“We need to support people in our communities as they obtain the skills they need to be successful. PCC is the place where this happens—a place where anybody, regardless of background or station in life, can go and return as a renewed person in terms of their skill set.”

Senator Margaret Carter
Back to Class

◆ Winter 2016 term begins January 4
Register now! There are thousands of credit and non-credit classes available at dozens of sites across the Portland metro area. For information about registration, visit pcc.edu.

Upcoming Events

◆ 17th Annual Winter Pow-Wow, Jan. 23
Join PCC for Wacipi, a celebration of Native American culture and tradition featuring drumming, dancing, food and craft vendors, and family fun! Visit pcc.edu/powwow for details.

◆ Cascade Festival of African Films, Jan 5–March 5
Save the date for the 26th annual Cascade Festival of African Films, Thursday-Sundays, Jan 5–March 5. Visit africanfilmfestival.org for the complete schedule and list of films.

◆ PCC Day at the Capitol, Feb. 17
Join PCC faculty, staff, and supporters as we travel to the Oregon State Capitol in Salem to thank our legislators for investing in higher education! Lend your voice and take a stand with PCC. Register online at pcc.edu/capitol.

Get social with PCC:

pcc.edu
portlandcc
portlandcc
pccvideos
portlandcommunitycollege
portlandcommcollege

Contributors: James Hill, Rebecca Olson, Celene Carillo
Photographers: Vern Uyetake, James Hill, Erin Berzel

Shared on Social Media

◆ Congratulations PCC Future Connect on five amazing years and 1,200 lives changed! #thinkPCCfirst @cpsoulages

◆ Happy First Day of Fall Term @PortlandCC! This crew of student leaders is excited to welcome you to #Southeast! #leadership @redfishingboat

◆ Celebrating National Coming Out Day at Rock Creek! #thinkpccfirst #ncod #ilovemyjob @heartstringsandlovelythings

◆ Thnx @OregonGovBrown for signing bill to help comm. college students succeed! #oregonsfuture @tobiasread

◆ The PCC rock creek bookstore staff are the nicest, friendliest and most professional bookstore employees I’ve ever seen! @kitajima

Share your thoughts and photos with us on Twitter @PortlandCC.

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Shay James’ life changed when her grandmother told her about the Portland Teachers Program at PCC.

“When my grandmother was talking about the program and the scholarship that goes with it, I immediately thought ‘I could do that.’ I could be a teacher,” said James.

The Portland Teachers Program is a partnership between Portland Community College, Portland Public Schools, Portland State University and Beaverton School District. Located at PCC on the Cascade Campus, the PTP prepares teachers to be culturally competent in the classroom, and focuses on historically underrepresented groups.

For James, the motivation to teach rose from memories of her childhood experiences as one of the few black students in Tigard-Tualatin schools.

“Certain educators said things that were racially insensitive,” James recalled. “And in history class, when the conversation turned to the slave trade or different aspects that dealt with race, the entire class would look at me or I’d be called on.”

But James’ motivation also came from her positive experiences with the teachers who mentored her.

“I was pretty shy,” James said. “I still am. Teachers who got to know me learned that I was reserved because of shyness, and by learning who I was they figured out how to engage me.”

Shy or not, James has made a career of engaging students, and creating inclusive and equitable classrooms. Through the Portland Teachers Program, Shay completed her bachelor’s degree in history as well as her master’s in education at Portland State University.

After earning her teaching license, she taught eighth grade language arts and social studies at Tubman Middle School before becoming an assistant principal at Sellwood Middle School, and then vice principal and finally principal at Franklin High.

Since 2014, she’s been the senior director of College and Career Readiness at Portland Public Schools. In this role, she helps students prepare for their next steps after high school—whether it’s heading to college or technical education, or into a career.

“I want to have a system that works for all kids,” James said. “I want them to have solid plans to be ready for college and a career. I went into administration so I could have a wider opportunity to have an impact on all students.”

The Portland Teachers Program was a critical step along the way for James. It placed her with a cohort of students with similar experiences, and gave her the tools she needed to succeed.

“The program felt like home,” she said. “It was a place where people were like me and conversations could be real. Most importantly, what PCC and the program taught me was how to navigate a system I had never learned before. I’m not sure if I could have gotten where I am today without that.”

DID YOU KNOW?

Two hundred teachers have come out of the Portland Teachers Program, and most of them continue to teach in Portland and Beaverton schools.

To learn more about the Portland Teacher’s Program, visit pcc.edu/resources/portland-teachers/
It wasn’t until Salvador Castañeda toured PCC’s brand new Swan Island Trades Center that he realized a degree in a field he loves—construction—might be possible for him.

Castañeda had just graduated first in his class from Constructing Hope, a free program in Portland that provides people with training in the construction industry. His graduation speech caught the attention of Dan Wenger, PCC’s Dean of Arts and Professions.

“Dan invited me to come to Swan Island for a tour,” Castañeda said. “He asked if I was interested in any of the classes there. I told him I was interested in all of them.”

After the tour, Castañeda applied for a scholarship through the PCC Foundation—and he got it. “I never thought of myself as the kind of guy who would get a scholarship,” he said. “This made the difference for me. Without a scholarship, I never would have been aware of all of the other opportunities waiting for me at PCC.”

One of the Swan Island Trades Center’s biggest supporters has been Ken Madden and his family. Madden, who sits on PCC’s Board of Directors, is the owner of Madden Industrial Craftsmen, a company that provides temporary tradespeople for contractors throughout the region. His family also owns Madden Fabrication, which is responsible for seismically retrofitting the Crater Lake Lodge, as well as the Portland Loos that dot downtown.

For Madden and his family, supporting the Swan Island Center, as well having created an endowed scholarship for students in the Building Construction Technology program, is a choice that affects the nation’s future.

“Those skills have built our infrastructure. It’s substantive and the backbone of the U.S. economy,” Madden said. “We see people who have come out of the scholarship system—who didn’t have the money to learn the trades—talk about their life history and how scholarships have made a big difference in their lives. It’s very moving.”

Now, Castañeda, who even as a child took apart small appliances to see how they worked, is progressing toward his associate’s degree in Building Construction Technology. He’s also an instructional support technician at Swan Island where he supplies equipment for classrooms and helps students with hands-on problems like identifying which tools to use for their projects—whether its putting together sheet metal or installing HVAC systems.

He’s eyeing a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering in the future, something Wenger has encouraged him to do.

“Electrical engineering really intrigues me,” he says. “It’s definitely something I want to do. It’s something I didn’t even realize would be possible before coming to PCC.”
For trades students like Salvador Castañeda, scholarships bring unexpected opportunities.

by Celene Carillo
Dancing Queen

At age 6, Marilyn Hartmann wanted to be a professional dancer. Living in a small town made it tough to find access to dance lessons, but she was determined. After her mother could no longer continue to drive her to the next town over for classes, Hartmann was forced to stop taking lessons.

“I was heartbroken,” she said.

As a young woman in her late teens, Hartmann returned to the dance floor and took multiple courses in ballet and modern dance. Now a retired English teacher and former professional pet groomer, she’s come back for another phase of dance in her life. She has delighted in taking ballet courses at the newly renovated studios at Portland’s Northwest Dance Project through PCC’s community education program.

“Now that I’m older, I’ve been focused on ballet,” she says. “It’s harder to roll around on the floor like they do in modern and jazz dance classes—though I used to do that all the time!”

Hartmann has appreciated the support of her ballet instructors at the Northwest Dance Project, many of whom are renowned professional dancers. She encourages other students who may have had a creative passion in another part of their lives to come back and give it another try.

To learn more about adult dance classes offered through PCC at the Northwest Dance Project, turn to page 13 or visit pcc.edu/communityed.
Lisa Avery joined the PCC family this past summer as president of the college’s Sylvania Campus in Southwest Portland.

Avery came from the Community Colleges of Spokane where she served as the district vice provost for strategic partnerships. Now she is presiding over PCC’s largest and oldest campus, which first opened its doors in 1968 and today has an enrollment of nearly 32,000 students.

A first-generation college student and native of LaPorte, Ind., Avery obtained both her doctorate and master’s degrees in social work from the University of Illinois at Chicago and bachelor’s degree in research psychology from Ball State University.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO PCC?

As a repeat Portland visitor, I have had my eye on PCC for a long time. I was attracted to the diversity, size and scope of PCC. Sylvania was a great fit for me because I have a liberal arts/social sciences background, as well as experience with career/technical programs. My background is a nice blend of these areas.

WHAT’S YOUR PLAN FOR THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR?

Some of the key issues I will be working on include continuing our progress on diversity, equity and inclusion; collaborating with local/regional governments and our neighbors to help improve sustainable transit to Sylvania; and helping lead an important campus discussion on guided pathways to student success.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO EDUCATION AND WHY?

Like many students, I was inspired by outstanding faculty members. Two instructors saw potential in me during my freshman and sophomore years and became my mentors. As a student worker, I helped in their offices and gained an understanding of higher education from that perspective. Also, as a tutor I was able to connect with other student leaders and to learn content more deeply through explaining it to others. Those experiences helped guide me into higher education and helped me focus on the ways to provide access to mentoring and leadership opportunities for all students.

WHO HAS INSPIRED YOU THE MOST ON YOUR JOURNEY TO PCC?

I have been inspired by a number of people, including the faculty mentors I discussed earlier. However, the greatest inspiration has been my parents and grandparents, as well as my extended family (including my aunts, uncles and brothers). Neither of my grandmothers had the opportunity to finish high school - one because of her health and one because she had to help the family out at home instead. My parents were not able to go to college because they were focused on providing for our family. My parents and step-parents have modeled hard work, compassion, and integrity; the sacrifices they made, along with my grandparents’ efforts, inspire me every single day.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT PORTLAND?

I love being outdoors, and have been able to enjoy being outside with my daughter, Ella, on a daily basis since we arrived. We have visited many parks and trails already, and have much more exploring to do. The food is amazing, so I will have to stay active in order to keep taking advantage of the wonderful choices!

To read the full interview with Dr. Lisa Avery, visit news.pcc.edu.
PCC'S SUPERSTAR

JACKIE BABICKY PETERSON LOVES GUIDING ENTREPRENEURS TO SUCCESS by James Hill
Jackie Babicky Peterson has helped launch at least 1,000 small businesses in her career.

That’s not an exaggeration. Babicky Peterson has been a leading advocate for small businesses for many years. She sits down with owners through a combination of classroom teaching and one-on-one individual advising to get them focused on the tools and concepts that achieve growth and success.

“I am passionate about helping them find financial success,” she said.

For example, she helped to develop the wildly successful “Getting Your Recipe to Market” program where food industry experts guide students through a step-by-step process to produce, promote and sell their food product. They get a solid foundation in business, organizational and product development as well as food safety, packaging, production and distribution. The class has launched many small business entrepreneurs in Portland since its inception in 2007.

“Thousands of owners have grown healthy small businesses because of Jackie’s advising, mentoring and teaching,” said Tammy Marquez-Oldham, director of the college’s Small Business Development Center (SBDC). “Her contribution and commitment to them have set the standards for all business development professionals.”

Considering Babicky Peterson’s dedication, it didn’t come as a surprise that the longtime SBDC advisor has been awarded the 2015 State Star of the Oregon Small Business Development Center for her efforts. It’s a huge honor as America’s Small Business Development Center celebrates only one person from each state for their exemplary work at its annual conference.

“I am a great believer in the SBDC, and I’m passionate about helping budding entrepreneurs start and grow successful businesses,” said Babicky Peterson. “To me, this recognition means that my personal work focused on the model of solo entrepreneurship is being accepted by my own network, and I find that the recognition of my work thrilling.”

Babicky Peterson has coached, taught and advised countless numbers of creative and DIY entrepreneurs to financial success during the past 30 years. One of her most memorable clients were owners Chris Lyon and Brett Binford of Mudshark Studios LLC, a Portland ceramic production company.

Growing pains caused the startup founders to struggle with managing employees and establishing proper practices.

“Initially, we didn’t really know how to read though a profit-and-loss statement and didn’t know what those numbers on the pages meant,” Lyon remembered. “We started meeting with Jackie, and she helped us see from the business end what we were supposed to be looking at.”

For this sort of assistance, Babicky Peterson was named one of the 100 most powerful women in the Northwest by her past clients and won the prestigious President’s Award from the Portland Business Alliance.

Babicky Peterson also has been selected by local leaders to help shape policy. In 2016, she was asked by then Portland Mayor Sam Adams to advise him on steps the city could take to support creative entrepreneurship. In 2004, she led a team that brought a small business “Bill of Rights” to the Portland City Council. The bill is considered a national model today.

Many have asked whether the 72-year-old will ever slow down and retire. Babicky Peterson admits she is spending more time just doing what she loves like reading, playing with her grandchildren and traveling with her husband.

“Nowadays I work a little at a time,” she added. “But as long as I keep my energy up and it’s fun, I won’t stop working.”

PCC’S SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT A GLANCE…

- In 2014, PCC’s SBDC provided assistance to more than 750 small business owners.
- Small business owners had access to more than 25 expert small business professionals and global trade specialists.
- SBDC expert advisers participated in 3,800 one-on-one business advising hours.

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SPOTLIGHT
WHAT'S NEW AT PCC?

PCC Hosts Second Annual Jade International Night Market

The second annual Jade International Night Market took place on PCC’s Southeast Campus on August 15 and 22.

Hosted in partnership with the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) and the Jade District, the Jade International Night Market featured more than 80 food and retail vendors, live entertainment, and activities for the whole family. An estimated 20,000 people visited PCC’s newest campus for the event, sharing in the sights, sounds and tastes of the vibrant neighborhood festival.

The Jade International Night Market is part of a collaborative effort to reenergize the Jade District around culture and commerce, bringing vitality and resources to this historically underserved neighborhood in Portland.

“PCC was honored and thrilled to host the Jade International Night Market this year,” said Jessica Howard, PCC Southeast Campus president. “It provided a spectacular opportunity to celebrate our deep connections with the vibrant multicultural community that we are privileged to serve.”

- PCC’s MakerSpace teamed up with iUrban Teen and The Wind & Oar Boat School this summer to get kids excited about engineering. They designed and built a skiff on the Sylvania Campus, and took it out for its maiden voyage—in the gymnasium pool! The boat was auctioned off at the 2015 Seaport Celebration as a fundraiser to support PCC student scholarships.
- In honor of National Student Day, the PCC Bookstore organized a canned food drive to fight student hunger at the college. Generous participants across all four campuses collected 803 pounds of food to stock the shelves of ASPCC Food Canteens. Each campus ASPCC office has a food canteen, where students with food insecurity can go for no-questions-asked assistance.
PCC students, leaders, and supporters joined Oregon Gov. Kate Brown in late September for the ceremonial signing of House Bill 3063 (called the ‘Aspirations to College’ bill). The bill will set aside $3 million to increase the number of underserved, low-income and first-generation college-bound students who enroll in community college.

Soccer returned to PCC this fall as the Panthers kicked off their 2015–16 season! PCC now has both men’s and women’s soccer teams which compete as part of the Northwest Athletic Conference. Visit news.pcc.edu for updates on all Panther athletics.
For Ben Buswell, art takes many forms. “I will work with everything from clay to photography, from paint to plastics, to find the best material manifestation for a given idea,” Buswell said. “I believe the materials can convey meaning.”

The PCC sculpture instructor says it has taken him 10 years to find his artistic style. Now he’s committed to helping students find theirs.

Buswell has been teaching sculpture on PCC’s Rock Creek Campus since 2007. He currently teaches all of the sculpture courses on campus including figure, metals, carving, plastic, clay and mixed media, as well as experimental media and 3D design. He’s taught everything from Art Appreciation to drawing and sculpture, but believes that teaching the basics is the most challenging.

“You can teach people how to make art, but eventually you hope they reach the point where they ignore the lessons and follow their own internal compass,” said Buswell.

Following his own instincts, Buswell has found success as a professional artist. He has exhibited in four solo shows in the last four years, and his work has been shown in the Portland Art Museum and in group exhibitions in California, Washington, New York, Wisconsin, Brazil and London. His sculptures also are included in several private and public collections.

This year, Buswell was named one of five Hallie Ford Fellows in the Visual Arts for 2015. The Ford Family Foundation awards this $25,000 prize to artists based on the evolution of their work, the quality of their existing work and potential. They are chosen by a panel of arts professionals familiar with the work of Oregon visual artists and the national contemporary art discipline.

Buswell credits his parents with his love of working with students. An Oregon native, Buswell was raised by two school teachers who taught him the value of dialogue in the classroom—and the joy of thinking things out.

“Many students come to class with the expectation that there’s only one right answer,” he said. “For me, teaching art is about helping people realize that they are their own best answer.”

To learn more about PCC’s academic art program, visit pcc.edu/program/art. For community education arts classes, turn to page 15 or visit pcc.edu/communityed.
Malik Lewis admitted he was on the verge of dropping out of high school last year.

The Southeast Portland resident had bounced around between Portland’s Rosemary Anderson High School east and north campuses, trying to complete the required credits to get his diploma, when he stopped and wondered where he was ultimately going. He called PCC to ask about his options and heard about Gateway to College program, which allows high school students to work on earning their high school diploma while collecting college credits.

“I didn’t know that PCC offered anything like this,” said Lewis. “It was eye opening to find out I could actually get a diploma and college credits at the same time.”

Lewis went from a summer job sweeping up at a local fabrication shop to getting on track toward his high school diploma. Through Gateway to College, he enrolled in math, reading, writing and college success classes at PCC.

“They were basic classes that prepared me for the college experience,” said Lewis, who is focusing his college studies on political science and engineering.

Gateway to College, which serves approximately 400 students annually, started at PCC in the late 1990s and is now replicated nationally. It contracts with Portland, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego and Tigard-Tualatin school districts to provide students an alternative option to traditional high school. The program covers the cost of college tuition and books, and offers support from a college success coach, who teaches students about college, organization and time management.

Gateway to College Success Coach Jane Larson said Lewis was motivated from the first step of the application process to the last class he took for his high school diploma.

“Malik went through an amazing metamorphosis in my class and it mirrors his experience in Gateway to College. He started out with a beanie down over his eyes and little by little that beanie raised up and I could see his eyes and the determination in them. There was no stopping him once he discovered he belonged here.”

Today, Lewis is a graduate of Gateway and is continuing at PCC taking communications, political science and math classes. He’s already earned most of the 90 credits he needs to transfer to Portland State University. His success was a big reason he gave the Gateway to College keynote address at the program’s graduation ceremony last summer.

“I can’t put it to words yet,” Lewis remembered when he got his diploma. “It was great to have the feeling of everything being lifted off of you. The way I felt when I graduated, being up on stage during the whole ceremony, it felt amazing.”

To learn more about PCC’s alternative programs for high school students, visit pcc.edu/links.
Make YOU the project!

If you can dream it PCC Community Ed’s hundreds of classes can help you achieve it. Go online to pcc.edu/communityed and get started on your own Project: YOU this winter.

PCC CommunityEd