The 10th Annual Seaside Splash Fundraiser on June 18th was a remarkable success. From a delightful cocktail hour on the seaside to wonderful music, dancing and dinner overlooking the ocean, the evening was one for the books. The theme for the event, “Let Dreams Grow,” was inspired by Kingsborough’s ongoing commitment to helping our students discover their foremost aspirations while supporting them on their academic journey.

With over 300 supporters in attendance — including KCC Foundation trustees, faculty, administrators, staff, alumni, scholars, community members and business leaders — the fundraiser raised over $185,000 that will go to our most deserving students in the form of scholarship aid that will inspire them to keep striving to reach new heights.

“Paying for transportation, class materials and daily meals was a constant struggle, and this scholarship was a critical lifeline for me,” said Karim Yusef-Farnum, a nursing major and recipient of the Rhoda Polly Alumni Emergency Scholarship.

As we all know, Kingsborough’s students hail from all over the world and are from all walks of life. What they share however, is an extraordinary drive to better themselves and their community. And KCC provides one of the best places in the nation for them to do just that.

“People tend to underestimate community colleges, but my experience at KCC has been a dream come true,” said Syeda Abbas, a physics major and recipient of the Gladys Brooks Foundation Scholarship for Student Leadership & Academic Excellence.

Yusef-Farnum and Abbas were two of the prestigious scholarship recipients featured at the event. Also among them were 2015 Valedictorian Ryan Hill, a criminal justice major, and Keynote Student Speaker Anna Makogon, a liberal arts major who shared with the guests her story of perseverance from her home country of Ukraine to the United States.

President Herzek thanked all of the college’s supporters, while also sharing a glimpse into what the future holds for Kingsborough. Emphasizing student need and the college’s ongoing efforts to address them, President Herzek introduced the newly designed KBCC Assist Me mobile app to better connect with and provide resources to an increasingly tech-savvy student body.

The new app will provide resources to students both for their academics and their personal life. Students will now be able to electronically access the college bookstore, an interactive campus map, transportation options, financial and living resources, and more.

KCC is deeply appreciative of all the donors and supporters, as well as the faculty, staff and alumni who help Kingsborough serve and provide for its students’ success.

“My success here is a testament to the support structure this college provides, and to the faculty and staff who believed in me,” said Hill.
Message from the Director

Dear Fellow Alumni,

As we head into the fall of 2015, we look forward to a number of exciting alumni events. I hope you’ll take advantage of these opportunities to maintain your ties to KCC, connect with fellow alumni and friends and have some fun!

Homecoming – On Sunday, October 18, 2015 KCC celebrated its 11th Annual Homecoming Day – Welcome Home – Where Dreams Begin, where over 900 alumni, students, faculty, staff and their families enjoyed a wonderful day of food, fun and entertainment. If you’ve never been Homecoming, don’t miss out next time. Homecoming is one of the best ways to check us out and remember while having lots of fun in the process.

For pictures of Homecoming 2015 and more, visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/homecoming.

Walk-A-Thon – On Tuesday, November 10, 2015 hundreds of KCC faculty, staff, alumni and students walked around KCC’s beautiful campus to help raise money for student scholarships. To join the Alumni team next year, please contact me. Registration fee is only $10.

Alumni Reception Series – Started in 2014, these events are a big hit among those who want to enjoy a lovely dinner and stellar performances without the Manhattan commute or the Broadway price tag. Coming Saturday, November 21, 2015 is Lorna Luft Celebrates her Mother Judy Garland – Songs My Mother Taught Me and Friday, April 15, 2016 is The Doo Wop Project – Stars of Broadway’s Jersey Boys and Motown the Musical. Dinners at 6pm. Performances at 8pm in the Leon M. Goldstein Performing Arts Center.

Last but not least, we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of KCC’s first graduating class – the class of 1966 – on Saturday, May 7, 2016. If you or someone you know attended KCC in its inception years and would like to be part of the 50th anniversary reunion and other festivities, please contact me or one of our ’66 alumni highlighted in this issue.

We hope to see you soon!

Best regards,
Laura Glazier-Smith ’87

Laura Glazier-Smith
Director of Alumni Relations

Stay Connected
Would you like to receive emails and/or invitations regarding KCC and alumni events? Have you recently moved and need to tell us your new address? Are you interested in sharing how your dream began at KCC through its Student Alumni Association? Please send us an e-mail at kccalumni@kbcc.cuny.edu or call Alumni Relations at 718-368-4539.

Like us: KCCAlumni
Follow us: @KCCAlumni
Network with us: Kingsborough Community College Alumni
Stay current with KCC through its Student Newspaper: ScepterNews.com

The Class of 1966 Looking to Reunite

1966 Class Reunion
If you or someone you know are from KCC’s first class and would like to be part of the 50th anniversary reunion and other festivities, please contact us or any of our 1966 alumni committee members on page 3.

Office of Alumni Relations: Call (718) 368-4539 or email kccalumni@kbcc.cuny.edu

Join the Alumni Association
Become a member of the Alumni Association. The $25 annual membership fee helps support student scholarships and programming for alumni events. For details or to join, visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/alumni or call us at (718) 368-4539.

Special Thanks
KCC’s Office of Alumni Relations is grateful to the hundreds of alumni, faculty, staff, and students who assist us with activities and events every year. We’d also like to thank Ken Gordon, ’71, Howard Fields, and Dan LaNoue for their contributions to this issue. A special thank you also goes to Niaz Mosharraf, ’14, former editor-in-chief of Scepter, and KCC alumnus of 2014, for all of his work on this edition of “Accolades.”

The Musical. Dinners at 6pm. Performances at 8pm in the Leon M. Goldstein Performing Arts Center.

Leda (Pankin) Favale
For Leda Favale, it is hard to believe that 50 years have gone by since her graduation from KCC.

“When I think of those wonderful days, it seems like yesteryear,” said Leda. “Looking back on my years at KCC, there are so many memories that come to mind and so many people I think of and would love to see.”

This is why Leda is excited about the prospect of a reunion for the class of ’66. Being part of the first graduating class is a special milestone both in the students’ and the college’s story.

“We were the first of many firsts. Everything we did was the first. It was particularly true in the area of student newspapers. ‘Scepter’ was the first student newspaper at a New York City community college. When I think of those wonderful days, it seems like yesteryear.”

Leda’s accomplishments didn’t end there. After KCC, she attended Brooklyn College where she earned her M.S. in education and discovered a passionate career.

“I spent 34 happy years teaching kindergarten. Hard to know who had more fun — the kids or me,” said Leda jovially.

Leda retired 12 years ago, and considers herself fortunate to have been traveling with her husband. Such is life! Leda does like many others from her graduating class have lost touch over the years. But she looks forward to a reunion to reconnect and catch up with her former classmates.

“We shared a unique experience of being the first graduating class of KCC,” said Leda. “Kingsborough gave me a sense of myself and my individuality. It allowed me to pursue interests I didn’t even know I had. It was a great academic experience, and it was just so much fun.”

Laina (Ringbel) Sternin
What did Laina Sternin love about KCC?

“All my memories of Kingsborough and the experiences she had — it had given her the opportunity to have the career she always wanted and the friendships that have continued over the last 50 years.

“If it weren’t for Kingsborough I would not have had the financial ability to attend college,” said Jane. “It was always a special feeling to know that I was part of the first graduating class. We had a wonderful social aspect to life to add to the education we received here. Everyone was motivated to come to school and be a part of this.”

Perhaps this is why Jane chose to continue her education at Brooklyn College, and earn her Master’s degree while teaching early childhood education at PS 80 in Brooklyn.

Jane was a classroom teacher and a reading coach at the school until 1985. In her career, she became a trainer for early childhood teachers, a classroom manager, and was one of its coordinators.

As a result, she was able to make friends with people from diverse backgrounds, allowing her to become “a more compassionate and accepting individual” experience she wishes for all KCC students.

“KCC is where she first encountered her natural instinct to ‘hang back and sit quietly in the corner.” Given that everything was brand new, she felt that they all were in the same situation, helping her to adapt. Laina quickly joined clubs and organizations and became a very active student.

She was involved in the creation and initial launch of the yearbook, was the sports editor for the Manhattan commute or the Broadway price tag. Coming Saturday, November 21, 2015 is Lorna Luft Celebrates her Mother Judy Garland – Songs My Mother Taught Me and Friday, April 15, 2016 is The Doo Wop Project – Stars of Broadway’s Jersey Boys and Motown the Musical. Dinners at 6pm. Performances at 8pm in the Leon M. Goldstein Performing Arts Center.

Jane Kraidman
Jane Kraidman cherishes the education she had received at Kingsborough and the experiences she had — it had given her the opportunity to have the career she always wanted and the friendships that have continued over the last 50 years.

As a former student at Kingsborough, it was gratifying to be a part of a program that allowed parents to attend the college while their children were in a classroom setting,” said Jane recalling what was an exciting aspect about working here.

Throughout her journey in academia, she also enjoyed an exciting life with her partner of 30 years Michael Miller. Looking back, she credits much of her life’s success to Kingsborough.

“I was so proud to attend KCC,” said Jane. “My life could have turned out quite different if the school didn’t open that year.”
A Look at 2015

NURSING PINNING — JUNE 11, 2015
Nursing alumni reconnect and reminisce after cheering on KCC’s newest nursing graduates.

ALUMNI CAREER PANEL – SPRING 2015
Thank you to alumni Michael Dixon, ’92 (Nursing), Nurse & Clinical Inforamist at St. John’s Episcopal Hospital; Christopher Santangelo, ’93 (Accounting), Senior Special Agent at United States Government; Karen Feaster, ’93 (Early Childhood), Director of Clinical & Forensic Services at Safe Horizon; Natasha Lauriston, ’07 (Mental Health & Human Services), Internship Coordinator and Adjunct Professor at KCC; Vaughn Jefferson, ’03 (Broadcasting), Founder/CEO at Indie City Industry.

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS - JUNE 15, 2015
Congratulations to Gangdi Huang, ’15 (Computer Science), Olga Griffin, ’14 (Chemical Dependency Counseling), and Jiahua Li, ’15 (Engineering Science).

KCC READS ALUMNI SESSION – MAY 5, 2015
Thanks to Rida Abdullah, ’15; Farin Kautz, ’12; Jennifer Faybusovich, ’14; Joel Alexander, ’11; Zainah Ahmad, ’14; who graciously participated in the KCC Reads program and joined us to present their riveting perspectives on Patti Smith’s Memoir – Just Kids, capturing audience members comprised of students and faculty members.

KCC’S ANNUAL SEASIDE SPLASH
JUNE 18, 2015

ALUMNI COMMENCEMENT BREAKFAST - JUNE 16, 2015
Alumni join us for the 2015 Commencement breakfast and participate in the graduation ceremony.

ALUMNI RECEPTION SERIES - MAY 16, 2015
Alumni met with Tony Nominee Jarrod Spector after his performance in A Little Help From My Friends at the Leon M. Goldstein Performing Arts Center.

DONOR RECOGNITION
APRIL 16, 2015
KCC hosts lovely reception honoring its most generous donors.

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS - JUNE 15, 2015
Congratulations to Gangdi Huang, ’15 (Computer Science), Olga Griffin, ’14 (Chemical Dependency Counseling), and Jiahua Li, ’15 (Engineering Science).

For more photos, visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/alumni
President Herzek Honors the Inaugural Members of the 1963 Society

Four decades after its creation and placement on KCC’s campus, the mystery of a perplexing sculpture has been solved. With the help of the alumnus artists’ friends, its identity and purpose are revealed.

The coring sculpture, made of scrap metal, stands about eight feet tall and is anchored into the ground near the TI building. It has survived both the widespread construction of the college around it and Hurricane Sandy. Yet, until recently, no one at the college knew its origins. “When Marty planted that in 1963, I was very excited,” said Ken Gordon, ’77, who has supported KCC through decades of service and has helped build the My Turn Program, KCC’s tuition-free educational program for individuals 60 years or older. “When my husband died, I was devastated. Kingsborough saved my life,” said Ken. “He gave me purpose. My work with the My Turn Program and being in the classroom with all the young students felt good — it kept me young.” It is the prolific support and philanthropy of our donors that make a profound difference not only for the students, but for Kingsborough as a whole. “I believe in education,” continued Koch. “And I want to support what I believe in. My time and service to Kingsborough gave me a meaning for my life. Kingsborough has been good to me, and I believe in paying back; and this is my way.”

We invite you to join the “1963 Society” by making a leadership-level commitment today! For more information or to make a donation today, please visit www.kbcccuny.edu/1963Society or contact Dr. Elizabeth Basil in the Office for College Advancement at 718-368-4539.

A beloved Student Publications contributor passed away this past April. Abe Ginsberg, ’96, gave over 25 years of his life to Kingsborough. He worked with countless students all over campus, and was an expert photographer who covered hundreds of events. Abe and his wife, Miriam, 88, both enjoyed successful careers in their respective professions. After serving during World War II on B-17 flying fortresses in the Army Air Corps, Abe found a passion for photography and went on to become a professional photographer. Miriam graduated from Brooklyn College and later NYU, and would go on to become a successful social worker. After their fruitful careers, they both found a new home at Kingsborough.

“We chose to spend our retirements with the My Turn Program at Kingsborough to keep our minds active and continue to take courses that had meaning to us,” explained Miriam. “During their time at the college, Abe taught students about photography. A dark room at Student Publications became his place of operations as he continued to channel his passion for photography, while also passing it on to his students. He photographed almost everything at the college and became the chief photographer of Scepter, the KCC campus newspaper.”

According to Miriam, because of his skills, professionalism, and kindness, former KCC president, Dr. Regina Peruggia, often called on Abe to take her photographs. “There are people, you meet that want that rush to push you, but that wasn’t their style — they were genuinely nice people,” said Paul Winnick, director of event technical services, who worked with Abe on hundreds of events.

Abe and Miriam were both political activists and first met at such an event in uptown New York. They married on January 28, 1951. Their marriage of over 64 years is a testament to the kind of people they were. “He was a special person,” said Miriam. “No couple sees eye to eye on everything, but we were always able to talk about things. He was very kind, soft-spoken and a good listener. We accepted each other for who we were and only positively influenced each other. He had the same mentality for everyone else — he truly liked people.”

On April 12, 2015, Abe died peacefully at home with his loving wife by his side. They lived a life of passion, adventure and generosity. Everywhere they went in life, from national parks to 17 consecutive visits to Israel and much more, the two were inseparable. At the annual Student Publications Award Ceremony on May 18, Director Levy Moore awarded Miriam a plaque to commemorate the Ginsbergs for their decades of work with the college and its students. Under the direction of former student editors of Scepter, Abe is still listed as “Chief Photographer Emeritus” in the newspaper’s masthead.

“Abe was always there,” said Moore. “He was a hundred percent pro-student and enriched their lives each day he was with us. He’ll always have a special place in my heart.”

Mystery Revealed: Alumnus Artist and His Work are Commemorated

Last September, the Kingsborough Community College Foundation launched “The 1963 Society” to recognize the sustained annual support of Kingsborough’s most distinguished donors. This past April, KCC invited the founding members of the society to a special inaugural breakfast reception hosted by President Fueley Herzek.

“This event provided a wonderful opportunity for donors to connect with one another and share inspiring stories about the impact Kingsborough made on their lives.”

The 1963 Society recognizes donors who make an annual leadership-level gift. Membership in the giving society allows you to play an important role in the financial well-being of Kingsborough, while also making a powerful statement about your commitment to the college’s mission of providing an affordable, high-quality, and transformational education to its students. Society members enjoy a wide array of benefits, including invitations to members-only events and special college communications.

Remembering Abe Ginsberg: A Longtime Devotee of KCC

On May 14, 2015, Kingsborough Community College celebrated the 10th Anniversary of its Speech Communication Program. Over 45 speech communication alumni, faculty, and students enjoyed a special dinner as they reconnected and reminisced about in-class experiences and career opportunities.

Each of the alumni spoke to the attendees about their educations and professional journeys since graduating and expressed their fondness for the college and this program. “KCC’s Speech Communication program is a unique experience. It gave me the skills and tools, and prepared me mentally for the competitive nature of my career. I am forever indebted to KCC for providing me with a sound foundation for my present career as a Speech Language Pathologist,” said former Valedictorian Sommar Goodman, ’10.

Dr. Cindy Greenberg, Provost and Director of the Speech Communication Program and Director of Liberal Arts, expressed her gratitude to the administrators who helped her create and maintain such a program and expressed her gratitude to the college and her students.

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A special thank you to the Kingsborough Community College Alumni listed below. Their donations enable the Kingsborough Community College Foundation to provide critically needed financial support to KCC students.

We are grateful to our KCC alumni for their generosity and commitment to our mission of providing our students with an affordable, high-quality and transformational education.

Mrs. Pauline Antonio, '98
Honorable Susan F. Avery, '86
Ms. Noemie Beauchluche, '74
Mrs. Linda Biancorosso, '90
Mr. Howard Blady
Mr. David Black, '10
Mrs. Sheryl Bossak, '67
Ms. Natalia Bredikhina, '02
Dr. Dmitry Y. Brogunc, '99

Dean Christine M. Buite-Beckner, '92
Mrs. Anita Cabrera
Ms. Mary Ann Cavallo, '87
Mr. William Correnti, '75
Mr. Michael A. Correra, '93
Mr. Michael Courtien
Ms. Rosemarie Cozza, '76
Ms. Toneeka Crawford, '12
Mrs. Anna Cromas, '91
Mrs. Patricia D'Agosta, '05
Ms. Maureen C. Daly, '81
Ms. Carrie Davis, '80
Ms. Jennifer Deguzman, '09
Ms. Josephine Dellano
Ms. Julie J. Dennis, '76
Mrs. Mickie Driscoll, '88
Mrs. Barbara Forte, '90
Mrs. Judith Ann Fox
Mr. Carl E. Fuller, '74
Ms. Laura F. Glazier-Smith, '87
Mr. Allen Glick
Ms Keren Grinberg, '14
Mr. Gary J. Hegedus, '74

Ms. Linda Hellow
Mr. Rommel Hidalgo, '04
Mr. Herbert Hipp, '90
Mrs. Leah Kalipetes, '67
Mr. Robert Kalipetes
Ms. Sandra Kazlow
Ms. Frances Koch, '77
Mrs. Marilyn D. Levin-Cuff, '73
Mr. Steven V. Maksin, '92
Ms. Patricia Martucci, '89
Mr. Daniel Moinester
Mrs. Margaret M. Pacelli, '86
Ms. Susan A. Paul, '01
Mr. Ali Rashid, '06
Mrs. Gila E. Rohr, '95
Mrs. Fern L. Rossi, '81
Mr. Gerald Sachs
Mrs. Jamee Schleifer, '79
Mr. Michael Schleifer, '93
Mrs. Leonie Schloss, '92
Mr. Martin Schwimmer, '66
Mr. Frank L. Scott, '79
Ms. Rachel E. Singer, '73
Mr. Carl B. Straker, '04
Ms. Dawn Taitt, '06
Mrs. Mary Thomas, '95
Mr. Timur F. Vafaev, '14
Ms. Elizabeth Walsh, '13
Mrs. Laiping Pang Wan, '04
Mr. Thomas Wan, '04
Ms. Miriam L. Wilson
Mr. Paul Winnick
Ms. Tara Yarczower, '97

Thank you to all of our alumni donors who support the college throughout the year.

To donate today visit www.kingsborough.edu/donate.