

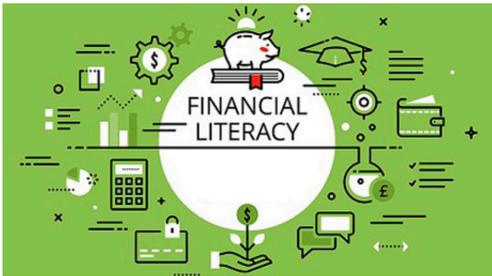


Board of Trustees Report



September 27, 2022

Dr. David M. Johnson, President



Merritt College recognizes that many of our students are going through difficult financial times, so we are working to support them in effectively managing and maximizing their resources. We believe that it is our responsibility to put students first, not only by providing quality education, but also by creating experiences for our students to develop and prosper in every aspect of their lives. To the end, on Tuesday, September 22, Merritt hosted its first Financial Literacy Workshop (offered in partnership with the Society for Financial Education and

Professional Development.

Our inaugural workshop was titled: How to Manage Debt: Student Loans and Maximizing the Use of Financial Aid. Over the next several weeks, we will offer three additional sessions:

1. Financial Investments: stocks, bonds, digital cryptocurrency
2. Money Management: bank accounts, credit cards, CDs
3. Tax Management: personal tax preparation options, property tax, etc.

These workshops are open to all students throughout the District, so be on the lookout for the dates and times of our future presentations.

Earlier this month, Peralta Community College District submitted its MIS Program Data for the 2021-22 Academic Year. I am happy to report that with a grand total of 1,034 awards, Merritt College granted the most degrees and certificates in the District. Our students earned 427 AA/AS Degrees, 98 Associate Degrees for Transfer, 231 Certificates of Achievement, 268 Certificates of Proficiency, and 10 Non-Credit Awards. To account for more than 28% of the total degrees and certificates is truly a testament to the skill of our faculty, the support of our classified professional staff members, and fortitude of our students. So, for that I salute you.

Degrees & Certificates



And speaking of our students, I am so proud to recognize the success of one of Merritt's Alums, Ms. Brandi Howard. Last week, Ms. Howard was selected as the new President and CEO of the East Bay Community Foundation (EBCF). Established in 1928, EBCF serves people across Alameda and Contra Costa counties. As the head of the foundation, Ms. Howard will lead their efforts to partner with donors, fundholders, social movements, and the wider community to eliminate structural barriers, advance racial equity, and transform political, social, and economic outcomes for all East Bay residents. Ms. Howard

Merritt College puts students first. Through our rich educational programs, we foster a culture of equity and inclusion that empowers students to achieve their greatest potential and make meaningful contributions to their respective communities and our global society.

came to Merritt as a mother of three children, and as someone looking to make a transition after ten years in the workforce. She credits Dr. Siri Brown and the counseling faculty for building her up and inspiring her to do great things. She also shared that our English and African American Studies courses prepared her for future success, in that she learned to communicate clearly and think critically. After leaving Merritt College she transferred to UC Berkeley, where she earned a bachelor's degree in African American Studies, and a master's degree in public policy. And now she the chief executive of one of the nation's oldest community foundations. Congratulations!!!

Merritt College puts students first. Through our rich educational programs, we foster a culture of equity and inclusion that empowers students to achieve their greatest potential and make meaningful contributions to their respective communities and our global society.