



Triton College

# CONNECT

A newsletter from your community college.

September 2023



Another cutting-edge program coming to Triton College. See Page 2.

## Architecture Student Wins Third Place in the National Design Competition

Triton College graduate **Bea Lizette Narvasa** of Schiller Park used her love of creativity and design to make her mark in the world of architecture! Narvasa won third place in the National Design Competition sponsored by the Coalition of Community College Architecture Program (CCCAP). Narvasa was awarded a monetary gift of \$600.

The theme for the 2023 CCCAP Student Design Competition was dialogue, conversation and intellectual exchange of ideas.

Narvasa had to design a university setting where people could conduct campus-related dialogues, formal presentations, structured conversations, political discussions, casual instructed events, casual conversations and art exhibits.

The design also had to include an outdoor contemplative meditation garden/plaza and gathering spaces. Narvasa had to encompass forms, spaces and arrangements for furnishings that would encourage people to conduct dialogue.

"My design drew inspiration from the shape of a circle, fostering spaces that promote civil discourse and democracy," said Narvasa. "It aimed to maximize comfort and accommodate diverse learning styles, whether individuals prefer studying alone, in small groups or participating in large gatherings."

"The main spaces within the center of the design are housed in three separate buildings interconnected by exterior corridors, emphasizing continuity," Narvasa explained. "The landscape design also reflects this principle, maintaining a sense of unity."

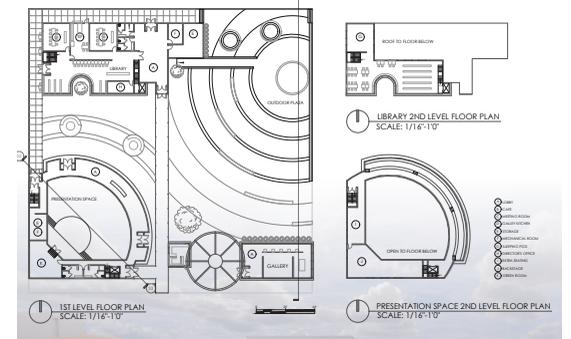
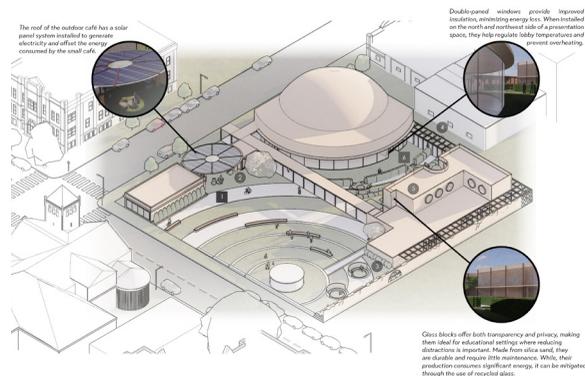
Narvasa noted that she entered the competition based on a semester-long project that was assigned to her in her Design III class.

"The final project in my Design III class involved participating in the CCCAP student competition," she said. "The design process took an entire semester."

Narvasa graduated from Triton College in May 2023. She's attending the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and majoring in architecture.



Bea Lizette Narvasa



## SEED Program Graduation Celebrated Student Completion

Triton College's Center for Access and Accommodative Services (CAAS) celebrated 11 students who completed the Skill Enhancement and Employee Development (SEED) Program, on Thursday, Aug. 17, in the Performing Arts Center (R Building).

The graduation consisted of several remarks, with the graduates receiving a medallion and certificate at the end of the ceremony. All were invited to stay and enjoy refreshments and cake with the attendees.

Marissa Bloodgood, a SEED graduate, felt very proud to be participating in the ceremony. Bloodgood said she learned how to take the bus from her Brookfield home to Triton, which helped her gain independence.

"My dream is to continue on to Elmhurst University," she noted. "My advice for other SEED students is to never give up."

The benefits of the SEED Program include greater face-to-face instruction, according to Colleen Malinowski, the SEED coordinator. The program also

provides employment skills, such as resume writing, job expectations, coping skills, social communication and financial management. Students in this program have classroom instructions with lectures and hands-on, practical activities.



From left to right - Chase Turner, Francisco Carrillo, David Goff, Renee Piagentini, Marissa Bloodgood, Deshaan Johnson, Jazmin Gutierrez, Ramon Gonzalez and Luis Beteta.

# Triton College Announces its Outstanding Faculty of the Year



Salvatore Siriano



Risé Sanders-Weir

Full-time faculty member **Salvatore Siriano** and adjunct instructor **Risé Sanders-Weir** received awards for Outstanding Full-Time Faculty of the Year and Outstanding Adjunct Faculty of the Year this past spring, acknowledging their dedication and excellence in teaching for the 2022-2023 school year.

"It's nice to know the efforts that I've put in at Triton have been recognized and well noticed," said Siriano.

Since Siriano began teaching at Triton in January 2020, he has taught Music Theory and Electronic Music for music majors, and Listening to Music to non-music majors. He's also the director for the Triton Community Band.

"I'm very proud to have updated the music curriculum here at Triton," he explained. "I also hosted in-person and virtual performances by a wide variety of artists from around the world."

His audiovisual work, *Static Interludes*, was recently featured at Earth Day Art Model 2023, a global telematic and media event hosted by Purdue's School of Engineering and Technology.

Siriano was raised in Elmwood Park, a suburb very close to Triton College. Growing up, he played a variety of instruments from guitar to saxophone. He earned his bachelor's degree from Roosevelt University in composition and a master's degree from Northern Illinois University in music composition.

Risé Sanders-Weir moved to the Chicago area for graduate school. She was a staff producer/director/writer for Towers Productions from 1996-2000, working for A&E, the History Channel, and the Weather Channel. She has been a freelancer since then, working for a variety of networks.

She has been an adjunct instructor since 2011 and teaches Cinema Appreciation.

"Working as an adjunct instructor at Triton has been a great fit for me," she noted.

Besides being recognized as Triton's Outstanding Adjunct Faculty of the Year, she also received the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award. Held on June 2 in Bloomington/Normal, Ill., there were 23 nominees from community colleges from around the state.

Her other accomplishments include producing and directing documentaries, such as *Gadget Girls*, which was screened at the American Film Showcase (AFS) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, in the summer of 2022.

The documentary focuses on the social pressures girls face when they show an interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and how one of Triton's innovative programs helps to address this.

Sanders-Weir along with Triton instructor Seth McClellan had their documentary, *Guaranteed in Gary*, released on PBS Digital in July 2023. The 11-minute short documentary was funded by Firelight/PBS's Homegrown initiative.

"Documentaries touch the very essence of what it means to be alive," said Sanders-Weir. "They try to understand the world we live in. When I make a documentary, I always want to make a difference."

## New Barbering Program Coming to Triton College

**Gregory Skipper** of Broadview is passionate about the barbering industry and is excited to see a barbering program come to Triton College. Skipper has worked as a barber for 40 years, and feels the profession is thriving.

"Barbering at Triton College is going to be an excellent program with a lot of good opportunities," he said.

Triton College's Barbering Program will teach students techniques in cutting hair and styling, using cutting-edge and modern forms of barbering. The program will also prepare students for the exciting and fast-paced profession of barbering and hair design.

Students need to take 50 credit hours to complete the program. All classes will be held at Triton College in the H Building and will be taught by Skipper as well as barbers who have worked in the industry. Some classes taught include Barber Fundamentals, The Science of Barbering, and Anatomy and Physiology, among others. They will be offered both during the day and in the evenings, to accommodate different schedules.

"Upon completion of the program, students will have earned a barbering certificate as well as college credit," he said. "Students can also go on to finish

their associate degree if they chose."

Those enrolled will learn so much more than cutting hair, according to Skipper, such as the human body, the muscles and bones, and the nervous system.

"At Triton, students will receive all the resources needed," Skipper explained. "Triton is a great facility."

Skipper feels that bringing a barbering program to Triton is beneficial to the students and the community. He said this program has been in the works for about a year, noting that it will add to the diverse and interesting certificate programs Triton offers.

Skipper moved to Chicago from Dayton, Ohio, in 1983 and attended Moler Barber College in Chicago. Afterwards, he did a barbering apprenticeship program for two years. After mastering the craft, he decided he wanted to be an instructor and attended beauty school at Pivot Point Academy. He worked for Pivot Point International as an educator, which is one of the world's largest educational curriculum programs.

With a passion for barbering and teaching, Skipper has influenced his six children, all of whom have gone into the barbering and hair industry. Many of his 22 grandchildren are also involved with hair cutting and barbering.



Gregory Skipper

He currently owns Skipper's Clippers, Beauty & Barber Salon in Bellwood. He also has a seat on the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations Board since 2014.

"We are truly the entrepreneurs of hair care," he said. For more information or to register, visit [triton.edu](http://triton.edu).

## Triton Gives Aid to District Residents in Time of Need

Triton College housed over 25 displaced individuals from a fire that destroyed an apartment building at 2033 N. 18th Ave., in Melrose Park, on Tuesday, June 20. The residents who lived in the 12-unit building stayed in Triton's T Building, with sleeping cots and supplies provided to them by the American Red Cross (ARC).

When firefighters arrived at the fire at 12:30 p.m., there was heavy smoke coming from the middle floor, according to Rick Beltrame, director of Melrose Park's Fire Department.

"When firefighters first arrived, some residents were hanging out of the windows of the building," Beltrame explained. "We needed around a

dozen ladders to help residents get out. Luckily, everyone got out safely."

Besides the Melrose Park Fire Department, River Grove, Franklin Park, Schiller Park, Maywood and Leyden Township fire departments also assisted.

None of the residents were hurt,

however, one person was treated by paramedics.

"There was a lot of smoke and water damage done to the building," Beltrame said.

After an investigation was completed, the American Red Cross was contacted by the Melrose Park Fire Department to assist the residents whose lives were affected by the fire. The American Red Cross got in touch with Triton and requested assistance with housing the displaced individuals.

"It's very nice of Triton to help house those who have been through something so traumatic," said Beltrame.



Triton College helped house over 25 displaced individuals from a fire that destroyed an apartment building in Melrose Park. The American Red Cross provided sleeping cots and supplies.

## Alumni James Greenwood Recently Appointed River Forest Deputy Chief of Police

Triton College alumni **James Greenwood** felt a sense of loyalty and pride when he was appointed as deputy chief of the River Forest Police Department this past winter.

"I want to thank the village board and the residents for entrusting me with this position," he said. "The safety and well-being of the residents of River Forest is so important to me."

Greenwood grew up in Franklin Park and attended Passow Elementary School, Hester Junior High School and East Leyden High School, graduating in 1992. He then attended University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and studied political science and landscape architecture.

While a student at U of I, Greenwood was assigned to work in the Police Department. His duties included checking campus buildings and providing transportation for students at night.

Greenwood decided to attend Triton College to study criminal justice. He graduated in 2001, earning his associate degree.

"The classes at Triton were affordable and the instructors in Criminal Justice Administration were all active professionals in the fields of criminal justice or law," he said.

In 1997, Greenwood began his career with the River Forest Police Department, working his way up the ranks from patrol officer, detective, sergeant, detective sergeant, patrol commander and now deputy chief.

Greenwood furthered his education by earning a bachelor's in business administration from Benedictine University in 2010, graduating Magna Cum

Laude. He attended the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command in 2018, earning the Kreml Leadership Award, selected by fellow law enforcement professionals in the course.

As the new deputy chief, Greenwood wants to ensure that the department continues to offer great services to the community and to support members of the department in their daily work.



Ryan Greenwood (left) pinned a badge on his father, Deputy Chief James Greenwood, at a River Forest Village Hall meeting on Monday, Feb. 13. Greenwood's daughter, Madolyn Greenwood, excitedly looked on.



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Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.



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Triton College reaffirms its commitment to affirmative action and equal employment for all qualified persons without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, age, or any other basis which is protected by law except where such characteristics are bonafide occupational requirements.

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# FAMILY INFORMATION NIGHT TALLER DE INFORMACIÓN PARA FAMILIAS

Join us for an on-campus event on **Wednesday, Oct. 18, 6 p.m.** This session is for all family members that would like to learn about our programs, the admissions and enrollment process, financial aid, placement testing and additional services provided for prospective students.

Le invitamos a nuestro evento el miércoles **18 de octubre a las 6 p.m.** Esta sesión es para toda la familia con el fin informarle acerca de nuestros programas, el proceso de admisión e inscripción, la ayuda financiera, las pruebas de ubicación y servicios adicionales brindados para los futuros estudiantes.



**Wednesday, Oct. 18, 6-7 p.m. • B Building, Room B-140**

For more information on this and other admission events, go to [triton.edu/visitcampus](http://triton.edu/visitcampus) or use the QR code provided.