



Greetings,

Governor Gretchen Whitmer is scheduled to come to Kalamazoo tomorrow, Thursday, Feb. 21. I am writing to let you know that she will be visiting the Marilyn J. Schlack Culinary and Allied Health Building on the Bronson Healthy Living Campus from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Governor Whitmer is interested in learning more about the unique partnerships which led to the development of the Bronson Healthy Living Campus and the impact that our programs have had on students and employers. Part of the program includes a tour of the building and conversations with our students, employers and college personnel.

We are pleased that she has included Kalamazoo Valley on her itinerary. Maintaining full services for our students remains our top priority, however, if your schedule allows and if you have approval from your supervisor, please join us at the Culinary and Allied Health Building for the Governor's visit. We will gather in the 418 Restaurant for the bulk of the program.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to [Sherry Smurr](#) by 4:30 p.m. today if you plan to attend.

You can be proud of the work we collectively do on behalf of our students.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'L. Marshall Washington'.

L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D.

Student Voices Advisory Council

The Student Voices Advisory Council (SVAC), a new place for students to share ideas on how to make Kalamazoo Valley better and have their voices heard, will hold its first meetings this week.

A committee, made up of faculty and staff, selected the students to be part of SVAC based on an application that students submitted in January. The students, divided into three groups of 15, will meet once a month with a faculty and staff member through the end of the semester to discuss issues and ideas they have about their experiences at the college.

Dr. Washington will attend the final meeting of the semester to hear first-hand from the students.

For more information, contact [Alisha Cederberg](#).

Tickets on Sale Now for Chuck Prophet and the Mission Express

Kalamazoo Valley's Artists' Forum presents Chuck Prophet and the Mission Express, Saturday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Dale B. Lake Auditorium at the Texas Township Campus.

Gritty and jangly, the group's new album "Bobby Fuller Died for Your Sins" features 13 original works that explore doomed love, loneliness and fast paced violence via Chuck's muscular songwriting craft. They include songs about Fuller, the death of David Bowie, and the killing of a San Francisco security guard named Alex Nieto that drew international headlines as "Death By Gentrification."

Tickets are available at www.kvcc.edu/artistsforum, at the Texas Township Campus bookstore (269.488.4030) or by contacting [Dave Posther](#). Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

Last Call for Faculty and Staff Art Show

Art submissions are being accepted for the Faculty and Staff Art Show that opens during the March 1 Art Hop at the Center for New Media. The show is open to Kalamazoo Valley Community College faculty and staff. Submissions are being accepted until 3 p.m. Friday.

For more information, contact [Ashley Jones](#), 373.7883.

Volunteers Needed

Kalamazoo Valley Community College will once again host 600 middle and high school students for the Science Olympiad on Monday, March 4.

Science Olympiad was founded in Michigan more than 30 years ago.

It has expanded to include nationwide participation. For all but one of its years of existence, Kalamazoo Valley has hosted the Region 13 competition, which includes students from Cass, St. Joseph, and Van Buren counties.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the event. Please contact [Jessica Potter](#) at 488.4204 if you are interested in helping out.

Stephanie L. Hughes Named Chef of the Year

Kalamazoo Valley Culinary Instructor Chef Stephanie L. Hughes, MBA, was named The 2018 Chef of The Year by The American Culinary Federation (ACF) Chapter of Kalamazoo/Battle Creek on Tuesday, February 5 during its ACF awards dinner at Kalamazoo Valley Community College's 418 Restaurant in the Marilyn J. Schlack Culinary and Allied Health building in downtown Kalamazoo.

More than 100 area chefs were eligible for the award. Chef Stephanie received the most votes from among the local chapter members. Hughes serves as a culinary instructor for Kalamazoo Valley's Sustainable Food Systems program. She has more than 10 years of culinary experience throughout the Midwest. She joined Kalamazoo Valley in 2014. "This is a very meaningful award and I was honored just to be nominated. Working with our students at Valley inspires me every day, I share this award with them," she said.



CHEF CORY BARRETT

Tune in to The Food Network March 18 at 9 p.m. to see Kalamazoo Valley's own Culinary Instructor Cory Barrett compete on the *Spring Baking Championship*. Follow along in the fun @foodnetwork #springbakingchampionship.



CHARLOTTE HUBBARD

Michigan Beekeepers' Association recently announced Kalamazoo Valley's Charlotte Hubbard as the 2018 Beekeeper of the Year! Hubbard teaches Beekeeping 101 for the college's Community and Continuing Education department.

[more](#)

STRENGTH SPOTLIGHT

As a strengths-based organization, Kalamazoo Valley gives its employees the opportunity to develop their strengths by building on their greatest talents – the way in which they most naturally think, feel, and behave as unique individuals.

In upcoming issues of KV Focus Plus, we will highlight one of the 34 different signature themes as identified by the Clifton StrengthsFinder Inventory as well as the names and titles of different people within the college who share it as their number one strength so you can learn more about the people you interact with on a daily basis.

This Issue: Arranger

These people are conductors. When faced with a complex situation involving many factors, they enjoy managing all of the variables, aligning and realigning them until they are sure they have arranged them in the most productive configuration possible. In their mind there is nothing special about what they are doing. They are simply trying to figure out the best way to get things done. But others, lacking this theme, will be in awe of their ability. “How can you keep so many things in your head at once?” they will ask. “How can you stay so flexible, so willing to shelve well-laid plans in favor of some brand-new configuration that has just occurred to you?” But they cannot imagine behaving in any other way. They are a shining example of effective flexibility, whether they are changing travel schedules at the last minute because a better fare has popped up or mulling over just the right combination of people and resources to accomplish a new project. From the mundane to the complex, they are always looking for the perfect configuration. Of course, they are at their best in dynamic situations. Confronted with the unexpected, some complain that plans devised with such care cannot be changed, while others take refuge in the existing rules or procedures. They don’t do either. Instead, they jump into the confusion, devising new options, hunting for new paths of least resistance, and figuring out new partnerships — because, after all, there might just be a better way.

The genius of their Arranger talent begins with what they can see and perceive. They can see patterns and perceive how things go together. Whereas most people only see things as isolated items, they see groupings and connections. The genius of their Arranger perception comes to light in that they can take many different items, bits of information, factors, people, and/or events and then see patterns among and between them. This enables and empowers them to arrange items, facts and information, people, and the many things that must come together for successful events and activities. They are a genius at coordinating people and events because of their Arranger talent. Accordingly they can “multi-task” like few others. They can deal with chaotic situations by seeing how to combine and coordinate as they will see connections and linkages. But the ultimate genius of their Arranger talent is seen in what they do after they have completed a project. They go back and arrange and rearrange in their mind what they did. This results in increased effectiveness and efficiency each time they use their Arranger talent.

Did you know that Marketing Projects Manager **Dawn Kemp**, Dean of Liberal Arts **Billy Reynolds Jr.**, Financial Aid Generalist **Linda Shafer**, and Cardio/Respiratory Faculty **Megan VanDonselaar** are among the very few faculty and staff who have Arranger as their number one strength? [Click here to learn more](#)

There's nothing more empowering than knowing how to protect yourself physically. You'll feel safer and more confident, especially if you live or travel alone. You don't need a black belt in karate to master self-defense; all you need are a few classes and tips from a professional instructor. There are several types and styles of classes from which to choose, depending on your interests.

CAMPUSCONNECTIONS

TEXAS TOWNSHIP CAMPUS

[Bonnie Jo Campbell to Visit Campus in March](#)

[Business Club Members Qualify for National Competition](#)

[WMU Focus Forum](#)

[Noted Scientist Dr. Timothy Hawthorne to visit Kalamazoo Valley Community College](#)

ARCADIA COMMONS CAMPUS

[Explore Future Careers at Kalamazoo Valley Summer Camps](#)

[Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival March 1-2](#)

BRONSON HEALTHY LIVING CAMPUS

[ValleyHub Partners with University of Vermont for Food Hub Certification](#)

THE GROVES CAMPUS

[Expand Your Horizons with a Continuing Education](#)

[Corrections Academy Begins February 18](#)

KALAMAZOO VALLEY IN THE NEWS

[Forward Focus](#)

[Beer Brewed by Students could soon be Served at Valley's Teaching Restaurant](#)

['Keep Pressing.'" Leaders Urge in Honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day](#)

[Valley's Culinary Instructor Stephanie Hughes Named 2018 Chef of the Year](#)

[Lomason Finds His Range as the Cougars Find their Stride](#)

[Michigan Food Hubs Hospital Food and the Local Food Economy Healthier](#)

STAFF & FACULTY
DEVELOPMENT

CALENDAR OF
EVENTS

HUMAN
RESOURCES