



Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead – Gina Argento’s Cutting-Edge Contribution



Gina Argento, CEO of Broadway Stages and KCC Foundation Board Trustee

On July 14, 2015, Kingsborough Community College unveiled its brand-new \$200,000 STEAM Lab (for the uninitiated, “STEAM” = Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics). Beginning this year, a select group of incoming KCC freshman used this lab for an intensive “boot camp” that focused on 10 areas of study: alternative energy, biomedical engineering, computer graphics and animation, environmental technology, forensics, manufacturing technology, materials science, medical imaging, nursing, and robotics.

For KCC President Farley Herzek, this new lab represents an opportunity for today’s students to learn at the cutting edge of these exciting fields, all while using state-of-the art tools and working under the expert guidance of their faculty: “We need educational programs like this,” said KCC President Herzek, “opportunities in higher education for students to come to places like this to explore, and for our wonderful faculty to motivate and inspire students to be the best they can be.”

As with many groundbreaking initiatives at Kingsborough, the new STEAM Lab was made possible largely through the generosity of the college’s distinguished friends and partners. One key supporter of the lab is Gina Argento, CEO of Broadway Stages and a member of the Kingsborough Community College Foundation Board of Trustees. Through a generous donation, Ms. Argento was able to ensure that participating students were provided breakfast and lunch meals every day of the boot camp. Without this critical support, many of these freshman scientists, who struggle financially

every day to attend school, would be unable to enjoy the enriching experiences offered through Kingsborough's STEAM Lab.

Ms. Argento was inspired to make this gift because of the hard work and passion she sees in Kingsborough students, and their potential to make a tremendous impact in their careers and our greater community: "Kingsborough students are young, bright, and hungry for the chance to pursue their dreams. To witness these students participate in a program that really engages the mind is truly moving, and it made me want to do what I can to allow this wonderful program to continue at Kingsborough. To all of the future scientists, technicians, and health professionals at Kingsborough—***we*** believe in you, and ***we*** are here to support your efforts every step of the way. Work hard and never give up! You represent a bright and promising future, and we are invested in your success."

Every month, the Kaleidoscope presents a different facet of the Kingsborough experience—inspiring professors, student success stories, alumni testimonials, exciting new programs, news-making events and much more. We hope you enjoy these stories, and we also encourage you to share *your* unique KCC perspective with us. *Whether you are a current student or an alum, a faculty or staff member, a retiree or a distinguished donor, [you can also share your story!](#)*

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