

YOUR LINK TO **YOUR COLLEGE**

# DMACC

Magazine



## On the Path to Success

PAGE 4

# Director's Message

DMACC has embarked on a transformative journey with its newly unveiled Strategic Plan for 2023-2028. Under the theme of “Changing Lives. Empowering Communities,” the plan outlines a comprehensive roadmap aligned with our mission, vision, and values.

The process began in 2020 with the establishment of High-Level Initiatives, focusing on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, as well as Guided Pathways. This formed the foundation for individual departments to develop balanced scorecards. Engaging various stakeholders, including faculty, staff, and students, we took a collaborative approach in gathering feedback to drive the plan, which is driven by our core principles:

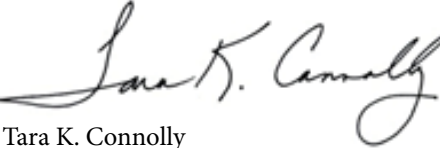
- **Mission:** DMACC commits to providing quality, accessible, student-centered education and training, and to acting as a catalyst for economic development.
- **Vision:** The institution seeks to elevate the quality of life, support communities, and contribute to a thriving Iowa.
- **Values:** We prioritize accessible learning, diversity and inclusion, quality and excellence, service, and engagement.

Throughout, the plan emphasizes

the student experience and DMACC's role in helping to meet the needs of Iowa's businesses and drive the regional economy. From our new Guided Pathways (learn more at right), to building a more diverse and inclusive community, improving quality across our Campuses and Centers, and strengthening our partnerships, we are excited about what the future holds for DMACC.

We are also excited about the opportunities we will have for supporters like you. Private support of the Foundation is integral to the success of DMACC's Strategic Plan. It ensures that students, regardless of financial circumstances, have the opportunity to pursue their dreams. On behalf of the Board and staff of the Foundation, I look forward to working with you to continue to move DMACC forward.

Sincerely,



Tara K. Connolly  
Executive Director  
DMACC Foundation



## Find Us Online

**You can find the DMACC Foundation online, anytime!**

**WEB:** [dmacc.edu/foundation](http://dmacc.edu/foundation)

**Facebook:** @DMACCFoundation

**Twitter:** @DMACCFoundation

# DMACC Magazine

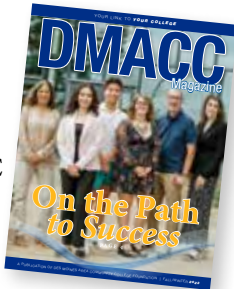
## FALL/WINTER 2023 IN THIS ISSUE

Director's Message .....	2
DMACC Introduces Guided Pathways .....	3
Our Leadership .....	3
<i>PATHWAY: Design, Media &amp; the Arts</i>	
Honoring a Creative Spirit .....	4
'Every Day Feels Like Craft Day' .....	5
Inspiring Students to Dream Big .....	7
Embracing the Opportunity .....	8
Focused on Student Success .....	9
Photography Program is Picture Perfect ..	10
Enthusiastically Supporting Students .....	11
Recognizing Excellence .....	12
Movin' for Students .....	13
DMACC CEO Golf Tournament .....	14
Alumni Association Travel .....	15
Gifts that Leave a Legacy .....	16

**CONTACT US**  
DMACC Foundation  
2006 S. Ankeny Blvd., Bldg. 22  
Ankeny, IA 50023  
Phone 515-964-6229  
[www.DMACC.edu/foundation](http://www.DMACC.edu/foundation)

## ABOUT DMACC MAGAZINE

DMACC Magazine is a publication of the DMACC Foundation & Alumni Association. If you have questions or story ideas, please email [foundation@dmacc.edu](mailto:foundation@dmacc.edu).



Thank you to the Ankeny Campus Student Activities Office for sponsoring a portion of the costs to produce DMACC Magazine. Your support is greatly appreciated!



# DMACC Introduces Guided Pathways

Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) recently introduced its Guided Pathways programs designed to provide students with clear, structured roadmaps to academic and career success. Early feedback shows the approach is gaining traction due to its numerous benefits.

Guided Pathways at DMACC are a set of structured educational plans that guide students toward specific academic and career goals. These pathways encompass a variety of fields including business, healthcare, arts and sciences, and technology, among others. Within each pathway, students follow a set curriculum, including courses, extracurricular activities, and experiential learning opportunities that prepare them for success in their chosen field.

Guided Pathways have been shown to offer these benefits:

## Clarity and Guidance

Guided Pathways offer clarity and guidance to students, especially those who may be uncertain about their future educational or career goals. By choosing a pathway aligned with their interests and ambitions, students can better understand what courses to take and what experiences to seek, streamlining their academic journey.

## Improved Completion Rates

Pathways have been proven to enhance student retention and completion rates. When students have a well-defined plan, they are more likely to stay on track, graduate, and successfully transition into their chosen careers or continue their education.

## Relevant and In-Demand Training

In a rapidly evolving job market, the content within DMACC's pathways is regularly updated to reflect industry demands. This ensures that students acquire the most relevant and in-

demand skills to succeed in their chosen fields, making them attractive to employers.

## Increased Student Engagement

Guided Pathways incorporate diverse learning experiences, such as internships, service learning, and participation in student organizations. These opportunities not only enrich students' education but also foster active engagement and skill development beyond the classroom.

## Facilitated Transfer to Four-Year Institutions

Many DMACC students intend to continue their education at four-year institutions. Guided Pathways provide a smooth transition to bachelor's degree programs, as they are often created in partnership with these institutions to ensure that credits earned at DMACC transfer seamlessly.

## A Wealth of Resources

Students on Guided Pathways benefit from a wealth of resources and support services tailored to their chosen fields. This includes access to dedicated advisors, faculty expertise, and industry connections, all of which further enhance the students' educational experience.

By choosing a pathway aligned with their interests and aspirations, students can better navigate their educational journey and confidently pursue their dreams. These pathways not only increase the chances of student success but also contribute to a skilled and competitive workforce in various industries.

*Learn more about  
DMACC Guided  
Pathways at  
[dmacc.edu/pathways](https://dmacc.edu/pathways)*

# Our Leadership

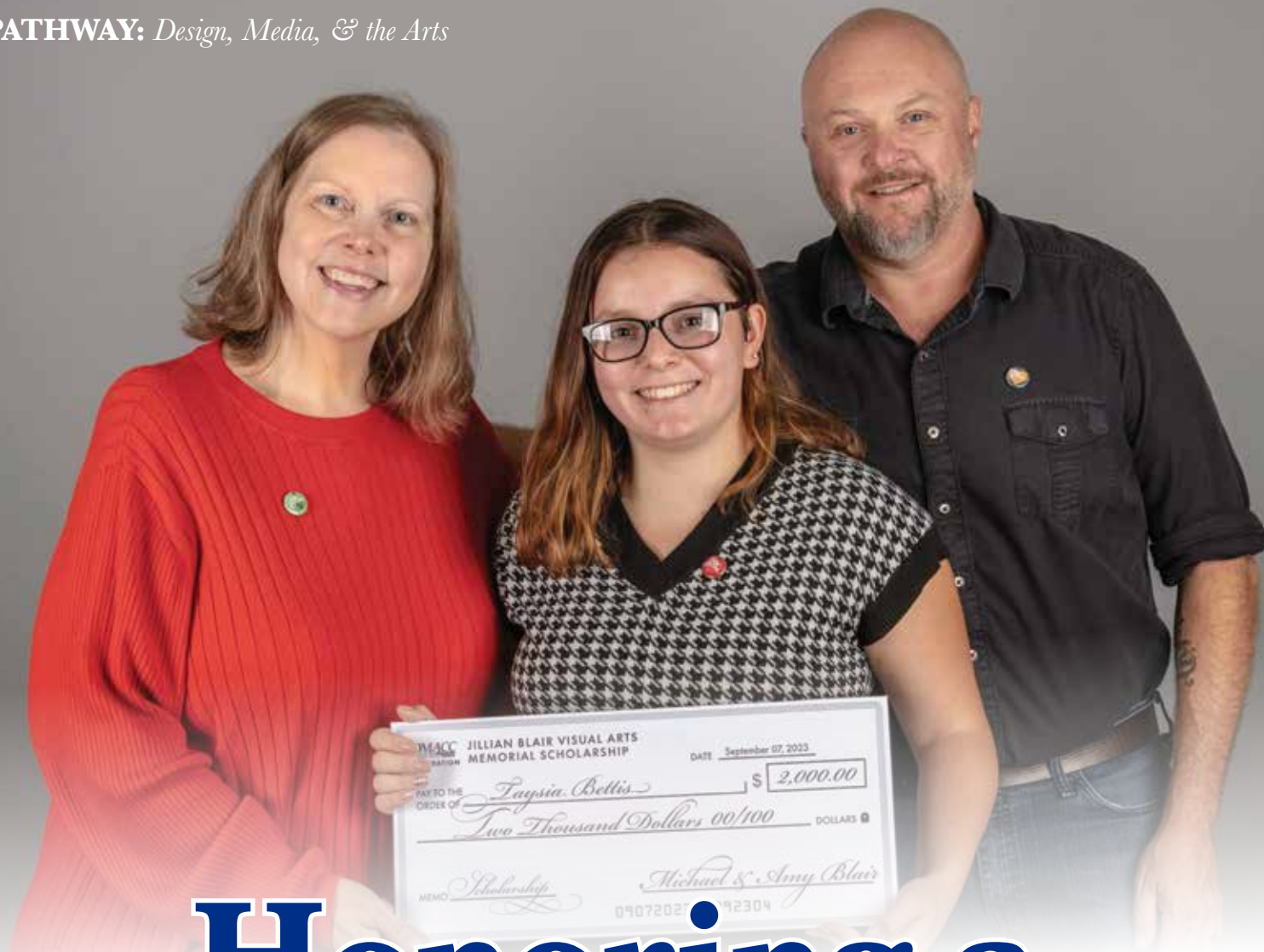
As the preferred giving channel for all DMACC initiatives, the DMACC Foundation works cooperatively with individual donors, local businesses, and support organizations to ensure funding is available for student scholarships, facility and program enhancements, and more. We thank these Board members for their vision and service:

**Scott Bennett, President**  
**Jeff Lamberti, Vice President**  
**Natalie Bachman, Secretary**  
**Kim Butler Hegedus, Treasurer**  
**Rita Perea, Past President**  
**Mark Rasmussen, Alumni Committee Representative**  
**Abby Howie, Boone Committee Representative**  
**Doug Burns, Carroll Committee Representative**  
**Jessica Cole, DMACC Faculty Representative**  
**Carlos Arguello**  
**Rebecca Banzhaf**  
**Kristi Christensen**  
**Chris Costa**  
**Becky Gibson**  
**Mike Grandgeorge**  
**Roger Hargens**  
**John Irving**  
**Tanner Kinzler**  
**Mary Kramer**  
**Dr. Keith Krell**  
**Martha Lebrón-Dykeman**  
**Dr. Mark Menadue**  
**Kashaan Merchant**  
**Patty Scallon**  
**Taufeek Shah**  
**James Spooner**  
**Rob Taylor**  
**Steve Van Oort**  
**Curtis Van Veldhuizen**

## EMERITUS

**Dennis Albaugh**  
**James Fleming**  
**Robert Horner (deceased)**  
**Mike Kammerer**  
**Donald Lamberti**  
**Ollie Weigel (deceased)**

To learn more about Foundation governance, please visit us online at [dmacc.edu/foundation](https://dmacc.edu/foundation).



# Honoring a *Creative Spirit*

In memory of their daughter, Jillian Blair, a young and vibrant artist with a unique vision, Amy and Michael Blair have established the Jillian Blair Visual Arts Memorial Scholarship at the DMACC Foundation. The scholarship represents more than just financial support; it memorializes Jillian's legacy of creativity and quirkiness, and celebrates unique artistic minds.

Jillian was the youngest of Amy and Michael's three daughters. From a young age, it was evident that she had a special connection to the world of art. Jillian was a visual learner and possessed a natural talent for creating meaningful and captivating visual art. Whether it was fashion design, interior design, graphic design, or photography, she had an innate ability to translate her thoughts, emotions, and perspectives into compelling art forms.

A junior at Johnston High School, Jillian tragically passed unexpectedly in April 2022, within a month of being diagnosed with a rare congenital heart condition. The loss changed the Blairs'

lives forever. It also inspired them to find ways they could ensure Jillian's passion for the arts carried on.

## **Paying Jillian's Passion Forward**

The idea for the scholarship came about as Amy and Michael came to grips with the hard fact that they would not have the opportunity to send Jillian to college, as they had done with their two older daughters. Deeply moved by Jillian's artistic vision—Amy calls it a Bohemian Chic sense of style—the couple wanted to ensure that her creative spirit would continue to inspire and support others.

"We wanted to be able to do something that gives back, and not just make it about Jillian, but make it something for students who are like her or people who are like her," Amy says. "It pretty quickly became our mission to help students who shared Jillian's unique

and creative essence.”

The scholarship is designed to assist students who are passionate about visual arts and might face challenges in their educational journey. Applicants are required to submit visual representations of their creativity, such as artwork or photographs, along with a written component where they can share their personal stories and aspirations.

When reviewing applications, Amy and Michael considered various aspects, including the applicant’s artistic expression, their story, and the unique qualities that made them stand out. The scholarship recipients were chosen based on the essence of Jillian’s spirit and how it resonated with the applicants.



Jillian Blair

## A Meaningful Impact

Receiving the first batch of scholarship applications was a deeply emotional experience for the Blairs. Their backgrounds and perspectives as parents and educators made the process a rollercoaster of emotions, as they reviewed and reflected on the stories and aspirations of the applicants.

“We narrowed it down to a top five, and it was hard,” Amy says. “After you’ve read people’s stories and you’d think, ‘I want them to get it’ or ‘I want that one to get it,’ we had to separate ourselves and remember that Jillian was going to be our guide in making the decision.”

## Carrying Jillian’s Memory Forward

For Amy and Michael, the amount of joy they have received in awarding the scholarship is proof that they chose a powerful way to honor Jillian’s memory and preserve her unique spirit.

“The scholarship goes beyond the individual recipient,” says Michael, who is a Graphic Design Instructor at DMACC. “It stands as a testament to the diverse and vibrant world of Design and Visual Art. We know that there is going to be somebody, for however long this scholarship goes on, that will be able to hear her name, know why they’re getting the scholarship, read her story, and realize that because of her, they were able to have an easier road.”

As an instructor, Michael emphasizes the importance of the College in the educational landscape.

“DMACC serves as a platform where unique stories like Jillian’s and countless others can find support and encouragement,” he says. “We are fortunate to have an option like DMACC available and accessible.”

After making the first award this year, the Blairs say they are looking forward to the annual opportunity to make a difference in Jillian’s memory.

“It is our heartfelt tribute to a young artist whose vision continues to inspire and touch the lives of students,” Amy says. “It represents more than just financial support; it symbolizes the celebration of creativity, quirkiness, and the legacy of our daughter, whose unique artistic spirit lives on in the scholarship recipients who will follow in her footsteps. We are humbled for her memory to be carried on like this.”

# ‘Every Day Feels Like Craft Day’

If asked to choose between photography and graphic design, Taysia Bettis (pictured center, Page 8) would struggle to offer an answer. With a passion for both, she is pursuing studies in visual arts at DMACC with a big vision for her future.

That vision has room for employing her talents in both photography and graphic design.

“I’d say my dream job right now is working for a major magazine,” Taysia says, mentioning that the Des Moines is renowned for the magazines published in the region. “Photography is definitely something I want to lean into in the future—studio photography and tabletop photography. I also want to explore the graphic design side.”

She is developing her career vision with the assistance of the inaugural Jillian Blair Visual Arts Scholarship. The scholarship is named in memory of Jillian Blair, the daughter of Michael Blair, one of Taysia’s professors. It celebrates Jillian’s creative spirit and her passion for the visual arts. This scholarship not only recognizes Taysia’s talent but also provides the financial support to help her reach her dreams.

To apply for the scholarship, Taysia submitted examples of her visual art, including photography and design work. She was overwhelmed after learning she had been chosen for the award.

“I was really excited,” Taysia says. “It felt like a real honor. My work was being acknowledged, and especially since it was their first year doing it, I think it really was an honor.”

In addition to the financial support, Taysia says she appreciates the collaborative environment at DMACC, particularly in the graphic design program.

“Professors encourage students to share ideas and engage in group discussions, enhancing the overall learning experience,” she says. “Every day feels like a craft day, an exciting journey filled with creative challenges.”





---

**“I cannot adequately express how much it means to me, the fact that his legacy, that his influence, that his inspiration is helping people to dream and to become what they dream of being.”**

—Rekha Basu

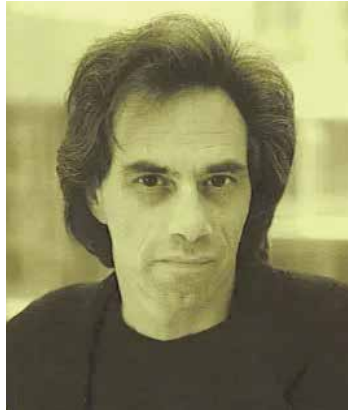
# Inspiring Students to Dream Big

For a guy who made his living writing stories, the enduring legacy of Rob Borsellino is a story itself. Affable in a hardscrabble Bronx-born-and-raised kind of way, Rob was passionate about his work, which took him from a childhood of poverty to the hallways of Bronx Community College and eventually to Central Iowa, where he and his wife, Rekha Basu, unwittingly found a home.

While his style—often black jeans and a leather jacket—showcased his authentic self, it stood out in the upper Midwest in the 1990s. But his unique look did little to slow his ascendancy as he moved from the *Des Moines Business Record* to WOI-TV and eventually to the *Des Moines Register*. Rob quickly gained a following, using his gift for storytelling to inspire, inquire, celebrate, advocate, teach, connect and more.

He made readers laugh. And he made them think. And he left them wanting to talk about what he wrote.

Rob never shied away from asking the difficult questions or taking a stand. He was laser focused on the subjects that mattered. Whether drawing attention to the plight of the underserved or calling the powers-that-be out on the carpet, he approached his work with a dignity and presence that endured.



Rob Borsellino

## A Fitting Memorial

So, as news of his terminal illness became public in February 2005, his readers, his colleagues, his friends, and his community felt like they'd been delivered a collective gut punch. He battled ALS with the same dignity he approached his work. His fight inspired thousands, including musical legends Bob Dylan and Merle Haggard who traveled to Des Moines to perform a concert in his honor to raise funds for ALS research. When he passed in May 2006, his friends and his fans wanted to do something to cement his legacy.

Rekha says she was taken off guard by the response.

"When I was arranging Rob's funeral," Rekha says, "I really had no idea that there would be money coming in. The person who was helping us out encouraged us to give some thought to where we would like memorial donations to go. I wanted them to go to something that really would emulate Rob and sort of characterize who he was and help someone else who's been in the same positions that he had been as a child."

Rekha, who also was a columnist at the *Des Moines Register*, chose to direct memorial gifts to the DMACC Foundation to

establish the Rob Borsellino Journalism Scholarship. She says supporting those pursuing a career in writing has proven to be the perfect way to remember Rob.

"He just had so much attitude in him," says Rekha, who is quick to admit that he gained a whole lot of 'Iowa nice' during his years in Des Moines. "His search was always to get the story behind the story of people who were struggling and people who lived on the fringes of society, because that's kind of how he grew up. And he went to Bronx Community College because that's all he could afford.

"I wanted to do something that was vibrant and that would reflect his life and inspire young people in the way that he had been inspired," she continues. "I knew that DMACC was the way to do that."

## Empowering Students

While neither Rob nor Rekha attended DMACC, they were very familiar with the College. Rekha says they loved attending the wildly popular DMACC dinners hosted by the Iowa Culinary Institute. Both Rob and Rekha had a relationship with DMACC President Rob Denson through their work. The couple had several friends who taught at the College and were guest speakers to several classes. Occasionally, they wrote about students or faculty or staff.

Awarded annually, this scholarship is designed to inspire young writers—not only those seeking a career in journalism but anyone with a passion for storytelling. The scholarship aims to support students who have experienced challenges, including financial difficulties, language barriers, or personal obstacles. It is intended to empower students to share their stories and experiences, illuminating the world's understanding of the struggles many individuals face in their journeys.

"This is about honoring the spirit of Rob," Rekha says. "We have been able to meet many of the scholarship winners and it is inspiring. Through Rob, we are able to give a hand up to those who have sort of lived on the margins in some way but are looking to put those experiences into writing to enlighten other people about what it's like. People who are doing everything, including in many cases going to college at night when they have a family to take care of, to get ahead and learn.

"I cannot adequately express how much it means to me," Rekha says, "the fact that his legacy, that his influence, that his inspiration is helping people to dream and to become what they dream of being."





# Embracing the Opportunity

As a first-generation college student and immigrant from Mexico, Andrea Montes Melendez knew if she was going to make in communications it would require a heavy dose of perseverance and ambition.

She also knew that she would need a helping hand to be able to make ends meet.

Currently pursuing a liberal arts degree at DMACC, Andrea has proven her mettle in the program and gotten the assistance she needed in earning the esteemed Rob Borsellino Journalism Scholarship.

Earning the scholarship named after the legendary *Des Moines Register* columnist, who had a profound impact on journalism in Iowa, is a source of inspiration for Andrea. It serves as a reminder that she too can make a significant mark in her chosen field.

“It just gives me the idea that I can become someone like that,” Andrea says. “It’s really inspiring.”

Andrea’s interest in writing and public relations stems from her lifelong love for reading and writing. She aspires to build and nurture relationships, ultimately aiming to work for a company where she can manage connections with celebrities and other

---

**“It just gives me the idea that  
I can become someone like  
that. It’s really inspiring.”**

—Andrea Montes Melendez on receiving the  
Rob Borsellino Journalism Scholarship

---

organizations. She says the support she has received at DMACC has allowed her to dream big.

“As a first-generation college student and immigrant, I have unique financial and other challenges going to college in the United States,” Andrea says. “Any scholarship and any support that I can get, it’s just a blessing for me.”

After graduating from DMACC, Andrea plans to continue her education at Iowa State University, majoring in public relations and possibly minoring in event management.



**“This support not only eases the financial aspect of their education but also fosters their creative growth.”**

—David Purdy, Photography Program Chair

# Focused on Student Success

In his decade as Photography Program Chair at DMACC, David Purdy has played a prominent role in the evolution of the program from one focused almost entirely on fine art to one with an array of options that provide numerous pathways to a wide assortment of careers.

As a hub for aspiring photographers seeking to turn their passion into a fulfilling career, the shift made sense.

“We wanted to take a pathway into commercial photography and portrait photography where students could make a living,” says Purdy, who has vast experience as a news and commercial photographer and is a Pulitzer Prize winner. “It turned toward a trade angle because we are part of the industry technology part of DMACC.”

In a world driven by visual content, the role of photography cannot be overstated.

David emphasizes that “images play a huge role in our everyday life,” from product photography for advertisements to lifestyle photography for personal events. Whether it’s high school senior portraits, engagement photos, or corporate branding, photography remains an integral part of our daily existence.

He adds that it is vital to have a program like the one at DMACC easily accessible to develop professionals with the knowledge and skills to be successful in a diverse field like photography. David notes that it is a bonus that DMACC has a

number of opportunities for students with financial challenges to receive aid.

“Scholarships are a huge financial help for students to invest in essential equipment or tools, such as cameras or laptops,” David says. “This support not only eases the financial aspect of their education but also fosters their creative growth.”

Witnessing that creative growth is a tremendous motivator for David.

“Watching them transition from photography enthusiasts to professionals who can make a living from their passion is immensely gratifying,” David says. “In my students, I see myself. It reminds me of my own journey.”

David can rattle off the names of dozens of students over his time in the program who have gone on to make meaningful contributions to the profession—from those who have gone on to work at large companies like Meredith, to others who have establishing thriving home-based portrait studios. He says this success is a result of the culture of support so common across DMACC’s Campuses and Centers.

“There is a sense of community that prevails at the College,” David says. “I am proud to work at a college that has such a strong commitment to ensuring that students don’t get left behind, even in the face of personal challenges. This sense of belonging, coupled with dedicated instructors who know their students personally, sets DMACC apart from larger universities.”



# Photography Program is Picture Perfect

DMACC has always been a nurturing ground for Iowa's next generation of leaders. This has proven especially true in the Photography program. This is evident in the work of three current students in the program who are chasing their career goals with the help of scholarships from the DMACC Foundation.

## **Jordith Dunker**

A native of Colombia, Jordith (above, left) joined DMACC's Photography program in pursuit of his lifelong dream. His love for photography began with experimenting with different cameras and photography styles. Eventually, he started his photography business, primarily specializing in senior and family portraits.

Jordith's early experiences in photography played a crucial role in securing his scholarship.

"With the financial support the scholarship provides I can focus on taking classes while also growing my business," says Jordith, who is eager to continue to expand his horizons in the program.

## **DJ Christensen**

DJ's (above, center) passion for photography, nurtured through years of casual picture taking, led her to seek formal training. A visit to the DMACC Campus for a photography conference convinced her the Ankeny Campus was the right place for her.

DJ's says her scholarship is crucial to helping her make ends meet,

especially as a non-traditional student.

"I pay everything out of pocket, so I was ecstatic when I won it," DJ says. "This scholarship has allowed me to fully focus on my studies and career goal."

DJ aspires to work in photojournalism, capturing stories that shape the world.

## **Elizabeth Craig**

Elizabeth (above, right) chose DMACC over a traditional four-year college, citing the hands-on approach and the opportunity to delve deep into photography as the deciding factors. While she is quick to admit she finds it challenging to sit and listen during more traditional lecture courses, she says the Photography program is enjoyable and fulfilling.

An aspiring landscape and wildlife photographer, Elizabeth finds joy in capturing the beauty of nature. She says she is humbled to have received scholarships to help her move closer to her dreams without falling deep in debt.

"They have played a vital role in making my journey possible," Elizabeth says. "I am paying for college myself, so having this support means that I can pursue my career goals without having a lot of debt following me when I'm done."

***There are a variety of giving options to support student scholarships. To learn more about making a gift in support of DMACC students, contact us at [foundation@dmacc.edu](mailto:foundation@dmacc.edu) or call (515) 964-6229.***





# Enthusiastically Supporting Students

In nearly 18 years of service to DMACC, Todd Jones has seen firsthand the impact donors have had on students and the College overall. As the Marketing and Public Relations Director, he has had a hand in writing dozens of stories about students, programs and facilities that have benefited from individuals who made a significant gift to the DMACC Foundation.

His front row seat to so many acts of generosity inspired Todd and wife, Janet, to make a planned gift that will ensure critical support for the College is available long into the future.

“We have given annually for years,” Todd says. “But when it came time to update our will, we wanted to do more. We made the DMACC Foundation a beneficiary. We believe in the mission and values of the College, and we want to ensure resources remain available for the College’s growth, even after we have passed.”

Todd says the process of adjusting their will was simple and done with the help of the couple’s attorney. He says it is satisfying

to support a college that fills a critical role in higher education.

“Community colleges often get overlooked when it comes to charitable giving even though they provide such a broad range of programs and services designed to prepare students for our competitive job market,” Todd says. “When it comes to DMACC specifically, the College is growing and there is an increasing need for scholarships and facilities designed to serve today’s students. It feels good to know that we will have a lasting impact on the College and its students.”

***To learn more about making an endowed gift in support of DMACC students, contact us at [foundation@dmacc.edu](mailto:foundation@dmacc.edu) or call (515) 964-6229.***



DMACC President Rob Denson (left) and DMACC Foundation Associate Director Breck Hunt (right) congratulate the 2023 recipients. The recipients: (second from left, left to right) Ako Abdul-Samad, Anil Mallik, David Abram, Petra Amstad, Kevin Schneider, Belange Mutunda, Greg Piklapp, and Mackenzie Carlson.

# Recognizing Excellence

We love to celebrate our alumni! To that end, we gathered on October 17 to recognize our 2023 Alumni Award recipients. This year's class has gone above and beyond—in their professions, in their communities, and in support of others. They epitomize all that is great about DMACC, and we are proud to count them among our esteemed alumni.

We congratulate them all!

## Outstanding Alumni Award

The Outstanding Alumni Award is the highest honor given to DMACC alumni by the Alumni Association. This award honors and recognizes alumni who provide service to their community, country, and/or fellow citizen; have had great professional or personal achievement since graduation; and/or continue to be involved in the life and work of DMACC.

- **David Abram**, Dupaco, Carlisle (AS Liberal Arts 1994)
- **Petra Amstad**, Swiss Post, Biel-Benken, Switzerland (AAS Commercial Art 1996)

- **Greg Piklapp**, Ames Chamber of Commerce, Boone (AA Liberal Arts 2001)
- **Kevin Schneider**, Polk County Sheriff, Urbandale (AA Criminal Justice 1990)

## Alumni Early Achievement Award

The DMACC Alumni Association created the Alumni Early Achievement Award in 2011 to recognize alumni who have graduated from DMACC within the last ten years and have displayed exemplary personal or professional achievement or volunteer service to their community.

- **Mackenzie Carlson**, Humbolt Co. Memorial Hospital, Humbolt (Diploma Practical Nursing 2011; AAS Nursing 2016)
- **Anil Mallik**, Met Life, West Des Moines (AAS Accounting 2021; Diploma in Accounting and Bookkeeping 2021; Certificates of Specialization in Accounting, Accounting for Entrepreneurs and Payroll 2020)

- **Belange Mutunda**, Belange Handmade LLC, Los Angeles, CA (AAS Fashion 2018)

## Impact Award

The DMACC Alumni Association created the DMACC Impact Award in 2011 to recognize DMACC alumni or attendees who have completed at least 12 credit hours and have made an impact in their community, profession and/or at DMACC.

- **Ako Abdul-Samad**, Iowa State Representative, 34th District, Des Moines (Attended from 1973 to 1996)

## Nominate Outstanding Alumni!

The DMACC Alumni Association is currently seeking nominations for the Outstanding Alumni Award, DMACC Alumni Early Achievement Award and the DMACC Impact Award. For more information and to learn of the criteria for each award, visit us online at <https://internal.dmacc.edu/alumni/Pages/welcome.aspx>. **The deadline to submit nominations for all three awards is April 15, 2024.**





# *Movin'* for Students

## Annual 5K Draws Record Numbers to Run/Walk in Support of Scholarships

The DMACC Alumni Association and Foundation held a very successful sixth annual 5K walk/run on September 30, breaking several new records with:

- The warmest 5K event to date—nearly 70 degrees at start!
- The greatest turnout of volunteer support (Thank you, volunteers!)
- The highest number of registrants at 306 – exceeding our goal of 300.
- A \$3,250 increase in cash sponsorships over 2022 for a total of \$16,000 – plus an ADDITIONAL \$5,000 in in-kind support!
- \$14,000 raised for DMACC student scholarships, bringing our total to more than \$50,000 since our launch in 2018.

Thank you again to all of our campus departments and volunteers for their support – we couldn't do this event without you!

Special thanks to our event sponsors: GreenState Credit Union, The District at Prairie Trail, Lola's Fine Sauces, Creative Choice Solutions, Ankeny Dental Professionals, Hazel Creative, SVPA Architects, Wagging Tails Pet Services, Status Health Partners, Brown's Shoes Ankeny, Fleet Feet Des Moines, Fitness Sports, DLR Group, Scheels, Mark and Erica Rasmussen, and the Ankeny Campus Student Activities Office.





# DMACC HAS MILLIONS OF REASONS TO BE THANKFUL

It is difficult to put into words what the support generated by the annual DMACC CEO Golf Invitational means to our students. The 16th annual event raised **\$442,000**, which helped push the overall amount generated from the event to over **\$4.5 million**! That incredible level of support is making it possible for the DMACC Foundation to award another record level of scholarship support of **\$2.2 million** for the 2023-2024 academic school year!

The way those dollars have served students leave us with millions of reasons to be thankful. They have helped thousands overcome financial challenges that would otherwise derail the dream of a college education. They have provided funds for books, class materials and more. They have boosted confidence and inspired success. They have helped ensure a highly skilled and talented workforce is available for Iowa's businesses.

Des Moines Area Community College  
16<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**CEO GOLF**  
*Invitational*

We offer a sincere **THANK YOU** to all of our sponsors who turned out this year and to all of those who have participated during our 16 years. Your continued support is making a big difference for our students.

<b>PRESENTING SPONSOR</b>		<b>CORPORATE SPONSORS</b>		<b>TITLE SPONSOR</b>		<b>EAGLE SPONSORS</b>	
Sheri Avis Horner		Albaugh Your Alternative™ PRAIRIE MEADOWS		B BAXTER CONSTRUCTION CO LLC		Wellmark + accuhold	
<b>TENT SPONSOR</b>	<b>BIRDIE SPONSORS</b>	<b>LUNCH SPONSOR</b>	<b>OASIS SPONSOR</b>	<b>REFRESHMENT SPONSORS</b>		<b>ROB'S RIDE SPONSOR</b>	
X-TRA	RDg... PLANNING • DESIGN	BankersTrust BankersTrust.com	Turner	Coca-Cola ATLANTIC BOTTLING Company		Reppert TRUCKING & HAULING	
<b>RECEPTION SPONSOR</b>	<b>CAR BARN SPONSORS</b>	<b>GAME PRIZE SPONSOR</b>	<b>GAME HOLE SPONSOR</b>	<b>TEAM PRIZE SPONSOR</b>	<b>BRIDGE SPONSOR</b>		
USI	Curtis Van Veldhuizen UBS Availa Bank csb community state bank	WELLS FARGO	DAVID DENTONS DAVIS BROWN	FAREWAY	Tri-City Electric Co. Since 1955 CONFIDENCE DELIVERED		
<b>HOLE SPONSORS LEVEL 1</b>			<b>HOLE SPONSORS LEVEL 2</b>		<b>PUTTING GREEN SPONSORS</b>		
SHIVE-HATTERY ARCHITECTURE+ENGINEERING			SNYDER ASSOCIATES		DLR Group listen.DESIGN.deliver		
JLL			Doug and Debbie Reichardt		DENMAN & COMPANY, LLP		
CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD Iowa Commercial Advisors			Thys		Integrity Printing		
broadlawns MEDICAL CENTER			TRUCK CENTER COMPANIES		MARTHA CLERK, JEWELLER		
follett KEENE EDUCATION GROUP			JEDUNN CONSTRUCTION		Peoples Bank		
SMG commercial management group			KRAFF KRAFF		CTI CHICAGO TRAILER SPIN		
Ferguson Commercial Fleet Service			MERCHANTS BONDING COMPANY CONANOR SINCE 1844		UnityPoint Health Des Moines		
					DORSEY always ahead		



## 2024 DMACC CEO Golf Invitational

Thursday, June 13

**Talons Golf Course in Ankeny**

Registration 11 a.m. | Lunch 11:30 a.m.

Shotgun start 1 p.m. | Cocktails 5 p.m.

For more information about the event and sponsorship,  
visit [dmacc.edu/foundation/golf](http://dmacc.edu/foundation/golf)





# Join Us! Great Trips Coming Up

Six incredible trips have hit the schedule for 2024 as part of the DMACC Alumni Association partnership with Collette Travel and Tours, offering a great opportunity for domestic and international travel.

When you register for a trip as an alum, supporter or friend of DMACC, a percentage of the trip proceeds goes to support student scholarships at DMACC. That means you travel and DMACC students benefit. Check destinations at the right and find full details linked below!

## MORE INFORMATION

For details and pricing, visit [dmacc.edu/alumni/travel](https://dmacc.edu/alumni/travel)

## 2024 Trips

### **Iceland's Magical Northern Lights**

*February 8 – 14, 2024*

### **Spotlight on New Orleans**

*February 25 – 29, 2024*

### **Holland & Belgium Springtime River Cruise**

*April 10 – 18, 2024*

### **Islands of New England**

*May 31 – June 7, 2024*

### **California Dreamin': Monterey, Yosemite & Napa**

*October 7 – 14, 2024*

### **London & Paris**

*December 26, 2024 – January 3, 2025*

\*Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations made after the deposit deadline date are based upon availability.



DMACC Foundation  
2006 S. Ankeny Blvd., Bldg. 22  
Ankeny, IA 50023

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
DES MOINES, IA  
PERMIT NO. 864



# Gifts that Leave a Legacy

Establishing a scholarship through the DMACC Foundation is one way you can assist students and leave a legacy to the College. It's also a very meaningful way to honor family and friends. As a donor, you choose the name of the scholarship as well as the criteria for awarding it.

**To learn more about how you  
can establish a scholarship, visit:  
[dmacc.edu/foundation](https://dmacc.edu/foundation)**