



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE FOUNDATION AT MCCC ANNOUNCES WINTER 2011 ENHANCEMENT GRANT AWARDS

MONROE, Mich. – The Foundation at Monroe County Community College has announced the recipients of the 2011 Enhancement Grants Program Awards.

The Enhancement Grants Program assists faculty, staff and students by providing funding for the development and implementation of innovative projects that support the MCCC mission and enrich or improve the quality of education for students. The awards were announced at a ceremony last week.

The 18 funded grant projects for 2011 and their recipients include:

MCCC Study Abroad: Eastern Europe 2011, applicant Dr. Joanna Sabo, professor of political science, for an award of \$2,000. This grant will help offset students and faculty expenses for the Study Abroad program to Eastern Europe the Spring Semester. The study abroad program is a six-credit program that includes three weeks overseas. The four countries that students will visit include Austria, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

The Humanities Experience: Live Theater, applicant Cheryl Johnston, assistant professor of reading and English for an award of \$2,000. This award will be used to defray the cost for students to attend two plays in Stratford, Ontario during a two-day field trip during the Fall 2011 Semester. In the Winter Semester, students will attend Wayne State University's Hilberry Theatre. Funds may also be used to defray the cost of guest performers invited to MCCC during both Fall and Winter semesters.

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National College Media Spring Convention, applicants Dan Shaw, assistant professor of humanities and journalism, and Marissa Beste, editor-in-chief for The Agora student newspaper, for an award of \$2,000. This funding will allow the members of The Agora staff to attend the National College Media Spring Convention in New York City from March 12-15. The conference features nationally recognized speakers, more than 200 workshops and other learning opportunities targeted at college journalism students. The theme of this year's National Convention is "Get your hands dirty in the city." The emphasis, even more than in past years, will be on hands-on training, giving students a chance to practice as well as learn.

International Studies Class trip to the United Nations Headquarters, applicant Dr. Joanna Sabo, professor of political science, for an award of \$2,000. This grant will help offset student travel expenses for the International Relations Class students to travel to New York City to tour the United Nations Headquarters and to receive a special briefing from a U.N. official. Students will gain understanding of the U.N. as an intergovernmental organization and the seat of international law and be exposed to a detailed political topic presented by a U.N. delegate from a culture outside the U.S.

MASS Field Trip to Visit Michigan Science Exhibits "Bodies Revealed" and "Crime Scene Insects" and the Lake Michigan Dunes, applicant Lori Bean, associate professor of biology and chemistry, for an award of \$1,000. This funding will allow students of the Math and Science Society to visit science museums in western Michigan and the dunes on Lake Michigan. MASS plans to visit the Grand Rapids Museum, which is hosting "Bodies Revealed," and then will travel to Lake Michigan to learn about the geology, biology and history of the Dunes. The group will also visit the "Crime Scene Insects" exhibit at the Alfred P. Sloan Museum in Flint.

MCCC Viticulture and Enology Project, applicant Chef Kevin Thomas, instructor of culinary skills, for an award of \$1,000. The initial purpose of this project is to create a cutting-edge viticulture

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and enology program for MCCC that would enhance educational, cultural and employment opportunities for students as well as the community. The funding will be used for soil testing, researching varieties suitable for planting in the southeastern Michigan climate and performing curriculum research.

MIAEYC Annual Conference, applicant Tiffany Wright, instructor of early childhood development, for an award of \$1,000. This funding will assist in enabling several early childhood development students to attend the annual Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children conference in Grand Rapids from March 31 to April 2. This conference is the largest early childhood professional conference in the state and offers participants hundreds of opportunities to attend professional development workshops in various topics within the field of early childhood.

One Book, One Community – Guest Speaker and Author James McBride, applicants Penny Dorsey-Naber, administrative assistant to the dean of humanities/social sciences, and Beth Kohler, coordinator of grants and major gifts, for an award of \$1,000. This project is to enhance the programming being offered as part of the One Book, One Community read of James McBride's "The Color of Water – a Black Man's Tribute to his White Mother." This funding will assist in paying the expenses to bring nationally recognized author James McBride to campus to share his life experiences.

Family Fun Night, applicant Tom Ryder, campus community events/student activities coordinator, for an award of \$1,000. This funding will help offset the cost of the MCCC Student Government's Family Fun Night. This event is a carnival type event that offers activities for young children ages 3-10. It includes games, giant inflatable items, a magician, face painting and other family activities. It is open to the entire community and an estimated 1,000 people usually attend.

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Gas Grill Project, applicant Tom Ryder, campus community events/student activities coordinator, for an award of \$1,000. These funds will be used to build a gas grill to be used by all student groups and clubs, college organizations and divisions on campus. The grill will be made by students in the MCCC welding program.

Enrichment at the Whitman Center, applicant Sandy Kosmyna, director of the Whitman Center, for an award of \$1,000. This funding will support enrichment programs at the Whitman Center from February 2011 through March 2012. Displays and guest speakers will be hosted at the Whitman Center to address issues selected to enlighten students on contemporary topics and diversity issues, as well as enhance their career development.

Improving New Student Orientation, applicant Jill Denko, assistant professor of student services, for an award of \$1,000. This grant will be used to purchase additional response card clickers to increase student involvement and engagement in New Student Orientation. Through the use of a Power Point presentation linked with response card clickers, students will be able to become actively involved in learning about MCCC and the services available on campus.

Michigan Society for Respiratory Care's Annual Sputum Bowl Trivia Contest, applicant Bonnie Boggs, director of respiratory therapy, for an award of \$1,000. This funding will be used to sponsor four teams from MCCC to compete in the annual Sputum Bowl Competition conducted by the Michigan Society for Respiratory Care. The competition will be in Dearborn March 28- 30 in conjunction with the MSRC annual meeting. The Sputum Bowl is a trivia competition similar to a college quiz bowl.

Headsets, applicant Milward Beaudry, adjunct broadcasting instructor, for an award of \$850. This funding will be used to purchase headsets to be used by students during live remote broadcasts. In order to effectively cover these events and to provide students with the proper tools used for live remote

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broadcasts, the use of headsets that incorporate earphones and a microphone will provide the hands-free operation necessary for these types of broadcasts.

National Robotics Challenge – MCCC SME Student Chapter, applicant Robert Leonard, assistant professor of product and process technology, for an award of \$800. The grant will be used to assist students in the MCCC Student Chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers in attending the National Robotics Competition in April 2011. The students will enter into the competition a self-propelled, autonomous robot they have constructed and programmed.

MCCC Club Volleyball, applicant Suzanne Wetzel, vice president of administration and executive director of the Foundation, for an award of \$600. This funding will be used to help cover the travel expenses of the 2011-2012 Club Volleyball Team. The team will travel regionally to tournaments hosted in Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. The team hopes to participate in the 2012 National Collegiate Volleyball Federation tournament in Houston.

“Writing Together, Writing Forever,” applicant Carrie Nartker, associate professor of English, for an award of \$500. This project will impact both students enrolled in MCCC’s Creative Writing class as well as students enrolled in an English course at St. Mary Catholic Central High School. In anticipation of James McBride’s visit to campus in April, MCCC’s Creative Writing students will be writing their own memoirs. Then, using their experiences and the example of James McBride’s memoir “The Color of Water: a Black Man’s Tribute to his White Mother,” several students enrolled in the Creative Writing class will host a Memoir Writing Workshop for a 10th-grade English class at SMCC. The grant funding will be used to purchase the text, “The Color of Water.”

Music 165 Teaching at Frenchtown Senior Citizen Center, applicant Joy Schroeder, adjunct music instructor, for an award of \$250. Funds will be used to purchase flutophones and music books to be used by MCCC student in the Music for Elementary Teachers course. Each semester, students

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enrolled in this course complete three group teaching assignments for the adult daycare patrons at the Frenchtown Senior Citizen Center. These materials will be used to enhance the teaching and learning environment for both the students and the seniors participating in the classes at the senior center.

The Foundation Enhancement Grants Program Committee includes Dr. John Holladay, professor of English and philosophy; John Joy, dean of corporate and community services; Susan R.S. Miller, Foundation director; Laurel Johnston, administrative assistant to the dean of Science/Mathematics; and Dr. Jean Guyor, Foundation director.

To donate to The Foundation at MCCC Enhancement Grants Program, contact Suzanne Wetzel, at (734) 384-4206.

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