

BCC STUDENT MELISSA MASSE WINS NEWMAN CIVIC AWARD

She Volunteers to Help Make a Positive Change in the Community

By SEAN WILCOXSON

BCC student Melissa Masse, a Brockton native who has lived in New Bedford for the past 16 years, was awarded the 2012 Newman Civic Fellows Award in April.

The award is given each year to a college student who demonstrates exceptional leadership through volunteering and finding ways to solve problems in the community.

Masse hopes to make a difference in the lives of people around her in the local New Bedford and Fall River areas.

She has volunteered over 550 hours in 2011 to earn the Gold President's National Service Award.

Masse works in the Civic Engagement office, and described Civic Engagement as a way for students to be a positive force in their own community by volunteering their time and energy in a constructive way.

"I work in the Civic Engagement office, and I go out in the community. Everywhere I go I am engaging people. I am engaging you right now!" Masse said.

She also was the one who started the Peace Pole Project, a hand-crafted monument with the message

"May Peace Prevail on Earth" in different languages.

She has joined millions of other volunteers across the world who have made the monument in a community.

Masse's son, 14 year old Thomas, is also involved in volunteering.

He is a freshman at Global Learning Charter Public School in New Bedford.

"He is like my little side-kick, Masse said.

"He has seen the things that I have done, especially when he was volunteering over the summer with Ms. Saunders' Norton Middle School At Risk Youth class," she said.

According to Masse, her son has grown to love volunteer work.

He will be achieving the Gold President's National Service Award, among many other students at BCC who volunteered hundreds of hours and who are honored by bronze, silver, and gold levels.

"There are many places for students to go and do volunteer work. Soup kitchens, the VA. Every town has organizations that could use people services. These organizations run on volunteerism and donations alone." She explained.

"The nice thing about Civic Engagement and Service Learning, some classes require that a student go out into the community and create a project that ties into the course you are taking," said Masse. And I would love to see more students get involved," she said.

Students interested in getting involved with Civic Engagement and volunteering, can log on to www.bristolcc.edu and click on Civic Engagement under the Academics pull down menu or they can visit the Civic Engagement office located upstairs in the G Building.



Pictured left to right Thomas Masse, Melissa and Jim Masse

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photos by Sean Wilcoxson

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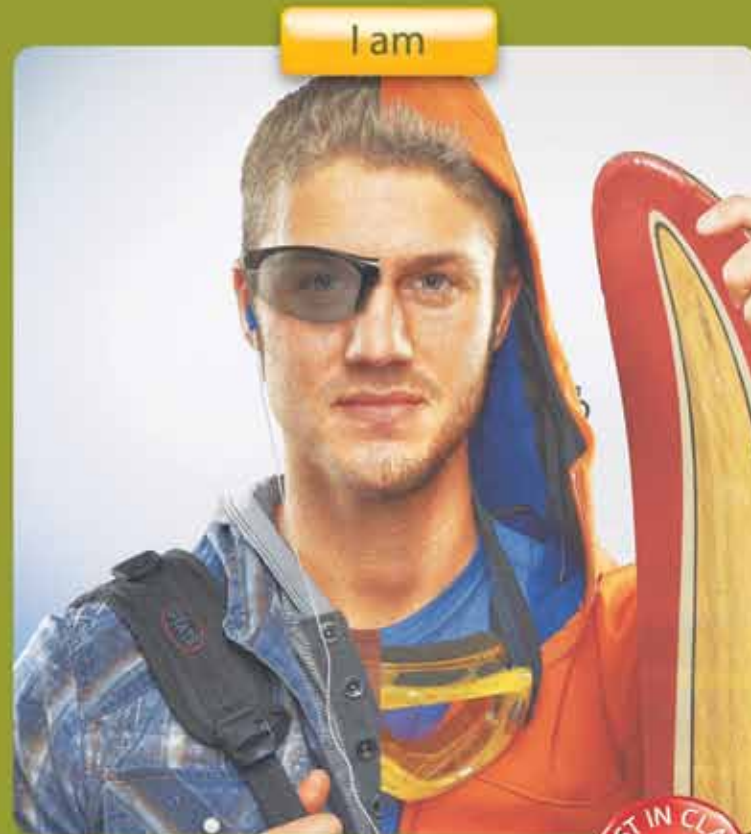
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BCC STUDENT SENATE STAYS ACTIVE IN COLLEGE EVENTS

By SEAN WILCOXSON

The Student Senate, Student Trustees and Student Ambassadors are BCC's leaders of today.

"I am so impressed by this year's Student Senate. I have not seen a group that has done more work than these students," said Steve Ozug, the Vice President of Students and Enrollment Services.

Over the past year, the Student Senate has also put on many fundraisers, events, and rallies.

"We are increasingly utilizing them more and more to be part of the college's governing structure

and having them serve on committees," Ozug said.

"All of it is volunteer. From the people we serve, the better we are. Without them, Bristol Community College would not have a voice, and there would not be community," he said.

Senate members Jeff Robbins, Anne Brum, Joseph Frias, Hunter Parent-Wetmore, John Sayde and Jillian Bzdula each expressed their own reasons for involving themselves in BCC Senate activities.



BCC Students rally to keep community college independence.

PHOTO CREDIT: Kevin Spirlet

"I joined the Senate early October 2011 and since that time was a participant in the process of representing my fellow students with their highest consideration.

I also experienced the logistics, implementation, and administration of various fund-raisers, food, and clothing drives that benefited many of our classmates, their families, and our community."

— Jeff Robbins

"I became involved with the Student Senate in Winter of 2012. I took my first class at the Fall River Campus. I found that the time I spend volunteering and the people I meet, here at BCC, other colleges and the community, enhance the whole education process."

— Anne Brum

"I joined the Student Senate as an interim member for fall 2010 and 2011. I fundraised to help victims of the Hood Street fire and Project Bread's Walk for Hunger. The Student Senate has taught me the importance of service to the community and helped build my skills in organizing public events that I wouldn't have been prepared for without the guidance of other members."

— John Sayde

"I got involved with the Student Senate in the Fall of 2008. I have been involved in many activities on campus such as OxFam Hunger Bread, Giving Tree, and Project Bread Walk for Hunger. As a student with a disability it didn't stop me from getting involved, it actually helped me tremendously with my leadership skills."

— Joseph Frias

"I was appointed as the Attleboro Campus Representative to the Senate in March 2010, and was elected as Public Relations Officer for both the 2010 and 2011 academic years.

Being a member of the Senate has pushed me to excel in all areas of my life, both personal and professional."

— Hunter Parent-Wetmore

"I first got on board the Senate as an interim member for the Spring semester in 2010. Since that time I have been a part of several events sponsored by the Senate like the Giving Tree, OxFam Hunger Banquet, and Project Bread just to name a few.

Being in the Senate has taught me to be more active in terms of advocating for my fellow students as well as making the college more accessible to all especially those who are disabled."

— Jillian Bzdula



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MOVIE REVIEW

THE HUNGER GAMES WILL HAVE YOU HUNGERING FOR MORE

By BRIAN PACHECO



The Hunger Games is one of those rare book-to-movie adaptations that stood true to its source material and did it well.

In 2011, *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* was the great book put to film.

Now, *The Hunger Games* is claiming the number one spot in the box office.

It is even ahead of the remake of *Titanic* and comedies like *21 Jump Street*, but it's not hard to see why.

The film does an excellent job of capturing the strong emotions and sheer brutality of the totalitarian regime imposed by the dystopian future government.

The use of subtle colors in the film,

really gave viewers the gloomy feeling that contributes well to the movie.

The costume design was excellent.

For the most part, the movie sticks to the book's premise very well and while some scenes were rushed to fit in the time frame, nothing too critical was removed that would distract from the film version.

The director, Gary Ross did a great job in choosing what scenes to cut from the film.

Whether you've read the book or not, *The Hunger Games* is one of those rare movies based on a book that can work as a standalone or as a compliment to the trilogy.

The Hunger Games has an excellent set of actors who accurately portrayed the characters in the book well.

I feel if you stick with the movie and give it a chance, and you're not overly critical in making sure it's an exact clone of the book, you'll be in for a treat.

It will spark your interest enough to want to go and read the books.

I highly recommend this film to anyone. I would give it 4 out of 5 stars.

BCC NEWS BRIEFS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS COMPLETE

New Student Trustee Elected

Jason Almeida, an honors student, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a tutor and an Supplemental Instructor has been elected student representative on the Board of Trustees. He is currently enrolled in both the Business Administration Transfer and Communications programs.

In the election for the Student Senate, four members were elected.

Jillian Bzdula was re-elected for another two-year term. She serves as a Student Ambassador and as the student representative on the Disability Concerns committee.

Andrew Kelly was elected. He served as an interim Senate member for the last semester and served as the chairperson of the Senate Constitution Committee.

Douglas Mendes was elected to his first term on the Senate. He is currently enrolled in the Human Services program and is also the president of the BCC Christian Fellowship Club.

Nikia Marie Gaspar, one of the first graduates of the Gateway to College program was elected. She will be enrolled in the General Studies, Health Sciences program in the Fall.

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BCC THEATRE REP PRESENTS: THE SECRET GARDEN

By SEAN WILCOXSON

The opening night of the BCC Theatre Rep's last play of the season on April 27th was spectacular. Directed by Rylan Brenner it was complete with an ensemble, a beautiful stage setting, and a cast of very interesting characters talking in British accents.

The Secret Garden captivated it's audience from the drawing of the curtains to the close.

Before the opening of the play, there was a special showing for hundreds of children from local schools around the Fall River area.

The looks on the kids faces as they left the Jackson Arts building at Bristol Community College was priceless.

Children are a good judge of what is good and what is bad, and they are hard to please. The kids especially loved the beginning of the show with the lights, shadows, and acrobatics.

If you missed the play then you missed a superb performance.

Katelyn Vieira played Mary Lennox and surprised the audience by interacting with them.

Emily Tullock did a great job portraying the crabby Mrs. Medlock.

Lisa Fonseca almost stole the show as the friendly maid Martha Sowerby.

Not to mention the hearty Ben Weatherstaff, played by Jeffrey Griffin, who had everyone laughing.

The Secret Garden was a pleasure to watch.

Other characters such as Archibald Craven played by Brad DeMoura, Nathaniel Rego, Keisha Vazquez, and Daniel SwiftEagleFlight Washington, helped the final show of the season be a memorable one.

One of the supporting characters was a Robin who was a puppet made by David Mello.

Amanda Belle Costa, who was a part of the ensemble, created the bird's voice with a beautiful flute sound.

Composed by Chris Limber, the score accompanied the play perfectly.

BCC Theatre Rep's performance of The Secret Garden deserves five stars!



BCC Theatre Rep has been entertaining audiences for more than 25 years. This scene is from an earlier production.

PHOTO CREDIT: Kevin Spirlet



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CLOTHESLINE PROJECT ADDRESSES ABUSE

By REUBEN RAMAGLIA



Students and staff walking through the lobby of the Commonwealth Center on May 2 were presented with a dramatic display of the effects of violence. Hanging from clotheslines were T-shirts decorated by victims of abuse.

Organized by BCC's Nurse Carol Constantine, the display was part of the Clothesline Project. The program started on Cape Cod, MA, in 1990 to address the issue of violence against

women, men and children.

"It is a vehicle for people affected by violence to express their emotions by decorating a shirt. They then hang the shirt on a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the problem of violence against them. With the support of many, it has since spread worldwide," the event announcement noted.

The display provided the victims with a therapeutic way to speak out about their abuse by decorating their very own T-shirt and having a chance to speak out. But for the many people who walked through the lobby, it was a striking visual demonstration of how many people are affected by violence and just how painful it is.



KNOW THE SIGNS OF ABUSE

Abuse is an action in which the man or woman in a relationship, or parent of a child, or anyone, physically harms an innocent person.

Here are some signs of abuse and how we can help someone who is struggling with abuse:

Do You:

- Feel afraid much of the time
- Avoid certain topics out of fear of angering another person
- Feel that you can't do anything right
- Believe that you deserve to be hurt or mistreated

Does someone in your life:

- Humiliate or yell at you
- Blame you for their abusive
- Have a bad and unpredictable temper

- Hurt/threaten to hurt or kill you
- Control where you go or what you do
- Limit your access to money, the phone or the car.

These are just some of many other signs of abuse. But there are also many organizations that can help with this epidemic in our society.

For help, contact:

- SSTAR, which is a 24 hour hotline : (508) 675 - 0087 or (508) 679 - 5222
- Our Sister's Place, 24 hour hotline: (508) 677-0224
- The Women's Center, 24 hour hotline: 1 888 839 6636
- Youth Trauma Program, at St. Anne's Hospital: (508) 674 - 5600 ext. 2283
- Department of Children & Families: 1 (800) 792 - 5200

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BCC NEWS BRIEF

BCC STUDENTS BRING HOME THE GOLD

Culinary Arts Students Win Seven Medals

BCC Culinary Arts students brought back four gold medals in the April 2012 Massachusetts SkillsUSA competition.

BCC students also brought home three silver medals.

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations.



THE FOUR GOLD MEDALISTS INCLUDE:



Brittany Conley
for commercial baking

Maria Campos
for culinary arts

Kristen David
for food and beverage service

Jessica Masse
for job skills demo open competition.

THE THREE SILVER MEDALISTS INCLUDE:



Brandon Hamilton
for commercial baking

Rhonda Wheaton
for food and beverage service

Lia Wright
for job skills demo A.

The four Gold Medalists will be competing in Kansas City, June 23-28th against all the Postsecondary Gold Medalist across the country.

“We are so proud of the dedication and professionalism,” said Gloria M Cabral, Associate Professor of Baking and Pastry Arts at BCC. “We would like to thank everyone and BCC for all your support,” she said.

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