

North News Briefs



MAY 2024

Welcome to this month's North News Briefs. If you have news 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?

*** May is Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month –**

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month is a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. A rather broad term, Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island). The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants. [Learn more.](#)



OUR PEOPLE

*** Welcome to North!** Joining North Seattle College in April were **Lamyaa Alhussein**, student employee, Student Learning Center; **Nevaeh Beachem**, student employee, Work Study; **Shih-Chieh Chao**, student employee, Workforce Instruction; **Steven Chase**, student employee, Registration and Records; **Ana Chickanis**, student employee, Instruction; **Desiree Dykstra**, student employee, Student Learning Center; **Azhi Ergu**, student employee, Math/Science; **Derek Osvaldo Ferman**, student employee, Work Study; **Robel Hailu**, student employee, Work Study; **Isaac Jimenez**, student employee, Workforce Instruction; **Maya Lach**, instruction and classroom support technician 2, Arts and Humanities; **Oliver Lindseth**, hourly assistant 1, Student Learning Center; **Nicholas Margenats**, student employee, Student Success Services; **Khalid A. Mohamed**, student employee, College Access Partnerships; **Luke Musser**, hourly assistant 1, Student Learning Center; **Nicholas Nagel**, student employee, Workforce Instruction; **John Ojo**, manager, Facilities Operations; **Sara Osler**, student employee, Student Learning Center; **Renda Palo**, part-time faculty, Workforce Instruction; **Daniel Ryan Stewart**, student employee, Work Study; **Timothy Swanson**, hourly assistant 1, Student Learning Center; **Faith Wendelken**, student employee, Instruction; **Max White**, student employee, Student Learning Center; and **Keet Kelvin Williams**, student employee, Workforce Instruction.

*** Terre O'Malley Named Golden Star Employee for Winter Quarter** – Congratulations to

Terre O'Malley, Canvas administrator, eLearning, on receiving the Golden Star Employee of the Quarter Award for winter quarter from STARS and the President's Office. Terre's dependability, patience, helpfulness, kindness and caring were among the traits called out in her nomination.

* **Two North Students Named to All-Washington Academic Team** – Congratulations to North students Yaser Alshammari (left in photo) and Chris Dolinski (right in photo) for being named to the All-Washington Academic Team for 2024. This honor recognizes top scholars from Washington state's community and technical colleges.

Those named to the team reflect the diversity of the state, maintain high standards of excellence, and contribute positively to the community. Their stories are often inspiring, sometimes surprising, and always reflective of the larger story of the state's community and technical college students. Yaser, Chris and students from community and technical colleges throughout the state were honored April 25 in a ceremony at South Puget Sound Community College. [Learn more](#).



* **Tutor Profile: Fumiko Schaub** – A chance meeting with Pappi Thomas, who would later become director of what was then called the NSC Loft (now Page One Writing and Language Center), helped lead Fumiko Schaub to North as a tutor in 2007. Through her tutoring job, Fumiko was offered the opportunity to teach two English classes in winter quarter of 2008. She has been with North ever since, taking some time away when she and her husband adopted their daughter. [Learn more](#) about Fumiko's inspiring journey.

AROUND CAMPUS

* **Campus Forums for North Presidential Candidates Set for May 20-22** – Three finalists for the president position at North have been selected. Please mark your calendars to participate in upcoming forums with the finalists for the permanent president position at North. These forums are scheduled for Monday, May 20; Tuesday, May 21; and Wednesday, May 22. Each 90-minute session will be from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and will be available in-person and via Zoom. More information will be provided, including the location, so please stay tuned. Candidate bios are available on the [Seattle Colleges website](#).

* **North Celebrates Reopening of Library** – After undergoing significant renovations over the past few years, the library at North hosted a reopening celebration April 18. The new-look library is equipped with flexible classrooms, study and instructional breakout spaces, book publishing studio, group study rooms, new computer workstations and new configurations of the library program, eLearning, the student media center, and teaching and learning center. The reopening event featured speakers Cathy Moore, member, Seattle City Council, District 5; Darya Farivar, state representative, 46th District; Javier Valdez, state senator, 46th District; Dr. Rosie Rimando-Chareunsap, chancellor, Seattle Colleges; Dr. Rachel Solemsaas, interim president, NSC; and Dr. Daniel Tarker, dean, Library and Learning Support Services, NSC. The celebration drew more than 200 people and included live music, food, and tours of the new space. Big thanks to those who attended and everyone involved in the event! [Watch video](#).

* **North Mural Celebrates James Baldwin** – Two important dates are coming in June as North celebrates this year’s mural painted by students enrolled in the Spring ART204 Mural Art course taught by Kelda Martensen. This year, the mural is celebrating the life, work and activism of James Baldwin. The students are working with the design of professional artist [Yvonne Ferguson](#), while learning the steps of mural execution, budgeting, design and the role of community engagement. The dates to circle on your calendar are Wednesday, June 5, at 11 a.m., for a film screening as part of Making Learning and Teaching Visible (more details to come); and Wednesday, June 12, at noon, for the unveiling of the James Baldwin Mural. The unveiling will be on the third floor of the library, and attendees will be able to meet the artist and students. Music and refreshments will be part of the event, as well. [Learn more](#).

* **Intergenerational Mural to be Unveiled May 22** – In addition to the James Baldwin mural, another mural is being unveiled on North’s campus this spring. Artist René Julio is working on an intergenerational mural with members of the North community at the north end of campus. The mural will be unveiled during SpringFest Wednesday, May 22. René will be at SpringFest at 3 p.m. to talk about the mural.

* **Video Spotlights North’s ECE Language Immersion Courses** – North faculty member Ninder Gill and the Early Childhood Education program are featured in a video about the college’s language immersion courses. North offers ECE classes for early educators in their preferred or first language to help them complete their required educational credentials or certificates, and also to continue to complete their degrees as well. ECE courses are offered in Spanish, Somali, Arabic and Mandarin. [Learn more](#).



* **Eclipse Experience Shared in NSC Classroom** – The fact that the recent solar eclipse was not viewable in the Pacific Northwest didn’t stop Tracy Furutani’s Astronomy 100 class from experiencing the big event. The April 8 eclipse’s path crossed diagonally across North America, passing over Mexico, the United States and Canada. To experience the event in near-totality, Tracy situated himself near St. Louis – 2,100 miles from Seattle – and livestreamed the eclipse to his class. [Learn more](#).

* **Healthcare Career and Transfer Fair May 20** – Everyone is welcome to attend and meet local employers and schools to learn about careers in healthcare at the Healthcare Career and Transfer Fair Monday, May 20, in the NSC courtyard. This in-person event will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., hosted by the Pharmacy Technician program, Career Services and Advising. See you there!

* **Overdose Prevention and Response Information Session** – In the first four months of 2024, King County lost 277 lives to opioid overdose. One way we can start to support those around us is to learn more about drug use, overdose prevention and response strategies, and local resources in our neighborhood. Cindy Lee from Public Health Seattle – King County, will visit North on Monday, May 13, and lead a talk on overdose prevention and response from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Health Sciences and Student Resources building, room 2634A.

* **MLTV Set for June 5 in World Community Center** – It's spring, so it must be time for Making Teaching and Learning Visible (MLTV). This year's event will be Wednesday, June 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the World Community Center (College Center room 1456, the old cafeteria/temporary library space). MLTV is North's annual symposium where students, faculty and staff can share the work they have been developing in the form of poster displays, readings, performances, panel discussions or other creative forms of expression. If you have questions, please contact [Dani Blackman](#) or [Dan Tarker](#).

* **Business Faculty, New Student Club Host Impactathon** – On April 20, North business faculty and the new Impactful Investing student club hosted the inaugural Impactathon, a pioneering event where students devised innovative business-tech solutions aimed at addressing pressing social justice issues. The initiative was a collaborative effort, featuring partnerships with leading nonprofits and brought together esteemed employers from technology giants like Microsoft and Amazon, alongside distinguished speakers from various colleges. By engaging students and faculty from multiple campuses in this interdepartmental effort, North is fostering a community of change-makers poised to make a substantial impact on our society.



* **Student Professional Development Day May 9** – Please pass along this opportunity to students and encourage them to attend Student Professional Development Day, Thursday, May 9, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the library. This event includes a faculty panel and workshops on resume and cover letters, finessing the system 101, vision board creation and mock interviews. Students can register to attend [here](#). From 3 to 5 p.m., there will be a block party with a DJ and free food for students, faculty and staff. The block party is hosted by the Black Student Union to celebrate in solidarity a day of learning and being challenged. For questions, please contact [Dr. William White](#) or [Belinda Tillman](#).

* **Wellness in Words Mental Health Event Coming May 14** – You are invited as Seattle Colleges partners with Art with Impact for a special mental health event featuring short films, a panel discussion and a poetry writing workshop. Wellness in Words: Exploring Mental Health through Film and Poetry is set for noon to 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 14, in North's Roy Flores Wellness Center (basketball court). If you are a faculty member and wish to either bring or send your classes, you can email [Megan Valerio](#) for extra credit assignments based on this event. [Learn more and register](#).

* **SpringFest Coming May 22** – If it's May, it must be time for Student Leadership's SpringFest! This year's event will be Wednesday, May 22, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the NSC courtyard. Much like last year, SpringFest 2024 will feature carnival games, live performances, food and a festival atmosphere. The new intergenerational mural by artist René Julio will also be unveiled during the event. So, please mark your calendar now and plan to join the fun.

* **Hoop it Up at Seattle Colleges Basketball Tournament** – The Roy Flores Wellness Center is partnering with Project Baldwin to host an all-district basketball tournament Friday, May 24, from noon to 5:30 p.m. Students, faculty and staff from all three Seattle Colleges are welcome

to participate, and you can register as an individual or a team. A \$500 prize is on the line to the winning team, and there will be food and other prizes as well. [Learn more](#).

* **Food Trucks on Campus Tuesdays** – North continues to host food trucks on Tuesdays in May from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot just east of the Roy Flores Wellness Center. The food trucks are part of North’s efforts to expand food options on campus. For the current food truck schedule, visit the [Washington State Food Truck Association website](#).

IN THE NEWS

* **NSC Partnership with Workforce Development Council** – As part of a 10-month guaranteed basic income pilot program, the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County (WDC) worked with North to recruit students in financial need who are underrepresented in technology fields. The program provided the students \$500 a month. Outcomes of the pilot show 100% retention and completion rates for program participants, and 100% of the participants responded that the funding helped them to remain enrolled. One of the participants, Riberiko Niyomwungere, a North Computer Science student, spoke about his experience with receiving the funding and was featured in the [Seattle Times](#) and [KUOW](#).



* **‘Persist’ Exhibit Chronicles a Decade of Seattle Activism** – The NSC Art Gallery’s “Persist! Movement and Protest Art” was featured in the April 17-23 edition of Real Change. “Stepping into the ‘Persist! Movement and Protest Art’ Exhibit at North Seattle College feels like entering a time warp,” the article states. [Learn more](#).

* **Viewpoint: Climate Justice Across the Curriculum** – Interim President Dr. Rachel Solemsaas authored a commentary that was published in the Community College Daily on behalf of North and the American Association of Community Colleges highlighting the college’s commitment to sustainability and environmentally responsible practices. [Learn more](#).

AROUND DISTRICT

* **Women of Color Empowerment Brunch May 10** – The Seattle Colleges Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Community invites all staff and faculty who identify as women of color to join them for brunch and dialogue on being empowered and healing, with guest speaker Matika Wilbur. Renowned for her groundbreaking “Project 562,” Matika set out to photograph members of all 562 federally recognized Native American tribes in the United States. The event is on Friday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Pacific Medical Centers Beacon Hill (Pacific Tower). If you are interested in attending, be sure to complete the [registration form](#) for this free event as soon as possible.

* **Commencement June 21 at T-Mobile Park** – [Commencement 2024](#) for North Seattle College, Seattle Central College and South Seattle College will be Friday, June 21, at Seattle’s

T-Mobile Park (the Mariners' home field). Please mark your calendar and join the celebration of our graduates with their families and loved ones. If you want a taste of what's in store this year, you can watch the Commencement 2023 [highlight video](#). The [commencement website](#) will be updated regularly as additional details for this year's ceremony become available.

* **Mindful Meditation Zoom Sessions** – Through June 10, the Mindful Meditation team continues to offer free Zoom sessions to all current students and staff. These sessions are on Mondays from 12:10 to 12:30 p.m. The meeting room URL is <https://tinyurl.com/yyx4eh9n>, the password is Bliss! and the meeting ID is 994 361 6626.

* **Bloodborne Pathogens, Hazardous Materials Training Sessions** – Bloodborne pathogens training is required for any employee who can reasonably encounter blood or bodily fluids in the workplace (i.e., accident or illness). This is an annually required training and covers the diseases from bodily fluid contact, prevention and cleanup protocols. You may [sign up for training](#), which is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, at 8 a.m. Hazardous materials training is available for anyone at Seattle Colleges working with hazardous materials as part of their job. It will teach how to read labels and go over personal protective equipment requirements and emergency response procedures for certain chemical spills. You may [sign up for training](#), which is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7 at 9 a.m. If you have questions, please contact Wes Wofford, associate director, Environmental Health and Safety, (206) 934-5522.