

Pathways to Success...

BUILDING A STRONG COMMUNITY
THROUGH EDUCATION

THE CAMPAIGN FOR
HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2006

HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Housatonic Community College Foundation is undertaking a major gift campaign – the first of its kind in the history of the College.

“Pathways to Success... Building a Strong Community Through Education” seeks to raise \$1 million to enable the College to continue its 40-year tradition of providing convenient and affordable postsecondary training, baccalaureate preparation and lifelong education to students of all ages in the Greater Bridgeport area.

HOUSATON
COMMUNITY COL



MESSAGE FROM THE CAMPAIGN CHAIR

Dear Friends,

There are many solid reasons for supporting Housatonic Community College.

My personal interest centers on the cultural enrichment and human vitality this institution brings to our community. Others cite the College's affordable tuition and transfer programs as particular strengths. Some value the College most because it provides a flexible curriculum that enables people to seek a quality education while balancing job and family commitments. Still others, including many community leaders, point out that HCC's graduates are the core of a highly qualified workforce that is essential to a strong regional economy.

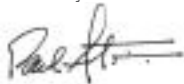
Whatever our individual reasons, we all agree on one thing - education breeds success. Success for the students, the community and for the economy.

In an effort to expand our potential for even greater success, Housatonic Community College Foundation has launched its first major gifts campaign - "Pathways to Success... Building a Strong Community through Education." This campaign identifies three priority areas for the future and establishes five major initiatives to support those priorities - each of which will enable the College to carry out its mission as a unique educational resource for the region in the years ahead.

Financial support from the community is needed to fully address each of the initiatives and to enable HCC to go beyond the fundamentals provided by the State and provide the programs and services our community needs to grow and prosper.

If you have not done so recently, I encourage you to visit the campus and experience first hand the ever-expanding role HCC plays in educating its students and in supporting the needs and objectives of local businesses and industries. I am certain you will come away with a new appreciation of Housatonic Community College and a renewed commitment, as I have, to supporting this important new campaign.

Sincerely,



Paul Antinozzi, Chair
Corporate Campaign
Housatonic Community College Foundation, Inc.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Housatonic Community College has served over 70,000 men and women and graduated more than 8,000 students since its first graduation ceremony in 1967 as an independent academic institution.

HCC's students come from diverse backgrounds and bring with them equally diverse aspirations. High school graduates can take a wide range of classes and programs that prepare them for excellent starts in business and industry upon graduation. Other students, anticipating transfer to four-year institutions, can complete introductory courses in smaller classes where they receive high levels of personal attention, encouragement and support from faculty who have dedicated their careers to the educational process.

For the adult student, Housatonic Community College provides opportunities for personal growth, job skills enhancement or a chance to begin a new career. For those who already possess bachelors degrees or higher, HCC offers the opportunity for additional learning. For the local business community, Housatonic provides customized employee training and professional development opportunities to boost organizational productivity or morale, or to fill the need for future employees with specialized training.

MEASURING OUR SUCCESS

- Housatonic Community College has transfer agreements with a variety of four-year public and private institutions. HCC graduates have continued their education at a wide range of prestigious colleges and universities including Fairfield University, New York University, Syracuse University, the University of Connecticut, Yale, Johns Hopkins University, Columbia, Smith College, Wesleyan and many others.
- Housatonic Community College graduates are represented in all employment sectors in fields such as accounting, child care, criminal justice, education, health care, business, science and the public and social service sectors.
- A 2004 report prepared by CCBenefits, Inc. determined that Housatonic Community College contributes \$179,900,000 in earnings annually to the regional economy.
- Students at Housatonic Community College earn an additional \$4,408 per year over their life time for every year they attend college full time.
- The Housatonic Museum of Art has assembled one of the most significant art collections of any two-year college in the United States. On display and open to the public, this \$11 million collection includes works by master artists Rodin, Picasso, Matisse, Miro and Chagall, among others. With more than 10,000 people visiting the Museum each year, it continues to be recognized as a major cultural resource for the Greater Bridgeport region.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As the community continues to grow and the needs of students evolve, it is necessary for Housatonic Community College to determine how to best fulfill its mission as a unique educational resource for the region in the future. After thoughtful evaluation, it becomes clear that three priority areas must be addressed if HCC is to succeed in the years ahead:

Student Success: Housatonic Community College is dedicated to providing students with access to and success in a college environment that provides effective instruction. Last year the College launched a major study to determine the types of support programs our students need to overcome the academic hurdles they may face. Our efforts in this area, combined with the fact that HCC maintains an excellent teaching faculty and a highly-skilled administrative support staff, demonstrates our continuing commitment to elevating the level of academic achievement made possible at HCC.

State-of-the-art Facilities: The College has begun construction on a much anticipated campus expansion that will almost double its size. The new structure will be the result of a complete rehab of the former Sears building and the construction of an additional 20,000 square feet of new space. This expansion project will add more than 170,000 square feet to the campus, will significantly expand HCC's instructional and community space and will enable HCC to accommodate approximately 5,500 students, compared to the College's previous high of 4,700. The project is expected to be completed in the fall of 2008.

A Vibrant Community: As Evan S. Dobell, president and CEO of the New England Board of Higher Education and publisher of *Connection* states so aptly, "The health of any city - or for that matter, any state or region - depends, in turn, upon the educational attainment of its residents." HCC seeks to increase the college going rate and provide the courses and programs that will help ensure an educated workforce for Southeastern Connecticut.

In determining how to achieve the greatest level of success in these three areas, the College has identified five specific initiatives that must be strategically and financially supported through the "Pathways to Success" campaign. They include program enhancements to increase graduation and transfer rates as well as successful career placement; new program development to increase the numbers of "college ready" high school graduates; to increase scholarship support; seed money to meet the emerging needs of business or industry for job training or education; and conservation and exhibit support for the Housatonic Museum of Art's prized art collection.

THE NEED FOR PRIVATE SUPPORT

Housatonic Community College is committed to access and affordability, which precludes substantive tuition and fee increases. That is why the College must turn to private support to fund the "Pathways to Success" campaign. Financial support from the community will enable HCC to fully address each of the initiatives and thereby provide the programs and services our community needs to grow and prosper.

“Well-developed language and math skills are the keys to success in education, in the workplace, and in life itself. HCC’s initiatives to provide tutoring, mentoring and specialized programs to encourage student proficiency in these areas is of great and lasting value to the community. For as the educational level of the community rises, so does its potential for economic growth and prosperity.”

John Klein
Chairman & CEO
People’s Bank



STUDENT SUCCESS – FOSTERING AN EDUCATED COMMUNITY

The Student Success initiative will focus on those barriers or missed opportunities that can prevent students from reaching their academic goals, and address the issues of graduation rates, transfer opportunities and successful career placement for HCC students.

Student Success funds will go toward expanded tutoring services, a mentoring program, and career planning and placement services. A new language lab complex will provide language development in both English and foreign languages. A self-paced math lab will be created to improve student proficiency at all levels of mathematics. And finally, the College will augment its current honors program to encourage and support exceptional achievement.

CAMPAIGN GOAL:

\$400,000

IMPACT ON THE COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITY:

- Provides an educated workforce that is essential for economic growth.
- Increases the College's graduation rates and enhances the quality of life for students and their families through successful career placement.
- Addresses the increased need for language development for successful assimilation into the workforce.
- Increases the opportunities for students to transfer to competitive four-year institutions.
- Addresses the industry-wide need for employees with superior mathematical skills.
- Provides well-trained individuals who can contribute to our economy.

Pathways to Success.



"Starting out at Housatonic Community College as an older student with family obligations, I was concerned that my potential for success might be limited. But at HCC, I received not only a top quality education, but solid support from teachers who made me believe there was a world of opportunity just waiting for me. HCC proved to be my personal gateway to success – I now have a satisfying career, and I'm positioned to encourage others to follow their dreams – whatever their stage in life."

Diane Nunn

Regional Director Operations - Southern Connecticut Gas Company



"As one of only thirty-five community colleges nationwide, Housatonic Community College was selected to participate in the national "Achieving the Dream" grant initiative. This recognition was bestowed upon the College because of its commitment to programming excellence for retention and success of all students.

HCC's reputation for putting students first is demonstrated everyday as it takes students where they are and helps them move forward. We look forward to supporting the College's continuing efforts as it plans and implements quality programs in the years ahead."

Dr. Jacquelyn M. Belcher

Achieving the Dream Consultant

“At HCC, scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate need, to others who demonstrate academic excellence, and often, to students who demonstrate both. What they all have in common is the knowledge that people believe in them – people in the community and people at the College who are willing to provide the financial assistance these students need to move forward on their individual paths to personal growth, fulfillment and success. We’re proud to be among the people that support their dreams and accomplishments.”

Barbara Johnson

*HCC Foundation Board
President and parent of an
HCC graduate with her
husband, Carl Johnson*



SCHOLARSHIPS – PROVIDING ACCESS

Although tuition at Housatonic Community College continues to be quite reasonable in today's educational environment, the cost is sometimes still too much to pay for a young person desiring a solid education and a chance at success. Last year nearly 42% of our student population received federal financial aid. After this financial aid was allocated, students still had an unmet need of \$744,731 to pay for tuition, fees and books. The remaining 58% of the students depended on their own personal resources – which were often quite limited, to cover their educational costs.

This initiative seeks funding for current and endowed scholarships to help eliminate financial barriers and ensure that deserving Housatonic students have the opportunity to obtain the education and training they need.

Funding also will increase scholarship support that recognizes academic excellence and will increase award incentives to support students who successfully complete an associates degree and wish to continue their education at four-year academic institutions. Support for this initiative helps to ensure that scholarships are available to more students and that the scholarship program itself will be sustained into the future.

CAMPAIGN GOAL:

\$200,000

IMPACT ON THE COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITY:

- Supplement our current scholarship program and allows us the opportunity to provide financial assistance to an increased number of deserving students.
- Provides access to students who do not have the financial resources to pay for an education.
- Sustains our student enrollment, which moves students into the labor force or into four-year transfer institutions sooner.
- Contributes to the development of a well-trained work force.
- Establishes additional incentives for students to achieve academic excellence and helps them avoid significant debt before completing their education.

Pathways to Success..



"The phrase 'to whom much has been given, much is expected' has become my personal mantra over the years. I have been blessed with tremendous support from family and friends throughout my lifetime, and I view it not only a privilege but a responsibility to give back in some way.

Being the chair of the resource development committee and a member of HCC Foundation's scholarship committee has provided me with the perfect opportunity to help deserving students empower their lives through education."

*Marianne Laska, R.N.
HCC Foundation Director, Alumni*

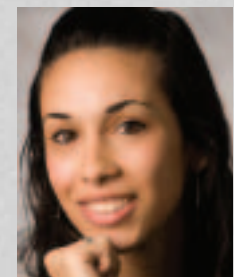
"As an international student, it's easy to

get carried away with financial concerns and the stress of being in a country without my family. The scholarship I received from the HCC Foundation helps lighten that burden and makes it easier for me to concentrate more on school work, get involved in college activities, and relish the enlightening experiences and friendships I am forming here in the United States."



*Yusuff Abdu
Scholarship Recipient*

"Receiving the William Pitt Scholarship



was a great honor. It means a great deal to me to know the Foundation has faith in me, and believes I have what it takes to succeed. I really appreciate this opportunity and the financial aid it provides. It has allowed me to focus on my studies and be the student I want to be. "

*Crystal C. Carbone
Scholarship Recipient*

“In today’s business environment, those companies and industries that are able to compete globally will be the ones that achieve the highest levels of long-term success. To do that, they must equip themselves with a progressive management and a well educated workforce that is receptive to retraining and committed to continued professional development. The Greater Bridgeport business community is fortunate to have Housatonic Community College as a willing and able partner in developing the advanced programs we need to stay professionally and technologically in step with the times.”

Paul Timpanelli
President & CEO,
Bridgeport Regional
Business Council



EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES – COMPETING IN A “FLAT WORLD”

Housatonic Community College is committed to partnering with the Greater Bridgeport business community in ensuring the education and availability of a qualified workforce to meet their immediate and ongoing employment needs. HCC is further committed to helping these employers ready themselves for competition in the global economy.

Traditionally, however, the allocation of research and development funds that are intrinsic to business operations are not standard practice in the community college environment. New program development is usually dependent on grant funds which often can delay or limit the development of new offerings.

This initiative is designed to remedy that by providing the seed money necessary for HCC to develop credit or non-credit courses to meet specific business or industry needs for the education or retraining of their workforce, thereby enabling those employers to sustain their operations and take advantage of emerging trends and commercial opportunities as they arise. Collaborations of this kind clearly demonstrate how academic and business leaders can work together to ensure long-term economic success for the community.

CAMPAIGN GOAL:

\$100,000

IMPACT ON THE COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITY:

- Creates a flexible and immediate response to industry and education needs.
- Leverages current resources within the College to improve or add-on to existing programs.
- Shortens the response time frame to meet students' and/or industries' specialized needs.
- Enhances student success in the workforce by providing them with training in state-of-the-art programs.



"As a business owner and HCC student myself, I can attest to the fact that by developing additional new programs, the College will not only play an important role in the success of business and industry in Bridgeport, but will enhance the potential for success graduating students will have in achieving their own business goals."

Aaron M. Best
President, International Commerce Co.

“The Middle College Pilot Program is one of the most important programs Charter Oak supports. We believe that in order to level the playing field and ensure success in life, students must be prepared for a rigorous college education. The MCPP at Housatonic provides Bridgeport public school students the opportunity to experience college level courses in a nurturing environment. We heartily applaud the efforts of the teachers and administrators from HCC, Bassick and Harding High Schools for creating a model of excellence for students who sorely need this enrichment.”

Andrew Boas

*President of Charter Oak
Challenge Foundation*



MIDDLE COLLEGE/BRIDGES PROGRAM – PREPARING FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

This initiative will support programs Housatonic Community College already has in place to increase the number of high school graduates who are “college-ready.”

Initiated last year, the Middle College Pilot Program addresses the serious problems faced by high school students who enter Housatonic Community College with academic deficiencies that severely limit and often prevent their academic achievement. HCC instructors partner with high school teachers and work with the students through a year-long program that improves their basic skills in math and English and provides supplemental instruction on site at HCC. This initiative better prepares the students for higher level courses in math and science, and familiarizes them with the college environment even before their graduation from high school.

HCC’s Bridges Program works directly with the principals, counselors and teachers at local high schools and provides summer and vacation programs to improve students’ college readiness. On-going activities that include seminars, workshops, pre-requisite courses needed for college-level work and independent study skills are presented to students within the program.

CAMPAIGN GOAL:

\$200,000

IMPACT ON THE COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITY:

- More students will be better prepared to utilize the resources available at HCC and pursue more advanced courses of study in math and science.
- Students will complete degree requirements in a timely manner and shorten their transition to the workforce.
- Students will not deplete their financial aid support before reaching their academic goals.
- College retention rates will improve and will lead to an improved graduation rate and a better trained workforce for the industries and professions that need highly trained and skilled individuals with mathematical and scientific expertise.
- Resources spent on remedial course work will be redirected to advanced programs.

Pathways to Success..



“The Middle College Pilot Program has made a huge difference for me. Even though I’m a high school student, I’m learning in a college environment and I am being treated like a college student by my teachers. As a result, I believe I’ve become a much more responsible student.

The program is also giving me advantages for when I actually do attend college. I’ll receive college credits for taking the program, and I’ll have the kinds of skills I’ll need to succeed at the higher level. There are no two ways about it – this program is a win-win for me.”

Jamie Davis

Harding High School, Middle College Pilot Program participant, with Carol Birks and Ronald Remy



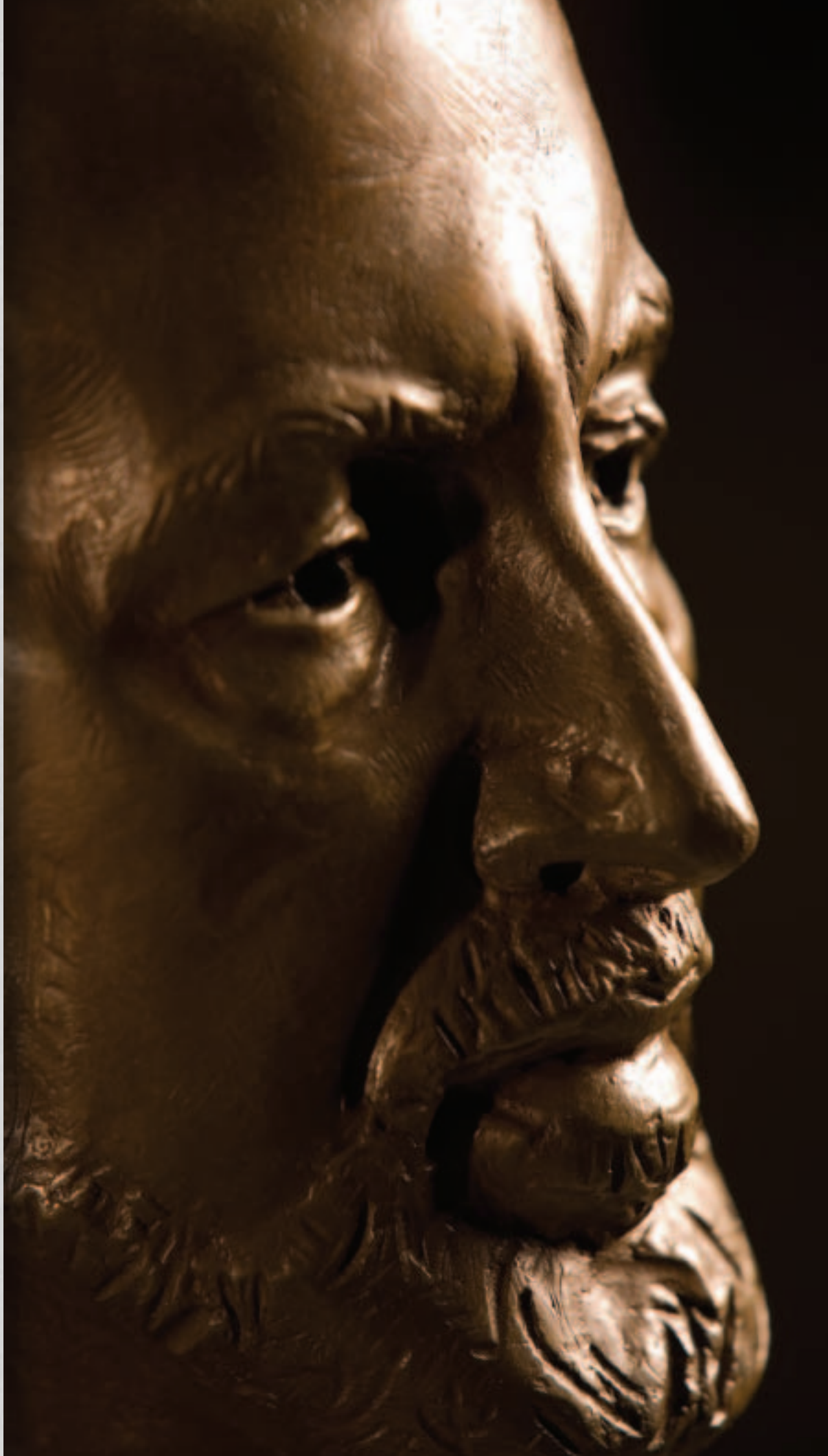
“The Fairfield County Community Foundation initially recommended the Middle College/Bridges Program to our donor advised fund holder for several reasons; it replicates a successful national model pioneered by other community colleges in urban areas, and allows Housatonic Community College to play an important leadership role in Bridgeport, leveraging the skills and talent of their faculty and staff. We were also excited by the impact this initiative could have on the professional development of the partnering high school teachers. The Middle College/Bridges Program is a prime example of how community colleges can effectively partner with urban public school systems.”

*Yolanda Caldera-Durant
Program Officer, The Fairfield County
Community Foundation*

“Unlike the typical secondhand experiences people are generally afforded, the Housatonic Museum of Art offers first-hand experiences with “live art” that can be loved or hated or ignored and re-examined the next day. New and old art objects can speak for themselves on many levels and incite new discussions, appreciation and occasionally heated debates. This is one reason why many artists prefer to have their works in public rather than in private collections. It is also why our community college museum attempts to foster frequent encounters between new audiences and a wide variety of art objects.”

Burt Chernow

*Founder of the Housatonic
Museum of Art
(1933-1997)*



MUSEUM EXHIBITS AND CONSERVATION SUPPORT – ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY AND OUR LIVES

The Housatonic Museum of Art has accumulated one of the most significant art collections of any two-year college in New England. The permanent collection is valued at over \$11 million dollars and includes works by master artists such as Rodin, Picasso, Matisse, Miro and Chagall. The vast majority of the art has been donated by patrons who intend their art to be seen daily by students, faculty and people from the community who hopefully will learn and grow from the experience of viewing it.

In recent years, the Museum has unveiled a number of important art exhibitions and hosted a variety of special events that have greatly increased the Museum's visibility and have served to introduce a wide range of notable artworks to the community. As a result, the Museum rightfully has become recognized as a major cultural resource for the Greater Bridgeport area. The Museum is also lauded for its Peer Docent Program, a popular after-school program that introduces middle and high school students to art and art history, teaches them how to look at art critically and ultimately equips them with visual and analytical skills that will assist them in all areas of study throughout their lifetimes.

The Museum plays an important role in the life of the community: more than 10,000 people visit the museum each year. Were it not for the Museum, many of them would never have the opportunity to come in such close contact with so many valuable and diverse works of art.

Funding generated through the "Pathways to Success" campaign will assist the Museum in continuing to make programs and exhibitions available to Bridgeport area residents and visitors. That funding will also help to address the conservation needs of the Museum's extensive art collection and support conservation efforts to repair the paper, painting and sculpture within the prized collection, so that generations to come will be able to enjoy the masterpieces under the Museum's guardianship.

CAMPAIGN GOAL:

\$100,000

BENEFITS TO THE COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITY:

- Maintains and sustains art treasures for posterity.
- Improves an asset of the College and serves as a model on caring for art for students.
- Provides Bridgeport children and residents with exposure to art, not otherwise available.
- Allows the Museum the ability to build a base for future support.
- Creates an awareness of the breadth of the collection to a broader audience.



"Here at HCC, we strive to implement Burt Chernow's philosophy that 'original works of art should be as much a part of everyday college life as textbooks and libraries.' Our students are surrounded by great art and have the opportunity to experience important works at every turn. In addition, our faculty works to integrate art into the academic program - instructors can take students to view a work that illustrates a particular concept. On a daily basis, the Museum plays an important role in the overall learning process."

Ronald B. Abbe
Professor - HCC Humanities
Department, Art Coordinator



"Before participating in the Peer Docent Program, I was shy and afraid to speak. But by becoming a leader - taking other kids around the museum and talking about art with them, I became more confident in my life."

Dasy Saldano
12th grade student, Harding High
School, Peer Docent Program participant



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

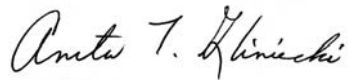
Housatonic Community College seeks to empower all individuals to develop their full potential. The College provides a learner-centered, supportive and stimulating environment that encourages a commitment to life-long learning. HCC students are prepared to participate in and contribute responsibly to a global society.

The College provides current instruction in up-to-date classrooms and laboratories. Partnerships with business and industry ensure that HCC provides the courses and programs that will support and foster economic growth in our region. Our knowledgeable and dedicated faculty and staff are an institutional strength.

The “Pathways to Success” campaign sets forth several initiatives that will enable the College to address future challenges in a pro-active manner. It will enable us to enhance opportunities for student success, ensure access, better prepare area high school students for higher education, provide the funds we need to respond quickly to emerging needs and help to preserve our outstanding art collection for future generations to enjoy.

We greatly appreciate your past support and ask that you partner with us to meet the current and future needs of our students and our community.

Thank you for your support.



Anita T. Gliniecki
Acting President
Housatonic Community College

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