



Hostos Community College

CUNY

COMMUNITY REPORT

ISSUE 2 | SUMMER 2022
ACADEMIC YEAR 2021–22

HCC: Celebrating Diversity and Equity



“Hope”

By Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land,
And on the strangest sea;
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

It is a joy to write these brief remarks to introduce the 2021–2022 Community Report to our family and friends. I celebrate two years since I returned to Hostos. Hope and hard work have moved us forward on so many fronts and culminated in a very successful Middle States Evaluation Visit and affirmation of our accreditation. Over 100 colleagues collaborated and significant leaders from the College assumed responsibilities.

Our work in transforming lives and generations of families by means of a caring, thoughtful, kind and quality education is also being recognized by the College being named as a top 10 Aspen Prize finalist, a significant honor for community colleges. Additionally, we've put in place multiple mechanisms to set up the Steering Committee and working group structure of the planning team for our 2023–2028 Strategic Plan, work that will culminate with the creation and implementation of our plan by Fall 2023.

As I write these words, there have been a number of panel, committee, and planning meetings of the Hostos leadership team as we envision our engagement with local high schools to grow in important ways this coming academic year. In October, we will congregate at Montefiore Hospital for the first Allied Health Studies Industry Summit, focusing on nursing. The first in a biannual summit coordinated with incredible support of the Community Advisory Council leadership, chaired by Mr. Elias Alcantara and vice chaired by Dr. Nydia Edgecombe.

Looking back at the past year, we take pride in the in-person celebration of commencement and the powerful stories of persistence and triumph of over 1,100 graduates, some of whom completed their entire studies during a pandemic.

Mil gracias y bendiciones,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.

President

Eugenio María de Hostos Community College, CUNY



Hostos named top 10 finalist for the 2023 Aspen prize for community college excellence.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

This academic year, we celebrated the culmination of three years of hard work and received a very positive final report from the Middle States Accreditation visiting team as well as an official notification informing us of our institution's successful accreditation. We also gathered at the end of the Spring semester to celebrate our graduating class of 2022. Over 1,100 graduates were conferred their degrees during two in person ceremonies in the College's Main Theater. A slate of elected officials were in attendance for both days, including Senator Charles Schumer, and Ms. Elba Cabrera received an Honorary Degree in Humane Letters.

In the 2021–2022 academic year, the College held numerous cultural veladas, forums and town halls honoring such events as Pride Month (with guests Congressman Ritchie Torres and Assemblymember Deborah Glick), Puerto Rican Heritage Month (with Dr. Luis Rafael Burset Flores and José Sanchez Kinghorn of the Hostos Foundation), and Women's History Month (with women elected official leaders). Hispanic History Month, Italian History Month, Black History Month and Dominican History Month, and Asian Pacific Heritage Month were also celebrated.

Thanks to the Kaplan Leadership Program, Hostos Community College January 2022 graduate Ndongo Njie has been accepted to Princeton University. The Leadership Program is part of the Kaplan Educational Foundation, and assists high-potential, low-income, and underrepresented community college students in completing their associate's degrees and transferring to four-year institutions.

Students come to Hostos from all over the world — and see the world as students! Mathew Palomeque participated in the Summer 2022 French boot camp sponsored by the French Embassy, which takes students to Lyon and Paris. Nicole Wallenbrock, an assistant professor in the Humanities Department, brought these wonderful opportunities to Palomeque's attention. He described his experience of "going to France to learn about sustainability both challenging and productive. I was able to confront different situations in which, even though, I had little preparation of, I was able to learn at least the basics on how to approach them."

ENGAGING COMMUNITY

As Hostos slowly but surely — and safely! — returned to in-person classes and events, the College began offering a hybrid of virtual and in-person forums, discussions and more for the extended Hostos community and elected officials.

Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Assemblymember Kenny Burgos, Councilmember Kevin Riley, and father and son elected officials Assemblymember Jeff Dinowitz and Councilmember Eric Dinowitz joined the Hostos community in November for a fascinating discussion of male leadership and the importance of role modeling.

In May 2022, Hostos' local New York City Councilmember Rafael Salamanca toured classrooms, laboratories and facilities and spoke to a group of nursing students to see how Hostos was functioning in the present stage of the pandemic. Councilmember Salamanca sang the praises of the College's "amazing students who are part of the school's phenomenal dental, nursing, athletics, and performing arts programs."

Congressmen Adriano Espaillat and Richie Torres joined in supporting the President's Ms. MacKenzie Scott's Gift NextGen Public Health Scholars 2+2+2 initiative, which will create joint degree programs with City College of New York, Queens College, and Columbia University. A proposal for earmarked funds to support tuition balances not covered by financial aid is being championed by the congressmen.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS

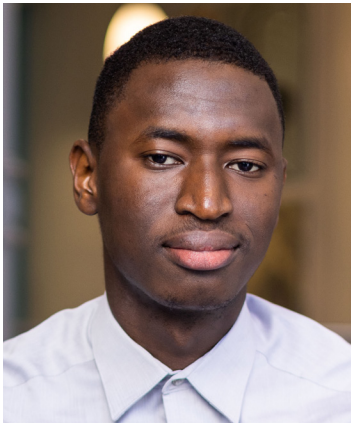
Every thought, every action, every effort we make at Hostos is dedicated to student success. Our students learn from the best; the College possesses a highly accomplished faculty committed to sharing what they know as they continue their own research projects, pursue their own academic goals, and ensure that the Hostos curriculum is in sync with changing educational and societal goals and requirements.

This year, Intelligent.com recognized Hostos on its list of Best Community Colleges in New York in 2022 with its "Best Game Design Program" award.

Digital Design & Animation student Lisbeth Estevez created an animated ad for the Metropolitan Opera's production of "Cinderella."

In a lovely example of cross-generational education, both Diana Rodríguez and her daughter, Camila Peña completed milestones at Hostos this year. Rodríguez studied Dental Hygiene and Peña participated in a moving up ceremony in the Hostos Children's Center.

In the Spring of 2022, the Office of High School-College Partnerships and the Allied Health Sciences Department proudly celebrated Amar Ibrahim Alsaidi, who became the first Health Education Research Occupations (HERO) High School student to graduate from Hostos' Registered Nursing (RN) program, earning an Associate of Applied Sciences (A.A.S.).



<p>BLACK HISTORY MONTH</p> <p>COMMUNITY FORUM AND DISCUSSION Why is it so hard for people to open up about mental health?</p> <p>Friday, February 18, 2022 2:00 p.m.</p>			

Additionally, our Allied Health Sciences students continued to showcase their expertise in the fields of Dental Hygiene, Nursing, and Radiologic Technology. The Dental Hygiene pass rate for the 2021 Clinical Board Exam was 97%. Furthermore, 81% of Registered Nursing (RN) students passed the 2021–2022 RN-NCLEX examination and 100% of students passed the NCLEX-Practical Nurse examination. Moreover, the Radiologic Technology pass rate for the 2021–2022 Radiography credentialing examination was 86% and job placement of Rad Tech students was 100% for 2021 graduates.

Hostos faculty members found ample opportunities to display their gifts over the academic year. History, theatre, sociology, music – these and many other disciplines were all part of the mix. They published chapters in books and peer-reviewed articles, curated art exhibits, directed plays, and presented at professional conferences, among other creative and scholarly activities. The number and variety of research projects is a testament to the vision, capability, and academic rigor possessed by our award-winning faculty.

The Math Department and Natural Sciences Departments conceived and implemented interdisciplinary events for Math Day and Science Week, respectively, on the cosmic and the microcosmic scale.

The Hostos Engineering program was recognized as a finalist for the 2021 Examples of Excelencia for its leadership in effectively serving Latino students. Also, students from the program attended the Society of Women Engineering Conference.

In AY 2022, the Division of Continuing Education and Workforce Development (CEWD) offered 209 course sections and enrolled 2,360 students mainly from the Bronx and surrounding neighborhoods.

CEWD staff worked hard to help students complete their courses during the pandemic. In Summer 2021, 83% of CEWD students completed their course work and in Fall 2021, 85% of students completed their course work. Fifty-two percent (52%) of students who completed a CEWD program reported being employed; forty-two percent (42%) indicated they were employed full-time.

NEW PROGRAMS

A changing world means changing demands, and Hostos is committed to keeping its offerings up-to-date academically and technologically.

Hostos launched its Associate of Science (A.S.) in Computer Science (CS) program in the Fall of 2021. The program offers courses that will educate and prepare students for careers in

Computer Science, Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and other software and computer networking related fields.

The College's Associate of Arts (A.A.) in Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) degree has been enhanced through the approval of the Liberal Arts Options (LAOs). These newly designed Options for Liberal Arts majors are composed of 9–12 elective credits each and allow students to undertake a more in-depth exploration of areas of interest.

The CUNY Online initiative selected the Hostos Community Health Workers (CHW) certificate for transformation into a fully online program in academic year 2022–2023. The CHW certificate is a health care worker pipeline program that provides students with a path for completing a certificate while earning academic credits toward a degree in Community Health when officially matriculated at Hostos.

INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS

The Hostos Community College Foundation's 2022 Annual Scholarship Benefit was a tremendous success, raising more than \$320,000 in gifts and pledges.

Hostos received 32 grants during the AY 2021–2022, including renewing grants, totaling \$5,296,797. The College is also the recipient of federal and state grants from agencies including the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the New York State Department of Education. In 2021, the NSF awarded \$2.3 million to Hostos Community College's Hostos Oasis for Parents' Education (HOPE) program, a holistic two-generation approach to improving STEM education in the South Bronx. Professor Sarah Hoiland will oversee this grant. Moreover, the NYS Education department has awarded the College grants for the Liberty Partnerships program, Title II & Welfare Education Program, Vocational Educational Program, STEP/Proyecto Access, CSTEP, and Workforce Investment Act.

The College's CUNYStart (CS) program was awarded a two-year \$200K grant from GradNYC to develop a comprehensive set of college success strategies that target the needs of adult learners beginning in the pre-matriculation stage through students' first year in college.

The Division of Continuing Education and Workforce Development (CEWD) total revenue for Fiscal Year 2021–22 was \$7.6 million. CEWD successfully renewed and/or secured \$4.2 million in grant awards and \$286,932 in contracts from a combination of private foundations and city, state and federal governments. This funding allowed CEWD to offer courses at no cost to students and to participate in the recovery of New York City from the effects of the global pandemic.

MS. MACKENZIE SCOTT'S GIFT: PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVES

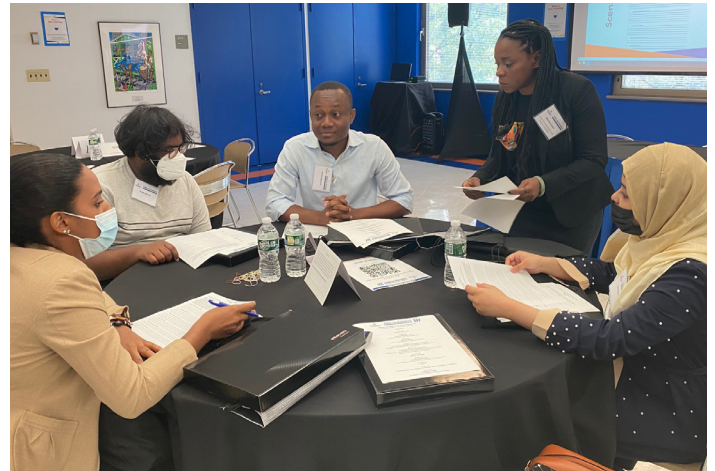
The President's Initiatives for Student Success, College Growth and Stakeholders' Engagement has been created with the generous support, the largest ever donation to Eugenio María de Hostos Community College, from philanthropist and author Ms. MacKenzie Scott. With her generous gift, Ms. Scott recognizes Hostos' significant contribution to the South Bronx communities it has served with quality academic programs, hope, care and understanding for the past fifty years.

Nine transformative ideas were established by the Hostos Advisory Corp. (HAC), under the guiding vision of President Cocco De Filippis. Of note, a new Hostos Research Center is in the works to be unveiled in Fall 2022 for our students and faculty. The center has awarded 11 grants to faculty members and seven seed grants to help faculty/staff develop new projects. We are excited to have this new central hub become available to the college community.

Another program, Families United in Education, assists family members who are enrolled in degree programs at Hostos to complete their education, maintain health and well-being, and

build stronger familial bonds. Participants attended Broadway shows and visited the Bronx Zoo. Twenty-nine students received support in Spring 2022 from the Bridge Tuition Support Assistance initiative.

To support CEWD students who want to transition to a degree program at Hostos, the Division established the Hostos MacKenzie Scott Adult and Continuing Education (ACE) Scholarship through the President's Initiatives for Student Success.





MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

