



## READ THE LATEST KV FOCUS

March 15, 2021

Greetings,

On March 20 of last year, college buildings closed and Kalamazoo Valley transitioned all classes and support services to remote or virtual instruction as the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) spread across the region. Hundreds of you converted dining rooms, living rooms and other previously occupied spaces in your homes to works spaces and home offices. This week we commemorate an ominous anniversary, yet still determined to move forward.

In spite of the college's low infection rate for students, faculty and staff, we mourn with those who have lost loved ones and friends to the ravages of the pandemic. We are mindful of the economic hardship thrust upon many of our colleagues, friends and students resulting from job losses. To one degree or another, the fallout caused by the virus has taken a toll on our mental health and well-being.

However, the response of the college community has been and continues to be nothing short of remarkable. Even as you continue to wrestle with disruption in your personal schedules, you continue to find new ways to bring innovation and collaboration to your daily work. Throughout these past 12 months, you found new and even better ways, in many cases, of serving our students and taking care of one another.

The impressive list of the ways the college is collaborating with community healthcare providers, employers and others to provide services to those who need them most continues to grow. I am proud of these efforts and I am proud of you.

I believe that the best days for the college are ahead of us. Every day we have the responsibility to make a decision, a decision for the better - to be more, do more and help more. That is what I am deciding; I know you will, too. Thank you.

Sincerely,



L. Marshall Washington, Ph.D.  
President

# HUMAN RESOURCES

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In my recent communication dated March 10, 2021, I told you that the college would provide updated COVID-19 (Coronavirus) vaccination information as it became available and I am writing to remind you about the recent announcement from Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services.

## **KALAMAZOO COUNTY HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES EXPANDS VACCINE ELIGIBILITY AND SCHEDULING PLAN**

Adults age 50 and older now include anyone age 50 or older with or without a medical condition.

The health department will no longer have a pre-registration waitlist form for this newly eligible age group. Rather, beginning today, every Monday the health department will release available vaccination appointments for the following week. Eligible adults should visit the health department's [website](#).

Vaccine appointments will be posted on the website directly when appointments become available for self-scheduling. This new process will operate on a first come, first serve basis. If no appointments are shown, then no appointments are available for self-scheduling that week.

People with limited internet access are encouraged to call the COVID-19 Call Center at 269.373.5200 for assistance in scheduling an appointment. Please reserve the option of calling for those who cannot access the website.

Caregivers of individuals with special needs include: caregiver family members and guardians age 16 and over of children with special healthcare needs, including physical, developmental, mental, sensory, behavioral, cognitive, or emotional impairment or limiting condition that requires medical management, healthcare intervention and/or use of specialized services or programs. The condition may be congenital developmental, or acquired through disease, trauma, or environmental cause and may impose limitations in performing daily self-maintenance activities or substantial limitations in a major life activity.

Caregivers of individuals with special needs can now pre-register on the waitlist [form](#).

Adults over the age of 65 and living in Kalamazoo County will continue to be prioritized for vaccination, if they have not already received it. The health department will reserve special appointment slots at upcoming clinics so those over the age of 65 may have assurance that they will continue to receive opportunities for vaccination. If you are in the 65 and older and have not

yet received the COVID-19 vaccine and wish to do so, call the health department's COVID-19 Call Center at 269-373-5200.

All eligible residents are also encouraged to explore vaccination through other vaccine providers in the area, including Meijer Pharmacy and Rite Aid Pharmacies.

More information about the process for vaccination in Kalamazoo County can be found at [www.kalcounty.com/covid19](http://www.kalcounty.com/covid19) and [www.Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine](http://www.Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine).

Though these opportunities are not sponsored by Kalamazoo Valley Community College, we are encouraging all employees to access the vaccine when it becomes available to them.

Thank you.

Aaron Hilliard

Vice President for Human Resources

### **College Closed April 2 - April 4**

Kalamazoo Valley Community College has altered spring break previously scheduled for the first week in March. The goal is to move through the semester without interruption to help mitigate opportunities for infection and to keep our students focused on completing the semester successfully. The college has scheduled a break for Friday, April 2 through Sunday, April 4. All college buildings will be closed and students, staff and faculty need not report during the three day holiday. (Previously announced on December 7, 2020.)

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# FINANCE AND BUSINESS

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### **CARES Act Institutional Grant Request Form**

Thank you to everyone who submitted a CARES Act Institutional Grant Request Form. The documentation you provided helped us make the appropriate determination about granting your request and ensure we remain in compliance with the grant restrictions.

There are still funds available. Any additional requests must be submitted by the end of business today, March 15, 2021. If you need a copy of the request form or have questions, please contact [Brian Lueth](#).

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*Women's*  
**HISTORY MONTH**



**Celebrate Women's History Month**

In celebration of Women's History Month, the college is hosting different events during the month of March and providing multiple opportunities to recognize the achievements and challenges of women. Check out Sociology and Gender & Women's Studies faculty Rebecca Durkee's preview of the events [here](#).

March 18 | "Are We There Yet? Recognizing 100 Years of Imperfect Progress" | 2 p.m.  
[RSVP](#) to get the Zoom link.

March 25 | Kalamazoo Valley Community College Women: Reflections on the Pandemic | 12:30 - 3 p.m.  
[RSVP](#) to get the Zoom link.

The Kalamazoo Valley Libraries have also created a virtual display of books related to Women's History. Check out the full display [here](#).

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## CAMPUS PLANNING AND OPERATIONS

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### **Title IX Training Information**

On Friday, March 19, 2021, employees should participate in a training about Title IX. The 90-minute session will be available via Zoom beginning at 9 a.m. The program will be presented in cooperation with the law firm of Miller Canfield and will be recorded for access later for those unable to view the live event.

Title IX applies to any institution receiving federal financial assistance from the Department of Education, including state and local educational agencies, including Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Kalamazoo Valley Community College's Title IX policy states that: "Members of the college community, guests and visitors have the right to be free from all forms of gender and sex-based discrimination including sexual harassment and acts of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual exploitation, stalking and other conduct of a sexual nature that is so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's education programs and activities."

[Register](#) before March 18. The college will remain open during the training. If you have questions, please contact your supervisor.

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## **CNM Hosts Student Fine Art Show in April**

The Center for New Media will host the Student Fine Art Show during the month of April. Digital entries will be accepted for consideration until 5 p.m. on March 26, 2021. This is a juried art competition and not all entries will be accepted into the show. All accepted entries will be displayed on the CNM's Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Any Kalamazoo Valley Community College student enrolled between September 2020 and May 2021 is eligible to participate. Each student may submit a maximum of two pieces of artwork that has been completed within the past two years.

Students will need to provide work as high-resolution digital images for this virtual show. While there won't be a public opening reception, students whose work is selected can still drop off physical work for the display in the Arcus Gallery and CNM Central Gallery. All physical 2D artwork must be framed and ready for hanging with proper wire and hooks. Clip frames are not allowed. Improperly presented works will not be displayed. Works on stretched canvas do not need frames, but the sides must be clean craftsmanship.

Due to Coronavirus concerns, the Center for New Media will not be open for Art Hop on Friday, April 2, but students may choose to drop off their art to be displayed.

Awards will be given to Best of Show, First, Second, and Third Place.

### **The categories are:**

- Drawing - Color
- Drawing - Black and White
- Painting - Oil, Acrylic, Alkyd
- Watercolor
- Film Photography
- Sculpture
- Ceramics
- Mixed Media

All work must be emailed to [Cindy Parks](mailto:Cindy.Parks@cnm.edu) by March 26 by 5 p.m. Each entry must be accompanied by an entry form. Entries should include a completed call for entry form or the following information: your name, address, phone number, Valley ID number, title of work, and price (if applicable).

Drop-off and pick-up of all artwork is the responsibility of the student or their representative. The Juror reserves the right to eliminate any piece or move to a more appropriate category. Kalamazoo Valley Community College, the Art Department, Student Services, or anyone involved in the sponsoring of the show, do not assume any responsibility for entries lost or damaged during the show.

For any questions, please email either: Tom Hamann, [thamann@kvcc.edu](mailto:thamann@kvcc.edu), Cindy Parks, [cparks@kvcc.edu](mailto:cparks@kvcc.edu), Beth Purdy, [bpurdy@kvcc.edu](mailto:bpurdy@kvcc.edu) or Jessica Zwalua, [cnmgallery@kvcc.edu](mailto:cnmgallery@kvcc.edu), or call 269.373.7881.

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## **Announcing Kalamazoo Valley Community College's NISOD Membership**

Kalamazoo Valley Community College is now a proud member of the [National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development \(NISOD\)](#), a consortium of community and technical colleges committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership.

This membership will help the amazing and dedicated faculty, administrators, and staff at Kalamazoo Valley Community College realize an exceptional level of commitment to our students' success. Start exploring our membership today by engaging with a couple of NISOD's most popular benefits:

1. [Sign up to receive NISOD's members-only newsletter](#), which offers weekly access to the latest membership information and exclusive content, including [Innovation Abstracts](#), NISOD's weekly flagship teaching and learning publication that spotlights faculty-focused essays.
2. Participate in NISOD's monthly [Webinar Series](#), a faculty-focused virtual meeting space led by community college faculty and other leaders and experts in the field.

To gain access to these great resources and [much more](#), log onto [nisod.org](http://nisod.org) using Kalamazoo Valley Community College's username and password:

Username: kvcc.edu

Password: nisod203

If you have any questions, please contact [membership@nisod.org](mailto:membership@nisod.org) or Kalamazoo Valley Community College's NISOD Liaison, [Paige Eagan](#).

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# LIBRARIES

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## **Kalamazoo Valley Libraries: Check Out Our New Virtual Book Displays**

Do you miss walking through the library and seeing displays filled with great books on important and exciting topics? Great news, the library now has virtual book displays available! Each display features an easily browsable collection of suggested books and movies available at KVCC,

perfect for you and your students.

Displays Available Now:

- [Women's History](#): explore the amazing contributions of women to our society with books and movies on Women's history, fiction by or about women, as well as children's books.
- [Black History](#): It doesn't need to be February to learn about Black History! Featured are an assortment of resources on African-American history, fiction, as well as podcasts.

Check out the display [home page](#) for information about locating, reserving, and checking out these books. Look for a new display each month!

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.

Monday - Friday | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Curbside Assistance:**

**Texas Township Campus Library (TTC)**

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



**Student-Made Beer for Sale**

The sustainable brewing program is continuing to sell student-made beer at Taps on Tuesday

every Tuesday until April 27. Follow this [link](#) to order online each week. Curbside pickup time is 1 - 6 p.m. Please approach the door for the 418 restaurant for pickup. Share the link with anyone you think would like to purchase world-class Kalamazoo Valley student-brewed beer!

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### **Discounted Lunch for Valley Employees**

Did you know that Kalamazoo Valley employees can get a 20% discount on their bill at Fletcher's Pub in Texas Corners? Just show your Valley ID before you pay to receive the discount.

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## IN THE NEWS

[Futures for Frontliners Draws Thousands of Returning, New Students to West Michigan Community Colleges](#)

[COVID-19 and Mental Health are a Dual Crisis 1 Year into the Pandemic in Michigan](#)

[Kalamazoo Valley's Center for New Media](#)



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