

Connecting with community through cultural offerings

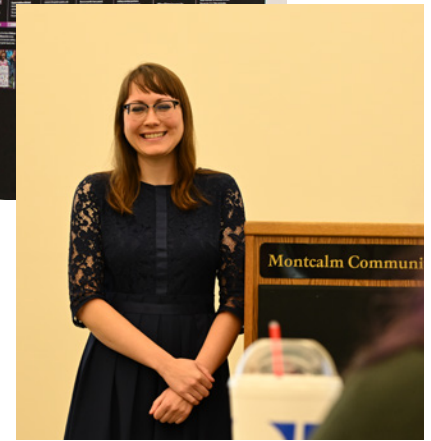
By Andrea Plowman

At Montcalm Community College, sustainable access to the arts, cultural offerings, recreation and enhanced educational opportunities are integral parts of our personal connections with people in the communities we serve.

Through a generous endowment, the MCCF Stanley and Blanche Ash Community College Enhancement Fund within the MCC Foundation provides funding to support a variety of endeavors.

MCC planners continue to craft new and innovative programs and delivery methods to provide opportunities in-person and virtually. Highlights of this year's cultural offerings include:

- The MCC Library brought together its community of readers during its ninth MCC Reads program.
- In recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, MCC hosted Nyshell Lawrence, owner of Socialight Society, and Kendra McNeil, owner of We Are LIT, to discuss how literacy continues the work of Dr. King.
- In February, the college celebrated Black History Month with a timeline on both of its campuses depicting key historical events and highlighting people who made significant contributions to black history from 1619 through the present.
- MCC hosted Edgar L. Page to celebrate Black History Month with a dance performance entitled, "The Movement in the Movements."
- MCC partnered with the World Affairs Council to host a virtual talk on climate change.
- MCC brought to campus "Magic in March" by Preston Lyford, who was on Season 16 of America's Got Talent.
- To celebrate Women's History Month in March, the college displayed a timeline highlighting key historical points that look back at barriers women have overcome to be accepted as equals to men in society and in the workplace.



- In March, the college celebrated Women's History Month with "Gender Issues in Medical Care," presented by Jessica Snyder.
- MCC got "Styled for Success: A Workwear Fashion Show and Event" in April where models and speakers shared their expertise on a variety of career-related topics.
- In April and November, the MCC Alumni & Friends Choir presented a concert.
- In April, the college celebrated World Health Day with "The Crack Chronicles, Dissection of a Demon," presented by Syreeta Drake.
- In celebration of Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage (AAPI) Month, posters depicting key historical events and highlighting people who made significant contributions to AAPI heritage were on display on MCC's Sidney campus during the month of May.
- In June, MCC celebrated Pride Month with a timeline featuring key historical events, people and activities on display on its Sidney campus, and hosted a panel of speakers from the Stonewall Speakers Foundation to talk with students about their coming out stories.
- In September, MCC hosted its annual Constitution Day program with Social Science Instructor Andrea Martin.
- In November, MCC celebrated Veterans Day with an in-person and virtual program that included a moment of silence for all veterans, a veterans roll call and a live online presentation.
- The college also celebrated Indigenous Peoples Month in November with Seth Sutton's Teaching Thanksgiving presentation. ■

For more information:

Visit montcalm.edu/arts-and-culture