



HOWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



DARIA J. WILLIS, PH.D.

PRESIDENT'S

UPDATE

#DRAGONCOUNTRY

*"Say, do you remember?... Dancin' in September...
Never was a cloudy day..."*

— "September" by Earth, Wind, and Fire

NEXT STEPS TOWARDS THE BELL CENTER

Dragon Country! I am excited to share that construction is continuing on track for the forthcoming Cathy and Danny Bell Workforce Development & Trades Center. The center will be a vital addition to our campus, expanding opportunities for our students, workforce partners, and community.

To safely complete the next phase of this project, contractors will be installing water and data lines to the new facility. This important work requires temporary, overnight closures for approximately seven weeks.

Starting October 1, Campus Drive will be closed nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, between the southwest corner of Lot B and the southwest corner of the Thomas Clement Hall building.

Access to Lot B will remain open until 11:00 p.m. nightly; Lot B will then close at 11 p.m. and reopen at 6 a.m.

For access to the south side of campus after 8:30 p.m., please use the Hickory Ridge entrance. If you need to direct others, please provide the Kahlert Foundation Complex building address: 5500 Dragon Place.

The closure will not affect gas or water services in other buildings, and will not affect the bus stops on Little Patuxent Parkway or Hickory Ridge. For more details, please check your HCC email for updates.

Thank you to the facilities staff, public relations and marketing staff, and the public safety staff for their work in planning the closure to minimize the impact on campus and for spreading the word about this exciting next step towards the completion of the center.

Thank you for your understanding and support as Dragon Country spreads its wings!

LEADERSHIP UPDATES

Senior Leadership Team Update

Senior Leadership Team meeting minutes are available on the [portal](#).

SUSTAINABILITY @ HCC



Consider switching to electronic billing. In the U.S., paper products make up the largest percentage of municipal solid waste, and hard copy bills alone generate almost 2 million tons of Carbon Dioxide.

OCTOBER OFFERINGS IN THE HOROWITZ CENTER

The 20th Anniversary Season of the Horowitz Center continues this October with music concerts, film screenings and discussions, gallery exhibitions, and the world-premiere of an original immersive theatrical experience!

The HCC Concert Series presents the [4th HCC Music Alumni Spotlight Concert](#) on Sunday, October 5, celebrating the talented alumni of the college's music program. On Sunday, October 19, the Concert Series presents [From Mozart to Beethoven](#), a special afternoon of music featuring pianists **Wei-Der Huang** and **I-Wen Tseng** alongside a full orchestra comprised of exceptional musicians from Columbia, MD.

HCC Theatre presents the immersive theatrical experience, "[Anomalous](#)," written and directed by **Bill Gillett**. Step into the heart of a live experiment in this immersive, mind-bending theatre experience like no other!

"Visual Poetry: The Work of Wonsook Kim" and "Heroes" remain on display in the college's galleries through October 12. "Drawing a Crowd: The Ultimate Dinner Party" debuts in the Richard B. Talkin Family Art Gallery on Monday, October 20.

Learn more about the 20th Anniversary Season offerings at the Horowitz Center:

HowardCC.edu/HorowitzCenter/Season

SAVE THE DATE FOR FALL FOR ALL ON OCTOBER 17!

HCC is excited to host its third annual Fall for All festival on Friday, October 17, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free, family-friendly event falls on a day when HCPSS schools are closed for students, making it the perfect opportunity to visit campus and enjoy a day of fall fun and festivities. We'll have pumpkin-themed activities and a pumpkin patch, face painting, moon bounces, candy, an inflatable corn maze, and more! Our sustainability group will feature local exhibitors offering activities for all ages.

New for this year's event, join us as we spotlight our dedicated public safety professionals! Connect with representatives from Maryland and Howard County fire departments, and other local and state agencies. Discover practical tips on staying safe, protecting your property, and preparing for emergencies—straight from the experts who serve our community every day.

As you all know, it takes a village, so please sign up [here](#) to volunteer and help make this great event a success!

To allow the campus community to volunteer or enjoy the event with their families, please consider rescheduling large meetings between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Friday, October 17.

[Learn more at HowardCC.edu/FallForAll](http://HowardCC.edu/FallForAll)

DRAGON PODCASTS



Dragon Podcasts cover a wide range of fascinating topics, including HCC events and programs, local community organizations, and other relevant subjects.

The Essential Pause Podcast invites you to explore the in-between spaces where reflection, awareness, and intentional action take root. Co-hosts Carey Borkoski and Dr. Es Swihart weave together their experiences as coaches, educators, researchers, and parents to explore stories, insights, and practices that foster self-awareness, deepen emotional intelligence, and help us stay present in the face of discomfort.

This week's episode explores how unexpected events—such as sudden disruptions or surprises—can become moments of reflection and recalibration.

[Listen on Podbean!](#)

STARTALK AT HCC: A LEGACY OF LANGUAGE LEARNING EXCELLENCE

Since its launch in 2007, HCC's STARTALK program has been committed to teaching young Americans national-standard proficiency in critical-need languages. Over the years, the program has evolved beyond a summer program into a robust, year-round language engagement model.

With continued support from the 2024 STARTALK grant, HCC awarded full scholarships to 88 credit students in 2025, allowing them to study Mandarin Chinese throughout the spring, summer, and fall semesters. These students benefited from nationally recognized instruction, and the program has consistently been praised for its success in an immersive and practical approach to language education. Highlights from the summer 2025 included a field trip to New York City, where students explored Chinatown and visited the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA), as well as engaging events such as Sports Day and Market Day. We are proud of the program's longstanding impact on our students and community.

Thank you to program director Professor **Yulan Liu**, program manager **Chris Ho**, STARTALK instructional team, and staff in our academic division offices, grant office, HVPA staff, Admissions office and Advising office for their hard work and support of the STARTALK programs, including **Sarah Angerer, Eliora Bard, Jeremy Bomberg, Jamie Bourne, Nicholas Boyd, Janelle Broderick, Janet Lombard-Cullison, Pamela Eidsness, Sarah English, Margaret Garroway, Xiaoli Gong, Dewey Grim, Jessica Grim, Shantay Grays, Tara Hart, Detra Hooper, Shiya Hsu, Jessica Kirkpatrick, Jessica Kim, Ryna May, Jonathan Musselwhite, Lamia Natafqi, Lauren Nitz, Weiwei Shao, Ming Jun Sun, Ewa Surowiec, Audrey Tutko, Chun Ye, Jamie Ye, and Yang Yu.**



SUPPORT STUDENT PARENTS THOUGH KRISPY KREME

The Executive Support Committee is hosting its annual Krispy Kreme fundraiser to support HCC's student parents during the holiday season. From now through October 14, employees can pre-order donuts for pickup on Thursday, October 16, in the Galleria from 9 to 11 a.m. Please see the [attached flyer](#) and [order form](#) for additional information about the fundraiser. Please contact **Belinda Green** at BGreen@HowardCC.edu for any questions.

HCC FITNESS AND WELLNESS COACHING SIGN UP IS NOW OPEN

We are excited to announce our 12-week progressive strength and wellness program tailored to Howard Community College (HCC) employees. The program integrates structured group strength and conditioning classes, bi-weekly coaching consultations, nutritional coaching, and special population programming to address workplace-related issues such as postural dysfunction, common musculoskeletal injuries, and stress-related conditions.

The program will be led by Kristin Nabor, a certified sports performance coach and professional trainer. She is a former Division I softball player who competed in the NCAA World Series. She has worked with professional boxers for over 10 years now and has worked the corner for over 10 televised fights on ESPN Friday Night Fights, Premier Boxing Champions, Showtime, and HBO.

The signup is now open. Please use this [link](#) to enter the drawing. The signup will close on Monday, September 29, 2025, at 4 p.m. Winners will be selected at random. The winners will be announced after 5 p.m. The program begins on September 30, 2025. The sessions will be twice a week on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 12 p.m.

HCC FORWARD UPDATE



President's Leadership Development Program (2025-2026) Applications Now Open!

Applications are now open for HCC's President's Leadership Development Program (PLDP), a yearlong experience designed to cultivate internal leadership and strengthen our shared capacity to lead with purpose across the college. The program features two cohorts with a common goal: to build HCC's organizational perspective and empower courageous conversations.

President's Leadership Academy (PLA)

For current and future executive leaders. If you are a current Dean, Chair, or Director, you're eligible to apply. The cohort deepens both the hard and soft skills of institutional leadership, with emphasis on strategic planning, change management, and navigating the complexities of higher education.

Apply/learn more: <https://hccforward.com/leadership-academy/>

Leadership HCC

Designed for colleagues who are new to HCC or not yet ready for PLA. Participants gain institutional insights, prepare for the next step in their HCC careers, and build the skills needed to serve as effective leaders in higher education.

Apply/learn more: <https://hccforward.com/leadership-hcc/>

This is a transformative opportunity for emerging and seasoned leaders to spark collaboration, innovation, and personal growth and to shape a vibrant future for our students, colleagues, and community. Apply today and join a community that empowers leaders to move HCC Forward.

More info: <https://hccforward.com/pldp>

Executive Support Committee Annual Fundraiser!
Order a box of Krispy Kreme donuts for pickup on October 16 in the Galleria from 9am-11am.

Purchases of donuts are only per dozen. NO 1/2 dozen or mixed flavors.

Donuts can be ordered starting Friday, September 12 through Tuesday, October 14, 2025.
Payments can be made by cash, check, or credit card at the Cashiers Office,
Monday - Thursday from 8:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Friday from 8:45 a.m. - 5:00p.m.
Attach order form on back.

\$ 16
PER DOZEN



SPECIAL VARIETY DOZENS

- Chocolate Iced
- Lemon Filled
- Raspberry Filled
- Kreme Filled

***ONE VARIETY PER DOZEN**

SIGNATURE COFFEES



\$ 10
PER BAG

\$ 14
PER DOZEN



ORIGINAL GLAZED® DOUGHNUTS

CERTIFICATE

\$14



Valid for one dozen Original Glazed® Doughnuts at your local Krispy Kreme store.





ORDER FORM

Hello, I'm _____ from _____

I'm selling Krispy Kreme products to raise money for _____

Check the product you are selling:

- Fresh Krispy Kreme Original Glazed® doughnuts for a price _____ per dozen.
- of Fresh Krispy Kreme Assorted doughnuts for a price of _____ per dozen.
- Krispy Kreme BOGO Cards for a price of _____ each.
- Krispy Kreme Fundraising Certificates for a price of _____ each.
- 12 oz. Bags of Krispy Kreme Signature Coffee for a price of _____ each.
(available in Smooth, Rich and Decaf)

CUSTOMER INFORMATION	# OF DOUGHNUT DOZENS					# OF BOGO CARDS	# OF FUNDRAISING CERTIFICATES	# OF 12 OZ. BAGS OF SIGNATURE COFFEE			AMOUNT COLLECTED
	ORIGINAL GLAZED®	CHOCOLATE ICED	KREME® FILLED	RASPBERRY FILLED	LEMON FILLED			SMOOTH	RICH	DECAF	
1											
2											
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