



President's Report: Dr. Michele Haney September/October/November 2021

Transform the student experience



- **The RRCC Student Life Department** hosted two Welcome Back Nights for the Fall 2021 semester. The virtual night accommodated those students unable to attend the on-campus event. Students were invited to meet department representatives, get information about the school and our programs, and be entered in a drawing for great prizes such as tuition vouchers. The on-campus night offered similar opportunities with the addition of campus tours and food boxes for attendees.

- **RRCC Receives Funding to Improve Energy Efficiency**

Red Rocks Community College (RRCC), together with the Colorado School of Mines, were selected as part of a \$60 million investment by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to fund its largest-ever cohort of university-based Industrial Assessment Centers (IAC) to assist small- and medium-sized manufacturers in reducing their carbon emissions and lowering energy costs, while also training the next generation of workers focused on energy efficiency. **The Rocky Mountain Industrial Assessment**

Center, the name of the new IAC being administered by Red Rocks and Mines, will result in shared courses where students from both institutions can learn about how to improve energy efficiency in the building and manufacturing industry. "We look forward to engaging our students in this unique hands-on learning opportunity in energy management," said Liz Cox, IDEA Institute Director.

<https://www.minesnewsroom.com/news/mines-red-rocks-community-college-receive-funding-doe-improve-energy-efficiency-manufacturing>



- **Lakewood Campus Student Recreation Center Now Open** The Student Recreation Center (SRC) on the Lakewood campus is now open Monday – Friday, 7am-6pm. For more information, visit: <https://www.rrcc.edu/student-recreation-center>.

- **RRCC to Present a SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL**

Six short plays written by RRCC students to be featured at the Red Rocks Community Theatre

LAKEWOOD, CO - The Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) Theatre Arts and Dance Department presented a Short Play Festival at the Red Rocks Community Theatre, RRCC, Lakewood Campus, on October 7, 8, and 9 at 7 pm. The six plays by RRCC students Avellia Ciapusci, Liam Leiren, Molly McCallum, Brooke Olson, Hanna Smiley, Ammon Underhill, are featured selections for this entertaining evening. Playwright and RRCC instructor Colette Mazunik is excited to bring this opportunity to Red Rocks students. "It's such a delight to showcase the talent of these playwrights. The six pieces in this festival grew from three different writing prompts. As the playwrights brought their unique visions and voices to the page, each prompt was realized in radically divergent ways. I'm thrilled that we can now bring these stories from the page to the stage. and share them with the Red Rocks Community," says Mazunik.

- **RRCC to Premiere FEAR HARVESTING**

Immersive Scary Theater at RRCC

LAKEWOOD, CO - The Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) Theatre Arts and Dance Department presented Fear Harvesting, written by Leigh Miller and Brian Luzietti and directed by Leigh Miller, at the Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood Campus on October 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 at 7 pm. Fear Harvesting is a new immersive production premiering at RRCC. Audience members will check in at the Great Hall just inside the west entrance of the Lakewood campus, where they will be led through a series of experiments designed to collect fear. Playwright, director, and RRCC instructor Leigh Miller describes his vision for this show. "I don't really enjoy Haunted Houses. Not because they scare me but because they bore me. The rules are pretty clear: The chainsaw guy can't touch me. There is someone lurking around that corner. I will never actually encounter a Zombie. In Fear Harvesting, we set out to create a world where your real fears are in the room...and you have to face them." The five-member cast has been put to the test with this new show. "The cast has been amazing," Leigh Miller adds. "They are learning so much about performing in Immersive Theatre, this non-traditional performance space. The audience is standing right next to you, talking right to you, there is nowhere to hide. For young artists, it can be in pretty intense, and our cast is doing a great job." The audience will also be tested. This play may contain adult content including adult language, violence, and disturbing images. It may not be suitable for all audiences, especially children under 17. Viewer discretion is advised.

- **RRCC to Produce THE REVOLUTIONISTS by Lauren Gunderson**

A Comedy, A Quartet, A Revolutionary Dream Fugue, A True Story

LAKEWOOD, CO

The Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) Theatre Arts and Dance Department presented The Revolutionists, written by Lauren Gunderson, on November 11-13 and 18-20 at 7PM (Please note that this production has been moved to February 17th, 18th at 7pm and the 19th at 2pm and 7pm) at the Red Rocks Community College Theatre, Lakewood campus. The Revolutionists is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York. The Revolutionists is

described by Dramatists as a fantastically funny show about four beautiful, badass women who lose their heads during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror. It's irreverent, thought-provoking, and surprisingly relevant. Playwright Olympe de Gouges, assassin Charlotte Corday, former queen (and fan of ribbons) Marie Antoinette, and Haitian rebel Marianne Angelle hang out, murder Marat, and try to beat back the extremist insanity in 1793 Paris. Director Kelly Jo Eldredge was thrilled to work with students on this production. "I love this show for its teaching opportunities. The characters are real historical figures, which is drawing many of our history students to the production, and it's very accessible to all audiences. The characters speak in 21st century language—swear words and all—but they wear period costumes, which is a great opportunity for our costuming students. Additionally, the whole play is filled with beautiful contradictions. It's funny yet deadly serious; dream-like, but very real and VERY relevant; about the past and the present (and the future). Finally, it's theatrical and it's true." Tickets to this production are limited, due to social distancing guidelines. Masks are required for all attending the event. Tickets for all RRCC Theatre Department productions may be purchased via this website: <https://redrocks.cc/tickets>(link is external)

- **Grand Opening of New Student Pantry at RRCC**

Hosted by the Student Life Department

LAKEWOOD, CO - The Student Life department at Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) hosted an opening ceremony for the college's new Student Pantry. The pantry is located on the Lakewood campus, near the Student Life information desk (formerly the Game Room). The ceremony was held on November 1, 2021 at 12:00PM. Donations of non-perishable food and reusable shopping bags will be accepted at the event. For those interested in making a monetary donation to support the Student Pantry, donations can be made online at <https://www.coloradogives.org/rccfoundation>(link is external). Please indicate you want the donated funds to be directed to the Lakewood Student Pantry. The new RRCC Student Pantry is a key part to a bigger goal of reducing the food insecurities within our RRCC community," says Dr. Steven Zeeh, the Director of Campus Life. "Of course, our vision for a more inclusive and accessible pantry would not have been possible without the continued support from the RRCC Foundation, RRCC staff and faculty, the Food Bank of the Rockies, as well as other non-profit community partners. We still have a lot of work to do but we hope that the new RRCC Student Pantry is a symbol to the Lakewood community that we, as a college, are committed to holistically meeting the needs of our students and community."

- **The RRCC Student Affairs division was excited to host its inaugural First-Generation College Celebration on Tuesday, November 9th from 1-2pm in a variety of formats and on both campuses.**

The National First-Generation College Celebration is recognized annually on November 8th to honor the signing of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965. The HEA helped level the playing field that weighed against Americans from minority and low-income backgrounds. It ushered in federal grants and loan programs designed to help students finance their education directly and invested in higher education institutions. In addition, TRIO programs emerged to address post-secondary access, retention, and completion gaps for low-income and potential first-generation college students.

Did you know that 43% of our current students identify as first-generation? Thus, our event will feature a panel of RRCC first-generation faculty and staff to answer a series of questions centered on transcending barriers/demonstrating resilience that students experience along their educational journeys. While this portion of the celebration focuses on serving first-generation students, the overall celebration honors all RRCC first-generation faculty, staff, and students. Your assistance is needed to help make this endeavor a success! First-generation faculty and staff interested in participating are invited to click on the link below (or scan the code) to indicate your level of support.

Transform our own workforce experience.

- **The IDEA Lab** welcomed 38 new student members in Fall semester who want to learn hands on skills in innovation, making and prototyping. The IDEA Lab is delivering innovation workshops to Vertical Skills Academy (VSA), a school for students in first through eighth grades with dyslexia and related language-based learning differences. The IDEA Lab students designed a hands-on workshop where student built their own robots by learning how to connect electronics, coding, and the overall assembly process. The VSA students gained skills in problem-solving, creativity and teamwork. A second workshop is planned for December.
- **RRCC Establishes Shelby and Cody Allen Memorial Scholarship**
Red Rocks Community College Scholarship Established in Memory of Local Firefighters Killed by Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
LAKEWOOD, CO - Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) has announced the Shelby and Cody Allen Memorial Scholarship to pay tribute to the firefighting couple that tragically lost their lives to carbon monoxide poisoning at their home in December 2020. Shelby Allen, 27, and Cody Allen, 29, worked at the Central City, CO, Fire Department, where Cody served as a lieutenant and Shelby Allen volunteered as a firefighter. The annual scholarship will be awarded in the Fall of 2022 semester. A call for applications will open up mid-November via the RRCC Foundation. The scholarship is being funded in its initial year by the Knox Company, a Phoenix-based company that specializes in rapid access solutions for first responders. "Everything we design and manufacture at Knox has the purpose of increasing firefighter safety, so we were heartbroken to hear about Shelby and Cody," said Joni Trempala, President of the Knox Company. "We believe this scholarship is a great way to honor the loss of a young couple that were dedicated to serving their community. They deserve a legacy that commemorates their passions, contributions and commitment to help others." Since the early 1970's, Red Rocks Community College has offered the Fire Science program. A Fire Science Academy was launched in 1993. The program is part of the Emergency and Public Safety Department, encompassing emergency response programs, specifically Emergency Management and Planning, Emergency Medical Services, and Law Enforcement Training. The scholarship is for students enrolled in RRCC's Fire Science program. There is a preference for students who graduated from a high school in Gilpin or Clear Creek counties or from Nederland High School. Gifts to the fund can be made directly to the Red Rocks Community College Foundation or online at <https://www.coloradogives.org/AllenMemorial>(link is external).

Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.



Passport Facility Open

Students, staff, and the public are once again able to apply for new U.S. passports at the Lakewood campus of Red Rocks Community College (RRCC). Appointments are available from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. To make an appointment, email international@rrcc.edu (link sends e-mail) or call 303-914-6416. "The International Student Services and Programs department of RRCC is determined to bring the world to Red Rocks and to send Red Rocks out into the world," says Linda

Yazdani, Director of International Student Services and Programs. "The department has reopened its U.S. passport facility on the Lakewood campus, Room 1020, and welcomes appointments from the public."

- **Rocky Mountain Industrial Assessment Center** has been nominated and selected as one of the three finalists for the **Gateways award for Sustainability Partner of the Year**. 2021 is the inaugural year for The Gateways which is the Jeffco EDC's premiere celebration of business achievement in Jefferson County. Rocky Mountain Industrial Assessment Center was nominated through our Board process and selected due to its impact and scope for all of Jefferson County. We hope you accept this honor, which will culminate with a celebration on Wednesday November 3rd from 6 to 9. As a finalist, we will have a video about your project along with the other 2 finalist and a winner will be announced that night. We are blessed to have many great projects in our community – so in our eyes – they are all winners and worthy of this celebration.
- On Wednesday November 3, the **Rocky Mountain Industrial Assessment Center**, a DOE-funded joint project of Red Rocks and Colorado School of Mines won **Jeffco Economic Development Corporation's Sustainability Award** at the inaugural Gateways Event. EIC Faculty Joe McInerney and students will participate in energy management trainings to provide no-cost energy and technical assessments to Colorado small to medium-sized manufacturers and energy audits for commercial buildings. Students will be hired as interns to conduct the assessments.
- **Red Rocks and Colorado School of Mines** signed an MOU to create the Mines Academy at Red Rocks as an innovative partnership to support diverse and non-traditional community college students' pursuit of a bachelor's degree at Colorado School of Mines. Building on 20 years of an articulated transfer agreement and shared curriculum development, students accepted into the Mines Academy at Red Rocks will be guaranteed admissions to Mines upon completion of the community college program, providing an economical path to an engineering or science degree. A signing event will occur on November 30 at 4:30 at the RRCC Lakewood campus.

- **RRCC's Children's Center Receives Buell Foundation Grant**
Children's Center Serves 70 Families a Year

LAKESWOOD, CO - A recent generous grant of \$40,000.00 from the Buell Foundation will support the operations of the Children's Center at Red Rocks Community College (RRCC). Established in 1998, the Children's Center mission is to support children as they learn about and discover their own uniqueness in a rich, caring, loving, and safe environment. "The Children's Center staff and families are thrilled and grateful to be recipients of and be partnering with the Buell Foundation to provide the best possible early care and education to the diverse families that we serve," says Susan Padgett, Director of the Children's Center. An auxiliary program of RRCC, the Center is located inside the college's main Lakewood campus and accepts children of the college's students, faculty, staff, as well as the general community. The Center is a full-day early education site serving young children ages 18 months through age five, and in a typical year, maintains a daily enrollment of 54 children and serves a total of 70 families. "The Buell Foundation clearly understands the important role that quality childcare plays in the success of students and in supporting area working families. Quality early childhood education has a life-long positive impact on our children. The Foundation is incredibly grateful for their on-going support of operations to keep quality childcare accessible for area families," says Angela King, the Executive Director of Institutional Advancement at RRCC.

Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.



- **RRCC Creative Community Exhibition**
The Art Gallery at RRCC is pleased to announce an exhibition of creative work from the staff, faculty, and administration of the college from August 16th through October 28th. This show takes place in the college's new Art Gallery by the Main entrance on the Lakewood campus. Please come enjoy a wide variety of work from our diverse community. Everyone is welcome. The Art Gallery at RRCC is pleased to announce an exhibition of creative work from the staff, faculty, and administration of the college from

August 16th through October 28th. This show takes place in the college's new Art Gallery by the Main entrance on the Lakewood campus. Please come enjoy a wide variety of work from our diverse community. Everyone is welcome!



- **RRCC Ranked Best for Vets**

At RRCC, we appreciate and value our military members and veterans service to us all, and we are committed to supporting their academic and career goals. Our Veteran Services Office is staffed entirely by veterans and helps students through the traditional college processes as well as provides a comprehensive overview of VA educational benefits. We are proud to have been named a “Best for Vet’s College” for two years in row by the Military Times. Please click on the link below for more information.

- **RRCC has a New Main Entrance Sign** – Have you seen the new sign identifying the Main Entrance on the Lakewood campus? If not, please check it out!



Other:



Graduate Named Top 10 Fashion Photographers in Denver

RRCC's Video, Audio, and Media Arts (VAMA) graduate Catarino Moreno has been recognized as one of the best fashion photographers in Denver. Moreno is a passionate photographer who says he is inspired by major fashion magazines and runway shows. He's driven to create beautiful images that will become "timeless works of fine art" and loves collaborating with creative teams. "A style for every story" is one of his

mottos and he makes a point of creating a safe and positive space on all of his shoots. Unsurprisingly, most of Catarino's work ends up in glossy magazines.



Two teams of relay runners representing Red Rocks

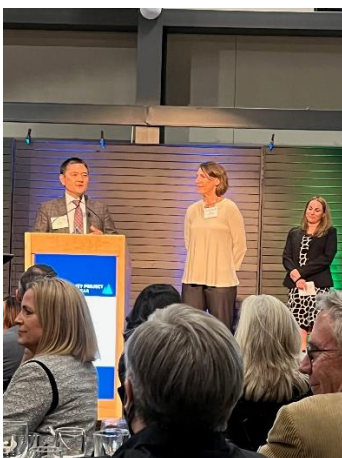
Community College participated in the Denver Colfax Marathon Relay October 16-17—a 26.2-mile run! Team RRCC Foxes Team 1 made up of runners Rebecca Smith, Ayelet Zur-Nayberg, Arnie Oudenhoven, Deb Houser and Libby Elder finished in 4 hours and 39 minutes! Team RRCC Foxes Team 2 made up of runners Loretta Tafoya, Kristi Murphy,

Kimberly Homuth, Sophie Vogel and Rich Ramirez finished in 5 hours and 52 minutes! Congrats to them all and thanks for wearing the RRCC Colors and representing RRCC! Congratulations # 9307 TEAM RRCC FOXES TEAM 1!

Your final time is 04:39:11 at a 00:10:39 pace.

You finished 484 out of 682 in the RELAY.

You finished 77 out of 120 in your class G-COED



- RRCC had the opportunity to attend the **Gateways Celebration of Business and Community of Jefferson County**. We, in addition to School of Mines, were nominated for Sustainability Project of the year, presented by Xcel Energy. I am happy to announce Red Rocks Community College was chosen as the 2021 recipient! On behalf of Dr. Haney and the Executive Leadership, thanks so much to the Red Rocks Team and to our partners at School of Mines for their excellent work! Big thanks to Liz Cox, Joseph McInerny, Dorothy Welty, and the entire team for their leadership on the project.