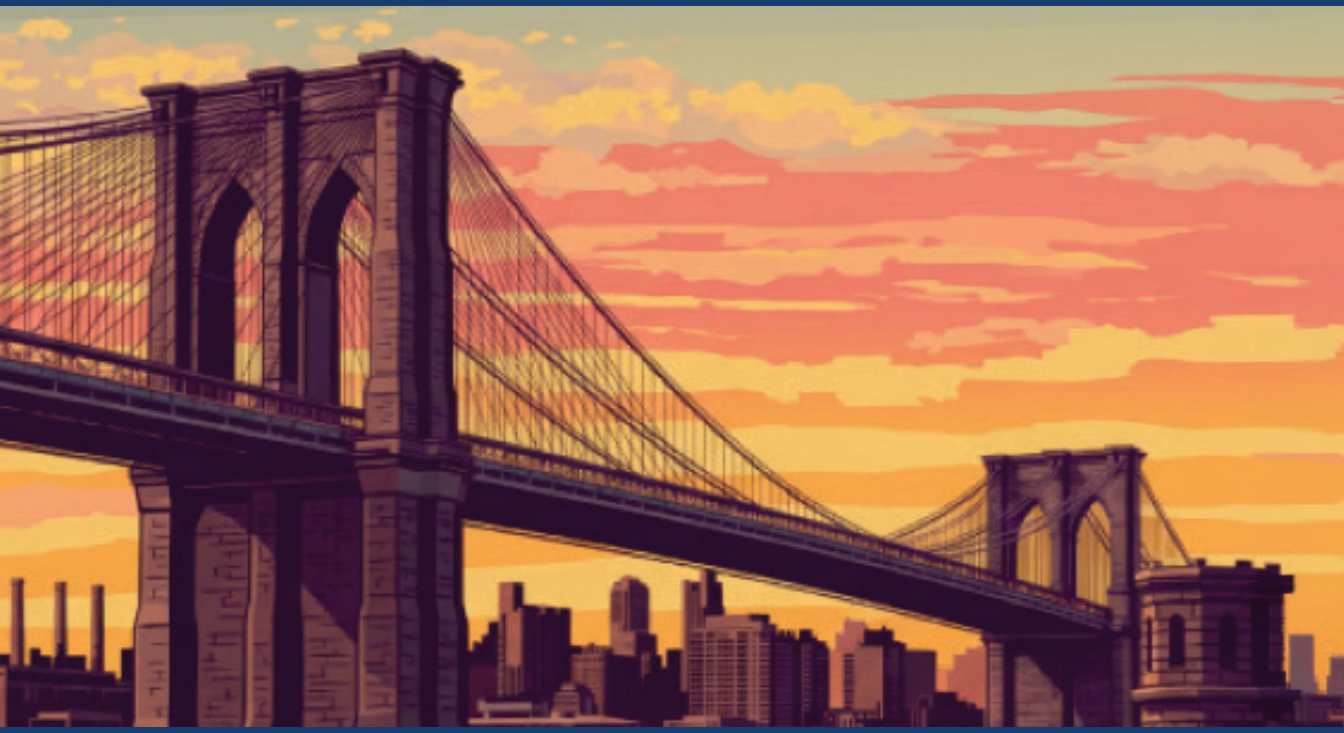
19TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

BROOKLYN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Cocktail Hour: 6 p.m. | Program & Dinner: 7:30 p.m.

501 Union

501 Union Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231

KINGSBOROUGH

BROOKLYN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

19th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser
Kingsborough - Brooklyn's Community College
Celebrating our community. Investing in student success. Building brighter futures.

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 | 6 p.m.
501 Union Street | Brooklyn, New York

WELCOME REMARKS

Nancy Lee Sánchez-Badillo C'95, Ed
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Executive Director, Kingsborough Community College Foundation

GREETINGS

Suri Duitch
President, Kingsborough Community College

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Jeff Lindor C'07
Founder and CEO, Gentlemen's Factory
Trustee, Kingsborough Community College Foundation

KEYNOTE STUDENT SPEAKER

Carlyne Enid Torres
Business Administration, Class of 2027
Recipient of the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation Student Emergency Grant Fund

REMARKS

Dr. Kwesi W. Blackman C'07
Chair, Kingsborough Community College Foundation
Attending Physician, New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Joan Bartolomeo
Former Chair, Treasurer and Trustee, Kingsborough Community College Foundation

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE AWARD

Leo Gordon
Vice President for Career and Technical Education High Schools,
United Federation of Teachers (UFT)

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE HONOREE

John Mogulescu
Former Senior University Dean, CUNY
Dean Emeritus, CUNY School of Professional Studies

CLOSING REMARKS

Nancy Lee Sánchez-Badillo C'95, EdD

ENTERTAINMENT | PARTNERS IN SOUND **CATERING | NIGHT KITCHEN**

Silent auction and drawing will close on November 10 at 9 p.m.
Staff will contact the winning bidders.

Enter here: https://kcc26.givesmart.com

Every contribution makes a difference!

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Kingsborough Supporters,

I'm excited to welcome you to this year's Annual Scholarship Fundraiser, where we are honoring four individuals who have made meaningful contributions to higher education in Brooklyn and across New York City: John Mogulescu, one of the most effective and innovative educators in the history of the City University of New York; alumnus Jeff Lindor C'07, an important entrepreneur and active community leader in Central Brooklyn, as well as a member of the college's foundation board; Leo Gordon, a seasoned educational leader with over 30 years advancing career and technical education in New York City for the United Federation of Teachers; and Joan Bartolomeo, former chair and treasurer of the KCC Foundation Board of Trustees and a longtime supporter and advocate of Kingsborough, our students and their success.

Now is a good time to support Kingsborough Community College (KCC)! As is always the case, funds raised at this event will go directly to support our students, whose ambition and intelligence drive them forward, and who benefit greatly from your assistance and support to meet their financial needs while in school.

This year is especially exciting because we have just formalized our current strategic plan, uniting the college community behind a shared vision of what success looks like for our students and for our institution. We are striving to improve on the critical measures by which an urban community college is assessed (successful retention, timely graduation, transfer for the bachelor's degree and success in the workplace for a highly diverse student body), and to increase our institution's effectiveness and level of innovation. This is especially important during a time of rapid technological change and volatility in the workplace; the knowledge, credentials and skills that our students gain during their time at the college are more valuable now than ever before. Knowing that we have a community of generous and involved donors who care deeply about our students helps spur us on to achieve greater success on their behalf.

I know you'll enjoy this evening, our first time venturing off campus for this event; just one sign that KCC is moving confidently into a brighter future. I'm so glad you are on this path forward with us.

Regards,

Suri Duitch
President
Kingsborough Community College

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Friends of Kingsborough,

It is with tremendous pride and heartfelt gratitude that I welcome you to Kingsborough Community College's Annual Scholarship Fundraiser. Tonight, we come together not only to celebrate academic achievement and opportunity, but to reaffirm our shared commitment to transforming lives through the power of education.

As "Brooklyn's Community College," Kingsborough holds a special place in the heart of our borough. We are more than an institution of higher learning; we are a gateway to opportunity, a foundation for lifelong success and a community where students from all backgrounds are empowered to pursue their dreams.

For many of our students, the journey toward a college degree is filled with challenges. They balance academic responsibilities with employment, family obligations and financial uncertainty. Yet, despite these obstacles, they demonstrate extraordinary determination, resilience and ambition. Their success is a testament to what is possible when potential meets opportunity.

At the Kingsborough Community College Foundation, we believe that financial circumstances should never determine a student's future. Through scholarships, educational resources and meaningful partnerships, we strive to remove barriers and create pathways to academic achievement, professional advancement and economic mobility.

As chair of the Foundation, I have the privilege of witnessing the remarkable impact of generosity. Every scholarship awarded represents more than financial assistance; it represents hope, confidence and an investment in the next generation of healthcare professionals, educators, entrepreneurs, public servants and community leaders.

But our work is far from finished.

Tonight is both a celebration of what we have accomplished and a call to action for what we can achieve together. I encourage each of you to continue investing in our students, supporting our mission and helping us expand the opportunities that make Kingsborough such an essential part of Brooklyn's future.

To our generous donors, dedicated faculty and staff, alumni, community partners and friends, thank you for believing in the transformative power of education. Your commitment ensures that Kingsborough remains a place where aspirations become achievements and where every student has the opportunity to build a brighter future.

Together, we are not simply funding scholarships, we are opening doors, changing lives, strengthening families and investing in the future of Brooklyn.

Let us continue to build upon Kingsborough's proud legacy of access, excellence and opportunity, ensuring that Brooklyn's Community College remains a beacon of hope and possibility for generations to come.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation,

Kwesi W. Blackman

Dr. Kwesi W. Blackman C'07
Chair, Board of Trustees
Kingsborough Community College Foundation

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Rhythm Nation Entertainment

A LETTER FROM THE **VICE PRESIDENT**



Dear KCC Supporters,

As a proud member of Kingsborough Community College's Class of 1995, I know firsthand how education can transform lives. Kingsborough opened doors for me, and every day it does the same for students from every corner of Brooklyn and beyond.

The theme of this year's fundraiser, "**Brooklyn's Community College**," captures what makes Kingsborough so special. We are a college built by and for the communities we serve, welcoming students of every age, background, culture and life experience. Like Brooklyn itself, our strength comes from our diversity, resilience and shared belief in opportunity.

Our students inspire me every day. They commute long distances, balance work and family responsibilities and overcome financial challenges while pursuing their dreams. Their determination reflects the very spirit of our borough.

At a time when the value of diversity and inclusion is being questioned, Kingsborough remains steadfast in celebrating the cultures, experiences, and perspectives that make our community strong.

I am especially proud that, under the leadership of **Dr. Kwesi Blackman**, Chair of the KCC Foundation, we are establishing the first **KCC Foundation Veterans Fund** to support student veterans and military families facing financial hardship. This initiative reflects our commitment to ensuring that those who have served our country have the opportunity to achieve their educational goals.

Today, I ask you to invest in our students. Your gift does more than provide financial assistance. It helps a student stay enrolled, earn a degree, support a family, and create new opportunities for generations to come. Every contribution, regardless of size, is a powerful investment in the future of Brooklyn. Together, we can ensure that Kingsborough remains Brooklyn's Community College, where opportunity changes lives every day.

Peace and Progress,

Nancy Lee Sánchez-Badillo C'95, EdD
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Executive Director, Kingsborough Community College Foundation

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SOCIAL SERVICES

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CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
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November 10, 2026

Greetings:

It is my pleasure to congratulate **Kingsborough Community College Foundation** as you celebrate the 19th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser "Brooklyn's Community College". Your dedication to connecting generous donors with meaningful opportunities to invest in students, faculty, and programs helps provide educational resources and strengthens the future of our community.

I also extend my sincere congratulations to this year's distinguished honorees: **John Mogulescu and Jeff Lissdor**. Your recognition reflects the importance of leadership, service, and dedication to making a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Kingsborough Community College has made a lasting impact through its commitment to offering high quality, affordable, innovative, and student-centered programs of study that prepare graduates for transfer and the workforce. The campus remains firm in upholding its core values: Respect, Diversity, Integrity, Excellence, Accountability and Innovation, fostering an inclusive learning environment that empowers students and strengthens the community.

As you celebrate this remarkable achievement, may you take pride in the many lives you have touched and the lasting difference you continue to make in the community.

Congratulations and best wishes for a memorable celebration and many more years of meaningful service!

Very truly yours,

Roxanne J. Persaud

Roxanne J. Persaud

OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

October 2026

Dear Friends,

Congratulations to Kingsborough Community College Foundation on your 19th annual scholarship fundraiser!

For 19 years, the Kingsborough Community College Foundation has strengthened the college experience for one of New York City's premier community colleges. I am so proud of the legacy that Kingsborough has built in our borough, and it fills me with joy to see all that the Foundation has done to help the student body thrive.

I offer my congratulations to this year's honorees: John Mogulescu and Jeff Lindor. As faculty and alumni, both of these leaders demonstrate the strength of the CUNY system. I am proud of how they have both given back not just to the borough but to the entire city. They are both truly picked exemplary leaders, and I am grateful to see them both honored.

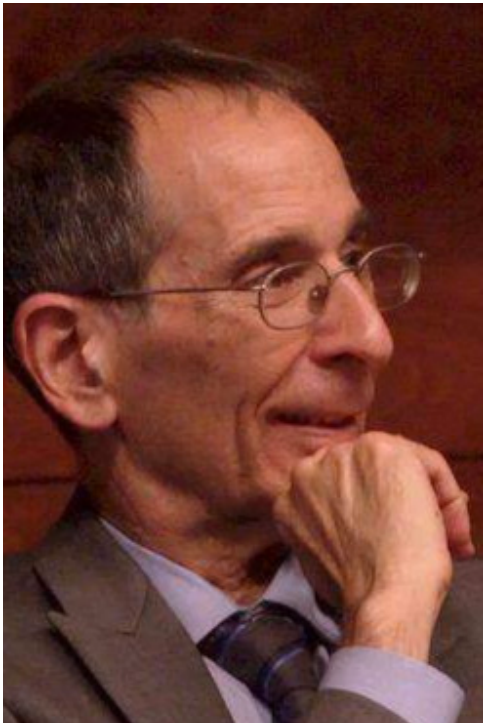
Thank you to the Kingsborough Community College Foundation for all you do for Brooklyn's Community College. I wish you all a joyful celebration and many more years of continued growth, service, and community.

Sincerely,

Antonio Reynoso
Brooklyn Borough President

BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL - 209 JORALEMON STREET - BROOKLYN, NY 11201 - (718) 802 3700 - FAX (718) 802 3616 - BROOKLYNBP.NYC.GOV

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP & COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE HONOREE



John Mogulescu

Former Senior University Dean, The City University of New York (CUNY)
Dean Emeritus, CUNY School of Professional Studies

John Mogulescu was the Founding Dean of the CUNY School of Professional Studies from 2003-2021. During that time, he also held the position of CUNY Senior University Dean for Academic Affairs in the University's Central Office. Earlier, he served as the University Dean of Academic Affairs and Deputy to the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the University Dean for Adult and Continuing Education and the Director of Adult Learning for CUNY.

As Senior University Dean for Academic Affairs, Dean Mogulescu led a team that developed the model for the Stella and Charles Guttman Community College, which opened in 2012 and was the first new CUNY community college in 40 years. He also oversaw the highly successful and acclaimed Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP), now serving 25,000 students. Among the many other programs that he supervised were the CUNY Service Corps, CUNY Start, CUNY Collaborative Programs with the NYC Public Schools, CUNY Prep, the NYC Early Childhood Professional Development Institute, CUNY's Workforce Development Initiative, the CUNY Language Immersion Program (CLIP) and the Emmy award- winning television series, "We Are New York." From 2001-2018, the programs led by Dean Mogulescu generated over $1.3 billion in external grants and contracts.

Dean Mogulescu is a past president of the New York State Continuing Education Association and the New York State Adult Learning Council. He was Chair of the Board of Visitors of the New York City Police Department and a longtime member of the New York City Workforce Development Board. In 2022-2023, he was a Senior Fellow for the Heckscher Foundation for Children.

Dean Mogulescu received his bachelor's degree in psychology from Brown University and a master's degree in social work from New York University. He is the author of The Dean of New Things: Bringing Change to CUNY and New York City.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD



Jeff Lindor C'07

Founder and CEO
Gentlemen's Factory Inc.

Jeff Lindor is a social entrepreneur, strategist, policy leader and institution builder whose work focuses on economic mobility, human development and community prosperity.

A proud alumnus of Kingsborough Community College, Jeff was born in Haiti and raised in Brooklyn. He later earned his bachelor's degree in history from York College and a master's degree in urban policy analysis and management from The New School in New York City.

Jeff is the founder and CEO of Gentlemen's Factory, a human development institution focused on advancing men through structured cohorts, community, research and policy. Since its founding in Brooklyn in 2016, Gentlemen's Factory has grown from a physical membership community into a broader platform focused on health, relationships, career, wealth and leadership.

Before becoming an entrepreneur, Jeff served in senior policy and management roles in New York City government, including at the New York City Department of Correction, where he advised executive leadership and contributed to major reform efforts. He previously worked at EmblemHealth and JPMorgan Chase.

Jeff serves on several civic and institutional boards, including the Kingsborough Community College Foundation, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, Public Housing Community Fund, Prospect Schools and IMPACCT Brooklyn.

His work has been featured by *The New York Times,* CNN, Bloomberg, *The Wall Street Journal*, Business Insider and Yahoo Finance.

Being recognized as Kingsborough Community College's 2026 Distinguished Alumni Honoree is a full-circle moment for Jeff, reflecting a journey that began at Kingsborough and continues through his work to expand opportunity, strengthen communities and build institutions that help people thrive.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

I first became acquainted with Kingsborough Community College over 20 years ago, when then-President Dr. Regina S. Peruggi joined the board of a nonprofit I was running called Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation (BEDC). I was so impressed by the work that the College was doing and began working with Dr. Peruggi to support the students and provide resources. Dr. Peruggi then invited me to join the KCC Foundation Board, where I have served for over two decades, some of that time as Board Chair.

One great example of the fruitful partnership between KCC and BEDC occurred early on in my Board tenure. At this time, when the economy was in free fall and the lease for BEDC was coming up for renewal, Dr. Peruggi generously invited BEDC to move to the campus. Her entire staff in every department, including Continuing Education, could not have been more welcoming and supportive. I was privileged to see first-hand the great work that Kingsborough does to support its students and how it helps them to build and lead productive lives.

Just as importantly, I saw how deeply Kingsborough is invested in the broader Brooklyn community. Its commitment extends well beyond the classroom, strengthening families, businesses and neighborhoods throughout the borough. That experience validates its new tagline as "Brooklyn's Community College."

My presence on the Foundation Board spanned four KCC presidents and two vice presidents for Institutional Advancement! But despite the changes in names, the mission of the college never wavered – the success of the students was always front and center. I look to the Board's gifted current chair, Dr. Kwesi W. Blackman, a KCC alumnus whose success is testimony to the power of engaging and supporting students with talent and ambition.



Joan Bartolomeo

Bank Community Development
Former Chair, Treasurer and Trustee,
Kingsborough Community College Foundation

Although I have now retired from the Board and corporate life, I urge you to join me in continuing to support this vital institution and its students. Tonight, we revel and delight in the success of our students, but let's also keep them in our thoughts year-round. Please continue to support Kingsborough, not only with donations, but through personal and corporate affiliations and collaborations. Your gifts will have a lifetime of impact!

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE AWARD

Leo Gordon is a seasoned educational leader with over 30 years advancing career and technical education in New York City, where he serves as Vice President of Career and Technical Education (CTE) High Schools for the United Federation of Teachers.

A graduate of the Success Via Apprenticeship teaching program, Leo began his career teaching graphic design, media, IT, and architectural drafting in schools across the boroughs. He designed a state-of-the-art, million-dollar print and graphic design lab at Ralph R. McKee High School—and later passed it on to a former student.

As an instructional coach with the UFT Teacher Center, Leo supported educators citywide in pedagogy, technology integration, and program design. He helped launch the city's first CTE Middle School Pilot, now in more than 30 middle schools. Most recently, he led the team that developed New York State's Advanced Manufacturing Framework with Micron Technology—an American Federation of Teachers partnership now reaching 15 districts and supporting Micron's semiconductor complex in Clay, New York.

Through a partnership with Pursuit, Leo has trained 60 teachers across two cohorts to build their own AI solutions, moving educators from AI literacy to AI fluency.

He serves on the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) Board of Directors, the NYC Pathways Council, and the Perkins advisory boards at Bronx Community College and New York City College of Technology (City Tech).

Leo believes the strongest workforce pipeline in New York City starts with a well-prepared teacher—and he has spent 30 years proving it.



Leo Gordon

Vice President for Career and Technical Education High Schools
United Federation of Teachers (UFT)

About United Federation of Teachers (UFT)

The UFT is committed to strengthening our communities, our profession and the lives of our members and our students.

As a member-driven organization predominantly made up of education and healthcare professionals, the UFT negotiates and advocates vigorously for fair and competitive salaries, enhanced professionalism, and improved working conditions.

The union actively supports policies, legislation and programs that promote attaining educational equity, closing the persistent and unacceptable achievement gap and assuring parent and community voice in school governance. The UFT believes in raising academic standards and strengthening instruction; reducing class size and overcrowding; creating safer, more orderly schools; improving school facilities; and increasing parent involvement in schools.

KEYNOTE STUDENT SPEAKER





Carlyne Enid Torres ’27

Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation Student Emergency Grant Fund

Major: Business Administration

Carlyne always had a knack for entrepreneurship. She started her very first business at just 9 years old and went on to work as a press-on nail artist, crocheter and tattoo artist, among other jobs. But college never rated high on her list. “I had dropped out of high school due to a pregnancy and was laser-focused on the grind,” she said. “I thought a degree was just a piece of paper.”

Later, though, when she began missing out on professional opportunities because she didn’t have a high school diploma, she decided to earn her GED—the exam was scheduled at Kingsborough. “After I finished the test, I just walked around and took in the ocean and the beauty of the campus,” she said.“When I received the email confirming that I had passed my GED, it was the final sign I needed. I told myself I was going to college, and I knew Kingsborough was where I wanted to be. I made sure to apply that very same day.”

Carlyne enrolled as a Business Administration major, where she has since channeled her work ethic and entrepreneurial savvy to become a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society and a Student Ambassador. She has also developed a network of supportive faculty and staff at Kingsborough, which includes Business of Fashion Professor Michael Palladino, Art Professor Midori Yamamura and her advisor, Karl Alexandre, a College Discovery counselor.

Not every aspect of her KCC journey has been easy, though. Earlier this year, Carlyne experienced a family emergency that threatened her ability to remain enrolled at the college. Thankfully, she was approved for a grant from the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation, which provided a timely financial lifeline for her and her family. Next spring, Carlyne will proudly become the first member of her family to earn a college diploma. No longer just a “piece of paper,” her degree from Kingsborough will be a launchpad for her dreams and a testimony to her ingenuity and resilience—one that she hopes will be an inspiration to other students following a similar path.

MEET OUR DISTINGUISHED KCC STUDENT GUESTS



Victor Estes ’27

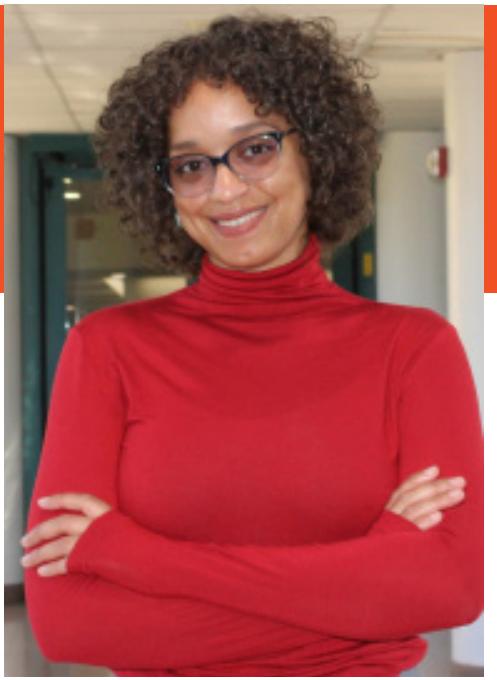
Christopher J. Tobin Endowed Scholarship

Major: Media Arts

Originally from Washington D.C, Victor always had an interest in media. But it was not until the COVID-19 pandemic that he found a way to channel that passion into a profession.

“During that time of isolation, I started breaking into the podcast space and I felt right at home.” While he may have found his calling, Victor knew he needed to develop the foundational skills to truly flourish in a future podcasting career. Having taken a 10-year break from school, Victor chose Kingsborough because of its affordability and his friends’ recommendations. “It was not easy going back to school after so much time away,” he said, recalling the trepidation he experienced those first few months. Thanks to the encouragement of Media Arts Professors Rachel Chow and Valeriya Chulskaya, he joined the WKRB Radio Club, where he acquired hands-on experience in media production and broadcasting.

A self-described “eccentric artist,” Victor envisions a bright future ahead of him as both a high-level producer and a media personality.. This is why he was so grateful to receive the Christopher J. Tobin Endowed Scholarship, an award that provides both financial support and mentoring opportunities for Kingsborough Media Arts students. “Getting this scholarship means more than saving money,” he said. “It motivates me to keep working hard toward my degree. I see this as a sign to push ahead and not give up.”



Jennifer Vasquez Felix ’27

Major: Mental Health and Human Services

Jenniffer Vasquez Felix’s journey reflects the transformative power of education, resilience and public service. Originally from the Dominican Republic, she stepped away from college to become a mother before returning to Kingsborough Community College through CUNY Reconnect.

Inspired by her work at the NYC Public Advocate’s Office, Jenniffer is majoring in Mental Health and Human Services to deepen her understanding of advocacy, institutional accountability and community well-being. At Kingsborough, she served as Student Government Association president and Mental Health Officer and has been a Student Ambassador, championing student engagement, civic participation and educational access. During her first week as president, she organized a civic engagement and voter registration event featuring Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso. She was also selected to participate in the “Día de Orgullo Dominicano” student forum during a visit by the president of the Dominican Republic.

Recognized as a Distinguished Student Scholar, Jenniffer is an honors student, and a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society of Leadership and Success. She is currently spearheading efforts to establish Kingsborough’s first CUNY Reconnect Student Association, strengthening advocacy, representation and community for returning adult learners.

Looking ahead, Jenniffer aspires to pursue advanced studies in education policy, social policy, human rights or law, with the goal of reforming educational systems and strengthening protections for students and educators.

“Your past does not define your potential,” she said.“Education gives us the opportunity not only to transform our own lives, but to help transform the lives of others.”



Dominique Laporte ’27

Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation Student Emergency Grant Fund

Major: Tourism and Hospitality

Dominique is a “people person” in all facets of her life. She has worked in customer service at a doctor’s office, a hostess at high-end restaurants, and as a Delta One Lounge ambassador at JFK Airport. Yet despite enjoying a steady career, Dominique recognized that she had the potential to do much more.

“I learned about Kingsborough through the College Discovery Program,” she says, “and I felt at home right away.” Set to graduate in 2027, Dominique has spread her proverbial wings here—not only as a Tourism and Hospitality major, but as a Student Ambassador and a member of the CUNY CD/SEEK Program, which provides leadership workshops and opportunities for CUNY undergraduates.

As she looks to the future, Dominique has all the talent, drive and momentum she needs to enjoy a long and fruitful career in the hospitality industry. She is also deeply grateful for the help she has received along the way, including an emergency grant from the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation.

“Kingsborough has always felt like a safe haven for me, whether it’s walking by the water or just finding some peace and quiet for an hour or two at the College Discovery office. I hope that donors continue to see how hard we work, and how far their contributions go in helping us get to where we need to go.”



Gabriel Subbotin ’27

Major: Criminal Justice

After graduating from high school, Gabriel had plenty of questions about his next steps and overall direction. At Kingsborough, the Bay Ridge native has fortunately found the perfect combination of flexibility, freedom and empowerment—a space to explore his interests without feeling rushed to put himself into any one box. A criminal justice major, Gabriel has channeled his interest in law to achieve academic excellence, but some of his most important accomplishments have happened outside of the classroom.

“Going to Kingsborough completely changed the trajectory of my life,” he says. “Two years ago, I was dreaming of becoming the person I am today.” He is president of KCC’s Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, vice president of the Student Government Association and a Student Ambassador. “I am so grateful to Aba Agolli in Institutional Advancement for inviting me to join the ambassador program. I have met so many other great students through it, and I’ve felt connected to something bigger than my own success.”

Set to graduate next spring, Gabriel hopes to continue his studies at Columbia, University of Pennsylvania or New York University. But no matter where he goes, he will carry with him the confidence and foundation he built at KCC.



Charlie Watson ’28

Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation Student Emergency Grant Fund

Major: Journalism and Print Media

Charlie has no shortage of charisma and entrepreneurial moxie. He’s appeared on PBS Kids, been signed to record labels, interviewed celebrities on red carpets and directed YouTube videos. Yet he is also no stranger to setbacks and adversity.

“For me, grief was debilitating,” Charlie said, reflecting on his sister’s untimely passing. This tragedy set off a volatile period in his life, where Charlie found himself grappling with everything from depression and anxiety to housing insecurity. Fortunately, he is beginning to turn a corner, thanks in large part to his Kingsborough experience. He credits professors like History Professor Jacek Czarnecki, Journalism Professor Patrick Hickey and English Professor Emily Schnee as sources of inspiration, knowledge and mentorship. Charlie has also come into his own as a Journalism and Print Media major.

“I’ve had past experience in this field, but I almost felt like I was ‘faking it before making it,’” he said. “Now I am getting the foundation I need to build a real career.”

He is also grateful to have received an emergency grant earlier this year.“That grant represented far more than financial assistance. It provided me with an opportunity to build upon the stability I have worked so hard to achieve while remaining focused on my academic and professional aspirations,” he said.

OUR DONORS

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The students of Kingsborough Community College gratefully acknowledge the following generous donors for their support of the 19th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser.

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John Mogulescu

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Jules A. Hager Graduation Award

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KCC Foundation Scholarship (FSA)

KCCF Food Insecurity Fund

Lawrence Suss Memorial Award for Excellence in the Department of History, Philosophy and Political Science

Leonard & Louise Riggio Scholarship

Leon M. Goldstein Scholarship Award for Academic Excellence and Community Service

BOLD = New Scholarships for 2025-2026

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A heartfelt thank you and congratulations to Leo Gordon and our friends at the UFT, KCC alumnus Jeff Lindor, KCC board member Joan Bartolomeo and to my mentor, John Mogulescu. I so appreciate you being a part of the college's present and future successes!
Suri Duitch, President
Kingsborough Community College


Education changes lives, opens doors, and strengthens communities. I am proud to support Kingsborough Community College's Annual Scholarship Fundraiser and our students' pursuit of academic excellence, personal growth, and professional success.
Scholarships help ensure that talented and deserving students can focus on achieving their goals and realizing their full potential. I am honored to invest in the future of Brooklyn and beyond.
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Congratulations to John Mogulescu from the board, leadership and students of *Earl Monroe New Renaissance Basketball Charter School!*

CONGRATULATIONS, JOHN, ON THIS WELL DESERVED HONOR. IT WAS A PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH YOU, AND A SPECIAL GIFT TO CALL YOU A FRIEND OVER SO MANY YEARS..

REGINA PERUGGI

It is a privilege to celebrate this year's four outstanding honorees—John Mogulescu, Jeff Lindor, Leo Gordon, and Joan Bartolomeo—whose leadership, service, and commitment to education and community have made a meaningful and lasting impact. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

To our donors, friends, alumni, and supporters: thank you. Your generosity is more than a contribution, it creates opportunities, removes barriers, and reminds our students that there is an entire community invested in their futures.

As Dean of Student Affairs, I have the privilege of seeing every day the determination, resilience, and extraordinary potential of our Kingsborough students and how meaningful it is when a community comes together to believe in them and invest in their success. That spirit of generosity, care, and shared commitment is part of what makes Kingsborough such a special place. I am deeply grateful to everyone who continues to support our students and help them realize what is possible.

Congratulations to our distinguished honorees, and thank you for investing in the success and future of Kingsborough students.

Dr. Natasha L. Edwards
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Thank you for being a part of Kingsborough Community College's *19th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser!*

Tonight is a celebration of you and your fellow donors, without whom none of Kingsborough's success is possible. Since 1963, Kingsborough has served as "Brooklyn's Community College," providing access, excellence and opportunity for our borough's vibrant and diverse community. Thanks to your generosity, our students, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college, are able to overcome the obstacles that stand in their way.

Your support of Kingsborough scholarships transforms lives.

This is a challenging a time for higher education nationwide. And yet, Kingsborough stands firm and continues to chart an ambitious course, ensuring our students have the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to thrive in an ever-changing world. We can point to many reasons for Kingsborough's resilience, **but *your generosity* *is the foundation upon which we stand.***

Tonight, you will meet and hear from **Victor Estes**, **Dominique Laporte**, **Jenniffer Vasquez Felix**, **Gabriel Subbotin**, **Carlyne Enid Torres**, and **Charlie Watson**. All six are remarkable students in their distinctive ways, and we are proud to shine a spotlight on them. Yet they are not here tonight by accident. They are here for, and because, of everything you have done to turn their aspirations into reality.

Kingsborough is not simply our borough's only community college. We are *Brooklyn's* Community College. Thanks to you, we continue be a nationwide leader among our community college peers. Thanks to you, we continue to **Advance Our Students' Dreams**.

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