



# STUDENT UNION & INTERCULTURAL CENTER

Creating an Engaged Kingsborough



**KINGSBOROUGH**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

★ DREAMS BEGIN HERE ★



## SUMMARY

In our ongoing efforts to enhance the educational experience and degree attainment of our students, Kingsborough has identified the need for a dedicated space on campus where our highly diverse student body can congregate and interact.

Student engagement is tied conclusively to student success; students who are actively engaged in their campus communities are more likely to stay the course and complete their studies.

In addition to furthering Kingsborough's foremost objectives of boosting retention and completion, the SU&IC will:

- Foster intercultural competency
- Offer an exceptional opportunity for Kingsborough to invest in the success of its students while simultaneously enriching their educational experience
- Provide a vast, interactive platform enabling students to have meaningful exchanges that bridge cultural, religious, ideological, political, and lifestyle divides and differences
- Showcase the remarkable diversity of Kingsborough by welcoming all students into a space that makes them feel at home

By establishing a vibrant SU&IC where our various curricular, co-curricular, student leadership, intercultural, and global programs and activities can cohere, expand and find support, we aim to create a truly "Engaged Kingsborough" culture of pluralism and inclusive excellence. We also aim to become a model and a resource for intercultural understanding and engagement, both city- and nation-wide.

## NEED

As one of the top community colleges in the nation, Kingsborough is also one of the most diverse. Our students hail from all over the world, representing 142 nations and speaking 73 different languages. Furthermore, many of our students are non-traditional: they are over the age of 20, have children and/or work, they live in low-income households, and many of them are the first generation in their family to attend college. These are all factors that can threaten educational success, which is why student retention and completion are Kingsborough's top priorities.

While student centers are a standard amenity at most colleges and universities, there is currently no single space on Kingsborough's campus dedicated to fostering student engagement. Since engagement has been shown to improve retention and completion, the addition of a dedicated student center would greatly enhance our students' experiences on campus. The SU&IC fills this need while capitalizing on the extraordinary potential inherent in the diversity of Kingsborough's student body to create a truly engaged, pluralistic global community.

**“ENGAGED KINGSBOROUGH” HUB HOUSING FULL-TIME SU&IC STAFF WHERE CONTINUING STUDENTS CAN GO TO LEARN ABOUT KCC AND BE REFERRED TO APPROPRIATE OFFICES**

**STUDENT AND FACULTY CONFERENCE ROOMS & GAME ROOM**

## **KEY DESIGN FEATURES**

- A clearly marked Information Center by the Main Gate designed to help incoming students and visitors get answers to all their questions in one place
- A centrally-located “Engaged Kingsborough” hub housing full-time SU&IC staff where continuing students can go to learn about KCC and be referred to appropriate offices
- An interactive virtual bulletin board, iBoard, where students can post listings to share with their peers
- Glass walls to provide a sense of openness while still offering private meeting space for formal and informal clubs, groups and associations
- Comfortable, welcoming gathering spaces and conference rooms for students and faculty alike
- Recreational spaces that promote relaxation and informal interactions as well as quiet study areas
- Unifying color scheme and incorporation of SU&IC logo that will tie in other adjacent, student-centered areas, such as the bookstore, main cafeteria and radio station
- A Welcome Way leading up to the center that showcases the many nationalities and languages represented at Kingsborough
- An adjacent, outdoor Garden Plaza where students and faculty can seasonally enjoy Kingsborough’s beautiful campus
- A dedicated interfaith room, “On Common Ground,” that will offer interfaith programming in conjunction with the Holocaust Center

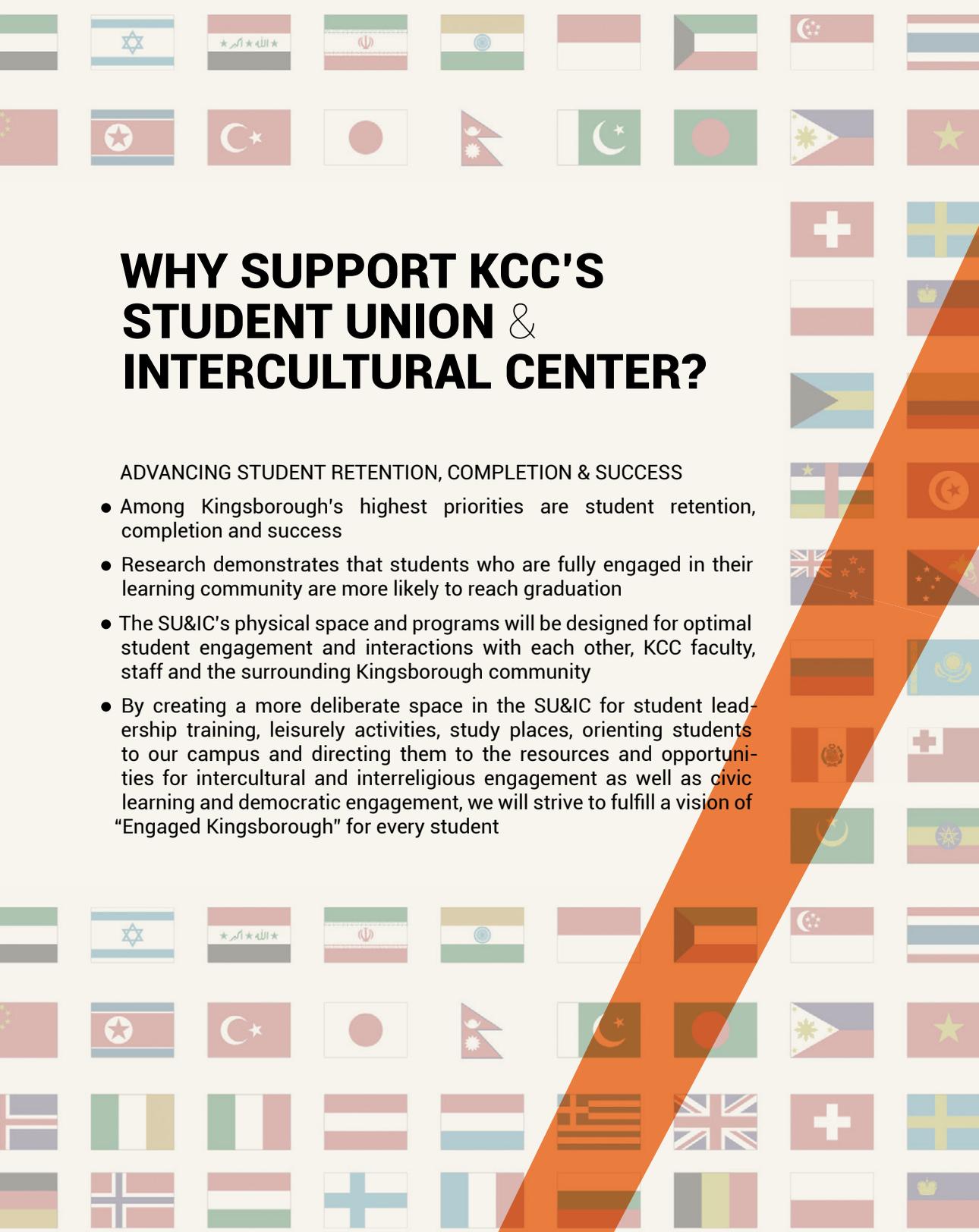
**OUTDOOR GARDEN PLAZA WHERE STUDENTS AND FACULTY CAN SEASONALLY ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS**



# OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED PROGRAMMING

- A broad range of Student Life- and student club-sponsored multicultural events; Kingsborough has over 90 student clubs/associations
- A Voter Engagement Initiative to instill democratic ideals and motivate students to vote in local, state and national elections
- An Interfaith Initiative to engage our campus and community's religious diversity to foster pluralism
- A new Student Diversity Club for bringing together students from a variety of backgrounds
- A Student and Faculty Art Gallery and a Celebrate Art Week featuring music, dance, literature, sculpture, painting and more
- A field trip series dedicated to exposing students to social justice and multi-cultural themes/ideas
- A dedicated website with up-to-date information about SU&IC programming and events
- Academic support services such as dedicated space for studying, satellite tutoring services, and a fund for students to attend conferences
- Health and wellness programs in support of decompressing and de-stressing through, for example, meditation and yoga

GLASS WALLS TO PROVIDE A SENSE OF OPENNESS WHILE STILL OFFERING PRIVATE MEETING SPACES



# WHY SUPPORT KCC'S STUDENT UNION & INTERCULTURAL CENTER?

## ADVANCING STUDENT RETENTION, COMPLETION & SUCCESS

- Among Kingsborough's highest priorities are student retention, completion and success
- Research demonstrates that students who are fully engaged in their learning community are more likely to reach graduation
- The SU&IC's physical space and programs will be designed for optimal student engagement and interactions with each other, KCC faculty, staff and the surrounding Kingsborough community
- By creating a more deliberate space in the SU&IC for student leadership training, leisurely activities, study places, orienting students to our campus and directing them to the resources and opportunities for intercultural and interreligious engagement as well as civic learning and democratic engagement, we will strive to fulfill a vision of "Engaged Kingsborough" for every student

## ACHIEVING CULTURAL COMPETENCY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Intercultural education and engagement becomes more of an imperative as our nation undergoes a diversity explosion in the coming decades and becomes a more globalized, multi-racial country. Kingsborough, already deeply diverse, can expect to follow similar trends
- In an increasingly globalized economy, cultural competency is essential for the 21st century workforce
- By offering dedicated space grounded in principles of acceptance, inclusiveness and respect, SU&IC will foster a culturally competent and globally minded student body
- The dramatic renovations in the International Hall of Flags' conference areas of the SU&IC and the proposed programming will enable us to pull our highly diverse Brooklyn community into KCC for energetic engagement





# SUPPORT

The total estimated cost for completion associated with the creation of the SU&IC is \$1.5 M. Help us to realize this vision.

## COMMEMORATIVE GIFT OPPORTUNITY

## REQUESTED GIFT

Naming of the Student Union & Intercultural Center	\$1,500,000
Student Union & Intercultural Center (Endowment for Programming)	\$1,000,000
Oceanview Culinary Arts Dining Room	\$250,000
Radio Station-WKRB	\$250,000
Welcome Way	\$250,000
International Hall of Flags Commons	\$200,000
One Stop Center	\$100,000
Cafeteria	\$100,000
"Engaged Kingsborough" Hub	\$100,000
Game Room	\$100,000
Garden Plaza	\$100,000
Holocaust Center	\$100,000
Men's Resource Center	\$100,000
Interfaith Center- "On Common Ground"	\$100,000
Student Atrium - West Academic Cluster	\$100,000
Student Lounge - West Academic Cluster	\$100,000
Terrace Overlooking Garden Plaza	\$100,000
Virtual Information - "iBoard"	\$100,000
Information Center	\$100,000
Multipurpose Conference Center Room (1)	\$100,000
Multipurpose Conference Center Room (2)	\$100,000
Career Counseling Office	\$50,000
Faculty & Staff Dining Room	\$50,000
Student Life Office	\$50,000
Faculty Conference Room (1)	\$50,000
Faculty Conference Room (2)	\$50,000
Student Conference Room (1)	\$50,000
Student Conference Room (2)	\$50,000

Please contact the Office for Institutional Advancement (718-368-4539) to discuss Endowment and Planned Giving opportunities.

**[WWW.KBCC.CUNY.EDU/SUIC](http://WWW.KBCC.CUNY.EDU/SUIC)**