Mini Grants: Major Impact

Plus: Resolve to Succeed in 2020

“College Success Strategies” by Dr. Erin Cooper
Mini Grants: Major Impact

CCC&TI continued the Mini-Grant Project that was launched during the 2018-2019 academic year. This fall, the project allocated $20,000 from academic support dollars raised by the Foundation to fund innovative ideas pitched by faculty and staff.

In its second year, the mini-grant project has definitely encouraged innovation and creativity. “Proposals have become more competitive this year,” noted Poarch. “I am proud of the extra efforts our employees have taken to enhance the quality of our programs and support areas.” In total, 24 proposals were submitted and 16 projects were selected to receive funding. “I am inspired by the heart and passion of our faculty and staff in going above and beyond to ensure student success and quality community outreach,” said Dr. Poarch, who implemented the program through Foundation funds. “Employees submitted more than $53,000 in proposals this year, so it was very difficult to narrow down finalists.”

Following are the recipients of this year’s grants along with brief descriptions of each project:

**Keith Andreasen – Christmas Dinner at the Women’s Shelter**
Culinary Arts Director Chef Keith Andreasen requested mini-grant funds to help CCC&TI Culinary Arts students provide a Christmas dinner for the Shelter Home of Caldwell County. The on-going project provides an opportunity for students to practice and enhance their culinary skills while providing a service for those in need in our region during the holidays. The project also helps strengthen relationships between CCC&TI students and community organizations. Chef Andreasen commented that the funds were a great benefit to the project this year. “In the past we’ve relied on donations of food items to do the meal for the shelter. The Foundation funds made it a lot easier to put a menu together this year.” Chef Andreasen and a group of culinary students worked to prep the meal on Dec. 23 and delivered it to the Shelter Home on Christmas Day.

**Laura Benton – Fantastic Scholastics**
Writing Center Director Laura Benton requested a mini-grant in support of interactive workshops and events held in the Learning Resource Center. The workshops allow students the opportunity to learn about the resources available to them on campus; to participate in hands-on activities and to interact with faculty and staff members in a professional and productive manner. “The mini-grant has allowed the LRC to continue Grab-n-Go workshops and, this spring semester, we will be able to expand the program to include online challenges,” said Benton. “The funds will also help us provide beverages and snacks for students who participate in LRC events.”

**Tamara Watkins and Holly Freeman – Cobra Community Connections**
Admissions Representatives Tamara Watkins and Holly Freeman requested mini-grant funds for a project focused on updating recruiting and admissions materials. The goal of the project is to create CCC&TI branded admissions packets and print materials that are more modern, eye-catching, and recognizable so that both current and future students will have a better understanding of what CCC&TI has to offer. “Cobra Community Connections will help create deeper connections in the Caldwell and Watauga communities by increasing CCC&TI’s visibility and allowing us to share the stories of our students and the lives we
change on a daily basis," said Watkins. “In addition to reaching a larger number of potential students, we hope to instill a greater sense of Cobra pride among our current students and alumni.”

**Sara Greene – Bridging the Gap: From Education to Paycheck**

The Bridging the Gap initiative provides weekly workshops, monthly outreach and quarterly job fairs that will target current and prospective students, public school students and community members to assist them with identifying college programs, as well as transitioning into and obtaining employment. The funds will be used to encourage students to participate in “What’s Next” workshops which gives students the opportunity to learn about careers, financial literacy, loving their job, resume success, interview tips and tricks, job shadowing, and dressing for the workplace. “The grant provides us the opportunity to incentivize these workshops and events. We will be able to provide snacks, beverages and giveaways associated with the workshops,” said Greene. “For instance, if a student attends our “What’s Next- Resume” workshop we will be able to provide them with a flash drive loaded with templates of resumes. During the workshop, they can work on their own resume and save it to their brand new flash drive.”

**Lisa Helton – Gaming Lab Advancement**

After a showcase of tremendous success of the previously mini-grant funded campus Gaming Lab, Network Administrator Lisa Helton applied for an additional grant for an expansion of the lab. The funds will provide more equipment for students, which will help them become familiar with current technologies and develop their social skills. The lab could also aid in the development of gaming and e-sports related courses and programs of study for the college in the future. “We plan to purchase a Nintendo Switch, which will allow students to interact with their peers in a bigger group environment. We may also be able to build another gaming desk-top that will also allow students to work together in groups while gaming online,” said Helton. “I believe that these additional devices will provide students with a greater gaming skill set and will allow more peer interaction. Additional devices also will help us reduce the wait time during peak usage hours in the lab.”

**Kim Lackey and Laura Benton – Creepy Caldwell 3**

Student Activities Director Kim Lackey and Writing Center Director Laura Benton requested a mini grant in support of Creepy Caldwell. The Creepy Caldwell events have been some of the biggest events held on CCC&TIs Caldwell campus each year, bringing approximately 2,000 people to campus. Around 200 CCC&TI students volunteered at Creepy Caldwell 2 in 2018, and through candy, treats, and fun, students engaged with community members, developed leadership skills, and developed skills that will help them in future educational and career placements. “The funds helped us with Creepy Caldwell 3 in October of 2019, which focused on outreach to the community with an expansion of the festival aspect of the event. We included for the first time a dance tent and a demonstration from the American Chemical Society,” said Lackey. An estimated 650 children attended Creepy Caldwell 3.

**Nancy Leonard – Stand By Me Note Takers and Tutors**

Disability Director Nancy Leonard requested funds to provide note takers and tutoring assistance to students with disabilities who may otherwise be reluctant or unable to seek assistance through more broad, public routes. Partnerships will remain confidential only to the assisted student, the tutor, and the Disability Services Director in order to foster a safe, reliable means for students with disabilities to succeed in their education. “The grant will help us provide one-on-one assistance for students who encounter major difficulties being successful in one specific course. A paid tutor would be provided for that student for one semester for up to 30 hours of assistance in the coursework that is impacted by the effects of the disability and could be challenging the student from completing a program or degree,” said Leonard. “The tutoring arrangements are determined by and managed through Disability Services representatives on both campuses in order to maintain confidentiality for the student.”

**Diane Mazza – Water Filling Stations – Watauga Campus**

Watauga Campus SGA Coordinator Diane Mazza requested funding for a water filling station on the Watauga Campus in an effort to reduce waste and plastic consumption. With the funding, two water filling stations were installed on the Watauga Campus, encouraging students to be more environmentally conscious, as well as provide a more sanitary means of water consumption. “I have had great feedback from faculty, staff and
students. Everyone seems excited about them. In just the first week after installing the stations, one clicker alone showed we saved 90 water bottles from landfills," said Mazza. "When we multiply that by a year I can confidently state that CCC&TI is making great efforts to become more environmentally friendly and leave less of a negative footprint behind."

**Melissa McCarraher – Building a Five-Star Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa**
Math Instructor and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Advisor Melissa McCarraher requested funds in support of CCC&TI's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges. The funds will provide financial assistance to invitees with significant financial hardships so that they can be a part of this elite honor society. Grant funds also will help CCC&TI's chapter members attend trainings, conferences and leadership-based projects in order to meet the qualifications to achieve five-star status with the national Phi Theta Kappa organization.

**Martin Moore – Acts of Academics**
Watauga Campus Writing Center Coordinator Martin Moore requested mini-grant funding to support the expansion of the popular Grab-n-Go Workshop series to the Watauga Campus. The Watauga Academic Support Center plans to begin implementing workshops and learning-based activities similar to the successful events that have been implemented over the past few years on the Caldwell Campus during the Spring 2020 semester. The workshops will help to promote engagement amongst Watauga faculty, staff, and students, and to foster a more efficient and helpful academic environment for students.

**Ginny Navarro – Annual Compass Class Play**
Special Populations Director Ginny Navarro requested funds in support of the Compass Program’s annual theater production. CCC&TI's Compass Class is made up of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Each year, the class does a holiday theater production for the community at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center. The grant will provide funds to help cover the cost of props, costumes and other materials in support of this project. "In the past, limited finances have restricted our options when it came time to decide on a direction for the production. The mini-grant opens our choices to many more options," said Navarro. "The annual play gives Compass students so much confidence and pride in the hard work they put in and it also allows the community to get to know them a little better.”

**Elaine Setzer-Maxwell – Minority Male Success Initiative**
Minority Recruiter/Retention Specialist Elaine Setzer-Maxwell requested mini-grant funding in support of CCC&TI’s Minority Male Success Initiative. Funds will help create a library of used textbooks for check out by minority male students who may not otherwise be able to afford to purchase the books. Additionally, the funds will help support workshop opportunities for minority males to attend where they can hear from other successful minority males. The overall goal of the project is to encourage student retention and four-year university transfers for CCC&TI’s minority male students.

**Kim Van Wie – Watauga Campus Open House**
Watauga Campus Student Services Director Dr. Kim Van Wie requested mini-grant funds in support of an open house event in the new Watauga Campus Student Services building. The event will be an opportunity to showcase programs and facilities to the community and prospective students, as well as an opportunity to show off the new state-of-the-art facility. The event also will provide an opportunity for current students to meet with faculty and staff and engage in helpful, productive dialogue.

**Mandy White and Linda Allbritton – Early Childhood Practicum Enhancement Project**
Early Childhood Program Director Mandy White and Early Childhood Program Instructor Linda Albritton requested funds for an Early Childhood Practicum Enhancement Project. Through the project, Early Childhood Education students will get the opportunity to visit renowned early childhood centers such as Lucy Brock Child Development Center. The opportunity will allow CCC&TI students to visit and observe a quality learning environment, as well as the opportunity to meet and network with important individuals in their field. In addition, the grant also will provide a small stipend to each student to use at a local teacher supply store to help fund expenses for their first classroom.
Mandy Williams – Science Olympiad

Biology Instructor Mandy Williams requested funds to help the CCC&TI Science Club purchase materials needed to prepare for the North Carolina Science Olympiad, a competition in which the CCC&TI Science Club has previously competed and ranked. The Olympiad exposes students to challenging science and engineering puzzles and provides them an opportunity to meet and socialize with other students from around the state.

Ben Willis – The CCC&TI Podcast Experience

Small Business Center Director Ben Willis requested mini-grant funds for “The CCC&TI Podcast Experience.” Grant funds will be used to purchase the equipment to produce the podcasts. The project will provide opportunities for CCC&TI students to hear from alumni, successful local business owners, and others on what it takes to be a successful business owner in the Foothills region of North Carolina. In addition, the equipment purchased will be available for use by all CCC&TI faculty and staff, allowing for future media-based projects to launch at CCC&TI. “Podcasts are a great way to tell your story, promote your business, or express yourself,” said Willis. “By having this equipment, we’ll be able to both highlight some of the lives that we impact at CCC&TI and show others how easy it is to create podcasts of their own.”

College Success Strategies by Dr. Erin Cooper

Welcome everyone! We are so excited you are at CCC&TI for your Spring Semester. Whether you are a returning student or newly enrolled, we want you to know that your success is our priority. Ultimately, that means we want you to know how to get the most out of your courses and how to make sensible academic decisions. Since academic success involves more than just attending class, the following guide will provide you with a few useful strategies to take charge of your learning and achieve your goals.

Don’t Just “Let” Learning Happen to You, Make it Happen for You.

Be proactive by managing your time, attending class regularly, reading all of the textbook assignments and additional material, and completing required assignments and then some. Learning is a process that can take time. It’s not likely you’ll be able to master all of the material needed for the class by just listening to a lecture, so make sure you plan to spend a lot of time studying.

Know What Resources are Available to You and When to Use Them. Don’t be afraid to ask for help. There are a variety of free support services available to you. Whether it’s the Learning Resource Center, Student Services, or TRIO, our college strives to provide you with the help you need. Most importantly, make sure to stop by the Academic Support Center for tutoring in just about any academic subject or the Writing Center to receive help with any part of the writing process. Also, don’t wait. Come early and come often. You’ll be a lot more successful if you ask for help before you get behind. If you wait until you’ve already failed a test or done poorly on a paper, then you’ll have a lot of additional stress trying to overcome a bad grade. Lastly, if you’re not sure where to go for what you need, please stop by any center and we’ll be happy to point you in the right direction.

Get to Know Your Instructors. Develop positive relationships with faculty. Your instructors genuinely enjoy sharing knowledge and want you to make the most of your classes. Learn instructors’ names. Sit in the front of the classroom and ask questions. Take part in class discussions. Listen carefully to class lectures and take notes. If you’re struggling, make sure to meet with an instructor during their office hours and discuss what’s going on. Building a positive relationship with instructors will absolutely impact the quality of your education.
Get Organized and Stay Organized. If you feel overwhelmed with trying to make everything in your life fit into your schedule, then getting organized is one of the most important things you can do. Use an academic planner to record important information such as due dates, test dates, times to study, and payment deadlines. Use a note-taking strategy to make organized notes in your classes. Create “to-do” lists so you can prioritize what’s most important to complete. Lastly, look for “wasted” time in your schedule and figure out how you can manage your time more effectively.

Get Involved on Campus. The more engaged you are with our campus, the more successful you will be. Students who are involved with campus organizations and activities are provided with valuable networking opportunities and experiences that develop the same skills employers often seek. Additionally, students who are interested in participating in activities outside of the classroom will have a much more meaningful college experience. So, please take the initiative to learn more about our clubs, organizations, and campus activities. You won’t regret it.

As you move through your semester, you might identify potential challenges that hinder your academic success. By using the strategies provided, you’ll better understand how to overcome any issues and be better prepared for college and your future career. For more information regarding these strategies, please contact Dr. Erin Cooper at ecooper@cccti.edu.

CCC&TI Pins First Class of Practical Nursing Graduates

In a ceremony held Friday, Dec. 13, at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute honored its first graduating class of practical nurses with an official pinning and traditional lamp lighting ceremony. Eight students made up the class of 2019 and now face state board testing to receive their licensure as practical nurses. Graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN), which is required for practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

CCC&TI began the process of adding the Practical Nursing program in 2018 in response to local demand for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) and interest from students in pursuing the 1-year diploma program. The first classes began in Spring 2019.

The ceremony included a welcome by CCC&TI Nursing Program Director, Dr. April Cline, comments from CCC&TI Dean of Health Sciences Barbara Harris and a keynote address by April Traxler, who has more than 30 years experience as a nurse. Traxler encouraged graduates to learn from every experience and to strive for balance between their professional life and family life.

Pictured front row, left to right, are Vera Cantrell, Taylor Hensley, Mackenzie Hartley and Nikki Serrano. Back row, left to right, are Aynia Howell, Marsha Benge, Jacob Icard and Melissa Swider.
To close the ceremony, students lit a ceremonial lamp, symbolic of the lamp carried by Florence Nightingale during her service to the British soldiers who fought in the Crimean War. Nightingale is considered the founder of modern nursing. Graduates also recited “The Florence Nightingale Pledge” in which they vow to uphold the standards of their profession and provide the best possible care for patients. A special reception was held for graduates and their families following the ceremony.

For more information on Nursing Programs at CCC&TI, visit www.cccti.edu or contact Health Sciences Admissions Coordinator Amy Huffman at 828-726-2710 or ahuffman@cccti.edu.

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Basic Law Enforcement Training Graduation

In a Dec. 16 ceremony at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center in Lenoir, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute honored its newest group of Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) graduates. Seventeen graduates completed more than 640 hours of training over 17 weeks and successfully completed a rigorous physical exam as well as the standardized state tests. The group achieved a 100-percent passage rate.

Graduates, pictured left to right, with BLET class awards in parenthesis, are: (front row) Colton Rich, Crystal Thackston, Shelby Frazier (Physical Fitness - Most Improved), Nicole Hernandez, Katherine Lyda, Jesse Massey (co-class leader), Billy Hicks (Andrew Burgess Jr. Academic Award) and Scott Rader (co-class leader); (back row) Jordon Sigmon, Morgan Sumner, Troy Evans (Top Gun), Austin Johnson, Cody Saunders, Tyler Gilbraith, Aaron Moore (Physical Fitness – Top Overall, POPAT), Bryan Beebe (Gary Clark Driving Award) and Jason Rosenberger. To apply for CCC&TI’s Basic Law Enforcement Training program, please contact Program Director Andy Day at 828-726-2750.
2019 Angel Tree Project
Thank you to CCC&TI’s Caldwell Campus chapter of NCAEOP for making the holidays brighter for a group of our students and their children. The Angel Tree project is always a highlight of the Christmas season.

Food Drive Competition
The Holiday Food Drive competition on the Caldwell Campus was a big success. The winning classes were: SON 130, ENG 242 and the second-year Medical Assisting program students. Thanks to all who participated!

Watauga SGA Hosts Holiday Gathering for Seniors
The Watauga Campus Student Government Association recently hosted a holiday party at Cove Creek Senior Center and delivered toiletries, clothing and food donations. Thanks to all who participated in and supported the event.

Culinary Students Provide Christmas Dinner for Shelter Home
Culinary Arts students spent Monday morning, Dec. 23 preparing a Christmas feast for the Shelter Home of Caldwell County. The students also donated toys and clothes for children at the shelter. The Foundation of CCC&TI provided funding for the meal, which was delivered Christmas morning.
Chorus Sing-Along
The Caldwell Campus Learning Resource Center hosted the CCC&TI Chorus for a Holiday Sing-A-Long in early December. The event included live music, a hot cocoa bar, holiday punch, cookies and a Christmas card station.

LEOS Drive
The Lenoir Emergency Outreach Shelter drive on the Caldwell Campus yielded 1,445 pounds of supplies. Congratulations and thank you to the Science Club and American Chemical Society, which collected the most supplies for the drive.

Annual Holiday Luncheon
CCC&TI held its annual Christmas luncheon Dec. 16 on the Caldwell Campus in Hudson for employees, trustees and community partners. (There was even a special guest appearance by Santa himself!) Special thanks to Hog Wild BBQ for the great food.
CCC&TI Chosen as Finalist for Prestigious Bellwether Award

The Bellwether College Consortium (BCC) has announced its list of 30 community colleges nationwide selected as 2020 finalists for the highly coveted Bellwether Awards, and Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute is among 10 finalists for the Instructional Programs and Services category.

CCC&TI was selected for its innovative partnership with West Caldwell Health Council, Inc. (WCHC) to open the Hector Estepan CobraCare Clinic on the CCC&TI campus in Hudson in August 2018. The clinic offers a wide range of services, including: physicals, preventative care, immunizations, behavioral health, minor office procedures and chronic disease management. Uninsured patients may apply for a sliding discount scale based on their income level. The clinic also waives co-pay fees for Pell Grant financial aid recipients and also provides services to college employees and their families.

“We’re extremely proud of being one of 30 community colleges nationwide in the running for this prestigious award,” CCC&TI President Dr. Mark Poarch said. “We’re really excited to be on this list of colleges who are leading the way and glad to see this innovative partnership getting national recognition.”

The partnership began in 2014 when WCHC began bringing its Mobile Unit to campus. As the demand for the service grew, officials began discussing ways to provide more services and see more patients on campus. A classroom adjacent to the student lounge was converted into a fully functioning medical clinic with multiple exam rooms and a lab.

Since opening in August 2018, the CobraCare Clinic has had nearly 1,500 visits and served more than 600 individual patients.

“The health clinic simplifies the lives of our students and employees,” Poarch said, adding that now basic health care services are available four days a week without having to leave campus. “It’s a tremendous asset and a benefit to our campus.”

Bellwether Finalists represent leading institutions of higher education whose outstanding and innovative programs and practices in community college education were selected among competitive submissions as exemplary. The finalists will undergo a rigorous second and final round of peer review at the 2020 Community College Futures Assembly in February.

The Bellwether Awards are widely regarded as the nation’s most competitive and prestigious recognition for community colleges and the only award evaluated by experts and practitioners in the field. In its 26 years of celebrating community colleges, the BCC is proud to identify outstanding and innovative programs or practices, which can then be shared and replicated. BCC presents awards in three categories.

The Instructional Programs and Services category of the Bellwether Awards recognizes programs and services that foster or support teaching and learning in the community college. The Planning, Governance and Finance category of the Bellwether Awards recognizes programs or activities that improve efficiency and effectiveness in the community college. The Workforce Development category of the Bellwether Awards identifies strategic alliances that promote community and economic development.

All finalists will be presented at the 2020 Community Colleges Futures Assembly in San Antonio, Texas, and one winner will then be selected from each category by a panel of national experts.
Spring Caldwell Cuisine Tickets Sell Out in One Day

Here’s where we had planned to include information on the dates and menus for the Spring 2020 Caldwell Cuisine events. But this semester, the tickets to all three events sold out just one day after sales went live on the Civic Center website. So, instead of taunting you with all the delicious details (the premium proteins and their gourmet preparation methods, the succulent sides cooked to perfection, the decadent desserts and their rich sauces and creams) we will just use this space to say congratulations to our Chef Instructors, our students and to all those who have a hand in making Caldwell Cuisine possible! Congratulations for creating something so popular that all of the tickets get gobbled up in a mere 24 hours. It’s a true accomplishment, and we couldn’t be more proud of you. To those of you who were thinking of purchasing tickets, we suggest you check out the Carry Out Cuisine events on the Watauga Campus. (Information below.) The menus are just as tantalizing and (BONUS) you can eat them at home in your pajamas. Bon appétit!

Spring Dates Announced for Watauga Carry Out Cuisine Events

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute’s Watauga Campus Culinary Arts program will offer Carry Out Cuisine events during the Spring 2020 semester to the general public and will also continue to offer the Chef’s Table Dining Experience events. The fall menus will each focus on a different region and will feature some of the most popular dishes from cuisines around the world.

The Carry Out Cuisine and Chef’s Table events offer the public an opportunity to enjoy gourmet fare at a reasonable price while also helping CCC&TI’s Culinary students apply their classroom knowledge in a real-world setting.

Meals are $20 per person and reservations are recommended. Cash-only payments are accepted when meals are picked up on the day of service. Pick-up times are 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Watauga Campus Kitchen, Building W141, Room 102.

A limited number of tickets to the Chef’s Table Dining Experience will be available during each Carry Out Cuisine event. Tickets are $25. Diners at the Chef’s Table watch as meals are being prepared by the students and enjoy tableside service in the Culinary Arts Kitchen. Reservations are required ahead of time for seating at the Chef’s Table.

Each of the menus will focus on specific cooking techniques that students will be studying throughout the semester. Dates and menus for each of the Carry Out Cuisine and Chef’s Table Events are below.

For more information or to reserve your tickets for any of these Carry Out Cuisine or Chef’s Table events, contact Chef Robert Back at 828-297-3811 ext. 5222 or by email at rback@cccti.edu.

**Tuesday, February 4 (Roasting)**
- Soft Dinner Roll
- Bacon Corn Chowder
- Stuffed Chicken Roulade with Herbed Velouté Sauce
- Sautéed Potato Pancakes
- Roasted Winter Vegetables
- Bread Pudding w/ Whiskey Sauce

**March 3 (Sous Vide)**
- Herbed Focaccia Bread
- Lettuce Wedge with Bacon, Tomato and Bleu Cheese
- Beef Short Ribs Sous Vide with Bordelaise Sauce
- Zucchini and Yellow Squash Sav-té Provençale
- Steamed Basmati Rice w/ Mirepoix
- Fudge Brownie w/ Salted Caramel

**April 7 (Sauté)**
- Roasted Garlic Baguette
- Classic Caesar Salad
- Sautéed Chicken Breast with Fresh Tomatoes and Mixed Mushrooms
- Grilled Vegetable Medley
- Risotto alla Parmigiana
- Fresh Strawberry Shortcake
Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute’s Associate in Fine Arts – Music Program will host the Performing Artist Concert Series this spring with several featured events that are free and open to all students and the general public.

Following is a schedule of events and additional details.

On Thursday, Jan. 23 at 1 p.m. in the CCC&TI Recital Hall (B-100), CCC&TI’s Caldwell Campus in Hudson will host jazz piano and guitar combo Chris Beyt and Pavel Wlosok.

Dr. Chris Beyt is a jazz guitarist, bassist, composer, recording engineer, and educator living in Western North Carolina. His most recent album of original compositions “120” is available on iTunes and Amazon.

Beyt grew up in Baton Rouge, La. where he learned the trombone, and later switched to guitar. In 1999, he received music and academic scholarships to Loyola University in New Orleans where he studied with John Eubanks and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Jazz Studies. During that time and for two years afterwards, he performed in New Orleans at various venues on both guitar and electric bass. In 2005, he moved to Denton, Texas where he studied guitar with Fred Hamilton and began his studies on upright bass, on which he has since been performing in addition to guitar. Chris earned his Master’s Degree in Jazz Performance from the University of North Texas in 2008. Immediately following, he moved to Champaign, Ill. where he earned his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Jazz Performance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he studied with Larry Gray, Chip Stephens, and Chip McNeill.

Czech born American pianist, composer, arranger, educator, music engineer, producer and photographer Pavel Wlosok started to play the piano when he was five years old. He received his classical education in piano performance and composition at the Janacek Conservatory of Music in OSTRAVA. He obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in jazz studies graduating cum laude at the University of North Texas (UNT) in Denton, Texas (1995 - 2000), where he studied composition with Prof. Cindy McTee, jazz piano with Prof. Dan Haerle and classical piano with Prof. Adam Wodnicki.

While at UNT, Wlosok served as pianist-arranger for the One O’clock Lab Band (his work is included on 4 CDs produced by this group, the last one featuring Canadian ECM artist Kenny Wheeler) and as teaching assistant of aural skills, music theory and jazz piano before directing the Four O’clock Lab Band in his last year of studies. He was also featured as a soloist with the UNT Wind Symphony (CD “Luminaries” under the direction of Eugene Corporon), and has toured Europe and North America as a pianist and composer. His first self-produced album as a leader is titled Long Journey (1997), and features his best friends from early North Texas years, such as saxophonists Tyler Kuebler and Wayne Delano, bassist Mike McGuirk, drummers Ed Soph and Rich Matschulat, and trumpeter Scott Harrell.

On Monday, Feb. 17 at 1 p.m. in the CCC&TI Recital Hall (B-100), CCC&TI’s Caldwell Campus in Hudson will host local favorite Strictly Clean and Decent.

Strictly Clean and Decent is an acoustic trio that features Patrick Crouch, Ron Shuffler, and Kay Crouch whose blend of brilliant
vocal harmonies tops a solid instrumental foundation. They are dedicated to performing a variety of musical styles in an acoustic setting. Their eclectic repertoire includes modern folk songs by American, Canadian, and Irish songwriters, the fiery breakdowns and songs of family and home found in both traditional and contemporary bluegrass settings, and centuries-old Celtic airs and dance tunes. All of this is peppered with a healthy dose of popular jazz standards, swing and western swing music, and a few classic country tunes thrown in to provide a program certain to be enjoyed by all.

Since 1989, Strictly Clean and Decent has completed 10 tours of Ireland. They have performed three times at the Cobh International Folk Music and Dance Festival, the Bluegrass and Olde Tyme Music Festival in Cork, and twice at the Irish Bluegrass Music Association’s festival in Athy. Stateside, the trio has opened for noted performers such as Doc Watson, Ralph Stanley, J.D. Crowe, Vassar Clements, Tim O’Brien, Tony Rice, Lee Greenwood, John Cowan, Jerry Clower, and Rhonda Vincent. The trio has performed at a variety of venues including Duke Gardens, the Biltmore House, Joe Shannon’s Mountain Home Music Concert Series (Boone), Summer Sunday Concert Series (Beech Mountain), Red White and Bluegrass Festival (Morganton), Freedom-Fest (Charlotte), WinterFest (Blowing Rock), MerleFest (Wilkesboro), and at many colleges and auditoriums throughout North Carolina.

On Tuesday, March 10 at 1 p.m. in the CCC&TI Recital Hall (B-100), CCC&TI’s Caldwell Campus in Hudson will host The Lenoir Rhyne University Jazz Ensemble.

The Lenoir-Rhyne University Jazz Ensemble is directed by Dr. Christopher Nigrelli and features LRU students, alumni, and local musicians. This audition only ensemble performs an eclectic variety of big band jazz music.

On Wednesday, April 22 at 1 p.m. in the CC&TI Recital Hall (B-100), CCC&TI’s Caldwell Campus in Hudson will present the CCC&TI Chorus Ensemble.

The CCC&TI Chorus ensemble features students in the CCC&TI Associate of Fine Arts Music degree program as well as staff and faculty members. The Chorus is directed by Ms. Celia Sexton. In addition to teaching at CCC&TI, Sexton is an Associate Conductor for the Hickory Chorale Society and she was the director of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Chancel Choir and Youth Singers for 25 years. Sexton also formerly held the position of Music Minister at Holy Trinity and has taught high school and college music courses in the Hickory area.

A special encore performance by the CCC&TI Chorus Ensemble will be presented on Thursday, April 23 at 7 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church located at 547 6th Street NW, in Hickory.

All events are free and open to the public.

For more information on CCC&TI’s Associate in Fine Arts – Music Programs or these events, contact Program Director Justin Butler at 828-726-2457 or email jbutler@cccti.edu.
Memorials:
In memory of Dr. Edwin Beam to the Dr. H.E. Beam Scholarship: Michael Delgaudio and Julie Beam Delgaudio

In memory of Lydia Beam to the Lydia Beam Award: Michael Delgaudio and Julie Beam Delgaudio

In memory of Billy Joe Beane to the Kenny Beane Memorial Scholarship: Alan and Cathy Nichols

In memory of Jon Bryant to the Electrical Lineman Program: Scott and Rita Triplett

In memory of Joseph Czarnecki III to the Watauga Campus Art Department: Wayne and Elizabeth Arnold

In memory of Laura Kimberly Gillikin Keller to the Laura Kimberly Gillikin Keller Scholarship: Anne Dav-enport

In memory of Randy Ledford, Sr.: Barbara Harris

In memory of Lowe’s Hardware employees who passed away during the previous year to CCC&TI General Scholarships: Lowe’s Buchan Club

In memory of Helen and Ellis Hatley to the Helen J. Hatley Achievement Award: James Hatley

In memory of Cade and Frances Shaver for the Cade Scholarship Fund: Jim and Imogene Shaver

In memory of Mrs. D.L. Snyder to the D.L. Snyder Scholarship Fund: Jerry and Mildred Snyder

In memory of Dr. Daniel Stallings and Ila Stallings to the Dan and Ila Stallings Scholarship: Tim and Peggy Lynn Caudle

In memory of Ila Stallings to the Dan and Ila Stallings Scholarship: Linda Bentley Ben, Bobbie, and Mel Honeycutt

In memory of Boyd Wilson, Sr. to the Boyd C. Wilson Family Scholarship: Marc and Bennie Carpenter

Honorariums:
In honor of Peg Broyhill to the Margaret (Peg) Broyhill Scholarship: Ann and Guy Walters

In honor of Marc and Bennie Carpenter to the Boyd C. Wilson Family Scholarship: Boyd Wilson, Jr.

In honor of the CCC&TI Faculty: Anonymous

In honor of the CCC&TI Foundation Board of Directors and staff on the occasion of the 2019 holiday season: Ms. Peg Broyhill

In honor of Kay and Patrick Crouch to the Kay and Patrick Crouch Music Scholarship: Alice Whisnant

In honor of the Hatley Family: James Hatley

In honor of Randy Ledford: Stacy Reagan

In honor of Ann and Guy Walters, Jr. on the occasion of the 2019 holiday season: Ms. Peg Broyhill

In honor of Marty Waters to the Linda C. Waters Arts Fund: John M. Grimes

In honor of Hugh and Martha Wilson to the Hugh and Martha Wilson Family Scholarship: Roger Grippe and Karen Wilson

CCC&TI Foundation Tributes

Memorial gifts and honoraria are very meaningful ways to recognize someone on a special occasion or to express sympathy to a bereaved family. An individual’s legacy will continue to live on through the educational opportunities made possible by these special gifts. The Foundation of CCC&TI gratefully acknowledges the following tributes received September 12, 2019 through December 31, 2019:

There’s still time to register for late start classes!
For a full list of upcoming courses and registration information visit: www.cccti.edu
In Memory: Crissy Guzman

In the early morning hours of Tuesday, December 10, 2019, following a courageous battle with cancer, Christina “Crissy” Guzman, age 36, of Granite Falls, North Carolina, passed away peacefully at Caldwell Hospice & Palliative Care-Hudson PCU in Hudson. The daughter of Raul Guzman of Marion, North Carolina and the late Deborah Marie Guzman, who passed away in 2002, she was born in Burke County, North Carolina on June 28, 1983.

Crissy was a born again Christian and a member of Concord Baptist Church in Granite Falls, where she lived her life for the Lord, and her two precious daughters. She was a loving mother, daughter, sister and friend. Crissy was known for her beautiful smile, kindness and helpful ways. She was a graduate of McDowell High. Crissy was a talented basketball player for the Lady Titans, and in 2018 was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame. She continued her education at Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs where she continued her interest in basketball and earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Health and Wellness.

Guzman came to CCC&TI in June 2012 as a coach for CCC&TI’s Women’s Basketball Team. She later served in Student Services and most recently served as the CCC&TI Transition Advisor at West Caldwell High School.

Upcoming J.E. Broyhill Civic Center Showcase of Stars Events

Caldwell Traditional Musicians Showcase
Saturday, Feb. 1 at 7:30 p.m.
Celebrating 22 years of promoting local music and talent, the Caldwell Traditional Musicians Showcase hosted by local favorite Strictly Clean and Decent will feature several local musicians who help keep the community’s rich history of traditional music alive today. Don’t miss the 22nd Annual Caldwell Traditional Musicians Showcase. Tickets for the show are $11 for adults and $5.50 for students and children.

FPA Presents “The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes” Adapted by Jon Jory
Feb. 13-15 • Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
The game’s afoot and the legendary friendship of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson is born, as they face a quartet of the most confounding crimes to ever cross the threshold of 221B Baker Street. Discover the truth about the surprising secret within an abandoned Christmas goose; the meaning of a coded message from an organization obsessed with the past; the danger that sends a family playing cards to madness; and the web of conspiracy surrounding a governess in an isolated country house. Based on four classic short stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes is a thrilling reminder of why Sherlock Holmes remains eternal. Tickets for the show are $14 for adults; $12 for students and $7.50 for children 12 and under.

Kruger Brothers with Kontras Quartet
Saturday, Feb. 29 at 7:30 p.m.
Classical, bluegrass and folk music take center stage together as the members of the Kontras Quartet team up with the world-renowned bluegrass group, the Kruger Brothers. Tickets for the show start at $22 for adults. Special pricing for students and children available.
Spring 2020 Student Workshops and Events

Grab-N-Go Learning
These 15-minute sessions will be held in the Caldwell Campus LRC Multipurpose Classroom on Wednesdays. And in the Watauga Campus LRC. Students can drop in any time from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for info on a variety of topics.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Caldwell Campus Activities</th>
<th>Watauga Campus Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/29</td>
<td>Accessing Resources Anywhere</td>
<td>1/24 Scavenger Hunt</td>
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<td>2/5</td>
<td>NC Live-ly</td>
<td>2/6 NC Live-ly</td>
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<td>Calculating Success</td>
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<td>3/4</td>
<td>Give It Your Best Shot</td>
<td>3/5 Give it Your Best Shot</td>
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<td>3/18</td>
<td>Counting Sheep</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/25</td>
<td>CCC&amp;TI Scholarships</td>
<td>4/9 Summertime in Boone</td>
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Connecting Conversations
Student Speaker Series
These conversations highlight student voices in hopes of making connections across campus and empowering students. Sessions include a 20-minute talk followed by time for questions.

Scheduled Dates:
- Tuesday, February 4 at 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 3 at 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 7 at 12:30 p.m.

What's Next Workshops
These workshops are held in Career Connections on the Caldwell Campus (F-146). These workshops are designed to help students with all aspects of career planning and the job search. Students who attend 5 events can be entered to win a grand prize!

SECU Tax Prep • Tuesday, Jan. 28 • 12:15
Join State Employees Credit Union for a workshop on preparing for the upcoming tax season.

Personality and Careers • Thursday, Feb. 6 • 12:15
Not sure what career would be best suited for you? Come learn about the careers that may fit your personality, interests, values and abilities.

Love Your Job • Thursday, Feb. 13 • 12:15
Come learn about careers and why it’s important to choose one you’ll love. Snacks and activities provided.

Resumes • Tuesday, March 3 • 12:15
The resume: What it is and why you need it.

Interviews/Impressions • Tuesday, March 24 • 12:15
How to answer tough interview questions and make a great first impression!

Financial Literacy • Tuesday, April 7 • 12:15
Learn budgeting and money management skills from the experts!

For a complete list of workshops on both campuses, visit https://www.cccti.edu/Students/Workshops.asp