

THE PASSAIC COUNTY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE TECHNICIAN

PCTI'S AWARD WINNING NEWS PUBLICATION

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CAN'T STOP THE FEELING!

The beginning of school year 2016-17 marked the inception of an exciting new theme that encompasses a spirit of heightened educational awareness and success on all levels at Passaic County Technical Institute. At PCTI we just “Can’t Stop the Feeling” we get from being a part of this great school, from being a part of the magic that makes PCTI a great place to work, a great place to grow and a great place to learn!

In her opening address to faculty and staff, Chief School Administrator Diana Lobosco compared the PCTI Family to a magnificent tapestry, “...a perfect blend of diverse and colorful threads. Each possesses unique qualities and talents, but all of them, when woven together, make our magnificent PCTI tapestry one of a kind.”

Our school wide theme embraces the continuation of year-round opportunities afforded to students, staff and community every day, 24/7.

We continue to see students pushing their limits with high achievements in academic endeavors, community involvement, and athletic acclaim. This past summer, PCTI offered an incredible new Summer Stem Academy for 7th and 8th grade students, which garnered rave reviews. On the athletic horizon, our teams have created historic records with state and county championships! Our students were awarded first place in the national NASA culinary competition with their winning entrée being flown up to the International Space Station in January 2017! A recent graduate is currently taking the world by storm on NBC’s “The Voice,” where she continues to capture the hearts of millions.

As we continue this school year, we embrace “Can’t Stop the Feeling” by building on our

unparalleled spirit and energy, by weaving a tapestry with strong and meaningful threads, by creating an inspiring story that foretells success for all!

We invite you to explore and discover the stories of those who have embodied the spirit of PCTI. “Can’t Stop The Feeling” resonates throughout our campus and puts a spotlight on our enormous Bulldog Pride, as well as the dedication and enthusiasm generated by the many successes and achievements of our students, faculty, and staff. No one can stop this unique PCTI feeling! It just keeps on building!



Introducing the Newest Members of the Bulldog Family



PCTI extends a warm welcome to our new faculty and staff that joined us for the 2016 school year;

Roseybel Abreu, Heba Abdelatif, Sara Abdelhadi, Daniel Bellet, Dina Benacquista, Melissa Cunningham, Khadijah Davies, Christina Evans, Mark Frederick, Vincent Gianetti, Melba Hernandez, Michael Ingrassia, Frank Migliorino, Alyssa Miller, Mark Monteyne, Shannon Mozek, Linda Nicosia, Raul Quispe, Salem Saykali, Daniel Sullivan, and Thais Vargas.

Saturday Open House a Success

Over 4,000 attendees participated in our Open House. Faculty, staff, and students volunteered their time to make sure the annual event was a huge success. It was held for the first time on a Saturday and provided numerous inquiring families and prospective freshmen with the opportunity to tour our expansive high school, while receiving an intimate look at the programs and clubs offered.



Logistic Students Share their Knowledge

Members of the Department of Education and Southern Regional Education Board, as well as representatives from FedEx and several schools from NJ, visited PCTI to observe the Logistics program. While here, they sat in on a class and spoke with students about their uniquely enriching education at our career and technical high school. Attendees were thoroughly impressed and applauded the knowledge and poise of PCTI's bright young men and women.

A FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION

Special thanks to PCTI's Education Foundation which, for the past nineteen years, has been spearheading initiatives and events that raise funds for student scholarships and teacher grants.

Lincoln of Wayne "Driven to Give"



Lincoln of Wayne awarded PCTI with an eight thousand dollar check in light of the high school's participation in their "Driven to Give," initiative which exchanged faculty test drives for scholarship funds to benefit the instructional endeavors of teachers.

The initiative was organized by PCTI's Education Foundation which is known for going above and beyond in reaching out to regional, business, and community groups. Education Foundation President Al Alexander and Chief School Administrator Diana C. Lobosco accepted the donation from Lincoln of Wayne President, Peter Spina Sr. and the Client Relations team.

Golf Scholarship Classic Hits a High Note

This year's Annual Golf Scholarship Classic to benefit student scholarships and teacher grants was the most successful yet! More than \$85,000 was raised at the event which was held at the Knoll Country Club West on October 4th. A combined one hundred and forty golfers and dinner guests came out in support of the event.



Engines Rev for First Annual Car Show

Excitement rang through the air when PCTI celebrated its very first annual Car Show. The event was sponsored by the Education Foundation and showcased more than one hundred and sixty new and old cars, motorcycles, and trucks.

The involvement of the entire PCTI community ensured that the Car Show was the total package. More than three hundred spectators came out to enjoy the event, which featured students of the Vocal program showcasing their musical talents; food prepared by Culinary Arts students, served from a food truck facade built by the School of Construction Technology; and promotional material designed by students of the School of Communication Arts.

PCTI's Car Show was judged by students and instructors of the School of Automotive Technology. Visitors were also treated to tours of the expansive Automotive Facility. The event received rave reviews by show participants and onlookers alike. Everyone is already looking forward to next year!





Instructor Meghan Carey congratulates Alysha Acosta on being inducted into the AAUW Girls Hall of Fame.

“Passion Project” Wins Hall of Fame Induction

Alysha Acosta is one of four young women to be inducted into the AAUW Girls Hall of Fame. The honor was bestowed by the Greater Wayne Area Branch of the American Association of University Women for Alysha’s Passion Project, “The Trauma Lives On” – which took a look at the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder on those who served in the military. Her project explored what causes PTSD, researched organizations that provide helpful services, and sought ways to manage the disorder. Alysha also organized a book drive to bring joy to the family of service members.

PCTI LMTI Initiative Awarded for Change

PCTI’s chapter of the Lindsey Meyer Teen was recognized with the distinguished “Change Award” at the program’s Summer Conference. Students received accolades for their peer to peer awareness projects from last year, which included heir SNAP Week initiative, Prom Awareness campaign, and other events.



Priming the Leaders of Tomorrow



Three students have received the prestigious honor of being nominated for the 11th District’s Congressional Youth Advisory Council. Aleksey Strekalov, Gabriela Juniewicz, and Przemyslaw Juniewicz will meet with Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen and learn about the inner workings of the United States’ federal government. The endeavor will test the students’ leadership qualities and expose them to engaging activities.

Paving the “Way” to Success on NBC’s “The Voice”

Wé McDonald, graduate of the Class of 2016, bared her soul during the Olympic Premiere of NBC’s “the Voice”. Her blind audition of the emotionally charged “Feeling Good” turned the chairs of the four all-star judges! Wé’s impassioned take on the Nina Simone classic *Feeling Good*, earned accolades from all the judges. But when it came time to choose, Alicia Keys was the coach for Wé.

The fourteen-time Grammy award winner claimed she wanted to make a special space for Wé on her team and that she didn’t want the Tech graduate to be like anyone else. “You were born to show people what love sounds like,” Alicia Keys added.

Since the show’s initial premiere, Wé has outlasted her competitors in the Battle and Knockout rounds. This young starlet even made time in her busy schedule to return to PCTI and visit members of the Bulldog family.

Wé McDonald continues to crush it on *The Voice* and since this publication, has secured her place as a finalist!

Congratulations to this extraordinarily talented young woman. PCTI is proud of our very own rising star. NBC’s “the Voice” is just the beginning!



Credit: JustJared



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



September: Pooja Nahar

Academy of Medical Arts

- Ranks in the top 1% of her class
- Licensed CNA, First Aid & Life Support certified
- Selected for New Jersey Governor's School in the Sciences & Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's HOPP programs
- Vice President of Passaic County 4-H Crusaders, Editor of Yearbook Club, and Youth Leader of the EduCare Charity
- Member of Sound Chasers, Gifted & Talented, HOSA, & NHS
- Goal: Graduate from a university that combines a bachelors/medical degree program; become a doctor



September: Christopher Valencia

School of Engineering Technology

- Ranks in the top 1% of his class
- Earned the AP Scholar with Distinction title
- Received PCTI's NJROTC Honor Cadet Award
- Vice President of SkillsUSA, NJROTC Officer, member of Boys Varsity Volleyball, Gifted & Talented, NHS, & the History Club
- Created Peer-Tutoring Initiative for Paterson youth
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering, pursue a master's degree



October: Tiamera Ellen

School of Communication Arts

- Ranks in the top 3% of her class
- President of the Class of 2017 & the Book Club
- Selected for NHS, serves as the Corresponding Secretary
- Editor in Chief of the Yearbook club, selected for NJ Girls State, PCTI LMTI chapter member
- Runs own business of "Tellen Designs," Co-op for PCTI's Communications Department
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a Bachelor's degree in Graphic Design and a minor in Photography; become a Freelance Graphic Designer



October: Qian Zhang

Academy of Finance

- Ranks in the top 2% of her class
- Selected for Freshmen Foundation for Success, Circle of Success, Gifted & Talented, NHS, & New Jersey Girls State
- Co-op for PCTI's Columbia Bank
- Volunteers for March of Dimes, the Paterson Boys & Girls Club, as a PCTI Saturday Tour Guide, and at Open House events
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a degree in Hotel & Tourism Management, a minor in Marketing & Revenue Management; become the manager of her own hotel



November: Eldad Cano

School of Applied Technology

- Ranks in the top 7% of his class
- Executive Officer of NJROTC
- Drill Team competitor: Unarmed Basic, Armed Basic, & Color Guard; earned many awards
- Selected for National Honor Society and World Language Honor Society
- Member of History Club, Environmental Club, ERASE, and ASL Club
- Co-Op ACAD Engineer with Michael Raiser Associates
- Accumulated more than 100 hours of community service
- Goal: Enter the Pre-Med track and graduate from a university; eventually earn a degree in medicine



November: Alexa Mazzocoli

School of Cosmetology

- Ranks in the top 5% of her class
- Working towards receiving Cosmetology License
- Selected for Circle of Success & World Language Honor Society
- Member of ERASE, Yearbook Club, & Environmental Club
- Volunteers as Safety Town Instructor, at Goodwill store, during 5K Run events, fundraises for local church
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a degree in Business/Marketing; work in sales for a well-known cosmetics company

Hard Work Earns Students AP Scholar Awards

Three outstanding students were awarded for their academic intellect when they scored high on their AP exams. Aleksey Strelakov and Scott Boorman were recognized with the AP Scholar with Honor award, while Christopher Valencia received the AP Scholar with Distinction award. Such accolades can be cited among credentials on their applications and resumes.



Jessica Moreno Recognized
Commended Student



Oscar Perez Athlete Among Top
Soccer Players of NJ.com

Networking Initiative Rewarding for Student Learning



What do you get when you cross seasoned professionals with an interactive Q&A session? A hands-on learning experience that's sure to inspire! Seniors of the Academy of Criminal Justice participated in the Agency Networking exercise at the Passaic County Fire Academy where they interviewed members from the Passaic County Sheriff's Department Patrol, the Wayne Ambulance and Fire Department, the Passaic County Sheriff's E.M.S., and the Hackensack Medical Centers Medical Transport Helicopter. The joint venture allowed students the opportunity to get a deeper look of the responsibilities of emergency responder personnel, as well as to understand how all factions work together.

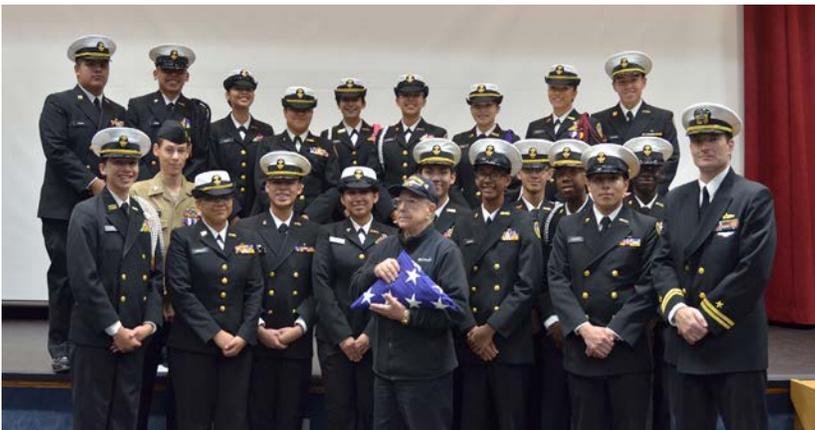
Remembrance and Recognition



PCTI held two assemblies in honor of 9/11 and Veterans Day. Students, veterans, and special guests were invited to participate in the events which focused on paying respect to the memory of those who were lost during immense tragedies, as well as those who sacrificed their lives for the sake of freedom.

Highlights from 9/11 include welcoming guest speaker Sandra Grazioso and Lissa Collins, both of whom lost family in the 2001 attacks. At the Veterans Day assembly, Instructor Catherine Pagano received the American Legion Hundredth Anniversary Medal for her many years of patriotic service. In attendance was special guest Joe Galafaro, a veteran who was honored with the Croix de Guerre, a distinguished French Military decoration presented to those who fought with the allies during World War II.

Both events left an impactful impression on all in attendance.



Thank You PCTI Athletes for a Great Season!

Bulldogs Return to MetLife for Championship Game

PCTI faced off against the Ridgewood Maroons at this year's NJSIAA North 1 Group 5 State Championship game. The event was riveting, with members of our Bulldog family cheering loudly from the sidelines. The marching band, color guard, cheerleaders, and Spike further emboldened football players with that good old fashioned PCTI spirit! Kudos to coaches and athletes on a job well done!



Bulldogs are BNC Champions



Girls Cross Country and Girls Volleyball seized victory when they each grabbed a share of the Big North Conference Liberty Division Championship titles in their respective sports. Congratulations!

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

SEPTEMBER



Sarah Shannon, Girls Cross Country
Felix Melo, Boys Soccer

We've Got the Spirit!



Members of the Bulldog family celebrated this year's homecoming festivities throughout the entirety of Spirit Week. The activities culminated with a Pep Rally and the much anticipated homecoming game against the East Side Ghosts. PCTI came out on top and announced the winners of our homecoming court.

OCTOBER



Naomi Rodriguez, Girls Volleyball
Sydney Shannon, Girls Cross Country

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Instructors: Fernando Colón & Luis Colón
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Experiencing Shakespearean History



Senior AP and Honors English classes visited Drew University where Shakespeare's historic First Folio was hosted during the month of October. The artifact regularly travels the country and was assembled in 1623, just seven years after Shakespeare's death. It includes thirty-six of his plays, eighteen of which have never been published.

The month-long exhibition at Drew University featured a festival of performances, lectures, concerts, and other accompanying exhibits, all of which provided an educationally enriching experience to those who attended!