



Photo: Nicholas Jones

Dear York College Cardinals,

This semester, I had the privilege of meeting many of you—in my office, at events, and even running a 5k race. You, our York College students, are an amazing, confident bunch! You have enlivened our campus with your intellectual curiosity, creativity, and enthusiasm for your education.

One of the ways we want to reflect our collective excitement for our institution is through the Welcome Center. Since its inception in August 2021, we have been working behind the scenes to evolve and improve this innovative initiative. We have hired staff, infused technology, and ensured ADA compliance. And I am happy to share that we have some amazing things on the horizon. City Council Speaker, Adrienne Adams, has provided generous funding to the CUNY Reconnect Initiative. This has allowed us to start construction on a beautiful, state-of-the-art space that provides student-related resources to serve you better. At the groundbreaking ceremony on December 5, 2022, we unveiled the architectural renderings to our campus community. We cannot wait until construction begins and project completion in Spring 2023!

As the semester ends and you get ready for final exams, I encourage you to enroll today for the Winter term and Spring 2023 semester classes. As a reminder, if you plan to register for any in-person and/or hybrid courses, you must upload your vaccination documents to CUNYFirst to be in compliance.

Always remember your future is bright, and your talents are everlasting. We are so happy to be able to serve you! If I can be of any service, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Jones

Interim Executive Director of Enrollment Management
Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

Architectural Renderings of The Welcome Center



STUDENT WELCOME CENTER



Images: The Welcome Center architectural renderings

York College Hosts High School Counselors Breakfast



Photos from the High School Counselors Breakfast

ment President, Nish-Hoa Mullins. The Bronx native shared why she chose to attend York College and her passion for the school. It was apparent that Mullings' genuine and kind voice resonated with everyone in the room. The event concluded with a tour of the completed capital projects, including the state-of-the-art science labs and lecture halls.

In addition to hearing from our SGA President, there were also presentations from Nicholas Jones, Interim Executive Director of Enrollment Management, Anthony Davis, Director of Admissions, Dr. George White Jr., Interim Dean - School of Arts and Science; Dr. Maureen Becker, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Professional Programs and Interim Dean of the School of Business; Hopeton Allen, Interim Director of SEEK; Dr. Rishi Nath, Professor, Mathematics and Computer Science; Mark Adams, Lecturer - Performing and Fine Arts; Jackie Rosseau, Founding Director of ACE.

We are especially thankful to Dr. Berenecea Johnson Eanes, President of York College; Dr. Derrick Brazill, Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs; Dr. Karen Williams, Interim Vice President, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; Dr. James Salnave, Interim Assistant Dean, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; and all colleagues, who helped to make the event a success.

On September 30, 2022, York College hosted its first in-person breakfast for high school counselors since the Covid-19 pandemic began in 2022. Guests included counselors representing schools in Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, the Bronx, and Long Island as well as representatives from community organizations. It was a sorely missed event, and we are glad we can all come together in this manner again to network over a meal. The event, skillfully orchestrated by our emcee, Mr. Anthony Davis, Director of Admissions, included presentations from across the York College community from academics to Admissions, SEEK, and the ACE program.

A highlight of the breakfast was hearing from Student Govern-

York College Child and Family Center



Photo of a child at the York College Child and Family Center

There are some exciting new developments at the York College Child and Family Center. First, we are proud to have been awarded the CCAMPIS grant to extend its childcare services. But that's not all. It is with great pleasure that we introduce two new additions to the staff. Mr. Shaun Mattocks, the Afterschool Director, and Ms. Stephanie Lopez, who now serves as our Afterschool Site Supervisor.

Mr. Mattocks comes to us from the non-profit world where he has been coaching and mentoring youth and adolescents for more than a decade at organizations that include the YMCA and Harlem's Children's Zone. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Sports Management and minored in coaching.

Ms. Lopez desire for young children is that "she wants the youth of today to grow up with love, not only so they can give that love to others, but also to love themselves as they shape and grow to adults of future generations."

Our school-age program is designed to equip children with the skills to succeed as they take their educational journey. While our staff focus on physical activity and character education, we also incorporate student enrichment activities that may expose the scholars to new hobbies or strengthen ones they already have. The classes are conducted in rooms with low student-teacher ratios in effort to best accommodate our scholars. This program is designed for school-aged children in grades K-5, and for student-parents in need of childcare Monday - Friday from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

One York Brotherhood Has Officially Launched!



Photo of One York Brotherhood Meeting

On November 2, 2022, close to thirty students gathered in the Leadership Suite in room 1G06 for the launch of the One York Brotherhood. To build upon the history and culture of providing a fraternal space on York College's campus, the One York Brotherhood is a space for everyone, especially male and male-identified students, to be seen and heard, to share and to learn from one another. The One York Brotherhood aims to facilitate impactful socio-emotional programming, instill transferable life skills through experiential learning, and foster a milieu of safety, accountability, fun, and excellence.

Pervis Taylor, guest celebrity life coach and wellness professional, creates an atmosphere for all students to share openly and honestly without judgment. Taylor stated

that the "safe space created by the participants has been such an amazingly visceral and transformative experience." He has guided students through important subjects: emotional intelligence, integrity, stress management, healthy masculinity, and navigating relationships. The One York Brotherhood is a unique space that pushes students beyond their limits and offers an environment of reflection, introspection, accountability, and profound insight.

Gael Zeno, an alumnus of York College, shared, "The One York Brotherhood meetings have allowed me to assess my emotional intelligence and think on a deeper level. Furthermore, it has also allowed me to properly express my voice..." Gael is one of many students who have expressed that they have been able to tap into the power of their voice. As vulnerability is encouraged and depth is explored, students are strengthening their interpersonal skills and connecting with each other in a healthy manner. Please check the college calendar for more information on upcoming One York Brotherhood sessions.

In Honor of Veterans Day



Photos: President Berenecca J. Eanes, Mr. Anthony Andrews, Mr. Larry Eaton and special presentation by the Society of Polizzi Generosa

The Center of Leadership, Service and Civic Engagement, along with the Office of Veterans Affairs held an event on November 10th in honor Veterans Day. This event highlighted York Alumnus Laquasia L. Carrasco. Captain Carrasco is a former leader with the National Society of Leadership and Success and helped to organize the 1st ROTC cohort here on campus. The event included a special presentation by the Society of Polizzi Generosa.

We Love INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY At York College . . . And It Shows!

York College is a thriving, active campus because our students have always created an inclusive and diverse culture. York's strong appreciation for a student body full of varied personalities, characteristics, qualities, and abilities is quite visible on and off campus.

Recently, the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) demonstrated the above with a polished photography exhibition and a day trip to the US Open, watching the Junior Girls Tennis Championship match and one lucky Cardinal counselor, who had a selfie with the champion.

The photography exhibit, appropriately titled *My Strength and My Goals, ONE YORK*, opened on September 8th with a breakfast reception. President Eanes, Vice President Williams, and many other administrators attended the opening. The exhibition opened with a lovely breakfast reception. Delicious cheese filled danishes, red velvet cake, and a very festive "happy birthday!" cheer for a member of the Student Government Association (SGA), were welcome additions to the event.

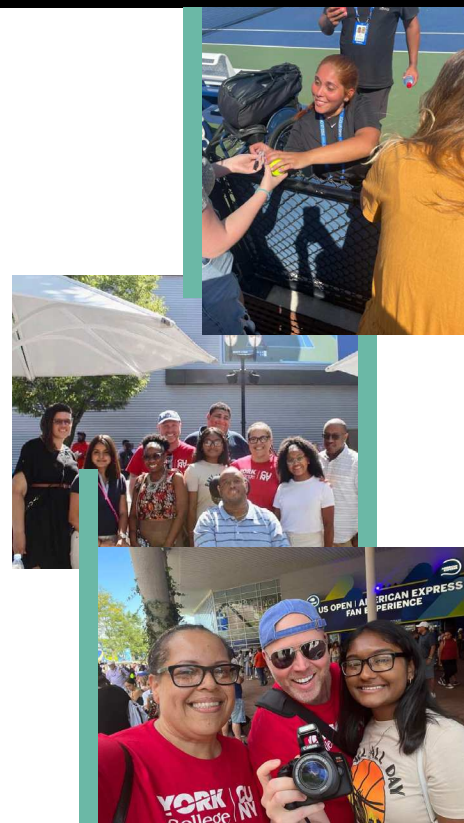
The exhibit featured outgoing CSD students who were asked to express their personalities during each of their photo sessions. The photos are singular, fun and assorted.

My Strengths and My Goals. ONE YORK! is a true depiction of the unity, inclusion, and diversity seen on York's campus. The exhibition does not stop there; it has an 'interactive' element. Throughout

the semester, the Cardinal community (faculty, students, and staff) was invited to participate by sharing their accomplishments, or positive thoughts about York, on celebration flags that could be pinned on the bulletin board in the hallway outside of the CSD Offices. You can still add your thoughts, we would love everyone to write a few words of encouragement and share with the students by being 'a part of' the exhibition.

After the opening of the photo exhibit, Charmaine Townsell, the Director of Student Wellness, organized a day trip to the US Open to coincide with the Junior Wheelchair Championship matches. Once again, York's Cardinals from the CCSD (CUNY Coalition for Students with Disabilities) at York's chapter were flying high. First, the Cardinals saw all the history and monuments of the tennis world displayed at the National Tennis Center, then the entire group settled on the grounds, seated at an umbrella covered table just a few feet away from the Wheelchair Junior Championship match, while also watching the mixed doubles wheelchair tennis semi-final on the big screen. The matches were an exciting and aggressive display of talent. York's students cheered as Jade Lanai won the Junior Girls Wheelchair Championship, and it was Dr. Truett Lee Vaigneur Jr. who quickly snapped a selfie with the new US Open champ.

The students enjoyed the warm afternoon air, the impeccable skill of the wheelchair players, while eating chicken fingers and ice cream and socializing with each other.



Scan the QR code to view a short video of CCSD's trip to the US Open



For York, it was a week full of recognition and celebration. Whether in framed photographs in an exhibition, or casually bonding while cheering on the wheelchair tennis champion, York students are holding their own. Whether on and off campus, it is always ONE YORK!

This Cardinal Is Flying High!

Brian Ramsarran, York Graduate, speaks candidly about being an athlete, campus involvement, diversity and inclusion, and the Center for Students with Disabilities.

Excellent students always have excellent careers! For most of our York College graduates, success finds them along the way. Once they leave the nest, or campus, our Cardinals fly high. This is certainly the case for Brian Ramsarran, a recent York graduate. In the spring of 2020, Ramsarran graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration on Human Resource Management. Brian is super busy these days, but he was kind enough to give us an interview, and we begin talking about his days as an active student on York's campus.

Question: Brian, during your time at York were you involved on campus?

Brian Ramsarran: I was a part of the Men's Track & Field & Cross Country Team for my first two years in college. I was also the Vice President of the Trio Student Club. The Trio Club emphasized the importance of diversity on campus. I was also a Brand Ambassador for ALPFA (Association of Latino Professionals for America). The goal of ALPFA was to empower and develop men and women as leaders of character for the nation in every sector of the global economy.

Question: Did being an active member of York help you mature and have a great college experience?

Brian Ramsarran: Being involved in activities and sports while in college definitely required time management skills. At times, it can be difficult, especially when you have midterms to prepare for or even a job. But, being an active member of York helped me mature because I was able to develop many skills and have the opportunity to learn from the workshops York had to offer. I always prioritized attending workshops because I wanted to learn as much as possible from resume writing to internship oppor-

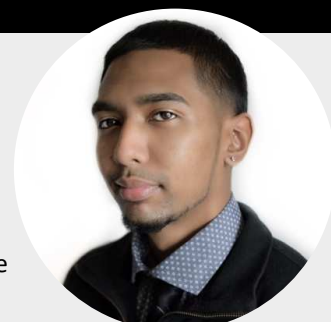


Photo of Brian Ramsarran

This Cardinal Is Flying High! (continued)

tunities. [And] we held a cultural day event every spring semester. The purpose of this event was to acknowledge the different cultures since York is one of the most diverse colleges in New York. Learning about diversity was so important because it allowed me to understand that no matter where you are from, we are all humans at the end of the day.

Question: How did you feel about being registered with CSD (Center for Students with Disabilities)?

Brian Ramsarran: Registering with CSD was one of the best decisions I ever made because I was lucky enough to experience so many great opportunities and resources this center had to offer. I was offered an academic counselor, Dr. Truett Vaigneur, whom I still connect to. Dr. Vaigneur and other staff members at CSD were kind enough to offer knowledge and wisdom to you when you were in need. The Center also provided me with a note-taker and other accommodations. Having a note taker was beneficial to me because it allowed me to concentrate on the materials rather than focusing and taking notes at the same time.

Question: Do you think being an athlete helped you break down the stigma of being differently abled?

Brian Ramsarran: Yes, I do believe that being an athlete helps me break down the stigma of "being disabled." We are stereotyped to the point where others believe that those who are disabled would not be able to participate in a professional sports setting. That is not true; there are many professional athletes with disabilities and even an Olympics game designed for athletes with disabilities.

Read more about Brian's career journey, advice for students entering college and for graduates entering their careers.

Scan the QR code to view the full interview.



"Registering with CSD was one of the best decisions I ever made"

Special Shoutout:

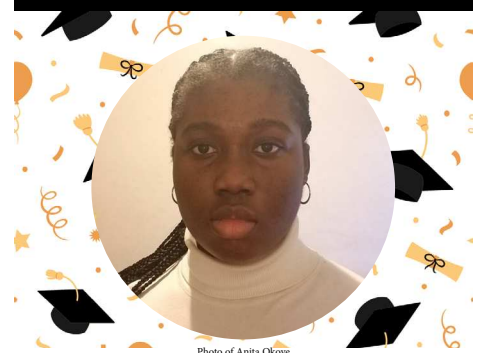




Photo of Anita Okoye

A special shout out from the Student Health Services team to Anita Okoye on her upcoming December graduation! Anita has been working at the center since Fall 2019 and is currently a senior at York College pursuing her nursing degree. Anita's academic achievements include Dean's list awards and being a recipient of the 2020 Alumni Association Scholarship. As an International Student from Nigeria, adjusting to a new country took time, but it was easier through groups and clubs available at York College. Anita is a member of York's swimming team, and also played on both the track & field and softball teams. Congratulations to Anita and to all our soon-to-be graduates!



New Staff

 Rachael Walton, M.Ed.- Ms. Walton joined the Office of Student Activities as an Interim Administrative Coordinator in the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. She comes from the New York City Department of Education with over 20 years of educational leadership, professional development, as well as diversity and inclusion expertise. Rachael is a York alumna who earned a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communications. She holds a Masters degree in Education Policy and Leadership from American University and is pursuing a Doctoral degree in Educational Management and Leadership from Drexel University. Ms. Walton is excited to support the office with senior programming and events that engage the students in the life of the campus.

 Ramzees Kennedy, B.S.- Mr. Kennedy joins the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management team as a proud York College alumna with a B.S in Business Administration. Mr. Kennedy began working in the Admissions Office at York College as a work study student. Seven years later, he now serves on the CUNY content creation board. Mr. Kennedy is a digital marketer & passionate content creator now tasked with the role of telling the story of York, and its students through digital media. He's dedicated to helping York students shine brighter, fly higher, and dream bigger than ever before. In December 2022, Mr. Kennedy began serving as Interim Administrative Coordinator in the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, where he will assist with creation of college-wide methods for marketing and advertising, and management of social media platforms such as the Cardinal App.

Division of Student Development Directory



To view the Division of Student Development Directory, visit <https://bit.ly/sd-directory>

Division of Student Development Newsletter Production Team:

Dr. Karen Williams, Dr. James Salnave, Alejandro Lopez, Silvia Nava, Savitrie Rampersaud, Nicholas Jones, Corynne Corbett

