

Crabiel Hall Receives LEED Approval; Honored by Magazine

Crabiel Hall, the newest building at MCC, received a LEED® silver rating from the United States Green Building Council, signifying the structure's environmental attributes. In addition, a national publication, College Planning & Management, recently gave a Project of Distinction Award to the College for the construction, which was completed in January of 2011.

The 36,000-square-foot building includes 13 classrooms, office space, four computer labs and a demonstration kitchen.

"The silver rating was our goal, so I'm very happy to have achieved it," said Donald R. Drost Jr., executive director of facilities management. "Crabiel Hall is the model for how buildings will be designed in the future, with an eye on protecting the

environment while still creating an excellent facility."

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally recognized mark of excellence that provides a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.

"Buildings are a prime example of how human systems integrate with natural systems," said Rick Fedrizzi, president, CEO and founding chair of the U.S. Green Building Council. "The Middlesex County College project efficiently uses our natural resources and makes an immediate, positive impact on our planet, which will tremendously benefit future generations to come."

Crabiel Hall's sustainable features include drought-resistant plantings, high efficiency HVAC with heat recovery, preferred parking for hybrid vehicles, reduction in storm water runoff, waterless urinals, construction waste recycling, use of renewable and regional materials, an indoor air quality plan that includes a building air flush-out and pre-occupancy air testing, use of low-vapor emitting materials, and lighting controls.

Crabiel Hall was one of 18 construction projects cited by College Planning & Management in its special section called Outstanding Design + Architecture in Education. The magazine said "The projects reflect the exciting changes and trends in educational design that are needed to create the learning environments that we can be proud to provide. All of the projects reflect the growing awareness of environmental concerns that have fostered a greater interest in 'green' or sustainable school design."

In the June 2012 issue, the magazine called Crabiel Hall "an efficient, aesthetically pleasing and fiscally responsible building. The project resulted in a safe and healthy environment to serve nearly 13,000 students at Middlesex County College."

Mr. Drost agreed.

"We're honored to be recognized for a quality building," he said. "Crabiel Hall was completed on time and under budget, and in the year-and-a-half since it has been occupied, it has served our students well."



Don Drost, MCC's executive director of facilities management, in front of Crabiel Hall.



The MCC Child Care Center ended the summer with a special day of fun in August. The children enjoyed face painting, crafts, pony rides and a petting zoo featuring ducks, a chicken, a donkey and goats. Here, Carl Sylvain Jr. and his cousin Tanasia Thomas make a new friend.

Prof Writes Dante Translation

Professor Emanuel di Pasquale, poet-in-residence at MCC, has translated Dante's classic work "The New Life." The translation, co-authored by Bruno Alemanni, a retired writer and editor, was published in July. "The New Life," written in the 13th century, was Dante's first book. He compiled love poems he had written for a young woman named Beatrice, and introduced them with prose and described the circumstances of their creation.

"The book is about the mystery of love," Professor di Pasquale said. "Human love, which is a sign of the divinity in the human. What makes us divine, in other words, is our ability to love each other – love in all its forms: Love of children, love of family, love of father and mother, brother and sister; love of all humanity eventually."

The translation is aimed at American readers, but does not sacrifice Dante's literary style.

Professor di Pasquale's colleague, Daniel Zimmerman, professor of English at Middlesex, also says this work breaks new ground.

"In his new translation of *La Vita*, Emanuel di Pasquale has captured the commonplace, matter-of-fact spirit with which Dante engages the materials that love and language provide him," Dr. Zimmerman said.

President Named Distinguished Alumna of her Alma Mater, SUNY Oneonta

President Joann La Perla-Morales received the 2012 Distinguished Alumna Award from her alma mater, the State University of New York College at Oneonta. Dr. La Perla-Morales, who graduated in 1968, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in education with a concentration in Spanish. She then attended Columbia University for her master's degree and doctorate.

In her speech accepting the award, Dr. La Perla-Morales spoke about the value of education.

"For many people of my parent's generation, the dream of a college degree was only realized through their children," she said. "As one of those children, I am forever indebted to my parents, especially my father, who instilled in me the value of school. I am also indebted to the fine public state university system of New York that welcomed me and provided me with opportunities and possibilities. Like many of our students today, it is through education that otherwise closed doors are opened."

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

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Combined Art Exhibit-Concert Features Universal Themes

A combined artistic and musical experience exploring universal themes will be held at the Studio Theatre Gallery from September 25 to November 4. The art portion will be displayed weekdays from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The musical concert will be held in conjunction with a reception on Thursday, September 27 from 5 to 7 p.m. The performance will be at 6 p.m. in the Studio Theater.

The artist is Julia Randall; the composer, David Adamcyk.

“Both of us investigate universal themes in drawings and compositions,” Ms. Randall said. “Our exhibition, ‘Blown,’ uses metaphor to explore the passage of time, the susceptibility of the body, and desire. Dualities activate our work: images and sounds are playfully strange, and narrative allusions are elusive and mysterious. We employ a range of organic and synthetic sounds and images, to speak visually and aurally to the experience of being human.”

Mike Truesdell will perform “Six Drawings by Randall,” a short instrumental theatre piece for one vocalist/ percussionist and electronics. During the concert, the six drawings that inspired the piece are projected near the performer, providing a visual counterpoint to the music.

“As the piece progresses through its six uninterrupted movements, the performer explores these impressions through a sound world related to bubbles, breath and rippling audio effects,” Mr. Adamcyk said. “In this composition, I



One of Julia Randall's pieces, "Bubblehead #2"

responded to the simultaneous and sometimes conflicting impressions I sensed from Julia Randall's work: Whimsy, nostalgia, fright, longing, and eroticism.”

VP Receives Spirit Award

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges presented a 2012 Community College Spirit Award to Karen Hays, vice president for academic and student affairs. The award, for her work on the Big Ideas Project, was presented during the council's annual Trustee Conference in June. She was one of 14 community college administrators honored.

The Big Ideas Project is the collective effort of all 19 New Jersey community colleges to improve student success.

Dr. Hays worked with Dr. Eileen Abel, senior vice president for academic affairs at Raritan Valley Community College, to develop a plan to revamp developmental education statewide. They looked at trends and best practices nationally and developed the paper to improve student success in developmental courses.

“We hope this will allow students to transfer into college-credit courses quicker and in greater numbers, increasing their opportunities for graduation,” Dr. Hays said.

The MCC Center for Veterans Services held a clothes and food drive to benefit military veterans in the area. Sorting through the clothes are David Brimmer (left), the coordinator of the Center, and Paul Lazaro, the assistant. They collected more than 100 articles of clothing and 40 pounds of canned goods from the College community, which was donated to the Salvation Army's Care House Emergency Shelter for Veterans.



Former Program Director Named ‘Fellow’ of Nursing Academy

Michelle L. Foley, former director of the joint nursing program of MCC and Raritan Bay Medical Center, has been inducted into the National League for Nursing’s Academy of Nursing Education, with the credential of “Fellow.” She joins the academy’s 117 fellows representing nursing schools and programs throughout the United States.

Professor Foley retired at the end of June but will continue to stay active in the profession.

Fellows provide visionary leadership in nursing education and in the Academy of Nursing Education and support the vision of the NLN to promote standards of excellence in nursing education that will increase the number of graduates from all types of nursing programs. Fellows serve as important role models and resources for new educators and for those who aspire to become nurse educators.

The fellowships were awarded by the NLN Board of Governors, the oversight body of the Academy of Nursing Education. The induction of new fellows and a meeting of fellows in the Academy of Nursing Education will be held in conjunction with the NLN’s annual Education Summit in Anaheim, CA in September.

As a newly named fellow, Professor Foley has been lauded for her innovative teaching and learning strategies, nursing education research, faculty development, academic leadership, and promotion of public policy that advances nursing education.

Women’s volleyball will be offered at the College starting this fall. MCC will be the fifth community college in New Jersey to offer the sport. The others are Atlantic Cape Community College, Bergen, Passaic and Union County College. Here, Racheal Wernoch spikes the ball as Victoria Valenta watches.



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