



READ THE LATEST **KV FOCUS**

December 22, 2020

Greetings College Faculty and Staff Members,

As we countdown to the end of 2020, I must confess that I've never been more anxious to move on to a new year.

We've been through a lot together – our work and personal schedules have changed and changed again, we've found ourselves working from the kitchen table and living room rather than from offices, work stations and familiar surroundings.

Many of us have partnered with our schools and helped our students from home. Our lives have been changed forever, many due to the loss of a loved one as a result of the virus.

And many of us long for the opportunity to meet face-to-face with family members, dear friends and even with co-workers.

And yet, as we pause to reflect on what we've accomplished together, it is pretty remarkable.

I am a positive person by nature – one who can easily find reasons for which to be thankful. Following are just a few things for which I am grateful:

- I am thankful for my family and for yours – who are partners with us on this journey.
- I am thankful for good health – AND for those who are recovering from illness and are on the road to good health.
- I am thankful that a coronavirus vaccine is being produced right here in our area.
- I am thankful for zoom.
- I am thankful for the opportunity to help meet student needs through the Valley Food Share program.

- I am thankful that WiFi is available for those who need it in our parking lots and adjacent to our campus buildings.
- I'm thankful that emergency student needs are being met through special funds at the college.
- I'm thankful for your resilience, patience and determination as you go about the daily business of serving our students.
- And especially, I am thankful for the thousands of students who continue to find their way to us - seeking our assistance as they work to make their dreams come true.

I am also thankful that this pandemic season **will not last forever**.

If it feels like nothing will ever be the same again, you are right, things will never be the same again and some of that is a good thing.

I'm looking forward to a better new year. I'm looking forward to continuing to learn from all that 2020 taught us and to implementing all the good changes we have made together.

I invite you to join me as we plan to move positively into the New Year by embracing the great privilege and responsibility to do more, be more and help more.

2021 will have many of its own challenges and opportunities and I am even looking forward to those, because I am thankful that we have learned that together we can accomplish great things. Our students and the communities we serve are counting on us.

However you choose to celebrate the holidays – do so with thankfulness and anticipation for what the new year will bring.

Thank you.



L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D.
President

Please enjoy my holiday message on [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

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2021 Summer Hours

Each year, the President, with input from the President's Cabinet, may consider and review the summer work schedule. With an eye toward energy conservation, moderating cooling costs and

benefiting employees, it has been determined that the college will adopt a four day work week during the time frame below:

Summer Hours
May 17, 2021 – August 13, 2021
Monday – Thursday
7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
(With ½ hour for lunch)

We are well aware that information technologies, facilities services, public safety, financial services and other departments with evening hours will adjust schedules to ensure coverage of important functions.

In cooperation with the department supervisor, individuals may be able to adjust their four day work week schedule to Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Employees who have earned to paid vacation time will take that time in half day blocks (4.5 hours) or full day blocks (9.0 hours). This is pro-rated for employees working less than 40 hours per week.

Maintaining exemplary services for our students and guests throughout this summer work schedule is a high priority. For additional questions, please contact [Amy Louallen](#), director of human resources at x4576. Thank you in advance for your efforts.

The word "ATHLETICS" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font on a solid blue rectangular background.The logo for Kalamazoo Valley Community College. "Kalamazoo" is in a dark blue font, "VALLEY" is in a lighter blue font, and "community college" is in a smaller, dark blue font below "VALLEY". A trademark symbol (TM) is to the right of "VALLEY".

Winter Sports Season Canceled at Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Kalamazoo Valley Community College President L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D., announced this week the cancellation of the college's winter sports season. The school — which competes in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), Region 12 — made its decision amid an unprecedented spike in the coronavirus pandemic nationally.

“The college is committed to safeguarding the health and well-being of student-athletes, the campus community and general public,” Washington said. “Because of this, I have made the difficult decision to cancel Cougar athletics for the winter sports season. I recognize how disappointing this is for our coaches, athletes and their families. I look forward to the day that they can once again compete in a safe environment.”

Volleyball, men's basketball and women's basketball were affected by the announcement.

A decision about the future of spring sports – baseball and softball – will be made by March 1, 2021. The two teams have canceled spring training trips to Florida, which were scheduled for the first week of March.

For more information about Cougar Athletics, contact Athletic Director [Russ Panico](#) at x4393.

FINANCE AND BUSINESS

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Holiday Break Time Sheet Reminder

Due to the upcoming holiday break, please see important payroll due dates:

1/15/21 Payroll:

- Employee time sheet submission due date is **MONDAY**, January 4, 2021 at 5 p.m.
- Manager approval of time sheets is due **TUESDAY**, January 5, 2021 at 5 p.m.
- This pay covers the period 12.13.20 - 01.02.21 (this is a three week period); full-time hourly employees should enter TOP (time off paid) for the college holidays of December 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31 and January 1.

If you will not be on campus when time sheets are due, please ensure that your time sheet is completed and submitted prior to leaving campus. If you normally approve time sheets and will not be on campus on the due date, please ensure you have a proxy set up to approve your time sheets, or approve your time sheets before you leave campus. Alternatively, if you are off campus and have internet access, you can log in to your [MyValley](#) account to access the Banner Self Service application to submit and/or approve time sheets.

Any questions may be directed to the Payroll Department. You may call Anita Gonzales at x4872 or Molly Riley at x4239 or send an email to payroll@kvcc.edu.

ADMISSIONS, REGISTRATION & RECORDS

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Reminder to faculty: Grades are due tomorrow, December 23 by noon.

New Kick Start Classes Offered for Winter Semester

Faculty at Kalamazoo Valley Community College have announced several courses that will be offered in the Winter 2021 semester in a new format called "Kick Start." This program requires students to attend in-person, the first four class sessions at the start of the term. After the first four weeks, the remaining courses in the term will be offered in an asynchronous online format. Students will have opportunities to take science, law enforcement, critical thinking, First Year Experience and blended English and reading classes in the Kick Start format. [more](#)

Winter 2021 Semester Action Dates

The [Winter 2021 Semester Action Dates](#) have been updated with the new semester dates. Changes are listed in red.

Winter 2021 Semester Waitlist Extension

The waitlist option has been extended with the delay to the start of the winter 2021 semester. Waitlisting will be available now until 5:00 pm on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. Anyone offered a seat on that final day will get their full 24 hour period to register. This option will be turned off and seats will be available on a first-come, first served basis beginning at 5:00 pm on Thursday, January 7. The Authorization for Registration Exception (ARE) form will be available on the first day of the semester, January 15, 2021.

Virtual Commencement Celebration

While we were not able to celebrate our Fall 2020 graduates with an in-person event, there is still time to recognize their achievements and success by visiting kvcc.edu/commencement! We are so proud of them and will never forget the obstacles they overcame. Congratulations graduates!

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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There are **Phishing** attempts regarding **EMAIL Account Verification** that are getting marked as SPAM and are being sent to your spam folder. **They are SPAM - leave them there and do not open them. The spam filter is doing its job!**

REMINDER

Please be careful when reading and responding to emails. Many phishing attempts are currently circulating including several related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Please carefully examine the email looking for things like spelling, grammar errors and hover over the sender's name to see the actual originating email address. If you receive any of these suspicious email messages, be sure to mark them as spam in your email client.

If you have any doubts as to the legitimacy of any email you receive, please do not hesitate to contact: it@kvcc.edu.

We ask that you please **DO NOT FORWARD** these types of emails to us or anyone else.



Register Now for the Winter 2021 Virtual Summit

The Winter 2021 Virtual Summit takes place on January 7 and 8. The faculty and staff portion of the Virtual Summit will be held the morning of Thursday, January 7, with the college being closed to the public from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Live and recorded sessions will be offered. The faculty sessions will continue after lunch on January 7 and through January 8.

All employees are required to participate. To fully participate in the event you will need access to a computer with audio (speakers and microphone/phone) and video. If you have technology needs or questions about these technology needs please contact the Facility and Events Manager [Jessica Potter](#).

See the [registration](#) schedule for more details.

LIBRARIES

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Helping You and Your Students Wrap Up the Semester!

Are your students bogged down with library books, calculators, cameras or other library materials from all your end of term assignments? Tell them to take advantage of curbside returns! Students can simply drive up to the Tower Entrance at the Texas Township Campus, call 269.488.4380, and someone will come help them get started on their winter break! Students registered for next term may keep the laptops or hotspots they have checked out. The library will remain open for curbside services through December 23. Please see our website for more details.

Library staff are available virtually through email, phone, Zoom and 24/7 chat to assist you and your students with reserves, printing, scanning, research, citation or any last minute needs you might have before break. The library staff wishes you a safe and happy winter break and we hope to see you all in the New Year!

Contact us:

Virtual Assistance

Visit us [online](#)

Call x4380 (TTC)

[Email](#)

[Chat](#) with a college librarian 24/7

Curbside Assistance:

Texas Township Campus Library (TTC)

Monday - Thursday | 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Bob Badra Educational Scholarship Fund

The Kalamazoo Valley Community College family lost a beloved member on September 16, when Bob Badra passed away after a short illness. His keen intellect, curiosity and his loving kindness for all left an indelible mark on the college community, its faculty, staff and students. Please join us as we honor Bob by contributing to the Bob Badra Educational Scholarship Fund. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 by December 30, so that Bob's legacy will be preserved by the annual awarding of a \$1,000 scholarship - in perpetuity.

Your tax deductible [donation](#) can be made online.

If you have any questions, please contact [Tim Welsh](#) or [Gloria Larrieu](#).

Foundation Scholarships: Gifts That Can Change Lives

Helping students achieve their educational goals is one of the best ways to have an impact on the future.

For more than 50 years, Kalamazoo Valley Community College has been providing life-changing experiences for students and their families. Although the college offers one of the lowest tuition rates in the state, many of our students can't afford to attend college without assistance.

Scholarship recipients are forever grateful for these life-changing gifts.

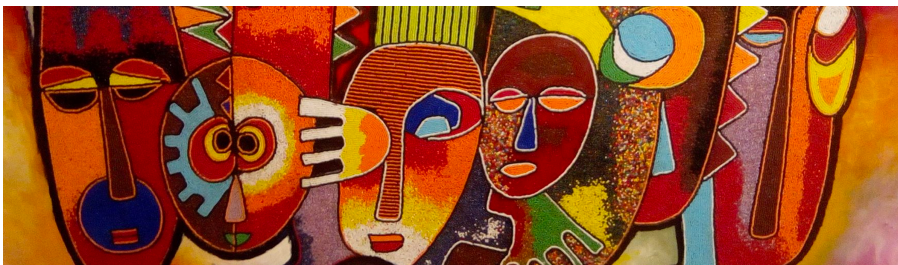
"After high school I had received no scholarships and was hurt by that. I became very motivated and changed many parts of my life. When I heard that I had received the John LaSotta Memorial Scholarship, I became quite emotional," said Justin Trantham, scholarship recipient. "Emotions of joy, achievement, and happiness poured out as I thought about all the work and change it took to get to this moment. You as the donor of this scholarship have given me motivation to not only achieve my dreams but to push that much harder while knowing that someone is finally believing

in me."

The Foundation's annual fund drive is going on now. This is your opportunity to make a difference. By making a contribution for student scholarships. Send your tax deductible donation to KVCC Foundation, P. O. Box 4070, Kalamazoo, MI 49003, visit kvcc.edu/foundation to donate online or call Linda Depta, Executive Director, KVCC Foundation and Fund Development Director at x4821.

There Are Multiple Ways To Give

1. Give a cash gift. Your gift will be put to immediate use for college scholarships.
2. Amazon Smile: If you're shopping from home this season, please consider adding Kalamazoo Valley as an Amazon Smile partner. It costs nothing to you and is an ongoing help to the college.
3. Include the college in your legal will. It's an easy way to protect the people and causes you care about the most, and help the college take care of the students and communities we serve.



January 2021 Virtual Art Hop

The Center for New Media's virtual Art Hop exhibit for January 2021 features the work of painter Bibilomo Jimoh. His art will be displayed and archived on the [CNM's Facebook](#) and [Instagram accounts](#) and the exhibit will premier during Art Hop.

Nigerian-born Jimoh is a teacher, artist and motivational speaker who has lived and worked around the world. His teaching and art career have spanned more than three decades. His early interest in art was developed by the courtyards around his grandfather's palace. His style of painting is what he describes as an exploration in abstract expression, which comes from his inner experience and dreams rendered in acrylic, pastel and tempera paint.

IN THE NEWS

[Kalamazoo Public Schools' Investment in Kids is Paying Off, and They Have the Numbers to Prove It](#)

[New Kalamazoo Area Program Offers Access to Therapy for People of Color Experiencing Racial Trauma](#)



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