

THE JOLLY ROGER

An Annual Publication of
Independence Community College

Alexa Hohler
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Summer 2022

INDEPENDENCE COM



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Mission

Independence Community College serves the best interests of students and the community by providing academic excellence while promoting cultural enrichment and economic development.

Vision

To be a community college that provides an exceptional educational experience by cultivating intellect, encouraging creativity, and enhancing character in a student and community centered environment.



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THE JOLLY ROGER

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Jolly Roger is the traditional English name for the flags flown to identify a pirate ship. The flag most commonly identified as the **Jolly Roger** today—the skull and crossbones symbol on a black flag—was used during the 1710s by a number of pirate captains including Black Sam Bellamy.

The Jolly Roger is an annual publication released by Independence Community College. Please direct any questions, comments, or concerns regarding this publication and or it's mailing to marketing@indycc.edu.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

DR. VINCENT BOWHAY



“Our Pirate community is full of difference makers who improve the lives of others each day.”

Seldom can a community college honor a two-time Pulitzer Prize winning playwright such as Lynn Nottage. Independence Community College had the pleasure this spring when we partnered with the William Inge Festival Foundation Board to present Nottage with the Distinguished Achievement in the American Theater Award during our 39th William Inge Theater Festival.

Nottage, whose work often focuses on the experiences of working-class people and minorities, challenged audiences to be change agents in their communities. In times of difficulties, neighbors must pull together to look out for each other and become beacons of hope when times are at their darkest. Coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, I can think of no greater message for all of us in Southeast Kansas. Each of us have been challenged by a pandemic that mercilessly changed how we interacted with each other and the world.

Even while working as a playwright, Nottage spent four years working for Amnesty International, an international organization dedicated to promoting human rights around the world. This dedication to improving the lives of others can serve as an example for all of us.

Examples of similar service are found in this inaugural edition of the Jolly Roger, like in the story of Paula Schabel, a 1995 graduate of Independence Community College and this year's Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. Paula currently serves as the General Manager of Textron Aviation's Independence facility. Paula spends countless hours volunteering for worthy causes throughout our community and demonstrates the power one individual can have in making difference in the lives of others.

You'll read about Nellie Mendoza and her family. The Mendoza's were named the College's 2021 First-Generation Family of the Year. Nellie was the first in her family to attend college and met her husband Jason while at school at ICC. Together they now have three children who are enrolled or have graduated from college.

You'll also read about how ICC is promoting educational opportunities for Veterans in our community, serving those who served our country with distinction. And you will learn more about how our new esports and powerlifting teams are achieving success in national competition.

As you read about Nottage, Schabel, Mendoza, and others, I hope that you will have the same pride I have in knowing our Pirate community is full of difference makers who improve the lives of others each day.



Schabel Honored as ICC's Distinguished Alum

Speaks to Graduating Class

Paula Schabel was honored as the 2022 Distinguished Alum. during the spring commencement ceremony on May 7, 2022.

Schabel graduated ICC in 1995 with an Associate Degree in General Studies, and then went on to attend Pittsburg State University, where she obtained her Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting.

Joining Textron Aviation in 1997, Paula began her career with the Cessna Employees Credit Union. She held many roles with increasing responsibility across the finance department, including Accountant, Financial Analyst, Finance Business Partner and Accounting Manager. Before moving into her current position as General Manager of the Textron Aviation Independence facility, Paula served as a Value Stream Manager where she oversaw the Cessna single-engine high-wing piston and Cessna Citation M2 production lines, ensuring the manufacturing process ran reliably and efficiently.

"Paula is an outstanding example, and we are proud to have her as our Distinguished Alum this year," stated Taylor Crawshaw, Vice President of Academic Affairs. "She embodies the Independence Community College spirit, and as a successful ICC graduate, she continues to serve and give back to this community."

Schabel continues to advocate for community colleges and the critical role they play in workforce development across the nation and rural communities.

"Community colleges provide students with career technical training, transferrable credits and the occupational skills necessary for career advancement," explained Schabel. "I'm a proud graduate of Independence Community College and wholeheartedly stand behind the value the institution provides its student base."

Graduation Snapshots...



Advice from our Distinguished Alum:

"Collaboration is key to long-term success. Teamwork provides the opportunity for different perspectives, which often leads to more effective problem solving."

Paula Schabel 95-96
General Manager | *Textron Aviation*



West Campus Hosts Diversity in Tech Ed Day

West Campus played host to almost 50 area students during Diversity in Tech Ed Day, Friday, February 11, 2022. In conjunction with Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month, this event encouraged students to explore various technical program options while speaking to program directors and current students.

Students were able to get hands-on experience, allowing them to understand the college process and program requirements better. Program representatives also spoke about career opportunities within that degree program upon graduation.

“54% of jobs in Kansas require skills training,” explained Jaicey Gillum, Executive Director for Academic Outreach. “These jobs require more education than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree. CTE programs are great because they help develop skilled workers who are ready to jump into the workforce.”



Senior Day Welcomes Over 60 Area High Schoolers

The ICC Main Campus hosted over 60 seniors from local area high schools on Friday, December 3, 2021.

“We are always excited to welcome seniors to join us on our beautiful campus,” said Brooke Joseph, Director of Recruiting. “Opportunities like these allow students to personally interact with current students, faculty, and staff while exploring all that ICC has to offer!”

Students were able to meet with faculty and activity directors, tour campus, visit the cafeteria and speak to Financial Aid.

“Senior Day is so important because it allows students to get a feel of what the environment is like on campus,” said Joseph. “I hope each student in attendance today left with a better understanding of the college process and feeling more confident in their decisions for next year.”

ICC Designated as 2022-2023 Military-Friendly® School

ICC earned a Military Friendly® School designation for the 2022-2023 Academic Year. The college received a silver designation.

“The Military Friendly School designation is an incredible honor for ICC and truly highlights our dedication and passion for providing the best services and support to all military-affiliated students,” said India Bennett, Program Coordinator for Veteran Student Success.

The list of Military Friendly® Schools and Military Friendly® Schools ratings are assessed through the evaluation of both public data about the institution and proprietary data gathered through the Military Friendly School Survey. Each year, schools taking the survey are held to a higher standard than in previous years via improved methodology, criteria, and weightings developed with the assistance of an independent research firm and an Advisory Council.

Survey responses are weighted according to the categories: Academic Policies & Compliance, Graduation & Career Outcomes, Culture & Commitment, Military Student Support & Retention, Admissions & Orientation & Financial Aid & Loan Repayment.

“Our staff, faculty, and administration are committed to helping students navigate the transition from military to college by offering support and guidance every step of the way, from admissions to tutoring and on to career advising for Veterans who are working towards a new career path,” explained Bennett.

The Center of Excellence for Veteran Student Success (CEVSS) 's mission is to support student veterans in achieving their academic, career, and personal goals. Made possible by a Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Secondary Education (FIPSE) grant, the evolving success center at ICC serves as a focal point for veteran students focusing on four key areas: 1) aiding veterans' transition to campus life, 2) increasing retention, 3) completing a degree 4) and/or transferring to a four-year university.



Did You Know?

ICC is a **Designated Purple Heart College** by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. This recognizes the college's support of military members, including veterans and their families.



Arbor Day Foundation Honors ICC With 'Tree Campus Higher Education' Recognition

ICC has been honored with a "2021 Tree Campus Higher Education" recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation. The Tree Campus Higher Education program, formerly Tree Campus USA, honors colleges and universities for effective campus forest management and engaging staff and students in conservation goals.

"When we first heard about this opportunity, we gathered a group together to work on submitting the application," said David Adams, Vice President for Student Affairs. "We knew, through becoming a Higher Education Tree Campus, it would support efforts to make the campus more livable, healthy and enhance our partnership with the City through their designation as a Tree City USA with the Arbor Day Foundation."

ICC achieved the title by meeting Tree Campus Higher Education's five standards, including maintaining a tree advisory committee, a campus tree-care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance, and a student service-learning project. Currently, there are 403 campuses across the United States with this recognition.

"Being accepted as a Tree Campus by the Arbor Day Foundation is wonderful for our campus and community," said Bridget Carson, Advisory Committee Co-Chair. "We have a beautiful campus to steward, which gives us opportunities for green space to enjoy for both our campus and our community, campus-as-classroom, and to support and nurture native species. The resources available through the Arbor Day Foundation to help us care for and understand trees on our campus and communicate their benefits will help us responsibly maintain and add to their numbers for years to come."



ICC added two new trees to their inventory this year. The Autumn Blaze Maple was planted on December 3, 2021 and the Maple Red Sunset Tree was planted on April 29, 2022 in honor of former ICC Pirate Khalil Fulton.

LOVE INDEPENDENCE DAY



Students spent Love Independence Day cleaning up the softball fields, the pond, and behind ICC West.

'Price is Right' Financial Aid Event Promotes Financial Literacy

The Financial Aid and Recruiting Departments teamed up to host the annual 'Price is Right' Financial Literacy Event on April 1. Area high school students learned about college, personal finances, and scholarship opportunities in a fun and interactive format.

"Paying for college can be an expensive and intimidating process," explains Laura Allison, Director of Financial Aid. "Educating students about all of their financial aid options is a great way to reduce stress and help families make sound financial decisions in the future."

Laura Allison, Financial Aid Director acted as game show host during the event and showed up in a costume that would make Bob Barker and Jim Carey proud!

College Receives Rural Postsecondary and Economic Development Grant

The College received a grant for \$1,032,565 from the Department of Education Rural Postsecondary and Economic Development (RPED).

"ICC is committed to increasing graduate employability and job placement for all students," said Dr. Vincent Bowhay, ICC President. "This grant is an exciting way for us to continue to serve Southeast Kansas families and businesses."

The purpose of the RPED Grant Program is to improve rates of postsecondary enrollment, persistence, and completion among rural students through the development of high-quality career pathways aligned to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand industry sectors and occupations in the region.

ICC has begun utilizing grant funds to aid in recruitment efforts, over the next three years, targeting rural students in Southeast Kansas and bordering school districts and help provide career and academic advisement and placement.

Grant funds also being used to develop relationships with area workforce services to identify employer needs and promote internships, apprenticeships, and other on-the-job training for students and area employers.

"The ultimate goal is to provide more opportunities for meaningful career and employment training, in Rural America," said Taylor Crawshaw, Vice President for Academic Affairs. "I am thrilled that ICC is able to reach students with the grant. It allows area students to obtain their academic goals within higher education, closer to home, while helping to reduce barriers regarding college entry and completion."



HEERF Dollars Help Repay Outstanding Student Debt

The HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund) is emergency funding that was set aside for colleges and universities through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, and the American Rescue Plan. With each of these bills, colleges and universities received money to use for costs they've had to deal with because of COVID-19, like covering their payroll and making the switch to online distance classes.

ICC announced in the fall to use funds to pay outstanding debt owed by ICC Students.

"ICC is committed to providing our students and our community with a quality, affordable education," stated Dr. Vincent Bowhay, ICC President. "Thanks to this historic investment, students can enroll for future terms with a clean slate. I am proud of the opportunities we are creating for students to continue their academic journey at ICC."

To-date ICC has awarded \$1,963,181.59 in student grants from the Student Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund.

Quick News

Mary-Lynn White, ICC sophomore, was awarded the Certificate of Merit from The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. KCACTF awards a Certificate of Merit to outstanding students who have proven to be exceptional for their work on a particular production. White was recognized as the Stage Manager on ICC's Fall Production of *ENDGAME* by Samuel Beckett. The production took place December 2-5, 2021.

The Black Box Theatre played host to counselors and student support staff from 10 area high schools Friday, January 28, 2022, during the 'Can't Mask Our Appreciation' Brunch.

Those in attendance had the opportunity to learn about ICC programs and services, including ICC Now, SEK Leadership Competition, Academic Accommodations, Financial Aid, Student Services, and more.

Independence Community College is excited to be designated as a 2021-2022 Great Place to Work®.

Cody Westerhold, Director of Student Life was selected as the NASPA IV-W Community College Professional of the Year. NASPA is an organization that is dedicated to fulfilling higher education goals through guiding principles of integrity, innovation, inclusion, and inquiry.

The ICC Veterans Student Success Center opened its door on campus with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony hosted on November 11, 2021. The event started with a Flag Raising Ceremony in honor of Veterans Day along with tours of the new facility.

Stay Updated



on ICC News throughout the year!



Votes Initiative Program selected for NASPA IV -W Innovative Program of the Year Award

Independence Community College is pleased to have been selected for the NASPA IV-W Innovative Program Award with the Votes Initiative Program. NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) is an organization that is dedicated to fulfilling higher education goals through guiding principles of integrity, innovation, inclusion, and inquiry.

"ICC has a long history of preparing students to be active participants in our democratic society," said Dr. Vincent Bowhay, ICC President. "I am especially proud that the College is recognized for its work registering students to vote in the 2020 Presidential election. Despite a pandemic, our students made their voices heard on a wide variety of issues, and that is something we should all be proud of."

ICC is one of over 231 "Voter Friendly" campuses across 37 states. The mission of the Votes Initiative Program is to help students overcome barriers to participating in the political process. Campuses are evaluated based on a campus plan that offers ways for individuals to register, educate, and turn out student voters.

Henderson Honored with Student Veteran Leadership Award

G.I. Jobs® honored ICC's Maurice Henderson with the Student Veteran Leadership Award, a prestigious honor presented to student veterans who are making a positive difference at their school and in their community.

The honoree excels in academics and made meaningful contributions to their school, fellow students and the community. They worked to bridge the cultural gap between student veterans and civilian students, faculty and staff. They embody the spirit of leadership, teamwork and camaraderie they learned in the military. They've overcome challenges and take the lead in campus and community activities. They hail from large schools and small, private and public, two year and four year. They are a credit to the nation they served.



Indy Women's Basketball Celebrates as Conference Champs

When you win as many games as the Indy Women's Basketball Team has these past two seasons, the victories and happy moments can start to blur together. Despite that, Head Women's Coach Jim Turgeon has done a great job at keeping things in perspective. I was able to ask him what his favorite moment was this season.

"On sophomore night, playing Butler with a chance to win a conference championship," Coach Turgeon replied. "With the score really close at halftime. To be able to do that, and then to have to play them again a week later in the second round of conference playoffs. They were picked to win our conference, so they had to be the best #9 seed in the country. It wasn't so much a game, but a week. To win a conference championship with a win over Butler, and then a week later to beat them in the conference tournament. For the girls to work so hard and stick together and win a conference championship says a lot about our coaching staff and our players."

Multiple all conference players and an All American as well, showed that this team had tons of individual talent. But coming together to capture the regular season conference title (and winning 24 games along the way) shows just how focused and together this team was.

"When we put this team together," Coach Turgeon said. "We thought we had a chance to be pretty good. It's one thing to think that, and another to actually go out and do it."

"We started working on it at the beginning of the year," Coach Turgeon continued. "The things you need to do to be a good teammate. We read the book *The Energy Bus: 10 Rules to Fuel Your Life, Work and Team with Positive Energy* (by Jon Gordon), as a team and had each player take a part and explain their section of the book and relate it to our team. And every time our season got off course a little bit, we went back to that. It's a long season, especially for college basketball, you go through 2 semesters, you'll go off a little bit."

No team is perfect, but the way this squad came together gave the Independence community something to be proud of. A lot of wins, recognition at the national level, and sophomores moving on to play at the university level shines brightly, no matter how the season ends.

But it won't just be the on court moments that Coach Turgeon will remember when these players have graduated.

"There were just really good quality people on this team," Coach Turgeon

said. "They were very serious on the basketball court, but this group of girls understood that we can have fun off the court and still be respectful. This team had really good maturity to be able to handle that and I'm probably going to miss the stuff that happened off the court more than anything. Funny stuff happens, sad stuff happens, serious stuff happens and this group was a good group to get to know and go through the season with."

Cheer Places 4th in Division at Nationals

With over 200 different colleges and universities participating, and six different higher education institutions in the Pirates' division, ICC had their work cut out for them at the College Classic National Invitational. Head Cheer Coach Erica Cope was very pleased with how her team both grew and performed this weekend.

"I think the team did exceptionally well," Coach Cope said. "There was huge growth between their routine at the Region VI Regionals, and what they performed at Nationals. The confidence was there, it was very impressive, I was very proud of them. We were the only junior college in our division, the others were universities. We definitely held our own."

Powerlifting Joins Pirate Crew

Indy Athletics welcomed Mark Allen to campus this year to be the first Head Powerlifting Coach at Independence Community College. After eight successful seasons coaching the team at Coffeyville, Allen made the jump to Indy this August for the Pirates' inaugural season.

"There is a local demand for a powerlifting program at the college level," explained Dr. Vincent Bowhay, ICC President. "This program is really built for our local and area students, so having a coach with strong community ties and previous knowledge of building a program through recruitment was key."

Allen is a Kansas native and graduate of Caney High School. He still holds a State Championship Title. After college, Allen transitioned into strongman competitions, earning a pro card in May 2015. Now at the helm for the Pirates, Allen plans to build the program from the ground up.

"My main goal for this first year is to grow and get more students involved," Allen said. "We will start with local meets, and the goal someday is to do some qualifiers for nationals. Down the road, hopefully we'll eventually be competing against the best college powerlifters in the country."



Sport the Pirates
Needing some Fan Gear?

Shop your Pirate favorites HERE



UPDATES **Powerlifting**

Lance Moore and Tucker Killian represented ICC while competing in Tulsa, OK. Both did well winning their weight class and both hitting PRs.



Softball

The 2022 season laid some solid groundwork for the 2023 season. Entering a new conference with a young team the Pirates grabbed some wins against nationally ranked teams. Indy Softball had a conference/national player of the week, and Pitcher on the leader boards for strike outs. The team will return 6 starters next season.



Football

Head Coach Jason Martin's team dominated the gridiron and the KJCCC, outscoring opponents by an average of 23 points per game. A 6-1 conference record helped them reach the KJCCC Playoffs Semifinals round. Capitalizing on a perfect 3-0 record on the road and two shutouts, the Pirates look to build on a stellar defense and an improved offense for the 2022 season.



Volleyball

Finishing the season with a 10-24 record, the Pirates (10-24) closed strong by winning 7 of their last 12, and ending the season on a two game winning streak. The young team also enjoyed the support of a stellar hometown crowd, posting a 7-5 record at the Field House.



ESPORTS MAKES A MARK ON CAMPUS

An Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on March 8 for the newly established Esports Arena, located in the Student Union. The Esports program is new to ICC this academic year.

“ICC is excited to be able to provide students with the opportunity to compete in esports,” said Christopher Kumke, Director of Esports. “The arena gives students a chance to explore their passions and potentially create a career.”

The arena houses 21 gaming stations for students, three public flatscreens for gaming, and a driving/flight simulator. Students can compete, live stream/broadcast tournaments, and handle motion graphics within the Esports program.

“The addition of esports to ICC provides students the opportunity to collaborate in a team setting while providing recreational opportunities that connect to employability skills learned in the classroom,” explained President Bowhay. “Our program is both distinctive and competitive, and I am excited to watch these students grow as a part of the program.”



Did You Know?



Esports players compete in a custom jersey with a gamer tag on the back. A gamer tag is a player's ‘name’ they compete with.



[Scan here to check them out!](#)

Pirates Secure NACE Starleague COD Title

The Independence Community College Esports team competed in the NACE Starleague Fall 2021 Grand Finals on Dec. 4-5, the four-player team brought home a National Call of Duty Title. The format was single-elimination; all matches, best of 5 games.

Independence is one of 59 schools, across the nation, that represent the NACE Starleague. NACE Starleague was formed earlier this year as a collaboration between leading companies in the collegiate esports scene with the National Association of Collegiate Esports teaming with partners like CSL Esports, a Playfly Sports company, and Nerd Street, North America's largest esports infrastructure company.

“I am very proud of my team and all the hard work they accomplished over the weekend,” said Christopher Kumke, Director of Esports, at ICC. “It is great to see such a new program making waves and bringing home titles. This is a huge achievement for ICC Esports and the college as a whole!”

“Our program is both distinctive and competitive, and I am excited to watch these students grow as a part of the program.”

Christopher Kumke, Director of Esports,

Student Leadership Awards 2022

ICC recognized over 25 individuals during the Student Leadership Awards held on April 26 in the William Inge Theatre.

“I’m so proud of our students at ICC,” said David Adams, Vice President of Student Affairs. “I’m so happy we are able to recognize the passion, dedication, and hard work of our students through the Student Leadership Awards ceremony.”

Students were nominated by faculty, staff and their peers within six different categories. Each award recipient was required to meet specific GPA requirements.

“I look forward to hearing about all that these students are going to accomplish and the amazing impact they will have on others,” concluded Adams.



The Independence Community College Foundation is dedicated to making the dreams of a college degree come true for our students.

The need for continuing education can be a crippling expense and the deciding factor when it comes to our graduating seniors selecting the college campus they soon will call home.

I thank you for your support over the last year and look forward to continuing to provide educational opportunities to future Pirates.

SAVE THE DATE

24TH ANNUAL DON HARRIS GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY
JULY 23RD

Registration Begins | 7AM
Shotgun Start | 8 AM

Contact the ICC Foundation with questions or to register.
Bryce Saia | bsaia@indycc.edu | 620-332-5711



IN HONOR OF
BURKS SHERWOOD
FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO ICC

NEW THIS YEAR...

The Pirate Legacy Bench Program

Save your seat at ICC

If ICC has impacted your life, 'save your seat' by participating in our Pirate Bench Program. The Pirate Bench Program is a visible and innovative way to support ICC by providing attractive seating for our community to relax and enjoy our beautiful campus.



A personalized plaque will be placed on your bench in recognition of your generosity.

MLK AWARDS

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. | Drum Major for Justice Award

Phillip Chappuie



Chappuie was nominated for this honor by Bridget Carson, Associate Professor of Developmental English at ICC. "Phillip has a vocal and expressive drive to create a sustainable community through responsible environmental management, systemic judicial reform, and investment in the public good," explained Carson.

"Phillip was the first person who came to mind when I read the description of this award. His career has been the work of including adults with special needs in our community, helping us to embrace and celebrate diversity."

Keith Donnerson



Donnerson was nominated for this honor by Eric Figurski, ICC Athletic Director. "Coach D Embodies everything that this award represents," said Figurski. Throughout his career at ICC, the CCCAA, and Dominguez High School, in Compton,

California, he has led an authentic life of service that has undoubtedly improved the lives of so many others along his path, spanning past and present generations."

Mary-Lynn White



White was nominated for this honor by Marge Yaroslaski, ICC Communications Professor. "She works hard to ensure voices are heard and respected," said Yaroslaski. "She is clear about her values and attempts to live by them every day but is

deeply respectful that others may hold other values. She works hard to ensure voices are heard and respected," said Yaroslaski. "She is clear about her values and attempts to live by them every day but is deeply respectful that others may hold other values."

Pirates Graduate Leadership Independence Program

On April 20, 2022, three Pirates graduated from Leadership Independence, a Leadership Program hosted by the Independence Chamber of Commerce. David Adams, Brooke Joseph, and Kris Ferguson.



The objective of the program is to develop and equip future leaders, to provide them with the skills necessary for solving issues facing the community, and to encourage networking with other class members.

The program consists of eight sessions that occur monthly between September and April. Participants will then take part in a graduation celebration at the end. Each class will also take part in a Leadership project that will allow them to give back to the Independence Community.

High School Students Attend Fine Arts Workshops

The Independence Community College Fine Arts Department played host to over 200 area high school students the morning of Tuesday, March 3rd, as part of the Crimes of the Heart Student Matinee and Fine Arts Workshops.

High school students watched ICC's production of Beth Henley's 'Crimes of the Heart' and engaged in discussion with actors and crew afterward. Students then enjoyed lunch on campus before participating in various workshops ranging from Monoprinting, Intro to Stage Fighting, The Art of Auditions, Audio/Video, and more.

"The ability for our local high school students to come and see live theatre, followed by workshops taught by ICC Faculty is a wonderful opportunity to show these potential students what life could be like as a Pirate," explained Paul Molnar, Director of Theatre performance and Director of the show. "It also provides leadership and mentor opportunities for our own students as they assist and help guide the visiting high schools."

Fab Lab ICC and Upward Bound Assemble Thanksgiving Boxes

The Fab Lab and the Upward Bound program partnered up on November 20, 2021. During the "November Saturday Session" in the Lab, Upward Bound students assembled 80 Thanksgiving food boxes. The First United Methodist Church picked them up the following Monday for distribution in time for Thanksgiving. Areas involved in this project included the ICC Foundation, Upward Bound, Fab Lab ICC and the Fab Food Lab initiative.



At ICC, we believe that education happens at all ages. Indy Connect is a community education program that serves as an umbrella for all community outreach programs.



Mendoza and Family Selected for 2021 First-Generation Family of the Year

ICC is pleased to award Nelida (Nellie) Lyday Mendoza & family as the ICC First-Generation Family of the Year. The family was recognized during the football halftime show, October 16, 2021. Mendoza was nominated by Sonja Conley, ICC Navigator.

“Nellie is an adult with adult children but is a perfect example of putting herself through college with no family example to go by,” said Conley.

Growing up on the Wind River Reservation, in Wyoming, Mendoza eventually made her way to Kansas after graduation. While attending ICC she then met her current husband Jason Mendoza, who is also an ICC graduate and First-Generation student. Together they have raised three children all of whom have completed or are currently working on getting their bachelor’s degree.



Community Enjoys Papermaking Class Through Indy Connect

Independence community members joined ICC’s Associate Professor and Director of Visual Arts, Emily Ritter, for a Papermaking workshop offered through Indy Connect. Those in attendance learned how to create sheets of paper from scrap paper or junk mail in a DIY fashion with accessible materials. Ritter guided participants through papermaking, including blending, creating pulp, and forming sheets. This process can also be used to make pulp art.

“DIY Papermaking is a great way to turn all your junk mail into new paper,” explains Ritter. “Trash to treasure. It is also a great activity for kids and people of all ages, especially during summer. We had a blast during the workshop, and I can’t wait to offer it again!”



Lynn Nottage Honored at 39th William Inge Theatre Festival

The William Inge Theater Festival celebrated its 39th anniversary on April 21-23, 2022 by honoring Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage with the Distinguished Achievement in the American Theater Award.

Nottage is the only woman to date to have won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama two times. Her Pulitzer Prize-winning plays are *Ruined* and *Sweat* and they are two among scores of award-winning stories written for theatre, film, and television.

Her work has been produced around the world; notable productions have taken place on Broadway, at Lincoln Center Theatre, at the Public Theater, for Oregon Shakespeare Festival, for Sundance Film Festival, and both HBO and Netflix. In addition to being honored by the Pulitzer Committee, Nottage’s recognitions include honors from the OBIE Awards, the Drama Desk Awards, the Lucille Lortel Awards, the New York Drama Critics’ Circle, the American Theatre Critics, and the Outer Critics Circle.

For a more detailed biography, please visit:
<http://www.lynnnottage.com/about.html>



FOR MORE INFORMATION
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