

Special points of interest:

- Reflections on the Honors Program
- Dominic Carter at York College
- New Journalism Program
- Aviation Institute A Hit
- President goes to Washington
- Three Mo' Tenors
- FDA Partnership

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President Keizs Honored by *Feminist Press*

On the evening of November 5th, York College President, Dr. Marcia V. Keizs along with her seven sister CUNY presidents and deans, were honored by *The Feminist Press*, a CUNY-based publisher specializing in publishing and promoting the writings of women around the world, honored the presidents "for dedication and service" to the City University of New York.

Billed "Women Write the World," the evening's festivities, which boasted actresses Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin as co-chairs, also honored singer-



President Keizs (3rd from the left) and fellow honorees at the recent *Feminist Press* celebration. At the podium, CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein.

songwriter, Cyndi Lauper and playwright Eve Ensler.

Each of the University's eight presidents and deans was given the Sue Rosenberg Zalk Award – so named in honor of the late CUNY professor and administrator.

Cont.'d on p. 7

Honors Science Major Wins Scholarship

Kisha Ali, a Chemistry major and first-year Honors Program student has won the prestigious Belle Zeller scholarship. This scholarship is awarded for academic

achievement and community service.

Ali wishes to thank Professors Jong-Il Lee and Euclid Rose for their assistance.

Cont.'d on p.7

Improving the Honors Program

Honors Program Director William (Bill) Ashton attended the 2007 National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) conference in Denver during November at the urging of Provost Ivelaw Griffith, as part of efforts to transform the Honors Program.

Bill attended many sessions that were useful in networking with other program directors and learning about different approaches to Honors. These included sessions on beginning honors programs, developing honors programs at small colleges, non-traditional students in honors, City as Text[®], developing critical thinking among honors students, and enhancing community among honor students.

He also attended the Small College Committee meeting and the Northwest Regional Committee meeting. Bill volunteered, and was accepted, to join the editorial board of the Journal of the NCHC, and he offered to work with members of the small college group to present papers at next year's conference.

These projects will offer the opportunity to involve York Honors students in the preparation and presentation of papers, a part of Provost Griffith's vision for the expansion of Honors and the enhancement of the College's recruitment and retention.

"The administrative portion of the conference was

opening courses that carry GE credit would make it easier for Honors students to plan their courses. The natural way to do this would be to develop honor sections of the GE intro courses. Once you start thinking about this, you realize that such a program would also attract faculty and improve the sense of community among Honors students."

As for plans for the York Honors Program, Bill said that he developed many exciting ideas while at the conference. He is currently discussing the implementation of some of them with

faculty and staff colleagues, and preparing a three-year strategic plan at request of Provost Griffith. The Provost envisages a strategic plan covering curriculum, pedagogy, recruitment, student research, Honors faculty development, development of student and faculty community, and Honors financing. The report is expected to be ready for next spring. Meanwhile, the Provost has provided Honors with a small operating budget.



Student poster session at NCHC conference in Denver

really only half of what was going on," Bill elaborated. "Over one-half of the participants were undergraduate students. They were presenting papers to other students and to faculty." He reported, "I think that we have set up unnecessary hindrances by separating the Honors courses from the general education courses. Many other programs offer Honors courses that carry GE credit. Devel-



Popular Journalist Tells York Students “No Excuses”

York College students, faculty and staff were all perched on the edge of their seats during the recent book presentation and discussion by cable-TV host, Dominic Carter, who has written a deeply personal account of the abuse he suffered growing up the son of a mother suffering from paranoid schizophrenia.

The NY1 political journalist came to York on November 5th with his message of hope for students who may be faced with a litany of obstacles to their education and indeed, their very future. But, according to Carter, there are “no excuses” good enough for failure.



Guest speaker Dominic Carter and President Marcia Keizs

Carter reveals in the book, *No Momma’s Boy*, and reiterated it to his York audience that in addition to the beatings and impulses “to strangle,” and “to throw him off a building,” Carter’s mother, Lavern, committed another unthinkable act against him when he was a child.

“When I was only seven years old my mother sexually abused me,” Carter told the packed lecture hall. “Yes, my mother sexually abused me. A mother is supposed to provide a place of protection. But you can’t change yesterday. But you can change the future.”

Equating the drive necessary for success with the force of a locomotive, Carter explained to students

that nothing should stand in their way of success.

“How bad[ly] do you want it?” he asked one student identifying herself only as “Lisa.”

“Real bad,” she responded.

“What are you willing to do to get it?” Carter pried.

“Whatever it takes,” was the self-confident reply.

Carter then engaged two additional students in this way, making sure to emphasize that he did not mean anything illegal; and proceeded to explain that success—including the completion of their York College degrees—is like the persistence of a train.

“A train cannot be stopped,” he explained, mimicking with his mouth the sound of a train rolling down the tracks. “A train is a huge force. A train cannot be stopped. I was abused, I had no father, I was on welfare, but you *can* program yourself to success.”

Carter also explained that an aunt programmed him for the success he is now enjoying with her consistent response of “... but you’re going to college,” to even his most banal inquisition.

The married father of two teenagers also admonished the young people in the audience to avoid handy crutches, such as racism, as reason for failure.

“Don’t ever hide behind race,” he told them. “The question is how to get around it.”

He also took on the vexing issue of reckless procreation.

“[That’s] ‘my baby daddy,’ is not cute!” he insisted. “And young men, you have to be responsible. You can’t just go around getting babies.”

Carter went on to talk about the humbling document that is his birth certificate. He explained that in the areas of his birth certificate where the father’s information should be there is just a blank spot.

“That’s all my father is to me,” said the veteran journalist of the father he barely knew. “... A huge blank.”

Upon completion of the program Carter who was accompanied by his wife, Marilyn, signed copies of the book and took time to engage every student who wanted a private moment with him in the midst of the deluge.



Academic Affairs Mission Statement

The Mission of the Division of Academic Affairs is to foster an engaging and effective educational environment that promotes the pursuit of outstanding teaching and learning; research, scholarship, and other creative endeavors; and service. This Mission attaches importance to **Excellence, Integrity, and Respect** as institutional values and to **Accountability, Collaboration, and Continuous Improvement** as key operating principles for students, faculty, and staff. Further, this Mission is pursued in the context of the Vision and Mission of York College and The City University of New York, and is conscious of the need to be responsive to the changing realities of our Borough, City, State, Nation, and Global Society.

We're on the move With Journalism

Monday, November 26, 2007 represented another milestone in York College's Journey of Excellence, central to which is the pursuit of new academic programs and the establishment of new thresholds for excellence in teaching, research, and service. On that day the City University of New York Board of Trustees approved the BA in Journalism. Board approval is not the final stage in the degree approval process; State approval remains.

The Journalism program, to be directed by

Professor Glenn Lewis, will be launched in Fall 2008 and will be housed in the Department of English, which is led by Professor Valerie Anderson. In announcing the Board approval to the college community, Provost Ivelaw Griffith noted, "Much remains to be done as we prepare for implementation of the Journalism degree next Fall, and we will have the appropriate formal announcement and celebration next Spring. For now, let us take pride in this 'stage setter' for a new set of degree programs."



York's Aviation Institute A Hit With Students

Students at the CUNY Aviation Institute at York College are universally singing the praises of the one year-old program. At a recent lunch where they were feted by **Jerald Posman**, Chief Operating Officer and VP of Administrative Affairs, and former Institute director, **Michel Hodge**, the group of freshmen, sophomore and juniors expressed delight in their decision to come to York to pursue their degrees in Aviation Management.

"It is a great experience; I didn't expect it to be like this," said **Salvador Saravia**, a freshman who was part of a trip the college took the students on to an Atlanta [aviation] convention. "My high school (Aviation High) said it was a new program and it would be different. It's great! Before I used to think that Aviation was just commercial but I've found out it's not. Even McDonald's has an airline."



Salvador Saravia (r.) and the Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety for the Federal Aviation Administration.

For upper sophomore, **Arlington Aquebor**, who comes to York from another college and from the U.S. Navy where he racked up flight hours, it's not just the academics that make the York program stand out; it is also the individualized attention he's receiving. For this student who hopes to become an airport manager, it makes perfect sense to be at York.

"Compared to other schools it's the most affordable," he said. "And they pay a lot of attention to students here. You're getting more for your money – way more; and more opportunities ... you get to go to conferences ... it's a no-brainer [to be at York]."

Wendy Manna is a graduate of August Martin High School (in Rochdale) which has an aviation component. She is a sophomore with 18 hours of flight time under her belt. She wants to open her own flight school some day.

"I love the program," said Manna. "[I] just love the opportunity to go places! I went to (Hartford) Connecticut for the AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots) Convention where most of the industry people were there introducing the new planes, engines, etc."

Freshman **Rachel Rampersad** flew a plane at 15 and was bitten by the flying bug. A problem was that her family could not afford the high cost of their daughter's high flying ambition, so she was never able to repeat the experience – until she got to York that is.

"I love the program," said the former College Now participant at York during her last year of high school. "I went to AOPA and to the Cradle of Aviation ..."

"I love this program, **Faiza Parveen** says of



Rachel Rampersad getting ready to take off on a flight lesson at Farmingdale Airport as part of the Flight Familiarization Program (FFP).

her Aviation Management major at York. "As a senior in high school (Hillcrest), I was planning to go to Farmingdale but this is nearer and I get flight lessons free, I couldn't believe it."

Cont.'d on p.6

York's Aviation Institute A Hit With Students

Cont.' from p.5

Upon graduation, Parveen, a freshman, plans to return to her native Pakistan to utilize the skills she is honing at York.



(L.-r.): Veronica Carpio, Mark Tepper (FAA), Jenny Chimbo, Brenda Pitts (FAA) during an FAA inspection of a JetBlue Airways jet during their internship with the FAA.

Veronica Carpio and Jenny Chimbo, both sophomore christened the Aviation Institute when it launched last year. As friends from high school, the young women came to York together with plans to major in the college's newest program and where you see one the other is never far behind.

"I've experienced three parts of the industry," said Carpio. "We get to see the flight side of companies, the business side and the public sector side. [The program] allows me to see the industry from three points of view. By my mid-20's I want to be working for the FAA to regulate the industry."

For **Jenny Chimbo** one of the best aspects of the program is the opportunities it provides for off-campus networking.

"Networking is great at the conventions," said Chimbo. "I met [an] employment counselor (at one event). I met the CEO of Atlas

Airlines a cargo carrier. He told us that by the time we're in our mid-20s we should be in management. They are major in the cargo industry. The people we meet tell us [about] their career paths. There are so many opportunities in this industry. I get all their cards and they tell us 'when you're ready, call us'."

The aspiring aviation hot shot also loves the access her York training provides. "We get to go even on the Tarmac and drive right up to a plane," she said, eyes dancing at the memory.

According to Chimbo the Aviation Institute at York College gives students a three dimensional experience in preparation for their future roles in the industry.

"We're getting hands-on experience," said Chimbo of experiencing all aspects of the industry while still a student. "There are so many [current] managers who've never flown."



Faiza Parveen, Wendy Manna, and Dheeraj Jumani (l.-r.) pose in front of a helicopter as they wait for their turns to fly with the FFP.

The CUNY Aviation Institute at York College was developed with the expressed purpose of providing the industry with graduates trained on up-to-the-minute 21st technology and ideas.



YORK COLLEGE IS CUNY

York Faculty Book Featured on H-Net

On November 27, the H-Diplo website (<http://www.h-net.org/~diplo/>), part of the larger H-Net web community held an online roundtable discussion of the book entitled *Holding the Line: Race, Racism, and American Foreign Policy toward Africa, 1953-1961* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2005), by Dr. George White, Assistant Professor, Department of History and Philosophy.



Honors Science Major Wins Scholarship

Cont.'d from p.1

“I found out about the scholarship on a Friday and the application was due the next Monday. Drs. Lee and Rose wrote letters of support for me over the weekend,” Ali said. “Drs. Lee and Rose are just two examples of the many York faculty members who go out of their way to help students learn and succeed.”



Kisha Ali

The Belle Zeller Scholarships are awarded to full-time undergraduate students carrying at least 12 credits and completing at least 16 credits with a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or better at any CUNY college. Good character and significant service to CUNY, the community, and/or their respective CUNY college are also required.

President Keizs Honored by *Feminist Press*

Cont.'d from p.1

“The Feminist Press’ dedication to the promotion of women’s voices from around the world makes this an award of singular value to me, a woman who came from Jamaica where local women writers were few, if not unheard of, during my school days,” said President Keizs. “Today, thanks to your prescience, women who have grit have a

place where they can be heard, promoted and appreciated. And that is no small gift.”

Among the York College faculty in attendance at the Tavern on the Green event were, Dr. Shirley Ostholm-Hinau, from the Department of Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Gila Acker, Chair of the Department of Social Sciences, Dr. Lindamichelle Baron from the Department of Teacher Education, Dr. Laura Fishman from the Department of History and Philosophy; and Dr. Margaret Ballantyne, Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages, ESL and Humanities.

President Goes to Washington

President Marcia V. Keizs traveled to Washington, DC, on October 24th, to meet with Federal officials regarding additional funding for York College. During the day long series of meetings, President Keizs met with Thomas Dawson, III, Deputy Secretary for Higher Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, Congressman Gregory Meeks, and staff assigned to the United States Senate Appropriations Committee. The President also received a Federal legislative and budget update by H. Stewart Van Scoyoc, President and CEO of Van Scoyoc Associates, Inc., Washington, DC's largest independent government affairs group.

The day on Capitol Hill was concluded with a reception for New York's Congressional Delegation hosted by CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein and CUNY College Presidents.

President Keizs was joined on the intense one-day trip by Gerald Reynolds, Chairman of the United States Commission on Civil Rights (York College Class of 1981) and Earl Simons, Assistant to the President for Institutional Advancement. The President's Capitol Hill engagement is part of her increased "external relations" activities,

designed to enhance the College's marketing and fund raising.



L-r.: President Edison Jackson, Medgar Evers College/CUNY, Congressman Charles Rangel, Congressman Jerrold Nadler, Congressman Edolphus "Ed" Towns, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke and President Marcia V. Keizs, York College/CUNY.



One Dream.

Many Realities.



Fiona Smith
2005 Graduate,
Jonas Salk
Scholar,
attending Penn
State Medical
College.



Max H. Saenz
2006
Graduate,
Honorary
Jonas Salk
Scholar,
attending
University of
Virginia
Medical
School.



Yisa Rumala
2006
Graduate,
Recipient of
NSF
Graduate
Reserarch
Fellowship,
Ph.D.
Program at
the
University of
Michigan.



Angela
Hopkinson
2007
Graduate,
Jonas Salk
Scholar,
attending the
University of
Michigan.



Jocelyn Chan
Class of 2009,
FDA Merit
Scholar,
Chemistry
Major
with plans for
medical school.

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Tickets: \$1,500 (2 for \$2,500)
\$500
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Pre-Concert Reception: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.
(special ticket purchase required)

Post-Concert VIP Reception with Three Mo' Tenors
(special ticket purchase required)

York College Performing Arts Center
94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd., Jamaica, New York

Department of Performing and Fine Arts Events

MUSIC

Jazz Workshop Fall Concert
Saturday, December 15 at
7:30PM in the Little Theatre

York College Winter Gala
Excerpts from the Messiah,
Four Seasons, and The Holiday
Cantata Sunday, December 16
at 3:00PM in the Little Theatre

Blue Notes Fall Concert
Saturday, December 22 at
7:30PM in the Little Theatre

ART

Student Juried Art Show Opening
Thursday, December 6 at noon
Fine Arts Gallery (1B01)

THEATER

*Harlem Speakeasy: An Evening
of Jazz and Poetry* (Free Ad-
mission)
Friday, December 7 at 4:00PM
in the Little Theatre
Saturday, December 8 at
8:00PM in the Little Theatre

Portfolios due date

First re-appointment faculty in the English Department are asked to hand in first draft portfolios to the Chair's office on December 14.

The college-wide due date for all other first re-appointment portfolios is January 17.



The York College Blue Notes



York College

***“We are
what we
repeatedly
do.
Excellence,
then, is
not an
act, but a
habit.”***

Aristotle

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[http://york.cuny.edu/
academic-affairs](http://york.cuny.edu/academic-affairs)

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) recently presented two guest speakers. On October 19, 2007, Dr. Joseph Gonzalez, director of the Living Learning Center & Professor of History at Appalachian State University, presented a talk entitled “Connecting Academic & Experiential Learning.”



Dr. Joseph Gonzalez

Dr. Gonzalez became acquainted with the concepts of active learning and experiential education while serving as a teaching consultant at Michigan’s Center for Research on Learning and Teaching. From 2000 to 2005, he taught a course on the Civil Rights movement that combined an academic class with a one-week research trip through the South. Since joining the faculty of Appalachian State University, he has continued to experiment with experiential learning in cooperation with his colleagues at Watauga College, and interdisciplinary residential learning program, and the Honors College. Dr. Gonzalez has published articles about pedagogy in *The Journal of American History* and *About Campus*.

On November 16, 2007, Dr. Sonia Gonsalves, Director, Institute for Faculty Development &

Professor of Psychology at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, spoke about “Learner Centered teaching in the Millennial Age: A Focus on Prior Knowledge.”



Dr. Sonia Gonsalves

Dr. Gonsalves is Professor of Psychology at the Richard Stockton College, where she has also directed the Institute for Faculty Development and serves as Faculty Assessment Coordinator. Dr. Gonsalves is an active member of the Association for American Colleges and Universities and has presented at several national higher education conferences. She is also a regular workshop presenter for the New Jersey Project consortium and is the principal investigator of a three-year grant for diversity and inclusiveness in New Jersey Colleges. Much of her scholarship is directly related to pedagogy and learning, and she has published articles about student learning in *College Student Journal* and *College Teaching*.

Both speakers faced an attentive audience and had to answer numerous questions in the Q&A period following their presentations.



York College and Thurgood Marshall College Fund

Fifteen York College students recently participated in the Thurgood Marshall College Fund's 7th Annual Leadership Institute Recruitment Conference. The informative and intensive four-day conference, which took place in early November, was held at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers.

With over 500 students from colleges and universities from across the country and the U.S. Virgin Islands, York's students participated in workshops, panel discussions, special receptions and events that focused on providing the latest tools and technologies as they prepare to enter today's competitive global marketplace. During the conference, students also interviewed with recruiters and executives from major corporations for internships

and full-time jobs.

The conference was concluded with the TMCF 20th Annual Awards Dinner (black-tie) which raised \$3.8 million for the organization's scholarships and programs at 47 member schools in 22 states. The York College Administrators and students who attended were: Provost Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, Earl Simons, Assistant to the President for Institutional Advancement; and Randy Punter, Senior Career Opportunity Specialist, Keisha Ford, Julo Conte, Mandisa Leblanc, Tyrell Peebles, Arlene Best, Anna Baptiste, Naomi DeVore, Shu Wang, Adam Gecker, Ophelia Rivas, Mohammad Uddin, Liz Marsh, Marissa McGlashan, Jahi Rose; and Gabriella Dela Rosa.



Standing (l.-r.): Marissa McGlashan, Liz Marsh, Arlene Best, Anna Baptiste, Keisha Ford. Bottom (l.-r.): Randy Punter, Julo Conte, Mohammad Uddin.

Internships at the U.S. FDA Northeast Regional Laboratory

A Unique Opportunity for York College Students

The proximity of the U.S. FDA Northeast Regional Laboratory to York College offers students a unique opportunity to engage in joint collaborative activities. Because of a special arrangement, only York College students are able to take advantage of internships at the U.S. FDA Regional Laboratory. These internships provide an excellent opportunity to obtain hands-on experience. Internship opportunities are available both for students in scientific disciplines and for non-science majors.

Our Mission

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is a pivotal resource in the health of our nation. Promoting an interest in science and the health enterprise is significant to the missions of both the U.S. FDA and York College (CUNY). Both organizations have a vested interest in improving the quality of- and access to- scientific research training for minorities, women, and other populations traditionally underrepresented in the scientific and health fields.

To help meet future demands for qualified scientists and health professionals, York College and the FDA have assumed a lead position by becoming more effective in attracting and advancing targeted groups relevant to this mission.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of the York College/U.S. FDA Student Internship Program is to provide a foundation in biomedical regulatory-based research that is integrated with scientific principles applicable to biological product development and regulation. Specific objectives include:

- providing a mentored research experience that is challenging and stimulating;
- broadening the student's technical skills, interactions with technical professionals, and educational and professional experience;
- obtaining information and guidance in the career exploration process; and
- heightening student awareness of careers at the FDA.

Description of York College/U.S. FDA Internships

The York College/U.S. FDA student internships are an ideal way for students to find instruction and mentorship in an area of academic and personal interest while also preparing for a future career through work experience, networking opportunities, as well as earning academic credit and a stipend.

Reason to Take a York College/U.S. FDA Internship

As the fields of science continue to grow, it has become more and more critical for students to have real-world experience to enhance their educational and career training.

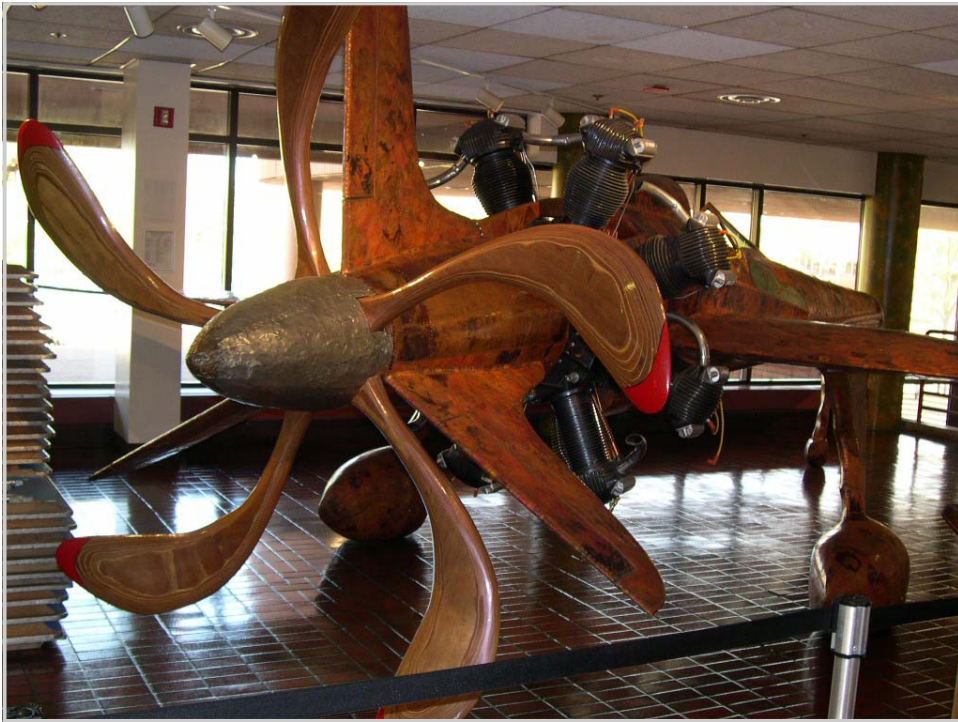
How To Apply

1. Schedule an interview with Professor Angelo R. Rossi in Room AC-3F01A: phone number: 718-262-2592; Email address: rossi@york.cuny.edu.
2. Submit a resume.
3. Fill in three forms which can be printed from the web page <http://www.york.cuny.edu/fda>.

College Events

Title	Event description	Date, location etc.
Harlem Speakeasy	An evening of Jazz and Poetry	When Dec. 7, 2007, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Where Performing Arts Center Contact Timothy Amrhein Email amrhein@york.cuny.edu Contact Phone 718-262-3707
Harlem Speakeasy	An evening of Jazz and Poetry	When Dec. 8, 2007, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm Where Performing Arts Center Contact Timothy Amrhein Email amrhein@york.cuny.edu Contact Phone 718-262-3707
Jazz Workshop Concert	Music performance	When Dec. 15, 2007m 7:30 pm – 09:30 pm Where Performing Arts Center – Little Theater Contact Tom Zlabinger Email tzlabing@york.cuny.edu Contact Phone 718-262-2000
Blue Notes Concert	Music performance	When Dec. 22, 2007, 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm Where Performing Arts Center – Little Theater Contact Tom Zlabinger Email tzlabing@york.cuny.edu Contact Phone 718-262-2000

Impressions from York College





**Academic Affairs will be off
for the Holidays and next
will be available in February
2008.**

*The deadline for submissions for
the February issue is
January 25, 2008.*

*All items should be submitted
via email to:*

AcademicUpdate@york.cuny.edu

<http://york.cuny.edu/academics>

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