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The 2023 Oscar for Great Community Colleges can go to...

BY DR. CLAUDIA SCHRADER

As of this month, 17 people have joined the distinguished class of entertainers who have the honor of being named an EGOT, an individual who has won an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony award for outstanding performance on television, recording, a film, or Broadway theatre. For community colleges, there is one award that recognizes excellence: the Aspen Institute's Aspen Prize for College Excellence. Former President Barack Obama called the Aspen Prize the Oscars for great community colleges.

For the third time, Kingsborough Community College has been named as finalist for the outstanding performance and outcomes in teaching and learning, certificate and degree completion, transfer and bachelor's attainment, workforce success, and equity for students of color and low-income backgrounds.

The Aspen Prize selection process began in October

2021, when the Aspen Institute worked with an expert data panel to craft a formula to assess student outcomes at nearly 1,000 community colleges. Based on the data, 150 community colleges were invited to apply. A selection committee of 16 higher education experts reviewed the 109 applications received, including extensive data and narratives on student success strategies. From the 25 highest-ranking colleges announced as semifinalists in April, the committee met last month to choose the 10 Aspen Prize finalists. Our sister CUNY institution, Hostos Community College, is also a finalist.

A Review Committee conducts on-site visits to all college finalists to interview students, faculty, staff, and community partner representatives.

The winner will be announced in the spring of 2023 and will receive the majority share of the Aspen Prize of \$1 million, which is generously sponsored by Ascendium, the



From left, Dr. Colleen Davy, Interim Assistant Dean for Institutional Research and Strategic Planning, President Dr. Claudia Schrader and Dr. Joanne Russell, Senior Vice President and Provost, proudly display the banner given to Kingsborough Community College as a finalist for the 2023 Aspen Prize.

Joyce Foundation, JPMorgan, KCC has been placed in the top 150 or better seven consecutive

times since the prize's inception.

A win next year for Kingsborough will be an amazing testament to the incredible work of the faculty and staff who are committed to ensuring the success of our students. But what is even more incredible is the work that we do every day to help students win at achieving their goals.

Dr. Claudia Schrader is the President of Kingsborough Community College (KCC), which was founded in 1963. KCC is Brooklyn's only community college and is part of the City University of New York (CUNY). Located on a 70-acre campus in Manhattan Beach, Kingsborough remains firmly committed to its mission of providing both liberal arts and career education, promoting student learning and development, as well as strengthening and serving its diverse community. The complete list of 2023 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence finalists can be found here: as.in/prize.

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