Communitas

MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

January 7, 2008

Just in time for the January Thaw... Warm up the Workplace with Frank Pastizzo!

MVCC will welcome nationally renowned speaker Frank Pastizzo to the Utica Campus to kick off the Spring Semester for faculty and staff. Through his company, Warm Up The Workplace, Inc., Pastizzo has been presenting workshops throughout the country on the benefits of creating and maintaining friendly and productive work environments. Pastizzo utilizes comedy, theater, music, and storytelling to enhance his message.

Pastizzo

Pastizzo's presentations at MVCC grew out of a recommendation from the College's Staff Development Committee to host an expert like Pastizzo to help foster and further strengthen workplace unity.

In order for everyone to have an opportunity to hear this dynamic presentation, there will be two sessions held in the College Theatre.

This will allow offices and departments to maintain adequate staffing while employees attend the sessions.

The sessions will be:

Wednesday, January 16th – 1:30-4:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 17th – 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Dr. VanWagoner will open both sessions with his remarks and a College update prior to introducing Mr. Pastizzo.

Some of the topics Pastizzo will cover include a spirit of service to others and diversity along with insights on creating a positive and engaging workplace. His programs are tailored to helping individuals and work teams appreciate each other's skills and points of view, promoting cooperation and productivity. The outcome is more tolerant, supportive, goal-oriented organizations and environments.

Attendance is expected for all full-time faculty and staff, so each office and department should coordinate office coverage and attendance for each session. We look forward to seeing you at one of the sessions to get the spring semester off to a great start!

New emergency alert system

From Ralph Feola
Vice President for Administrative Services

MVCC's campus safety enhancement initiative includes the installation of a new mass notification system for the Utica campus. On Thursday, January 10, at 10:00 a.m., we plan on conducting two tests of the new emergency alert/mass notification system for the first time.

This mass notification system has two components; a siren which will sound only in the event of a serious emergency and a voice component capable of broadcasting a pre-recorded message and/or instructions. Because of the size of the Utica campus, and because of the significant soundproofing offered by our buildings and dormitories, the siren is very loud. Our installation team has indicated that the sound of the siren can be heard over a half-mile radius – which is why testing the siren is very important.

Not only do we want you to be prepared for the sound of the siren tomorrow at 10 a.m., but we are asking for your help in evaluating the impact of the siren as a notification system – we will be placing staff at various points throughout the campus just prior to the test to ensure that the siren can be heard easily. However, if you are working in a more remote area of the campus, such as the basement of any building, or in a facility on the peripheral area of the campus, it is vital that you let us know if you experience difficulty hearing the siren or messages during the test. Please notify me at extension 5445 or via email if you don't hear the siren during the test, or if the sound is muffled or indistinguishable.

Siren on Information Technology Building

Thank you for your help and for all you do to make our campuses a safe place for all who visit.

Spring Cultural Series offers great entertainment

Once again, the Spring Cultural Series brings diverse entertainment to Central New York.

Among the Cultural Series highlights are the Rhythm and Blues Weekend, kicked off by national recording artist Raul Midon. Topping off the weekend's musical performances will be Utica native and national recording artist Angela Johnson. Johnson's music has been featured on such television soundtracks as "Kevin Hill," "The Shield" and "Roswell."

Back by popular demand is the Acoustic Café which showcases regional talent in a relaxing atmosphere styled after a New York City coffee house café. Music fans will also be able to jam to a Southern Rock performance by The Fulton Chain Gang or listen to The Fab Five featuring the greatest hits of the Beatles.

The MVCC Theater Program and Drama Club brings the dead back to life in the Broadway stage production of Dracula. Other stage performances will leave audiences mystified by the mental powers of illusionist Wayne Hoffman or invigorated by the words of Reggae poet Linton Kwesi Johnson.

The Rome Campus makes family entertainment available with the Family Fun Series that includes a magic show and a presentation by the Fort Rickey Children's Discovery Zoo. The Rome Historical Society has compiled a whole new series for the History of Rome Lectures.

All events are open to the public. Events are free except where noted. Advance tickets can be purchased in the MVCC Bookstore on both the Utica and Rome campuses.

Spring Cultural Series events on the Utica Campus:

• January 24 – Recital: Pianist Stephen Pikarsky, 12:30 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• January 24 – Movie: The Host, Rated R, 7:00 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• January 25 – Performance: Wayne Hoffman, Mentalist & Illusionist, 7:00 p.m., Theater (Free, but call 792-5391 to reserve your seat)

Illusionist Wayne Hoffman

• January 26 – Concert: Raul Midon, 8:00 p.m., Theatre ($5 general, $2 w/any college ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• January 27 – Michael Harris Scholarship Benefit Concert: National R&B Recording Artist Angela Johnson, 4:00 p.m., Theatre ($25 General, $15 w/Student ID)

• January 29 - Acoustic Café Performance: Leonard James, 7:00 p.m., Room 116, Alumni College Center (Free)

• February 12 - Acoustic Café Performance: Caleb Hawley and Joe Sweet, 7:00 p.m., Room 116, Alumni College Center (Free)

• February 13 – Lecture: Sport and Racism by Dr. Lee A. McElroy Jr., 1:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building (Free)

• February 19 – Lecture: Cartoonist Frank Page, 3:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building (Free)

• February 28-March 1 – Stage Performance: Dracula, 8:00 p.m. (Matinee Friday @ 10:00 a.m.), Theatre, An MVCC Theater Program/Drama Club Production directed by Paul Cruskie, ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• March 4 – Recital: Pianist Joel Fan - World Keys, 12:30 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• March 4 – Movie: The Kingdom, Rated R, 7:00 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• March 5 – Comedy: Kelly Taylor and Steve Hofstetter, 7:00 p.m., Theatre, Sponsored by the MVCC Program Board (Free, mature content)

• March 6 – Lecture: Discovering Gustav Mahler - The Man and His Music by Dr. Richard Somer, 2:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building (Free)

• March 7 – Concert: The Fulton Chain Gang, 8:00 p.m., Theatre, ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• March 18 - Acoustic Café Performance: Rocky Graz and

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Jana Losey, 7:00 p.m., Room 116, Alumni College Center (Free)

• March 21 – Concert: The Fab Five - Greatest Hits of the Beatles and British Invasion, 8:00 p.m., Theatre ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• March 24 – Movie: Tron, Rated PG, 7:00 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• March 25 – Concert: Jabali Afrika, 8:00 p.m., Theatre ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• March 26 – International Festival: Celebrating Our International Heritages, 12:00 p.m., Information Technology Building (Free)

• March 26 – Performance: The Showoff Show, 7:00 p.m., Theatre, Sponsored by the MVCC Program Board (Free)

• March 28 – Concert: Sirsy - Fiery, Soulful, Indie Pop That Rocks, 8:00 p.m., Theatre, ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• March 31 - Movie: Linda, Linda, Linda, Not Rated, 7:00 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• April 1 – Lecture: Racial Betrayal or Selling Out by author Randall Kennedy, 7:00 p.m., Theatre, Sponsored by the MVCC Foundation/Black Student Union (Free)

• April 1 – Exhibit Reception: Visualizing Culture, 12:00 p.m., Lobby of Information Technology Building (Free)

• April 2 – Performance: Asia – Spoken Word, 7:00 p.m., Theatre, Sponsored by the MVCC Program Board (Free)

• April 3 – Lecture: Technology and Your World by Dr. David McLain, 1:00 p.m., Room 116, Alumni College Center (Free)

• April 8 – Concert: Acoustic Café Performance: Justin Smithson, 7:00 p.m., Room 116, Alumni College Center (Free)

• April 10 – Poetry Reading: Reggae poet Linton Kwesi Johnson, 2:00 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• April 18 – Performance: Faculty Poetry Reading, 7:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building (Free)

• April 22 – Concert: Acoustic Café Performance: Woodenspoon, 7:00 p.m., Room 116, Alumni College Center (Free)

• April 23 – Exhibit/Lecture: Art Farm, 3:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building (Free)

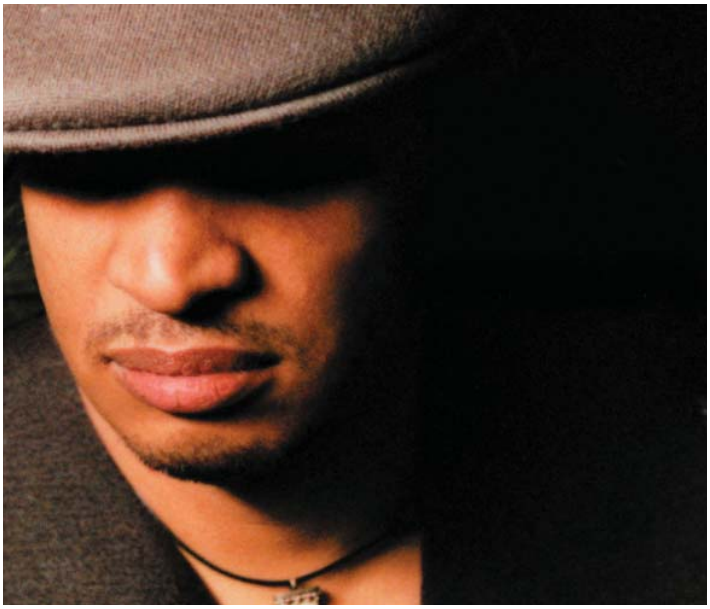
• April 24–26 – Stage Performance: Crimes of the Heart, 8:00 p.m. (Matinee Friday @ 10:00 a.m.), Theatre, an MVCC Theater Program/Drama Club Production directed by Ron Medici, ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• April 29 – Concert: The Jimmy Wolf Band, 8:00 p.m., Theatre ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• April 30 – Concert: Harp and Harmony - A Convenient Hope, 2:00 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• May 5 – Movie: Evita, Rated PG, 7:00 p.m., Theatre (Free)

• May 2 – Lecture: The Psychology of Investing - How to Design an Investment Plan by financial consultant Luther Conant, 2:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building (Free)



SINGING THE BLUES - National recording artist Raul Midon will be among headline performers in the College's Rhythm and Blues Weekend. Also performing will be Utica native Angela Johnson.

Johnson

• May 6 – Concert: Acoustic Café Performance: Open Mic Night, 7:00 p.m., Room 116, Alumni College Center (Free)

• May 7 – Concert: Fooling April, 7:00 p.m., Theatre, Sponsored by the MVCC Program Board (Free)

• June 21 – Exhibit: Art on the Run – The Track Party Unveiling, 10:00 a.m., MVCC Track (Free)

Spring Cultural Series events on the Rome Campus:

• February 1 – Performance: Kevin Hurley, Hypnotist, 7:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium, ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID)

• February 9 – Family Fun Series: Children's Magic Show by Shaun Robinson, 12:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium (Free)

• February 13 – Dinners with Distinction, 5:45 p.m., Rome Hospitality Dining Room ($19.00, reservations required at 334-7702)

• February 26 – Performance: Survey of American Jazz, 8:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium ($5 General, $2 w/any College ID, Free w/MVCC ID and for children under 12)

• March 1 – Family Fun Series: Fort Rickey Children's Discovery Zoo, 12:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium (Free)

• March 12 - History of Rome Lecture Series: Historical Significance of Fort Stanwix, 7:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium (Free)

• April 5 – Performance: In Search of Baba Yaga by Open Hand Theater of Syracuse, 12:00 p.m. Plumley Complex Auditorium (Free)

• April 8 – Lecture: The Oneida Indian Nation - Partners in Peace, Allies in War, 7:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Audito-

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rium (Free)

• April 16 – Dinners with Distinction - The Last Dinner on the Titanic, 5:45 p.m., Rome Hospitality Dining Room ($45.00, reservations required at 334-7702)

• April 17 - History of Rome Lecture Series: Influential People of Rome, 7:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium (Free)

• May 3 – Performance: Masks of Life by Open Hand Theater of Syracuse, 12:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium (Free)

• May 7 - History of Rome Lecture Series: The History of Griffiss by Joe Kelly, 7:00 p.m., Plumley Complex Auditorium (Free)

• May 7 - Dinners with Distinction, 5:45 p.m., Rome Hospitality Dining Room ($19.00, reservations required at 334-7702)

Small Works Gallery Exhibition and Lecture Series

• Department of Art Faculty Select Student Show: January 22–February 21 with reception on January 30 @ 3:00 p.m.

• The Lyre and The Line Exhibit: February 26–March 27 with reception on February 27 @ 3:00 p.m.

• Sculpture Space Artist Lecture, March 5 at 3:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building

• Tom Mazzullo Figures Exhibition: April 1-May 8 with reception April 1 at 2:00 p.m.

• Art Farm Exhibition/Lecture: April 23 at 3:00 p.m., Room 225, Information Technology Building

• Summer Institute Showcase: Opens the week of May 12.

The Small Works Gallery is located on the second floor of the Information Technology and Performing Arts Conference Center on the Utica campus of Mohawk Valley Community College, 1101 Sherman Drive. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 1:00-6:00 p.m. and Thursdays until 7:00 p.m.

MVCC Library workshops

The MVCC Libraries present a series of workshops for faculty, adjuncts, and staff, to bring them up to speed on the latest developments in online resources and their uses.

What's New in Databases?

Thursday, January 17, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Find out the latest developments in our online databases—new features, new databases, and trial databases. Hands-on exercises will be included.

Web 2.0/Library 2.0

Friday, January 18, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Find out how the latest developments in the Internet will affect the library. Participants will create their own del.icio.us and Goodreads accounts, and will work on a wiki. Web 2.0/Library 2.0 isn't coming—it's HERE!

The Hidden Internet

Friday, January 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Find out how to "mine" the Internet for data that search engines like Google can't get to. You won't believe what you can get into if you know where to look! Hands-on exercises included.

MVCC Faces: Shakia Walton

While Old Man Winter takes a break with the recent warm trend, the staff in the Center for Community and Economic Development has been exceptionally busy filling classes for the Spring semester.

Recently joining the CCED staff is Shakia J. Walton, who is a Data Processing Clerk.

Walton is responsible for taking class registrations over the telephone along with updating databases for the department. Her duties also feature creating certificates and keeping track of student enrollment.

A native of Harlem and resident in Utica for the past 13 years, Walton came to CCED from StaffWorks. She worked eight months in CCED under StaffWorks before becoming an MVCC employees in November.

She is currently working on a degree in Early Childhood Education Major at Herkimer CCC.

Some of her goals working in CCED are to maintain and help improve office stability while bringing a better form of file management to the different programs.

When not at work, she enjoys being home with her six-year-old son Cordel who is a first grader at H.R. Jones School, and 16-month-old son Cordel, who attends the Head Start Program at Mohawk Valley Community Action. Her hobbies include making name plaques, playing with her cat Roxie and new puppy Halo.