

North News Briefs



OCTOBER 2023

Welcome to this month's North News Briefs. If you have news you would like to share with the North Seattle College community, please send it to northcommunications@seattlecolleges.edu. The content submission deadline is the last day of the month. Please try to keep your submission to 150 words or less.

DID YOU KNOW?

* **October 5 is World Teachers' Day** – Thursday, Oct. 5 is World Teachers' Day, an international day held annually to celebrate the work of teachers. Established in 1994, it commemorates the signing of the recommendation by the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. This recommendation outlines standards relating to educational personnel policy, recruitment and initial training, as well as the continuing education of teachers, their employment and working conditions. [Learn more.](#)



PEOPLE

* **Jeanette Miller Named Dean for Student Support** – Jeanette Miller was recently named as the new dean for Student Support at North. Jeanette will transition while she wraps up her responsibilities as North's director of Workforce Education. She will fully assume her new role Oct. 9. For more details, please see the Sept. 19 email from Alice Melling, executive dean, Student Success. Congratulations, Jeanette!

* **Dr. Rachel Solemsaas Joins North as Interim President** – Dr. Rachel Solemsaas officially took on the role of interim president of North on Sept. 16. She served as chancellor of Hawai'i Community College on the Big Island for seven years. The college is part of a 10-campus system. She also served as chief financial officer or chief business officer at Truckee Meadows Community College in Nevada, and Bellevue College and Edmonds College in Washington. Prior to joining the community and technical college system, Dr. Solemsaas served Snohomish and King counties in various capacities in finance, related to public government, health and human services. Welcome, Dr. Solemsaas! [Learn more.](#)

IN THE NEWS

* **Kelda Martensen's Work Featured in Seattle Magazine, Crosscut** – J. Rinehart Gallery in Seattle's Pioneer Square is currently featuring a solo exhibition by North Visual Art faculty member Kelda Martensen. The exhibition, Groundwork, was featured in [Seattle Magazine](#) and [Crosscut](#). It showcases a series of innovations in printmaking while calling attention to the foundational techniques themselves – a move to place craft, process and the artist's hand in plain sight. The exhibition continues through Saturday, Oct. 7.

AROUND CAMPUS

*** CARES Funding Results from Winter and Spring Quarters** – The results are in for North Seattle College’s distribution of CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funds for winter and spring quarter of the 2022-23 academic year. Of the students who received CARES funds, 76% were students of color. Once CARES funds were depleted last spring, 44% of those students continued on to attend classes during the summer. In addition, more than 50% of students who received funds in winter/spring registered for fall quarter. In all, 591 students were awarded a total of \$711,237.36 for an average award of \$1,203.45.



*** Pharmacy Tech Awarded High-Demand Program Funds** – The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges recently awarded \$2 million to support programs that train students for high-demand careers. The Washington State Legislature provided funding in the current state budget, which took effect in July. Eleven community colleges are receiving awards over a two-year period, including North, which is receiving \$153,569 for its Pharmacy Technician program. Colleges first received funding for these programs in 2020 and the new allocations will build upon those investments. [Learn more.](#)

*** Security Open Forum Oct. 4** – Please join Reuben Gonzales, director, Safety and Security, for an open forum about campus safety and emergency response. Bring your questions, observations and feedback. The session will be Wednesday, Oct. 4, from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Student Learning Center seminar room. You can also join via [Zoom](#).

*** Fall Quarter Parking Permits, Orca Cards Available for Purchase** – Fall quarter [parking permits](#) are now available for purchase either online through the parking portal or via payroll deduction. Up to two vehicles can be registered per permit, but only one may be parked on campus at any time. Permits are virtually linked to your vehicle license plate; there is no hangtag permit to display. More information on parking permits is available [here](#). Seattle Colleges also offers generously discounted Orca cards for employees. They are available from the cashier and require a completed [Quarterly Transportation Form](#). More information on parking and Orca cards is also available in the Sept. 26 email from Casey Chow, NSC transportation coordinator.

*** HR Inquiry Form Now Available** – North’s Human Resources team now has a submission form dedicated to addressing your HR questions and needs. The objective is to provide timely and comprehensive responses, ensuring HR can track and uphold its commitment to excellence. As the HR team continues its work on a comprehensive ticketing system, this form provides a bridge solution that reflects the team’s dedication to efficient communication and support during the transition. [Learn more.](#)

*** Terry O’Banion Student Technology Awards Open Through Oct. 31** – The League for Innovation is accepting nominations for the 2023-2024 Terry O’Banion Student Technology Awards. This award honors two deserving students who demonstrate a special talent in

technology, passion about moving toward a career in technology, academic excellence, and strong financial need. Winners will receive \$1,000 each to be used for education expenses and a plaque commemorating their achievement. Nominations will be accepted through Oct. 31.

[Learn more.](#)

*** NSC Art Gallery Partners with Seattle Metals Guild for Exhibition** – The NSC Art Gallery is partnering with Seattle Metals Guild for its first exhibition of the 2023-2024 school year. “Process is a Loop and Line” continues through Nov. 3. Along with the finished work, the exhibition includes process ephemera that document the development of ideas. These process materials represent all the work that extends out into time and space beyond any individual completed work. [Learn more.](#)

*** Student Media Center Available in Person and Online** – The Student Media Center (SMC) offers media production resources for all North students. The services include tools and assistance for presentations, posters, fliers, printing, scanning, audio/visual recording and media software. Enrolled students can also borrow media equipment for their academic projects for free. The SMC also offers a studio space available by walk-in or appointment during open hours. The studio has a space for recording, as well as backdrops and lighting for photography. The SMC team is available both in-person and online. The temporary SMC location is on the third floor of the College Center (CC3360). [Learn more.](#)

*** Videos from President’s Day** – Thank you to everyone who joined in this year’s President’s Day festivities. For some video reminders of the day’s event, please see the linked videos recently shared by Toni Stankovic, Executive Assistant to the President: [Seahawks Blue Thunder drumline](#), [more Blue Thunder](#), [Blitz and Star have mascot fun](#); and the [TED Talk shared by Dr. Rachel](#). Enjoy!



*** Exclusively Priced Tickets to NBA Preseason Game** – Fans with an “.edu” email address can access exclusively priced tickets to the Rain City Showcase Tuesday, Oct. 10, featuring the NBA’s Los Angeles Clippers vs. the Utah Jazz. The game will be in Seattle’s Climate Pledge Arena, and this is the first-time college students, faculty and staff have been offered the chance to secure exclusive tickets. [Learn more.](#)

*** District 5 City Council Debate Set for Wellness Center at North** – This election season, Seattle CityClub and the Greater Seattle Business Association are co-hosting public debates for primary candidates running for Seattle City Council in Districts 1, 3, 4 and 5 – all races that do not have an incumbent. The debate among District 5 candidates (representing Greenwood, Northgate, Lake City, Bitter Lake, Carkeek Park, Blue Ridge and Crown Hill) will be held in the Roy Flores Wellness Center on Tuesday, Oct. 17. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the debate will be from 7 to 8 p.m. [Learn more and register to attend.](#)

*** Lilly Pad Café Opens; Black Coffee NW Mentorship Program Available** – Black Coffee Northwest’s Lilly Pad Café is now open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the former espresso lounge space on the first floor of the College Center building. Black Coffee

Northwest is also starting its fall barista and social justice internship on Oct. 6. The [Grounded Girls Mentorship](#) program will provide a safe space for anyone who identifies as a young woman between the ages of 10 and 20 to have open and meaningful conversations surrounding topics of life, such as mental health, self-care, finding oneself and preparing for the future. There are opportunities for mentors and mentees alike. Please see the link above for details.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

* **UW Professional Development Opportunities for Seattle Colleges Employees** – The autumn 2023 schedule for professional development opportunities through the University of Washington’s Professional & Organizational Development department is now available. Courses are held at the UW, and course content and instructors are provided by the UW. For more information and the registration form, please see the Sept. 12 email from District HR.

* **Bloodborne Pathogens and Hazardous Communications Training Available** – The district’s Environmental Health and Safety team is offering training on the subjects of [bloodborne pathogens \(Oct. 10, Oct. 19 and Oct. 24\)](#) and [hazardous communications \(Oct. 5, Oct. 16 and Oct. 31\)](#). For more information, please refer to the Sept. 20 email from Wesley Wofford, associate director, District Environmental Health and Safety.

* **Employee Assistance Program Webinar Oct. 18** – The Washington State Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is offering a 30-minute live orientation webinar on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 11:30 a.m. This is a great opportunity to learn about all that EAP offers. Register [here](#).

* **Make Sure You Receive Emergency Alerts** – It is only October, but inclement weather is just around the corner and, with it, the threat of closing campus or delaying start times. It is important that all of us have up-to-date contact information in the [SeattleCollegesAlerts](#) system. The system, known as RAVE, is the primary and official notification system used across Seattle Colleges to notify students, faculty, and staff of weather and other emergencies. By default, all staff, faculty, and students will receive emails through the system. It is recommended you opt in for text and phone messages to your mobile device for alerts regarding closures and potential emergencies. You can also self-subscribe to receive alerts from any or all Seattle College campus locations in addition to North. (For more on this, please see the Sept. 26 email from Cindy Riche, associate vice chancellor and chief information officer at district.) Learn more about the emergency alerts system [here](#), including how to update your information and preferences.

