

Dear Campus Community,

Please find below some updates and highlights regarding our work within the division.

Center for Career Development & Experiential Learning

The Center for Career Development & Experiential Learning will continue to collect new and/or gently used professional clothing for the **Dress for Success Boutique**. Please drop off any donations to Room C-102 by Tuesday, September 12th.

The **Fall Job Fair** will be held on September 27th from 11:00am to 1:00pm. For a list of participating employers, please see here: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1y1PXTUAXjyiyMVAeAiVSYMkdAiVQtpBWFBTiN3HIrm4/edit?usp=sharing>. Kindly encourage students to have their resume reviewed prior to participating in the fair.

Students can also visit **Handshake** to apply for open positions, internships, and for updates at <https://kingsboroughcc.okta.com/> and use their KCC login credentials to access the site.

The virtual front desk hours are Mondays from 10:00am-12:00pm and 2:00pm-4:00pm here: <https://zoom.us/my/kcccareer>. Also, students can visit Room C-102, call (718) 368-5115, or contact us via email at careerdevelopment@kbcc.cuny.edu.

Community Farm and Garden

The **Community Farm and Garden** will remain closed until further notice while the renovations continue this fall. The old lumber has been removed and leveled for the new beds, and we will replenish the soil once the beds are complete and prepare the layout for the children's area, which is set for September.

New Hydroponics at KCC (H-KCC) Learning Lab -We were awarded a grant in the amount of **\$250,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)** to launch a new **Hydroponics Lab located in T605, in partnership with NY Sun Works**. Hydroponics is an innovative method of growing that uses water-based nutrients to cultivate plants, replacing traditional soil. The grant is part of a \$4.7 million investment in agricultural workforce training at community colleges. The project will begin with a pilot phase targeting recent high school graduates who have shown interest in green economy and alternative farming methods, particularly those from schools with hydroponic facilities. Following the pilot's successful evaluation, the program will expand to accommodate two additional cohorts open to the wider public. **Dr. Shannon Caravello, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences, and Community Farm and Garden Administrator** will spearhead the project. For more information, email CFG.KCC@KBCC.CUNY.EDU or call 718-368-6578.

Volunteer Days and Student Engagement - We will resume volunteer hours in the fall once the new beds and soil are in place. Please follow KCC_CFG on Instagram for updates or contact Emily.agosti@kbcc.cuny.edu to be added to our volunteer mailing list.

Student Club – We established a new name for the student club connected to the farm-from “Community Cultivation Project” to the “**Farm to Kitchen Club.**” We will partner with Chef Naxielly Dominguez to build a strong club that can host events and activities. Please contact Emily.agosti@kbcc.cuny.edu to sign up and Shannon.caravello@kbcc.cuny.edu for faculty questions/research/collaborations.

Grants and Awards

We submitted three (3) proposals: the **Elevance Health Foundation** proposal; if awarded, these funds will support the development and delivery of a program that will train students as Community Health Workers who specialize in maternal health. We expect to serve 100 students over three years, providing training, wrap-around services, and job-related experiences. A second proposal for \$150,000 to the **New York City Employment and Training Coalition's (NYCETC) Tech Bridge Grant.** The grant program seeks to fund partnerships between organizations and training institutions to develop bridge programs, pre-apprenticeships, work-based learning experiences, and wrap-around support. If awarded, we will partner with [Reclassify AI](#) to develop a program that bundles KCC's UX microcredential and express Coding for Designers courses with Reclassify's Artificial Intelligence bootcamp. We will train up to 40 students over 12 months. Lastly, a \$100,000 proposal to the **CUNY Adult and Continuing Education (ACE) Upskilling program for a UX Design and Coding.** This program will support the development of a new, comprehensive Coding for UX Design course. Once developed, the new course will be bundled with our highly successful User Experience Design course. This year-long program will train up to 60 students.

Program and Partnership Updates

The **Maternal Health Certificate/Doula** training program will begin in September. This course will provide students with the foundation to understand the field of maternal health. Students will become trained as doulas and learn to apply basic skills and competencies in various community settings. They will learn about the history and how it plays a role in marginalized communities, recognize how implicit bias, and learn to address persistent and emerging issues surrounding maternal health. Applicants must be 18+ years old, have a High School diploma or equivalent, and be proficient in English. Link to register: <https://ce.cuny.edu/kbcc/courseDisplay.cfm?schID=107355>

Embark on a Banking Career! Are you ready to soar in the exciting world of Finance and Banking? Do you have a background or interest in Finance or Sales? If you answered yes, then **sign up now** for our **FREE** comprehensive **Securities Industry Essentials (SIE)** exam test prep course. The class will start from September 26th - November 16th, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Must be 18 years or older. Background or desired interest in banking, finance or sales a plus, as well as any college or employment industry experience. For more information about the program, please contact Janet Rivera via email at Jeanette.Rivera@kbcc.cuny.edu.

The **From Cannabis to Cuisine** program is getting off to an excellent start with 380 applications. Featured on [CannaDiva's](#) Instagram page, [Toketivity's](#) website, and [On the Revel's](#) "Dope People" listserv, the program is receiving major attention and praise for its innovative curriculum and mission, in addition to its star-packed Advisory Board including Chopped 420 winner [Wendy Zeng](#), activist and experience-curator [Solonje Burnett](#), award-winning cannabis [Chef "Hawaii" Mike](#), and more. We also finalized a partnership with [M4MM](#) (Minorities 4 Medical Marijuana) to incorporate "cannavism," racial justice, and cannabis history into the course, and program coordinator [Becky Firesheets](#) will be presenting at the upcoming [NYATEP](#) conference on best programmatic practices in the cannabis education field.

ESL/HSE/SNAP programs - non-native speakers of English are now registering for the Fall 2023 cohort of the **Strides to Continuing Success ESL/Food Handlers Certificate** training program. Students will improve their English as they learn various kitchen skills and techniques and prepare for the ServSafe and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene certifications. Students who complete the **FREE** 14-week program can apply seven (7) transfer credits in Culinary Arts in the Department of Tourism and Hospitality at Kingsborough – a great first step in a rewarding food services career. For more information about both programs, please call (718) 368-4870.

Flex Into UX! In collaboration with the **Brooklyn Public Library**, Flex Into UX is spreading the word about training programs available, leading to careers in the tech industry. Focusing on **User Experience Design**, the program started on July 11 with online and in-person sessions at the Central Library. They had 11 amazing sessions, thanks to the dedication of volunteers, all seasoned UX Designers. With three more classes still to come, Flex has made 256 unique connections with participants in both virtual and in-person sessions. Participants are gearing up for the Design-A-Thon grand finale, set to take place on September 30 at Central Library. This is where all the skills and knowledge gained during the sessions will come together to showcase creativity and innovation. Do you have a challenge in mind that is itching to be solved? Share your fantastic ideas for a Brooklyn-centered issue that could use some creative problem-solving magic at the Design-A-Thon [HERE](#). Contact **Hillary Stackpole** (Hillary.stackpole@kbcc.cuny.edu) for more information or if you want to attend the Design-A-Thon.

A partnership with **Lenox Hill Neighborhood House** for a culinary professional development program launched this month. We offered workshop sessions on knife skills; baking; plant-based, and zero-waste cooking as participants bonded over this unique, sustainable experience and learned to reduce waste together. For more information on these unique trainings, please contact **Vickie DiMartino** via email at vickie.dimartino@kbcc.cuny.edu.

Cypress Hills Satellite – In collaboration with **Cypress Hills Local Development**, we will offer a Certified Nursing Assistant cohort in the fall. Additionally, we are recruiting students for the upcoming SD 11, High School Diploma/GED, and ESL sections. For more information, please contact **Angela King** via email at Angela.King@kbcc.cuny.edu.

College for Kids (CFK) – The program wrapped up its first summer College For Kids cohort since summer 2019. Students, age 5 to 14, were on campus for up to 6 weeks and enrolled in various exciting courses ranging from literacy, math, science, and technology to sports, gardening, and art. Our student survey indicated that 70% of our young students were never on campus or in the program before, and 68% undoubtedly want to come back. Sports, Forensic Detective, TV Broadcasting, and various Tech courses were noted as students' favorite classes. The program will continue this Fall on Saturdays. Click here to see the course lineup and to register: https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/cfk_materials.html.

Fall 2023 Catalog

The **Fall Catalog** can be found here: <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/courses.html>. The next **information session will be on September 6th at 12pm and 6pm** where a special discount code will be provided. Interested students can register for the session by visiting the website: <https://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/>. For more information, please call (718)-368-5050 or contact us via email at conted@kbcc.cuny.edu.

An array of exciting programs and courses are being offered from vocational training and certificate programs in *Healthcare*, *Accounting*, *Lean Six Sigma*, and *Paralegal* to fun enrichment courses including *Salsa Dance for Beginners*, *Bachata Dance for Beginners*, *Hair Styling* and *Makeup* workshops.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,