



## READ THE LATEST KV FOCUS

January 15, 2021

Greetings!

It was wonderful seeing so many of you last week during the virtual Summit! I continue to receive very positive comments about the remarks provided by keynote speaker Dr. Tonjua Williams, the diversity of the workshops offered including the student panel discussion and the recognition of our colleagues for their years of service.

This semester, we must stand firm in our resolve to hold high the ideals of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who we will honor beginning Monday and throughout the remainder of the month through our [collaborations](#) with others from across the communities we serve.

I will not allow the recent events, perpetrated by some at the nation's Capital, destroy my hope for an even better America. We must remain steadfast in our commitment toward creating a community where all students, employees and guests can learn, be successful and belong.

From his book, "Across That Bridge: A Vision for Change and the Future of America," former U.S. Congressman and civil rights leader John Lewis said, "You are a light You are the light. Never let anyone – any person or any force – dampen, dim or diminish your light. Release the need to hate, to harbor division and the enticement of revenge. Release all bitterness. Hold only love, only peace in your heart, knowing that the battle of good to overcome evil is already won."

As we help students get settled into a new semester, please remember that you are a light. Your efforts really do make a difference and even one kind word or deed has the potential to inspire a student to achieve their dreams. Thank you.

"Together is Better,"

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Marshall Washington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D.  
President

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### **Celebrate Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Western Michigan University and local partners continue their tradition of honoring slain civil rights icon Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a series of virtual events. This year's theme is "None of Us is Free Until All of Us Are Free." In celebration of the MLK holiday, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum is also hosting a new virtual exhibit dedicated to the artworks of local civil rights historian, Murphy Darden, Sr. Explore his work and listen to his story at [kvmexhibits.org/murphy-darden](http://kvmexhibits.org/murphy-darden). For details and registration information about any of the events, contact Kalamazoo Valley's Director of Diversity and Inclusion, [Trice Batson](#) or 488.4119 or see the MLK Jr. Day 2021 Celebration page at [wmich.edu/mlk](http://wmich.edu/mlk).

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# STUDENT SERVICES

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### **Welcome Table Sign-Up**

Classes start today and we will continue to welcome students to campus next week.

Our administrative support team will be staffing welcome tables, but we need your help walking students to their classes. There are four locations at the Texas Township Campus where runners are needed. One person is needed for each time slot. There will be giveaways for you to share with students too!

Sign up is easy and appreciated:

1. Follow this [link](#)
  2. Log in and select your preferred time(s)
  3. Click SAVE - you will receive a confirmation email
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# FINANCE AND BUSINESS

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## 2020 W-2's Available

The 2020 W-2's are now available via Banner Self-Service. As a reminder, if you wish to view them electronically, you will need to electronically consent when you try to view it. By doing so, you acknowledge you will not receive a paper copy in the mail and you will print any copies necessary to file your various tax forms. If you consented previously, your consent remains in effect and you will not receive a paper copy of your W-2 in the mail. If you wish to continue to receive a paper copy of your W-2, please do not consent to receiving it electronically.

Please see the document on the Employee Portal > Human Resources > Payroll Training Resources > [W-2 Electronic Consent Information](#) for details regarding electronic W-2 consent, including instructions on how to sign up.

New for 2020; if you took leave under one of the FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) provisions, you will see a line on your W-2 in Box 14 for the amount of the gross earnings paid to you under the leave type(s) you were paid under. There are three possible types of gross earnings/leave that could be reported to you:

- SCK511 – Sick leave wages subject to \$511 per day limit (100% pay up to daily limit)
- SCK200 – Sick leave wages subject to \$200 per day limit (2/3<sup>rd</sup> pay up to daily limit)
- EFMLA – Emergency family leave wages

If you have any questions, please contact [Sara Hermann](#) or at x4068.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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## Be Aware of Phishing Attempts

Please be careful when reading and responding to emails. Many phishing attempts are currently circulating including several related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and the purchase of gift cards. 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. A college Cabinet member would never ask you to purchase gift cards through an email message.

If you receive any of these suspicious email messages, be sure to mark them as spam in your email client. **DO NOT FORWARD** these types of emails to us or anyone.

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



Lucinda M. Stinson (Center) Named Chairperson of Kalamazoo Valley Board of Trustees Accompanied by Trustee Jeffrey W. Patton (L) and L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D., President

## **Kalamazoo Valley Community College Board of Trustees Announce New Officers**

During its regularly scheduled meeting this morning the Kalamazoo Valley Community College Board of Trustees elected Lucinda M. Stinson as Chairperson. Dawn DeLuca was named Vice Chairperson. Mary Gustas was elected Treasurer and Susan L. Miller will continue as Secretary. These two-year terms become effective immediately said college President L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D. "I'm looking forward to working closely with these officers and to continuing to work closely with all the Trustees." The other Trustees are Patrick Farmer, Jeffrey W. Patton and Julia C. Buck. Stinson, who joined the Board of Trustees in 2014, is the executive director of Lending Hands of Michigan and a part-time professor at Western Michigan University. She's worked for more than 40 years as a healthcare professional and administrator. "I'm humbled to serve the college in this capacity," she said. "And I am grateful for the efforts of Jeffrey W. Patton." Patton, who is stepping down as Chairperson will continue as a Trustee. [more](#)

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## **Volunteers Needed for Valley Food Share**

Valley Food Share is an initiative designed to meet the immediate food needs of Kalamazoo Valley students. Through the program, currently enrolled students can pick up a bag, or a "share" which includes food grown locally and sourced through our own Food Innovation Center as well as nonperishable items from Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes, to take home. The college has been providing students with shares once a week for more than a year.

Valley Food Share distribution is currently a drive-thru service on Thursdays from 2 - 4 p.m. alternating between the Food Innovation Center and the Texas Township Campus. Volunteers are needed to help distribute shares to students who have indicated that they are in need. Please [sign up](#), if you are able. For more information, email [foodshare@kvcc.edu](mailto:foodshare@kvcc.edu).

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### **Long-Time Kalamazoo Valley Administrator to Retire this Month**

After more than two decades at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Mike Collins, Executive Vice President for Enrollment and Campus Operations, will retire on Jan. 29, 2021. From directing major building projects and securing state funding to leading student services, academic services, enrollment management and employee and community relations, Mike's impact on the college has been significant.

Everyone can join us as we acknowledge Mike's career by writing a message of appreciation or remembrance for inclusion in a memory booklet being compiled in his honor. [Access the template](#), complete your message and [submit it via email](#) by Jan. 20. Mike will be presented with the booklet prior to his last day at the college.

Mike's Kalamazoo Valley career also included leadership of the KVCC Foundation. He and his family established two funds at the Foundation, the R.M. and John Collins Endowed Nursing Scholarship Fund in 2001 and the Robert M. Livingston Scholarship Fund for business students in 2018. Your financial support of either of these funds will help the Collins' legacy continue in perpetuity. Gifts may be made [online](#) or by check payable to the KVCC Foundation.

We are grateful for Mike's steady leadership over these many years. His professionalism, candor and good humor will be missed. The college and Kalamazoo community are better because of his efforts and we wish he and his family all the best in the coming years.

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**SUBMIT YOUR ARTWORK!**

# BLACK ARTISTS EXHIBIT

## **Black Artists Exhibit Call for Entries**

In collaboration with the Black Arts & Cultural Center, the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and the Metropolitan Kalamazoo branch of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), Kalamazoo Valley's Center for New Media will host its second Annual Black Arts Exhibit. The virtual event, held in observance of Black History Month, will highlight the works of local Black artists, and provide a shared connection to the rich black cultural heritage in the Kalamazoo area. Digital entries for the February art exhibit should be emailed to [cparks@kvcc.edu](mailto:cparks@kvcc.edu) by 4 p.m. on Jan. 29.

All forms of creative art and mediums will be accepted. Images will be posted on the Center for New Media's [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts. For Gallery Requirements, Exhibit Guidelines and the Call for Entries form, click [here](#).

## LIBRARIES

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### **Kalamazoo Valley Libraries: With the World in Flux, Let Us Be Your Constant!**

With everything in flux right now, the library is still here to help you and your students stay on track this semester!

- Take advantage of our informative library instruction (both synchronous and asynchronous), to aid your students with research and projects.
- We are available to create a custom [LibGuide](#) to assist your class. Be sure to take a look at our new [Citation LibGuide](#) which can be included in your Canvas course.
- Worried your students won't have access to the course materials they need? We can help with that too! Email us and we can arrange to make a copy of your course materials available on Reserve in the Library. Your students will be able to request scanned and printed copies, which can be picked up.

Contact us today and let us help you simplify your semester!

**Virtual Assistance:**

Visit us [online](#) at  
Call 269.488.4380 (TTC)  
Email [libraries@kvcc.edu](mailto:libraries@kvcc.edu)  
Zoom by appointment, please email

**Virtual Hours:**

Monday - Thursday | 7:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

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

Saturday | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

**Library Open Hours:**

**Texas Township Campus Library (TTC)**

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

**Arcadia Commons Campus Library (ACC)**

Monday - Friday | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (T - F week of Jan 19)

Monday - Friday | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (beginning week of Jan. 25).

**Curbside Assistance:**

**Texas Township Campus Library (TTC)**

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



Kalamazoo**VALLEY**  
**Museum**

**Kalamazoo Valley Museum to Start Soft Opening**

The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic has dramatically changed the world around us and the Kalamazoo Valley Museum is no exception. Since the temporary closure of the museum in March 2020, staff has been working remotely providing innovative online programs including Star Talks, a museum interpretation podcast, a 360-degree virtual tour and exploration of the online collections database.

During the soft opening phase beginning Jan. 19, guests will be required to preregister for pre-determined visitation dates and times: Tuesdays and Thursdays for 90-minute visiting times from 10 - 11:30 a.m. for 10 guests per session. The sign up will be available at the KVM [website](#).

Although much of the KVM will be closed to visitors during this phase of the reopening, visitors will have access to new “read and see” experiences. A “one way” pathway exploring first floor core exhibits including the extended run of “Filling the Gap: The Art of Murphy Darden” and “Science on Sphere.”

The second floor history exhibit, “Kalamazoo Direct to You,” has been modified with looping-video content, touchless buttons to launch some of the interactive displays and new QR code audio tours for many sections of the gallery.

There is also a new "sound sculpture" by artist Beth Bradfish, underwritten by Connecting Chords, that allows guests to manipulate wire-meshed screens and sounds for an auditory experience which blends arts and sciences. Other areas of the Museum will be closed for the now while other safety protocols are put into place.

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### **Join the Book Club**

Join us for Book Club! Cheryl Almeda and Denise Miller will lead three sessions of discussions covering the book *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. Each session will cover a section of the book. You can [register for the discussions here](#).

Copies of the book are on order, will hopefully arrive by the end of the day and are available on a first come, first served basis. You can contact Gail Fredericks to obtain a copy of the book or check it out from the library.

### **Book Club: *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson (Session 1)**

Cheryl Almeda, Denise Miller

#### **Description**

Session 1: Feb. 26 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. covering Parts 1, 2 and 3 (pages 1-164) *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* is written by Isabel Wilkerson and is a follow-up to her Pulitzer-winning novel *The Warmth of Other Suns*. Wilkerson's *Caste* examines "the unspoken caste system that has shaped American and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions." Denise Miller and Cheryl Almeda, English faculty, would like to offer 3 Zoom sessions in response to reading the text and share analysis and discussion surrounding it.

#### **Location**

Zoom Room TBA

#### **Date & Time**

Friday, Feb. 26, 2021 | 10 - 11 a.m.

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## **IN THE NEWS**

[NASFAA Continues Virtual Advocacy Pipeline to Emphasize Need for Additional Pandemic Relief](#)

[Profile: Victor Ledbetter, Director, KVCC Law Enforcement Training Center](#)



[Community Colleges Play Vital Role in Health of Communities](#)

[Local Expert Debunks National Study Showing Kalamazoo Among Worst for 'Brain Drain'](#)



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