

Harold Washington College
One of the City Colleges of Chicago
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Transfer- Mation



AN INFORMATIVE NEWSLETTER FOR THE TRANSFER
CENTER AT HAROLD WASHINGTON COLLEGE

SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

A note from the Transfer Center Director

Hello fabulous students, advisors, administrators, faculty, and staff of Harold Washington College. Welcome to Transfer-Mation, the Spring 2018 edition of the Harold Washington College Transfer Center Newsletter! This publication offers tips for making a seamless transfer from HWC to four-year institutions and alumni updates about the success that your classmates have achieved after graduation from the City Colleges of Chicago.

We call the newsletter "Transfer-Mation" for two reasons. First, it provides you with transfer information. Second, it celebrates each student's personal "transformation" as they pursue their education. HWC students are continually growing and changing. This growth will continue beyond CCC as well.

We at the City Colleges of Chicago are proud of our students, and this newsletter highlights their accomplishments personally, professionally, and academically. We look forward to our students earning degrees, jobs, and accolades throughout their entire lives!

-Ellen Goldberg, Transfer Center Director
egoldberg1@ccc.edu

Transfer Center Services

Located at Harold Washington College in Room 1139
Students can do the following:

- Make an appointment to talk about transferring to four-year institutions.
- Get an unlimited number of application fee waivers for your transfer destinations. To qualify for waivers, the Estimated Family Contribution for Financial Aid should be zero. (However, exceptions can be made.)
- Learn about scholarships and other funding opportunities after graduating from CCC.
- Attend workshops that help you in every step of your transfer process.



Counselor's and Partner's Day, was held on February 2018, at HWC. We hosted a Rockstar Panel of Alumni and Current students including: (From left to right): Leoncio Montgomery, Joanna Gonzalez, Charles McSweeney, Stephanie Finne, Maria Gonzalez, and Jessica Jamaica.

Recent Alumni Who Graduated With Bachelor's, Master's Degrees and Beyond



Nick Trajkovski, University of Southern California, Bachelor's in Computer Engineering and Computer Science



Andre Upchurch, Master's in History, Northeastern Illinois University



Lee Bowen, Maryland Institute College of Art, Bachelor's in Illustration



Lura Buckley (Left), University of Illinois at Chicago, Bachelor's in Marketing

We ♥ our Rockstar Alumni!



Angel Roberts (Middle), Elmhurst College, Bachelor's in Intercultural Studies



Aisat (Aisha) Omowabi, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Bachelor's in Economics



Michael Adeboye, The John Marshall Law School, Juris Doctor (J.D.)



Lisa Hearon, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Bachelor's in Psychology

Recent Alumni Who Graduated With Bachelor's, Master's Degrees and Beyond



Giovanni Boles, Rhodes College, Bachelor's in Urban Studies



Tracy Brannstrom, University of California at Berkeley, Master's in Anthropology



Cecilia Villarruel, Roosevelt University, Master's in Fine Arts in Creative Writing



Fernando Gonzalez, (Left), University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Bachelor's in Health Administration/Health Education



Bazil LaBamascus, University of Illinois at Chicago, Bachelor's in Nutrition



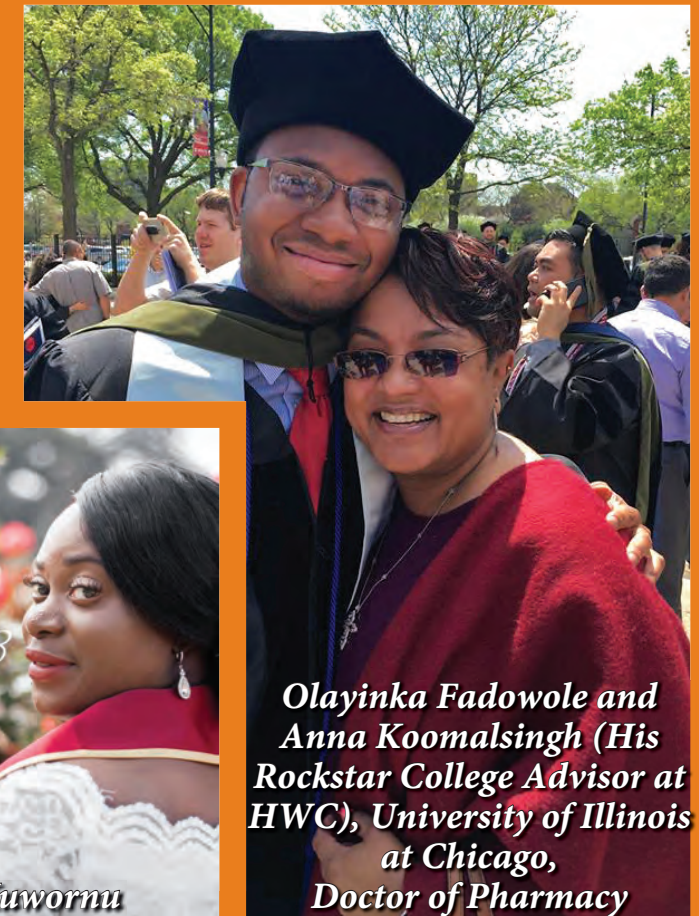
Alex Ross, North Park University, Bachelor's in Biochemistry



Anna Wassman, Loyola University Chicago, Bachelor's in Business Administration



Stephanie Finne, Northeastern Illinois University, Bachelor's in Psychology



Olayinka Fadowole and Anna Koomalsingh (His Rockstar College Advisor at HWC), University of Illinois at Chicago, Doctor of Pharmacy



April Graham, Mount Holyoke College, Bachelor's in Black Geographies



**Amir Lavi (L), Columbia University, Bachelor's in Computer Science
Tamila Pashae Alamdari (R), Columbia University, Bachelor's in Economics**



*Stephanie Kuwornu
B.A. Economics
USC Class of 2018*
Stephanie Kuwornu



Joselyne Umubyeyi, Georgia Institute of Technology, Biomedical Engineering



Josephine Frempong, Trinity College, Bachelor's in Biology

Alumni Updates

My name is Jasmine Barnes. I transferred from Harold Washington College in Spring 2015. I completed my Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Studies with a specialization in Organizational and Leadership Communication.

Since graduating, I am spending my time as a Freshman Orientation Assistant and will be volunteering my time with America Needs You as a career/mentor coach for high school aged children. In the Fall, I will begin writing a collection of children books that tackles bullying, bravery, mental illness, educational struggles, independence and leadership.

I wish to continue my education and leadership by starting a Master's degree program in Education Policy Fall 2019 and working with non-profit educational and youth organizations across the country.

"There are two U's in future, because the future is much better with you. Stay strong and brave, and remember, you are the only competitor in your race."

- **Jasmine Barnes**

I had just passed my NCLEX and was soon hired at North Shore University Healthcare, Skokie Hospital where I worked on a medical surgical unit for one year as a registered nurse. However, before completing that one year anniversary, I was hired at Johns Hopkins Hospital medical ICU, where I was asked to start promptly. I had three weeks to prepare for the move! I completed my one year anniversary this past May 1st.

- **Margareth C. Davies, Spring 2012**

I just completed a Bachelor's degree program at National Louis University and graduated with honors. My degree is in Applied Behavioral Science.

- **Benyehudah Whitfield, Fall 2016**

I recently graduated from NEIU with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in communications. And in the fall, I will be going to The Chicago School of Professional Psychology to get my Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology!

- **Stephanie Finne, Spring 2016**

I got a job as a substance abuse counselor at the Salvation Army Addiction Recovery Center. I just started at Chicago State University and am working on my Bachelor's degree in Psychology.

- **C. Chad Wichmann, Fall 2017**

Campus Visit to Columbia University in New York City

A total of 8 students and 2 chaperons took a trip to New York City last April 2018 to spend a few days at Columbia University's School of General Studies. The trip was sponsored by the Student Government Association and led by the Transfer Center and Advising Office. Here's a photo of the Rockstar attendees! Of the 8 students who attended the Campus Visit, 4 students applied to Columbia University for Fall 2018. Four students were admitted, and 3 students transferred there in Fall 2018. They are Tondalaya Smith, June Kim, and Samar Hassan! We are so proud of our Rockstar HWC Alumni! YAY!



Campus Visit to Columbia University in New York City



If you want to go far, it takes Community

You know the saying, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together"? Being a student at Harold Washington College gave true meaning to that.



Born and raised on the southside of Chicago, there aren't a lot of narratives that tell young people they can not only dream up the craziest things, but that they can achieve them. When the time came, City Colleges was the best option for me to attend college AT LEAST, and I took two classes at Wright College before transferring to Harold Washington College for its convenient location. As a working student, a commuting student, and someone who was spending a lot of time helping my family out, school wasn't my greatest priority. I did well my first few semesters but with a death in my family, I completely disengaged and failed an entire semester's worth of courses. I gave up on school and focused on work instead.

I was working and making money, but I missed the classroom. I also knew by now that you can't go far without a formal education. Instead of school being less important, it became that much more important to any hopes for a career, so, I petitioned for re-enrollment and hit the ground running. More determined than ever, I took different classes to learn more about my interests, strengths and weaknesses.

At Harold, I met professors like Marcy Henry, Jeff Daniels, Juan Martinez, Dave Richardson and many others that helped shape my mind. I met Directors and Administrators like Angela Guernica, Ellen Goldberg, Former HWC President Margie Martin, and even board members and the new Chancellor, Dr. Juan Salgado that helped shaped my drive. I met like-minded students, especially in the Student Government Association that helped shape my desire to give back. I completed an internship with WYCC, PBS Chicago and US Senator, Richard Durbin. But my turning point was taking the Transfer Leadership class with Ellen.

Through these hands-on sessions, I had a chance to see what all of this meant. Up until then, I was just taking classes, giving back where I saw fit, and completing internships that aligned with my professional goals. But after completing the course, I finally found the reason why. I remembered my dream school.

Harold Washington taught me that Community College was not the LEAST I could do. It was much more. Through

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If you want to go far, it takes Community continued

many ups and downs in my personal, academic and career life, I realized that it was meant for me and time would prove that I was meant for it too.

I had always focused on the “College” part but never the “Community” part but my last semester at Harold, I became more involved. I was in clubs like O.L.A.S., Writing Club, and S.A.F.E., but my last semester, I joined PTK and I became the Senate Chair of the Student Government Association Senate. Alongside incredible students, we worked tirelessly on our student government budget issues with CCC district office. That year, the senate spoke with HWC faculty, administration, students and CCC administration. We attended a panel with former President Obama, we met the (then) new Chancellor and even Mayor Rahm Emanuel, by chance. We worked with City College Presidents and other SGA teams. We didn’t know then what we had sparked but looking back now, the Spring 2017 semester was a special community of empowered students who wanted to create change. I take that with me wherever I go. And now...

In Fall 2018, I’ll start my second year at Columbia University’s School of General Studies in New York city where I live on campus. Through my work study, I work for an organization that houses 28 community programs throughout Harlem, Washington Heights and Morningside. They do this by bringing Columbia and Barnard student volunteers to these areas to teach ESOL, GED, and offer programs for kids. In October, we held a gala that honored our former Dean and astronaut Mike Massimo. It was amazing! Last year, I joined two organizations - LeanIn, a nationally recognized women’s empowerment organization, and First-Generation Low Income Partnerships (F.L.I.P.) where I sat on the board and will do this again to continue to work for these under-represented groups. As a first-year student, I received the high honor of a Service Award which recognizes students who give back to the Columbia Community, and I was truly humbled and shocked. In a sea of thousands of students, I couldn’t imagine creating any impact but now I can’t imagine doing anything else. I wouldn’t have made it to Columbia without that last special semester and in fact, I had already been accepted but chose to defer so I could complete

my Associate’s Degree and work in the SGA. It took me over 10 years to complete my Associate’s and took



additional time before transferring. At Harold, I learned the meaning of the Community part of Community College. And now I try to create community wherever I go.

I only have one piece of advice for any student considering your dream school. Attach yourself to more than a grade, more than a classroom, more than the outcome. Because it will never go as planned. And you will fail - a lot, and in ways you never even thought you could fail! But having the support it takes to stay focused and committed to your dreams, you learn the value of the other word, community. If I didn’t fail all my classes that semester, I wonder where I’d be right now. Maybe I’d have gotten there faster. But like the saying goes, “If you want to go fast, go alone. I wanted to go far, go together.”

My name is Athena Guizar Ablang and I’m a Junior at my dream school, Columbia University. I’m an active and engaged in the Columbia community through school, and engaged in the New York community, through work. I’m on the development team for the Alumni Association at Harold Washington College and am working to build our alumni network to what it truly is - unique and amazing. I also travel the world and just returned from Argentina and Brazil which makes 30 countries! I am of mixed race, identifying strongly with my Hispanic roots and a feminist who is not afraid to speak up in the classroom or the boardroom. If you are interested in contacting me or following my education and personal journey, I try to tell the story authentically. Follow me on *Instagram @athenaguizar* or contact me via e-mail at athena.guizar@gmail.com. We can go far - together, and represent the Community in Community College.

Athena Guizar Ablang
Associates of Arts Summer 2017



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