Happy New Year!
Welcome Back!

**JANUARY 2010 CALENDAR: WHAT’S HAPPENING AT YBOR?**

Jan. 15  HCC Art Gallery – “Cancelled” – New work by Maria Saraceno (through Jan. 28). YPAB, first floor. Hours: Mon. and Wed.-Fri. 10am. – 4pm; Tue, Noon-7pm

SGA weekly meeting – YBOR 204 – Noon-1pm

Jan. 17  Chamber Music Ybor – Ned Kirk, Piano – YPAB Main Stage – 3pm

**Jan. 18**  Martin Luther King Day – HCC closed

Jan. 21  Northwood University Admissions Visit YLRC front – 10am-2pm

Jan. 22  Last Day to Apply for a Degree for Spring

SGA weekly meeting – YBOR 204 – Noon-1pm.

Fashion Show (SGA) YPAB – YPAB Main Stage – 6pm-8pm

Adjunct Faculty Workshop – Ybor Room – 5:30pm-7:30pm

Jan. 23  CROP Saturday Academic Enrichment Program – YBOR/YPAB – 9am-1pm

Jan. 26  PTK Meeting – YFAC 118A – 4pm-6pm

Jan. 27  Club Carnival Day – Plaza – 11am-6pm

Career Planning Workshop – Career Center (YFAC 104) – Noon-1pm

Jan. 28  Master Plan community meeting – YBOR Room – 1pm-4pm

Dance – Fay Driscoll, “837 Venice Boulevard” – YPAB Main Stage (through Jan. 30) 7:30pm. Admission: $10

Jan 30  CROP Saturday Academic Enrichment Program – YBOR/YPAB – 9am-1pm
HCC Float Participating in Tampa’s Parades

HCC is continuing and extending an 11-year tradition this year by participating in four upcoming Tampa parades: The Martin Luther King Day parade in Ybor City on Jan. 18, The Gasparilla Children’s Parade on Jan. 23, The annual Gasparilla Pirate Fest Parade on Jan. 30, and The Krewe of Sant’Yago Illuminated Knight Parade on Feb. 6.

Jack Evans, Dean of the HCC Associate of Sciences program, said the idea to begin participating in the Gasparilla Pirate Fest parades began over 11 years ago.

“I used to jog along Bayshore Boulevard before the parade began, and I used to see all of those business and education floats, and I said to myself, ‘What are we missing here?’”

Evans and his crew of volunteers, starting with computer science Prof. Mike Rabaut, began the HCC float-building business in a humble way. “We had a van, made a platform out of plywood, and stood up there in our caps and gowns. The second year was a little better; we got a trolley from Hartline (bus service).”

Evans and his cohorts, along with a contractor, built HCC float in the third year. The initial design featured a version of the HCC Ybor Campus courtyard, complete with wrought iron fences and ornate lamp posts, built on the back of a stripped-down fire truck. The design has been altered slightly over the years, including one major improvement: a restroom.

“A guy on one of the other floats came up to me and said, ‘you must be a rookie in this. Believe me, you need an outhouse.’” Evans said after few long parades, he agreed.

Evans said various combinations of costumes and themes have been tried on the float over the years, but the most successful one involved international students. He said the students ride the float wearing the clothing of their native land, and it makes a striking visual impact.

That same theme will be present during the Gasparilla-related parades this year. HCC currently has 14 international students coming from eight countries: Belize, Brazil, El Salvador, Egypt, Guatemala, Indonesia, South Africa, and Turkey. Meanwhile, HCC’s Student Government members riding the float during the MLK Day parade Jan. 18.
Two New Student Clubs on Campus

The HCC Ybor Campus has approved two new clubs for the spring 2010 semester.

LASA, the Latin America Student Association, has 34 members with Hannia Irlanda as its president and Julio Torres as the faculty advisor.

The second club is DECA – Delta Epsilon Chi. According to the organization’s national website, DECA is “an international association of high school and college students studying marketing, management and entrepreneurship in business, finance, hospitality and marketing sales and service.” The club, which features 21 members, has Christelle Mukengele as its president and Katen Amin as its faculty advisor.

To have a club started a student must have at least 10 students who are interested in joining, an HCC staff or faculty member serve as the club advisor, a club constitution, an executive board, a budget proposal and a calendar of events / meetings. Once those things are completed, the forms are submitted to the Student Activities Advisor for approval. After approval by the Student Activities Advisor, the club forms are sent to the SGA President, Dean of Student Services, Campus President and VP of HCC for approval. Once approved, the club is officially instated and a bank account number is created for the clubs finances.

Smart Board Training Coming to HCC

Viewers of CNN’s news program The Situation Room are used to seeing Smartboards in action. Usually, a reporter will stand in front of the flat panel display and, with a few brief hand movements, bring up an array of videos and statistical information.

A grant aimed at bringing that same type of interactivity to HCC classrooms was recently awarded by Verizon Inc. On January 27, 2010, Verizon will present the HCC Ybor Campus with a check for $20,000.00. The HCC Ybor Campus submitted and won the grant award for the “SMART-Boards for Smarter Lesson” grant proposal submitted by Dr. Richard Gaspar, program manager of the Communication Department and an associate professor of reading. The grant will train developmental Reading, Writing and Math teachers on the use of interactive Smartboards in the classroom as well as funding the installation of two additional Smartboards on the Ybor Campus. The training will also be available to additional faculty in all disciplines.

Gaspar said the Smartboards have a clear track record of improving student motivation and learning. According to FERL [a post-secondary site on the use of Information Learning Technologies] anecdotal evidence of the impact of electronic whiteboards such as the Smartboard includes:

- Learners show increased motivation and enjoy the interaction the technology offers
- It makes the subject come alive;
- It captures the attention of learners;
- It encourages the involvement of learners in the subject;
- It enables tutors to use multimedia resources and the internet with a whole class.
Stay Safe This Semester

From the HCC Department of Public Safety:

All types of violent and property crime continues to increase nationally. It is essential that students, faculty, and staff be aware of self-protection techniques and work to avoid becoming a victim, and know what steps to take if a crime occurs.

At Work:
- Keep your purse and other valuables out of sight.
- Lock your desk when you leave your office – even if it is only for a short time.
- If working late at night, notify security and keep your office door locked.

At Home:
- Don’t leave a note on your door announcing you are not home.
- Don’t put your full name on your mailbox.
- Install a peephole on your door, and don’t depend on a door chain – keep the door locked until you indentify the visitor.
- Always use your locks and draw your blinds when at home at night.
- Don’t allow strangers to enter your home to make “emergency” phone calls.
- Ask to see the ID of any salesperson, service person, or law enforcement officer wanting to gain access to your home.

Contact law enforcement officials if:
- If you return home to find someone in your home; do not enter or make noises – call from a neighbor’s home or use a cell phone from a safe distance if one is available.
- If you hear suspicious sounds or see suspicious persons or activities in your neighborhood.

While Walking:
You can become a target if you:
- Dangle your purse;
- Wear flashy jewelry
- Walk alone on dark, deserted streets or parking lots;
- Appear frightened.

To protect yourself in a walking situation, You should:
- Walk with someone;
- Say in well lighted areas and away from dark alleys and entry ways, empty parking lots, shortcuts, and deserted parks;
- Don’t allow your purse to dangle, or leave a purse unattended;
- Don’t accept rides from strangers and keep your distance from someone asking for directions.

If Followed:
- Cross the street, change directions, or vary your pace; If need be, find a lighted home or store and contact authorities.

Please submit all announcements and information for the newsletter to dliller@hccfl.edu no later than the 12th or 25th of each month. The Ybor Spotlight will be published on the 15th and first of every month. Thank you for your support and contributions.

-David Liller, Editor