

DONNELLY COLLEGE

# DIGEST

SPRING 2011

A publication for Donnelly alumni and friends



[donnelly.edu](http://donnelly.edu)

6 A Day in the Life | 10 For the Love of Clay | 14 **NEW!** Class Notes & In Memoriam

# Leader's MESSAGE



Sister Marie Kathleen Daugherty, SCL  
Associate Dean of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Alumni and Friends,

Greetings at the beginning of this Holy Season of Lent! While some may first think of Lent as a time of penance, I have always thought of it as springtime for the soul.

The word Lent comes from the word *Lencten* which means spring in Old English. It is a time to prepare the ground and sow the seeds for future harvest.

During this sacred time, we are united with all of God's People in fasting, almsgiving and prayer as our Lord prepares us to be fertile ground so that we can blossom into His service.

I have been part of the Donnelly family for 16 years, and have been privileged to work with our students as they have grown in greater understanding of themselves and of the transcendent destiny of the human person.

These students have been rooted in the principles of the dignity of the human person, an openness to truth, and a commitment to social justice, all of which are claimed by our Catholic identity.

We are, indeed, a family at Donnelly College. We are a strong family, with members throughout the world. Our alumni have gone on to serve in health care, education and other professions, armed with these values implanted within them at Donnelly College.

I encourage you to come to campus for one or more of our upcoming fun, free campus events, including the Arts in the Heart festivities, Money Smart Month presentations and the Multicultural Festival in April, as well as the Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and 2011 Commencement in May.

Have a happy and holy Lent!

Sincerely,

Sister Marie Kathleen, SCL

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# Features



6

"A Day in the Life"  
A snapshot of a typical  
day for four students

10

For the Love of Clay:  
Meet renowned potter  
and DC alumnus

15

Preview all the fun,  
free events happening  
at DC in April 2011

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2: LEADER'S MESSAGE

4: AROUND DONNELLY

Recent events, page 4

Students lead effort to establish Student Senate, page 5

10: ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Meet acclaimed potter and DC alumnus Robert Briscoe, '67, page 10

12: ADVANCING DONNELLY

Spotlight on Dan Braum, '71, page 12

2011 Alumni Hall of Fame inductees announced, page 13

14: CLASS NOTES & IN MEMORIAM

16: CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**ON THE COVER:** Freshman Victor Williams attends his Intermediate Algebra class where they are reviewing for an upcoming exam. Learn more about Victor on page 6! Photo by Don Wolf, '56

# RECENT *events*



**▲ 18 STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT DC'S FALL 2010 ESL GRADUATION & RECOGNITION CEREMONY**

Friends and families, along with many Donnelly faculty and staff members, gathered together on Dec. 15, 2010, to celebrate the most recent class to complete their ESL coursework. Here we see ESL students Hae Jung Park, Puifai Lohitharn, Alla Skaskevych, Ana Lara, Medya Mohamed, and Trang Hoang proudly showing off their official English as a Second Language (ESL) completion certificates.



**▲ DC APPOINTS INTERIM PROVOST & VP FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Robin E. Bowen, Ed.D., joins the Donnelly family as Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs. Bowen previously served as VP for Academic Affairs at Washburn University (2007-10), and Dean of the School of Graduate & Professional Studies at Rockhurst University (2002-07).



**▲ STUDENTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF LATE-NIGHT STUDYING DURING FINALS WEEK**

Finals week is a time of both stress and excitement on campus, with comprehensive exams looming and the holidays just around the corner. Baccalaureate student Vesnel Francois took advantage of the late-night study hours offered on campus during finals week to prepare for his Anatomy & Physiology exam.



**▲ DONNELLY UPDATES ITS FRONT SIGN**

The next time you visit campus, take a look at Donnelly's front sign! You'll notice it has been updated to display the College's new logo. A big thanks to alumnus Phil Doherty, '62, for donating his time to paint the sign black.



## 13 students lead development of Student Senate

Donnelly is pleased to announce the creation of its first Student Senate. The first senate elections are scheduled for Monday, May 2, 2011, where the Donnelly student body will vote for students to represent them as president, vice president, treasurer and secretary throughout the 2011-12 academic year.

"The idea for Student Senate came about because the College's student body has grown to the point where it is important for them to have a collective campus voice," said Susan Keim, faculty member within Donnelly's baccalaureate program and faculty advisor to the newly created senate. "A group of 13 student leaders were invited to an informational meeting, and all 13 came and are actively participating in the development of the program."

These students were selected based on their student leadership and involvement at Donnelly. The group represents leaders from many different campus programs and student organizations.

Paulina Martinez-Chio, senior in the baccalaureate program, and Miro Heyink, Donnelly Student Ambassador and second-year, associate-degree seeking student, volunteered to serve as Student Senate co-chairs for the Spring 2011 semester leading up to the first elections.

▲ Campus leaders involved in the development of the Student Senate program, clockwise from far left: Christina Smith, Leo Mejia, Crystal Sudduth, Miro Heyink, Ivan Medrano, Victor Williams, faculty advisor Susan Keim, Ayana Pantoja, Jomarie Salas, Laura Castro, Cristal Perez, and Paulina Martinez-Chio.

"We are truly excited to be a part of this new wave of student leadership on campus," said Heyink. "Our first task is to work with each campus organization and help them establish a unique mission statement and organizational structure. By doing this, future students will have a clearer understanding of the many student groups and organizations they can be a part of while they are in college."

"I am eager to lead this new endeavor," said Martinez-Chio. "The great thing about Donnelly is that it is a small enough campus where any student can be a leader if they have the desire to be one. After I graduate from Donnelly, it will be exciting to look back and see the mark I left by helping to launch this program."

"Involving students in Donnelly's campus leadership is very important," said Keim. "By establishing the senate, students are given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and have a collective voice in the governance and student life of Donnelly College. I'm excited to be a part of this new program, and to work more closely with our extraordinary student leaders."

# A Day in the Life

What's it like to be a Donnelly student? Alumnus Don Wolf, '56, master photographer, spent one day following four very different students to show you what life as a DC student is like today.



Monique attends her Medical Surgical Nursing class - one of the final courses within Donnelly's Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program.

## MONIQUE HOLMES-KRUBALLY

AGE: 33

YEAR: SECOND-YEAR PRACTICAL NURSING STUDENT

HOMETOWN: SAN ANTONIO, TX

**4:00 a.m.** Wake up, shower, put my scrubs on for work and prepare baby bottles for the day

**5 a.m.** Read Daily Bread and get sons Bernard (age 14) and Simon (age 4 months) dressed and ready

**6:30-11 a.m.** Work at Diversity Specialty, Inc. - a dialysis unit in Lee's Summit, Mo.

**11:30 a.m.** Swing by my local Curves and do a quick, 30-minute workout

**12:15 p.m.** Rush home to spend time with Simon and grab a bite to eat

**12:45 p.m.** Make some quick chili in the crock pot for my family to eat for dinner while I'm in class

**1:30 p.m.** Run Simon to the babysitter on my way to class at Donnelly

**2:45 p.m.** Arrive at Donnelly and meet with classmates about an assignment

**4-9 p.m.** In Medical Surgical Nursing class where we review for an exam

**9 p.m.** Head home after a long day!

**10:15 p.m.** Get home, eat dinner and enjoy some green tea with my husband while watching the news

**11:30 p.m.** Prepare for the next day (another early start!) and go to bed



## VICTOR WILLIAMS

AGE: 19

YEAR: FRESHMAN

HOMETOWN: KANSAS CITY, MO

**6:30 a.m.** - Wake up, shower and iron my clothes

**7:00 a.m.** - Eat a quick breakfast in my dorm room and review my notes for algebra class

**7:50 a.m.** - Dash next door to attend my first class of the day - Microcomputer Essentials

**9 a.m.** - Attend Intermediate Algebra class where we are reviewing for a test

**9:50 a.m.** - Study in the 7th floor computer lab and print the outline for my public speaking essay

**11 a.m.** - Go to Public Speaking class

**12:00 p.m.** - Hop on the elevator to the 7th Floor Chapel for Mass

**12:45 p.m.** - Eat lunch and hang out with friends in the cafeteria

**2:00 p.m.** - Get back to my dorm room to study, do homework and read over all assigned chapters for my classes

**4:00 p.m.** - Workout in the on-campus fitness center

**5:00 p.m.** - Shower, eat dinner with some friends

**6:00 p.m.** - Study for my algebra exam and work on a Comp II assignment

**10:00 p.m.** - Call home to catch up with family members

**11:30 p.m.** - Check my e-mails and Facebook, watch the news

**12 p.m.** - Catch some Zzzz's



Top left: Victor eats lunch with friends in the campus cafeteria. Top right and above: He works out in DC's on-campus fitness center.

**Top:** Serena watches American Idol with her fiancé Jeremy and two daughters Ali'Yonna (age 2) and KaMora (5 months). **Bottom:** Serena tutors fellow student Christina Smith, helping her with her college algebra assignment.



**SERENA BROWNE**  
 AGE: 22  
 YEAR: SOPHOMORE  
 HOMETOWN: KANSAS CITY, KS

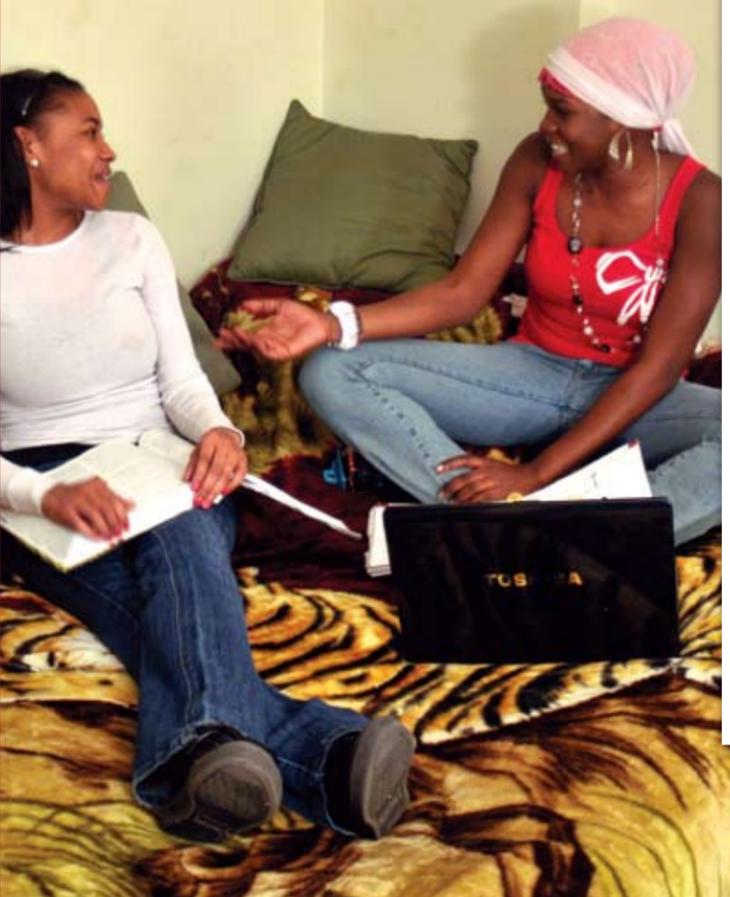
- 6:00 a.m.** – Wake up and get my backpack ready for the day
- 7:00 a.m.** – Dad drops me off at Donnelly on his way to work; study on campus until my first class begins
- 10:00 a.m.** – Attend Psychology class
- 11:00 a.m.** – Multitask by eating lunch and preparing worksheets for Supplemental Instruction (SI) lessons
- 12:00 p.m.** – Go to Mass on campus
- 12:45 p.m.** – Get to class early, review notes
- 1:00 p.m.** – Theatre class, which I love!
- 2:00 p.m.** – Go to drill team practice in the fitness center, so excited!
- 3–6:30 p.m.** – Biology/math tutoring in ACE
- 7 p.m.** – Arrive at home, make dinner and watch American Idol with my fiancé and two daughters!
- 8 p.m.** – Put the kids to bed and then prepare dinners for the next two nights (I won't get out of class until after 9 p.m. tomorrow!)
- 9:30 p.m.** – Get my homework done and catch up on reading for my Theology class
- 12:30 p.m.** – Get some much-needed rest!



**YAR RIAK**  
 AGE: 22  
 YEAR: COMPLETES AA IN MAY, TRANSFERRING TO NEWMAN UNIVERSITY  
 HOMETOWN: KHARTOUM, SUDAN

- 7 a.m.** – Wake up, shower and listen to my favorite music to get my day started
- 8:30 a.m.** – Leave the residence hall and walk to my first class
- 9 a.m.** – Microbiology class - Ah! It's so tough!
- 10 a.m.** – Jump on the elevator and run to College Algebra
- 11 a.m.** – Check my e-mail and, like I do every day, outline activities for the next day in my beloved planner
- 12 p.m.** – Go to Mass on campus
- 12:45 p.m.** – Head to the cafeteria to grab a quick lunch
- 1:30 p.m.** – Study for my Philosophy class in the library

- 2 p.m.** – Change clothes and head to the fitness center to lead drill team practice
- 3 p.m.** – Student Ambassador duties – today I am calling potential students to follow-up on their campus visits
- 5 p.m.** – Run errands around KCK
- 6 p.m.** – Hurry back to residence hall to gather my textbooks and grab my assignment
- 6:30 -9:10 p.m.** – Head to the 4th floor for Philosophy class
- 9:30 p.m.** – Back to my dorm room to relax for a few minutes
- 10 p.m. – 12 a.m.** – Study and hang out with some friends in my dorm room
- 12:30 a.m.** – Review Physiology & Anatomy notes for class tomorrow
- 2 a.m.** – Get ready for bed, say my prayers and fall asleep



**Above:** Yar (front) leads drill team practice (one of Donnelly's newest student life organizations) alongside Agie Garcia (left) and Josselin Moya (right); **Top right:** Yar (in blue) listens to Sister Marie Kathleen, SCL, Associate Dean of Liberal Arts & Sciences, give the first reading at Mass on campus; **Below:** Yar and her friend Le'Creasha Grigsby hang out in Yar's dorm room.

# FOR THE LOVE OF CLAY



To view an online gallery of Briscoe's work, visit [www.gallerygen.com/art/briscoe-r.html](http://www.gallerygen.com/art/briscoe-r.html).

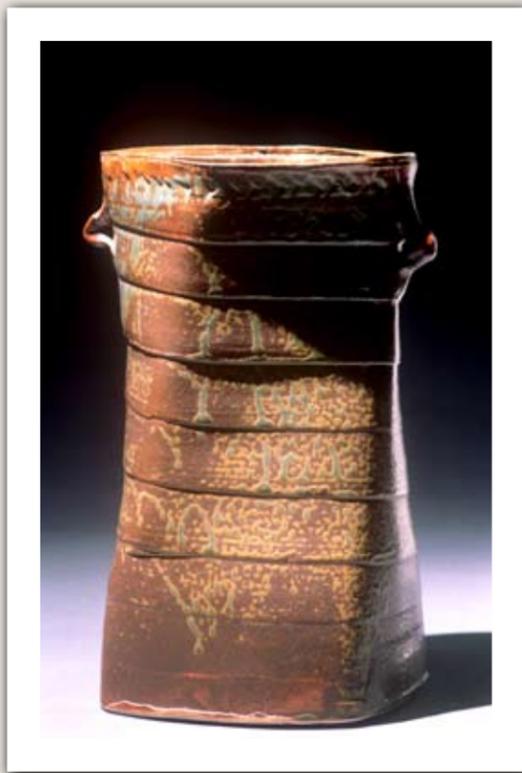


**Want to see  
Briscoe's art  
up close?**

*Come to our  
Arts in the Heart  
Art Festival & Exhibit!*

12-6:30 p.m.  
Friday, April 8  
@ Donnelly

Artwork will remain on display  
throughout the month of April.  
Learn about all our Arts in the Heart  
events at [donnelly.edu/artsintheheart](http://donnelly.edu/artsintheheart).



**T**o alumnus Robert Briscoe, '67, art isn't just something you find in a museum or gallery.

"Art is everywhere, we just don't know how to recognize it," he said. "It is right in front of us every day – in the fountain pen you use, on the cover and within the book you're reading, in the billboard you see on the highway."

A native of Kansas City, Briscoe grew up just four blocks from Donnelly's original campus on 12th and Sandusky Avenue in Kansas City, Kan.

"Growing up, art wasn't in the schools," he said. "It wasn't a practical skill, so we were directed away from it. Today, I see the importance of art in life – art *is* life."

After high school, Briscoe wanted to go to Kansas State University to pursue a career in business and restaurant management but his grades weren't high enough.

"I made the decision to go to Donnelly for a year, but stayed for two because I enjoyed it so much."

After Donnelly, Briscoe went on to K-State and reached his goal of earning a degree, finishing with a bachelor's in economics.

Instead of continuing down that path, Briscoe boldly chose to follow another dream.

Today, he is one of the country's most renowned potters, and his pieces are known for their beauty, simplicity and functionality.

"I first discovered my interest in pottery when one of my Donnelly instructors brought in a group of students from the Art Institute to demonstrate different techniques in class."

This experience sparked his 40-year career, leading to acclaimed exhibits in museums and galleries across the country, from the Smithsonian and Philadelphia Museum of Art to the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, Calif., and Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota.

**“Handmade pottery has soul. It is a statement from one human being to another...”**

His work has also appeared in countless art fairs and shows, including Kansas City's own Plaza Art Fair.

"Although my vases and pots are artistic statements from my hands, they are above all functional," he said. "They are typically oversized, implying generosity."

"My pieces are not frilly, fancy or pretentious – they are just quiet things you put food or flowers in."

On top of these characteristics, his work has one other key ingredient – soul.

"Industry can make pots and vases quickly and sell them at low prices but they are unsatisfying. Handmade pottery has soul. It is a statement from one human being to another – where feeling, emotion, and passion is transferred and shown."

"The idea that you can imagine something in your head and turn it into something real by using nothing more than a spinning wheel and hunk of amorphous clay never ceases to amaze me."

Although Briscoe's degree and career seem drastically different, he never questions the importance of earning his degree.

"When I first started out, I quickly realized that as an artist you have to wear all kinds of hats," he said. "You don't just get to be an artist all the time. You are a craftsman, welder, electrician, engineer, architect, chemist, etc. In the end, you're also a business man."

# Donor Spotlight: DAN BRAUM, '71



Passionate. Believer. Relentless Advocate.

These are just a few of the words that only begin to describe DC alumnus Dan Braum. Since 2005, Dan has given both time and treasure to Donnelly and has served in a number of leadership and volunteer roles.

"Dan is a truly amazing volunteer," said Emily Buckley, Director of Advancement. "He redefines the definition of dedication."

Dan first came to Donnelly in 1966 to take a few classes while working at the nearby Ford Plant in Kansas City, Kan.

Like many Donnelly students today, he had to work a full-time job on top of a full college course schedule.

"I would work about 60 hours a week at Ford, but all in the evenings so I could attend classes," Dan said.

While in a business class at Donnelly, Dan had an epiphany.

"All of a sudden, I discovered my passion," he said. "The instructor was giving a lesson on marketing and a light bulb went off in my head. It was so interesting and I've never forgotten that moment."

After earning his associate degree from DC, Dan went on to Kansas State University where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1973, majoring in marketing and economics. From there, he went on to earn his MBA in 1975.

While he was at K-State, he was recruited and hired by Xerox where he worked for more than 30 years, retiring in 2006 after a successful career.

"After my wife passed away in 2005 and my retirement in 2006, I was looking for something to keep me busy," Dan said. "So, I sat down and thought about what helped me achieve my successes in life. My wife and family, of course, were a big part of my success. Then it hit me – Donnelly.

"Donnelly gave me a foundation to build my success on. So, I started volunteering and I haven't stopped since."

In 2007, Dan was asked to serve as president of the College's Alumni Board. He accepted and served three terms from 2007-10. He is now a member of the Board of Trustees, among many of his other volunteer duties.

"Dan is such a strong advocate for Donnelly," said Buckley. "Yes, he has donated money, but most importantly he has donated his time and connected

"Donnelly gave me a foundation to build my success on. So, I started volunteering and I haven't stopped since."

the College with so many incredible supporters, many of whom knew little about DC before Dan shared the College's story."

"Even though I went on to achieve higher degrees from other colleges, I understand that Donnelly is where I got my start and found my passion for learning," said Braum. "I encourage all alums to remember the role Donnelly played in each of your lives and find a way to get involved today."



▲ Dan participates in a FOX4-TV news interview highlighting Donnelly's 60-year anniversary, alongside alumna Anita Dixon, '84.

◀ Dan Braum (right) and fellow Board member Dan Haake (left) attend a Legacy Society meeting.



## DONNELLY COLLEGE ALUMNI HALL of FAME

### Join us in celebrating the 2011 Alumni Hall of Fame inductees!

Donnelly will celebrate its second class of inductees with a ceremony and reception at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 12, 2011.

All alumni and friends are encouraged to attend this free, spirited event and join us for hors d'oeuvres and refreshments as we honor the following individuals:

- Ed Dwight, '51
- Carmen Rodriguez, '53
- Susan Carrol, '62
- Gene Burdolski (deceased), '70

### Congratulations to these alumni!

Please RSVP by May 2, 2011, to alumni@donnelly.edu.

**Donnelly is always accepting Alumni Hall of Fame submissions!** Visit donnelly.edu/halloffame for an official nomination form. Please submit your 2012 nominations by October 1, 2011.

Inductees are selected by a sub-committee of the Alumni Board. To get involved, contact alumni@donnelly.edu.

# Class Notes

## Have you recently gotten married, started a new job, or added to your family?

Donnelly is creating a new section of the Digest devoted to sharing your exciting news! Let us know of any changes in your life that you would like to share with fellow Digest readers by submitting a class note!

\* Submit your class note to [alumni@donnelly.edu](mailto:alumni@donnelly.edu).

**Maria Elena Aguilar ('95)** was just appointed Pastoral Assistant at Saint Agnes Catholic Parish in Roeland Park, Kan.

**Maria Martinez, RN ('06)** is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with a focus in administration through a University of St. Mary program offered at Children's Mercy Hospital where she currently works as a registered nurse. She will complete the degree in April 2011, and then finish her Master of Business Administration (MBA) in December 2011.

**Jonathon Westbrook ('07)** and Ramica Combs were married on December 18, 2010, at Bread of Life Outreach Ministries in Kansas City, Kan. Jonathon earned his associate degree from Donnelly in 2007, went on to become a police officer in Kansas City, Kan., and is now enrolled in Donnelly's baccalaureate program.

**Adan Makina ('09)** will graduate from Webster University with Master of Arts in International Relations in May 2011, and will begin the doctoral program in Adult Education Leadership at Walden University this summer.

## in MEMORIAM

Donnelly College remembers the following alumni and friends who have passed away.

**Sister Dorthie Anne Clifton Hall, OSF**, instructor at Donnelly from 1978 to 1997, passed away on December 16, 2010, at the Sisters of St. Francis Provincial House in Savannah, Mo.

**Betty Jean Ogden**, who managed DC's bookstore for 14 years, passed away on December 24, 2010. She is survived by her two sons, as well as 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

**Robert (Bob) Brown ('52)** died peacefully with his family by his side in Belleview, Wash., on January 16, 2011. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Joanne (Dorney) Brown ('51), five children, 13 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Bob retired from Boeing in 1991 after 35 years of service.

**Kenneth Van Pelt ('57)** died November 10, 2010, and is survived by his mother, his wife Theresa J. Sadecki, five children and 15 grandchildren.

**James Yurchak** who attended Donnelly in the 1950's died November 15, 2010, at his home in Kansas City, Kan. He served as Athletic Director at Holy Family Catholic Church for many years and was a founding member of the Central Avenue Betterment Association.

**Rose Catherine Munjak ('66)** died December 31, 2010, in the ICU Unit of Providence Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan. She is survived by one brother and two sisters: Michael Edward Munjak, Barbara (Munjak) Wilson, Mary Frances (Munjak) Keenan, as well as five nieces and nephews and five grandnieces.

**Gloria Mae Vusich ('67)** passed away on February 4, 2011. She was valedictorian of her class at Donnelly and initiated in the Phi Theta Phi Honor Society. With encouragement from her beloved Benedictine sisters, she went to UMKC and earned a B.A. in Spanish and then a juris doctorate. Her family has established a Gloria Mae Vusich Scholarship at Donnelly in her honor. Learn how you can contribute to this fund by contacting [advancement@donnelly.edu](mailto:advancement@donnelly.edu).



For the second year in a row, Donnelly is bringing the arts to the heart of KCK through our Arts in the Heart celebrations.

Help us kick-off this month-long series of events by attending the...

**ART FESTIVAL & EXHIBIT**  
12-6:30 p.m.  
Friday, April 8  
@ Donnelly College

Stop by to view artwork, enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and listen to live jazz music.

Learn about all our April 2011 Arts in the Heart events at [donnelly.edu/artsintheheart](http://donnelly.edu/artsintheheart).



**TAKING CARE OF FINANCIAL BASICS**  
With Lynette Khalfani-Cox, "The Money Coach"

5:30-8:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 19

As part of Kansas City's Money Smart Month, DC is bringing personal finance expert Lynette Khalfani-Cox to campus for a **free** presentation. Cox has appeared on programs such as The Oprah Winfrey Show, Dr. Phil, The Tyra Banks Show and Good Morning America.

Visit [donnelly.edu/moneysmart](http://donnelly.edu/moneysmart) to learn more or to view a list of all our Money Smart presentations.

MASS @DC

Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays  
& Thursdays

12:05 p.m.  
7th Floor Chapel

All students,  
alumni and  
friends are  
welcome to  
attend!

MULTICULTURAL  
Festival

5-10 P.M.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 29

This exciting, **free** festival features ethnic food sampling, live music and vendors selling unique, handmade items. Held outdoors, this event promises to be fun for the whole family! [donnelly.edu/mcfest](http://donnelly.edu/mcfest)



## DONNELLY COLLEGE

608 North 18th Street  
Kansas City, KS 66102  
(913) 621-8700  
donnelly.edu



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- MAR 29:** CAREER FAIR, 10:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.
- APR 4-9:** MONEY SMART WEEK PRESENTATIONS  
*See donnelly.edu/moneysmart for details*
- APR 8:** ART FESTIVAL & EXHIBIT, 12-6:30 P.M.  
*Learn more on page 15 or by visiting donnelly.edu/artsintheheart*
- APR 14:** COFFEE ON CAMPUS, 8:30 A.M.  
Held the second Thursday of each month, this is an opportunity to learn about all the exciting advancements at Donnelly! E-mail advancement@donnelly.edu to RSVP.
- APR 19:** "TAKING CARE OF FINANCIAL BASICS" WITH LYNETTE KHALFANI-COX  
Cox is a personal finance expert, television and radio personality and the author of numerous books who has appeared on shows like The Oprah Winfrey Show and Dr. Phil. *Learn more on page 15!*
- APR 29:** MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL
- MAY 12:** ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY, 5 P.M.
- MAY 14:** 2011 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY, 4 P.M.  
Jack Reardon Convention Center
- SEPT 14:** 5TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER HONORING HENRY BLOCH

◀ Monique Holmes, student in Donnelly's Licensed Practical Nursing program, works with one of the patient simulators in Marian Hall's simulation lab. Learn more about Monique on page 6!