May 7, 2016 was a date for the record books – the date when 28 alumni from Kingsborough’s first graduating class, the Class of 1966, celebrated their 50th reunion!

The location for KCC’s first-ever 50th reunion was none other than on Kingsborough’s beautiful campus overlooking Jamaica Bay. Most alumni from the inaugural class were unfamiliar with today’s campus since they first attended classes either in the Masonic Temple in Mid-Brooklyn or at P.S. 98 on Avenue Z, and later in former military barracks on the KCC campus, which was once a Coast Guard base. Given that these students were pioneers in everything at KCC, they built strong ties to each other and to their respective campus.

Excitement levels were high not just among the alumni attending the reunion, but also among the event staff who were finally able to meet these pioneers and share in the celebration of this incredible milestone.

The night began with a lovely cocktail hour where alumni were first able to reconnect with their fellow classmates who sometimes were only recognized by their name tags which included their KCC yearbook picture. Alumni reminisced as they viewed enlarged pictures of all of the graduates, as well as memorabilia such as the 1966 yearbook, the original course catalog, the program for the first commencement exercises, and pictures of the original campuses.

After taking a group photo, President Farley Herzek gave a warm welcome to the attendees and remarked on how instrumental their initial enrollment, efforts, and graduation were in the early days of Kingsborough, and how special their return was now.

The evening continued with an intimate sharing of alumni reflections. The alumni introduced themselves, mentioned what they went on to do personally and professionally, and shared their fondest memories of their time at KCC.

The Class of 1966 Valedictorian, Angela Bracconi, brought her original valedictory speech to the reunion and allowed Eithne Clarke, her fellow KCC classmate and longtime friend, to read it to the audience. The speech helped further bring the alumni back to that reminiscent time.

Afterwards, many expressed that these sentiments were the highlight of the evening. For these alumni, KCC was their only chance to attend college at the time. Ultimately, they all shared the experience of being the college’s first students, and they continue to appreciate and value the education that impacted their lives.

A wonderful dinner and dancing to music of the ‘60s followed and a great time was had by all. It was clearly a night to remember.

We look forward to celebrating our next 50th Reunion with the Class of 1967. If you are an alum of the Class of 1967, please see page 2 about reaching out to us.
Earlier this year, I had the pleasure of working with five wonderful members of the Class of ’66, who helped plan and organize the 50th Reunion of Kingsborough’s first-ever graduating class.

We are grateful that this committee graciously agreed to establish a Class of 1966 Gift Fund to help support KCC’s newest initiative – the development of a Student Union & Intercultural Center (see page 7 for more information about this initiative). We want to sincerely thank all of our inaugural alumni who helped support this initiative, which will benefit all Kingsborough students.

In 2017, we are looking forward to celebrating the 50th Reunion of KCC’s Class of 1967, as well as the 10th Anniversary of our Surgical Technology program. If you are an alum from 1967 or the Surgical Technology program, we’d like to hear from you so we can be sure to invite you to the festivities.

Lastly, we plan to add a “Class Notes” section to future editions of Accolades where we share the success of – YOU - our inspiring alumni. We’d love to hear from you. Tell us your success story. Do you have a wonderful career? Have you obtained an advanced degree, won a special award, or had something dedicated to you? We want to know and share it with our other alumni. Don’t be shy. Please call or email us today and brag away!

Best regards,
Laura Glazier-Smith ’87

Stay Connected
Would you like to receive news and notifications about KCC and alumni events? Have you recently moved and need to tell us your new address? Are you interested in sharing your success story?

Please send us an e-mail at kccalumni@kbcc.cuny.edu or call the Office of Alumni Relations at 718-368-4539. We look forward to hearing from you!

Join the Alumni Association
Show your commitment to Kingsborough through membership in the Alumni Association. The $25 annual membership fee helps support student scholarships and programming for alumni events. Your membership also provides you with certain benefits, which include limited access to the college and its facilities, invitations to special events, and various discounts. For details or to join, visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/alumni or call us at (718) 368-4539.

KCC Alumni Relations
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President
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Special Thanks
The Office of Alumni Relations could not do what it does without the help of hundreds of volunteers each year. A special thank you goes to our Class of 1966 50th Reunion committee - Jane Kraidman, Leda (Pankin) Favale, Martin Schwimmer, Lainie (Ringhel) Sternin, and Debbie (Friedman) Salinsky, who were instrumental in organizing a spectacular 50th Reunion!
Continuing its time-honored tradition of celebrating the power that Kingsborough’s donors and supporters have to transform students’ lives through their generosity, in June Kingsborough held its 11th Annual Fundraiser, *Seaside Splash: Clambake Bash*.

Over 300 guests, including KCC faculty, staff, alumni and student-scholars, Foundation Board trustees, and community supporters attended the night of fine dining and dancing. Together, they helped to continue Kingsborough’s legacy of providing an affordable, high-quality and transformational education.

The event cast a spotlight on some of Kingsborough’s most promising students and alumni. The audience heard moving testimony from two students, Candy-Lynn Best and Marlene Babb-Charles, and alumnus, Brian Suckie, ’14. Candy-Lynn recounted her severe spinal problems as a teenager and Kingsborough’s role in transforming her life, while Marlene described how Kingsborough helped her to change careers and discover her true passion for nursing. Brian, currently a junior at Columbia University, shared how his Kingsborough education turned his once-modest goals into grand ambitions.

Guests also had the opportunity to meet other students who had received scholarships over the past year. With their different majors, goals, and aspirations, these students nonetheless had two important things in common: a transformational Kingsborough education, and a scholarship that helped them overcome the obstacles that stood in their way. All proceeds from the *Seaside Splash* go toward developing the financial resources, support systems, and academic programs that our future students will need to succeed.

In his remarks, President Farley Herzek shared that the students present were a small sample of the thousands who come to Kingsborough each year in search of the excellence, access, and opportunity that Kingsborough provides. He also announced the upcoming creation of the Student Union & Intercultural Center (SU&IC) that will be a place for students to study, congregate, and connect, as well as to access a range of resources designed to keep them on track towards graduation. Moreover, the SU&IC will provide a safe, inclusive, accessible space that will foster intercultural understanding, student/faculty collaboration, leadership, civic engagement, and a deeper sense of belonging that complements academic programs and enhances the Kingsborough community. We invite you to read more about this exciting initiative on page 7.

Above all, *Seaside Splash* highlighted the essential role that Kingsborough’s supporters play in helping students overcome the challenges that stand in the way of their dreams. As Brian proudly proclaimed in his speech, “If Kingsborough is the foundation of my success, then your generosity is the foundation of Kingsborough.”
Alumni Commencement Breakfast June 21, 2016

Members of KCC’s first graduating class - Harvey Davis, ‘66, Andrew Konikoff, ‘66, and Patrick Ianniello, ‘66

A Look at 2016

Alumni join us for breakfast and the 2016 Commencement ceremony

Donor Recognition May 5, 2016

President Herzek thanks our donors

A reception for KCC’s generous donors
Alumni Reception Series | November 21, 2015 and April 15, 2016

Alumni enjoy dinner before fabulous shows by The Doo Wop Project and Lorna Luft at On Stage At Kingsborough and met with the performers afterwards.

Alumni Scholarship Recipients - 2016

Congratulations to Jiehao Li,'16 (Mathematics), Jason Jones,'16 (Graphic Design), and Dayana Akbarova,'16 (Tourism and Hospitality).

Homecoming 2016

Alumni Career Panel Spring 2016

Thank you to alumni Michael Schleifer,'93 (Media Technology & Mgt.), CPA and Lecturer at Hunter College; Tara Yarczower,'97 (Early Childhood Education), Associate Director of Freshman Services at KCC; Jon Golin,'08 (Business Administration), Supervising Agent at National Income Life; Michelle Stoddart,'95 (Liberal Arts), Director of PR & Community Development at Resorts World.

Alumni Career Panel Fall 2015

Thank you to alumni Ilya Kopach,'11 (Nursing), Home Care Nurse; Alexander Tabor,'07 (Biology), Vice President Branch Manager at Amalgamated Bank; Dianne Galasso,'91 (Journalism & Print Media), Competency Manager at Maimonides Hospital; Deborah Salinsky,'66 (Liberal Arts), Clinical Social Worker.

Homecoming 2016

Alumni enjoy dinner before fabulous shows by The Doo Wop Project and Lorna Luft at On Stage At Kingsborough and met with the performers afterwards.
Launched in 2015, “The 1963 Society” recognizes the sustained annual support of Kingsborough’s most distinguished donors.

Many of this year’s members attended a special breakfast reception hosted by President Herzek. Each of the attendees had the opportunity to connect with the president and hear about the exciting work happening at KCC including plans for a new Student Union & Intercultural Center.

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

We invite you to join the “The 1963 Society” by making a leadership-level commitment today! For more information or to donate, visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/The1963Society or contact Dr. Elizabeth Basile in the Office for College Advancement at 718-368-4539.

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

Planned Giving Isn’t Just for the “Rich and Famous”

What is Planned Giving?

A planned gift is an investment in the long-term success of Kingsborough Community College and our students. By leaving money in your will, pension or insurance policy or by setting up a Charitable Gift Annuity, you can make a lasting difference in the lives of our students. Plus you can take advantage of tax savings now!

Four Simple Ways to Help

Outright Gifts: Your gift of cash, stock, or real estate can help us make a difference today.

Bequests: A gift of cash, securities, or real estate in your will can help you establish a legacy long after you’re gone while avoiding costly estate and gift taxes.

Charitable Gift Annuity: Receive dependable, fixed income for life in return for a gift of cash or securities.

Life Insurance Policy/IRA Beneficiary: You can name Kingsborough Community College as a beneficiary on a new or existing life insurance policy, or designate a portion of your IRA or pension in your will.

All of these processes are fairly simple and are available to individuals at all income levels.

Contact Dr. Elizabeth Basile, Vice President for Institutional Advancement at 718-368-4539. www.kbcc.cuny.edu/planyourlegacy

If you have previously provided for the college in your estate plans, please contact us so that we may thank you and enroll you in the Beacon Society, a special group of KCC alumni, retirees, faculty, staff, and friends who have recognized the importance of philanthropic estate planning, and who have provided for the college through their wills and other planned giving arrangements.
Kingsborough is thrilled to announce that plans are underway for the development of the college’s first Student Union and Intercultural Center (SU&IC).

A major initiative, the SU&IC is designed to improve student engagement and foster intercultural understanding by providing a welcoming, easy-to-navigate, information-rich and inclusive environment on the KCC campus. Since students who are active in campus life and connected to the resources they need are more likely to graduate, the SU&IC will address one of Kingsborough’s foremost priorities: improving student retention and graduation rates.

As one of the top community colleges in the nation, Kingsborough is also one of the most diverse. Our students come from all over the world, representing over 142 nations and speaking 73 different languages. Many of our students are non-traditional: they are over the age of 20, have children and/or work, live in low-income households and are often the first in their families to attend college. Together, this can threaten educational success. The SU&IC will address these factors by helping students become better connected to the resources and opportunities they need to stay in school and achieve their dreams.

In addition to being a hub for current students to access vital information and services, the SU&IC will help orient and welcome new students and visitors, facilitate faculty, staff and student partnerships and exchanges and offer spaces for quiet study, reflection and collaboration. The SU&IC will also include an attractive outdoor plaza and incorporate the use of technology to enable students to share information. SU&IC programming will cover important themes such as diversity, faith, democratic citizenship, leadership, the arts, civic engagement, academic support, and health and wellness. Together, these features will broaden the horizons of our students by fostering tolerance, cultural competency, a deeper sense of belonging, and connectedness.

The concept for an SU&IC was developed collaboratively by college leadership, alumni, students, faculty and staff. The first phase of construction has just begun. The total cost associated with the creation of the SU&IC is $1.5 million.

If you would like to learn more or support this initiative, please visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/donate or contact:

Dr. Elizabeth Basile,
Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Elizabeth.Basile@kbcc.cuny.edu or call 718-368-4539.
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  Mr. Thomas S. Lauro, '74
Mr. William P. Carey, '14  Mr. William Macri, '94
Mrs. Mary R. Casey, '78  Mrs. Barbara T. Mauceri, '96
Ms. Mary A. Chillemi, '04  Mr. Daniel Moinester
Mr. Donald Coy, '00  Mr. James Ogilvie, '02
Mrs. Anna Cromas, '91  Ms. Dragalina Pakin, '15
Mr. Paul Curiale, '91  Mr. Raymond Ratinetz
Mr. Michael Davidovitch, '15  Mrs. Rosalie Schwarz, '89
Ms. Carol A. DeSantis-Price, '78  Mr. Frank L. Scott, '79
Ms. Denise Garrett '94  Mrs. Patricia L. Scott, '94
Ms. Sandra Gelfman, '70  Mrs. Satyawattie Singh, '04
Ms. Laura F. Glazier-Smith, '87  Ms. Evereene Steward
Mr. Martin J. Golloub, '69  Ms. Dawn Taitt, '06
Ms. Aida C. Gramieri, '86  Mr. Wayne Tse
Ms. Patricia Graviano, '77  Mr. Ottono Usanga, '93
Mr. Arnon Hetsrny, '82  Ms. Marie Walsh, '94
Mr. Sidney Hirschfeld, '68  Mrs. Kathleen W. Weaver, '85
Mr. Vyacheslav Kupershtok, '04  Ms. Jacqueline Williams, '07

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

To donate today visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu/donate.