

Fall 2014

the magazine for montgomery college alumni and friends

insights

OUT OF
THIN AIR

Cybersecurity Game Changers + Beyond Books at MC Libraries



Pete Vidal

Richard Beall '71 (center) is joined by alumni board members, Dr. DeRionne Pollard, and scholarship recipients at a September meeting.

Fellow alumni and friends,

Each fall, your Alumni Association's board welcomes students who received association scholarships. This year, we also paired students with a mentor. Jane Smith '76, a faculty member who leads our mentoring effort, is building our pool of volunteer professionals—and supporting our own scholars was a logical place for some of these successful alumni to give back.

In addition, we're bringing the Alumni Association onto campus. Under the guidance of Sasha Stone '14 (who joined our board after a term as student trustee), we're introducing Germantown Campus students to the association by helping them weather the tough hours of final exams. We'll expand our outreach collegewide in the semesters ahead.

One more thing about the alumni board—we met recently in the new Bioscience Education Center, which is highlighted in this issue. At the building dedication in September, I was proud to hear Hsiu Chen '12, now

a biochemical manufacturing manager, speak about the value of her bioscience studies at MC.

The digital side of the sciences has gotten a boost recently, too. Montgomery College has won a federal training grant focusing on jobs in the cybersecurity, information technology, and other technical services industries. MC arranged the grant in partnership with Maryland's community colleges. It's a great step ahead in preparing today's students for tomorrow's jobs. There's also a practical benefit to cybersecurity, as you'll see in this issue: Ben Tedesco '02, a cybersecurity consultant, shares his own tips for protecting your own data.

MC isn't just about the sciences, of course. This issue features artist Peter Fréchette '90, who gives a shout-out to professors who influenced his career. Those same professors have influenced students in other ways; some donated their art to Mobile Masterpieces, which we held for the fourth time this fall.

Funds received from ticket sales went to our scholarship program, and each patron took home an original work of art.

We're grateful to all of you who have supported us in past years, and some of us took an evening in early November to say so. We joined students to call our past donors—not to ask for more contributions, but to let you know how much we appreciate the gifts you've already made, and how those gifts made a difference in the lives of today's students.

Lastly, the Alumni Association offers its members a selection of free continuing education courses. This year we're featuring new topics reflecting MC's effort to attract students from the age 50-and-up group, but we will have something for everyone as the months move along. If you have ideas for how we can serve you better, please don't hesitate to share them with us. Remember—we all are MC family!

Richard E. Beall '71
Montgomery College
Alumni Association President

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The Montgomery College Alumni Association welcomes former students interested in helping to coordinate events and activities for alumni, organize fundraising efforts, provide input on distribution of association scholarship funds, and determine benefits of Alumni Association membership. Opportunities to organize activities and events for alumni chapters, by area of study, are also available. **Montgomery College**
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Fall 2014

insights

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Insights is published twice a year for alumni and friends by Montgomery College's Office of Communications.

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Montgomery College is an academic institution committed to promoting equal opportunity and fostering diversity among its student body, faculty, and staff.

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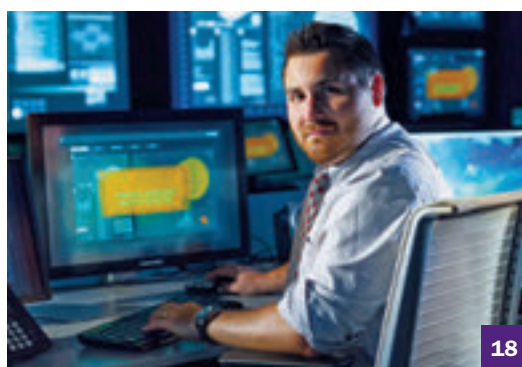
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On the Cover

Peter Fréchette '90 was photographed in his studio at Silver Spring, Md. Photographer James Kegley.



THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS

I just finished reading the spring 2014 *Insights*—cover to cover. I want to commend you and your staff for an outstanding publication! The writing, design, photographs, and subjects were all excellent. I look forward to the next issue.

*Bob Wirth
MC 2011 Retiree*

GETTING A GOOD START

...your story ("Deep Roots, Many Branches, Vaughan Family Tree Flourishes at Montgomery College," Spring 2014) was as good a sales pitch for the College as anything possible. Two-year colleges are the key to the future, too, in my opinion. If I were starting over that would be the first, most affordable step available. You should be very proud to be a part of all this.

*Bill Altice
Richmond, Va.*

Correction

In "From the Alumni Association President," ... the last two Portraits of Life exhibits (Student Experiences and LGBT) were actually produced by the Arts Institute. The Paul Peck Humanities Institute produced the first one ["Holocaust Survivors"].

Insights received a bronze Medallion Award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, the leading professional development organization exclusively for two-year institutions, and an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges. The magazine competed with entries from community colleges in the mid-Atlantic United States, Canada provinces, and the United Kingdom.

**IN THE
WINNERS
CIRCLE**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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editor@montgomerycollege.edu

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Rockville, MD 20850

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Insights reserves the right to edit your comments for length, clarity, and style. You must include your full name, address, phone number or e-mail, and class year (or year(s) of attendance).

E-NEWS DELIVERY

Check your inbox for "Happenings at MC," the bimonthly, online-only newsletter that features Alumni Association activities, scholarship stories, and opportunities to engage with the College.

To update your address, visit montgomerycollege.edu/alumni or send an e-mail with the subject line "Subscribe" to alumni@montgomerycollege.edu with your name, alumni membership number, and class year.





**AWARD-WINNING ORIGINAL PROGRAMS
AND COVERAGE OF MONTGOMERY COLLEGE EVENTS**

Channel 10 on cable throughout Montgomery County, Md.
montgomerycollege.edu/MCTV


montgomerycollegeetv


[@mctv10](https://twitter.com/mctv10)


youtube.com/montgomerycollege

AWESOME AUTUMN



1

1. Students versus faculty in the Dean's Cup annual kickball game. **2.** Creativity and clay creatures at the 3rd Annual Artwalk. **3.** A big Raptor welcome to the fall semester. **4.** Day one at G-town, fall semester. **5.** Frida Kahlo (actor Marian Licha) at the 15th annual Chautauqua program. **6.** Artwork on display at the Visual Arts & School of Art and Design student exhibition. **7.** Students from professor Robin Vaughan Hirshorn's Environmental Biology class in the 25th annual Anacostia clean up, at local Sligo Creek site in May.



2



3



4



5



6



7

Bioscience Education Center

Two ribbon cuttings at the Germantown Campus marked the beginning of the fall semester: the Bioscience Education Center, opened in August, and the Holy Cross Hospital Germantown, opened in October. The buildings, located on Observation Drive, the campus's main thoroughfare, anchor the new Hercules Pinkney Life Sciences Park, a science and technology business partnership, named for the College's president emeritus.

In a region ranked among the top five nationally for biotechnology, the Bioscience Education Center provides the College and business communities a fully integrated research environment that includes laboratories, classrooms, meeting space, and a conference center. The center offers dedicated space and equipment for teaching cell culture, bio-manufacturing (cell propagation), and genetic diagnostics.

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital, a six-story, 93-bed hospital, will benefit the community, as well as MC nursing and health sciences students who can fulfill clinical training requirements on site. Montgomery College is the first community college in the nation to have a hospital on site, and the unique public/private partnership will serve as a national model. It is also the first new hospital to be built in Montgomery County in 35 years. *Look for more on the new hospital in our next issue.*

BE by the Numbers

145,139
square feet

3
stories

48
offices

25
wet labs

6
classrooms

5
break-out rooms

8
recitation rooms

1
science learning center

1
conference center with a

1 detached greenhouse complex

4,115
square-foot meeting room

More than 75 acres of mature forest and a stream valley buffer will be preserved at Germantown. The forest reserve includes a champion American elm with a 100-foot canopy—one of the largest in Montgomery County.



Environmental Features

Green roof with wind turbines
LEED Gold (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified (expected)





\$5,371,743

Montgomery College will receive more than \$5 million in a federal grant award from the US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration job training programs. A total of 14 community colleges in Maryland will benefit from the \$14,957,899 in federal funding to support training programs. Montgomery College will receive \$5,371,743 to lead the consortium of colleges focused on training in cybersecurity, information technology, professional, scientific and technical, and educational services industries. MC was among nearly 270 community colleges across the county that received a total of \$450 million in job-driven training grants. For more: see Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) competitive grant program information online.

Maryland is a national center of cybersecurity with more than 130,000 IT jobs—49% above the national average.

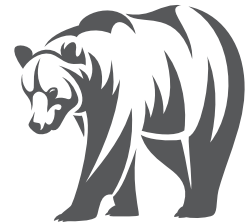


Getting Centered

MC opened two satellite centers: one at the Gaithersburg Library in Montgomery Village and a second, the East County Regional Center, in Silver Spring. The first classes offered at these locations are Computer Literacy for Beginners, in English and Spanish, at the Gaithersburg center, and Child Growth and Development at the East County center. Multilingual staffers are reaching out to residents via community fairs and events. Three more centers are planned for county locations with limited numbers of residents attending college as part of the College's efforts to improve access and promote student retention. MC has also opened new Welcome Centers on all three campuses, improved signage, and simplified enrollment processes.

A bear walks into campus...

No joke. Following the winter of feral cats, June brought in another force of nature to reckon with—a black bear. During a pre-dawn patrol, one startled security officer discovered the bear near the Music Building at Rockville. After alerting the local Animal Control office and issuing a campus-wide do-not-feed-the-bears alert... the *ursus americanus montgomerycollegus* moseyed off before the campus opened for business.



Championing Higher Ed

Named a Champion of Change, President Pollard attended a White House reception with several honorees, all recognized for their work to improve opportunities for former inmates. Under Pollard's leadership, the College partnered with the Montgomery County Correctional Facility to provide academic support for inmates before, and after, their release. In 2011, Nancy Newton, the College's citizenship program director, also earned distinction as a Champion of Change for her work with immigrants seeking to become US citizens.

Read more at whitehouse.gov/champions.



DID YOU KNOW?



The men's and women's track and field teams dominated at the NJCAA Track and Field National Championships in Utica, NY. The men's relay team took first place (national champions) in the 4x800m relay. **#mcraaptors**

Macklin Business Institute students won first place in each of their categories at the annual International Business Ethics Competition (IBECC) in May. They were the only team to win all three of their divisions.

The Surgical Technology program received the **2013 AST Galaxy Star Program Award**, which recognized the program's superior standards in promoting the surgical technology profession.

Whether students want to broker peace, promote human rights, or work in foreign markets, **new courses increase global awareness** at home or abroad:

Introduction to Global Humanities	(GHUM 101)
Elementary Hindi I, Elementary Hindi II	(HIND 101, HIND 102)
Introduction to Peace and Justice Studies	(PHIL 209)
Introduction to Human Rights	(POLI 205)



STEM

On RAMP to STEM, a program funded by the National Science Foundation, helped **14 students with STEM majors** (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) transfer to some of the best STEM programs

in the country this fall: University of Maryland's Clark School of Engineering, University of California-Berkeley's bioengineering program, and Georgetown University's biochemistry program. **Trinh Nguyen '14**, a Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship winner, was accepted into MIT and Georgia Tech. The Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship is awarded to the nation's top community college students.



The **Cyberwatch Student Club** won two major competitions last year—first place in the Community College Division of the Digital Defense Challenge, an international competition organized by the Department of Defense's Cyber Crime Center—and fifth place at Global Cyberlympics North American Competition. The club's faculty sponsor, **Dr. Chiyun-Kwei (C.K.) Chian**, professor of networking and cybersecurity, earned recognition last spring with a major industry award for his continued efforts to raise awareness among the next generation of IT leaders and his work that helps "protect critical national and global data and systems."

Commencement Tally

2,318 + **307** + **49** = **2,674**
degrees certificates letters of recommendation

Source: Office of Institutional Research (FY 2013)

5,291
students transferred to four-year schools (2013)

Going the Extra Mile(s)

In addition to being the first graduate of the Fire Protection Technology program, **Jessica Halle '14** earned another distinction: farthest commute to campus. For two-and-a-half-years, Halle logged nearly 1,000 miles per week (180 miles round-trip) traveling from Kent Island to Rockville twice a week to complete an AA and a certificate in fire science. Why? MC has the only two-year fire protection technology program in Maryland. Halle, a 30-year-old single mother, was motivated by the opportunity to take over her family's business and allow her parents to retire. The company, Eastern Fire Protection, provides maintenance, repair, and inspections for sprinkler systems. She completed the program while working full time.



2011 Honda CRV
(118,000 miles)



Select students spent the summer learning laboratory science at Georgetown University in a 10-week immersion program. Each year eight students receive an internship as **Howard Hughes Medical Institute scholars**. To prepare, the students completed a mandatory Seminar in Critical Reading in Biology during the spring semester. Their internships include paid research in a Georgetown laboratory under faculty supervision. All scholars presented the results of their summer research at the Howard Hughes Fellowship research symposium.

The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) named the MC Student Construction Association the **2014 Student Chapter of the Year**. The national competition recognizes an outstanding ABC student chapter for their accomplishments in programming, community service, communications/public relations, and interaction with its sponsoring ABC chapter during the academic year.

#whatmcstudentsneed: “more”

When given the chance to speak out last spring during the Twitter campaign, #whatmcstudentsneed, students across the college gave wide-ranging suggestions—from more parking to more food choices to more athletic funds to more alumni mentors. The project was the first social media effort to seek student input directly on what matters most to them.



Pete Vidal

Ease On Down the Road

Urged by the Student Governance Council, the College initiated a pilot inter-campus shuttle service in August. The **nonstop shuttle service** reduces the commute time between the two campuses (approximately 15 miles) from 90 minutes to about 40 minutes each way. Ridership is restricted to current MC ID holders (students and employees), but travel is unlimited. Down the road, the College will determine feasibility, effectiveness, and/or expansion to Germantown.



Chelsea Waugaman

Goodbye, Paper?

To meet the technological needs of 21st century students, the College rolled out a new **Web-based version of the *Montgomery College Catalog***. During its soft rollout last summer, students were invited to provide feedback on content and usability via e-mail. Whether the e-version will replace the printed one, which exceeded 470+ pages in its last printing, remains undetermined. In the meantime, print quantities have been reduced significantly but remain available.

Should the College continue to print the catalog? Tell us your opinion. e-mail editor@montgomerycollege.edu.

Oh, The Places They Can Go...



A new articulation agreement with the **University of Maryland Baltimore County** makes the path to a bachelor's degree a little smoother for MC students interested in gerontology, mental health, and social work. Four new articulation agreements established in September between **MC and Shepherd University** assist students majoring in computer science, engineering, and mathematics programs who transfer to Shepherd in West Virginia.

Portraits of Life

The College-produced **"Portraits of Life: Holocaust Survivors of Montgomery County, Maryland"** exhibit traveled to Delaware's Wilmington Public Library, where it was on display through November 26. "Portraits of Life," a program of the Paul Peck Humanities Institute, teaches about the Holocaust from a first-person point of view. In the last three years, the 37 photographic panels have been exhibited in Montgomery County public schools more than 20 times, where they have been seen by thousands of students. More than 7,000 students have heard talks given by survivors in conjunction with the exhibition.

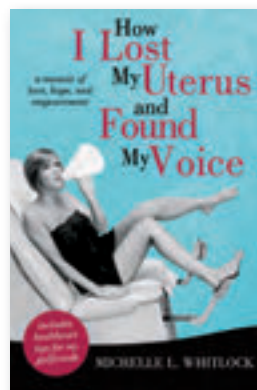
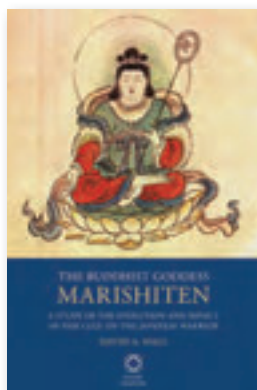


Pete Vidal

The Buddhist Goddess Marishiten

A Study of the Evolution and Impact of Her Cult on the Japanese Warrior

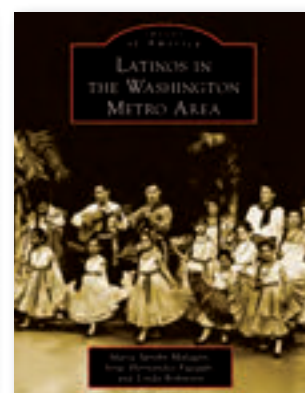
Cybersecurity Professor **David Hall** investigates the Buddhist cult of Marici, the warrior goddess that influenced the Japanese samurai. Hall follows the cult's evolution in India, China, and Japan, with attention to its texts and rituals. Drawing on his own military, academic, and religious expertise, he explores unusual aspects of Japanese combative culture.



How I Lost My Uterus And Found My Voice

A Memoir of Love, Hope, and Empowerment

In this award-winning memoir, **Michelle L. Whitlock '99** recounts her journey from a diagnosis of invasive cervical cancer at 26 through an experimental surgery, and then becoming her own health advocate. Inspirational and honest, her memoir tells the emotional story of love, loss, resilience, and survival.



Feminine Transitions

A Photography Celebration of Natural Beauty

Alyscia Cunningham '02, '10 focuses the camera lens on female faces (no makeup allowed) to show the inherent beauty in their lines, shapes, and features, rather than flawless complexions. Cunningham has contributed to National Geographic, the Discovery Channel, America Online, and the Smithsonian Institution.

That Ever Died So Young

Author **Judy Kelly**, professor of reading, explores guilt and forgiveness in her debut novel. Protagonist Scott Kersey becomes consumed with guilt in the death of his mother. Kersey tries to vindicate himself by tracking down his mother's murderer.

Medicinal Plants and Traditional Medicine in Sierra Leone

Medicinal plants and traditional healers play a critical role in West African health care, especially in treating HIV and AIDS.

Dr. Cyrus MacFoy, professor of biology, researcher, and scientific consultant, presents more than 200 plants used by African practitioners to treat more than 100 diseases and illnesses. He includes findings on conservation, sustainable use, and development of new drugs; alternative techniques into the health care delivery system; and chemical analyses and biological activity testing of plant species.

Latinos in the Washington Metro Area

Maria Sprehn-Malagon (professor of anthropology), **Jorge Hernandez-Fujigaki** (professor of history), and **Linda Robinson** (counselor and professor) collaborated on this overview of the Latino community in Washington, DC. Photographs and historical research document more than a century of Latino immigration, political and civic activities, as well as noted academic, occupational achievements and contributions to the region's arts, sports, and religious expression.

See more authors online at montgomerycollege.edu/insights.

Insights regularly features books by MC alumni, faculty, and student authors. If you have recently published, send us the details: book title, genre, publishing date, and a short description (100 words or less) to be considered for MC Authors.



was standing on the sideline at a University of Maryland football game, watching the state flag flying over the end zone. I remember turning to a colleague and saying how cool it would be to have a flag waving, in motion, on a Maryland football helmet. A light bulb went off in my head and the idea came to me

OUT OF



THIN AIR

by Jill Fitzgerald

Photography: Pete Vidal and James Kegley

Other photos courtesy of Peter Fréchette
and Christian Jenkins/*The Diamondback*

OUT OF THIN AIR

knew who could get this helmet done,” says Adam Clement, creative director of team sports at Under Armour. Clement contacted Peter Fréchette '90, an airbrush artist who designed a hockey helmet for Clement more than a decade earlier. After discussing the parameters of the project, Clement and Fréchette came up with a comp—a single helmet. “It was amazing. It was so beautiful, so artistic, so detailed. It was exactly what I had envisioned in my head, but I could absolutely never execute it,” says Clement.

Fréchette and Clement spent months working closely with helmet manufacturers, testing the types of paint and the amount of paint

Fréchette used, so the design would comply with strict standards for football helmet safety.

After getting the go ahead, Fréchette spent roughly four months airbrushing 250 helmets for the Maryland Terrapins football team. Fréchette airbrushed each helmet, adding nuances in shading and highlighting, which enhanced its unique quality. Fréchette hand numbered each helmet in the first series 1/250/S1, making each one a work of art. Clement believes the helmets will be collectors' items. After players wore the helmets in a game against West Virginia University on September 21, 2013, the university auctioned off all the helmets, except one, which sits on the desk of Under Armour founder and CEO Kevin Plank.

Continued



Pete Vidal



James Kegley



Maryland football helmet debut (vs. West Virginia, 2013)



Texas Tech, football helmet (vs. Oklahoma State, 2014)



Tiger, motorcycle helmet



“Art is a journey in which you must find a balance with both the tangible and the fantasy worlds.”

—Peter Fréchette '90



Texas Tech, football helmet (vs. Oklahoma, 2014)



Demon with fiberglass resin spikes, motorcycle helmet



War Machine, motorcycle helmet

For Fréchette, making works of art came at a young age. “I have a picture I drew when I was two or three,” he says. When he was a teenager, his mother enrolled him in classes at the Maryland College of Art and Design in Silver Spring. He loved the classes. And when he finished high school, Fréchette enrolled at the College as an illustration major.

“There were a lot of talented professors at the College,” says Fréchette. He enjoyed Professor Joan Rosenstein’s drawing class and Professor Dan Voss’s fashion illustration classes, and he extolled the virtues of Tom Barnett, who taught illustration. “Professor Barnett taught me the basics,” he says. “I learned about colors, composition, vanishing points, horizon lines, and foreground and background. I did a lot of pen-and-ink projects in his classes. Fréchette gave his mother many of the art projects he created at the College.

After finishing at MC, Fréchette spent his early 20s trying to find an artistic niche upon which he could build a career. He tried tile setting for a construction company, and he did screen printing and designed logos for a T-shirt company, but, as he admits, it was not very fulfilling work. “I didn’t want anyone overseeing me. I wanted freedom to do what I wanted with my art,” he says.

That is when he bought an airbrush and, as he describes, stacks of airbrushing books. He pored over the articles, and perfected his craft on weekends and off hours. “After about a year, I was doing great stuff,” he says. By his late 20s, Fréchette was making enough money airbrushing to do it on a full-time basis.

“I love airbrushing,” says Fréchette, “But it isn’t for everyone. It’s uncomfortable for a lot of artists,” he says. He explained that airbrushing techniques are counterintuitive to most art. “In drawing, when you move slowly, the line is straighter. In airbrushing, the faster you move, the straighter the line is. An hour of airbrushing is like seven hours of pencil time.”

“I like to make images come alive,” he says, describing the shading capabilities of the airbrush.

Fréchette started designing motorcycle helmets. He remembers doing the first one for a friend. Cycles USA in Silver Spring displayed it, and in Fréchette’s words, it took off like wildfire. His business came from referrals and word of mouth. People asked him to design hood liners for show cars, and airbrush scenes on their motorcycles. “I was doing 15 to 20 helmets a week, but I wasn’t charging enough,” he says. “As my skills and confidence increased, so did my prices,” he



Indian Warrior, catcher's mask



Mystique, motorcycle helmet



Gianni Marinucci '79 (left), co-owner of Auto Italia, Rockville, commissioned Fréchette to airbrush his 1962 Chevrolet C-10 pick-up truck. The truck earned six best paint awards at show car events all over the East Coast.



James Kegley

says, noting that he still does price-friendly designs. He commits the same amount of creative energy to all custom requests, from a catcher’s mask for a little leaguer to a show car. Fréchette believes that keeping the design quality at a consistently high level improves his advertising opportunities.

Continued



Pete Vidal

“I like to make images come alive.”



The paint job extends from the exterior into the truck's cab and undercarriage.



Left: Fréchette demonstrates how to make an eye come alive. Far left: A *Jaws*-inspired jet ski.

His affiliation with Under Armour brought some unexpected advertising perks. When the university unveiled the Maryland Pride 2.0 uniforms in September 2013, they created a YouTube video capturing Fréchette's work, in action. "It was a very short video and they didn't use my name," says Fréchette. "But a lot of people recognized me—and more people pursued me for work after the game."

Fréchette is getting motorcycle helmet requests from all over the country now, even some from Europe. He is also airbrushing show cars and jet skis. And, his college football helmet business is burgeoning.

This summer, he airbrushed 140 more football helmets for the University of Maryland and another 230 for Texas Tech, another university in the Under Armour apparel stable. Clement says Fréchette's helmet designs, like all aspects of team uniforms, have a profound effect on athletic recruiting.

"We do these things [like the helmets] to elevate the University of Maryland brand in the eyes of a 17- or 18-year-old kid who is choosing between playing for Maryland, Penn State, or West Virginia," says Clement. Fréchette would like to branch out and do more helmet designs for college and high school teams.

Because Fréchette's artistic talent extends beyond airbrushing, he wants to diversify. He would like to get back to his roots in traditional artistic training. A gifted painter, he created a mural for Cuba de Ayer restaurant in Burtonsville. And he dabbles in canvases of local sports figures, celebrities, and animals. When—and if—business slows down, he wants to get back to sculpting.

"Peter is an incredibly talented artist," says Clement. "His level of detail, his imagination, and how he creates pieces should be the aspiration of every artist."

frechetteartwork.com



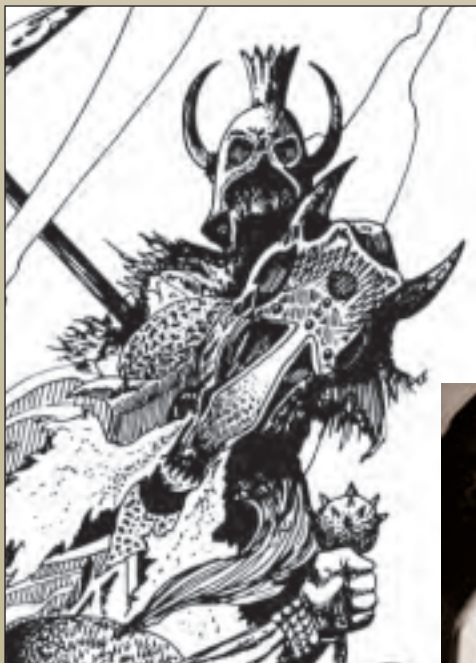
how he creates pieces should be the aspiration of every artist."



Cuba de Ayer mural, acrylic on canvas, 5' x 4'



Ray Lewis, Baltimore Ravens, airbrush acrylic, 2.5' x 4'



Left: Detail from Fréchette's pen-and-ink drawing created while he was a student in the VCT Department in Professor Tom Barnett's illustration class in 1989.

Below: Fréchette airbrushed Madonna's image on canvas and on a leather jacket.



Madonna, airbrush acrylic, 1.5' x 2'

Left: Fréchette and his mother, Helen, in front of a collection of his early work on display in her home. Recognizing her son's gift, Helen enrolled him in the Maryland College of Art and Design when he was a young teen.



Italian Villa, oil painting with palette knife, 4' x 3'



Cybersecurity professional Benjamin Tedesco '02 helps national and corporate organizations defend against cyber criminals, who work around the clock, from around the world, to infiltrate protected networks and steal data.

GAME CHANGERS

BY DIANE BOSSER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GARY LANDSMAN

SECURITY EXPERTS DEFEND AGAINST CYBER CRIME

They sneak in while average citizens sleep, eat, and go mall shopping, and while contractors develop new weapons systems for the US military. Cyber anarchists, commonly known as hackers, disrupt networks, raid financial accounts, and plunder data. Armed with lightning reflexes, hyperfocus, and tenacity, Benjamin Tedesco '02 battles against hidden opponents in the high-stakes game of cybersecurity. More international arms race than Playstation matchup, the game goes on round-the-clock, 365 days a year.

"Not to be overly dramatic," says Tedesco, a cybersecurity professional, "but we are actually protecting America by stopping foreign invasions." Regularly, Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs), or technically sophisticated adversaries with the financial backing of organized crime syndicates (or even entire nations) are on the prowl to breach high-value targets.

Some of the most common methods of cyber-attack involve spear phishing, stolen passwords, malicious code, denial of service attacks, and the exploitation of misconfigured devices. Hospitals, banks, government agencies, energy companies, and commodities manufacturers are favored targets. American consumers, too, make for easy prey. Last holiday season, a breach of credit and debit card data affected more than 40 million Target shoppers. In September, 56 million Home Depot customers learned they were at risk from a breach that went

undetected for months. Attacks on energy facilities, and military and intelligence contractors pose serious threats to national security. Tedesco, the patriot, is not exaggerating when he talks about the critical nature of cyber defense.

After 10 years in the business, the 32-year-old Montgomery County native remains optimistic about the cyber industry's ability to fight back by detecting and responding to breaches. During the last several years at Booz Allen Hamilton, a business consulting firm based in McLean, Virginia, he spent days and weeks on Red Bull-fueled "rescue" missions, where his proactive threat detection and incident response team hunted and analyzed forensic data in client systems that had been breached. They sifted through layers of evidence to locate suspicious anomalies, called "outliers," which are out-of-the-normal programs—but not necessarily spyware. The team would zoom in and take a closer look at each needle in the digital haystack.

"The idea behind the software we use is similar to that of laying clear acetates (transparencies) over a baseline drawing," he says. "Each layer should line up perfectly atop the one below. Anything that deviates from the norm, or standard configuration, will easily stand out. That's where we figure out what's really going on there."

With active top security clearance, Tedesco has been called in to work at federal

government agencies and defense contractors. He recently moved to a smaller, niche firm that specializes in Endpoint Threat Detection and Response (ETDR) products. As a consultant for Bit9+Carbon Black, a Boston-based firm, he interacts with his team of cybersecurity detection and prevention analysts—he calls them the "security ninjas." He still works with corporate clients, the federal government, and forensic security consulting firms, like his former employer. The biggest attraction, he says, is the opportunity to help build and tune tools for incident responders to use every day in the field, and then to be able to guide the organizations on how to use the latest and greatest technology. "It was an offer too good to pass up," he says.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE AFFECTED LAST FALL BY CREDIT AND DEBIT CARD DATA BREACHES



40 MILLION
TARGET CUSTOMERS



56 MILLION
HOME DEPOT CUSTOMERS



 = 5 MILLION PEOPLE



Beyond firewalls and out-moded detection software, Tedesco teaches clients how to use next-generation security tools to protect their data. In an industry that grows exponentially each year, potential for workers with the right skills—and personality traits—is open-ended. Tedesco recently switched from intensive analysis/forensics work at client sites to consulting work he can do from remote locations, including his home.

Tedesco's meteoric rise coincides with the rapid changes in cybersecurity. Antivirus software, which boomed from 1990 to 2000, has proven ineffective, as it only worked to stop "known bad" malicious programs. Hackers every day are writing new programs for new targets, thereby sidestepping the old "signature-based" security methods. These next-generation prevention tools employ "white listing" practices, which only enable "authorized" applications to run; newly downloaded/installed programs only are able to run once a user or system manager "approves" them to do so. In addition to preventing bad files from running, these new tools help incident responders to quickly monitor and contain enterprise-wide breaches in a fraction of the time it used to take, given that all of the execution and network data for a system is logged and made easily searchable for a "hunt team."

**"IT MAKES ME EXCITED
TO SEE HOW THIS
IS ALL COMING
TOGETHER... IT WAS
LIKE GOING FROM
DRIVING A GO-CART
TO DRIVING A
FORMULA ONE CAR."**

—BENJAMIN TEDESCO '02

"I've seen it work firsthand," says Tedesco, "at client sites—where Bit9 made an extremely vulnerable enterprise stronger than any other enterprise I've seen. It makes me excited to see how this is all coming

together... It was like going from driving a go-cart to driving a Formula One car."

CYBER (JOB) SECURITY

According to the US Department of Labor, cybersecurity is among the fastest-growing professions in America. This includes positions as information security analysts, computer and information research scientists, software developers, systems managers, and network architects. In Montgomery County, potential employers include the more than 18 federal agencies and installations, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology's new National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence, as well as approximately 40 cybersecurity companies.

"It takes more than good computer skills to do well in cybersecurity," says Booz Allen Hamilton senior associate Anthony Harris. "It takes an appetite for information.

ACCORDING TO THE
US DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR, CYBERSECURITY
IS AMONG THE
FASTEST-GROWING
PROFESSIONS
IN AMERICA

There are continually new weapons and opponents in this arms race, so you have to constantly be learning... what you learned two years ago may not work today."

To help meet workforce demands, Montgomery College introduced an associate degree program in cybersecurity in 2010. The program provides entry-level computer technicians with information security expertise (*i.e.*, threats and vulnerabilities, prevention hardware and software, etc.), and prepares them to sit for industry certification exams. It has won numerous awards, including a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance for two-year education, from the US Department of Homeland Security and the National Security Agency (NSA). It also received recognition and official certificates for meeting industry standards in courseware and training.

And the word is out. Enrollment in the College's cybersecurity programs increased 19 percent in its second and third years (2011–2013). By fall 2013, all 800 seats were filled, and more than 200 students were pursuing a cybersecurity major. The program's growth led to hiring two new full-time faculty members and adding two cybersecurity certificates. By next year, students can pursue a degree in digital forensics, an in-demand specialization.

With a fast-paced industry comes opportunity for those with the right skills. In the early 2000s, Tedesco pursued associate's and bachelor's degrees in computer science, mainly because there was no such thing as a degree in cybersecurity. Over a decade later, he continues to hone his skills and knowledge. He is working on a master's degree in homeland security and information security and forensics at Penn State University. He expects to finish in 2017. ■

BY BENJAMIN TEDESCO '02

PROTECT YOUR DATA!

Think Before You Click

If you receive an e-mail requesting confidential information you were not expecting to receive, treat it with suspicion. While it may have come from a trusted source, confirm with a phone call before replying back with the information. The number one vector by which hackers break into a computer is by e-mailing a user and having them either download a malicious file or click on a link that takes them to a malicious website. If you do not recognize the sender or receive an unexpected e-mail, think twice before opening it.

Protect Your Passwords

Longer passwords are proven to be more secure than short, complicated passwords. Passwords of at least 15 characters are recommended.

Use Unique Passwords

Shared passwords across different accounts are a primary means by which hackers break into personal and confidential data. (You can check if your account has already been compromised in a large breach by going to <https://shouldichangemypassword.com>). If you have difficulty remembering passwords

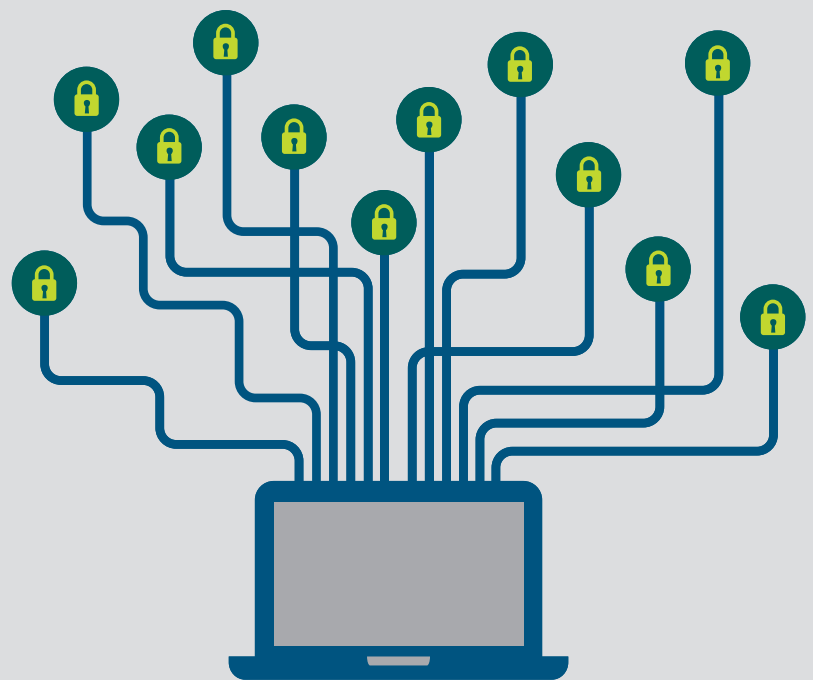
for different accounts, there are several secure tools that can help with this and still keep your passwords safe (*e.g.*, KeyPass or LastPass).

Be Vigilant to Patch and Update

Every week, new security patches are being developed to fix vulnerable systems. Regularly run your updater software or check vendor websites to ensure that your system is running the latest, most secure software version.

Use the Right Prevention And Detection Tools

While antivirus solutions on their own no longer can be considered a comprehensive solution to protect your computer, the right ones still can be useful. Antivirus performance varies from year to year; what might have been a great solution in 2013 may not be sufficient in 2014. With this in mind, it is recommended to regularly scan your system with a highly rated antivirus solution. Many sites like <http://anti-virus-software-review.toptenreviews.com> do a great job of ranking various anti-virus solutions. As mentioned in the point above, it is essential to regularly update your antivirus software to ensure you are using the latest detection signatures.





Rick Reinhard

DAVINIA JAMES '08



When not advocating publicly for a global human rights organization, James teaches at the Outdoor Nursery School in Chevy Chase, Md. A strong proponent of education, she was recently featured on NBC Nightly News for collecting more than 600,000 pennies for education for girls.



How do you teach your preschoolers about Jamaica, your native country?

Jamaica is a jewel and very dear to my heart. I share this with my class by having Jamaica Week every year. I transform the classroom with decorations—the Jamaican flag and pictures of our musicians and athletes. They learn songs, games, and our language—the local dialect is the *patois*. They also taste Jamaican food, including some of my favorites: patties, stew chicken, fruit cake, plantains, rice and peas, and tamarind balls. I teach them how make their own

toys, so they gain perspective on the lives of less privileged children. They make trucks, cars, balls, and windmills. This is one crafty project they love.

Your mother inspired you to work hard and get an education. What difficulties did the two of you overcome?

My mom had a partial high-school-level education when she became a teen mom. I was her third child, and at 3 months old I became very ill. She was unable to care for me, so a family friend and community activist, Eunice Morrison, took me in. She and her husband raised me until I was 11. My mom visited when she could, and when Eunice died, I went to live with her. Jamaica is a very beautiful island, but like anywhere else, it has its grisly side. I was surrounded by violence and

poverty. By 14 I realized I had to become my own role model because the people I looked up to were making bad decisions.

How did you escape the poverty?

I knew being educated was my gateway to becoming more than a statistic. After I finished high school in 2004, I came to the US to attend college and to be near my mom. She was living in Silver Spring, but I stayed with relatives in Baltimore and attended community college there. I transferred to Montgomery College in 2005. After my mom died, two special people, Jen and Rob Naddelman, took me under their wings. Jen and my mom had become close friends during my mom's hospice care. The Naddelmans became what I call my Earthly parents. Without them believing in me and

giving me continuous encouragement, I wouldn't have become the woman I am today! Most importantly, they ensured that I got something that would give me tremendous freedom in this world, something no one can ever take away—my education. Graduating university is my biggest accomplishment yet.

You have been involved with Girl Rising, the nonprofit organization that promotes education for girls in developing countries. What does it mean to be a GR ambassador?

In order to say what it means to be a Girl Rising ambassador, I must first define the movement. Girl Rising was founded by former journalists from ABC News, who wanted to help end poverty. Their solution was education for girls. To raise awareness and enlist support, they produced the film, *Girl Rising*. In the film, they feature nine girls from nine countries who have experienced things no one should ever have to go through. Girls should not be raped, sold, entered into bonded labor (slavery), forced into marriage, forced into

childbirth, and deprived of an education. As a GR ambassador, I advocate for the 66 million girls worldwide who are not in school. I show the film at schools and community events, and share my own story of how I became a Girl Rising.

Why are you collecting pennies?

I collect pennies because people are skeptical about donating—pennies are easy to give away. Pennies are often considered worthless. It's very sad to say, but in many parts of the world girls are viewed the same way, but pennies can change a girl's life. My goal is to raise \$28,000 and I'm still \$21,000 away.

What part of your MC experience has been most valuable to you?

It's been years since I first learned about thesis statements, paragraphs, bullet points, and how to express my thoughts to an audience, but my public speaking wouldn't be possible now without the lessons and guidance I received in Speech 101 class and my MC professor, Fritz Bodenheimer.

What would you say, in patois, to the girls in Jamaica who would look to you for inspiration?

To my beautiful girls in Jamaica: *Wha nuh kill you, mek yuh stronga!* What doesn't kill you makes you stronger. I'm not what happened to me; I am who I choose to be. The world will not understand your dreams and visions, but don't worry about that—they are yours to keep.

What will you be doing five years from now?

I see myself traveling the world, learning more about how other people live, and advocating for girls' rights and education. I will stop at nothing until education becomes a basic human right to all, and until every single girl is able to make her own life decisions. I want to be showing the world that one girl with courage is a revolution, and many girls standing together are a force to be reckoned with. In Jamaica, our motto states: Out of Many, One People. I carry this ideal with me and hope to truly create a positive change in the world.

—Diane Bosser

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As an alum of Montgomery College, you could save up to **\$343.90*** on your auto insurance with Liberty Mutual. You could also enjoy valuable discounts tailored to the way you live today and save even more by insuring your home as well.

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This organization receives financial support for allowing Liberty Mutual to offer this auto and home insurance program.
*Discounts are available when state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten, not all applicants may qualify. Savings figure based on a February 2011 sample of auto policyholder savings when comparing their former premium with those of Liberty Mutual's group auto and home program. Individual premiums and savings will vary. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. © 2012 Liberty Mutual Insurance.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Send your updates and photos via e-mail to alumni@montgomerycollege.edu or the online "Submit Your News" form at montgomerycollege.edu/insights.

Photo Tips: A publication-quality photo is high resolution, a minimum of 300 DPI. Set your digital camera to the highest image-quality setting (for most cameras, this is usually "Fine"). Send us your photo exactly as it comes out of the camera. Attach either a JPEG or a TIFF file to your e-mail. Because of space limitations, we are not able to publish every photo we receive.

1970s



Courtesy OWRC

Ronald ("Doc") Wexler '77 founded the Orphaned Wildlife Rescue Center (OWRC) at his home in Lusby, Maryland (Calvert County) in 1990. The center has helped rescue more than 20,000 injured animals and/or offspring of injured or dead animals, including raccoons, deer, bald eagles, and porpoises. He also teaches a Basics of Wildlife Rehabilitation course for people who want to get started in rescue and rehabilitation work.

1980s



Courtesy USFA

Mary Marchone '81, the first female graduate of MC's fire science program, received the 2014 Dr. Anne W. Phillips Award for Leadership in Fire Safety Education from the International Fire Service Training Association and the Congressional Fire Services Institute. She is a training specialist with the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Md.

from the International Fire Service Training Association and the Congressional Fire Services Institute. She is a training specialist with the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Md.

2000s

Agustin Oulton '01 founded Varsity Travel, which organizes group tours

Giving Back to the Community

Diane Vu '15, Nestor Alvarenga '05, and Daniel Koroma '99 joined the Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships to work as immigrant community liaisons. Vu, who emigrated from France, will work with the county's Asian community. Koroma, originally from Sierra Leone, will work with the African community; Alvarenga, a native of El Salvador, will work with the Latino community.

all over the world. He has offices in the United States and Argentina.

Louise Aminata Ahuré '02 completed her PhD in aerospace engineering at the University of Maryland. Her research focused on developing an adaptive landing gear system for Boeing helicopters.

Supatra Lay '04 is a telecommunications specialist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Md.

Victor Ontiveros '04 graduated with a doctorate in reliability engineering at the University of Maryland. The title of his dissertation is *Strain Energy Density and Thermodynamic Entropy as Prognostic Measures of Crack Initiation in Aluminum*. Currently, he is working for Hughes Associates, Inc., on fire risk assessment for nuclear power plants.



Courtesy Mary Furgol

Shelly Shen '06 received a special recognition award for her jewelry and metal work at the International Cloisonné Jewelry Exhibition in Tokyo.

2010s

Franklin Nouketcha '11 was accepted into the PhD program at the University of Maryland.



Courtesy Jonathan Jayes Green

Jonathan Jayes Green '12 is currently a senior at Goucher College and recently wrote a piece for *Mundo Latino*, the Hispanic community newspaper

of Baltimore, discussing what graduating from Goucher will mean to him and his family.

Yi Liu '14 has transferred to UMBC, where she intends to continue to explore her passion for biological sciences.

Maria Renee Trigo '14 is working with a UN project, Child Found, which focuses on helping children improve their lives through education, human rights, and medical care.

Bliss Beat

Students were on the Takoma Park scene well before Montgomery College bought the campus of the Bliss Electrical School. This group from the **Bliss class of 1932** appears on what seems to be the balcony over the dormitory porch, with New York Avenue in the background. Merrie Childrey Ligon identifies the musician as her father, **Albert B. Childrey Jr.**, and writes that she believes one of the others in the group is **George Whitlock**. The two later went into business together in Greensboro, N.C.; and in 1936 Whitlock was best man at Childrey's wedding. Childrey passed away in 1996.

Honoring MC's oldest alumni and the College's post WWII beginnings, the Alumni Association manages the Louis D. Bliss Memorial Scholarship, MC's oldest endowment, to serve electrical engineering and computer science majors.



Awa
Sophomore, Theatre Arts



Your Generosity to The Scholarship Fund Helps Our Students Realize Their Dreams

montgomerycollege.edu/onlinegiving

For more information, contact Greg Enloe, director of alumni relations and annual giving, at 240-567-7977 or gregory.enloe@montgomerycollege.edu.

Dr. Brenda Robert

April 22, 2014

She was an original member of the English faculty at the Germantown Campus.

Howard Dixon, Bliss '38

April 17, 2014

Robert P. Elze, Bliss '51

March 21, 2014

Robert S. Marrara, Bliss '49

March 18, 2014

Doris J. Botsford

February 23, 2014

She was an instructional lab technician at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

Franklin Anderson

February 21, 2014

He was a building services worker at the Rockville Campus.



Pete Vidal

Gregory Nath "Fez" Dash '13

February 14, 2014

Dash, a US Air Force veteran, had served in combat operations in Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

He held a BS in engineering in 1998 (Air Force Academy). He was a student blogger during the fall 2013 semester; he posted weekly reflections about his experiences as a student at Rockville.

Fernando Otero '81

February 10, 2014

Brenda Kallal '90

February 7, 2014

Patricia Armstrong '92

January 29, 2014

Adolphus (Buck) Sparks

January 27, 2014

He worked in the Rockville Campus audio-visual department.

Catherine Ruseau

January 12, 2014

She was a student assistant at the Rockville Campus.

Victor Squadrito, Bliss '47

January 4, 2014

Ruth Luke '99

October 6, 2013

Walter E. Ayers, Jr.

September 16, 2013

He worked as an electronic technician in the facilities department.

Catherine Kennett '86

April 28, 2013



Don Rejonis

Frank Toomey

April 4, 2014

He coached football and golf, and taught physical education at the Rockville Campus. He led the College's teams to 15 regional championships and 16 state championships. He was also named "Coach of the Year" several times by both the Maryland Junior College Conference and Region XX and XXI of the National Junior College Athletic Association. Coach Toomey was inducted into MC's Hall of Fame in 1999.



Pete Vidal

Joseph L. Herson

August 8, 2014

Long-standing Montgomery College Foundation board member Joe Herson provided counsel to College leadership and fellow board members as a founding member of the Montgomery College Foundation Board of Directors. Herson was president and owner of his family's auto dealership chain, Manhattan Auto. He received *Time* magazine's dealer of the year award in 1986. During the mid-1980s, he was pivotal in identifying the need for skilled auto technicians in Montgomery County, and he served on the steering committee to establish the Homer S. Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education. He was also a supporter of the College's original Portraits of Life exhibit (2005) that honored dozens of Holocaust survivors living the county. He established the Herson-Stirman Family Foundation Scholarship in 2003, which has assisted more than 85 students.

The 2014 arts and entertainment season is wrapping up after fall performances by comedian/actor John Leguizamo and guitarist/songwriter Junior Marvin, formerly of Bob Marley and the Wailers. Theatre, dance, music, and art exhibitions continue into the holiday season and the New Year with special events like the MC Chorus and Maryland Choral Directors Chorus with The Metropolitan Orchestras at MC on December 4, and the B-52s in January. **Check event details—show times, tickets, and driving directions—online at montgomerycollege.edu.**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER

Art

11/7–1/2/15

Traces of Vision,
Meggan Gould
Sarah Silberman
Gallery, Rockville

11/11–12/12

49th Annual
Faculty Exhibition
Sarah Silberman
Gallery, Rockville

DECEMBER

Art

12/4–1/30/15

Takoma Park/Silver
Spring Art Faculty
and Staff Exhibition
King Street Gallery,
The Morris and
Gwendolyn Cafritz
Foundation Arts
Center, Takoma Park/
Silver Spring

Dance

12/4

Fall Informal
Dance Concert
Theatre Arts, Rockville

Music

12/2

MC Jazz Ensemble
Theatre Arts, Rockville

12/3

World Music Ensemble
Theatre Arts, Rockville

12/5

Duo Amaral Student
Recital/International
Classical Guitar Series
Music Recital Hall,
Rockville

JANUARY

Art

1/27–2/20

Songs I Cannot Sing:
Molly Marie Nuzzo
Sarah Silberman
Gallery, Rockville

Music

1/29

B-52s
PAC, Rockville

FEBRUARY

Theatre

2/25–2/28; 3/1

RENT
Lyrics, book, and music
by Jonathan Larson
PAC, Rockville

MARCH

Music

3/5

College Music
Department
World Arts Festival
PAC, Rockville

APRIL

Art

4/14–5/5

Annual Student
Exhibition
Sarah Silberman
Gallery, Rockville

GUEST ARTIST SERIES



January 29, 2015

B-52s

Known for their stream-of-consciousness approach to songwriting, outrageous performances, and hits like “Rock Lobster,” “Love Shack,” and “Deadbeat Club,” the B-52s are back.

One night only. Get tickets online or call the PAC Box Office.

COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS SERIES



Coming in February

RENT

Rent, the Tony-award winning rock musical, produced and performed by Montgomery College students. Check the website for details.

BOX OFFICE

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Takoma Park/Silver Spring Cultural Arts Center (CAC) ■ montgomerycollege.edu/cac ■ 240-567-5775

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“I am pleased to honor my wife’s memory by supporting future students through a CGA.” —Joseph, donor

Montgomery College Libraries: Spreading the Words



THEN

An excerpt from the 1959 *Accolade*, Montgomery College's yearbook:

Our New Library

Shivers ran rampant as the wind chilled the spectator bones: ground was being broken for the new library, January 1958. Nine months later, in October, the first new building on the M.J.C. campus was officially opened and many of the students wended their way between the old and the new carrying stacks of books to partially fill the spacious shelves which have a 25,000 volume capacity. The new library can seat 150 studious students, and is provided with a special reference room, an audio-visual set-up, a staff conference room and an air conditioning system, as well as squeaking tile floors and creaking chairs. The new library: the first physical sign of the growing pains of our expanding school.



Libraries/Specialties

Germantown: Biomedical, Technology, and Bioscience

Rockville: Business, Humanities, Theatre, Architecture, Interior Design, and Hospitality Management

Takoma Park/Silver Spring: Allied Health and Nursing

Cafritz Art Library: Fine Arts



Pete Vidal

Collections/Holdings*

16,000+ e-books

137 electronic databases and resources

Approximately 40,000 e-journals

7,700 streaming e-videos

21,000+ audiovisual items

246,000 print book volumes

262 containers (College Archives)

Services*

480 instruction sessions provided annually to 9,000 attendees

283 library course pages and research subject guides

71,000+ annual circulation transactions

199 computers, 3 instruction rooms

11 group study rooms, 921 seats

2,200 annual filled interlibrary loan transactions

Nearly 28,000 physical visitors in a typical week

37,000+ annual reference/consultation transactions

65 weekly public service hours during the semester



Pete Vidal

*As of 2012

NOW

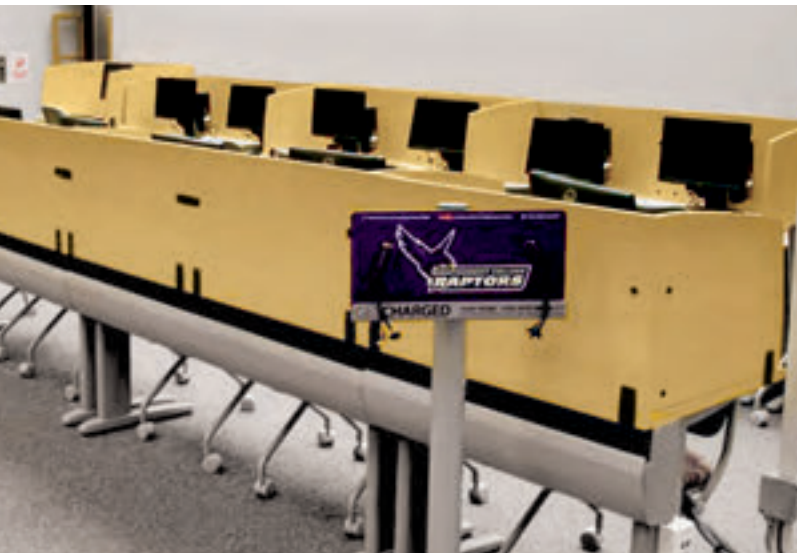
Four decades—
and two campuses—later,
Montgomery College's
libraries are better than ever.

MC Libraries Turn Another Page

The four Montgomery College libraries are transforming to meet 21st-century student needs. The libraries are completing an in-depth ethnographic study of student needs and preferences in library programs, spaces, and services to better understand what students need to succeed at Montgomery College.

The information gleaned from the study is driving the transformation. As first steps, the Office of Facilities, the Libraries, and the Office for Information Technology started a refurbishment process, introducing a collegewide color scheme for paints, carpets, and furniture; introducing collaborative technologies; introducing personal device power charging stations, and upgrading furniture. The process will be completed in stages. Stop by to see the transformations—and feel free to provide feedback.

montgomerycollege.edu/libraries





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ALUMNI: GET YOUR CAREER OFF THE GROUND

Use these online career planning tools to take flight in your new career.

- Career Coach, a website that allows you to research career options, explore educational opportunities, and search for jobs in Maryland and Washington DC metropolitan area. Visit montgomerycollege.edu/careercoach
- “eJobs,” the Internet-based job matching system for Montgomery College students and alumni. Post resumes and search for part-time and full-time jobs. Visit montgomerycollege.edu/ejobs



As a member of Montgomery College's Alumni Association, you can make your job hunt easier.
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