

President's Report: Dr. Michele Haney February/March 2022

Transform the student experience.



THE REVOLUTIONISTS - A Comedy, A Quartet, A Revolutionary Dream Fugue, A True Story. The Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) Theatre Arts and Dance Department presented *The Revolutionists*, written by Lauren Gunderson, 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. Read more here: <https://www.rrcc.edu/news/rrcc-produce-revolutionists-lauren-gunderson>

Spring Break Adventure trip to Moab sold out

Our SOLD-OUT Adventure program went to Moab over Spring Break, March 21-March 25th. Rock climbing, mountain biking, and hiking during the day with camping along the Colorado River, campfire cookouts and stories at night. You can see all upcoming trips and events for spring.

<https://www.flipsnack.com/rrccstudentrec/spring-2022-src-program-guide.html>

- **Jeffco Public Health Vaccines at Lakewood Campus**

Wednesdays from 1:30-4:30 after Spring Break, Jeffco Public Health will be providing vaccines on the Lakewood Campus. Both Flu vaccines and COVID vaccines will be available.



- **Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild Exhibit**

Join Student Life and the Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild Thursday, February 3rd at 1:30 pm for an artists' reception and presentation on the history of fabric art in black communities. In-person attendance will be in the Marvin Buckels Library on the Lakewood Campus, and the online option will be via the Zoom link below. If you are unable to attend the

reception the Library and Student Life are hosting an ongoing exhibit of the guild's work throughout Black History Month. Feel free to drop in and check out the exhibit any time the library is open during February.

- **Women's History Month Poster Exhibit**

Tuesday, March 1, 2022 - 8:00am to Thursday, March 31, 2022 - 11:00pm
The RRCC Department of Student Life in collaboration with Toni Nicholas's "Women in World History" students will present an exhibit of student-created

posters honoring famous women throughout history. The exhibit will be on display for Women's History Month, from March 1st - 31st, in the Marvin Buckels Library on the Lakewood Campus. Information contained on these posters will be featured in a trivia contest on March 15th.

- **What can you do to remember and honor?**
- Have a conversation with elders or family members of victims who have been affected by the Holocaust. Ask them what they remember and how this affects their life today?
- Take time to read through the names of various Holocaust Survivors and Victims,
- Visit the Shoah Foundation to learn more about their research, education, and preservation, with over 55,000 personal audio visual testimonies
- Visit Yad Vashem - The World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem
- Visit the United Nations 2022 Holocaust Remembrance "Memory, Dignity and Justice"
- Watch the 2022 International Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration - listen to Holocaust survivors reflect on their lives, Jewish and other victims, and those who chose to help.
- Learn more on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website
- Teaching about the Holocaust and Genocide Resource Bank- Colorado Department of Education



- **BOB THOMAS: CELEBRATION OF LIFE & ART**
Bobby Lee Thomas, known to friends as Bob, was born in 1942 in Donalson, Tennessee. His family moved to Indianapolis when Bob was 6 years old. He was always an artist, completing his first oil painting at the age of 12.
- Bob began his undergraduate studies in 1961 at the John Herron Art Institute of Indiana University. A year later, he left the Art Institute to join the Marine Corp hoping to be eligible for the GI Bill so he could afford to continue his education. After serving in Vietnam, Thomas was honorably discharged a few weeks early for him to return to school and finish his BFA, completed in 1969. After graduating from University of Denver Bob taught at the Colorado Women's College, Loretto Heights College and Rocky Mountain College of Art and

Design. In 2016, after 18 years, he retired from Red Rocks Community College as a full professor.

- Bob's final series, began around 2010, was driven by his discovery of the Bristlecone pine while out hiking. He became mesmerized by these gnarled and weathered trees, believed to be the oldest living organism on the planet. Staying true to his passion and mastery of color, he painted these trees using intense color. He called these works a "visual Interpretation" of the Bristlecone pine. Despite being diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2013, he continued to paint until he could no longer climb the steps to his studio or hold his brush steady.
- **Artist Workshops in March/April**
The art department is offering a series of 3 workshops to help students launch a career in the arts.

Transform our own workforce experience.

Did you know that on February 24, 1986, a congressional resolution created "National TRiO Day" to commemorate the annual achievements of the Federal TRiO programs in communities across the country? Today we celebrate our TRiO Student Support Services program participants here at RRCC!

So why are we called "TRiO"?

- ➔ The TRiO programs were the first national college access and retention programs to address America's severe social and cultural barriers to education. (Previously, only college financing had been on policymakers' radar.)
- ➔ The Educational Opportunity Act of 1964 established an experimental program known as Upward Bound, a pipeline for helping high school students transition to college. Then, in 1965, the Higher Education Act created Talent Search, which added middle school students to the mix in helping higher education become more accessible. Finally, in 1968, Student Support Services was launched!
- ➔ Together, this "trio" of federally-funded programs encouraged access to higher education for low-income students. By 1998, the TRiO programs had become a vital pipeline to opportunity, serving traditional students, displaced workers, and veterans.
- ➔ The original three programs have grown to eight and now include Educational Opportunity and the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, assisting students with attaining a graduate-level degree.

Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.



Wednesday, Feb 23 Student Life Great Hall

To schedule a time to donate visit: www.vitalant.org and search by Blood Drive Code 0074. You can also click on the direct scheduling links below:

<https://donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa/appointment/guest/phl/timeSlotsExtr?token=%2FTze3xIWAADtf7I9dtKOcb%2BI%2F3BwnEF8Lh9zh0L4r7E%3D>

February is Heart Health Month and a great way to celebrate is to check up on

your heart health by donating blood. All donors go through a mini-physical before being allowed to donate. This exam might turn up a condition that needs medical attention, such as high blood pressure or a heart arrhythmia. Make February your heart-healthy resolution to take care of yourself, and become a regular blood donor.

- **Career Conversation Event – Kahuna**

A local Engineering firm presented a virtual Career Conversation on March 31st. (<http://www.kahunausa.com/> (link is external)). The company is hiring IMMEDIATELY for entry level drafting positions- NO previous experience needed.



- **Colorado School of Mines and Red Rocks Community College (RRCC)** are

excited to announce today the launch of an innovative new partnership to support diverse nontraditional and traditional community college students' pursuit of a bachelor's degree at Colorado School of Mines. Building on 20 years of articulated transfer agreements and shared curriculum development, the Mines Academy at Red

Rocks will provide qualified RRCC students with guaranteed admission into any four-year degree program at Mines upon completion of the two-year Associate of Engineering Science degree, which provides an economical path to an engineering or science degree at Mines.

"We are excited about this progression in our longstanding partnership with Mines to meet the ever-growing need for more STEM graduates. Our students can now focus on studying and achieving academic success while at Red Rocks and can rest assured that they have a guaranteed pathway to a bachelor's program at Mines in engineering or science," said Dr. Michele Haney, President of RRCC.

"The new Mines Academy at Red Rocks has been designed to improve the success of students transferring from Red Rocks to Mines. It builds on our long partnership with Red Rocks and best practices we have learned in working with our students who come to Mines directly from high school. In brief, we want the Mines Academy student to be confident in their academic preparation, to know that their courses will transfer to Mines, and to feel that they are members of the Mines community," said Dr. Paul C. Johnson, president of Colorado School of Mines. "This is truly a novel transfer pathway model that will help to broaden the STEM professional pipeline and continue to grow our longstanding partnership with Red Rocks Community College."

Students enrolled in the Mines Academy at Red Rocks will take high-quality math, science and engineering courses with small faculty-to-student ratios while also engaging early and often with Mines' student success services, including the Center for Academic Services and Advising, Financial Aid and the Mines Career Center.

In addition to completing coursework that closely aligns with Mines' core curriculum, students in the Mines Academy will also have the opportunity to begin developing their identity as Orediggers through access to Mines sporting events, E-Days and career presentations. Mines Academy students will have an Honors option through the Trefny Honors Program in STEM at RRCC, which can transfer into the McBride Honors Program at Mines.



The Trefny Honors program was awarded a \$7500 grant from the Colorado Garden Foundation. The grant will support the further development of the organic raised garden beds and the native plant pollinator beds. Barbra Sobhani accepted the seed at the Garden and Home Show last week.

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

- **Join us *today* for ZSpace AR/VR Technology Demo | Feb 1st Both Campuses**



You're invited to join us for an exciting in-person demo with ZSpace's AR/VR Course Technology rep Dee Dickson and Nikki Lester at both the Lakewood campus and the Arvada campus on Feb 1st. Our RRCC IT department and RRCC eLearning department have collaborated to bring this technology to your course(s). Both docked

station installs and mobile stations will be available for implementation in your course(s). No event registration required. Please share this invite with any/all instructors in your department(s) that may be interested.

What is ZSpace?

Immersive and interactive Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality (AR/VR) to increase experiential learning and engagement. This is possible without the use of a traditional AR/VR headset, and a shareable experience both in-person and remotely.

How can it be implemented in your course(s)?

Come to the demo to learn more specifics, but here's ZSpace at a Glance and some potential content uses:

Human Anatomy

Math

CTE Programs

CAD/Engineering

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Programming

Radiologic Technology: The Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) recently awarded the Associate Degree Radiography Program at Red Rocks Community College accreditation for a period of eight years. The maximum duration that may be awarded by JRCERT in this category is eight years. JRCERT is the only agency recognized by the United States Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education

Accreditation for the accreditation of traditional and distance delivery educational programs in radiography.

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Other News:



- Alicia Disantis is the Founder of 38th & Kip, a branding and design studio based in Denver, and Brand Manager of Aux, an organization who helps financial institutions stay strong. She is passionate about all things branding, like storytelling, values, and visuals. She specializes in helping purpose-driven organizations, the “people doing good,” understand their importance and reach their audience.
- "I am honored to serve on the Board of Directors for RRCC Foundation because of their tenacity and passion for helping students succeed against all odds," says Disantis. "I've never experienced a college so committed to their students' needs as Red Rocks. And as a former community college attendee, it feels natural to pay it forward and help students in the way my community college helped me."
- Born and raised in Cleveland, OH, Alicia moved to Denver, CO in during the great recession in search of better opportunities. Here she founded her studio and began to work with credit unions, which led to her passion for helping companies who are making a difference. A firm believer in the power of education, Alicia understands first-hand the hardships students face and how community colleges can provide them with a lifetime of benefits.
- Alicia has an B.A. in Art from University of Toledo and a M.A. in Arts Management from Columbia College Chicago. Her thesis, “The Branding of a Rust Belt City” was completed in the shortest time in the department’s history and she continues to study how organizations, cities, and people reinvent themselves.
- “Alicia brings incredible energy and fresh perspectives to the Foundation’s distinguished Board of Directors,” says Angela King, the Executive Director of Institutional Advancement at RRCC. "She shares our passion for the work being done every day at Red Rocks to change lives via education."
- **LUNAR NEW YEAR**
In collaboration with Student Life and the Office of Inclusion and Diversity, we will have activities and celebration of the **Lunar New Year**, February 1-15. This important holiday marks the first new moon of the lunisolar calendar, which is a calendar used in countries like Singapore, China, South Korea, Vietnam and other Asian countries.