



November 20, 2023

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I know we all look forward to this shortened week—and I hope you saw my memorandum on Friday announcing that the College will close this Wednesday, November 22. This decision was made out of gratitude and appreciation for the dedicated service and support faculty and staff provide to our students. Each of you makes Montgomery College an extraordinary place to learn and work. This time of year provides a chance for all of us to gather with family and friends.

There is still plenty of activity at the College, including some exciting opportunities for students, faculty, and staff.

### **Students Win Literary Awards**

Congratulations to the Sligo Journal, which [won several awards](#) for its most recent issue through the Community College Humanities Association Literary Journal Competition. Two MC students received individual awards: David Lamboni won first place for best poem and Alexandra Bouvier won third place in the category of best short story. Kudos to Professor Michael LeBlanc, editor-in-chief of the journal, and Professor David Lott, poetry editor, for their work with students on this fantastic journal.

### **Service Year Participants Train at MC**

Participants in the governor's new State's Service Year program will visit the Rockville Campus tomorrow. The program is operated by the Maryland Department of Service and Civic Innovation, and participants are recent high school graduates who will gain professional development experience during the events. MC will host one of the service year participants who will assist with our MC Votes initiative. Deepening the culture of service in our state and helping to build the talent pipeline are two important goals of this program, which align closely with the College's strategic plan goals. We look forward to supporting and contributing to the success of these young adults as they embark on this transformative journey toward personal and professional growth.

## Partnership Empowers Nurses

The Montgomery College Foundation and Adventist HealthCare have formalized a partnership to provide [enhanced opportunities for nursing students](#) in our community over the next eight years. Adventist HealthCare will offer scholarships, mentoring opportunities, guest lecturing, internships, and shadowing programs for students pursuing the associate's of science degree in nursing and health sciences at Montgomery College. This collaboration will aid in filling some of the demand for nursing graduates in our region.

As we head out for our brief November break, this is a time to cultivate gratitude and to mark Native American Heritage Day on Friday. I would also like to share a personal note: I am grateful for the dedication of everyone at MC to make belonging such an integral part of our institution. I see it every day as I interact with students, faculty, and staff, and I know it makes us a better place for learning and living. Have a safe and healthy break. Monday Minute will return on December 4.

With Raptor Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jermaine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'J'.

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

President

[@DrWilliams\\_MC](#)