



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

Main Campus

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE FOUNDATION AT MCCC ANNOUNCES **2014 ENHANCEMENT GRANT AWARDS**

MONROE, Mich. – The Foundation at Monroe County Community College has announced the recipients of the 2014 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 Foundation launched the Enhancement Grants program in 2002. The awards were announced at a ceremony on Tuesday. A total of \$20,000 was awarded to 17 projects.

The 17 funded grant projects for 2014 and their recipients include:

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 grant will be used to sponsor teams from MCCC to compete in the annual Michigan Society for Respiratory Care's Sputum Bowl. Student teams compete in a college bowl trivia environment with buzzer system, time clock, moderator and judges. The winning student team would compete in the American Association for Respiratory Care's Sputum Bowl. In 2013, the MCCC team went to Anaheim, Calif. to represent

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Michigan. In 2014, a practitioner team of MCCC graduates who competed as students won the state and will be representing Michigan at the 2015 meeting in Las Vegas.

MCCC Suicide Prevention Candlelight Vigil, applicant Penny Bodell, advisor to the MCCC Gay/Straight Alliance, for an award of \$450. The Gay-Straight Alliance will host a candlelight vigil on the MCCC campus during suicide prevention week in October. This event will be held for anyone who has been affected by suicide, for those who would like to show support, and to provide meaningful resources to those in the community who know someone who is struggling with thoughts of suicide or are struggling with suicidal tendencies.

National Student Day, applicant Jean Ford, director of auxiliary services and purchasing, for an award of \$900. This funding will offset the costs of hosting National Student Day events on the MCCC campus. This day gives the MCCC Bookstore a chance to foster a more positive relationship with students by reinforcing its activities as a socially responsible business, building a sense of community on campus, and helping students explore ways in which they can volunteer their time to important causes.

MCCC Prelude, applicant Catherine Brodie, Agora Chorale director, for an award of \$1,500. Prelude was started to enable young singers who excel in music a chance to learn varied repertoire vocal exercises, rudiments of good breathing, posture, tone quality, diction, balance and blend, as well as part singing, harmony, ear training and shared vision of solid performance. The long-term goal of Prelude is to generate the interests of youth to ultimately join MCCC Agora Chorale. These funds will be used to acquire music literature and offer support to students in the form of need-based scholarships.

Career & Opportunity Expo, applicant Barry Kinsey, director of workforce development, for an award of \$700. This grant will be used to defray the cost of hosting the MCCC Career &

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Opportunity Expo. The Career & Opportunity Expo is a job fair for alumni, students and community members with an emphasis on veterans. This event is intended to assist unemployed and underemployed alumni, students, community members and veterans in the search for meaningful employment.

International Trade in Real Time-Canada, applicant Dr. Patrick Nedry, professor of business, for an award of \$1,000. The funding for this project will support student travel from the MCCC to Windsor, Ontario for a day-trip to St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology and a tour of the Hiram Walker Distillery. This trip will provide business students with a day of experiences to help them better understand how the concepts of globalization and international trade play out regionally. As a result, students will better understand that these areas of study have immediate implications and applications.

MiAEYC Early Childhood Conference, applicant Felice Moorman, assistant professor of early childhood education, for an award of \$1,000. This award will support the travel of second-year MCCC Early Childhood Education Students to the Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children (MiAEYC) Annual Early Childhood Conference in Grand Rapids. The conference provides multiple sessions in which various early childhood experts and practitioners discuss and engage participants in various topics of importance in early childhood education.

Student Experience with International Refugees – International Studies on U.S. Soil, applicant Dr. Joanna Sabo, professor of political science, for an award of \$1,000. This grant will support the travel of several students to Tucson, Ariz. to be guests of the Arizona Refugee Resettlement

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Program. Students will learn the difference between refugees and illegal immigrants; see first-hand how federal money is used to help refugees with medical assistance, employment services, English language training and other assistance designed to help refugees in successful resettlement and economic self-sufficiency, and interact with the refugees and have the opportunity to ask them questions.

Visiting Professor from China, applicant Dr. Joanna Sabo, professor of political science, for an award of \$3,000. China is a major force in all things international today – economic, business and political. Funding will support air transportation and partial board expenses to bring a visiting professor from China to teach two sections of a special topics interdisciplinary course in Chinese culture, economics and politics. This grant will allow MCCC students to learn directly from a Chinese professor the ways in which China shapes their world. The professor would teach both classes during one semester in Winter of 2015.

Bacchus Society Community Crush, applicants Chef Kevin Thomas, instructor of culinary skills, Paul Knollman, business division dean, and Mark Spenoso, MCCC Bacchus Society chairman, for an award of \$1,000. There is a long and important tradition and history associated with the growing of grapes in Monroe County. One of the stated missions of the Bacchus Society is to “bring back” and celebrate that history. This funding will be used to offset the cost of hosting the Bacchus Society Community Crush. The event, to be held on the Main Campus, will invite community members who have small or micro-vineyards to bring the grapes of their 2014 harvest to campus to be crushed, destemmed and pressed into grape juice. This event will be free to the public. Citizens who receive grape juice will be provided with information and instructions on how to complete the wine making process at home. The event is intended to help promote MCCC’s Lifelong Learning wine-based courses starting in

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the fall and ongoing efforts to develop and offer academic programming aimed at individuals interested in areas of viticulture and enology (growing grapes and producing wine).

Pride Prom, applicant Penny Bodell, advisor to the MCCC Gay/Straight Alliance, for an award of \$750. This grant will fund a community-wide diversity-friendly dance hosted by the Monroe County Community College Gay-Straight Alliance. The dance will provide individuals the opportunity to express themselves in a fun social setting and will be offered to area high school students and college students. This dance hopes to foster a unique LGBTQ-friendly environment where all are welcome.

One Book, One Community of Monroe County, applicant Cheryl Johnston, assistant professor of reading and English, for an award of \$1,500. Each year, the One Book, One Community of Monroe County selection committee chooses a readily available and discussable book written by a major author and invites Monroe County residents to read the same book at the same time and discuss it through a series of free programs running approximately one month. Each year's events feature book discussions and free county-wide community activities related to the themes raised by provocative and inspiring stories. One Book, One Community of Monroe County aims to enrich the experience of reading for everyone, regardless of race, gender, age, income or the neighborhood they call home. This grant funding will be used to enhance the programming being offered as part of the One Book One Community reading initiative in 2015.

Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio SolidWorks User Group, applicant Dr. Dean Kerste, associate professor of mechanical design technology, for an award of \$1,200. The Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio SolidWorks User Group was formed during the summer of 2013 as a result of The Foundation at MCCC's Enhancement Grants Program. The Solid Works User Group

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Network provides a national forum where local chapters can share information related to mechanical design. While there are more than 2 million SolidWorks users and 232 SolidWorks User Group chapters worldwide, the nearest user group was previously well over an hour drive from MCCC. Funding from this grant will support SWUGN meetings in MCCC's new Career Technology Center. Students will be able to network with peers, industries and companies while gaining insight into valuable, real-world techniques and methodologies. User group members will share experiences and technical presentations.

Tour of International Machine Tool Show, applicants Peter Coomar, dean of the Applied Science engineering technology division, Marty Dubois, assistant professor of mechanical engineering technology, and Cameron Albring, administrative assistant to the dean of the Applied Science and Engineering Technology Division, for an award of \$1,000. This award will help defray the cost for MCCC students to attend the International Machine Tool and Automation show in Chicago during the Fall of 2014 semester. Faculty, staff and students will engage with companies that specialize in providing education and training equipment and content for curriculum on machining, robotics machine simulators, 3D printing, virtual welding and more.

Heart and Lung Dissection Presentations to Monroe County Elementary and Middle School Children, applicant Bonnie Boggs, director of respiratory therapy, for an award of \$2,000. Funding from this award supports the respiratory therapy program service learning project where faculty and students take heart/lung specimens, supplies and teaching models to 1,500 Monroe County public, private and parochial school students in 5th through 8th grades. Included in the lesson are the anatomy and physiology of the heart and lungs, the effects of tobacco and other substances on these systems,

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health career information on respiratory therapy, and encouragement to take math and sciences in high school.

The Agora, 2015 College Media Association National Convention, applicant Dan Shaw, assistant professor of humanities and journalism, for an award of \$1,000. This funding will allow the members of The Agora student newspaper staff to attend the 2015 National College Media Association National Convention in New York City. Featuring nationally recognized speakers and more than 275 workshops, the convention will expose members of The Agora staff to some of the best minds in journalism, introduce them to the media capital of the world, and give them training in both fundamental journalism skills and emerging new media. Journalism is changing so fast, with so many new ways to tell stories, it can be a confusing landscape. The National College Media Association prepares journalism students for a future that is already here. Students can slip in and out of hundreds of sessions, with topics ranging from mining social media to video editing – along with the basics of reporting and writing for print, broadcast, the web and mobile.

MCCC Family Fun Night, applicant Tom Ryder, campus community events/student services coordinator, for an award of \$1,000. This award will help defray the cost of the MCCC Family Fun Night, a Student Government-sponsored event that is open to the community, MCCC students, staff, faculty and their families. It is a carnival type event that offers games and activities for young children ages 3-10 years old. It includes games such as the duck pond, car race, golf, basketball free throw, etc. The night will also offer giant inflatables, a magician, face painting, and other family activities. Cost to enter the event is only \$1 per person, making it affordable to everyone.

The Foundation Enhancement Grants Committee includes John Joy, dean of corporate and

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community services, Susan R.S. Miller, Foundation director, Jean Guyor, Foundation director, Lana Shryock, professor of computer information systems, and Dan Hamman, computer programmer.

To donate to The Foundation at MCCC Enhancement Grants Program, contact Suzanne Wetzel, at (734) 384-4206 or visit <http://www.monroeccc.edu/foundation/>.

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