

# Would you, could you buy a book?



King Elementary students enjoy their new books in 2015, donated through the Clark College Bookstore's annual book drive.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know," wrote Theodor Geisel (aka "Dr. Seuss"). "The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." It is with this idea in mind that Clark College has chosen Vancouver's King Elementary School as the beneficiary of its tenth annual book drive, which runs Feb. 12-28.

Over the past nine years, the Clark College Bookstore has helped provide more than 1,100 books to local kindergartners.

This year's book selection is Dr. Seuss' *Green Eggs and Ham*, a favorite among children for six decades. Geisel wrote the book in 1960 after a publisher dared him to write a children's story using no more than 50 words.

The community is invited to help purchase 85 copies of the Dr. Seuss classic to be given to kindergartners at King Elementary on Read Across America Day (March 2), a celebration to commemorate Geisel's birthday. Books will be read aloud to students by volunteers from the Clark College Bookstore.

Research has shown that having age-appropriate books in the home promotes literacy in children. But according to the National Center for Children in Poverty, two-thirds of children from low-income families lack access to books. Clark College Bookstore Manager Monica Knowles, who has helped organize the book drive for many years, says that she often hears from her volunteers that this gift was the only book a kindergartner owned.

Copies of the selected Dr. Seuss books are available for purchase and donation Feb. 12-28 for \$6.85 each (plus tax). Each book will include a nameplate with the donor's name. Donors will be able to purchase books at the Bookstore or online via the Bookstore's website at [www.clarkbookstore.com](http://www.clarkbookstore.com), making it quick and convenient to participate in the book drive.

The Clark College Bookstore is located in Gaiser Hall on the northern end of Clark's main campus. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at [www.clark.edu/maps](http://www.clark.edu/maps). Information about the bookstore is available at [www.clarkbookstore.com](http://www.clarkbookstore.com). For additional information, contact Monica Knowles at the Clark College Bookstore at 360-992-2904.

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# A rousing coda



Members of the Clark College Jazz Band watch for a cue from Band Director Rich Inouye during their performance at the 56th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival.

Every year during the last weekend of January, the Clark College Jazz Festival fills Gaiser Hall with swinging tunes from middle and high school bands. This year was no exception, with a total of 1,116 students from 55 schools flocking to the highly regarded festival—including some from as far away as Alaska.

But among the bright jazz tunes were a few bittersweet notes, for this festival marked the last to be helmed by music professor Richard Inouye.



Prof. Rich Inouye speaks during the 11th and final Clark College Jazz Festival that he will organize.

On Saturday night, at the conclusion of the AAA and AAAA Finals, President Robert Knight got on stage to recognize Inouye for his 11 years of service with Clark College as the Director of Bands. Knight praised his teaching in the classroom, his conducting skills with Concert Band and the Jazz Ensemble, his leadership of the Annual Jazz Festival, and his committee and leadership work across the campus. President Knight presented Richard with a collage canvas print of the colored jazz festival covers which were directed by Inouye during his tenure.

Behind the scenes, Clark students decorated the festival's "green room" with some of their favorite "Richisms," including, "Own it, fix it," "Results, not excuses," "You set the tone," and "Rhythmic resistance."

The 56th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival's Dale Beacock Memorial Sweepstakes trophy was awarded to Mead High School Jazz Band I from Spokane, Washington. Other honorees included:

## **Thursday Middle School Silver Division jazz ensemble finals results:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Jane Addams Middle School, Seattle, WA

- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Beaumont Middle School, Portland, OR
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Chief Umtuch Middle School Advanced, Battle Ground, WA

Blue Division Judge's Award – Chief Umtuch Middle School Advanced, Battle Ground, WA

## **Outstanding Middle School Jazz Musician certificates were presented to:**

- Parker Bruning – Hockinson Middle School, Hockinson, WA
- Adam Haunreiter – Hockinson Middle School, Hockinson, WA
- Connor Cuff – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Deitrich Vu – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Tai Beaulieu – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Mireia Pujol – Liberty Middle School, Camas, WA
- Mason Calaway – Wahluke Middle School, Mattawa, WA
- Isaac Moroshan – Laurin Middle School, Vancouver, WA
- Justus Jones – Carmichael Middle School, Richland, WA
- Shelby McCombs – Pleasant Valley Middle School, Vancouver, WA
- Dominic Mendoza – Chief Umtuch Middle School, Battle Ground, WA
- Reagan Speakman – Skyridge Middle School, Camas, WA
- Grady McHenry – Tukes Valley Middle School, Battle Ground, WA
- Chris Moore – Beaumont Middle School, Portland, OR
- Nate Moore – Beaumont Middle School, Portland, OR
- Parker Casazza – Jane Addams Middle School, Seattle, WA
- Lacy George – Jane Addams Middle School, Seattle, WA

## **Friday, January 26, 2018 A and AA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:**

## **A Division:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Northwinds High School, Port Angeles, WA
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Petersburg High School, Petersburg, AK
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Woodland High School, Woodland, Wa

Outstanding high school musician awards for the A Division were presented to:

- Jesse Weaver – Douglas High School, Winston, OR
- Noah Pratton – Mcloughlin High School, Milton Freewater, OR
- Ciaran Healey – University Prep, Seattle, WA
- Ursula Sargent – University Prep, Seattle, WA
- Adam Kennedy – Northwinds High School, Port Angeles, WA
- Tristan Lowman – Northwinds High School, Port Angeles, WA
- Isaac Hall – Woodland School District, Woodland, WA

## **AA Division:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Mt. Spokane High School, Spokane, WA

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AA Division were presented to:

- Kara Stella – RA Long High School, Longview, WA
- Saunder Borst – Mt. Spokane High School, Spokane, WA
- Elaine Scott – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- Meggie Rodewald – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- Kaylin Woods – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- Grant Hobbs – Columbia River High School, Columbia River, WA
- Cade Lilley – Fife High School, Tacoma, WA
- Kaelyn White – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground,

WA

- Emily Johnson – Washougal High School, Washougal, WA
- Jack Broer – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- Riley Lyons – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- Erik Hawkins – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA
- Zeke Dodson – Hockinson High School, Hockinson, WA

## **Saturday, January 27, 2018 AAA and AAAA division high school jazz ensemble finals results:**

### **AAA Division:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Mead High School Jazz I, Spokane, WA
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Prairie High School, Brush Prairie, WA
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Mt. Spokane High School Jazz I, Spokane, WA

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AAA Division were presented to:

- Ashton Hemming – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA
- Dominic Mendoza – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA
- Jacob Khawaja – Lakeridge High School, Lake Oswego, OR
- Penelope Tharp – Lakeridge High School, Lake Oswego, OR
- Isaac Ford – Kelso High School, Kelso, WA
- Tony Brence – Prairie High School, Brush Prairie, WA
- Ericka Mecham – Prairie High School, Brush Prairie, WA
- Josh DeQuiroz – Mountain View High School, Vancouver, WA
- Ricky Gagliardi – Mead High School, Spokane, WA
- Connor Brennan – Mt. Spokane High School, Spokane, WA
- Chris Ramirez – VSAA Focus, Vancouver, WA

### **AAAA Division:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Bothell High School Jazz I, Bothell, WA

- 2<sup>nd</sup> place –Battle Ground High School Advanced, Battle Ground, WA
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, WA

Outstanding high school musician awards for the AAAA Division were presented to:

- Justin Foley – Heritage High School, Vancouver, WA
- Amy Boedigheimer – Heritage High School, Vancouver, WA
- Mairead Rising – Glacier Peak High School, Snohomish, WA
- Galin Hebert – Glacier Peak High School, Snohomish, WA
- Hannah Whitlow – West Salem High School, Salem, OR
- Cameron Roche – West Salem High School, Salem, OR
- Anthony Bolden – West Salem High School, Salem, OR
- Mario Esquivel – Chiawana High School, Pasco, WA
- Benito Ramirez – Chiawana High School, Pasco, WA
- Gabe Aldape – Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, WA
- Manuel Aldape – Lake Stevens High School, Lake Stevens, WA
- Chase Williams – Union High School, Camas, WA
- Sean Grimm – Union High School, Camas, WA
- Gary Hobbs – Union High School, Camas, WA
- Gabe Bradley – Mountain View High School, Vancouver, WA
- Nick McClatchey – Bothell High School, Bothell, WA
- Preston Lee – Bothell High School, Bothell, WA
- Laney Pham – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA
- Shane Walz – Battle Ground High School, Battle Ground, WA

*Shelly Williams contributed this article. Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley.*



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# Iris Awards announced



Four women representing exceptional leadership, philanthropy and community service are the winners of the 2018 Iris Awards, honoring women of achievement in Southwest Washington. They will be honored at an awards reception on Thursday, March 8.

Awards will be presented to Julie Bocanegra, Vice President for Columbia Credit Union, and Julianna Marler, CEO of the Port of Vancouver. H-ROC, a non-partisan political action committee dedicated to the advancement of elected and appointed female leaders in Southwest Washington, has chosen Nancy Retsinas of the Retsinas Collaborative Law Center for the Iris Award they sponsor. Last year, the Iris Awards added a new category, the Legacy Award, for previous winners who have continued to be leaders in Southwest Washington. This year's winner is Nan Henriksen, the former mayor of Camas who also served as the chair of the Board of Freeholders in Clark County that helped write the county's home-rule charter.

The award ceremony takes place in Gaiser Student Center on Clark College's main campus. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the ceremony begins at 6:00 p.m. The event is open to the public and tickets are on sale through the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce at

<http://www.vancouverusa.com/events/details/2018-iris-awards-reception-15961>. The cost is \$35 per person. A table sponsorship, which includes eight tickets, can be purchased for \$310. Seating is limited.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at [www.clark.edu/maps](http://www.clark.edu/maps). Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), or visit Penguin Union Building room 013, by February 26.

## **About the Iris Awards**

The Iris Awards follow in the tradition of the Southwest Washington Women of Achievement Awards, which began in 1985 at Clark College. In 2012, the event was reintroduced as the Iris Awards, still celebrated on or around International Women's Day (March 8) and with the same core mission: honoring the lasting and far-reaching contributions of women in Southwest Washington and beyond.

This year's awards are sponsored by Clark College, the Clark College Foundation, the *Vancouver Business Journal*, the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, and H-RoC. The Iris Award winners will be featured in the *Vancouver Business Journal's* 2018 "Women in Business" directory, the only Portland/Vancouver metro area directory of businesses that are owned, directed or managed by women.

## **2017 Iris Award Recipients**

**Julie Bocanegra**



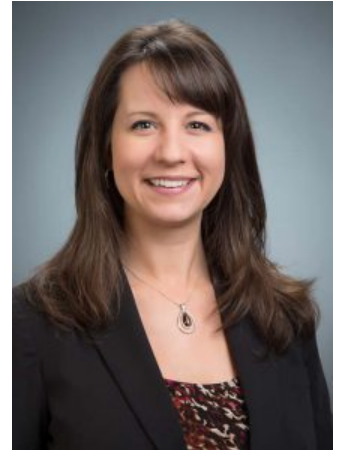
Julie Bocanegra

Beyond her full-time work as a Vice President/Branch Manager for Columbia Credit Union, Bocanegra serves on the Evergreen School District Board of Directors. Professionally, Bocanegra's passion for teamwork and approachable leadership style have grown in influence since joining Columbia CU as a teller in 1994. Most recently, in addition to managing one of the credit union's busiest branches, she was tapped to create and teach curriculum for key organization-wide training initiatives for Columbia CU, Washington State's ninth-largest credit union and Clark County's largest holder of deposits.

Appointed in 2012, elected the following year, and then re-elected again in 2017, Bocanegra has served as Vice Chair and then Chair of the Evergreen School District Board of Directors, the fifth-largest school district in Washington State. Bocanegra has been instrumental in leading the district's student equity and technology learning initiatives. Under her leadership, the district eliminated student user fees for athletics, opened elementary school Community Resource Centers, and moved to a 1:1 technology curriculum.

Bocanegra is a former Board Chair of the Battle Ground Chamber of Commerce, and has served in a variety of leadership capacities, including Board President, for the Evergreen Little League.

## Julianna Marler



Julianna Marler

Julianna Marler is the CEO of the Port of Vancouver USA. She has provided steady leadership during a time of tremendous growth and change at the port. Prior to becoming CEO in January 2017, she was the port's Chief Financial and Administrative Officer. She is the first female CEO in the port's history and one of just a handful of female port CEOs in the United States.

The Port of Vancouver USA and its tenants provide 3,200 jobs in the community and generate \$2.9 billion in annual economic benefit. Marler has been a key leader at the port as it has partnered with the City of Vancouver and private developers to transform the city's downtown and waterfront into a destination. She has also partnered with sister ports in Clark County and beyond to spur additional economic development and job growth across the region.

Marler currently serves on the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Greater Portland Inc. Board of Directors, American Association of Port Authorities Board of Directors, and the Washington State University Vancouver Advisory Council.

## Nancy Retsinas



Nancy Retsinas

Nancy Retsinas is a collaborative lawyer and family law mediator in Washington and Oregon, in private practice since 1991. In 2015, she established Retsinas Collaborative Law Center to align her values to her legal work. She now commits her practice to non-court dispute resolution, and finds her collaborative approach to problem-solving results in better long-term outcomes for her clients and their families.

Co-founder and executive director of the Two Rivers Institute for Dispute Resolution, Retsinas leads and trains in a non-profit educational organization formed to deliver innovative collaborative law and legal team-building training for family law professionals across disciplines (legal, mental health, financial). The Institute also provides a valuable resource for families looking for well-trained collaborative professionals in the Vancouver/Portland Metropolitan area so the public can find professionals who are committed to peaceful problem-solving. Retsinas has been training legal professionals in client-centered dispute resolution methods since 2008. She is a contributing author to *Washington Practice Manual – Family Law*, a West Publication (2016), and *Building a Successful Collaborative Law Practice*, an American Bar Association publication (2018).

Retsinas has always been an active champion and a hands-on volunteer for the Southwest Washington community. When Retsinas joins an organization, her commitment to empowerment, her natural ability to facilitate a dialogue, and her consensus-building approach make her an essential leader.

Her current nonprofit leadership roles include: Regional Chair, Northwest Region, Global Collaborative Law Council; Board Treasurer, Collaborative Professionals of Washington; Board President for Cappella Romana Choral Ensemble; and Board Director for the Children's Center.

## **Nan Henriksen**



Nan Henriksen

Nan Henriksen has had a profound effect on Southwest Washington. Not only has she improved the community, she has helped shape it—most significantly as the first woman elected mayor of Camas from 1983 to 1992, and later as the chair of the Board of Freeholders, which drafted the county home-rule charter. Henriksen is widely praised in the community for her ability to be calm and thoughtful in her approach to difficult problems.

Recently, National Public Radio interviewed Henriksen about her role in helping Camas prepare for the day when the Georgia Pacific paper mill would no longer be the primary economic driver in the city. Her work is largely credited with Camas

becoming a model for other cities as they had to transition away from traditional industries. She had a vision for diversifying the economy and paved the way for high-tech companies like WaferTech, Underwriter Laboratories, and Linear Technology to locate in Camas.

Henriksen came out of retirement to run for and then lead the 15-member Freeholder Board that was charged with writing Clark County's first home-rule charter. Despite diverse opinions and needs, Henriksen helped the group find common ground and presented a final plan that was approved by voters in 2014.

Along the way, Henriksen has been awarded the Clark County First Citizen Award (2015), Statesman of the Year by Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce (2014), and Camas Political Leader of the Century in 2006. She was first named a Woman of Achievement, which was the original name of the Iris Awards, in 1995.

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**Clark College Columbia  
Writers Series hosts Cheston  
Knapp**



Cheston Knapp. *Photo: Alexis Knapp*

The Clark College Columbia Writers Series continues its 2017-2018 season with Cheston Knapp, managing editor of the award-winning literary magazine *Tin House*. He will discuss his work and read from his new collection of essays, *Up Up, Down Down*.

This event, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Thursday, February 15, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in Penguin Union Building (PUB) room 258A-B on Clark College's main campus.

Cheston Knapp is managing editor of *Tin House*, a literary magazine based in Portland, Oregon. He graduated with a degree in English from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. He is the recipient of a 2015 Oregon Literary Fellowship from Literary Arts and the executive director of the Tin House Summer Writers' Workshop. His work has appeared in *Tin House* and *One Story*. *Up Up, Down Down* is his first book. It has received critical praise from the



literary world, including this evaluation by Joshua Ferris, author of *And Then We Came to the End*: “Offering up a steady supply of perfectly chosen words in precision-guided sentences, Cheston Knapp will either break your heart or jolt your spine, and quite possibly bring some of us back to life.”

The Columbia Writers Series was launched at Clark College in 1988, bringing local, national and international authors to the college and the region. This year’s lineup of authors continues with:

- May 14, 2018: Roger Reeves, Pushcart Prize-winning poet
- May 17, 2018: Kate Berube, children’s book author and illustrator

Information about the Columbia Writers Series is available at [www.clark.edu/cc/cws](http://www.clark.edu/cc/cws).

This event is held on Clark College’s main campus at 1933 Ft. Vancouver Way. Directions and maps are available online. Individuals who need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College’s Disability Support Services (DSS) Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP). The DSS office is located in room 013 in Clark’s Penguin Union Building.

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## **Free dental health day for kids**



Smiles abounded at the 2017 Children's Free Dental Health Day. This year's clinic will be held on February 3, 2018.

The Clark College Dental Hygiene Program will hold a free children's dental clinic on Saturday, February 3, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the main campus of Clark College. The event will take place in the Firstenburg Dental Hygiene Education and Care Center in the Health Sciences Building on Clark's main campus.

Dental hygiene students from Clark College will provide care under the direct supervision of licensed dental hygienist and dentists. Services will include cleanings, sealants, x-rays, sealants, doctor's exams, fluoride, and select emergency treatments for children ages 18 and under. Appointments can be scheduled by calling the Dental Hygiene Business Office at (360) 992-2158.

This is the eleventh year that Clark's Dental Hygiene has offered a free children's dental health day. In addition to this event, the college's Dental Hygiene students provide low-

cost dental hygiene care to the community as part of their clinic practice.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA 98663. Driving directions and parking maps are available at [www.clark.edu/maps](http://www.clark.edu/maps). If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event, contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP), or visit Penguin Union Building room 013 as soon as possible.

*Photo: Clark College/Nick Bremer*

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## **State of the College**



President Knight delivers the 2018 State of the College address.

At his annual State of the College address on January 18, Clark College President Bob Knight highlighted both the college's accomplishments and its challenges.

When it came to the former, Knight didn't have far to look—just outside the doors of Gaiser Student Center, students were learning and eating at the McClaskey Culinary Institute, which opened in the fall. About a dozen students from the Professional Baking and Pastry Arts program stood against one side of the room, and one of them presented Knight with his favorite pecan bar.



President Knight receives a pecan bar from baking and pastry arts student Cameron Godney.

Knight had other sweet news to share, including the opening of an on-campus food bank for students and the announcement of 20 new athletic scholarships to be bestowed each year. He also announced a new agreement that will allow for increased student exchange with colleges and universities in Japan. And he shared that the college's new Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Management is potentially adding cohorts due to high demand. Two more bachelor's degrees—one in Early Childhood Education and one in Addiction Counselor Education—are "on the horizon," he said.

Knight also noted that Clark had been chosen by the American Association of Community College to be a Pathways 2.0 College—one of just 13 community colleges across the country to receive this designation. This will allow Clark to receive training and support as it converts to the "Guided Pathways" model of higher education, which streamlines students' journeys from admissions to career with clearly explained educational pathways.

Knight said that Guided Pathways was vital to managing one challenge currently facing the college: student retention.

“Our goal is that all students, regardless of ethnicity or economic background, achieve and succeed at the same rate,” he said.

Knight shared stories of recent graduates who had succeeded at Clark: Nancy Boyce, who now runs her own diesel repair company in Alaska; Dr. Inva Begolli, who came to Clark from Albania and recently earned her doctorate in pharmacy; and Cody Messick, a lackluster student in high school who discovered a love of physics and math at Clark that propelled him onto a team that discovered gravitational waves in deep space. Knight also recognized several employees for their support of student success: CADD professor Keith Stansbury, who advises the college’s aeronautics club, and biology faculty Kathleen Perillo and Erin Harwood, who have led students on a project to restore salmon habitat at Clark’s future location in Ridgefield. Additionally, he bestowed Presidential Coins on Workforce Education Services director Armetta Burney and Instructional Operations associate dean Rachele Bakic.

However, Knight added a caveat that these individual stories should not be considered a substitute for systemic change.

“Many of these students, we call them ‘heroes’ because they had to overcome obstacles to succeed and complete their degrees,” he said. “We don’t want them to have to be heroes to succeed. That’s the intent of Guided Pathways. ... We want those meaningful connections, [but] we’ve got to make sure it’s systemic—that we don’t count on students lucking into a Keith Stansbury or an Armetta Burney.”

Knight said that achieving that kind of systemic change would require the help and participation of everyone at the college. He referenced *Who Do We Choose to Be?*, a new book by leadership expert Margaret Wheatley. “The fact is, there’s a chaotic world out there,” he said. “But here, as leaders, we can create what [Wheatley] calls ‘an island of sanity.’ Let’s just focus on what we can do in our own community here at

Clark College. We need to create our own island of sanity, and Guided Pathways will help us do that.”

*Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley*

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## Presidential Coins



Sen. Al Bauer receives a presidential coin from President Knight at the 2018 State of the College Address.

Clark College President Bob Knight presented Presidential Coins to two Clark College employees and one Clark College alumnus during his 2018 State of the College address on January 18. They were:



Rachele Bakic

## Rachele Bakic

Rachele Bakic began at Clark in 2012 as the program manager for the Health e-Workforce Consortium Grant. She accepted the position of Interim Director of Academic Services in September 2014. In 2015, she was named the Associate Dean of Instructional Operations, a role that involves overseeing many aspects of the college's curriculum and programs. Knight said Bakic played "an integral role" on the college's Curriculum Committee, Instructional Planning Team, and the Outcomes Assessment Committee, all of which help realize the college's academic strategy and ensure that classes meet the needs of students. He also noted her work on the Academic Calendar Committee and other groups around campus.



Armetta Burney



## **Armetta Burney**

Armetta Burney has served as Director of Workforce Education Services (previously called Eligibility Services) at Clark College for five years. In that role, she has led the expansion of several programs serving students. The Basic Food, Employment, and Training Program (which provides federal funding for students facing barriers to education) served fewer than 20 students per quarter when Burney began her career at Clark; now it serves more than 300. Similarly, she expanded the Passport to College program, which provides incentives to students for reaching specific academic milestones. She oversaw changes to the way the Opportunity Grant was administered, which led to student retention rising from 76 percent to 84 percent. And she launched an Emergency Grant program for students in crisis.

“She is committed to ensuring that she and her staff meet students where they are, and providing students with the support they need to be successful,” Knight said.

## **Sen. Al Bauer**

While former Washington State Senator Al Bauer is not a Clark College employee, he has a long and personal connection to the college, beginning when he first began taking classes here in 1948 after being laid off from a cannery job. Bauer has said that he expected Clark to refuse to admit him, and that the college’s wholehearted welcome helped him to believe in his own capabilities. Bauer left Clark to join the Navy, but returned after his service to continue his education. He eventually earned a master’s degree in education and taught in area schools for more than 20 years. His political career included nine years as a Washington State Representative and two decades as a state senator, during which time he earned the moniker of “the education senator.” A staunch advocate for the institution that gave him his start in higher education,

Bauer's significance to the college was made clear in 1988 when a building on the main campus was dedicated to him.

"Thank you for being who you are, being the leader that you are, and for caring about students as the education senator," said President Knight in presenting the coin to Sen. Bauer.

President Knight introduced a Presidential Coins at Clark College in 2007. They are given to faculty and staff members who provide exemplary service to Clark students, the college, and the community. In 2016, President Knight expanded the coins' recipients to include exemplary supporters of the college. The honorees are decided by the president and are kept secret until the names are announced—generally on Opening Day in the fall or during the annual State of the College address in January.

*Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley*

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## **A Running Start for high schoolers**



High school sophomores and juniors can learn how to take the next step in their education by attending one of three optional Running Start Information Night sessions at Clark College.

The identical sessions will be held 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 24; Wednesday, Feb. 28; and Wednesday, March 7. All three events, which are free and open to the public, will be held in the Clark College gymnasium in the O'Connell Sports Center, located on the southwest side of Clark College's main campus.

Running Start allows eligible juniors and seniors to earn college credit while they fulfill their high school graduation requirements. Running Start students attend Clark classes along with "regular" college students. They can choose from a full range of academic and professional and technical courses as long as the students meet the criteria and the classes are college-level.

The program, which can significantly reduce the cost of a four-year college degree, has proven popular in Southwest Washington. Some Running Start students are so motivated that they earn their associate degree from Clark at the same time that they earn their high school diploma. These annual information nights frequently attract hundreds of interested students and parents to the college, which is why the college is hosting three sessions this year. Fall Quarter 2017 Clark College welcomed 2,484 Running Start students, up by 2 percent from the previous year.

These information sessions are for students and parents who want to know more about beginning the program in fall 2018. While the sessions are completely optional, they are a good opportunity to hear current Running Start students candidly describe their experiences in the program and to learn about the eligibility criteria, deadlines, and more.

Running Start students pay for books, transportation, and some fees, but do not pay full Clark College tuition. Students can be part-time or full-time in Running Start. Fees are subject to change by the Washington State Legislature. A fee waiver is available for those demonstrating financial need.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way in Vancouver, Wash. Parking will be available in the college's Red lots on the east side of Fort Vancouver Way and in the Purple Lot on the west side of Fort Vancouver Way. Driving directions and parking maps are available at [www.clark.edu/maps](http://www.clark.edu/maps).

Individuals who need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP), or visit Penguin Union Building (PUB) room 013, as soon as possible.

For more information on Running Start, visit the Clark College

website at [www.clark.edu/runningstart](http://www.clark.edu/runningstart). For information about Running Start Information Nights, call 360-992-2366.

*Photo: Clark College/Jenny Shadley*

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## Swing into Jazz Fest



Each year, the Clark College Jazz Festival brings young musicians from throughout the region to Clark.

The 56th Annual Clark College Jazz Festival presents three full days of exhilarating big band jazz on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, January 25-27, 2018 in Gaiser Student Center on Clark College's main campus. Admission is \$5 per day. Clark College students and children under 12 accompanied by an adult will be admitted free of charge.

Sixty middle and high school jazz ensembles from throughout Washington and Oregon are scheduled to perform in this year's competition with trophies presented to the top three jazz ensembles for middle schools and A through AAAA division high schools. Individual outstanding musician awards will also be presented at the end of each division's preliminary competitions. At the end of Saturday evening, the Dale Beacock Memorial Sweepstakes Award will be presented to one outstanding band selected from the entire festival.

Preliminary competitions for the 2018 festival will start on Thursday with middle schools from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with middle school finals starting at 5:30 p.m. On Friday and Saturday, competition will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the A and AA division jazz bands performing on Friday and AAA and AAAA jazz bands taking the stage on Saturday. Finals competitions will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings ending with the trophies presentation.

The Clark College Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Festival Director Richard Inouye, will perform at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, noon and 8:30 p.m. on Friday, and at 12:20 p.m. on Saturday. The 2017 Sweepstakes Band, Garfield High School Jazz Band (Seattle, WA), under the direction of Clarence Acox, will hold the spotlight on Saturday evening at 8:30 p.m.

For complete information about the Clark College Music Department concerts featuring the orchestra, band, jazz ensemble, and choirs, please see <http://www.clark.edu/campus-life/arts-events/music/index.php>.

## **The History of the Clark College Jazz Festival**

The heritage of the Clark College Jazz Festival dates back to 1962 when Hudson's Bay H.S. band director, Don Cammack, began organizing a one-day high school stage band invitational for schools from Clark and Skamania counties. Organized by the

Vancouver and Evergreen public schools, Fort Vancouver H.S. and Evergreen H.S. took turns hosting the festival each year. Sponsors of the festival included Southwest Washington Music Association and Lower Columbia River Music Educators Association. In the early years, the trophies were made by middle school band director, Jack Ager, creatively constructing musician figures from miscellaneous hardware and car parts! In 1970, Dale Beacock, then the band director at both Fort Vancouver H.S. and Clark College, held the invitational "Clark Stage Band Contest" for the first time at its current home, Clark College. This inaugural event hosted 17 high school jazz bands with preliminary competitions held in what was then known as the Gaiser Hall dining area, with finals in the gymnasium. Dale's vision of a competitive jazz showcase for schools throughout Washington and greater Portland promoted the growth of the festival and in 1971 the festival grew to 32 bands held over two days on Friday and Saturday. In 1976 the number of participating bands grew to 52, welcoming bands from Oregon and Idaho. In 1985, Chuck Ramsey took over the reigns as Festival Coordinator successfully organizing the festival for the next 22 years. Chuck's achievements bringing consistency in the operations of the festival and increased student involvement set the groundwork for the educational enhancement, leadership, teamwork, and a sense of ownership the Clark student volunteers experience today. In 2008, Richard Inouye came onboard as Festival Director. His professional and educational experience has brought a new dynamic to the festival by encouraging a focus on jazz education and utilizing technology to promote community awareness, public support, and streamline festival operations. In 2012, the Clark College Jazz Festival celebrated its 50th Golden Anniversary. Highlights of this milestone included the Clark College Alumni Band directed by Chuck Ramsey which featured Clark band alumni from three generations of Clark band directors. Dale Beacock and Chuck were also presented Legacy Sweepstakes Awards for their historic contributions to the festival. Today the Annual Clark College Jazz Festival

welcomes 60 middle and high school jazz ensembles, over 1,200 student jazz musicians to the campus, and over 3,000 people to the Vancouver community throughout the three-day event. In 2013, the festival went international welcoming two bands from Tsawwassen, British Columbia!

## **About the Clark College Music Department**

Clark College offers a two-year Associate in Music Degree (DTA/MRP) that includes music theory/ear training, instrumental and vocal performance training, and ensemble experience. Classes are designed to prepare the music major for advanced studies at a four-year institution while providing the non-major with the skills and background to fully enjoy music as a cultural pursuit. Ensembles on campus include three choral groups, orchestra, concert band, and jazz ensemble. Three tenured and several adjunct faculty, provide professional instruction to the 500+ students that pass through Beacock Music Hall each year.

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## **Winter STEM Seminars**



Efforts to create ecotourism and



protect two monkey species in West Africa are the subject of Dr. Robert Schubert's STEM Seminar Series lecture.

Clark College is inviting the public to come back to school for a series of free lunchtime seminars that explore the lighter side of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Begun in 2015, the Clark College STEM Seminar Series launches its 2018 Winter season with yet more fun, informative presentations geared toward anyone with an interest in science—no Ph.D. required!

The winter quarter events in this series include:

- **January 19: The Aka and Bofi Foragers of the Central African Republic** with Dr. Jay Fancher, Clark College anthropology faculty. Join Dr. Fancher as he recounts tales of his doctoral field research with the Aka and Bofi foragers of the Central African Republic. Learn how studying—and sharing—their meals helps researchers better understand archaeological findings from the area.
- **February 16: Human Culture and Primate Conservation** with Dr. Robert Schubert, Clark College anthropology faculty. When balancing modernization with protecting wild species, creating local control of conservation efforts is crucial to their success. Dr. Schubert shares stories of how local beliefs help preserve two West African primate species and of the challenges posed in developing successful ecotourism initiatives.
- **March 9: It's All About Mud!** with David Kluesner, geologist and Florida Gulf Coast University faculty. When oil and other pollutants spill into water, how can scientists predict where they'll wind up? With more than three decades of experience in the field, this geologist shares his study of pollutants in the mud of a Florida estuary—and what that mud can tell us about how to track

and contain future spills.

All events are held on Fridays from noon to 1 p.m. in the STEM Building room 151 on Clark's main campus. All are open to the public. Light snacks will be available and guests are welcome to bring their own lunches with them.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at [www.clark.edu/maps](http://www.clark.edu/maps). Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), or visit Penguin Union Building room 013, as soon as possible.

*This article was contributed by STEM Outreach Program Coordinator Nadia Kluesner.*

*Photo courtesy of Dr. Robert Schubert.*