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Now Accepting Scholarship Applications

It's the most wonderful time of the year, thanks to our donors, supporters, and friends.

On March 1, the Foundation's Universal Scholarship application opened for applicants. With a single application, students can apply for more than 100 scholarships, courtesy of our generous donors.

"This is what it's really all about," said Teresa Nelson, Executive Director, The Foundation of BCC. "We exist to make a college education accessible to as many students as possible. I love watching the applications coming in, knowing that we will be able to help so many of these students continue their education."

Students have until May 31, 2023, to submit their application. They must have a current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application on file first. If you know anyone eligible, please encourage them to apply. If they need assistance, OneStop Student Services is ready to help at onestop@brunswickcc.edu or 910-755-7320.



Foundation Fact

The Foundation awarded \$231,241 in scholarships to BCC students in the 2022-2023 school year.

Meet Teresa Nelson



You are in for a treat when you meet The Foundation's new Executive Director. Teresa Nelson has more than 20 years of experience working with non-profit organizations and has more in common with many of our students than you might think.

"We could not be more thrilled to welcome Teresa to BCC," said President Dr. Gene Smith. "She is a strong leader, committed to excellence in all she does, and lets nothing stand in her way. We are fortunate to have her at the helm of the Foundation."

Most recently, she served as Director of AmeriCorps Seniors at Southeastern Community College. Teresa is passionate about helping others, as evidenced by her work teaching English to refugees from Thailand, the Philippines, and Belarus. She volunteered at local schools

as a reading specialist and understands the unique challenges of adult learners who begin or return to college at an untraditional age.

"I am the first in my family to graduate from college, but I didn't start until I was in my 30s," said Teresa. "I worked and attended college, both on a full-time basis. Today, I hold a master's degree and welcome the opportunity to help bring the gift of a college education to more people of all ages. My first month at BCC has been a whirlwind, but I wouldn't have it any other way. I look forward to meeting and personally thanking each of our donors."

You can reach Teresa at 910-755-6530 or nelson@brunswickcc.edu.

Student and Donor Spotlights

Meet BCC Ambassador Lucas Merriam



Student Ambassador Lucas Merriam arrived at BCC last year having already earned two Bachelor's degrees, one in Parks & Recreation Management and another in the German Language. His return to college was as surprising to him as it may seem to us. "After earning my degrees at ECU, I thought school was behind me," said Lucas. "I was ready to find a job and have a wonderful life."

As is the case for so many of us so often, things turned out differently than he planned. That's okay, though, because what's ahead for Lucas will be even better and get him closer to achieving his goal of making a difference in the world.

"I've always wanted to be a Park Ranger," said Lucas. "I love the outdoors and want to help restore ecosystems. After working in my field for a few years, I felt stuck and unable to do what I was most passionate about. At the proverbial fork in the road, I took the one that led me home to Ocean Isle Beach and eventually to BCC."

Today, Lucas is thriving. He is pursuing an Associate degree in Engineering and plans to transfer to North Carolina State University in the fall of 2024 to complete his Bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering. He works as a Math and Science tutor in BCC's The Learning Center and serves as a Student Ambassador.

"I'm on the right path now, and I look forward to making a difference in the world by living my passion for nature and the environment," said Lucas. "I'm loving my time at BCC and grateful for the support all around me, especially from the Foundation. The scholarships I've received are making my dream a reality. Being an Ambassador is my way of giving back, saying thank you, and inspiring others to find their way."

Donor Spotlight: Wilmington Contractors Association



The Wilmington Contractors Association (WCA) is passionate about providing scholarship funds in support of BCC construction trade and workforce development students. During their annual "Shrimparoo" event, the WCA presented the Foundation with a check for \$6,000, bringing their total scholarship support to \$11,000. So far, the WCA has helped 22 students get the training they need to succeed. This year's gift will significantly grow that number.

Organizations like the WCA contributed \$20,934 in scholarships awarded to 61 Continuing Education & Workforce Development students in the 2022-2023 school year. To learn more about how you can help support students pursuing careers in the manufacturing trades, contact Teresa Nelson at nelsont@brunswickcc.edu.

How to Help: Legacy Giving

What will your legacy look like? If you'd like to make BCC part of it, please consider one of the following gifts:



- Bequest
- Appreciated Securities
- Life Insurance
- Retirement Plans
- IRA Rollover

For more information, please review our [Guide to Legacy Giving](#) linked below or contact Teresa Nelson at (910) 755-6530. Thank you!

[GUIDE TO LEGACY GIVING](#)

Foundation Photos



The Foundation's Donor Scholar Luncheon was held on March 10 and was a huge success. It gives our donors and the students they support the opportunity to get to know one another. For many students, the scholarships funded by our generous donors make a college a reality. The Foundation Executive Director, Teresa Nelson, welcomed guests, followed by remarks from Chairman of the BCC Board of Trustees Alan Holden and BCC President Dr. Gene Smith. Following a delicious lunch, guests heard from two students, Beecham Hartsell, and Lucas Merriam. Vice President of the Foundation Board of Directors Ann Landis delivered closing remarks and well wishes to all!

The Foundation of Brunswick Community College's Mission is to raise funds on behalf of the College, which assures open access to higher education for all prospective students and enhances the campus community by supporting the identified needs of the College.

Brunswick Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, gender expression, age, political affiliation, genetic information, sexual orientation, or disability.



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