help with COVID-19 vaccination clinics

When ChristianaCare's Union Hospital put out a call for assistance with COVID-19 vaccination clinics to the greater healthcare community, the faculty and students in Cecil College's nursing program answered the appeal with vigor.

Cecil College's Professor Dr. Cynthia Horton and Associate Professor Dr. Shirley Gharbin mustered their senior nursing students to action to ensure the vaccination clinics had the help needed. This request for assistance turned into a real-life learning experience for the students who took part, as they were not behind the scenes but on the frontlines with other healthcare workers.

The faculty quickly made arrangements for all 45 senior students to complete the Center for Disease Control (CDC) training and guidelines. The students completed and obtained certificates for six CDC modules: 1. General overview of immunizations best practices for healthcare providers; 2. Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine: What healthcare professionals need to know; 3. Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine: What Healthcare professionals need to know; 4. How nurses and medical assistants can foster a culture of immunization in practice; 5. Influenza vaccine updates; 6. You call the shots: Pneumococcal vaccine.

Cecil's senior nursing students are assisting with the vaccination clinics on Mondays of each week throughout the spring semester. The students provide vaccinations and monitoring of all recipients.



This work also benefits the students in their studies at Cecil College as it fulfills a portion of their senior-level community clinical experience.

"After the first day of the clinic, the student response was overwhelmingly positive, and the students are grateful to be able to provide this much-needed opportunity to the community as a way of giving back. These students are not new to the community focus of nursing since last semester they also had three weeks in the community in various capacities," said Professor Horton.

Top Row From Left: Alix V., Jessica W., Jessica S.
Bottom Row From Left: Autumn T., Brooke W., Emilee W.

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"Seeing how grateful the community was while we were administering the COVID-19 vaccine was a humbling experience I will never forget. It felt great to know that I was truly making a difference."
– Autumn T.

"The vaccination clinic was a great way to be involved in the community in a real way. I was very grateful for the opportunity to be involved in the fight against COVID-19."
– Brooke W.

It is the policy of Cecil College to not discriminate against any individual by reason of race, color, sex, marital status, citizenship, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. Please refer to the College catalog for the complete and detailed Nondiscrimination Statement.

Associate Professor of Engineering Dale Schultz, Ph.D.



Cecil College Performing Arts Virtual Stage

The Cecil College Performing Arts Department saw no reason to let a quarantine stop them from presenting the third annual TenFest. Many students, faculty, alumni, and friends of the Performing Arts Department worked hard to make this possible. It's been a challenging year for everyone, and we hope this gives you a bit of joy in difficult times.

Enjoy all three episodes of our virtual festival involving a long-distance proposal, a hypochondriac, and a disgruntled customer, classy Shakespeare, cutting-edge science, adorable cats, and a peaceful resolution to the potato chip conflict. You don't want to miss this!

Watch all three episodes for free!
Visit us on YouTube at Cecil College Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Program offers degrees in music, voice, music education, audio technology, and theatre. Students train in classical and contemporary styles and are given performing experience, practical career skills, and applied technique as a foundation for advancement in the performing arts. For more information about programs in performing arts, visit arts.cecil.edu.



Leaves of three
12"x 12" cut paper, by Heather Morris

Virtual Art Exhibits at Cecil College

The Art and Design Program reflects the philosophy that students achieve their best when developing creative, analytical and technical skills simultaneously.

At Cecil, art instruction is based in traditional and contemporary approaches to specific disciplines and encourages participation in group art exhibits.

Foundation courses provide exposure to exemplary artists from a variety of cultures and historic periods. Courses also supply the vocabulary and technical skills to promote confidence in the pursuit of advanced, specialized courses and the development of individual artistic visions.

Visit us at cecil.edu/exhibits today!



A humble yet accomplished instructor, Dr. Schultz enriches the student experience with his expertise and diverse knowledge.

Dr. Schultz holds a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena and a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). During his 21-year career with the DuPont Corporation, he oversaw the laboratory research and data development that advanced the company's impact on medical products, photopolymers, polyester, and nylon. Along with being the co-inventor on four patents, he managed a cost-effective supply chain strategy for team commercializing a new generation process for nylon intermediates.

Dr. Schultz is also certified in applied surfactant science and technology, OSHA training on hazardous wastes, biological treatment of contaminated soil and groundwater treatment of municipal, hazardous, and toxic wastewaters food microbiology, recombinant DNA methodology, and fermentation technology.

For information regarding Engineering programs at Cecil College and our 4-year, onsite partnership with Frostburg University, please visit cecil.edu/engineering.

SPRING SEMESTER SPIRIT WEEK

#SEAHAWKSPIRIT

Student Life held a Seahawk Spirit Week drive-thru event on the North East campus following spring break. Students received swag bags complete with College water bottles, frisbees, and more!





CECIL SEAHAWKS



THOMPSON: ON AND OFF THE FIELD

Like most young people, Julianne Thompson was unsure of the pathway she desired to take after high school. As an early graduate from high school interested in marine biology, she wanted to continue her athletic career on the collegiate level. Still, she was uncertain about being uprooted from her comfort zone within Cecil County.

Upon discovering that Cecil College had a women's soccer program and a strong STEM division, she found the best of two worlds where she could smoothly transition. "Attending Cecil College allowed me to start college life without changing many of the other aspects in my life," said Thompson, who is planning to transfer to McDaniel College in Westminster, Md., for the fall semester.

Though Thompson knew she wanted a career in biology, she remained uncertain of the field of study. As a volunteer at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, her thirst for marine biology was quenched to some degree, and she continued to be near something she loved. But it was during one of her team study session where an "ah-ha" moment struck her. As a biology teacher, she would be able to expose other generations to the love of marine life.

"If you are undecided on your major heading into college, a community college like Cecil is a great way to explore many different types of classes without having to spend thousands of dollars. I was originally going into marine biology; however, I switched to teaching high school biology. If I had attended the school I originally was planning to attend, I would not have been able to switch majors because secondary education was not a major at that school," said Thompson.

Thompson, who will complete her associate degree in secondary education this spring, also attributes her success in the classroom to the many resources offered at Cecil College. She took full advantage of the Math Lab, Writing Center, and study hall sessions.

"At first, I did not think that I was going to be using any of these resources. The one I am most thankful for was the athletic study hall because it required me to sit down for four hours a week to dedicate strictly to school work," said Thompson. "Along with the support from my teammates, every teacher I had at Cecil was willing to help me in any way possible. There were a couple of situations where I needed an extension for certain assignments. I went to my teacher several days before the assignment deadline, and they would give me an extension. They are so helpful and willing to listen."

Thompson also found a key to her success was time management. Being a student-athlete on the 2020 Women's Soccer team, she relied heavily on a daily planner and calendar. This allowed her to make time for everyone even though there was so much going on at the college and in her personal life.

"After I graduate, I want to teach high school biology and work at a summer camp where I can teach students about marine biology. It is important to find the one thing outside of school to keep for yourself and hold onto it. It will help you keep a healthy balance and not wear you out," said Thompson.

Note: The 2021 Cecil College Women's Soccer season has been canceled.

"I found being a member of the women's soccer team helped me become a better student as my teammates showed me the ropes, and we all kept each other accountable both on and off the field."



Seigel in the Spotlight

The COVID-19 pandemic changed the pathway Zachary Seigel had carefully laid out for himself upon graduating from Rising Sun High School. With a dream of a career in sports analytics, he had visions of being on his way to a four-year university last fall. Then the lockdown hit the entire country.

"Because of COVID, I wasn't ready to leave my family during this pandemic. There were many uncertainties, such as I didn't know if classes would be online or in person. I decided I would come to Cecil College to get my general studies completed before moving on to a four-year college," said Seigel, who is a member of the men's soccer team.

Playing collegiate soccer was not on his radar originally, that is until he talked with head coach Dr. Robert DeFinis. Dr. DeFinis has more than 20 years of coaching experience on the collegiate level at Ursinus College and the scholastic level at Dock Mennonite Academy.

"Coach DeFinis showed his knowledge and commitment to this team, and it made me want to join the team," said Seigel. "Athletics helped me with my time management skills. Between classes and practicing, there's little room for homework. I had to learn how to balance out my schedule and be able to do both to the best of my abilities."

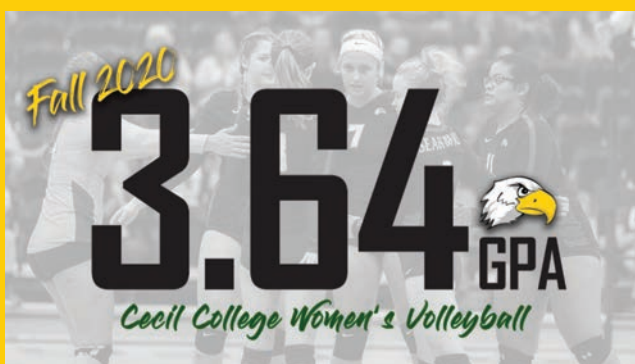
"The best advice I can give to a junior or senior in high school at this time is to explore all your options and make sure the best option involves something you love to do on a normal basis."

Seigel has found success both in the classroom as well as on the athletic field. He has developed a time-management routine of planning out each day to ensure he can accomplish what needs to be completed. This routine will benefit him well as he looks forward to transferring to Syracuse University to study sports management/analytics.

Note: The 2021 Cecil College Men's Soccer season has been canceled.

Women's volleyball performs in the classroom with top GPA

A solid fall semester from our women's volleyball team, who boasted a 3.64 team GPA including two perfect 4.0 GPAs. Great work in the classroom by our Seahawks!



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ALUMNI NEWS



#SayHerName by artist Erica Jones. Photo by Moonloop Photography

Cecil College Alumna uses her art as a voice for change

The City of Wilmington, De., is just a little bit brighter these days, thanks in part to the efforts of several community leaders who view art as the pathway to the civic soul. Popping up across the city are vibrant murals turning drab canvases of brick walls and boarded up windows into welcoming communities and neighborhoods.

Renowned muralist Grace McCammond said in a 2014 NPR interview that murals build a sense of community, making towns welcoming and walkable. “You are making it a place you want to visit.”

This sentiment can be heard when regional artist Erica Jones describes her work and the passion she has embedded in her latest piece that was completed earlier this fall on the 200 block of West 9th Street in Wilmington.

“I wanted to make a statement, to create something that stands out. The committee gave me free rein, and initially, the background was going to be yellow to pop out. But after discussing my vision with others, I settled

on a black and blue background to be a collaboration with JaQuanne Leroy (who was also commissioned to create a piece at the same location) so it flowed together versus having two completely separate pieces,” said Jones.

Jones’ vision was to spotlight the inherent violence against women, especially women and girls of color. Her inspiration was to paint a portrait of slain Black Lives Matter activist Oluwatoyin “Toyin” Salau, who was murdered in Florida in 2020. Jones is the third artist of color selected to paint murals on plywood sheets that volunteers and business owners secured over storefront windows after rioters smashed them on May 30, during the protests for the murder of George Floyd.

The idea behind Wilmington’s grassroots mural project came out of a conversation between Jonathan Whitney, Eliza Jarvis, and Joe del Tufo – three community members dedicated to embracing their community. del Tufo, co-owner of Moonloop Photography, felt covering the damaged building with lively photographs of people from the city would be

inspirational. The Delaware Art Museum’s Manager of Performance Programs Community Engagement Whitney, along with Jarvis, Manager of Youth Learning and Creative Partnerships in Wilmington, felt something more personal was needed to heal the community’s wounds.

Having seen the positive impact other cities have experienced with these large murals, they decided to reach out to city officials and sought corporate sponsorships that allowed them to raise enough money to commission the artists.

The uniqueness of Jones’ talent caught the attention of del Tufo two-years ago while he was photographing students for Cecil College’s marketing campaign. “I was immediately taken by Erica’s artwork and her ability to express the intent of it. I then ran into her randomly at The Delaware Contemporary, a museum in Wilmington, De., where she was working. We had a long conversation about art and music and photography, which brought her to mind for this campaign,” said del Tufo.

Jones graduated with an art degree (Drawing, Painting, Graphic Design) from Cecil College, where she developed her style of enhancing vibrant colors through the use of shadows and depth of field on a large canvas. In her home studio, she hones these talents and promotes them through a recently completed website and YouTube videos; writing, and recording under the name E.Lizé.

“When I arrived at the site in Wilmington, they had painted the wood panels covering the windows in preparation for me. I began by snapping chalk lines to make a grid. That works best for me. In planning, I tried to trust my instinct because other artists have created their murals differently,” said Jones.

As this was her first public mural, Jones wanted to remain true to who she is to let the public appreciate her style. She is hopeful that people will be able to see her growth in artwork as she hopes to have more opportunities such as this one. With the stage set, she was onsite from dawn to dusk, perfecting her creation on the largest piece she has worked on to-date.

“People were driving by or walking by and stopped to talk with me about what I was doing. Their enthusiasm and appreciation for my work were very inspiring and uplifting,” said Jones, as she climbed up and down the ladder in front of the 6-foot by 11-foot panel.

“I love her use of colors and the level of intention she puts into her work. It is rarer than people realize. I watched her work for over a week, into the night, exhausted but determined to make the work match her vision. Since the scale of the work was so large, over 11 feet, she would continually walk across the street to make sure the perspective was accurate,” said del Tufo, who documented the project.

For the final touch of this project that enhanced the meaning behind the mural, on the adjacent wall, Jones painted names of 400 black women and girls who have been victims of violence.

The grassroots mural project has commissioned an additional two artists. The ultimate goal is to have the buildings renovated, and as these plywood panels are removed, the artwork will be preserved as iconic representations of Wilmington’s rebirth.

FIND OUT IF CECIL COLLEGE IS RIGHT FOR YOU!

Contact an Admissions representative to learn about:

- Academic Offerings
- Tuition Rates
- Paying for College
- Student Life
- Student Services and Resources
- Admissions Next Steps

Call us today with any questions at 410-287-1006, live chat on cecil.edu during regular hours, or email admissions@cecil.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!