



LEADERSHIP

Dr. Michael Baston
President,
Cuyahoga Community
College

Megan O'Bryan
Vice President,
Development
President,
Tri-C Foundation

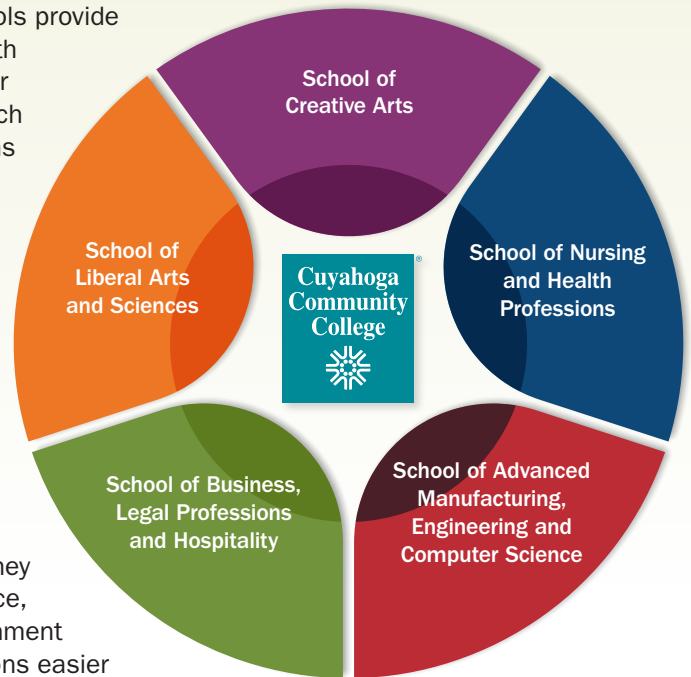
Patrick M. Pastore
Chairperson,
Tri-C Foundation
Board of Directors

Tri-C's new School Model presents new opportunities to invest in our students

To build a culture of clarity, Tri-C transitioned to a new, student-centric structure that aligns credit and noncredit programs into five academic schools that launched in the Fall 2024 semester. Schools provide clear pathways that match career goals with the appropriate program, leading to quicker attainment of degrees and credentials. Each school offers noncredit and credit programs that provide steppingstones to academic and career achievement, while meeting the needs of local employers.

“We are evolving and adapting so that our students can be more successful in a rapidly changing landscape,” said Tri-C President Michael A. Baston, J.D., Ed.D. “That involves recasting the traditional higher education model and becoming better at forecasting the future of work so we can help shape and build that future.”

Students are assigned to a school when they declare a major and receive career guidance, attention and academic support. This alignment will make transferring to four-year institutions easier for students seeking a bachelor's degree. ■



Funding Urgent Needs

No matter what vision our students have or which School they enter, philanthropy helps to ensure that financial need is not a barrier. Generous donor support creates scholarships, stocks our food pantries, creates learning communities and offers emergency financial assistance. Our community of supporters fund internships and other on-the-job experiences that help students prepare for the workplace while earning a degree or credential. These are exciting and essential opportunities that enrich students' learning that only happen with our donors' help. ■

Cuyahoga Community College Tri-C® Foundation Mission:

To provide resources for advancing student success at Cuyahoga Community College and to transform the lives of those Tri-C serves.

Pat Pastore: Three impactful years leading the Tri-C Board of Directors

Pat Pastore, PNC regional president for Cleveland, is concluding his term as the chairperson of the Tri-C Foundation Board of Directors after a successful three years at the helm. Under Pastore's watch, the Foundation concluded the College's largest fundraising campaign, Skills to Succeed, raising \$59 million, exceeding the goal one year earlier than expected. He helped welcome new Tri-C President Dr. Michael Baston and honored Baston's predecessor, Alex Johnson, while celebrating both the College's 60th anniversary and the Tri-C Foundation's 50th.



Pat Pastore
Regional president, PNC Bank Cleveland

Pastore's dedication to Tri-C was evident at the annual Presidential Scholarship Luncheon when he shared the spotlight with energetic entrepreneurs, global leaders and local celebrities. Those close to the celebration said they were impressed by Pastore for supporting and celebrating students' success.

Pastore joined Tri-C's Board of Directors in 2019. His leadership was instrumental in awarding a \$750,000 PNC Foundation Grant that supported Student Resources for Economic Recovery and the High Tech Academy. The grant also secured PNC as a presenting sponsor of the Tri-C Presidential Scholarship Luncheon for three more years. During his tenure, PNC assisted students with scholarships, provided access to internships, and offered critical support. PNC also sponsored the Pitch Competition, held

by the Center for Entrepreneurs at Tri-C's Corporate College®, awarding startup funds to emerging entrepreneurs with winning concepts. These transformational investments were the latest in a relationship between Tri-C and PNC that has lasted more than three decades.

With his term as board chair ending on June 30, Pastore said he looks back at his leadership tenure at the Tri-C Foundation with pleasure, especially in his vision to grow and further engage board members.

"We are fortunate to have a very engaged board, and we always want to ensure they feel connected to the College, our students and one another," Pastore said. "We are fortunate to have longtime and committed members and to welcome new

members who represent our community's business and civic leadership."

Pastore's focus and commitment remain with Tri-C students, whom he always welcomes to board meetings with warmth and esteem.

"These students' presence helps us honor the unique and individual journey of every Tri-C student," Pastore said. "Sharing their stories with us motivates us to do all we can to support them."

Tri-C congratulates Pat Pastore on three productive and accomplished years leading the Tri-C Board of Directors. ■

Thank you to our partners who support our students and share our focus on addressing these critical initiatives:

- 1. Student Support** — Removing barriers through financial assistance, supportive services and activities that enrich the student experience and strengthen their sense of belonging.
- 2. The Future of Work** — Preparing students for the jobs of tomorrow through enhanced workforce programs, training that aligns with the job market and education for entrepreneurs.
- 3. Pathways to Success** — Partnerships that introduce young people to career and academic possibilities.

"The Tri-C Foundation Board of Directors and our team are focused on securing investments in our students so that they are prepared to learn," remarked Megan O'Bryan, Tri-C Foundation president. "These financial and supportive resources guide our students along a pathway from the classroom to the workplace, with the tools to start a rewarding career."



Learn how you can help by contacting Tri-C Foundation today

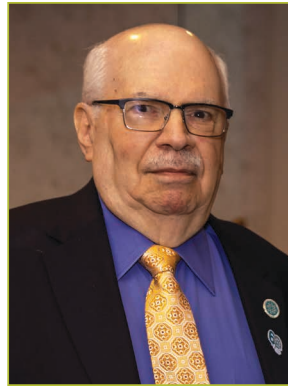


Our first alum preserves a lasting place in Tri-C's future through his estate plan

One of the most important steps in planning for the future is creating an estate plan and preparing a will. A clear, legally binding document that defines your legacy brings peace of mind, prevents potential conflicts, and ensures your wishes are fulfilled.

It is the best way to ensure loved ones are protected, and many people take steps to benefit the causes and charities that they care about. Loren Arnoff felt that way about his Tri-C experience and chose to include the College when he recently updated his will. Arnoff is Tri-C's very first graduate, and despite living in Tulsa Oklahoma for much of his adult life, stayed connected with Tri-C. "I still have a number of fellow classmates that I am still in contact with," he said. "It was a wonderful experience, and I felt like Tri-C set an important standard in education."

An updated will and bequest within an estate plan directs assets where you choose, while minimizing the potential for legal and family conflicts. If you have children under age 18,



Loren Arnoff

specify a guardian to ensure that your children are taken care of by someone you trust.

It is also the perfect time to consider a contribution to charity, like Arnoff chose to do. This is a wonderful way to continue supporting causes you care about beyond your lifetime. Whether you want to donate to your favorite charity, fund scholarships, or contribute to a cause that has personal significance, a bequest ensures your philanthropic goals are met.

"I am so very pleased to know that these scholarship funds will be helping the next generation of alumni achieve the Tri-C

experience that I have held so dear," he said.

Visit tri-c.edu/give and find tools and resources to learn how you can get your estate plan under way or take a fresh look at an existing plan that you need to update. You can contact Melanie Majikas, Executive Director, at 216-987-4868 to learn how you can create your own legacy at Tri-C. ■

Dental Hygiene Program grows with charitable investments

Dental hygienists are among the most in-demand health professionals in Northeast Ohio and across the country. Tri-C's Dental Hygiene program has been at capacity in recent years; however, two major charitable investments will help increase enrollment. A gift from Hudec Dental will support student scholarships and program needs. Additionally, Delta Dental Foundation awarded funding for capital equipment to expand program capacity.

"We're grateful for this support, which will empower our Dental Hygiene program to continue providing high-quality, accessible education to the next generation of health care professionals," said Anne Myatt, the director of Tri-C's Dental Hygiene program. "These investments strengthen our community's health and open doors for more students to achieve their full potential, ensuring a brighter, healthier future for themselves."



Dental hygienist students learn to perform and evaluate x-rays.

The need for more dental hygienists is pressing. "Hygienists are the backbone of the oral health workforce, yet we're experiencing a nationwide shortage," said Holli Seabury, Ed.D., the executive director of the Delta Dental Foundation. "Expanding the seats available at hygiene programs like Tri-C's is just one way we can start closing the care gap."

More students will now have the means to fill those spots, thanks to Hudec Dental. After visiting the facilities and learning about the expansion plans, brothers Michael and Dr. Brian Hudec wanted to support Tri-C's efforts. Hudec's four-

year commitment will create scholarships and support future program needs.

"We were so very impressed with the Dental Hygiene program and the opportunities it offers students," said

(continued on page 5)

Multi-faceted partnership with Westfield continues to grow

Westfield is a leader in the property and casualty industry, helping its customers navigate life's uncertainties, bounce back from the unexpected, and reach their goals. Through Tri-C's partnership with the Westfield Insurance Foundation, women in our community and hungry students are getting deeply needed support to progress toward their goals, too.

Westfield has supported Women in Transition (WIT) for 18 years, bringing stability and sustainability to a critical Tri-C program, that offers valuable resources and guidance to women who participate in WIT to achieve their educational and employment goals. Each year, WIT serves more than 250 women at all life stages with programming, training, financial aid and supportive services, as they navigate what to do next when faced with major life challenges.

Last year Westfield expanded its support with a two-year commitment to help fund our four on-campus food pantries to ensure students do not go hungry and are able to perform well in their studies. During the 2023-2024 academic year, Tri-C pantries recorded 12,559 total visits from 2,655 students. They are on pace to exceed that number this academic year, as more students rely on the pantries for fresh produce, staple items and personal hygiene products.

Kristine Neate, serves Westfield as EVP and Chief of Staff, reporting to the CEO & Board Chair. She focuses on coordination, efficiency and effectiveness of the enterprise leadership team and provides strategic leadership to key enterprise priorities. She joined the Tri-C Foundation board in June 2023.

"This community support is something I'm proud of as a Westfield employee – we share dollars, time and talent in meaningful ways with many organizations including Tri-C," she said. "Tri-C creates amazing and lasting opportunities for people in our region."

Westfield also sponsors the Presidential Scholarship Luncheon, an opportunity for Neate and her colleagues to see firsthand the impact Tri-C has on its students while supporting financial aid initiatives that complement Westfield's other investments in our programs and services. "I have been inspired by and remain in awe of the breadth and depth of Tri-C's impact in our area, and by learning more about the Women in Transition Program," Neate concluded. ■



In Their OWN WORDS

"The school food pantry is a lifeline for many students, including myself. It goes beyond just providing groceries; it creates a sense of community and support that is truly uplifting. The staff's genuine willingness to help and support makes each experience welcoming.

Knowing there's a place to turn for nutritious food not only eases stress but also

helps me focus on my studies and personal growth. I'm grateful for the kindness and generosity that make this pantry such an essential part of our school. Thank you for making a difference in our lives!"

Hanin Albanna, majoring in medical assisting



Hanin Albanna

"I'm so grateful for my experience with WIT. I met some of the best people and mentors. I learned so much about myself and found a great new career that I absolutely love. WIT changed my life, and if change can happen for me, it can happen for anyone. I love telling and encouraging other women to become a WITster like me.

I received my certification and was then hired as a Community Health Worker. I'm working at Alliant Treatment Center now and am becoming a homeowner."

Leslie Smith, WIT Fall 2023 Graduation keynote speaker, Spring 2023 Graduate



Leslie Smith

Westfield chief of staff Kristine Neate, who also is a Tri-C Foundation director (left), and Gretchen Long, community investment leader (right) were recognized by Dr. JaNice Marshall during the Women in Transition spring 2024 graduation.

Dental Hygiene Program grows with charitable investments *(continued from page 3)*

Michael Hudec, the CEO of Hudec Dental. “At Hudec Dental, we believe in improving the quality of life of those we serve and are honored to partner with Tri-C to improve the quality of Dental Hygiene students’ lives at Tri-C.” The practice will also offer job shadowing and externships to help students prepare for their careers, and its dentists will present on specialty topics to enrich the curriculum.

Tri-C’s two-year program consists of classroom study and supervised instruction in the Dental Hygiene Clinic at Metropolitan Campus, where students provide care to the public, supervised by clinical faculty and a dentist. The program currently accepts 22 students each year and plans to expand enrollment to 28 students annually. Increasing capacity means that more students and community members will have access to low-cost, quality preventive and therapeutic dental hygiene care in the clinic. ■



Trustee Frangos sustains support for Westshore Pantry

In 2023, Tri-C and its community partners celebrated the grand opening of the renovated Food Pantry at the Westshore Campus, made possible by donors to the Tri-C Foundation. Trustee Ann Frangos and her husband, Lou, led the way to elevate the space to better serve students.

The Frangos have made another investment to sustain the Westshore Pantry with a new five-year commitment to support operations.

“With the support of my husband, Lou, and my family and friends, we applaud the efforts of Tri-C and the Tri-C Foundation in their forethought to bring this valued resource and wraparound support to students,” Ann Frangos said. “We are proud to play a role in ensuring the success of Tri-C students.”



During the 2023-2024 academic year, Tri-C pantries recorded **12,559** total visits from **2,655** students.

Decorative graphics including a pineapple, a citrus slice, and a loaf of bread, all in white and yellow outlines on a teal background.

During the fall semester of 2024, the Westshore Pantry recorded 1,167 total visits from 274 students, on pace to double the number of student visits over the prior year.

“We’re fortunate to have caring, dedicated supporters like Ann and Lou Frangos,” said Tri-C president Dr. Michael Baston. “Charitable investments to the Tri-C Foundation from these committed leaders support the solutions that address the impact food insecurity has on our students’ success.” ■



Tri-C Day

Join us in making a Tri-C education accessible for everyone. This day of giving provides opportunities for student success through scholarships and programs.

Thursday, April 10

Building Bright Futures

Visit tri-c.edu/tricday to learn how you can help support student success.



Cuyahoga Community College Foundation
700 Carnegie Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2878

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OH
PERMIT #3675



Save the Date

JazzFest 2025

JUNE 26:

- Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue

JUNE 27:

- Centennial Tribute to Oscar Peterson with the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra featuring Benny Green
- Sun Ra Arkestra
- Stanley Clarke N-4EVER

JUNE 28:

- Kirk Whalum/Jonathan Butler
- Dianne Reeves with Romero Lubambo
- Dominick Farinacci & Friends/Taylor Eigsti and Christian Tamburr Celebrate Chick Corea and Gary Burton
- Pedrito Martinez Group

46TH ANNUAL
TRIC JAZZ FEST CLEVELAND
PRESENTED BY
200 years KeyBank
JUNE 26-28
PLAYHOUSE SQUARE

This issue of *Invest in People* is generously provided by Consolidated Solutions.



www.tri-c.edu/give • 216-987-4868