

## HONORS & AWARDS:

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### honors & awards

- **Gadsden State Community College** in Alabama received the 2010 Image of Welding Award from the American Welding Society and the Welding Equipment Manufacturers Committee. Tim Green, dean of technical education and workforce development, accepted the award at a ceremony during the FABTECH Expo held recently at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. Gadsden State received the honor in the educational facility category for its dedication to promoting the image of welding through the establishment of the Alabama Regional Center for Welding Automation. The dream of establishing a specialized center to offer advanced automated orbital welding training became a reality this fall when the ARCWA facility opened its doors. The high-tech center located on the East Broad Campus became the first centralized, innovative welding center to provide highly advanced automated orbital welding training on a college campus. Gadsden State was awarded a grant of more than \$369,000 from the Governor's Office of Workforce Development to establish the state-of-the-art facility.
  - **Regina Peruggi**, president of New York's **Kingsborough Community College** announced that KCC and KCC graduate, Shereece Blake, were recipients of the 2010 Robin Hood Heroes Award. As part of the award, "Robin Hood" presented a \$50,000 check to KCC. The Robin Hood Heroes Award is given annually to outstanding organizations and special New Yorkers who have overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles and have shown the resiliency of the human spirit. Shereece Blake is a 21-year-old graduate of KCC. She grew up in Kingston, Jamaica, in a poor, violent neighborhood. She witnessed children being abused and saw her aunt immediately after she was killed. Blake's experiences led her to decide long ago that she wanted to become a lawyer. She credits KCC's Learning Communities program for her success. Through the program, she felt she always had someone to turn to when she had a question, needed help or money to buy textbooks. Blake graduated with honors in January 2009. She recently took the LSAT and hopes to attend either Fordham Law School or Columbia University to study family law. KCC, a City University of New York college, serves 30,000 students a year with a median income of less than \$30,000. The Learning Communities program tries to address a daunting problem in New York City's community colleges by offering freshmen financial aid, intensive academic advising, tutoring, personal and career counseling, and case management. KCC attributes a 40 percent increase in graduation rates over the last six years to the success of the program.
  - North Carolina's **Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College Student Culinary Team** won the American Culinary Federation North Carolina State Team competition at the college's Asheville campus. Team members advance to the foundation's Southeast regional competition in Atlanta to vie for a chance to attend nationals in Dallas in July 2011. The team prepared a clarified tomato broth with seared sea bass, mixed greens with a grilled radicchio Roquefort pear tart, poulet saute a la catalane and an almond cake with pomegranate gelee and lemon sauce. The four-course meal must be prepared in 90 minutes. The judges score teams on taste, presentation, timeliness and accuracy.
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